

RIT

University Magazine

Fall 2019

From accountant to the stars
You
to sustainable chocolate producer,
do
what?

RIT alumni have some pretty cool careers

Also inside:

Global Cybersecurity
Institute coming soon





RIT University Magazine

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Why we need the liberal arts



We are proud that RIT is the third largest producer of undergraduate STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) graduates among all private universities

in the nation. But we also have a goal of developing the most relevant liberal arts program in the nation. Why is it important that the liberal arts be infused into a university with technology in its name?

In some cases, the liberal arts are intertwined with STEM. At RIT, you'll find students like Landyn Hatch, majoring in museum studies, in our makerspace—The Construct—creating 3D-printed mannequin hands for the Genesee Country Village & Museum.

You'll also find Timothy Engström, professor of philosophy, and Carlos Lousto, professor of mathematical sciences, and astrophysical sciences and technology, discussing gravitational waves, black-hole mergers, the Big Bang and the early universe.

And this fall, you'll find nearly 150 freshmen who've earned performing arts scholarships via digital auditions in music (vocal and instrumental), theater, dance and technical production. Most of these students will major in STEM disciplines, but they also are supremely talented in the performing arts.

Advocates for the liberal arts often point to the importance of analysis, critical thinking, communications and ethics, which are acquired from a liberal arts education. But these skills and topics are not exclusive to the liberal arts. I believe there is a more compelling rationale for the importance of the liberal arts.

Here are some of my thoughts:

- The humanities, social sciences and the arts are core to what it means to be human. They introduce different ways of knowing and being. They add depth and richness to our daily lives—imagine how dull life would be without the liberal arts!
- The greatest challenges facing humanity today are not purely

technical. From a technological standpoint, we understand ways to solve the problems of climate change, poverty, clean water, affordable health care, nuclear proliferation and others. Yet, we don't have the political, social, policy and leadership skills to put these challenges to bed. It's clear that we need people from many different disciplines working together to solve the world's toughest problems.

- Nationalism and discord are on the rise, with more citizens retreating into their own echo chambers, watching news channels that broadcast entertainment, rather than unbiased news, and saying things on social media that they never would say in a thoughtful conversation, face-to-face. This is scary! Where are we headed—what are the likely consequences? To answer these questions, I think we had better ask historians, psychologists, sociologists and political scientists.

Let me close by noting that the liberal arts are “making” disciplines, just like their STEM cousins. Creation, innovation and making can occur in every field, whether it be writing a poem or short story, choreographing a dance, composing a piece of music, advancing a new scientific hypothesis, designing a new piece of technology, creating a social movement or launching a start-up company.

Every student should be involved in creating things that never existed before, and then putting those concepts into motion. At RIT, the development of this mindset and the leadership to bring new ideas to fruition are an intentional part of the education of every student.

In this way, our graduates are well prepared for the future and positioned to contribute to the greater good, together.

Sincerely,

David C. Munson Jr., President
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RIT

University Magazine

Fall 2019



Cover

Lorenzo Llosa '04 is an artisanal chocolate maker and co-founder of Elemento, a sustainable chocolate company in Peru. Read more about him and other alumni with cool careers on pages 22-31.

Enrique Castro-Mendivil



Pete Souza/former Chief Official White House Photographer

You do what? Photographer Pari Dukovic '06 takes a portrait of former President Barack Obama.

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Leading Athletics

Lou Spiotti Jr. is starting his 40th season as executive director of Intercollegiate Athletics at RIT.

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Faculty Profile

Meet Maureen Valentine from the College of Engineering Technology.

In Brief

Two win Fulbrights

An alumnus and an associate professor are recipients of Fulbright awards.

Andrew Ramsey '18 (computer engineering), '18 MS (computer engineering) received a Fulbright U.S. Student Program award in computer engineering to help drones assist with search and rescue operations in difficult terrain such as dense forests or steep mountains where GPS might not be reliable. He will work in Austria starting this fall.

Callie Babbitt, an associate professor in the Golisano Institute for Sustainability, received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program award to study sustainable solutions that will address the growing challenge of food waste management along Croatia's Adriatic coast.

Babbitt's research will leverage the relationship between RIT's main campus and its international campuses in Zagreb and Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Esports competes nationally

Four students represented RIT at the first-ever ESPN Collegiate Esports Championship in May and received \$7,500 in tuition scholarships.

The students played *Hearthstone*, a digital collectible-card game set in the Warcraft universe that is available on PC, Mac, Android and iOS. They joined 20 other top colleges in the esports competition.

RIT Esports currently has about 130 students playing in 14 different competitive esports. The university has won four national championships in the games *Dota 2*, *Dropzone* and *Rainbow Six: Siege*.

Tops in game design

Animation Career Review has again named RIT one of the top game design schools in the country.

RIT ranked fifth on the list of Top 50 Game Design Schools in the U.S. and second in New York state.



A. Sue Weisler

Chance Wright '18 (advertising photography), '19 (MBA) has made a \$3.5 million gift to the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences.

Alumnus makes \$3.5 million gift to photography school

A 2018 advertising photography alumnus is making a \$3.5 million gift to the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences (SPAS), the largest single gift ever made to RIT's College of Art and Design.

The gift comes from Chance Wright and his mother, Pamela Mars-Wright, whose late father was the co-president of Mars Inc.—a family-owned business with more than a century of making some of the world's best-loved brands and offering services for people and pets.

"The School of Photographic Arts and Sciences is beyond thrilled and humbled by the generosity of this gift from alumnus Chance Wright and his family," said Therese Mulligan, school director of SPAS.

Mulligan added that "with Chance's gift, the school will renovate its spaces on the third floor of Gannett Hall, enabling us to reshape the physical environment in which students learn and hone their skills."

Wright, who also earned a master's degree from RIT's Saunders College of

Business in May, said he "wanted to make a gift that would help the students directly and make the biggest impact" for the photo school, which made such an impression on him during a campus visit five years ago.

"The 'cage' was one of the main reasons I came to this school," said Wright, affectionately referring to Gannett Hall's third-floor equipment cage—an area bustling with activity and stocked full of the latest gear for RIT students in the photography programs. "Students here have the opportunity to work with equipment that sets the standard for the industry."

RIT architects are currently working with school officials on details of the project, which is scheduled to begin in May 2020.

"I can't wait to see how this gift will help SPAS," he said. "It is meant for the students and faculty, providing them with the best tools for their education and to create amazing things."

Rich Kiley



Eli Liang

First graduation: RIT's campus in Weihei, China, held its first commencement ceremony in June, celebrating 103 graduates, including Hang Su, left, and Yanzi Su. The event recognized the initial class of students to earn BS degrees in management information systems. Courses are jointly offered by RIT's Saunders College of Business and the Beijing Jiaotong University (BJTU) School of Economics and Management, allowing students to earn a dual degree from RIT and BJTU. More than 4,200 students graduated from all of RIT's campuses this year, including a record 41 Ph.D. students.

RIT names two deans, associate provost



Todd S. Jokl

New leaders are in place for the upcoming academic year.

Todd S. Jokl began Aug. 5 as dean of the College of Art and Design.

Jokl was the campus dean of the University of New Haven's Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts in Connecticut, where he served as a teacher and academic administrator for nearly two decades.

S. Manian Ramkumar was named dean of the College of Engineering Technology in May. Ramkumar '91 ME (manufacturing



S. Manian Ramkumar

engineering) had been serving as interim dean and was named to the permanent position following a national search.

Carmala N. Garzione began July 1 in the new position of associate provost for Faculty Affairs. Garzione

most recently served as a professor at the University of Rochester and director of its Center for Energy and the Environment.

As associate provost for Faculty Affairs, Garzione will oversee the newly created



Carmala N. Garzione

Office of Faculty Affairs, within the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. She will focus on faculty development, recruitment and retention, as well as advocate for and advance the work of university faculty.

Garzione will also join the faculty of RIT's College of Science as a tenured professor.

Staff writers





Grit happens

RIT hosted its sixth Baja SAE Rochester World Challenge in June. The defending world champions placed 10th overall among 100 collegiate race teams that took on a daunting motocross field and four challenging days of competition. Here, Justin Neves, a fourth-year civil engineering technology student from Montgomery, N.J., drives the RIT vehicle.


About Students

RIT students Sophia Gardner and Madeleine Baum (in chairs) work with Harley School students Coco Cai, Connor Ferris and Maya Hood and Hospice, Service Learning & Mindfulness educator Sybil Prince, center, as part of their senior capstone project.



A. Sue Weisler

Students raise awareness about end-of-life care



Two RIT students created a webpage about a hospice program at a local high school.

Young people don't often think about death and their own mortality. However, the 17- and 18-year-olds in the hospice program at a local high school choose to make it a regular topic of conversation.

As part of their RIT senior capstone project, Madeleine Baum and Sophia Gardner, fourth-year digital humanities and social sciences students, created a promotional webpage to showcase The Harley School's unique hospice classroom environment and the service work of the students involved.

Under the umbrella of the Center for Mindfulness and Empathy Education at The Harley School in Brighton, N.Y., the hospice program helps students foster a healthy relationship with the concept of death via in-class discussions, activities and—most notably—by learning to care for hospice patients and volunteering at local comfort care homes.

The hospice class curriculum has received local news coverage and was featured in a documentary, *Beginning with the End*, filmed by David Marshall from the Blue Sky Project. However, The Harley School is always looking for improved ways to articulate what happens in the program and to raise awareness.

"The hospice program actually already had its own website, but it was not on the main school's website, it was really out of date and no one looked at it anymore," said Gardner. "If no one looks at the site, it's hard to spread information about the program. We want to change

that."

To remedy this issue, Baum and Gardner created a new webpage, connected to the school's main site. The page, which went live at the end of April, included student interviews, photos and other information to help promote the class.

"These teenagers are tackling things that a lot of adults don't have the capacity to think about in such a mature way," said Baum. "I think it's really amazing what these kids have to say, and I just want to share that with the world."

A common thread between the class curriculum and Baum and Gardner's goals for the site is improving people's relationships with death and erasing the stigma people have about hospice and end-of-life care.

Baum and Gardner's experience working with the school helped enhance their professional skills.

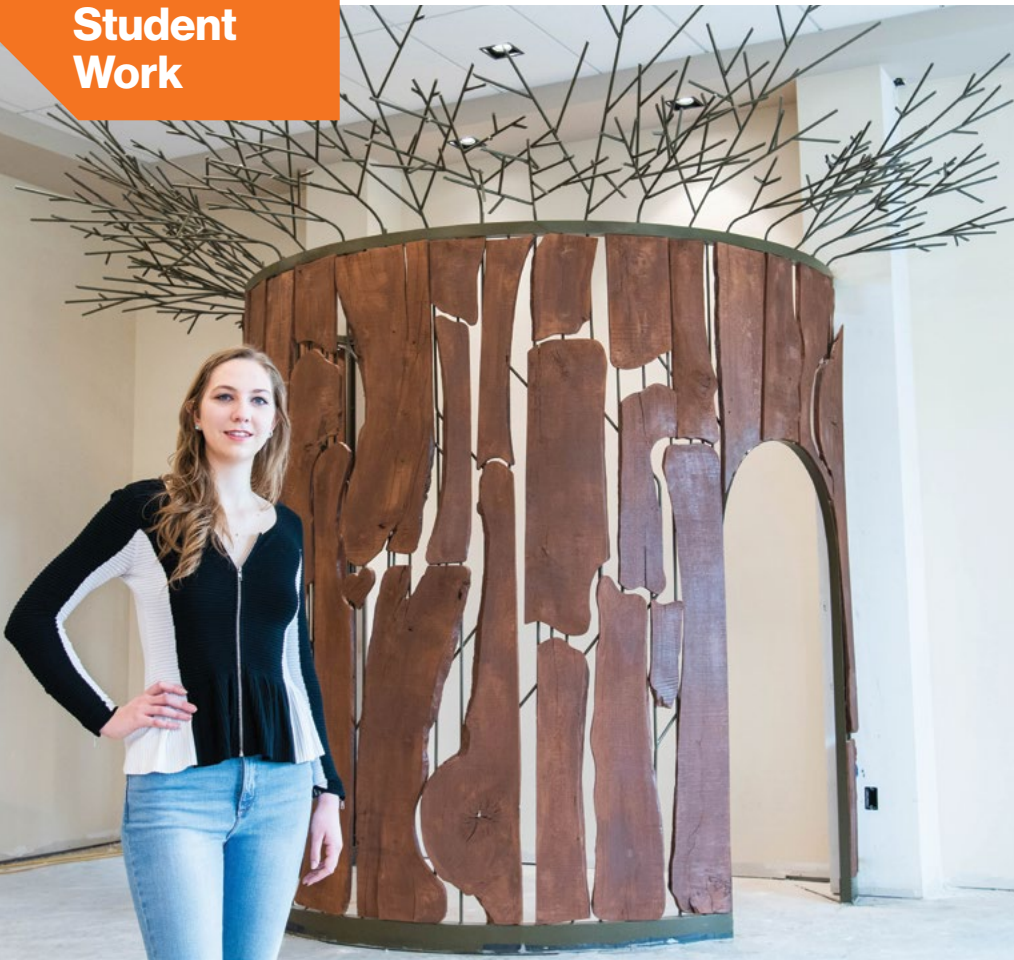
"We were using the technical skills that we already knew, but I had to learn more about administrative and project management roles while making the site," said Gardner. "Being able to really dissect project ideas and understanding what we are capable of and what our own limitations are was really important, and this project definitely helped with that."

Felicia Swartzberg '19

To learn more

Go to www.harleyschool.org/hospice-home to see the website.

Student Work



Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito



Elizabeth Lamark

Casey Mazza '19 (industrial design) helped design this children's reading nook for the Henrietta Public Library. The project was one of many that celebrated RIT's 50 years in Henrietta.

Other anniversary projects

Industrial design students came up with several ways to use wood from a century-old oak tree that fell during a 2017 windstorm. Along with the children's area in the Henrietta Public Library, a group of monumental benches was installed on campus near the University Services Center and Crossroads buildings this spring. RIT-branded commemorative coasters also were given out as part of the 50th anniversary celebration.

Why I created this project

“T-Minus 2018 (an annual project in the industrial design program) focused on celebrating RIT's 50 years in Henrietta. My team was tasked with designing the children's area for the new Henrietta Public Library, which opened in July.

Inspiration was drawn from Wendell Castle's approach to design, as well as the large oak tree on RIT's campus that fell during a windstorm.

Our original design, Sprout, featured a large tree-like reading nook, modular brick seating, a black line mural of Henrietta for children to color in, modular tables and more seating designed by RIT alumna Sandra Turner.

After winning our category, we were

offered the chance to continue working on the design and see it all the way through to construction. As the only team member available over the summer of 2018, I worked alongside my professor Gary Molinari as well as the town supervisor, architects, librarians and engineers to rework the design into being safe, cost effective and easier to construct.

The final design features a half circle steel rod frame clad in wooden panels. It stands about 12 feet tall and 10 feet in diameter with a wheelchair accessible doorway and secret passageway.

This space was created to act as a hide-away for children, free of distraction so that they can fully engage with the stories in

their books.

With a large doorway and spacing between the panels, parents maintain visibility while creating a safe, fun environment.

It has been an amazing experience to work with so many incredible people on a design that actually became reality.

It has been an honor and I can't thank RIT enough for giving me this opportunity. After graduation, I hope to continue working on projects that are designed to have a positive impact on the community.”

Casey Mazza

Industrial design BFA
Class of 2019
Hometown: Grosse Pointe, Mich.

Research that impacts the world starts with the people who conduct it.

The student experience is greatly enriched by attaining research knowledge, skills and abilities—early and often. By offering more research fellowships to students at all levels, RIT will ensure that more students have the opportunity to engage in RIT's unique brand of student-centered research.

At the undergraduate level, student-centered research means that students are in the driver's seat conducting genuine, hands-on research assignments that gives them the chance to learn the foundation of scientific research as well as further shape their futures.

Graduate students collaborate with faculty on research to solve pressing global challenges. They make advancements in promising areas of knowledge that are the future of RIT, the region, the nation and the world.

To ensure that the research conversation at RIT includes many voices, we ask for your support in offering substantially more research fellowships. Learn more and make your gift at rit.edu/transformingRIT.

“

As an undergraduate at RIT, I participated in groundbreaking research, completed a co-op position at the Renal Research Institute, and first-authored a published research paper. The funded research opportunities for students at RIT are critical to helping students like me become successful scientists.”

**—Melissa Mendoza '17
(biomedical engineering),
Ph.D. candidate**



**Drive progress.
Shape what's possible.
Transform the future.**

Transforming RIT
The Campaign for **Greatness**

Researchers develop toilet seats to measure biometrics

With 1 million new cases of congestive heart failure diagnosed each year, a revolutionary product is making it easier for hospitals to monitor patients with the condition in the comfort of their own homes.

A toilet-seat based cardiovascular monitoring system created by a team of RIT researchers aims to lower the hospital readmission rates of patients with congestive heart failure.

The toilet seats, which will be brought through the FDA clearance process by the researchers' company Heart Health Intelligence, would be purchased by hospitals and issued to heart failure patients after discharge.

The toilet seats are equipped to measure the electrical and mechanical activity of the heart and can monitor heart rate, blood pressure, blood oxygenation levels, and the patient's weight and stroke volume, which is the amount of blood pumped out of the heart at every beat.

Algorithms analyze the data, and with further development, will alert advanced practice providers of a deteriorating condition. A report will be passed along to cardiologists who will then determine if intervention is necessary.

