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What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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Ushering in a new era – Ribbon-cutting for Nazarian Center for Performing Arts Sept. 15

by Shelly Murphy
What’s News Editor

T he curtain is about to rise on a new era in the fine and performing arts at Rhode Island College with the dedication of the new $10 million John Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts at 2 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 15. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will begin at the front entrance of the Center and will be followed by tours and the dedication of the Arts for Public Facilities statueary and the courtyard. The event is free and open to the public.

Primarily underwritten by a bond issue approved by Rhode Island voters in November 1996, the Center offers among the very finest facilities for education and performances of music, theatre, and dance in all of New England. In addition, the College has created a new home for the College's highly respected Bannister Gallery, which is now located off the main lobby of The Auditorium in Roberts Hall.

The dedication of the Nazarian Center marks the beginning of a new era of excellence in the performing and the fine arts at Rhode Island College. This facility symbolizes the College’s enduring commitment to its students and to the community.

It was designed to provide appropriate teaching and learning spaces for faculty and students at the College, as well as high quality performance spaces for student and professional productions, thereby expanding cultural opportunities for the people of Rhode Island.

Featured prominently in the design of the Center are a number of original artifacts that were preserved from the College’s previous home, the former Rhode Island State Normal School building that was dedicated in 1898. Many Rhode Islanders will likely remember this grand edifice, located on a rise near the foot of the State House overlooking downtown Providence, with its impressive polychrome granite columns and graceful arches, yellow brick exterior, and terra cotta lions that gazed down from the building’s cornices. The actual columns and lions have been incorporated into the new Center, and the design of the main entrance is influenced by the arches and yellow brick of the College's earlier home.

While the design of the Center pays tribute to the College’s nearly 150-year tradition of academic excellence, the name of the Center honors an individual who began his association with the College as an incoming freshman in 1950 and who during the Brown named VP of development

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Marguerite M. Brown of Smithfield, who has served as director of development at Rhode Island College and executive director of its Foundation since 1985, a period in which the Foundation’s assets grew from $3.5 million to approximately $10 million, has been named vice president of development.

In making the announcement at the Opening Convocation for the new academic year, College President John Nazarian noted that “As the College enters a new era in its efforts to seek financial support from its many friends in the community, the time has come to demonstrate more definitively to our outside constituencies, the College’s commitment to development.” Nazarian called the appointment “an expression of this commitment.”

“We are fortunate to have gained the financial support of many individuals, corporations, and organizations within the community. This support has grown tremendously in recent years. It took 21 years to accumulate the first million. During the fiscal year just ended, Foundation assets have grown by $1.85 million,” Nazarian said.

One of the areas that has shown much recent promise as a source of funding has been naming opportunities, he noted. “In just the last few months, the Foundation has received gifts totaling some $2.8 million for named spaces within and about the Center for the Performing Arts. These include the Helen Forman Theatre, the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall, the Francis Martinick Resource Library, and the Bourget Lobby, to name but a few.”

“Numerous Rhode Island College Alumni Association has also had another record year, raising about $350,000 from all sources, he reported. During the Opening Convocation – College greets new year with anticipation

by Shelly Murphy
What’s News Editor

In opening the new academic year, College President John Nazarian welcomed the College community back from what has been a very active summer, due in part to major projects like the preparation for the College’s og-wide New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation visit and the dedication of the John Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts. Nazarian recognized “an unusually large number of people to the College community, noting that “this year’s incoming class of faculty and staff is one of the largest we have ever had.” He also provided a snapshot of this year’s student enrollment.

“Beginning Aug. 30, the day of the Convocation, undergraduate enrollment was up some 200 from last year,” Nazarian said. “The exterior halls were full with a waiting list three times that of last year; out-of-state students totaled 288, including 12 international students; a record-setting 728 transfer students were enrolled, and the overall number of applicants for admission for this fall was the highest since 1992. Sixty new students were enrolled in the Honors Program, including 53 freshmen and 30 transfer students. About 12 percent of the new students — freshmen and transfers — come from multi-cultural backgrounds.

“This is quite encouraging and it reflects, to some extent, the renewed

Bucci named education dean

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

John A. Bucci, professor of foundations of education and chair of the Steinmetz School of Education and Human Development. The appointment of Bucci to the position vacated by David Nelson, who has accepted a position at the University of Colorado, is just one of several recent changes in the leadership of the School announced by College President John Nazarian at the recent Opening Convocation.

In addition to the dean’s appointment, Nazarian also announced the appointment of a new associate dean for graduate studies and new appointees in two other key positions in the School — an associate dean for undergraduate studies and the co-director of the joint RIC and University of Rhode Island doctoral education program. The latter two positions opened recently as the individuals in the positions completed their appointments. Susan Schenck continues on the leadership ship team as director of clinical services.

Robert Czornyek, associate professor of history and secondary education, has been appointed associate dean with primary responsibility in the area of undergraduate education programs. He fills the position vacated by Florence Hennen, who completed her three-year appointment as associate dean at the end of June and returned to her faculty assignment in psychology. She will serve half time in the Office of Academic Support and Information Services (OASIS), where she will counsel education majors and prospective education majors.

Judith Berg, who joins the College School, sees the dedication of the Nazarian Center, page 8

See Convocation, page 8

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J. BUCCI

Vol. 21 Issue 1
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The Way We Were...

This popular item in What's News continues in order for you to be able to resist your alma mater with a selection of photos from the past — the College’s past, whether the current era (Rhode Island College) or past eras (Rhode Island College of Education or Rhode Island State Normal School). We invite your contribution of old photos, along with sufficient information about each, such as who’s in the photo and what they are doing, the year it was taken and place (if possible). In the meantime, we’ll continue searching our files for interesting pictures of past College life.

In Memoriam

Prof. Emerita of History Carmela Santoro

Carmela E. Santoro, professor emerita of history at Rhode Island College where she taught for 25 years prior to her retirement in 1983, died June 5 at Miriam Hospital. She was 83.

