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What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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RIC launches campus-wide quality initiative

Impact of service on student success, retention highlighted

by Shelly Murphy
What's News Editor

Faculty, administrators and staff at Rhode Island College, including President John Nazarian, will become students again this semester. They will be changing roles, literally and figuratively, as participants in workshops that focus on quality service. RIC students who work in on-campus service positions will also participate in specially-designed seminars.

Nazarian launched the College’s quality service initiative — called Creating a New Service Agenda — at a breakfast kick-off meeting in late January. The program is the result of Nazarian’s identifying improving customer relations as a principal management priority for the 1997-98 year in August at the opening convocation.

At that time, he stated he would be working with members of the College community to develop a plan to begin to address the areas of student retention and workplace satisfaction. He appointed a Quality Service Steering Committee, under the leadership of Gary M. Penfield, vice president for student affairs, and Robert Tetreault, director of human resources, “to frame basic service standards and to develop a means by which the College may become students again this semester.”

RIC physical education students (front to back) Dan Damiano, Elizabeth Randle, Kris Calabro, Mike Rogers and Jonathan Leddy demonstrate how to simulate the bob-sledded event for Henry Barnard School students during the laboratory school’s Winter Olympic Games. For more on the Henry Barnard Olympics, see pages 6 & 7.

(What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Dreyfus Foundation awards $10,000 to KITES

Impact of science education reform project expands through collaboration

by Shelly Murphy
What’s News Editor

The Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation of New York has joined the national organizations supporting the science education reform project KITES (Kits in Teaching Elementary Science). The Dreyfus Foundation, a national organization dedicated to the advancement of chemical sciences, has awarded $10,000 to fund the materials for a chemistry kit for sixth grade students.

“The commitment of the Dreyfus Foundation to the KITES project is another significant affirmation of the importance and quality of this collaborative project. Since accepting the original National Science Foundation grant and the challenge to raise matching funds, the KITES project has earned support from the Rhode Island Foundation, Ocean State Charities Trust, and many businesses and school districts. The recognition of the project by this national foundation underscores the impact of KITES in the area of systemic educational reform nationally,” said Marguerite M. Brown, director of development at Rhode Island College, where the KITES project is based.

MacGregor Kniseley, Ph.D., co-principal investigator of the project and associate professor of elementary education at RIC, said, “We are delighted with The Dreyfus Foundation’s contribution. With this funding, Rhode Island College in partnership with the East-Bay Educational Collaborative is achieving the goal of supporting 600 K-6 teachers and 13,400 students with new and exciting science materials. The funding will enable eight East Bay school districts to deliver another hands-on, inquiry-centered science kit. The chemistry kit funded by Dreyfus Foundation will support 40 sixth grade KITES teachers working with 1,900 students.”

This grant is the latest in a series of positive developments for the KITES project, which has been soaring higher than ever in recent months, buoyed by grants from national and local organizations and kudos from peer groups, state education officials, and even the governor of Rhode Island for its accomplishments.

KITES, which started in 1995 as a partnership between Rhode Island College and the East-Bay Educational Collaborative with a $1.8 million grant from the National Science Foundation, has much to celebrate as it enters the second half of the five-year project.

In addition to the Dreyfus grant, the program recently received almost $50,000 from the National Science Foundation to expand the scope of the project. The Rhode Island Foundation has also renewed its $33,000 grant to the program for another year.

The KITES project helps teachers get all students actively involved in learning at Rhode Island College. It also includes an intervention program that will train teachers to implement the KITES curriculum. The intervention program is scheduled to begin in the fall of 1998 with the first year of KITES teachers.

See KITES, page 8
The Way We Were...
Alumna swims into Recreation Center fame

by Cynthia L. Sousa
What's News Writer

One thousand miles: stroke by stroke, lap by lap, flip turn by flip turn, Dolores Berube, Class of 1973, swims her way to a new milestone as she becomes the first woman member to swim 1,000 miles in the pool there.

Berube, a graduate of the Rhode Island College Class of 1973, (she also has two masters’ degrees from RIC) visits the Rec Center every other day almost faithfully. “If she doesn’t show up, the lifeguards get concerned,” said Janice Fifer, assistant director of aquatics. She swims for an hour and a half, steadily, keeping track of the 108 lengths she does.

