Technologies curricula meet needs of industry

by Clare Eckert

Experts agree, and research shows that if "we, as a nation, are to survive the ever increasing competition" in the global marketplace of manufacturing and technology, then, educational systems and industries must begin working closely together "to recreate our slipping or lost competitive edge."

Or, they report, the U.S. will continue to drop below the average, acceptable standards of productivity, and experience further financial distress.

"The time is now, and "the situation is critical because of the intense and aggressive international competition," according to Steven King, chair of the Department of Industrial Technology.

He said recent changes in the educational structure of the Rhode Island College Industrial Technology program and its Technology Education (formerly Industrial Arts) curriculum are in progress to meet this demand.

"We are redefining the programs of the past, and developing them to be more dynamic and contained in the new technology that has evolved," King explained.

One of the department's first steps was to gain approval from the Board of Governors for Higher Education to "relocate the Technology Education Program to the Center for Industrial Technology, to change the title of the Master's of Education in Industrial Education to the Master's of Education in Technology Education, and to offer a new bachelor degree curriculum in Industrial Technology in manufacturing planning and control."

Also approved by the Board at its September meeting was the establishment of a B.S. in Technology Education program and the elimination of the B.S. in Industrial Arts program.

For several years, King, who has over 20 years of experience in the manufacturing setting, along with William F. Kavanaugh, director of the Center for Industrial Technology and their staff have been working with companies throughout New England to "develop coursework that fits their needs as well as our students."

Most of the changes in course content have taken place this year, King said. As well as the development of new courses that "are more in touch with" what industry requires.

Assistant Professor Natalie Sahba's work points out how the department has begun to improve and expand its curriculum.

Sahba, who holds a Ph.D. in materials engineering from the University of Rhode Island, recently upgraded two courses, Industrial Materials, and Hazardous Waste Management and Safety, and initiated a third, Statistical Process Control (SPC).

Her "hands-on" research within industrial settings in Rhode Island and other states, plus other technical studies provided the background and the content of the new course.

She explained that only when the Japanese started "that country's quality revolution...or the change from strategies used in "defect detection to defect prevention" did they begin to prosper.

"The new course will provide a comprehensive understanding of the concepts of SPC and problem solving," she said.

This new information fits into the "prevention" of product or productivity defects and "leads to improved quality."

King said this "SPC course is critical" to technology students who intend to become valuable employees of industry.

In addition, he said, "colleges tend to keep each course clear of the other. What we've discovered is the importance of the interaction of all of the issues of manufacturing, like the infrastructure of a company, site location, the human element, technology, process and product design and the distribution network. Each must work together in a comprehensive way."

(continued on page 4)
Focus on the Faculty and Staff

Richard R. Weiner, dean of the faculty of arts and sciences and professor of political science, presented his paper, " Constitutional Interpretation and a Grounded Critical Theory of Law: The Path from Franz Neumann to Jurgen Habermas," at the 63rd annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in Tampa, Florida on Nov. 7. Weiner also served as the discussant on a panel entitled "Political Theory, Political Science and the 21st Century: New Ways of Knowing," at the 23rd annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association in Philadelphia on Nov. 16.

Carlla Carrara, third grade teacher at Henry Barnard School, recently won Honorable Mention in the Salem State College Poetry Competition, for her poem "Body Surfing With My Father." The contest was held in conjunction with a service to the students of Herman Melville. Another of Carrara's poems, "Early Morning Canoe Ride," was published in the feminist literary magazine "Phoenix," which is published at the State University of New York-Oneonta.

Victoria Lederberg, professor of psychology, spoke at the full conference of the Rhode Island Library Association on Nov. 4. Lederberg has been a former State Senator and Representative, sponsored Rhode Island's laws on library funding and on library governance in the State. She spoke on "The Who, How and When of Advocating and Lobbying for Libraries." Lederberg chairs the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA), a statewide organization of over 5,000 professional and citizen advocates who support library, literacy and information services. Congressman Ron Machtley also spoke at the conference. Professor and chair of the Political Science Department, Victor E. Phadly, has been selected as consultant to the Rhode Island Home Rule Charter Commission. Machtley and Rep. Phadly will conduct research, draft charter language, and provide advice on a new charter for the town.

Profughi and Nancy Oppenlander, associate professors of political science, are currently completing a survey at Woodlawn Baptist Church in Pawtucket. The survey is an integral part of the church's planning process designed to help it determine its future direction by the year 2000.

Grants and Contracts

The following project directors recently received grants and contract awards: Dante DelGuercio (guidance), from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, "Fusionworks and Island Moving Company Dance concerts," $2,000; and Anne Petry and Chester Smolisko (education and sciences), from the Rhode Island State Legislature, "National Geographic Society Matching Grant," $12,500.

Alumni receive Educator Awards

Leslie A. Bettencourt and David Neves, two graduates of Rhode Island College, recently received second annual Rhode Island Educator Awards. The interim Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, Vivien M. Baker, announced the winners recently. Funding for the $25,000 award is provided by the Milken Family Foundation of Los Angeles, which initiated the Rhode Island Educator Award Program as part of its continuing effort to support education. Bettencourt, a science teacher and department head at Lincoln High School, is a 1970 graduate of RIC. She also received an honorary doctorate from the College, Neves, a K-12 music teacher in Scituate, is a 1981 graduate of RIC who received a M.A. in teaching from the College.

In addition to Bettencourt and Neves, four other educators also received Educator Awards. They are Jorge Alvaraz, mathematics teacher at Central High School in Providence; Judith Leonard, a sixth grade teacher at Narragansett Pier School; Robert Wallace, a principal at the Cumberland Middle School, and Darlene Walsh, a first grade teacher in West Warwick. Each of these educators was chosen for exhibiting exemplary leadership abilities, professional growth and achievements as well as their strong commitment to excellence in education.

