What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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Future teachers gain hands-on multicultural experience in local classrooms

by Jane Fusco
What's News Editor

The department of education faculty, in conjunction with Volunteers in Providence Schools (VIPS), has implemented a service learning project for RIC students preparing to be teachers, to tutor culturally diverse children in one-on-one situations, for 15 hours as part of their 25 hour community service requirement. The project is part of the Diversity and the Public School course ENED 345.

The goal of the program is to improve the learning experience for college students preparing to be teachers and for students in the collaborating K-12 schools.

Each semester, more than 300 RIC students in the education preparation program are placed in K-12 classes in elementary and secondary schools in the Providence school district, providing more than 4500 hours of free tutoring time. VIPS and faculty members handle the placement of the RIC tutors and work with classroom instructors to identify children in need of tutoring. Children are tutored in reading, writing, language, math and social studies. The major emphasis is on literacy, as part of a concerted effort by the Providence school system to improve this area throughout the city.

"While helping children develop literacy skills, our college students learn first-hand about culturally, linguistically, and socio-economically diverse classrooms and schools," said John Bucci, dean of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development.

Pre-service teachers are expected to develop a better understanding and respect for diversity in the classroom through the program. They also learn how to relate to and teach diverse students. In turn, children learn how to interact with diverse teachers, develop stronger educational values, and adopt positive role models as they improve their academic skills.

"Through direct interaction and working with students of diverse backgrounds..."
This popular item in What’s News continues so you can revisit your alma mater with a selection of photos from 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 of positing, and we will continue searching our files for interesting pictures of past College life.

Focus on the Faculty and Staff

Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit items of information about their professional endeavors to What’s News, Office of News and Public Relations, 300 Roberts Hall or email them to cpage@ric.edu.

In memoriam — Professor Emeritus Vincent Calia

Vincent F. Calia, 75, professor emeritus of counseling and educational psychology, died at his home in Barrington Feb. 14. He was the husband of Caroline Molloy-Calía. A professor in the counseling and educational psychology department, he taught at the graduate level for 30 years before retiring as professor emeritus in 1994. He was also a clinical psychologist in private practice for 30 years.

Born in Somerville, Mass., son of the late Frank and Annie (Blunda) Calia, he had lived in Barrington for two years, previously living in East Providence for 10 years.

He received his bachelor’s degree from Northeastern University, and a master’s and doctoral degrees from Boston University.

He was founder and past president of the Knights of the Wine Table and an Army veteran of World War II.

Besides his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Moira J. Turpel of Berkley, Mass.; a son, Paul T. Calia of Wrentham, Mass.; two sisters, Pauline DeConito of Sandwich, Mass., and Frances Fabbricotti-Mitchell of Bellingham, Mass.; a brother, Frank M. Calia of Baltimore; and two grandchildren.

The funeral was held Feb. 19 from the Perry McStay Funeral Home, East Providence, with a Mass of Christian Burial in St. Luke’s Church, Barrington. Burial with military honors was in the Rhode Island Veterans Cemetery, Exeter.

Area educators attend ‘assistive technology’ workshop at RIC

Forty area teachers joined members of the Rhode Island College community at a Feb. 8 workshop in the Forman Center to learn more about assistive technology, which is described as “any tool or device that can be used by a person with a disability to function more effectively.”

Maralaina K. Pugliese, a nationally recognized expert in educational technology from Simmons College in Boston, presented the workshop.

Entitled “Stage 3: Alternative Assessment Strategies and Software Based Curriculum Solutions for Learners with Special Needs,” it offered both a philosophy and framework for assessing the special learning needs of children and adolescents with disabilities through the use of specialized software, according to Betty Dalton, assistive technology coordinator for the University Affiliated Program (UAP). She holds the rank of assistant professor.

Dalton was awarded a $2,700 grant for the workshop through the RIC Faculty Development Fund.

The Way We Were…

SPACE SHUTTLE

David C. Woolman, professor in the Center for Educational Resources, has authored “A Guide for Teachers in Rhode Island and Southeastern New England.” The guide has 845 index-controlled entries covering commercial and governmental resources, research activities, and professional development information. Resources cited encompass children’s literature, dramatization, games, multimedia, periodicals, persons with expertise, simulations, tests and websites. Student activities beyond the classroom include competitions, educational travel, local field trips and libraries to visit. Teacher resources feature curriculum enrichment projects, opportunities for professional growth, sources for standards-based instruction and teacher organizations.

The guide was initially published in 2001 as a CRC Resource Guide. In January 2001, the CRC/CHES-Clearinghouse for Social Studies/Social Science Education published the guide in the CRC database of educational resources where it can be accessed in multiple formats including as document ID 46013. The entire guide will also be included in a forthcoming state document, “Creating-Better-Lives-for-Youth: Rhode Island Studies Programs in Rhode Island Schools,” that is slated for publication by the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education this year. Woolman also served on the Writing Team and the Editorial Advisory Board for this new Rhode Island guide that introduces teachers to current curricular standards, assessment, program evaluation and inclusive curriculum planning.

