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What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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What’s News

at Rhode Island College

Vol. 23 Issue 7

Feb. 17, 2003

Circulation over 46,000

The Murray Center now Torrey Complex

by Jane Fusco

What’s News Editor

Named for two alumnae sisters and their commitment to education. Endowment created to support student athletes at RIC, a Division III school, where athletic scholarships are not awarded.

The Health, Physical Education and Athletic Complex, commonly referred to for the last eight years as "the new building" on campus, has been officially named The Murray Center, as announced by Rhode Island College President John Nazarian. The building has been named in honor of two alumnae sisters, the late Mary F. Murray ’34 and Catherine T. Murray ’34, M.Ed ’51, and their commitment to education. The Murray sisters hailed from Woonsocket and were active students at what was then the Rhode Island College of Physical Education. Both women played in the women’s basketball program while at the College. They went on to teach in the state’s public school system for many years. "The College is honored to recognize the lifelong commitment to public education of two distinguished alumnae. It is fitting and appropriate that the College’s Health, Physical Education, and Athletic Complex should reflect their dedication to the teaching profession and to the youth of our state," said Nazarian.

The act naming the building was unanimously passed by the Rhode Island General Assembly and signed by Governor Carcieri on January 23, the official date the building garnered its new name. A dedication ceremony and reception commemorating the naming is planned for Wednesday, April 16, at the Murray Center.

The $750,000 Murray Family donation will establish two endowments. A $500,000 gift will support athletics and scholar athletes at RIC, and $250,000 will be used to establish an endowed scholarship for students accepted into RIC’s Feinstein School of Education and Human Development.

Terrence Murray, a trustee of the Murray Family Charitable Foundation, was instrumental in naming the building to honor his aunts. "Their lives exemplified in the most significant ways the ideals of their profession. Because of their love and dedication, the lives of many were touched and changed. I am very fortunate to be one of those people who was affected by their love," he said.

Constructed in 1995, the Murray Center stands at the site of the former Walsh gymnasium, which was

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First in Diversity Forum series is February 27 in Gaige Hall

New York City business journalist Michael Wilke, known for charting the emergence of gay marketing and advertising since 1992, will address a Rhode Island College Diversity Forum on Thursday, Feb. 27, at 4 p.m. in Gaige Hall auditorium.

Organized by the College’s Dialogue on Diversity Committee, the forum is the first in a planned series this semester. Wilke devotes himself full time to the non-profit Commercial Closet project, which was launched in May of 2001. The Commercial Closet Association is a non-profit, educational and journalism organization that reaches out to ad agencies, marketers, the media and the world at large to encourage more inclusive and flattering representations of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in advertising. "We intend the Diversity Forums to provide the RIC community with the chance to expand the dialogue about diversity on and off campus and to connect real world issues to their learning," says Daniel M. Scott III, director of the College’s African/Afro-American Studies.

The forums are free and open to the public.

Continued on page 8
In Memoriam —
RIC Hall of Famer Dan O’Grady

Daniel H. O’Grady ’35, who won the accolade by his peers of “Mr. Athletics” of the former Rhode Island College of Education (now RIC), died in January in Phoenix, Ariz., at the age of 90.

He served as the College’s first director of athletics and was instrumental in establishing the men’s athletic teams at LaSalle College; Gene Dufault; Peter Silvia; Mike Kennedy; Peter Forrest; John Finch, M.S., RNC; Sandra Enos, Ph.D. All of these, 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.

“THE HORNETS” Circa 1969: Graduates from the late 1960s may remember this iconoclastic group of individuals, whose organization — if one dare to call it an “organization” — is difficult to define. According to two members of the group who prefer to remain anonymous, the Hornets were an informal group of students and teachers who considered themselves on “the artistic and intellectual fringe” at the College. This era, one must remember, was a time of much anti-war and anti-establishment sentiment. But it was also a time when fraternities and sororities were popular, and the Hornets were — put it tactfully — a complement to those more formal organizations. The group included Art Professor Enrico Pinardi and College Chaplin Rev. Vincent “Vin” Maynard. Pinardi has since retired from the College and Maynard went on to become a producer of the Phil Donahue Show.

Group meetings, we are told, were held at a Woonasquatucket Avenue establishment called Casarino’s where libations were available as well as huge meatball sandwiches. The group’s activities included informal gatherings in front of Adams Library and attending athletic events to “make a lot of noise.” The Hornets also had their own intramural teams for touch football and basketball. Instead of a secret handshake, members identified themselves by putting their hands to their heads to form antennae and “making a squealing noise.” (See photo.)

Those members that we have been able to identify, in addition to Pinardi and Maynard, include Russ Monaghan and Bill Swigart, both of whom now work at the College; Gene Dutault; Peter Silva; Mike Kennedy; Peter Forrest; John Harrington; Judith Lanz; Linda Richelman; Jon Bedway; Kevin Fennessey; Bill Finley; and Ron McClarty. Finley, a theater major, is now director of the Theatre Program at Union College in Schenectady, New York, while McClarty is an actor and playwright, who most recently appeared as a judge in the television drama “Law and Order.” (Photo courtesy of Russ Monaghan)

Amnesty International’s Human Rights Dinner March 17

“Domestic Violence and Women’s Rights in the Russian Federation” will be the topic of Amnesty International’s Spring Human Rights Dinner on Monday, March 17, from 5 to 8 p.m. in the South Dining Room of the Faculty Center.

