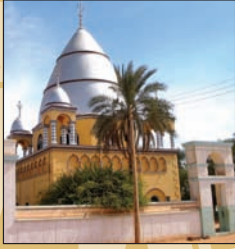


World at RIC:
Sudan

Page 11



What's happening
around the campus

back page



WHAT'S NEWS @

Rhode Island College

Vol. 27 Issue 5
January 29, 2007

Established in 1980 Circulation over 52,000

No. 3, 1960-66:

An overlooked art treasure
on campus. See story – page 10



RIC faculty members on winning teams for state research funding

Rhode Island College educator/scientists are among the recipients of \$1.5 million in research awards for collaborative science projects, the state Science and Technology Advisory Council (STAC) announced last month.

They are in the first round of teams to receive funding through STAC's Research Alliance Collaborative Research Award program. The awards will provide support to 32 scientists from 15 research organizations across Rhode Island.

The program is part of an effort to grow research and development capacity in the state, address critical problems of Rhode Islanders and spur economic development.

Among the winners of this new competitive award program are academic and industry scientists pursuing projects in medicine, engineering, chemistry, biology, oceanography and environmental science.

Priority was given to high-impact projects that are collaborative across Rhode Island institutions and well positioned to receive follow-on funding, particularly from federal agencies. Those with significant technology development and commercialization potential were also encouraged.

Collaboration "creates a powerful platform for maximizing the state's investment in research, strengthening Rhode Island's ability to compete for federal funding, and supporting new company creation and job growth," said Gov. Donald L. Carcieri in a release.

Applications for research awards were evaluated by peer reviewers – scientific experts familiar with a proposal's area of focus – and a subcommittee of STAC members appointed by organization co-chairs Jeff Seemann and Clyde Briant.

Continued on page 9

Suspense, drama onstage at RIC



Twelve Angry Women

February 21-25

Twelve jurors – all women – deliberate the fate of a young man accused of murder. For the story on this exciting RIC Theatre presentation, turn to page 15.

WN Quotes...

"Parents need to be more aware of the impact of media on their children's health behavior."

– David Sugarman, professor of psychology, who is a co-author of a report indicating children are more than twice as likely to begin using tobacco when exposed to the substance through media and marketing. [P 3]

"An exultant columnar piece, the flat plates billow insofar as their weight and the stance-like composition permit..."

– The late architectural historian William H. Jordy in a RISD exhibition catalog essay, describing Joseph Goto's sculpture No. 3, 1960-66. The abstract steel structure is located near the Art Center on the RIC campus. [P 10]

"Our goal is to create a statewide community that is more educated, involved and celebrant of music in our schools."

– Jonathan D'Amico, president of the RIC College Music Educators, which helps young students learn about music, especially in schools where budget cuts have eliminated music classes and band programs. [P 14]

In Memoriam – Ridgway F. Shinn, Jr.



- *Professor emeritus of history after 29 years teaching at RIC*
- *Founder of the Shinn Study Abroad Fund*
- *Former vice president for academic affairs*
- *First dean of Faculty of Arts and Sciences*
- *First chair of the history dept.*

Ridgway F. Shinn, Jr., who served in several prominent roles at RIC during a period of major expansion for the College, died Dec. 14 at the age of 84.

Known to many as "Ridge," Shinn had a 48-year association with the College. From 1958-87, he was on the RIC faculty, arriving shortly after the College moved to its present Mt. Pleasant Avenue location. He began as an associate professor of history (1958-63), then was promoted to full professor (1963). He was the first chairman of the history dept. (1961-65), first dean of what is now the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (1966-74) and vice president for Academic Affairs (1974-77).

Shinn reached professor emeritus status in 1987.

"Ridgway Shinn has been a friend, a colleague, and a mentor of mine for almost 50 years," said RIC President John Nazarian. "His contributions to the development of the College have been invaluable, and his commitment has continued in all the years since his retirement as a member of the active faculty. I will miss him, the College will miss him, and the students will miss him."

Perhaps his lasting legacy to the College will be the Ridgway F. Shinn, Jr. Study Abroad Fund, created in 1987 by Shinn and his wife, Clarice, with the support of friends, colleagues and former students.

The program allows academically eligible RIC undergrads who have completed 30 semester hours to apply for grants for up to 24 months abroad.

Over the years, 46 RIC students have received over \$130,000 to study in 21 countries on six continents.

"I have always believed that study outside the United States enhances perceptions of self and of culture," said Shinn at the time the fund was established. "We need persons who, out of direct experience, are sensitive to the infinite richness to be found in the varieties of humankind."

Nazarian said that Shinn's support for students seeking to study abroad "has had and will continue to have a very positive effect on educational opportunities at Rhode Island College."

In the 1960s, Shinn served as director of the Providence Social Studies Curriculum Project, a federally funded educational research study conducted by RIC and Providence Public Schools.

Shinn was one of the finalists to become president of RIC in 1977. David Sweet was appointed to the post.

A 1987 citation for distinguished service at RIC, lauds Shinn for "his founding and leadership of the New England Historical Association, his interest in Canadian studies and commitment to a fund for student foreign travel, his interest in the Boy Scouts of America, municipal tax revaluation, and church affairs."

Beginning in 2004, Shinn created and edited the *What's News* column "The World at RIC," which features travel essays from members of the RIC community.

He was a longtime parishioner of the Mathewson Street United Methodist Church, and involved in United Methodist Elder Care.

A resident of Johnston, he was active in many community organizations including the Rhode Island State Council of Churches, the local affiliate of the American Heart Association, and the Elizabeth J. Johnson History Research Society, among others.

"We need persons who, out of direct experience, are sensitive to the infinite richness to be found in the varieties of humankind."

RIDGWAY SHINN, in 1987, in establishing the Shinn Study Abroad Fund granting scholarships for RIC students to live and study outside the U.S.

Over his career, Shinn was a member of the American Historical Association, New England Historical Association, North American Conference on British Studies, Rhode Island Historical Society, and Rhode Island Social Studies Association.

An accomplished musician, he served as an church organist and performed chamber music and solo recitals.

Shinn was born in Waterbury, Conn., and graduated from Crosby High School in that city in 1940. He earned an AB from Oberlin College in 1943, an AM from Columbia University in 1944, and a PhD from Columbia in 1948, all in history.

Prior to RIC, he taught at Litchfield High School in Connecticut, Vienna Dependents High School in Austria, Reedley College in California, and Mamaroneck Junior High School in New York.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Clarice Wagner Shinn '67, and five children, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions can be sent to the Shinn Study Abroad Fund at RIC Foundation, RIC Development Office, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908, or Mathewson Street UM Church, 134 Mathewson St., Providence, RI 02903.

A RIC memorial service for Ridgway Shinn will be held Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 4 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center. A reception will follow.

WHAT'S NEWS @ Rhode Island College

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**The next issue of
What's News
will be February 26, 2007**

**Story ideas are welcome.
Call 401-456-8090
or email rmartin@ric.edu.**

Lecture highlights humanitarian efforts of Save the Children

The talk, given in November, was sponsored by an International Non-Governmental Organizations Studies Program grant. Co-directors of the program at RIC are faculty members Gale Goodwin Gomez and Peter Mendy.



BY ANDREA DILL '07

By attending Frosina Panovska's lecture, "The Impact of Global Humanitarian Emergencies on Children: The Role of International Non-Governmental Organizations," presented last November at RIC, I learned not only about her organization, Save the Children USA, but was also struck by the devastating situations that many children in the world face today.

Panovska became involved with Save the Children USA in 2005 and has since worked with many communities worldwide in dealing with such disasters as the Asian tsunami, Hurricane Stan, the Pakistan earthquake, the Horn of Africa drought and the Darfur crisis. Her interest in humanitarian issues stems from her own experiences in her home country of Macedonia, where she witnessed many humanitarian crises first-hand.

Save the Children has no religious or political affiliations, and helps communities throughout the world with such issues as healthcare, education, economic opportunities, emergencies, malnutrition and hunger. Recently, there has been an influx of emergency situations throughout the world and Save the Children increased their efforts in providing strategies and durable solutions that will help these communities deal with the crises in the long-term.

During the tsunami disaster, Save the Children provided food/non-food aid, education training, school buildings and play areas for children in places such as Banda Aceh, which experienced severe devastation. Such measures facilitated community participation in which children, in particular, could come together and talk about their experiences. Similar measures were taken in Guatemala, which was devastated by Hurricane Stan, and Pakistan, which was ravaged by a terrible earthquake.

Other emergencies have also been acknowledged by Save the Children, such as the drought in the Horn of Africa that has severely affected Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya. The organization has assisted with drilling water holes, digging hand pipes, providing vaccines for livestock, and storing drought-resistant seeds. Specifically, Save the Children has tried to target children under five years old, who are especially at risk during and following emergency situations.



FROSINA PANOVSKA

In response to the Darfur conflict, Save the Children has assisted by providing relief to 500,000 people each month in the form of food, water, health and education. They have opened 21 clinics to deal with many basic healthcare needs. By building schools and safe play areas, children are protected from military and sexual violence, can express their feelings, receive support from elders and develop a better overall understanding of the events they are going through.

While Panovska's interest in humanitarian issues is obvious, she appears to be particularly drawn to needy children, who are most vulnerable in times of crisis.

Attending this lecture made it clear how much good NGOs can provide to needy communities during times of great instability. By working with the communities and building long-term, durable solutions, organizations like this may be able to lay the ground work and strengthen the infrastructure needed by these communities in order to prosper.

Another International Non-Governmental Organizations project, *Carnival of Cultures at RIC*, will be held Feb. 22 (see listing on page 17).

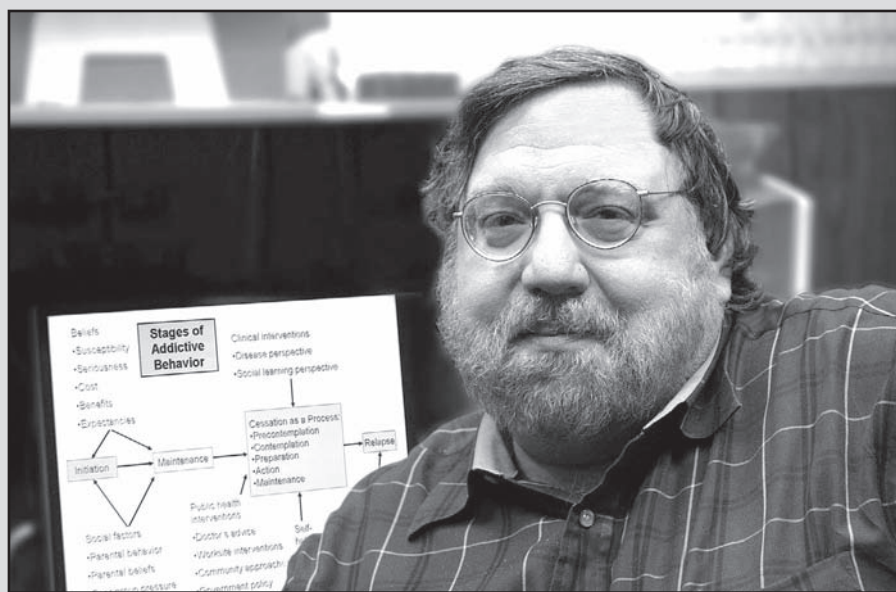
RIC professor co-authors study showing media, marketing major factors in children taking up smoking

David Sugarman, RIC professor of psychology, is a co-author of a new report that indicates youngsters are more than twice as likely to begin using tobacco when exposed to the substance through media and marketing.

According to the report, of the approximately 1.4 million children under the age 18 who begin smoking each year, half do so because they are exposed to depictions of the habit in films and videos, and through pro-tobacco messages in advertisements and promotions.

"Even though tobacco companies have been prohibited from advertising via major media outlets such as television and radio, their message is being heard by the youth of the country," said Sugarman.

The review of scientific literature points to "a significant relationship between exposure to tobacco marketing and tobacco use in film and the smoking attitudes and behaviors of children and adolescents," added Sugarman.



DAVID SUGARMAN

The report also calls for a ban on all tobacco promotions to "protect children."

"Parents need to be more aware of the impact of media on their children's health behavior," said Sugarman. "Policy makers need to eliminate all tobacco promotions especially any marketing strategy that can directly or indirectly impact the more vulnerable youth segment of our population."

