



Diversity Trailblazers

LEADING THE WAY

What is a Diversity Trailblazer?



RIT's Diversity Trailblazers are men and women who have helped make RIT a place where differences in race, gender, gender identity and expression, age, national origin, economic status, sexual orientation, language, physical ability, and health are respected and celebrated.

The Commission for Promoting Pluralism launched the Diversity Trailblazers project in May 2004 in conjunction with the year-long celebration of RIT's 175th Anniversary.

Over the course of the succeeding year, a dozen individuals have been recognized for their efforts in making the university environment more inclusive. Monthly exhibits in the Student Alumni Union have highlighted their accomplishments.

An additional 18 people were selected this year as RIT's Diversity Trailblazers of Today. These campus leaders are forging a new awareness of the many facets of a truly diverse community. The 18 were nominated by the campus community and selected by the commission. They are being honored at a ceremony during the 2005 Expressions of Diversity Conference.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful for the efforts and contributions of several members of the RIT community that supported this project. There are five to whom we owe special mention: Gary Gasper, whose idea became a successful reality, championed the project, and coordinated the details throughout the past academic year; Kathy Lindsley, who wrote the text for each display and this program; Rebecca Simmons, who combed through the RIT Archives for background information and photos; Dale Boris-Kane, who oversaw the display design; and fourth-year student Christina Fisher, who set up each display.

RIT thanks you and the Commission for Promoting Pluralism thanks you. Your commitment to this project was over and beyond the call of duty. The memory of this effort will be forever etched into the legacy of RIT.

*Alfreda Brown, Chair
Commission for Promoting Pluralism*

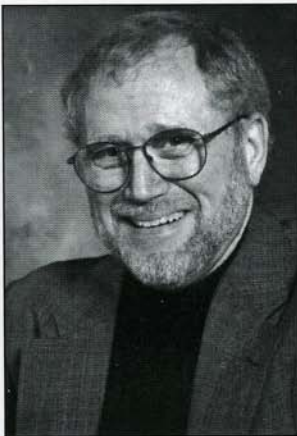


James Bundy Jr.

James Bundy Jr., manager, patrol services and diversity initiatives, Campus Safety Department, is responsible for managing all of Campus Safety's diversity issues including staffing, recruiting, liaison to under-represented groups, and coordination of education and awareness programs. In addition, Mr. Bundy supervises daily patrol operations associated with patrol services.

He designed and instructs a program called "One World, Two Perspectives" at the Monroe County Public Safety Training Center that gives some basic American Sign Language instruction and presents issues related to the deaf community.

Mr. Bundy came to RIT in 1998 after working at Eastman Kodak Co. for nearly 19 years.



James DeCaro

James DeCaro, NTID professor and director of the Postsecondary Education Network International, has devoted more than 35 years to improving the education and employability of deaf students. He became dean of NTID in 1985 and increased efforts to recruit more deaf faculty and staff. He provided the impetus for establishing the Educational Development Outreach Project.

He became the director of the highly successful PEN International program in 1998 and has helped NTID establish relationships with numerous international universities.