RIC’s Department of Mathematics and Computer Science was well represented at the Joint Mathematics Meetings recently in San Diego, Calif. Chairperson Helen Salzberg and former chairperson Barry Schiller supported six department members who presented papers. Professors Ann Sullivan and Roger Simons, “Finding Unpredictable Functions with Control Constraints,” and “Developing Understanding—Among Statistical Representations,” were joined by associate professors Lisa Humphreys, “Finding Unpredictable Functions with Simple Ordinary Differential Equation” and Mary M. Sullivan, “Developing Understanding—Among Statistical Representations.” While Assistant professors Raimundo Kovac, “Composition and Topological Operators in Lorentz Ideals” and Rebecca Sparks, “An Algorithm for Finding Rational Interpolating Functions with Control Constraints” delivered papers, Chris Teixeira presented a session for Project NExt Fellows.

Len West, a member of the adjunct faculty in the educational studies department, presented a session entitled, “The Internet As A Gateway to New Educational Technology in Teaching Conference,” held recently at the University of Rhode Island in Providence. The conference featured 15 presenters. His presentation addressed issues and techniques related to students’ electronic submission of work. His previous efforts in this arena, “Using Mathcad and Advanced Graphs, Graphs, Graphs,” earned a prestigious award from the International Conference on College Mathematics in 1997.

Professor of marketing Stephen Ramocki presented an article entitled, “Creativity Interacts with Fitness a in The Physical Educator, Volume 59 Number 2, at the University of Rhode Island, 2002. and a book chapter titled, in The Handbook of Policy Creativity, Volume 1, in 2000. Stephen Ramocki was also the chairperson of the Rhode Island State Education Technology in Teaching Conference, held recently at the University of Rhode Island. The state-wide conference featured 15 presenters. His presentation addressed issues and techniques related to students’ electronic submission of work. His previous efforts in this arena, “Using Mathcad and Advanced Graphs, Graphs, Graphs,” earned a prestigious award from the International Conference on College Mathematics in 1997. Professor of marketing Stephen Ramocki presented an article entitled, “Creativity Interacts with Fitness a in The Physical Educator, Volume 59 Number 2, at the University of Rhode Island, 2002. and a book chapter titled, in The Handbook of Policy Creativity, Volume 1, in 2000.

Student Support Services receives grant

The Rhode Island College Student Support Services Program has received $30,225 to be awarded eligible Student Support Services students during the 2002-2003 academic year.

The grant is part of the Higher Education Act of 1965 which allows grants to receive funding under the following: Title IV, Title V, Title VI and Title VII.

Additions to RIC Dean’s List

The Office of News and Public Relations recently added additional names of students who made the Dean’s List but whose names were omitted from the list printed in the Jan. 29 issue of What’s News.

Student Support Services program within TRIO to use part of these funds for direct aid to needy students.

The supplemental funds will be awarded as grants as an added eligibility to eligible Student Services students during the 2002-2003 project year.

Congratulations to Cory M. Coleman, Amanda Dupre, Michelle R. Ethier, Laura K. Fabrizio, Melanie B. Furtado, Sara Konicki and Vinessa Petrice.

VINTAGE MUSIC: For this issue’s photo, we take you back to the RIC Chamber Music Concert of Sept. 29, 1964 and its three performers (from left) Betty Adze, Abraham Schwadron and Thomas Greene. Schwadron and Greene were RIC faculty members at the time. (file photo)
RIC’s Huling photographed flowers in Italian Alps

by George LaTour
What’s News Associate Editor

If you want to study mountain flora, there’s no better place than the mountains of Italy. At least that’s the educated opinion of Rhode Island College’s greenhouse manager, Dianne J. Huling, who has been at RIC since her 1973 graduation from the University of Rhode Island with a degree in resource development in plant and soil science, traveled to the Italian “boot” last June for 16 days of “high” adventure atop the Dolomite Mountains in Tagnale. It is in the Lake Garda area, a part of the Alps.

Huling, who paid her own way, feels it’s “important for professional staff to get involved in their discipline.”

As greenhouse manager, she oversees operations that include maintaining a living plant collection appropriate for the teaching and research needs of the biology department and coordinates the use of plants, growing materials and associated facilities to enhance educational opportunities for the College community.

She was part of a party of six that made the trip. All are members of the New England Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society to which both Dianne and her husband, Raymond, belong.

Having specialized in soil science — as opposed to Diane’s specialization in plant science — Raymond recently retired as grounds manager at the Adult Correctional College community.

The Royal Mills Project

T
HE ROYAL MILLS PROJECT, a month-long photo exhibit at the Warwick Museum, showcases photographs by RIC students, faculty and alumni that chronicle the history and significance of the Mill complex, which was once one of the largest textile manufacturing sites in the world. The exhibit runs until Feb. 27. Call 737-0010 for museum hours.

A wide-angle shot of the Royal Mills Complex on 125 Providence Street in West Warwick taken by Paola Ferrario, assistant professor of art, for the exhibit.

Above: Paola Ferrario (right) chats with guests at the opening reception Feb. 3.

At left: A wedding gown with intricate lacework recovered from the Mills is restored for the exhibit.

At right: Mara Trachtenberg ‘99, stands near some of her photos on display at the exhibit.

