

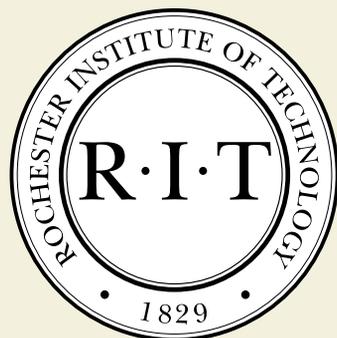
R·I·T

The University Magazine

Fall 2016



WE'VE
GOT THE
NEXT **BIG**
IDEA



RIT: The University Magazine

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Vol. 18, No. 2, 117M-P1793-8/2016-LANE-JSA
Printer: The Lane Press; Burlington, Vermont
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Photo by Mike Bradley

RIT President Bill Destler walks across campus during the Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Grand challenges, convergence and retirement

Oh what I would do to turn back the clock and be a freshman at RIT this semester. As we prepare to welcome back a record 19,000-plus students, the university is already brimming with activity that I see as a collision of the left brain (math, logic) and right brain (creativity).

For example, construction will soon be underway for MAGIC Spell Studios, a program that will link RIT's internationally ranked academic programs with high-tech facilities needed to commercialize computer gaming, film and animation, graphic design and imaging sciences projects.

We are also beginning our new "Signature Interdisciplinary Research Areas" in sociotechnical approaches to cybersecurity, personalized health care technology, remote sensing with unmanned aerial vehicles, computational relativity and gravitation and the future photon initiative. (See page 5.) It's these convergences of disciplines that are making up the fabric of RIT. And this aligns perfectly with the shifting needs of our planet. This was noted by RIT commencement speaker France Córdova, director of the National Science Foundation.

"The grand challenges of our time—harnessing big data, ensuring access to clean water, designing and managing a technology-embedded society—these will not be solved by one disciplinary field alone. They will require the expertise of an array of disciplines, a diverse group of passionate people. They will require us

to work together, to listen and learn from each other," Córdova told our graduates.

If I were a freshman today at RIT, I would want to explore everything on campus! Instead, I will explore a new chapter in my life. It is with very mixed emotions that I am informing you that I will retire from my position as president of RIT on June 30, 2017. At that time, I will have completed a 10-year term leading this remarkable university.

These years at RIT have been the most fulfilling of my professional career. On a more personal note, I want to thank my spouse, Dr. Rebecca Johnson, for bravely joining me on this adventure and for all she has done to provide a human face to our work.

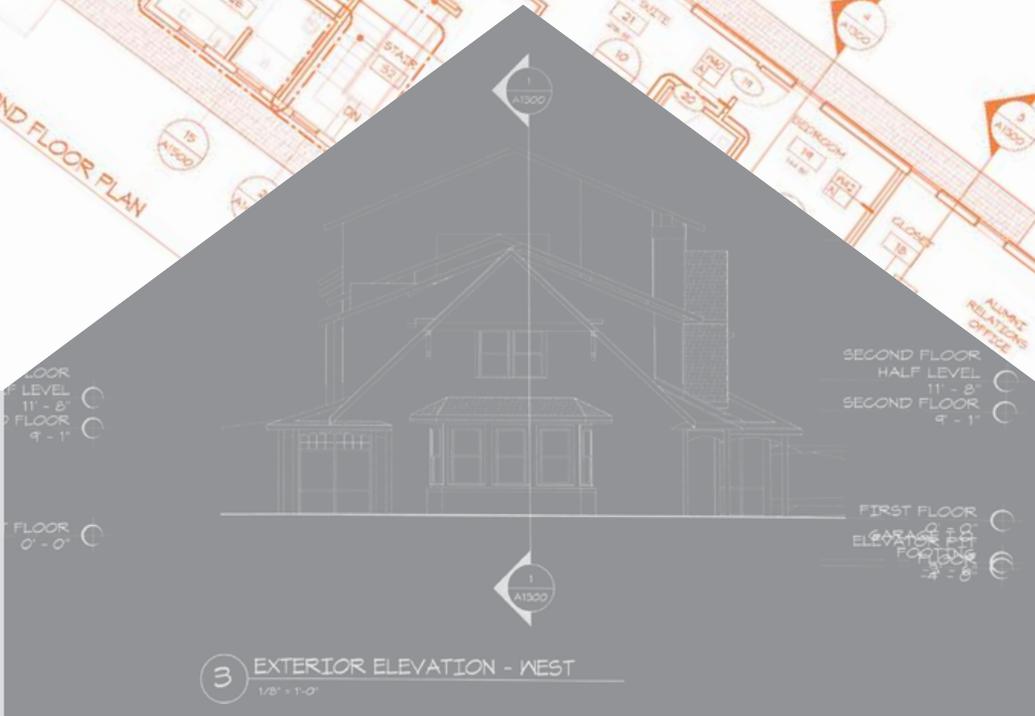
As I enter my final year, the RIT community cannot rest on its laurels if we are to continue to be a great global university. And frankly, if we continue to improve in the right ways, the world will be better served by RIT as a result. I plan to roll up my sleeves during the next year because we still have a lot of work to accomplish before I retire.

So this is not the final goodbye. I look forward to working across the campus to collaborate and converge our collective talents as we make an impact on the world.

Yours in Tiger pride,

Bill Destler, President
www.rit.edu/president

UNDER CONSTRUCTION



Construction is now underway on RIT's Alumni House and it's all thanks to you! Your support has helped tear down walls, but we now need help to build them back up. If you have not yet supported the RIT Alumni House—your home on RIT's campus—please consider making a gift so that we can open its doors for our Tiger alumni shortly.

Thanks again and we hope to have you over soon.

For the latest updates and to make a gift visit rit.edu/alumnihouse.



October 14th-16th



BRICK CITY
HOMECOMING
& FAMILY WEEKEND
VISIT RIT.EDU/BRICKCITY



Many activities to choose from including **Presidents' Alumni Ball**, "Classes Without Quizzes", Friday Fun Night, **Women's Hockey vs. Union**, Family Fun Zone, **Men's Hockey vs. UConn**, **SG Horton Speaker Brandon Stanton**, **Humans of New York** Brick City 5k, 50th Year Reunion Activities, Tours, Golden Circle Luncheon, Athletic Reunions, Greek Reunions, Pumpkin Chunkin & more.



R·I·T

Departments

- 4 On Campus
- 6 About Students
- 32 Alumni Updates
- 38 Class Notes
- 40 Tiger Love

Features

- 8 Busy year for RIT president**
Bill Destler has a lot of work to do before he retires next summer.
- 10 Metaproject connections**
Students are partnering with leading design companies and sometimes getting their creations to market.
- 14 Center grows into leader**
RIT's Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation is one of the most renowned research groups in gravitational physics in the world.
- 20 We've got the next big idea**
Growing resources help students turn their concepts into companies.
- 28 Working for The Who**
Two graduates capture sights and sounds of rock legends.

Cover

From left to right: Students Nicholas Lamb, Zach Baltzer, Greyson Watkins and Chrystal Schlenker formed Hz Innovations, a company that has developed a programmable and fully customizable tool that alerts deaf and hard-of-hearing people to sounds in their homes. This summer, the team will complete production of its first 1,000-unit order. (Photo by Tim Wainwright)



Oscar Estrada Torrejon, a mechanical engineering student from Lima, Peru, worked with his IdeaLab team to develop innovative products for hospital environments.



BRICK CITY

HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND

VISIT RIT.EDU/BRICKCITY



Brandon Stanton
Humans of New York

Reserve your hotel room!

View the weekend schedule!

Buy your event tickets!

Share your stories & follow us!

RIT Brick City Homecoming #RITBrickCity Sign up at rit.edu/brickcity

Hotels book fast & many events sell out early! All seats in Blue Cross Arena are assigned; tickets for all other events are general admission.

October 14th-16th

Many activities to choose from, including new events & favorite traditions like **50th Year Reunion Activities**, **Tours**, **Golden Circle Luncheon**, **Athletic Reunions**, **Greek Reunions**, **Classes Without Quizzes** and more.

14TH

Dinner, Gaming & Dancing at the Presidents' Alumni Ball

Honoring RIT Alumni Sharon Napier '04 and Mike Krupnicki '99

Friday Fun Night

Build-A-Tiger, Dueling Pianos, Paint Nite, Food Trucks and more!

14TH15TH

Student Government Horton Speaker, Brandon Stanton,

Humans of New York

Classes Without Quizzes

Learning fun for everyone!

Family Fun Zone

Bounce House & arcade games!

15TH16TH

Wrap up the weekend!

Brick City 5K Fun Run
Parent/Family Brunch



Cheer on the Tigers!

Friday, October 14th

Women's Hockey vs. Union,
Gene Polisseni Center

Saturday, October 15th

Women's Hockey vs. Union,
Gene Polisseni Center

Men's Hockey vs. UConn,
Blue Cross Arena, downtown Rochester

NOTEBOOK

Next Big Shot

A Rochester company whose name is synonymous with pictures worldwide will be the focus of RIT's 32nd Big Shot. The community photography project will capture a dramatic nighttime image of Kodak Tower, the long-time headquarters of Eastman Kodak Co., on Sunday, Sept. 18.

New name, leader

RIT and the American University in Kosovo Foundation Inc. signed an agreement to officially rename the RIT/A.U.K. global campus to RIT Kosovo.

Sharon Y. Hart became president of RIT Kosovo after Winfred L. Thompson retired. Hart was president of the Northern Marianas College in Saipan, located in the U.S. commonwealth of the Western Pacific.

Eighth Ph.D.

RIT will offer a new Ph.D. in mathematical modeling, beginning in fall 2017.

This emerging discipline integrates applied mathematics with scientific computing to model real systems and to solve research problems across the science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, fields. The program is RIT's eighth doctoral degree.



Photo by Brittainy Newman

In what was the first outdoor theatrical production in recent memory at RIT, 20 students, staff and faculty members performed William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the Infinity Quad. This was part of RIT's yearlong commemoration of the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death. The English poet, playwright and actor wrote nearly 40 plays and more than 150 sonnets.

Three appointed to leadership roles

Doreen Edwards became dean of Kate Gleason College of Engineering on July 1.

Edwards, who was dean of the Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering at Alfred University and acting vice president of Statutory Affairs for the university, took over for Harvey Palmer, who retired in June after 16 years as dean.

Edwards has published more than 60 papers and holds two patents. She brings more than 20 years of experience in academia and industry as a researcher, educator and administrator to the position.

Anne R. Haake became dean of the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences on April 1. Haake, who had been serving as interim dean of the computing college since last July, was chosen after an international search.

Haake has had a distinguished career in academia, including 15 years at RIT. She has served in interdisciplinary curriculum development roles for several programs, including bioinformatics, medical informatics, the Ph.D. in computing and information sciences and the human-computer interaction master's program.



Doreen Edwards



Anne Haake



Twyla Cummings

Twyla Cummings became dean of Graduate Education on Aug. 1. Cummings, who was senior associate dean for graduate studies and faculty research in RIT's College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, was chosen after an extensive internal search.

Cummings has had a distinguished career, including 17 years at RIT. She has served as a professor in RIT's School of Media Sciences, teaching and researching in the areas of media distribution and print industry trends. She was also appointed the Paul and Louise Miller Distinguished Professorship and worked as a graduate director for the print media program.

RIT announces strategic investments in five research areas

To advance its focus on conducting internationally distinguished research, RIT has chosen five initiatives to receive strategic investments.

These strategic initiatives, picked through a rigorous internal process that looked at 26 research proposals, will each receive up to \$1 million, payable over five years, on the condition that the projects meet their annual review goals. The projects will also receive funding through matching commitments made by deans, department heads, center directors and team members.

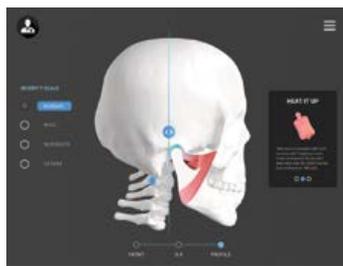
“The response from the RIT community to our call for research proposals was tremendous,” said Ryne Raffaele, vice president for research and associate provost. “We received proposals from interdisciplinary teams that literally represented every college and institute on campus. The quality of the proposals was outstanding and necessitated a thorough, multi-stage process that involved both internal and external reviews by a variety of impartial stakeholders to identify the most meritorious proposals.”

The five proposals are:

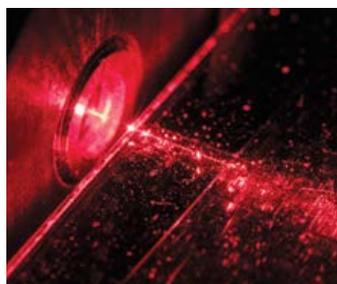


- **Sociotechnical Approaches to Cybersecurity:** This team, consisting of 25 faculty members from five colleges (B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences, Kate Gleason College of Engineering, Saunders College of Business and the colleges of Science and Liberal Arts), will research sociotechnical approaches to cybersecurity. Their goal is to look at cybersecurity

from a more proactive position by studying how such elements as human behavior, economic incentives and social influences on design of systems and software interact with technology and can be incorporated to develop better protections.



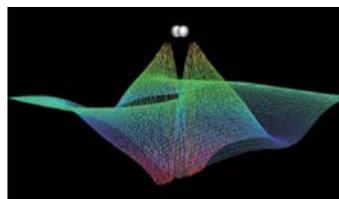
- **Personalized Health Care Technology:** This team will research ways to enhance personalized care and access through mobile and wearable technologies that integrate new media design and leverage data, behavioral and social sciences. The goal is to provide rigorous evidence that mobile technologies can enhance health and prevent disease.



- **The Future Photon Initiative:** A team of 15 researchers from RIT's colleges and research centers in engineering, science, business and design will develop advanced photonics applications and apply them to solve some of the world's most pressing problems in science, national security, advanced manufacturing, communications, information technology, energy, health care and medicine.



- **Remote Sensing with Unmanned Aerial Vehicles:** An interdisciplinary team from imaging science, engineering, public policy and mechanical engineering technology within the colleges of Science, Liberal Arts, Kate Gleason College of Engineering and College of Applied Science and Technology will work on challenges facing this industry, from integrating UAVs into the national airspace to making use of imaging data collected with sensors that read visual, spectral, thermal or spatial information.



- **Computational Relativity and Gravitation:** RIT researchers are part of the scientific collaboration that used the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory to confirm the existence of gravitational waves and binary black holes predicted in Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity and to make a second discovery of another pair of colliding black holes during the same observational run. The researchers will build on that breakthrough detection by creating a wide-spanning and integrated program around the new science of gravitational wave astronomy and multimessenger astrophysics. (Read more on pages 14-18.)

To learn more about all of the strategic initiatives, go to rit.edu/research.

NOTEBOOK

New master's degree

RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf has received approval from New York State Department of Education to establish a first-of-its-kind Master of Science degree program in health care interpretation to meet the demands of nationally certified sign-language interpreters desiring a master's degree specific to working in health-care environments.

The program is a collaborative venture between NTID and RIT's College of Health Sciences and Technology and marks the first time that NTID will be partnering with another RIT college to provide a master's degree program.

Native Americans

RIT was recognized in *Winds of Change* magazine as one of the Top 200 Colleges for Native American Students. It is the seventh time the university made the annual list. Colleges are ranked on admissions selectivity, enrollment numbers, top majors and information about the American Indian community and support programs on the campus and within the region.

Diversity head

Keith Jenkins, director of Undergraduate Programs in the College of Liberal Arts, has been appointed interim vice president and associate provost for Diversity and Inclusion at RIT.

About Students



Original photos by Adam DeTour '06

Students win challenge to fight terrorism

It's Time: ExOut Extremism, a social media campaign created by RIT students, took top prize in a global challenge conducted by the U.S. State Department aimed at finding ways to counter terrorist propaganda online.

The RIT team was the only group from the United States to reach the finals of the P2P: Challenging Extremism competition, and became the first U.S. team to win first place, defeating this year's other finalist teams from Versalius College in Brussels and Khazar University in Baku, Azerbaijan. Last year, RIT received an honorable mention in the competition.

Judging this year's competition—held in Washington, D.C., on June 27—were officials from the State Department, Facebook, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Combating Terrorism Technical Support Office and the National Counterterrorism Center.

One of the judges, Assistant Secretary of State Evan Ryan, offered high praise for the RIT team's digital media work.

"We thought they really captured the attention of their target audience of young people with their ExOut campaign and would reach the demographic that we are interested in," Ryan said. "Who better to reach these young people on social networking sites than university students as we search for new ways to counter online terrorism."

To reach the finals, RIT outsmarted 56 university teams from around the globe, including national competition from several universities which received honorable mentions, including University of California, Berkeley; University of Southern California; Miami University in Oxford, Ohio; New York University and the University of Mississippi.

As winners, team members received \$5,000 to continue to develop their campaign.

The 17-member RIT team was led by Adriana Bóveda-Lambie, assistant professor of marketing at Saunders College of Business, who assigned students the P2P Challenge in her social media marketing class during the spring 2016 semester. With an operating



Photo provided by Evan Ryan

It's Time: ExOut Extremism, a social media campaign created by RIT students, took top prize in a global challenge. The team is posing with Assistant Secretary of State Evan Ryan, center.

budget of \$2,000, the team created a public relations and strategy agency, with a logo,



Hot Wheelz, the all-female race team from RIT, finished third in the electric category in its first national event, Dartmouth's Formula Hybrid Competition on May 2-5 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon, N.H. The team, which placed first in project management, also was recognized with two trophies, the GM Spirit of Formula Hybrid Award and the Fiat Chrysler Automobiles Gracious Professionalism Award.

Celebrating commencement

website, social media, video platforms, and events to raise public awareness both on campus and in the community. They worked with the Muslim community in Rochester to develop the campaign.

The team members presenting at the competition were Jessica Kellner '16 (new media marketing), Margaret Harrington '16 (photographic sciences), Kate Sudar '16 (illustration), Olivia Hauck '16 (advertising and public relations) and Kailun Jiang '16 (marketing).

"When we started this project we realized this wasn't just about focusing on ISIL and how they operate; the most important part of challenging extremism is to open people's eyes from those suffering from it," said team member Hauck.

RIT President Bill Destler said he is proud of the students and their sensitivity in tackling such a complex and challenging issue.

"These students reflect so admirably the innovative and creative spirit that permeates the university," he said.

Marcia Morphy



Photo by A. Sue Webster

RIT President Bill Destler conferred degrees on about 4,000 graduating students, including 32 doctorates, during Academic Convocation in May. France A. Córdova, a physics Ph.D. and director of the National Science Foundation, a \$7.5 billion independent federal agency, was the keynote speaker. She told graduates that the workforce of the future must have a broad-based education that encourages collaboration and convergence with other people passionate about their fields.



President Destler plans

BUSY YEAR BEFORE 2017 RETIREMENT

Bill Destler, RIT's ninth president, will retire at the end of the 2016-2017 academic year. Destler's career in higher education has spanned more than 40 years, with this upcoming academic year being his 10th at RIT.

"As we enter our final year, the RIT community cannot rest on its laurels if we are going to continue to be a great global university," Destler said. "I plan to roll up my sleeves during the next year because we still have a lot of work to accomplish before I retire."

A nationwide search for a successor began immediately.

Under Destler's leadership, RIT's enrollment has reached record levels, selectivity and diversity have improved, the value of research awards has grown significantly and geographic draw continues to widen across the U.S. and overseas.

Destler accomplished his vision of turning RIT into one of the most innovative universities in the world. The Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival has attracted more than 250,000 visitors to campus since it launched in 2008, and RIT can boast about award-winning programs in a host of uncommon disciplines, including packaging science, computational astrophysics, sustainability and interactive games and media.

