6-12-2004

What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.ric.edu/whats_news

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.ric.edu/whats_news/50

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Newspapers at Digital Commons @ RIC. It has been accepted for inclusion in What's News? by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ RIC. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@ric.edu.
Sesquicentennial commencements celebrate the enduring value of knowledge

On May 13 and 15, Rhode Island College awarded a total of 1,449 diplomas to graduate and undergraduate students who will now contribute to the community at large as educators, entertainers, social workers, scientists, artists, and business professionals. RIC’s graduation tradition began 150 years ago.

Baccalaureate ceremony unites newest alumni with past graduates

A special year – the College’s Sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary – closed May 15 with an especially warm and sunny undergraduate commencement on the campus esplanade. Over 1,100 students went from candidate to graduate in a baccalaureate degree conferred heralded by Sesquicentennial Fanfare, a six-trumpet concerto composed by RIC assistant professor of music Joseph D. Foley. Keeping with the anniversary theme, the event brought out representatives from each graduating class since 1934, and featured members of the golden anniversary Class of 1954 – including College President John Nazarian.

Two Presidential Medals, rarely given at RIC, were awarded at a graduation ceremony for the first time. Natalie Cullen Howe ’24 was honored as the oldest living alumna of the College. She will turn 100 years old in August. Howe had been a kindergarten teacher in the Providence school system.

Howe, who strode to the podium with the help of a walker, wore a chain that held her 1924 class ring. “I thank you all,” she said. “Rhode Island College, I’ve known you for a long time.” The thousands in the audience responded with a sustained standing ovation.

Kathleen Mellor ’70, MEd ’77 also received a Presidential Medal. In April, she was honored by President Bush as the National Teacher of the Year, a first for a Rhode Island educator. Mellor, an English-as-a-second-language teacher in North Kingstown, will travel around the country as an advocate for her profession. (See “Faces of RIC” profile on page 9.)


Carcieri told the graduates that they need only look at some of the distinguished alumni in attendance, including his wife Suzanne, Nazarian, and Langevin, to “see successful lives following a RIC degree.” Paraphrasing the words of education pioneer Horace Mann, Carcieri urged the graduates to “always have the determination to make the right things happen.” The governor advised students to “set your sights on doing what excites you the most and gets your juices flowing.”

Judge Frank Caprio, chairman of
RIC biology professor cultivates campus tree awareness program

It stands to reason that the state’s senior public institution of higher education would have many grand old trees speckling its foliage-rich landscape. And indeed it does. The northern red oak, purple European beech, Norway spruce, and London planter are some of the living towers that stand over 60 feet high, offering rustic appeal and welcoming shade to the 180-acre campus.

The diverse and colorful collection of trees impressed Jerry Melaragno, professor of biology. Now he has created a comprehensive program that highlights the importance of RIC’s resident trees, and offers the College community a chance to explore firsthand these overlooked treasures.

In April, he received word that RIC would be granted $6,300 from the state’s senior public institution’s Environmental Management’s Division of Forest Environment. The grant will fund tree inventory and labeling as well as the development of a brochure.

The endeavor is part of a project to “recognize and promote the value of our campus trees,” said Melaragno.

The grant is actually the second phase of the program, which began last fall, when a 2004 campus tree desk calendar was published. Melaragno worked with the College’s Publishing Services Dept. to produce the calendar, which was funded by the RIC Foundation. Over 2,500 calendars were printed; it can also be viewed online at www.ric.edu/ric150.

In December and January, inventory was taken of RIC’s 280 conifer trees, including 21 different species. Currently, deciduous (leaf-shedding) trees are being catalogued. The listing and labeling of trees – about 800 total – will encompass all developed areas of the College, including the East Campus.

The database and labeling of trees will greatly facilitate their future care and maintenance, according to Melaragno. “The inventory will allow us to make better decisions about new plantings and maintain the excisions between people and the existing plantings,” he noted.

Publication of the brochure is planned for 2004. It will include a map and tree guide suitable for self-guided tours. Group tours are planned for the future.

The College’s tree program was also given a boost by the Rhode Island Tree Council, a nonprofit citizens’ group that offers a six-week tree steward class. For the first time, the training, which began in May, is at RIC. Topics include tree biology and how to identify, plant and care for trees. In conjunction with the class, two cherry trees will be planted on campus.

The variety and significance of trees will extend into the RIC classroom this fall when Melaragno’s new course “The World’s Forests” is offered. Class work will include a student project on campus trees and investigating the interactions between people and trees from a global perspective. Also, a biology lab will focus on Rhode Island’s state tree, the red maple, of which there are many on campus.

Two RIC trees have been nominated as the largest of their species in the state, including a noble fir, located near the Fruit Hill Avenue entrance to the campus, beside the old alumni house. This tree, at 107 feet high, is the tallest one on campus (see photo at lower left). The white oak located at the Mt. Pleasant Avenue entrance is the symbol of RIC’s Sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary, being celebrated this year.

Melaragno believes his effort to raise tree awareness will have a lasting benefit. “Successful completion of this project will ensure that the Rhode Island College campus will be an important destination for our citizens, highlighting our trees for the various ways they enhance our world,” said Melaragno. “We proudly celebrate them as valued companions in the natural world.”

SHADY SITUATION: A 21-foot-tall flowering crabapple provides shade for the benches below. The tree produces masses of flowers that almost fully cover its branches, and its abundant fruit provides winter food for many types of birds.

RING AROUND THE BEECH TREE: This purple European beech, located on The Forman Center lawn, has the greatest girth of any tree on campus, measuring seven feet around. Standing 92 feet tall, it may be RIC’s oldest tree.

CONGRATULATORY KISSES: In 1975, John Nazarian, then special assistant to RIC President Charles Willard, thanks and kisses Lenore DeLucia as she stepped down from the position of acting vice president for academic affairs. History repeated itself this year on May 14, when College President Nazarian again kisses DeLucia and thanks her for 42 years of service to the College. For more on DeLucia’s retirement see page 6.

Then and Now…

In keeping with the Sesquicentennial celebration, we will feature a series of paired photos showing the College “Then” and “Now.”

RIC’s resident trees, and offers the College community a chance to explore firsthand these overlooked treasures.
Reﬂections of a recent grad
by Clifft Rebello
Class of 2004

“There is a good reason they call these ceremonies ‘commencement exercises.’ Graduation is not the end; it’s the beginning.” U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch

Nothing rings truer than the quote above. For six years, hard work and dedication, I had grown to know that Rhode Island College would graduate from Rhode Island College with much excitement. As the time was near, I realized that my majors kept changing, I had only one goal in mind and that was to finish whatever degree program I was in and ﬁnally end my college career once and for all. No thought kept on going like the thought of being asﬁlled with uncertainty. After a certain age, there is a need to look outside the home for support and comfort. When I look back on the past six years of my life, I certainly recognize my family for supporting and helping me, but I cannot ignore the fact that a lot of my support also came from the people I met at school. From students to members of the administration, it seemed I always had a place to go when I needed a reality check and needed to grow up a bit. I am 23 and when I look back at the 17-year-old who entered RIC in 1998, I am beside myself. I went from being a child to an adult and it all happened right on the Rhode Island College campus. Since I was so involved in different student organizations, it seemed as though I spent more time on campus than I did at home. Through the years, I grew up a lot and RIC now is about it, it was my home. I learned so much about life and about myself. While I was not camped out on campus, I still somehow suddenly became so appreciative about leaving RIC that I had never thought about it.

Commencement really IS just the beginning. While most students enjoy every minute, I spent on campus and thoroughly enjoyed connecting with all of the professors, administrators, staff members, and students, but I had never called it home. It didn’t feel like home until I was sitting there in my cap and gown on that overwhelmingly hot day in May.

There was a unifying theme this year during the commencement exercises; “Never forget Rhode Island College was my home.” Through President Nazarian’s speech and David A. Medeiros, class treasurer’s closing remarks, he released a set of doves and said that no matter what happened, they would always ﬁnd their way back home to the place where they were raised. He likened me to those doves and invited us to ﬁnd our way back to Rhode Island College no matter where we were.

Chant another song of Harlem;
Not about the wrong of Harlem,
But the worthy throne of Harlem,
Proud that they belong in Harlem;
They, the over-blamed of Harlem
Are all not ill-famed in Harlem
The devil, too, is tamed in Harlem.