ALPINE FLORA now in the RIC greenhouse are shown by manager Dianne Huling.

The soil is limestone. They thrive and bloom right next to snow melts. They don’t have a lot of nutrients. The soil is limestone. They thrive there and have big colorful flowers and are just unique,” she says. Huling describes them as plants that have adapted to a severe environment.

“For instance, they have a very short growing season and (have to) survive high winds. And they grow and bloom right next to snow melts. They don’t have a lot of nutrients. The soil is limestone. They thrive there and have big colorful flowers and are just unique,” she says. Huling describes them as plants that have adapted to a severe environment.

Huling says the flowers “can be grown around here if you take special precautions.” Precautions like changing the soil. The soil in Rhode Island “is too heavy for them.” They like more sand and some peat moss and a little bit of loam.

Huling took some 900 color slides of the plants and showed some of them at a presentation Feb. 6 at the College at which 30 people attended. She’s also done a presentation at the Rock Garden Society and hopes to be able to make another presentation at RIC in the future.

While traversing the mountains, which good roads allowed their rental cars to climb, the group stayed in local hotels in the surrounding towns.

“The food was fabulous. They eat so well,” she assures. They were on the half-pension plan which, in addition to the room, provided for breakfast and dinner.

Huling says, “You could have anything you want” for breakfast — from juice, a whole range of cereals and bagels to eggs and smoked meat, yogurt and cappuccino. For supper you start off with hors d’oeuvres followed by appetizers, soup, a pasta dish, the main course and dessert.

“Is that fabulous or what?” asks Huling. Would she consider going back sometime? “In a heartbeat,” she exclaims.
Foundation News

Greetings from the nor-so-sunny West Coast where the warmth of the welcome we received from our alumni and friends far exceeds the temperature! Pres t e n t N a z a r i a n , director of the annual fund, is arriving from San Francisco to Palm Springs hosting three receptions and visiting with many individuals to personally thank them for their past support for the College. We are bringing the massage of the Capital Campaign and the upcoming sesquicentennial and asking for support for both over the next two years. Accompanied by our case statement, we have a recent video of the capital and special projects under way on campus, we are finding that many with whom we have not returned to Rhode Island in recent years are awed by the changes that are taking place. When we mention that we have over $40 million in capital projects completed (or underway), the expressions of pride are evident. Many with whom we are visiting were among the first classes to graduate from the “new campus”—a facility that consisted of five buildings with a construction cost of just over $5 million.

As with any of these outreach efforts, I am moved by the stories our alumni tell of how important their college education has been in both their personal lives and in their careers. I look forward to sharing some of their stories and photographs with all of you in upcoming issues of What’s News and in the next edition of the Alumni Magazine.

June 7, 2002—An important date for all of you to mark on your calendars. On June 7, we will host the formal kick-off for the Capital Campaign on campus. Utilizing the occasion of the Rhode Island College Foundation’s 11th annual gala, we will recognize individuals and corporations who have made early leadership gifts to the Campaign. The gala, with a gold and white theme (yes, gold and white are the College’s official colors), will include a cocktail hour and silent auction, dinner, dancing, and a special program reflecting the importance of the Campaign in our efforts to enhance the tradition of excellence through increased private support. We are exploring ways to create a unique venue on campus as the site for this festive and historic event. Save the date postcards will be arriving in your mailboxes shortly with more details to follow.

We are asking all of our alumni and friends to support the event in some way that will make a statement to the entire community. The Campaign, with its goal of $25 million, will conclude on June 30, 2004, on the occasion of our 150th anniversary. We have set some ambitious goals for the next two years, and we will only succeed if our 40,000-plus alumni and our hundreds of friends seize this moment and speak with one voice. We need the assistance and support of each and every one of you as the College moves, with energy and vigor, through its next 150 years.

In addition to being a good student at Cranston West High School, she was on the honor roll and won an award for being an outstanding student of Spanish. Wilson was very active in school and community activities. She was a member of Student Council, the student organization FADD (Falcons Against Doing Drugs), the drama club, Reading Buddies Tutoring Program and the Highland Pavilion (assisted living program).

Outside the school walls, she was active as a volunteer with the One Wish Foundation, the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) and the Highland Pavilion (assisted living program).

One of her favorite activities is that of cheerleading. In high school she was a cheerleader for football and basketball and entered the varsity cheerleading team. At RIC, she is a member of the cheerleading team for women’s and men’s basketball and wrestling.

To help pay for her college expenses, Wilson works at Target in Warwick as a sales associate.

To make contributions to the RIC Annual Fund online visit: www.ric.edu/alumni/online_giving. For information on the Annual Fund, contact Nancy Hoogasian, director of the Annual Fund, at 401-456-8827.
RI Campus Compact launches Professional Development Program for Teachers by Maggie Grove

Executive Director
Rhode Island Campus Compact

Teachers across the state will be coming together at local colleges to learn how to integrate public service into their classroom curricula in order to inspire and strengthen neighborhoods. This educational strategy, known as “community-based learning” or “service-learning,” will help students in community problem solving using their academic work as a platform for study and service.

