Rensselaer at Hartford’s 50th Commencement Exercises

The 50th Commencement Exercises held on Saturday, June 2, 2007, at Rensselaer’s Hartford Campus were “golden,” indeed. The 246 graduates, their families and friends, and members of Rensselaer’s faculty and staff, enjoyed a beautiful, sunny day to celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2006-2007. The Honorable Shirley Ann Jackson, Ph.D., President, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, presided over the ceremony and delivered the Commencement Address.

President Jackson recognized two special guests at this year’s Commencement Exercises. The first was Adjunct Professor, Dr. Matthew J. Donachie, Jr. (’54 B.S. Metallurgical Engineering), who has been a member of the adjunct faculty for 50 consecutive years in the Department of Engineering. He was honored for this significant accomplishment and dedication to Rensselaer. The second special guest has had a lifelong association with Rensselaer. As a high school student, Mr. Charles Platt was awarded the Rensselaer Medal. He went on to complete his undergraduate degree as a member of the Class of 1951. He is currently celebrating his 50th anniversary as an alumnus of the Hartford Campus, Class of 1957. Mr. Platt was a student of Joseph L. Krahula, Ph.D. (’46 B.S. Mechanical Engineering, ’50 M.S. Mechanics), Professor Emeritus, the last remaining member of the original seven Rensselaer Troy campus academic leaders to bring their expertise in engineering and science to Central Connecticut in 1955 (Note: Please see the In Memoriam section on page 4 for a related story).

President Jackson also recognized William J. Luddy, Jr., J.D., (’74 M.S. Management) Clinical Professor, Lally School of Management and Technology, “who has served Rensselaer well for over 33 years and who has decided to write the next chapter in his life.” She asked Professor Luddy to stand to “let us thank you and wish you well as you and your family pursue new interests and adventures.”

The presentation of the Outstanding Student Awards followed the greetings by Dr. Jackson. Anthony J. DeMarco (’72 M.S. Management), President, Hartford Chapter of the Rensselaer Alumni Association (RAA) presented the awards. The Outstanding Student Award from the Lally School of Management and Technology was presented to Patrick J. Courtney, and the Outstanding Student Award from the Hartford Campus was presented to the nation’s important educational institutions,” Chairman of the National Science Board Steven C. Beering said in a press release. “She’s a national treasure deserving of the Vannevar Bush Award for her widely valued public service and contributions to the

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Outstanding Student Award Winners

Patrick J. Courtney (’01 M.S. Engineering Science), of Manchester, Connecticut, was presented with the Outstanding Student Award for the Lally School of Management and Technology at Rensselaer at Hartford’s 50th Commencement Exercises. Faculty members submitted nominations for graduating students who had distinguished themselves from their peers through superior academic achievement, demonstrated leadership skills, works published, and contributions to Rensselaer.

Courtney earned an M.B.A. with a 4.0 G.P.A. He is currently Director of Product Development and Engineering Laboratory Operations at Henkel Corporation (formerly Loctite Corporation). In this position, he manages the laboratory support services for Henkel’s Engineering Adhesives Group’s Engineering and Product Development functions. He is a registered professional engineer, holds several patents, and has authored numerous publications integrating his Rensselaer experiences into various aspects of his career and personal life.

Commenting on his studies at Rensselaer, Courtney stated, “The true measure of the value offered by the Rensselaer program can be seen in the many ways that the strategies and tactics taught there have become invaluable tools in addressing real-world challenges. From improved data analysis techniques, to unique computer modeling methods, from insights in applying Lean principles to service operations to strategies for evaluating acquisition candidates, the education at Rensselaer has proved invaluable in my career development.”

Courtney is now a two-time Rensselaer alumnus, having earned an M.S. in Engineering Science in 2001, as well as a Graduate Certificate in Quality and Reliability Engineering.

Edward D. Arnheiter, Ph.D., Clinical Associate Professor; and John Maleyeff, Ph.D., Clinical Professor, Hartford

Education for Working Professionals 2007 Celebration of Graduates

Graduates of the Education for Working Professionals (EWP) programs from Hartford, Connecticut, and via distance learning were invited to participate in 2007 Commencement weekend on the Rensselaer campus in Troy, New York. “A Celebration of Graduates” was held on Friday, May 18 in the Russell Sage Dining Hall. Dr. Lester A. Gerhardt, Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Education, Acting, welcomed the graduates and their families to Rensselaer and congratulated them on their accomplishment. Two graduating students were invited to share their experiences as working professional students. Peter H. Wolff, from C-COR, Inc. and Gary Hoffmann, from Lockheed Martin Corporation, addressed the group. Roger Grice, Clinical Associate Professor from the Language, Literature & Communication department was the faculty speaker.

Following a presentation of gifts, each graduating student was invited to share comments. The graduates thanked their companies and families for their support as they completed their degrees from their workplace, at home, on the road, or on campus. The students were thankful the courses were offered in formats to accommodate the lifestyle of the working professional. Finally, Howard R. Hollander, Program Senior Manager, Information Systems Leadership Development Program (ISLDP) from Lockheed Martin Enterprise Information Systems addressed those in attendance as a representative of the companies and corporate partners who work with Rensselaer.