A member of the Rec Center since its opening in 1989, Berube, a teacher in East Providence, is a participant in the Rec Center’s “Swim and Stay Fit” Program. She and other participants record distances swum on a chart at the pool’s side. “Each semester about 50 of our regular swimmers faithfully mark their miles on the charts and are encouraged by seeing them add up,” said Fifer.

As an added incentive, T-shirts are awarded for the first time a swimmer completes 10 miles in one semester and thereafter at 50, 100, 200, 500 and 1,000 miles. The 1,000 miles are an exclusive group. It includes Dolores’ husband Ernest Berube, Bill Maloney and Rob Bain, Class of 1984.

For Berube, a Johnston resident, it would be hard to find a more therapeutic and effective form of exercise than swimming. She always liked the water and started swimming 15 to 20 years ago. She said she didn’t start swimming regularly for fitness reasons, but for the refreshing, calming effect it had on her.

The physical benefits were hard to ignore. Berube has lost and kept off about 20 pounds and lowered her cholesterol and blood pressure. She now is a firm believer that the benefits of swimming to health are both physical and mental.

People have asked Berube if swimming that many laps gets monotonous. “I love to swim. I enjoy it. It is a great time to think with the sound of the swish of the water in the background. I only stop because I get physically tired,” she said.

The Rec Center is a perfect fit for this alumna. “I enjoyed going to RIC, the membership is very reasonable, it’s close to home, the pool is very clean and available every day. She enjoys the family atmosphere of the center and has made a lot of friends there, ” I really feel connected to this place,” she said.

END OF A THOUSAND MILES: Dolores Berube, Class of 1973, accepts a card from Alan Salenzi, RIC’s director of aquatics, signifying she has swum 1,000 miles. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Prof. Sandra Rasmussen writes book, Addiction Practice

‘High correlation between substance abuse and crime’ noted

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

“It may come as no surprise that many people with drug or alcohol problems have some kind of criminal record. NBC Nightly News recently reported that 1.4 million prisoners in the United States have a drug or alcohol problem, and proportionately about 80 percent are in jail because of their illegal drug use.”

Rasmussen notes that the connection between substance abuse and crime has been the subject of much research and debate over the years.

“However,” says Rasmussen modestly, “I only write when I have something to say.”

Her two previous books are Foundations of Practical and Vocational Nursing and Technical Nursing: Dimension and Diagnosis and, like the third, are on nursing theory-based practice.

Much of her research on mental health and addiction support her practice as a clinician and teacher.

And, she says, “I think I’m a better teacher because I’m a clinician and a better clinician because I teach.”

Rasmussen, who now makes her home in Middleboro, Mass., holds a bachelors degree in nursing from the University of Minnesota, a masters degree in nursing management from Anna Maria College, a masters degree in child development and welfare from the University of Minnesota, and a PhD in clinical psychology and public service from Harvard University.

Prof. Sandra Rasmussen writes book, Addiction Practice

Her present positions, aside from that on the RIC faculty of which she has been a member since 1991, are clinician and supervisor at AdCare Hospital in North Dartmouth, a specialty substance abuse hospital; senior instructor in counseling psychology for the Cambridge College graduate program; adjunct professor at the Union Institute Graduate School in Cincinnati, and faculty mentor for the professional psychology program at Walden University.

Rasmussen has worked with the Gamblers’ Assistance Program for the New Bedford Child & Family Service; Project MATCH out of Brown University’s addiction center; the U.S. Public Health Service, the National Institute on Drug Abuse; the Kellogg Foundation, and substance abuse rehabilitation and juvenile counseling programs in Massachusetts, among other activities.

Her many professional affiliations include membership in the American Academy of Health Care Providers in the Addictive Disorders, the American Association for Counseling and Development, the American Mental Health Counselors Association and the American Public Health Association.

She is a registered nurse, a licensed mental health counselor and a certified addiction specialist.

She also is a grandmother twice. Her daughter, Anne Rasmussen, who is a professor of ethnomusicology at William and Mary, and her husband Dan Millison, an engineer, just had their second son.