The speaker will be Elena Schitova, a Russian anti-violence activist and executive director of the Women’s Alliance, an organization that is dedicated to improving the status of women in Russia.

Tickets are $3 for students before the event and may be purchased at the Campus Card, or $5 at the door; $7 for faculty and staff. For more information, contact Heather Fisch at fschilli@yahoo.com.

Women and Aging conference

The Gerontology Center and the Women’s Studies Program will sponsor a conference on “Women and Aging” on Monday, April 28, from 9:30 a.m. to noon in the South Dining Room of the Faculty Center.

The following will be members of a panel presentation and lead workshops: Paula Caplan, Ph.D.; Danielle Finch, M.S., R.N.; Sandra Enos, Ph.D. and Mildred Bates, Ph.D. The topics of the workshops include defining normal aging for women, clinical studies of post-menopausal women, and the impact of cross-cultural experiences among women, including lesbians. The program, supported by the College Lectures Committee, is open to the public free of charge and offers continuing education credits.

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CO-AUTHOR OF ‘THE CAREER PORTFOLIO’ Gary D’Orsi ’86 holds a copy of the workbook, which he hopes will enhance employment possibilities for its users. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Nowadays, the use of portfolios is spreading to other fields as well. Career-minded people, whether they are students or practitioners, high up in an organization or just starting out, are discovering that a well-thought-out and presented career portfolio is an effective self-marketing tool that enhances their ability to present themselves both clearly and credibly,” say the authors in their workbook.

D’Orsi and Satterthwaite developed a system of portfolios called Career P.E.A.K.S. (Personal characteristics Experience Accomplishments Knowledge Skills).

“It’s a system that helps a person present himself or herself in a job interview or promotion that really gives the employer what he or she is looking for. It’s the only career portfolio system that’s based on evidence of action-based research,” says D’Orsi.

He’s been involved with creating portfolios for more than 12 years. His doctoral research involved a cross-country pilot study wherein he asked hiring managers, “When making the final hiring decision — with all else being equal between candidates — what do you base that decision on?”

“More than 80 percent of the time, hiring managers said that personal characteristics of the individual were the deciding factor in making a hiring decision,” says D’Orsi.

Then he went to colleges and universities and asked them what they thought hiring managers said was the deciding factor. They said “knowledge or skill.”

“Obviously, there was a disconnect,” says D’Orsi.

“Our system helps them (job applicants) present their personal characteristics that add value to the hiring managers,” he says.

In other words, those things that comprise a person’s life experience, including knowledge and skills obtained, are included.

The workbook is an offshoot of the co-authors’ Career P.E.A.K.S., LLC (limited liability corporation), which provides career counseling for executives and professionals.

D’Orsi teaches graduate courses in career self-management and organizational behavior at J.W. His work in Career P.E.A.K.S. involves executive training along with career and outplacement consultation.

The firm, established in 1999, is located in Cranston where D’Orsi resides with his wife, the former Julie Dias, who also graduated from RIC in 1986 and who holds a masters degree from the College obtained in 1992.

Career P.E.A.K.S. offers individual and group career programs and can be reached via the Internet at careerpeaks@cox.net. The Web site is www.careerpeaks.com.
Alumni News

✓ By now all our alumni and friends of the College should have received the winter edition of the Alumni Magazine. Our new format has brought many positive comments from our readers. We invite our alumni to contact us with occupation and career information. Many of the departments turn to us for this data for career mentoring, awards, and grants.

✓ Rhode Island College is on the road. On February 4 the Director of the Annual Fund Nancy Hoogasian and Assistant Director of Alumni Affairs Shana Murrell had lunch at South Bay Manor in North Kingston with several of our alumni who are residents at the manor. (See photo at right.) Several more luncheons are planned in the coming months. As we approach our Sesquicentennial anniversary, the alumni association is taking several of our events “on the road.”

✓ Thursday, March 27 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. we are hosting an event at the Museum of Work and Culture in Woonsocket. (See below.) We are targeting our northern Rhode Island alumni but the event is open to all.

Eleven alumni and friends of the College are volunteers at the museum and will be assisting us that night in welcoming you to this wonderful, educational, and lively landmark and conducting tours. Following the tours we will host a reception for attendees.

✓ On Thursday, April 10, we are on the road to NYC to host alumni in the NY metropolitan area. Six of our area alumni are assisting us with plans which are still in progress.

✓ Our Tuscany trip is a success! On March 31, 12 alumni and friends are off on a 10 day trip to Italy. Our next trip is planned for November. It’s a five day escape to New Orleans.

✓ And on campus on Monday, March 17 from 6:30-7:30 in the Alumni Lounge in Roberts Hall, we are hosting a reception for our Centennial Club donors ($100-$250). Following the reception, the group is invited to a complimentary performance in Sapinsley Hall. The concert, the Eighth Annual Samuel and Esther Chester Performance Award Concert, will be conducted by Edward Markward and features Berenika Zakrzewski on piano. Free admission is made possible by a grant from the Chesters.