—Anonymous (song)

Fresh perspectives on the Harlem Renaissance – the fertile period of African-American literary, artistic and cultural activity in the 1920s and 30s – were presented by an international panel of 47 scholars from over 30 institutions of higher learning at a conference at RIC May 7 and 8.


Fourteen panel and plenary sessions helped provide a deeper understanding of the Harlem Renaissance. Topics included Marxist perspectives, postcolonial studies, African and Caribbean linkages, contemporary feminist and “queer” theory, critical race theory, performance studies, and the recent sociological work on the black communities during the period.

Amritjit Singh and Daniel Scott, RIC professors of English and African-American studies, chaired the conference, which was originally conceived to highlight the work of two Harlem Renaissance-era writers, Wallace Thurman and Richard Bruce Nugent.

Singh and Scott, who recently co-edited The Collected Writings of Wallace Thurman, a book featuring unpublished writings by Thurman, discovered that dozens of works had been published on the Harlem Renaissance in the previous decade and decided the conference would highlight these new readings.

“What we call the Harlem Renaissance today is so much larger, so much more complex, than the entity called by the same name on which I wrote my doctoral dissertation over 30 years ago,” said Singh.

Of the conference, Singh said: “We were thrilled by the enthusiastic response from all over the country and Europe. Among the presenters were independent scholars Thomas Wirth, a conference keynote speaker who edited a 2002 book about Nugent, and Christa Schwarz of German University, author of a book about the Harlem Renaissance.

Tuire Valkeakari, from Finland, who is working on a doctorate in African-American studies at Yale, also participated in the conference. “The presentations I heard were thoughtful and thought-provoking, and the atmosphere was supportive and warm,” said Valkeakari.

Other Rhode Island College contributors included Dan Moos and Susan C. W. Abbottson of the English department, Katharine Capshaw-Smith, assistant professor of English, and student Don Carrara. RIC grad Paul Khalil ‘99 of Northeastern University also presented at the conference.

The “Temples for Tomorrow” conference was supported by the Faculty Development Fund.

HARLEM RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE PANELISTS (l-r) Jon-Christian Suggs (Graduate Center, CUNY), Adam McBride (John Jay College, CUNY), and Kathleen Pfeiffer (Oakland University) discuss the rediscovery and republishing of lost novels of the Harlem Renaissance.

“We younger Negro artists who create now intend to express our individual dark-skinned selves without fear or shame. If white people are pleased with us that is glad. If they are not, it doesn’t matter. We know we are beautiful. And ugly too. The tom-tom cries and the tom-tom laughs. If colored people are pleased we are glad. If they are not, their displeasure does not matter either. We build our temples for tomorrow, strong as we know how, and stand on top of the mountain, free within ourselves.”

— Langston Hughes

The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain

Class of 2004 pledges $150,000

At this year’s commencement, Miguel Lopes ’71, president of the Rhode Island College Alumni Association, ceremonially welcomed the Class of 2004 into the ranks of the Alumni Association. President Nazarian also praised the class for its enthusiastic five-year pledge of $150,000 to the Capital Campaign.

The Class of 2004 and The Student Community Government donated $10,000 to start the class fund, which will help provide scholarship aid to future students.

Class president David Medeiros said that the class wants to make it possible for students, who would otherwise not have access to a college education, have the same top-notch education and opportunities.

Individual pledges and gifts to Class of 2004 Fund

Robert Anderson ’04
Michael P. Cardin ’04
Kristin Colello ’04
Vanessa Craveiro ’04
Michael De Motte ’04
Dianne Diggett ’04
Barry Dowell ’04
Michele K. Dunphy ’04
Kevin J. Ferreira ’04
Milagros Garcia ’04
Joseph R. Giardina ’04
Rebecca E. Howard ’04
Kristina Laczyenski ’04
Lorie Maquire-Henderson ’04
Alicia Marie Mahoney ’04
Tara Mancini ’04
Jason Masterson ’04
Bethany Orlando ’04
Emily L. Perron ’04
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph M. Quigley
(currently accepts all checks)
Melissa Weber ’04
Mary Jane Clune Yolen ’04

There is one last chance to join us in celebrating 150 years of academic excellence

Mark your calendars for...

Rhode Island College’s Sesquicentennial Jubilee
Sunday, June 20, 2004
Rhode Island State House Lawn

4 p.m.
Old-fashioned Garden Party
with reenactments of College traditions of yesteryear. The afternoon will feature entertainment by the American Band. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

5:30 p.m.
Jubilee Dinner
featuring Rhode Island’s unique cuisine, catered by Guy Abelson Catering. Entertainment by Avenue A and Rhode Island College alumni performers. $100 per person (includes trolley transportation to a private dessert reception)

8:30 p.m.
Sesquicentennial Torch Parade and WaterFire
The College’s gift to all friends, alumni, and the community.

For more information, call (401) 456-8105 or email dmales@ric.edu.

Rhode Island College
John Nazarian, President
Governor and Mrs. Donald L. Carcieri, Sesquicentennial Honorary Chairpersons
Mark Motte and Madeline Nixon, Sesquicentennial Co-Chairs

Save the date!
Homecoming 2004
October 1 - 2
Look for an invitation in late summer.
Sesquicentennial Memories

Remembering Commissioner Bicknell

During the course of the College’s Sesquicentennial observance, Michael Smith, assistant to the president, periodically contributes to What’s News at Rhode Island College 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 15th installment.

by Michael Smith ’79
Assistant to the President

While the College, during the course of its 150-year history, has been known for the excellence of courageous, innovative, accomplished, and energetic leaders, few have been as vital to the establishment and growth of the institution as the 25 commissioners of public schools appointed on June 11, 1860: Thomas Williams Bicknell.

Bicknell’s early life was colorful. Born on September 6, 1834, the son of a farmer, minister, state legislator, and colonel in the Bristol County Militia, Thomas W. Bicknell attended schools in his home town of Barrington before traveling to Vermont to continue his education at Thetford Academy. From there, he was admitted to Amherst College. After Amherst, he taught school and served as principal in Rehoboth before heading west to teach and serve as principal in Elgin, Illinois. Shortly after signing on with an emigration company to help settle Kansas as a free state, Bicknell was taken hostage by bandits on the Missouri River but was set free after several weeks as prisoner.

He made his way back to New England, where he taught school again served as principal in Rehoboth before pursuing graduate study at Harvard University. After obtaining a master’s degree, Bicknell was elected principal of Bristol High School and then served as principal of the Arnold Street Grammar School in Providence before returning to Bristol High School in May, 1867, where he taught until being named Rhode Island commissioner of public schools in 1869.

Appointed by Governor Seth Padelford, Bicknell’s primary charge was to re-establish the Normal School, which was then dormant. During his six years as commissioner, Bicknell not only succeeded in reopening the Normal School as a well-funded, province-based entity, he also led the effort to establish a State Board of Education, oversaw the selection of school superintendents in every city and town in the state, dedicated over 50 new schoolhouses, and increased the school year from an average of 27 weeks at the beginning of his tenure to 35 weeks at the time of his departure - the longest school year of any state in the country at that time. He was also instrumental in nearly tripling appropriations for public education. A spellbinding orator, he delivered over 500 addresses as commissioner.

Bicknell also revived the publication The Rhode Island Schoolmaster, which had been in decline, and served as its editor for close to a decade. He was also a joint publisher and editor of the New England Journal of Education. As an educational leader of national renown, he helped to re-establish the American Institute of Instruction and served as its first president. He had also served as president of the Rhode Island Institute of Education and the Rhode Island State Education Association. At the well-attended national meetings that he organized, he would feature luminaries as Booker T. Washington at one such event, he arranged the first public exhibition of the telephone. A visionary, Bicknell foretold of the coming of the automobile in an 1892 lecture entitled “The Horseless Carriage” and later served as an officer of the company that built the first automobile in Rhode Island.

Bicknell held viewpoints on public issues that were quite progressive for his day. As an elected state representative in the Rhode Island General Assembly while still a senior at Brown University, his first speech on the floor of the House was to advocate the abolition of separate schools for African-American children - nearly a century before the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on the matter.

Bicknell was also an advocate for women in public service and is credited with helping to elect the nation’s first female school board, a special distinction of the Town of Tiverton.