Research shows that students who participate in this type of experiential education are more likely to develop a sense of civic and social responsibility and the ability to relate to culturally diverse groups, and are less likely to engage in risk-taking behaviors. The practice of service-learning has also been directly linked to higher school attendance, higher rates of school completion, and increased levels of student motivation to learn (Billig, May 2000).

Rhode Island Campus Compact’s new program, Teach to Change, is designed to provide teachers with vital skills and resources for increasing efforts in higher education and encourage the development of partnerships between colleges and K-12 schools. Rhode Island Campus Compact, the program sponsor, is a collaborative of colleges and universities and one of America’s leading states in the area of higher education. Teach to Change is one example of how Rhode Island colleges can respond collectively to community needs. Last fall, teacher education professors from Rhode Island College, Brown University, Providence College and Salve Regina University met to jointly develop the course in service-learning pedagogy and began instruction on their various campuses with the start of the winter semester.

Teach to Change is an AmeriCorps program funded by the Rhode Island Service Alliance (the state consortium for AmeriCorps members), Rhode Island teachers and students, and community partners, including local children and neighborhoods. They will participate in the Teach to Change program (a 1.5 year commitment) by taking the service-learning course and by using service-learning as an educational strategy with at least one of their classes. During the first six months, teachers will pilot a service-learning project and work to develop sustainable partnerships with community-based organizations or other service partners during the following year.

Those educators who successfully complete the program will each earn an education award total of $7,087 that can be used to repay student loans or to finance further schooling. They will work with Rhode Island teachers over the next year and a half. The Compact hopes to expand the program to other communities in the state. A second group of teachers will be selected to begin Teach to Change in September 2002. For more information, contact the Rhode Island Campus Compact at 598-1319.

Welfare Progress Report

Continued from page 1

There were “significant increases in employment, 14 percent increase in the one-half year period of the study among both former as well as current FIP beneficiaries, said Bromley.

Study members who had exited cash assistance within the one-half year period basically tripped their employment rate; 29 percent of the sample were employed during the period following their departure from cash assistance. During the first year of FIP, 86 percent were employed approximately one year later.

The increase for those who remained on cash assistance was significantly less than the 14 percent rate. Employment level to 29 percent. These employment levels for persons who receive the assistance, as well as those who remained on cash assistance, are above the national average reported by the Urban Institute for a similar period, said Bromley.

A comprehensive economic analysis by researchers from Wellesley College in Massachusetts and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill followed a 50 percent of the white sample. The 1996, under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), until April 2000, three years after FIP began. This period includes the early phase of the family independence program under FIP, that the Family Independence Program (FIP) met to jointly develop the course in service-learning pedagogy and began instruction on their various campuses with the start of the winter semester. The seventh annual Gehrenbeck Memorial lecture entitled “The Crisis in Russian Science” will be given Thursday, March 7, at 8 p.m. in Clarke Science Building 128 by Loren R. Graham, professor of the history of science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

“The near collapse of Russian science that accompanied the fall of the Soviet Union makes for a very dramatic story, a story whose details are poorly known – even in Russia,” says Laura F. Cooley, associate professor of chemistry and departmental colloquium committee chair.

“Ours was a long-term investment in the world, both admired and feared, for its exploits in space exploration and nuclear research, nearly disappeared in a few short years.”

“The slashing of Russia’s federal science budget by approximately 80 percent and the departure of thousands of its most talented scientists damaged Russian science so seriously that many observers predicted ‘the death of Russian science,’” notes Cooley.

“What has happened since Gehrenbeck and the year 1993? What does the future hold for Russian science? How was the old system inappropriate for the democratic and free society that most Russians want? And what assistance in creating a new system is being offered by the West?” are questions to be addressed.

“The speaker, Professor Graham, is a noted expert on the study of contemporary science and technology, and a member of the executive committee of the Davis Center of Russian Studies at Harvard University.”

Graham received his Ph.D. from Columbia University, and a Doctor of Science (honorary) from Purdue University in 1986.


Graham is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of the American Philosophical Society, and a foreign member of the Russian Academy of Natural Science.


Barnard students. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)
The RIC biology faculty, with the help of the Biology Club, celebrated Charles Darwin’s birthday on Feb. 12 with a “phylum party.” The event was billed as an “opportunity to taste and learn about foods from phyla, which may be new to you.” All five kingdoms of life forms were represented.

The idea sounded great, but in practice there seemed to be a lot of hesitation — at least at first — among the guests. But who could blame them when the menu included such things as *Triticum aestivum, Allium cepa* and *Arthropoda Crustacea*?

It turns out that these three tongue twisters are simply wheat bread, onions, and shrimp.

All in all, once diners got past the Latin names, they pronounced most of the delicacies as “delicious.”

What’s News gives you a taste of the tasting.

**Photos and text by Gordon E. Rowley**

**Biology department offers 'phylum challenge'**

**PRESIDENT JOHN NAZARIAN** seems to be enjoying boiled *Glycine max*, a.k.a. soybeans.

**EVERYONE LOVES CHOCOLATE**, but for Rayona Minior, a junior, this is the first time she has tried a chocolate-covered cricket.