Rhode Island College on the Road!

President Nazarian and the Alumni Association are hosting a special evening for our Northern Rhode Island and Blackstone area alumni and friends.

During the College’s Sesquicentennial celebration we are taking some of our events on the road!

Join Us...

The Museum of Work and Culture

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Museum of Work and Culture, Woonsocket, RI

5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Tours

Directions: From Providence: Take Route 146N (avoid Rte. 99, 122, and 146A). Take Route 104 exit (Hufftown Woonsocket). Left off exit, straight for 1.5 miles, right onto South Main Street. Follow signs to Visitors Center. Museum is less than one mile on right. Parking lot is across the street.

Reservation Form

Name: ____________________________ Yr. of Grad.: ________

Address: ____________________________ Phone #: ________

# of Adults: ________ # of Children: ________

Please mail to Alumni Office, RIC, 600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908. You may register by phone 456-8086, Fax 456-8581, or email to alumni@ric.edu.

The Museum, operated by the RI Historical Society, presents a compelling story of the French Canadians who left the farms of New England to work in the factories of the New England area. Several museum volunteers who are RIC alumni will lead the tours.


During the holidays a reception was held at the President’s House for past and present leadership of the Alumni Association and Foundation. Pictured left to right are alumni who served as president of the association: Joe Menard ’60 (1974-75), Anne Colannino ’72 (1976-77), Joe Neri ’69 (1986-88), Patricia Ross Maciel ’61 (1992-94), Judy Roy ’74 (2000-02), President John Nazarian ’54 (1969-70), Miguel Lopes ’71 (2002-04), and Dan Crowley ’72 (1981-83).

Foundation Trustees that attended the holiday reception at the President’s House included (l to r) Joe A. Abbate ’74, Arthur Langlois, and Herb Cummings.

Past Foundation presidents in attendance were Patricia Ross Maciel ’61, Joe Neri ’69, Herb Cummings and Theresa Howe.

Take a Professor to Lunch program starts March 3

Long gone are the days of bringing an apple to a teacher. From March 3-7, students are invited to take a member of the RIC faculty or staff to lunch courtesy of the College, a tradition since 1992.

Students who want to participate in the program should sign up at Donovan Dining Center to obtain a coupon redeemable for a $5 lunch for themselves and their guests.

The director of the Counseling Center, Tom Lavin, said the lunch is not limited to one student and one faculty member. Small groups of students may also invite a professor or staff member to lunch.

“The object of this program is to facilitate closer student-faculty/staff interaction in order to get students to become more engaged learners,” said Lavin.
Many years ago...

Sesquicentennial Memories

Editor’s note: In each edition of What’s News at Rhode Island College during the course of the College’s Sesquicentennial observance, Michael Smith ’79, assistant to the president, provided a brief glimpse of an historic College event that occurred at some point in the institution’s history corresponding to the publication date of that particular edition of What’s News. This is the second installment.

by Michael Smith
Assistant to the President

I n the early morning hours of Saturday, November 11, 1878, the third home of the Rhode Island State Normal School was destroyed by fire. The building was located at 265 Westminster St. on Christian Hill (now known as Hoyle Square), this three-story building located from September 1871 until larger quarters were secured on Benefit Street in December 1878.

At the time of the fire, the building was occupied by the Star Theatre. According to an article published in The Providence Daily Journal that same day, “The style and class of performances given at the house appealed to the lovers of sensational plays...” The stage production, a reparation of which was given the evening before fire broke out, was “The Tarrytown Widow.”

The building was valued at $20,000 at the time of its loss, of which $15,000 was covered by insurance. Three stores located in the building’s commercial storefront sustained heavy damage, including William B. Stilman’s shoe store, the Salt Water Taffy Company of M.L. Brainard, and the barber shop of John L. Ivan. One religious William Mains of Hose 3, sustained severe injuries while fighting the blaze.

The three-story building was originally constructed as an armory and in 1844 was converted into a church, which a few years after 1878, was acquired by the Congregational Meeting House.

It was during its years as a church that the building was acquired by Amos C. Barstow, former Mayor of the City of Providence, President of the Rhode Island Hospital for the Insane, and an influential member of the state General Assembly. The state leased the second floor of the building from Rep. Barstow for the Normal School for the period of its occupancy by the Normal School, a dry goods store was located on the first floor of the building.

After the departure of the Normal School, the building served as a “General Hospital for the Insane,” and an influential member of the state General Assembly. In 1898 the building was converted into a theatre.

Academically Speaking...

What’s a biology major to do?

I am often asked by students, “What’s it like to be a biology major?” The most accurate answer to this question, which turns out to be somewhat confusing, is that you can do anything with a biology major as a foundation science.

Many of our students have begun to combine a major in biology with other disciplines and venture into areas which a few years ago would be considered a non-traditional use of a biology major. A few years ago, one RIC biology major completed a MBA at a prestigious school of business management and was immediately hired as a vice president of a major biotechnology firm earning a salary well into the six-figure range.

A former RIC art major returned to the College to major in biology as the basis to pursue a medical education and went on to become a leading national illustrator in the medical profession.

Another biology major became a network administrator for a major corporation in the Boston area.