During his tenure, the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education reclassified RIT as a doctoral university, reflecting the rapid increase in the number of Ph.D. degrees the university grants each year; RIT's ninth college, the College of Health Sciences and Technology, launched; the Vignelli Center for Design Studies opened; the Golisano Institute for Sustainability created the world's first Ph.D. program focused on sustainable production; and RIT was among the first universities in the country to create a department dedicated to computing security.

Destler also helped make RIT a greener campus. Since 2008, RIT has opened three LEED certified buildings, including the first building in Monroe County to be certified LEED Platinum by the U.S. Green Building Council and a state-of-the-art green facility for the Golisano Institute for Sustainability. Last year, RIT took another step toward

carbon neutrality by opening a massive solar energy farm.

Destler, who became president of RIT on July 1, 2007, and his spouse, Rebecca Johnson, expanded RIT's relationship with the community. Destler and Johnson created the Rochester City Scholars program, which gives Rochester City School District graduates who meet certain requirements free full tuition to attend RIT. RIT also partnered with Uncommon Schools to develop a charter high school in Rochester.

"Rebecca and I have been proud to make Rochester our home," Destler said. "This has been an amazing journey for both of us."

In a memo to the RIT community, Destler added: "These years at RIT have been the most fulfilling of my professional career. To all of you, I offer my heartfelt thanks for your friendship, for your ideas, and for your steadfast service to RIT and our students."

Christine Whitman, chair of the RIT Board of Trustees, said Destler has positioned RIT well for the future and that growth will continue as the 2015-2025 strategic plan is deployed.

"RIT is leading the way in preparing our diverse student body for the rewarding jobs of the future while equipping them with the skills to become good citizens of our world," Whitman said. "Under Dr. Destler's leadership, every measurable indicator is up. RIT is having high impact and is recognized both nationally and internationally."

Destler came to RIT from the University of Maryland at College Park, where he spent more than 30 years, rising from the ranks of research associate and assistant professor of electrical engineering to senior vice president for academic affairs and provost.

He is an international authority on high-power microwave sources and advanced accelerator concepts and one of the world's foremost collectors of antique banjos.

Bob Finnerty '07

To learn more

Go to rit.edu/president/president_search for the latest information on the search and for ways to get involved.

RIT Presidents

Carleton B. Gibson	1910-1916
James F. Barker	1916-1919
Royal B. Farnum	1919-1921
John A. Randall	1922-1936
Mark Ellingson	1936-1969
Paul A. Miller	1969-1979
M. Richard Rose	1979-1992
Albert J. Simone	1992-2007
William W. Destler	2007-2017

National search underway for 10th president

The search is on for RIT's 10th president.

"Under Bill Destler's leadership, RIT is firmly positioned as a leading international university whose academic portfolio, research agenda and educational model are making an impact across the globe," said Board of Trustees Chair Christine Whitman. "The RIT presidency will be an extremely attractive position to attain in the world of higher education."

A Presidential Search Committee, led by Trustee and past Board Chair Brian Hall, was formed with broad representation from across university constituencies. An executive search firm will guide the process and identify a strong pool of candidates. The search process will include receiving input from various constituent groups on the desired goals and leadership attributes for the next president. This includes seeking input from RIT alumni chapters across the nation.

"The process for selecting our next president will be open and transparent," said Hall '78 (MBA). "We will include all of the RIT governance groups. The Presidential Search Committee composition will include representation from faculty, staff, students, alumni, deans, vice presidents and trustees."

The Board of Trustees, with input from the RIT community, will ultimately select the new president in the spring of 2017. The new president will begin July 1, 2017.



Josh Owen, professor and chair of industrial design, and Evan Cincotta '16 discuss Cincotta's ideas for Metaproject 06. This year Metaproject partnered with workplace furniture company Poppin. Students were challenged to create innovative accessories for Poppin, and Cincotta made a desk organization system.

METAPROJECT

CONNECTS STUDENTS TO INDUSTRY

Francesca Pezze '11 (industrial design) epitomizes what it means to successfully come full circle.

During her senior year in the fall of 2010, a first-time initiative called Metaproject paired student designers with a real-world client in what would soon become a seminal project for RIT's nationally ranked industrial design program.

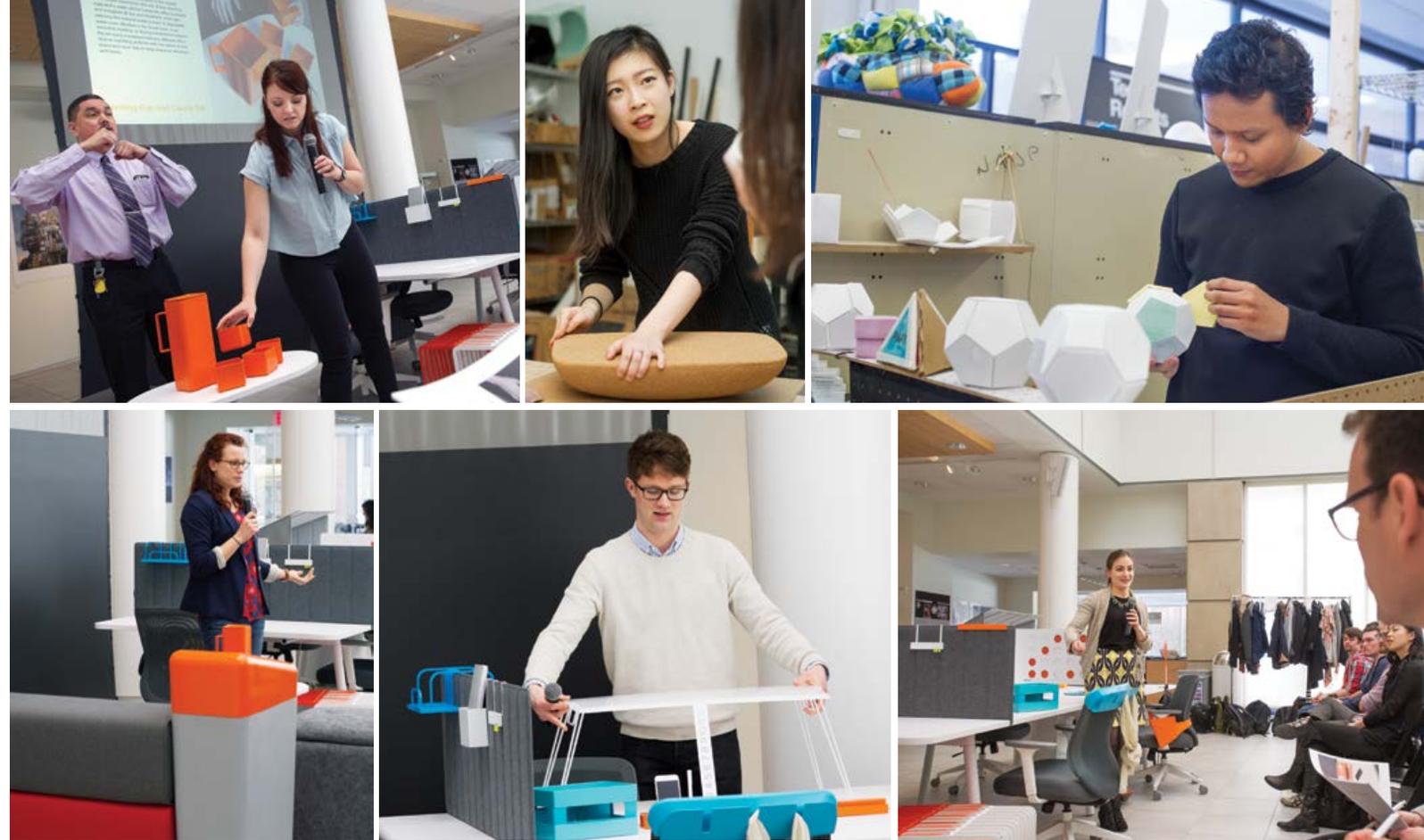
"I remember it being very nerve-racking

to sign up for this 'mystery' class," recalled Pezze, who now lives in Brooklyn, N.Y. "Everything about it was new and there was a lot of anticipation and excitement surrounding it."

In an extremely aggressive design timetable, Pezze and 19 of her classmates were tasked with creating laminate seating prototypes for then-sponsor and furniture manufacturer Wilsonart International.

The final day of class culminated in a juried review of each student's designs—and the announcement of a winner. Pezze's invention, "The Nodule," a bathroom stool with varying height supports and storage compartments, finished among the top projects and has since become part of the RIT Archive Collections at The Wallace Center.

Pezze now serves as a product designer at Poppin, a leading manufacturer of workplace



Metaproject 06 participants worked on their designs this spring and presented them to Poppin representatives. Clockwise from top left: Sara Schult '16 explains her Nesting Cup and Carafe Set project with sign language interpreter Jonathan Hopkins; Veronica Lin '16 refines an early prototype of Foot Pebble; fourth-year industrial design student Afifi Ishak makes paper and foam prototypes of his project Sticky Note Ball; Stephanie Saucier '16 shows Poppin Power, a device that brings power access to the desktop; Tristan Cannan '16 demonstrates the features of Booster Desk; and Kasia Kozak '16 presents Recycling System.

furniture and supplies based in New York City and sponsor of Metaproject 06, the latest in the now renowned annual design studio course offered to seniors in RIT's industrial design program.

"I felt really honored to work with the Metaproject as a representative of Poppin," she said. "Because I was once in the students' shoes, I was able to bring a unique perspective to the judging panel. I will admit it was definitely less stressful for me this time around."

As it nears its seventh iteration this upcoming academic year, RIT's Metaproject has regularly demonstrated that education partnered with industry is a successful vehicle for fostering innovative thinking and thoughtful product design.

Real-world experience

In keeping with the "Design is One" philosophy espoused by RIT's Vignelli Center for Design Studies, Metaproject aims to encourage students to produce design that is "semantically and syntactically correct,

and pragmatically understandable, but also visually powerful, intellectually elegant and timeless," according to Josh Owen, professor and chair of the industrial design program in the School of Design.

The initiative has seen industrial design students work in collaboration with photography, glass and new media design as well as a different industry partner each year. Past Metaprojects featured leading companies such as The Corning Museum of Glass, AreaWare, Herman Miller, and both Kikkerland and Bed Bath & Beyond in 2015.

Students are given a creative brief tasking them to design a product that solves a specific problem or works within a set of parameters set forth by the industry partner. They work toward this goal throughout the semester.

True to RIT's brand of creating students who are workforce ready, the course offers them a taste of real-world experience, connections with leading design industry professionals, and the possibility of having their design put into production.

Through Metaproject, students make im-

portant contacts with some of the most prestigious design-based companies in the world, and they have the opportunity to exhibit their creations each May during the International Contemporary Furniture Fair (ICFF) as part of Design Week in New York City.

Owen hatched the idea for his design brainchild upon his arrival to campus in 2010. Since then, it has helped launch the careers and design dreams of numerous graduates such as Pezze.

"The challenge for students is to research evolving behaviors in order to identify emergent trends, working hand-in-hand with their industry partner to find, satisfy and push their strategic goals," Owen said.

Dialogue directly with industry

Alex Bennett '14 (industrial design) was a member of the first senior class of industrial design students who had watched—and eagerly anticipated—Metaproject from their first days on campus as freshmen.

"I saw all these seniors that I inevitably grew to look up to and idolize furiously



Photo by A. Sue Weisler

Linghua Zhu '16, left, discusses her initial sketches and rendering ideas with Francesca Pezze '11 (industrial design), current Poppin product designer, and Jeff Miller, vice president of design. Pezze was part of the first Metaproject when she was a student at RIT.

sketching and making models for this crazy, corporate-sponsored class,” recalled Bennett, a designer for Microsoft in Redmond, Wash., and Seattle resident. “As the years went by, I watched the course evolve and change, with each new sponsor bringing a unique challenge to the table.”

Bennett absorbed everything he could about the class along the way. “I remember speaking to every person in each Metaproject about what they were doing and how they were approaching the year’s brief,” he said. “There was the thrill each year of waiting to see who the new sponsor would be.”

Owen has become adroitly clever in keeping the industry partner under wraps before the highly anticipated reveal to students. When his professor finally announced to Bennett and his classmates that Metaproject 04 would pair them with Herman Miller, the Zeeland, Mich.-based Modernist office furniture manufacturer most noted for its Aeron chair, “I felt two very visceral emotions: one of unbound excitement and the other of utter terror with the thought of having to create an object that could live up to the Herman Miller name,” Bennett said.

He didn’t disappoint. His “Invitation Chair,” which allows for the creation of a

temporary shared space for collaboration by enabling users to share their seat with a co-worker, was the winning design.

“Metaproject helped me gain a ‘real world’ understanding of the design industry by putting me in the room with it,” Bennett said. “Being able to create a prototype and present it to the designers and executives at Herman Miller and immediately hear their thoughts created this incredible feedback loop that extended beyond the classroom and the university. I was able to have a dialogue directly with industry.”

But the most impactful lesson Bennett said he learned, not just from Metaproject 04, but from watching every other course year, is the importance of narrative in design.

“Product design is not just about producing a beautiful form, or solving a difficult problem, it’s about encapsulating a ‘why,’” he said. “Good design is able to articulate why a product should exist and its impact on the world.”

Hitting the production line

One of the biggest thrills for Metaproject students is to have their designs go into production—an outcome that Brian Keyes and Audrey Kirk, both 2015 industrial design

graduates, achieved with Kikkerland, the Metaproject 05 partner with Bed Bath & Beyond last year.

Both Kirk and Keyes were tasked with designing a Kikkerland-brand storage product that would be sold at Bed Bath & Beyond to back-to-school college students. Kirk’s denim “Wall Pockets” design sticks onto the wall to hold small items varying from reading glasses to keys and pens. Keyes’ “Hanging Facades” closet organizers allow for private, raised storage in a dorm room.

Both of their designs received honorable mention and live on today in production.

“My design was introduced at ICFF last year,” said Kirk, a Canadian native now living in Brooklyn, N.Y., and working for Designstyles, a home goods company. “I continue to receive royalties from sold units. They are available on the Kikkerland website and Amazon.”

Keyes, who lives in Rochester, attributed his design’s journey into production to “an under-exploited niche in the market of college storage and the fact that it could be taken from prototype to full-run production in two months—right in time for the all-important back-to-school season.”

“It also was a low-risk investment for Kikkerland with the initial cost to start production close to none,” added Keyes, an industrial designer and model shop assistant at KEK Associates Inc. in Henrietta, N.Y., and an adjunct professor in RIT’s industrial design program.

Both Kirk and Keyes said Metaproject taught them valuable lessons that remain with them today.

“Metaproject taught me about designing to fit a brand and for the target audience,” Kirk said. “This becomes even more important once a designer starts working for a company. I think Kikkerland liked my project because it fit with their existing products being small, quirky and inexpensive. Bed Bath & Beyond liked it because it was functional and suited their target market for back to school.”

Keyes concurred.

“Metaproject was a succinct lesson in the reality of the industry: tight deadlines, catering to clients, and working within the bounds of production,” he said. “It is one of my experiences from RIT that continues to shape my design, my connections and my career. Often in design classes, the professor is the client. The corporate clients that Metaproject connects us with can provide invaluable feedback based more around what will work in the real world than academic performance.”

Rich Kiley

METAPROJECT AT A GLANCE



The Trance

Metaproject 01 (2010-11)

The Wilsonart Challenge. Kicking off the first-of-its-kind design collaborative, 20 industrial design seniors were charged with conceiving seating prototypes celebrating Wilsonart International's laminate surfacing materials. Each student was required to create a design that provided a utilitarian use of seating-object typology. Dan Fritz '11 won first place with his chair, called *The Trance*, made from 280 individual laminate hexagons welded to 280 steel asterisks. Grace Jeffers, design historian and organizer of the challenge from Wilsonart, said RIT was chosen for its "impeccable reputation."



Watering Rocks

Metaproject 02 (2011-12)

Corning Museum of Glass. Nineteen industrial design seniors and 15 glass students created prototype designs celebrating recycled glass. "No other studio glass or industrial design program in the country, that I am aware of, has so successfully introduced art students working in glass to design," said Tina Oldknow, retired curator of modern glass at the museum. Kikkerland saw Casey Schneider's '12 *Watering Rocks*—designed to release water slowly into a plant's soil—at the International Contemporary Furniture Fair in 2012 and put them into production.



Blockitecture

Metaproject 03 (2012-13)

Areaware. Twenty-two students created wooden, universal toys that not only had to fit seamlessly into the product line of the avant-garde accessories manufacturer but explore the meaning and notion of the way toys integrate into contemporary cultures and lifestyles. Each design also was required to explore the properties of wood and its use as a primary material in object construction. *Blockitecture* by James Paulius '13 subsequently went into mass production and is available at the Museum of Modern Art and other venues from Tokyo to Milan. He has since created a second iteration, *Blockitecture Garden City*.



Invitation Chair

Metaproject 04 (2013-14)

Herman Miller. Twenty students had to address the challenges associated with interactions in the workplace: face-to-face, digitally mediated, or human-to-tools. The projects considered how furnishings and space can empower and enable interactions that extend beyond a simple point of connection. Alex Bennett's '14 *Invitation Chair*, which allows users to share a seat, was the winning design. Daniel Rucker, then design and technology strategist at Herman Miller Inc., said "we are deeply thankful for this opportunity to teach and be taught by these gifted young designers."



Hanging Facades

Metaproject 05 (2014-15)

Kikkerland and Bed Bath & Beyond. Twenty students had to address the challenges associated with designing for one of the following types of home and dorm room storage categories: closet, desk, shelving, over the door, under the bed and jewelry applications. *Hanging Facades*, closet organizers designed by Brian Keyes '15, went into production as well as Audrey Kirk's '15 *Wall Pockets*—denim pockets that stick onto the wall to hold small items.