View the complete photo gallery of the event at: www.rpi.edu/ewp/distance/about/ewpcelebration07/index.html.
**Computer Science Seminar Conference Award Winners**

Two students were honored for their work at the 23rd Annual Rensselaer at Hartford Computer Science Seminar Conference held April 21. The conference serves as a culminating experience for students to complete their master’s degrees. Students give formal presentations of their own research results which are then judged by the entire group. Both students graduated this year with an M.S. in Computer Science, and both students have earned multiple degrees from Rensselaer.

Dang Nguyen of South Windsor, Connecticut, received the award for “Most Original Paper” for his paper entitled, “The Effect of Cryptography Algorithms on Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) Quality.” Mr. Nguyen is Principal Electrical Engineer for United Technologies at Otis Elevator’s Engineering Center based in Farmington. His primary duty in this position is to lead the development of global communications architectures for Otis Elevator’s embedded control systems. According to Mr. Nguyen, “Many of the professors that I’ve had at Rensselaer, from Troy as well as Hartford, are very practical in their approach to teaching. As a working professional, I find that this practical approach, built on top of the theoretical foundation, provides for a learning experience that is applicable to solving real-world engineering problems.” He earned an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Rensselaer in 2003.

Paul Swiatocha, a student via distance from Poughkeepsie, New York, won the award for “Most Outstanding Presentation” for his presentation entitled, “The Effect of Software Development Processes on Defect Severity.” Mr. Swiatocha works for IBM as a Systems Architect for the public sector accounts in the State of New York. He helps customers develop IT solutions and strategies by educating them about IBM’s hardware portfolio and trends in the industry. “The Computer Science Seminar project helped me to relate all of the knowledge we learned in the classroom to real-life situations, turning book knowledge into practical knowledge that can be applied in the field,” he said. Mr. Swiatocha earned dual degrees from Rensselaer in 1999, receiving a B.S. in Computer Science and a B.S. in Philosophy.

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**50th Commencement Exercises**

*Continued from page 1*

Outstanding Student Award winner for the Department of Engineering and Science was Joseph C. Nold. To read more about the award winners, please see page 2.

In her Commencement address, President Jackson applauded the graduates who have faced — and overcome — challenges not often encountered by traditional students, stepping outside of their established lives to “reach for something higher, something beyond.” “Each generation has the chance to assume the mantle of challenge — and of opportunity — bequeathed to it by the times,” Jackson said. “If you accept your challenges, you assume the mantle of leadership. You become leaders — with vision, courage, and integrity — leaders who can engage all constituencies, profit from their insights, and harness their energies. This, then, becomes your gift to the future, because it is the gift of you.” To read the full text of Dr. Jackson’s remarks, please visit: www.rpi.edu/president/speeches/ps060207-hartford.html.

Following the Commencement Address, the graduating class then stood while Dr. Jackson conferred the Master’s degrees. Each graduate was called by name and crossed the stage to receive a diploma folder; shake hands with President Jackson, Robert E. Palazzo, Ph.D., Provost, and John A. Minasian, Ph.D., Vice President and Dean, Rensselaer at Hartford; and accept an engraved paperweight gift from the RAA. Among the members of the outstanding Class of 2006-2007 were 27 students receiving a second advanced degree from Rensselaer, and one student, Peter H. Wolff, receiving his third master’s degree from Rensselaer. Two cohort programs were also part of the graduating class including the Executive Master’s Program (EMP) Class XXVI and the Weekend M.B.A. (WEMBA) Class 16.

The traditional picnic wrapped up the day’s festivities. Be sure to look at the Commencement photo scrapbook on the Web at: www.ewp.rpi.edu/hartford/news/news07/commncmt07_rev1.html. Congratulations to all!
Hartford Alumni Chapter Receives Special Recognition Award 2007

The Hartford Chapter of the Rensselaer Alumni Association (RAA) is the recipient of the RAA 2007 Special Recognition Award. The Hartford Chapter continues to evolve and be an advocate for Rensselaer. The Chapter provides alumni with exceptional opportunities to make valuable personal and career connections, and stay on top of professional and global issues.

During the past twelve months, the Hartford Chapter engaged over 300 alumni and friends through a variety of events, representing a variety of interests. The Hartford Chapter also featured eight alumni speakers at four different events throughout the year. The events included the eCommerce Seminar, Pfizer Tour, Topics in Real Estate Discussion and Tour of Award-winning Designed Community, and the Career Networking Evening.

The Special Recognition Award was created in 1993 by the RAA Board of Trustees to recognize special achievement by a regional alumni chapter.

To learn more about the Hartford Chapter, please visit: www.alumni.rpi.edu/involved/chapters/hartford.html.

Alumni News

1980s

Raymond P. Necci ('81 M.B.A.), President and Chief Operating Officer, Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P) and Yankee Gas, Northeast Utilities Systems, was named board chair of the United Way of the Capital Area (UWCA). The outgoing chair of the UWCA board of directors is Rensselaer alumnus, Chandler J. Howard ('97 M.S. Management).

Gerald (Gerry) L. DePardo ('85 M.S. Electrical Engineering), has joined the firm of McCormick, Paulding & Huber LLP, as Partner in the Hartford office. He is an intellectual property and transactional attorney, and is admitted to practice before the State and Federal Courts of Connecticut and before the US Patent and Trademark Office.