Other biotechnology majors combined with biology include psychology, English, philosophy, chemistry, computer science, mathematics and anthropology.

Students sometimes surprise themselves when they research potential careers with a biology major as a foundation science.

Here are some student-generated ideas:

For someone interested in working outdoors rather than in a lab, a major in biology and secondary education can be used as a stepping stone into a career in the National Park Service, which in addition to conservation is also interested in the education of the general public.

In forensic accounting, a trained eye could spot materials purchased to synthesize illegal substances. While there are but a few schools offering this major, one student majoring in forensic accounting recently accepted a position in genetic counseling, the ever-increasing knowledge derived from the human genome project will certainly increase the demand for genetic counselors.

Traditionally, elementary education majors do not major in biology but think about an elementary school teacher with a major in biology and the possibilities for that teacher’s students in the 21st century! So, what can you do with a biology major? Yes... the possibilities are limitless!

The topic was how collaboration could help schools meet the demands of the No Child Left Behind Act, which has put pressure on both special and general education to produce results.

General and special education go hand in hand, and when both sides team up to improve reading, everybody wins.


RITAP sponsors statewide conference on collaboration is seen as key to improving education

Collaboration is seen as key to improving education

General and special education go hand in hand, and when both sides team up to improve reading, everyone wins.

This was the central message of a daylong seminar, which was organized by the Rhode Island Teacher Assistance Project at Rhode Island College. It drew more than 300 teachers, school administrators and others to the special education 2003 Winter Leadership Institute on January at the Rhode Island Convention Center.

The topic was how collaboration could help schools meet the demands of the No Child Left Behind Act, which has put pressure on both special and general education to produce results.

Under the federal law, special-education students along with their peers and schools are expected to make them meet the standards just like everyone else.

In reality, special needs students in Rhode Island are nowhere near that outcome.

The Providence Journal by state writer Marion Davis.

The daylong seminar has been intensified by growing evidence that many children are being incorrectly placed in special education because they can’t read.

If general education is short-changing students, then that they’re mistaken for learning-disabled, and special education isn’t good enough.

In other states, meeting state standards, school leaders are realizing something has to change.

In this state, special education has come under scrutiny recently due to the Children with Disabilities Services Senate project led by state Rep. Paul V. Sherlock, D-Warwick and RIC professor emeritus of special education, that in September issued a report showing that Rhode Island had one of the highest special-education rates in the nation, and was particularly short-changing elementary school children as “learning-disabled.”

Learning disabilities and speech and hearing impairments accounted for three-quarters of the special-education rolls, far more than in other states. Sherlock, whose problems, experts suggested, might be behind many of those diagnoses.

Meanwhile, the skyrocketing cost of special education — an average of $13,068 per year per pupil, compared with $12,474 — was squeezing school budgets, forcing cuts in programs that might be solving problems that led to children being mislabeled.

The solution, Sherlock’s team rec-ommended, was to take a unified approach to special and general education, with a special focus on early intervention to catch and address students’ reading difficulties.

General and special education go hand in hand, and when both sides team up to improve reading, everybody wins.
Henry Barnard students participate in first student exchange program

By David Cranshaw '05
News and PR Assistant

For many of the visiting students from the Escuela Elemental in Puerto Rico, it was the first time they saw snow. That was just one of the many highlights of the recent student exchange program at the Henry Barnard Laboratory School on the Rhode Island College campus, as students and teachers welcomed 23 sixth graders from Escuela Elemental to Rhode Island on January 13-19, for a learning and cultural exchange experience.

Twenty-two parents also accompanied the students on the trip. This is the first time HBS participated in a student exchange program.

The exchange students were greeted with an assembly at the Donovan Dining Center where each grade level made a presentation describing unique characteristics of Rhode Island and the United States. The sixth grade class explained the history of the founder of their school, Henry Barnard. They also sang American themed songs including “Yankee Doodle Dandy” and performed a square dance for their guests.

The students stayed at the Marriott Hotel in Providence. They visited the Providence Place Mall, the Fleet ice skating center, the Breakers Mansion in Newport, and Connecticut’s Mystic Aquarium and Pequot Museum.

But it was the snow that impressed the students the most. According to Laura Parkerson, HBS librarian and media director, the exchange students expressed the hope for snowy weather in their communications to the HBS students prior to their visit. Each Escuela Elemental student had a pen pal at HBS, sending hand-written letters and emails to each other for several months before the trip.

"I felt very excited because I got to know and see things that I haven't seen in Puerto Rico," said Pabón.

Parents of the HBS students offered their homes to the exchange students for a two-night stay to give the children a chance to learn more about each other. La Escuela Elemental student Yesenia Rivera said that "sleeping in the house of my pen pal," was her favorite part of the trip.

The exchange students also brought a little of their culture to the HBS students at a Puerto Rican fiesta night filled with music, song and dance. Escuela Elemental student Leirta Paola said she liked this celebration "because I danced and showed parts of our traditions."

"The people and the students were nice and friendly. I really enjoyed the visit to the school," she added.

The HBS student exchange program was developed after Principal Ron Tibbetts attended the national conference for the National Association of Lab Schools, hosted by the Escuela Elemental, in Puerto Rico last February.

