Selected Coverage April 2013

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The New York Times
The Wall Street Journal
USA Today
Wall Street Journal
Washington Post
Winnipeg Free Press
Womens Health Mag
Yahoo! Voices

**ABC News (April 10)**

Nominees Announced for English Translation Prize

Ten fiction works and six poetry books were announced Wednesday by Three Percent, a center for international literature that’s based at the **University of Rochester** in New York. Winning authors and translators each receive $5,000, prize money donated by Amazon.com. Winners will be announced next month. (Also Reported In: NPR, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Newsday, Winnipeg Free Press, 10WHEC-TV)

**Foxnews.com (April 23)**

Seizure Drug Used in Pregnancy Boosts Baby’s Autism Risk

The results don’t prove the generic drug, also sold as valproic acid, causes autism. But researchers were able to account for a number of underlying factors - such as the age and health of the mothers and the babies’ fathers - that make the study more convincing, Christopher Stodgell said. “This finding isn’t necessarily a brand new finding, but it’s an important finding in that researchers studied really a much larger population, and they also looked at some other underlying drivers,” said Stodgell, who studies the origins of autism at the **University of Rochester Medical Center** but wasn’t involved in the new research. (Also Reported in: Bloomberg News, Bloomberg Businessweek, Reuters, Chicago Tribune, NBCNews.com, Newsday, International Business Times, 10WHEC-TV, YNN, and others)

**The New York Times (April 20)**

The Tangle of the Sexes

By BOBBI CAROTHERS and HARRY REIS

Men and women are so different they might as well be from separate planets, so says the theory of the sexes famously explicated in John Gray’s 1992 best seller, “Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus.” Bobbi Carothers is a senior data analyst at Washington University in St. Louis. Harry Reis is a professor of psychology at the **University of Rochester**.

**Washington Post (April 15)**

Airport body scanning technology uncovers ancient Roman fresco

While using this technology to examine a painting, Bianca Jackson, a postdoctoral research fellow at the **University of Rochester**, found evidence of another painting underneath. “We were amazed, and we were delighted,” she said during a presentation to the American Chemical Society. “We could not believe our eyes as the image materialized on the screen. Underneath the top painting of the folds of a man’s tunic, we saw an eye, a nose and then a mouth appear. We were seeing what likely
was part of an ancient Roman fresco, thousands of years old.” (Also Reported In: Huffington Post, Red Orbit, ZeeNews.com, and Asian Age)

**Huffington Post (April 16)**

**Boston Bombings - Brain Injuries**

Dr. Jeff Bazarian, a brain injury expert at the University of Rochester Medical Center, referred to lessons from 9/11. “People went to hospitals with fractures and internal organ injuries,” Bazarian said. “But long after those bones healed and internal organs were fixed, it was the overlooked concussions that ultimately interrupted their ability to go back to what they were doing before. “Concussions often get missed because other injuries are more life-threatening,” added Bazarian, who, has studied impacts of head injuries on athletes and soldiers. Some people never go to the hospital, he said. They may feel fine at the time.

**The Wall Street Journal (April 3)**

**Disclosure Rules Were a Long Time in Coming**

For most of its history, the Securities and Exchange Commission had few if any rules on how companies can disclose information. Executives had to rely on decisions at the SEC and in the courts to know. In practice, the rules meant corporate insiders couldn’t trade until information had been widely disseminated, says Joel Seligman, president of the University of Rochester and a historian of the SEC. For thinly traded stocks, that sometimes meant waiting days before trading, Mr. Seligman says. (Subscription required)

**The New York Times (April 20)**

**An Instant Path to an Online Army**

VizWiz, a free iPhone app developed by Jeffrey P. Bigham of the University of Rochester and colleagues in its Human Computer Interaction program, gives real-time help to blind users. VizWiz users take a photograph as best as they can — it may take several tries before the desired object is properly framed — and then record one question about it (“What is on the label of the can?”). (Also Reported In: Pittsburgh Post Gazette)