Amy Jaffe Barzach ('89 M.B.A.), Executive Director and Co-founder of the nonprofit organization Boundless Playgrounds®, celebrated the 10th Anniversary of Boundless Playgrounds in May with two special events to recognize “Boundless Dreams: Celebrating 10 Years.” On May 20, a fun-filled day at the playground was held entitled, “Jonathan’s Boundless Dreams Day,” and on May 24, “Boundless Dreams: Starring Bob Newhart,” drew an outpouring of support at the gala fundraiser. To read all about the celebratory events, please visit: www.boundlessplaygrounds.org/newsroom/documents/BP10thAnniversaryEvents.pdf.

1990s

Angela M. Carbone, RN (HGC ’95 M.S. Health Care Management), was presented with the Martha Wilkinson award at the annual meeting of VNA Health Care in January. The award is named in honor of the agency’s first employee and is given annually to an employee whose patient care is complete and makes a difference.

In Memoriam

Alumni

Donald B. Martin ('68 M.S. Computer Science) of Manchester, died on June 12. He retired from Pratt & Whitney (P&W) after a 35-year career. Martin began at P&W in industrial engineering and rose to executive level in quality assurance. He was a member of the American Society for Quality Control and the National Conference for Standards Laboratories.

Nancy H. Peterson ('88 M.S. Management) of Mystic, died on February 20. Well-known for her professional and volunteer work, Peterson retired in 1990 as Executive Director of Community Mental Health Services of Southeastern Connecticut. She was a founding member and strong supporter of Housing Opportunities for People (H.O.P.E.), a group that develops housing for needy families.

Ronald “Ron” E. Stilwell ('77 M.S. Administrative Sciences) of Hartford, died on March 1. He worked at Colt Firearms for 20 years, starting as a trainee and finishing as president. In 1992 he founded his own company, Ronan Corp.

George Harrison Wilson ('94 M.S. Computer Science) of West Hartford, died on May 17. He was employed by Aetna Life Insurance Company.

Alumni, Faculty, and Staff

Stephen E. Wiberley, professor emeritus and trustee of the Rensselaer Newman Foundation, died March 17. Wiberley earned his master’s degree in 1948 and Ph.D. in 1950 from Rensselaer, and spent the next 39 years teaching generations of students in a wide variety of courses. He became dean of the graduate school in 1964; vice provost in 1968; and then chair of the chemistry department in 1983. He retired as professor emeritus in 1989. He was instrumental in building The Hartford Graduate Center (now Rensselaer at Hartford). President Jackson paid tribute to him in the "Presidents Corner – Ed/Op" section of the Polytechnic Online. Please read her thoughts at: www.poly.rpi.edu/article_view.php3?view=5403&part=1.

Trustee

Arthur C. Banks, Jr., Ph.D., of Wethersfield, died on July 1. He served on the Board of Trustees of the former Hartford Graduate Center (now Rensselaer at Hartford) from 1983 to 1985. Dr. Banks was, at that time, President of Greater Hartford Community College (now Capital Community College).

Faculty

Valdemars Pungra, Ph.D., of Suffield, died on May 22. He was Professor Emeritus of Advanced Mathematics, The Hartford Graduate Center (HGC). Dr. Pungra worked as an Associate Professor of Mathematics at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. He was one of the first to promote the teaching of computer technology, which only began to enter the mainstream in the 1960’s. Dr. Pungra was one of the original seven Rensselaer Troy campus academic leaders to bring their expertise in engineering and science to the HGC in 1955. He taught courses in computer science, operations, research, management science, applied mathematics, probability, and statistics.

Anthony J. DeMarco ('72 M.S. Management), (right) accepts the Special Recognition Award for the Hartford Chapter from Jeff Schanz, Director, Alumni Relations & Annual Giving.
New Full-time Faculty Members

The Hartford Campus of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute is pleased to announce the appointments of three new full-time faculty members: Brice N. Cassenti, Ph.D., Clinical Associate Professor, Engineering, Eugene Eberbach, Ph.D., Clinical Associate Professor, Computer Science, and Renaud Pawlak, Ph.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, Computer Science, all in the Department of Engineering and Science.

Dr. Cassenti brings over forty years of research experience to Rensselaer including twenty-five years at United Technologies Research Center performing a wide variety of research in applied mechanics, advanced propulsion, and supercomputing. In 2001, he transferred to Pratt & Whitney where he developed probabilistic design methods and high temperature material models for use in gas turbine engines. Dr. Cassenti has taught at Hartford in 2003. He conducted original research in software engineering on specific projects relating to software system architecture. His current focus is Quality Assurance in Software Engineering using Static Analysis. His current focus is Quality Assurance in Software Engineering using Static Analysis. His current focus is Quality Assurance in Software Engineering using Static Analysis. His current focus is Quality Assurance in Software Engineering using Static Analysis. His current focus is Quality Assurance in Software Engineering using Static Analysis. His current focus is Quality Assurance in Software Engineering using Static Analysis.