Sticky Note Ball

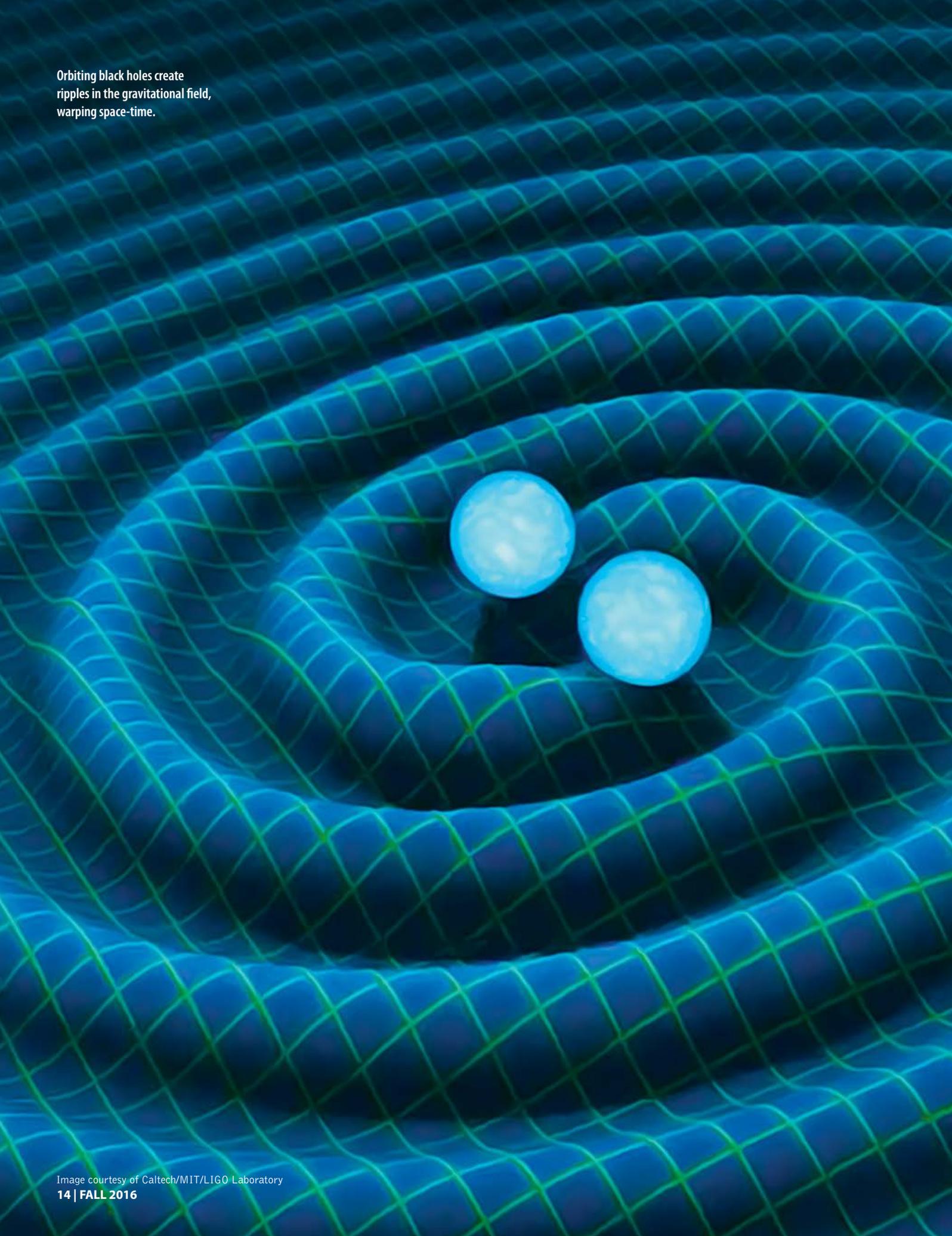
Metaproject 06 (2016)

Poppin. Twenty-two students were tasked with creating innovative accessories for the company's new line of office furniture that accents, improves or enhances their use. Afifi Ishak's *Sticky Note Ball*, with 12 pentagonal faces, was one of the desk accessories presented. The Metaproject 06 booth at the International Contemporary Furniture Fair was awarded the ICFF Editors' Award (Best School). "I've been a personal fan of RIT's renowned Metaproject since its inception," said Jeff Miller, vice president of design at Poppin.

To learn more

Go to metaproject.rit.edu.

Orbiting black holes create ripples in the gravitational field, warping space-time.





CENTER GROWS INTO LEADER IN SPACE-TIME RESEARCH

Photo by A. Sue Weisler

RIT's contributions to the first direct detection of gravitational waves signifies its growing reputation for world-class astrophysics research.

Members of the university's Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation are part of the international collaboration affiliated with the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory, or LIGO. The scientific consortium, earlier this year, announced the landmark discovery of a gravitational wave passing through Earth.

RIT researchers on the LIGO team used theoretical calculations to validate the existence of gravitational waves and the black-hole collision that produced them, conducted gravitational wave analysis and estimated astrophysical parameters for the National Science Foundation-funded experiment.

Established in 2007, the center has grown from five to 26 members, including 10 faculty, plus administrative staff, postdoctoral researchers and students. Their complementary research revolves around Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity and explores ex-

treme astrophysical phenomena, gravitational wave analysis and scientific visualization. This RIT research center of excellence has won nearly \$8 million in research funding from the NSF and NASA as well as allocations at national computing laboratories.

"When created, the Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation was one of only a few centers of its kind," said Manuela Campanelli, director of the center and profes-



sor in the School of Mathematical Sciences. "It's a model that has been repeated at other universities. The center is now one of the largest and most renowned research groups in gravitational physics in the world."

One of the leading founders of the LIGO project, Kip Thorne, was named to *Time*

RIT faculty members Carlos Lousto, left, Richard O'Shaughnessy, Manuela Campanelli and John Whelan contributed to the breakthrough discovery of gravitational waves.

magazine's 2016 list of "100 Most Influential People." Thorne, the Feynman Professor of Theoretical Physics, Emeritus at Caltech, has followed astrophysics research at RIT.

"I am impressed by the research performed at the RIT Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation," Thorne said. "Members of the center have displayed amazingly good judgment in choice of research problems and remarkable skills in solving those problems. As a result, they are world leaders in extracting, from numerical simulations, major new insights into the dynamics of warped space-time, and they laid key foundations for the worldwide search for gravitational waves."

Starting a center

RIT's foray into astrophysics did not happen overnight. For the last decade, the RIT Col-



Photo by A. Sure Weisler

Researcher Yosef Zlochower, left, is a key author with Manuela Campanelli and Carlos Lousto of the 2005 breakthrough research on binary black holes. Here, he confers with Jam Sadiq, a Ph.D. student, in the astrophysical sciences and technology program in the College of Science.

lege of Science has steadily added to its astronomy faculty, an initiative started by former Dean Ian Gatley and continued, since 2010, by current Dean Sophia Maggelakis.

Campanelli credits RIT's leadership for bringing her team to the university and for seeing the promise of LIGO. Several individuals have supported the center and LIGO research at RIT, including Gatley, Maggelakis, former RIT President Albert Simone and former Provost Stanley McKenzie.

"In 2008, President Bill Destler gave us new start-up funds to hire a faculty member in the area of gravitational wave research," Campanelli said. "Provost Jeremy Haefner has also provided needed space to accommodate new post-doctoral researchers and faculty in the group."

Destler's support enabled Campanelli to add gravitational wave analyst John Whelan to the team. Whelan is now RIT's principal investigator and liaison to the LIGO Scientific Collaboration.

Research at the RIT center builds on early efforts by Campanelli and Carlos Lousto, RIT professor in the School of Mathematical Sciences, to study black-hole mergers using

computer simulations. The 40-year-old problem to simulate black holes orbiting, merging and producing gravitational waves required the solution of Einstein's 10 interrelated strong field equations and access to unprecedented computer power to do the math.

Campanelli and Lousto—then post-doctoral researchers at the Max Planck Institute in Germany in 1998—broke the problem into smaller steps and modeled the final portion of the merger, or coalescence, for the first time using numerical relativistic techniques.

This specialized field of study grew from Einstein's general theory of relativity. It uses sophisticated mathematics and supercomputers to solve equations that describe astrophysical phenomena capable of producing gravitational waves, like black holes, supernovae and compact neutron stars.

In 2005, Campanelli and Lousto, faculty members in physics and astronomy at the University of Texas Brownsville, and then post-doctoral researcher Yosef Zlochower solved Einstein's equations that numerically describe black hole collisions. Using sophisticated mathematical modeling and high-powered computing, Campanelli's team at UT Brownsville developed theoretical calcu-

lations that evolved black holes on computers from orbiting masses through coalescence and simulated the sought-after gravitational-wave signal.

They were one of three groups that year to present different solutions for simulating black hole mergers. Many scientists exploring gravitational wave physics adopted Campanelli's "moving puncture" approach and replicated her research. (Her landmark model predicted the gravitational waves LIGO detected a decade later.)

At RIT, in 2006, Maggelakis, then head of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, led the initiative to establish the School of Mathematical Sciences and to form a research center at RIT dedicated to computational modeling.

"The field of computational modeling has become a critical tool of research in science," Maggelakis said. "It is a cross-disciplinary field, spanning applied mathematics, computer science and the physical sciences."

Campanelli and Lousto's research exemplifies the use of computational modeling for predicting the behavior of astrophysical phenomena. In 2007, Campanelli arrived at RIT with Lousto and Zlochower to form the



Photo by Elizabeth Lamark/RIT Production Services

Manuela Campanelli and Carlos Lousto with National Science Foundation Director France Córdova, center, who spoke at RIT's commencement.

RIT Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation within the School of Mathematical Sciences.

The following year, the College of Science introduced a Ph.D. degree in astrophysical sciences and technology. The program brought together scientists from different disciplines within the college to explore general relativity and black holes, young and dying stars, galaxies and the technology to make new observations.

The center is also affiliated with the university's eighth Ph.D. program in mathematical modeling—approved by the New York State Education Department and ready to launch in fall 2017—as well as three MS programs: applied and computational mathematics, computer science and data science.

“The new Ph.D. in mathematical modeling will be extremely important to faculty, researchers and students working together in both of our research centers—the Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation and the Center for Applied and Computational Mathematics,” Maggelakis said. “There is a need for researchers trained in the theoretical basis for the numerical simulations of partial differential equations and with the

practical experience only available through an extensive numerical research project. The CCRG has an established research program ideally suited for Ph.D. students in mathematical modeling.”

The center grew in 2009 with the arrival of Joshua Faber and Whelan, both associate professors in the School of Mathematical Sciences. More recent additions include Richard O’Shaughnessy, assistant professor in the School of Mathematical Sciences; Jason Nordhaus, assistant professor of science and math in the National Technical Institute for the Deaf; and Sukanya Chakrabarti, assistant professor in the School of Physics and Astronomy.

The American Physical Society elected Campanelli and Lousto fellows in 2009 and 2012, respectively. The prestigious recognition for their contributions to numerical relativity and for simulating binary black holes further elevated the center.

Faculty and students at the center participated in the 2015 centennial celebration of Einstein’s general theory of relativity by hosting seminars and producing videos about their research. The American Physical Society featured Campanelli’s breakthrough research

Why the science matters

The first direct detection of gravitational waves from a binary black-hole source confirmed on Sept. 14, 2015, Einstein’s theory of gravity and introduced a new branch of physics—gravitational wave astronomy. Gravitational waves from a second pair of colliding black holes on Dec. 26, 2015, validated the landmark discovery. Advanced LIGO will continue to increase in sensitivity in subsequent runs and detect astronomical objects carrying fainter signals. Gravitational wave astronomy could unlock secrets of how massive stars evolve. The scope of gravitational wave astronomy will continue to widen as the international network of detectors becomes fully operational.

RIT’s LIGO Team

The LIGO Scientific Collaboration published its breakthrough discovery in *Physical Review Letters*, a journal of the American Physical Society, on Feb. 11. Six RIT researchers are among the co-authors. They are James Healy, post-doctoral research fellow; Carlos Lousto, professor in the School of Mathematical Sciences and an American Physical Society Fellow; Richard O’Shaughnessy, assistant professor in the School of Mathematical Sciences; John Whelan, associate professor in RIT’s School of Mathematical Sciences and principal investigator of RIT’s group in the LIGO Scientific Collaboration; and graduate students in RIT’s astrophysical sciences and technology program Jacob Lange and Yuanhao Zhang.

Other RIT members of the LIGO Scientific Collaboration include center director Manuela Campanelli, professor in the School of Mathematical Sciences and an American Physical Society Fellow; Hans-Peter Bischof, professor of computer science; and RIT students Ryan Hesse, Marc McClure, Jam Sadiq, Monica Rizzo and Jackson Henry ’16 (physics). Rizzo and Henry were co-authors of the second observation.



To learn more

Members of the team will present a meRIT webinar for alumni on Sept. 28. Register at <https://rit.webex.com>.



Photo by A. Sue Weisler

Carlos Lousto designed the NewHorizons and BlueSky supercomputer clusters in RIT's Black Hole Lab to perform binary black-hole simulations. NewHorizons is dedicated to research in numerical relativity and computational relativistic astrophysics, while BlueSky supports interdisciplinary research at the frontiers of gravitational physics, relativistic astrophysics, advanced high performance computation and scientific visualization.

in a collection of seminal papers that included work by Einstein, J.R. Oppenheimer and Stephen Hawking, among others.

Campanelli gave several talks about general relativity throughout 2015 and was one of three invited speakers at a special symposium hosted by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, one of the largest general scientific societies in the world and publisher of the journal *Science*.

Amidst centennial celebrations, faculty and students at the center remained quiet about news that would confirm Einstein's 100-year-old theory. The gravitational wave observatory, LIGO, had detected a signal on Sept. 14, 2015, and the waveform neatly matched the simulation Campanelli and her team had predicted in 2005. Lousto and RIT postdoctoral researcher James Healy used the theoretical calculations to validate the signal. The RIT LIGO team and their collaborators spent five months confirming the findings before the news was announced on Feb. 11, 2016. The discovery was a double confirmation of Einstein's theory and of Campanelli's research.

"It's not that we have only detected gravitational waves and statistically it makes sense, but they happened to be exactly what we predicted for the collision of black holes," Lousto said.

What's next

Student researchers take an active role at the center. Graduate students on the RIT LIGO team are among the co-authors of the landmark LIGO paper reporting the discovery of gravitational waves.

"More than a dozen Ph.D. students from the astrophysical sciences and technology program have been working with faculty at the Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation in a variety of astrophysical domains," Campanelli said.

She expects the number of graduate students in the center to increase with the growth of the astrophysics program. Undergraduate researchers also contribute to the center's productivity.

"It is important to attract and educate students in the area of gravitational physics and have them experience the excitement of the discoveries about gravitational wave astronomy that will completely revolutionize the understanding of our universe," Maggellakis said.

Monica Rizzo, a second-year student in the School of Physics and Astronomy, is on the RIT LIGO team. She works with O'Shaughnessy on models that simulate gravitational wave signals for colliding neutron stars, or collapsed stellar remnants. Although Rizzo did not contribute directly to the initial discovery, her research has helped advance techniques for interpreting future data.

"Working at the center has made my undergraduate experience unique," Rizzo said. "It has been an incredibly rewarding experience and I feel I have learned a great deal both as a student and a researcher. Dr. Campanelli and Dr. O'Shaughnessy, along with other members of the CCRG and the LIGO collaboration, have inspired me to pursue astrophysics as a career path. I have gained a number of role models and aspire to be as hardworking and as successful as my mentors and colleagues."

RIT's Office of Sponsored Research has designated the Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation as one of its five signature research areas that will receive \$1 million over five years. The strategic investment will position Campanelli's team to increase its external funding competitiveness and become leaders in gravitational wave and multimessenger astronomy, which combines information from gravitational waves and traditional astronomy's electromagnetic spectrum.

"We will boost our current initiatives in key designated areas with strategic hires of postdoctoral researchers and visiting senior researchers to build a wide-spanning and tightly integrated program," Campanelli said. "We will also pursue new research opportunities and play a role in developing next-generation gravitational wave detectors."

Susan Gawlowicz '95

HOW LOUD CAN YOU ROAR?

ROAR Day 2016 Save the Date

- ▼ **When:** **October 5, 12:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.**
- ▼ **Who:** YOU (RIT alumni)
- ▼ **Where:** Your computer, phone, tablet . . . anywhere that has an internet connection!

Join the entire RIT community as we kick off the Fund for RIT's annual giving campaign. ROAR with your fellow Tigers by supporting the college, program, scholarship, student club/organization, or team at RIT that means the most to you.

#ROARDay
rit.edu/roarinfo





Greyson Watkins, a fifth-year computer security major, developed the idea for Wavio, a programmable and fully customizable tool that alerts deaf and hard-of-hearing people to sounds in their homes.



Chrystal Schlenker, a fourth-year interpreting and business student, helps secure business opportunities for the team.

WE'VE GOT THE NEXT BIG IDEA

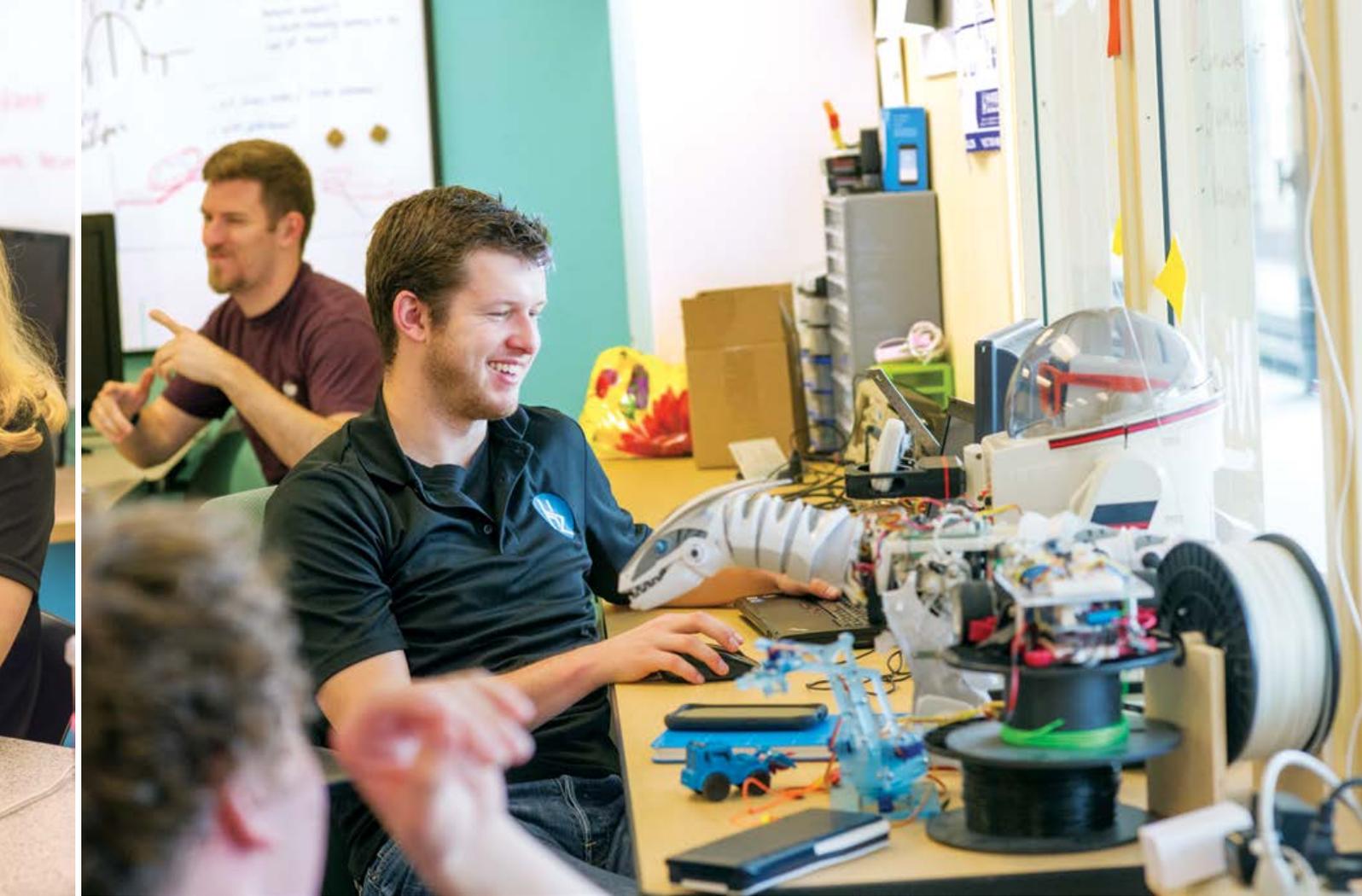
Growing resources help students turn their concepts into companies

Greyson Watkins had big plans for a subscription-based family game night business. He hoped the idea would take off and he could accomplish what many entrepreneurs dream about—calling the shots and becoming a self-made millionaire. But not long after devising his business concept, an experience that he'll never forget forced him to start from scratch—and business became personal.

Watkins, who is deaf and is a fifth-year computer security major originally from Durham, N.C., was at home with his young daughter when she tumbled down a flight of stairs.