An interesting aside: her daughter recently had a CD come out on Arab music and sent it to RIC President John Nazarian. Both she and Nazarian play the stringed instrument known as the “oud,” says Rasmussen.

Observing her impressive academic credentials and the diversity of her work as a researcher, clinician, teacher and author, a reporter asked what more she might want in her future.

She paused briefly and replied half in jest: “I want it all!”
The last issue of What's News reported the results of a very successful fund-raising year for both the Rhode Island College Foundation and the Annual Fund. I thought I would take this opportunity to provide our readers with more detail on the new funds that were created.

These funds have been established through the interest and generosity of alumni, parents, and friends of Rhode Island College. Some of these individuals, some reflect the gratitude of alumni for their years at Rhode Island College, some are demonstrations of admiration for former professors, and others reflect a desire to assist the College in continuing to fulfill its mission.

Nine new endowment funds were created during 1997. They include:

- Future Endowments: Funds which have not yet reached full endowment. Once that level is reached, they are taken out of this account. It is the understanding that the family, friends, and colleagues who established these accounts have every intention of bringing them to the level of full endowment. Once that level is reached, they are taken out of this account and appear as a separate named endowment in the list of funds.

Several initiatives to build future endowments are currently under way:

- Raymond Picozzi Fund for the establishment of a computer assisted English language learning laboratory for refugees and immigrants.
- John McLaughlin Fund established by the family, friends, and colleagues who established this fund. Purpose as determined. $8,531.
- South Gate Scholarship Fund.
- Noonans Weekly Fund.
- Donald F. Lyons Scholarship Fund.
- Mt. Pleasant Teachers Academy.
- Genevieve and Norma Weeks Fund.
- Donald F. Lyons Scholarship Fund.
- Anne B. Saute '37 Scholarship Fund.
- Carr Scholarship Endowment Fund.
- Kits in Teaching Elementary Science Program.
- Educational Management Collaborative Renovations and Project.
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Thomas garners coveted Fulbright Scholarship

by George LaTour
What’s News Associate Editor

A history professor at Rhode Island College is the recipient of a much-coveted Fulbright Scholarship, the second awarded to a faculty member here in recent years.

David S. Thomas, a member of the RIC faculty since 1970, received the Fulbright Scholarship to lecture on Islamic history at the Islamic State Institute Syarif Hidayatulla in Jakarta, Indonesia, from January 1998 to January 1999.

Prior to coming to RIC Thomas was a research fellow at McGill University’s Institute of Islamic Studies.

Abbie Kazemi, associate professor of economics and finance, was awarded the prestigious grant in 1993 for research and teaching in Turkey.

For 50 years the Fulbright Program has been recognized as the flagship program in international educational exchange, noted Patti McGill Peterson, executive director of the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, who notified College President John Nazarian of Thomas’s selection.

“It is a special honor for your faculty to have been invited to participate in this acclaimed and vital endeavor,” Peterson told Nazarian.

The Fulbright Program is sponsored and funded by the United States Information Agency with additional support by governments and host institutions in the U.S. and abroad.

All Fulbright applications undergo a peer review administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars.

The J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, appointed by the President of the United States, determines the final selection of all grantees.

“Colleges and universities are increasingly challenged to internationalize by developing and strengthening international programs and by adding a global multi-cultural dimension to the traditional curriculum,” he said.

“The contributions of returning Fulbrighters can be instrumental in achieving these goals. Given the increasing interdependency of nations around the world, there has never been a more important time for international scholarly exchange,” said Peterson.

Thomas has degrees in history and economics history from Brown and Suffolk universities, respectively, a master’s degree in history, and Islamic Studies from Boston and McGill universities, respectively, and Ph.D. in Islamic Studies and history from McGill.

TEN STUDENTS in the graphic communications technology program, enrolled as Industrial Technology minors, have won awards. Photo left to right: David Burbine, Matthew Graves, Anthony Porter, Edward Stahowiak, Jim Campbell, a member of the B. K. Brennan Scholarship Award committee, Chad Senecal, Amy Paliotti, Renee Vovin, Christian Deziel, and Thomas Houde.

