What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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Forman donates largest gift ever to College

Helen Ginsburg Forman ’34, a dedicated benefactor of Rhode Island College and advocate of the performing arts, has donated the largest gift in the history of the College, according to Marguerite M. Brown, director of development and the Rhode Island College Foundation. At the donor’s request the amount of the gift is not being announced.

“Helen has asked us not to reveal the amount of her gift, but has agreed to let me remind the community that the previous largest gift to the College was made by A l an S h a w n Feinstein in the amount of $1 million,” Brown said.

Forman has a distinguished history of service to the College. She was recognized as alumna of the year in 1989 and received an honorary doctorate of humanities in 1989.

She has made previous significant donations to the College, including funds used for the extensive renovations of the Sylvan R. Forman Center and to establish two endowed scholarships. The Helen and Sylvan Forman Scholarship in Music was established in 1992, and the Helen Forman Scholarship in Education major, also has cleared the 500-career-rebound milestone. She is one of only four RIC women’s basketball players to earn this dual distinction.

Winter wonderland?

WINTER’S BACK...and so are the students. Classes for the spring semester began on Jan. 24, but winter was in full force on Jan. 25 as the campus was covered during a daytime snowstorm. Above, freshman Tiffany Nangum of Providence makes her way to class during the storm. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Gen Ed 2000 approaches milestone

A s General Education 2000 nears a major milestone — the first group of students to complete the full program will graduate this spring — creative new courses continue to be introduced and evaluation of the program’s effectiveness is well under way.

Balance of West, non-West

General Education 2000, which was implemented in the fall of 1996, was the result of a faculty committee’s year-long review and consideration of every aspect of the general education program, including its goals, purpose, structure and content. General Education 2000 emphasizes intensive writing, critical thinking, persuasive speaking, and global multi-culturalism.

The program includes a core curriculum and distribution requirements. The core curriculum consists of four, four-credit courses: Western literature, Western history, non-Western worlds, and critical inquiry into cultural issues, which compares West and non-West perspectives. Distribution requirements consist of six, three-credit courses designated in social and behavioral sciences, visual and performing arts, and natural sciences and mathematical systems.

“Our general education program is quite unique with its inclusion of Western and non-Western cultures.”

Keep the Flame Burning

Spotlight on Alumni Scholarship Recipients

James Williamson

Class of 2001

Recipient of: Departmental Scholarship

James Williamson ’01, of North Kingstown, is following in his father’s and brother’s footsteps by attending Rhode Island College. And, like them, he will probably pursue a teaching career.

A son of Ernst and Mary Williamson, his father graduated in 1965 with a degree in secondary education and is now a substitute teacher; his brother, Christopher, completed his degree requirements in special education in December.

Not to be outdone, James, who briefly majored in justice studies, will “most likely” change his major to physical education with the intention of working as a high school coach and physical education teacher after graduation.

A good student — his grade point average last year was 3.6 out of a possible 4.0 — he also is involved in extra-curricular activities, playing on the College soccer team and serving in Student Community Government.

As such, he is an Alumni Departmental Scholarship winner this academic year, the funds to be used to supplement what he earns in two part-time jobs and what his parents contribute toward his education.

About those “part-time” jobs: he works 20 hours a week on each, making for a full week’s work, which he somehow manages while studying and keeping involved in campus activities.

His jobs are with Perspectives, a statewide organization out of North Kingstown that provides services to those with disabilities, and with the Kent County YMCA where he is a lifeguard and swimming instructor.

Seeing his father’s and brother’s accomplishments at RIC “has really made me comfortable and confident here. I know with hard work and dedication that I, too, will be successful,” says Williamson.

Clinching 1,000!

Senior Jen Cook joined the elite Rhode Island College 1,000-point club on Jan. 25, scoring 18 points in the women’s basketball game against Western Connecticut. Cook, an elementary education major, also has cleared the 500-career-rebound milestone. She is one of only four RIC women’s basketball players to earn this dual distinction.

Cook currently has 1,004 points and 514 rebounds to her credit.
**The Way We Were...**

This popular item in What's News continues in order for you to be able to revisit your alma mater with a selection of photos from the past—the College's past, whether the current era (Rhode Island College) or past eras (Rhode Island College of Education or Rhode Island State Normal School). We invite your contribution of old photos, along with sufficient information about each, such as who's in the photo and what they are doing, the year it was taken and place if possible. In the meantime, we'll continue searching our files for interesting pictures of College life.

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**A BACKSTAGE SCRIPT READING of the children's play "A Man Called Noah" is taking place in this circa 1969 photo. From left are: Francis "Murf" Murphy '74, Barrie Young '70 M.Ed., Linda Guccione, Gail Gessert '71, theatre Prof. (now Professor Emeritus) Raymond Picozzi, and Rich LaFazio. (file photo)**

**UPDATES:** We have had a few responses to questions raised recently in photos in "The Way We Were." Bob Berlau '58 e-mailed us to identify the location of the dance in the Dec. 6 photo as the auditorium on the second floor of the now-demolished Rhode Island Normal School building. He also identified the couple in the center of the photo as Pat O'Dea Berlau '56 and him, Klaus E. Bischke '56, a labor-man­ager/assistant consultant and aide, who helped pinpoint the exact year of that photo as 1955.