Book Look

Facts about recently published books by Rhode Island College faculty and staff

Editor: Frederic G. Reamer

Title: AIDS and Ethics

Publisher: Columbia University Press,

384 pp.

Publishing Date: November 1991

Cost: $35.00

In Brief: Synopsis: AIDS and Ethics is the first major collection of essays on the complex ethical issues created by the AIDS crisis. The nation's leading bioethics experts from the fields of law, medicine, philosophy, political science, religion, and social work present original and accessible essays. They address current controversial issues related to the tension between civil rights and public health, mandatory HIV testing, human subjects research, health care insurance, AIDS education, militant AIDS activism, the physician-patient relationship, issues of privacy, and legal issues. The book will provide philosophical and practical guidance to health care and human services professionals, policy makers, scholars, and others affected by the AIDS crisis.

In brief, the ethical issues raised by AIDS are not new, but never has any single disease been so challenging—both medically and socially. This outstanding book brings in to clear focus the complexities surrounding the AIDS epidemic and appropriately exposes the reader to the full range of written as well as verbal answers. If you are working in the field, have a personal interest, or just want a provocative look at the "plague of the century," this is definitely for you" says Mervyn F. Silverman, only a little student of the American Foundation for AIDS Research, about the book.

About the Author: Frederic G. Reamer is professor in the School of Social Work and Rhode Island College. He is the author of Ethical Dilemmas in Social Work and Juvenile Justice, both published by Columbia University Press.
**College Shorts**

**Human Rights Week Dec. 9-12**

Amnesty International will be celebrating Human Rights Week on the campus Monday, Dec. 9 to Thursday, Dec. 12.

On Dec. 9, the movie “A Dry Year White Season” will be shown at 9 p.m. in the Video Den. On Dec. 10, “A Tree of Hope” is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon in Donovan Dining Center; and at 3 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom a lecture by a Vietnamese author and former prisoner of conscience will be held. On Dec. 11, a Rhode Island College Choral Society in concert will perform. A placard of Guatemalan refugees will be held from 8 to 11 a.m. in SU 305; also, from 1 a.m. to 2 p.m. individuals can send a holiday greeting to a prisoner of conscience or sign a letter in memory of Scott Weston, a Rhode Island College student who passed away recently. On Dec. 12, a workshop focusing on the death penalty will be held at 3 p.m. in SU 305. The campus community is invited to all events.

**Sheila Tobias to speak Dec. 4**

On Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 12:45 p.m., in Horace Mann 193, Sheila Tobias, renowned leader and scholar in math and science anxious students, and author of five books in the field, will speak on “What Makes Math and Science Hard?” Tobias will discuss concepts and experiences as to why students do poorly in math and science classes even when they may do well in other courses. The lecture is sponsored by the College Lectures Committee, Sigma Xi, and the Departments of Mathematics/Computer Science, Biology, and Physical Sciences. For more information, please call Ann Moskol or Barry Schiller at 456-8038. Also, on Dec. 4, Sheila Tobias will present a workshop for teachers on how to identify and help math and science anxious students. For more information, please call Kenneth Kinsey of the Rhode Island College Biology Department at 456-8030. Chaplains’ Office sponsors events

On Wednesday, Dec. 4, from 9 a.m. to noon in SU 300, the Chaplains’ Office is sponsoring a “Coffee An” for support personnel on campus to organize Survival Kits for the Homeless. For more information, call Ext. 8166. Also, on the same day at 3 p.m. in SU 305 the Office is sponsoring a workshop entitled “Avoiding Christmas craziness.” The campus community is invited to attend.

**Admissions office schedules open house and multicultural information day**

The Office of Admissions and Financial Aid announced two upcoming informational and advisory sessions to assist students thinking about attending Rhode Island College or another institution of higher education.

The College’s annual Open House is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 8, from 1 to 4 p.m. Students and their families will gather in Roberts Auditorium for introductory remarks, and then break into groups based on their curriculum interest, according to Patricia Marzzacco, admissions associate director.

She said attendees will be meeting with faculty and students, and will be given tours of the campus. Also included during the afternoon event will be discussions on financial aid, academic programs, campus activities and the admissions process.

Marzzacco said about 1,000 people are expected to attend this year’s event. Refreshments will be available in Donovan Dining Center from 2 to 4:30 p.m. In “Informational and Preparation Day for Multicultural Students” is set for Friday, Dec. 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Deborah E. Johnson, assistant director of admissions for multicultural programs, said, “We are hoping to assist minority students with the difficult process of getting into college.”

John Robinson, director of employment and training for the state of Rhode Island, will open the conference in the Student Union Ballroom.

Those attending will be “given an opportunity” to talk to other multicultural students and faculty, she said, adding that the group will be coming from nearby Massachusetts, Connecticut, and within the state.

Three workshops have been designed for the day, including “Application Preparation,” “Financial Aid” and “Writing the Admissions Essay.”

Emphasizing that students attending are not required to apply to Rhode Island College, Johnson said, “The point is to help them choose to go to another school. For those students who attend the three scheduled workshops, and apply to the College, the $25 application fee will be waived.”

“We’re providing a service,” she said, “as well as recruiting.”