Quality service initiative
Continued from page 1

reach — and surpass — those standards.”

“Students deserve to be treated in a friendly, cooperative and informal way — as does everyone on this campus and beyond. Providing the kind of service that our students want and deserve is everyone’s responsibility,” said Nazarian, who later in the kick-off meeting signed up for one of the first sessions.

“Students should know the names of the directors and department chairs so we can help students find the best person to help with their questions or concerns the first time,” he added.

“Let’s make Rhode Island College the best institution possible,” he encouraged the College community.

“If we have to go the extra mile to get something done, let’s go the extra mile. Let’s do it not only because its good for the institution but because it helps another student gain an education.”

About 120 people will participate in the first round of seminars scheduled for the spring semester. The two-part workshop was developed specifically for the College with the assistance of K. Carey Baker, M.Ed., Class of 1972. Baker is a consultant specializing in training and organizational development with over 15 years experience in designing and delivering training programs for the public and private sector.

“The fact that she is a graduate of the College has been very helpful because she has firsthand knowledge of the campus and the culture,” said Penfield. “The workshops use role playing and coaching to help participants in awareness of how we interact with others and how we can improve the quality of those interactions.”

The topics for the workshops are Making a Service Connection and Skills for Service Recovery. The program is based around eight basic service standards that the committee defined as a common ground on which to build. Baker will lead the sessions in Phase 1 and will assist in training facilitators for future sessions.

About 20 volunteers will receive this training to offer sessions in the summer and next year.

The response to the program has been positive with most of the sessions filling up during the first week after the launch, according to the co-chairs of the Quality Service Subcommittee. Marianne Boyajian, director of Upward Bound, and Bette McCabe, manager of classified employment and training, are co-chairing the committee which is implementing the first phase of the program, and will plan activities for the second part.

“This is just a beginning. We will have follow-up sessions and can even offer specialized training for departments,” Boyajian said.

All new faculty and staff will participate in the training, McCabe said. The comments and suggestions from evaluations of each session will be considered in developing Phase 2.

The sessions are scheduled with one week between the first and second part so participants can use the training and then discuss how it worked and get immediate feedback, Boyajian said. “You can see a real difference in people when you treat them with kindness and respect,” she said.

“I am convinced that this initiative is crucial to the future of Rhode Island College and I am confident that together we will build upon the great tradition of belonging that has characterized our College community since the beginning.” Nazarian states in the Creating a New Service Agenda brochure, which was distributed campus-wide.

Penfield said, “The enthusiasm and support of everyone since we launched the program last week are impressive. Many of the classes are full already. Once all sessions are full I will consider adding more classes accordingly,” he added. “With this level of interest and commitment, I am confident this initiative is going to make a significant contribution to the ambiance of Rhode Island College.”

For more information or to offer suggestions and comments, contact Penfield at Ext. 8123, Tetreault at Ext. 9216, or Boyajian at Ext. 8081.

Henry Barnard School catches Winter Olympics fever

On Feb. 6, the same day that opening ceremonies for the Winter Olympic Games took place in Nagano, Japan, Henry Barnard School students launched their own version of that international event. There were dignitaries in attendance (College Vice President for Academic Affairs John Salesses and Barnard Principal Ron Tibbetts). Heroic music echoed through the halls as the parade of the "athletes" entered the stadium (the school gym). The Olympic torch was ceremoniously carried into the arena. A kimono-clad hostess (first-grade teacher Joan Bloom) welcomed the delegations—in Japanese. Each "nation" (costumed members of each classroom) made a presentation: some danced, others sang, while still others read poetry or told about their "native" lands. And everyone repeated the Olympic oath. Even television videographers were on hand to record this historic event and to lend an authentic news event atmosphere.

The actual games began the following Monday, but a preview demonstration of how these "winter" games would be held indoors was given by RIC physical education students. The bobsled teams, for instance, would use plungers to propel their "sleds" across the floor. Cross-country "ski" would be florist boxes, and speed skating would be accomplished on carpet treads.