**THE CENTER OF ATTENTION** on this table is a selection of root vegetables including taro, burdock and lotus roots.

**DIVING INTO “mixed algal salad with Sticapus sp. (raw sea cucumber)”** is Dana Kolibachuk, assistant professor of biology.

**EVERYONE LOVES CHOCOLATE**, but for Rayona Minior, a junior, this is the first time she has tried a chocolate-covered cricket.
Diversity Service Learning Project

Continued from page 1

backgrounds, and by researching their social, cultural and educational characteristics, pre-service teachers will improve and relate to diverse students, to accommodate social and cultural diversity in their future classrooms,” said Mustafa Ozcan, assistant professor of educational studies.

According to field experts, service learning programs such as this address real community needs when linked with academic curriculums. The experience has been shown to promote a heightened sense of caring and commitment to contributing to the community.

RIC students are assigned a racially or culturally diverse youngster at the beginning of the semester and work with that child for the duration of their tutoring project. Lesson plans and specialized teaching techniques are prepared and reviewed with the classroom instructor as a part of each tutoring session. Each plan is developed according to the child’s needs and skill level.

Pre-service teachers are required to write a progress report for each tutoring session and keep a journal of activities, findings and results of the project. They are to include details of both rewarding and frustrating experiences in their evaluations.

For RIC students, the exercise helps develop an enhanced understanding of and response to the diverse needs and histories of students, families and communities in which they may one day serve.

Junior Kristen Luongo, a student in Ozcan’s diversity class last semester, kept a detailed journal of her tutoring assignment at West Broadway elementary school. She summed up the experience with, “I developed and bloomed in many ways from this project. For one, I now understand that there are many different types of children from different cultures. As an educator, I must try to focus my lessons for each type of culture without leaving any children out. Second, I now understand that every child’s family situation is different and as an educator, I must try to support each family situation. Some parents may be more supportive than others, but this does not mean that I should judge the character of the child. I will be with my students sometimes more than their own parents; therefore, I must concentrate on being equal to each child and supportive of each family situation.”

According to Ozcan, classroom instructors from the Providence schools are “very happy” with the RIC tutors who have worked with the children in their classrooms and are supportive of an on-going relationship to continue this project.

“The best part of the program is the hands-on experience that the tutors receive,” Ozcan said. “Everyone involved benefits.”

Some RIC students have chosen to increase their tutoring hours to 25 per week due to the value and credibility of the program.

Other professors in the education department who are involved in the service learning project along with Ozcan are Carolyn Panosky, David Brell, Lesley Bogad and Brian McCadden.

Six scholarships awarded to RIC students to promote diversity in teacher education

The Feinstein School of Education and Human Development awarded six scholarships in January to currently enrolled RIC students to promote diversity in teacher education. The total amount of the scholarship awards was $10,000. This was the third year that a scholarship of its kind was available from funds from the Rhode Island College Foundation endorsed by President John Nazarian.

The scholarships were awarded by an eight-member selection committee, chaired by Richard Cain, assistant professor of health education, to promote learning for students from diverse backgrounds and positive human relations among diverse groups.

The scholarship recipients are Michaela Colapietro, sophomore; Amanda DaPonte, sophomore; Gorete Dos Santos, junior; Judy Fallon, junior; Myrian Melo, senior and Amanda Mitchell, sophomore.

The awards were based on financial need, academic scholarship, and a written essay on how each student plans to support diversity in the educational process. Some of the suggestions made by the scholarship recipients were to teach students about being aware of one’s own identity as well as others.

“One too often race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, disability status, gender, and sexual orientation are not talked about and therefore children lack a true understanding of them. However, making students aware of their own identity as well as everyone else’s helps them to appreciate the differences that exist in our world,” wrote Myrian Melo. She added that “students need to be valued for their individuality.”

A goal of Myrian Melo is to develop more (or build upon) innovated curriculums and effective teaching methods that would enrich the linguistic and cultural assets that students already possess.

Michaela Colapietro would create a classroom that is “rich in culture” by encouraging parents to come into the classroom to share their cultures and customs to create a classroom that would be a “visible” representation of the diversity that is represented in her classroom.

Cain, who also chairs the Diversity Committee, said that the recipients of this year’s scholarships “show promise with their ideas to promote understanding — not only through their essays and academic achievements, but also through the commitment they have demonstrated to helping students by being involved outside the college classroom.”

“Promoting the diversity of our teaching force and cultivating in our teacher education students the ability to address the diverse needs of our P-12 students is important goals of the College. These scholarships represent a tangible demonstration of that commitment to diversity,” said John Bucci, dean of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development.

The selection committee members along with Cain included Patricia Medeiros-Landurad, professor of special education; Mustafa Ozcan, assistant professor of educational studies; Judith Berg, associate dean for graduate studies; Mirando Obach, assistant professor of counseling and educational psychology; Elizabeth Henschaw, assistant professor of elementary education; Nancy Cloud, associate professor of special education and Joan Bloom, associate professor, Henry Barnard School.

From across the country & around the world . . .

