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What's News @ Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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What's News at RIC

by Laurence J. Sasso, Jr.

Sitting in his favorite chair, the subdued light of a nearby lamp accentuating the character in his Roman senator's features, Dr. Renato E. Leonelli recently reflected for What's News on his long and distinguished career at Rhode Island College.

Appointed professor emeritus at the college effective October 7, Leonelli was senior professor on the faculty when he retired from the department of elementary education last July at age 64. His service to the college began in April, 1941.

"Since July 1st. I think I've worked harder in a short period - four or five months - than I have in any other period," observed the fatherly professor.

The statement offers instant insight to anyone who is curious about the effect retirement has had on the active pace which characterized Leonelli in his four decade career at RIC.

Occupied with organizational work in the Mount Pleasant Lions Club, his chairmanship of the Holy Ghost School Board, and Holy Ghost Day Care Center, his work with the Sanitario and Day Committee and the RIC Foundation, he has not found it necessary to invent projects to fill his days. In fact, he says that it's lucky he has always been an early riser.

In addition to his organization work, he has continued to run the state's program for those found to be driving while intoxicated, and he has run an energy conference at the college for elementary school teachers. He has had no time to miss teaching.

"Don't say that I don't miss it," he cautions a writer, "but I haven't really. Anyway, I'm still teaching in the Driving While Intoxicated Program."

Of the college he points out that after seventy years of affiliation "you do feel like continuing," but he finds the interlude enjoyable. The change of pace seems to be invigorating he noted.

"I think it's fairly enjoyable, and I'll tell you, mine is wholesome," he emphasized.

Leonelli began at RIC when the college was a traditional teacher education institution. Housed in two buildings adjacent to the Rhode Island State House in downtown Providence and known as Rhode Island College of Education, the college was a traditional teacher education institution. Housed in two buildings adjacent to the Rhode Island State House in downtown Providence and known as Rhode Island College of Education, the college was the former Sweet's Inn.

Xerox offered Leonelli a "hot seat" on advice, "administration was always fair with me. I think it's quite a good deal financially for students." He was especially interested and concerned about RIC's commitment to the adolescent student, describing that targeted population as an "area of need." He said that he feels RIC is still a "good deal" financially for students.

"I think Sweet's doing a good job of reaching the college where it's going, frankly," he remarked candidly. "The administration was always fair with me. I always got the materials and tools I needed to do the job," he added.

Often, though, the tools which Dr. Leonelli needed to do his job of teaching teachers how to instill science proved to be less costly than might be supposed.

EOC Is Funded Again

The Educational Opportunity Center, based at Rhode Island College's Urban Educational Center, has been funded for its second year of operation. The EOC has been notified from the U.S. Department of Education that it will receive $292,043 for the fiscal year which began October 1, 1980, and runs through September 30, 1981.

Robert Gonzales is director of the center.

According to Gonzales, the college and community agencies match 25 percent of the grant, giving the center total funding of $352,500.

The EOC was formed in 1979 through the U.S. Office of Education (incorporated into the new U.S. Department of Education) which provided a grant to RIC's UFC in collaboration with the Opportunities Industrialization Center of Rhode Island, a contracting arrangement which Gonzales feels may be unique. Currently, there are only 32 such centers throughout the country.

Only Rhode Island and Massachusetts have state-wide programs, others are operated on a regional basis.

The Rhode Island EOC serves low income, minority and handicapped people.

(Named Emeritus: "It's Great" Says Ren Leonelli of Retirement)

(Continued on p. 3)
Fellowships, Research, Program Support Deadlines

The Bureau of Grants and Sponsored Projects has announced the following deadlines:

- The Research in Science Education Program of the NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION is currently accepting preliminary proposals for projects beginning date of September-October 1981. RISE is to improve quality and effectiveness of science education. Special focus on education for the early adolescent, women, minorities; content: handbooks, technology in science education, scientific thinking and cognitive processes and the structure of knowledge.

- The Development in Science Education Program of NSF is also accepting preliminary proposals. This competition will produce RISE supports projects which develop and experiment with new ideas having potential for improving science education. Along with target areas listed for RISE, this program focuses on new knowledge and new skills - education for productivity and the area of continuing education.

- Faculty Development Projects in the Office of Human Resources. The deadline for receipt of applications to SORCERED is February 15. Support is available for summer or winter workshops for groups of teachers from the elementary through postsecondary level.

- Awards are available for science faculty to pursue 3 to 12 months of research or study for the purpose of enhancing their instruction of undergraduate students. The Faculty Professional Development Program of the NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION has announced a deadline of January 3, 1981.

- The NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION makes award up to $10,000 for Preservation Education to support program development at the elementary, secondary, undergraduate, and graduate levels. Conference addresses subjects of historic preservation may apply for support of $1,000. Application deadline for both programs is January 31, 1981.

- Support for Residencies in the arts, photography, and crafts is available from the NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS. Interested individuals may write artists, critics, photographers, and craftsmen of national reputation for short-term residencies for instruction and work with faculty and students while practicing their profession. Grants will not exceed $3,000 and deadline for proposal receipt is January 31, 1981.

- Preliminary proposals for the CORE Program of the FUND FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION due January 5, 1981.

- Call the Bureau of Grants and Sponsored Projects for additional information and applications for these programs.

Focus on the Faculty and Staff

Enrico V. Pinardi, professor of art, exhibited his paintings, drawings and sculpture at the Packer-Sahal Gallery in Boston. Dr. Louis E. Alfonso, chairman of the Department of Philosophy and Foundations of Education and Dr. Raymond W. Nigro, professor of the Department of Philosophy and Foundations of Education, will be panelists at the fall 1980 Eddy Lecture in Religion and Morality given at the Bell Street Chapel in Providence, on November 13. "The School as an Ethical Community" was the title of the school.