The report, published in the December 2006 issue of *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, has received national attention. CBS

News, *Forbes*, Reuters, *The Boston Globe* and the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* are among those who have highlighted results of the study.

In addition to Rhode Island College, author affiliations include the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Fitchburg State College and Massachusetts General Hospital.

Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine is published monthly by the American Medical Association.

NEWS FROM THE Foundation & Alumni Offices



BY PEG BROWN

*Vice President,
Development and College Relations*



As the College prepares for the beginning of the second semester, I have some sad news to share. In one week, the Foundation and Alumni Association lost three members of their family.

On Jan. 15, William R. O'Brien M '62, honored by the Rhode Island College Foundation as a partner in philanthropy together with his wife, Olga M. Lusi O'Brien '45, died after a brief illness. Beginning with a gift based on the sale of their boat, the *One Way*, Olga and Bill have given additional gifts of appreciate securities to fund the Olga M. Lusi O'Brien '45 Endowed Scholarship in Elementary Education, an



OLGA AND BILL O'BRIEN

annual scholarship awarded to a full-time student in elementary education, who is a resident of Rhode Island, demonstrates financial need, and has at least a 3.2 GPA at the time of application for the scholarship.

Kelly Hersey, the 2006/07 recipient of the O'Brien Scholarship, said in her thank you letter, "By awarding me the Olga M. Lusi O'Brien '45 Scholarship, you have not only lightened my financial burden, but you have also inspired me to help others and to give back to my community. I hope that one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me achieve mine."

There can be no more fitting testimony to Bill and Olga's gifts to the community.



ANNA VERONICA SMITH

On Jan. 12, Anna Veronica Smith, member of the Class of 1933, who also earned her master's from the College in 1967, passed away. Mrs. Smith, a math teacher in Cumberland schools until her retirement in 1976, was the mother of Foundation board member John J. Smith, Jr. '63. Together, the Smiths have dedicated over six decades to public education, and have both been honored for their service and commitment to Rhode Island students.

Upon her retirement, Mrs. Smith was honored by the Cumberland School Committee as a "master teacher whose philosophy permeated her classroom, leaving an indelible mark on the educational history of the Town of Cumberland" – a legacy John carried out throughout his teaching and administrative career. As part of his ongoing commitment to the students of tomorrow, John has established an endowed scholarship fund in the Rhode Island College Foundation to support aspiring teachers who reflect the values of both John and his mother.



DORIS BETTEZ

Doris Bettez, member of the Class of 1942, also spent over three decades as a teacher and administrator, first in West Warwick, then in Warwick. Her death on Jan. 10 was a shock to all who knew a Doris who swam every day, was actively involved in her church, traveled whenever she could, spent several months each year in Florida, and kept a group of retired teachers together through regularly scheduled gatherings and communications.

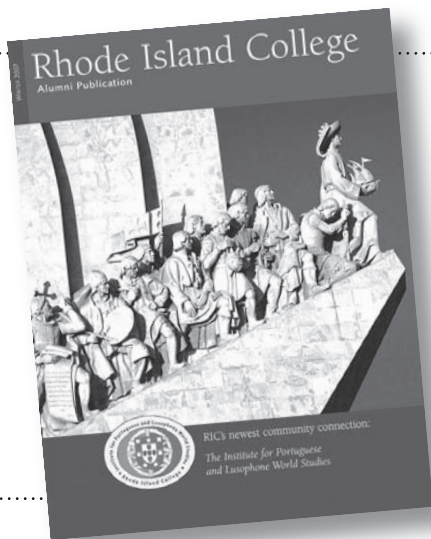
Doris was a trendsetter in so many ways, and led by example in giving back to her community and to the College. Over her lifetime, Doris established many charitable gift annuities with her favorite charities, including the College. In an *Alumni Magazine* article, Doris said, "Frankly, with my background in taxes, I was looking for a way to reduce my tax liability while generating income for the rest of my life. A charitable gift annuity is a wonderful option for single individuals or for couples with the same goals. The income generated by my gifts provides steady income that I can always count on. It provides the extras in life."

Doris directed that upon her death, her gift annuities be used to establish an endowed scholarship for a student on his or her way to becoming a teacher. "I want to provide support for someone who is perhaps the first in his or her family to have a chance to attend college," she said.

As a result of Doris' planning and generosity, the Doris M. Bettez '42 Endowed Scholarship will ensure that her legacy will be carried forward in perpetuity.

The College community salutes these alumni and friends who did so much for their communities during their lives, and whose gifts will carry their commitment to the College and the community long into the future.

RIC Alumni Magazine is now available online @ www.ric.edu



RIC After Five A Networking Event for Alumni

*Napa Valley Grille
at Providence Place
Wednesday, February 28, 2007
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.*



Meet, mingle and network with graduates in communications, management, finance, small businesses and large companies. Help us launch our first in a series of networking events offering opportunities for all alumni to meet with established leaders as well as young professionals.

Reservations are \$10 per person for those who register by Monday, Feb. 26, and \$15 at the door.

To register, please mail your check, to the Alumni Office, made payable to the RIC Alumni Association. To charge your VISA or MasterCard, contact us by phone 401-456-8086 or e-mail alumni@ric.edu.

Questions? Please contact Shana Murrell 401-456-9625.

Author, educator Martin Norden to discuss movie portrayals of physical disabilities

Martin Norden, the author of the widely cited book, *The Cinema of Isolation: A History of Physical Disability in the Movies*, will provide a multimedia presentation on the topic on Friday, Feb. 16, from 12:30-2 p.m. in Donovan Faculty Dining Room (south).

Norden, a professor of communication at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, will feature clips from many different films and discuss how to collect and effectively use this type of media. This Dialogue on Diversity event is free and open to all. For more information, contact Elizabeth Rowell at 401-456-8563 or erowell@ric.edu.

Planning to Revise Your Will?
Letting us know if you intend to include Rhode Island College as part of your estate planning helps ensure that your gift supports your interests at the College. Please contact the Rhode Island College Foundation at 401-456-8105.
 Thank you.

BY ANTHONY REBELLO
Staff Writer

Making a feature-length film takes a lot of time, effort and dedication. Ask any filmmaker, especially those who produce big-budget Hollywood movies. Most take months, maybe years to shoot, edit and distribute to the public.

Now, shorten that process to one weekend. That was what Providence film teams were required to do for the 48 Hour Film Project that took place from July 14-16, 2006. RIC alumni and students participated in the project, and took home awards that speak to their talents.

The 48 Hour Film Project began in May 2001, when Washington, D.C.-based filmmakers Mark Ruppert and Liz Langston came up with an idea: Could filmmakers, write, shoot, edit and complete a film in 48 hours, and would it be enjoyable? The answer was yes, and five years later, the film project has toured through 100 cities across the country, and various cities around the world.

This was the first time that the project visited the renaissance city, and Providence film teams worked through the weekend, endured late nights, and proved that passion, dedication to their work, along with a lot of adrenaline, can create movie magic.

Although none of the teams in which RIC students participated won the best film award, two RIC teams took home the Judge's Honorable Mention Award (Fork You Films, Nu Direction Pictures), and one team, lead by RIC alumni David Zapatka '81 (JFC Films) won awards for the Most Authentic Li'l Rhody film, Best Use of Genre, Best Film Runner-Up, and the Audience

Award for Group B in the competition. Zapatka's film, *The Big Q*, was about a giant monster clam that terrified the people of Narragansett. Its quirky plot proved to be a delight to both the audience and judges at the competition.

"It was preparation, preparation, preparation for the JFC Films crew," Zapatka said. "We wanted to make the best film possible within the shortest time and we think we did."

Jean-Baptiste Sankara '07, a RIC film studies major and videographer for Fork You Films' presentation of *Gazumping*, found his experience to be challenging, yet inspiring.

"The funny thing is when I look at the piece that we made in 48 hours, I hate it because there are so many little things that we could have fixed if we had time," Sankara said. "But, I say to myself that it's part of the learning process."

Sankara also gave credit to the communications department at RIC, saying that his experience at the College, in which most of his classes consisted of 15-20 students, allow the professors to "talk to students about their needs and concerns. That's an advantage that all students at this institution should be proud of."

The 48 Hour Film Project is scheduled to return to Providence in July, and when it does, Providence area teams will be hard at work behind, in front of, and off camera, making enjoyable films within the given time constraints.

For more information on the 48 Hour Film Project, or to order a Best of Providence DVD that showcases all of this past year's entries, visit 48hourfilm.com/providence.



The 48 Hour Film Project
RIC alumni and students participate in film fest in Providence



BRICK CAMPAIGN RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Pay tribute to someone special with the gift of a brick in the Rhode Island College Legacy Walk. Bricks @ \$150 each are 4" x 8" and Pavers @ \$300 each are 8" x 8."

Order online at www.ric.edu or contact Nancy Hoogasian at 401-456-8827.

You and those you honor will receive a special Legacy Walk Certificate of Appreciation.

Partial proceeds benefit programs of the Alumni Association and Intercollegiate Athletics

ORDER FORM

Yes! I want to order: _____ Brick(s) @ \$150 each _____ Paver(s) @ \$300 each

Size dimensions are: Brick 4" x 8" Paver 8" x 8"

Please check one. I want the charitable gift portion (87%) of the purchase price to benefit:

Alumni Association Athletics

Check for \$ _____ enclosed, made payable to: Alumni Association or RIC Athletics

I prefer to charge: _____ MasterCard _____ VISA

CARD # _____ EXP DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

NAME: _____ CLASS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Please print information as you want it to appear. One character, symbol per block and leave an empty block for space between words. We recommend only one name or family name per brick or paver. Please indicate your class year. Example: John Jones '98, All-American. Clip and send this form to RIC Brick Campaign, Kauffman Center, 600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908.

BRICK - 3 lines, 18 characters per line including spaces and punctuation

PAVER - 6 lines, 18 characters per line including spaces and punctuation

Circle one: This BRICK/PAVER is In honor of In memory of
 Please send gift card to:

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please note: If you would like to purchase multiple bricks and/or pavers, please photocopy this form. RIC reserves the right to edit messages or punctuation to comply with engraving guidelines. If you have questions, please call 401-456-8827. Thank you!

RIC Athletic News

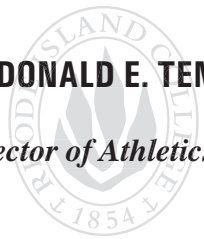


FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S DESK



BY DONALD E. TENCHER

Director of Athletics



- You can now view men's and women's home basketball games no matter where you are in the world. The athletic dept. began videocasting men's and women's basketball games last month. Previously you could only hear men's and women's basketball games; now you can see them as well. Accessing the games is easy to do (see accompanying information), and it is our hope to expand it to other sports in the near future.

- Congratulations to the men's basketball team which as of this writing is ranked 22nd in the country. The men will be hosting Amherst College, currently ranked second in the country, on Jan. 30.

- Over the past few weeks, two basketball players achieved the 1,000-point plateau. Men's player Kinsey Durgin scored his 1,000th point Jan. 4 versus Bridgewater State. Women's player Kari Geisler scored her 1,000th versus Pine Manor College on Jan. 11. Congratulations!

- Congratulations to wrestler Mike Bonora, who has a 14-match winning streak.

- Winterfest 2007 is a new concept that will be initiated the weekend of Feb. 3 and 4. It is our hope that this year's event will lead to a bigger festival in the future. All events are free for our constituents (alumni, students, staff, friends). This year's activities have been slightly hampered by the lack of snow but there will still be plenty of action (see accompanying information).

- I would like to thank everyone who has donated to the Mark Fullam '60 Fund honoring the RIC hall of famer who passed away at the end of 2006. Donations are still being accepted and there will be a dedication in Mark's name at this year's homecoming.

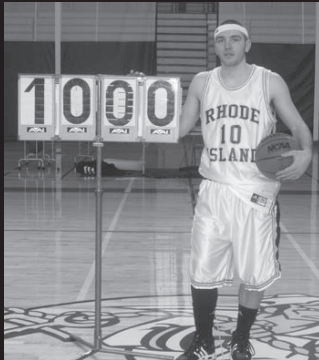
- A first will take place on Sunday, Feb. 4. As part of Winterfest 2007 weekend, the gymnastics teams from the University of Rhode Island and Brown University will visit Rhode Island College for a meet showcasing two Division I programs and a Division III program. It's Super Bowl weekend, but the meet will be done long before kick-off, so come out and support these three Rhode Island teams.