Professor Santoro, a lifelong resident of Providence, held a bachelor’s degree in education from RIC; a master’s from Brown and doctorate from Syracuse University, both in history. In 1984 she was named Alumna of the Year at RIC.

The next issue of What’s News will be Sept. 25. Deadline for submission of copy, photos, etc. is Friday, Sept. 15 at noon.

Story ideas are welcome. Call 401-456-8090 or e-mail smurphy@ric.edu.

WHAT’S NEWS AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Editor: Shelly Murphy
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Focus on Faculty and Staff


Raquel Shapiro, associate professor and Henry Barnard School psychologist/counselor, has been selected for listing in the 2001 edition of Marquis Who’s Who in America. The publication, which provides biographical reference of the highest achievers from across the country, will be available in October. Prior to joining the Barnard faculty, Shapiro served as a teacher, guidance counselor and school principal in Providence public schools. She received her bachelor’s, master’s and CAGS degrees from RIC and her doctorate from Boston University.

Mary M. Sullivan, associate professor of mathematics, participated in the workshop Undergraduate Statistical Education Initiative sponsored by the American Statistical Association at which representatives from diverse institutions of higher education and industry discussed methods to improve statistics education.

The mathematics and computer science department was active at the annual Small College Computing Conference held this year at Ramapo College in New Jersey. Rod Rodrigues, professor of mathematics, and Dave Armitage, senior information technologist at Network User Services, made a panel presentation, “Toward Paperless Courses and Beyond,” in which they described web-based courses with minimal paper.

Kate Sanders, assistant professor of computer science, and Ying Zhang, professor of mathematics, chaired sessions on “Novel Approaches to Teaching CS” and “First Course in CS Issues” respectively, and Roger Simons, who holds a joint appointment as professor of mathematics and computer science, helped organize the event as a member of the conference committee.

Armitage also presented a paper “Erasure Error Correction with Hardware Detection” at the IEEE International Symposium on Defect and Fault Tolerance in VLSI Systems in Albuquerque, N. M., last fall.

Greg Staszynski, assistant professor of elementary education, along with Lelon R. Capps of the University of Kansas, wrote an article on “Alignment of Elementary Geometry Curriculum with Current Standards” printed in the May issue of School Science & Mathematics.

Joseph L. Costa, director of Student Support Services, was named president of the New England Educational Opportunity Association at its regional conference in Newport.

As president, he represents more than 300 educators throughout the six New England states. NEEO is an organization of professionals who are engaged in insuring equal educational opportunities in higher education for low-income individuals, first generation college students and college students with disabilities.


The conference was sponsored by the Rhode Island Justice Commission and the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee.

Rollows also presented a paper entitled “Development of the Proactivity Scale to Predict Non-Intellectual Factors Related to Student Retention and Achievement” at the 56th annual convention of the International Council of Psychology in Padua, Italy, July 17-21. Co-author of the paper were Mary Zahn (RIC master’s degree, 1979), Peter Menenda and Gary Burkholder.

Julie Wollman-Bonilla, professor of elementary education, is the author of the book Family Message Journals: Teaching Writing through Family Involvement which recently was published by the National Council of Teachers of English.

Charles G. Snow Jr., assistant professor of accounting and chair of the accounting and computer information systems department, is the recipient of the National Society of Professional Engineers grant to make an oral presentation at its November conference in Boston on the subject of “Measuring Business Performance Using Indicators of Ecologically Sustainable Organizations.” The theme of the conference is “Environmentally Conscious Manufacturing.”

Amritjit Singh, professor of English and African-American studies, is co-editor of an anthology, Post-Colonial Theory and the United States: Race, Ethnicity and Literature, published by the University Press of Mississippi. The 19 essays examine critical issues around the United States’s ever expanding international cultural identity in the post-colonial era.

Gregory Frizte, an adjunct member of the music, theatre and dance department, is the recipient of the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers’ Standard Award, given to assist and encourage writers of serious music.

Carol R. Shelton, professor of nursing, presented a paper in June at a conference sponsored by the Institute of Health and Community Studies at the University of Bournemouth in England. Title of her presentation was “The Impact of Continuity of Care on the Infants of Poor Urban Women.”
Changes in leadership at Feinstein School of Education and Human Development

Continued from page 1

from the University of Northern Colorado where she most recently served as associate professor and acting division director, will serve as associate dean with primary responsibilities in the area of graduate programs. This will be in addition to teaching in her specialty area of educational administration. She holds a doctorate in education from Boston University, a masters degree from Fordham University and a masters and bachelors from New York University.

Julie E. Wollman-Bonilla, professor of elementary education, was appointed to serve as co-director of the joint doctoral education program. Joan Glazer has completed her three-year term as codirector of the program and will resume her full-time teaching assignment in elementary education.

Bucci, Berg, Cvmornek and Schenck comprise the leadership team for the FSEHD while Wollman-Bonilla’s administrative responsibilities are focused on the joint doctoral program.

“Dr. Bucci is a highly respected member of the faculty and of the education community with 26 years’ experience at the College. I am pleased to announce his appointment as Dean for the current year and I look forward to working together with this new leadership team to continue to strengthen the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development as the premier school of education in the state,” Nazarian said.

Bucci’s experience at RIC includes 16 years in administrative positions including acting dean and associate dean of the FSEHD, acting dean and assistant dean of the School of Continuing Education and Community Service, director of School Services and director of the Teacher Corps project. He has 10 years of public school education experience prior to joining RIC, including serving as principal of North Providence Adult School, as a teaching fellow at Boston University, and as a science teacher at North Providence High School. He holds a doctorate in education from Boston University, a masters from RIC, and a bachelors from Providence College. For the past eight years, he has been a full-time faculty member at RIC.

After 16 years as an administrator, I was eager to return to the faculty. The past eight years have been wonderful, productive years for me. The appeal for me in accepting this appointment was the opportunity to make a difference in education in a broader way, to implement many of the broad ideas about education that were nurtured during my recent years as a faculty member. Those eight years may have been the best preparation I could have had for the deanship,” Bucci said.