"It’s been a wonderful experience for the kids and the entire Henry Barnard community, well worth the effort put forth by countless people who helped us," said Tibbetts.

Plans for the HBS students to visit Puerto Rico in 2004 are in progress.

Well done for another Taco class!

GRADUATION DAY: Six employees of Taco Inc., a manufacturer of heating and cooling components with headquarters in Cranston, receive certificates of completion for coursework offered by the College’s School of Management and Technology. The program included eight courses (24 credits) and took two years to complete.

Presenting the certificates are College President John Nazarian (far right) and John White, Jr., CEO of Taco. Receiving the certificates are (from left) Joseph A. Tortolano, Robert P. Levassor, Scott D. Perron, Michael P. Faiola, Marilyne Connor and Stephen L. Beaupre. (What's News photo by Gordon E. Rowley)
A MINI UNITED NATIONS: Students in the two first grades of Henry Barnard School held a World Celebration Day January 31 with an emphasis on international foods and crafts. Above, in costumes representing various countries, are (from left) Emily Cassidy (China), Oriana Coyle (Rumania), Sabina Zunjic (Yugoslavia), Emma Pekolash (China) and Julia Zubiago (Mexico). (What’s News photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Yvette Mendez ’99, of Cranston, was recently promoted to project manager of Su Salud (Your Health) at Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (NHPRI), a 74,000-member HMO founded in 1993 by the community health centers.

Her responsibilities include recruitment and training of medical interpreters at five partner sites — Rhode Island Hospital/Hasbro Children’s Hospital, Women & Infants Hospital, St. Joseph’s Hospital for Specialty Care, the Providence Community Health Centers and Ocean State Action.

The Su Salud Program and accompanying legislation were responses to the exploding growth of the Latino population in Providence (over 108 percent from 1990-2000) and surrounding communities.

“Rhode Island’s health care system is overwhelmed by the 24 hour/7days a week demand for medical interpretation services,” says Mendez, explaining that the Latino population must interact with a health care system in which most providers speak only English.

A Latino born in Manhattan of Dominican-Puerto Rican parents, she speaks Spanish fluently and had majored in Spanish and criminal justice with minor studies in sociology at Rhode Island College.

“With the rapid growth of Latinos in Rhode Island, it is time that we are able to service this population in their own language,” she says, adding “If you can’t communicate on medical issues then that is serious and could cost you your life. So, it’s a life-and-death matter.”

A giant step toward helping achieve this goal was realized recently by NHPRI and its partners when they were awarded a $150,000 grant by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Hablamos Juntos Program to support the Su Salud program. That program offers its health care partners reimbursement for medical interpreter services provided to non-English speaking patients. The grant was one of only 10 nationwide.

“This award will help us make our health system better and more responsive,” says Christopher Koller, Advisory Committee and Covering Rhode’s Health Coalition in Pawtucket/Central Falls demonstrate that.

But, being involved is nothing new to Mendez.

At RIC she was active in the Latin American Student Organization (LASO) and RIC Spanish Theatre. She was listed in Who’s Who Among American Universities and Colleges.

After her graduation she went to work for the Women’s Center of Rhode Island, a shelter for women and children affected by domestic violence. This preceded her current employment with NHPRI.

Asked what she saw for herself in the future, Yvette Mendez confirmed that she loves her job and plans to remain in it indefinitely.

Rhode Island College continues its celebration of African-American History Month with the following events. For further information, contact The Unity Center at 401-456-8791 or jdipretoro@ric.edu.

Feb. 17 SOC 208 “Minority Group Relations” Open Forum
   The Unity Center - 7 p.m.
   RIC Professor Laura Khoury
   Gospel Concert (admission fee $2)
   Sapienza Hall - 7:30 p.m.
   RIC Praise Ensemble

Feb. 19 Black Comedy Explosion
   Fornam Center Classroom C - 7-10 p.m.
   RIC Hallabee

Feb. 24 SOC 208 “Minority Group Relations” Open Forum
   The Unity Center - 4-7 p.m.
   RIC Professor Laura Khoury

Feb. 26 “Present-Day Liberian Immigration to RI”
   Speaker: Paul Khalil Saucier, RIC adjunct professor
   Saucier will also receive the Ethnic Research Award from the Anthropology Department
   Horace Mann 193 - 12:30-2 p.m.

Feb. 27 The “Commercial Closet”
   Speaker: Michael Wilke, business journalist and director of the Commercial Closet, a non-profit educational and journalism organization that encourages more inclusive and flattening representations of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in advertising.
   Craig-Lee 255 - 4 p.m.
   John Carter Brown Library

Feb. 28 “Embracing Diversity in the Current Healthcare System”
   Speaker: Marissa Wells, University of Texas
   Fornam Center Classroom C - 4-5:30 p.m.
   Nursing Department

Feb. 1-18 “Harlem Renaissance”
   James P. Adams Library
   Monthly-long Exhibit

Other celebrations will take place in the residence halls and on campus — e.g., “Why are all the Black Eids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?,” “Hip Hop Talent Showcase.”

For further information, call The Unity Center at 401-456-8791.

All events are open to the public.

Reasonable accommodation upon request.
Call 401-456-8061.