**Inside Higher Ed (April 25)**

**New study links student motivations for going to college to their success**

Why did you decide to go to college? Asking that question of new students in a more formal way might help colleges find ways to encourage more students to complete their programs, according to a new study from the University of Rochester education researchers published in The Journal of College Student Development. Doug Guiffrida, associate professor of counseling and human development at Rochester, said that this finding suggests that those advising low-income students should be encouraged to reinforce -- for those who place a high priority on economic advancement -- the relationship between their studies and their later likely economic success. (Also Reported In: 13WHAM-TV)

**Everyday Health (April 18)**

**Traffic pollution may increase risk for heart disease**

Long-term exposure to fine particle matter from traffic pollution may raise your risk for heart disease, according to preliminary research presented Thursday at the EuroPRevent 2013 meeting in Rome. Fine particle matter (PM) is a type of pollution characterized by particles that are 2.5 micrometers in diameter or smaller — approximately 1/100th of the width of a human hair. When inhaled, these particles can have serious health effects, said David Rich, ScD, associate professor of public health at the University of Rochester.

**Rochester Democrat & Chronicle (April 23)**

**UR revamping research commercialization**

Each stage of Scott Catlin’s career has taken him in a slightly different direction, but, as a whole, it amounts to an ideal path leading to his new role as vice president for innovation and technology commercialization at the University of Rochester. “Even though I did it originally for financial reasons, I got so much out of it from a leadership and management perspective. If I had known then what I know now, I probably would have done it even if they didn’t pay for school,” said Catlin, who earned a bachelor’s degree in optical engineering at UR in 1992.
**Psychology Today (April 2)**

**Nursing home physician specialists**

In terms of physician availability, we should all be clamoring for models that include full-time coverage. The ideal is having a medical director on site. However, the role of physician assistants was documented in Physician Assistants Providing Geriatric Care by the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services. Nonetheless in 2009 a compelling argument was made for a “nursing home medicine specialty, which recognizes the nursing home as a unique practice site,” according to Paul R. Katz, M.D., University of Rochester. He and his colleagues noted that it “would go a long way toward remedying existing problems with care in skilled nursing facilities and would best serve the needs of the 1.6 million nursing home residents in the United States.” Nursing Home Physician Specialists - Annals of Internal Medicine.

**Rochester Democrat & Chronicle (April 12)**

Civil rights lawyer discusses diversity at UR

The keynote speaker at the University of Rochester’s annual diversity conference on Friday expressed concerns about whether an upcoming Supreme Court decision would continue to permit race to be a factor in college admissions. Lani Guinier, a prominent civil rights lawyer who is the first African-American woman to hold a tenured position at Harvard Law School, said that the Supreme Court does not seem eager to have race in the equation for achieving diversity. UR President Joel Seligman, who previously was a law professor and law school dean, said in his introductory remarks that diversity is a fundamental value for a university. “We meet, however, at a time of enormous anxiety,” said Seligman about the concerns he shared with Guinier about the upcoming Supreme Court ruling.

**Rochester Democrat & Chronicle (April 4)**

Conference at UR addresses sexual assaults

Maggie Maloy drew from her personal experience — a victim of a brutal sexual assault and her will to survive — as the keynote speaker at the University of Rochester’s conference Wednesday on Confronting Sexual Assault on Campus. In his introductory remarks, UR President Joel Seligman cited statistics from the Centers for Disease Control’s 2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Survey, which reported that nearly one in five women and one in 71 men have been raped some time in their lives. “The trauma that rape victims feel can affect their lives for decades in ways that can be emotionally devastating not only to the victim but to those who love her or him,” Seligman said. (Also Reported In: 10WHEC-TV, YNN)

**Technology Review (April 1)**

**Nuance Thinks Voice Ads Could Be a Mobile Hit**

Jeffrey Bigham, an assistant professor of computer science at the University of Rochester and creator of a speech-recognition system that combines computers and crowdsourcing (see “Where Siri Has Trouble Hearing, a Crowd of Humans Could Help”), isn’t sure if Voice Ads can be made to work well enough that they won’t be frustrating to use. He notes that Siri, which initially appears to be able to do all sorts of things, is actually quite limited. “You can’t just ask Siri anything. If you do, it sends you out to the Web,” he says.