“I believe strongly in shared decision making and faculty governance, up to a point. I believe in trying to reach a consensus, but consensus must necessarily have limits due to time demands and unresolvable differences of opinion. I believe we are more productive and serve our students better when we operate in an environment that is characterized by collegiality, friendliness, and maximum participation,” Bucci said in describing his leadership style.

This philosophy is readily apparent in his goals and general approach. “I want to strengthen the sense of community within the School and to continue to develop and foster connections with external constituents,” he said.

“For instance, I view our relationship with the state department of education as a partnership. Schools of education and state departments of education are always in a relationship of dynamic tension. The state has the constitutional responsibility for education. As the premier teacher education institution in the state and region with a long tradition of preparing teachers, we have a special obligation and responsibility to use our expertise and knowledge which can demonstrate,” Bucci said.

“The faculty at the College and the teachers in the public schools have expertise and knowledge which can help in shaping policy, if we make use of it. Working in partnership with the state department of education and with the public schools, we can positively influence educational policy.”

Multicultural media fair, workshops

Promising Practices, the third annual multicultural media fair and workshops, will be held Saturday, Nov. 4 at various sites on campus.

The program, sponsored by the Dialogue on Diversity Committee, will feature a keynote address, workshops and curriculum resources. The keynote speaker will be Diana Lam, superintendent of Providence schools. Her topic will be “Integrating Concepts of Diversity into Sound Educational Policy and School Reform.”

The workshops will be on a variety of subjects related to “promising practices” that promote diversity in the classroom.

A minimal fee will be charged for the day-long program. CEU credits from the Department of Education will be available.

For more information, contact program chairs Elizabeth Rowell at (401) 456-8563 or e-mail at erowell@ric.edu or Mark Motte at (401) 456-8378 or e-mail at mmotte@ric.edu.
Foundation News

Summer? What summer? Despite the soggy summer that leaves all of our tomatoes green on the vine, the offices of alumni/foundation/development and alumni affairs have been extraordinarily busy.

Transitions...
We were extremely fortunate to add a new member of the team during the summer. David Allman joins us as our first director of information, research, and prospect management. He will be overseeing gift entry, managing donor records, and identifying resources to assist all foundation and alumni efforts. David, who holds a bachelors in music, has performed similar functions for non-profit organizations in California, at Trinity Repertory Company, and most recently, at the Providence Preservation Society. David fills a critical void and will be instrumental in the continued growth of our program.

At the same time, I am sorry to announce that Lynn Vinacco, who has served the development and foundation office for the past 10 years, has accepted a secretarial position at the Department of Elderly Affairs. I know you will join me in wishing Lynn well. We will all miss her organizational skills, her cheerful and efficient voice, and her assistance with major events and activities.

Annual Fund
The fiscal year for the Annual Fund ended on June 30, 2000. And the numbers are impressive!
• Over $350,000 in gifts and pledges raised from all sources.
• New donors: 394 who gave a total of $20,058.
• Number of donors who graduated between 1990 and 1999: 569.
• Number of donors who gave $100 or more: 967.
• New donors: 394 who gave a total of $20,058.
• Over $350,000 in gifts and pledges raised from all sources.
• New donors: 394 who gave a total of $20,058.

Contributions to the Annual Fund which ranged from $2 to $5,000 supported scholarships in excess of $80,000; faculty research projects, class reunions, and development and alumni offices, but also by a great many volunteers who have participated in phon-a-thons or volunteered at events,” Nazarian said.

Under Brown’s stewardship last year, the Foundation expended $1 million in support of scholarships and faculty research, College operations and special projects at the College. By comparison, $400,000 was expended in 1996.

The College is currently working with a professional fund consulting firm to conduct a feasibility study regarding conducting its first-ever comprehensive campaign. The firm has been surveying community leaders, corporate and foundation officials, philanthropists, and members of the College community by mail, telephone, in focus groups, and in personal interviews over the summer. A final report is expected around the end of September.

“Nonetheless, the College has already begun what development professionals refer to as the “quiet” phase of the campaign,” Nazarian said. “What this means, in plain English, is that once we have obtained enough commitments to bring the College to within a certain percentage of its goal, we will then go public. We have not yet established a goal.”

Prior to joining the URI administrative staff, Brown served for 10 years in various capacities at the University of Rhode Island, including director of corporate and foundation relations in the Division of University Advancement. As such, she was integrally involved in developing and implementing the plan for URI’s first-ever capital campaign for $50 million.

Brown holds a bachelor’s degree from Wilson College in Chambersburg, Penn.; a certificate in the Management Development Program from Harvard University; a master’s in public administration from URI, and a doctorate in professional higher education administration from the University of Connecticut.

Based on her doctoral dissertation, she was asked to write a chapter for the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (ABU) publication College and University Foundations: Serving America’s Public Higher Education which was published in 1997. The title of the chapter is “Autonomy and Independence: Lessons from the Courts.”
Alumni Association awards nearly $75,000 in scholarships to 82 students

Rhode Island College Alumni Association has awarded $74,750 in scholarships to 82 students for the 2000-2001 academic year, it was announced by Ellie O’Neill, director of alumni affairs.

Another $9,000 in Alumni Financial Aid Awards was given to the office of Financial Aid to be distributed at its discretion.

Contributions to the RIC Annual Fund make possible the scholarship money and alumni financial aid funds that are distributed each year.

