Selected Coverage December 2010

**Wall Street Journal** (December 10)

*Imaging gets an even closer look in upstate NY*

An upstate New York university plans to dig deeper into the art and science of photography and motion pictures under an alliance with a museum icon across town.

The **University of Rochester** and the George Eastman House museum of film and photography said Friday their strengthened partnership will result in new research programs, academic conferences, and classes in science and arts exploring imaging in all of its realms. (Also Reported in: *New York Times, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, YNN, 10WHEC-TV, Chronicle of Higher Education, GreenwichTime.com, Stamford Advocate, CTPost.com*)

**NPR** (December 20)

*Video Games Boost Brain Power, Multitasking Skills*

Daphne Bavelier is professor of brain and cognitive sciences at the **University of Rochester**. She studies young people playing action video games. Having now conducted more than 20 studies on the topic, Bavelier says, “It turns out that action video games are far from mindless.” (Also Reported in: *WGTV-TV Athens*)

**ABC News** (December 14)

*Nonsmoking Apartments Still Expose Kids to Smoke*

“People need to be aware that the behavior of smokers in one apartment can affect the people living in other units,” lead researcher Dr. Karen Wilson, of the **University of Rochester**, New York, told Reuters Health. (Also Reported in: *MSNBC, Yahoo! News, National Ledger, Time, BBC, Bloomberg BusinessWeek, CBS News, U.S. News & World Report, Fox News, WebMD*, and others)

**Washington Post** (December 6)

*Doctor’s diagnosis drew laughs, but it saved woman’s life*

As the all-too-familiar number flashed on his cellphone shortly before 9 p.m., Dan Landrigan reflexively braced himself for bad news. The caller was one of the doctors treating his wife, Donna, who had been in a coma for four months. “She sounded pretty choked up,” Landrigan recalled. “I think we’ve found out what’s making your wife sick,” the specialist at the **University of Rochester’s Strong Memorial Hospital** told him, as a wave of relief flooded his body.

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**University Communications**

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Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (December 5)
Eastman School of Music celebrates with music the completion of its $46.9 million renovation
But the University of Rochester has added even more drama with a new wing for its Eastman School of Music, the final stage of a $46.9 million project that also included the renovation of the Eastman Theatre, which was completed last summer. “We were trying to find the one visual symbol that combines the old with the new,” says Douglas Lowry, dean of Eastman, one of the most prestigious music schools in the country. (Also Reported in: Rochester Business Journal, Rochester City Newspaper, WXXI)

WXXI (December 3)
Arts Friday: Doug Lowry, dean of the Eastman School of Music at the U of R
Meet Doug Lowry, dean of the internationally renowned Eastman School of Music at the U of R, as the school celebrates its new and enhanced performance, instructional and rehearsal facilities at the Eastman Theater complex.

Rochester City Newspaper (December 8)
Cracking the mystery of motivation
But a pair of University of Rochester psychologists, Edward Deci and Richard Ryan, developed a different view, known as the “self-determination theory.” (Also Reported in: Ottawa Citizen)

Bloomberg Business Week (December 21)
Study Adds to Evidence That Rituximab Slows Lymphoma
In a comment accompanying the report in The Lancet, Dr. Jonathan Friedberg, of the hematology and oncology division at the University of Rochester in Rochester, N.Y., wrote that “an analysis of cost-effectiveness would be very helpful.”

Science Daily (December 22)
Environmental Factors Limit Species Diversity
The research was done by Daniel Rabosky of the University of California, Berkeley and Richard Glor of the University of Rochester who studied patterns of species accumulation of lizards over millions of years on the four Caribbean islands of Puerto Rico, Jamaica, Hispaniola, and Cuba. (Also Reported in: UPI, U.S. News & World Report, Red Orbit, e! Science News, Bio-Medicine)

The Academic Minute (December 21)
Dr. Thomas DiPiero, University of Rochester
In today’s Academic Minute, Dr. Thomas DiPiero of the University of Rochester discusses the cultural importance of the classic novel, To Kill a Mockingbird.