- Congratulations to RIC President Nazarian who has just been reappointed to the NCAA President's Cabinet, a critical appointment as the NCAA contemplates the future of Division III.

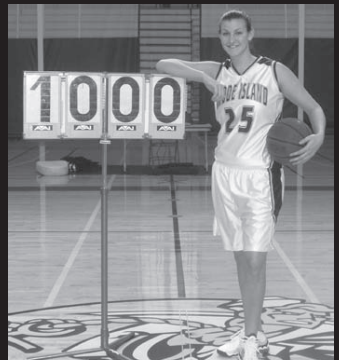
- Our get-well wishes go out to former URI basketball coach, Johnson & Wales athletic director, and overall good guy, Tom Carmody, who is recuperating from illness. Get well soon coach!

- Lastly, congratulations to the 2006 women's softball team, which was selected as the Rhode Island Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women's Athletic Achievement Award recipients for this year.

1,000 POINT CLUB



Kinsey Durgin of the men's basketball team netted his 1,000th career point in the Anchormen's win over Bridgewater State on Jan. 4.



Kari Geisler of the women's basketball team accomplished the same feat seven days later in a RIC victory at Pine Manor.

TO ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI, STAFF AND FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE

2007 WINTERFEST



WHAT IS WINTERFEST 2007?

Winterfest 2007 is a new event at Rhode Island College sponsored by the Dept. of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation and intended for students, alumni, faculty/staff, family of students and friends of the College. All events are FREE to those groups. It is our hope that over time Winterfest will become a "Winter Homecoming."

HOW DO I REGISTER FOR EVENTS?

Although people are encouraged to register if they plan on attending an event (in particular the hot dog roast and ice skating), pre-registration is not required for participation. If you plan on attending one of the athletic events and are a member of the Rhode Island College athletic family, please identify your affiliation at the ticket booth for complimentary admission.

IMPORTANT FACTS

- All events will take place sun or snow; rain will curtail the outdoor events.
- Except for ice-skating, all events will be held at or in front of The Murray Center.
- Ice skating will take place at the Bank of America Center in downtown Providence from 6 to 10 p.m. To get complimentary access to the ice, including skate rental, you must visit the Rhode Island College registration table at the entrance to the center. A heated hospitality tent will be available with refreshments for attendees from 7 to 9 p.m.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

- 11:00 a.m. Horse-Drawn Hay Rides Around Campus
- 11:30 a.m. Ice Sculpturing Demonstration (weather permitting)
- Noon Hot Dog Roast
- 12:30 p.m. Frisbee Golf
- 1:00 p.m. Women's Basketball vs. Eastern Connecticut
- 2:30 p.m. Men's & Women's Basketball Alumni Reception
- 3:00 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. Eastern Connecticut
- 6:00 p.m. Ice Skating at the Bank of America Skating Center Hospitality Tent (7 to 9 p.m.)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

- 1:00 p.m. Women's Gymnastics Meet with U.R.I & Brown Gymnastics Alumni Reception immediately following the meet

Please contact Art Pontarelli at 401-456-8863 for athletic alumni event information. For any additional information, contact Jerry Shellard at 401-456-8400.

New! Watch RIC Basketball Online

Now you can watch, as well as listen to, RIC men's and women's basketball home games via the internet. Just access www.ric.edu/athletics and click on the Listen Live button on the top right of the page. Select the sport you wish to view and click on the Watch & Listen link. Please note that Windows Media Software is required to view the game. Click on the Live Stats link to view an up-to-the-minute box score while you enjoy all the action.



**Come Watch the Rhode Island College
Men's and Women's Basketball Teams
in Action This Winter at The Murray Center
Upcoming Home Games**

Saturday, February 3, 2007

**RIC Men's and Women's Basketball vs.
Eastern Connecticut at 1 and 3 p.m.**

Tuesday, February 13, 2007

**RIC Men's and Women's Basketball vs.
UMass Dartmouth at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.**

2006-07 Winter Athletics Schedule Jan. 30 – Feb. 24

Men's Basketball

Tues.	Jan. 30	Amherst	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 3	Eastern Connecticut*	3 p.m.
Tues.	Feb. 6	at Western Connecticut*	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 10	at Southern Maine*	3 p.m.
Tues.	Feb. 13	UMass Dartmouth*	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 17	at UMass Boston*	3 p.m.
Tues.	Feb. 20	Little East Quarterfinals	TBA
Fri.	Feb. 23	Little East Semifinals	TBA
Sat.	Feb. 24	Little East Finals	TBA

Women's Basketball

Tues.	Jan. 30	Mitchell	5:30 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 3	Eastern Connecticut*	1 p.m.
Tues.	Feb. 6	at Western Connecticut*	5:30 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 10	at Southern Maine*	1 p.m.
Tues.	Feb. 13	UMass Dartmouth*	5:30 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 17	at UMass Boston*	1 p.m.
Tues.	Feb. 20	Little East Quarterfinals	TBA
Fri.	Feb. 23	Little East Semifinals	TBA
Sat.	Feb. 24	Little East Finals	TBA

Wrestling

Wed.	Jan. 31	A.I.C.	7 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 3	at S. Maine^# with Roger Williams^#	2 p.m.
Tues.	Feb. 6	Johnson & Wales^# and Coast Guard^#	5 p.m.
Fri.	Feb. 9	at Trinity^ with Bridgewater State^#	5 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 17	at NECCWA Championships +	10 a.m.
Sun.	Feb. 18	at NECCWA Championships +	10 a.m.

Men's & Women's Indoor Track & Field

Sat.	Feb. 3	at Tufts Invitational	10 a.m.
Sat.	Feb. 10	at LEC/MASCAC Alliance Championships	10 a.m.
Fri.-Sat.	Feb. 16-17	at N.E. Div. III Championships	10 a.m.
Fri.-Sat.	Feb. 23-24	at New England Open Championships*	10 a.m.

Women's Gymnastics

Sun.	Feb. 4	University of Rhode Island and Brown	1 p.m.
Sun.	Feb. 11	at Southern Connecticut	1 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 17	at M.I.T.	1 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 24	at Ithaca Invitational	11 a.m.

Home contests in bold

* Little East Conference contest

^ New England College Conference Wrestling Association contest

Pilgrim Wrestling League match

Log on to www.ric.edu/athletics for updated schedules and results.



Looking Back...

Here at What's News, we will feature historical photos from the College's past. Please go to your scrapbooks and send us photos with as much information as possible. All photos will be handled carefully and returned to sender. Send to: Rhode Island College, Office of News and Public Relations, Kauffman Center, Providence, RI 02908.

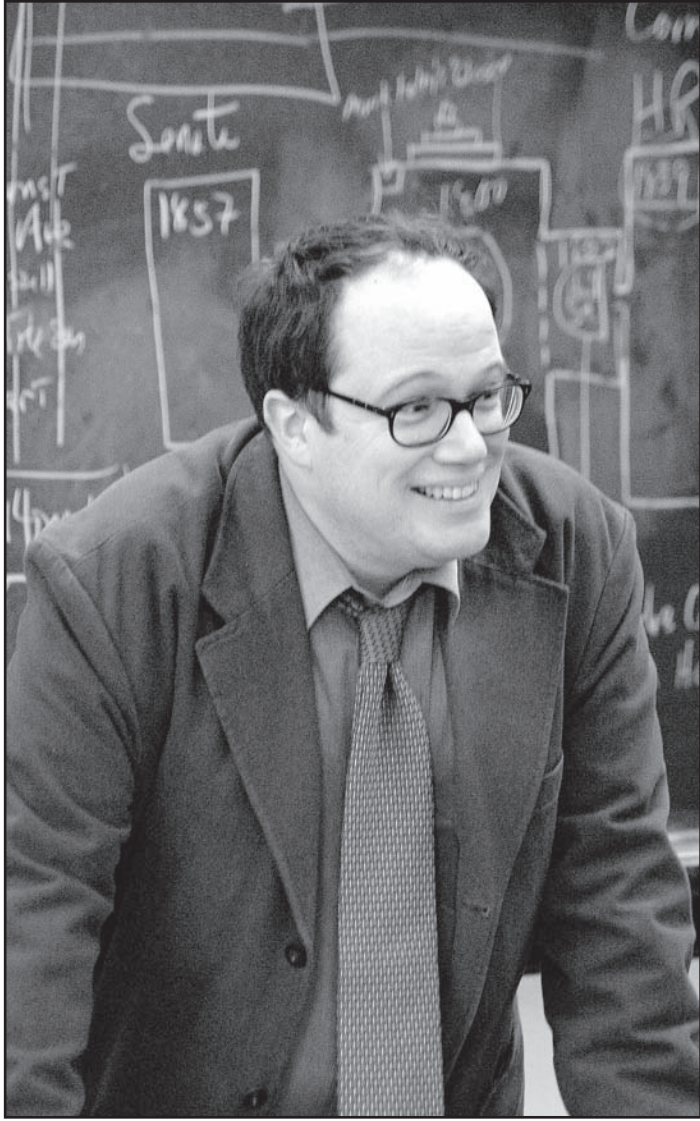
KEEPING THE SPIRIT ALIVE IN '65:

According to the 1965 RIC yearbook *Janus*, published by RIC undergrads, the cheerleaders (left) "working hand in hand with Rhode Island College's strong athletic program, are responsible for the admirable maintenance of fine school spirit recently exhibited at athletic events."

A valentine to Rhode Island College

BY KEVIN J. COSTA '92, M '94

By early March of 1987 – the spring of my senior year at Bristol High School – I still hadn't filled out a single college application. My high school experience was what you might call "relaxed." I did well enough, to be sure, but I rarely felt any urgency to do more than I was asked; as long as I kept off my school's radar, that was success enough for me. And so while my friends occasionally talked about where they were sending applications – schools I'd never even heard of – I wiled away my time playing in bands and working in the dairy aisle at Almacs.



KEVIN COSTA

My parents, however, had different plans for me. Both children of Azorean Portuguese immigrants, they knew next to nothing about the particulars of the application process and less so about what actually went on at a college. My mother was forced to leave high school when she was 16 to help support her mother, father and three siblings in their two-room apartment in Bristol, and my father

left school at the end of seventh grade to work full-time on his father's farm growing corn and strawberries in Rehoboth. But they were both very smart in their own homegrown way – smart enough to know that I should seek an education beyond high school.

I didn't feel that urgency, in part because I believed that college, and the life that such an experience promised, wasn't for a person like me. But, in spite of my fatalism, I hand-wrote a single application – for Rhode Island College – one afternoon, asked a few teachers for letters of recommendation, dropped it all in the mail and pretty much forgot about it. When an admission letter arrived later that spring, I read it to my mother, and she asked if this was where I wanted to go. "Yes," I said, though I really had no sense of why I'd be happy at RIC, or anywhere else for that matter.

This attitude persisted through most of my first year at RIC. It's not that I didn't like my courses; I certainly did, but between playing music with my band, rotating the yogurt in the dairy aisle, and spinning vinyl at WXIN, I just felt disconnected with my classes. What I was being taught always seemed like something meant for someone else – like I was the third wheel on someone else's date.

And then I took Modern Drama with Mark Estrin. In the nearly 20 years since I sat in his class in Craig-Lee Hall, I have been trying to recapture the experience of that life-changing semester. But if I had to choose the moment of greatest importance to me, I'd say it was one afternoon when I visited him during office hours. For some reason, Mark made me want to talk about what we were studying, and he took pains to create the circumstances for me – an unconfident, self-conscious 19-year-old – to try out an idea or two on Ibsen. And when I finally did – and this is what I'll never forget – he looked at me and simply listened.

He took me seriously. It was as simple as that.

That was the beginning of what became one of the most important friendships of my life. Whether we met for coffee when I was back

in town from Buffalo, where I was completing my PhD in English, or whether we talked through email, he did what only the very best teachers do – he inspired. And now, whether I'm with my class at McDonogh School in Baltimore discussing Chekhov, or performing onstage with the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, where I am an artistic associate and serve as education director, Mark's influence is everywhere to be found.