The number of awards by category, the total amount awarded and the recipients and their hometowns are:

- Children (of Alumni) Academic Awards, three for a total of $9,000, Alicia Deyo, Harriville; Jennifer Boudreau, Providence, and Christy Stabile, Cranston.
- Alumni Graduate Awards, four for a total of $2,500, Eric Greenlund, Cranston; Andrea Neto, Fall River, and Kevin Fox, Providence.
- Alumni Freshmen Awards, 33 for a total of $17,800, Antonio Rodrigues, Cumberland; Casey Gillillan, Lincolns; Aja Collins, North Scituate; Kerri Zavota, Barrington; Jessica Arnold, Warwick; Kenneth Ferrara, North Providence; Mark Ferreira, Lincoln; Marc Pasonelli, Cranston; Also, Lisa Rose Bucci, Gloucester;

Kristen Chapian, Lincoln; Thomas Champagne, Woonsocket; Michael Croeau, North Smithfield; Christopher Dias, East Providence; Allyson Cook, Tiverton; Lauren Dulude, Narragansett; Tara Erickson, Warwick; Shannon Flood, Slaterstown; Christopher Marciano, Providence; Cori Garrison, Greenville; Jean Johnson, Warwick; Megan Kiley, Coventry;

Also, Laura Lamoureux, North Kingstown; Joseph Giardina, West Warwick; James Luth, Warwick; Carolyn Malon, Pawtucket; Stacey Marchand, Woonsocket; Tyla McCaffrey, Greene; Timothy McGeough, Douglas, Mass.; Ann-Minna Muzzi, North Providence; Scott Pacheco, Bristol; Christopher Pelletier, Woonsocket; Jennifer Rousseau, Blackstone, Mass.; Marlene Senerchia, North Kingstown.

- Departmental Awards, 40 for a total of $40,850, Angela Lang, Pawtucket; Justin Carley, West Warwick; Cheryl Ann Drew, West Greenwich; Cristin Goff, Newport; Tiini Ristikari, Finland; Brandee Gray, Cranston; Cassandra Silva, Swansea, Mass.

Other scholarships awarded through the alumni office are the Frank and Agnes Campbell Scholarship of $2,200 to Vinessa Frank and Agnes Campbell; Cassandra Silva, Swansea, Mass.; Andrew Lopes, Portsmouth; Deanna Mantoni, Danielson, Conn.;

Also, Michael Paz, Cumberland; Jennifer McCoy, Warwick; Lisa Middletown, Foster; Michael Roderick, Smithfield; Paul Rupert, Warwick; Suzette Silva, East Providence; Arthur Souza, Richmond; Kerri Travers, Bristol; Scott Winship, North Attleboro, Mass.; Patricia Kammerer, Providence;

Also, Peter Mwasaru, Providence; Marissa Lytle, Warwick; Jessica Tempest, Providence; Tina Fernandes, Warwick; Leslie Clements, Putnam, Conn.; Robert Fagan, Johnston; Stephanie Floris, Johnston; Seenat Thongdee, Cranston; Shanan Pimental, Coventry; Stephanie Callaghan, Warwick; Crisolita da Cruz, Providence; Danna Ferrara, North Providence; Jennifer Nott, Portsmouth; Tara Phelan, Newport; Cassandra Silva, Swansea, Mass.

Other scholarships awarded through the alumni office are the Frank and Agnes Campbell Scholarship of $2,200 to Vinessa Petice of East Greenwich, and the Andreoli Scholarship of $1,500 to Mary Callahan of Middletown.

Call 401-456-8086 for more information.


Summer reunions rekindle friendships, connections

Come Back to RIC! Oct. 13-14, 2000

Highlights:
Friday, Oct. 13
Dance the night away with BRASS ATTACK! 8 - 11 p.m., SU Ballroom $15 per person
Saturday, Oct. 14
1:30 p.m., Homecoming Float Parade

Look for detailed information in the mail and in the next issue of What’s News regarding other social, artistic and recreational activities. Call 401-456-8086 for more information.

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What’s News

Public comment invited for NEASC evaluation of RIC

Rhode Island College will undergo a comprehensive evaluation Oct. 15-18 by the Commission of Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), one of eight accrediting agencies in the United States that provides institutional accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the institution to: Public Comment on Rhode Island College, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, New England Association of Schools and Colleges, 209 Burlington Road, Bedford, Mass. 01730-1435. E-mail: chris@neasc.org

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution. Comments will not be treated as confidential. Written, signed comments must be received by Oct. 18. They should include the name, address and telephone number of the person providing the comments.

Plans underway for second Study Abroad trip to Italy

Study Abroad Program in Florence, established this past spring for the modern languages department by Santa V. Fortunato, assistant professor of Italian, was attended by the group of 16 Rhode Island College students, plus several faculty and alumnae who attended May 27 to June 4. Plans are being made for a second trip next spring.

Group members, accompanied by Fortunato, studied all levels of the Italian language, culture and opera at the prestigious Istituto Italiano di Cultura located in the historic center of Florence, and took out-of-town excursions to Venice, Siena, San Gimignano and Verona that were offered by the Istituto.

Early registration for next spring's tour is advisable because airfare is substantially less if booked early.

For more information, e-mail sfortonato@ric.edu or call the department at (401) 456-8029.

Fall career workshops set

Career development workshops are scheduled this month through Dec. 14 in Craig-Lee 054 by the Career Development Center and the Office of Academic Support and Information Services (OASIS).

Workshops are in resume writing, interview techniques, electronic resumes, job-search skills and out-of-state job search. They are open to students and alumni.

Sign up for sessions by calling (401) 456-8031.

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Fall is in the air: students move into full residence halls on brisk day.

On Sept. 6, approximately 850 resident students moved into their rooms in the five residential halls. The following day classes began.

What's News offers a glimpse of the beginning of the 2000-2001 academic year. Above, colorful banners on the College esplanade greet the new and returning students. Below, with a little help from her father, Norm, Heidi Paasche, a freshmen from Little Compton, carries her furnishings into Willard Hall.

UNPACKING in Sweet Hall is Alison Angelone, a freshman from Bristol.

FORTIFIED against the morning chill with a blanket, Brin Lorenc, a freshman from Narragansett, waits for help moving into Sweet Hall.
Fall is in the air: students move into full residence halls on brisk day

TALL ORDER: Alison Angers, a junior from Barrington, carries a rug into Weber Hall.

GETTING WIRED: (l and r) Chris Tiberi, a senior from Cranston, and “J. R.” Coutu, a freshman from Coventry, use a handcart to move their electronics equipment into Sweet Hall.