**Washington Post (April 30)**

Experts disagree on which fats should be consumed and in what exact proportions

How does processing affect the benefits and risks of oil? Oils may be processed using mechanical pressing or heat and chemicals, which can affect its flavor and potentially its health benefits. Processed or refined oils do have some pluses, though. They are less expensive, last longer and can hold up to such high-heat uses as frying without smoking and breaking down into potentially toxic compounds. On the minus side, refined oils may have been extracted with hexane, an industrial solvent. But at very low exposure levels through food, there is no reason to think that this should be a health problem, says toxicologist John L. O’Donoghue of the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

**Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (April 5)**

Heather Layton

Art can serve many different purposes. It can inspire, entertain, or provoke. For Heather Layton, art can act as a catalyst for social justice. Layton, 37, is a multimedia artist and a Senior Lecturer.
of Art at the University of Rochester where she teaches courses in painting and performance art.

**WXXI (April 5)**
University of Rochester River Campus Culture
What role do the arts play at a liberal arts college and research institution? What role does artistic creation and appreciation play in people’s lives, even when it isn’t one’s career or college major?
**Nigel Maister** and **Missy Pfohl Smith** of the University of Rochester spoke with WXXI’s Mona Seghatoleslami about arts initiatives at the University of Rochester and the broader role of arts in our lives and community.

**MedPage Today (April 23)**
Betablockers and non-cardiac surgery
Patients taking beta-blockers when they underwent noncardiac, nonvascular surgery had better outcomes than those not taking the drugs, an observational study showed. The study “basically forces us to reevaluate whether we should be giving beta-blockers routinely in all patients who are going for noncardiac surgery,” commented **Sabu Thomas**, MD, of the University of Rochester Medical Center in New York. The use of beta-blockers in the perioperative period among patients undergoing major noncardiac surgery is controversial, according to the researchers.

**Huffington Post (April 21)**
Reframing Stress Could Help People Overcome Public Speaking Phobia, Study Suggests
Overcoming stress experienced from common phobias could be as simple as reframing it, according to a new study. “Those feelings just mean that our body is preparing to address a demanding situation,” study researcher **Jeremy Jamieson**, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Rochester, said in a statement. “The body is marshaling resources, pumping more blood to our major muscle groups and delivering more oxygen to our brains.” (Also Reported In: NBCNews.com, Men’s Health News, Innovation Trail, Science Daily, Medical Xpress, Womens Health Mag, Indian Express, Red Orbit, NetIndia123.com, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and others)

**Innovation Trail (April 3)**
Images of the brain could unlock learning difficulties
**Jessica Cantlon** is a 2013 Sloan Research Fellow, and one of the lead researchers in a team of brain and cognitive scientists at the University of Rochester who are looking for answers in neural imaging. She says the data they’re able to collect from children’s brain scans could be used to determine the probability of children encountering problems with subjects like math later in life. “It might be the case that brain scans from a four-year-old-child could reveal that they are going to, in the future, potentially have some mathematical difficulties, so that’s one advantage of having this neural imaging data,” says Cantlon.

**USA Today.com (April 27)**
Girl brings First Communion to ailing father
Erin Day is 8 years old, and most of the time, Erin Day acts 8 years old. But Erin knows what’s important to her, and what’s important to her father, who is currently awaiting a heart transplant at a local hospital. On Friday, with her father sitting in the front row of the Interfaith Chapel at the University of Rochester Medical Center, Erin received the Eucharist from Bishop Emeritus Matthew Clark.