Dr. Richard and Carolyn Fluehr-Loevinger, organizers of a panel discussing "The Afro-Arab Sudan: Northern Perspectives" at the African Studies Association meetings in Philadelphia in October. Following these meetings, Dr. Richard Lobbann presented a paper on "Marxism and Anti-Marxism in Social Science" at the annual Eastern Marxist Scholars Conference at Hobart College, N.Y.

James Colman, director of admissions, was elected to a three-year term on the executive board of St. Mary's Hall. Children, Fruit Hill Avenue, North Providence. Colman and his wife, Mary-Jane, also continue to serve as members of the corporation of St. Mary's.

Dr. William M. Jones, assistant professor of music, has been notified that his dissertation, "Four Rehearsal Techniques," will be published as the lead article in the December issue of The Choral Journal. His paper, "Functions of Music in Education Since Tanglewood," was published last summer in the Council for Research in Music Education Bulletin.

No Asbestos

Further investigation of our dust and ceiling testing, taken from Gage Hall, has established conclusively that there were no asbestos fibers present according to Marie Stoeckel, an official from the state Department of Health. An initial test conducted by the RIC Director of Health Services and reported in WHAT'S NEWS November 20 was the suspected presence of asbestos to asbestos in the samples. In addition to the original samples, Health Department officials, at the request of the College, took other materials from the Gage Hall area of locations within Gage and found no evidence of asbestos.

John K. Thompson, president of the College, commended the efforts of Dr. Richard Ober, director of the rehabilitation program, Dr. John Evans, vice president for academic affairs, to the department chairman, Dr. Hanoch Livneh, director of the CORE, "because our students are now taking the necessary steps to be certified as rehabilitation counselors without having to go through our credentials for review by CORE."

"As you are well aware, certification is an external validation of quality and evidence of a comprehensive and effective effort and commitment on the part of all concerned," Dr. Evans said. "You should be proud of this," Dr. Hanoch Livneh, director of the rehabilitation program, Dr. John Evans, vice president for academic affairs, to the department chairman, Dr. Hanoch Livneh, director of the CORE, "because our students are now taking the necessary steps to be certified as rehabilitation counselors without having to go through our credentials for review by CORE."

Rehab Counselor Ed Program Accredited

The Rhode Island College Rehabilitation Counseling Education Program has been accredited by the Council on Rehabilitation Education. This accreditation is an external evaluation of the quality of our rehabilitation counselor education program.

Dr. Richard Ober, chair of the department of student services, and Dr. Daniel E. Weiss, director of the rehabilitation program, announced the approval by the CORE of a supplemental grant to support personnel engaged in the rehabilitation counseling program.

"We are extremely pleased with the news," Dr. Ober said. "This accreditation is a mark of excellence for our program and for our students."

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Notes From
Bernadette
by Bernadette V. Small

Friends of Sandra Modern, who was formerly employed at the Office of the President, say she is like to know that she and Bob are the proud parents of a new little girl. Her name is Marla E. Modern. Dr. Jackson is an associate professor in RIC's Department of Sociology.

Mr. Robert Paul of our Accounting Department is now at home recuperating from recent surgery at Brigham's and Women's Hospital in Boston. His wife, Dr. Mary Bierden, associate dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences is at home recuperating from recent surgery as well.

Mrs. Caroline McEldowney McPhaul is the proud mother of a new baby boy, her first child. Dr. McPhaul is associate professor in the Department of Mathematics.

Mr. Donald Wilder of Westerly is the proud husband of a new baby girl, her first child. Mrs. Wilder is associate professor in the Department of English.

The Rathskeller 'Art' Takes Award

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Retirees Set

WHAT'S NEWS AT RIC welcomes the receipt of letters of college-wide interest and will publish them regularly. The editors reserve the right to limit length and to feature, photos)

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Sports Roundup
by Bud Focht
RIC Sports Information Director

The fall season of the varsity athletic program at RIC is coming to a close with all four teams (men's soccer, women's tennis, women's volleyball, and men's and women's cross country) finishing the season with 7-4 records. Pam DeMenezes, a sophomore from Newport, plays in the number two slot and is currently 5-1.

The offense has been led by co-captain Ralph Antonelli of Cranston, RIC's top scorer and Bob Huguenin in seventh, followed by co-captain Larivee; captain Cathy Berten of Durham, Conn., from Plainville, Mass., with a 4-0 record. The Anchor Women started off the season against Providence College, where they would pick up one or two pieces of litter and displayed in other suitable locations.

The Anchor Women started off the season on the wrong foot, losing two matches to Division II schools, the University of New Haven and Sacred Heart. After that night, the women started playing with what Coach Tom Carlsten calls "a hungry attitude," winning 10 straight matches and extending their Division III unbeaten streak to 19 games over two seasons.

Against Clark University, the Anchor Women were trailing in the first game 5-1, but pulled off 10 unanswered points to win 15-1.3, eventually winning the match 15-13 and 15-8 for their third straight victory. Later that evening, the women defeated Holy Cross, 15-5 and 15-10.

Coach Wikiera gives a lot of credit for this second successful season to the addition of an assistant coach, Sonny Jumper, assistant director of physical plant, explained that a campaign has been launched to counteract the problem. The team has three more regular season matches before playing in the state and Eastern Regional Tournaments in November.

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