Nicholas Conn '11 (electrical engineering), '13 MS (electrical engineering), '16 Ph.D. (microsystems engineering), a postdoctoral fellow at RIT and founder and CEO of Heart Health Intelligence, is part of the university

team that developed the toilet seats.

"Typically, within 30 days of hospital discharge, 25 percent of patients with congestive heart failure are readmitted," said Conn. "After 90 days of hospital discharge, 45 percent of patients are readmitted. And the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is penalizing hospitals for readmitting patients for heart failure."

Conn further explains that using the national average for readmission rates, the typical penalty for a hospital that discharges 150 patients a year is approximately \$500,000 annually.

According to Conn, the system will pick up deteriorating conditions before the patients even realize they are symptomatic. And with the rapid data analysis, interventions can be as simple as a drug change or short office visit, instead of an admission to the hospital.

HHI, which joined RIT's Venture Creations business incubator earlier this year, is now focused on moving the product forward.

The team is heavily involved in writing grants for additional funding and networking, and human-subject testing and pre-clinical studies are well underway.

Conn and his team are at the early stages of commercialization and will be bringing the device through the FDA approval process before rolling it out across the country.

Vienna McGrain '12 MS

Monitoring system

The toilet-seat based cardiovascular monitoring system is equipped to measure the electrical and mechanical activity of the heart and can monitor heart rate, blood pressure, blood oxygenation levels, and the patient's weight and stroke volume.

Nicholas Conn '11, '13 MS, '16 Ph.D., a postdoctoral fellow at RIT and founder and CEO of Heart Health Intelligence, is part of the university team that has developed a toilet-seat based cardiovascular monitoring system.



RIT expands genomics research



André Hudson

Students in Professor André Hudson's genomics course last fall conducted a semester-long study about antibiotic-resistant bacteria found on the screens of smartphones.

With touchscreen devices now ubiquitous in society, they aimed to evaluate potential public risks the devices pose for harboring and transmitting pathogenic bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics.

Their findings, which showed that kiosk-like touchscreen devices at locations such as airports, ATMs, restaurants and hotels are potential vectors for the transmission of antibiotic resistant pathogens, were published in the February issue of the *Journal of Genomics*.

"This study was more than just a valuable learning experience for us," said Spencer Richman, a third-year bioinformatics and computational biology student from Santa Clarita, Calif., who contributed to the study and is one of the 16 student co-authors on the paper. "While working on this project, we learned the intricacies of genomic research, ranging from experimental design, to sample preparation, to bioinformatics analysis of the resulting data, and finally to the writing and peer-review process."

RIT's genomics research capabilities have evolved significantly over the past year. The university has invested heavily in revamping and equipping its Genomics Research Lab Cluster. A \$1.5 million Empire State Development grant RIT received from New York state last fall helped equip the labs.

RIT renovated its genomics suite of laboratories and invested in technology such

as an Illumina Next Generation Sequencer, which allows students and faculty to sequence the genomes of more complex organisms than before.

"This means that we now have a larger footprint in an area of biology that is traditionally aligned with RIT's core interests in technology and the application of technology," said Hudson, head of the Thomas H. Gosnell School of Life Sciences. Hudson emphasized that the labs would be used for courses and research across the College of Science.

The overhauled genomics facilities will boost capabilities for researchers in multiple disciplines, including bioinformatics, biotechnology and environmental science. Hudson said that the RIT facilities will not be like a traditional core at a research institution where students drop their samples off and walk away—undergraduate and graduate students will be working hands-on with the equipment.

"We're exposing our students to new and state-of-the-art equipment that they can leverage when they go on co-ops, internships, fellowships and the job market," said Hudson. "They will be more competitive for graduate or postsecondary graduation opportunities as they will have been exposed to state-of-the-art equipment."

Beyond the new hardware, Hudson said RIT is also bolstering its "gray matter infrastructure" in genomics. Two new assistant professors—Eli Borrego and Crista Wadsworth—will join the RIT faculty this fall as part of the genomics initiative, and genomics technician Narayan Wong joined RIT in the spring of the previous academic year.

Luke Auburn '09, '15 MS

Ruby Zathang, a third-year student from Syracuse, N.Y., conducts genomics research in one of the College of Science's recently renovated labs. RIT's genomics research capabilities have evolved significantly over the past year.





Transforming RIT

RIT publicly launched a \$1 billion blended campaign in July 2018 called Transforming RIT: The Campaign for Greatness. A pillar of the campaign calls for the university to improve the world through research and discovery, such as cybersecurity. Learn more at rit.edu/transformingrit.



Cybersecurity Institute to open in 2020

Critical security

A new facility at RIT will help the university increase enrollment in cybersecurity, advance research and create more opportunities for industry and government collaboration.

Building the future

Cybersecurity has no borders. Attackers don't care if their targets are in another state or use a different currency. Cybercrime is costing the world trillions of dollars, and analysts say that there aren't enough qualified professionals to prevent those attacks.

To address this problem, RIT is creating the Global Cybersecurity Institute (GCI), aimed at meeting the demand for computing security and artificial intelligence professionals, while developing future technologies, protocols and human understanding needed to address the global cybersecurity crisis.

The institute, to be housed in a new, state-of-the-art facility, will expand outreach, research and student-focused programs to help the university become a nexus of cybersecurity education and research. GCI will bring together academic disciplines—computing, liberal arts, engineering, business and others—to conduct interdisciplinary sociotechnical cybersecurity research. It will also develop industry, government and academic collaborations and professional development programs.

"The cybersecurity skills gap continues to pose a challenge on a global scale, with roughly 3 million unfilled positions around the world currently," said Heather Ricciuto, Academic Outreach Leader at IBM Security. "Projects like this which encourage global collaboration amongst industry, academia and government are key to building diverse talent that will be equipped to conduct complex research and develop creative security solutions to help make the world a safer place."

The three-story, 45,000-square-foot facility will include a Cybersecurity Learning Experience Center, state-of-the-art Cyber Range, five research labs and several student lounges, instructional labs and faculty



LaBella Associates

A lab inside the institute called the Cyber Range will immerse students, alumni and professionals in real-world attack and defense scenarios.

offices. It is expected to open in fall 2020. Executive Director Steve Hoover, former chief technology officer and senior vice president at Xerox, will be leading GCI.

The facility was made possible in part with designated funding from a donation made by Austin McChord '09 and a \$5 million grant from New York state, awarded competitively through its Higher Education Capital Matching Grant Program.

"New York state is proud to support RIT's game-changing Global Cybersecurity Institute," said Howard Zemsky, president, CEO and commissioner of Empire State Development. "With its laser focus on research and professional development, the institute will train the workforce to drive this critical industry's commercialization in New York state, creating jobs and driving economic growth for generations to come."

Interdisciplinary approach

By working with industry, federal agencies and other universities, researchers in the institute are aiming to tackle the most pressing cybersecurity questions and problems. GCI has designated health care, energy, defense and financial services as core areas of cybersecurity research.

"Cybersecurity is a broad area that requires an interdisciplinary approach," said Anne Haake, dean of RIT's Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. "We should collaborate in many



Anne Haake

areas, including computing, business, social sciences and engineering, because the problems need to be understood in context rather than in isolation. We need to consider the different people, domains, laws, policies

and nature of the data, hardware and software that are involved with securing our digital and physical worlds." Research is already under way in RIT's Center for Cybersecurity, which will become part of GCI. Matthew Wright, director of the center, is focusing on a human-centered approach to cybersecurity and using artificial intelligence. He and his researchers are designing software that helps automatically detect deepfake videos.

Wright and another group also are using artificial intelligence and deep learning to research website fingerprinting attacks on the Tor anonymity system.

For S. Jay Yang, professor of computer engineering, more interdisciplinary research will let cyber defenders be more proactive in responding to increasingly sophisticated cyber attacks.

"We are at the point where cybersecurity professionals shouldn't simply detect and protect against attacks as they come in," said Yang. "We need technology that can

predict attacks and trends."

With funding from government agencies, Yang is developing a common platform for cyber defense with anticipatory intelligence.

The three-part project includes: ASSERT, which uses machine learning and information theory to extract the critical features that should be focused on during an attack; CASCADES, which uses simulation to generate synthetic cyber attack scenarios that have not been observed but could happen; and CAPTURE, which forecasts future cyber attacks based on unconventional sensors and signals.

Victor Perotti, the Benjamin Forman Professor for Collaborative Research in Saunders College of Business, is researching with computing colleagues how businesses adopt cybersecurity solutions. This includes how an organization plans, decides on, then implements cybersecurity software and behavioral initiatives.

"I'm excited for our faculty to be engaged in these interdisciplinary research efforts that can lead to the development of comprehensive, systems-level cybersecurity solutions for business and industry," said Saunders College Dean Jacqueline Mozrall.

Outreach and certifications

There will be 3.5 million unfilled cybersecurity positions worldwide by 2021, according to Cybersecurity Ventures. This gap in cyber experts is a rallying cry for GCI

leaders, including Justin Pelletier, director of GCI Cyber Range and Training Center.

"Having qualified cybersecurity professionals is critical to the defense of our way of life," said Pelletier, who is also a computing security lecturer and Army Reserve counter-intelligence officer. "If things in our energy, health care or finance industries are taken down by a malicious attack, we are in deep trouble."

Pelletier will help fill this gap by offering certification programs through GCI. People seek out these certifications to sharpen their skills, at the request of employers, and to make changes in their careers. Certification programs could be one-week boot camps, mixed with some online instruction.

Examples of high-demand programs include the Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Offensive Security Certified Professional (OSCP) and Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH) qualification.

While at RIT, professionals taking part in the programs will be based in the institute's Cyber Range, a lab that simulates network cyber-attacks and problem-solving scenarios so people can practice their real-world skills.

RIT designers are working with experts at IBM to model the range after IBM's X-Force Command Cyber Range, which was one of the first spaces to offer immersive simulations for cybersecurity training.

"This is a giant sandbox for cybersecurity experts to play and train in, without impacting real networks," Pelletier said. "You could mimic the IT environment of an entire hospital in this lab and pinpoint critical systems during a specific attack scenario."

GCI will also feature a Cybersecurity Learning Experience Center geared toward teaching general audiences about cybersecurity.

The experience center will include a cybersecurity hall of fame, student projects and hands-on demonstrations of best practices.

Industry is already connecting with GCI through the Eaton Cybersecurity SAFE (Security Assessment and Forensic Examination) Lab.

For the last two years, students in this lab have been performing penetration tests and vulnerability analysis on technology created by companies, including Eaton.

These partnerships blend research and experiential learning, allowing students to gain hands-on experience with internet of things (IoT) devices, while helping the companies better secure their new products.

Yang is also taking on a new role as director of global outreach for GCI. He will help the

institute look beyond America's borders by creating a coalition of academic partners who collaborate on cybersecurity research, pedagogy and experiential learning in culturally diverse environments.

"If we are going to have any hope in addressing this global crisis, we need to work with our allies to share best practices and learn how different cultures impact cybersecurity," Yang said. "Hackers don't care about physical boundaries—this is a global problem."

GCI has already formed partnerships with universities in Czech Republic, Taiwan and Poland. Yang plans to organize scholarly exchanges for students and faculty and an annual workshop to examine ways to share data and infrastructure for cybersecurity research.

Student-focused programs

RIT is nationally recognized for cybersecurity education, having been designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education and in Research by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security.

With the new GCI, RIT's computing security degree programs will have space to expand.

After moving its headquarters to the second floor of GCI, RIT's Department of Computing Security plans to grow its undergraduate program by 25 percent to about 500 students. The graduate program will double, expanding to about 100 students.

"We are also going to add more in-depth scientific principles of cybersecurity into our



Bo Yuan

curriculum, in addition to teaching the operational skills that we already do so well," said Bo Yuan, professor of computing security and chair of the department. "We want to increase students' knowledge of machine learning, advanced computer science and cyber analytics so they can solve the security problems of the future."

Outside the classroom, students will continue to learn through RITSEC, the university's cybersecurity club, and through competitions.

"Creating the Global Cybersecurity Institute is not the end goal—it's the first step," said Yuan. "This will enable RIT to jump to the next level, becoming a hub that advances the world's knowledge in cybersecurity."

Scott Bureau '11, '16 MBA



Executive director named

Steve Hoover, former chief technology officer and senior vice president at Xerox, has been named endowed executive director of the Global Cybersecurity Institute. He begins Sept. 15.

"I'm very excited about this opportunity and honored to be selected," said Hoover. "Universities—and especially RIT—play a key role in preparing students and the technologies that we use to provide the security we all expect for our infrastructure, information and data."

Hoover held a variety of roles at Xerox in both product development and research. He oversaw several global research centers including the Palo Alto Research Center (PARC), which he helped transform from Xerox's flagship research laboratory to a world-class research and development organization in the business of open innovation.

Nationally ranked

Cyber competitions are an important part of the culture for cybersecurity students.

RIT is a perennial contender at the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition, taking home third place at the 2019 event in Orlando.

RIT is also the founder of the nation's premier offensive-based competition, the Collegiate Penetration Testing Competition (CPTC). The Global Cybersecurity Institute will host CPTC every year.

Scholarship for Service

Many RIT computing students plan to give back to their country after graduation, by enhancing U.S. cybersecurity through the CyberCorps: Scholarship for Service program.

Students can earn a scholarship covering their costs at RIT, in exchange for agreeing to work at a government computing security job for the same number of years.

40 years and counting

Athletics director says he still has more to do

Lou Spiotti Jr. will begin his 40th season as executive director of Intercollegiate Athletics at RIT this fall.

He is one of a few directors in all of college athletics—Division I, II and III—to serve in that position for 40 years.

Spiotti, who arrived at the university in 1974 as head football coach, was named athletics director in 1980. Under Spiotti's leadership, the program has experienced unprecedented growth and development.

When Spiotti was tasked with leading athletics, RIT had just 15 sports, 10 for men and only five women's teams. Today, the program consists of 24 sports (12 for both men and women) and 650 student-athletes.

"Lou is the consummate professional as the director of athletics," said Bob DeGregorio, commissioner of Atlantic Hockey Association and College Hockey America, who has worked with Spiotti since the mid-1980s. "He is one of the best all-around directors of athletics that I have worked with during my 42 years in intercollegiate athletics."

A discussion early in his tenure with then-RIT President M. Richard Rose would

set the tone and provide a blueprint for how athletics would be regarded at the university.

"Dr. Rose was adamant on three points of emphasis," said Spiotti. "First, athletics would be used to serve the student first and athlete second. No. 2, (athletics) should be a catalytic agent for school spirit. No. 3, it would be an outward extension of the university toward our alumni. Those three things still exist today."

Within the first few years, Spiotti brought in energetic, up-and-coming coaches Doug May (men's soccer), Brian Mason (men's hockey), Bob McVean (men's basketball) and Bill Tierney (men's lacrosse).

Almost immediately, those four coaches moved RIT into local and national prominence. Men's hockey won the Division II national championship in 1983 and two years later, under Bruce Delventhal, won the Division III championship. Men's soccer and men's lacrosse became perennial national championship contenders, while men's basketball under McVean recorded 20 consecutive winning seasons.

In 2005, men's hockey, un-

der current head coach Wayne Wilson, made the jump to Division I and enjoyed immediate success, advancing to the Frozen Four in 2010.

If the mid-1980s were the start of RIT's golden era of athletics, the late 2010s can be considered the platinum period.


In 2012, women's hockey won the Division III Championship, RIT's first national title for a women's program, and moved to Division I the following season.

Division III sports have enjoyed their finest collective multi-year run ever coinciding with RIT's move to the Liberty League in 2011.

Women's basketball has made three straight NCAA Tournament appearances, while men's lacrosse has now won 10 consecutive league titles and is a perennial national power.

Baseball and women's crew both made their first NCAA Tournament appearances in 2017, while volleyball, women's soccer, wrestling, men's and women's cross country and track and field have all enjoyed national prominence.

"Lou has been an outstanding mentor throughout my career here at RIT as well as a trusted friend," said RIT



Lou Spiotti Jr. enters his 40th season as executive director of Intercollegiate Athletics. During his tenure, RIT has become one of the most respected programs in Division III, while men's and women's hockey have elevated to Division I. He joined the RIT Sports Hall of Fame in 2009.



Highlights of Lou Spiotti's tenure

- 1974 1980 1983 1985 1988 1993 1997
- Spring 1974**— Spiotti arrives at RIT to coach football.
- Fall 1980**— Spiotti begins his tenure as RIT's director of athletics, succeeding Bill Carey.
- March 1983**— Men's hockey wins Division II national championship.
- March 1985**— Men's hockey wins Division III national championship.
- November 1985**— Men's cross country places third at Division III national championship.
- November 1988**— Men's soccer hosts the Division III national championship game.
- November 1993**— Volleyball advances to the Division III national semifinals, while winning 137 of 154 matches over a three-year span.
- March 1997**— Men's basketball ascends to No. 1 in the nation.



Spiotti was named RIT's director of athletics in 1980. He is set to become one of a select few athletics directors in NCAA history to serve in that role for 40 seasons.

Spiotti arrived at RIT in 1974 to serve as head football coach. He was a standout player himself at Ithaca College in the mid 1960s.



2004

August 2004—Gordon Field House and Activities Center opens.

Dec. 15, 2004—Men's hockey announces move to Division I for the 2005-06 season.

2009 2010

June 2009—RIT is admitted into the Liberty League for its Division III sports, beginning play as a full-time member during the 2011-12 season.

March/April 2010—Men's hockey wins first Atlantic Hockey Championship and advances to the Frozen Four in Detroit.

2012

March 17, 2012—Women's hockey wins Division III national championship with a 4-1 win over Norwich University. Tigers announce move to Division I three days later.

