CQC Concepts and Applications Workshop Series

The Connecticut Quality Council (CQC) presented three new half-day workshops on Quality Management topics that are being implemented in organizations today. The sessions included: Practical Guide to the Implementation of Sustainable Change, Building Quality into Your Organization, and Integration of Six Sigma and Lean in Organizations.

Content experts from both academia and industry share their work and research on the Quality Management topics followed by guided discussions with workshop participants. Attendees are encouraged to bring real issues from their organizations for analysis with other group members and content experts. Networking is a key component of the workshops.

The workshops have been so successful that CQC will be offering the sessions on location at corporate sites. An encore presentation of a Practical Guide to the Implementation of Sustainable Change will be delivered for United Illuminating Company in June. To find out how you can bring these workshops to your company, please contact Gary E. Rosentreter, Ed.D., Executive Director, CQC, at (860) 548-7861 or e-mail: roseng2@rpi.edu. To learn more about the workshop series, please visit: www.ctqualitycouncil.org.

President Jackson Outlines Agenda at Spring Town Meeting

The spring Town Meeting entitled, “Renaissance at Rensselaer,” was held March 7 at the Troy campus and simulcast to the Hartford campus. Shirley Ann Jackson, Ph.D., President, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, presented an overview of the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 budget approved by the Board of Trustees, and outlined “the challenges we face as an institution, and how we are positioning this university to meet these challenges, and to fulfill the promise of The Rensselaer Plan.”

“I am confident that we are on the right road - the road to success, and to the realization of Rensselaer as a university with ‘global reach and global impact,’ ” said Dr. Jackson. For the full text of President Jackson’s remarks, to download the video of the Town Meeting, or to view the slide presentation, please visit: www.rpi.edu/president/speeches/ps030706-townmeeting.html.

Also, note that numerous speeches and remarks by President Jackson, as well as the State of the Institute address and The Rensselaer Plan, are archived on the Web page of the Office of the President.

Professor Fransson Elected President of Society for Case Research

Martha C. Fransson, M.B.A., Clinical Associate Professor, Lally School of Management and Technology, has been elected President of the Society for Case Research (SCR). Fransson also serves as Associate Editor of the Business Case Journal published by SCR.

The Society for Case Research (www.sfcr.org) is one of the premier academic associations in the United States whose members are actively engaged in case research. The Society publishes two peer-reviewed journals: Annual Advances in Business Cases and the Business Case Journal. Its members are faculty who adhere to rigorous standards in case research and teaching.

Professor Fransson maintains an active program of scholarly research and case preparation. She has published numerous articles, cases, and instructional materials. Professor Fransson is active in various academic societies and has made numerous conference presentations as well as serving as a reviewer for peer-reviewed presentations.

Graduate Programs Ranked Among the Nation’s Best by U.S. News & World Report

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute’s graduate engineering program and management program were ranked among the best in the nation in the 2007 U.S. News & World Report guide to “America’s Best Graduate Schools,” published March 31, 2006 online.

The Graduate School of Engineering was ranked 37 in the nation. Several engineering programs are ranked in the top 25 including electrical engineering ranked 19, mechanical engineering ranked 20, and computer and systems engineering ranked 21 in the nation. The entrepreneurship programs of the Lally School of Management and Technology ranked 24 in the nation, and the graduate programs overall ranked 66.

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Alumni News

1980s
Filomena M. Soyster (HGC ’86 M.S. Management, EMP Class VI) has joined U.S. Trust’s West Hartford office as a Senior Vice President. She is also a Business Development Officer at U.S. Trust and is responsible for client relationship development for the Northern Connecticut and New England regions.

1990s
Denise M. Daukas (’90 M.B.A.) has joined Virginia T. Daukas Real Estate as a sales agent in the Westerly-based realty firm. Previously, she held management positions at Fleet Bank and Shawmut National Corporation.

Keith W. Regan (’93 M.S. Mechanical Engineering) has been named Vice President of Engineering Operations for Honeywell Corporation. In his new position he will lead the firm’s engineering business and resource management, velocity products development and product-related management, work-force quality and globalization processes.