Any thinking person wonders what would have happened if this or that event would never have occurred, and I often think about what would have happened if, say, I sent out just one other application and was admitted to another school and enrolled there. I'll never know, and I'm glad of it. I never feel regret because I know the joy I would have lost if, in addition to Mark Estrin, I never had the pleasure to hear Joan Dagle talk of Hitchcock and John Barth; or Paul Anghinetti expound upon the delicate design in Fitzgerald, Joyce and Faulkner; or Claudia Springer convince us of the richness of Almodovar and Ridley Scott; or Richard Feldstein recommend us to the world of Freud; or Stephen Brown navigate the rich ironies of Jane Austen.

Where would I be without these people?

Frost's narrator in *The Road Not Taken* famously examines the predicament mutually exclusive choices present to us. Frost's poem is ultimately not about a right or a wrong path, however; the poet says, rather, that we have no choice but to pick one way and then convince ourselves we've made the right choice and get on with it. Though I didn't give myself a choice back in the spring of 1987, I never long to have had the problem Frost's narrator faces, nor do I ponder what other choices I may have made if things were different. In short, I don't need to convince myself that Rhode Island College has made all the difference – I know it has.

Costa is chair of Upper School Drama and assistant director of College Counseling at McDonogh School in Maryland.



ANGULARITY: A recent photo of the main entrance to the School of Social Work on the east campus provides a study in geometry.

FOCUS ON Faculty & Staff



Women & Addiction Conference

Participants in the Women & Addiction Conference held last December at RIC include (left to right) Susan Moitozo, associate vice president of clinical services at Spectrum Health Systems; Diane Shuttlesworth, program manager at Caritas, Inc.; Mary Osborne, clinical director of outpatient program at Kent House in Warwick; Robin Montvilo, professor of psychology and director of the Chemical Dependency/Addiction Studies Program at RIC; Linda Hurley, director of outpatient treatment services at CODAC Inc.; and Eileen Dykeman, clinical project manager at Project Link.

The conference featured a panel presentation and workshops on Pregnancy and Substance Abuse, Women and Methadone Treatment, Incarcerated Women, Issues of Domestic Violence and Adolescent Females.

The event was sponsored in part by the RIC Chemical Dependency/Addiction Studies (CDAS) Program, an undergraduate major that trains professionals to work with people struggling with substance abuse, dependency and other addictive behaviors.

Also sponsoring the event was the Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) of New England. The lecture series was made possible by the generosity of Discovery House/SMART Management.

Faculty Development Workshop



MARJORIE ROEMER, RIC professor of English, gives the keynote address at the 11th annual Faculty Development Workshop in January. The event, titled "Embracing Difficulty: Creating Processes for Understanding," featured panels organized by the Depts. of Anthropology, English, and Physical Sciences, the School of Social Work, the Counseling Center and the New England Center for Inclusive Teaching. The workshop was sponsored by the Writing Board through a grant from the RIC Faculty Development Fund and the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.



ROLAND DE GOUVENAIN

Roland de Gouvenain, assistant professor of biology, made a presentation entitled, "Population ecology of Tecate cypress in southern California (USA) and Baja California (Mexico): Is there a cross-border fire-regime effect?" at the 8th Symposium on Botany Research in Baja California and Adjacent Areas. The symposium was held Dec. 7-8, 2006, at the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Ensenada, Mexico.

De Gouvenain collaborates with Jose Delgadillo at UABC on comparative studies of cypress populations located in Mexico, where the occurrence of fire is frequent, vs. the United States, where fire events are less frequent, but more intense. De Gouvenain and Delgadillo are preparing a grant proposal to be submitted to the National Science Foundation in 2007, hoping to obtain support for ongoing international studies of tree populations existing in countries with different fire suppression policies. Funding of these studies would provide exciting field research opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students at both institutions.

Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit items about their professional endeavors to What's News, Office of News and Public Relations, Kauffman Center, or email them to rmartin@ric.edu.



REQUIRED READING FOR THE NEW SEMESTER: Joe Del Grosso '08 (kneeling) and Ryan Desrochers '08 make their selections from the bookstore in the Student Union in January.

Research Funding Continued from page 1

Over 45 proposals were received, requesting a total of more than \$7.1 million in support from researchers at eight Rhode Island higher education institutions, six hospitals and 17 private companies.

"Those involved with making the award selection found it very difficult to choose a small subgroup of winners from such an extraordinary pool of applicants," said Briant, STAC co-chair and Brown University vice president for research.

In addition to RIC, winning teams include scientists from Afferent Corporation, Applied Science Associates, Inc., Bay Computer Associates, Brown University, Hasbro Children's Hospital, Ion Signature Technology, Providence

VA Medical Center, Rhode Island Hospital, Rhode Island School of Design, Rhode Island State Crime Lab, Salve Regina University, SubChem Systems, WET Labs, Inc., and the University of Rhode Island.

The winning projects with RIC participation:

• In vivo and in vitro targeting of the Akt1 and p53 signaling networks in testicular cancer

This project will help doctors better understand how radiation therapy causes permanent damage in patients with testicular cancer.

Collaborators

Mary Hixon, Brown University
Eric Hall, Rhode Island College
Sarah Spinette, Rhode Island College

• Acquisition of an electro-spray injected tandem mass spectrometer devoted to proteomics

research support as a critical component of the Rhode Island Center for Proteomics

This award will fund the purchase of equipment to enable Rhode Island scientists to better study proteins and their role in disease.

Collaborators

Edward Hawrot, Brown University
Wolfgang Peti, Brown University
David Rowley, University of Rhode Island
Alison Shakarian, Salve Regina University
Karen Almeida, Rhode Island College

• Improving cellulose microfibril properties in plant fibers through genetic engineering

This project is designed to advance efforts to modify plant fibers and enhance their commercial value for use in products such as biofuels.

Collaborators

Eric Roberts, Rhode Island College
Alison Roberts, University of Rhode Island

Art treasure on campus – No. 3, 1960-1966

BY RAY RAGOSTA

Staff Writer

Situated on a knoll at the south side of the Art Center, nestled in a small stand of trees, is an imposing abstract steel sculpture modestly titled *No. 3*, 1960-66. Ten-feet high, it is one of the largest sculptures on campus – and one of the oddest orphans anywhere.

No. 3, by 1969 Guggenheim Fellow

Joseph Goto, was located in front of the Fleet National Bank building (now the Bank of America Building) in downtown Providence for nearly a decade, until 1984, when Goto was told to move the piece. In an April 23 *Providence Journal* article of that year, Channing Gray quotes a letter to Goto from then-Mayor Vincent A. Cianci Jr., “due to the reconstruction of Kennedy Plaza, the City of Providence and the Board of Park Commissioners no longer have any use for your statue.”

The article goes on to note that ironically the sculpture was placed in Kennedy Plaza as part of a “celebration marking Cianci’s election.”

Previously *No. 3*, 1960-66, had been included in a one-man show of Joseph Goto’s works held at the Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art in the fall of 1971.

Seeking a new home for the work, Joseph Goto tried Rhode Island College and contacted Krisjohn Horvat, a sculpture professor in the art dept. Horvat was excited at the prospect of having the work on campus since he considered Goto an important figure in American art and, according to Horvat, was among the first to use welding in a sculptural context. Together, they worked out the site and installation, and Goto was pleased with the arrangements.

Goto started the piece in 1960 while he was teaching at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and finished it in Providence in 1966. It is one of several large sculptures he completed at the time.

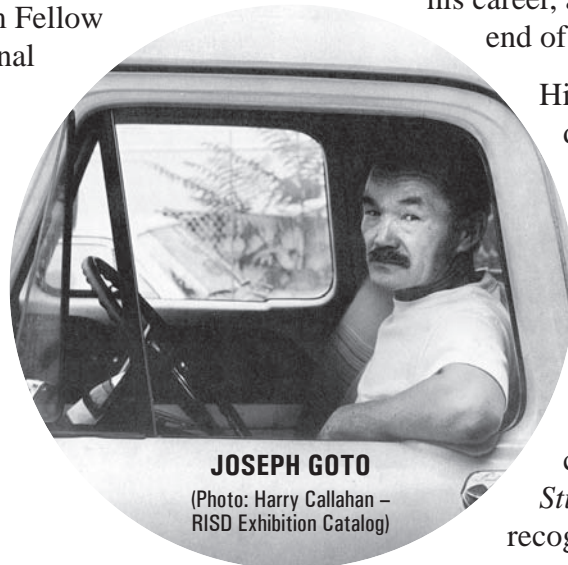
The late architectural historian William H. Jordy, in the catalog essay for the RISD exhibition, characterizes the series in this way: “These large pieces depend on counterpointed structures of thick, steel plates ripped by the torch, combined with bent and beaten tangles of pipe and tubing.”

He later describes *No. 3* itself: “An exultant columnar piece, the flat plates billow insofar as their weight and the stance-like composition permit, with the pipes moving out from a fold-like jaggedness to sweeping curves and long diagonals behind.”

The tubing component, “the pipes” of *No. 3*, was damaged during its life as a public sculpture and discarded. This situation did not totally frustrate Goto’s intentions. Commenting on another work in the series, *No. 4. Tower Iron*, Goto said, as quoted by Jordy, “In 1966, I did the plate piece to go with the tubing. The plate piece could stand by itself, too. I think both parts are complete in themselves, but together they are more complete.”

In some uncanny ways, the life of *No. 3*, 1960-66, can be seen as an allegory for the artistic life of Joseph Goto. He had his moments of celebration, and periods when his personal materials were stretched to the limit.

Born in Hawaii of Japanese parents in 1916, he learned welding as a teenager while working at the U.S. Naval Base at Pearl Harbor. He came to the United States in 1947 to study painting and drawing at the Art Institute of Chicago and Roosevelt University, until he discovered he was allergic to turpentine and turned to metal sculpture. Steel became Goto’s material and welding his means through the greater part of his career, although he did return to painting and drawing at the end of his life (he died in Pawtucket in 1994).



JOSEPH GOTO

(Photo: Harry Callahan – RISD Exhibition Catalog)

His first major break came in 1953 when Alfred Barr, director of New York’s Museum of Modern Art and probably the preeminent collector of the day, purchased *Organic Form I* for the museum’s collection. The sculpture was composed of thin metal rods, the kind Goto would take from welding shops where he was employed during lean times.

His career then went on to encompass a number of New York one-man gallery shows and some significant critical notice. Dore Ashton wrote about him for *Studio International*. John Canaday and Hilton Kramer recognized him in *The New York Times*.

Canaday’s assessment was especially positive and telling. In reviewing a 1973 show at the Zabriskie Gallery, he called Goto “surely one of the best American sculptors at work today.” But Canaday added

a bittersweet note by commenting on a certain “surprise” element in the show – even though Goto’s work in this style had been previously shown – which masked an unsettling kind of neglect: “The surprise is that sculptures of such strength and individuality once seen, could have become half-forgotten.”

To support his work in sculpture, Goto received grants from the National Council on the Arts, the John Hay Whitney Foundation, the Graham Foundation, the Pollack-Krasner Foundation and the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts. His teaching appointments included positions at the Rhode Island School of Design, Carnegie Mellon University, Brandeis University and the University of Michigan.

In addition, his works found their way into the collections of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the RISD Museum of Art and the Art Institute of Chicago. He also received the R.I. Governor’s Art Award in 1971.

Still in 1966 and again in 1969, the year he got his Guggenheim, Goto found it necessary to work as a welder at Tower Iron Works in Seekonk, Mass.

Interestingly enough, the company allowed Goto the use of its premises for his sculptural work, which is why some of the larger plate pieces bear Tower Iron in their titles. The College’s sculpture, however, was completed in his private studio.

As for its current location on the RIC campus, on a knoll among some trees, *No. 3*, 1960-66, seems to be fulfilling a vision of Joseph Goto’s in his working with large steel plates. He is quoted in the RISD exhibition catalog as follows: “The flat plate itself somehow calls for this open method. You can spread yourself out, you see ... I’m working with the trees and the sky and all that.”

The writer wishes to thank Special Collections Librarian Marlene Lopes for her research assistance with this piece.



No. 3, 1960-66 BY JOSEPH GOTO



This regular feature of What's News looks at the links between the world and Rhode Island College. The story below was written by Richard Lobban, professor of anthropology and chair of the department.