**Rochester City Newspaper (April 10)**
CLASSICAL | Sound ExChange
Sound ExChange is a group based out of the Eastman School of Music that explores alternative ways of presenting tunes to audiences by re-imagining the traditional concert experience. This program is designed to transform ARTISANworks into an interactive concert hall. You can take Sound ExChange out of the theater, but don’t expect to take the theater out of Sound ExChange. Creating your own music through a family-dinner-style arrangement of music by color, and original compositions set to sign language, are among the presentations scheduled to take place in the venue’s immersive galleries.

**CNBC (April 14)**
Landing a Reverse Mortgage Just Got Tougher
“The standard HECM loans have proven to have an unusual number of defaults,” said **Delores Conway**, associate dean and professor of real estate at the University of Rochester. “By taking
so much cash up front, homeowners have less money in later years to keep up with property taxes and other housing expenses they have to pay even with a reverse mortgage,” Conway added. “That, and falling property values, have increased defaults.”

Rochester Democrat & Chronicle (April 6)
Noyes’ New ED: Will regional hospitals survive?
Last July, Noyes [Memorial Hospital] signed a collaborative agreement with the University of Rochester Medical Center. “Each one of them is trying to sort out how they are going to continue to provide services over time,” said Steven I. Goldstein, chief executive officer of Strong Memorial and Highland hospitals. “Our job is to provide them with whatever expertise we can.”

Rochester City Newspaper (April 3)
CLASSICAL | JACK Quartet
OK, so here’s the deal. You like classical, as in Bach? JACK. You lean toward the wild side with Cage? JACK. You dig string musicians with a top-button-open attitude and some ridiculous technical skills? JACK. And I’m not talking cheese. This is the quartet that proves new music soars to a new level when you have the proper classical training to execute what modern composers create out of our complex, modern world. The JACK Quartet is playing in the intimate Hatch Recital Hall, which means both superior acoustics and a sell-out show. Get your tickets as quickly as you can spell...
you got it: JACK. The JACK Quartet performs Wednesday, April 10, 8 p.m. at Hatch Recital Hall, Eastman School of Music, 26 Gibbs St. $10-$20, discounts to UR ID holders. 274-1000, esm.rochester.edu.

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (April 12)
Opera star Jessye Norman speaks at Eastman on life’s lessons
The room full of students who’d come to maybe pick up a few tips from Jessye Norman were likely caught off guard by the opera star’s opening statement. “I feel lucky to have grown up in a community where I felt loved and cared for,” Norman said Friday in the Eastman School of Music’s Hatch Performance Hall to middle school, high school and Eastman students. She was appealing to the students not as young musicians, but as young people: “Remember that you are also citizens.”

Rochester Business Journal (April 17)
Highland Family Medicine part of LEAP Project
Highland Family Medicine has been identified as one of 30 U.S physician groups designated as national exemplars in The Primary Care Team: Learning from Effective Ambulatory Practices project. Affiliated with Highland Hospital and the University of Rochester Medical Center’s Department of Family Medicine, Highland Family Medicine is an approximately 50-physician primary care group located in Rochester’s Southeast.

10WHEC-TV (April 17)
Mom knows best
We’ve all heard the saying, “Listen to your mother.” Eastman School of Music junior Keenan McKoy is glad he did. Her advice propelled him into the spotlight. McKoy said, “She said learn how to play the saxophone then you can learn to play other instruments because the fingering is similar. I am not sure how she knew because she is not musically inclined, but mama knows best!” Lately, he has been putting in extra hours of study with Professor Chien-Kwan Lin and for good reason. McKoy is the 2013 Search for Excellence Scholarship winner.

