What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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The Sylvan R. Forman Center dedication—
New ‘port of entry’ renovation project, rich in history, now ready to serve

by George LaTour
What’s News Associate Editor

Two Rhode Island College educators in the School of Education and Human Development have been named this year’s Thorp Professors for their sustained creative and scholarly contributions.

Prof. Elizabeth H. Rowell of Woodstock Valley, Conn., and Associate Prof. Patricia A. Cordeiro of North Truro, Mass., both of the elementary education department, were cited for maintaining the “highest levels of excellence” by Dean David E. Nelson in ceremonies at the opening faculty meeting of the semester.

As Thorp Professors, each will give a lecture, Rowell on April 4 and Cordeiro on April 11 at sites and times to be announced.

As Thorp Professors, each will receive an engraved plaque and a cash payment of $750 and have their teaching loads reduced by one course each. The money for the awards comes from the Mary Tucker Thorp Fund in the RIC education.

Cordeiro, Rowell are Thorp Profs in School of Ed

4th biennial Alumni Day for econ/mgmt students is Oct. 26

The fourth biennial Alumni Day for economics and management students, conducted by the Rhode Island College Center for Management and Technology, is set for Wednesday, Oct. 26, in Roberts Hall auditorium from 8:45 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.

Students will be able to attend two different panel discussions out of a choice of 10 panels with topics based on business disciplines or academic disciplines.

A select list of successful business alumni will comprise each panel which will be headed by a faculty moderator.

Panels, as of this date, and their

Continued on page 8

WHAT'S NEWS
AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE
Vol. 15 Issue 4
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Thorp Professors
Continued from page 1

Foundation, created by a bequest in her will.

Nominees for the Thorp Professorship were evaluated by a committee composed of faculty from the School of Education and Human Development and the School of Social Work. The professorship honors the contributions of Mary E. Thorp whose illustrious career at the College spanned 41 years from 1936 to 1977.

Elizabeth H. Rowell

During her career, Professor Rowell served as chair of the Social Studies Department, as director of the Women's Studies Program, and was a member of a number of national and local committees. She has contributed significantly to the development of the social studies curriculum and the education of future social studies educators.

Rowell received her bachelor's degree from the University of Vermont and her master's degree from the University of Colorado. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut in 1986.

She joined the RIC faculty in 1974 and was department chair from 1987-90. Rowell served as acting dean of the School of Education from 1990-91. She was at one time director of the Reading Improvement Program and has been involved in numerous projects and initiatives that have helped to improve the teaching and learning of reading.

Patricia A. Cordeiro

Since 1990, Professor Cordeiro has presented 17 papers at national conferences. She has served as a reviewer for a number of professional journals, including the Journal of Reading Behavior. She has also been involved in the development of several reading assessment instruments.

Cordeiro received her bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut and her master's degree from the University of Massachusetts. She received her Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1984.

She joined the RIC faculty in 1990 after holding a number of positions at different institutions as adjunct and full-time faculty, and as field instructor and thesis advisor. She has also been involved in the development of a number of reading programs and initiatives.
Mom is a race-car driver!

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

"Gentlemen, start your engines!"

"Er... excuse me. Make that 'Ladies, start your engines!'"

Well, it's not the Indianapolis 500, that famed Memorial Day Race that tests the mettle of men and machines, but it can be a hell-bent-for-leather race nonetheless when Rhode Island College freshman Nikki Johnson's mom gets behind the wheel of her mini-sprint car at the Sugar Hill Speedway in Weare, N.H.

"I guess I should have been a boy" says Ro Johnson with a chuckle, "I always loved trucks (she drives a Ford Ranger gray and maroon S-speed these days) and motorcycles.

While it was "just last year" that Nikki's mom "got into race-car driving," she had won second place in a motorcycle race when she was just 16.

Originally from Brighton, Mass., Ro and her daughter, Nikki, and Nikki's older brother, Mark, now reside in Wrentham. Mom is employed by a law firm in Dedham, while Nikki is a graduate of King Philip High School.

Nikki is older brother, Mark, now resides in Wrentham. Mom is employed by a law firm in Dedham, while Nikki is a graduate of King Philip High School. At RIC, where she resides in the Sweet Residence Hall, she intends to study medical technology (now called clinical laboratory science).

Currently, the first-semester freshman is doing a paper for her English composition class on racing. Being on the inside track, so to speak, Nikki's paper should prove to be a winner.

Nikki attends all the races in which her mother drives as well as those driven by her mom's companion, Chuck Welling, who drives both mini-sprints and midget race cars (which look like the mini-sprints only are "a lot bigger" and can attain speeds of up to 120 mph) at tracks in Seekonk, Mass., Epping, Hudson and Lee speedways in New Hampshire, Oswego, N.Y., and Thompson, Conn.

"It's our hobby, so it takes a lot of our time," admits Ro, who explains that when you go for a race you are at the track for nearly 12 hours.

"You practice (driving) as often as you can and 'run a heat' ('preliminary race) before you start to determine your position for the race itself."

Put the women, it costs $30 to enter the car and driver in a race. There are no cash prizes for women racers as there are for the men

for racing at all.