Dr. Eberbach (www.ewp.rpi.edu/~eberbe) has conducted seminars and lectures throughout the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Poland, Germany, Israel, India, and Australia. He was most recently an Associate Professor at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Dr. Eberbach's current work is in the areas of process algebras, resource bounded computation, autonomous agents, and mobile robotics. Topics of interest to him also include distributed computing, concurrency and interaction, evolutionary computing and neural nets, new computing paradigms, languages, and architectures.

Dr. Pawlak, former researcher, INRIA Futurs, France, was the first postdoctoral research fellow to study at Rensselaer at Hartford in 2003. He conducted original research in software engineering on specific projects relating to software system architecture. His current focus is Quality Assurance in Software Engineering using Static Analysis. Dr. Pawlak is the leader of the Spoon project, on which he will give a tutorial at EclipseCON 2007 (http://spoon.gforge.inria.fr/).

Vannevar Bush Award

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nation and the international community.”

The Vannevar Bush Award was established in 1980 to honor the unique contributions of a prominent World War II-era scientist and presidential adviser. The annual award recognizes an individual who, through public service activities in science and technology, has made an outstanding “contribution toward the welfare of mankind and the Nation.”

In 1945, at President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s urging, Bush reported a series of recommendations for a post-war system of federal research and education to broaden the nation’s scientific and technological expertise in many fields. His book, Science: The Endless Frontier, is often cited as the document spurring the eventual formation of the National Science Foundation (NSF) in 1950. NSF is the federal agency that supports virtually university-based research across almost all fields of science and engineering.

The National Science Board is an independent 24-member body of policy advisers to the president and Congress on matters of science and engineering research, and is the policy-making and oversight body for the National Science Foundation, an independent federal agency that supports almost all areas of fundamental research nationwide.

Upcoming Connecticut Quality Council (CQC) Events

- October 3 - Annual Quality Symposium
  The morning keynote address will explore the “Human Factors for Quality Implementation” and the afternoon keynote will address “Transforming Quality through Collaboration.” The symposium will offer three tracks: Leadership, Tools and Techniques, and Forward Thinking.

- October 16 - First module begins for the 2007 Quality Management Certificate Program (QMCP)
  The QMCP consists of a comprehensive series of modules that focus on the analysis and improvement of quality and performance. The program will address the specifics of listening to the Voice of the Customer (VOC) while learning solid skills to improve Quality Management practices.

EWP Troy and Distance News

Capital District 40 Under Forty Winners Include Rensselaer Alumni

Ray Puffer (left), Program Director, Center for Automation Technologies and Systems, EWP Troy, with Ryan O’Donnell.

Rensselaer promoted Education for Working Professionals (EWP) programs at the event. Two of the award winners are Rensselaer graduates: Ryan O’Donnell, ’04 B.S. Mechanical Engineering) from Bull Ex, Inc., and Elizabeth Doran (’04 M.B.A.), from Capital Repertory Theatre. EWP Troy and Distance programs congratulate all of the “40 Under Forty” 2007 honorees.

Elizabeth Doran (left) and Kim Scalzo, Director of Outreach Programs, EWP Troy.
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute’s graduate engineering programs are ranked among the best in the nation in the 2008 U.S. News & World Report guide to “America’s Best Graduate Schools,” that hit newstands on April 3 (www.usnews.com). “These rankings are another validation of our ongoing transformation to a world-class technological research university with global reach and global impact,” said Rensselaer President Shirley Ann Jackson, Ph.D.

The Graduate School of Engineering is ranked 36th in the nation, up from 37th the previous year. Four RPI engineering programs are ranked among the top 20, and 10 of Rensselaer’s 11 engineering programs are ranked among the top 30 in the country. Five programs saw their rankings improve from the previous year.

President Jackson Elected Member of American Philosophical Society

Rensselaer President Shirley Ann Jackson has been elected a member of the American Philosophical Society (APS), the oldest learned society in the United States. She was elected in the category of mathematical and physical sciences. The honor puts her in the company of some of history’s most distinguished scholars — a noteworthy membership that includes the founders of the American republic and more than 260 recipients of the Nobel Prize. To read more about Dr. Jackson’s election into the APS, please see: http://news.rpi.edu/campusnews/update.do?artcenterkey=2136&setappearpage=1&setappear=issueSet(2136,2124,2131,2127,2117,2118,2132,2133,2130,2126)&setappear=pos (1).

Rensselaer Supports GHAC Street Banner Program

Rensselaer at Hartford has sponsored the banner pictured here on Main Street in downtown Hartford near the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art as part of the Greater Hartford Arts Council (GHAC) 2007 Hartford Street Banner Program. Rensselaer has been participating in this program each year since 1999. The banners are displayed from March to November.

Survey Winner Announced... Don’t Miss the 2007 Survey

Philip Scala (’06 M.S. Engineering Science) won the $250 Amazon.com gift certificate for participating in the online Fall 2006 Student Satisfaction Survey sponsored by the Office of Student Services. Mr. Scala is a recent Rensselaer graduate, having been awarded his degree in December, joining the nearly 90,000 Rensselaer alumni worldwide. He is interested in returning to the Rensselaer Hartford Campus to take a class in Corrosion. He is also considering earning an M.S. in Management from Rensselaer.