For further information on either event, call admissions at 456-8234.
Womens tennis team ends season with 5-4 record

The Rhode Island College 1991 Women's Tennis Team finished its season with a 5-4 record including head coach Richard Ernst's two-year coaching total to a mark of 9-8-1 (.528). The program, under Ernst's guidance, has not lost a division III contest and after the 1991 showing of 4-0 against such opponents, the two-year tally is 7-0-1. Senior Patty Valkoun of Warwick completed her final season posting a 6-3 singles record and a 5-3 mark in doubles, both team highs and duplicates of last year's record. She contributed 8½ team points. Her name gets placed within the RIC record book at 7th most career points (23), 8th most career singles wins (31-14), and 7th most career doubles wins (18-10). Alison Woodman, a sophomore transfer student from Albertson, Rhode Island, Marilyn Morris, a junior from Providence, Michelle Cote, a freshman from North Kingstown, Erika Dugas, a sophomore from Cranston, and Renea Vaughn, a freshman from Warwick were all regular performers for the Anchorwomen and could return next year to provide Ernst with a talented and seasoned nucleus, according to Edward Vallan­court, Sports Information Director.

Carlsten, Reddy to captain wrestling team

Head wrestling coach Russell "Rusty" Connelly has announced that seniors Scott Carlsten and Christopher Reddy, both Cranston residents hailing from Cranston East High School, have been selected as captains of the 1991-92 men's wrestling team.

Scott Carlsten (155 lb.) sports an undefeated 49-0 record in dual meet competition and holds an impressive overall mark of 121-16 which includes all tournament results as well. He has amassed 22 pins, captured the New England Championship title in his weight class for three straight years, and on two occasions emerged as the champion for his weight at the U.S. Coast Guard annual tournament. Last season he was honored at the Ithaca (NY) Invitational Wrestling Championships as Most Outstanding Wrestler and was victorious within his weight category.

Christopher "Kid Cradle" Reddy (167 lb.) is currently Rhode Island College's all-time leader in the pin maneuver, the cradle. Attaining a fourth place finish in the New England Championships last season, he also captured the most pins trophy with three pins in three minutes and 30 seconds.

Two receive NASPA awards

Lorriane Harrison, a senior and Thorp Hall resident assistant from Coventry, received the "Catch a Rising Star Scholarship" for Rhode Island. Michael Connelly, a 1990 graduate, Cranston Community Govern­ment President during 1989-90 and former Willard Hall resident assistant and Providence resident who is currently a graduate student at Fairfield University received the "Richard F. Stevens Outstanding Graduate Student Scholarship" for Connecticut.

Harrison received the award for making significant contributions to the Rhode Island College campus, demonstrating academic achievement, exceeding the expec­tations of her respective leadership position and showing an interest in the field of student personnel.

Connelly received his award for making sig­nificant contributions to Fairfield University, demon­strating academic achieve­ment, assuming a leadership role at his home institu­tion and/or at the state and regional levels, and demonstrating a clear interest in the field of student personnel.

Both recipients will receive a scholar­ship in the amount of their registration costs for the fall regional conference of NASPA and will be recognized at an awards banquet.

Assistant professor Natalie Shaba demonstrates a piece of high-tech equipment.
An Adventurous Life of Distinction and Honor

"The essence of masters training and competition transcends pride in victory alone. The commitment to discipline, sacrifice an exigency of a daily structured workout serves as a fulcrum in developing the responsibility to the dignity of the human spirit, recognizing that commitment, through swimming, opens a dimension of my life which includes an improved perception of wellbeing, a real sense of self-worth, and a desire to meet challenges and experience excitement."

Billie Ann Burrill, November,

by Clare Eckert

You won't find Billie Ann Burrill, 70, Rhode Island College professor emerita, at a center for senior citizens arranging freeze-dried flowers. And you'd better not bother looking for someone with blue-tinted hair wearing stockings and high heels.

She holds no averse for those folks in her age group who take pleasure in flower arrangements and blue hair. It's just that this academic retiree unretired herself in 1984 when she "took to the water," put on a "paper suit," goggles and bathing cap and opened a new chapter in her life.

Burrill is a masters swimming champion with world-class standings.

A member of the exclusive Rhode Island Aquatics Hall of Fame, she is also an All-American swimmer for the years 1987, 1988, 1989, and 1990.

Her swimming accomplishments haven't come easy. Burrill spends at least one hour a day, five days a week, all year round, lapping the Providence College swimming pool under the tutelage of the Friar's head swim coach John T. O'Neill.

She's a very special lady, born in 1921 in Joliet, Ill; who came to RIC in 1954 by way of the Women's Army Corp, ret. Capt., (1943-1947), Boston University, (B.S., 1950), Smith College (1952), Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance (1953), University of Connecticut, (instructor, 1952) and Connecticut College for Women, New London (instructor, 1952-1954).

Rightly proud of her second career achievements over the last seven years, Burrill says she "lives to age-up," humorously explaining the five-year competitive groupings used by the international masters swimming organization, which encompasses people from ages 21 to 100 years old.

On the wall in Burrill's study in her house is a picture of herself in 1921 who maneuvered around on the stage at RIC during her tenure as the Department of Health, Physical Education and Dance.

Although Burrill has been an avid sportsperson all of her life, swimming had not been a top priority sport.

But "when I retired there were only so many things I could do," she said, explaining that arthritis held her back from too much physical activity.

Swimming is a sport that allows for buoyancy in the water which relieves a tremendous amount of stress on joints, according to O'Neill.

For Burrill, "swimming made me feel comfortable. When she began swimming for pleasure and strictly exercise at the Brown University pool, "it was never about competition.''

Now, after seven years of traveling all over the world - and breaking world records in competitive meets, (she leaves for Hawaii on Nov. 20 to compete in the Second Annual Honolulu Masters Championship), she says, "swimming has consumed my lifestyle. I eat low-fat foods and carbohydrates."

It just happens Burrill always has had a penchant for pasta, "I think I know about 400 ways to eat pasta," she said smilingly displaying cheeks as pink as the petals of a rose.