"I'd never do it if I thought it was dangerous," assures her mom.

Ro explains that cars have to be a certain weight and each is inspected at the track before racing begins.

The mini-sprints have roll bars overhead, added weights and "wings" on top to direct the air flow "to hold you down" and prevent you from becoming airborne.

The cars are "very family oriented." There are no cash prizes for women drivers as there are for the men - restraints so your arms won't go outside the vehicle" and be injured in case of a roll-over. Drivers lug the "biggest bag of shit at the track for nearly 12 hours."

There are no cash prizes for women drivers as there are for the men.

Nikki thinks mom 'is daring' for racing at all.

Nikki's paper should prove to be a winner.

"I lost my muffler and had to rely on 'air' instead." She adds that she and mom "split the winnings" as Ro has no "northern exposure.""}

Welcome to the RIC campus!

The College community extends a warm welcome to our new colleagues.

This document was prepared by the Office of Personnel Services. We apologize for any omissions and ask that you call them to our attention so that we may include them on an addendum list.

FACULTY

DR. SHARIF N. AHKAM, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, and Department of Anthropology. Dr. Ahkam received an M.Com. from the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, a B.A. from New York State College, and a D.B.A. from Kent State University. He taught at the A. J. Palumbo School of Business Administration, Duquesne University, and was a Teaching Fellow at Kent State University. Dr. Ahkam comes to us from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

PROFESSOR ALEJANDRO C. ANDREOTTI, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. Professor Andreatti comes to us from Brandeis University, and is a Ph.D. candidate at Princeton University, where he is also a lecturer. Professor Andreatti comes to us from Princeton, New Jersey.

PROFESSOR ELLEN BIGLER, Assistant Professor, joint appointment in the Department of Educational Studies and the Department of Anthropology and Geography. Professor Bigler comes to us from a B.A. from Ohio State University, and an M.A. from SUNY at Albany, where she is a Ph.D. candidate. She taught anthropology and worked as a field researcher at SUNY, Albany, and was also employed as a secondary social studies teacher in the Hudson Falls New York Central Schools. Professor Bigler comes to us from Albany, New York.

DR. A. DAVID CAPPELLA, Assistant Professor, joint appointment in the Department of Educational Studies and the Department of English. Professor Cappella received a B.A. from Bridgewater State College, an M.A. from the University of Maine, and an Ed.D. from Boston University, where he was a Teaching Fellow. He was also an Instructor of English at Newbury College, Brookline, Massachusetts, and taught English at Madison High School, Madison, Maine. Professor Cappella comes to us from Amesbury, Massachusetts.

PROFESSOR MARC C. ERANT-LAMONTAGNE, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Science. Professor Erant-Lamontagne received a B.S. from the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, and is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of New Hampshire, where he was a research assistant and recipient of the B. R. Ingram Award. Professor Erant-Lamontagne comes to us from Somersworth, New Hampshire.

DR. GALE GOODWIN GOMEZ, Assistant Professor, joint appointment Department of Educational Studies, and Department of Anthropology and Geography. Dr. Gomez received a B.A. from Florida Atlantic University, an M.A. in Latin American Studies from the University of Wyoming, and both an M. Phil. and a Ph.D. in Linguistics and Anthropology from Columbia University. She taught at Fordham University, City College of City University of New York, and was a lecturer at SUNY at Purchase. Dr. Gomez comes to us from Darien, Connecticut.

PROFESSOR LISA DOOLITTLE HUMPHREYS, Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Studies and the Department of Computer Science. Professor Humphreys received both a B.S. and an M.S. from the University of Connecticut, where she is also a Ph.D. candidate. She taught at the University of Connecticut, and also served as a teaching assistant supervisor. Professor Humphreys comes to us from Manchester, Connecticut.

PROFESSOR ARTHUR LAMBI, JR., Assistant Professor, Department of Economics and Management. Professor Lambi received a B.S. from St. Francis College and an M.S. from Bryant College. He worked at the accounting firm of Arthur Andersen. Currently he is a practitioner in his own accounting firm. He has also served as a teaching assistant and professor at St. Francis College and Island College. Professor Lambi resides in North Providence, Rhode Island.

DR. HARRIET S. MANGLESSON, Assistant Professor, Department of Communications. Dr. Magen received a B.A. from Clark University, an M.A. from Boston University, and a Ph.D. from Yale University. She taught at the University of Rhode Island and at Rhode Island College, and also worked as a teacher of English as a Second Language at Brown University. Dr. Magen resides in East Greenwich, Rhode Island.

DR. ANN MARIE MUMM, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work. Dr. Mumm received a B.S. in Psychology and a Masters in Social Work from SUNY at Buffalo, and a Ph.D. in Social Work from the University of Rhode Island. She taught at Marywood College, Scranton, Pennsylvania. Dowling College, Long Island, and Keen College of New Jersey. Dr. Pines comes to us from Watchung, New Jersey.

DR. SUZANNE PINES, Associate Professor, joint appointment in the Department of Art and the Department of Educational Studies. Dr. Pines received both a Bachelor of Industrial Design and an M.S. in Visual and Environmental Design from University of Rhode Island. She taught at Marywood College, Scranton, Pennsylvania. Dowling College, Long Island, and Keen College of New Jersey. Dr. Pines comes to us from Watchung, New Jersey.