Photos and text by Gordon E. Rowley
Nazarian highlights changes at Convocation

Continued from page 1

emphasized that we have placed on recruitment and retention efforts. In the year ahead we will be building upon many of these initiatives, including our quality service program and the strengthening of academic advising through OASIS (the Office of Academic Support and Information Services)," Nazarian said.

"As we begin the recruitment process for students entering the College in September 2001, it is an effort that is already under way – our Admissions Office has a new and valuable incentive. For the first time this year, the state has added to Rhode Island College's budget a line item of $200,000 for merit scholarships. This will allow us to increase this amount by $200,000 each year for the next three years," he said, thanking Sally Dowling, chair of the Board of Governors for Higher Education and Workforce Development, commissioner of higher education, both of whom were in attendance. He also offered thanks to Rep. Tony Pires, chair of the House Finance Committee, the full Finance Committee, and Gov. George J. Mitchell and the General Assembly.

The Convocation address focused on recent changes and anticipated changes for the College. "Our world today is engulfed by rapid and fundamental change – driven particularly by remarkable advances in technology. Oftentimes, the magnitude of change and the speed at which the new approaches can astound even the most astute among us. Here are a few predictions about the future that were made in the past:

- In 1859, Charles H. Duell, Commissioner of the United States Patent Office, said, “Everything that can be invented has been invented.”
- In 1943, Thomas Watson, who built the IBM empire, said, “I think there is a world market for maybe five computers.”
- In 1977, Kent Olson of Digital Equipment Corporation, said, “There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home.”

And, in an especially memorable prediction, Bill Gates said in 1981, “640K ought to be enough for anybody.”

"We may laugh at how off base these predictions were, especially because we would expect those who made them to know better. Those of us in higher education are considered to be at the leading edge of our respective fields, and would therefore be expected to be far-sighted and to adapt well to change. Yet, at the same time, ours is an "industry" if you will, an industry that is bound to tradition and history. That's why we're referred to as "institutions." Change does not come naturally to us," he noted.

Citing a book by Spencer Johnson, M.D., co-author of The One Minute Manager, who Moved My Cheese, Nazarian addressed the importance of how the College community approaches change. "The premise is that change is inevitable and that our success and happiness is determined by how quickly we adapt to – and even embrace – the changes that confront us.

Unfortunately, human nature tends to take us in a different direction. We tend to resist change because we find comfort in that which is familiar," he said.

"To put it another way, the economist John Kenneth Galbraith, who holds an honorary doctorate from Rhode Island College, once said, 'Faced with the choice between changing and proving there is no need to do so, most people get busy on the proof.'"

"Another one of the lessons from Who Moved My Cheese? is the need to anticipate change, because when we are forewarned, we can make adjustments," he continued. "Case in point: Rhode Island's fiscal health." He noted that while the last two years have been better than any other years in the decade for the state's economy, the latest projection from the state budget officer indicates "the good times have already ended. Revenue growth has begun to slow down, taxes are being reduced, which decreases revenue; and certain portions of the state budget – notably, health care – have increased substantially. The bottom line for higher education is that there will likely be very little additional state revenue in the next few years, and that which may be forthcoming will be largely absorbed by increased personnel costs – salaries and benefits."

Rhode Island College is particularly affected by these constraints because the unbudgeted cost of implementing our new administrative software PeopleSoft was $5 million. The state provided an additional $1.1 million to help defray the cost and the College has elected to write off these excess costs over a five-year period. "Therefore, any increase we get from the state is first going to have to pay for yesterday's bills," he said. "I do not say these things to disencourage you. We still have much to celebrate, but I want everyone to know exactly where we stand so that as we work to secure adequate funding, we can also moderate our expectations.

In looking forward to the upcoming year, Nazarian summarized some personnel changes and provided a glimpse of ongoing and upcoming initiatives.

Among the personnel changes were the announcements of the promotion of Marguerite Brown from director of development to vice president of development and in the leadership of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development. (See related stories on page 1.)

He also noted that with the retirement of James Turley as dean of graduate studies and assistant vice president for academic affairs, the duties relating to administration of graduate programs have been assigned for the current year to the respective deans and to the director of the Center for Management and Technology. This arrangement will be reviewed by the College over the next year. George Metrey, dean of the School of Social Work, has accepted an additional assignment as acting assistant vice president for academic affairs.

Among the initiatives discussed were the NEASC review, set for Oct. 15–18, a joint study by the faculty of the FSEHD and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences regarding teacher education, technology, and facilities improvements, including a request for $4 million to renovate the residence halls that will be part of a $37 million higher education bond issue slated for the November election. The bond issue also includes projects at the University of Rhode Island and the Community College of Rhode Island. These and other topics will be explored in future issues of What’s News.

Nazarian concluded with an update on technology and announced, to a great round of applause, that with the College's most recent purchase of Dell PCs, all faculty members who want a personal computer in their office, will receive one. In conclusion, he returned to the message about change. "The accelerating pace of change is driven by new technologies. The acquisition of these technologies is expensive and becoming adept at their use can be challenging, but we are an institution of higher education. It is our responsibility to show the way to others. Therefore, let us accept these challenges, let us embrace these changes, and let us do so with full confidence that the future will be better than the past."
At the Opening Convocation on Aug. 30, the following new faculty and staff were introduced to the RIC community. It includes all individuals prepared by the Office of the President in addition to the RIC community in attendance. The list is prepared by the Office of the President in consultation with the Academic Affairs Office.

JUDITH H. BERG, associate professor of educational leadership, educational studies. Berg holds an EdD from Boston College, an MA from Providence College, and a BA from Brown University. Most recently an assistant professor at the National College of Education, she has also served as an adjunct nursing faculty member at a number of institutions.

LISA M. LABORNE, assistant director of residential life at the Providence Center. Laborne is a former assistant director of admissions. She is a resident of North Providence.

STEVEN B. CAMPBELL, housekeeper, custodial services. Campbell is a resident of North Providence.