JAZZDANCE by Danny Buraczeski

Wednesday, March 20, 2002, 8 p.m.
The Auditorium in Roberts Hall

Dubbed the “country’s most sophisticated jazz dance maker” by the VILLAGE VOICE, and one of the most musical of choreographers, Danny Buraczeski possesses an expansive vocabulary-full of gorgeous subtlety, wit and cool imagination.

A Big Band Musical Celebration

Direct from New York!

Tuesday, March 26, 2002, 8 p.m.
The Auditorium in Roberts Hall

A thoughtful and elegant tribute to a legend of American popular song, featuring over fifty hits made famous by Sinatra.

For tickets or more information call: 401-456-8144.
From the athletic director’s desk

Pictures speak a thousand words, so rather than write in length about activities that took place at recent athletic events, here are some great photos!

(Clockwise starting at right) Joseph Coro, son of basketball alumnus Paula Coro and baseball alumnus Domenic Coro, poses with NCAA mascot J.J. Jumper; in the shadow of J.J. Jumper a group of youngsters participate in contests as part of the College’s “Take a Kid To The Game Program;” The Rhode Island College Women’s Tennis Team, Little East Conference Champions, admire their championship trophy sponsored by Sears and presented by President Nazarian; The Advisory Committee of Rhode Island College’s Young Alumni Group met in association with a men’s and women’s basketball doubleheader and posed for a picture with J.J. Jumper; Anchor Club Executive Director, Art Pontarelli (right), as part of athletic alumni night activities posed with former student-athletes (l to r) Pete Emond, John Almon and Larry Gibson.

Sports Events

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<tr>
<td><strong>Women’s Gymnastics</strong></td>
<td>Sat. March 9</td>
<td>at ECAC Championships</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Men’s &amp; Women’s Indoor Track &amp; Field</strong></td>
<td>Sat. March 2</td>
<td>at ECAC Division III Championships (at Tufts Univ.)</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Baseball</strong></td>
<td>Sun. March 10</td>
<td>Albertus Magnus College + College of New Jersey +</td>
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<td>Mon. March 11</td>
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<td>Mon. March 11</td>
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“Contorting the Crystal” is what the first act of the National Acrobats of Taiwan, Republic of China is called.

In a crystal ball, there are two beauties dancing and contorting elegantly. The proficient contortionists break the tranquility just as Pansu opened the sky in ancient times, and illustrate the tender and sentimental side of the Chinese people.

Eleven more acts with such names as “Dance in the Sky,” “Hunt for Fire” and “Spirit of Acratics” follow in the Rhode Island College Performing Arts Series presentation of the world-renown Chinese acrobats set for Tuesday, March 5, at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall.

Generally considered the foremost company from all of China, they have toured Europe, North America and South East Asia under the artistic direction of Lo Jih-Hung (also known by his western name of Dan Lea).

The Fu Hsing Chinese Acrobatics Troupe was founded on July 1, 1980, as approved by the Executive Yuan of the Republic of China. With the merger of the National Fu Hsing Dramatic Arts Academy and the National Kuo Kuang Art Training Center and Li Tang-Hwa Acrobatic Troupe, currently, the troupe's name was officially changed to the National Chinese Acrobatic Troupe of China. The troupe's members include graduates of the National Fu Hsing Dramatic Arts Academy, originally founded as a school by Chenzu Wang in Taipei in 1957, as well as performers from the Republic of China Folk Art Training Center and Li Tang-Hwa Acrobatic Troupe.

The winner will represent New England at the finals.

Allen was one of 18 out of 36 to make it to the final round.

The winner will represent New England at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. in April.

The other RIC students are Tara Testa, Matt Furtado, Nicole Gemma, Justin Jutras, Andrea Twiss and Jason Almeida.

"Although Allen was not chosen to represent New England at the Kennedy Center, he and all of our students gave outstanding performances, and RIC can be very proud of all four candidates and their partners," said P. William Hutchinson, professor of theatre.

He and Jamie L. Taylor, assistant professor of theatre, accompanied the students to the festival.

The rhythmic vitality, lyricism and playfulness of dances are reflected in a Friday, March 8, concert by the Rhode Island College Wind Ensemble and Chamber Winds. The 8 p.m. performance will be in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

Darius Milhaud's provocative 1923 ballet La Creation du Monde, often cited as the first classical composition inspired by jazz, will open the concert.

Two works from the heart of the wind band repertoire explore contrasting perspectives on the dance: Alfred Reed's Armenian Dances (conducted by graduate assistant Thomas Gregory) is lush, romantic and extroverted, whereas Warren Benson's The Solitary Dancer deals with the quiet, poised energy that one may observe in a dancer in repose, alone with her inner music, notes Rob Franzblau, wind ensemble conductor.

Gazzebo Dances for Band by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Corigliano round out the program.

"With constantly shifting key centers and rhythms, and with a sense of playful jest, this four-movement work conveys the sense of joy and viscerally appealing in attending pavilion concerts on the village green on lazy summer evenings," notes Franzblau.

Tickets are $7; senior citizens and non-RIC students, $5; RIC students free.