On Oct. 11, 1975 we ran a photo of the debate team from 1969-70, but we were unable to identify any of the students. However, Manuel Añas, now a guidance counselor at Central High School in Providence, has written to say that he is the student directly behind the podium.

Please keep those vintage photos coming. We will treat them reverently and return them by mail in the same condition that we receive them.

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**Focus on Faculty and Staff**

Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit items of information about their professional endeavors to What's News, Office of News and Public Relations, 300 Roberts Hall or email them to csousa@ric.edu.

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**Robert J. Salhany, 64, of North Providence, a professor of mathematics at Rhode Island College for the past 37 years, died Dec. 23 at Pawtucket.**

An award winning faculty member, he was co-recipient of the 1988-89 Paul Maixner Award for distin­guished teaching in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and won the RIC Alumni Association's Faculty Award in 1994 for "exemplary service to the College."

"He was our first elected chair, and as such did much to establish a department culture of true collaboration, a spirit that should never be taken for granted. Bob was elected because he got along with everyone, senior and junior faculty alike. All respected his personal qualities that we knew he would always try to do the right thing; he never acted out of narrow self-interest. I believe he learned to be better, to help each other, to look out for others as he did," said Prof. Barry Schiller, department chair, in a moving tribute in the RIC AFT Newsletter.

"Bob was a colleague, a friend and a brother," said Helen E. Salzberg, professor of mathematics and former department chair. "I will miss him greatly and I think our students, his colleagues and the whole College will miss him. He contributed so much here."

"Bob was a gentle soul who genuinely loved people and life. Despite his suffering in the months before his death, he displayed flashes of good humor and wit while struggling mightily to complete his teaching responsibilities. He was a good friend and a good colleague, and he will be missed," said George LaTour, associate editor of What's News, who frequently worked with Salhany preparing news items about department faculty.

Born Feb. 19, 1935 in Central Falls, a son of late Kamel and Ethel (Nahas) Salhany, he had resided in North Smithfield before moving to North Providence in 1976. He earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Rhode Island in 1967; a master's degree in electrical engineering from New York University in 1969; a master's degree in mathematics from URI in 1962; a master's degree in statistics at Florida State University in 1969, and a Ph.D. in mathematics from New York University in 1972.

In 1972, he then had already served on the RIC math faculty for 10 years, starting in 1962 as an assistant professor. He taught various courses, from freshman algebra to graduate statistics and general edu­cation, and is credited with helping develop the mathematics curriculum. He served as department chair from 1975-76 and rose to the rank of full professor in 1977.

Prior to his tenure at RIC, he had served as an instructor of mathe­matics at URI for a year and before that as a member of the technical staff at Raytheon Labs and Raytheon Corporation for several years during which he wrote a dozen technical memorandum and papers.

He was a member of St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church, Pawtucket and served on the Arabic Educational Foundation for a time. He was an avid amateur photographer, often showing pictures of College events.

A former wife Lucille T. (Blain) Salhany, he is survived by two sons, Stephen R. Salhany of Newtonville, Mass., and Daniel B. Salhany of Lincoln; three sisters, Ida Lavin and Margaret Haley, both of Pawtucket, and Lorice Zahba of Dedham, Mass.; two brothers, William Salhany of Pawtucket and John Salhany of Central Falls, and nieces and nephews. He was the brother of the late Fred Salhany and Lily Salhany.

Funeral services were held from the William W. Tripp Funeral Home, Pawtucket, with a service in St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church. Burial was in Walnut Hill Cemetery, Pawtucket.

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**In Memoriam — Math Professor Robert J. Salhany**

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Funeral services were held from the William W. Tripp Funeral Home, Pawtucket, with a service in St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church. Burial was in Walnut Hill Cemetery, Pawtucket.

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**The next issue of What's News is Monday, Feb. 14.**

**Deadline for submission of copy, photos, etc. is Friday, Feb. 4.**

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

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**WHAT'S NEWS AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE**

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Grad course in chemistry for teachers to address environment

A graduate course in chemistry for teachers who wish to know more about such topics as the ozone layer, acid rain, groundwater pollution, ocean dumping or the Woonasquatucket River will be offered at Rhode Island College in January.

Chemistry 550: Chemistry of the Environment will provide additional content for chemistry teachers who wish to renew their certification and will be offered for three continuing education requirements.

Course prerequisites are curiosity about the application of chemistry to environmental issues and either a chemistry or related science bachelor's degree or experience teaching chemistry. It runs from Jan. 24 to May 6, meeting Thursdays from 4-7 p.m. in Gore Science Building 115 and is for three graduate credits.

The course will examine original literature and reference works to explore a variety of related topics, and explore the tools scientists use to answer environmental questions.

There will be class/discussion meetings as well as some lab and field work. Each student will be expected to complete an essay or a series of work such as reports, papers and presentations according to criteria agreed upon at the start of the course.

For more information, contact Prof. James Magyar at 401-456-9638 or via email at magyar@ric.edu.

RIC senior is nationally ranked body builder, sets sights on ultimate title

by George LaTour

What's News Associate Editor

Some artists sculpt statues of clay. A Rhode Island College student has sculpted his own body into a work of art.