With the recent passing of Ridgway Shinn, the College has lost a major figure in its intellectual and administrative ranks. Among Ridge's many contributions was his love of travel and understanding that this played a vital role in the development of our students. When What's News editor Jane Fusco asked my wife and colleague, Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban, and me to continue this travel abroad column that Ridge created, we were very honored to make this as an ongoing tribute and memorial to our friend. It may be appropriate to start this new series off with a report from Sudan where I am writing this article.

Where is Nubia?

Despite the title subject, it occurred to me that many are not familiar with African geography even though Rhode Island College boasts having the oldest program of Africana studies in our state. So, just south of Egypt, which is certainly on the African continent, is the modern Sudan with which it has had a long and complex relationship. For most of these millennia, Sudan was known by other names such as Yam, Kush, Napata, Meroe or simply Nubia, the Land of Gold.

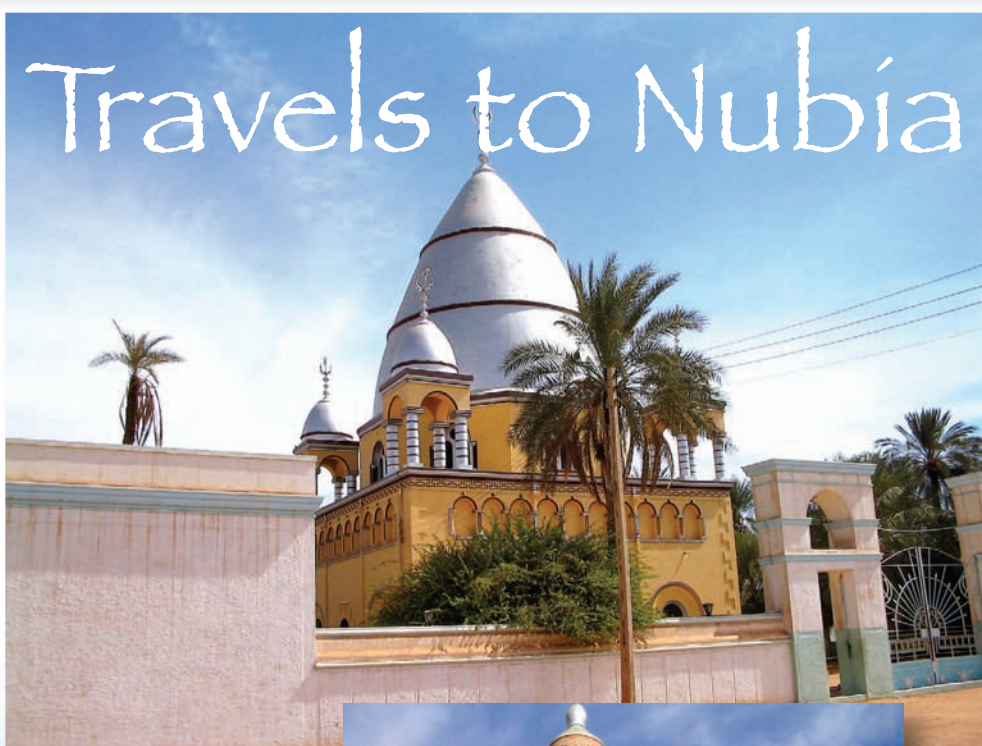
Today Nubians can be found throughout Sudan but are especially concentrated in their dialectical communities of Danagla, Mahas, Sukkot, Fadicha and Kenuz in northern Sudan and southern Egypt. Thus their cultural zone straddles both borders. Even though all Nubians are Sunni Muslims today, their history includes major ancient empires, later recorded in the Bible, and a longer period of Christianity in Nubia than Islam. Nubians are noted also for one of the longest lasting peace treaties between these two faiths. Perhaps there are some lessons to learn there.

Changing Research Interests

I first came to Sudan in 1970 to conduct my doctoral research in anthropology for Northwestern University and subsequently to Rhode Island College in 1972 where I was hired by Ridgway Shinn. Then I studied Social Networks in the Urban Sudan, but I focused on two Mahas Nubian communities in the Khartoum, capitol city area. For centuries the Tuti Island research community was only reachable by boat but now a suspension bridge is soon to be completed and operational. Indeed, there are many changes over the years.

My research interests in Nubian Sudan have continued ever since, but have broadened considerably over these past four decades. Those two traditional communities were pretty much self-contained in what was then a total urban area of about 500,000 inhabitants. Today there are perhaps as many as seven million people living here, coming from all parts of Sudan for various ecological, political, economic and military reasons. Forty years of war in the southern Sudan and four years of war in Darfur have added to the complexities.

As my research deepened I incorporated my studies in my classes, articles, lectures and books on Sudan and I discovered that the next path would take me into more historical research than I could do without coming to Sudan. As the written accounts ran out I turned to the archaeological record with more and more frequent site visits and finally organized study tours as well as work done in association with other archaeological projects. This current visit to Sudan is preliminary to a multi-national excavation project with colleagues from Egypt, Italy and Russia that may get started next year.



Clockwise from top: Tomb of the Mahdi in Omdurman; Tuti Island, in the middle of the Three Towns (Khartoum, Khartoum North and Omdurman); Downtown Khartoum. (Photos: Robert Borges)

Travels to Nubia

Language Study

Over these years, I acquired speaking ability in Arabic as my field language, so I long ago gave up needing translators. Without a strategy to overcome the linguistic barrier there would simply be poor research. Since the Nubian communities in Khartoum had lost their own skill with Nubian dialects, I did not have any need to know them at first. But as I looked more deeply, it was apparent that the lexicons of these dialects were related, which led me to become familiar with Old Nubian, a unique language for Christianity written in Greek or Coptic letters.

Inevitably this brought me to one of Sudan's mysteries, namely the written language of Meroitic that has many texts but is only very partially translated, so I have worked in this field, too, with academic papers, recently in Paris and Warsaw, to report some advances in decipherment. RIC students have also participated in these research efforts.

The Sudan Studies Association

Since some scholars saw Sudan as too African, and others saw it as too Middle Eastern, we often did not feel at home in the traditional studies arenas. Consequently Carolyn, four other colleagues and I officially incorporated the Sudan Studies Association in Rhode Island in 1981 as a tax-exempt educational institution.

We just celebrated its 25th anniversary at RIC although we have continuously had annual conferences and international meetings around the world in England, Egypt, Sudan, Norway and Canada. The SSA has a regular newsletter and website (www.sudanstudies.org) and is now the oldest of such organizations. The SSA provides speakers and resources on all aspects of Sudanese studies.

Politics in and about Sudan

At times Sudan has had vibrant multi-party democracies; at other times there have been military governments. Some periods of Sudanese history have been very peaceful, but much of the post-colonial period has seen civil conflicts, especially in the south and presently in Darfur. Because of these circumstances many Sudanese have left for better opportunities or even in fear for their lives.

I have never imagined that my growing expertise and connections to this African nation would cause me to be in federal courts giving sworn testimony about Sudan applicants for political asylum cases that I have usually won. Currently there is a high level of concern about the humanitarian crisis in Darfur, so the SSA has been much engaged with educating the public while not allowed to take an organizational point of view. Because Sudan once hosted Osama bin Laden and is a rapidly rising oil producer, the politics of Sudan have become of strategic concern to the U.S.

Sudan and Rhode Island

While the number of Sudanese residing in Rhode Island is quite small, having many more Cape Verdeans, Liberians and Nigerians, I did find a former slave in Newport who chose to be named Salmar Nubia. One imagines that he had a positive association with this land while seeking his own identity. Also in Newport I have started teaching courses on African cultures, history, religion and politics at the Naval War College. When I began my Nubian and Sudanese studies about 40 years ago, such a military teaching position was far from my imagination.

RIC
Arts & Entertainment



Spring Concert Series to showcase several debut creations

Premieres to be unveiled include works by New Hampshire-based Drika Overton, Rhode Island's Nathan Andary, Colleen Cavanaugh, Jackie Henderson, and RIC's Melody Ruffin Ward. Rehearsal direction for this event will be provided by Mary Beth Murphy.

BY DANTE DEL GIUDICE '79

Director of Dance



At RIC, dancing at the margins begins with the RIC Dance Company's 48th Annual Spring Concert Series from March 1-4 in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. Concerts will be held March 1-3 at 8 p.m., and March 4 at 2 p.m.

The event will offer several premieres by local and regional dancer choreographers, with rehearsal direction provided by Mary Beth Murphy.



DRIKA OVERTON

Drika Overton's career as a jazz tap artist spans over two decades and includes work as a producer, director, educator, performer and choreographer. She has been a featured artist at festivals, jazz clubs concerts and on television, and is the creator and artistic director of the internationally recognized Portsmouth Percussive Dance. Overton is also the artistic director of MaD Theatricals, a unique collaboration of noted jazz and tap artists, and co-directs and choreographs the Youth Jazz Dance Project.

Nathan Andary is the artistic director of Andary Dance, a national touring company and refreshing force in Rhode Island's contemporary dance scene. His award-winning dances have been described as "innovative, fluid, physical and visually exciting." He received a choreography fellowship from the Rhode Island State Council for the Arts in 2004. RIC dancers will perform a new dance work Andary created in January.

For an artist, understanding that art can reflect and highlight broader and underlying issues of the day is to recognize his or her role as an agent at the margins.

Colleen Cavanaugh, who directed and choreographed for Cavanaugh and Dancers and then Cadence Dance Project, is now an independent choreographer. She has created several ballets for Festival Ballet Providence and Island Moving Company as well as for several New England college dance programs.

Two of her ballets were presented in Ballet Builders in New York City, a showcase for contemporary ballet. Her choreography has been performed in New England, New York and Europe. Cavanaugh is a practicing obstetrician/gynecologist and an assistant clinical professor at Brown University. She created a new trio on RIC dancers in January and February.

Jackie Henderson is the director, choreographer and founder of Off the Curb, a Newport youth outreach program that helps young people build confidence and self-esteem through hip-hop dance. Off the Curb students perform in schools, community centers and festivals throughout the year. Henderson created a new hip-hop dance on RIC dancers in late fall and early winter.

The event will offer several premieres by local and regional dancer choreographers.

Melody Ruffin Ward's choreography and dancing have been described by poet Tim Seibles as having "the physical capacity to articulate the delights and lyrical mysteries of being human. ..."



MELODY WARD

Currently an associate professor in the Dept. of Music, Theatre, and Dance at RIC, Ward's work is steeped in her love for developing dances that have an internal and personal dialogue. Ward has created a solo on RIC dancer Jeff Cotnoir for the Spring Concert Series.

Other works to be included in the Spring Concert Series were premiered in fall 2005 and will include Chris Elam's *Land Flat* and Shannon Hummel's *Some of My Best Friends are Dancers*.

General admission to the Spring Concert Series is \$10. For more information, call 401-456-9791.

Performances are March 1-3 at 8 p.m., and March 4 at 2 p.m. Donations are accepted.

Growing Stage to present

'The American Dream'

The American Dream, a play by Edward Albee, will be performed March 1-4 by the student-run Growing Stage theatre group. The production, directed by Michael Truppi, is a dark comic satire of family life. Characters include Mommy, Daddy, Grandma, Mrs. Barker and the Young Man, who personifies the American Dream. The play's examination of societal values continues to resonate today as it did when first introduced in 1960.

Performances are March 1-3 at 8 p.m., and March 4 at 2 p.m. Donations are accepted.



February 18



URSULA OPPENS (Photop: Christian Steiner)

Ursula Oppens to present Adams Piano Recital performance

Pianist Ursula Oppens, a noted interpreter of classical and contemporary music, will perform in an Adams Foundation Piano Recital Series concert on Sunday, Feb. 18 at 2:30 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center.

The series is presented locally by The Performing Arts Series at RIC.

Oppens' solo performance will include Schubert's *Impromptu in B flat Major, Op. 142, No. 3*; Beethoven's *Sonata in E flat Major, Op. 27*, Rzewski's *Mayn Yingele*, Chopin's *Ballade in A flat Major, Op. 47* and Schubert's *Wanderer Fantasie, Op. 15*.

A native New Yorker and graduate of the Juilliard School, Oppens has gained prominence for her interpretations of established classical compositions as well as for championing contemporary American music, for which she received the Letters of Distinction Award at the American Music Center's presentation ceremony in 2002.