Here is a glimpse of the events:

Clockwise from upper left: In the parade of athletes, representing Barbados are (l to r) Sam Kirsch, Samantha Rich and Christine Iannucci; The Swiss delegation includes (l to r) Rachel Zurer, Stephan Kendall, Jeffrey Kirk, Jalin Woods and Deborah Bean; three mates from "Australia" are Kevin McCaughey, Tom Burgess and Christian Schatz; performing a South African dance are (l to r) Michael Appiah, Lia Marcoux, Sarah Fitzgerald, Marty Johnson, Jessica McSoley, Kathryn Lapolla and Nicole Trombetti; school secretary Carol Tacelli carries the Olympic torch; and Brandon Gailliard goes for the gold in speed skating.

Photos and text by Gordon E. Rowley
learning science,” said Kniseley. “We are spreading our impact from the East Bay to South County and other school districts are looking at the program as well.”

The NSF funds enabled KITES to provide technical assistance to a related program in the southern part of the state which is also working to improve science education. In this collaboration, KITES is sharing its resources and lessons learned from its first two years with the Gender Equity and Mathematics and Science Network Project, led by Betty Young, Ph.D., professor of science education at the University of Rhode Island. KITES has helped in curriculum and kit development for the GEMS-NET program which now uses the KITES Materials Resource Center to refurbish its kits.

This center was the obvious location for participants of both programs to gather to celebrate in their achievements at an open house hosted by RIC President John Nazarian. Guests including Gov. Lincoln Almond; Peter Mc Walters, director of the Rhode Island Department of Education; state legislators; and school superintendents joined students, parents, teachers and other individuals involved in the two projects for a first-hand look at the programs’ impact on students. The December luncheon featured informal presentations by students from six schools and a tour of the Materials Resource Center in Warren where the kits are assembled and distributed.

The governor mingled with the group, taking time to listen intently to the students as they explained their projects and shared the joy of discovery fostered by the kits. “I ... you,” the governor told the educators in the audience, “because you get to be with the children like this really see things. Like the card with the dog on it. (Using a magnifying glass) you could see little dots of colors build the colors. I never knew that.

Fostering that sense of wonder and discovery by providing teachers with the training and tools to bring hands-on science into the elementary school classroom is what KITES is all about. “We do the shopping and planning for the teacher,” said Kniseley. “I compare it to preparing the operating room for surgery. Would you expect a surgeon to stop by the drugstore for sutures, syringes and gloves before doing an operation?”

The science kits arrive at the

"The (science) kits are great. The kids have fun and they work collaboratively.” – Eileen Sullivan, teacher, Coggeshall School

LEARNING TOGETHER: Daniel Houle of the Metcalf School in the Exeter/West Greenwich school system shares what he learned about water from her kit to Rhode Island College President John Nazarian during the open house. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

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LEARNING TOGETHER: Daniel Houle of the Metcalf School in the Exeter/West Greenwich school system shares what he learned about water from her kit to Rhode Island College President John Nazarian during the open house. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)
New cardiovascular/weight facility

taking shape at Recreation Center

It has been a long time coming but through the efforts of the Planning Office and President John Nazarian, a new cardiovascular/weight center is close to opening at the Rec Center. The new center will provide greater opportunities for students and Rec Center members to fulfill their cardiovascular and weight training workout requirements. The new facility will take up a large part of the annex building that was originally scheduled to be a state-of-the-art cardiovascular center but under the plan at Phase II of the Rec Center construction. The intent of the new center is not to replace very dedicated area but to upgrade the area until additional funds become available. Also, discussions with intramural/recreation center staff and members of the student body, Nazarian decided it was time to start upgrading this extremely popular area of activity. The new center will be remodeled and upgraded completely with money from fundraising activities sponsored by the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, Intramurals and Recreation. The College’s painting crew has played a giant role in this project. The remodeled room will have new ceiling tiles, vertical blinds and mirrors. New free weight equipment is due in within the next few weeks along with new cardiovascular workout equipment. Students and members wanting to use the new center will be required to complete a new certification program on proper use of the facility. The new fully equipped facility is scheduled to open by March 1.