Thanks for the memories...
Women’s Fund of R.I. grants nearly $10,000 to Poverty Institute

Women’s Fund of Rhode Island has made a grant of $9,980 to the Rhode Island College Foundation to support the Poverty Institute, it was announced by Marguerite Brown, RIC Foundation executive director. The grant specifically provides funding for the Institute’s work related to analyzing the impact of the subsidized childcare program on the state’s economy.

The Poverty Institute is the only organization in the state that advocates for all low-income Rhode Islanders through policy research, analysis, education, and coalition building.

Trinity Rep performance raises $14,000 to benefit the Poverty Institute

by Pauline McCartney

Information Aide

Entrepreneurs, a college president, professors, a mayor, students, business people, janitors and Rhode Islanders came to watch Trinity Rep’s February 4 performance to eat. While dishing out soup to patrons before Trinity Rep’s February 4 performance of Nickel and Dimed, on February 4, 2003, we came to watch Trinity Rep’s performance. The evening had more than one message to Rhode Islanders, particularly professors, a mayor, students, business people, janitors and Rhode Islanders, to eat.

A soup and cracker reception was held before the performance at RIC’s School of Social Work, promotes policy change that reduces income inequality and promotes the well being of all low-income people through research, analysis, training and advocacy.

In the three years since its inception, the Poverty Institute has grown to become a respected authority on policies and programs that promote economic security for low-income families. It works on behalf of this population to ensure that their voices are heard.

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**Sports**

**Let’s not forget Bob Brown**

By Vin Cullen ’55

Retired CCRI athletic director

Since my retirement last June, I’ve had the opportunity to spend more time on the Rhode Island College campus. It has brought back many great memories of my days as a R.I.C.E. student-athlete.

One person, who had a major influence on my life, and on hundreds of other students during the 1940s and 50s, was the late Bob Brown.

When it came to athletics and the physical education department, Brown did it all. He was the athletic director, coached the soccer, basketball and track teams, as well as teaching all of the physical education courses. He had no assistant coaches, no athletic trainers and no secretarial help. This never mattered to Bob. His life was the Rhode Island College of Education and its athletic program.

He was an unselfish desire to help anyone he came in contact with and wanted them to succeed in life. I am greatly indebted to Rhode Island College and, in particular, Bob Brown. I would not have gone on to be the athletic director and the head men’s basketball coach at the Community College of Rhode Island without his influence.

The contributions, Brown made to the College and its athletic program should not be forgotten. We’ve already begun the fundraising process for a commemorative honor. To date, one alumnus has contributed $2,500. I would like to encourage all who have been touched by Bob Brown to help make this honor a reality.

There are many great things happening with the RIC athletic program. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the College’s athletic program. The facilities are very impressive. I invite all alumni to come out and support the Anchormen and Anchorwomen of today. RIC should make it a point to come out and see a game. Once you do, you’ll be proud to be part of the outstanding RIC athletic tradition.

If you would like to contribute to the Bob Brown Fund, please contact the RIC athletic department at 456-8007. If you would like to send your donation, mail your check payable to the RIC Anchor Fund and send it to: Rhode Island College Athletic Office, 100 College Hill Drive, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908.

RIC steps into the future with web broadcasts

Your chance to listen to Rhode Island College sports from the comfort of your own home is just a click of your mouse away! RIC has begun broadcasting its athletic events via the Internet, starting with the men’s basketball team. You can log on and listen to all of the exciting play-by-play action and men’s sports will be added during the 2003-04 season.

Fans can currently follow the RIC men’s basketball team during the recently renovated Wrestling Facilities at Rhode Island College. The contributions Coach Brown made to the program should not be forgotten. We’ve already begun the fundraising process for a commemorative honor. To date, one alumnus has contributed $2,500. I would like to encourage all who have been touched by Bob Brown to help make this honor a reality.

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**Sports Events**

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<tr>
<th>Mens’ Basketball</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 18</td>
<td>at UMass-Dartmouth *</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>at Plymouth State *</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
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<td>Feb. 25</td>
<td>LEC Tournament Playoffs</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Feb. 28</td>
<td>LEC Tournament Semi-Finals</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Mar. 1</td>
<td>LEC Tournament Finals</td>
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<th>Womens’ Basketball</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 18</td>
<td>at UMass-Dartmouth *</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>at Plymouth State *</td>
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<tr>
<th>Womens’ Gymnastics</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>at Ithaca College Invitational</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
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<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>at SUNY-Cortland</td>
<td>Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>at Springfield</td>
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<tr>
<th>Wrestling</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>at 2003 NECCA Championships</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>at 2003 NECCA Championships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 7</td>
<td>at NCAA Division III Championships</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>Men’s and Women’s Indoor Track &amp; Field</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 21-22</td>
<td>at New England Division III Championships</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
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<td>March 7-8</td>
<td>at ECAC Division III Championships</td>
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<th>Home games in bold</th>
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<td>Little East Conference game</td>
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40-Year Wrestling Celebration Dinner

Set for March 15

This year marks the 40th anniversary of intercollegiate wrestling at Rhode Island College. The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics will host a dinner on Saturday, March 15, at Donovan Dining Center to commemorate this historic event.