Her commitment to new music has led her to commissioning and premiering the works of many contemporary composers, among them Elliott Carter, John Harbison, Tania Leon and over a dozen others.

Time magazine has said of Oppens: "... to each work, no matter how disparate in content and style, Oppens brings both a formidable technique and an unerring ear for seductive sonority."

Oppens has performed with many of the most notable orchestras worldwide, and has appeared in Carnegie Hall's esteemed Keyboard Virtuosos series.

She is also a frequent recording artist who has received two Grammy nominations. In addition to being Grammy-nominated, her compilation of piano works by last century's American composers, *American Piano Music of Our Time*, was cited in a *New York Times* Best of the Year survey.

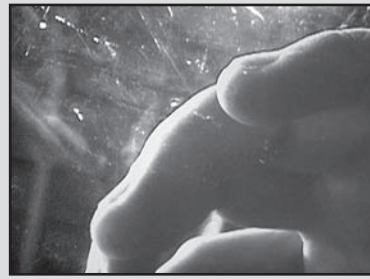
Tickets Tickets for Ursula Oppens are \$20. For your convenience, tickets can be purchased as follows: in advance via VISA or MasterCard by calling 401-456-8144 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays; online at www.ric.edu/pfa; or in person at the Roberts Hall box office until the time of the performance on the day of the event.

OLD MYTHS IN NEW FORMS AT BANNISTER

From Feb. 8 to March 2, Bannister Gallery will showcase the work of Bebe Beard and Lou Cohen with the installation *Orpheus Cycle*, which will cover the main and hall space galleries. There will be a reception on Feb. 8 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Beard and Cohen are two Boston-based video and new media artists who present a performative inquiry that engages the conceptual elements of installation with an historically based narrative. They explore the powers of the gods and the extent of their grief through the medium of digital art and sound. Their *White Crone* video sculpture and the *Digital Orpheus* series use digitally enhanced video and digitally produced sound to retell the powerful myths referred to in their titles.

In a statement, the artists elaborate, "When we lose our loved ones we turn to the gods. We ask for comfort, we offer prayers and we promise sacrifices. So it was with Orpheus and Demeter. Each lost a loved one — Demeter lost her daughter Persephone; Orpheus lost his wife Eurydice. Each appealed to Hades, the god of underworld.



Bebe Beard and Lou Cohen. Still from Digital Orpheus. Video sculpture and sound installation.

Each, because of their special powers, was granted the return of their loved one. Neither got what they had hoped for."

Bebe Beard in recent years has received grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the St. Botolph's Club Art Foundation. She has held residencies at Djerassi Resident Artists Program, MacDowell Colony and the Experimental Television Center in Owego, N.Y.

Early in his career Lou Cohen studied composition and music theory with John Cage and promoted new music concerts in the Boston area.

He then decided to compose in isolation, but in April 2004 produced his first public concert in more than 40 years. Cohen has been interested in the connections between computers, music and visual art since 1959, when he designed a "melody-writing heuristic algorithm."

Together, Beard and Cohen have collaborated on numerous works that have been shown in New England, around the United States and overseas.

Gallery hours during exhibits are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursdays, noon to 9 p.m. Closed weekends and holidays. Exhibits and events are free and open to the public. Accessible to persons with disabilities. For information on event dates and exhibit opening receptions, check the website at www.ric.edu/Bannister/ or call 401-456-9765.

Muir String Quartet returns to RIC with guest Roger Tapping Feb. 5

The Muir String Quartet will be joined by special guest Roger Tapping on viola for a Performing Arts Series concert on Feb. 5 at 8 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center.

Tapping was a member of Britain's longest established quartet, the Allegri Quartet, from 1989 to 1995, and was principal viola of the London Mozart Players, among other achievements while playing in London. He was also a member of the Takács Quartet from 1995-2005, which won three Gramophone Awards, a Grammy, and the BBC Music Disc of the Year award.

Tapping is on the faculty of the New England Conservatory, the Longy School, and the Boston Conservatory and offers classes at many other major music schools across the country, while continuing to make appearances with quartets across the USA and Europe.

The evening's program includes *Haydn's String Quartet Op. 64, No. 6*; *Schubert's String Quartet in A Minor, Op. 29*; and *Mozart's Viola Quintet in E-Flat Major, K. 614*.

The Muir String Quartet is one of the world's most prominent string ensembles, and has

performed annually in major chamber music series throughout North America and Europe since its inception in 1980.

Committed to furthering music education, the quartet has taught and coached aspiring quartets and young composers, including master classes at the Eastman School of Music, Oberlin, and the Curtis Institute of Music, from where all four members graduated in 1979.

Muir — featuring Lucia Lin, Steven Ansell, Michael Reynolds, and Peter Zazofsky — offers a "sumptuous tone, exhilarating involvement, and extraordinary unanimity of purpose," according to *The Boston Globe*.



Tickets for the Muir String Quartet are \$30, with discounts for seniors, RIC faculty/staff/students and children. For your convenience, tickets can be purchased as follows: in advance via VISA or MasterCard by calling 401-456-8144 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays; online at www.ric.edu/pfa; or at the box office in the lobby of the appropriate performance venue, which will be open for sales two hours prior to performance start time.

Six 'Classics to Cutting Edge' recitals set for Wednesday Chamber Music Series

Judith Lynn Stillman, RIC's artist-in-residence, is inviting the public to a six-concert program featuring a style of music for every liking.

"Classics to Cutting Edge" features a broad range of musicians, all of whom possess the masterful skill, artistry and knowledge to take chances with their music-making," said Stillman, who is artistic director for the series.

"The audience will experience the spiritual wonder of events including the rock-inspired melodies of Fluttr Effect, the majesty of the Triton Brass Quintet, and the flute finesse of the New York Philharmonic's Mindy Kaufman," added Stillman.

Each 50-minute recital is free of charge, and will be held on Wednesday at 1 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center. A question-and-answer session with the artists follows each performance.



JUDITH LYNN STILLMAN

The program:



MINDY KAUFMAN
(Photo: nyphil.org)

• On Feb. 7, **Mindy Kaufman** and Stillman present a concert titled *Flights of Fancy*, featuring works from their upcoming CD. Kaufman has been a flutist and piccoloist with the New York Philharmonic since 1979, and has performed as soloist with the Philharmonic under the direction of Kurt Masur and Zubin Mehta. Stillman, an international performer and recording artist, will collaborate on piano.

• Brown University faculty members **Paul Phillips** and **Kathryne Jennings** bring *Love and War* to the series on Feb. 21. The duo will present a varied program of works for soprano and piano including excerpts from Phillips' *War Music*. Phillips is a renowned conductor, composer, author and pianist. Jennings, his wife, is an award-winning soprano and former artistic director of Opera Providence.

• **Triton Brass Quintet** takes a musical journey on March 7 in *Time Travel*. This terrific ensemble includes five of the region's most promising young talents. A prizewinner at the 2003 Fischhoff International Chamber Music Competition, Triton is in its fourth year as artists-in-residence at Boston College.



DMITRI POGORELOV
(Photo: dmitripogorelov.com)

• On March 21, **Generations Trio** performs *Rameau to Ragtime*. The trio features artists of three generations, including Stillman on piano. John Sant' Ambrogio, principal cellist of the Saint Louis Symphony for 37 years, will appear, as will Russian violinist Dmitri Pogorelov, a first-prize winner in competitions in 2004 and 2005.

• In *Swallows and Sparrows* on April 4, the **Fluttr Effect Trio** will offer its haunting, classical sounds and rock-inspired melodies. This all-women band is carried by the melodic power of Vessela Stoyanova's midi marimba, the bass-like lilt of Valerie Thompson's flower-topped cello, and the hypnotizing lead vocals of Kara Trott.



PHILIP MARTORELLA

• The series finale, on April 18, will be the **RIC Faculty Recital Musical Potpourri** in which outstanding faculty members present an eclectic program of musical delights, including Joseph Foley's trumpet virtuosity and *Jazz Sonata* by Philip Martorella, performed by the composer and by renowned saxophonist Greg Abate.

RIC music majors on a notable mission

Music education majors at Rhode Island College want to establish a statewide initiative to take music into schools that have lost funding for arts programs.

Jonathan D'Amico wants to become a music teacher. To help reach this career goal, he and his fellow music education students conduct concerts, hold workshops, and give one-on-one tutoring and voice lessons to elementary and middle school students who might not have the opportunity to play an instrument or sing in a school choir.

D'Amico and about 40 other RIC students are part of The Rhode Island College Music Educators (RICME) organization, the state's chapter of the National Association for Music Educators (known as MENC). They help young students learn about music, especially in schools where budget cuts have eliminated music classes and band programs.

RICME would like students from other colleges to join their cause to form a comprehensive chapter for the state.

"Our goal is to create a statewide community that is more educated, involved and celebrant of music in our schools," said D'Amico, who is president of the group.

More involvement means greater outreach to schools and community centers, D'Amico said.

In addition to expanding the chapter beyond RIC, RICME-proposed initiatives include research projects on the status of R.I.'s music education programs, scholarships awards, and establishing a youth chapter in the state.

D'Amico said that music education in Rhode Island needs to be taken more seriously and that advocates of music education must present stronger arguments to administrators and legislators.

"When we go into a school, we are sharing something with kids that they should be entitled to," he added.

The RIC students are also collecting computers to refurbish as workstations for music teachers to teach music using computer technology.

Hope High School in Providence has benefited from a partnership with RIC music education students who teach in Hope's Arts Academy.

"With such a shortfaling in music programs in Providence school systems, I am hoping that (the RIC students) will help our students meet their performance-based graduation requirements," said Michael Fitzgerald, music director at Hope. Fitzgerald wants the RIC student teachers to assist with instruction on trumpet, saxophone, clarinet, piano and guitar, all of which Fitzgerald plays, as well as voice. As the RIC students learn, so will he, Fitzgerald said. "I will get to learn something from them, watching my class as an observer," he said.

Scott Sutherland '91, principal of Hope's Arts Academy, said that the RIC partnership is critical if students are to reach the standards for education in the arts. "Without these additional resources from RIC, there would be less one-on-one time and less opportunity for our students to develop and refine their skills," he said.

RIC students also hope their instructional efforts in the local schools will help them find jobs when they graduate.

"The job situation in Rhode Island isn't a favorable one for music students," said D'Amico. "We're putting our names into schools that we'll be looking into for jobs."

D'Amico added that Nevada is looking to hire about 11,000 music educators over the next three years.

"Some states can't get enough," he said.

Rhode Island's music educator job market is much bleaker, with about 20 jobs available each year.

RICME is the state's oldest collegiate music organization for leadership, advocacy, research and improvement of music education in Rhode Island. To join or donate a computer, contact Jonathan D'Amico at 401-339-9921; ricmenc@gmail.com.



TOM KANE performs with the RIC Brass Ensemble at the Annual Halloween Concert to Benefit Music Education in R.I.

JURY DUTY FOR RIC THEATRE: *Twelve Angry Women* on stage Feb. 21-25

Sherman L. Sergel's *Twelve Angry Women*, a dramatic play that exposes a jury's deliberation process, will take the stage in the Forman Theatre in the Nazarian Center from Wednesday through Sunday, Feb. 21-25.

Directed by Nehassaiu deGannes, *Twelve Angry Women* opens in the jury deliberation room. A 19-year-old boy from the poor side of town is accused of murdering his father. All but one of the jurors is ready to convict him.

To some of the jurors, this mandatory citizen's duty begins as merely an annoyance – a week's pay loss, unwanted downtime in the socialite world. But as the play progresses and the jurors' biases and beliefs are revealed, the discussion results in the slow changing of minds.

According to deGannes, the play raises timeless questions such as, "What is the responsibility of being a citizen in a democracy?"

Written in the middle of civil rights movement, deGannes says that back then the play stated the unsaid. deGannes wants the play – now set in the present – to reopen for audience members what she calls difficult conversations on race, class and jury duty.

As an ensemble play, no member of the cast ever leaves the stage, and there are no true lead roles. Originally a 1954 film called *Twelve Angry Men*, the film was re-written for the stage by Sergel and changed to *Twelve Angry Women*.