Burrill stands tall and lean and has a quick sense of humor about life in general and easily laughs at herself. She says "I have muscles now I never thought I had."

Her coach, O'Neill, who started training her shortly after Burrill decided to exchange swimming as a form of exercise for a competitive second career, says she is in "top shape."

Although she had a late start at competitive swimming, he says, "she is an excellent student and you don't have to say things twice. Billie has done a lot on her own and has been successful at it."

The two developed daily training workouts for off-season to "just stay wet." O'Neill said, and rigorous six-week workouts preceding a competition.

"We target where (the meet is), what (the schedule is) and what she wants to accomplish," he said, adding that freestyle swim is Burrill's best category.

"She can picture mentally what she needs to do to change the stroke and make the change in the water," he explained. This ability is something a swimmer has or doesn't have. Those that can make such a change are the champions, he said.

Of O'Neill, Burrill says jokingly, "He made a silk purse out of an old sow's ear."

As independent, disciplined and strong-willed as Burrill is, - she required make-up as an athlete (as well as hair) is gentle, earthy and light-hearted.

She has taken advantage of life's twists and turns, always focusing on changes in her life as "opportunities."

Her distinguished academic career brought her several honors, including being named in 1977 to the list of prestigious females, in Who's Who in American Women, and recognition by Rhode Island as "Woman of the Year" in 1975 for developing the "excellence of the performing arts" series at RIC.

Besides introducing courses relating to theater production and management at RIC, she stage managed the first performance of modern dance at Lincoln Center, and was the first woman professional "follow-spot" in New York City.

RIC is not one to sit still or take life for granted. She is "adventurous" and "loves a challenge." Her next feat, she says, "may be skydiving."

But before she sets her sights above water level, she intends to take on swimming competitors in scheduled 1992 tournaments in New York, Florida, North Carolina, Indiana and Washington State.

Burrill says she "misses" working in the world of entertainment. "Yes, I miss it. I absolutely enjoyed the creativity so much." And, she adds somewhat amazed, "sometimes I don't know how this (masters swimming competitor) all happened."

But, "I feel great," and take "no medication." She also no longer suffers any pain from arthritis.

On the lighter side, Burrill says her "new" career has brought her more than medals. "I have a whole new address shared efforts."

"The support I get from my friends, like Fannie Melcher, (RIC professor emerita, who together with Burrill established and developed the first dance company here) for helping with timing, taking all the pictures, (she has albums filed) and tolerating my pre-meet jitter, and driving the car."

And, she continues, "Clara (Walker, Burrill's training partner and world-record holder in her age bracket) for her encouragement."

With the mark of a true champion, Billie Ann Burrill wants to make sure it is understood that her personal rewards and successes are the results of shared efforts.
On the job with...

On the next cold winter morning, when you begin your work day at Rhode Island College, and you reach for the nearest office thermostat to turn on the heat, don’t forget to say thanks to the five-man crew at the College’s Central Boiler Plant who keep the place hummin’ and hot for cool all year long.

These “jack of all trades” men, Charles Carr, Stephen D. Flynn, James Pistocco, Adolfo Torcicollo, and their supervisor, Kenneth W. Phillips, are responsible for the co-generation system that supplies heat and “domestic” water to 20 major buildings on campus, much of the air conditioning in summer, and a portion of the electricity.

A simplified explanation of how the turbine turns air into heat, water and electricity is hard (for this reporter) to give. But heating and supplying water to the 20 major buildings is a lot of H2O and steam, as you can imagine.

As far as the number of kilowatts of electricity generated by the plant is concerned, well, according to John Vickers, plant engineer, the amount generated per day, would light up about 235 average homes in Rhode Island on any given day.

The co-generation system was installed about three years ago as a cost-saving measure for the College. Phillips, who has worked in the boiler room since 1974, remembers years ago when he “literally had to light the fire” every day to start the heating process.

“At first,” he says of the installation of the system, “I was skeptical. I’m happy to say I was wrong. It makes our work more interesting and challenging.”

Except for one week at the end of each academic year, the men share the workload seven days a week, 24 hours a day, every day of the year. And that means, among other tasks, checking hundreds and hundreds of gadgets, temperature gages, buttons, knobs, switches, and more types of instruments than a jet pilot checks before a takeoff!

They routinely inspect, record and compare numbers and percentages of the utilities, chemical levels and filtering processes that pass through the more than four miles (or 20,000 linear feet) of piping running underground and inside buildings on campus. If you can imagine the roots of the oldest and biggest tree you’ve ever seen, then you are probably close to realizing what lies underfoot as you stroll throughout the campus.

Phillips says the men are proud of their efficiency, and he “tries to make sure everybody can do the job.” Mechanical engineering is closest to what their jobs entail, he says. “We have to be pipetitters, electricians, and plumbers.”

Although the boiler room, which is attached to Whipple Hall, hasn’t had many visitors over the years, Phillips reports, the door is open for the curious and the friendly. But give the crew a couple more weeks before your visit because they’re brightening up the place with some paint and a little “elbow grease.”

Photos by
Gordon E. Rowley

Text by
Clare Eckert
RIC Continuing Education student Bonnie Shiel in Guatemala —

Walking a dangerous road

by George LaTour

A 28-year-old continuing education student at Rhode Island College has — quite literally — been walking a dangerous road, one that has led to the death of many more than one.

That road — leading from a refugee camp in southern Mexico to bordering Guatemala — was one site of a massacre of 15 people on Dec. 2, 1990, for instance.

And they are only a part of the 60,000- to 75,000 estimated killed since 1978 when the Guatemalan Army sought to crush an increasingly vocal popular and peasant movement in what Amnesty International called “a government policy of political murder.”