Heavily involved in religious, educational, and civic organizations, Bicknell served as president of the Massachusetts Congregational Sunday School Union, the New England Sunday School Association, the International Sunday School Association, and the Catechuque Teachers’ Reading Union. He was also commissioner from Rhode Island to the Universal Exposition at Vienna, Austria, and a member of the 1878 Postal Congress at which the U.S. Postal Code was developed. Bicknell was credited with membership in over 100 organizations, of which he served as president in more than 30.

An honorary member of Phi Beta Kappa, Bicknell later received honorary degrees from Amherst College and Drury College. After a long and productive life, Bicknell passed away in 1925 at the age of 91. While he accomplished a great deal throughout his career, it is for his lasting commitment to the institution now known as Rhode Island College that we remember him with great appreciation and reverence.

(Not just) academically speaking

Research in Sudan yields bounty of historical and political insights

by Richard A. Lobban, Jr., Professor of Anthropology and African Studies

From December 2003 until mid-March 2004, I was on sabbatical leave in the Middle East. This was a fascinating and important time to be in the region. I had not been there for five years owing to complicated political relations between the United States and Sudan, though I served in the Sudan as the executive director of the Sudan Studies Association, teaching regularly at the University of Khartoum and participating in national and international meetings on ancient and modern Sudan, and working on Sudanese political asylum cases in the USA. I was especially keen to return to see what had changed.

My study and travel began on win-
A lady and a scholar leaves RIC—

Lenore Delucia to retire after 42 years

by Jane Fusco
What's News Editor

Tuesday mornings for Lenore Delucia was a sweet deal. As director for administration and finance, begin with a staff meeting following the President’s weekly meeting. It was business as usual on Tuesday April 27, except that day, Delucia announced she was retiring at the end of June, leaving the College after 42 years. Until then, only President Nazarian and Delucia’s immediate family knew of her decision.

“It’s time. I’ve been here 42 years already; it’s time for new blood,” Delucia said in an emotional interview on May 17. It was an announcement her staff did not want to hear. They were shocked.

Budget director Roxann Johnson-Nance said of Delucia, “She allowed me to learn, encouraged my new ideas, and guided me.” Paul Forte, assistant vice president for finance, added that, “Lee always had an open door and was willing to discuss problems and help me make better decisions and grow as a manager and a person.”

Her contributions to the College in both her academic and administrative roles have been enormous, and the College will certainly be a different place without her,” said Richard Prull, assistant vice president of information services.

Delucia credits the late Eleanor McAlmon, dean of the School of Educational Studies, provost and vice president for academic affairs at RIC, as a mentor and role model for administration and finance, and says that her many years at RIC have been dramatically transformed and she helped shape the College on this campus that does not bear her imprint.

Some of the projects she has directed include remodeling of The Forman Center; expansion and renovation of Dorrance Dining Hall; construction of the Murray Center and the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts; reconstruction of the campus mall; installation of a campus-wide technology infrastructure and implementation of PeopleSoft administrative software; renovation of buildings 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10 on the East Campus; parking expansions; and redesigned campuses entrance at Mt. Pleasant and Fruit Hill Avenues.

“I sat in on every single construction meeting for the last 15 years,” Delucia said. “I have been involved in every phase of the projects from selecting the architects to choosing carpet colors.”

Delucia said that she will miss the people of RIC the most. “After all these years, they’re not just colleagues, they are good friends,” she said.

One of those good friends is Nazarian. When Delucia first told Nazarian last year of her plans to retire, she recalls him saying, “Who am I going to talk to?” to which Delucia replied, “John, there’s always the telephone.”

“Lee Delucia is, to take some poetic license, a person for all seasons. She has always risen to the challenge, no matter what nature that challenge might take,” said Nazarian. “Whether the issue was related to financial matters, negotiations, personnel, construction projects, technology, administrative policies or academic affairs, Lee has always been successful because of her knowledge, creativity, energy and commitment to Rhode Island College and to higher education.”

What Delucia said she won’t miss when she retires are the many hours about the lack of parking around the campus and breakdown of air conditioning units on the hottest days of the year.

Her advice for her successor is simply, “I am and always will be a mentor, standing back in the behavioral sciences. ‘Know the people in your division, meet with them frequently, and once a decision is made, let them do their jobs and carry it out on their own.”

On June 25, Lee Delucia will leave the campus as an employee for the last time. What does she think that day will be like? “Sad,” she said, “but I will leave with good feelings.” She said she will take with her many memories of an institution that has grown in stature, students who have gone on to great success, and friendships with many colleagues over the years.

“I feel I will never be done with the College. I will always have some connection,” she said. “It’s been a wonderful place to work. I would have never wanted to work anywhere else.”

And after June 27? “I’m going to the beach with my grandchildren Ryan and Emily,” she said. “The summer will be for playing golf and going to the beach. In September, we’ll see.”

The Delucia Family has established a fund in the RIC Foundation. For more information, contact mbrown@ric.edu.

RIC retirees recognized at Commencement Gala

The 13 members of the Rhode Island College community who have retired during the past year were recognized at the College’s annual Commencement Gala, held May 14 in the Donovon Dining Center.

RIC President John Nazarian noted that the retirees represented a combined total of over 760 years of service to the College. “Each...is a special member of the College family and both individually and collectively, they leave big shoes to fill,” said Nazarian. “We are deeply grateful to each of them and wish them a lengthy, healthy, joyful, and active retirement.”

Senior administrators

• Lepole A. Delucia, vice president for administration and finance and professor of psychology, 42 years

• John A. Bucci, dean of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development and professor of foundations of education, 30 years

• George D. Metrey, dean of the School of Social Work and professor of social work, 25 years

• Linda R. Binder, Adams Library, 33 years

• Elaine A. Coccidi, Campus Store, 21 years

• Dolores Corsetti, Campus Store, 8 years

• Anthony C. Delguidice, Facilities and Operations, 33 years

• Donna Diminico, College Dining Services, 29 years

• John N. Doneen, Maintenance and Repairs, 5 years

• Lucia M. B. Feltona, Maintenance and Repairs, 9 years

• Nancy Jaynes, Student Loan Office, 16 years

• Sharon A. Kaye, Office Services, 26 years

• Rachel LaBreche, Campus Store, 8 years

• George E. LaFleur, Office of News & Public Relations, 23 years

• Donald J. Lopes, Facilities and Operations, 6 years

• John B. Mancini, Jr., Landscaping and Grounds, 24 years

• Doris I. Remillard, Henry Barnard School, 22 years

• Arlene R. Robertson, Physical Sciences, 29 years

• John L. Seitzinger, Maintenance and Repairs, 7 years

• Alfred J. Sisto, Landscaping and Grounds, 23 years

• Elizabeth Spaldiron, School of Social Work, 24 years

• Melissa Vaccaro, College Dining Services, 9 years

See photos on page 18.
Founding dean of the School of Social Work -
George Metrey recalls 25-year career at RIC

by Rob Martin
What's News Managing Editor

G eorge Metrey will embark on his legendary commute — 194 miles one way — for the final time on July 9, when he retires from Rhode Island College, which he has helped head to New Jersey for 25 years as the only dean the School of Social Work has ever had.

"This is the right time," said Metrey. "I had a great run."

Sitting in his office among boxes packed for the school’s move to a newly renovated building, Metrey spoke about his stewardship of the School of Social Work and his plans for retirement.

"One reason I came was the opportunity to start something from scratch," recounts Metrey. As the founding dean of the school, he takes pride in building a "solid" program, "a place where the faculty and students can grow and follow where their vision takes them in the community."

Metrey led the School of Social Work in developing many new initiatives, among them the new initiatives, among them the social work in developing many the community."

Metrey remains active in the National Association of Social Workers, and volunteers on the education and accreditation committees of the Council on Social Work Education. He was recently honored for his service to Adoption Rhode Island, where he is a charter member and on its board of directors.

One thing Metrey will not miss is the travel. "If I never had to drive a car again, it wouldn’t bother me," he said. A resident of Wyncott, New Jersey, he usually drives to work at 4 a.m. Mondays, and returns home on Friday afternoons.

"When my daughter was young, she thought everybody had an apartment in Rhode Island and had lived in New Jersey," said Metrey. Often he would come home for his middle daughter’s birthday during the week. His late wife Cheryl was a high school teacher, principal and assistant superintendent of schools in New Jersey, so it made sense to keep their home there.