DR. XAE ALICIA REYES, Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Studies. Dr. Reyes received both a B.A. and an M.A. in Educational Studies and a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado, Boulder. She taught in the School of Business Administration, University of Puerto Rico, School of Business and Computer Science. Professor Reyes comes to us from Puerto Rico.

DR. DANIEL M. SCOTT, III, Assistant Professor, Department of English. Dr. Scott received a B.A. from Georgia State University, and a B.A. and an M.A. from the University of Illinois. He taught at the University of Illinois, where he was also a teaching assistant, and served as Assistant to the Academic Services Coordinator, Office of Minority Student Affairs. Dr. Scott comes to us from Peabody, Massachusetts.

DR. JENNIFER SERGI, Assistant Professor, Department of English. Dr. Sergi received a B.A. from Radford University, an M.A. from Salisbury State University, a Ph.D. from the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, Salisbury State University, and the Providence School Department's Doctoral Program. Presently Dr. Sergi resides in Providence, Rhode Island.

DR. TOMOJO SHOGENJI, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy. Dr. Shogenji received both a B.A. and an M.A. from the University of Tokyo, and a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California. He taught at James Madison University, Northern Illinois University, Michigan State University, New York University. Dr. Shogenji comes to us from Harrisonburg, Virginia.

PROFESSOR ALICE E. SMITH, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work. Professor Smith received an M.A. and a C.A.G.S. from Anna Maria College, an M.S.W. from the University of Connecticut, and is a Ph.D. candidate at Boston College. She taught at Purdue College, served as a general grant author at the University of Southern Maine, and worked as a mental health therapist in private practice. Professor Smith comes to us from Brewster, Massachusetts.

DR. FELICIA WILCZENSKI, Assistant Professor, Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology. Dr. Wilczenski received both a B.S. and an M.Ed. from Boston University, a C.A.E.S. from Boston College, and an M.S.W. and an Ed.D. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She taught at SUNY, Buffalo, New York, and as well at Notre Dame College, and worked as a school psychologist at Children's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

GRAY P. GUNTHER, Computer Manager, Campus Center. Dr. Guntcher received a B.A. in Sociology from Rhode Island College, and is also a diploma in graphic design illustration from the Rhode Island School of Design. He worked at Corporate Software, Inc., as a Software Support Technician, and as a Teacher Consultant, University of Rhode Island Army as Officer in Charge, Defense Communication Satellite Station, Germany. Mr. Guntcher resides in Bristol, Rhode Island.

RIGEA schedules fall conference

The Rhode Island Geography Education Alliance (RIGEA) will present its fall conference for fourth through 12th grade teachers Saturday, Oct. 22, at the Omni Biltmore West, Providence, beginning with registration at 8 a.m.

Co-sponsored by Harvard University Center for the Study of World Eastern Studies, the conference will feature keynote luncheon speaker Rhoda Island, owner, Carolyn Fluesh-Lobban from the Department of Anthropology and Geography, other speakers include, Carol Sheldrake, Director of Teaching Resource Center at Harvard, Christine Dragi, also of Harvard, Denise Kusick, RIC College Academic Advisor, and alliance coordinators, RIC professors Chet Souchet, among others.

Breakout sessions are scheduled for the afternoon on topics such as "Surveying the eastern coast of Russia and Japan," "Mathematics, art, and geometry, ""religions of the area," and materials for teaching about the Middle East. The event will end at 3:30 p.m.

For information call 456-8069.
Looking at the nature side of the nurture/nature question

by Cynthia DeMaio
What's News Student Writer

Most people know about the social approach to psychology: how one is raised affects one's outlook; when there are family problems, counselors are sought out. But fewer people know about the biological side of behavior, the way a person's nervous and hormonal systems combine with other physiological factors to influence how one acts and feels.

It is the issue of biological psychology that gets Duncan White's attention, and he is overseeing two experiments at Rhode Island College to unlock some of its secrets. White is an associate professor in the psychology department.

The experiments are dissimilar. The first is a down-to-earth study of the effects of ageing on the peripheral vision system. The second explores a basic question: "What is memory?" in a basic animal: the grain beetle.

These efforts include help from undergraduate and graduate students. One part of the grain beetle study is an interdisciplinary project done in conjunction with the psychology, biology, chemistry and physics departments at RIC.

The peripheral vision program has the immediate result of helping older people regain their confidence and become more socially active. Everyone's eyesight deteriorates as they age, White said. "People in their 70s start to bump into things and become embarrassed by their actions. Some eventually become housebound, and if they have accidents in the home, this leads to being chair- or bed-bound. They figure 'I'm blind' and they become sedentary.

Through word-of-mouth and posters on campus, Duncan's team recruits volunteers for its nine-day program. Subjects are presented with video games of varying degrees of difficulty. The games test their attention, vision, and reaction, and participants find it is better than they think.

So the volunteers then return to campus once a month for the next six months. They are tested for decreases in their peripheral vision, but this decline often does not occur.