September/October 2014—Hockey programs move into and play first games at the Gene Polisseni Center.

2014

May 2017—Tigers have three spring sports teams (baseball, women's crew, men's lacrosse) win Liberty League Championships and compete at NCAA championships. Men's lacrosse advances to the national championship game.

2017

2019

2018-19—RIT enjoyed arguably its finest all-around season. Five teams made the NCAA Tournament, while 17 individuals earned All-American honors. A school record 283 student-athletes earned league All-Academic honors.



1 Spiotti with students in the 1990s.

2 Men's hockey captains Chuck Samar, Chris Johnstone and T.J. Perras receive the 1984 ECAC Championship trophy.

3 RIT President Emeritus Bill Destler and Spiotti, right, congratulate Daniel Spivak '12, a member of the men's hockey program, on receiving his 2010 Frozen Four ring.

4 The RIT women's hockey team won the 2012 NCAA Division III Championship. It is RIT's lone championship by a women's team.

5 Spiotti presents former women's soccer star Emily Shoemaker '16 with the prestigious Female Athlete of the Year award in 2016.

6 Spiotti with RIT President Emeritus Bill Destler, left, and current RIT President David Munson, right, at the 2019 Liberty League Men's Lacrosse Championship. The team captured its eighth straight league title.

women's basketball head coach Amy Reed. "It's always so great to have an athletics director who has a coaching background. I've gone into his office countless times to seek advice about my program, and he always has incredible insight."

A strong athletics profile is impressive. Even more remarkable, however, is the message Spiotti conveys to his student-athletes about excelling in the classroom and becoming leaders in the community.

RIT's student-athletes combined to post a 3.35 cumulative grade-point average during the 2018-19 season, with nearly 50 Academic All-Americans and 250 Academic All-League selections.

"I thrive on seeing the goodness that our student-athletes bring," Spiotti said. "I still see myself being very much a student-athlete advocate—a person who wants to see our athletes get the very best possible experience they can at the university through the athletics program. I want them to

become better people when they leave."

Facilities for the athletics programs continue to improve. The Gene Polisseni Center, RIT's 4,300-seat arena, opened in 2014. Nearly every sport has renovated and expanded locker rooms.

More upgrades are planned, which are sure to continue RIT's ascent to greatness.

"I think we are on the cusp of doing great things that will position us on another level and put us in a far better spot to recruit great student-athletes," said Spiotti. "There's still work to do. I am anxious to do it. I want to roll up my sleeves and get to it."

Joe Venniro

Honor Lou Spiotti

Honor the milestone by making a gift to the Director's Fund for Athletics or an athletic team. For details, go to rit.edu/Lou40.



Pari Dukovic '06 has taken portraits of some of the biggest names in pop culture for magazines including *TIME*, *Vanity Fair*, *New York Magazine*, *GQ*, *Rolling Stone*, *Wired* and *The New Yorker*. He is based in New York City.

From accountant to the stars

You

to sustainable chocolate producer,

do what?

RIT alumni have some pretty cool careers



Dukovic photographed six people on the covers of the 2019 *TIME* 100 Most Influential People issue. Here he is taking the picture of Dwayne Johnson.

Behind the lens of famous photos

With a wall-to-wall bookshelf that requires a ladder to retrieve the highest-resting material, Pari Dukovic's Manhattan studio holds a lot of history. Photography history, mostly.

"I would say 80 or 85 percent of them are photography books," said Dukovic '06 (professional photographic illustration).

A former staff photographer for *The New Yorker* who now takes commissions from publications all over the world, Dukovic's work is renowned. He's taken portraits of the biggest names in pop culture, for the biggest brands and publications.

In the spring, he traveled around the U.S. and to England to capture portraits of Dwayne Johnson, Gayle King, Nancy Pelosi, Sandra Oh, Mohamed Salah and Taylor Swift for the six covers of the 2019 *TIME* 100 Most Influential People issue.

Dukovic has an affinity for the past—he minored in art history while in RIT's College of Imaging Arts and Sciences (now the College of Art and Design)—and regularly references his extensive library to inform his work.

He flips through countless pages to ensure history doesn't repeat itself in his work. It's an approach that has enabled Dukovic to execute unique concepts every shoot, resulting in a successful career of making matchless images with vibrant color that are unmistakably his.

Brimming with portraits of a number of high-profile subjects, Dukovic's portfolio includes the likes of former President Barack Obama, LeBron James, Nicki Minaj, Pharrell Williams and Stevie Wonder, to name a few. He has also worked with editorial and commercial clients such as FX, GQ, HBO, Nike and *Rolling Stone*.

"This is what I'm meant to be doing," said Dukovic, who is of Greek descent but was born and raised in Istanbul, Turkey. "I have my dream job. I love the unpredictable quality of being a photographer—I could get a job to go to China next week. And I love to travel. When you're a photographer, one thing you need to keep in mind is curiosity takes you everywhere."

Dukovic forged an

intimate connection with photography at a young age, performing street photography and assignment work for a newspaper as a teenager in Istanbul before moving to the U.S. and enrolling at RIT.

After graduating, his breakthrough assignment was a 20-plus-page spread of photos from fashion shows in Milan, New York City and Paris for *New York Magazine* in 2012.

He became a staff photographer for *The New Yorker* in 2013 before he was 30, making him the magazine's youngest person ever to have that role. He left in 2018.

"I couldn't have dreamt that I'd be meeting all of the people I have photographed so far and worked on the types of projects I have worked on," Dukovic said. "That is probably all coming together because deep down I just wanted to make pictures. That's what I love. I love photography."

Aaron Garland



You do what?

IBM

Boston Globe via Getty Images



Allison Ritter '14 is the creative director for IBM's X-Force Command in Boston. She uses her media arts and technology background to help clients learn about the dangers of cybersecurity threats.

Bringing creativity into cybersecurity

Most people stop playing pretend when they're kids, but Allison Ritter '14 (media arts and technology) has made a career out of it.

Ritter is the creative director for IBM's X-Force Command in Boston. She helps clients learn about the dangers of cybersecurity threats by placing them in simulations where their company is the target of a security breach. IBM's X-Force Command was one of the first cyber ranges to be established, and Ritter was instrumental in shaping the department when she was hired in 2016.

"The cyber range wasn't developed when I was interviewing for other jobs at IBM, but I was so interested in the idea and I kept asking about it," said Ritter. "In the end they hired me, though the department didn't exist yet, and I was given the opportunity to grow the division."

IBM's X-Force Command allows Ritter to exercise both her creative and technical side. By combining her experiences in RIT's College of Imaging Arts and Sciences (now the College of Art and Design), the performing arts program and her technical knowl-

edge, she is able to present clients with realistic, theatrical simulations that help them learn about cybersecurity risks.

"I'm stepping away from showing a slide deck and into giving an experience, and a lot of that comes from my creative and technical background," said Ritter.

Ritter and her team invite clients into the X-Force Command office and guide them through a pretend scenario based on real-life cybersecurity risks. At the end of the simulation, clients have a better idea of how all departments within their organization come together to fix and move past a major security breach. As creative director, Ritter has worked with companies, governmental bodies and militaries from around the world.

"Hearing what top executives from around the globe are dealing with—listening to their largest worries and fears and developing solutions that support their needs—is the most fascinating part of my job," said Ritter.

Caleb Barlow '95 (electrical engineering) '99 MS (manufacturing management and leadership), the vice president of X-Force Threat Intelligence for IBM Security, met

Ritter when she was interviewing at IBM. After her first interview, he knew she would be a good fit to help develop IBM's cyber range.

"It wasn't so much a conversation about placing a person into a job, because the job had never existed before. It was more about finding someone to go on that journey with us and figure out what the job would be," said Barlow. "Allison had done five or six interviews with other people and they all came back to me and said, 'would you hire her already?' The rest was history."

Barlow joked that Ritter is the only employee who has to be told to stop running in the office because she is so excited about the work she does. According to Barlow, that excitement and her classic, interdisciplinary RIT background is part of what makes Ritter so great at her job.

"CEOs and CIOs all over the world seek her out. She knows how to push you to your limits to find where things are broken," said Barlow. "In three years, she has built a reputation of being the most accomplished cyber simulation expert in the world."

Felicia Swartzberg '19



Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

Tianna Mañón '15 is editor-in-chief of Open Mic Rochester. As part of her job, she gives presentations at Rochester high schools.

Changing the approach to news reporting

News is more than writing about current events and hot-button topics. For Tianna Mañón '15 (journalism, political science), news is a tool for raising awareness and giving communities autonomy.

In 2016, Mañón helped relaunch Open Mic Rochester, a news organization that is run by and for the black community. At the age of 26, the editor-in-chief is using her influence to change how people approach reporting on minority communities.

"We want our community to use the information we provide to build themselves up," said Mañón. "We tend to focus on black stories and black news, but we don't always write about gentrification, the Rochester Police Department and those kinds of topics. We want to dig into the story about a 7-year-old who held a reading conference at a local theater."

Despite her current goals of uplifting the local community, Mañón never planned to stay in Rochester. She grew up in the city and, days after she graduated from RIT, she left for a reporting job at Urban Turf, a real estate publication in Washington, D.C.

However, while she enjoyed her time in the D.C. area, she didn't stay for long.

"The Boys and Girls Club shooting happened in Rochester three months into me being down there and I remember thinking, 'Does the journalism that I'm doing here actually matter?'" said Mañón, remembering the shooting that took the lives of three teenagers and injured four others after a basketball game at the club. "Maybe my time in D.C. was meant to teach me how to do this work and bring it back to Rochester."

A year later, Mañón moved back to Rochester in search of a job that would allow her to write hard news that made a difference in her community. Relaunching Open Mic gave her that opportunity.

Shappelle Thompson, the publisher for Open Mic who helped relaunch the news organization, met Mañón when she was a student at RIT, and they actually collaborated on some stories before she graduated.

"I needed a strong, focused person who could deliver great content and find people who were as tough and determined as she is. As we talked, she saw my vision for Open Mic and presented it back to me better

than I explained it to her," said Thompson. "So, I asked her, 'What if I made you editor-in-chief?' She looked at me wide-eyed, said, 'yes,' and it's been great ever since."

As editor-in-chief, Mañón helps oversee six people on the Open Mic staff, freelance staff members and interns. In addition to editing and writing stories, she also runs staff meetings, attends local service projects and events, gives presentations to students in the Rochester City School District about the work she does and serves as the public face of Open Mic in the community.

This year, Mañón was inducted into the Poynter Institute's 2019 Leadership Academy for Women in Digital Media.

She was elated to have the opportunity but said she doesn't need the validation to know that the work she does matters.

"When you have an organization that is for and by the people, it helps you ensure your stories are more accurate and represent the community," said Mañón. "You're finding new voices, finding new sources and telling stories that are often forgotten."

Felicia Swartzberg '19

You do what?



Jose F. Visconti

To make chocolate, Lorenzo Llosa '04 travels deep into the Peruvian Amazon rainforest to find rare cacao pods grown by native Awajún farmers.



Jose F. Visconti

Llosa teaches native farmers post-harvest drying and fermenting techniques for their cacao, so the farmers can get a higher percentage of the profits.



Enrique Castro-Mendivil

At his workshop, Llosa experiments with different roasting and tempering techniques to make chocolate bars that are unlike any other in the world.

Chocolate with a conscience

Lorenzo Llosa '04 (applied arts and sciences) has a pretty sweet job.

As an artisanal chocolate maker and co-founder of Elemento, a sustainable chocolate company in Peru, Llosa is introducing people to unique flavors of chocolate that aren't found in most candy aisles. He also takes pride in using his company to help protect the native cacao varieties of the Amazon basin and empower the indigenous farmers who live there.

"I work from bean to bar—meaning I'm involved with the whole creation process," said Llosa, who lives in Lima, Peru. "But it wasn't enough for me to just run a business, I wanted to help others and do something my children could be proud of."

Since starting the company in 2016 with his brother-in-law, Jose Visconti, Llosa has sold about four tons of chocolate. Elemento has also won International Chocolate Awards for its white chocolate and 70 percent chocolate bars. However, the inspiration for Elemento's chocolate originally came from the founders' love of unique coffee and wine.

"Like with coffee and wine, in chocolate there is a world of flavor notes you can

uncover that go way beyond the traditional chocolate flavor," said Llosa. "I was amazed to find that you can get floral notes, citrus, fruit, intense chocolate and nutty flavors, just from the different cacao beans that you use."

Llosa and Visconti wanted their chocolate to have these unique flavors. They also wanted to help protect Peru's natural diversity of cacao varieties, which is being threatened by large-scale farming. After connecting with the Awajún communities, indigenous farmers who grow different organic varieties of cacao deep in the Amazon basin, Llosa had found their perfect ingredient.

However, the commute to the Awajún proved to be quite challenging. After riding in a small plane to the Amazon, Llosa would make a six-hour drive through the jungle, take a one-hour steam boat ride down the Marañón River and hike for seven hours to the villages. He would live with different communities for weeks at a time to gain their trust and teach them post-harvest techniques.

"We figured out that if we train native farmers in the fermentation and drying process of cacao beans, we can eliminate a pro-

cess in the value chain," Llosa said. "While the farmers used to get only 2 percent of the profits, they can now earn 8 percent and hopefully find it more rewarding."

Back in Lima, Llosa and a team of five can be found in the Elemento workshop tempering and putting the chocolate in recycled packaging. Each finished bar shows the roast used, the community it came from and the date it was created.

Llosa said he uses the communications, web development and graphic design skills he learned at RIT to run other parts of the Elemento business and his own advertising agency on the side. It was through a program at the IPP Peruvian Advertising Institute that he made the connection to live in Rochester for a year and earn his bachelor's degree at RIT.

Elemento chocolate is sold in stores and coffee shops in Peru and online through social media. It also has been sold at Shop One on the RIT campus. As the business grows, they hope to work with more native communities and sell the chocolate around the world.

Scott Bureau '11, '16 MBA



Lorenzo Llosa '04
is co-founder
of Elemento,
a sustainable
chocolate company
in Peru.



Tamara Bizjak

Margot Sandy '08, '12 MS is a self-employed product development consultant who works with inventors and entrepreneurs all over the world.

Traveling the world creating products

Margot Sandy '08 (electrical mechanical engineering technology), '12 MS (product development) has set her sights on getting to work with as many entrepreneurs around the world as she can.

The author, businesswoman and educator has been a self-employed product development consultant for the last two years, working with people who want to turn their ideas into new products or businesses.

"I wanted more control over the projects that I worked on, and the people that I worked with," said Sandy, which is why she started her business, In The Now.

She works with inventors and entrepreneurs from Thailand to Malta to South Africa. She has spoken at innovation conferences and inventor workshops in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

She also began working with universities and attending conferences where she could talk about the product development process.

"I just began talking to a lot of people about start-ups, and once I figured out there was an opportunity to also work with inventors and that there was a need for what I was offering, I started to travel to communities around the world where there were high numbers of inventors, innovation hubs, if you will."

While at RIT, Sandy combined athletics, serving as captain of the women's basketball team, with her coursework in electrical mechanical engineering technology.

She spent nearly 10 years working in industry and has experience commercializing more than 200 products, including toys as a product development engineer with Fisher-Price.

Last spring, she taught 18 RIT manufacturing and mechanical engineering technology students via livestream, presenting classes from her current home in London, as well as the other cities and companies where she was consulting.

She also makes it a point to work with the next generation of entrepreneurs, speaking at youth STEM conferences such as Tech Savvy.

"Having a speaker who not only inspires our girls and parents but also illuminates STEM in a fun, relatable way is so important," said Tamara E. Brown, who founded the national program for girls.

One of the biggest challenges as an entrepreneur is knowing who can answer questions about building a business. That is why she wrote *If You Build It, LIFE Will Come*, which is about the importance of building trust by providing common experiences. The book was published in 2017.

"I love to create. I love to help and I love to teach," Sandy said. "Everything that I do now is around those three elements, and that has helped me get satisfaction in what I am doing."

Michelle Cometa '00



GRID Alternatives

Berlyn Hubler '16 MS installs solar power systems as a tribal program coordinator for the Oakland, Calif.-based GRID Alternatives.

Working toward clean power for all



Berlyn Hubler

Despite significant technological advances, clean, affordable power remains out of reach for most of the world's population. Berlyn Hubler '16 MS (sustainable systems) is working to

change that dichotomy.

The Golisano Institute for Sustainability (GIS) graduate serves as tribal program coordinator for Oakland, Calif.-based GRID Alternatives, a nonprofit organization that installs solar power systems and provides job training for underserved communities in the United States, Mexico, Nicaragua and Nepal.

"I've always been interested in sustainability," Hubler said. "At GRID, our vision is a transition to clean, renewable energy that includes *everyone*."

The Denver resident and her team members serve tribal communities outside regions where GRID Alternatives offices are located "so it is crucial that I travel with the construction team and assist with projects," she said.

The company works with tribes to install solar electric systems ranging from single rooftop solar installations to large-scale projects that meet the energy needs of an entire community.

According to Hubler, solar power projects have largely bypassed tribes because the tax incentive (investment tax credit) that is responsible for the leap in installed solar projects in the United States "is inaccessible to these communities due to their lack of tax appetite."

"Our work can sometimes be misperceived as service or helping, but it's important to understand that Native Americans are extremely resilient and I'm just here to connect them to resources and share my knowledge about solar and energy efficiency," Hubler said.

Hubler said she applies the three primary tenets of sustainability—environment, economics and social—she learned at RIT to her job every day.

"What I do now requires all three," she said. "Tribes have a history of energy exploitation and exploitation in general.

We're giving them the technology, the training, and working as a team with the tribe to find funding, so they can keep doing these projects sustainably. The cost-savings alone allows tribes to serve their communities more efficiently, so when they do spend money, it stays within the community and their local economy."