TIANEKIA C. BOWMAN, senior word processing typist, Donovan Dining Center. Bowman previously served as a word processor typist at the Rhode Island Adult Day Care Center. She is a resident of Warwick.

MANISONE SISOUPHONE, programmer/analyst, management information services. Sisouphone, who holds a PhD from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and a BS from Creighton University, recently served as an application developer for the Westerly Indian Headlight. She is a resident of North Providence.


College community extends welcome to new colleagues

MARTA CAMORAS, residential life assistant, St. John's College. Camoras is a graduate of the University of Costa Rica and has served as a resident assistant at the Rhode Island State University. She is a resident of Providence.

JEFFREY D. ZANDER, resident hall director, Willard Hall. Zander has a BA in business studies from Cranford College and is a resident of North Providence.

SARAH TILBERT, assistant teacher in child care, Henry Barnard School. Tilbert holds a BS from URI. She most recently served as a teacher at the Chariho Elementary School. Tilbert resides in Wakefield.

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Catherine R. Bates, senior writing process managing editor. Bates most recently served with the RIC community's communications office at URI. She is a resident of North Kingston.

TANISHA C. BORRIN, senior writing process typist. Most recently served with the RIC community's communications office at URI. She is a resident of North Kingston.

CHERYL A. SWENBEY, fiscal clerk, student loan office. She is a resident of the Rhode Island Veterans Home and is a resident of Bristol.
A very busy and productive summer for the athletic facilities and our coaches. We look forward to the academic year. We have new faces in the athletic department. We have several of our coaches have left coaching to devote more time to other professional and personal activities. This includes our baseball coach Scott Perry, Steve Perry and Bob O’Toole and former gymnastics coach, Kim Zeiner-Daigle. We thank them for their efforts and wish them much success.

I would now like to introduce you to some of our new staff members. The majority of whom I am proud to say are Rhode Island College alumni. Art Pentorelli joins the staff as the recruiting coordinator. He will work closely with Anchor Club President Charles Wilkes and myself to increase membership in the booster club and assist with fundraising initiatives including an athletic alumni golf tournament.

He was the assistant baseball coach here from 1987-90 and the head coach from 1981-84. He moved on to the Community College of Rhode Island where he was the head coach from 1986-92, guiding the Knights to the NJCAA College World Series three times in 1988, 1991, and 1992. One of Art’s former players is currently Boston Red Sox reliever Rob Rondon.

He recently retired after 26 years as a history and government teacher at Pembroke High School. In addition to his duties here at RIC, Pentorelli is a scout for Major League Baseball’s Colorado Rockies.

Jay Grenier is our new head baseball coach. Jay was previously the lead baseball coach at CCRI, a position he held since 1993.

During his tenure as the head coach at CCRI, the Knights were a consistent regional power. He was named the NJCAA Coach of the Year in both 1994 and 1996. He was the Louisville Slugger Region 21 Coach of the Year in 1993, 1994 and 1996. Prior to taking the helm at CCRI, Grenier was an assistant coach for the Knights from 1985-93.

He began his coaching career as an assistant coach at Rhode Island College in 1981, and is still here in the baseball room. He has also served as the head coach of the Rhode Island Reds, a New England College Baseball League team. The team’s success has also served as a hitting coach for the Washington Nationals of the Major League Baseball organization.

Bob Rondon and Marc Pentorelli come over from CCRI with Jay and will be the assistant baseball coaches.

Nicole Follett is our new head women’s gymnastics coach. She was a gymnastics coach at the Rita Bemien Dine and Gymnastics Center since December of 1994 and an assistant gymnastics coach at Coventry High School and November of 1997. As a RIC student she lettered in both women’s gymnastics and track and field.

Matt Coleman is our first-ever head women’s lacrosse coach. The team will begin play this upcoming spring in the Little East Conference. Coleman has also served as a hitting coach for the University of Rhode Island. He was a defensiveman on the Rams’ club lacrosse team from 1991-95. URI was the Pioneer League and the team changed three times during Coleman’s tenure.

Christine Ann Palmacci is our new head softball coach. She has been the head assistant softball coach at Cranston High School West since 1998. She was the soccer and hockey cheerleading coach at Johnston High School from 1995-2000. Christine has an extensive background in dance as well and is a 1997 Rhode Island College graduate.

Hector Cardona ’99 joins the women’s soccer staff as an assistant coach. Hector is a former Indoor Soccer player who was an outstanding student in his career as a student-athlete and a 1997 Rhode Island College graduate.

As the Rhode Island College women’s volleyball team opened pre-season practice on Aug. 21, the Anchorwomen welcomed one of its top players back to the court. Outside hitter Jessica Arrighi missed the entire 1999 season while rehabilitating her right shoulder after surgery.

After outstanding freshman and sophomore seasons, it was obvious the Anchorwomen missed Arrighi’s presence in the lineup in ’99. RIC lost six of its first seven matches and struggled to an 8-26 overall record and a 1-6 mark in the Little East Conference last fall.

“Having Jess back on the team is a huge lift for us,” Head Coach Kristen Arrighi says. “I think the team can look to the way she’s come back. It’s been a year and a half long process for her and she’s really dedicated herself to getting back to where she was as a sophomore.”

She is fourth all-time at RIC with 1,211 minutes, 144 saves, 4.5 shutouts, a 1.56 GAA and a .872 save percentage in 16 games last fall.

“We have a lot of new players with a lot of potential this season,” Robitaille says. “Everyone is still getting used to playing with each other. I think we’ll improve as the season goes on. The seniors will have to step up and be leaders and teach the new players what it’s like to play at the college level.”

Senior center Jen Danielian will be the focal point of the squad’s offense. Danielian had seven goals and four assists for 18 points on her way to a Second Team All-Little East Conference selection last fall.

Senior Katie Hagan, who has seen her offensive role diminish over the past year due to knee injuries, will play at sweeper again this season. Hagan, who led the Anchorwomen in scoring in 1997 and 1998, is scheduled to have another knee surgery after the season.