"Imagine how I felt after realizing that she was crying out for help and I couldn't hear her," Watkins said. "I realized that I needed to be part of something bigger, something more meaningful—and possibly life saving—for deaf and hard-of-hearing people."

In a matter of months, Watkins and his team of fellow students formed Hz Innova-



Before Nicholas Lamb, center, joined Hz Innovations, he had built a robot that could detect and chase sound. Since then, Lamb, a fifth-year electrical engineering student, has used many of those concepts to help build Wavio.

tions and created Wavio, a programmable and fully customizable tool that alerts deaf and hard-of-hearing people to sounds in their homes. This summer, the team will complete production of its first 1,000-unit order by Peter Parts Electronics Inc., owned by RIT alumnus Peter Parts '98 (EMBA).

Hz Innovations is just one of the student-driven ventures thriving in RIT's uniquely designed, multidisciplinary innovation ecosystem—a system that has mushroomed over the past five years, with business competitions, events, programs and full-time experiences available to launch student ideas into the stratosphere.

Resources such as mentors and coaches, innovation and entrepreneurship classes and the creation of The Construct, a dedicated makerspace on campus where students can create products and solutions, have all played key roles in the growth of RIT's entrepreneurial spirit. Student participation in entrepreneurship activities has doubled—and in some

cases, tripled—creating a robust pipeline of ideas.

“We have a very advanced experiential, multidisciplinary environment that helps our students learn by doing, by being mentored, and by leveraging our ability to not only think about business concepts, but make business concepts,” said Richard DeMartino, professor and director of RIT's Albert J. Simone Center for Student Innovation and Entrepreneurship. “What we do, combined with how we continue to find new opportunities with industry partners, has made us a leader in our field.”

Connecting the dots

Watkins and teammate Chrystal Schlenker, a fourth-year interpreting and business student in the School of Individualized Study, were convinced that Wavio was a good idea, but they also realized that they lacked the technological know-how to bring it to life.

They enlisted the help of their applied

entrepreneurship course coach Dana Wolcott, who connected them with Zach Baltzer, a fourth-year microelectronic engineering student from Hilton, N.Y., and Nicholas Lamb, a fifth-year electrical engineering student from Waterloo, N.Y., who had already built a robot that could detect and chase sound.

“Nick and I were just looking for a cool project to work on,” said Baltzer. “No one could have possibly guessed that one year later we would be co-founders of a company.”

Wavio contains sound-capturing units that are connected to a home Wi-Fi system. When a doorbell rings, smoke alarm chimes, water faucet drips or dog barks, for example, the unit notifies the homeowner via smartphone, smart watch, tablet or laptop, and identifies the sound. According to the developers, virtually any sound deemed important to the homeowner can be recorded and “memo-rized” by the system during installation.

“I missed the sounds of my friends knocking on my front door; my washer and dryer



Mariana Pinheiro discusses Band Toy with Stan Rickel, left, associate professor and graduate director, industrial design, and industrial design graduate student Andrew Magee, during a session of Studio 930, a consultancy team of top industrial design students working on student-led entrepreneurship projects. Band Toy, right, is a series of interactive instruments designed to stimulate the senses of children with developmental and physical disabilities.



Photos by A. Sue Weisler

are in the basement and I wouldn't be able to hear the buzzing; my food would burn because I would leave the oven on," added Watkins. "There are a lot of people out there, including senior citizens, who have similar issues. Wavio is a bona fide solution."

Mining great ideas

Mentors and coaches are one reason for the growing success of RIT's student entrepreneurship ecosystem—and Wolcott, lead innovation coach for the Simone Center and an adjunct faculty member in Saunders College of Business, is no stranger to recognizing a great idea when he hears one.

Prior to RIT, Wolcott worked in advance development for Eastman Kodak Co. and was charged with finding new ideas for the com-

pany, addressing customer needs and creating new products. He brings nearly 30 years of expertise in idea generation to campus and has witnessed an explosion in student entrepreneurship over the past few years.

"When I started at RIT five years ago, we had 12 student projects in our applied entrepreneurship class and three or four coaches," he said. "But every single program has grown since then. Last fall, we had 30 student projects and eight coaches. The number of applications for our entrepreneurship contests like Tiger Tank, the RIT Business Model Competition and IdeaLab@RIT, to name a few, have all at least doubled."

Wolcott also said that added support from the National Science Foundation's I-Corps grant program has provided significant

assistance to RIT's experiential entrepreneurship efforts.

"Our students are learning to work in multidisciplinary teams and solving real-world problems," he added. "Our team of coaches and mentors works with hundreds of students each year—many of whom enter multiple competitions because they find that it's such an enriching experience. And we're always amazed by the projects that are developed."

Mariana Pinheiro, an industrial design graduate student from Brazil, has participated in several student-focused entrepreneurship activities. Her ideas have been presented at Idea Lab, Tiger Tank, the Effective Access Technology Conference Product Competition, and this summer she and her design team joined Studio 930, a design consultancy



Photo by Michael Owens

Multidisciplinary teams of RIT students developed products and service solutions as part of the bi-annual RIT IdeaLab event. The students worked collaboratively throughout the weekend on specific problem areas identified by their client, Rochester Regional Health. The students worked in six teams, each dedicated to one specific problem area. The event concluded with each team presenting its research and design solutions, a question-and-answer session and a discussion about possible future development of the work.

at RIT, as well as the Saunders Summer Start-up Program, an intensive incubation program where students earn a stipend to advance their business ideas.

“I love the idea of bringing my projects to life,” said Pinheiro. “And the entrepreneurship programs offered at RIT all help with generating prototypes and components, giving us access to mentors who give us valuable feedback, and just bringing general awareness to the projects.”

Pinheiro’s most recent undertaking, The Band Toy, is a series of interactive instruments designed to stimulate the senses of children with poor motor coordination skills through the use of textures, sounds, vibrations and light patterns. She hopes that youngsters with developmental and physical

disabilities at Rochester’s Al Sigl Center and Mary Cariola Children’s Center will soon benefit from using the educational toy she helped design.

“In the IdeaLab@RIT, I got to hear problems that real organizations or real people are struggling with, and I worked with students from business and engineering to brainstorm real solutions. We started from the ground up,” she explained. “The Tiger Tank competition is unique in the fact that our products are a little more developed and we can really focus on how they fit into the marketplace.”

Co-Up connections

As idea generation continues to work its way into the RIT culture, it’s clear that students studying in a variety of disciplines are being

bitten by the entrepreneurship bug.

Wesley Rockholz and Nick Rabb run their game design and development company similar to how they’ve mastered their improvisational comedy routines—using the classic “Yes, and” technique. That’s ‘yes’ to whatever comes their way, ‘and’ they build upon it to make it even better.

Rockholz ’15 (game design and development) and Rabb, a fifth-year computer science student, launched their company, Yes and Games, in 2014. Not only have they managed to raise money for their mobile game, Adventure Guild, through a successful Kickstarter campaign, they took advantage of the university’s Co-Up summer program.

RIT’s Center for Media, Arts, Games, Interaction and Creativity (MAGIC), in part-



Nick Rabb, a fifth-year computer science student, and Wesley Rockholz '15 started their own game design and development company, Yes and Games, in 2014. They used the 10-week Co-Up program to make valuable industry connections and learn how to operate a business.

Photo by Austin DePalma

nership with the Simone Center, developed Co-Up, a 10-week program in which students get paid to develop ideas for digital media and earn co-op experience. The program is made possible through financial support from members of the RIT Board of Trustees.

“We participated in the Co-Up program the first year it was offered,” said Rabb, from Fairport, N.Y. “We made a lot of connections through the program and learned how to manage other relevant things like finances and budgets. The money that was provided as a stipend also gave us the opportunity to devote our time completely to the project. That was invaluable in order to get our game into the hands of the users.”

Adventure Guild is a social, mobile role-playing game that allows players to play together, but on their own time. Up to four players can battle goblins and other enemies as their own personalized warriors, rouges, mages or clerics.

The game has launched on the Apple and Google app stores and the partners have built a strong community and social media following. They will soon embark on a new project where they plan to contract with a video game publisher to develop another mobile game.

“I’ve always been interested in owning a game design and development company, but I suppose every game design student says that,” said Rockholz, from Brookfield, Conn. “It’s unbelievably stressful, but I wouldn’t have pursued this if it wasn’t plausible. It’s exciting to develop your own projects and do your own thing.”

DeMartino estimates that there are about 100 student projects underway this year, up from 40 a few years ago. The Simone Center interacts with roughly 1,500 students a year through projects, contests and conferences. More than 45 students are earning credit for their projects through RIT’s co-op program.

“Our primary goal is education as it relates to innovation and entrepreneurship,” DeMartino said. “Our secondary goal is business creation. And for us to further improve those metrics, it’s important that we increase the number of specialized entrepreneurship classes that we offer—in a variety of disciplines, not just through Saunders College of Business. It’s my hope that there will be a flowering of pipeline classes that focus on software, sustainability, social ventures, imaging sciences, micro-e, design, new media.”

Looking ahead

Alec Satterly’s company, Cenify, gets counted in that secondary goal.

In 2014, Cenify took first place in NTID’s Next Big Idea competition with its vibrating alarm clock that could be programmed from a smartphone.

But Satterly ’16 (management information systems) realized the market for such a

Competitions and resources

RIT hosts competitions and commercial activities that integrate academic initiatives with applied business creation and commercialization experience. Here are some of them:

- **Tiger Tank**—students pitch business ideas and compete for cash prizes.
- **NTID's Next Big Idea**—students compete for cash prizes with ideas and products that benefit deaf and hard-of-hearing communities. The competition is sponsored by video relay company ZVRS.
- **RIT Business Model Competition**—business model writing competition where students compete for cash prizes.
- **Effective Access Technology Product Competition**—contest designed to promote early-stage effective access ideas where teams win cash prizes.
- **Saunders Summer Start-up Program**—intensive summer incubation program where students earn a stipend to advance their business ideas.
- **Co-Up**—designed to help fund student co-ops over the summer in multidisciplinary teams that lead to start-up products and commercial activities.
- **IdeaLab@RIT**—weekend-long event where student teams brainstorm solutions for real-world challenges.
- **NSF-I-Corps**—curriculum and grant funding to teams advancing a commercialization project.
- **Studio 930**—consultancy team of top industrial design students working on student-led entrepreneurship projects.

Experts headed to Rochester

More than 350 entrepreneurship experts from the United States and abroad will arrive in Rochester this fall as the city showcases entrepreneurial expertise and endeavors as well as dynamic growth, excellence in programming and the impact on the local community and beyond.

The 2016 Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers, or GCEC—co-hosted by University of Rochester and RIT—will be held Sept. 29 through Oct. 1. The conference, themed “Turning Over a New Leaf,” features a variety of plenary sessions, workshops, breakout discussions and keynote speeches from national and international entrepreneurship experts as well as UR and RIT faculty and staff.

For more information about the conference at UR/RIT and to watch a video, go to www.GCEC2016.com.

Photo by A. Sue Weisler

Saunders College of Business graduate Alec Satterly '16 started Cenify after winning first place in NTID's Next Big Idea competition in 2014. In January, the company's 12 employees moved into RIT's business incubator Venture Creations.

product was small. So he put together a new team, which included Greg Sapienza, an information technology major from Brooklyn, N.Y. Sapienza had success in business competitions with his own company, Skyvo, which made applications for iPads for educational use, before it disbanded.

Cenify got rid of the clock and during last summer's Co-Up program focused on helping other companies make their products—such as door locks, lights and even clothes—smart.

In January, the company's 12 employees moved into RIT's business incubator Venture Creations. Satterly said if all goes well with contracts in the works, they could have 30 employees by the end of the summer.

“We all had job offers from other companies,” Satterly said. “We all declined them. This is what we want to do.”

Hz Innovations is also in this for the long term. Since Wavio won the top prize

in NTID's Next Big Idea competition in 2015, the product has been featured in the Saunders Summer Start-up Program, Effective Access Technology Conference Product Competition and the RIT Business Plan Competition.

The team is also branching out beyond RIT by showing off Wavio to judges at the Digital Rochester GREAT Awards, the 43North startup competition in Buffalo, TAMID Tank in New York City and the New York State Regional Business Plan Competition in Albany.

Now the founders are working on expanding their pool of investors and securing additional orders.

“Once the opportunity to develop Wavio became apparent, we had to make the decision to give 100 percent and go all in,” said Schlenker. “We believe in Wavio and what it can do for our community.”

Vienna McGrain '12



RIT

ECOSYSTEM

STRENGTHENED STRONGARM

When 2013 graduates Sean Peterson and Justin Hillery started their industrial safety products company as students, they wrote in their business plan that they would one day partner with a large conglomerate.

Four years later, it happened: 3M, the Post-it note and packaging company with \$32 billion in sales, invested in StrongArm Technologies Inc.

“It was really a long time of building relationships and building ground for something that we believed in,” said Petterson about his now Brooklyn, N.Y.-based company with 11 employees. “Things couldn’t have gone better.”

Petterson (industrial design) and Hillery (multidisciplinary studies) thrived in RIT’s innovation ecosystem, a multipart support system to foster entrepreneurship and new ideas. They credit much of their success to what they learned at RIT.

The two met as students in 2010 and they quickly learned they shared entrepreneurial interests. They noticed that construction workers building Global Village on campus were struggling to lift large stones and they wondered if there was a better way for industrial workers, which they now call industrial athletes, to do their jobs. They also watched their fathers get injured working manual labor jobs when they were growing up.

By the end of the school year, they had invented a vest that helps workers lift objects while lowering the risk of back injury. The students worked with the Simone Center for Student Innovation and Entrepreneurship, which helped connect them to experts,



Photo by Shannon Taggart '98

Rahul Bhansali, StrongArm Technologies chief revenue officer, left, talks with Sean Petterson '13, chief executive officer, center, and Mike Kim, chief technology officer. Petterson started StrongArm with Justin Hillery '13.



Justin Hillery '13 has left StrongArm Technologies and is now part of a new start-up called Self.made.

mentors and equipment.

StrongArm first got noticed in February 2011 when Petterson and Hillery placed second in the RIT Shark Tank Competition, now Tiger Tank, sponsored by Saunders College of Business and hosted by the Simone Center. Other business competitions followed and the students found themselves winning Rochester, regional and statewide events.

They moved into RIT's business incubator Venture Creations in 2012, the final step of RIT's innovation pipeline. Experts there helped them hone their business pitch and make connections.

Later that year, they were one of 16 companies out of 125 to win the startup competition in Boston called MassChallenge.

In total, StrongArm won more than a quarter of a million dollars in business competitions, Petterson said.

"Going to RIT has always given us an edge in every competition," Hillery said. "We were really given a foundation to go out and explore our ideas."

After Petterson and Hillery graduated, they moved to New York City and planted their roots in the Zahn Innovation Center, a

startup incubator located at the City College of New York, where they could further develop their product for commercialization.

They hired their first full-time employee, who is now chief technology officer; nailed down the company's supply chain; and continued to build relationships with possible investors. The company continued to grow, reaching 11 employees. It moved to a larger entrepreneurial space in the Brooklyn Navy Yard called New Lab.



Last fall, 3M announced it was investing a minority equity stake in the company, which has two products on the market, including the V22 ErgoSkeleton, which is the one Petterson and Hillery began designing while they were at RIT. That product helps workers lift heavy items. They also introduced the FLx ErgoSkeleton, an ergonomic vest that corrects posture and reduces fatigue. 3M began selling

the products in May.

More products are on the way in the coming year, Petterson said, and the company expects to continue to increase its staff. "We think we are going to be a brand on par with some of the major athletic brands today," he said.

Hillery is no longer with the company. He is now the chief marketing officer of Self.made, a Brooklyn company that provides a luxury brand of clothing to entrepreneurs that they can then sell to raise funds for their start-up businesses.

"At StrongArm we couldn't go on Kickstarter because we didn't have a consumer good to sell," he said. "We make consumer goods for the company, collaborate with them, sell all products on their behalf and they get the proceeds."

Hillery said Self.made (thisisourbusiness.com) will officially launch this fall and the goal is to help 15 start-ups in the next year.

"At RIT we had an ecosystem behind us that allowed us to learn how to be entrepreneurs," Hillery said. "We have created an ecosystem for the next generation of entrepreneurs."

Mindy Mozer

William Snyder '81 and The Who's Roger Daltrey talk about a flag reflecting in one of the stage lights during the sound check before The Who's show at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, N.Y., on May 26, 2015. Snyder is the photographer for the rock band.

Photo by Michael Kaye





TWO ALUMNI CAPTURE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF

ROCK

LEGENDS



William Snyder '81 (photography) and Trevor Waite '99 (electrical engineering technology) are more than just die-hard fans of The Who. They have backstage access and tour with them around the world.

Snyder, program chair of the photojournalism department at RIT and four-time Pulitzer Prize winning photographer and editor, is the photographer for The Who. Snyder's photos run on the band's website and before every show on the Jumbotron. His photos were also featured in the book, *The Who: 50 Years: The Official History*, and during Super Bowl commercials when the band played the halftime show in 2010.

Waite is the monitor technician for the rock band. He has been setting up speakers, cables and other electronics in the empty arenas before each show since 2007. During the show, he assists the engineers with overseeing the sound levels heard by the band and runs on stage if something goes wrong.

Snyder began his relationship with Pete Townshend, The Who's guitarist, on assignment for *The Dallas Morning News* in 1993. At the time, Townshend was overseeing his Broadway production of *Tommy*. They hit it off during the interview until Snyder requested to shoot outside the theater and the rock legend refused. Thrown off by the response,

he quickly suggested the *Tommy* stage instead and Townshend agreed to the alternative. Snyder was the only one to photograph him on that stage.

Over the next five years, they had several email conversations. They officially reconnected in 2000 during a party following a performance of Townshend's "Lifeforce" with the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

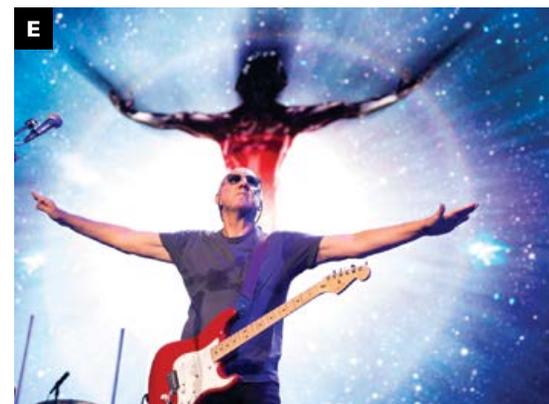
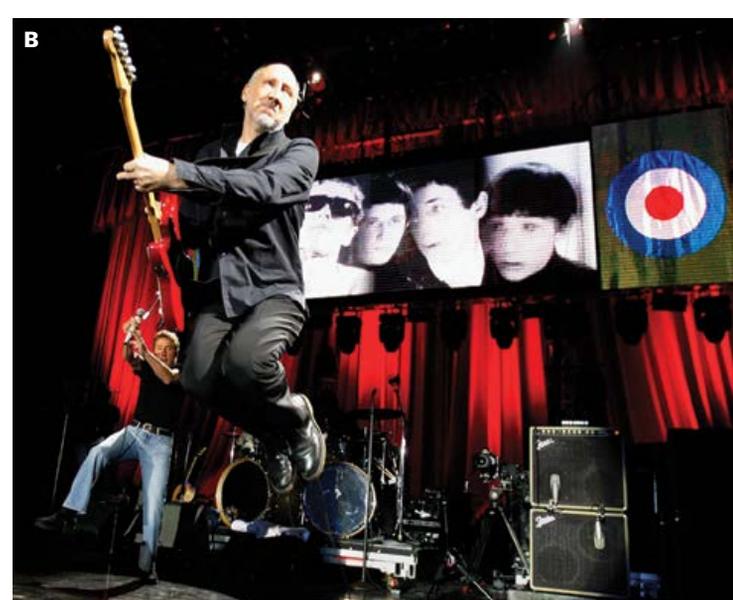
Later that year at the beginning of The Who's U.S. tour, Snyder met up with Townshend again and shot the band's performance in Chicago. After the show, he went to the hotel where Townshend was staying and asked if the band needed help shooting pictures for its website. Townshend accepted his offer and invited him to fly with them to Detroit.