"I asked what he’d do in retirement, Metrey said that he hadn’t really decided, but then rattled off a busy list of possibilities.

"I want to do some more traveling," said Metrey, who has a love of ancient history. Among potential destinations are Russia, Australia, New Zealand and the Great Wall of China. He wants to complete some of the household projects he neglected over the years and spend time with his second home in Aruba.

Metrey plans to do volunteer work, preparing social service reports for a group of abandoned children in a group home for which his sister-in-law is a board member.

As his retirement nears, Metrey, who will be 65 next month, leaves a legacy of accomplishment — both at RIC and in his profession.

"He has been an advocate and leader for his discipline, the School of Social Work, and the College in general," said RIC President John Nazarian. "Obviously, Rhode Island College is a better institution because of the service of Dean Metrey."

The Metrey Family has estab-
lished a fund in the RIC Foundation to support scholarships in the School of Social Work. For more information, contact mbrown@ric.edu.

John Bucci — ambassador for the School of Education retires after 30 years

by Gita Brown
Writer/Editor, Publishing Services

J ohn Bucci is an exacting man, in- cappable in speech, gracious in manner, and of considerable intellectual acu- nit. He is a seedsman, often seen with leg crossed and one hand propped on a cane, reflecting on the past. Bucci will retire officially after July 9 at RIC, having served in various academic capacities.

"I’ve always felt that teachers should be leaders, not just intellectually, but ethically," Bucci said. "I think it’s important, as models in the community, to demonstrate what is committed to justice, to fairness, and to do whatever we can. I think here at Rhode Island College everyone has those commitments."

Bucci’s career has spanned many areas of academia. He’s been a high school science teacher, a principal, and a dean. But there’s been one notionous thread running through it all — the profession of teachers.

"Professional development means continuing your education. It means always working to improve what you know, and throughout your life you need to keep up to date with what is needed. ‘Okay, I’m an educated person. You can only be a growing person,’” he said.

"In an existential way, there’s always something new to learn, because as professionals, because a professional is ultimately personally responsible. This is what has driven me,” he said.

Bucci recalls the great impact his own Rhode Island College advisor had on him as a gradu- ate student. He had already earned a BA in secondary education from Providence College in 1963 and had just com- pleted an MEd in secondary adminis- tration from Rhode Island College in 1968, intending to become a principal.

Looking back at his four-year term, Bucci said, "Any of us as faculty can change the life of a student," he said. "A lot of our students were first-generation college stu- dents who don’t have a lot of confidence, who don’t recognize how bright they are. Even those who take their time to be told, they need to be reminded of that."

As Dean Bucci leaves Rhode Island College, his words of advice, direction and encouragement will follow his lead and continue the work of a man who strived for ethical and academic excellence.

The Bucci Family has established a fund in the RIC Foundation to support scholarships in the School of Ed. For more information, contact mbrown@ric.edu.
Continued from page 5

After plenty of tire changes, we could see majestic Jebel Barkal (the Blessed Mountain) in the distance along with more pyramids at Nuri. There, Tahaqor, the famed pharaoh of Nubia and Egypt, stands. Jebel Barkal is noted in the Bible, was visited at nearby Kurru. Then heading west, back along more pyramids of ancient livestock and boats. There was the opportunity to explore the ancient temple site at Kawa and dinky temple of King Karima, and massive two-story mud-brick structures that still stand adjacent to their palaces upon the broad plain to the north.

Starry skies on the open desert were a treat each night as we headed on to Old Dongola, the location of the Meroitic hermitage. After resting for a few nights in Dongola, I then returned to Musawwarat es-Sufra. I was able to look over the main temple complex. Certainly much of this material and the experiences will find their way into coming classes.

Aside from this archaeological experience, it was a conference on African languages that also attracted my professional interest. This gave me an opportunity to present my latest findings on a long-term effort to decipher the written, but poorly understood, ancient language of Sudan known as Merotic. The results were very well received and I gave a special seminar on Merotic at Ahlia University as well as a program on this topic at the Goethe Institute sponsored by the Sudan Archaeological Research Society. I will continue these intellectual dialogues at the next Meroitic Studies meetings in Paris in September 2004 and Nubian Studies meetings in October in Moscow.

Throughout my stay I also took much interest in the great demographic transformation of Khartoum. When I first went to Sudan in 1970, perhaps the total number of inhabitants was 170,000 people; now it is estimated to be as many as seven million. Many of these people are refugees from the 20 years of north-south civil war and, more recently, from the serious strife in the western province of Darfur that has resulted in some 700,000 refugees according to United Nations officials. Indeed, compared to the conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Israeli-Palestine conflict, it is the sad reality that the Sudan has had far more death, internal and external displacement, and misery than all the others put together.

But Sudan falls "between the cracks" and needs much greater attention. The world is still awaiting the final peace accords that are supposed to resolve the civil war and bring an end of the charges of slavery and genocide, especially now that a great reservoir of oil is known and being exploited from the southern Sudan by Chinese and Malaysian firms. Equally, the wider world of human rights activists is hoping for a return to democracy and an end of military rule by the government of General Omar al-Bashir in the north and by American trained John Garang, head of the Sudan Peoples Liberation Army in the south. The resolution of these matters still lies ahead.

The Tomb of Mahdi, the famed leader of Sudan in the 1800s. Photo by Teodoro.
This continuing series in What’s News will feature RIC grads whose career paths have taken some unusual turns.

Like so many Rhode Island College students before and after her, Kathleen Mellor aspired to be a teacher, which she has been for nearly 20 years. This year, she will leave the classroom temporarily and travel around the country addressing educators as an ambassador for the teaching profession. In April, Mellor was named the National Teacher of the Year by the Council of Chief State School Officers on April 19.

On April 21, President George W. Bush honored Mellor at a ceremony in the Rose Garden of the White House, presenting her with the coveted crystal apple award signifying her achievement. In the April 22 Providence Journal article, R.I. education honor was presented to Henry Barnard School librarian Laurie Parkerson. The students include (from left) Megahn McKervey, Ashley Richer, Amanda Sutcliffe, Erin Thompson after the ceremony in the Faculty Center.

Mellor is the first teacher from Rhode Island and the first ESL students' families was another reason Mellor was chosen for the award. Each year, she invites her students and their families to a picnic in Davisville and encourages them to bring dishes from their homelands while she supplies the American fare of hot dogs and chips.

Also in the April 22 Providence Journal article, as saying, “After many years, I still look forward to Monday mornings.” To which Bush replied, “No wonder she’s Teacher of the Year.”

On April 30 Rhode Island’s First Lady Suzanne O. Carcieri was installed as the first honorary member of the faculty. "The American Cultural Luso-Americana” (Luso-American Cultural Heritage Award) was presented to Cecilia D. Botelho, recipient of the Luso-American Cultural Heritage Award, and Marie Fraley, president of the Friends of Portuguese Studies.

Mellor is the first teacher from Rhode Island and the first ESL students’ families was another reason Mellor was chosen for the award. Each year, she invites her students and their families to a picnic in Davisville and encourages them to bring dishes from their homelands while she supplies the American fare of hot dogs and chips.

Also in the April 22 Providence Journal article, as saying, “After many years, I still look forward to Monday mornings.” To which Bush replied, “No wonder she’s Teacher of the Year.”

Awards in Portuguese studies were presented to two graduating seniors in ceremonies held at a Modern Languages Dept. reception following the Cap and Gown Convocation on April 28. The "Prémio em Estudos Portugueses" (Portuguese Studies Award) was presented to Lisa M. Andrade Almeida for demonstrating excellence in Portuguese, Brazilian and Lusofone Studies. Almeida, a secondary education and Portuguese studies major, is the first graduate in Portuguese studies at Rhode Island College under the student-designed major program.

The “Galardão de Herança Cultural Luso-Americana” (Luso-American Cultural Heritage Award) was presented to Cecilia D. Botelho for her effort in preserving and transmitting the Portuguese culture to future Luso-descendants. Botelho is graduating as a secondary education major, Spanish major, and will be certified to teach Portuguese.

The awards were presented by Joseph A. Levi, assistant professor of Portuguese and Marie Fraley, president of Friends of Portuguese Studies, the sponsor of the prizes.