RIC women's basketball team eyes conference title

by Scott Gibbons
Sports Information Director

The Rhode Island College women's basketball team is having quite a season. In fact, it's on pace to have one of the most successful campaigns in the school’s history. Through games played on Jan. 31, the team is 14-3 overall and ranked sixth in New England (Division III). The team is 8-1 in the Little East Conference and trails conference-leader, Southern Maine by one game. Although the Anchorwomen lost to the Huskies (69-56), who are also the number one ranked team in New England, on January 31, the team is 14-3 overall and 8-1 in the Little East Conference. Kenny Bliss is second in the conference in scoring, averaging 18.4 points per game. James Thomas leads the LEC in rebounding and blocked shots, averaging 8.6 and 1.6 per game respectively.

Women's Gymnastics

The Anchorwomen have consistently improved in each of their meets this season. The team posted a season-high score of 168.450 against Southern Connecticut and Ursinus College in a tri-meet held at RIC on February 1. Michelle Pelletier placed second in the floor exercise, scoring a season-high score of 9.325 in that event.

Wrestling

The wrestling team is 5-6 overall and 2-0 in the Pilgrim Wrestling league. Jason Cornicelli is ranked fifth in New England at 150 pounds with a 17-8 record in 25 matches. Newcomers to the team this semester, Jeremy Von Flatern and Sean Magee have helped tremendously. Von Flatern is 6-1 at 190 pounds. Magee was named the Pilgrim League’s Wrestler of the Week after going 4-0 at 126 pounds at the Plymouth State Invitational.

Men's and Women's Indoor Track

The men's and women's indoor track team recently took part in the Quad Cup held at Bowdoin College on January 31. Keely Subin placed second in the 400 meters with a time of 52.94. Subin finished fourth in the 200 meters with a 29.24 time. Sarah Diggle placed sixth in the shot put with a 31.47 throw.

Sports Roundup

Women's Basketball

RIC has won seven consecutive games through Jan. 31 and is ranked sixth in New England. The Anchorwomen are 14-3 overall and 8-1 in the Little East Conference. In upcoming action, RIC will face the University of Southern Maine, the number one team in New England and the Little East, at home on Feb. 14.

Men's Basketball

The Anchormen are 9-9 overall and 3-4 (sixth place) in the Little East Conference. Kenny Bliss is second in the conference in scoring, averaging 18.4 points per game. James Thomas leads the LEC in rebounding and blocked shots, averaging 8.6 and 1.6 per game respectively.

Women's Gymnastics

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Vocal Ensemble sings praises of RIC at high school shows

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Rhode Island College Vocal Ensemble is very vocal about RIC when it performs before high school audiences throughout the state and in nearby Massachusetts.

The 15-member group, under the direction of William M. Jones, professor of music in the College's Department of Performing Arts, are mostly undergraduate music majors.

They regularly sing several varieties of songs, including madrigals, show tunes and gospel music; do “a little staging with dance for the ‘Shoop-Shoop song’ and some instrumental performance with flute, trumpet, sax, guitar and piano.

They dress for these occasions usually in black skirts, white blouses and bright scarves for the women and white shirts with vests and black pants for the men, all lending to a very professional appearance.

The RIC singers mix with the high school students before and after their 45-minute concerts, encouraging them to consider RIC as the college of their choice, while answering questions about careers in music, the intricacies of their performance and so on.

Jones and his ensemble give workshops and clinics in music at some of the schools and clinics that he visits.

Chamber recital to feature violin, piano Feb. 25

A program for violin and piano will feature Wen-Zhen Ni and Ann Margaret Lamoureux in the Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series Wednesday, Feb. 25, at 1 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138.

It will include works by Brahms, Wieniauski and Kreisler and is free and open to the public.

In 1993 Ni composed and performed the violin concerto “Pioneer” with the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra, which since then has been broadcast on numerous occasions in major cities all over China. Ni also has performed in the United States at Harvard University and in Maine and Illinois.

Ni is a graduate of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music; has an artist diploma from the Hartt School of Music and a master of music from the New England Conservatory of Music.

Lamoureux has been performing throughout the New England area, New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Canada. She is staff accompanist at both Boston Conservatory and the University of Rhode Island.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in applied piano from the Eastman School of Music and a master of music in piano performance from Indiana University School of Music.