People of a certain age may remember Charles Atlas, the “body perfect” from comic book magazine, and cartoon books which showed a young stripling getting sand kicked in his face by some burly superhero. After signing up with Atlas he developed himself to the point where no one else would dare kick sand at him.

“I was always interested in body building,” says Jeffrey Shuttleworth, Providence, a body builder who has achieved admirable results.

Now 24 and a student studying social sciences, Shuttleworth says he can remember being 13 years of age and having a poster of former body builder-turned-movie star Arnold Schwarzenegger on his wall “when other kids hung pictures of rock stars.”

“I read a lot about body building and I was pretty big to begin with and to get stronger,” he says.

By age 14, Shuttleworth started lifting weights which he continued on into high school. But that was not his only physical exercise. He was captain of the track team and a senior in 1989 was named Athlete of the Year by Smithfield High School and the local Elk’s lodge.

He continued lifting weights on into college. As captain of the track team, he threw the shotput which, he says, required “a lot of weight lifting” to adequately prepare.

Holds the record

Throwing the shot successfully — he still holds the record at RIC — he decided “bulking up” in weight.

“You have to be more heavy than lean in that sport,” he says.

He is dieting by eating, says Shuttleworth, who went up to 240 pounds at one point, which was too much weight for his 5’7” frame.

“I had trouble keeping my weight down as a kid. It’s been an advantage of certain things. I’ve always had to watch my weight.”

He says to diet successfully as a body builder you have to know what you’re going to do weeks beforehand. You start off at 3,000 calories a day and work down to 1,000 — all according to a plan which is written out in advance.

“It’s basically sticking to what you say you’re going to eat. You kind of get to put your own pace on how much you’re doing it,” he says.

“It’s easy to not eat. It’s not eating and working out at high levels (of exercise) that’s hard,” he assures, although he admits to being seriously tempted to inhale a box of Ramond, a retired French and English teacher from Providence, who did graduate work at RIC in the 1980s, says he doesn’t like to admit it, but in 1993 he entered him in Cosmopolitan magazine’s Man of the Year contest, which he won after going to New York for the judging.

Shuttleworth credits his family, particularly his mother and his girlfriend, for their moral support.

The Pennsylvania win qualified him to national competition this year in the American Natural Bodybuilding Conference in Tampa, Fla., November.

“That’s the biggest one in the country. If you win one of these, you’re basically Mr. America,” says Shuttleworth.

Asked about what was meant by “natural body building,” he explains that competitors have to be drug free — no steroids, no diuretics or other aids — and you are tested rigorously.

“I trained at Bally Total Fitness North Providence (where we works full time as a personal trainer) and Gold’s Gym in Smithfield for almost a whole year for this competition,” Bally was his sponsor.

He tried to fix everything that was wrong” with himself and had his weight to an optimal 170 pounds, but wasn’t quite ready for the experience of parading in his underwear before the thousands of onlookers in the huge auditorium.

“You walk out and the spotlight hits you. You strike a pose and the audience applauds, and you don’t even hear your own music. The music is really hot. You can barely see the audience,” he says.

The music refers to that which is competitive as to how to accompany them as they go through their routine of striking poses.

Mandatory poses

The 100 body builders have to strike certain mandatory poses, such as those which best expose the front double biceps, the side chest and side thighs.

Shuttleworth used his best poses from previous competitions and not ones he prepared for. The judges, but the other body builders as well.

He says that was one of the fewest the best body builders, most of them in the huge auditorium.

Most body builders on the national level “mature” in their mid-20s, he says Shuttleworth came in in the top 10 in the preliminary judging and was ranked seventh nationally by the time it was ever.

“A lot of the time the guy with the best genetics wins,” he says, pointing out, however, that “all the guys in competition know they all have the best genetics. Then it comes down to who works the smartest and hardest. You say it’s difficult to keep in top shape.

“You’ve really got to know what you’re doing to keep it.”

He was elected with his seventh place ranking and because of it automatic qualification into the next national competition which will be held in 2000 in Boston.

Jeff Shuttleworth hopes for himself the next time out and, if not, then maybe the time after.

“I want to see the guy who came in second this year had competition in the national competition four times previously.

For Shuttleworth, this was only his first attempt on the road to fame as Mr. America.

Pancreatic cancer support group

Karen B. Dionne, director of Rhode Island College Outreach Programs in organizing a New England-wide support group for the families and victims of pancreatic cancer, says Dionne.

PanCan Action Network will be an affiliate of the national organization headquartered in California, which will give particular attention on the need to find a cure and ultimately eliminate the disease.

The New England chapter is trying to provide support for patients, their families and the caregivers of those with pancreatic cancer, says Dionne.

PanCan Action Network is the fourth leading killer of cancer victims among both men and women and it receives the smallest amount of federal funding — only $15.5 million, which is $814 per person per month.

The disease, she says, “has the highest mortality rate of all diseases” with 90 percent of people diagnosed with it dying within three to six months of diagnosis.

Dionne was featured in early December on two segments on NBC 10-TV about the organization of the chapter, and plans to talk to medical students at Brown University to try and interest them in pancreatic cancer research. She says she hopes the newly formed chapter will be able to provide a new source of research for the student with “career development” monetary support.