The New York Times (April 12)
Prairie Jazz Companion
A few years ago the jazz composer Maria Schneider traveled back to her hometown, Windom, Minn. After graduate work at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, she moved to New York and began working as a copyist, churning out instrumental parts from orchestral scores. It was through a copying gig that she met and started working as an assistant to Gil Evans, who was Miles Davis’s arranger of choice in the glory days of “Birth of the Cool” and “Sketches of Spain.” Evans was a revelation. He would regularly bring in instruments that weren’t part of the big-band palette — French horns, flutes, oboes — and his writing willfully stretched the abilities of his players.
The New Generation of Asteroid Hunters is Here

A new sensor developed by researchers at the University of Rochester could help detect asteroids close to Earth. The infrared-light detector is designed to improve the performance of space-based telescopes, and it could increase our ability to see hazardous objects in outer space. Judy Pipher is a professor of astronomy and one of the team that developed the sensor. She says asteroids aren’t easy to spot because they don’t emit visible light. But, they do emit infrared radiation and that’s what their sensor picks up. (Also Reported In: Environmental News Network, Science Daily, PhysOrg.com, Red Orbit)

U of R Students Host Minority Male Success Symposium

Some University of Rochester students spent Sunday giving back. The campus organization Minority Male Leadership Association or MMLA held it first symposium focused on the success of city high school students. “So the first thing that every man needs to know how to do, no matter race, creed, color or religion, is to know how to tie a tie,” said John Davis, MMLA Member.

John Densmore to be interviewed at Rock Hall of Fame

The University of Rochester and The Rock ‘n’ Roll Hall of Fame have announced they will host interviews with Doors drummer John Densmore. The first for the Institute of Popular Music which is associated with the University of Rochester (N.Y) will host Densmore on Monday April 22 at 2PM for their new “In Conversation” series. Densmore will be interviewed by John Covach the Institute of Popular Music’s director, and all aspects of Densmore’s career will be open for discussion. This event is open to university staff, students, faculty and the general public (space permitting). For more information on the “In Conversation” interview with Densmore contact Elaine Stroh at the university music department (estroh@ur.rochester.edu)

Stealth Sequester? Where It’s Really Being Felt

So, people are feeling the sequester, but it may be that the impact on them is not making its way through the halls of Congress, said Mark Zupan, dean of the Simon School of Business at the University of Rochester. “Their voice hasn’t been sufficient enough to get Washington to the bargaining table,” Zupan said. “It’s very muted right now. Until everyone gets heard, I doubt anything will get done in Congress on reaching a budget settlement. Even then, I’m not sure a deal will be reached.”

GIS expected to deliver big impact for region

Peterson said RIT with its applied research and the University of Rochester with its original research are among the region’s greatest assets. Parker said the potential impact of the sustainability institute rivals that of the University of Rochester Medical Center’s Clinical and Translational Science Institute. “It’s proof that the colleges and universities, and in particular the research and the work that comes out of RIT and the University of Rochester, really have the potential to be the economic strengths of the region.”

Officials investigate possible hazing at University of Rochester

The University of Rochester is investigating possible hazing activity at the campus’ Sigma Chi fraternity. While the case is being reviewed by UR officials, the fraternity is in a “summary suspension” status, which means it cannot participate in any event or meeting, said a statement issued by the university on Monday. (Also Reported In: YNN, 10WHEC-TV, 13WHAM-TV, WROC-TV)

Students: Censure NY college prof for rape blog

A University of Rochester professor’s hypothetical question about whether the rape of an unconscious person should be illegal has led to demands he be censured or fired. University
President Joel Seligman indirectly referred to the outcry Wednesday while addressing a previously planned conference on confronting sexual assault. “Academic freedom is a core value of our university and vital to provide assurance that one can hold unpopular or provocative views in safety,” Seligman said, according to a transcript of his remarks. “This is not always an easy balance, but it is a balance vital to uphold in a university that both values respect for all of our students, faculty, staff and visitors and intellectual freedom.” (Also Reported In: ABC News, CBS News, FoxNews.com, NBCNews.com, England Daily Mail, USA Today, Washington Post, Chronicle of Higher Education, 10WHEC-TV, Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, Slate Magazine, and others)