She’s Bonnie Shiel of St. Mark’s parish in Cranston and she had traveled to the Nuevo Libertad camp in southern Mexico on Oct. 4 with a group organized by the Witness for Peace program. The camp is one of 128 refugee camps in southern Mexico where some 23,000 Guatemalans had fled. Some 23,000 more are reported in exile in Yucatan.

After spending some time there, meeting and talking with the refugees, she and her group of 12 Rhode Islanders — including a priest, a minister, two nuns and a 17-year-old student — headed to Guatemala via the Pan American Highway for an international congress on “500 years of indigenous and popular resistance.”

A very scary moment

On their return trip via a van a few days later — the entire trip from Rhode Island to Mexico and Guatemala and back to Mexico and Rhode Island lasted until Oct. 14 — the group approached a roadblock manned by what looked like teenage soldiers.

They were stopping traffic and pulling people off buses and going through their luggage, supposedly looking for anything “subversive.”

As Michael Luna, resident manager of the Family AIDS Center for Treatment and Support in South Providence, told Richard C. Dujardin, the Journal Bulletin religion writer: as the van approached the roadblock with Luna, who is Hispanic, and the Guatemalan driver up front “a soldier saw the two of us and started us pull over. But he changed his mind when he saw the other white Americans. It was a very scary moment for me.”

Such nervousness is well-founded.

This year alone, hundreds of people, including 90 journalists and 500 catechism instructors, have disappeared or been killed.

What’s going on?

There’s a civil war going on in Guatemala, and has been since the 1950s. While the war may be winding down, the dread of violence from right-wing death squads or the military itself continues to loom over much of the populace, especially in the countryside.

In addition to the thousands killed, some 40,000 people have disappeared and 50,000 have been forced into army-controlled settlements.

A large part of the problem seems to lie in the fact that 80 percent of the land is owned by the wealthy few in Guatemala, according to Shiel.

This elite, called Ladin — mostly of European descent, it was reported recently in an article in The Providence American —

Perhaps the real genesis of the problem goes back some 500 years to the voyage of Columbus.

The indigenous Indians, descendants of the ancient Mayans, say the taking of their land really began with the arrival of Columbus, who is not revered for his “discovery of America” but bitterly thought of as the originator of the oppression they have long endured.

It’s a familiar story by now: most of the land in the hands of the wealthy few, protected by government forces. A rebel force arises to reclaim the land on behalf of the peasants and is viewed as communist.

In Guatemala’s case — as in other similar situations in Latin America — the United States government has sent aid to the government and its army in the name of anti-communism.

Bringing about change

The now Guatemalan president (Jorge Elias, an Evangelical Christian) seems like he’s trying to bring about change but he has to fight the entrenched and powerful army,” notes Shiel.

The United Nations’ Permanent Commission on Refugees, representing the camps, is working with the Guatemalan government to try to return some of the land now occupied by Ladinos. Shiel says they have come up with six points they want from the government “which, usually, doesn’t listen.

The refugees say they want to return to their lands, but only if the government let them organize freely upon their return, in lands that they choose, free from military control. They also say they won’t go back without international volunteers to accompany them.

Witness for Peace, an inter-faith program founded in 1983 by religious peace activists, believes they could protect Nicaraguan border villages from attacks back then by the U.S-supported contra rebels by visiting the villages.

(They were rebelling against the communist Sandinistas who had overthrown the oppressive government which the U.S. wanted to restore to power, human rights violations be damned.)

The theory was that contras wouldn’t attack if they knew U.S. citizens were present.

In Guatemala, the refugees reportedly have asked Witness for Peace to accompany them on their long journey home.

The return will be staggered, which means that they will need many delegations to accompany the different groups as they attempt to return, says Witness-for-Peace literature.

Some of the delegations, it is noted in a brochure, may include a significant amount of lay persons. Lay persons are required to be in good physical condition.

Hence, one of the reasons for the support of young women like Shiel. The trip is physically demanding.

So welcoming

“The people are so welcoming, so warm,” assures Shiel, who often slept on wooden floors during her 13-day stay there.

The native refugees are dirt poor and most only speak the language of their native tribes — not Spanish or English. Few can read and write in any language.

The peasants grow their own food, living on beans, rice and tortillas. “Water is gold down there,” she points out. “There’s not much of it and what there is is so polluted!”

Meeting mostly with widows and their children, Shiel says the Rhode Islanders “had to be very careful” in what they said and “not make a scene.”

“It’s very dangerous down there.”

Shiel says the refugees “see the difference between us and our government. Every group we met with, urged us to stop sending military aid to the (Guatemalan) government.”

Always been interested

Born and raised in South Providence, the youngest of five children of Alfred M. and Norma (Gebembski) Shiel, Bonnie says she’s “always been interested” in the plight of the Guatemalans... “well, at least for the past 10 years.

She has been a member of the Weston Priory in Vermont for those 10 years and there, apparently, learned about the Guatemalan while also strengthening her faith.

Today she is a Third Order Franciscan who is going to spend weeksend in a Tonga house but one who “keeps God in her life and tries to live the Gospel.

“We just take our faith more seriously,” she says matter-of-factly.

While attending RIC part time, Shiel works full time in the photography department at Lechmere in Warwick.

A product of Catholic education — she attended both Bishop Coenog and St. Xavier’s high schools — Shiel is considering getting into social work studies at the College. She already has worked with battered women and the homeless in Rhode Island and would like to work with the state’s poor, she says.

Shiel confirms: “I never knew what poverty was until I went to Guatemala.”

Her immediate goal is to help spread the word about the plight of the Guatemalan refugees. Toward this end, Shiel will be making a slide presentation on Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 10 a.m. in the College’s Student Union 305 as part of Human Rights Week.