One particular project has left a lasting impression on her.

"A Navajo elder with no electricity and no running water lived right next to the highway and a major electrical line—her home was the only one not connected to the grid because of land-rights issues," Hubler said. "Her system had been down for several years and her granddaughter contacted us after trying to get help from the community (local Navajo chapter).

"After we refurbished her system, we were driving away and you could see her living room light on from the highway," she added. "It was such a powerful image to see her with electricity again."

Rich Kiley

You do what?

Frank Selvaggi '81 has worked with Sarah Jessica Parker since the 1980s. She introduced him to other actors who needed accounting services.



Accountant to the stars

Throughout his career, Selvaggi has provided home office services to hundreds of entertainers and celebrities, including the only woman, he says, who has ever stopped him in his tracks. “When you’re 24 years old and you meet Kathleen Turner at the height of her career, there is nothing like it. She was gorgeous and tall and imposing. She was a movie star.”



Selvaggi still has a copy of his student identification. He has fond memories of RIT.

Frank Selvaggi '81 (accounting) recognized early on that he wasn't cut out for a typical 9-to-5 desk job. But he never could have imagined that answering a classified ad for a rock-and-roll accountant would lead to a career as a trusted financial advisor to the biggest stars in the entertainment industry.

After a brief stint managing the tour accounting for rockers Def Leppard, U2 and several members of Bruce Springsteen's E-Street band, Selvaggi's career really took off in 1983. He was recruited by Manhattan-based accountant Abe Altman.

Altman asked him to work with the 17-year-old daughter of one of the firm's clients, who was starring in a television show and needed someone to file her tax return. Selvaggi agreed to meet with the young actress—Sarah Jessica Parker, who just finished one season on the 1980s sitcom *Square Pegs*.

That professional relationship led to a slew of 20-something actors who hired Selvaggi as their accountant, including Robert Downey Jr., Parker's boyfriend at the time.

In 1986, Selvaggi accepted an offer from Altman to become a partner in a new firm. Today, Selvaggi, who still manages Parker's finances, is founding and managing partner of the entertainment accounting firm Altman, Greenfield and Selvaggi, and represents A-listers Anne Hathaway, Jessica Lange, Edward Norton, Jimmy Fallon and Alan Cumming, among others.

He was also named one of “Hollywood's 25 Top Business Managers of 2017” by *The Hollywood Reporter*, and his company recently opened another office in Los Angeles.

“I was 25 years old when I was asked to become a partner in the firm,” said Selvaggi. “I asked my father what I should do. He told me to take the job and be my own boss.”

The firm files tax returns, helps with estate planning and guides

investments. Selvaggi is involved in almost every financial aspect of his clients' lives.

“If they're renovating a house, I'm at site meetings. If they're looking to buy property, I'll go on field trips with them to check it out. My best advice to my clients has always been ‘pay your taxes and don't spend too much money.’”

One of his clients, Abbi Jacobson, star of Comedy Central's *Broad City*, has worked with Selvaggi for years.

“He's supportive, encouraging and hands-on with his clients, which allows me to work on my various projects while feeling safe and taken care of in regards to my business,” Jacobson said. “I also often ask his advice regarding dogs, it's not just finances.”

Selvaggi said he can understand why people in the outside world would view his job as glamorous, but he credits his down-to-earth clients for keeping him grounded. “I'm really an introvert who chooses not to attend movie premieres or other red carpet events. My clients would rather know that I'm at the office managing their finances.”

Selvaggi's firm was recently acquired by Focus Financial and he is planning to retire in the next few years. He is looking forward to spending more time with his husband, Bill Shea, while continuing his work as an advocate for the gay community.

“One thing that I've learned is that life gives you a finite number of possibilities,” he said. “Doors open and it's up to you whether you walk through those doors. If I hadn't taken my dad's advice and walked through that door, my life would have been completely different.”

Vienna McGrain '12 MS

Faculty profile

Maureen Valentine helped found the Women in Technology program in the College of Engineering Technology.

She enjoys being an adviser to student clubs, such as the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Maureen Valentine

While working on a project to refinish a classic mahogany powerboat with her husband, Maureen Valentine went into engineer mode. She wanted to hang the beautiful 1958 Century Boat upside down in the family garage for easier access to the hull, but wondered if its weight would send the ceiling crashing down. Her calculations, measurements and strategy early in the project saved the garage.

Attention to detail is one of Valentine's strongest qualities. That, along with her collaborative spirit and fun approach to complicated projects, has made her a successful engineer and teacher.

She first became interested in engineering when as a child she saw her father's blueprints and engineering project specs. He was a civil engineer in the Rochester area. Although she began as a psychology major at Tufts University, she transferred into the civil engineering program there after seeing some of her roommate's interesting work in the field. "I never looked back," she said.

Valentine, interim department chair of the civil engineering technology, environmental management and safety department in the College of Engineering Technology, has been at RIT since 1992. She has been a faculty member, department chair and associate dean of the college. She has been honored as Engineer of the Year by the Rochester Engineering Society (2013) and received RIT's Changing Hearts and Minds Award (2012), which is given to an advocate for women faculty and students.

What drew you to civil engineering and eventually teaching?

A love of geology. I hit it off with one of the civil engineering faculty at Tufts and he showed me how geology was important to civil engineers. I often remember his personality and said, 'I need to be like that in the classroom—someone that connects.' That can have such an impact on a student.

What types of projects did you work on?

As a practicing engineer for about 10 years, I was doing some really cool things, designing retaining walls, huge embankments, dams. I was at a company that worked with Disney. There was a major failure that drained an entire canal at Epcot. It failed late on a Friday night, but it drained all of Epcot, and suddenly none of the boats could run. Talk about pressure! All they said was, you've got to solve this! It was crazy.

How would you use an experience like that in the classroom?

By showing the students that what they are learning matters. I can teach a theory and I can teach them a series of equations, but I can also show them pictures of a

failure. The retaining wall calculation failed; luckily no one was hurt. And we eventually fixed it. We, as faculty members, bring our own experiences into the classroom and try to show students that what they are learning has an impact on what they'll do as a practicing engineer.

How did you make your way to RIT?

My husband, Scott, was leaving the Navy and we wanted to come back to Rochester. It was the early '90s, the economy was slow, and I was looking for jobs. He found the RIT posting and said I should do this. And I just loved it from Day One. Immediately, I loved being here, helping the students learn. Just to see them grow and change over the five years is amazing.

How has teaching changed from when you began?

One of the differences is the demand on faculty time. When I started, it was primarily teaching and service for the department and college—the focus was on the classes and the students. Now, it's about research as well. I think it is a challenge for younger faculty. But students are adjusting to that. They are looking for ways to get

involved in research to engage with faculty. Undergraduate research is becoming more the norm.

Are students different today?

In one sense, the students have changed quite a bit. They are looking for material in quick sound bites, they are happier looking at a video on their screen than a talking head in front of the classroom. But in another way, they have not changed. Because we are career focused, they are here because they want to be engineers, they want to design something, to make their community better. They come with their own expectations, but it is still all about, 'I want to get as much as I can from these amazing faculty and then go apply it.' And that hasn't changed at all.

How do you want to be remembered?

As a teacher. You can use all the formal words, professor, instructor, but in the end it's really teacher—whether it's teaching the foundations for a class or how to handle life challenges, I'd like to be remembered as someone open and willing to help.

She is an avid scrapbooker and wood worker.

She loves kayaking and boating.

Valentine can cut cabochons, a type of gemstone, for jewelry. She learned this working with her father who owned L & T Gems for several years after a long career as an engineer.

Elizabeth Lemark



Jessica Salamone '99 is director of Genetic Counseling and Cancer Risk Assessment at Elizabeth Wende Breast Care in Rochester. "It's a privilege to sit with women making life-and-death decisions around cancer," she said.

A. Sue Weisler

RIT's first genetic counselor empowers women

During a single year, Jessica Salamone '99 (biotechnology) will counsel thousands of women on their hereditary cancer risk.

Salamone, director of Genetic Counseling and Cancer Risk Assessment at Elizabeth Wende Breast Care in Rochester, sees newly diagnosed patients and high-risk individuals.

Advances in genetics have led to personalized medicine and a level of knowledge unavailable to previous generations. This aspect of health care means that now a patient's individual cancer risk can be quantified based upon their family history and their genes.

"It's a privilege to sit with women making life-and-death decisions around cancer," she said. "Through a blood draw, people are helping their siblings, helping their children, helping their future generations. You can actually know the rules of engagement, know you have a high risk, and do something about it. That something may mean a surgery, but you don't have to end up with a cancer, and that's empowering."

The process begins with a patient consultation and a conversation about instances of cancer across three generations of an individual's family history. If the patient wishes to pursue genetic testing, a blood draw or saliva sample is taken and sent to a laboratory.

In two or three weeks, Salamone meets with her patients again to discuss the results and next steps.

Genetic counseling draws upon a unique skill that comes naturally to Salamone. She is a scientist who advises about medical management, a teacher who educates about genetics and heredity, and a counselor who offers empathy and hope to patients and their family members.

Salamone learned about genetic counseling as a career while in her sophomore year at RIT. She was an undeclared science major interested in medicine but uncertain about medical school.

After a genetic counselor visited one of her classes for a career talk, Salamone declared her major in biotechnology and

took classes in psychology and social work. She shadowed genetic counselors at the University of Rochester Medical Center and pursued co-ops at the Federal Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health.

Her RIT science background and work experiences enabled her to pursue a master's degree in genetic counseling at Johns Hopkins University, a program that accepted only four students.

Now, Salamone is helping RIT students follow her path. She teaches two genetics courses in RIT's biomedical sciences program and offers guidance to students.

"I was the first person successfully through RIT to become a genetic counselor," Salamone said. "We've made dozens of genetics counselors since I started teaching in 2002, and now RIT is one of the most fruitful undergraduate programs for preparing students for their master's in genetic counseling."

Susan Gawlowicz '95



Fiona Ma '88 is California State Treasurer.



Ma played on RIT's women's tennis team. At top, she is second from the left in the front row on the 1984 team. At bottom, she is second from the right in the front row on the 1985 team.

Treasurer has passion for helping the underdog

Fiona Ma '88 (accounting) can claim a lot of firsts.

She is the first woman of color and first female Certified Public Accountant elected as California State Treasurer. She won the position on Nov. 6, 2018, with 7,825,587 votes, more than any other candidate for treasurer in the state's history.

Those firsts, though, aren't what gets Ma excited about being the head banker of the world's fifth-largest economy.

"In life, the biggest and the richest always get the most, but the smallest and the ones that need the most help don't necessarily get it because it is harder—harder to train, harder to reach them, harder to get them enrolled or qualified," she said. "I'm in a position where I can help level the playing field."

Ma, who attended RIT for its CPA-specific accounting tract, the co-op program and an opportunity to play varsity tennis, has built a career out of championing the underdog.

After graduating, the Long Island, N.Y., native followed her parents to San Francis-

co, where she initially worked for Ernst & Young and then started her own accounting practice and became president of the Asian Business Association. This was her first taste of advocating for opportunities for women- and minority-owned businesses.

She got appointed to the San Francisco Assessment Appeals Board and then later was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, the California State Assembly and the State Board of Equalization.

In the Assembly, Ma passed a law to ban toxic chemicals, known as phthalates, in baby products statewide.

It was the first law of its kind in the nation, and among Ma's proudest accomplishments.

She authored 60 bills as an Assembly member that were signed into law by two different governors. She chaired the Assembly Select Committee on domestic violence and spearheaded legislation that strengthened laws protecting victims of domestic violence.

Ma said she is drawn to complex issues

that may take a long time to pass but are the right thing to do. She is helped by her sense of curiosity.

When she doesn't understand something, she dives in deep and becomes an expert.

"I sat on the agriculture committee in the legislature and I had no clue about agriculture," she said. "I grew up in Long Island and moved to San Francisco. I thought food came out of the Safeway."

She changed that by going on 100 different agricultural tours and doing her research. The same was true with cannabis.

"I don't like being caught saying, 'I don't know,'" she said.

As treasurer, she likes being out in the community, working directly with people and helping them solve problems.

"My life has come full circle," she said. "I am combining my education and professional experience with my passion for public service and helping people."

Mindy Mozer



Jason Getz/Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Jason Getz '98 took this image of Tiger Woods celebrating after winning the Masters in April. The image brought Getz a little bit of fame.

RIT Tiger snaps Tiger's roar after historic win

Tiger Woods captured his fifth Masters championship in April, and Jason Getz '98 (photojournalism) captured the image of a lifetime.

Getz made a photo of a jubilant Woods in his comeback victory for the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, which hired him to shoot the golf tournament as a contract photographer. It ran in publications across the country, including the *Los Angeles Times*, *Philadelphia Inquirer* and *The Oregonian*.

"Part of this is kind of humbling for me because everyone is saying my picture is awesome, but I am not the only one who took this picture," Getz said. "There are like 10 other photographers sitting next to me, but mine is a little different because of the way I shot it."

And that, Getz said, was an accident.

Getz grabbed a longer lens so he would be able to take pictures of Woods reacting as he walked off the course. But then Woods turned—toward Getz—and put his hands in the air.

"I'm looking at the picture on the back of my screen and it's not his whole body and only part of the club and I thought I messed up," he said. "I thought I should have used the wider lens like my colleagues."

But the photo captures the golfer's expression, which Getz said is why he thinks people are drawn to it. "People are saying this is Tiger's moment. This might be the moment of his lifetime."

After graduating from RIT, Getz worked for newspapers in Central Pennsylvania,

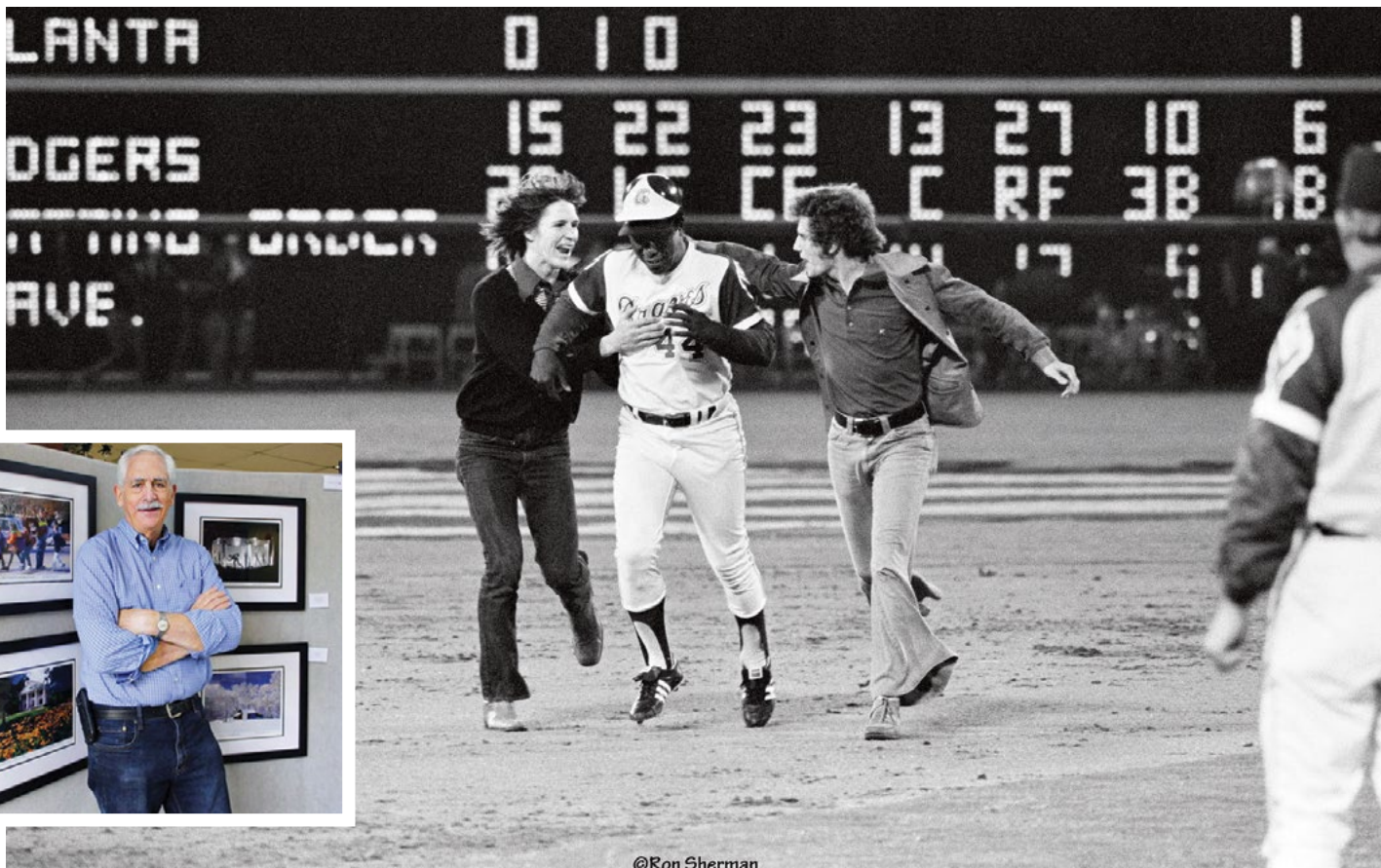
Florida, Alabama and then for eight years at the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, where he covered five Masters.

He was laid off in 2013 and started his own company in Atlanta. In May, he became a staff photographer at Kennesaw State University in Georgia.