Mr. Scala is currently a Metallurgical Engineer at Pratt & Whitney working in the quality and standards laboratory. His Rensselaer degree has helped him on the job particularly since Rensselaer professors have industry experience, specifically in gas turbines. According to Mr. Scala, “The Rensselaer faculty is well-versed in theory and also in practice, with an excellent overall understanding of materials science.” He made particular mention of four engineering faculty: Ernesto Gutierrez-Miravete, Ph.D.; Clinical Associate Professor, and Adjunct Professors Sudha Bose, Ph.D.; Matthew J. Donachie, Jr., Sc.D.; and John J. Marcin, M.S.

Mr. Scala was very pleased with his overall Rensselaer experience and said, “I would like to thank George David [President, United Technologies Corporation (UTC)] and the UTC Scholar Program for the privilege to pursue advanced studies in higher education.” In regards to his gift certificate, Mr. Scala plans on using it for textbooks on technical and scientific literature. He is truly setting an example for lifelong learning for all of Rensselaer’s Education for Working Professionals.
Faculty and Staff News

Edward D. Arnheiter, Ph.D., Clinical Associate Professor, and John Maleyeff, Ph.D., Clinical Professor, Lally School of Management and Technology, co-authored the article, “The Integration of Lean Management and Six Sigma,” which has been reprinted as “Reading 16” in the textbook *Crafting and Executing Strategy* (15th Edition) by Arthur A. Thompson, Jr., A.J. Strickland III, and John E. Gamble, McGraw-Hill Irwin, 2007. The textbook is currently being used in the course MGMT-6650 Technology and Competitive Advantage. The article by Arnheiter and Maleyeff originally appeared in *The TQM Magazine*, Volume 17, Number 1, 2005.

Carole Charles, Program Administrator, Leadership and Executive Development, Rensselaer’s Centers for Professional Development (RCPD), served as a panelist for the annual Meeting Professionals International Connecticut River Valley Chapter (MPI CRV) education meeting held at Rensselaer at Hartford on March 13. She spoke on the topic, Rensselaer Leadership Development Programs, including the Foundations of Leadership (FOL) and Leadership Development Program (LDP)* of the Center for Creative Leadership and RCPD.


John Mac Enroe, Director of State Relations, Government and Community Relations, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, represented Rensselaer at the 75th Anniversary of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges (CCIC) reception, dinner, and awards ceremony held at the Connecticut Convention Center on March 29. Rensselaer at Hartford is a member of the CCIC, which was founded in 1932 to represent Connecticut’s nonprofit independent colleges and universities.

John Maleyeff, Ph.D., Clinical Professor, Lally School of Management and Technology, gave a presentation at the 2007 Northeast Decision Sciences Conference, held March 28-30, in Baltimore, Maryland, entitled, “Process Improvement in the Public Sector: Success Factors.”

Kim Scalzo, Director of Outreach Programs, EWP Troy, was a member of the 2007 American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Conference on Industry and Education Collaboration (CIEC) Management Team. She was the Continuing Professional Development Division (CPD) Program Chair. Scalzo was also a presenter at the conference held February 6-9 in Palm Springs, California. She presented a break-out session with Sue Bray from New Vistas called “Partnerships that Perform: It takes More Than Good Intentions.” Marie-Pierre Huguet, Course Developer, EWP Troy, was also a presenter at the conference. Her workshop was titled, “Online Teaching, Blended Instruction, and Emerging Technologies: Choosing the Right Tools.”

News Briefs

Three-Year Course Schedule Available

Attention students: the Rensselaer at Hartford Three-Year Course Schedule (Fall 2007-Summer 2010) has been printed and will be posted on the Web. This is a helpful tool for developing an approved Plan of Study. Remember, all students are required to complete a plan with their faculty advisor’s approval by the completion of their second course. For more information, please contact your advisor or the Office of the Registrar.

Plans of Study Due October 1

All students who have completed two courses must file an approved Plan of Study with the Office of the Registrar by October 1, 2007. Every student is assigned a faculty advisor to assist in academic program planning and the development of an approved Plan of Study. It is recommended that students contact faculty advisors during their first term. Reminder: If no plan is on file, a flag will be placed on a student’s record preventing registration.

Virtual Information Sessions Launched

The Enrollment Management team is conducting live Virtual Information Sessions. Prospective students can now attend a Rensselaer Information Session without traveling to campus. Sessions are tailored to specific programs and are offered during the morning, afternoon, and evening. Each presentation lasts approximately 20 minutes and includes the opportunity for questions. The schedule of sessions being offered is available at: www.ewp.rpi.edu/hartford/openhouse/index.html. If you know someone with the potential to be a candidate for admission to Rensselaer, please share this news with him or her. Word-of-mouth advertising is still Rensselaer’s most powerful marketing tool!

Rensselaer Notables Featured on Web

Check out the new pages on our Web site featuring “Notable” Rensselaer Hartford Campus students, faculty, and alumni. These short vignettes and photos will be updated monthly and each story will be archived on the Web. Reading about these outstanding members of the Rensselaer community is sure to stir up Rensselaer pride (www.ewp.rpi.edu/hartford/notables).
Outstanding Student Awards
Continued from page 2

Department of the Lally School of Management and Technology, co-nominated Courtney for the award.

