

R·I·T

February 23, 2006

news & events

Rochester Institute of Technology

www.rit.edu/newsevents

NTID grants help enhance innovations for deaf students

Two initiatives concerned with equal access to technological education and career awareness for deaf students have been awarded grant monies for 2006.

The Nippon Foundation of Japan has awarded \$1.1 million to the NTID-sponsored Postsecondary Education Network-International to continue its work in expanding career and education opportunities for deaf people around the world. This brings the total award given to PEN-International to \$7 million. PEN works with colleges and universities in China, the Czech Republic, Japan, the Philippines, Russia and Thailand and plans to partner with colleges in Korea, Vietnam and Hong Kong this year. Since 2000, PEN-International has influenced attitudes, practices and policies among educators and industry leaders on

behalf of deaf or hard-of-hearing people.

The Graphic Arts Education and Research Foundation has awarded \$66,000 to NTID to develop the initial phase of an interactive Web

*Since 2000,
PEN-International
has influenced attitudes,
practices and policies
among educators and
industry leaders on
behalf of deaf or
hard-of-hearing people.*

site to promote graphic communication as a viable career path for deaf high school students. Principal investigator Thomas Raco, faculty mem-

ber in NTID's arts and imaging studies program, will lead the three-year project, working with AIS Chairperson John Cox, AIS faculty member Jean-Guy Naud, and Counseling Services Chairperson Robb Adams, to create a site with information about careers in graphic communication.

The site will include an online inventory of career exploration materials, requirements for entry into graphic communication degree programs and employment, a process for students to develop an inventory of high school preparatory courses, interactive and individual online advising, information about accessible postsecondary technical education programs, career paths and mobility patterns, and links to key industry associations and companies. ■

Kathy Smith | kss8117@rit.edu

Six more weeks of winter



Renee Keiser, third-year professional and technical communication student, enjoys the festivities at the second annual Groundhog's Day Gala, sponsored by RIT's Department of Communication. The real groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil, saw his shadow again this year, signaling six more weeks of winter.

A. Sue Welsler | photographer