It will be free and open to the public, and is only the first of many such presentations she is willing to give if asked — in keeping with the Guatemalan refugees’ plea to “Tell your people our story.”
In order to recognize the commitment and dedicated service of its faculty and staff, Rhode Island College established a Service Recognition Day. On this fourth Service Recognition Day, those who have served the College for 10 years or more will be recognized at a reception at President John Nazarian’s house, Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 3 p.m., for refreshments and warm appreciation for their efforts on behalf of the College.

Also established was a 30-year Honor Roll recognizing faculty, administrative staff, and support staff who have completed 30 years of service to the College.

This year’s honorees, who will gather in the President’s house for a morning reception on Thursday, Dec. 5, are: Raymond L. Picozzi, professor of communications and theater; Patrick J. O’Regan, professor of mathematics and computer science; J. Richard Castellucci, assistant professor of modern languages, and Elizabeth B. Carey, retired assistant professor of elementary education. (photo not available)

The Honor Roll plaque is permanently displayed in the President’s Office reception area in Roberts Hall.

### 25-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

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### 20-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

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### 15-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

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### 10-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

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**Rhode Island College Service Recognition Day**

**Dec. 4, 1991**
RIC Chamber Singers, Orchestra concert — 
Salutes composer Menotti with his ‘Bishop of Brindisi’

An understanding and supportive nun tries to console the Bishop of Brindisi as he recalls his reluctance at first to give the children his blessing before they set sail for the Holy City.

DANA McGOVERN
Edward Markward will conduct the Rhode Island College Chamber Singers and Chamber Orchestra in a Dec. 2 concert featuring two works of composer Gian-Carlo Menotti.

Beginning at 8:15 p.m. in Roberts Hall auditorium, Menotti’s “The Death of the Bishop of Brindisi” will be performed by the 55-member chamber orchestra and 25 chamber singers with the feature role of the bishop sung by bass Dana McGovern. Soprano Lori Ann Phillips will sing the role of the nun.

Menotti’s “Violin Concerto” — a seldom-performed work — will feature violinist John Sumerlin.

Other selections in the concert will include Daniel Pinkham’s “Christmas Cantata” by the chamber orchestra and singers; Giovanni Gabrieli’s “Canzon Septimi Toni No. 2” by the RIC Brass Ensemble under the direction of John Pellegrino; and David Baldwin’s “Concerto for Seven Trumpets and Timpani” with the RIC Trumpet Ensemble, also under the direction of Pellegrino.

The concert — free and open to the public — is made possible by the RIC Performing and Fine Arts Commission. Best known for...

Menotti, best known for his operas The Old Maid and the Thief, The Medium, The Consul and the long revered Amahl and the Night Visitors which has been a staple of television Christmas programming for decades, turned 80 last July 7.

His “The Death of the Bishop of Brindisi” had its first performance in Cincinnati in May of 1963.

In the present offering, the Bishop of Brindisi, close to death, recounts in a nightmarish way, his role in the events which led to the deaths of thousands of children who set off from France and Germany in 1212 on the so-called (and ill-fated) Children’s Crusade.

An understanding and supportive nun tries to console him as he recalls his reluctance at first to give the children his blessing before they set sail from Brindisi for the Holy City.

Lori Ann Phillips
Also a graduate of RIC, Miss Phillips is a 1991 winner of Chicago’s Bel Canto Foundation Competition.

Establishing a career on both the operatic and concert stages, she made her New York debut as Blazenda in the American premiere production of Smetana’s The Secret and recently appeared as the Countess in Le Nozze Di Figaro.

As a concert artist, she was invited to perform Beethoven’s “Ninth Symphony” with the Panama City Orquesta Sinfonica Nacional in 1990, and, in that same year, sang both the Brahms’ “Requiem” and the premiere of Paul Nelson’s “Cantata Paizmorum” with the Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra.

LORI ANN PHILLIPS
Nacional in 1990, and, in that same year, sang both the Brahms’ “Requiem” and the premiere of Paul Nelson’s “Cantata Paizmorum” with the Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra.

Miss Phillips, a winner of the local Anna Maria Santilli-DiPanni Bel Canto Scholarship, has appeared as guest soloist with the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, the Regina Philharmonic Orchestra in Canada and the Ossining Choral Society of New York.

JOHN SUMERLIN
Sumerlin joined the RIC faculty in the fall of 1989.

His concert career began under the auspices of the Young Concert Artists in Performance while he was at the Manhattan School in New York studying with Raphael Bronstein. Later a student with Dorothy DeLay in New York and Cincinnati, he twice won the coveted Starling Prize and a special career award from the Herzberg Music Foundation.

A frequent recitalist in the U.S., Canada and Europe, he also was founder and first violinist of the Harrington String Quartet, performing in more than 60 concerts yearly. The quartet became one of the 10 chosen from world-wide auditions to compete in the first Banff International String Quartet Competition in Canada.

In addition to his concerts, recital and chamber music performances, Sumerlin has held positions as first violinist with the American, Dallas, Cincinnati, Santa Fe Opera and Honolulu symphony orchestras.

DANA McGOVERN
A graduate of RIC where he studied English, communications, theatre and music, McGovern went on to Boston University where he was awarded an assistantship to the Boston University Opera Theater, studied voice with Emmanou Dimmock and was stage coach with John Habor.

JOHN SUMERLIN

He has performed as soloist for a number of choruses and orchestras, appearing with the Concord Civic Orchestra, the Gordon College Chorus, the Providence Opera, the B.U. Opera Theater and the Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra, among others.