Joseph C. Nold, of North Kingstown, Rhode Island, was presented with the Outstanding Student Award for the Department of Engineering and Science. He was nominated for the award by Ernesto Gutierrez-Miravete, Ph.D., Clinical Associate Professor, Engineering. Nold earned an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering with a 3.85 G.P.A. He is currently a Mechanical Engineer in the Combat Systems Department at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC). In this position, his primary focus is on maintaining and innovating for the future of submarine combat control systems. He is also involved as a Black Belt in training in Lean/Six Sigma working with process improvement at NUWC, and is a professional engineer.

While a Naval submarine office, Nold was an instructor in naval nuclear reactors and received three Navy achievement medals. As Project Manager, he was responsible for the operation, administration, maintenance, and testing of over 100 million dollars of weapon and reactor systems on a fast attack submarine.

Commenting on his studies at Rensselaer, Nold stated, “Rensselaer provided me a chance to study and grow along with other working professional engineers, giving me a chance to see different perspectives. This allowed me to see problems from a viewpoint other than my military background and really helped my growth as a professional engineer.”

Rockin’ Rensselaer Reds Team Bicycles in Support of American Diabetes Association

Four members of the Rensselaer Hartford Campus staff, Stephen J. Bergeron, Business Analyst; Academic Departments and Programs; and Stephanie L. Hood, Program Administrator; Robert F. Sheftel, Program Manager; and Christa A. Sterling, Program Administrator, all in Enrollment Management, formed a team that biked 150 miles up the coast of New England in support of the American Diabetes Association. The Tour de Cure two-day ride took place July 14 and 15 through the back roads of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Maine. To read more about the bike ride, please visit: http://diabetes.org/tour.

The team raised $2,550 for the American Diabetes Association to make a difference in the lives of the more than 20 million Americans who suffer from diabetes and in the fight against this deadly disease. Thank you to everyone for their generous support of the Tour de Cure, including the substantial donations from the Rensselaer community.

Library Links to Google Scholar

The Cole Library’s electronic resources are now linked to Google Scholar (http://scholar.google.com) through SFX. From on campus, you’ll see the SFX@RPI link in text as it appears here. From off campus, use Google Scholar Preferences to search and select “Rensselaer Hartford Campus” in order to make the links appear. You will still need to authenticate to view full text of articles available in our subscription databases.

For those new to Google Scholar, it is a service that meta-searches freely available citations of scholarly articles and returns results based on relevance. It can be helpful as a supplement to the Cole Library’s subscription databases. For more information on Google Scholar and its strengths and limitations, please visit this page from the UCLA Library at: www2.library.ucla.edu/googlescholar/index.cfm.

Mozilla Firefox Users Extension

LibX RPI-Hartford Edition is a Firefox extension that provides direct access to the Cole Library’s resources. LibX RPI-Hartford features a toolbar that allows you to search the Rensselaer Libraries’ Catalog and Google Scholar. Another feature is drag-and-drop searching from the text of Web pages and PDF documents. LibX RPI-Hartford also provides cues to link you to Cole Library resources that you find while using Web sites such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Google Scholar, or PubMed. A link through SFX will bring you to a menu offering full text if available or options to get full text through the Cole Library. You can learn more and download the extension at: www.ewp.rpi.edu/hartford/library/libx.htm.

New SFX Link Resolver Software Demo for Library

Linda M. Knaack, Instructional Services Librarian, Cole Library, created a tutorial that explains the ins and outs of the Cole Library’s SFX Link Resolver Software. Check it out and learn what to do if you encounter the SFX@RPI icon when searching one of our electronic databases. The link is at: www.ewp.rpi.edu/hartford/library/SFX-demo/SFX-Demo-New.htm.

LexisNexis Academic Redesigned

LexisNexis will launch a completely...
Robert E. Palazzo, acting provost, director of the Center for Biotechnology and Interdisciplinary Studies, and professor of biology at Rensselaer, has been appointed to the position of provost after a rigorous national search. Palazzo assumed his new position July 1.

“Robert Palazzo is an accomplished scientist and teacher, and he is a national leader in his field,” President Shirley Ann Jackson said. “He brings a wealth of experience to the position of provost. I look forward to continuing our work together toward the goal of elevating Rensselaer into the top-tier of technological research universities with global reach and global impact.”

As provost, Palazzo will work closely with the academic divisions to develop leading academic programs and to develop a world-class instructional and research faculty. He will also collaborate with the vice president for research to strengthen the research mission of the Institute.

“I am grateful to President Jackson for her confidence in providing me the opportunity to serve, humbled by the extraordinary commitment and generosity of the Board Trustees, and invigorated by the strength and scholarship of the faculty of Rensselaer,” Palazzo said. “The quality of students at Rensselaer brings a deep sense of responsibility to the Office of the Provost to ensure that we offer them the very best in educating them as the technological leaders of tomorrow. What we do for them now will emanate throughout the world, and, as such, reflects the care, wisdom, and scholarship of our faculty.”

Palazzo has been a leader in Rensselaer’s academic community since joining the Institute as a professor of biology in 2002. “Dr. Palazzo has been instrumental in elevating the prestige of Rensselaer’s scientific community as we developed our Center for Biotechnology and Interdisciplinary Studies, which now stands on equal footing with many of the world’s most advanced research facilities,” Jackson said. “He also has played an important role in recruiting world-class faculty to lead interdisciplinary research and teaching.”