A reception will be held in the recently renovated Wrestling Room, located in the College’s Recreation Center, beginning at 5:30 p.m. A dinner will follow at Donovan Dining Center, beginning at 7 p.m. During the dinner, RIC wrestling legends Russ Carlsten, Dick Magarian ‘62 and Ed Lemoi ‘64 will be "roasted".

Tickets for this event are $45. Please call the athletic department at 401-456-8007 by March 6 to purchase a ticket.
**Arts & Entertainment**

Only New England appearance of his final national tour

**World-famous mime Marcel Marceau at RIC**

March 14, 15

"Watching this legend is an experience not to be missed." — *Boston Herald*

Forget all the bad jokes about mime. Forget the annoying street performers and all the bad shtick. When Marcel Marceau walks on stage, he banishes everything from your mind except the story at hand. On a bare stage, without flashing video images and with musical accompaniment in only a few scenes, Marceau, in his classic white-face makeup, conjures entire worlds with astonishing detail.

The world-famous French mime will perform in a special Rhode Island College Performing Arts Series event at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall on Friday, March 14, and again at 2 p.m. on March 15.

Reserved seat tickets are $35. Marceau uses many solo "mindodraums" to present his art, including those featuring Bip, his signature character, whether it be looking for a job, traveling by sea or being overwhelmed by too many women from a dating service. In his performance of "The Mask Maker," the title character switches from one face to another with spectacular rapidity. The masks are invisible, but they alter his expression and even his stance so completely that he seems to be trying on a whole gallery of identities.

"Happy, Sad, Happy, Sad — the changes alternate with increasing speed until the virtuosity starts to grow cheap, an eminently display leading nowhere. And right then disaster occurs; the mask of a grimacing fool won't come off. The mask maker struggles to remove it, he panics, he pleads, he weeps. But he's the grimacing fool!"

Finally, he summons something like suicidal desperation and manages to pry it off, standing drained and fearful as he understands for the first time the power of what he'd exploited so arrogantly, the power of art.

It is that power that separates Marceau from his imitators and makes him at nearly 80 not merely the greatest star mime of the century but an icon of Western culture.

The performance offers a rare experience in which Siegel speaks to the audience about the music before performing it, followed by a question-and-answer session. It is the second of two scheduled performances by Siegel this season in Rhode Island College's Performing Arts Series.

"The performance is "gutsy, striking and sensuous interpretation of works by an impressive line-up of contemporary composers. Current repertoire includes works by Meunier herself.

Fusionworks' Deb Meunier '88 receives Achievement Award

Debra Meunier '88, founder and artistic director of Fusionworks, an all-women modern dance repertory company based in Lincoln, was presented the 2003 Individual Achievement Award by the Arts and Business Coalition of Rhode Island in ceremonies January 23 at its 13th Annual Arts & Business Awards Dinner at Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet in Cranston.

Meunier was one of seven honorees for her "relentless pursuit of making dance a part of so many lives," the RIC alumni's award was specifically to her as artistic director and primary choreographer for Fusionworks and Fusionworks Dance Academy.

Fusionworks is known for the quality of its community educational programs throughout Rhode Island. Meunier was especially recognized for her ability to identify community connections in all aspects of her work. Fusionworks concerts have included children, elderly, local choirs, music ensembles, visual artists, college apprentices, junior members as well as seasoned local practitioners. It was founded in 1987.

Constantly stretching the boundaries of "women dancing," the company members are known for their gutsy, striking and sensuous interpretation of works by an impressive line-up of contemporary composers. Current repertoire includes works by Meunier herself.

The program consists of Kregler's standard flute music. As a pianist, Siegel has appeared with every major U.S. orchestra and performs regularly with leading symphonies around the world. The current series can be heard in 17 U.S. cities, including New York, Chicago, Cleveland, Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Phoenix and Washington, D.C.

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The second of Jeffrey Siegel's "Keyboard Conversations," featuring a concert with commentary, will be held on Monday, March 3, at 8 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

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Chamber Music Series flute, piano recital is Wednesday, February 26

The newest member of the music adjunct faculty at Rhode Island College, Mary Ellen Guzio, will present a flute recital at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26, in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts. Accompanist is Michael Kregler. The program consists of Kregler's standard flute music. As a pianist, Siegel has appeared with every major U.S. orchestra and performs regularly with leading symphonies around the world. The current series can be heard in 17 U.S. cities, including New York, Chicago, Cleveland, Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Phoenix and Washington, D.C.

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Chamber Orchestra performs Sunday, March 2

Rhode Island College Chamber Orchestra will perform in concert on Sunday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts. The program will include the Brandenburg Concerto #4 by J. S. Bach for two recorders, solo violin and strings. Soloists are RIC alumni Melissa Carter and Margaret Gushing, recorders, and RIC Prof. John Sinopoli, clarinet, solo violin and conductor.

Also on the program will be two string quartets from RIC playing music by Mozart and Beethoven. The concert is free and open to the public.
RIC Dance Company Spring Concert Series is Feb. 27-March 2

A rich and challenging repertory of new 2002/2003 works will be presented in the Feb. 27-March 2 Rhode Island College Dance Company Annual Spring Concert Series. Performances will be in the Auditorium in Robert's Hall at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Feb. 27-March 1, and 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 2.