Together these artists have performed at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Eastman School of Music and the Boston University concert hall.

Art students invited to former prof’s show

Wendy Seller, a former adjunct faculty member in the art department, invites former students and colleagues to a show of her latest neosurrealist paintings at the Belenky Gallery, 151 Wooster St., (SOHO area) in New York City, Feb. 16-March 16.

The opening reception will be Sunday, Feb. 22, from 2-5 p.m. and Seller will be present to greet old friends and former students.
The six women of Ensemble Galilei are performing a concert featuring selections from their latest release, "The Mystic and the Muse," on Thursday, Feb. 26, at 8 p.m. in Gaige Hall auditorium as part of the Rhode Island College Performing Arts Series. The performance by the all-instrumental group features medieval, Celtic and traditional folk music written by or about women over the last 600 years.

Their new CD has music ranging from the medieval chant of Hildegard von Bingen to the Renaissance dances of John Dowland and Erasmus Widmann to Irish traditional airs, jigs and reels, to new compositions. Recorded in the state-of-the-art studio 4A at National Public Radio (NPR) in November of 1996, it is a collaborative effort between NPR, the Troy, N.Y.-based Dorian Recordings and Ensemble Galilei, with a portion of the proceeds from the sales of the recordings going to NPR. It also is being used for the sales of the recordings going to the Troy, N.Y.-based Dorian Recordings and Ensemble Galilei, with a portion of the proceeds from the sales of the recordings going to NPR.

Calling all both classically trained and folk-trained musicians, the ensemble infuses ancient music with a spirit of improvisation and liveliness.

"Performances move flawlessly from lush Baroque interpretations of 18th century Irish airs to infectious reels and jigs, from haunting Welsh melodies to Scottish waltzes, stitching a tapestry of texture, harmony and rhythm," says an ensemble spokesperson.

The musicians of Ensemble Galilei include: Debbie Nuse on Scottish small pipes and fiddle; Liz Knowles on fiddle and guitar; Nancy Karpeles on percussion and bowed parlor; Sue Richards on Celtic harp; Carolyn Anderson Surrick on viola da gamba; and Sarah Weiner on oboe, recorders and pennywhistle.

Liz Knowles, an Irish fiddler, has performed with the touring company of Riverdance.

"Virtuoso technique, an instinctive feeling for the idiom, and the courage to improvise... they play with energy, splendid ensemble, good humor and imagination," wrote the Washington Post.

Reserved seat tickets are $18 with discounts for senior citizens and students and may be purchased by calling 456-8194. For in-person sales, the Roberts box office is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or until time of performance.

The program will consist of Antonio Lauro's "Cuatro Valses Venezolanos," Leo Brouwer's "El Descanso Negro," Federico Moreno Torroba's "Sonatina" and Isaac Albeniz' "Malorca" and "Torre Bermeja."

The recital is free and open to the public.

Himmelhoch, of Teaneck, N.J., has given recent recitals at the Noonday Concert Series at St. Paul's Chapel in lower Manhattan and the CPC Artist Series on the Palisades in Tenafly, N.J. As a member of Duo Cavatina, he and flutist Carol Shansky have appeared in concert at the New York Public Library and at Wagner College in Staten Island. As a member of the New York Guitar Quartet, he has played in concerts at the historic St. Peter's Church in Manhattan.

He is a specialist in the Zuzuki Method for classical guitar and runs a Zuzuki guitar program at the Zuzuki guitar program at the Palisades in Tenafly, N.J.

Call for films, videos

The Providence Film Commission is looking for film/videos by New England Film/Videomakers for the second annual Convergence Film/Video Festival to be held in June. Film/Video Festival has been produced after 1990 and the film/video must be the major create of the work. The deadline for receiving entries is March 2. For information and entry form write: Carolyn Testa, Providence Film Commission, 400 Westminster St., Providence, RI 02903 or call 401-421-7740, ext. 320 or 401-273-5070. Entry forms and guidelines can also be downloaded from www.providenceri.com and linked to www.as220.org/convergence.
Tuesday

Noon - 1 p.m. — Interfaith Bible Study. Everyone is invited to join the group for an informal discussion of the Bible. Bring a lunch. Student Union 300.