Palazzo is a national leader in his field, having been elected president of the Federation for American Societies of Experimental Biology (FASEB), a group of 21 societies representing more than 80,000 life scientists across the country. His one-year term as president began on July 1, when he took over as the head and lead spokesperson for the organization. FASEB is recognized as the principal voice of the biomedical research community on issues related to biomedical research funding and research integrity.

Palazzo earned a bachelor’s degree in biology and a doctorate in biological sciences at Wayne State University, and studied as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Virginia. To read more about Palazzo, please see: http://news.rpi.edu/update.do.

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redesigned version of LexisNexis Academic for all subscribers in September 2007.

- Company Dossier will be included in all U.S. subscriptions
- Powerful source selection using language, geographic, topic, and other facets
- Support for article-level linking
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Updates on the Progress at Rensselaer

Rensselaer Supercomputer Ranks Seventh in the World

If you can’t catch Shirley Ann Jackson, Ph.D., President, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, in person, you can always catch her online. Read the most recent speeches and remarks by President Jackson, as well as the State of the Institute address and The Rensselaer Plan, all archived on the Web page of the Office of the President at: www.rpi.edu/president/index.html. The spring Town Meeting entitled, “The Rensselaer Plan: Spring 2007 Update,” was held April 2 at the Troy campus and simulcast to the Hartford campus, and the State of the Institute 2007 titled, “Creating a Fully Realized University: Progress on the Renaissance at Rensselaer,” was delivered on June 9.

The new supercomputer at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, has been ranked seventh in the world, and it is the most powerful of any system based at a university, according to the 29th edition of the closely watched Top500 list. The Top500 list of the world’s fastest supercomputers was released June 27 at the International Supercomputing Conference in Dresden, Germany. The new list can be found on the Web at: www.top500.org/list/2007/06/100.

The Computational Center for Nanotechnology Innovations (CCNI), the result of a $100 million partnership involving Rensselaer, IBM, and New York state, is designed to continue advancing semiconductor technology to the nanoscale, while also enabling key nanotechnology innovations in the fields of energy, biotechnology, arts, and medicine. To read more about this exciting news, please see: http://news.rpi.edu/update.do.
Rensselaer at Hartford’s 27th annual Summer Computer Challenge was held July 9 through August 3, serving children from three Hartford area elementary schools: Barnard-Brown, Burr, and SAND. Thirty-five students were involved in the free program designed to increase computer literacy and research skills. The children interact creatively through hands-on computer training. The computer software used during the program focused on the integration of language arts, reading, writing, and mathematics skills.

The theme for this year’s program was “Go Green!” and the children created projects exploring the environment, energy, and conservation. Field trips to fun and educational destinations rounded out the program.

Rensselaer is grateful to numerous individuals and organizations for their support and commitment to the program. This year’s Summer Computer Challenge was made possible by generous contributors including: the Aetna Foundation; the Bank of America Charitable Foundation; the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving; and the Knox Foundation. In addition, the program would like to acknowledge catering by Russell's Creative Global Cuisine.

This year’s Summer Computer Challenge participants went on some fun and educational field trips. Clockwise from the top: The USS Nautilus and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy; The New England Air Museum; and the Peabody Museum of Natural History.

Dr. Bose Publishes Book on High Temperature Coatings

Rensselaer Pratt & Whitney Fellow, Sudhangshu Bose, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor in Engineering, Department of Engineering and Science, had his book High Temperature Coatings published by Elsevier in January. The 299-page book is the culmination of nearly four years of writing and editing, and provides a comprehensive overview of the fundamental concepts of high-temperature coating technologies.

Over the course of seven years of teaching classes on high-temperature coatings at Rensselaer, Dr. Bose had difficulty finding a quality technical book to supplement instructional materials. Therefore, he decided to write his own book. “The book combines scientific basis with manufacturing technology aspects,” Dr. Bose said. “Not many books are available in the field, and those that are available are either conference proceedings or are outdated.” He hopes the book will become a valuable resource for engineering students and practicing professionals.

“Readers will understand the science behind this technologically important and economically lucrative field. They will also learn the technology, including the manufacturing processes, and interactions coatings have with the environment,” Dr. Bose said. “Applications in gas turbine engines are highlighted. Additionally, readers will develop an understanding of coating inspection and repair processes, and can further consult a large number of references.” For more detailed information about the book, please visit: www.elsevier.com/wps/find/bookdescription.cws_home/709206/description#description.

Second Edition of Better Thinking, Better Results Released

The second edition of the 2003 Shingo Prize-Winning book, Better Thinking, Better Results: Case Study and Analysis of an Enterprise-Wide Lean Transformation, was released in April. James P. Stodder, Ph.D., Clinical Associate Professor, Lally School of Management and Technology, is one of the book’s authors.

Rensselaer Fellows Program to Launch in Fall 2007

The Rensselaer Fellows Program is a truly global educational experience designed for the accelerated development of high-potential talent. The Program provides a complete learning experience through short-term domestic and international residencies. Graduates earn a Rensselaer Master of Science degree in Management by completing twelve separate one-week residential sessions, approximately four weeks apart, over the course of 12-14 months.