His list of solo credits is extensive and includes Handel’s “Messiah” and “Judas Macabaeus,” Mendelssohn’s “Elijah” and the Verdi “Requiem.” His operatic roles include those in Madam Butterfly, Tales of Hoffmann and The Marriage of Figaro.
Winners of Incentive Raffle

Following is a list of the winners in the State Employees Charitable Appeal Incentive Raffle which was held on Wednesday, Nov. 13:

John Mancini, $25 gift certificate from RICSA; Claudio Gomes, $25 gift certificate from AFSCME, Local 2879; Susan Owens, tickets to "Meet Me in St. Louis" from Providence Performing Arts Center; Geraldine Jessup, New York City shopping tour from Regine Travel.

Also, John Taylor, dinner at Stacy's Sea Grille Restaurant at Providence Marriott Hotel; William Ochlikers, dinner at Remington's Restaurant at Holiday Inn at the Crossings; Richard Brinegar, Omni Baltimore brunch, Mark Estrin, $50 gift certificate for The Little Inn Restaurant; Anne Hubbard, $15 gift certificate for Remington's Pub & Deli.

Also, Dave Wilson, $15 gift certificate for Remington's Pub & Deli; Gordon Rowley, tickets for RIC Performing Arts Series; Carol Shea, gift from Pasquarelli Flowers & Gifts Inc.; Lynn Vinacco, gift from Campus Pizza; Connie Pratt, RIC director's chair from the Alumni Association.

Also, Carolyn Swift, fruit basket from Spicuzza's; Fred Kingsley, $50 gift certificate for th~ Campus Store; John Mancini, $25 gift certificate from RICSA; Joni Hines, $25 discount for RIC Dance Co. and Douglas Dunn & Dancers share program — Winter Concert features premiere of 'Double Bond'

Rhode Island College Dance Company will premiere a work by New York's Douglas Dunn in its Winter Concert Friday, Dec. 6, at 8 p.m. in Roberts Hall auditorium.

And, Dunn & Dancers will give a preview performance of an as-yet-untitled work-in-progress by Dunn and artist David Ireland, which will premiere in Minneapolis in March.

The RIC premiere of Dunn's "Double Bond" by the RIC dancers will be accompanied by the music of RIC's Robert Elam. Costumes will be by Dunn and Armando Perez, RIC Dance Company costume designer.

Concert lighting will be designed by Michael Giannitti, who designed lighting for Joe Turner's Come and Gone on Broadway as well as for Trinity Rep productions and others.

Considered one of New York's "most inventive, witty and eccentric choreographers," Dunn concludes a residency spanning a five-month period at RIC during which he offered several master classes and two open rehearsals while creating the 20-minute work "Double Bond."

"We've wanted to bring Dunn in to work with our students for a number of years," says Dan Di Giudice, RIC dance director. "His work is always fresh and original and he works well with students."

"We're excited to have this opportunity to present an evening of Douglas Dunn's work as it will certainly represent a major dance event in the Rhode Island dance season."

"Dunn's contribution is remarkable in that he has maintained his stature as a leading figure in the dance avant-garde for the last 20 years," adds Del Giudice.

Dunn began presenting his work in New York City in 1971 and formed his dance company five years later. In 1978 he was invited to perform at the Autumn Festival in Paris. Two years later, he was invited by the Autumn Festival and the Paris Opera Ballet to choreograph Stravinsky's "Pulcinella" for the opera dancers as part of an homage to the composer.

Dunn continues to work and perform with his own troupe in collaboration with other artists and composers, and to choreograph for both ballet and modern companies.

"Dunn's mind is a fascinating one, and his dance vocabulary unusually rich and varied," says the Village Voice.

The concert is being funded in part by the New England Foundation for the Arts, New England Telephone and the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts. Tickets are $7 general admission with discounts for senior citizens, students, RIC faculty and staff.

For more information, call 456-9791.

RIC Dance Co. and Douglas Dunn & Dancers share program — Winter Concert features premiere of 'Double Bond'

Also, Joanne Glazer, $25 gift certificate for Moore Florists, Inc.; Lunie Hooper, gift from Moore Florists, Inc.; Lynn Vinacco, gift from Campus Pizza; Connie Pratt, RIC director's chair from the Alumni Association.

Also, Carolyn Swift, fruit basket from Spicuzza's; Fred Kingsley, $50 gift certificate for the Campus Store; John Mancini, $25 gift certificate from RICSA; Joni Hines, $25 discount for RIC Dance Co. and Douglas Dunn & Dancers share program — Winter Concert features premiere of 'Double Bond'

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For more information, call 456-9791.

A 'spot of tea' for Thorp's 30th anniversary

HAVING A SPOT OF TEA in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the Mary Tucker Thorp Residence Hall at Rhode Island College are (from left) Marian Boyajian, director of the College's Upward Bound program and former student resident of Thorp during the years 1966 to 1970 and hall director from 1971 to 1974; Dolores Passarelli, director of New Student Programs and a Thorp resident assistant from 1973 to 1974; Arlene Shannon, current hall director; Barbara Cartwright Griffing, a resident of Thorp in 1962, and Jennifer Rechter, the current resident assistant.
**RIC CALENDAR**

**Nov. 25—Dec. 9**

**25**

Monday, Nov. 25
12 to 1 p.m.—Alcoholics Anonymous meets in Student Union 305.
9 to 10:30 p.m.—Two Boston Cornellians perform in the Student Union Coffee Ground. Free.

**26**

Tuesday, Nov. 26
1 p.m.—Grief Group to meet in Chaplains’ Office, SU 300. Support group for those mourning the loss of a family member or friend.