While playing the video games, the subjects are actually increasing their attention to the objects in their peripheral vision. The visual improvement they get about these objects is less accurate than when they were younger, but it is still there. The program forces them to attend to these objects. By doing the exercise, they practice paying attention, and when they go home, they do the same thing automatically, White said.

The results are spectacular. "Three months ago a woman was brought in by her daughter. She was suffering from diminished vision, so she started on the program. During her most recent visit she came skipping in. She said she had just had a great morning with her bowling team," White said.

Three undergraduate students work with White, collecting data for the vision study. In the grain-beetle study, three undergraduates and one graduate student are involved.

White grain beetles may seem far removed from the problems facing human kind, many believe there are basic laws of nature that unite all creatures. "In experimental psychology, you look at non-human animals because you can't fool around with the brains of humans. But in science, we make the assumption that there are basic laws of nature. Behavior is a natural phenomenon so behavior must follow these laws," White said.

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White is well versed in the principles of science as well as those of psychology. He had a double major in chemistry and psychology during his undergraduate years, receiving a B.S. from Roanoke College in 1970. He graduated with a Ph.D. in experimental psychology from Memphis State University in 1980.

The intriguing characteristic of the grain beetle is that when it undergoes metamorphosis from a meal worm to the adult beetle, 98 percent of its nervous system is replaced. "If the experience the animal gained as a meal worm helps it continue learning as a grain beetle, then the animal's memory must be stored in the remaining two percent of its nervous system," White said.

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The RIC research team is currently working with the adult grain beetles to see if they can be taught to run the maze. If so, the team will try to teach larvae the same thing. They will then test the animals to see if the learning survives metamorphosis.

Responding to the current concern over the effects of electromagnetic fields, the team is also running the same experiments in the presence of an electromagnetic field. The goal is to see if the field has an effect on learning. This is an interdepartmental study involving the biologist, chemist, physicist and psychologist on campus.

While the beetles may or may not provide further clues on how memory works, future experimental psychologists are getting their training by working on this project. The techniques and ideas they take from this experiment could lead to a better understanding of human behavior when they develop experiments of their own.

RESEARCHING: Associate professor Duncan White conducts research to determine the effects of electromagnetic waves on grain beetles. The apparatus was modified by student Rebecca Corsey as part of her honors thesis. (What's News photo by Gordon E.Rowley)

CONGRATULATIONS: RIC senior Kimberly Yurashas received the 1994 Mary M. Keeffe Award for excellence in Biology from department chair, Prof. Jerry Melaragno. Named for the late Dr. Keeffe, who retired from RIC in 1977 after 25 years of teaching, the annual award requires a 3.5 GPA in biology studies and includes a engraved plaque and a check for $250.
‘Stone Building’ becomes Forman Center on Sept. 27

Above: Vice President Lenore DeLucia, who headed the renovation project, welcomes guests to the Forman Center dedication from beneath a tenter erected when inclement weather threatened. Just as the ceremonies started however, the sun came out and some guests (see background) donned sun glasses.

Below: Michelina "Mickey" Santos hands a glass of champagne to assistant vice president for academic affairs and graduate dean James Turley, whose office is housed in the building, during the reception after the dedication. At center is O.A.S.I.S. director Dolores Passarelli helping out during the afternoon event.

Above: Gov. Sundlun leads the ribbon-cutting. "Watch me, I have a lot of experience at this," he reportedly said. At right: Helen Forman, Class of 1934, widow of Sylvan R. Forman, talks with well-wishers. Left: President John Nazarian points out an architectural feature to Gov. Sundlun. Below: the reception spreads out onto the center’s rear patio.

Photos by Gordon E. Rowley
Alumni Day for econ/mgmt students
Continued from page 1

faculty moderators are those on
accounting (David Filipek), computer
systems (Harry Al Stecker), financial services (Peter
Marks), human resource manage
ment (Randy DeSimone), interna
tional business (Peter Moore), tradi
tional management (Halil Copur),
non-traditional management (George
Pamental), marketing (Steve Ramocki), “What Do
Economics Majors Do?” (Peter
Harman), and one entitled “I Never
Imagined” which will be moderated
by Jules A. Cohen, a successful busi
nessman prior to joining the RIC economics/management faculty sev
eral years ago as an assistant pro
fessor.

The alumni are expected to import
to the students some of their experi
ences in the business world along with
some helpful hints and advice, thus helping the students to better
prepare for career placement after
graduation.

Keynote Address
The keynote address, which will
begin the activities, will focus on the
importance of networking. It will be
given by RIC graduate Gary
Parente, Class of ’83, who also holds a
master’s degree in business adminis
tration from the University of Rhode
Island.

Parente is a financial manager for
Trey Systems, a government sub
contracting firm which specializes in
computing, management and engi
neering services. Parente also serves as
president of the Postal Employees
Regional Federal Credit Union; is
director of the West Warwick Republican Town Committee; and is
a court-appointed special advocate for
the state.

Expectations are running high for
this event, which has proven very
popular among the students in past
years, says Natalie Sahba, interim
director for the Center for
Management and Technology, which
incorporates the former Department of Economics and Management.
The RIC Alumni Office is busy
assisting the center in recruiting
RIC alumni for the event, according to
Holly Shadoian, director of alumni
affairs and member of the planning
committee.