"I got to shoot stuff on and off stage," said Snyder. "It was one of those things that you read about and hear about when you're a kid."

Snyder became a freelance photographer for the band and shot 10 performances in the U.S. and two in London. He also did video behind the scenes, which was a new experience for him.

On one of Snyder's nights off when he was in the crowd with his family at a Dallas show, Townshend thanked him for helping with the band's website. He also mentioned his preference to be called William instead of Bill.

"It was one of those things as a fan you



A The Who—John Entwistle, Roger Daltrey and Pete Townshend—perform “My Generation” at Wembley Arena in London on Nov. 16, 2000.

B Pete Townshend jumps during The Who show at the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa in Atlantic City, N.J., on Nov. 24, 2006.

C Pete Townshend and Roger Daltrey discuss their upcoming show in Detroit on their private jet on June 27, 2000.

D William Snyder shot this photo of The Who in 1980 while working as an intern at *The Arizona Republic*. He has been a fan for more than 40 years.

E Pete Townshend performs “Sparks” at the Mohegan Sun Arena during The Who Hits 50! tour in Uncasville, Conn., on May 24, 2015.

just think, ‘Oh my god,’” Snyder said. “It was in front of 16,000 or 18,000 people and there were a lot of people there that I knew because I got a lot of feedback afterwards. Everybody started calling me William.”

After the tour, he did shows on and off for the next several years. Then in 2006, he got an email from Townshend asking him to come on the road with them again. This time he officially became an employee for seven weeks and captured the band’s performances from Southern California to Chicago. He traveled on the plane, shared meals and stayed exclusively with band members.

Adjusting sound

Waite joined the crew a year later. His part-time jobs with the RIT Tech Crew and Water Street Music Hall in Rochester inspired him to pursue a career in sound.

Waite decided to major in electrical engineering technology at RIT after serving four years in the U.S. Navy working on portable radios used on the flight deck.

After graduation, he moved to Florida and got a job as a fire alarm installer, which barely paid his student loans. As a result, he came back to Rochester and started working for eni, a company that makes transformers, and went back to Water Street Music Hall.

“My last day at eni was because the previous weekend I was running monitors for Ted Nugent,” Waite said. “I decided at that point I wasn’t interested in going back to a desk job.”

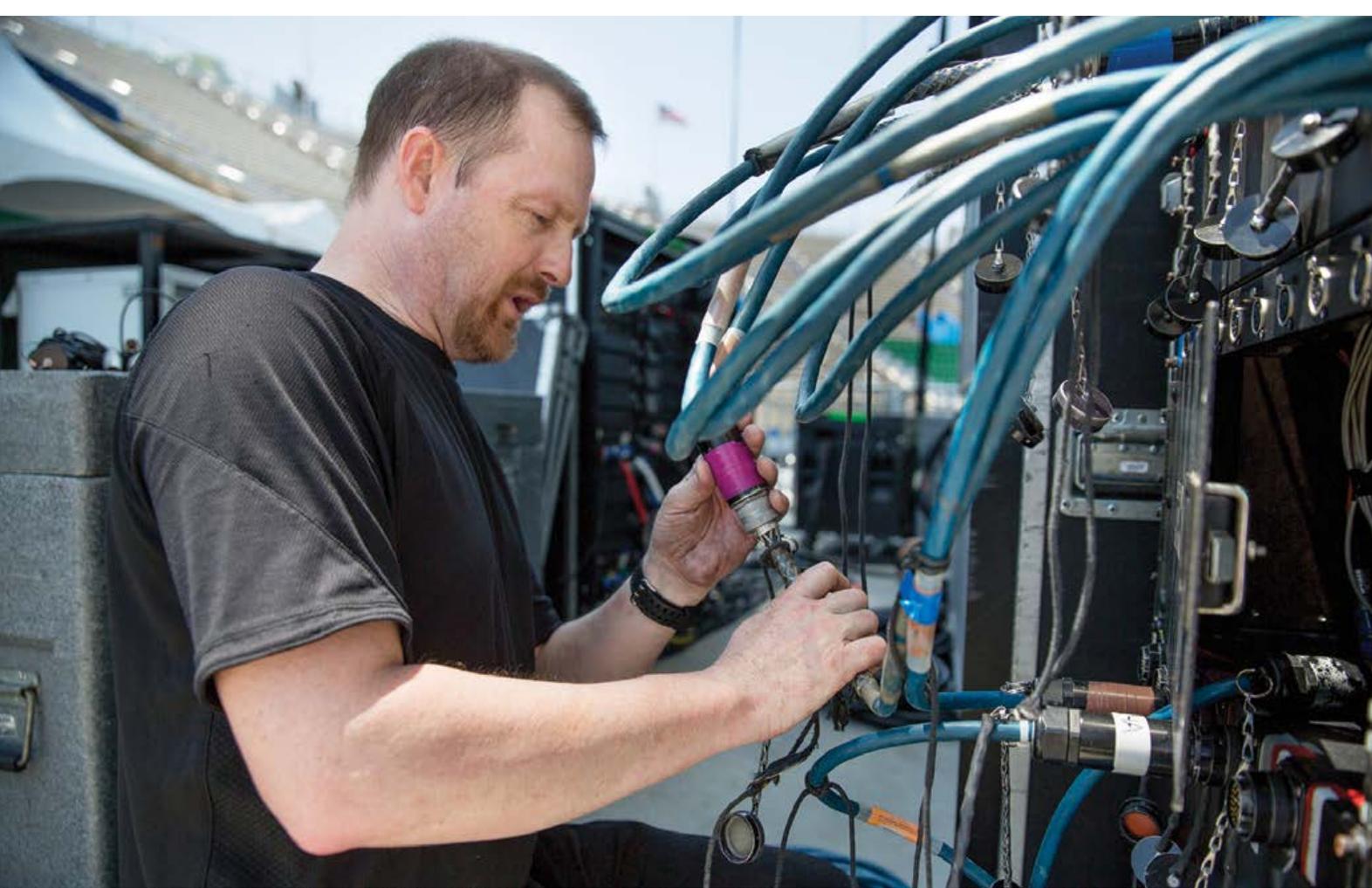
He eventually landed a job with Eighth Day Sound in Cleveland where he toured with other bands including Prince, Duran Duran and Earth, Wind and Fire. The company got The Who account in 2007 and the monitor engineer who knew Waite from

Duran Duran requested him.

Touring with a band is a demanding job, he said. When it comes to adjusting sound, each member of The Who has his own subtle cues.

“We are watching all the members of the band,” Waite said. “If we miss even the slightest movement, you don’t know if they need something turned up or down. Sometimes the gestures are so small and so quick that if we’re not staring pretty much without blinking at the stage we might miss it.”

Snyder also has to pay close attention. Capturing band members at the perfect moment on stage requires hiding in small spaces and a lot of crawling. Snyder can’t get in the way of the band or be a distraction to the crowd so he has to crouch behind equipment and pop his head out for a quick shot. When he crawls around he has to be extra cautious to avoid knocking something over or unplugging



Trevor Waite '99 checks the connections for the stage sound system before The Who Hits 50! show in Forest Hills, N.Y., on May 30, 2015. Waite is a monitor technician.

ging anything. One wrong move would be a costly mistake and a huge embarrassment in front of thousands of people.

Now with advancements in technology, remaining invisible to the crowd has become significantly harder on the current tour.

“There is just a lot of equipment where there didn’t used to be and where there used to be equipment that I could hide behind doesn’t exist anymore,” Snyder said. “I’m using a lot more remote cameras and you can use about one or two shots per show because of the perspective.”

Townshend, 71, and lead singer Roger Daltrey, 72, also want to spend more time resting and concentrating before the show, which limits Snyder’s backstage and dressing room access.

While many aspects of the tour have gone through changes, the dedication of the crew remains untouched.

“Working for The Who is like being a part of a family,” Snyder said. “They take care of each other. They are like brothers and sisters that all work incredibly hard. Pete once told me we demand perfection from our people but we pay well. Most people in this crew have been with the band since I started.”

Waite loves touring with The Who because the band acknowledges all the work that the little guys do. While he tries to give the band members their space off-stage, he has held several personal conversations with them.

He remembers a time when he came back to do rehearsals after taking a three-month break. After the band played a few songs, Townshend stepped down into the monitor wing and asked what he had been doing. Waite, thinking it was work related, responded that he was watching the record computer. Townshend gave him a puzzling look and

said, “And you have been doing that for the last three months?”

“At that point I realized he had asked me what I had been doing personally in my own life, which took me by surprise,” Waite said. “Funny enough I had just gotten married, so I lit right up and said I got married and we started having a real conversation, which I wasn’t expecting.”

He only does freelance work now to spend more time with his wife, Nicole Bukowski '02 (applied arts and sciences), who he met at RIT Tech Crew. But he will drop everything to go out with The Who.

“It’s like a job but better,” Waite said. “Although you are seeing the same people every show day, you are seeing legends that most people would say you are lucky to be working with.”

Traci Turner '16

Alumni Updates



Photos by Emily Goodstein

Dana Marlowe '96, '98 started Support the Girls, an organization that provides bras and feminine hygiene products to homeless women and girls.

'Bra fairy' helps support homeless women

Twenty years ago when Dana Marlowe was a student at RIT, she studied women who took off their clothes in strip clubs. Today, she devotes her free time to helping women get dressed.

Both projects have opened doors for Marlowe '96, '98 (sign language interpreting, professional and technical communication). Her senior thesis on exotic entertainers and strip club audiences got the attention of *The Chicago Tribune*, which asked her to write about her work.

Support the Girls, an organization that provides bras and feminine hygiene products to homeless women and girls, in the last year has attracted media coverage and donations from around the world. "The irony is ridiculous," said Marlowe, who by day is principal partner and co-founder of Accessibility Partners, a consulting firm that works with businesses and government agencies to help make technology available to all, especially people with disabilities.

Marlowe didn't set out to spend her evenings and weekends as a bra fairy. She began exercising in the fall of 2014 and by July 2015

she had lost 35 pounds. Marlowe needed a new bra so she went to a boutique where she could be professionally measured. She asked the store clerk if there was any place she could donate the bras that no longer fit. The clerk told her that homeless women were desperately in need of bras because most women don't donate them.

She called a nearby shelter in Washington, D.C., and the director there told her women also need feminine hygiene products.

"I went on a walk the next day with a friend and recounted the story. My friend said, 'I have bras in the back of my drawer. Take my bras,'" Marlowe said. "I told more people and everyone says, 'Take my bras.' I put it on Facebook and people started sharing it and messaging me. My 16 bras became 100 bras, which became 500 bras."

By late October, she had created a Facebook group called Support the Girls and had collected 1,051 bras and about 7,100 packages of tampons and pads.

She dropped them off at a shelter and thought she was done. Then *The Washington Post* published a story about her efforts. "My

inbox blew up," she said. "I'm talking hundreds and hundreds of messages."

Organizations contacted her about becoming drop-off sites. Her two sons began coming home with their backpacks stuffed with tampons, pads and bras. And donations were piled on her doorstep.

She asked her husband, Preston Blay '96 (mechanical engineering), to create a website, iSupportTheGirls.org, to answer frequently asked questions. She set up a post office box to collect donations. And she did follow-up interviews with *The Today Show*, *Yahoo!*, *The Huffington Post* and others.

Today, there are Support the Girls groups across the U.S. and in Costa Rica, Hong Kong, Thailand, with more on the way. They have collected more than 11,000 bras and 55,000 menstrual hygiene products.

She hopes to one day raise enough money to hire a team to run the organization.

"It is a remarkable feeling," she said. "It really is making a huge difference by providing support and dignity to thousands and thousands of women."

Mindy Mozer



Aaron Foss '00, '01 stands next to boxes filled with robocall numbers his company has blocked.

Serial entrepreneur's latest venture stops robocalls

Aaron Foss '00, '01 (information technology, MBA) has an impact on more than 16 million people's daily lives.

Foss developed technology that stops robocalls from telemarketers. Since his technology and now company, Nomorobo, won a Federal Trade Commission challenge in 2013, it has blocked more than 109 million automated calls. In February, Time Warner Cable made it easier for its 16 million telephone customers to use the service. In June, Foss made the technology available to mobile phones.

"It is awesome to be in a position where I am creating a business that is solving a real problem," Foss said.

Foss wouldn't be in this position at all, he said, if he hadn't learned from mistakes he made in past start-up ventures. There was the WingDipper, a specially designed cup for dipping Buffalo wings. That product landed Foss on the television show *American Inventor* in the mid-2000s and taught him the importance of a business pitch.

In his next project, Smart Chemo, a software service for physicians, he learned

it is better to end an initiative that isn't working. Although physicians were interested in an automated system to track doctors' orders for patients, hospitals at that time were not, so he couldn't sell the product.

Next came a company called SideTour, which he created in the business bootcamp TechStars with three other entrepreneurs. SideTour is an online marketplace for unique tours and activities in major cities. The New York City startup raised \$4 million in venture capital before it was sold to Groupon in 2013.

The experience taught Foss how to execute an idea. "All of a sudden things were starting to fire on all cylinders here," he said.

Those and other smaller ventures brought him to the FTC's Robocall Challenge. First, Foss said, he had to solve the problem. He did that by hacking a little-known service called simultaneous ring.

Simultaneous ring allows incoming calls to be routed through Nomorobo, which compares it to a database compiled from the FTC of robocall numbers. If it's a robocall, Nomorobo blocks it.

Then he had to prepare to pitch his solu-

tion. He built a prototype and was ready to explain it when he found out in 2013 that he was a co-winner of the contest. After extensive media coverage and even testifying as an expert witness in a Senate committee hearing on robocalls, Foss launched the business in October of 2013.

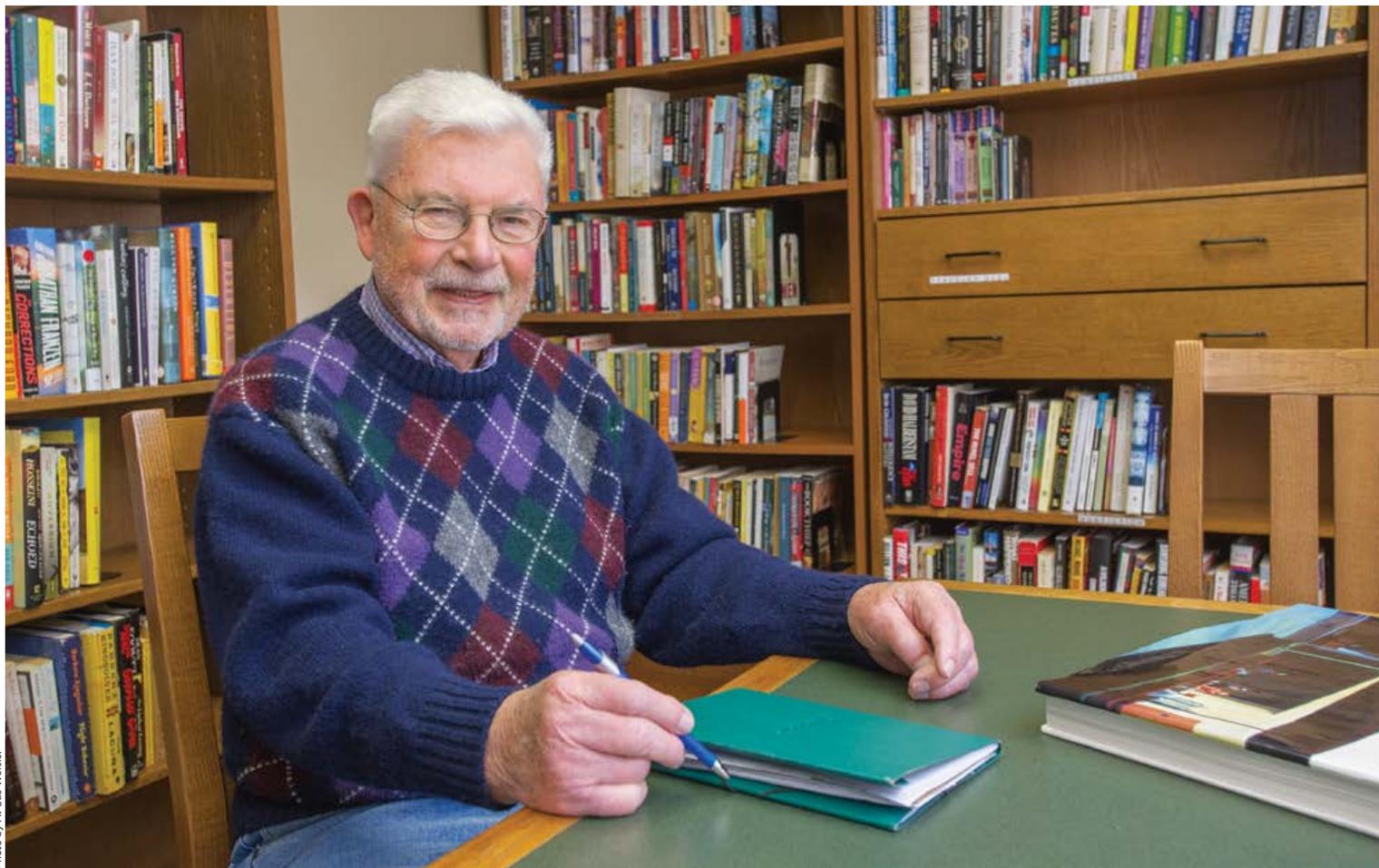
Since Time Warner Cable went live with one-click integration of the technology in February 2016, tens of thousands of people have signed up for the service, which Foss runs from his Huntington, Long Island, office.

"There was only one person who could come up with this weird idea of Nomorobo and then have the experience to be able to launch it direct to the consumers," Foss said. "For me, this is my brand of entrepreneurship."

Mindy Mozer

To learn more

Go to nomorobo.com.



Kurt Kreckel '73 is a member of RIT's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, which offers classes and lectures on everything from forensic science to Star Trek for adult learners.

Learning is lifelong pursuit for alumnus

Kurt Kreckel may have graduated from RIT more than 40 years ago, but that hasn't stopped him from coming back to learn a thing or two.

For nearly five years, Kreckel '73 (business administration) has been a member of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT, an organization that helps stimulate minds and forge friendships among people ages 50 and older who live in Greater Rochester. Almost five days a week, Kreckel can be found with friends at Osher taking classes on anything from understanding the human brain to a study of Bollywood movies.

For Kreckel, life has always been about listening and learning something new. "Osher is really something that had to happen for me," said Kreckel. "I enjoy it so much."

Born in Germany in the late 1920s, Kreckel grew up in the midst of World War II. At the age of 10, he was learning to fly glider aircrafts and by 17 he was involved in the war. After being captured by Americans, he grew friendly with many of the soldiers and became enamored with the English language

and American people. When the war ended, he pursued his passion in electronics and motors and studied electrical engineering at the University of Hannover. By 1957, Kreckel made his way by boat to the U.S.

"Within the first week I was finding odd-end jobs in electrical engineering," said Kreckel. "I couldn't believe it. I thought, 'This really is the American dream.'"