General admission is \$14. Feb. 21-24, 8 p.m.; Feb. 24, 25, 2 p.m. For further information, call the box office at 401-456-8144.

Deborah Griffin Memorial Faculty Recital Feb. 11

A faculty recital – showcasing members of RIC's music, theatre, and dance dept. – will be held in honor of the late Deborah Griffin on Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center.

This year's second Deborah Griffin Memorial Faculty Recital will include piano solos, guitar duets, vocal solos, brass and woodwind pieces and ensemble music.

An exciting night of entertainment, the concert seeks to raise money toward establishing the Deborah Griffin Memorial Scholarship Fund. More than halfway to its \$10,000 goal, the fund will provide scholarships to outstanding music majors.

This is the fifth annual Faculty Recital sponsored by the RIC Student Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association, of which Griffin was a member.

Griffin was a music student at RIC when she died in a fire in her home in 2000.

There is no admission fee, but donations for the fund will be accepted at the door. Checks should be made payable to the RIC Foundation with Griffin Collegiate Scholarship in the memo line.

Arts & Entertainment Calendar of Events **SPRING 2007**

February 5
Music: Muir String Quartet with Special Guest Roger Tapping, Viola**
Performing Arts Series
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Reserved Seating \$30

February 7
Music: Flights of Fancy* Mindy Kaufman, Flutist, New York Philharmonic with Judith Lynn Stillman, Pianist
Wednesday Chamber Music Series
1:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Question/Answer Session Follows

February 8 – March 2
Art: Bebe Beard and Lou Cohen* Video and New Media Artists
February 8, Opening and Reception, 7:00 p.m.
Bannister Gallery, Roberts Hall

February 11
Music: Rhode Island College Faculty Recital
Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance and
The RIC Student Chapter of the American Choral Directors
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Donations Accepted

February 16, 17
Theatre: The Vagina Monologues
RIC Unity Center
7:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Donations

February 18
Music: Ursula Oppens, Pianist Adams Foundation Piano Recital Series
Performing Arts Series
2:30 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Reserved Seating \$20

February 19
Music: RIC Praise Ensemble Gospel Concert
7:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
General Admission \$5

February 21
Music: Love and War* Paul Phillips and Kathryn Jennings
Wednesday Chamber Music Series
1:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Question/Answer Session Follows

February 21-25
Theatre: Twelve Angry Women by Sherman L. Sergel
Nehassaiu deGannes, Director
Mainstage Theatre
Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance
February 21-24, 8:00 p.m.
February 24, 25, 2:00 p.m.
Forman Theatre in the Nazarian Center
General Admission \$14

March 1-4
Dance: 48th Annual Spring Concert Series
RIC Dance Company
March 1-3, 8:00 p.m.
March 4, 2:00 p.m.
Auditorium in Roberts Hall
General Admission \$10

March 1-4
Theatre: The American Dream by Edward Albee
Michael Truppi, Director
Theatre Organization's Growing Stage
March 1-3, 8:00 p.m.
March 4, 2:00 p.m.
The Little Theatre in the Nazarian Center
Donations

March 2
Music: It's Only Natural
RIC Chorus, Chamber Singers and Women's Chorus
Teresa Coffman, Conductor
RIC Men's Chorus
Tianxu Zhou, Conductor
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
General Admission \$3

March 4
Music: Chamber Music at Rhode Island College*
RIC Chamber Orchestra and Small Ensembles
John Sumerlin, Conductor
7:30 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center

March 7
Music: Time Travel*
Triton Brass Quintet
Wednesday Chamber Music Series
1:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Question/Answer Session Follows

March 8
Dance: The Martha Graham Dance Company
Performing Arts Series
8:00 p.m., Auditorium in Roberts Hall
Reserved Seating \$32

March 8- April 5
Art: Lloyd Martin and David Baggary*
Lisa Russell, Curator
March 8, Opening and Reception, 5:00 p.m.
Bannister Gallery, Roberts Hall

March 9
Music: American Originals
RIC Wind Ensemble,
Robert Franzblau, Conductor
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
General Admission \$7

March 19
Music: RIC Symphony Orchestra* 12th Samuel and Esther Chester Performance Award Concert
Edward Markward, Conductor
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center

March 21
Music: Rameau to Ragtime*
Generations Trio
Wednesday Chamber Music Series
1:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Question/Answer Session Follows

March 26
Music: Muir String Quartet**
Performing Arts Series
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Reserved Seating \$30

March 29, 30
Dance: A-MIRROR-CA: A Reflection on America's Media-Driven Culture Faculty & Alumni Concert Featuring the Vessella Dance Project
Angelica Vessella '97 and James Calitri '01
Sponsored by Dept. of Music, Theatre, and Dance
8:00 p.m., Forman Theatre in the Nazarian Center
General Admission \$14

April 2
Music: RIC Faculty Jazz Recital* Featuring Greg Abate and Shawnn Monteiro
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center

April 4
Music: Swallows and Sparrows*
Fluttr Effect Trio
Wednesday Chamber Music Series
1:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Question/Answer Session Follows

April 10-13
Theatre: Tea At Five
Starring RIC Theatre Alumna, Paula Ewin
Performing Arts Series
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Reserved Seating \$30

April 12 – May 3
Art: Greg Parker*
Krisjohn Horvat, Curator
April 19, Opening and Reception, 5:00 p.m.
Bannister Gallery, Roberts Hall

April 15
Music: Chamber Music at Rhode Island College*
RIC Chamber Orchestra and Small Ensembles
John Sumerlin, Conductor
7:30 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center

April 17
Music: Liszt: The Devil Made Me Do It Jeffrey Siegel's KEYBOARD CONVERSATIONS*
Performing Arts Series
7:30 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Reserved Seating \$25

April 18
Music: RIC Jazz Workshop Combos Performance*
Greg Abate, Director
7:00 p.m., Forman Theatre in the Nazarian Center

April 18
Music: Musical Potpourri* RIC Faculty Recital
Wednesday Chamber Music Series
1:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Question/Answer Session Follows

April 19-22
Theatre: Damn Yankees by George Abbott and Douglass Wallop
Music and Lyrics by Richard Alder and Jerry Ross
Bill Wilson, Director
April 19-21, 8:00 p.m.
April 21, 22, 2:00 p.m.
Auditorium in Roberts Hall
Reserved Seating \$18

April 21
Theatre: WOMEN, WAR, DESERT by Slobodan Snajder and Naum Panovski
Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance MFA in Theatre
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
General Admission \$5

April 22
Discussion: WOMEN, WAR, DESERT* Meet the Artists Panel Discussion
Noon, Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center

April 22
Music: Spring Chamber Choral Ensembles Concert
Chamber Singers and Women's Chorus
Teresa Coffman, Conductor
RIC Men's Chorus
Tianxu Zhou, Conductor
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
General Admission \$3

April 23
Music: Time for Three**
Performing Arts Series
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
Reserved Seating \$30

April 24
Music: Student Composer Concert*
Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center

April 26, 27
Dance: Student Choreography Showcase
Rhode Island College Dance Company
8:00 p.m., Forman Theatre in the Nazarian Center
General Admission \$8

April 27
Music: Music of the Spheres
RIC Wind Ensemble,
Robert Franzblau, Conductor
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
General Admission \$7

April 30
Music: 29th Annual Bicho Family Memorial Scholarship Concert
RIC Symphony Orchestra
Edward Markward, Conductor
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
General Admission Donation \$10

May 4
Music: Choral Music and Opera Choral Scenes of Carlisle Floyd
RIC Chorus, Chamber Singers and Women's Chorus
Teresa Coffman, Conductor
RIC Men's Chorus
Tianxu Zhou, Conductor
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
General Admission \$3

May 6
Music: Jazz Concert
RIC Concert Jazz Band
8:00 p.m., Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center
General Admission \$5

May 6
Music: Massenet, Menotti, Mozart & Purcell*
RIC Opera Workshop Performance
Susan Rogers and Edward Markward, Co-directors
Christina Breindel, Répétiteur
7:00 p.m., Forman Theatre in the Nazarian Center

May 7-19
Art: Annual Student Exhibition*
May 10, Opening and Reception, 5:00 p.m.
Bannister Gallery, Roberts Hall

June 7-28
Art: Susan Shutan Installation*
June 21, Opening and Reception, 5:00 p.m.
Bannister Gallery, Roberts Hall
401-456-8144 in advance.

*Admission Free

**President's Music Series Concert.
Concerts are preceded by a buffet – reservations required. Call 401-456-8144.

Some programs are sponsored in part by funds from the RIC Performing and Fine Arts Commission, the RI State Council on the Arts, the RI Committee for the Humanities, and the RIC Lectures and Films Committee, with support from the New England Foundation for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Rhode Island Foundation.

WGBH Member Discount Cards honored.

Programs and related information are subject to change.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities upon request. Please call 401-456-8144 in advance.

Black History Month at RIC

In 1926, American historian Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week, which was expanded into Black History Month in 1976 as part of the nation's bicentennial celebration. Each February, to celebrate Black History Month, the College offers a full program of events, which are listed below.



February 5
A Night of Black Art: Simone Spruce
7 p.m. Unity Center
 Simone Spruce is a socially conscious artist who has exhibited extensively in solo and group exhibitions in Ohio, New York and Chicago.



February 7
Black History Luncheon/Lecture:
"The First Lady of Black Baseball: Effa Manley, Race and Sport"
12:30- 2:30 p.m. Student Union Ballroom
 \$5 tickets for luncheon buffet served at 12:30 p.m.*
 Free "lecture-only" option begins at 1:00 p.m.*
 Presented by the RIC History Department and Student Activities.
 *Luncheon buffet tickets and lecture-only registration are required in advance at the Student Union Welcome and Information Center.

February 7
Condom Drive with AIDS in Africa Awareness
12:30-2 p.m. Student Union
 Sponsored by NAACP RIC Chapter, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc., and OASPA. Material contributions from Aids Care Ocean State and Planned Parenthood.

February 13
Free Film Screening: 500 Years Later
6 p.m. Unity Center
 Filmed on five continents, and in over 20 countries, *500 Years Later* engages the authentic retrospective voice, told from the African vantage-point, of those whom history has sought to silence by examining the collective atrocities that uprooted Africans from their culture and homeland.

February 21
Jared Ball – Lecture and Discussion:
Hip-Hop and Black Political Consciousness
12:30-2 p.m. Student Union Ballroom
 Jared Ball is professor of Africana and media studies at Morgan State University. He is also co-founder of both CBC Monitor and Organized C.O.U.P., and creator of *Freemix Radio*, a radio show that uses the hip-hop mixtape not as mere entertainment, but emancipatory journalism.

February 22
International Carnival
6-10 p.m. Student Union Ballroom
 Join students, faculty, staff and members of the Rhode Island community for a global celebration featuring multimedia exhibits, music, food and performances from around the world. Sponsored by INGOS, LASO, the Unity Center, Open Books-Open Minds and other organizations.

February 26
Free Film Screening: American Blackout
6 p.m. Unity Center
American Blackout chronicles the recurring patterns of voter disenfranchisement from 2000 to 2004. Told through the life of Georgia Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney. Limited seating available (arrive early).

March 1
Journey to the Motherland
6 p.m. Student Union Ballroom
 Food, dance and culture from the global African community. Guest lecturer will be African-American emancipatorial journalist Reza Clifton of rezaritesri.com

For further details on Black History Month at RIC, call Aaron Bruce, director of the Unity Center, at 401-456-8255, or visit the website at ric.edu/unitycenter.



Choral concert to herald the coming of spring

The RIC Chorus, Women's Chorus and Chamber Singers, under the direction of Teresa Coffman, associate professor of music, and the RIC Men's Chorus, conducted by Tianxu Zhou, will perform in a nature-themed concert, *It's Only Natural*, on Friday, March 2 at 8 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center.

Works featured include Eric Whitacre's *Little Birds*, and *Vier Gesänge* for women's voices, two horns and harp by Johannes Brahms.

Admission is \$3 for the general public, and free for RIC students, faculty, and staff. For further information, contact Teresa Coffman at 401-456-9506.

RIC student a Cool Kids Big Sister

BY GITA BROWN
 Staff Writer



JULIET FOWLER and NEIDA

Juliet Fowler finds that being a Big Sister "isn't work, it's a release. It's no different than hanging out with a friend," said the RIC senior psychology major.