Visiting Rhode Island College earlier in the week was a group of students from St. Martin’s College, Carlisle, UK, recently visited RIC for two weeks as part of a student exchange program with elementary education students. From left to right: College President John Nazarian, Clara Perez de Eulate, Gemma Anderson, Bovi Heary, academic affairs vice president Dan King, and Gill Hebron. This is the sixth year of the program, which is coordinated by Ezra L. Steiglitz, professor of elementary education.
the Board of Governors for Higher Education playfully thanked the College for adding a new word to the state’s and his vocabulary throughout the past year. “I didn’t have a clue what ‘sesquicentennial’ meant before this year,” he said, in reference to the College’s 150th anniversary.

After claiming he saw many familiar faces from his role as traffic court judge, Caprio paid a compliment to the Class of 2004. “This has to be the brightest class to ever graduate from RIC,” he said to booming applause. He said that “countless” students had appeared before him for speeding on Mount Pleasant Avenue or running the stop sign on Cathedral Avenue because they were late getting to an exam at RIC. Caprio said he took it into account when a student would say, “Judge, I got an A.”

Caprio told the graduates that their future stature would bring them certain rights and privileges but that they must always remember the values instilled in them at RIC. “Because you have the right to do it doesn’t mean it is the right thing to do,” he said. Caprio advised the students to “always have your moral compass gauged in the right direction.”

In his farewell remarks, David Medeiros, president of the class of 2004, told of how, encouraged by classmate Nazarian, the ‘54 grads set out to raise funds to put toward scholarships for future students that will “perpetuate the good deed given by the state to us.”

The gift was presented to Nazarian in a Hassenfeld Brothers pencil box that contained Monopoly game money. The “Brothers” in the Rhode Island company’s name were honorary degree recipient Alan Hassenfeld’s grandfather and great uncle, who founded what is now Hasbro, Inc. Driscoll said the Monopoly money “represented the act of teaching for fun, but being deadly serious about the outcome.”

The gift will be used to “keep the torch of learning burning at RIC,” said Nazarian. Nazarian recalled that 50 years ago he sat in the audience as a graduate “wondering where life would take me.” He said he could measure the journey of the last 50 years from professor to administrator to president in the “tens of thousands of students I have met at the College.” He noted that as College President for 14 years, he has “personally signed over 20,000 diplomas.”

In a half century filled with change, Nazarian said that the things that remain the same are the "hopes and aspirations of college graduates and the abundant challenges they will face in their pursuit to help others and make a good life for themselves.” He said the initials R-I-C have also come to describe virtues embraced by the College: respect, integrity and commitment.

Representing the alumni association, Donald Driscoll, class of 1954, told the audience of his class’s donation of $126,000 to the College. The gift, the largest donation of any class to date, exceeded the goal of $100,000 set earlier this year, and will be used to ensure that “no qualified student will come to this institution and be turned away because of lack of funds,” said Driscoll.

The gift was presented to Nazarian in a Hassenfeld Brothers pencil box that contained Monopoly game money. The “Brothers” in the Rhode Island company’s name were honorary degree recipient Alan Hassenfeld’s grandfather and great uncle, who founded what is now Hasbro, Inc. Driscoll said the Monopoly money “represented the act of teaching for fun, but being deadly serious about the outcome.”

The gift will be used to “keep the torch of learning burning at RIC,” said Nazarian.

Nazarian recalled that 50 years ago he sat in the audience as a graduate “wondering where life would take me.” He said he could measure the journey of the last 50 years from professor to administrator to president in the "tens of thousands of students I have met at the College.” He noted that as College President for 14 years, he has “personally signed over 20,000 diplomas.”

In a half century filled with change, Nazarian said that the things that remain the same are the "hopes and aspirations of college graduates and the abundant challenges they will face in their pursuit to help others and make a good life for themselves.” He said the initials R-I-C have also come to describe virtues embraced by the College: respect, integrity and commitment.

Representing the alumni association, Donald Driscoll, class of 1954, told the audience of his class’s donation of $126,000 to the College. The gift, the largest donation of any class to date, exceeded the goal of $100,000 set earlier this year, and will be used to ensure that “no qualified student will come to this institution and be turned away because of lack of funds,” said Driscoll.

The gift was presented to Nazarian in a Hassenfeld Brothers pencil box that contained Monopoly game money. The “Brothers” in the Rhode Island company’s name were honorary degree recipient Alan Hassenfeld’s grandfather and great uncle, who founded what is now Hasbro, Inc. Driscoll said the Monopoly money “represented the act of teaching for fun, but being deadly serious about the outcome.”

The gift will be used to “keep the torch of learning burning at RIC,” said Nazarian.
cation, President Miguel Lopes ’71 welcomed the graduates to alumni status and encouraged them to be active alumni. “Your degree, in the future, will only be as good as the College that awarded it,” said Lopes. “Continue to support your College to help guarantee it will be strong for those who follow you.”

To mark the College’s 150th year, the class of 2004 received special-edition white diploma cases with gold lettering and the Sesquicentennial symbol, the oak tree.

Imploring students to keep RIC close to their hearts, Nazarian promised, “RIC will always be your home and we will always welcome you back.”

The ceremony ended with the releasing of white birds, the universal sign of peace, love, hope and unity around the world. The cluster of birds eventually will find their way home…the same way it is hoped that the newest College alumni will return to RIC.

**Advanced-degree commencements hail 350 ‘voices’ of the future**

Asking graduates to “make a significant, positive difference in all whose lives you come into contact with,” RIC President John Nazarian led a commencement ceremony in which 350 advanced degrees were conferred May 13 in the Murray Center.

Nazarian awarded honorary doctorate degrees to author and playwright Beatrice Schwartz Levin ’42, and Plant/SA/Childreach chief executive officer Samuel A. Worthington.

Michael Ryan ’74, of the Board of Governors for Higher Education, told the degree recipients that “leaders are problem solvers.” As an example, he mentioned the late U.S. Sen. John Chafee, whose optimistic outlook helped him lead. Chafee “always looked toward the future,” said Ryan, who quoted the words on a statue built in Chafee’s honor: “What we do today will have an effect on our children, and on our children’s children.”

Ryan noted Nazarian’s over 50-year association with RIC and his success in leading the College as President. “We on the board feel so strongly about him, we never want him to leave,” he said.

Ryan also recognized Lenore Delucia, vice president for administration and finance and professor of psychology, who will retire this month after 42 years at RIC. (See story on page 6.) “She has been a person of dignity and extraordinary knowledge, and this College is going to miss her,” Ryan said.

Jennifer E. Lang, who received a master’s in social work, was selected to speak on behalf of the graduates. “Each of us has a voice, and I ask you tonight how you want to use yours,” said Lang. She quoted anthropologist Margaret Mead: “Never doubt that a small group of citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

In his address, Worthington asked: “What choices at home or at work will you make with the skills you have acquired?” He advised them to spend their time in a job they love, and to do something with compassion.

Worthington, who is also a founder of the Hope for African Children Initiative, spoke about visiting some of the poorest places on earth. What struck him was not the overwhelming poverty, he said, “but the power of the human spirit to shine through.” He mentioned a 17-year-old boy he met from Uganda, who had lost both parents to AIDS. The boy helped organize co-op services that provided money for a daily meal for over 100 orphans.

Worthington told the graduates that it is “through our actions to help others that we actually help ourselves.”

See pages 19 and 20 for more glimpses of graduation.
The first Convocation of Scholars Week, part of the College's Sesquicentennial celebration, was held April 21 - 28. It featured a variety of lectures and presentations covering a number of disciplines and celebrating the College's commitment to academic excellence.

"LITERACY AND EARLY EDUCATION" was the topic of a lecture by Jerlean Daniel, associate professor in the School of Education at the University of Pittsburgh, who spoke April 27 in the Student Union ballroom, as part of the Convocation of Scholars Week.

FIRST TIME: Seniors Corey Greenhalgh (left) and Kate Videlo place mortarboards on each other's heads during Cap and Gown ceremonies April 28 in Roberts Hall Auditorium. Cap and Gown Day is traditionally the first time graduating seniors at the College are allowed to don their graduation attire.

HISTORY: Pawtucket Mayor James E. Doyle (center) and College President John Nazarian with guest speaker and honorary degree recipient Elizabeth Johnson. Johnson, a lifelong historical preservationist presented “What was Pawtucket Like in 1854?” on April 22.