Professor Cohen heads the com
munity liaison committee for Alumni
Day.

Participating Alumni
Participating alumni (as of this
writing) and their business affiliations
are: Linda Larrison, Class of ’72,
director of business development
and client relations, Edwards and
ETICAM; Elaine Pedro Nelson,
Class of ’84, general manager and
customer services manager, Foxboro
National Bank; Beverly Thibeault, Class of ‘81, associate vice
president, West Cranston
Financial Service Center; Deborah
Pannullo, Class of ’87, owner of
Basic Wholesale and Screen Printing Co.

Also, John Garner, Class of
’94, assistant staff auditor, Fleet
Financial Group; Ellen Kittel
Riker Class of ’91, CPA, assistant
controller, J.H. Lynch & Sons, Inc.;
Mary Lou Nutarini, Class of ’86,
senior tax accountant, Leftowitz,
Garfinkel, Champ & DeRienzo.

Also, Michael Piaszen, Class of
’85, revenue agent, Internal Revenue
Service; Kim Moniz Crowley, Class of
’83, systems analyst, Amica Mutual
Insurance Co.; Patricia Miller, Class of ‘93, procedure ana
lyst, Metropolitan Properties;
Suzanne Ny N Harris, Class of ’87,
application programmer/analyst, Amica Mutual Insurance Co.

Also, Richard James, Class of
’92, stockbroker, government service;
Sandra Glaser Parrillo, Class of ’78,
vice president, Providence Mutual
Fire Insurance Co.; Joan Pirraglia,
director of student activities,

STRATEGY PLANNING: Kristen King (seated), director of student activities
and Pam Gilbert, administrative secretary, are co-chairs for the upcoming
State Employees Charitable Appeal (SEA). (What’s News photo by Gordon
E. Rowley.)
Lee DeLucia: A woman about campus, in hard hat and heels!

by Clare Eckert
What's News Editor

She still knows which bureau drawer in her Jamestown home "I keep that old shirt" as a reminder of her experiencing helping to build the first of three homes she and her husband have constructed on the Island for their family. "I don't bring it out," says Vice President for Administration and Finance Lenore A. DeLucia. "But I know where it is."

Of those days, DeLucia says "I was the one holding the screwdriver, so to speak" during the early years of her marriage to Ken DeLucia when they started their lives together in Jamestown in 1963. Since the first house, the two have built "the neighborhood," finally setting into the third home they bought on Walnut Street, that was in 1974. Little did the 58-year-old woman realize that 20 years later she would be responsible for the complete overhaul of the renovation of a Rhode Island historical landmark originally built about 1879 and enchantedg passing 21,096 square feet for Rhode Island College. Not only has DeLucia overseen the renovation of what is now known as The Sylvan R. Forman Center on the East Campus, but she has seen to the completion of the new Donavan Dining Center, and is currently leading the charge to complete the $8.8 million building project for the College's new health, physical education, and athletic complex slated to be completed in the spring of 1995.

DeLucia was born in New York City, "in the Bronx." She traveled throughout her childhood as the daughter of a father whose skills took him to where the work was and a mother who was a teacher. An academically gifted child, who enjoyed a variety of interests, she settled in Rhode Island in 1954 when she became a student at Pembroke.

"It was a wonderful place for women to mature," DeLucia says of Pembroke. 

Her attitude is positive: "When you fall off the horse, face it, get over it and get beyond it. Usually it's never quite as bad as you think."

Her study of psychology was by chance. Not having any idea about a career, DeLucia continued on in the psychology program, taking courses in psychology and student government and college newspapers were available for female students.

In the 1970s, the merger took place and Pembroke became Brown. "It was a sad day for women who had to choose to leave Pembroke or Pembroke or Pembroke," she laughed, recalling how Females gave up something that was uniquely theirs.

DeLucia is a "woman about campus," she says, dealing more with leading people than holding screwdrivers. But the real "Lee" comes charging through when she describes her attitude about challenges and her hope "that if anything, people recognize me as someone who is able to listen and make a decision on a variety of facts."

I have provided leadership for a team of people to do their jobs," she says of the last four years as vice president overseeing all the new construction on the campus. Her attitude is positive: "When you fall off the horse, face it, get over it and get beyond it. Usually it's never quite as bad as you think." DeLucia was born in New York City, "in the Bronx." She traveled throughout her childhood as the daughter of a father whose skills took him to where the work was and a mother who was a teacher. An academically gifted child, who enjoyed a variety of interests, she settled in Rhode Island in 1954 when she became a student at Pembroke.

"It was a wonderful place for women to mature," DeLucia says of Pembroke.

DeLucia's motto throughout her career has been "to do the very best I could. I have always felt fortunate that people on this campus have had faith in me. I guess, professionally, I have always had the self-confidence to move forward."

And move upward and onward she did. A full professor by 1969, DeLucia was associate dean of educational studies from 1972 through 1977, taking on the role of acting vice president for academic affairs for nearly one year and acting dean of educational studies during that period as well. In 1979, she was charged with establishing a new college office, Institutional Research and Planning, where she remained until taking over administration and finance as vice president in 1980.