Neida, a 13-year-old from Providence, is the second Little Sister Juliet has mentored. They began their Big/Little Sister relationship in September 2006 through the Cool Kids program, a program initiated in 2005 by Big Sisters of Rhode Island that involves mentoring the daughters of incarcerated parents.

Neida's father has been absent from the home for some time and her mother is being housed in a rehab center where Neida is allowed to visit once a week. "Neida loves her mom," Fowler said. "She is very sad when she doesn't get to see her."

According to a statement by the Child Welfare League of America, children like Neida not only live with the deep pain of separation, they also live with the shame and stigma associated with having a parent serving jail time. "It is crucial for youngsters with an incarcerated parent to bond with positive role models for support," the league wrote.

Continued next page

Big Sister cont.

Neida's home life includes three siblings, step-siblings and cousins, many of whom are being taken care of by Neida's grandmother.

"One of the most endearing things Neida says to me when we go off together is, 'You're all mine!'" Fowler said.

The benefits of mentorship is not only felt by Neida but by Fowler as well. She says that the time she spends with Neida is like therapy. "I get to go back to being a kid," said Fowler. The two girls shop together, go out for lunch, and take in Disney movies. But their greatest enjoyment is simply talking to one another.

"Neida won't come right out and say 'I have a problem,'" Fowler said. "She'll bring up something in the middle of a conversation. She'll bring up something out of nowhere."

Fowler knows that this is a signal for her to pay close attention. "Neida hates drinking. She hates drugs. She doesn't understand why people do it, seeing what it's done to her mother. I try to help her understand."

According to the Child Welfare League, a positive role model helps children of incarcerated parents avoid high-risk behaviors, such as poor academic achievement, substance abuse, and impaired emotional, behavioral and psychological development.

Big Sisters is hoping to recruit at least 70 more mentors for the Cool Kids program. "People say they don't have time to be a Big Sister, or they say they don't have the money," Fowler said. "I tell them: If you just take a child to the Providence Place Mall and sit in the Food Court with them, talk to them, they are so happy. They are so appreciative. If you just take them to the dollar store, they're ecstatic. They don't get to do those kind of things."

Big Sisters also provides training and activities to help Big and Little Sister bond.

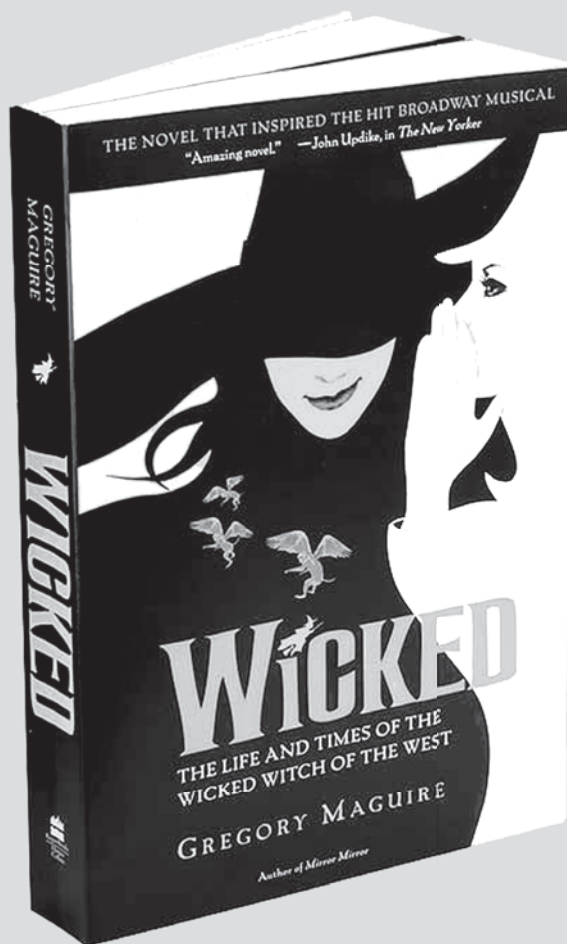
Fowler herself was once a Little Sister. She met her Big Sister at the age of 11 and that bond continued into her teen and college years. "I call her my godmother, now," said Fowler. She's had such a great impact on my life. She made it possible for me to go to college." After graduation in May, Fowler intends to earn a master's degree in social work.

In America there are 1.5 million children whose parents are incarcerated. In Rhode Island nearly 3,100 children have parents who are housed in the Rhode Island Dept. of Corrections. That number does not include the number of children whose parents are in other Rhode Island correctional facilities or federal prisons. Neida's mother, for example, chose to serve her time in rehab.

Big Sisters of Rhode Island was founded in 1967 and pairs adult females 19 years or older with children and teens age 7 to 15 (Little Sisters in the Cool Kids program are 4 to 18) to provide youngsters with positive role models and new experiences.

The Cool Kids program is funded by a three-year federal grant by the Dept. of Health and Human Services under the Family and Youth Services Bureau for its Mentoring Children of Prisoners initiative. For more information, call Grace C. Osediacz M '83, program coordinator for Cool Kids, at 921-2434, ext. 107. Also view the agency website at www.bigsistersri.org.

Open Books–Open Minds announces second season



"Listen up, Munchkins...the Wicked Witch is no longer dead. But not to worry. Gregory Maguire's shrewdly imagined and beautifully written first novel, Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West, not only revives her but re-envisioned and redeems her for our times." – Newsday

After a very successful inaugural year, Rhode Island College's common-book project, Open Books–Open Minds, returns for the 2006–07 season. Sponsored by the American Democracy Project (ADP), this initiative links students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni and the greater Rhode Island community through book discussions and participation in a rich array of programs and activities. ADP invites you to join us as we read this year's selection, *Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West* by Gregory Maguire.

The novel is a political, social and ethical commentary on good and evil. The story is about Elphaba, the misunderstood green-skinned girl who grows up to become the infamous Wicked Witch of the West.

Said Judith Stokes, James P. Adams librarian at RIC: "In *Wicked*, Maguire's rich fantasy world of Oz unfolds with all the intrigue of a murder mystery –

sure, we already know who done it, but ... was the witch really wicked? What was the lion really afraid of? Who bewitched the tin woodsman? How did the monkeys get their wings? And finally, what is so special about the Wicked Witch of the West that the other witches just can't measure up?"

Erin McCauley, RIC's ADP coordinator of community engagement, said, "After you read it, Oz and its characters are more relatable because they struggle with the same issues that we all face."

Judge Frank Caprio will serve as honorary chair of Open Books–Open Minds this year. He will "preside" over the major events and will make media appearances in support of the initiative.

"Judge Caprio is a modern-day representation of many of the themes pertinent to the book," said Alicia Vanasse, student chairperson of Open Books–Open Minds. "As a judge, he must analyze that sometimes fine line between good and evil, and whether people do bad things intentionally or unknowingly."

Several activities are scheduled throughout the spring as book groups organize. Look soon for an announcement of the Open Book–Open Minds website. If you have any questions or want to keep us informed about a book group that you have formed, please contact Valerie Endress at vendress@ric.edu.

Schedule of Events:

Feb. 15 – Open Books–Open Minds Information Session
4-5:30 p.m. Alumni Lounge, Roberts Hall

If you are interested in participating in a book group, or wish to be a book-group leader, this is the meeting to attend!

Feb. 22 – Panel presentation: "How Wicked Are You? The Community Speaks Out on Evil, Guilt, and Redemption"
2-3:30 p.m. Alger Hall 110

A distinguished group of panelists will engage the audience in a discussion about the social and cultural themes emerging from Maguire's book.

Feb. 22 – Carnival of Cultures at RIC
6-10 p.m. Student Union Ballroom

Our planned Wicked Mardi Gras will merge into a multicultural celebration of music, dance and food from Brazil, Cape Verde, Portugal and the Caribbean. The event is sponsored by Open Books–Open Minds and other campus and community groups working with the College's new International Non-Governmental Organization Studies (INGOS) Project.

Feb. 28 – Defining Wicked, Defying Gravity
12:30-2 p.m. Craig Lee 152

Denise Smith and Jan Park of the RIC Counseling Center will conduct a workshop in which participants will look at both the title and themes in Gregory Maguire's book from a social and psychological perspective.

March 1 – Film Showing: *Donnie Darko*
7 p.m. Student Union 307

After the film showing, join us for lively discussion and refreshments.

March – TBA

Watch for our culminating event – all readers of *Wicked* will come together for a communal book group led by a very special guest.



FALL 2006 Dean's List

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Omolola Adeduji
Michelle Aguiar
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Gregory Ahnrud
Andrea L. Aiello
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Jenna F. Albanese
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Jessica H. Almond
Adilson D. Alves
Rebekah M. Alves
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Amy Amaral
Jennifer M. Amaral
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Eric M. Bates
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Angela M. Beaudoin
Lindsey J. Beaudreau
Joel Beckman-Cicchetti
Hollie A. Bedetta
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Casey W. Belisle
Clarissa A. Belisle
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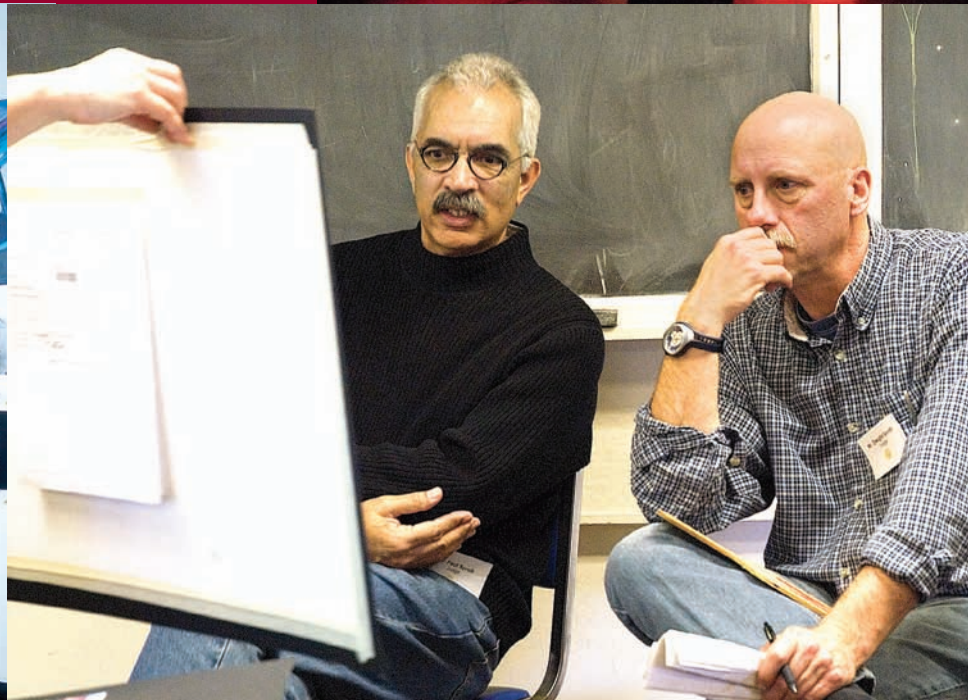
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Minh Duc T. Lang
Ryan C. Lang
Mary Langlois

WHAT'S HAPPENING Around the Campus



ARTS AT RIC: Creativity and personal expression continue to play an important role at the College, where, clockwise from top, Rob Franzblau conducts the RIC Wind Ensemble in preparation for its Songs and Dances concert last December; the RIC Dance Company rehearses a piece by Shannon Hummel for a Winter Concert, also last December; judges look over artwork of local students from grades seven through 12 who were entered in the Scholastic Art Awards program; and the work of the student award winners is on display at Bannister Gallery last month.



CENTER OF ATTENTION: This centerpiece graced the governor's table at the state inaugural ball held at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet on Jan. 3. It was made with items donated by the Alumni Office and Athletics and designed by Peg Brown, vice president for development and college relations, with an engraving done by the College's signage coordinator. As part of this year's inaugural festivities, Governor and Mrs. Carcieri invited state agencies and businesses to each make a centerpiece for the event.



NOT-SO-SIMPLE SIMON? Assistant Professor Lynn Blanchette (left) of the School of Nursing reviews a patient care scenario with student Kristen Black using the new SimMan computer simulation mannequin, which students like to call Simon.