2000s
Kathleen A. Guastella (’02 M.S. Health Care Management), BSN, NHA, was named Director of Clinical Services for Connecticut VNA’s Hospice and Palliative Care Program. She is responsible for the practice, growth, and performance of hospice staff through the direct supervision of clinical supervisors, coordinators, and other staff.

Laura Jean Blake (’03 M.S. Engineering) has been added to the full-time faculty at Mitchell College in New London as an Assistant Professor in the Small Business Development Program. She has been a marketing communications consultant for several companies including Canon USA, Sonalysts Consulting, and Dentsu Advertising.

Licensing Exam Review Programs Offered
Rensselaer’s Hartford Campus has prepared over 2,000 engineers to pass the standardized examinations offered by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). Rensselaer’s Centers for Professional Development will offer a series of review courses to help prepare students for the standardized examinations for the Fundamentals in Engineering (FUND) Exam: Civil, Mechanical, Electrical Principles and Practices (PE) Exams, as well as the Land Surveyors Exam.

Classes are scheduled to begin in mid-August at the Rensselaer Hartford Campus. The Fall 2006 exam dates are October 27 and 28. Tuition includes all preparation materials and workbooks. For complete course descriptions, information about the course format, and to register, please see: www.rh.edu/rcpd/pe/.

Facility and Staff News
Cecilia M. Dalzell, Instructional Services Librarian, the Cole Library, had her review of ThomasNet (the online Thomas Register) published in the March 2006 issue of CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries. To read the review, please visit: http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?did=1000409551&sid=1&Fmt=3&clientId=8386&RQ=T=309&VName=PQD. Dalzell holds an M.S. in Instructional Technology in addition to an MLS.

Brian R. Hartlieb, System Administrator, Technical and Information Services, completed an M.S. in Computer Science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on December 30, 2005. He joins several other members of the staff and faculty who are Rensselaer alumni.

John Maleyeff, Ph.D., Clinical Associate Professor, Lally School of Management and Technology, has had a paper accepted for publication in the peer-reviewed journal, Management Decision. The title of the paper is, “Exploration of Internal Service Systems using Lean Principles.” The paper is based on an analysis of project results from work assigned in his Service Operations Management class.


EWP@Rensselaer is published by the Office of Communications at Rensselaer at Hartford. Send comments and suggestions to: EWP@Rensselaer, 275 Windsor Street, Hartford, CT 06120, or e-mail: offcomm@rh.edu.

In Memoriam
Alumni
Elizabeth A. “Betty” Sieniuc (‘81 M.S. Computer Science) of Rocky Hill, died on March 23. She was a senior level information technology professional for the Hartford Insurance Group retiring after 34 years of service. She continued to work part time at the company until January 2006.

Elaine S. Gollis (HGC ’92 M.S. Health Care Management) of Venice, Florida, formerly from Wethersfield and Rocky Hill, died on March 21. She was Vice President for Nursing at the Hebrew Home and Hospital in West Hartford until her retirement in 2004.

Allison Misky has been promoted to the position of Program Manager in the Enrollment Management Department. She will be involved in the recruitment and enrollment of new students into the Advanced Studies and cohort programs. Misky was previously Administrator, Enrollment Operations, and before that worked as Student Records Administrator, Office of the Registrar. She has been at Rensselaer for nine years, and last year she was presented a Letter of Commendation from the Rensselaer Alumni Association Hartford Chapter.

New Hires
Rensselaer welcomes two new hires:
• Hergalee Spencer, Library Assistant, the Cole Library
• Nancy Farrell, Senior Program Manager, Marketing Department. Her responsibilities will include corporate relationship building, corporate cohort program marketing, and assisting in the recruitment efforts for the Rensselaer Fellows Program. Farrell is a Rensselaer alumna, earning her M.S. in Management in 2002. She previously worked at Rensselaer at Hartford from 1999 to 2003, and her last position held was as a Marketing Administrator in the Marketing Department.
Cole Library News

The Cole Library offers an updated and annotated list of new print titles and e-books available on the Web at: www.rh.edu/library/Acq_current.htm. Several of the new acquisitions to the library collection are also on display at the front of the Cole Library. Check the library catalog online to see if the particular title you are interested in is available to borrow. If the book(s) you would like to borrow are checked-out, you may send an e-mail to: lib-info@rh.edu to request the materials next.