In this position, besides overseeing all building projects, she heads the offices of controller, budget, accounting, affirmative action, audiovisual, bursar, computer center, grant accounting, institutional research and planning, office services, payroll, personnel, physical plant, purchasing, safety and security, student loan, and telephone services.

She is a woman who gets along well with men and women alike, and is considered a "sharp" and "fair" boss. DeLucia calls her work at the College, "a great experience." She knows herself and her colleagues well, seeking out their expertise to help her along in her job. And she is especially appreciative of the many challenges the College has offered her.

"Rhode Island College has been a supportive environment for women because it comes out of a history of teacher education and teacher education is highly populated by women," she says. Remembering attending graduate school at Brown, "out of 30 people, two were women and there were no tenured women. When I started here, there were a significant amount of women."

DeLucia is a "woman about campus." She can be seen walking from one end to the other, regularly checking up on contractors, talking to colleagues and enjoying the growth of the school. Not one to worry about hairdos or climbing ladders to reach rooftops, she fits in with every one and has gained the respect and admiration for those who work with her. She is sensitive to others and willing to do the mundane tasks as well as make the difficult decisions.

On the gloomy and rainy morning of the Forman Center dedication, DeLucia, along with "my right hand Georgia Bonaminio, her administrative assistant, could be found pound­ing in the signage along the roads leading to the site of the dedication ceremonies, hauling and pinning the cloth used for the unveling of the sign, and settled last minute details for the day's special event. At 2 p.m, on that day, without skipping a beat, DeLucia walked to the podium with grace and confidence, as her husband stood quietly in the crowd beaming with delight as his wife presided over the ceremony.

Inside, when Mr. DeLucia spoke with a reporter about the upcoming story on his wife, his only comment was: "She is a special person. Very special!"

Indeed!

TABLE TALK: During a staff meeting in her office in Roberts Hall, Vice President Lenore DeLucia (top center) confers with construction site manager Val Jean on the roof of the new health, physical education, and athletics complex. (What's News photo by Gordon E. Rowley)
RIC students travel, study abroad

Seven visit England, one Germany

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Seven Rhode Island College undergraduate students took advantage of the College’s first annual travel-study program to England’s South Bank University in London from June 18 to July 24, while a graduate student working on her thesis traveled to Wiesbaden, Germany, for two weeks in September, which included attendance at a four-day conference of medieval scholars and a performance by her. Most all found the experience met their expectations and then some.

Several were inspired in their studies and have since vowed to return for further studies abroad after their RIC graduation. Virtually all of the students expressed appreciation for the travel-study opportunity.

“It was great,” says Laura Hitt of Cranston, the graduate student, “I met musicians and academicians who are at the top of their fields.”

“It opened a whole new world for me meeting these people,” she assures.

Trip to Germany

Hitt had received some financial help for her trip to Germany from the RIC theater and dance department and from the Catholic Academy in Germany, which supported her studies into the life and works of the 12th Century German nun Hildegard of Bingen, a person she describes as one who possessed “a vast knowledge of a multitude of disciplines.”

“She composed music, founded two convents, corresponded with popes, kings and commoners, helped the sick, wrote about medicine, saw visions, recorded those visions, and created the first morality music-drama. "For some inexplicable reason," relates Hitt, "Hildegard seemed to be the barriers of history to lead me back into a forgotten place of music, dance, visions and laughter."

On April 30, she performed her theater/music work entitled "A Vision of Hildegard: Dust Singing Into the Light" at RIC in partial fulfillment of her Individualized Master of Arts degree in theater and English. She explains that this performance was the culmination of three phases: 1) training at Trinity Repertory Conservatory from 1986-1988; 2) time spent performing theater and studying voice in Chicago from 1988-92; 3) classes and independent studies at RIC from 1993-94.

Hitt credits her studies with English Prof. Meredith McMunn, particularly McMunn’s class on "Medieval Women: Words and Works;" theater Prof. P.W. Hutchinson, who helped her develop her piece on Hildegard through improvisation and writing; and music Prof. Raymond Smith for his opera class.

She sang a song composed by Hildegard at the Wiesbaden conference, and was encouraged by the president of the International Hildegard Society to make a presentation on the 12th Century nun at a Kalamazoo, Mich., conference. "I know she would have been proud," Hitt says with a smile.

All of this has lent to the strengthening of her credentials and resolve to someday teach either in high school or in college and develop private workshops integrating theater, music and dance.

Off to London

It was off to London last summer for Julie Lima of Coventry, Fernanda Marinho, Tom Bockes, Chris Petrarca and Patty Murphy, all of Providence, Jennifer Cook of Newport, and Jeremy Marquard of Pawtucket.

Marquard, a junior political science major, and Lima, a senior in political science who already has a degree in English, studied political science at South Bank University as well as a course on the European community.

Additionally, they found time to do some independent research.

Their living accommodations were about a 40-minute ride by "tube" from the university, where they would arrive each day about 10:30 am.

They reported that all the students enjoyed walking tours around London, including that to the House of Commons, the law courts, and the Reading Room of the British Museum where Karl Marx reportedly wrote his Communist Manifesto and conducted research for Das Kapital.