Later, he was drawn to a job in research and development at Bausch + Lomb in Rochester—a company founded by German immigrants. He spent more than 40 years as head of Electronic Systems and Military Contracts and was in charge of everything electronic at the company, from spinning machines for the SofLens division to a device for converting 3D stereoscopic film.

It was at Bausch + Lomb that his boss told Kreckel he was working too hard.

"He told me to go to RIT and learn to delegate, so I wasn't doing everything myself," said Kreckel. "I really enjoyed those classes and learned a lot."

After getting his MBA, Kreckel served as

an adjunct assistant professor of management at St. John Fisher College for 10 years. Also in his spare time, he worked with his wife as a medic and ambulance driver with the Perinton Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

Since retiring as an ambulance driver at the age of 84, Kreckel fills his time with skiing at Bristol Mountain—where he logged 25 days of downhill skiing last winter—and classes at Osher. "I walk into Osher and everybody is friendly and the people are just fascinating," Kreckel said. "In recent classes we've learned about current events in the country of Greece and have had marvelous discussions about science vs. God."

As Kreckel says, he is approaching his 90th year of life and he still enjoys learning something new every day.

Scott Bureau '11, '16

To learn more

For more on Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, go to www.rit.edu/osher.



Marc Raco '88 and Sarah Takako Skinner at an exhibit for the Hope Is Project at Social Innovation Week in New York City in November.

Photo by Marc Palumbo/The Hope Is Project

Graduate helps create movement of hope

Marc Raco '88 (film) knows hope can be hard to find during challenging times. That's why he got involved with the Hope Is Project, a transmedia art experiment that uses photography and film to discover hope in people's lives and spark change.

From troubled teens to war veterans, the project shares the stories of people from many walks of life as they embarked on their journey to find hope through the lens of a camera. Participants are given a plastic Holga camera and one simple instruction to photograph hope. The experience allows them to see the world from a different perspective.

"When we ask participants why they took the pictures they did, we watch their expression in their face as they connect the dots," Raco said. "They suddenly realize how much hopefulness is in their life."

In April, Sarah Takako Skinner, creator of the project, and Raco partnered with Rochester's Villa of Hope, a human service organization for families and youth, to help several of its teenagers and adult influencers

capture hope and spread their message in the community.

The series of images included self-portraits and double exposures of what the participants value in their lives. The images were displayed and auctioned off at The Portraits of Hope Gala hosted by Villa of Hope.

After graduating from RIT, Raco worked in filmmaking, marketing and acting. The "artrepreneur" enjoyed producing several documentary, narrative and promotional films and has won eight Telly awards.

However, he wanted to do something creative that made a difference.

It was through Connectors Collective, a business and networking development group, where he met Skinner. She was interested in collaborating with a filmmaker to put together a promotional sizzle for her project and Raco volunteered to help.

After making the video and working with Skinner for several months, they began collaborating as partners on the project.

"For me I thought the Hope Is Project could be the amazing thing that makes your

life worth something," Raco said. "My experience and skills as a filmmaker allowed me to walk through the door into the project and have it become a part of my life."

Raco produces videos and helps Skinner curate photos and find participants. Crafting the art of the project's message is an integral aspect of his job. He makes use of his storytelling skills toward creating a larger message of hope that connects images and the subjects' stories. The mission is for people to understand the connection between art and purpose and inspire others to initiate their own search for hope.

"I think we are on the cusp of what could be a catalyst for actual and meaningful impact and change," Raco said. "It's remarkable how different life can look through the lens of a camera."

Traci Turner '16

To learn more

Go to www.hopeisproject.com.



Photo by A. Sue Weisler

Joanne Jaworski '80 opened True Authentic Power in 2009. She helps people find success and focus on the positive by using tapping skills.

Tapping leads to True Authentic Power

It took the sudden passing of her father, caretaking responsibilities for her ailing mother, a bout with breast cancer, the death of her beloved companion, and the decision to leave a corporate sales career she excelled at before Joanne Jaworski discovered her way to “True Authentic Power.”

Jaworski realized she was suffering from emotional “dis-ease,” and found a way to change her life through her fingertips.

“I realized all the trauma in my life didn’t happen by accident,” said Jaworski ’80 (food administration). “That’s when I learned about the Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT). It’s acupuncture without needles, where the body’s energy system achieves balance by tapping with our fingertips on selected points along energy meridians.”

Jaworski honed her tapping skills with renowned EFT practitioners before opening her business, True Authentic Power, in 2009. She says the East-West therapeutic modality—tapping into the stories of a person’s internal newswire and rewiring the circuitry—is for everyone.

“It can remove blocks, phobias, compulsive behaviors, unhealthy habits, emotional and physical pain, and everyday stress—and sometimes it can happen in one session, but it may take several rounds of tapping to help relieve deep-seated issues,” said Jaworski, who works out of her home office in Greece, N.Y.

“You don’t have to believe tapping works, but you do need to be open enough to trying it in the first place.”

Tapping has a basic recipe: Identify a problem as a statement piece. For example, “I’m very upset about my career path, but I deeply love and accept myself.” Rate the level of anxiety, and while reciting specific phrases out loud, use fingertips to tap five to seven times each on the body’s meridian points and follow with more rounds until anxiety decreases.

“EFT practitioner Nick Ortner called it truth telling and I love that idea because people ask why you first focus on the negative, and that’s because negative has a voice,” said Jaworski. “When you start putting the positive in after the negative is when you start

to see results. You can even tap as a surrogate to help those who can’t do it for themselves.”

More often than not, she said, painful childhood memories are the foundation of unwanted patterns that can lead to a lifetime of wrong decisions.

“A lot of pain and anxiety won’t move if the emotions are stuck,” she explained. “You have to go backwards to move forwards.”

Tapping is also invaluable for manifesting lifestyle, relationships and career changes—even solving everyday workplace problems.

Jaworski recently participated in a webinar series (<http://bit.ly/1qF7REg>) for RIT alumni demonstrating True Authentic Power—and reported that one participant told her he had immediate relief from a two-year symptom he had experienced.

“My voice brought me my success in sales and now I use it to guide people to be the best they can be,” Jaworski said. “Tapping is powerful, it works, and I love seeing what it does for people. I’m watching miracles.”

Marcia Morphy

stupidcancer[®].org



David Fuehrer '02, '03, left, and Matthew Zachary, CEO of Stupid Cancer, rang the opening bell at Nasdaq the day before Thanksgiving.

Alumnus turns personal pain into purpose

David Fuehrer's life was put on pause at age 25 when he was diagnosed with testicular cancer in 2002.

The emotional bombshell came while Fuehrer, a competitive athlete who had just won the New York state natural bodybuilding title, was completing his undergraduate degree. "I was just accepted into the MBA program and was on a mission; not even cancer was going to stop me. I had surgery, completed my degree and moved to Michigan to work as a marketing analyst at Ducker Worldwide to begin a new life where no one knew my past."

That new life shattered at age 30 during a routine visit when he was diagnosed with a different form of invasive testicular cancer—leading him to debilitating radiation and life-long hormone therapy.

Fuehrer said it was the darkest period of his life; he became more introverted as he tried to hide his cancer. Even declared cancer-free, he couldn't forget the lingering effects of living with a life-threatening illness. But when he lost his father, Craig, to bladder

cancer in 2012, something clicked. "I remembered my father's motto: 'The difficult we do immediately. The impossible just takes a little longer,'" Fuehrer said. "My family and my wife, Rene, have been my greatest support, and now it was my turn to help and empower other people living with cancer."

He subsequently moved back to Rochester and founded Emerging Space, a company that helped people turn their ideas into successful products and services. Not surprisingly, his primary client became Matthew Zachary, CEO of Stupid Cancer, the largest U.S.-based charity that supports young adult cancer patients and survivors where Fuehrer also serves on the board.

The organization at that time was developing a new mobile platform called Instapeer, a free app which offers anonymous peer support for cancer patients, survivors and caregivers. "It was something I wished I had; dealing with testicular cancer I was always too embarrassed to ask for help. That is the reason I've changed my career and my life—to dedicate myself to it and helping others

who are in the impossible place I was."

Fuehrer '02, '03 (professional and technical communication, MBA) is proud that five generations of his family have attended RIT dating back to 1904. One of his greatest joys last year as an adjunct professor at Saunders College of Business was to teach students to be true to themselves.

And now he is following his own advice. Fuehrer spends his work week in Manhattan with Zachary at Stupid Cancer, where they launched SC Research Ventures (SCRV) in July. "It's the first healthcare company that focuses on identifying and addressing the unmet needs of the tens of millions of people who will survive cancer," he explained.

"We will work directly with health care and pharmaceutical companies to tailor products, services and resources for patients based on data from the physical, social and psychological impact of their cancer diagnosis. We believe when the doctor says 'you're cured,' it's not the end of the story. We have the right to live with dignity and quality."

Marcia Morphy

Class Notes

Key to abbreviations

- CAST** College of Applied Science and Technology
CCE College of Continuing Education (now SOIS)
CHST College of Health Sciences and Technology
CIAS College of Imaging Arts and Sciences
CLA College of Liberal Arts
COS College of Science
FAA Fine and Applied Arts (now CIAS)
GAP Graphic Arts and Photography (now CIAS)
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 details and photos of special occasions and professional achievements in your life by going to www.rit.edu/alumni/news.

1950

Donald Edick '50 (GAP) has retired in Prescott, Ariz., after working in commercial printing for 50 years.

1962



Brian Shapiro '62 (FAA) will soon have a revised edition of his autobiography, *Search for Expression: The Life and Work of Brian Shapiro*, available from Lulu.com, featuring 240 photos of paintings. Overall, he has catalogued more than 3,800 art works.

1964

William Marx '64 (FAA) retired in 2009 after careers in real estate and advertising. He lives in Fort Lauderdale and New York City.

1966

Harry Drake '66 (GAP) is a volunteer for RIT alumni events in the Jacksonville, Fla., area and also has recently become a volunteer counselor for the SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) program, which assists clients with Medicare benefits and concerns.



Valerie Allen '66 (FAA) is exhibiting her acrylic paintings in galleries in Seacoast, N.H., where she lives, and in southern Maine. She retired in August 2014 after careers in book publishing, graphic design and the financial industry.

1967

Michael Balloch '67 (SCB), a long-time chief executive group chair with Vistage Michigan, a membership-based organization that provides business leaders with new business perspectives and innovative strategies, has announced his retirement.

1968



William Munz '68 (CIAS) is retired after a career in the printing field at companies in New York, Ohio and California.

He lives in San Diego and is a proud grandfather, plays in a community concert band and volunteers at the airport under the Travelers Aid program.

Jeff Rosenberg '65 (GAP), '68 (GAP) is alive and well in Floresville, Texas, southeast of San Antonio. He is married to a lovely lady from Nigeria and has three kids in college.

1969



Fred Elmes '69 (GAP) recently completed work as director of photography on *The Night Of*, a multipart miniseries for HBO which was scheduled to air in July. The series stars John Turturro and was directed by Academy Award winner Steve Zaillian. Earlier this year, he completed photography on *Paterson*, a feature film directed by Jim Jarmusch and starring Adam Driver. A second feature he photographed, *Wilson*, directed by Craig Johnson and starring Woody Harrelson, will be released later this year.

1970



Don Copenhagen '70 (CCE) retired in 1991 after a 27-year career in polymer development at Eastman Kodak Co. He is now working at Argon Medical Devices Biocoatings Corp. in Henrietta, N.Y., developing polymer coatings for medical devices.

1971

Robert Kiss '71 (GAP) was certified in February 2016 after 24 weeks of intense training along with four other industry professionals as an assessor in the film, video and television fields in Barbados.

1973



Jonathan Atkin '73 (GAP), '78 (CIAS) writes that Shop One², a gallery on the RIT campus, has accepted his Heroproject.us photos.

1975



Allan Luftig '75 (GAP) opened Rosalita Mexican LLC in Summit, N.J., and serves as CEO after 13 years as chief operating officer of Monster Sushi Inc. Go to www.rosalitamexican.com and www.allanluftig.com to learn more.

Steve Gulack '75 (CSB) transitioned to operating the WheelChair bus at the Brookdale Brighton (formerly known as The Gables) part-time in his retirement.

Gerald Grossman '75 (GAP) recently retired after 41 years in the film and television industry. He was a member of the Motion Picture Editors Guild IATSE Local 700 for 37 years.

1976



Sari Anne Rapkin '76 (SCB) was one of four outstanding women honored in March by Hebrew College of Newton Centre

for her demonstrated leadership and philanthropy at the college, in the Greater Boston community and beyond. She recently retired from her career as an assurance partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers, where she worked with clients in privately-held and private equity backed companies as well as several prominent not-for-profit institutions in the Greater Boston area. She currently serves on several boards.

1977

Michael Pollock '77 (GAP) received the honor of life member in Zion Lodge No. 1 of Free and Accepted Masons in a ceremony held at the world's largest Masonic temple in Detroit in March 2016. His daughter, Emma, accompanied him for this special event.

Alan Frohlichstein '76, '77 (GAP) is now a member of the adjunct faculty at Triton College in River Grove, Ill. He teaches ophthalmic photography to second-year ophthalmic technology students.

Kevin Hall '77 (FAA) received an award from the American Package Design Awards for his promotion design work in the beverage category. Hall is principal of Kevin Hall Design, an award-winning branding firm near New Haven, Conn. He has written and contributed stories pertaining to the graphic design field for industry related publications for both online and print.

1978



Dave "Bippy" Boyer '78 (CAST) is serving as the 2015 charter president of the new Rotary Club of Rochester Southeast. For more, go to the club's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/RotaryRocSE.

Philip E. Smith '78 (FAA) has been selected to give a lecture at the Textile Museum in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 23. Part of George Washington University, the museum is known worldwide for its preservation and collection of the textile arts. The lecture will focus on Smith's involvement with a weaving cooperative effort in Bamiyan, Afghanistan.

1980

Thomas Caine '80 (CAST) writes that after 35 years of hard work, it is time to retire from his business supplying assistive technology hardware and software solutions to K-12 educational institutions. He lives in Basking Ridge, N.J., and plays lead guitar for two bands (blues and classic rock) and bass in his church band.

Thomas Grotta '78 (GAP), '80 (GAP); John Cooper '78 (GAP); and Ken Berard '80 (GAP) have collaborated on an exhibition project at the Morris Museum in Morristown, N.J., *Green from the Get Go: International Contemporary Basketmakers* features 77 baskets and fiber sculptures by artists represented by BrownGrotta Arts, a firm Grotta formed with his wife nearly 29 years ago.

1981



Nancy Cohen '79 (FAA), '81 (FAA) was invited to participate in *The Nature of Things* curated by Anne Trauben at the Drawing Rooms in Jersey City. The exhibit was held April 8 to May 15, 2016.



Jeanne (Sheffer) Behm '79 (SCB), '81 (SCB) is the coordinator of the RIT ASL and Deaf Studies Community Center. She has been employed at RIT for seven years. She is married to **Gary Behm '81 (CAST)**.

1982

Kevin Belfield '81 (COS), '82 (COS) was appointed dean of the College of Science and Liberal Arts at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in November 2014. Prior to that he served as Pegasus Professor and chair of the department of chemistry at the University of Central Florida. In 2013, Belfield was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for distinguished contributions to the field of photonic materials and processes, particularly two-photon based bio-imaging and optical data storage and exceptional administration as department chair.

1983

Ronald Hinds '83 (GAP) is the director of advertising and publishing purchasing at Channing Bete Company Inc. in South Deerfield, Mass.



John Allie '83 (KGCOE) has been selected for inclusion in Indiana Super Lawyers 2016. Super Lawyers is a rating service of outstanding

attorneys from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement.

Kevin Johns '83 (CCE) is a sales executive at Travelers Insurance Co. in Buffalo, N.Y.

Carl Moore '83 (KGCOE) joined Memic Inc. as an engineering director. He's excited to work for an innovative company in MEMS (micro-electro-mechanical sensors) technology, and add China to the list of countries he's traveled to.

Scott Pardo '83 (CCE), together with his son, Yudi, published a second book *Empirical Modeling and Data Analysis for Engineers and Applied Scientists*.

1984

Wilfred Bourdon '84 (KGCOE) was certified as an Expert Systems Engineering Professional by the International Council on Systems Engineering.

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



Linda White-McKelvie '83 (SCB), '84 (SCB), '98 (SCB) married Mark Scuderi on Oct. 17, 2015, in Rochester. Their children were their

attendants: Julie Scuderi, Ella Scuderi, Mark Scuderi Jr., Chase McKelvie and Liam White.

1985



Don Adriaansen '83, '85 (SCB) is president and CEO of Titan Mobile Shredding LLC and has been elected president of the board of directors of the National Association for Information Destruction.

1986



Francis Dahar '86 (CAST) has been named Northeast region construction services manager at Erdman Anthony. Dahar joined Erdman

Anthony in 1986 and over the years has served as a project engineer or project manager on more than 50 projects.



Bert Zahniser '86 (CAST) joined Philadelphia-based Anexinet as a cloud architect. He is an Amazon Web Services Certified Solution Architect as well as an ISC2.org Certified Information Systems Security Professional and Certified Cloud Security Professional.

1987

Gary Wright '85 (CAST), '87 (CAST) accepted a position at SeeClickFix in New Haven, Conn., as director of engineering.

1988



Lisa Iannello '88 (FAA) has been named Morrisville State College's executive director of advancement and executive director of the Morrisville

College Foundation. In this role, she will lead the institutional advancement office in fundraising and scholarship efforts and also oversee alumni affairs and the foundation board.

Glenn Pawlak '86 (GAP), '88 (GAP) met fellow alumnus **Nick Terpack '10 (CAST)** when shopping for a bicycle. Terpack was wearing an RIT sweatshirt and they discovered they were both alumni of RIT. Pawlak owns the bike shop Big Bang Bikes in West Mifflin, Pa. www.bigbangbikes.com

1990



Marian Akamatsu '90 (NTID) got promoted in January 2016 to senior financial management analyst in the resource management office for an organization within the 78th Air Base Wing at Robins Air Force Base in Warner Robins, Ga. Akamatsu has been promoted three times in the last five years.

1991



Steve Destro '91 (CAST) was promoted to administrative vice president at M&T Bank. He has been with M&T for 25 years and has held numerous positions in technology. He lives in Lockport, N.Y., with his wife, Megan, and children, Helena and Jared.

1992



Jonathan Jones '92 (CAST) got married to his wonderful and loving partner Leanne Bunker on March 1, 2016, and welcomed his new step-daughter Delaney Morrissey into the family.



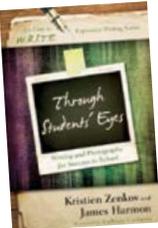
Jim Perkins '92 (FAA) received RIT's 2015-2016 Board of Trustees Scholarship Award. The award is given to a faculty member with a demonstrated record of excellent scholarship at RIT over a sustained period. The award was presented at RIT's Celebration of Teaching and Scholarship event on May 10.

Jake Hendrix '92 (FAA) recently released a feature-length movie entitled *3 The Motion Picture*. To learn more, go to www.jixavision.com or www.JakeHendrix.com.



Michael Wenger Sr. '92 (CLA) married **Katherine Hoheusle '00 (COS)** on April 7, 2016, in Frederick, Md. The couple lives in Frederick, Md., and both work in Washington, D.C.

1993



Jim Harmon '93 (GAP) co-authored a book recently published by Rowman and Littlefield titled *Through Students' Eyes: Writing and Photography for Success in School*.

Harmon and his co-author, Kristien Zenkov, spent 10 years conducting the photo voice and social justice oriented project with middle and high school students across the U.S. and the world.