Fox News (April 6)
New York professor apologizes for ‘hypothetical’ questions about rape
A University of Rochester professor has apologized for a personal blog post in which he questions whether the rape of unconscious victims should be illegal. “I am both sad and sorry that my recent blog post has distressed so many people so deeply, both on campus and off,” economics professor Steven Landsburg said in a statement released Friday. “I am particularly sad because many readers got the impression that I was endorsing rape, while my intent was to say exactly the opposite—namely that the horror of rape is so great that we should rethink accepted principles of policy analysis that might sometimes minimize that horror.” (Related Stories Reported In: Chronicle of Higher Education, NPR, New York Daily News, Newsday, Yahoo! Voices)

Rochester Democrat & Chronicle (March 31)
Eastman Opera to present ‘Street Scene’
Eastman Opera Theatre will present an ambitious production of Kurt Weill’s Street Scene this weekend. “I hope that audiences will recognize this work of Street Scene as the ultimate lyrical theater vehicle to go outside of their comfort zone,” says Daigle, the opera’s director and chair of Eastman School of Music’s voice and opera department. “If you’re a musical theater fan, this is the show to introduce you to opera. It won’t feel foreign — the musical theater idioms will fuse the two musical forms. If you love opera, this is the show to introduce yourself to the musical theater. It will offer a fulfilling operatic experience — grand in vocal, choral and cast size.” (Also Reported In: Rochester City Newspaper)

WXXI (April 1)
Students at the University of Rochester Design Tricycle for Disabled
Five students at the University of Rochester have designed a tricycle control system that allows some people with disabilities to steer, brake and shift gears with one hand. The project is getting international recognition and is a finalist for a da Vinci Award this month. Martin Szeto is one of the students behind the MonoMano system. They worked under the guidance of Professors Laurel Carney and Amy Lerner at the U of R’s Hajim School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Poynter.org (April 1)
The 10 biggest science-reporting mistakes (and how to avoid them)
by Peter Iglinski
Yes, math is tough, and so are physics, chemistry, biology and mechanical engineering. But even reporters who get queasy about science can’t always ignore it, particularly when reporting on economics, the environment, or medicine. While science writing is a specialty, general assignment reporters need only follow some simple guidelines to avoid mistakes. (Peter is the senior press officer for science and public media for the University of Rochester)

BBC Radio (April 23)
Higgs boson: Call to rename particle to acknowledge other scientists
Carl Hagen believes the name should acknowledge the work of others - not just UK physicist Peter Higgs. American Prof Hagen told BBC News: “I have always thought that the name was not a proper one. “To single out one individual marginalises the contribution of others involved in the work. Although I did not start this campaign to change the name, I welcome it.” Prof Hagen, who is affiliated to the University of Rochester, New York, suggests that it be called the Standard Model
Scalar Meson, or SM Squared. (Also Reported In: NetIndia123.com)

*Rochester Democrat & Chronicle* (April 25)
*Sean Lahman: There’s a great future in graphene*

In the 1967 film *The Graduate*, Dustin Hoffman’s character Benjamin Braddock is offered advice about the next big thing at a party celebrating his college graduation. At the University of Rochester, Dr. Oleg Prezhdo heads a collection of chemists doing graphene-related research. Another UR team, led by Lukas Novotny in the nano-optics group, is looking into whether graphene can replace silicon as the basic building block of electronic components.

*The Los Angeles Times* (April 4)
*Fast-food workers again protest for higher wages*

It’s true that wages have not always kept pace with inflation, and that cities such as New York are extremely expensive places to live. But economists such as Mark Zupan, dean of the University of Rochester’s Simon School of Business, say that raising the pay of minimum wage workers isn’t the way to help low-wage workers out of poverty. In the first place, many of the people making minimum wage are high school students and others who don’t support families, and are just working at McDonald’s while attending school. And secondly, wages should be determined by supply and demand, he argues, not by how much someone needs to survive.