FIRST LADY: Suzanne O. Carcieri MEd ’93 (inset), facilitates a panel discussion on “Policy and Standards in Early Education,” held April 23 in the Student Union ballroom. Panelists include (from left) Leslie Sevey MEd ’97, Carolyn Roseman ’84, Donna Bettencourt-Clavin ’73, Aurea Rosa, Kim Maine and Paula-Jo Gaines-Mays.

AGED LADY: Suzanne O. Carcieri MEd ’93 (inset), facilitates a panel discussion on “Policy and Standards in Early Education,” held April 23 in the Student Union ballroom. Panelists include (from left) Leslie Sevey MEd ’97, Carolyn Roseman ’84, Donna Bettencourt-Clavin ’73, Aurea Rosa, Kim Maine and Paula-Jo Gaines-Mays.

"LITERACY AND EARLY EDUCATION" was the topic of a lecture by Jerlean Daniel, associate professor in the School of Education at the University of Pittsburgh, who spoke April 27 in the Student Union ballroom, as part of the Convocation of Scholars Week.
The 2nd annual WebCT Faculty Luncheon and Instructional Technology Update event held in May

May 18 marked the second Annual WebCT Faculty Luncheon and Instructional Technology Update. As with the previous year, this event was an opportunity for faculty to demonstrate the highlights of their WebCT courses and for other faculty members to learn about the benefits of having an online course.

This year, in addition to featuring WebCT-related updates, there were also other instructional technology-related items from various departments. Richard Pruit of Information Services gave the welcome remarks and mentioned the funding that has gone to support instructional technologies. Pat Hays from User Support Services, Marianne Castano from the Office of Instructional Technology and Training, Tim Spindler from the Adams Library, and Tony Carlino from the Audiovisual Department also talked about some of their new initiatives.

These initiatives include new projectors in two electronic classrooms that give clear and crisp images, the availability of online training courses, new scanners in the Horace Mann Technology Faculty Area, one of which can scan 35 pages at a time, and the availability of Refworks in the Adams Library, a tool that students and faculty use to create sources-cited pages and bibliographies.

Stephanie deGonzalez also talked about the move to WebCT 4 and new training opportunities for faculty.

Faculty that presented their courses gave their impressions on the effect the online tools had on their teaching and students. Presenters included Kay Israel and Philip Palombo (communications), Sandy Urban-Lynch (nursing), and Russell Potter (English).

Stephanie deGonzalez (User Support Services) talked about students’ comments on the use of WebCT and ways in which WebCT could assist instruction. The faculty presenters were also given a certificate, in the spirit of “if this were the WebCT Oscars.” Israel, for instance, received the Outstanding Rap Performance by Duo or Group and Philip Palombo took the Lifetime Achievement Award for the longest running course.

Certificates of appreciation were also given to the 24 Departmental Technology Liaisons (DTLs) who are the conduits between their departments and the Office of Instructional Technology and Training as well as to the faculty mentors who have expertise in certain software programs and who are available to assist faculty.

Door prizes were also given to three lucky attendees. A newsletter that provided additional details on the instructional technology updates was given to the attendees. Along with the presentations, “Inspector Gadget” tables were set up to familiarize faculty with the newest gadgets and presentation tools in the industry. The IT student-staff were available to assist the faculty as they explored the use of various equipment.
**Arts & Entertainment**

**RIC Performing Arts Series 2004-05:**

a must-see medley of live entertainment

---

**From Broadway to ballet, classical to choir, and acting to acrobatics, Rhode Island College’s Performing Arts Series sails into an exciting new season this September. The Performing Arts umbrella of entertainment includes the Potpourri Series, President’s Music Series, and Jeffrey Siegel’s Keyboard Conversations.**

---

**POTPOURRI SERIES**

**Ballet Hispanico**

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

TAP CITY: November 18, 2004

**Tap City**

The intertemporal cast of legendary tap veterans, cutting-edge tap soloists and young talent from the New York City Tap Festival come together in celebration of one of America’s most virtuosic and entertaining art forms.

---

**The Soweto Gospel Choir**

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Formed to celebrate the unique and inspirational power of African American Gospel Music, the 32-strong choir draws on the best talent from many churches in and around Soweto. This concert is sure to be a major event in Black History Month celebrations.

---

**The National Black Light Theatre of Prague**

Thursday, March 10, 2005

It’s a stunning multi-visual show combining live performance with amazing black-light theatre effects, big-screen projections, and fantastical magic tricks. The group’s production Fantasy Travelers is loosely inspired by Alice in Wonderland and Gulliver’s Travels.

---

**The St. Petersburg State Ballet Theatre**

Tuesday, March 22, 2005

Born over a quarter-century ago, the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre considered one of the most distinguished classical companies in Russia. It will perform its new production of Romeo and Juliet.

---

**Boston Symphony Chamber Players**

Monday, January 31, 2005

RIC welcomes back some of the Boston Symphony’s first-desk players.

---

**JEFFREY SIEGEL’S KEYBOARD CONVERSATIONS**

The master of making classical music accessible will return to RIC for three different and delightful Conversations. In each concert, Siegel attempts to deepen the audience’s understanding of a composition by speaking about it before performing the work in full. A lively question-and-answer session concludes the show.

---

**A CHAMBER MUSIC EXTRA**

Quartetto di Venezia

Monday, March 7

---

**Putumayo-Latinas: Women of Latin America**

Tuesday, October 19, 2004

This concert celebrates the soulful and inspirational music of Latin American women including Toto La Momposina (Columbia), Mariana Montalvo (Chile), and Belo Velloso (Brazil).

---

**Delfos Contemporary Dance**

Saturday, October 23, 2004

Recognized as one of the most important dance companies in Latin America, the group has an aesthetic vision and unique personality characterized by the fluency, physicality and poetry contained in each of their works.

---

**The Muir String Quartet**

The legendary ensemble returns for a 12th consecutive year with three classical performances.

---

**The Magnificent Melodies of Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff**

Thursday, April 29, 2004

Soaring, lyrical dramas by two of the most popular composers of all time. Program includes Tchaikovsky’s Dumka and Dumka, Rachmaninoff’s picturesque Etudes Tableaux.

---

**Spencer from Silence: Beethoven, Smetana and Faure**

Tuesday, September 14

---

**Are you a fan of baseball lore?**

You know of baseball lore, you’re one of the most recognizable – athletes of our time.

---

**The Passion and Poetry of Chopin**

Wednesday, November 3

Beloved favorites and special surprizes stir the heart and enchant the ear. The program includes Beethoven’s Sonata No. 31 in A-flat, Op. 110.

---

**ST. PETERSBURG STATE BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS ROMEO AND JULIET**

Monday, May 2, 2005

Haydn: Quartet in C Major, Op. 20, No. 2

Schulhoff: Five Pieces

Ravel: Quartet in F Major

---

**Boston Symphony Chamber Players**

Monday, January 31, 2005

---

**American women including Toto La Momposina (Columbia), Mariana Montalvo (Chile), and Belo Velloso (Brazil).**

---

**Ballet Hispanico draws on and celebrates an ethnic tradition. Its production of NIGHTCLUB is three stories of the passion and powerful rhythms that move us, as told through the intimate language of dance. NIGHTCLUB contains adult themes.**

---

**The lead- ing Hispanic-American dance company in North America, Ballet Hispanico draws on and celebrates an ethnic tradition. Its production of NIGHTCLUB is three stories of the passion and powerful rhythms that move us, as told through the intimate language of dance. NIGHTCLUB contains adult themes.**

---

**Putumayo-Latinas: Women of Latin America**

Tuesday, October 19, 2004

This concert celebrates the soulful and inspirational music of Latin American women including Toto La Momposina (Columbia), Mariana Montalvo (Chile), and Belo Velloso (Brazil).

---

**Delfos Contemporary Dance**

Saturday, October 23, 2004

Recognized as one of the most important dance companies in Latin America, the group has an aesthetic vision and unique personality characterized by the fluency, physicality and poetry contained in each of their works.

---

**The Muir String Quartet**

The legendary ensemble returns for a 12th consecutive year with three classical performances.