Friendship turns to love three decades later

Paul Schechtman '81 (printing) and Pam Evans Schechtman '81 (printing) became good friends at RIT.

They shared rides home to the Cleveland area and took classes together. But they were never romantically involved.

Pam attended Paul's wedding to his high school girlfriend after graduation in 1981, and Paul attended Pam's wedding in 1987. Then life got busy and they lost touch. Until 2011.

That's when Pam joined LinkedIn and started searching for old friends. She found Paul, who happened to live 20 minutes away. They decided to meet for dinner.

"She didn't know I was divorced," Paul said. "I didn't know she was a widow. At that point we felt like we were 22 again and still at RIT."

The Schechtmans celebrated their third wedding anniversary on July 28 and both said they couldn't be happier.

Paul and Pam would never have met if Paul hadn't transferred from the University of Cincinnati to RIT in the fall of 1978 and hadn't been assigned a dorm room with two other guys. He didn't want to live in a triple, so he spent his first year in Rustic Village Apartments. Living off-campus was easier with a car, so he purchased one.

Since he had transportation, Paul thought he would offer a ride home at Thanksgiving to other students from the Cleveland area. He posted a sign in the Student Alumni Union.

"She pulled the tab and called me up," Paul said. "That's how we started knowing each other because I would give her rides home."

Although they had a lot in common, including the same major, they stayed friends. "I knew he was off the market, unavailable," said Pam because Paul was dating his high school sweetheart. "So we did things together as friends."

After graduation, Paul worked in the printing business for 15 years for various companies in New York, Philadelphia and Cleveland, then in the transportation business in Denver. He moved back to Cleveland in 2010.

Pam stayed in the Cleveland area, working for her father's printing company for seven years after graduation and then became a stay-at-home mom. She returned to the



Paul Schechtman '81 and Pam Evans Schechtman '81 met as students and were married three decades later.

workforce in the school cafeteria so she could have the same schedule as her son.

They realized quickly that even three decades later that they still had a lot in common. And they love to share their story, especially during Brick City Homecoming & Family Weekend, which they regularly attend.

"Any person that stops by, Pam tells the story," Paul said.

"We just get along so well," Pam added. "Can you tell we are really happy?"

Mindy Mozer

About Tiger Love

To suggest one of RIT's 4,600-plus alumni couples to feature, email us at umag@rit.edu.

G D G

Remzi Gumus '93 (CLA) has resigned his position at Huga in Brooklyn as a senior designer and joined Gumus Design Group LLC in Montclair, N.J., as a partner with Rion Byrd, previously of Pentagram.

1994



Patrick Finan's '94 (CIAS) private collection of more than 900 1991 Operation Desert Shield and Storm deployment and combat images has been donated to the Veterans History Project at the U.S. Library of Congress for public access. The work was shot after he was called up in December 1990 and processed and edited following his return in June 1991.

Thomas Roman '94 (CCE), '11 (CAST) is the good manufacturing practices (GMP) senior training and employee engagement specialist for Fresenius Kabi USA.



Andrea de Polo '94 (CIAS) is working for Fratelli Alinari (www.alinari.com), the world's oldest photo archive in the world, in Florence, Italy. De Polo manages a team of people who digitize more than 3 million historical images from the picture archive using a PhaseOne 80 megapixel digital camera back and is also a consultant in the cultural heritage field providing lectures and consulting technical expertise in the imaging sector.

1995

Seth Gitner '95 (CIAS), an associate professor of newspaper and online journalism in the Newhouse School at Syracuse University, was elected to a two-year term as national secretary of the National Press Photographers Association (NPPA). He was sworn in at NPPA's board of directors meeting Jan. 24 at the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Georgia in Athens.

1996

Rohit Amarnath '96 (SCB) is the chief technology officer at Full 360 Inc. in New York City and lives in Cornelius, N.C., with his wife, Jennifer, and children, Alex, Aliya, Rahil, and a boxador named Belle.

1998

Amy Beaudreau-Freiermuth '98 (CIAS), '02 (CIAS), owner of BeauDesigns—Graphic Design and Printing, recently published *Surrender—September 2, 1945* in Chinese and Japanese. *Surrender* is the personal story of James L. Starnes, the navigator and the officer of the deck on the battleship USS Missouri during the surrender ceremony of Japan to the Allies, ending World War II in the Pacific. BeauDesigns published the English edition a year ago. In October 2015 the Military Writers Society of America awarded *Surrender* the bronze medal for memoirs.



Jason Mann '98 (CAST), '08 (CAST) has been hired by The Outdoor Group as the director of quality. The Outdoor Group specializes in the development and manufacturing of premium quality archery and hunting equipment for the outdoor space. Mann lives in Irondequoit, N.Y., with his wife, Tricia, and three children.

1999

Mark Biscione '99 (COS) accepted a position at CHI St. Luke's Health-Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center in Houston as the senior performance excellence champion. He will be setting up a center for performance improvement for the 850-bed hospital situated in the Texas Medical Center.

Amy Craig-Oren '99 (CAST) has accepted the position of instructional support specialist in library services at Florida Gulf Coast University. She works with specialized subject librarians in the research, reference and instruction department.

2000



Sean Croft '00 (CLA) has been selected as the next superintendent of schools for the Starpoint Central School District.

2001



Paul Kiley '01 (CAST) is a software engineering manager at Harris Corp., Communication Systems Division

in Rochester. His current area of focus is high frequency tactical radios.

2002



Jeremy Sebest '97 (NTID), '99 (NTID), '02 (CIAS) got married to **Carmen Consunji '02 (GCCIS)** on Dec. 27, 2015, in San Francisco.

Emily (Giesy) Overes '02 (CIAS) has relocated to Calgary, Alberta, in Canada and accepted the role of director, marketing and communication for Six Safety Systems Inc. Six Safety delivers worker fit for duty solutions that address risks associated with drugs, alcohol and fatigue in the workplace.

Phil Jones '02 (GCCIS) partnered with social impact enterprises in Nairobi, Kenya, and Mexico City on projects where he will employ the human-centered design framework. He will live and work in the cities for a total of five months, returning to the U.S. in September 2016. To do this, he had to end his employment of five years with the Association of American Medical Colleges, where he was a senior business analyst.



James Reale '02 (GCCIS) accepted a position at VMware. He is working out of Los Angeles as a senior technical account manager.

2003



Suzanne (Fuhrhop) Capper '03 (CIAS) recently published a children's book called *Princess Suzette: Counting in her Kingdom*.

Readers are delighted with the fun, fantasy creatures in her world and learn to count them as well. It's currently sold on amazon.com.

2004



Matthew Weaver '04 (KGCOE) was promoted to an associate at Erdman Anthony. He is a mechanical engineer in the facilities group and is a registered professional engineer in New York and Virginia.

Kimberly (Feitl) Brophy '04 (COS) was promoted to director of external manufacturing quality at Valeant Pharmaceuticals based in Bridgewater, N.J.

Kevin Ptak '04 (CLA) is the marketing and communications lead for Auror, a crime-fighting software startup in Auckland, New Zealand. He previously managed the Christchurch office of Ideas Shop, a New Zealand-based strategic communications agency.

2005

Ashley Walker '05 (CIAS), '07 (SCB) was promoted to a banking officer at M&T Bank, where she works as the marketing director for commercial lending subsidiary M&T Realty Capital Corp. She relocated to the Baltimore area, where the subsidiary's headquarters are located.



Nicholas Herber '05 (CIAS) and **Michelle Spampata '06 (COS)** are happy to announce their marriage in Canandaigua, N.Y., on July 18, 2015. They live in Washington, D.C. RIT alumni friends in attendance included: **Jay Alapati '11 (CIAS)**, **Emily (Manbeck) Belt '05 (CIAS)**, **Joelle (Tannenbaum) Boedecker '05 (CIAS)**, **Fritz Heier '05 (GCCIS)**, **Emily Johnson '06 (KGCOE)**, **Lindsey Kammerer '07 (CIAS)** and **Erica (Salgado) Tsang '05, '06 (CIAS)**.

Emily Ianacone '05 (CIAS) is currently a design researcher/UX designer (user experience for both analog and digital services, processes and products) in the White House Presidential Innovation Fellows program until September 2016.

Alissa (Cloen) Miller '05 (CIAS) is working on a series of children's books called *Watercolor Daydreams*. All are self-published and are for sale in numerous Western New York stores from East Aurora to Clarence to Medina. They can be found at www.watercolordaydreams.com.

Tiger Cubs



1 **John Genese '75 (CLA)** is the proud grandparent of Lyra Catherine, born in March 2015. Lyra loves puzzles, books, trips to the zoo and *Bubble Guppies*. She looks forward to her first day at RIT.

2 **Thomas Ethington '79 (GAP), '81 (GAP)** and Beverley Ethington announce the birth of their first grandson, Corbin Charles Ethington, to their daughter, Erin Dell Ethington, in January 2016.

3 **John Villard '84 (CAST)** and Kathleen Villard are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Calypso Margaret Elizabeth Villard, on Jan. 6, 2016, in Canandaigua, N.Y.

4 **Rob Stroup '98 (COS)** and **Laura Lamb Stroup '99 (COS)** adopted their third child. Charlotte Mei came home from China in December 2015. She is 2 years old and joins big sister Hanna, 11, and big brother Rudy, 9.

5 **Vincenzo Giacinto '99 (CAST)** and his wife, Aimey, announce the birth of their first daughter, Gelsomina Rose, on Feb. 20, 2016, in Alexandria, Va.

6 **Mike Heinecke '00 (CAST)** announces the birth of his son, Otto Simon Heinecke, who was born at home in Santa Cruz, Calif., on Sept. 8, 2015. He was welcomed by his loving sisters, Marianna and Evelyn. Heinecke is a program manager at Google in Mountain View, Calif.

7 **Yu-Chen Hsieh '02 (CIAS)** celebrates the birth of his daughter, Jessie Hsieh, on Jan. 1, 2016. He currently lives in Taiwan with his family.

8 **Marie Nye '03 (CIAS), '05 (CIAS)** and **Drew Nye '04 (CAST)** welcomed a son, Albright Carleo Nye, on April 14, 2015. His grandparents are Bruce Peterson (NTID retiree), Alan Nye (KGCoe professor), Ruth Verlinde-Knighton (NTID retiree) and **Kathleen Nye '88 (CLA)**.

9 **Molly (Urquhart) Hemkens '03 (CIAS)** and her husband, Steve, are happy to announce the arrival of Luke Richard Hemkens on Aug. 6, 2015.

10 **Deanna Varble '04 (CIAS)** and her husband, Matt Bielewicz, are happy to announce the birth of their son, Loren James, on Aug. 27, 2015.

11 **Kim (Roberts) Porter '04 (CIAS)** and **Glenn Porter '04 (CIAS)** welcomed their daughter, Olivia, in February 2016.

12 **Kevin Black '04 (GCCIS)** and Alan Bennett welcomed a daughter, Kennedy, in June 2015.

13 **Gary Fino '05 (KGCoe)** welcomed a daughter, Kelsey, in February 2016.

14 **Sarah Connors '05 (SCB)** welcomed a daughter, Alexis, in November 2015.

15 **Stephanie Cole '05 (CIAS)** and **Douglas Cole '05 (CIAS)** are the proud parents of Wyatt Michael Cole, born in Buffalo, N.Y., in December 2015. Wyatt joins his older brothers, Milo, 7, and Parker, 4.

Matthew Walter '06 (GCCIS), '09 (GCCIS) and his wife, Eliza, are happy to announce the birth of their son, Levi Arthur, in October 2015 in Rochester.

16 **John Matyjasik '06 (CAST)** and Megan Matyjasik welcomed a daughter, Olivia, in February 2016. Olivia's grandmother, **Penny Fleming '80 (CIAS)**, is also an alumna of RIT.

17 **Anne Gupta '07 (KGCoe)** and her husband, **Rahul Gupta '08 (KGCoe)**, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Cecilia Anne, on Oct. 30, 2015.

18 **Alexander Gartley '07 (CIAS)** and his wife, Cristin, proudly announce the birth of their first child, Callum Alexander, on Feb. 1, 2016, in Rochester.



19 Jennifer Pawluk Brodowski '07 (CIAS) and her husband, Travis, are proud to announce the birth of their son, Cason, on Oct. 11, 2015.

20 Meghan (Walsh) DeFisher '07 (CIAS) and Randall Scott DeFisher '07 (KGCOE), '15 (KGCOE) are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Brigid Louise, on March 2, 2016, in Rochester.

21 Heather (Blout) Grotke '07 (COS) and her husband, Doug, welcomed a son in October 2015, Carter Ryan Grotke. The couple also has a daughter, Carly.

22 Erin (Fredericks) Schiele '07 (CIAS), '09 (COS) and Jeremy Schiele '08 (KGCOE) are proud to announce the birth of their son, Landon, on Aug. 24, 2015, in Rochester.

23 Bharat Joshi '08 (COS) and his wife, Hetal, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Maanav, born in December 2015.

24 Deanna Stawnychy '09 (NTID), '12 (NTID) and Alex Oryshkevych welcomed their son, Maksym, on Feb. 28, 2016.

25 Patrick Grogan '11 (KGCOE) and his wife, Erin Grogan, welcomed their second child, Keira Riley, on Feb. 16. Big brother Sean Patrick was very excited to meet her.

26 Lauren (Keller) Welshans '11 (CIAS) and Nathan Welshans '11 (GCCIS) are proud to announce the birth of their son, Caleb Glenn, on Dec. 14, 2015.

27 Irma "G-Iron" (Giron) Prosser '11 (COS) and Dan Prosser '11 (KGCOE) are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Audrey, on Feb. 5, 2016.

28 Benjamin Powers '11 (SCB) and his family welcomed their fourth child, baby girl Zoë Mae Powers, in May 2015.

29 Kristie Gross '13 (CAST) welcomed a baby boy, Miles Gabriel, in December 2015.

30 Deanna Walden '13 (COS) welcomed a son, Chevy, in January 2016.

31 Floripe Padua '14 (KGCOE) and his wife, Adrianna, welcomed a baby girl, Amaya Mariana, in April 2015.

32 Dengyu Liu '16 (GAP) welcomed a son, Lucas, in February 2016.



Tiger baby bib

If you are a graduate of RIT and you have recently had a child join your family, request your free future RIT tiger baby bib at www.rit.edu/alumni/updateinfo/babybib.php.

Save the date

RIT alumni volunteers will embrace their Tiger pride and team up for an international day of community service on Sept 17.

RIT's Global Day of Service is hosted by the Alumni Association. On this one day, alumni chapters all over the globe connect with Tiger alumni through a variety of community service projects and make a difference right in their own backyards.

Last year, 260 RIT community members volunteered at 15 different sites in 12 regions around the world.

Paul Finkelstein '90 (photography illustration) volunteered at The Carling Kitchen, a free hot meal program in South Florida, preparing food and cleaning the vans for its Meals on Wheels program.

"Volunteering alongside alumni is the absolute best way to get to know them," Finkelstein said. "Going to dinner or a hockey game is great but at these projects you are able to see who really cares in your community."

This year, the community service projects planned so far will take place in Atlanta, Dallas, South Florida, Colorado, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., New York City and Rochester. Alumni also have the opportunity to create their own projects in their region by registering with the Alumni Association.

To learn more about the Global Day of Service or to register a project, go to www.rit.edu/alumni/GDS2016.

2006

Cory Hoffman '06 (KGCOE) was promoted to senior manager of Toyota's Vehicle Safety and Compliance Liaison Office.

2007



Dmitry Bekker '07 (KGCOE) started working at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. He joined the Embedded

Applications group in the Space Exploration Sector. He has worked in this field since graduation, with past employment at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the Naval Research Laboratory.

2007



Ethan Feldman '07 (GCCIS) has been working in the technology space since graduating in 2007. He worked at JW Player on a popular embeddable

media player for seven years until October 2015, when he moved to Compass, a technology-driven real estate platform. He lives in the Williamsburg neighborhood of Brooklyn, N.Y.



Christopher Cody '07 (CAST) was promoted by Erdman Anthony to associate. He is a mechanical engineer in the Facilities group. He is a registered

professional engineer in New York.

2008



Livio Ciciotti '08 (CIAS) is now a senior protein supervisor for Leprino Foods Co. in Greeley, Colo.



Jason Fox '08 (SCB) is the owner and principal engineer of Never Stop Building LLC based out of Baltimore, Md. He and his fiancée, Lauren Miner,

built a tiny house on the back of their Ford pickup truck in spring 2015 in preparation for their cross-country road trip to Burning Man. The home, which they now call the Ford Flophouse, was featured in *TruckCamper Magazine*.



Ankit Katyal '08 (COS) started pursuing his MBA full time at Manchester Business School in the UK.

This comes as a cornerstone for his professional development in his plan to gain financial, business and entrepreneurial knowledge in order to achieve his long-term goal of establishing a health care venture: Original Thinking Applied.

2009



Shane Crouse '03 (GCCIS), '09 (CLA) married Danielle Picard on Oct. 10, 2015, in Nashville, Tenn. The couple met in Rochester when Picard attended the University of Rochester as a doctoral student. The wedding was attended by several RIT alumni. Currently, both work at Vanderbilt University where they are doctoral students.



Ivanka Markov '09 (SCB), '15 (KGCOE) married Michael Neary on Dec. 8, 2015. The ceremony took place on the Island of Hawaii (Big Island) and was attended by family, friends and numerous RIT alumni.



Rachelle Danno '09 (CAST) and Lawrence Peter Latona were married on Jan. 15, 2016, in a private ceremony on Cayuga Lake. Both are from Rochester and live in Webster, N.Y. She is currently studying to become a registered nurse to fulfill her desire to give quality health care to underserved populations.

2010



Fermín A. Colón López '98 (COS), '10 (COS) formed Scholar Math and Rational Tutoring (SMART), a business specializing in providing personalized

math education. Learn more at www.scholarmathtutoring.com.

Marla Mrowka '10 (CIAS) will be attending the Rhode Island School of Design for a master's degree in interior design, adaptive reuse. After spending the past four years in New York City working at VaynerMedia, a social media agency, she is excited to be pursuing this career shift.

2011



Tyler Pugliese '11 (CLA) is currently a customer support engineer at Fastly in San Francisco. Most recently he met with RIT's MAGIC Spell Studios at the Game Developers Conference in San Francisco. He continues to enjoy RIT alumni events and works with three other graduates at his company.

Remy Glock '11 (CIAS) is currently working as a senior designer at Edelman in Chicago, a global communications marketing firm. Glock's work was entered and displayed as part of a type exhibit called "Type-force." She worked with a photographer to have photos taken of her installation process and final results of her pieces. Her theme is entitled *Deaf-icilities*.



Malory Hendel '11 (NTID) moved to Kansas and is attending Johnson County Community College in Overland Park for an administrative support specialist certificate degree. She is expecting to graduate in May 2017. She also volunteers at the Deaf Cultural Center in Olathe.



John Costik '11 (SOIS) and his wife **Laura Henderson '02 (CAST)** write that their son's life was changed by a Type 1 diabetes diagnosis, and they both found new and innovative ways to manage the challenges of the condition. By reverse engineering Evan's continuous glucose monitor, Costik was able to create a mobile, near real-time monitor for his then 4-year-old son. The Nightscout Project, an open source and freely available set of software projects, has now reached across the globe, influenced FDA regulations, and fast tracked a new generation of devices for a wider audience.

Benjamin Powers '11 (SCB) successfully defended his stage-one thesis "The impact of self-efficacy perceptions on entrepreneurial intent for people with low self-esteem and how to increase them through entrepreneurship education" in April 2015. He is currently writing his dissertation to complete the requirements for a doctorate in business administration at Grenoble École de Management in Grenoble, France.