For more information about the chapter, call 401-231-9277.

PanCan Action Network
Visiting Florida Alumni

Nancy Hoogasian, director of the annual fund, and I have just returned from a whirlwind tour of central and the west coast of Florida. We hosted two receptions for alumni and friends and were welcomed into the homes of many of our alumni who call Florida home, for at least part of the year. I am sure that the agent at the rental car company is still shaking her head and wondering how we put almost 2,000 miles on the car between Tuesday and Saturday, Jan. 4-8.

It was our chance to thank personally alumni and friends for their support of the College and to give an update on the College's progress. This year we were able to share the newly produced video on Rhode Island College's Upward Bound program that assists minority students in preparing for admission to higher education institutions.

One of our visits was with Mildred Gaudreau '30, who is celebrating the 70th anniversary of her graduation from RIC. Mildred, who makes her home with her husband Homer in Venice, was the postmistress in West Kingston for 32 years. Today she is very active as the secretary of her community organization. When we returned to Rhode Island, we did a little research and found that seven of her classmates still reside in the state.

Alumni Awards Honor Roll 2000

Reminder, the deadline for nominations for this year’s alumni awards is Feb. 1. Send your nominations for Alumna/Alumnus of the Year; Willard Achievement Award; Alumni Service Award; Alumni Faculty Award; and Alumni Staff Award to the Alumni office, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908; or email (alumni@ric.edu), or fax to 401-456-8851. Criteria for each award are available from Carol Peck, 401-456-8086.

The Young Alumni Group, a newly formed organization for graduates from 1989 on, has been very active. Their most recent activity was a Skating Party at the Fleet Skating Rink on Jan. 23 where friends and alumni and their families braved the cold and enjoyed the rink, a heated tent, refreshments, and each other.

Gala April 7

This is a pivotal year for the Rhode Island College Foundation. As we celebrate our 35th Anniversary and the growth of our assets to almost $10 million, we will host our annual gala on April 7 at the Providence Marriott in honor of all past presidents and founding members. Circle the date, dust off your dancing shoes, and join us for an evening of music and entertainment as we look to the next 35 years. Watch upcoming issues for more details.

Connecting with alumni in Florida

Above: Alumni and Friends in Orlando: Pictured (l to r) Richard Michal '60; Marcel Menard '31; Naomi Menard; Patricia Boulay; Timothy Boulay '90; and a guest of the Boulays join Nancy Hoogasian, director of the annual fund, and Mike Kelley, head women’s basketball coach at a reception in January.

Inset at right: Hoogasian joins Mildred Gaudreau '30 in her home in Venice, Fla., to catch up on Rhode Island College news and share memories.
In order to recognize the commitment and dedicated service of its faculty and staff, Rhode Island College established a Service Recognition Day. On this eleventh Service Recognition Day, held in December, those who have served the College for 10, 15, 20 or 25 years were recognized at a reception at the President's House.

The 30-Year Honor Roll recognizes faculty, administrative staff, and support staff who have completed 30 years of service to Rhode Island College. The Honor Roll is permanently displayed in the President's Office reception area in Roberts Hall. Honor Roll members attended a reception at the President's House.

30 Year Honor Roll

James E. Bierden
John F. Custer
Neil I. Gonsalves
Sharon A. Kaye
George H. Kellner
Helen E. Salzberg
Edward A. Scheff
James A. Schaefer
Clyde C. Slicker
F. Haven Starr, Jr.
Sharon A. Taraksian
M. Joan Walker

Rhode Island College values and appreciates the members of its faculty and staff whose loyalty and dedication have contributed meaningfully to the College's growth and success over the years.
The names of full-time students who attain a minimum grade point average of 3.25 in any semester are placed on the Dean's List in recognition of their scholastic achievement.
Students report improvement.

UPDATE ON ASSESSMENT: Faculty at the afternoon session on general education discussed ways to measure critical thinking. Pictured (l-r) are Carol Shelton, professor of nursing; Pat Thomas, chair of nursing; and James Blenden, professor of mathematics and secondary education.

Faculty are also working on this in the classroom. For instance, in the fall semester, Jane Williams and Carolyn Wood, both associate professors of nursing, team taught Dying, Loss and Grief: Cross-cultural Perspectives. They used a pilot course--developed for students in a lower-division hoc assessment team to measure critical thinking.

One of the assignments required students to read a specific position paper on capital punishment; analyze it; present an alternative, opposing view; and compare and contrast the consequences of the viewpoints. Their modified version of the assessment tool delineated specific criteria for scoring based on comprehension, presentation of an argument, comparison and contrast, and usage of grammar, syntax, spelling and referencing guidelines.

"It was gratifying to see the students demonstrate critical thinking in their writings," Williams noted. Wood added, "A number of students stated that having to research a different position than what they personally held, caused them to reflect. They were not so sure of their position anymore. Looking at other points of view made them realize it was a more complex issue."

In the coming months, COGE will be working on the assessment framework for General Education 2000 and to develop ways to teach and assess writing and critical thinking. The committee may also be looking for a new name for the general education program now that the year 2000 is here, Fluehr-Lobban said, somewhat in jest.