The photo has given Getz a little bit of fame. It ran on the front page of the *Journal-Constitution* and he was interviewed by an NBC-affiliated television station in Atlanta.

"To me, photography is all about anticipating something that might happen and trying to be in the best place," Getz said. "Some might say I had the wrong lens on, but I still captured the moment."

Mindy Mozer



Ron Sherman

@Ron Sherman

This image of Hank Aaron rounding the bases after home run No. 715 was taken by Ron Sherman '64. The home run broke Babe Ruth's record. The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum has displayed Sherman's photo of Hank Aaron since 2009. The museum added a photo credit last October.

RIT alumnus behind iconic baseball photo

Ron Sherman '64 (photography) can tell you exactly what he was doing on April 8, 1974. And now so can baseball fans.

Sherman was at Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium with more than 100 photographers capturing the moment Hank Aaron hit his 715th career home run, breaking Babe Ruth's 39-year-old Major League record.

When Aaron rounded second base, he was joined by two fans who had jumped the rail and run onto the field. Sherman made what has become an iconic image from the photo box along the third base line.

"I happened to pick the right place to be at the right time," said Sherman, who was freelancing for United Press International. "After it was published, I didn't think much of it."

Sherman said his name was never attached to the photo because UPI transmitted it using only his initials in the caption. A few days later, the photo editor at UPI asked Sherman if UPI could borrow the negative to make a print for the New

York office. He turned the negative over to them, still not thinking much of it.

The negative stayed in the UPI archives, which were sold to Bettmann Archives and then later acquired by Corbis Corp.

"One day I'm opening up *TV Guide* and I see my photo and there was a Corbis credit line," Sherman said. "I think, 'Hmm.'"

Sherman checked the archives of The Associated Press, local and national newspapers, photo agencies and magazines and he said he couldn't find another published photo like his. He reached out to Corbis and after some negotiation he was able to get the negative returned in 2006.

End of story, he thought. Until last fall when a friend was visiting the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, N.Y.

Sherman's photo was included, unattributed, in an exhibit called, "Hank Aaron: Chasing the Dream." Sherman called the museum and told them his story.

Erik Strohl, vice president, Exhibitions and Collections at the National Baseball

Hall of Fame and Museum, said Sherman's credit was added to the exhibit last October.

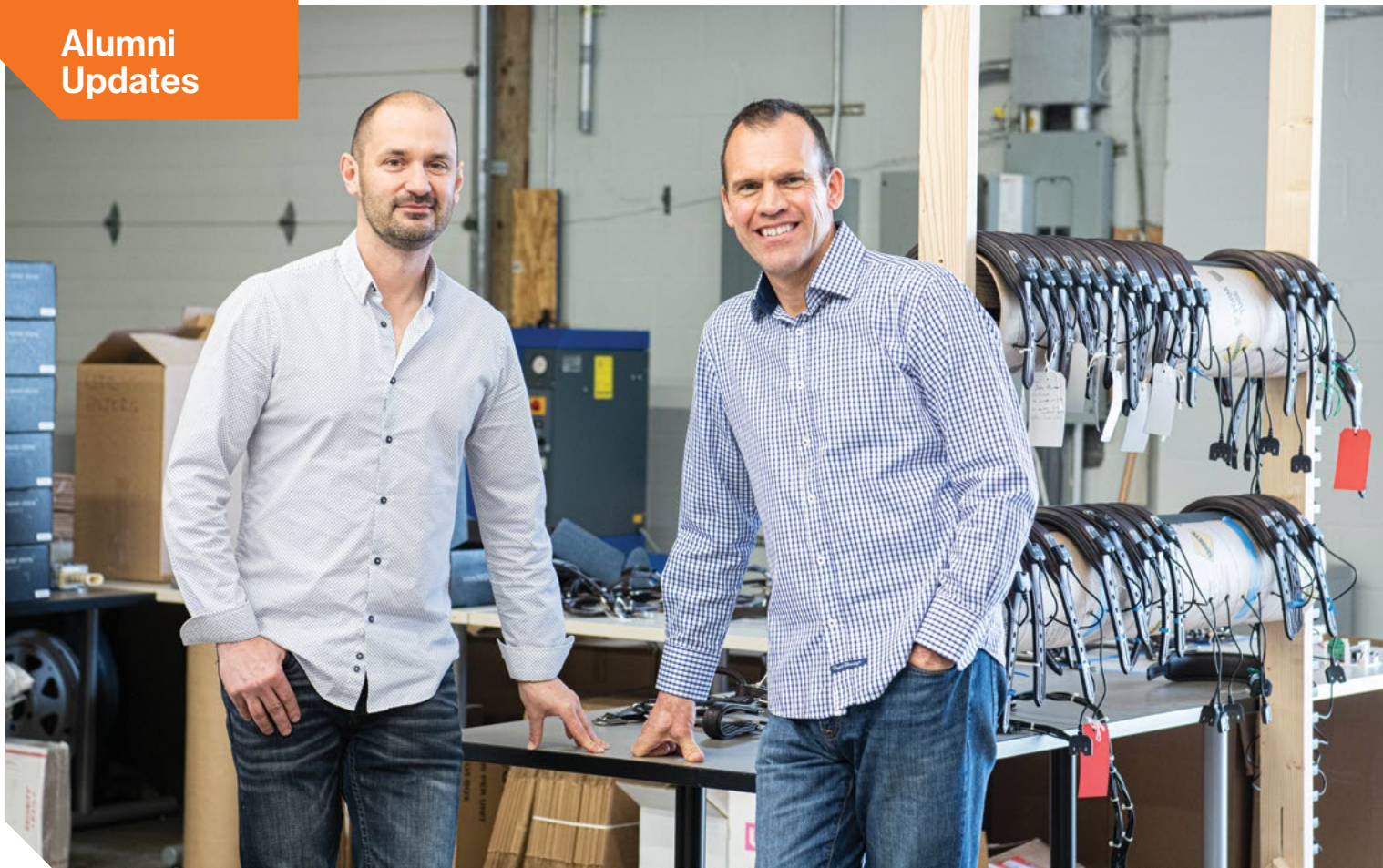
"We are happy to recognize the photographer of that image now that we know who to credit," Strohl said. "It is an enduring part of our cultural memory regarding Henry's chase and eventual passing of Ruth's career home run record."

That pleased Sherman, who has spent his career working as a self-employed photographer based in Atlanta covering everything from Jimmy Carter's campaign for the presidency to the Olympics. Sherman is in the process of producing a book with his photo collection.

He hopes to one day get to the National Baseball Hall of Fame to see his photo on display.

"I still can't believe with all the photographers there that someone else hadn't shot that photo," Sherman said. "I guess it's better late than never to get the story about the photographer who made the photo."

Mindy Mozer



Michael Schab '09, left, and Roger Vonderahe '87 founded NRGXP to help clients through every stage of product development and commercialization. Their first product is a wearable device for horses that allows owners to monitor their animal's health.

Gabrielle Plucknette-DeVito

Alumni create device to monitor horse health

When his brother's horse died suddenly from colic in 2013, Michael Schab '09 (computer engineering) saw an opportunity to create something that would prevent other equestrians from losing their beloved animals to this preventable affliction.

Schab and his business partner, Roger Vonderahe '87 (manufacturing engineering technology), collaborated with Protequus, LLC—a company owned by Schab's brother Jeffrey—to make a wearable device for horses called NIGHTWATCH that would allow owners to remotely monitor their animal's biometrics and behavior. This device served as a springboard project for their start-up company NRGXP.

"Our product can tell you when your horse's behaviors and biometrics stray from normal, and we can notify the user using a distress alert," said Schab. "The more the horse wears it, the more the device learns and the more accurate it becomes."

Colic is the second most common cause

of death for horses, and it can develop quickly, making it difficult to detect when a horse is left unattended. By measuring the horse's biometrics and behavior, NIGHTWATCH can alert owners at the first sign of distress.

NIGHTWATCH is the first of its kind and the first consumer product for this growing start-up, which helps clients develop and commercialize their products. The company focuses on building Internet of Things connected devices.

There was no off-the-shelf hardware or software that NRGXP employees could adapt for NIGHTWATCH. The company had to create everything from the ground up. "We blend software development, electrical and mechanical engineering and industrial design into one workplace," Schab said.

Vonderahe said that it can be difficult for companies to find vendors willing to work on products and solutions that don't fit nicely into an established development process.

"We thought that maybe we could do something about that," said Vonderahe.

NRGXP works to create everything in-house or locally. To achieve this goal, Schab and Vonderahe hired Jason Pennell '09 (industrial design) and Ryan Bowen '08, '13 MS (computer engineering), '15 Ph.D. (microsystems engineering) to help with the product design and software development.

Others on the growing staff include David Campbell '10 MS (product development), Tucker Graydon '16, '18 MS (electrical engineering) and Justin Lottes, who graduated from the University of Southern California in 2011 with a degree in computer science.

With such diverse areas of expertise, the team's ambition to work on new projects is never lacking. They are always pursuing the next big opportunity.

"Where we will go next, it can be difficult to say," said Schab. "All we know is that we are eager to keep innovating."

Felicia Swartzberg '19



The Black Awareness Coordinating Committee (BACC) organized RIT's first student-driven Black Graduation ceremony in May. The event was the latest from an organization that has been moving RIT forward for 50 years.

Celebrating 50 years of activism and advocacy

Students clad in graduation caps and gowns and Kente cloth sashes stood in front of a cheering crowd at MAGIC Spell Studios for RIT's first student-driven Black Graduation ceremony in May.

RIT's Black Awareness Coordinating Committee (BACC) organized the event to celebrate black students who earned their degrees. Black students face some of the lowest degree completion rates nationally.

"We know how hard it is to be black in America and how hard it is to get to this point," said Loryn Johnson, a fourth-year biotechnology and molecular bioscience student from Canal Winchester, Ohio, and vice president of BACC. "Not everyone makes it to a four-year university or even graduates high school, and so we really wanted to acknowledge their hard work."

The event was the latest contribution from an organization that has been moving RIT forward for 50 years. BACC was founded in 1968 and officially recognized as RIT's first cultural club the next year.

James Manning '70 (business administration), one of BACC's founding members, recalled a different RIT when he was a student. Manning said that when the organization formed, there were about 32 black students on campus. The group's first goals were to increase representation and educate the RIT community about black culture.

Despite being met with initial hostility and skepticism, the group found success within the first year of its existence, and RIT formed a committee to recruit more minority students and agreed to offer black history courses.



James Manning '70, far left, and other original BACC members met with RIT administrators in 1969.

"The biggest achievement is the administration ultimately did exactly what we wanted them to do," said Manning. "They went out and started recruiting African-American kids to start coming to RIT and started black study courses. We never dreamed it would go as far as it did."

Over the years, the group has helped shape RIT. The group has launched long-running programs like a memorial celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. that evolved into Expressions of King's Legacy, served as a vehicle for students to explore black culture and offered a scholarship that the group hopes to revive this year.

Today, RIT offers multiple courses exploring black history and culture and has a division of nearly 40 staff members dedicated to diversity and inclusion. Last year, 630 black students enrolled at RIT.

In addition, RIT plans to place a statue of Frederick Douglass in a prominent location on campus to recognize BACC's contributions.

"It's a good feeling to know that RIT is still acknowledging us," said Malik Johnson, a fourth-year photographic and imaging arts student from Bronx, N.Y., and BACC president. "This club is very important. The foundation it was founded off of has to be known and we have to make sure it still lives."

Luke Auburn '09, '15 MS

If you go

Celebrate BACC's 50th anniversary during Brick City Homecoming & Family Weekend. Details at rit.edu/brickcity.

Alumni Awards

College honors

The Distinguished Alumni Awards are presented annually by each of RIT's nine colleges and the School of Individualized Study to an alumnus/a who has performed at the highest levels of his or her profession or who has contributed to the advancement and leadership of civic, philanthropic or service organizations. It is the highest award an RIT college can bestow upon its alumni. The 2019 recipients will be honored on Oct. 18.

College of Art and Design



Theresa Fitzgerald '84

Graphic design

Vice president creative,
Sesame Workshop

What is your favorite RIT memory?

"The design process required more art supplies, it was not a tidy laptop, to work at any location. At the design school, we each had lockers and desks where most of our art supplies stayed. It was a place where most work was done. Plus, it was not easy to walk the Quarter Mile in a snow storm with a large portfolio and tackle box full of art supplies. My favorite memory is working alone and together in the studio. We spent many hours, day and night, week and weekends, with the class. Together we worked on projects and grew into designers and lifelong friends."

How did RIT help prepare you for success?

"At RIT, I learned a rigorous design process and discipline of refining my craft. With my design education, I developed my personal aesthetic, combining principles of Bauhaus and the modern movement to the children's market, often not regarded for good design."

College of Engineering Technology



Kyle Sayers '99

Civil engineering technology

Executive vice president and
chief operating officer,
LeChase Construction

What is your favorite RIT memory?

"Walking across the stage on graduation day with my friends and fellow classmates. I was also very proud to be the first in my family to make it through college. But, more importantly, graduating from RIT was only possible because of the tremendous love and support from my parents and for that I am grateful, making that day a memory of significant importance to me."

What is your career highlight?

"The day that I became a partner at LeChase Construction. I am so proud of the accomplishment to be a part of the leadership group, comprised of the finest executives in the construction business at one of the most respected companies in the business. I am very fortunate to have had my journey take me to LeChase as a co-op. LeChase is a special place with a special culture that puts people first and empowers everyone to reach their fullest potential. It was the RIT co-op program that allowed for this opportunity, and it was one of my RIT professors, Todd Dunn, who suggested I go to LeChase."

College of Health Sciences and Technology



Edward Shanshala II '85, '87, '00 MS

Chemistry, biotechnology, health systems administration

CEO, Ammonoosuc Community Health Services Inc.

How did RIT help prepare you for success?

"RIT provided me with a theoretically sound, pragmatic education embedded in a highly collaborative social milieu that engendered leadership in each and every one of us who graduated from RIT. Having multiple degrees from RIT, I have a deeper understanding, appreciation and gratitude for my RIT experience. Across the continuum of my RIT education, a common thread within the tapestry of my professional career is one of lifelong learning. RIT is that thread which is woven across my career."

What is your favorite RIT memory?

"From my health systems administration degree, it is having my son, Spencer, sit with me (age 3-5) while I worked on the First Class Portal taking my online classes. He at times would type in a response much to the smiles of my cohort colleagues. He attended my thesis presentation, fell asleep under a table, and luckily he was the only one who slept through it."

College of Liberal Arts



Kathy Yu '91

Professional and technical communications

Board advisor and former technology executive

What is your career highlight?

"Competing against Intel in the CPU space when mobile computing did not exist in the light, small notebook category that had yet to be created—Transmeta Corp. created that space. And leading Microsoft's mobile division in a significant equity deal with Facebook during the nascent days of social media."

What is your favorite RIT memory?

"The freezing exposed Quarter Mile is forever embedded into my memory. As a Hawaiian girl, that's how I knew I could endure anything."

What does being an RIT alumna mean to you?

"RIT alumni are famous for their work ethic. Some of that came from the harsh RIT winters, and some came from the 'rapid fire' 10-week quarter system."

College of Science



Susan Gordona '94

Applied mathematics

Senior vice president of market-place strategy, Fidelity Investments

What is your favorite RIT memory?

"I'll never forget my first co-op at Mobil Oil HQ in Fairfax, Va. After growing up in a small town outside of Syracuse, N.Y., moving to a new state and walking into that huge corporate empire was an exhilarating experience, and one that helped me realize I was not only on the right track with my studies and my career aspirations, but also gave me confidence that I could do well in the business world. Also, one of my first soccer games at RIT—we were far from the best team in the league, but we had a great group of ladies. We played Ithaca College, a national champion team that just happened to have my twin sister on the roster. We traveled down to Ithaca and tied them on their home turf...what a coup that was! I'm still close with some of the ladies from that team and will never forget the RIT pride from that day and the subsequent seasons together—playing a sport at a tough school like RIT isn't easy, but is such an integral part of my memories."

Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences



Alice Jo Maisel Lichtman '79 MS

Computer science

Retired principal systems consultant, LPA Software

What is your favorite RIT memory?

"I remember the excellent classes and instructors. It was long before the days of personal computers and we would sit shoulder-to-shoulder in the computer lab working at the terminals there. One didn't dare get up for any reason, and I mean any reason, or you lost your seat. One might sit there for hours at a time. But there was also camaraderie among us. I also remember that as one of the only women in the master's program, I detected no discrimination from the instructors. It was very refreshing and removed irrelevant distractions from the learning experience."

How did RIT help prepare you for success?

"My principal interest was in developing computer applications for businesses. My RIT education provided not just a theoretical basis, but practical skills and approaches. I was able to step into a position immediately after graduation and make a contribution, validating the outstanding preparation I received at RIT."

Kate Gleason College of Engineering



Clayton Turner '90

Electrical engineering

Deputy director, NASA Langley Research Center

What is your career highlight?

"The first circuit I designed that flew in space. The function was to prevent a precision laser alignment system from over-driving its mechanical stops in an instrument that was studying the Earth. It is difficult to put into words the excitement and joy of doing that, delivering and operating it in space. Working with a team of people to do something for the greater good was amazing. A couple of years later I was trying to explain it to my then 4-year-old son who was less excited at that time, but is now a practicing mechanical engineer."

How did RIT help prepare you for success?

"RIT prepared me via experiences doing cross-discipline research (beyond engineering); being part of a dynamic, diverse team; and learning how to lead by watching and experiencing leadership in my lab, in my classroom, in my department and in my college."

National Technical Institute for the Deaf



Michael Rizzolo '75, '78, '86 MS

Basic interpreter training program, social work, human services management

President and CEO, Interpretek

What is your favorite RIT memory?