New York Times (December 7)
Translation as Literary Ambassador
One such site, with the tongue-in-cheek name Three Percent, was founded by Open Letter, the University of Rochester’s literary publishing house, and specializes in literature in translation.

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (December 17)
State plants update seed fund for startups
The details of the new fund, including what companies would be eligible, are yet to be worked out between Excell and Empire State Development. But in general, the money is to be aimed at early-stage technology companies coming out of university research or out of companies across upstate, said Peter Robinson, chairman of Excell Partners and chief operating officer of the University of Rochester Medical Center. (Also Reported in: WXXI, Rochester Business Journal)

Rochester Business Journal (December 8)
URMC scientists make breakthrough in stem cell research
Scientists at the University of Rochester Medical Center have created a way to isolate neural stem cells from human brain tissue with unprecedented precision, an important step toward developing new treatments for conditions of the nervous system, such as Parkinson’s and Huntington’s diseases and spinal cord injury.

MSN (December 14)
Could acupuncture be used to treat “lazy eye?”
“Patching can be annoying for kids,” Dr. Matthew Gearinger of the University of Rochester, New York, who was not involved in the study, told Reuters Health. “It may be socially tough to wear a patch at school, and wearing a patch at home can interfere with homework.” (Also Reported in: ABC News, Yahoo! News, MSNBC, News Center, Quality Health, Post Chronicle, Reuters)
**WXXI (December 16)**
U of R’s David Hursh Talks Education Reform on 1370 Connection
WXXI’s Bob Smith interviewed David Hursh, professor of education at the University of Rochester’s Warner Graduate School of Education about education reform.

**Rochester Business Journal (December 27)**
UR receives high mark in scientific influences
After three decades of steadily improving its research prowess, the University of Rochester now claims to rank among the most influential scientific research institutions in the country—and has the evidence to prove it.

**New York Times (December 9)**
Accounting for Public Pensions
Estimates of unfunded pension liabilities can be breathtaking. Two economists, Robert Novy-Marx of the University of Rochester and Joshua Rauh of Northwestern, put the figures at $3 trillion for state governments and almost $600 billion for municipalities.

**Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (December 4)**
Special election is best way to choose next mayor (op-ed)
By Joel Seligman
Rochester is at a critical juncture. In order to continue the progress we have made in recent years and to meet the considerable challenges that lie ahead, we would be wise to have stability and continuity of leadership in our local government. To that end, I strongly support a special election as a means of selecting our next mayor. This is not meant to be an endorsement of any candidate.

Joel Seligman is president of the University of Rochester; the opinions expressed are his own as a Rochester resident and not those of the university.

**Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (December 8)**
University of Rochester study shows how babies can be choosy
The University of Rochester’s Baby Lab recently completed a study suggesting that even very young babies are surprisingly discriminating. “Infants prefer looking at something that’s neither too predictable nor too surprising, but someplace in the middle,” says Celeste Kidd, a graduate researcher in Brain & Cognitive Sciences at the Baby Lab.

**CBS News (December 13)**
Milk Sharing for Babies Risky, FDA Says: What’s the danger?
There are opportunities for disaster,” breast-feeding expert Dr. Ruth Lawrence, professor of pediatrics at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, told HealthDay. “It’s risky. If these are your best friends and they’re in good health with no underlying diseases, then fine. I’d be much more supportive of this [Internet-based] concept if we didn’t have such wonderful milk banks.” (Also Reported in: USA Today)

**Bloomberg BusinessWeek (December 2)**
Fed’s Plosser Says QE Will Complicate Withdrawal Stimulus
Such “quantitative easing” may provide stimulus for too long, fueling inflation, [Charles] Plosser said to a seminar sponsored by the University of Rochester’s Simon Graduate School of Business. (Also Reported in: Fox Business, Sydney Morning Herald, Wall Street Journal, Dallas Morning News, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester Business Journal)
Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (December 6)
Rochester squash sweeps No. 5 Harvard
The fourth-ranked University of Rochester men’s squash team swept fifth-ranked Harvard 9-0 Sunday.