Tuesdays 2/17 - 4/28

6-9 p.m. — NAUI SCUBA Course, Recreation Center Pool. Call 456-8227 for information. Sponsored by Aquatics.

Wednesdays

11 a.m. — Stress Management Laboratory for students. Counseling Center, Craig-Lee 130. Call 456-8094 for more information.

12:30 - 1:45 p.m. — Catholic Student Association. Make friends, share faith, pray and discuss. Food and refreshment provided on a bi-weekly basis. Student Union 300.


Mon.-Fri. 16 - 20


Monday 16

1 - 2 p.m. — Workshop for Success Series Second Workshop: “Event Planning and Campus Resources.” Student Union Ballroom. Sponsored by Student Activities, 456-8034.

Wednesday 18

12:30 p.m. — Lecture and Display: “Black Memorabilia” by Onna. Student Union Ballroom. Part of African American History Month at Rhode Island College. Sponsored by Harumbee.

12:30 - 2 p.m. — Think Fast: Computer Games that Test Various Mental Processes. Craig-Lee 130. Sponsored by Counseling Center, 456-8094.


Thurs.-Sun. 19-22

RIC Theater Presents: Brighton Beach Memoirs by Neil Simon. 8 p.m. Evening performance Thursday, Friday, Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday Matinee Performance. Roberts Auditorium. $4 RIC Students w/ID, $10 Public/$9 Seniors & Non-RIC Students. For more info call RIC Theatre Box Office, 456-8060.

Monday 23

1 - 2 p.m. — Workshops for Success Series Third Workshop: “Leadership & Motivation.” Student Union Ballroom. Sponsored by Student Activities, 456-8034.

7 p.m. — Gospel Music Concert featuring “Voices of Faith,” a Gospel group from Atlanta, Ga. and other performers including Holy Cross Cathedral Choir, Community Baptist Church Adult Choir and the Praise Ensemble Gospel Choir of Rhode Island College. Roberts Hall Auditorium. Part of African American History Month at Rhode Island College. Sponsored by the Praise Ensemble Choir and the Performing and Fine Arts Commission.

Wednesday 25

Ash Wednesday Services. For info call Chaplain’s Office, 456-8168.

10 -11:30 a.m. — National Eating Disorders Screening Program. Craig-Lee 130.

Monday 26

10 a.m. — Video: “The Eyes on the Prize.” The Unity Center. Donovan Dining Center 14. Part of African American History Month at Rhode Island College. Sponsored by The Unity Center.


Fri.-Sun 27-March 1

“As the Compass Spins: Knowing Who You Are and Where You’re Going.” Weekend Leadership Conference to Mountain View Lodge, Rumney NH. Bus leaves S.U. Friday at 3 p.m. Returns to RIC Sunday at 4 p.m. $5 tickets available at S.U. Info Desk - RIC students only. For INFO call Kristen, 456-8004. Sponsored by Student Community Government, Inc. and Student Activities.

Sports Events

17 Tuesday

6 p.m. — RIC Women’s Basketball at University of Mass.-Dartmouth.

8 p.m. — RIC Men’s Basketball at University of Mass.-Dartmouth.

21 Saturday

1 p.m. — RIC Women’s Basketball at University of Mass.-Boston.

1 p.m. — RIC Women’s Gymnastics at University of Bridgeport.

3 p.m. — RIC Men’s Basketball at University of Mass.-Boston.

19 Thursday

7:30 p.m. — RIC Men’s Basketball vs. Wheaton College. Home

24, 27, 28

TBA — Men’s and Women’s Basketball in Little East Conference Playoffs.

28 Saturday

TBA — RIC Women’s Gymnastics ECAC Championships at Urisnus.

Notice of Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination
Rhode Island College is committed to equal opportunity and affirmative action. No student, employee, or applicant will be denied admission, employment, or access to programs and activities because of race, sex, religion, age, color, national origin, handicap/disability status, sexual orientation preference, or veteran status. This College policy is in concert with state and federal nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries concerning the College’s administration of the nondiscrimination laws should be addressed to the College director of affirmative action. Reasonable accommodation upon request.