The Rensselaer Fellows Program provides a Rensselaer degree and a transformative experience by bringing a select cohort of student leaders together with exceptional faculty. The Fellows Program is built upon a solid foundation of fundamentals, and is taught by some of the best scholars and industry leaders using peer-group team principles and interactive study methods. Fellows candidates will be expected to make significant contributions to the Rensselaer intellectual community and to their sponsoring organizations through the application of critical thinking, decision-making and change agent leadership skills.

The Fellows curriculum for 2007 will be Innovation and Corporate Entrepreneurship (ICE). The ICE curriculum is designed to develop leaders who will be involved in creating, managing, and driving innovation on a global level in large organizations. Corporate Entrepreneurship focuses on the ability to seize opportunity in developing new business ventures inside the existing framework of large corporate enterprises. Classroom studies are conducted in week-long sessions at Rensselaer’s Hartford, Connecticut and Troy, New York campuses as well as business centers in Europe and Asia. The International travel component reinforces the global nature of the Fellows Program. Fellows candidates will experience world-class business strategies through field sessions conducted in the European Union and the Asian Pacific Rim.

There are many benefits for the sponsoring corporations of Fellows candidates. The Fellows curriculum includes a corporate practicum designed to identify and solve a real business problem or research project of direct relevance and benefit to the sponsoring organization. The flexible, short-term residency schedule of the Fellows Program enables participants to maintain their professional responsibilities while they acquire knowledge and skills that can be immediately applied to their current roles. Corporations gain a competitive advantage by exposing employees to the latest technological and business advancements from leading educators and researchers.

A graduate of the Rensselaer Fellows Program:

• Grows beyond effective functional management to become a high-level, exceptional leader, with the skill set to lead change in complex organizations.
• Benefits from leading-edge management practices.
• Acquires the knowledge to create extraordinary opportunities for organizational success.
• Learns to use cross-functional and cross-company teams to achieve competitive advantage in global business situations.
• Understands how to analyze data and information, interpret financial performance, and manage risks.
• Becomes a disciplined leader who engages and energizes people for outstanding results.

For more information about the Rensselaer Fellows Program, please contact Nancy Farrell at (860) 548-5477; (800) 433-4723, ext. 5477; e-mail: farren@rpi.edu; or visit www.rpi.edu/ewp/fellows.

New International Scholars Program to Start in June 2008

Rensselaer is introducing a new program, the International Scholars Program (ISP), that will debut in Summer 2008. The Rensselaer ISP will provide college graduates with a valuable edge in educational background, worldly perspective, and the ability to speak from personal experience, as they make the transition from college to the working world. In addition to earning a Graduate Certificate in International Business from Rensselaer, ISP participants will also accumulate 40 percent of the requirements toward earning an M.S. in Management, along with the qualifications for a concentration.

The ISP combines Rensselaer’s academic rigor with the global industry exposure of an international internship to provide an international experience introducing the college graduate to the global stage. The classroom experience will be complimented by guest lectures, dialogues and visits with multinational corporations, in addition to Rensselaer’s distinguished faculty. Through four graduate courses, students complete individual and team-based projects, introduce themselves to management of multinational corporations, and are immersed into influential cultures. Upon completion of the program, students will earn a graduate certificate in either Global Enterprise Management or Computer Science.

Participants in the Enterprise Management track will travel to Barcelona, Spain, and Shanghai, China; while students in the Information Technology track will travel to Rome, Italy, and Warsaw, Poland. A Culminating Experience will be a requirement of both areas of study. This value-added project will span 10 weeks and be integrated as a part of the curriculum. Students will be working with key industry leaders, their peers, and Rensselaer faculty to develop interdisciplinary solutions to complex problems.

To learn more about ISP, please contact a Program Manager at (860) 548-5600; toll-free at (800) 433-4723, ext. 5600; or visit the Web site at: www.ewp.rpi.edu/isp.

Rensselaer has announced the addition of seven new members to the Rensselaer Alumni Hall of Fame. The new honorees will be added to the display at the Hartford Campus, along with an updated brochure.
Rensselaer’s Hartford Campus Employees Honored with Service Awards

Rensselaer at Hartford staff members were recognized at the annual Service Recognition and Retirement Dinner held August 3 at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center in Albany, New York. Shirley Ann Jackson, Ph.D., President, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Curtis N. Powell, Vice President for Human Resources, and John A. Minasian, Ph.D., Vice President and Dean, Rensselaer at Hartford, congratulated each employee. Anniversary thank-you gifts from Rensselaer were presented to each employee as well. Incremental five-year service awards were given to the following employees:

Ten Years of Service

- Carol Charles, Program Administrator, Leadership and Executive Development, Rensselaer’s Centers for Professional Development
- Brian J. Clement, Director, Technical and Information Services
- Kristin E. Galligan, Director, Enrollment Management and Marketing
- Brian Hartlieb, System Administrator, Technical and Information Services
- Adam Hechler, Senior Analyst/PC System Administrator, Technical and Information Services
- Allison Misky, Program Manager, Enrollment Management
- Paul Sartini, Multimedia Producer, Distributed Education and Multimedia

Twenty Years of Service

- Paul J. Murphy, Manager, Operations and Facilities
- Gary Trail, Director, Network Information Systems, Technical and Information Services