"Meeting the student who later became my lovely bride—Kathleen O'Keefe Rizzolo '81 (nuclear medicine technology)."

How did RIT help prepare you for success?

"RIT provided both curricular and non-curricular opportunities which allowed me to gain the leadership skills I have used throughout my career. These are the things that, in turn, allowed me to create a successful national company. As an alumnus, I am fortunate to have this connection to a world-class institution and tens of thousands of fellow alumni proud of our common roots and education."

What is your career highlight?

"My colleagues and I have worked diligently and have overcome many challenges to create a successful service company devoted to promoting high-quality communication access between deaf and hearing citizens throughout the United States and beyond."

Saunders College of Business



Jane M. Elliott '88

Accounting

Chief human resources officer, Deluxe Corp.

What is your favorite RIT memory?

"My favorite thing about RIT was the student diversity. This permeates every memory I have of RIT. RIT opened my eyes to a much larger world out there through the eyes of its student body. Having grown up in a small town and graduating with 38 other kids that began school together in kindergarten, I did not have an appreciation of what the rest of the world looked like. I met so many different people—both professors and students—that had amazing backgrounds. It provided me with the drive to see and do more."

How did RIT help prepare you for success?

"RIT was always pushing its professors and students to think differently. Anything was possible. I took that sentiment with me to my first job and every role after that and it has always served me well."

School of Individualized Study



Ali Shahidi '13

Applied arts and sciences

Chief innovation and client solutions officer, Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP

What is your career highlight?

"My career highlight has been the path and the journey, and how each professional and personal experience has prepared me for the next. As a migrant from Iran, I took a personal risk by coming to the United States in my teens, and I continue to take on new risks, although more practical ones. In my current role as the head of innovation in a professional services organization, I facilitate experimentation and advocate taking risks by developing new client solutions and trying out new service delivery methods, failing at times, but learning, growing and moving on. The constant pursuit of improvement is very rewarding."

What does being an RIT alumnus mean to you?

"From time to time, I had to work late in the lab finishing up projects, which meant that I would miss the last bus to the off-campus housing. The late-night, three-mile walk in a Rochester blizzard is the perfect time to think of innovative problem solving. Being an RIT alumnus is about taking risks, promoting creativity, being practical and having perseverance."

Surace named 2019 Outstanding Alumnus



Kevin Surace '85 was producer and master of ceremonies at the gala announcing RIT's blended campaign. Surace uses his talents in the performing arts to give back to his alma mater.

The list of contributions Kevin J. Surace '85 (electrical engineering technology) has made to RIT is long. He is co-chair of RIT's \$1 billion blended fundraising campaign and was producer and master of ceremonies of the gala in July 2018 announcing the campaign.

The RIT trustee helped start RIT's West Coast Board of Advisors, and Surace was producer and master of ceremonies of a night of entertainment in Silicon Valley in 2016.

Surace also secured RIT's 2018 commencement speaker, former FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler, and the 2019 commencement speaker, John Seely Brown, former chief scientist at Xerox Corp.

Surace will be honored for his support of the university with the Outstanding Alumnus of 2019 award at the Presidents' Alumni Ball on Oct. 18 during Brick City Homecoming & Family Weekend. The award is the highest honor RIT can bestow upon an alumnus.

"I think when we are later in our lives, we want to look back and give back to organizations that helped us," Surace said. "For me, RIT was a great experience."

Surace is currently president, co-founder, and CEO of Appvance.ai, using artificial

intelligence for software quality assurance.

Before that, the *Inc.* magazine 2009 Entrepreneur of the Year was CEO of Serious Energy, a cleantech company that sells technologies designed to reduce energy usage in buildings (where he retrofitted the Empire State Building).

He also was CEO of several other companies, including CommerceNet, Perfect Commerce, WebKnight and Air Communications, and he was EVP of network solutions at General Magic, where he led the team that developed Portico (the predecessor of Siri) and the OnStar virtual advisor for General Motors.

Surace was inducted into RIT's Innovation Hall of Fame in 2012.

Outside of work, Surace is a music producer and director for orchestra, musical theater and corporate shows at Acclaim Entertainment Group, which made him the perfect person to be master of ceremonies at the two events.

"You look at unique ways you can give back and what talents you have," Surace said. "We all should give back in the ways that we can."

Mindy Mozer

Wagners honored as Volunteers of the Year



Chris '94 and Staci '92 Wagner

Chris and Staci Wagner had some pretty big responsibilities as co-chairs of NTID's 50th anniversary celebration committee.

They recruited and led core team members as well as more than 200 volunteers involved

in the event. They participated in nearly every aspect of the reunion weekend, from budgeting, to marketing, to event selection and planning, to overseeing accessibility issues.

Chris '94 (social work) and Staci '92 (social work) also traveled at their own expense to each of the 10 NTID 50th an-

niversary regional roadshow events leading up to the June 2018 on-campus celebration to help build excitement.

The result: More than 4,000 alumni participated in the celebration.

The husband-and-wife co-chairs have been named the recipients of RIT's 2019 Volunteer of the Year award in recognition of their efforts. They will be honored at the Presidents' Alumni Ball during Brick City Homecoming & Family Weekend on Oct. 18.

"Becoming co-chairperson of this committee with Chris was the perfect opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of those who have made NTID what it is today," said Staci, who met her husband at RIT/NTID when they were students.

Chris is chief operating officer for ZVRS, one of the nation's leading video relay service providers. As a member of the ZVRS executive team, he has facilitated the hiring

of more than 100 deaf and hard-of-hearing co-op students. Some have graduated and gone on to become full-time employees of the company.

He also helped launch the Next Big Idea competition, an annual innovation and entrepreneurship competition at NTID, which ZVRS sponsors.

Chris is a long-time chairperson of the NTID Foundation Board of Directors, a group of alumni, parents and friends that provides support to RIT/NTID. He also was a past regional chapter volunteer and a member of the NTID alumni chapter.

"RIT/NTID will always hold a special place in our hearts," Chris said. "We have created so many lifelong friendships and wonderful memories which we will cherish for the rest of our lives."

Mindy Mozer

RIT



BRICK CITY
.....
HOMECOMING
& FAMILY WEEKEND
.....
rit.edu/brickcity

October 19

Men's Hockey

RIT vs. Merrimack at 7:05 p.m.

Blue Cross Arena

Downtown Rochester

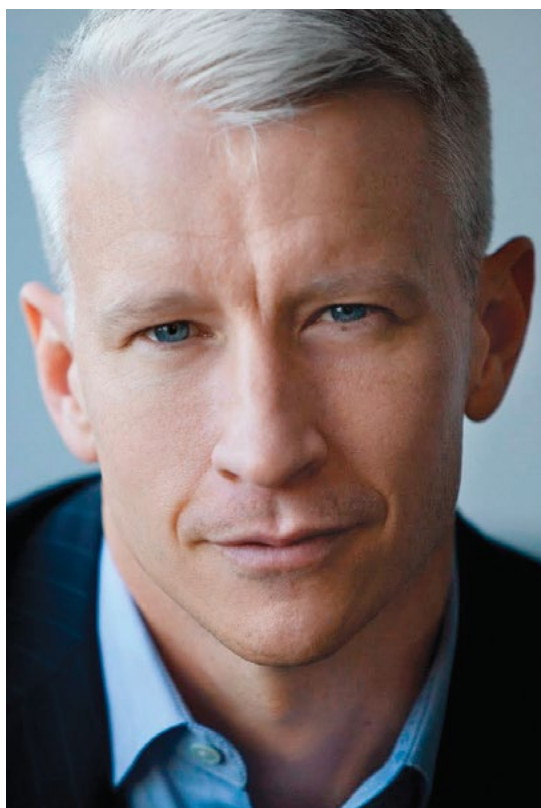
Free shuttle to game!



**Register
Now!**

October 18-20

Join us for new events and favorite traditions including: Brick City 5K, Tours, Reunions, Family Fun Zone, Classes Without Quizzes, Golden Circle Luncheon, Pumpkin Chunkin', Kaleidoscope Concert, Presidents' Alumni Ball, and more.



Student Government Speaker:
Anderson Cooper, Oct. 19 at 2 p.m.



[RIT Brick City Homecoming](#) [Book your hotel!](#) [@RIT_BrickCity](#)

Class Notes

CAST	College of Applied Science and Technology (now CET)
CAD	College of Art and Design
CCE	College of Continuing Education (now SOIS)
CET	College of Engineering Technology
CHST	College of Health Sciences and Technology
CIAS	College of Imaging Arts and Sciences (now CAD)
CLA	College of Liberal Arts
COS	College of Science
FAA	Fine and Applied Arts (now CAD)
GAP	Graphic Arts and Photography (now CAD)
GCCIS	B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences
KGCOE	Kate Gleason College of Engineering
NTID	National Technical Institute for the Deaf
SOIS	School of Individualized Study
SCB	Saunders College of Business
SVP	NTID "Summer Vestibule Program"

About Class Notes

Class Notes are edited for space, clarity and style. Share information by going to www.rit.edu/alumni/class-notes.

1965



Marvin Pozefsky '65 (GAP) attended the ASU hockey game at the Gene Polisseni Center. Great food, game and venue, he said. Go Tigers!

1966

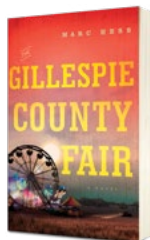
Harry Drake '66 (GAP) has invested his time for over two years as a SHINE volunteer, part of a program with ElderSource. Drake, a Florida resident in St. Johns County, was interviewed by a local paper and discussed how the program is important to seniors and also a fulfilling career opportunity.

1971

Ken Reed '71 (COS) is a visiting scholar in the School of Chemistry and Materials Science. This third attempt to avoid retirement involves research with undergraduates in RIT's AMPrint Center focused on nanometal cluster-containing inks

for flexible electronics and additive manufacture. A company he co-founded in 2016, Zero Valent Nanometals Inc., sponsors research in this center.

1973



Marc Hess '73 (GAP) has published *The Gillespie County Fair*, a novel about changes in small-town Texas. The book has become an Amazon Best

Seller in Southern Fiction. He also continues to work at building advanced telecom in rural Texas.

1975

Lynn Johnson '75 (GAP), a regular contributor to *National Geographic* magazine, was named a 2019 Pulitzer Prize finalist in feature photography. She and photographer Maggie Steber won the honor for their intimate look at the youngest face transplant recipient in the U.S.

1977



Kevin Hall '77 (FAA) was tasked with rebranding The Bagel Festival, which takes place in Monticello, N.Y., in the Sullivan County Catskills. The August festival draws more than 25,000 people for the one-day event. Kevin Hall Design is an award-winning branding and strategic design firm located just outside New Haven, Conn.



Philip Turner '77 (GAP) has renewed his commitment to his photographic roots that first began at RIT. He has been involved in various

photographic workshops over the

RIT alumna is U.S. Army Brigadier General



Brigadier General Stacy Babcock has earned three degrees from RIT. She assumed the position earlier this year.

Brigadier General Stacy Babcock '91 (criminal justice) '96 (educational interpreting) '98 MS (instructional technology) assumed duties earlier this year as the Deputy Commanding General at the 63rd Readiness Division in Mountain View, Calif.

In her new role, Babcock provides administrative, equipment and facility support to 44,000 Army Reserve soldiers spread throughout a seven-state region on the West Coast.

"This base operations support enables Army Reserve units to focus on readiness, training, mobilizing and deploying to answer our nation's call," Babcock said.

Babcock has served in the U.S. Army, in both active duty and reserve capacities, for more than 35 years. She joined the Army after graduating high school and decided to pursue a degree after taking night classes while on active duty. Her time at RIT included participation in ROTC, which would prove to be a learning experience and a turning point.

"RIT is where I started

to truly grow both personally and professionally," she said. "The ROTC program was top notch and did more than prepare me to become an Army officer. As the only female participating in Ranger Challenge competitions at the time, I stepped out of my comfort zone and accomplished things I never thought I was capable of doing. It did not just apply to physical accomplishments, but everything else in my life. I grew up and found a healthy life balance."

During her time at RIT, Babcock became interested in deaf culture and sign language.

After graduating from RIT's criminal justice program, she enrolled in the interpreter training program and later was hired as a staff interpreter at RIT, where she completed the master's degree program in instructional technology.

Her military career includes a commission in the Military Police Corps, teaching military science at UCLA, completion of the U.S. Army War College and deployments to Bosnia and Iraq.

past couple of years as well as independently continuing to advance his photographic vision. Most notable is his work with Kim Weston of the Weston photographic family.

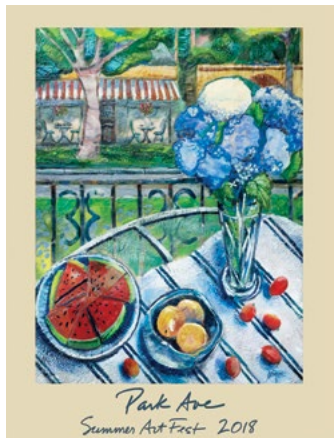
1980



Dan Dister '80 (GAP) retired from federal service in 2017 after 27 years and took a position with the state of New Hampshire as the chief information security officer.

1981

James F. Smith '81 (CCE) received a New York State Senate Citation in recognition for his nomination to the New York State Veteran's Hall of Fame and in appreciation for his service and sacrifice to the nation.



Phyllis Bryce Ely '81 (FAA) was commissioned to create the 2018 Park Ave Summer Art Fest poster in Rochester. The poster was awarded the International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Award "Gold: Best Commemorative Poster."

1982



Gary Sutto '82 (GAP) continues photography in Seattle. Learn more at www.GarySutto.com.

1984

Michael Patrick '84 (COS) is a senior Windows engineer in IT currently employed by Allstate in Charlotte, N.C.



Martha DiMeo '84 (GAP) returned to Rochester and RIT in spring 2018 to take part in the Big Shot and Imagine RIT: Creativity and Innovation Festival. It was a wonderful opportunity to get together with college pals and a chance to visit the campus after many years.

1985

Tom Willard '85 (CIAS), a deaf standup comedian, made his Broadway debut on Dec. 3 at Carolines on Broadway, one of the premier comedy clubs in the country. Willard spoke and signed his jokes during Carolines' New Talent Showcase. Willard started doing standup comedy in July 2016 as a contestant in the Funniest Person in Rochester contest. Since then, he has performed at more than 40 venues in nearly a dozen cities.



Cory M. Funk '85 (GAP) was awarded a lifetime achievement award by the Kansas City Data and Marketing Association.

He has been employed by the Japs-Olson Company, St. Louis Park, Minn., for almost 30 years.

1987

Matthew Fuller '87 (CAST) has been promoted to vice president at Barton & Loguidice. He is a member of the firm's facilities practice area.



R. Todd Barber '87 (KGCOE) was promoted to Vice President North American Enterprise Customers at CallMiner, a Waltham, Mass., developer of interaction analytics solutions.

Robin Bridson '87 (SCB) attended the Google Higher Ed Academy in November at the Google Campus in Cambridge, Mass.

Martin Maenza '87 (CAST) completed his master's degree in library and information science at Wayne State University in December 2018. He accepted a position as a librarian at the Sterling Heights Public Library, overseeing outreach and technology programming.

1988

Chetan Kamdar '88 (COS) was named director of IT Business Relationship Management and World Wide Research and Development of BioMarin Pharmaceutical Inc.

1989



Joe Burke '89 (FAA) and his wife, Ellen, were in New York City on Feb. 15, 2019, where their toy, the Ollyball, was awarded Toy of the Year at the Oscars of the Toy Industry. The Ollyball was invented and patented by Burke, a former creative at Disney Store and Goodwill Industries. The Ollyball is a ball designed for full-speed, full-force indoor play.



Elaine Coughlan-Gifford '89 (COS), '92 MS (KGCOE) has been a statistical programmer at Harvard for 25 years and attended a milestone celebration in February. She has appeared and been acknowledged in more than 300 medical journal publications.



Steven Patarini '89 (FAA) was promoted to a 5th Dan Master rank in the martial art of Tang Soo Do. He has trained at Middlesex Tang Soo Do Academy in Old Saybrook, Conn., since

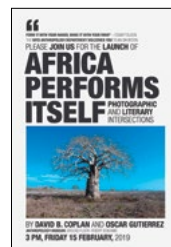
1997. He works as a technology education teacher at the Albert Griswold Middle School in Rocky Hill, Conn.

1991

Joe Pennell '91 (CAST) was promoted in January to vice president at Goldman Sachs working at the Ayco subsidiary in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.



David "Dave" Goldschmidt '91 (GAP) was appointed by Midland as the new president of the national division of Midland Paper, Packaging & Supplies. Midland National specializes in the sale of publication paper to book publishers, catalog and direct mail companies, retail companies and large publication printers.



Oscar Gutierrez '91 (GAP) shared an exhibition of his photos which were taken during his 65-day drive from Johannesburg, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Swaziland and back to Johannesburg.

1993

Grant Senn '93 (KGCOE) has been hired as an engineering project manager by Medtronic Navigation in Louisville, Colo. Medtronic Navigation makes the StealthStation S8 and AxiEM3 surgical tracking systems used in brain and spine surgery.

Tiger Love



Jon Podeszek '10, '12 MS and Danielle Furman Podeszek '11 are ultramarathoners who spend their free time training together to run 50-plus-mile races.



The couple met as sophomores in a data analysis class. They were married in August 2012 and live in Buffalo, N.Y.

Ultramarathoners in it for the long haul

If the old saying, “couples who play together stay together” is true, Jon Podeszek and Danielle Furman Podeszek have it made.