Arts & Entertainment

National Acrobats of Taiwan to tumble onto the stage at RK March 5

Rhode Island College Chamber Orchestra will perform works by von Weber, Mozart and Hindemith in concert Sunday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

It is free and open to the public.

The 26 musicians conducted by Alex Nazarian will perform von Weber's Concerto #2 in E-flat Major, Opus 74 with J. A. Thomson on clarinet; Mozart's Symphony #31 in D Major, K. 297, and Hindemith's Trauermusik for viola and strings with Jeremy Fortier on viola.

The "fatherhood of von Weber's early Romantic concerto has been squarely stamped upon the genres 'modern opera' and 'Romanticism in music,'" says Sumerlin.

The composer of Der freischutz raved that "everything was not dramatically inspired. Something of a father to the clarinet concerto as well, both pieces were dedicated to the virtuoso Heinrich Raemann. This typical finale is full of the light but "spiritual pyrotechniques" Weber plotted for the clarinet, says Sumerlin.

"Mozart's 297th concerto, a 22-year-old Mozart was attempting to gain a much-needed livelihood via a musical appointment in Paris."

"Accompanied by his mother, he suffered slight after slight after humiliation at the hands of jealous Parisians."

"This 'Paris' symphony was, in fact, a rare hit with the public, but the ensuing untimely death of his mother ended any hope Mozart had of remaining in Paris."

"One can almost imagine an uncharacteristic doggedness in the working-out of the outer movements, full of vitality and inspiration though they be, yet the utterly charming and singular middle movement seems Mozart's brilliant evocation of the French taste," says Sumerlin.

The Hindemith viola concerto is based on old German folk songs, Der Schwanenreder (The Swan Teller) by Thomas Gregory. The intended performance of the work on Jan. 20, 1936 never took place in London because Hindemith on behalf of King George V died that day after a long illness.

With all of England in mourning, Hindemith was instead requested to compose a work in memoriam, which he did in a single afternoon, notes Sumerlin.

Theatre students compete for acting scholarships

Eight Rhode Island College theatre students participated in the recent American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) at Keene State University in New Hampshire, where they attended workshops and competed for acting scholarships.

Josh Allen of Cranston and Aaron Andrade of Cumberland were among the 36 students out of 180 to make it to the semi-finals.

Chamber Orchestra to perform March 3
Are you tired of the same old bodies inhabiting your world? Well much needed relief is on the way as the Rhode Island College Dance Company will present one of its most diverse programs ever Thursday through Sunday, Feb. 28 to March 3 in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. Performances are at 8 p.m. Feb. 28-March 2 and 2 p.m. March 3.

Long known for presenting eclectic repertory performances that display the polyvalent and wide ranging particularity of our collective corporeal sensibility, the 2002 Spring Concert Series will include historic and new works that range from tap to jazz to modern dance. Brian Jones’ "Trafficonga" is a visual, aural, and kinesthetic extravaganza employing tap and stomp to explore the fantasy life of highway road crew flaggers. Surreal and comedic, this vision of public service carries the indelible stamp of one of Rhode Island’s most creative and enduring theatre dance artists. Also new will be the Buraczeski Etude and an historic Danny Buraczeski recreation of Jack Cole’s "Happy Ending Every Time" from the 1951 film *On the Riviera* (1951, Columbia).

Both works are the result of a multi-phase and multi-Rhode Island university and college project to celebrate, explore and record work by significant American jazz dance innovators and practitioners. Commissions for both dances have received partial funding from Dance/USA through the National College Choreography Initiative with additional support from the New England Foundation for the Arts, Target stores, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional repertory will include "Peculiar Musings in Peculiar Rooms" by RIC’s humanist dance maker Melody Ruffin Ward; Nicola Hawkins’ austere and hypnotic "Sesuko’s Silence" and Heidi Henderson’s pulsating "The Ground Was Made for Running" with an original percussion score by Michael DeQuattro. Also included will be an excerpt from Carla Fazio’s "Pecola’s Blue Eyes," a work premiered last fall as part of Fazio’s departmental honors project in dance.

Lighting design for the Spring Concert Series will be provided by Alan Pickart. Tickets are available at the Roberts Hall box office. General admission is $10 with discounts for senior citizens, groups and students. So bring that all too familiar body in for an excursion into the unpredictable and invigorating world of contemporary dance!

**RIC Dancers offer a spring repertory ‘blowout’**

by Dante Del Giudice
Assistant Professor of Dance

The second annual Rhode Island College Talent Showcase is set for Wednesday, March 27, at 7:30 p.m. in Gaige Hall auditorium. A $500 first place cash award will be made to the winning talent among students, faculty and staff. A second place finish will net $250 and third, $100. While attendance is free, money will be raised through a raffle with prizes such as brunch at the Westin Hotel and Trinity Rep tickets. Three raffle tickets will cost $1. All proceeds will benefit the RIC Foundation.

*The main goal of the Talent Showcase is just to have fun, not raise money,* says Julio A. Contreras, a technician in the audiovisual department and event organizer. There will be free ice cream.