---

**The Magnificent Melodies of Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff**

Thursday, April 29, 2004

Soaring, lyrical dramas by two of the most popular composers of all time. Program includes Tchaikovsky’s Dumka and Dumka, Rachmaninoff’s picturesque Etudes Tableaux.

---

**Spencer from Silence: Beethoven, Smetana and Faure**

Tuesday, September 14

---

**Are you a fan of baseball lore?**

You know of baseball lore, you’re one of the most recognizable – athletes of our time.

---

**The Passion and Poetry of Chopin**

Wednesday, November 3

Beloved favorites and special surprizes stir the heart and enchant the ear. The program includes Beethoven’s Sonata No. 31 in A-flat, Op. 110.

---

**ST. PETERSBURG STATE BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS ROMEO AND JULIET**

Monday, May 2, 2005

Haydn: Quartet in C Major, Op. 20, No. 2

Schulhoff: Five Pieces

Ravel: Quartet in F Major

---

**Boston Symphony Chamber Players**

Monday, January 31, 2005

---

**American women including Toto La Momposina (Columbia), Mariana Montalvo (Chile), and Belo Velloso (Brazil).**

---

**Ballet Hispanico draws on and celebrates an ethnic tradition. Its production of NIGHTCLUB is three stories of the passion and powerful rhythms that move us, as told through the intimate language of dance. NIGHTCLUB contains adult themes.**

---

**Putumayo-Latinas: Women of Latin America**

Tuesday, October 19, 2004

This concert celebrates the soulful and inspirational music of Latin American women including Toto La Momposina (Columbia), Mariana Montalvo (Chile), and Belo Velloso (Brazil).

---

**Delfos Contemporary Dance**

Saturday, October 23, 2004

Recognized as one of the most important dance companies in Latin America, the group has an aesthetic vision and unique personality characterized by the fluency, physicality and poetry contained in each of their works.

---

**The Muir String Quartet**

The legendary ensemble returns for a 12th consecutive year with three classical performances.

---

**The Magnificent Melodies of Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff**

Thursday, April 29, 2004

Soaring, lyrical dramas by two of the most popular composers of all time. Program includes Tchaikovsky’s Dumka and Dumka, Rachmaninoff’s picturesque Etudes Tableaux.

---

**Spencer from Silence: Beethoven, Smetana and Faure**

Tuesday, September 14

---

**Are you a fan of baseball lore?**

You know of baseball lore, you’re one of the most recognizable – athletes of our time.

---

**The Passion and Poetry of Chopin**

Wednesday, November 3

Beloved favorites and special surprizes stir the heart and enchant the ear. The program includes Beethoven’s Sonata No. 31 in A-flat, Op. 110.
Rhode Island College Theatre

Based on Jacques Brel’s Lyrics and Commentary
Music by Jacques Brel
Production Conception, English Lyrics and Additional Material by Eric Blau and Mort Shuman
Directed by P. William Hutchinson in his farewell role

Jacques Brel is Alive and Well & Living in Paris

A 30th anniversary alumni performance starring:
Denise Caron
Patti Nolin
Frederic Scheff
Joseph Carvalho
Part of the College’s Sesquicentennial celebration

Linda Succi honored by League of American Theatres and Producers

Linda Succi ‘68, MEd ‘72, received the League of American Theatres and Producers’ 2004 League Educator Apple Award on April 26. Succi, a house leader and assistant principal in the East Providence School Dept., was honored for her continuing collaboration with the Providence Performing Arts Center and the Edward Martin Middle School.
The award, announced by PPAC, is to reward, acknowledge and support the educational efforts of those who work in association with league-affiliated venues across the U.S. Succi is one of three people to receive the award.

Last season, Succi facilitated her school’s involvement in the “From Books to Broadway” program in connection with the touring Broadway production of Disney’s Beauty and the Beast. In class, students learned about the show’s storyline, music and theatre etiquette, and gained insights through school visits by cast members.

RIC SummerArt Program to offer workshops for young artists

The Rhode Island College SummerArt Program will offer several two-week art workshops for children ages 5-15. The workshops are designed to provide a relaxed yet stimulating environment in which students can explore their creative interests.
SummerArt dates are July 12-22, Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to noon. Classes are offered in mixed media for ages 5-11, sculpture for ages 8-11, clayworks for ages 10-13, and drawing for ages 12-15.

Tuition and supply fees for all classes is $200, which includes a non-refundable registration fee of $20. Classes are small and early registration is recommended. For a brochure describing the program, please call the Rhode Island College Art Dept. at 456-8054 or email cmulcahey@ric.edu.

Marriages Made at RIC

From the Class of 1954

Donald ’54 and Fran (Palumbo) ’61 Driscoll
Eileen (Ward) ’54 and John ’54 Ryan
Dean's List
Dean's List
Commemoration exercises celebrate the confluence of degrees, the beginning of a new life for the graduates and the affirmation of long-established traditions. Like other institutions of higher learning, RIC observes many of the standard commencement conventions in terms of attire, but also features accoutrements that are unique to the College.

The Del Sesto Mace
At the 1959 commencement exercises, the first held on the present Mount Pleasant campus, Governor Christopher Del Sesto presented to Rhode Island College a bronze replica of the statue of the Independent Man. This was done so that the College, which up to that time had been located near the State House, might continue its tradition of holding commencements and other academic convocations in the presence of the Independent Man.

The Del Sesto Mace, as it is called, was designed by the noted Rhode Island sculptor Aristide Cianfarani and crafted by the Gorham Company. It has been in use since 1962 in all academic processions as a symbol of tradition, authority, and of the College’s commitment to the search for truth, knowledge, beauty, values, and learning.

The Willard Medallion
The Willard Medallion is a symbol of the office of the president worn at official and ceremonial occasions. It bears the name of the chief executive officer who has led Rhode Island College since 1973 in a sterling silver collar with an enamel medallion. The medallion was commissioned by the Rhode Island College Alumni Association and designed by silversmith Curtis K. LaFollette, then a professor of art at the College, to commemorate the inauguration of Charles Borromeo Willard as the first alumnus to be named president of the College.

Academic Attire
The Academic Attire is comprised of gowns and hoods worn at college and university functions dating back to the Middle Ages. Monks and nuns, and later noblemen used them to keep warm in mediaval castles and halls of learning. From these practical origins, they have developed into the accepted formal apparel that symbolizes scholarship.

Baccalaurate gowns have a long, pleated front with shirring across the shoulders and back. They are primarily distinguished by flowing sleeves, pointed at the fingertip. These gowns may be worn either open or closed.

HALL OF FAME HONOREES: (left to right): Charlie Wilkes ’64, Peg Brown, College President John Naccarato, C. Gil Davis ’60, and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, Intramurals and Recreation Don Tencher, were honored by the International Scholar-Athlete Hall of Fame on May 15. Wilkes was elected into the Hall of Fame’s Rhode Island wing, while Davis and Tencher received the Frank Keamy Award given to individuals who have dedicated themselves to academics and coaching.

Academic Attire – and the affirmation of long-established traditions. Like other institutions of higher learning, RIC observes many of the standard commencement conventions in terms of attire, but also features accoutrements that are unique to the College. Come back:

The Willard Medallion
The Willard Medallion is a symbol of the office of the president worn at official and ceremonial occasions. It bears the name of the chief executive officer who has led Rhode Island College since 1973 in a sterling silver collar with an enamel medallion. The medallion was commissioned by the Rhode Island College Alumni Association and designed by silversmith Curtis K. LaFollette, then a professor of art at the College, to commemorate the inauguration of Charles Borromeo Willard as the first alumnus to be named president of the College.

In recognition of the 75th year of intercollegiate athletics at Rhode Island College, festivities to celebrate this milestone will occur throughout the 2004-05 year. Log on to www.ric.edu/athletics to keep up with all of the events. If you have any suggestions or ideas to help commemorate this anniversary, contact Scott Gibbons at 401-456-8516 or email sgibbons@ric.edu.

The master’s gown is worn open and the sleeve is cut so that the forearm comes through a slit just above the elbow.

The doctor’s gown has rounded sleeves and velvet panels around the neck and down the front of the gown, as well as velvet bars on the sleeves. In recent years American universities have followed the custom of European institutions of having doctoral gowns in the color of the university.

Mortarboards or caps worn with baccalaurate and master’s gowns generally have black tassels. The tassel of the doctoral cap is usually made of gold bullion.