The two are ultramarathoners who spend their free time training to run 50-plus-mile races.

“We haven’t really found many other couples who do this,” said Jon. “We are an anomaly in our group of friends who run these.”

The two weren’t ultramarathoners when they met as sophomores enrolled in a data analysis class. Danielle, who is from Coudersport, Pa., came to RIT to play basketball and study print media. Jon, a Rochester native and long-distance runner, was interested in engineering and wanted to run with a Division III sports program.

Danielle '11 (new media design) said the two sat next to each other in class and Jon '10 (mechanical engineering technology), '12 MS (manufacturing and mechanical systems integration) sent her a Facebook

message asking her out.

They went on a couple of dates as sophomores, but the relationship fizzled out until the spring track season their junior year. Danielle also was on the track team as a javelin thrower.

They have been together ever since. Jon proposed in March 2011 during a trip to Las Vegas.

“It was during March Madness and I wanted to watch college basketball and he wanted to go see the fountains,” Danielle said. “I was irritated he was rushing me away because I didn’t know he was going to propose.”

They were married in August 2012 and now live in Buffalo, N.Y.

About four years ago, Danielle, who owns her own graphic design business, and Jon, who is a product development engineer for Avox Systems, were introduced to running super long distances after they signed up to run a six-hour snowshoe race. They intended to run it slowly and take breaks,

but as soon as the gun went off, the athletes shifted into competitive mode.

From there, they trained together and tried 50-mile races, 50-kilometer races and 100-kilometer races. Jon ran one 100-mile race, which took him 27 hours to complete. Danielle, who at the time was 15 weeks pregnant with their daughter, Natalie, ran 50 miles.

“You find things out about yourself that you didn’t think you were capable of,” Jon said about running for hours. “There’s a huge high you get.”

And they were introduced to an encouraging community of runners, Danielle said, similar to the community the two found at RIT.

“RIT is where we met. We both are really into sports, so we got to continue our athletics there and it helped us become successful in our careers,” Danielle said. “RIT kind of did everything for us.”

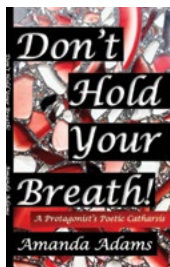
Mindy Mozer



Ian Ratner '93 (CAST) has been promoted to senior director, HR Transformation Technology, at Discovery Inc.

In this role, he is leading the global technology component of the reinvention of HR services at Discovery.

1994



Phyllis Amanda Adams '94 (SCB) released *Don't Hold Your Breath!*, published by From the Heart Publishing. It is an anthology containing

poetry about the four stages of relationships—longing, love, loss and liberty. She earlier published the novel *The Sangrita Club*.

Frances R. Drew '94 MFA (CIAS) has been accepted into the marine electrical draftsman apprenticeship program at Electric Boat/General Dynamics.

Thomas "Tom" Peebles '94 (KGCOE), '03 MS (CAST) was promoted to chief engineer—Akron Test Center / Engineering Technology Lab.

1997

Andrew Welsh '97 (COS) was hired as a data scientist for Rackspace Inc. He relocated to San Antonio, Texas, and will be working to build predictive models using machine learning techniques.

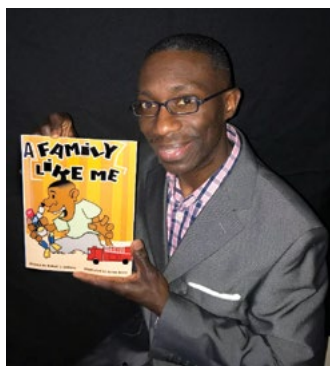
1998



Jeffrey Bauer '98 (CLA) retired as a lieutenant colonel from the United States Marine Corps after 20 years

of honorable and faithful service. A ceremony was held on July 6, 2018, at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Va., with fellow RIT alumnus **Todd Gates '97 (SCB)** presiding. Afterward, Bauer and his family went on a two-month "walkabout" visiting family, friends and national parks from coast to coast prior to settling in Oak Harbor, Wash., to start the next phase of their lives.

1999



Robert Jackson '99 (CAST) self-published his first in a series of children's books titled, *A Family Like Me*. Its theme is based on the love shared within a newly formed blended family from a child's perspective.

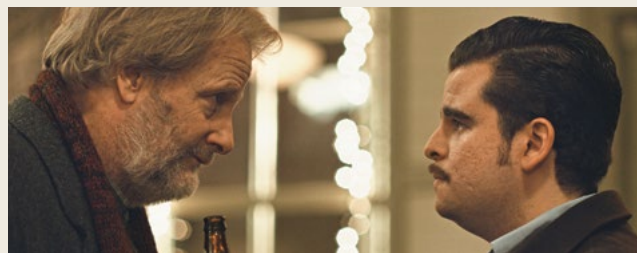
2000

Mark Budosh '00 (CAST) has been promoted to an associate at Barton & Loguidice. He is a member of the firm's transportation/highway practice area.



Olga Zilberbourg '00 (SCB) in September will publish her first book of fiction in English, *Like Water and Other Stories*. The book is a portrayal of motherhood, of immigration and adaptation, and an inside account of life in the Soviet Union and its dissolution.

Graduate co-stars in film with Jeff Daniels



Thomas Macias '13, right, is co-starring in a movie with actor Jeff Daniels, left. The movie has won awards at several film festivals.

Thomas Macias '13 (applied arts and sciences) has made his feature film debut, co-starring with actor Jeff Daniels in *Guest Artist*.

The film is the story of Kenneth (Macias), a young aspiring writer, who comes face-to-face with his hero, a legendary, troubled playwright (Daniels) who isn't happy about staging his play in a small Michigan town. *Guest Artist* was originally written as a play by Daniels and turned into a film by director Timothy Busfield.

"Jeff and Tim really took me under their wing, because it was my first feature film," said Macias. "This was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity and I feel so lucky."

Guest Artist has been selected for more than 20 film festivals and has already won awards at several, including the Hollywood Reel Independent Film Festival and the Beloit International Film Festival. Producers expect the film to be more widely available in theaters or streaming this fall.

"Thomas gives a big screen performance, one that is better than 90 percent of big screen performances that will come out this year," said Busfield, who is known for his role in the TV show *Thirtysomething*. "So much of the quality of his performance comes from his ability to really listen to Jeff throughout the film. That's one of the hardest things for young actors to learn."

Macias first connected with Busfield and Daniels while working as a stage manager at the Purple Rose Theatre Company, a theater founded by Daniels in Chelsea, Mich. The casting director told him

that he could audition under one condition—if he went and made more copies of the script pages that they needed.

"Jeff and I met a week before shooting, to run lines in his studio—just me and his dog," Macias said. "He is such a good storyteller and acting with him is like a team sport."

The film was shot over eight days, with a majority of it taking place in a Chelsea train station.

While at RIT, Macias stud-



Thomas Macias '13

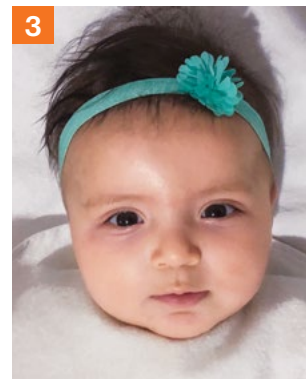
ied dramatic storytelling and took part in RIT Players, RIT Improv and was a Resident Advisor. After graduating, he started as an apprentice at the Purple Rose and is still soaking in every aspect of the theater as a stage manager.

"Thomas always credits a lot of what he's learned back to RIT," said Melissa Gilbert, who was an actress in *Little House on the Prairie* and producer of the film. "We are very proud of him and feel that he has a great future ahead."

To learn more

Watch a trailer for the movie: <http://bit.ly/GuestArtistMovie>.

Tiger Cubs



1 Hayley (Fisch) Donoghue '05 (CIAS) and Sean Donoghue are proud to announce the birth of their second child, Katelyn Rae. She was born in October 2018.

2 Charles Sadler '94 (CIAS) and Katherine Sadler are overjoyed to announce the birth of their son, Daniel Reyes Sadler. Daniel joined their family through adoption and was born in October 2018.

3 Merve Evran Ikiisik '06 (KGCOE) and her husband, Bulent, welcomed their first child, Alin, in July 2018.

4 Jessi (Board) Znosko '06 (COS) and her husband, Wade, welcomed their healthy baby boy, Maxwell Avry Znosko in May 2018 in Farmville, Va.

5 Kristine Menkins '08 (CIAS) and her husband, Nicholas, welcomed their healthy baby boy, Finley Nicholas, in June 2018.

6 Eric Offermann '10 (KGCOE) and Sara Carr '10 (KGCOE) welcomed a daughter, Elizabeth, in 2018.

7 Kara (Slezak) Hodecker '07 (CIAS) and Eric Hodecker '08 (KGCOE) are happy to announce the birth of their second daughter, Averie James. She was born in March 2019.

8 Sophie Schillaci '10 (CLA) and Mike Boya '11 (GCCIS) welcomed their first child, Everly Antoinette Boya, in August 2018 in Los Angeles.

9 Elena O'Neill '10 (CLA) and Kyle O'Neill '11 (SCB) are thrilled to announce the arrival of their son, Rowan John Edward O'Neill. He was born in November 2018 in Seattle.

10 Alison (Staley) Levey '10 (CAST) and Jonathan Levey '10 (CAST) welcomed their first child, a girl named Pecora Marie Levey, in February 2019.

11 Phil Frandina '11 (SCB) and Jessica Frandina '11 (COS) celebrated the birth of their second child, Matthew Avery, in January 2019.

12 Aurelkys Estevez Espinal '12 MS (CAST) had twins, Arturo and Alonso, in 2018. They turned 1 year old this past December.



Heather Fagan '00 (CAST) was promoted to director of marketing at Hope's Windows Inc. Fagan has been employed at Hope's for more than 11 years.



precisionpoint

Mark Hanna '00 (CAST) is the CEO of PrecisionPoint Inc. in Carmel, Ind.



Mark Struczewski '00 (CAST) hosts the productivity-themed Mark Struczewski Podcast. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, he has a conversation with a guest on how they operate at optimum levels. Find it on Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

2001

Jeff Fasoldt '01 MBA (SCB) was appointed as chief financial officer of DiMarco Group. He has almost 30 years of extensive financial, operational and strategic experience.

2002



Siddhartha Bhattacharya '02 MBA (SCB) joined Syracuse University as

its new associate vice president of marketing strategy.

Donald Gentilcore '02 (CAST) has been promoted to an associate at Barton & Loguidice. He is a member of the firm's solid waste practice area.

2003



Ethan Bagley '03 (KGCOE) joined J. J. Keller & Associates Inc. as director of innovation.

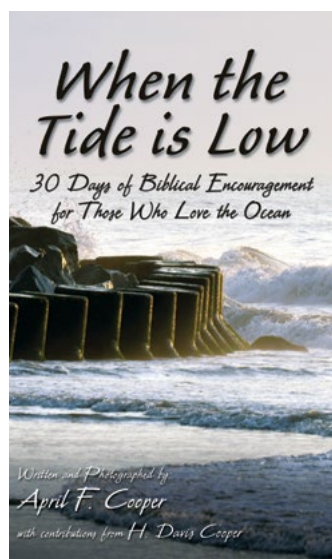
2004

Brian McGrath '04 (COS) has been promoted to a senior environmental scientist at Barton & Loguidice. He is a member of the firm's environmental practice area.

2005

Mike Maeder '05 (KGCOE) accepted a general engineer position with the U.S. Army Evaluation Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground, advancing from his previous position as a test officer/engineer at the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center.

2006



April Foster Cooper '06 MS (CIAS) released *When the Tide is Low: 30 Days of Biblical Encouragement for Those Who Love the Ocean*, in January. The book can be purchased through Amazon.

2007

Carl Wade '07 (CIAS) completed his master's degree program in cyber security from Southern New Hampshire University.



Ryan Larcom '07 BS/ME (KGCOE) was promoted to director of business design and corporate innovation at High Alpha. In this role, he

partners with Fortune 500 companies to access transformational innovation by spinning out new startups.

Michael E. Skyer '07 (CIAS), '09 MS (NTID) was given the 2018 Irving K. Zola Award for Emerging Scholars in Disability Studies for his paper, "Bodies in Dependence: A Foucauldian Genealogy of the Americans with Disabilities Acts of 1990 and 2008." He is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Rochester. He is also a senior lecturer at NTID.

2008

Stephen Morse '08 (CIAS) got married in Kerrville, Texas, on Jan. 4, 2019, to the one and only Tanner Cardinale, soon to be known as Mr. Tanner Morse.

2009



Rebecca Lane Oesterle '09 MS (CAST) was elected to the National Board of Directors for the Institute of Packaging

Professionals for a two-year term beginning in January 2019. She is currently the senior manager of packaging and graphic development for Just Born Quality Confections in Bethlehem, Pa.



Stacy Chaet '09 (CIAS) was named one of StudioDaily's "Exceptional Women in Production and Post" for her achievements as a workflow producer at Sim. She served as workflow producer on *Mr. Robot*, *Master of None* and *Private Life*.

2010

Camille Chism '10 MS (CAST) is principal at C2 Consulting Associates, a packaging and supply chain

management consulting firm that she founded. Go to www.c2consultingassociates.com for more information.

James McNabb '10 (CIAS) was inducted into the Montville (N.J.) Township High School Hall of Fame. McNabb is founder of McNabb Studios in Philadelphia. His cityscape-inspired wood sculptures are displayed around the world.

2011

Randal "Randy" (Jackson) Pituk '11 (CIAS) is excited to announce the establishment of a new business called Inka's Screen Printing based in Austin, Texas. Learn more at www.inkas-print.com.

2012



Kenyon Zitzka '12 BS/ME (KGCOE) retired from the U.S. Navy Reserves after 22 years.

2013



Jessica Beiter '13 BS/MS (COS) married David Gehlhausen in Burlington, Wis., on Aug. 3, 2018. Several former, current and future RIT Tigers were in attendance including **Kaylin Beiter '15 (CHST)**, **Jeriann Beiter '19 (COS)**, **Jane (Litvin) Jacob '12 (CHST)**, **Alex McClain '13 BS/MS (COS)**, **Steven Scorse '14 BS/MS (COS)** and parents of the bride **John Beiter '85 (NTID/CAST)** and **Karen Beiter '88 (NTID/CAST)**.



Roberta Dombrowski '13 (CIAS) has joined Pluralsight's Boston office as the product manager for Role IQ product line.

Alumni tour Iceland by design



Katharine Hallenborg '16 (professional photographic illustration)

Participants visited Gullfoss, a waterfall located in the canyon of the Hvítá River in southwest Iceland, during the eight-day alumni trip.

Participants on an alumni trip to Iceland were reminded that good things can come in small packages.

"It was really astounding to experience this small remote island culture which has made use of all of its natural resources to make it not just livable but *by design* an enjoyable place to live," said trip leader Josh Owen, professor and chair of the industrial design program in the School of Design.

Owen led the eight-day design-centric tour at the end of March during Iceland's biggest design festival called Design-March. The group of 17 went on design-focused tours of the city, met with local designers and attended design presentations and workshops. They also saw the Northern Lights.

A highlight, Owen said, was the opening day talk by the Prime Minister of Iceland, Katrín Jakobsdóttir, who spoke about the impact of design on culture.

"It was so heartwarming to see design being not just lauded but deeply important

to innovation and cultural change and having it come from the highest possible platform was really inspiring," he said.

Kristine Fitzgerald '88 (graphic design) said it was great to see design through the lens of a different culture. Fitzgerald runs her own business, 2k Design, in Clifton Park, N.Y.

"The different perspectives of everyone participating in the trip also made for a lot of interesting conversations," she said, adding that participants came from a variety of disciplines, including business, biology as well as design.

Owen said he hopes to lead another trip in the future.

"The group was so impressive," Owen said. "It was a pleasure to see not just through our own eyes individually but through our fellow traveler's shared perspectives what makes Iceland and its DesignMarch so special."

For updates on trips coming in 2020, go to www.onwardtravel.co/rit.



The RIT Icelandic design immersion group soaks it up in the Blue Lagoon.



Emalee Shea '13 (CAST) and AJ Broderick '13 (CLA) exchanged wedding vows on June 30, 2018, in Richmond, Va. The two met at RIT in 2011 while both were working on campus during the summer. Family, friends and many RIT alumni attended the wedding including maid of honor Kate Goodridge '12 (CIAS), bridesmaid Sarah (Shea) Dempsey '08 (COS), best man Jaime Dodge '15 (CAST) and groomsmen Steve Ulrich '12 (COS).

2014

Kristi Mitchell '14 MBA (SCB) is the founder and digital marketing consultant at Phase 2 Marketing. Mitchell specializes in HubSpot but also works on a variety of other platforms to suit customer needs.



Brooke Piraino '14 (CHST) and Chad Harris '13 (CAST) married on Oct. 19, 2018, in Golden, Colo., after 10 years of dating.

2015

Mariah Texidor '15 (CIAS) celebrates two years of employment as a print specialist at 70 South Print & Gallery in Morristown, N.J.



Chelsea Weidman '15 (COS) and Kyle Burke '15 (CHST) were married on July 16, 2018, in North

Myrtle Beach, S.C. They met on their fifth day at RIT and quickly became best friends before beginning to date during the summer after their freshman year. RIT alumni in attendance included best man Thomas Bentley '16 (GCCIS), bridesmaid Samantha Chalut '15 (CIAS), Stephen Burke '10 (SCB), Michael Coles '14 (GCCIS) and Jocette (Rioux) Coles '15 (SCB), '16 MBA (SCB).