Senior back Stephanie Fiorio, another three-year starter, is a rock on defense. Two sophomores will anchor the midfield position. Allison Vales started all 18 games as a rookie with two goals and one assist for five points in 1999. Two-sport standout (soccer and softball) Holly Benevides had three goals and one assist for seven points from her midfield spot last fall.

“We’ll be a little younger this season,” Barber adds. “We finally had some success last season and the team is looking forward to building on last year’s accomplishments.”

Robitaille heads up re-tooled women’s soccer team

by Scott Gibbons
Sports Information Director

RIC Head Women’s Soccer Coach Nicole Barber had her work cut out for her this past off-season. Not only did RIC have to replace all-time leading scorer and First Team All-Little East Conference forward Joan Hencler, but the team also lost four other seniors who saw significant playing time.

“We’ve lost six key players over the past two seasons,” Barber says, “but we have a lot of younger players who will step up and play a more significant role this year.”

RIC is looking to build on its first winning season. The Anchorwomen were 9-8-1 overall with a 2-4-1 mark in the Little East in 1999.

One area Barber won’t have to worry about is in goal. Jessica Robitaille has been the squad’s starter since her freshman season back in 1997. She is RIC’s all-time leader in career wins, goals-against average, minutes played, save percentage, shutouts and saves.

She logged 1,211 minutes, 144 saves, 4.5 shutouts, a 1.56 GAA and a .872 save percentage in 16 games last fall.

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Arrighi’s return sparks women’s volleyball
Popular Chamber Music Series continues the tradition of bringing in talented performers

The Rhode Island College Wednesday One O’clock Chamber Music Series this fall will feature five performances from September to December in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

All performances are free and open to the public.

T he Toccare Duo with Stanislava Svecova on recorder and Michael Bahmann on harpsichord will start the series Sept. 27. Fred Jodry, counter-tenor, will join them. The Duo has performed baroque and contemporary music in the United States and Europe, recording for Czechoslovak Radio and WBGH in Boston.

Dramatic soprano Kathryn Barnes-Burroughs, who recently made her debut as Tosca with the Houston Opera and the Helsinki Opera, will perform Oct. 25 accompanied by pianist Stephen Martorella. Barnes-Burroughs has toured with the New York City Opera’s national company and has performed with the New Orleans Opera Association, the Hawaii, Anchorage, Fort Worth and Shreveport opera, among others.

The Corigliano String Quartet, which is dedicated to the presentation of new American music in tandem with the standard quartet repertoire, will take the stage Nov. 8. Recent performances have taken it to New York, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, Minneapolis and Korea. A master class will follow this program.

Soprano Alonzo King’s LINES Contemporary Ballet with Zakir Hussain on March 22, and humorist, best-selling author and National Public Radio commentator David Sedaris on March 31.

All will be in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall at 8 p.m.

The President’s Music Series, a part of the Performing Arts Series, will see the return of the Muir String Quartet for the eighth consecutive season for performances on Oct. 16 and on April 23 with guest pianist Mihae Lee; the Erroica Trio on Jan. 22; and the Boston Symphony Chamber Players on March 5. All performances in the Music Series will be at 8 p.m. in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center.

The Emerging Artist Series, instituted last season as part of the Performing Arts Series, will bring Minsk pianist Andrey Ponochevy on Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall. Ponochev was the first prize winner in the 1998 William Kappel International Competition.

A Performing Arts Series engagement on Feb. 2 will be violinist Joshua Bell in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. Bell received three Grammy award nominations in the past year, appeared in the film Music of the Heart and his violin virtuosity was displayed in the film The Red Violin, the score of which received an Academy Award.

Call (401) 456-8194 for more information.

RIC’s Performing Arts Series — Adrian Hall in ‘Love Letters’ plus dance, music, New Yorker wit

A love letter for Rhode Island via A. R. Gurney’s Love Letters, a play about lifelong friends performed by lifelong friends Adrian Hall and Katherine Helmond, will kick off the Rhode Island College Performing Arts Series’ Popkourri Series with three performances Sept. 29-24 in the Lila and John Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

For 25 years, Hall provided direction and inspiration to the Tony Award-winning Trinity Repertory Company. In 1963, he became the company’s first artistic director and transformed the small community theater to one of the country’s most renowned resident theaters.

Returning to Providence, Hall will team up with Helmond, who was a member of the Trinity company from 1965 to 1969. She went on to a very successful career in film and TV. Her acting credits include the TV series Who’s the Boss?, Soap and Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas.

Performances of Love Letters will be at 8 p.m. Saturday, the 23rd, and 2 and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Other acts in the RIC Performing Arts Series’ Popkourri Series include Carnaval 2000: Balle Folkloric dances of Brazilian origin, on Oct. 12; The Parsons Dance Company with the Elm City Ensemble, which combines modern dance with one of America’s top 10 young chamber ensembles on Oct. 25; and open to the area in November.

The Corigliano String Quartet, the score of which received an Oscar nomination for Best Original Score for the film A Beautiful Mind, was displayed in the film 2001: A Space Odyssey. Corigliano’s violin virtuosity appeared in the past year, appeared in the film Music of the Heart and his violin virtuosity was displayed in the film The Red Violin, the score of which received an Academy Award.

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John Custer to be honored as ‘Hero in Art Education’

John Custer, director of the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts and the Performing Arts Series at Rhode Island College, will be honored as a “Hero in Art Education” by the Rhode Island Alliance for Arts Education at the third annual Start-of-the-Year reception Sept. 14 at the Providence Performing Arts Center.

Custer is cited for providing “many opportunities” for middle and high school students to participate in special workshops with many of the visiting artists who perform in the RIC Performing Arts Series, and has on numerous occasions invited a number of students to attend performances at the College.

Custer, who holds the academic rank of professor, has been at the College since 1989. Also to be honored will be the Benefactors of the Arts of Newport’s historic point section. They are being cited for annually conducting The Secret Garden Tour, a fund raiser for the arts.