**Forman**

Continued from page 1

The emphasis on writing and critical thinking and the exposure to West and non-West studies are important in preparing students for the world in the 21st century," said Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban, current chair of the Committee on General Education (COGE) and professor of anthropology.

"Unleashing creativity"

Now, with the program in its fourth year, COGE is refining the impact and implementation of the curriculum. Over the course of three semesters, the committee has conducted focus groups with faculty and two surveys of students in 13 sections of the Core 1 and Core 2 classes to gather information. These findings were among the topics of discussion on Jan. 19 at the fourth annual faculty development workshop, entitled "Sharing What Works: Broadening the Conversation on Writing, Critical Thinking and Technology."

In a written summary, Fluehr-Lobban stated, "The overall evaluation process suggests that a number of changes have taken place both in terms of course content and pedagogy." She elaborated at the workshop, noting, "General Ed 2000 has unleashed creativity, which is what we had hoped would happen. The faculty have bridged cultural and discipline gaps."

The 'Good Stuff'

A sampling of the courses offered in Core 3 (non-Western worlds) and Core 4 (critical inquiry) illustrate the changes and creativity in the general education curriculum. Courses have included:

- The State of the World's Children;
- Childhood in African and African-American Society;
- Cross-cultural Perspectives on Child-bearing and Mothering;
- Zen and the Literary Experience;
- Indigenous Rights and the Global Environment;
- Native American Philosophy;
- Non-Western literatures (Africa and Asia);
- Religious Resurgence and Democratic Politics;
- Writing, Culture and 'Civilization': from papyrus to cyberspace.

Many students used to view general education classes as what you had 'to get through to get to the good stuff.' Now, we have students who want to take these classes as electives. What a problem to have," Fluehr-Lobban said with a laugh.

Currently, the general education core classes are limited to students fulfilling general education requirements to meet those students' needs.

Changes in approach

Other changes involve the way the classes are taught. The Core 1 and 2 courses are structured as thematic courses rather than survey courses. Some of the courses are team taught and the majority of the general education classes are now taught by full-time faculty. The focus on writing and critical thinking is obvious.

"Writing is more integral to class instead of having just one term paper at the end of the semester. We are grappling with critical thinking; what faculty think it is, what students think it is, how to teach it," Fluehr-Lobban said.

Students report improvement.

Preliminary findings do indicate the approach is making an impact. Seventy percent of respondents said the Core 1 and Core 2 classes improved their writing "somewhat" and another 14 percent said the courses improved their writing "very much.

Sixty-four percent said their ability to read and think critically was improved "somewhat" by these courses and another 23 percent said it was improved "very much.

More than 90 percent of those surveyed said critical thinking was emphasized either "a great deal" or "somewhat" in the courses.

Writing assignments, with 76 percent, and formal writing assignment, with 57 percent, were rated the most helpful in improving their writing.

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Differences are apparent

The faculty teaching the courses have noticed the difference too. Joanne Schneider, associate professor of history and one of the professors involved in developing and teaching the new thematic history course, said, "We took the approach of five themes. We focus on the big picture and get students away from thinking of history as the memorization of dates. Students have said, 'I've never had a history course taught this way. It's not what I expected. That's great. We are breaking the stereotypes.'

The themes are: order and authority (politics; expansion and cultural contact (empires); artistic expression, living in the natural world (economics and society); and myth, faith and beliefs.

Measuring Critical Thinking

One of the challenges for COGE is measuring critical thinking which has generated an ongoing discussion among faculty. In fact, the keynote speaker at the faculty development workshop this year addressed the topic "11. Evaluating Critical Thinking."

The keynote speaker was Barbara E. Walvoord, professor of English and director of the John Kaneb Center for Teaching and Learning at the University of Notre Dame.

Faculty are also working on this in the classroom. For instance, in the fall semester, Jane Williams and Carolyn Wood, both associate professors of nursing, team taught Dying, Loss and Grief: Cross-cultural Perspectives. They used a pilot course--developed for students in a lower-division hoc assessment team to measure critical thinking.

One of the assignments required students to read a specific position paper on capital punishment; analyze it; present an alternative, opposing view; and compare and contrast the consequences of the viewpoints. Their modified version of the assessment tool delineated specific criteria for scoring based on comprehension, presentation of an argument, comparison and contrast, and usage of grammar, syntax, spelling and referencing guidelines.

"It was gratifying to see the students demonstrate critical thinking in their writings," Williams noted. Wood added, "A number of students stated that having to research a different position than what they personally held, caused them to reflect. They were not so sure of their position anymore. Looking at other points of view made them realize it was a more complex issue."

In the coming months, COGE will be working on the assessment framework for General Education 2000 and to develop ways to teach and assess writing and critical thinking. The committee may also be looking for a new name for the general education program now that the year 2000 is here, Fluehr-Lobban said, somewhat in jest.

**Forman**

Continued from page 1

and Sylvan Forman Scholarship in Theatre was established in 1995. Although the specific details have not been finalized, her most recent gift will also support the performing arts at the College, Brown said.