Showcase auditions are Feb. 27, March 6

Auditions for members of the College community will be held Wednesday, Feb. 27 and Wednesday, March 6, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in the Student Union ballroom. Those auditioning are asked to prepare a five-minute (maximum) routine. No electric bands will be auditioned. For more information, call Contreras at 456-8404.
Sundays
10 p.m.—Catholic Mass in Student Union 306.

Mondays
Noon to 1 p.m.—Bible Study. Meetings are held in the prayer room in the Chaplains’ Office, Student Union 300.
2:30 to 4 p.m.—Assertiveness Workshop, in CL 130, with Elisabeth Sundsveen. This three-session class begins Feb. 18, 25, and March 4. The focus will be on learning to identify your style of communication and developing communication skills. The workshop requires a commitment to active participation. Call ahead 456-8094 to reserve a seat.

Wednesdays
12:30 to 1:45 p.m.—Christian Student Organization Meetings in Student Union 300. Students meet to discuss issues of faith and to get involved in service activities. Stop in at any meeting. For more information, call the Chaplains’ Office at 401-456-8168.
12:30 to 2 p.m.—AA Meetings on Campus in CL 251. All are welcome.

Thursdays
Noon to 1 p.m.—Mindfulness Meditation, in CL 130 with Tom Lavin. This group is for beginners and experienced meditators. No appointment or intake is required. Open to students, faculty, and staff.

Feb. 14-March 8

25-27 Mon.-Wed.
RIC Angels - Easter Wish List Giving Basket. RIC Angels will be assisting Camp Heartland, a camp for children who have and are affected by HIV and AIDS, with its Easter Wish List Giving Basket in Donavan from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Camp Heartland's annual “egg” ornament and purchase a wish list for Camp Heartland! Some of the wishes are for $5 gift certificates to McDonalds, popular CDs, small toys, sand art kits, children's books and much more! All items need to be returned by Wednesday, March 20 to the Chaplains’ Office (SU 300). If you have questions or for more information, call Kristen Hoffman, president of RIC Angels, 456-8168.

26 Tuesday
7:30 p.m.—African Heritage Film Festival, Part II, SU Ballroom.

27 Wednesday
1 p.m.—Music: Susan Nicholson, clarinet and Stephen Martorella, piano* in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center. Part of the Chamber Music Series.
4 p.m.—Film & Discussion. “Disability is an Issue of Cultural Diversity” by Pamela Rohlland (director of Disability Services for Students at URI) will screen a film and lead a discussion on the topic of “Changing the Culture: Disability Is an Issue of Cultural Diversity” in the Faculty Center main dining room. For further information, call Daniel Scott, 456-8679.

Feb. 28-March 3
Dance: RIC Dance Company Annual Spring Concert Series. 8 p.m. on Feb. 28-March 2; 2 p.m. on March 3 in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. General admission $10.
1 Friday
4 p.m.—Music: Master Class with David Kim, violin* in the Nazarian Center 198.
3 Sunday
7:30 p.m.—Music: RIC Chamber Orchestra in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center.
5 Tuesday
12:30 to 2 p.m.—Managing Test Anxiety in Craig-Lee 130, with Jan Park. This deal with test anxiety can help you feel better about being a student. Come and learn some new tips on coping with this common problem.

8 p.m.—Theatre: National Acrobat of Taiwan, R.O.C. in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. Part of the Performing Arts Series. Reserved seating $23.

7 Thursday
2 to 3:20 p.m.—Panel Discussion: “Living with Fear.” In the Faculty Center, a panel of faculty, staff and students will talk about “dirty bombs,” Anthrax, etc., in the wake of Sept. 11. There will be ample opportunity for attendees who wish to give voice to how these events have impacted their lives and how they are coping.

March 7-9
Theatre: “Suburbia” by Eric Bogosian. RIC Growing Stage in Forman Theatre. Directed by Jason Almeida. 8 p.m. on March 7-9; 2 p.m. on March 9. Pay what you can.
8 Friday

Performing Arts General Information: 456-8144
Box Office: 456-8144

*A Admission Free.
** Admission discounts for senior citizens, faculty/staff, RIC and non-RIC students.

Around the campus...

CHINESE NEW YEAR is celebrated by Henry Barnard School first graders in Joan Bloom’s class. The youngsters paraded through the school corridors on Friday, Feb. 15.

What’s News at Rhode Island College
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What’s News at Rhode Island College (US681-6650) is published biweekly by: Rhode Island College Office of News and Public Relations, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908
It is published throughout the academic year except during semester breaks. Periodicals postage paid at Providence, RI.

Postmaster: Send address changes to: What’s News at Rhode Island College Office of News and Public Relations, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908
Deadline: Deadline for submission of copy and photos is noon the Friday two weeks before publication date.
Telephone: 401-456-8090
Fax: 401-456-8887

What’s News submissions welcome
The Office of News and Public Relations encourages members of the faculty, staff and administration to submit news stories, feature articles and department information for publication consideration in “What’s News.”

Send materials directly to our campus office in Roberts Hall or email to jfusco@ric.edu or glatour@ric.edu. All materials are subject to editorial review.

The next issue of What’s News is Monday, March 11.

Deadline for submission of copy, photos, etc. is Friday, March 1 at noon.

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

What’s News
at Rhode Island College

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