The Alliance is a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster the inclusion of arts in the educational process.
RIC CALENDAR
SEPT. 11 - 25, 2000

Tuesdays
11 a.m. to noon—Stress Management. This group introduces students to the basic stress man-
agement principles and a variety of relaxation strategies, emphasizing the use of biofeedback. This may be
useful for students with stress and anxiety problems, as well as those who would like to enhance their per-
formance and well being. No appointment or intake is required, and stu-
dents, faculty, and staff may attend as often as they wish. Meets in Craig-
Lee 130. For further information, call the Counseling Center, 456-8094.

Twelves
2 to 3 p.m.—Mindfulness Meditation. Meditation has been shown to have
substantial benefits for the mind and body. With mindfulness medita-
tion, the goal is to cultivate moment-
to-moment awareness by purposeful direction of attention. This group will
offer beginners some basic instruc-
tion and more experienced medita-
tors a regular sitting practice. No
appointment or intake is required.
Open to students, faculty, and staff.
Meets in Craig-Lee 130. For further information,
call the Counseling Center, 456-8094.

12 Tuesday
7:30 p.m.—Film: American Beauty
in Horace Mann 193. $2 admission.
Sponsored by Film Society.

WEDNESDAY
13 Wednesday
12:30 to 2 p.m.—Campus Activities Day. See how you can get involved!
Outside the Student Union. For fur-
ther information, call the Campus Center, 456-8034.

RIC Trip: WaterFire Providence (weather permitting) Bus leaves at 6:30 and returns to RIC at 9:30 p.m.
For further information, call Student Activities, 456-8034.

8 p.m.—Video Dance Party-free in the SU Ballroom. For further information,
call RIC Programming, 456-8045.

FRIDAY
15 Friday
Dedication of the John Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts
2 p.m. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony; 3:15 p.m. Courtyard Dedication; 3:30 p.m. Art for Public
Facilities Dedication. Tours, demonstrations, entertainment, and light refreshments to follow. For more in-
formation, call 456-8184.

SATURDAY
16 Saturday
RIC Trip: Tubing Down the Farmington River. Bus leaves the SU Loop at 9 a.m. and returns to RIC
at 6 p.m. $4 for RIC student/8 for non-RIC students. Tickets can be pur-
chased at the Recreation Center and SU Info Desk. Includes bus, tubes and lunch. For further information,
call Aquatics, 456-8277, or Student Activities, 456-8034.

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.—Infestables: Banger Run, Walk Wall, etc.
In the "Quad" in front of the Library-

Managing Test Anxiety in Craig-Lee 130. Does the thought of taking a test cause you to feel anx-
ious or send you into a panic? Do you get nervous, lose sleep the night before, or go blank during an exam?
You are not alone. Come and learn some new tips on coping with this common problem. For further infor-
mation, call the Counseling Center, 456-8094.

20 Wednesday
1 to 2 p.m.—Managing Test Anxiety in Craig-Lee 130. Does the thought of taking a test cause you to feel anx-
ious or send you into a panic? Do you get nervous, lose sleep the night before, or go blank during an exam?
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mation, call the Counseling Center, 456-8094.

22 Friday
Major Concert: EVE 6 (new CD:
"Horoscope") New Building (gym)
Doors open at 7 p.m. Limited tickets
available. Advance ticket at SU Info Desk $10 with college ID, $15 with-
out. Tickets at the door 1/2 nights of
the show. For further information,
call RIC Programming, 456-8045.

23 and 24 Sat. and Sun.
Potpourri Series, Theatre: “Love Letters” with Adrian Hall and
Katherine Helmend. Part of the
Performing Arts Series. 8 p.m. on
Sept. 20; 2 and 7:30 p.m. perfor-
mances on Sept. 24. Held in Lila and
John Sapinalsey Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts. Call
456-8184.

SUNDAY
24 Sunday
RIC Trip: Canoe Trip on the Wood
River. Bus leaves SU at 10 a.m. and
returns 5 p.m. Only $10 for RIC
students with ID/15 non-RIC stu-
dents. Tickets may be purchased at
Recreation Center and SU Info Desk.
Includes bus, canoe/kayak/lunch and all gear. For further information,
call RIC Programming, Student Activities, 456-8034, or Aquatics, 456-8227.

Sports Events

Men’s Soccer
Tues. Sept. 12 at Roger Williams 3:30 p.m.
Thurs. Sept. 14 at Worcester State 3:30 p.m.
Mon. Sept. 18 at Bridgewater State 3:30 p.m.
Wed. Sept. 20 at Salem State 3:30 p.m.
Sat. Sept. 23 at UMass-Boston * 1 p.m.

Women’s Soccer
Tues. Sept. 12 at Roger Williams 4 p.m.
Thurs. Sept. 14 at Worcester State 7 p.m.
Sat. Sept. 16 at Southern Maine * 1 p.m.
Tues. Sept. 19 at UMass-Dartmouth * 3:30 p.m.
Sat. Sept. 23 at UMass-Boston * 1 p.m.

Women’s Tennis
Thurs. Sept. 14 at Roger Williams 3:30 p.m.
Mon. Sept. 18 at UMass-Boston * 3:30 p.m.
Wed. Sept. 20 at Bryant 3 p.m.
Sat. Sept. 23 at Newbury # 1 p.m.
Mon. Sept. 25 at Bridgewater State 3:30 p.m.

Women’s Volleyball
Wed. Sept. 13 at WPI 7 p.m.
Tues. Sept. 19 at Wesleyan 7 p.m.
Fri. Sept. 22 at Bridgewater State Invitational 4 p.m.
Sat. Sept. 23 at Bridgewater State Invitational Noon

Men’s and Women’s Cross Country
Sat. Sept. 16 at UMass-Dartmouth Invitational Noon
Sat. Sept. 23 at Ray Dyer Invitational * Noon

Home games/meets in bold

HUM/BURGING IT UP, during the Creating a New Service Agenda picnic on the esplanade June 28, is Vice President for Student Affairs Gary Penfield, as he serves his administrative secretary Eva Neira. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)