The Cole Library celebrated National Library Week, April 2-8. The celebration featured the opportunity to give the World’s Largest Crossword Puzzle a try. The puzzle measures approximately 6’ x 6’ and features over 28,000 clues! The “Genius” Edition of Magnetic Poetry Kit offered a creative way to conceive poems. In addition, the library had free goodies from vendors and snacks for students. The celebration provided some stress relievers as final exams and papers marked the end of the Spring term.

Rensselaer Reaccredited by Middle States Commission

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute recently completed the Middle States Commission on Higher Education reaccreditation process. Rensselaer was first accredited by the group in 1927. After nearly 20 months of work by more than 100 members of the Rensselaer community, The Middle States Self-Study Report, was completed and forwarded to the Middle States Commission and evaluation team. The document is the culmination of efforts by working groups to collect existing data and reports, to evaluate that information, and to produce a report of their findings. The final report of the Self-Study Report is available for review at: www.rpi.edu/dept/provost/midstates.html.

Dr. Jared L. Cohon, chairman of the Rensselaer Middle States accreditation team and President of Carnegie Mellon University, stated in the visiting team’s exit interview that “Change at Rensselaer in the last five years has occurred with a scope and swiftness that may be without precedent in the recent history of American higher education.” The process provided an opportunity to learn more about Rensselaer’s accomplishments, its challenges, and its role in promoting education excellence. The final report can be viewed at: www.rpi.edu/middlestates/ (RCS ID and password are required).
Join the Rensselaer Alumni Association (RAA) Clubs of Connecticut, New Jersey, Westchester, New York City, and Long Island for an exclusive “behind the scenes” tour of the world-famous Bronx Zoo on Saturday, June 3 at 8 a.m. All Rensselaer alumni, current students, incoming students, and their families are welcome to participate in this fun-filled event! This will be a great opportunity to meet fellow alumni, outstanding students, and their families, as we enjoy a relaxing day at the Bronx Zoo.

Thanks to our very own Bronx Zoo “insider,” Rensselaer alumna and Trustee Paula Simon ’68, we have arranged for an exceptional package of events for our guests to enjoy. For a detailed schedule of the activities, please see: www.alumni.rpi.edu/involved/chapters/hartford.html.

Discounted pricing is as follows: $40 for dues-paying club members, $45 for non-dues-paying club members, $20 for students and their families, $20 for children ages 2-12, and $15 for children ages 2 and under. Space is limited, so please make your reservation early. For more information about this event, please contact Marc Schechter ’75 at: marc@alum.rpi.edu.

Career management in today’s environment is complex. The job market requires more than experience and education to attract attention. Job seekers need to be prepared and proactive in promoting themselves. The Rensselaer Alumni Association (RAA) Hartford Chapter will offer the program “Strategies in Career Management” on Tuesday, May 23, at the Hartford Campus. The event will begin with light dinner fare at 5:30 p.m. followed by a panel discussion and networking from 6 to 8 p.m.

Panelists include representatives from Career Services at the Rensselaer Troy Campus, DBM, the Connecticut Department of Labor, the Connecticut Technology Council, and the Career Counseling Center at the University of Hartford. Panelists will provide information and answer questions related to the job market, successfully identifying and approaching opportunities, and the tools and advice necessary for career advancement in today’s job market. A networking rotation session for attendees will follow the panel discussion Q&A.

The cost to attend the event is $10 per person for dues-paying chapter members and $15 per person for all others. To register online, visit https://arpinet.rpi.edu/events/. Or send a check made payable to “Rensselaer” to Mecaila Smith, Office of Alumni Relations, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, 1301 Peoples Avenue, Troy, NY 12180. When sending a check, please be sure to indicate your name, class year, contact information, and guest’s name and class year if applicable. For more information, please contact Mecaila Smith at (518) 276-6206 or e-mail: smithm12@rpi.edu.