2016



Victoria McGowen '16 (CIAS), '17 MS (GCCIS) received praise for her work on *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*. She is a pipeline technical director for Sony Picture Imageworks and worked on the award-winning Spider-Man movie, which took home the Academy Award for Best Animated Feature and the Golden Globe Award for Best Animated Feature Film.

2017

Michael Cattalani '17 (COS) is a first-year osteopathic medical student at New York Institute of Technology in Old Westbury, N.Y.

Hongbo Miao '17 MS (GCCIS) was promoted from software engineer to senior software engineer at Origin. In his free time, he created a new modern email client, Lightning Mail. The email client received more than 1,900 internal Microsoft users from November 2017 to May 2018.

2018

Eric Tong '18 (SOIS) is working on his master's degree in professional studies with a concentration in project management and new venture development.

Are you moving?

If your address changes, send an email to ritalum@rit.edu or call the office toll-free at 866-748-2586.

You Can Use Your IRA to Help a Student Finish Their Degree

A Charitable IRA Rollover also helps you at tax time

Kathleen and Bruce Martin know what it means for students to reach the limits of their resources. During her career at RIT/NTID, Kathleen saw countless students work for two years, three years, or longer to get their degrees, only to reach a point where their tuition funding ran out.

Close to finishing, these students faced losing all they'd worked for.

Kathleen and Bruce knew they were in a position to help these students. They created the Martin Family Endowed Scholarship using a Charitable IRA Rollover, and were able to make a gift that was meaningful for them and the students they support.



“When I was working, I saw students who, because of limited loans, family illnesses, job losses, etc., found themselves unable to pay for their last few semesters of college. That affected Bruce and me deeply, and it’s why we wanted to create this scholarship.”

***—Kathleen Martin,
former faculty/staff***

To learn how to use your IRA, or other retirement plan, to support the areas of RIT that you care about, please visit rit.edu/giving/finisheddegree and download our free Charitable IRA Rollover Guide.

Prefer to talk to someone?

Call Hal Burrall at 585-475-3106 or email us at plannedgiving@rit.edu.

**It is more than a donation.
It is your legacy.**

RIT | Ellingson
Society

Alumni

- 1922**
J. Alexander Scott '22 (FAA)
March 13, 2019
- 1937**
Bernice (Naylor) Clarke '37
(SCB) March 12, 2019
- 1942**
John B. Bareis '42 (KGCOE)
March 25, 2019
- 1945**
Stirling Muck '45 (KGCOE)
Jan. 1, 2019
- 1946**
Angeline (Tritto) Norton '46
(COS) Dec. 22, 2018
- 1947**
Emily (Biron) Morante '47
(COS) April 3, 2019
Jack A. Barach '47 (GAP)
March 16, 2019
- 1948**
Donald A. Stevens '48
(KGCOE) March 10, 2019
Rose (De Gasperis) Contreras
'48 (SCB) Jan. 23, 2019
- 1949**
Bernard W. Amos '49
(KGCOE) March 23, 2019
- 1950**
Frank Bellapianta '50 (CCE)
Feb. 6, 2019
Charles W. Pierson '50
(KGCOE) Jan. 29, 2019
Edward Vidler '50 (SCB)
Jan. 12, 2019
- 1952**
Marianne Schlagenhauf '52
(FAA) March 7, 2019
- 1953**
Michael Anthony Lupo '53
(FAA), '81 (FAA) Sept. 3, 2018
Richard O. Hugendubler '53
(GAP) March 19, 2019
Leo A. Nugent '53 (KGCOE)
Jan. 27, 2019
- Martin R. Van Tassel '53
(KGCOE) Feb. 8, 2019
Marilyn (Norcross) Cranson
'53 (SCB) Jan. 21, 2019
- 1954**
Robert L. Adams '54 (FAA)
Dec. 20, 2018
Charles B. Gibson '54 (GAP)
Aug. 28, 2018
Thomas G. Berl '54 (KGCOE)
March 12, 2019
- 1955**
Cecily Delafield '55 (FAA)
Jan. 28, 2019
Richard Bergen '55 (GAP)
Jan. 31, 2019
- 1956**
Sam L. Giordano '56 (CCE)
Dec. 24, 2018
Carol (Mitchell) Logan '56
(FAA) Jan. 17, 2019
Sydney S. Baker '56 (GAP)
Jan. 2, 2019
- 1957**
Constantine Stefanou '57
(CCE) Feb. 22, 2019
John R. Fetzner '57 (CCE)
March 18, 2019
Harvey N. Young Jr. '57 (CCE)
Jan. 2, 2019
- 1958**
Richard W. Carlson '58
(SCB) March 5, 2019
- 1959**
Robert G. Blakemore '59
(CCE) April 9, 2019
- 1960**
Harold F. Granger '60 (CCE)
Jan. 24, 2019
Serge Hornos '60 (FAA)
March 8, 2019
David F. Vanable Sr. '60
(GAP) March 6, 2019
Paul J. Cubeta '60 (GAP)
Feb. 10, 2019
- 1961**
Anne (Wing) Komara '61
(SCB) Jan. 28, 2019
- 1962**
William T. Lesio '62 (CCE)
March 24, 2019
Lawrence C. Phillips '62
(CCE) Jan. 9, 2019
- 1963**
William V. Gaffney '63 (CCE)
Jan. 16, 2019
Edward E. Stone '63 (CCE)
Oct. 13, 2018
Wayne O. Chrisler '63
(KGCOE) Aug. 14, 2018
- 1964**
Lloyd F. Bean '64 (CCE)
Jan. 8, 2019
Lawrence P. Higbee '64 (CCE)
Jan. 14, 2019
Stephen C. Huie '64 (GAP)
Feb. 24, 2019
D. Eugene Callender II '64
(GAP) Feb. 22, 2019
- 1965**
Henry S. Wilczewski '65
(CCE) March 8, 2019
William H. Rudloff '65 (CCE)
Dec. 27, 2018
Ronald J. Bertie '65 (CCE)
March 2, 2019
Martin J. Reilly '65 (CCE)
Jan. 18, 2019
Arnold G. Huyck '65 (KGCOE)
Dec. 7, 2018
William N. Bliss '65 (SCB)
March 26, 2019
Robert S. Stephenson '65
(SCB) March 26, 2019
- 1966**
Warren D. Ellis '66 (CCE)
Dec. 12, 2018
William R. Webster '66 (CCE)
Jan. 9, 2019
Barnett C. Young '66 (GAP)
Nov. 20, 2018
Robert J. Mattice '66 (KGCOE)
Jan. 28, 2019
Michele (Love) Hills '66 (SCB)
Feb. 11, 2019
Rosalie S. Rosini '66 (SCB)
Dec. 23, 2018
- 1967**
Richard A. Ketchum '67 (CCE)
Dec. 20, 2018
Norman C. Reichhart '67
(CCE) March 16, 2019
Thomas J. Zillioux '67 (CCE)
Jan. 10, 2019
Judith (Van Peursem) Doell
'67 (SCB) April 4, 2019
Keith G. Roberts '67 MFA
(FAA) Feb. 11, 2019
- 1968**
Glenn Edward Rice '68 (CCE)
March 21, 2019
M. Reynolds Dodd '68 (GAP)
March 18, 2018
Laurance R. Sandstrom '68
(KGCOE) April 2, 2019
- 1969**
Theodore Kotin '69 (CCE)
March 21, 2019
Robert J. Feeley '69 (CCE)
March 11, 2019
Eileen (Brodsky) Grossman
'69 (SCB) Feb. 2, 2019
- 1970**
Clyde J. Rehberg '70 (CCE)
Dec. 22, 2018
Robert A. Hogarth '70 (CCE)
Dec. 15, 2018
- 1971**
Clark E. Harris '71 (CCE)
April 5, 2019
Nicholas R. Pasnak '71 (CCE)
March 7, 2019
James H. Hawkins '71 (CCE)
March 29, 2019
Richard J. Adamski '71 (CCE)
Feb. 3, 2019
Dean A. Beasom '71 (GAP)
Jan. 13, 2019
Caryn K. Kolts '71 (SCB)
March 12, 2019
Gary R. Welsh '71 (SCB)
March 6, 2019
- 1972**
Warren Jamison '72 (GAP)
June 11, 2018
Dale T. Stothard '72 (CCE)
Jan. 4, 2019
Jerome M. Kochman '72 (SCB)
March 22, 2019
- 1973**
Robert H. Hopf '73 (KGCOE)
Jan. 19, 2019
Kenneth J. Cole '73 (SCB)
Feb. 3, 2019
Kurt H. Kreckel '73 MBA
(SCB) March 16, 2019
- 1974**
Albert L. Herpich '74 (CCE)
Feb. 16, 2019
Kathryn E. (Katenkamp)
Mittra '74 (FAA) Dec. 2, 2018
Bruce W. McLaughlin '74
(GAP) Dec. 7, 2018
Linda J. (Eckert) Kuechler '74
MBA (SCB) Jan. 3, 2019
- 1975**
Thomas C. Hall '75 (CCE)
Jan. 3, 2019
Karen A. (Burdick) Edwards
'75 (CLA) March 20, 2019
Stephen P. Sandle '75
(KGCOE) April 24, 2019
Alfred M. Gordon '75 (SCB)
Jan. 4, 2019
Kenneth J. Pamatat '75 (SCB)
March 16, 2019
- 1976**
Edward R. Bohrer '76 (CCE)
Feb. 24, 2019
Howard D. Cook '76 (CCE)
March 28, 2019
Lawrence G. Ferris '76 (CCE)
Feb. 7, 2019
Michael F. Marron '76 (SCB)
Feb. 15, 2019
- 1977**
William J. Lennon '77 (CCE)
April 10, 2019
Daniel J. Buccini '77 (CCE)
March 7, 2019
Wilhelm E. Haas '77 (CCE)
Feb. 5, 2019
Thomas H. VanGriethuysen
'77 (CCE), '82 (CCE), '84 (CCE)
Feb. 13, 2019
Vern M. Williams '77 (GAP)
Dec. 29, 2018
David P. Pieluszczyk '77
(KGCOE), '78 (KGCOE)
Feb. 6, 2019
Mark Joseph Cook '77
(SCB), '78 (SCB) Feb. 24, 2019

1978

David Alan Lockwood '78 (CCE) Jan. 18, 2019
Laslo S. Jacobs '78 (CCE) Feb. 25, 2019
James E. Plumadore '78 (SCB) Jan. 7, 2019
Gerald J. Maden '78 MBA (SCB) March 2, 2019
James F. Clouser '78 MS (SCB) March 15, 2019

1979

Thomas Charles Emens '79 (CCE) March 29, 2019
Raymond Whitham '79 (CCE) Feb. 5, 2019
Gloria Stein Fleischer '79 MBA (SCB) Jan. 16, 2019

1980

Timothy Joseph Krauza '80 (CAST) April 3, 2019
Joseph David Shamy '80 (GAP) April 6, 2019
Julie Marie Raschella '80 (SCB) March 27, 2019
Herbert Lawrence III '80 MBA (SCB) Jan. 3, 2019

1981

Robert J. Tapogna '81 (CLA) Feb. 1, 2019

1982

Ronald G. Welker '82 (CAST) Dec. 11, 2018
Thomas W. Vick '82 (CCE) Jan. 24, 2019

1983

Frank P. Huscher '83 (CCE) April 4, 2019
Lillian J. Gregory '83 (CCE), '88 (CCE) Dec. 31, 2018
Patrick V. Callery '83 (GAP), '84 (CIAS) April 24, 2019

1984

Michael Joseph Reger '84 (CCE) Nov. 7, 2018
G. Brett Boehm '84 (CCE), '98 (SCB) Jan. 13, 2019
Joyce W. Barasch '84 (CLA) April 6, 2019

Glenn Robinson Simmons '84 (FAA) Jan. 26, 2019
Christopher J. Blair '84 (NTID) March 9, 2019
Edward Francis Vanduzer '84 MBA (SCB) Feb. 11, 2019

1985

Ruby Glicksman '85 (CLA) April 24, 2019
Lisa M. Brown '85 (SCB) Dec. 18, 2018
Philip A. O'Brien '85 MBA (SCB) Jan. 31, 2019

1986

Desiree L. Benet '86 (CLA) Dec. 27, 2018
Mark A. Purdell '86 MBA (SCB) Jan. 8, 2019
Judith Ennis Ferrari '86 MBA (SCB) April 27, 2018
Melvin Bressler '86 MBA (SCB) Dec. 18, 2018

1987

Wiley Robinson '87 (CLA) Jan. 23, 2019

1988

David Alan Quick '88 (KGCOE), '96 MBA (SCB) Dec. 19, 2018

1989

Carrie M. Holland '89 MS (CCE) Feb. 21, 2019

1991

Robert William Clark '91 (CAST) Dec. 18, 2018
Christopher L. Graney '91 (GAP) Feb. 24, 2019

1992

Michael Robert Corneau '92 (FAA) Feb. 13, 2019

1994

Jeffrey John Paris '94 MFA (CIAS) Dec. 19, 2018
Roberta L. Buntaine '94 MS (CLA) Jan. 7, 2019

1995

Geoffrey G. Gausman '95 MBA (SCB) Jan. 31, 2019

1998

Paul C. Storms '98 (CAST) March 15, 2019

1999

Kristine M. Pierce Brassie '99 (CAST) April 3, 2019
Andrew C. Johnson '99 (CAST) March 5, 2019

2000

Michael A. Jachimowicz '00 (CAST) Feb. 26, 2019

2002

Leo K. Hickey '02 (CIAS) March 22, 2019
Scott J. Zygodlo '02 MBA (SCB) Feb. 5, 2019

2005

Paul G. Ruganis '05 MS (GCCIS) Dec. 28, 2018

2006

Christian P. Hanlon '06 (KGCOE) Feb. 10, 2019

2007

David M. Stahl '07 MS (CAST) Dec. 28, 2018

Faculty and staff

James Aumer, emeritus professor in the College of Health Sciences and Technology, March 27, 2019

Josef Torok, professor of mechanical engineering, Feb. 26, 2019

Remembering Kristine (Pierce) Brassie



Former women's hockey standout Kristine (Pierce) Brassie '99 (hospitality and service management), who became the first athlete in RIT's intercollegiate athletic history to have her jersey retired, died on April 3. She was 43.

Brassie, who donned No. 12 as a defenseman for the Tigers from 1994-99, won the prestigious Hockey Humanitarian Award in 1999 and earned induction into the RIT Athletics Hall of Fame in 2007.

She became the first woman and non-Division I athlete to win the Hockey Humanitarian Award given annually to "college hockey's finest citizen."

She earned the honor for the many service hours she gave to RIT and the Rochester community, working with 24 different organizations. In addition, Pierce overcame Hodgkin's disease as a sophomore and returned to the ice the following season. She also served three seasons as team captain.

"Kristine was not only a key player for her teams but was a leader on and off the competitive arena," said Lou Spiotti Jr., executive director of Intercollegiate Athletics. "She will always be remembered by us as the commensurate student-athlete and her spirit will live on for many years in the hearts and minds of the Tiger faithful."



The Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science under construction in 1988.

The first class in 1989.



The newly completed building.

Thirty years of imaging science at RIT

RIT made a bold move when it opened the doors to the new Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science in 1989.

This became the only place in the world where students could pursue degrees in the interdisciplinary field of imaging science. The goal was to prepare the next generation of educators and researchers to develop and deploy imaging systems that answer fundamental scientific questions, monitor and protect the environment, help keep the nation secure and aid medical researchers in their quest to conquer disease.

The move also signaled a shift in the direction the university as a whole was headed. RIT's imaging science programs placed a much larger emphasis on conducting research than any previous RIT program had and would soon offer the university's first doctoral program.

"People felt that was the future of what RIT could be, particularly in imaging

science, where nobody else literally in the world has the capabilities that RIT and Rochester have," said David Messinger, director of the Center for Imaging Science. "There was really this nice incubator in Rochester between the corporate and academic side that allowed it to happen. Kodak, Xerox and Bausch & Lomb were major imaging companies all based in Rochester in the '80s. When you combine that with the photography and photographic sciences programs, it was the right mix of things at the right time."

Thirty years after the Center for Imaging Science building was dedicated, it is now home to more than 150 students studying imaging science at the undergraduate and graduate level. RIT currently has nearly 100 students pursuing their Ph.D. in imaging science and awarded 17 imaging science doctoral degrees in 2018-19.

The Center for Imaging Science helped lead the charge for the rest of the university

to grow as well. Last year, RIT was awarded more than \$78 million in sponsored research, and the university has awarded more than 250 Ph.D.s over the past 30 years.

RIT will host a special celebration commemorating the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science's 30th anniversary during Brick City Weekend. For more information, go to rit.edu/gcr/brickcity.

Luke Auburn '09, '15 MS

To learn more

RIT Press is publishing *Coming of Age: The Center for Imaging Science at Rochester Institute of Technology* by RIT Professor Emeritus John Schott. The book chronicles the center's history. For more, go to rit.edu/press.



Make a gift every year... **Be RIT for Life**

Christina Mulé '06 and John Kitchura, Jr. '06 recognize the value of annual giving and understand that their gift, combined with gifts from other alumni, add up to provide boundless possibilities for RIT Tigers, because they benefited from alumni giving when they were students.

Your annual gift expands the RIT experience for students of today and tomorrow.

Make your gift at rit.edu/MyAnnualGift



“Many of our personal and professional accomplishments can be traced back to RIT, so giving back is one way for us to express our gratitude. It’s how we remain RIT for Life.”

—Christina and John

RIT | Fund for RIT

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RIT



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HOMECOMING
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October 18-20

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www.rit.edu/brickcity



Student Government Speaker:
Anderson Cooper