Jamice Obiany '11 (SCB) was elected to the F.R. Bigelow Foundation Board of Trustees. Since 1946, the Bigelow Foundation,

located in St. Paul, Minn., has donated more than \$135 million to the community.

2012

Aurellys Estevez Espinal '12 (CAST) has been working for the attorney general's office on a project called "New Penitentiary Model." The project promotes human rights and rehabilitation in underdeveloped countries like the Dominican Republic.



Arianna Valentini-Huffield '09 (CAST), '10 (CIAS), '12 (CIAS) and **Nicholas Huffield '11 (GCCIS)** were married on Sept. 5, 2015. The wedding took place at Artisan-Works in Rochester and was celebrated by family and friends, including numerous RIT alumni. The couple lives in the greater New York City area.



Charlene (Hannah) Schoepp '12 (GCCIS) and **Gavin Schoepp '11 (CAST)** were married on Oct. 24, 2015. The wedding took place in Atlanta and was celebrated by family and friends, including numerous RIT alumni.



Marc Villaverde '12 (NTID) and **Ashley (Weihs) Villaverde '09 (CAST)**, '11 (NTID) were married on June 26, 2015, in Westphalia, Iowa. They live in Omaha, Neb. He works

for Midwest Laboratories as a soil analyst and she works at Iowa School for the Deaf as a high school math teacher.

2013

Kristie Gross '13 (CAST) has been an academic adviser for the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences at RIT since 2003 and accepted the assistant director of student services position in CIAS.



Joymarie Parker '13 (SOIS) celebrated the one-year anniversary of her podcast, *Joblogues*, with a skills-building improvisational brunch and workshop for 30-plus, diverse, young professionals in New York City. *Joblogues* highlights candid career conversations with young professionals every Monday and can be heard on iTunes, Acast or Soundcloud.



Michael Beare '13 (CAST), a mechanical engineer in the facilities engineering and design services core business in the Rochester

office of Erdman Anthony, has received his LEED Green Associate credential from the U.S. Green Building Council.

Alejandro Frago '13 (GCCIS) succeeded in breaking the Guinness World Record for longest TV binge-watching marathon. The new record now stands at 94 hours.

2014

Parth D. Shah '14 (CAST) was recently promoted to a quality engineer II in the new product development group at Keurig Green Mountain in Boston. He graduated with an MS in manufacturing leadership from RIT in May 2016 and was nominated to be the program delegate during commencement. He will continue his passion for higher education by pursuing a Ph.D. in engineering management from George Washington University in D.C. while growing in his full-time professional role at Keurig Green Mountain.

Robert Kahrs '14 (SCB) is part of a start-up organization called Vice-Price, a mobile responsive website designed to help people discover the closest happy hours near them in Washington, D.C., and what deals are available. For more information, go to viceprice.co.



Celia Garland '14 (CIAS) is employed by the Corning Museum of Glass, Blow Glass at Sea program. This has taken her around the world and exposed her to endless sources of inspiration, while allowing her to continue blowing glass and sharing her passion for glass with the wider world.

2015

Mark Logan '15 (CIAS) has been with the talent agency ICM Partners in Los Angeles for nine months. He works as an assistant to a senior talent agent and is making his way into the entertainment business.



Jena DiGiovanni-Hersh '14 (NTID), '15 (CLA) has a passion for traveling the world. After returning to the States, she immediately landed a job with a law firm as a legal assistant in Jupiter, Fla.

Dina "Dee Dee" Johnson '15 (CHST) accepted a clinical research associate position through Rochester Regional Health Systems.



Hardik Shah '15 (GCCIS) completed one successful year at BlackRock Inc.

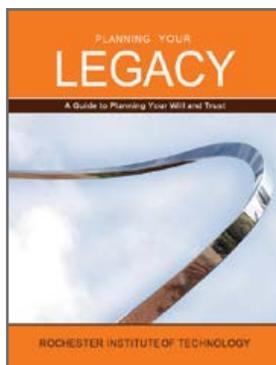
Are you moving?

If your address changes, you can make sure you continue to receive *The University Magazine* by reporting your new address to the Office of Alumni Relations. Send an email to ritalum@rit.edu or call the office toll free at 866-748-2586.

Alumni can also keep in touch through the Online Community. Go to www.rit.edu/alumni.

Have you thought about the future?

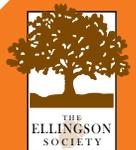
- Having a Will is the essential first step in securing your family's future. Creating a plan is easy with the step-by-step *Guide to Planning Your Will and Trust*.



For more information and to get your complimentary *Guide to Planning Your Will and Trust*, please visit rit.edu/FreeWillsGuide.

Take the first step toward creating your plan.

**It's more than a donation.
It's your legacy.**



Alumni

- 1936**
Florence (Armstrong) Field '36 (FAA), May 29, 2016, at the age of 100
- 1939**
Harold W. Keenahan '39 (COS), April 13, 2016
- 1942**
Martin L. Suter '42 (KGCOE), Jan. 18, 2016
- 1943**
Gordon J. McCarthy '43 (COS), Jan. 10, 2016
- 1945**
David McGranaghan '45 (COS), March 25, 2016
- 1946**
Barbara (Wood) Martin '46 (SCB), April 11, 2016
- 1947**
D. Carl Yackel '47 (COS), Jan. 22, 2016
John Dipaola '47 (FAA), Feb. 26, 2016
Herman J. Walz Sr. '47 (CCE), March 8, 2016
Joseph J. Delello Sr. '47 (SCB), April 5, 2016
- 1948**
Daniel J. Lawrence '48 (GAP), Jan. 11, 2016
Robert E. Chan '48 (GAP), March 3, 2016
- 1949**
Phillips Joseph Butler '49 (GAP), Jan. 22, 2016
Kenneth W. Moore '49 (KGCOE), Jan. 28, 2016
Leona S. Woodward '49 (CCE), Jan. 29, 2016
Lois (Bloodgood) Coulter '49 (SCB), Feb. 25, 2016
- 1950**
Sally (Rossi) Lanzi '50 (SCB), Jan. 26, 2016
Sallie (Miller) Arpag '50 (SCB), Jan. 28, 2016
Jerome C. Hanss '50 (KGCOE), Feb. 23, 2016
Carl N. Heuer '50 (CCE), March 10, 2016
David F. Phillips '50 (KGCOE), March 10, 2016
- 1952**
Frederick J. Heier '52 (CCE), April 4, 2016
Leonard M. Wurzer '52 (COS), March 28, 2016
- 1953**
Roger D. Haich '53 (KGCOE), Jan. 23, 2016
Ilic V. Genovese '53 (CCE), Jan. 28, 2016
Walter Litolff '53 (GAP), March 9, 2016
Dorothy B. Doyle '53 (FAA), April 7, 2016
- 1955**
Victor P. Messana '55 (KGCOE), Jan. 12, 2016
Frank A. Braun '55 (CCE), April 10, 2016
- 1956**
Chapell Peake '56 (CCE), Jan. 22, 2016
- 1957**
Frank J. Germain '57 (KGCOE), Jan. 16, 2016
Donald Brown '57 (CCE), March 19, 2016
James Thomas McCue '57 (SCB), Feb. 22, 2016
- 1958**
Peter E. Bondi '58 (SCB), Jan. 19, 2016
Robert E. Richards '58 (GAP), March 6, 2016
Robert P. Borrelli '58 (KGCOE), March 16, 2016
Robert P. Lehmann '58 (KGCOE), March 11, 2016
- 1959**
Robert J. Wahl '59 (SCB), Jan. 9, 2016
Keith H. Berry '59 (KGCOE), March 13, 2016
Charles F. Weekes '59 (CCE), Feb. 25, 2016
William J. Moran Jr. '59 (CCE), March 24, 2016
Theodore A. Broekhuizen '59 (KGCOE), April 8, 2016
- 1960**
Gordon Woodhams '60 (COS), Jan. 30, 2016
Vaidevutis Draugelis '60 (KGCOE), Feb. 21, 2016
Joseph R. Magner '60 (CCE), March 4, 2016
Richard F. Uebelacker '60 (CCE), Feb. 28, 2016
Suzanne Steiner '60 (FAA), March 3, 2016
Joseph J. Lacagnina '60 (SCB), April 3, 2016
- 1961**
Donald W. Spaker '61 (CCE), Feb. 2, 2016
Kenneth M. Johnson '61 (KGCOE), March 8, 2016
Erwin J. Ostertag '61 (CCE), April 6, 2016
- 1962**
Gabriel J. Milonni '62 (CCE), Jan. 20, 2016
Paul Martel '62 (CCE), Jan. 21, 2016
Donald E. Manges '62 (COS), April 14, 2016
- 1963**
Donald R. Bernhart '63 (CCE), March 23, 2016
- 1964**
William B. Mulroy '64 (CCE), Jan. 11, 2016
Richard C. Albertine '64 (GAP), '70 (GAP), March 23, 2016
Victor T. Magone '64 (CCE), March 6, 2016
- 1965**
James J. Powell '65 (CCE), Feb. 16, 2016
Vincent S. Fowler '65 (SCB), March 2, 2016
Irvin (Kaz) J. Kazmierczak '65 (CCE), March 14, 2016
Robert J. Dietrich '65 (KGCOE), March 25, 2016
- 1966**
Gerald H. DeGroot '66 (CCE), March 10, 2016
- 1967**
Geraldine (Degrazia) Papero '67 (CCE), '76 (CCE), Feb. 14, 2016
Roger L. Maxon '67 (CCE), April 1, 2016
- 1968**
Bruce D. Miles '68 (CCE), Jan. 23, 2016
Robert Bruce Smith '68 (GAP), Jan. 20, 2016
Augie J. Tantalio '68 (CCE), March 3, 2016
- 1969**
Gary E. Goodridge '69 (CCE), March 9, 2016
- 1970**
James R. McFarland '70 (SCB), Feb. 19, 2016
Myron W. Berry '70 (FAA), March 10, 2016
- 1971**
James D. German '71 (SCB), Feb. 10, 2016
Albert Hauck '71 (CCE), March 20, 2016
- 1972**
Harold E. Wagner '72 (CCE), Feb. 12, 2016
Lawrence R. Holland '72 (CCE), Feb. 15, 2016
Robert D. Flynn '72 (SCB), March 31, 2016
James J. McKeown '72 (CCE), April 1, 2016
- 1973**
William G. Yeager '73 (CCE), March 18, 2016
Richard Carl Boyd '73 (KGCOE), March 29, 2016
Mark Scheinholz '73 (SCB), May 26, 2015
- 1974**
Thomas F. Huntington '74 (KGCOE), Feb. 10, 2016
Stephen C. Beck '74 (KGCOE), Feb. 16, 2016
Harry M. Habets '74 (SCB), March 21, 2016
- 1975**
Humberto N. Luis Jr. '75 (GAP), Jan. 4, 2016
Joan S. Green '75 (CCE), Jan. 25, 2016
- 1976**
Victor W. Unczur '76 (KGCOE), Jan. 17, 2016
Barry W. Ogden '76 (SCB), March 19, 2016
- 1977**
Gilbreath B. Zealey '77 (SCB), Feb. 7, 2016
Helen A. Strem Krzan '77 (CCE), March 7, 2016
- 1978**
Joan Bawden '78 (SCB), Jan. 5, 2016
Debra (Davanzo) Tiagwad '78 (SCB), Jan. 13, 2016
Kenton E. Johnson '78 (CCE), Jan. 14, 2016
Anthony Colangelo '78 (KGCOE), '81 (KGCOE), Jan. 29, 2016
James Glading '78 (CAST), Feb. 26, 2016
- 1980**
Ronald Paul Hotte '80 (SCB), Jan. 27, 2016
Pamela B. Cole '80 (CLA), April 8, 2016
- 1981**
Robert Leland Everts '81 (CCE), Jan. 21, 2016
David John Pickett '81 (CAST), Jan. 30, 2016
David Charles Stigora '81 (CAST), March 30, 2016
William F. Perkins '81 (CAST), April 1, 2016
- 1982**
Eva G. Hauck '82 (CCE), Feb. 5, 2016
John Martin Scherberger '82 (CAST), April 5, 2016
- 1983**
John Michael Isselhard '83 (SCB), Feb. 17, 2016
Virginia Kirtland '83 (FAA), '87 (CCE), '92 (CAST), March 9, 2016
- 1984**
Susan Ginley '84 (FAA), Jan. 6, 2016
Barrie J. Oukes '84 (CCE), Feb. 19, 2016
- 1986**
James O. Ards Jr. '86 (CCE), March 2, 2016
- 1987**
David Weldon Hagan '87 (CAST), March 15, 2016
- 1990**
Terry P. Guy '90 (CAST), March 14, 2016
Michael Alan Rogoff '90 (CCE), March 10, 2016
- 1991**
Cindy A. (Hammond) Meyer '91 (GAP), Feb. 4, 2016
- 1992**
Daniel Alan Plumeau '92 (CCE), Jan. 17, 2016
- 1996**
Michael A. Nelson '96 (KGCOE), Feb. 4, 2016
- 1997**
Stuart L. Perry '97 (CAST), March 18, 2016
- 1999**
Jacob P. Herman '99 (COS), Jan. 19, 2016
Annamarie Del Forte '99 (CIAS), Jan. 18, 2016
- 2001**
Crystal K. Ferrell '01 (NTID), Jan. 26, 2016
- 2007**
Grady S. De Foore '07 (CIAS), Jan. 20, 2016

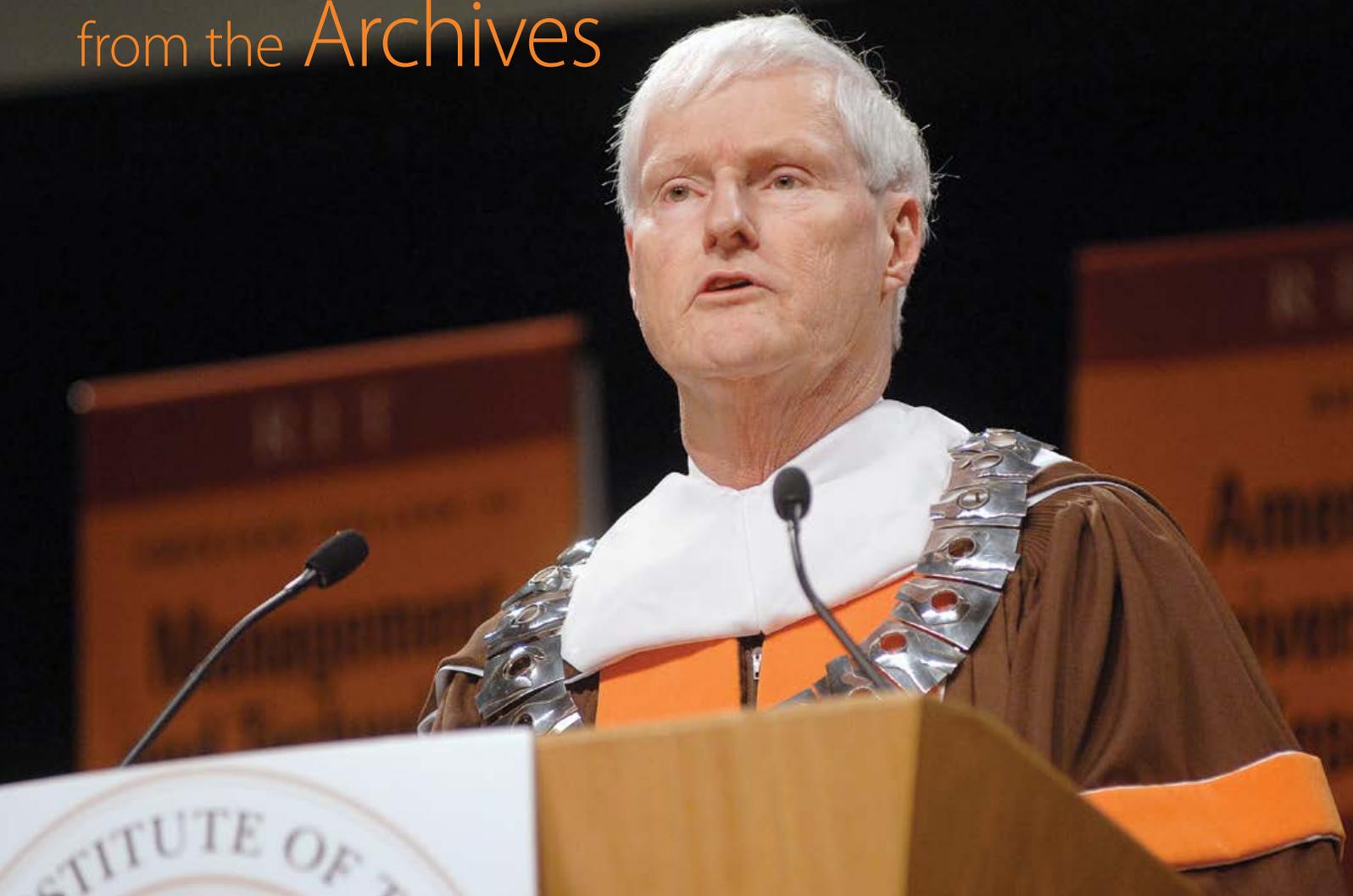
Faculty and staff

- Burton August**, trustee emeritus, March 18, 2016
- Bill Larsen**, professor emeritus in CAST's civil engineering technology/environmental management and safety department, April 13, 2016
- Ann Mowris Mulligan**, trustee emeritus, April 23, 2016
- William (Bill) Walence**, retired professor of Health Administration, June 21, 2016



No. 13, August 2016

RIT (USPS-676-870) is published 17 times annually by Rochester Institute of Technology, One Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, N.Y. 14623-5603, once in March, four times in June, twice in July, six times in August, once in September, twice in October, and once in November. Periodicals postage paid at Rochester, N.Y. 14623-5603 and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to RIT, Rochester Institute of Technology, One Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, N.Y. 14623-5603.



William Destler announced that he will retire at the end of the 2016-2017 academic year. He was installed as RIT's ninth president in 2007.

Photo by A. Sue Weisler

2007 | President Destler's inauguration

William Destler was installed as RIT's ninth president on Nov. 9, 2007, at a ceremony in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center.

More than 4,000 spectators, including more than 40 college and university leaders from throughout the nation, attended the event.

Cornell University President David J. Skorton served as the keynote speaker at the inauguration and praised Destler's vision for RIT's future.

"Bill Destler is a superb choice for the presidency of Rochester Institute of Technology," Skorton said. "He is a 'Category of One' president equal to the task of making RIT the 'Category of One' university it is poised

to be. He brings to this new role extensive experience in higher education, profound commitment to the future of this institution, and a cluster of ideas for RIT's future that are sound, far-sighted and indeed essential."

Destler was officially installed as president by Michael Morley '69 (business administration), chairman of the RIT Board of Trustees; Christine Whitman, vice chair; and Donald Boyce '67 (business administration), chair of the presidential search committee.

Skorton described Destler, who earned a Ph.D. from Cornell in the field of applied physics, as a "distinguished researcher, educational innovator, seasoned and effective administrator, and generous adviser." His speech touched on Destler's commitment to

innovation, diversity, a greater cooperation with industry on research and development, and greater interdisciplinary cooperation within the university to solve complex global problems.

In his inaugural address, Destler encouraged the RIT community to take the university to the next level by capitalizing on its unusual strengths, including the "creative juices" of the student body.

"How do we encourage the development of their minds, their hearts, and their souls in such a way that we ensure that the next generation of humans can grow and flourish on this planet? As we work to make RIT a real 'innovation university,' we will have to come up with good answers," Destler said.