Helen's commitment to the College, to the performing arts, and to young people serves as a reminder of the far-reaching impact one individual can make on the lives of so many."
Henault sets the tone for RIC wrestling

by Scott Gibbons
Sports Information Director

Rhode Island College's Craig Henault is one of the top young wrestlers in the New England Wrestling Association (NECWWA). Though he's only a freshman, Henault has already earned a spot in the starting lineup and has a name for himself in college wrestling. "I knew wrestling in college was going to be hard, but I would have been disappointed if I hadn't done well so far," he says. The Paceau native is currently 9-6 through his first 15 matches at 125 pounds. He is second on the team with nine wins, a .600 winning percentage, two wins by fall and 39 total points. Henault's most recent win came on Jan. 15, when he placed fifth in the 125 pound weight class at the Hunter College quad-meet on Jan. 15.

Henault was named the Pilgrim Wrestling League Rookie of the Week (wire already this season). "Craig is just beginning to realize his full potential. We're hoping he'll keep wrestling or what his credentials are," says RIC Head Coach John Henault. "We'll put him out there and gives his all in every match."

Equal stability as a wrestler was evident when he battled one of the top wrestlers in his weight class at the Hunter College quad-meet on Jan. 15. Henault gave the 99th place, All-New Englander all his best to handle before bowing out 7-5 in overtime. A couple of weeks ear­lier, Mocasta had defeated Henault 8-0 at the Doug Parker Invitational.

"I'll give you a good example of Craig's maturity," Jones adds. "At the Hunter Invitational, he lost a close decision to a wrestler from New York University that he probably should have won. He came back and won his next two matches at a meet-at-­large last week, made the right adjustments, and beat a good wrestler. That shows his development as a college wrestler."

Henault has steadily made improvements in his techniques since the team began practicing well three months ago. "I think I have improved since the first day I stepped on the mat here at RIC," the 18-year-old freshman says. "The team here gets along great and everyone is helping each other out. I think I've gotten smarter, quicker and faster since the season started."

As for the freshman adjustment to college, Henault has several observations. "College wrestling is a lot different than high school. There are no matches off. Everyone is tough. In high school, you see the same people every week. In college, every time you compete, you're up against someone who you thought you knew nothing about."

Henault has been wrestling since he was 8 years old, a sport he loves. "I enjoy the sports I've done, wrestling, by far, pushes you the most and is a great challenge," he says.

He wrestled all four of his years at Burrelling High School. He earned fifth in the 133 pound weight class at the Rhode Island State Championships as a junior in 1999. In addition to wrestling, he was also a cornerback on the Breecon football team. He received the Major DeWitt Award for loyalty, sportsmanship and courage from Burrelling High School in 1999.

When it comes to choosing a college, Henault doesn't "stay local. "I came to Rhode Island College because I knew I'd be able to travel the globe, or at least New England, to be a wrestler. "Coach Jones, formerly the wrestling coach at Burrelling High School, knew what he was getting when he signed Henault on to wrestle for the Anchormen. "I remember him being a tough competitor in high school. I knew he'd be a bright talent with a tremendous asset to our team."

RIC is currently 2-6 overall, 1-3 in the NECWWA and 1-1 in the Pilgrim Wrestling League. "If we continued the way we've been wrestling, I think we'll have a chance or possibly place at the NECCWA Championships," says David Magee, the 2000 NECCWA Championships will be hosted by Western Connecticut College, Feb. 19 and 20. Henault adds, "I just want to keep pushing myself, hopefully we can do well," he says, "and do well at the New England."

Although he's undecided about a major, Henault wishes to go toward chemistry and possibly a career in teaching. As one of the top wrestlers in the state, Henault is looking forward to the next few years at RIC. "We have a good nucleus of wrestlers here. We're only losing two guys this season so hopefully we'll keep getting better."
At RIC's Bannister Gallery —

Reinventing the Valentine Feb. 3-25

A juried exhibition and silent auction under the heading of "Reinventing the Valentine" will be held at Rhode Island College's Bannister Gallery Feb. 3-25. The opening reception on Feb. 3 runs from 7-9 p.m.

Works by region artists and artisans have been selected to express a range of individual perspectives on the images and ideas associated with Valentine's Day.

Cash prizes for the best entries will be awarded by the art club. General support for Bannister Gallery events is provided by the art department, the art club, Artists Committee for Lectures and Films, and the Performing Arts Commission.

Hours for the gallery, which is located in the RIC Art Center, are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6 to 9.

Classical guitarist Nicoletta performs in chamber series

Rhode Island native Michael Nicoletta will perform in the Rhode Island College Chamber Music Series on Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 1 p.m. in the John Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

The concert will feature works for classical guitar by Bach, Astor Piazzolla and Nicoletta as well as Steve Reich's "Electric Counterpunt" for electric guitar and tape.

It is free and open to the public.

With a repertoire spanning Bach to Jimi Hendrix, Nicoletta is recognized as one of America's most innovative classical guitar virtuosos. First prize winner of both the Portland and Northwest solo classical guitar competitions, he has performed throughout the U.S. and in Canada, Mexico and Italy as solo recitalist, chamber musician and soloist with orchestra.

An eclectic and versatile artist, he blurs the lines between musical styles and disciplines, and is part of a growing trend in classical music to revitalize the role of the composer/performer.

As a concert artist he frequently programs his own works for guitar in solo recital and chamber music settings.