At one point during the London stay, Marquard and Chris Petrarca "made a quick trip to Paris for one weekend and termed that city "beautiful." London, on the other hand, was smog ridden ("log" to Londoners) but otherwise clean and "just wonderful."
From music to the study of man; Rhodes is hooked on anthropology!

by Cynthia L. Sousa
What's News Writer

I magine translating the wall text of an Egyptian tomb. Or spending four weeks excavating a tomb in that mystical country. For most of us, interpreting hieroglyphics, surveying a tomb or putting pieces of pottery thousands of years old back together seems far, far away.

But not for Rhode Island College senior Kharyssa Rhodes. Rhodes spent from Sept. 1993 through July 1994 in Egypt attending the American University in Cairo, and was one of 14 recipients of a RIC Foundation Travel Grant. With the generous support of Ridgway F. Shinn Jr., Rhodes was able to exemplify the Anthropology Study Abroad Fund.

Established in the 1987-88 academic year by Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban, RIC professor of anthropology and geography, the group is dedicated to the scholarly study of the Sudan. The young traveler's interest in anthropology is a direct result of studying the subject under the guidance of Richard Lobban, who agreed to register her for an upper-level course he was teaching when Rhodes was unable to take the entry level class.

Although only a freshman, Rhodes took the course and, three weeks into it, switched her major from music to anthropology. "I couldn't resist the lure of learning about the origin and culture of man, as much as I wanted to study jazz and music," she said. Rhodes sings and plays the piano. She had intended on a career in music.

An "A" student in the class, the husband and wife team of professors said Rhodes has made her mark in the program.

"Kharyssa is an exceptional student," said Fluehr-Lobban. Richard Lobban concurs: "She is highly motivated and clever and accepts all sorts of intellectual challenges not normally undertaken by undergraduates with experience."

Of the RIC program, Rhodes said, "RIC has been the best and most important study abroad program I have been a part of." In addition to excelling in her classes, Rhodes is active in cultural activities on the campus. In 1992 she participated in Black History Month at the College by planning a session. She also received the RIC Alumni departmental scholarship in 1992 and 1993.

Professionally, she has presented papers for the last three years at the Sudan Studies Association conferences (1994's conference was an international conference held in Boston) and is planning her fourth paper for the 1995 conference. At these conferences, "Kharyssa has tackled some very intellectual questions on some very controversial topics with great success," Lobban says.

Rhodes was the recipient of the Bowman Travel Grant, offered through the Council on International Educational Exchange. The grant is specifically for undergraduates studying in third world countries. Rhodes was one of only 14 recipients in the country.

At AUC Rhodes studied Egyptian art and architecture, literature, religion and ethics. At RIC she had studied Arabic.

It was during her second semester that she, under the guidance of a French Egyptologist, had the opportunity to translate wall text of a tomb. "Learning hieroglyphics was quite an experience," she said.

During the summer session she and four other students spent four weeks in Luxor, near Valley of the Kings, with Kent Weeks, a well-known American Egyptologist. They excavated a tomb in "one of the most important American archaeological spots in Egypt."

When she wasn't studying, Rhodes and other American study abroad students spent four weeks on the Red Sea, visiting the Pyramids and horseback riding in the desert. Rhodes says she also was an A student at AUC taught by American professors were similar to those at RIC although the city of Cairo was very different from Providence. The weather, although unpredictable, was always very hot and she said her luggage was also a big problem there.

Rhodes missed the trees and squirrels that abound on the RIC campus and snow, "I can't wait for it to snow," she said.

This semester she is working with Timothy Wendall in an internship at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston doing "conservation work." This involves vacuuming and cleaning small statues and then numbering and storing them.

Rhodes also serves as a peer counselor for RIC students who are interested in studying abroad.

She plans to teach someday and will apply to graduate school at the University of California at Berkeley and at Los Angeles and Boston universities.

The Lobban family feels that Rhodes will undoubtedly reach her goals. "She's already had field opportunities that some master degree candidates never even get! She has a very bright future in the field of ancient studies." Established in the 1987-88 academic year by Ridgway P. Shinn Jr., the program is a testament to the generosity of the RIC Foundation.

Since its inception in 1984, the program is one of only 14 recipients of a RIC Foundation Travel Grant and is the only one to receive a grant twice. It has received this grant for the last three years.

The program involves "study, traveling and studying in another culture."

With the generous support of the RIC Foundation, the generosity of the RIC Foundation and the Lobban family, 14 recipients have been able to study abroad in Egypt.

Will present 'Guitar Through the Ages' Oct. 19

Classical guitarist Judith Handler will present a program titled "Guitar Through the Ages" in the Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series Wednesday, Oct. 19 starting at 1 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138 (recital chamber). Handler has introduced audiences of all ages to the diverse and enchanting repertoire of the guitar and will give a master class at RIC at 3 p.m. in Roberts 138. Open to the public, the performance will include works by composers Paul Hindemith, Anna Beyer, Erik Satie and Johann Sebastian Bach.

Handler is said to communicate in a friendly, comfortable manner that leaves her audience feeling entertained and inspired.