The hood gives color and real meaning to the caps and gowns. It is made of velvet, and the color of the hood indicates the level of the honors:

- Gold – summa cum laude
- Burgundy – magna cum laude
- White – cum laude

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME 2004
Abraham “Cappy” Asbery ’51
James Barbera ’91
Jenna Daum ’98
Claude Glada ’62
Richard Lawrence ’68
Jeanne (Bertasavage) Lucey ’86
Troy Smith ’84

SPORTS

11 honored by the Rhode Island Speaker of the House and House of Representatives
Ten current Rhode Island College student-athletes and one alumnus were honored by William J. Murphy, speaker of the House of Representatives and also a member of the Rhode Island House of Representatives at a reception held in the House Lounge at the Rhode Island State House on May 5.

The event was designed to give significant recognition to both men and women from the Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, the University of Rhode Island who have had significant achievements in their academic and athletic pursuits or their respective institutions. The honorees have also demonstrated exemplary citizenship and community service.

Thomas Winfield, deputy speaker of the House, was the master of ceremonies.

The 10 scholar-athletes from Rhode Island College were:
- Kamran Alemdar, a senior men’s basketball player from Stockton, Calif.
- Justin Deaveu, a junior wrestler from North Attleboro, Mass.
- Tim Rudd, a senior wrestler from Warwick, R.I.
- Carren Normandin, a junior gymnast from Fall River, R.I.
- Carminda Rocha, a senior women’s tennis player from East Providence, R.I.
- Liz Shields, a senior women’s basketball player from Warwick; Kim Warrington, a senior softball player from North Kingstown, R.I.; and Kim Wood, a senior women’s soccer player from Little Compton, R.I.

Athletic alumni from each school were also honored. Greenville, R.I.’s DonaldKey ’62 was RIC’s Athletic Alumnus award recipient.

Hickey was a three-sport standout during his years at RIC. He played all positions of basketball and soccer, while playing three seasons of baseball. As a forward in basketball, Hickey was known as a fierce competitor, a brilliant passer and an excellent team player.

He earned his master’s degree in education from RIC in 1969. Hickey was a teacher in Providence from 1962-73. He was the assistant principal at Bishop Hendricken High School from 1973-86. He was also a state senator from 1977-86.

Upon his retirement from teaching, Hickey worked for the State of Rhode Island as the director of the Retirement Board from 1986-90.

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME 2004
Abraham “Cappy” Asbery ’51
James Barbera ’91
Jenna Daum ’98
Claude Glada ’62
Richard Lawrence ’68
Jeanne (Bertasavage) Lucey ’86
Troy Smith ’84

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME 2004
Abraham “Cappy” Asbery ’51
James Barbera ’91
Jenna Daum ’98
Claude Glada ’62
Richard Lawrence ’68
Jeanne (Bertasavage) Lucey ’86
Troy Smith ’84

Anchor Club Golf Day set for July 19
The fourth annual Anchor Club Golf Day is set for Monday, July 19 at Pawtucket Country Club.

If you would like to play, or register a foursome, please call the RIC Athletic Office at 401-456-8007 to receive a brochure.

The cost is $160 per golfer, which includes greens fees, favors, golf cart, refreshments, lunch, social hour and food stations. Lunch and check-in will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 12:45 p.m. There will be a reception with food stations at 6:30 p.m., followed by awards and prizes at 7 p.m.

Don’t miss this great event. Register today!

September 2004 will mark the 75th year of intercollegiate athletics at Rhode Island College. Festivities to celebrate this milestone will occur throughout the 2004-05 year.

Log on to www.ric.edu/athletics to keep up with all of the events. If you have any suggestions or ideas to help commemorate this anniversary, contact Scott Gibbons at 401-456-8516 or email sgibbons@ric.edu.

The Rhode Island College Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2004 will be officially inducted at the Athletic Recognition and Hall of Fame Dinner, held in conjunction with RIC’s 75th year of intercollegiate athletics, on Homecoming, on Saturday, Oct. 2.

Contact the Rhode Island College Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, Intramurals and Recreation at 401-456-8007 to purchase tickets or for additional information.

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME 2004
Abraham “Cappy” Asbery ’51
James Barbera ’91
Jenna Daum ’98
Claude Glada ’62
Richard Lawrence ’68
Jeanne (Bertasavage) Lucey ’86
Troy Smith ’84

Anchor Club Golf Day set for July 19
The fourth annual Anchor Club Golf Day is set for Monday, July 19 at Pawtucket Country Club.

If you would like to play, or register a foursome, please call the RIC Athletic Office at 401-456-8007 to receive a brochure.

The cost is $160 per golfer, which includes greens fees, favors, golf cart, refreshments, lunch, social hour and food stations. Lunch and check-in will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 12:45 p.m. There will be a reception with food stations at 6:30 p.m., followed by awards and prizes at 7 p.m.

Don’t miss this great event. Register today!

September 2004 will mark the 75th year of intercollegiate athletics at Rhode Island College. Festivities to celebrate this milestone will occur throughout the 2004-05 year.

Log on to www.ric.edu/athletics to keep up with all of the events. If you have any suggestions or ideas to help commemorate this anniversary, contact Scott Gibbons at 401-456-8516 or email sgibbons@ric.edu.

The Rhode Island College Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2004 will be officially inducted at the Athletic Recognition and Hall of Fame Dinner, held in conjunction with RIC’s 75th year of intercollegiate athletics, on Homecoming, on Saturday, Oct. 2.

Contact the Rhode Island College Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, Intramurals and Recreation at 401-456-8007 to purchase tickets or for additional information.
Warm sunshine, bright colors and the music of the RIC Wind Ensemble helped create a festive feeling that made the 2004 undergraduate degree ceremony a great success for everyone, including father and daughter grads Manuel Da Graca and Dorothy Da Graca (bottom right).
The Campaign for Rhode Island College

We are pleased to announce that alumni and friends of the College have made gifts or pledges in the amount of $23.1 million toward our goal of $25 million. We need YOUR help to reach our goal by the end of June. You CAN make a difference.

Be part of this historic moment — support the Campaign.

For more information, contact mbrown@ric.edu / 401-456-8440, nhoogasian@ric.edu / 401-456-8827 or give online at www.ric.edu.

Recent donors to the Campaign for Rhode Island College

- Edward Ameen
- Paul Bourget ’69
- Norma DiLibero ’81
- Richard Mottola ’84
- Anne Colamino ’72
- John Capuro ’79
- Nancy Carruolo
- Dorothy ’52 & John ’52 Kennedy
- Madeleine Nixon
- Dorothy Pieniadz
- Sharon Charette ’78
- Barbara Romani ’54
- Daniel Dywer
- Marianne McGregor ’66
- Anne Schilino ’60
- Teresa Sieczkowski ’64
- Margaret Hickey ’70
- James Turley
- Carolyn Auer ’40
- Barbara Calabro ’68
- Elaine Guimond ’62
- Judith Harrigan ’80
- Jean Lee ’71
- Marvin Abrams
- Alice Bailey ’72
- Gail Brady ’58
- Mary Cameron ’50
- Mary Frances Campbell ’55
- Edmund Costa ’63
- Barbara Durrell-Dickerson ’66
- Louise ’81 & William ’77 Hasenius
- Susan Hayashi ’76
- Robert Hechken ’40
- Jacqueline Hickey ’60
- Mary Higgins ’54
- Natalie Howe ’24
- Michelle Malion ’92
- Beverly Mansi ’61
- Milton Martell ’64
- Helen McKinney ’37
- Christopher Moe ’91
- Joseph Mellica ’72
- Michelle Noon ’92
- Marguerite Odeh ’68
- Marie Petracca
- Emil Smith
- Cecile Smith ’44
- Carol Ung ’69
- Alice Wagner ’52

$23.1 Million
$22.5 Million
$21.9 Million
$21.7 Million
$21.3 Million

Mortarboards make the grad…

A look at some of the artistically enhanced mortarboards worn at the undergraduate commencement May 15.

The next issue of What's News will be in September 2004.

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

We wish our readers a safe and happy summer.

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 rmartin@ric.edu. All materials are subject to editorial review.
Dean's List Spring 2004

Full-time students who attain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.25 in any semester.
Full-time students who attain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.25 in any semester have their names placed on the Dean's List in recognition of their scholastic achievement.

Congratulations to all!