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# news & events

Rochester Institute of Technology

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graduate tuition and other charges for the 2004-05 academic year.

Tuition for returning students who matriculated and enrolled prior to fall of 2003 will increase 4.9 percent to \$21,447. Tuition for entering freshmen, transfer students and other undergraduate students who matriculated and enrolled fall of 2003 or after will be \$22,056, also a 4.9 percent increase.

RIT began a two-tiered tuition program last year to minimize the impact of tuition increases on returning students and their families.

"The staff, faculty and administration of RIT have worked collaboratively to identify many cost-saving opportunities during this past year," says James Watters, vice president of finance and administration. "The reality of increased costs in health care, natural resources, advanced

## NTID gets \$1.26 million from Nippon Foundation

### *Program works to improve education, careers for deaf students*

The Nippon Foundation of Japan has awarded the Postsecondary Education Network-International, a grant program housed at NTID, \$1.26 million to steward a worldwide network to improve education and career opportunities for deaf men and women. To date, The Nippon Foundation has awarded PEN-International more than \$4.5 million.

Deaf college students in Japan, China, Russia, the Czech Republic, Thailand and the Philippines will continue to benefit from PEN-International's expertise through

improved curriculum, increased access, new technology, multi-media labs, and trained faculty members.

"Perhaps our most important achievement is the growing number of faculty members who are successfully sharing their newly developed expertise within their respective countries," says James DeCaro, director of PEN-International.

DeCaro says significant inroads have been made with associates at Tianjin University of Technology in China, De La Salle University-College of St. Benilde in Philippines, and


Bauman Moscow State Technical University in Russia, who have added more than 20 additional institutions to the network.

"This is the ripple effect for which we have been striving," DeCaro adds.

PEN-International is a multilateral international effort to network colleges and universities that educate people who are deaf.

For more information about PEN-International and its global partners visit [www.pen.ntid.rit.edu](http://www.pen.ntid.rit.edu). ■

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 Nabil Nasr

RIT's leadership in the research and development of alternative energy sources is taking a significant step forward. The U.S. Department of Energy is committing its support to the creation of a hydrogen-technology learning center at RIT's Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies.

The goal of a hydrogen-technology learning center is to educate students, potential end users, elected leaders and the public about the vision of a fuel cell economy. Areas of research include hydrogen applications, its safe use as an energy carrier and other related challenges.

CIMS will be one of four learning center sites established through \$750,000 in Department of Energy funding. Two centers will be in California and the other in Florida