Her European and U.S. appearances include concerts in Siena, Gimignano, Italy, and Vila-See, Spain. She has performed widely throughout the United States, including several performances on Connecticut television and radio.

In 1985, she founded the Connecticut Classical Guitar Society, the third largest of its kind in the country, and serves as its artistic director.

Loft Trio to perform Oct. 26 in chamber recital

The Loft Trio with viola, flute and harp will perform Wednesday, Oct. 26 at 8 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138 (recital chamber) as part of the Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series.

The recital is free and open to the public.

For more information, call John Pellegrino, series coordinator, at the RIC music department, 456-8244.

Relaxation Soup Kitchen.
8 Sweet Lounge. Office, SU 300 at 11 a.m. For further information, call the Chaplains' Office at 456-8168.

Tuesdays
11 a.m. — Biofeedback: Assisted Relaxation to be held in CL 130. This is an ongoing group sponsored by the Counseling Center. For further information, call 456-8094.

Noon — Bible Sharing in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300. For further information, call the Chaplains' Office 456-8168.

Wednesday
12:30 to 2 p.m. — Self-Esteem Group for Women to be held in CL 130. This is a 10 week session (Sept. 14-Nov. 30) group sponsored by the Counseling Center. For further information, call 456-8094.

7 to 8:30 p.m. — Catholic Student Association meets in Alumni Lounge, Roberts Hall, first floor. For further information, call the Chaplains' Office at 456-8168.

Thursday
Noon — Prayer Service held in the Chaplains' Office, SU 300. For further information, call the Chaplains' Office at 456-8168.

17 Monday
8:15 p.m. — Rhode Island College Symphony Orchestra with Robert Martorella, piano and Edward Markward, conductor, in Roberts Auditorium. Reserve seating $16, senior citizens and RIC faculty/staff $14, non-RIC students $12. RIC students with ID, $5.40.

11 p.m. to 1 a.m. — Midnight Madness in the Pool. Free. Sign up at Rec Center or S.U. Info Desk. Sponsored by RIC Recreation Center Pool.

Friday
6 p.m. — Art: "Hate Thy Brother: Documenting Intolerance" — Artist’s Lecture by Gilles Peress. Tribalism and Post National Identity series to be held in Clark Science 125.

11 a.m. — Lecture: 1,1’ Peroxycarboxylic Acid: Replacement for Central Amino Acids in a Beta Turn, presented by Joe Jureck, a 1993 Rhode Island College graduate and Associate Professor of Chemistry at the College of the Holy Cross, Clark Science 106 as part of the Physical Science Department Colloquium Series.

Saturday
10 a.m. — Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Bus leaves S.U. at 10 a.m. and returns to RIC at 5 p.m. $6 tickets at S.U. Info Desk. Sponsored by the Campus Center, 456-8034.

Noon to 2 p.m. — Kids Halloween Craft Making Party. Wear a costume if you want! Free. Sponsored by RIC ACT, Kappa Epsilon, S.O.S. Club, and Campus Center.

19 Wednesday

25 Tuesday
Noon to 1 p.m. — Deciding On Your Major: Part of the New Start Series. Presented by the Career Development Office. S.U. 211.

1 to 2 p.m. — Resolving Interpersonal Conflict: Part of the New Start Series. Presented by the Counseling Center, Craig-Lee 135.

7 p.m. — Film: "Romeo and Juliet" a bridge in Sarajevo. Tribalism and Post National Identity series to be held in Bannister Gallery.

26 Wednesday
1 p.m. — Music: The Loft Trio. Part of the Chamber Music Series to be held in Roberts Recital Hall.

19 Thursday
3 p.m. — RIC Women’s Tennis vs. Clark University. Home.

20 Friday
7 p.m. — RIC Men’s Soccer vs. Salve Regina University Away.

21 Saturday
6 p.m. — RIC Women’s Volleyball vs. Roger Williams College. Home.

26 Wednesday
3 p.m. — RIC Men’s Soccer vs. Nichols College. Home.

27 Thursday
7 p.m. — RIC Women’s Volleyball vs. Clark University. Away.

29 Saturday
TBA — RIC Women’s Volleyball Smith College Invitational Tournament.

Sports Events

18 Tuesday
3:30 p.m. — RIC Men’s Soccer vs. Albertus Magnus College. Home.

7 p.m. — RIC Women’s Volleyball vs. University of Mass-Dartmouth. Home.

19 Wednesday
3 p.m. — RIC Men’s Soccer vs. Colby-Sawyer College. Home.

25 Tuesday
3 p.m. — RIC Women’s Volleyball vs. Roger Williams College. Away.

26 Wednesday
3 p.m. — RIC Men’s Soccer vs. Nichols College. Home.

27 Thursday
7 p.m. — RIC Women’s Volleyball vs. Clark University. Away.

29 Saturday
TBA — RIC Women’s Volleyball Smith College Invitational Tournament.

FINISHING TOUCHES: Steven Broussard (foreground) and Jose Hernandez of Shalvey Bros. Landscape Inc. measure the base­line of the softball field. This sum­mer over $36,000 was spent to re­seed and refurbish the baseball and softball fields and to top-dress and re-seed the soccer field. (What’s News photo by Gordon E. Rowley)