He has introduced electric guitar into his "classical" programs and extended the repertoire and audience of his instrument, not only with his own compositions and transcriptions but also by premiering and commissioning works by some of today's emerging composers.

He studied at Berklee College of Music, Yale University where he received his master of music degree, and at the Accademia Musicaie Chigiana in Siena, Italy, where he did postgraduate work with Oscar Ghiglia.

He served from 1991-95 as head of the classical guitar departments at Lawrence University and the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music.

Nicoletta currently resides in Seattle where he balances his performing career with composing, recording and teaching.

"Since the passing of Andrés Segovia the guitar world has needed an advocate...perhaps Michael Nicoletta is that person," noted the Washington Post.

"This is classical guitar at its best," said the Milwaukee Journal.

For more information, call John Pellegrino, series coordinator, at 401-456-9831.

Researchers looking for centenarians

Researchers at Harvard Medical School and Children's have requested our assistance in recruiting participants for the Extreme Longevity In Families Study, a genetic study on aging at Harvard Medical School and Children's Hospital of Boston. They are asking for help from alumni associations and other organizations that are likely to keep in touch with individuals over a lifetime.

Potential participants are centenarians with or without siblings as well as individuals age 98 or older and their brothers and sisters who are at least 90 years old. In addition, they are also seeking other family members aged 60 or older.

For more information, contact Stephanie Jo Brewster, certified genetic counselor, Children's Hospital, Division of Genetics, Enders 5, 320 Longwood Ave., Boston, MA 02115 or call her at 617-355-5312 or 877-890-4080.

If any of our readers or their families qualify to participate in the study, we would appreciate your letting us know.

Alum named Supervisory Art Educator of the Year

Denise Zompa of Little Compton, the art supervisor of the Bristol-Warren School District and holder of a Rhode Island College master's degree in elementary education which she earned in 1977, has been named the Supervisory Art Educator of the Year by the Rhode Island Art Education Association.

The award was given in recognition of her achievements as an art supervisor, and the work she has done as co-chairwoman of the first elementary arts magnet school in the state which is currently at Reynolds School.

Zompa has served for the past three years as art supervisor in the district, and as a teacher in Bristol and Warren for the last 25 years.

She teaches art at Reynolds and Byfield schools, as well as supervising the art department for kindergarten to grade 12.

Before teaching art, Zompa began her career as a fifth-grade teacher at Colt Andrews School. She holds a bachelor's degree in art and elementary education from the University of Rhode Island.

"I would like to encourage people to continue their education and professional development, and join associations like the Rhode Island Art Educators Association," Zompa told What's News.

UNTITLED 1999, oil on canvas, 40" x 48" by Peter Forsstrom (sic).

MUIR STRING QUARTET will perform Mozart's Quartet in D Major, K. 575; Berg's Quartet, Opus 3, and Grieg's Quartet in G minor, Opus 27 in the President's Music Series at Rhode Island College's Gaige Hall auditorium at 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 7. This is the quartet's third and last appearance in the series this year. Tickets are $19; $17 for senior citizens and $14 for students and may be purchased in advance via Visa or MasterCard by calling 401-456-8194 from 10-4 daily or in person at the Roberts box office.

DENISE ZOMPA
Alums make beautiful music but not always together

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

They're middle initials are "J"—but that's not the only thing they have in common.

They're both Rhode Island College graduates from the 1980s; both are professional performers with local musical groups; and both perform Celtic music primarily.

Russell J. Gusetti '88 of Pawtucket and Elwood J. Donnelly '80 of Foster perform with Pendragon and the folk duo Atwater & Donnelly, respectively.

They know each other and the two groups perform at the same gig occasionally, but they were unaware both are RIC grads.

Russell Gusetti

Gusetti got involved with Pendragon "right out of high school" 16 years ago when Mary Lee Partington came up with the concept. He and Partington, Bob Drouin, Phil Edmonds and Ron Schmitt had met while taking a madrigal singing class as part of a Renaissance event in Providence.

"Once the fun ended we just basically stayed together and kept playing. We honed in on what kind of music we wanted to play and stuck to it," says Gusetti.

The group is often joined by U.S. champion stepdancer Kevin Doyle and on occasion by stepdancer Kieran Jordan.

Original music

Pendragon's music celebrates the lives and lore of generations of New Englanders who brought traditions from Ireland, Scotland, England, French Canada and other distant shores to the banks of the Blackstone River.

It blends lively jigs and reels with Partington's original songs depicting the experiences of the immigrants who settled in the Blackstone Valley and their role in the mill and textile traditions of New England.

The band composes and performs its original songs and dance tunes on an innovative combination of bouzouki, guitar, whistle, fiddle, concertina, banjo, mandolin, bodhran, synthesizer, drums, bass and button accordion.

Obviously, each member plays more than one instrument. Gusetti's expertise is on guitar, concertina, the five-string banjo and whistle.

In the course of a year, Pendragon plays between 60 and 80 gigs "which is pretty hefty considering we all have other jobs," notes Gusetti. One of their recent performances was at the RIC Theatre's production of the Irish play Dancing at Lughnasa in the fall.

"This is not a full-time job. Maybe that's the reason we've lasted 16 years," he says.