Premieres will include works by New York-based Sean Curran, Washington D.C.-based Reggie Glass, and Rhode Island's Angelica Vessella. Works premiered in fall 2002 will include Colleen Cavanaugh's "Fanciful Fanfare, Debra Meanier's The Fox's Wedding, and Crossroads" by Art Bridgman and Myrna Packer. Also included will be "Amerika Think" by student choreographer Nikki Carrara.

"Ranging from the 'Classic' to postmodern, these journeys will resonate with familiar Western trends and world dance influences informing the polychromatic bodies and dances of our new millennium," says Dante Del Giudice, RIC dance director.

Tickets are $10 and can be purchased at the Auditorium box office in Robert's Hall.

Urban Bush Women present 'Shadow's Child' at RIC March 6

New York City-based modern-dance company Urban Bush Women will make an appearance in Rhode Island College's Performing Arts Series Thursday, March 6, at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. The ensemble is currently on tour with members of the National Song and Dance Company of Mozambique presenting "Shadow's Child," a full-evening work integrating movement, live music, narration and puppetry.

Premiered last July at the Lincoln Center Festival, "Shadow's Child" will appeal to children and adults alike. It involves the heroine Xiomara, a 12-year-old Mozambican girl whose family moves to Florida and who finds a fellow outsider in Blue, an American girl allergic to the sun. For both, the forest is a refuge. Blue is shielded from the sun and Xiomara is shielded from an alligator by masked animals, whose imitative dances represent protective spirits.

The joyful fable has a deceptive simplicity. Yet Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, Urban Bush Women's director, has conceived and directed an experimental piece. Like much of her work, it draws on African sources within an American theatrical context.

The tale, with its brightly colored sets, masks and puppet creatures, is a straight-forward story about overcoming differences. The humanist message touches on themes of friendship and cultural misunderstandings.

Watching the award-winning performance troupe Urban Bush Women work is to participate in a creative process that fuses dance, music and storytelling with the spiritual traditions, cultural heritage and vast history of African-Americans and African peoples from all over the world.

This critically acclaimed troupe, founded in 1984 by choreographer Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, has performed on major stages throughout the United States, Latin America and abroad, and is renowned for its rule-breaking choreography and artistic virtuosity.

Tickets are $25 with discounts for students and seniors and may be purchased in advance via VISA or Mastercard by calling 401-456-8144 weekdays or in-person at the Roberts Hall box office 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and until the time of performance on the day of the event.

Recent drawings, prints of RIC's Stephen Fisher at Bannister

Baroque Noir: Recent Drawings and Prints of Rhode Island College art professor Stephen Fisher will be on exhibit in RIC's Bannister Gallery until March 7.

An artist's lecture will be given in the gallery at 6 p.m. on Thursday, February 27. The exhibit and lecture are free and open to the public.

Key to the illusion in Fisher's drawings and prints are his rigorous perceptual attention to, and rendering of, the nuances of value created by the action of light, according to Dennis O'Malley, gallery director.

"Fisher explores and reveals the paradoxical nature of light and optic perception in compositions combining all the visual pleasures of a Vermeer with the analytical intensity of an experiment in particle physics," says O'Malley. Fisher's work recently was exhibited in the solo show "Chimeras at the Frye Art Museum in Seattle and is included in numerous museum, university and private collections. The work in this exhibition was partially supported by a RIC Faculty Research Grant.

The work in this exhibition was partially supported by a RIC Faculty Research Grant.

The concert will feature both the wind ensemble under the direction of Rob Franzblau and the Dartmouth College Wind Symphony under the direction of Max Colepepper.

Tickets are $7 and can be purchased in advance at the Auditorium box office in Roberts Hall and on the night of the event at the Sapinsley box office.

New box office manager named

Jennifer Buckland, an S.O.S. (slightly Older Student) who came to Rhode Island College as a freshman this year, has been named the new box office manager in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall. She replaces Tim Robertson.

Married and living in North Attleboro, Buckland is originally from Riverside and graduated from East Providence High School in 1974. She said she hasn't decided yet on her major course of study.

Buckland had worked at Trinity box office as the audience services manager for six years prior to coming to RIC.

URBAN BUSH WOMEN

"WORMHOLE" charcoal, graphite and wash by Stephen Fisher.
Febr. 13-March 7
Art: “Baroque Noir” by Stephen Fischer in Rattner Gallery in Roberts Hall. Feb. 27. Artist’s Lecture at 6 p.m.

17 Monday

19 Wednesday

What’s News at Rhode Island College

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Fax: 401-456-8887

The next issue of What’s News will be March 10, 2003

Deadline for submission of copy, photos, etc. is Friday, Feb. 28 at noon.

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

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 Building 10 on the East Campus or email to jfusco@ric.edu or glatour@ric.edu. All materials are subject to editorial review.

March 27 & 28
Encore Dance Project
College Theatre
General Admission $16

March 4 & 25
Student Chorography Showcase
RIC Dance Company

For general information about the Performing Arts Series, or the Music, Theatre, and Dance Series please call 401-456-8144.
For tickets call the Box Office: 401-456-8144.