**27**

Wednesday, Nov. 27
12:30 to 1:30 p.m.—Musical Performance. Ron Runner performs in Donovan Dining Center, lower level.
11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.—Rake Sale. Sponsored by the Human Resource Management Club in the Campus Center on the 2nd floor. For more information, call Sherrie or Toni, Ext. 8183.

**28**

Friday, Nov. 29
Noon—Catholic and Feminist, a Women’s Group to meet in the Chaplains’ Office, SU 300. This is a support group for women within the Catholic tradition to discuss, to pray, to create rituals.

**29**

Sunday, Dec. 1
7 p.m.—Chanticleer, America’s Premiere Vocal Ensemble-Holiday Concert (Performing Arts Series) to be presented in Roberts Auditorium. Reserved seating $15; seniors, students, and RIC faculty/staff $13; RIC students $4. For more information, call Roberts Box Office, Ext. 8034.
9:30 to 11 p.m.—Reception for Chanticleer in Roberts Alumni Lounge given by the Performing Arts Series. For more information, call John Custer, Ext. 8268.

**30**

Monday, Dec. 2
Noon to 1 p.m.—Alcoholics Anonymous meets in Student Union 305.
12:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.—Geographical Alliance Presentation in Gaige Auditorium. For more information, call Patricia Levy, Ext. 8056.
8:15 p.m.—Chamber Music Series. Rhode Island College Chamber Singers and Chamber Orchestra perform in Roberts Auditorium. Free.
9 to 10:30 p.m.—Two Boston Cornellians perform in the Student Union Coffee Ground. Free.

**1**

Tuesday, Dec. 3
6 p.m.—Murder Mystery Dinner in the Student Union Ballroom. Tickets cost $5 at the Student Union Information Desk. For more information, call the Campus Center, Ext. 8034.

**2**

Saturday, Dec. 7
7 p.m.—New York Trip. RIC Programming offers a trip to New York to see the “Miss Saigon Broadway” show (a musical). Bus leaves from the loop in front of the Student Union at 7 a.m. Tickets are available at the Student Union Information Desk. Cost is $80/RIC students and $80/non-RIC students. For more information, call Doug Cureton at the Campus Center, Ext. 8034.

**3**

Thursday, Dec. 5—Friday, Dec. 6
9 a.m.—Holiday Fair in the Student Union Ballroom sponsored by the Campus Center. For more information, contact the Campus Center, Ext. 8034.

**4**

Wednesday, Dec. 4
9 a.m. to noon—Coffee An’ for support personnel on campus to organize survival kits for the homeless in Student Union 305. For more information, contact the Chaplains’ Office, Ext. 8168.
3 p.m.—Workshop. “Avoiding Christmas Craziness” sponsored by the Chaplains’ Office in Student Union 305. For more information, contact the Chaplains’ Office, Ext. 8168.
6 to 9 p.m.—Communications/Theatre 20th Anniversary Celebration in Roberts Lobby. For more information, call Audrey O’Mullane, Ext. 8034.
9 p.m.—Film. The RIC Film Society presents the film “Brinstone and Treacle” in the Student Union Ballroom. Tickets cost $2 or $1 with RIC ID.

**5**

Thursday, Dec. 12
4:30 p.m.—Physical Science Department Colloquium. Dr. Cynthia Zoski, University of Rhode Island, “Steady State Voltammetry at Microelectrodes.” Clarke Science 356.
8 p.m.—Winter Concert. Rhode Island College Dance Company presents a winter concert with Douglas Dunn and dancers in Roberts Auditorium. General admission $7; senior citizens, groups, non-RIC students, and RIC faculty/staff $5; RIC students $3. For more information, call the Dance Department, Ext. 9791.

**6**

Friday, Dec. 6
11 a.m.—Physical Science Department Colloquium. Dr. Cynthia Zoski, University of Rhode Island, “Steady State Voltammetry at Microelectrodes.” Clarke Science 356.
8 p.m.—Winter Concert. Rhode Island College Dance Company presents a winter concert with Douglas Dunn and dancers in Roberts Auditorium. General admission $7; senior citizens, groups, non-RIC students, and RIC faculty/staff $5; RIC students $3. For more information, call the Dance Department, Ext. 9791.

**7**

Saturday, Dec. 7
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—Mystic Trip. Mystic Village and Aquarium trip. Tickets cost $3 at the Student Union Information Desk. For more information, call the Campus Center, Ext. 8034.

**8**

Monday, Dec. 9
12 to 1 p.m.—Alcoholics Anonymous meets in Student Union 305.
8:35 p.m.—Musical Performance. Rhode Island College Chorus and Orchestra perform in Roberts Auditorium. Free. For more information, call the Music Department, Ext. 8244.

**9**

**Sports Events**

**Tuesday, Nov. 26**
7:30 p.m.—Men’s Basketball. Rhode Island College vs. Colby-Sawyer College. Away.

**Tuesday, Dec. 3**
7:30 p.m.—Men’s Basketball. Rhode Island College vs. Framingham State College. Home.

**Thursday, Dec. 5**
5:30 p.m.—Women’s Basketball. Rhode Island College vs. Fitchburg State College. Home.
7:30 p.m.—Men’s Basketball. Rhode Island College vs. Fitchburg State College. Home.

**Friday, Dec. 6**
7 p.m.—Women’s Gymnastics. Rhode Island College vs. Brown University. Home.

**Saturday, Dec. 7**
1 p.m.—Wrestling. Rhode Island College vs. Plymouth State College-Dual. Home.
3 p.m.—Women’s Basketball. Rhode Island College vs. Bridgewater State College. Away.
5 p.m.—Men’s Basketball. Rhode Island College vs. Bridgewater State College. Away.
1 p.m.—Women’s Gymnastics. Rhode Island College vs. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Away.