Recognition and recordings

Pendragon has been voted Best Local Folk Act of the Year in the Providence Phoenix's Best Music Poll five times.

The ensemble has recorded five CDs, the latest entitled "Beyond Borders...A Celtic Journey" which features several guest artists, including RIC alum Ken Lyon '72 (who was featured in a What's News article in November 1990) on vocals, electric bass, electric and slide guitar, and technology, who provided him with "the real-work, hands-on experience" in graphic design.

"Without Lee it would have been very tough to get a job. She gave us the nuts and bolts in the arts-graphic design area. She knows what's going on in the real world and relates that to her students," says Gusetti.

Elwood Donnelly

Donnelly met his partner and later wife, Aubrey Atwater, in 1987 at the Stone Soup Coffee House in Providence where she was singing and he was doing volunteer work.

By the time they met, he had been singing and playing the guitar since the age of 15, first in a rock band, then as a solo performer, and later in a Cambodian band while serving in the Air Force in Vietnam. She was already a regular performer locally, singing original songs of social commentary.

Both are self-taught musicians. Besides singing, he plays guitar, banjo, mountain dulcimer, whistle and guita.
RIC CALENDAR
JAN 31 - FEB. 14, 2000

Sundays
10 p.m.—Catholic Mass in the SU Ballroom. Conducted by Fr. Joseph Porcelli.

Mondays
10 to 11 a.m.—Bible study will be held in Student Union 300.

Tuesdays
6 to 9 p.m.—Scuba Instruction in Recreation Center Pool. Fee: $10 for RIC students. For further information, call aquatics, 456-8227.

Wednesdays
12:30 to 1:45 p.m.—Catholic Student Association meets in the Chaplain’s Office, SU 300.

Thursdays Feb. 3-March 4
1 to 1:45 p.m.—Adult Beginner Swim Lessons at the Recreation Center Pool. For further information, call aquatics, 456-8227.

Lifeguard Training at Recreation Center Pool, $40 for RIC students. For further information, call aquatics, 456-8227.

Sports Events

| Tues. Feb. 1 | Amherst | 7:30 p.m. |
| Thurs. Feb. 3 | at Bridgewater State | 8 p.m. |
| Sat. Feb. 5 | Plymouth State * | 3 p.m. |
| Tues. Feb. 8 | UMass-Dartmouth * | 7:30 p.m. |
| Sat. Feb. 12 | Southern Maine * | 3 p.m. |

| Sat. Feb. 5 | Plymouth State * | 1 p.m. |
| Tues. Feb. 8 | UMass-Dartmouth * | 7:30 p.m. |
| Thur. Feb. 10 | at Plymouth State * | 7 p.m. |
| Sat. Feb. 12 | Southern Maine * | 1 p.m. |

| Sat. Feb. 5 | at Roger Williams | 6 p.m. |
| Wed. Feb. 9 | at Johnson and Wales | 9 p.m. |
| Sat. Feb. 12 | Tri-Meet at Bridgewater State | Noon |

| Wed. Feb. 2 | Springfield | 7:30 p.m. |
| Sat. Feb. 12 | at Ursinus | 3 p.m. |

| Sat. Feb. 5 | Quad Cup at Bowdoin | Noon |
| Sun. Feb. 13 | at LEC/MASCAC Alliance Championships | 12:30 p.m. |

Home games in Caps
* Little East Conference game

Notice of 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 (gender identity or expression), or veteran status. This College policy is in concert with state and federal nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries concerning the College’s administration of the nondiscrimination policy should be addressed to the College director of affirmative action. Reasonable accommodation upon request.

Olympics

Practice the Dream
AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH 2000
RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Tuesday, Feb. 1
First Day Reception
12:30 - 2 p.m.
Student Union Ballroom Sponsored by The Unity Center Open to all.
R.S.V.P. 401-456-8791.

Wednesday, Feb. 9
Play: Hold Fast to Dreams
9:30 a.m.
Student Union Ballroom
Henry Barnard School Ms. Fennessey’s Fifth Grade Class
Open to all.

Thursday, Feb. 10
Play: Hold Fast to Dreams
9:30 a.m.
Student Union Ballroom
Repeat performance. See above.

Tuesday, Feb. 15
Gauge Folkloric Dance Theatre and Guest Speaker Amanta Njiru of Dynamics of Leadership
7 p.m.
Student Union Ballroom
Sponsored by Hope Club. Open to all.

Wednesday, Feb. 23
Performance Lecture: Dr. Peter West Africa
8 p.m.
The Auditorium in Roberts Hall
Sponsored by the Performing Arts Series.
Open to all.
Call 401-456-4144 for tickets.

Tuesday, Feb. 29
Lecture: “Black Misogyny, The Hate of Africans Women and Why So Many People Do It” by Brenda Verrier
Musical Performance by The Jazz Poet Society
7 p.m.
Student Union Ballroom
Sponsored by Hope Club. Open to all.
$2 admission.

Monday, March 6
“Practice the Dream” Gospel Concert
7 p.m.
The Auditorium in Roberts Hall
Sponsored by the Performing Arts Commission of RIC.

Also month-long exhibit in Adams Library Lobby.
Call 401-456-8791 for more information on any of the events listed.