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (December 1)
Balanced attack leads UR in women’s hoops

Cleveland Plain Dealer (December 29)
By John Covach (op-ed)
The 2011 inductees to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum have been announced and once again progressive-rock icons Yes have been overlooked.

Covach is professor and chairman of the College Music Department, University of Rochester, and professor of theory with Eastman School of Music.

MSN (December 13)
Taxing Sodas Won’t Spur Much Weight Loss, Study Says
Dr. Stephen Cook, an assistant professor of pediatrics at Golisano Children’s Hospital at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC), said the study is valuable because it echoes the results of others similar to it. “It’s good to see an amount of replication in the findings,” said Cook, also an assistant professor of URMC’s Center for Community Health. “It brings up an important point of how we should address obesity, as a disease or a public health threat.” (Also Reported in: Bloomberg BusinessWeek, Newsday, Yahoo! News, iVillage Health)

Huffington Post (December 15)
Get America Working: We Need a Movement to Solve a Crisis (blog)
For the next three days, I’m going to be traveling the country for the Steel on Wheels tour. We’re having a conversation about how to make things in this country again. Join us. We’ll be holding Town Halls on each leg of the tour, starting tonight at the University of Rochester. (Also Reported in: Yahoo! News)

ABC News (December 21)
‘Black Swan’: Psychiatrists Diagnose Ballerina’s Descent
“As a movie fan, it held my attention,” said Dr. Steve Lamberti, professor of psychiatry at University of Rochester Medical Center. “It was poetic in a way, showing this transformation gone wrong.” (Also Reported in: El Paso KVIA 7 TX)

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (December 19)
Washington does right thing with compromise on tax bill
Mark Zupan, dean of the Simon School of Business at the University of Rochester, said it well Friday as we talked just a few hours after the House vote: “There is a deep reservoir in this country of doing things for the common good.”

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (December 10)
VirtualScopics looking beyond trials and tests
VirtualScopics Inc.’s senior vice president and chief financial officer, Molly Henderson, thinks the company’s performance has been better than the bottom line shows. More than that, she thinks the Pittsford company, an entrepreneurial startup sprung from University of Rochester research, represents the cutting edge in medicine-based digital imaging analytics.

Health.com (December 21)
Many Struggle to Stick With Pain Treatment
“Compliance is a huge issue,” confirms Christopher Ritchlin, MD, MPH, a rheumatologist and professor of medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center in New York.

CNBC (December 27)
New Voters May Swing Federal Reserve Actions
Mr. [Charles] Plosser, who formerly taught at the University of Rochester, argued in a speech at the libertarian Cato Institute last month that monetary policy “went off track” a few years ago, an acknowledgment of the criticism that the Fed kept interest rates too low from 2003 to 2005, contributing to the housing bubble.
13WHAM-TV (December 18)
Do College Rankings Matter?
Bradley Halpern, a student at University of Rochester, said he looked at about three lists when applying to colleges. He said in the end, he probably could have done without them.

Newsweek (December 21)
Retiree Benefits Are Cheating Our Children
The Pew Center on the States estimates $1 trillion of underfunding for the pensions and health benefits of states. Economists Robert Novy-Marx of the University of Rochester and Joshua Rauh of Northwestern University have higher totals for pensions alone; their gaps are about $3 trillion for states and almost $600 billion for localities.

Daily News (December 1)
Eastman School establishes ties with Albion instrumental groups
The Eastman School of Music is one of the world’s most respected and honored collegiate music schools. Eastman’s Oracle Brass Quintet has conducted two separate workshops in Albion this fall, one in October and another in this month, with the AHS Flute Choir, Clarinet Choir, Saxophone Ensemble, Woodwind Quintet, and Brass Ensemble.