



Selected Coverage December 2008

National

ABC News
Business Week
CBS News
Chicago Tribune
The Chronicle of Higher Education
CNN
Discovery Channel
Forbes.com
Houston Chronicle
MSNBC
New York Times
Reuters UK
UPI
USA Today
U.S. News & World Report
Wisconsin Public Radio

New York Times (December 22)

Private Colleges Worry About a Dip in Enrollment

Dartmouth has more applications than ever, early and regular, as do Duke University, the University of Denver and the **University of Rochester**. (Also Reported in: *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle*)

USA Today (December 18)

Panel: EPA must consider effects of chemical barrage

The Environmental Protection Agency typically studies the impact of these and other chemicals individually. But that approach may underestimate the effect of being exposed to many different chemicals with similar effects, says the **University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry's Deborah Cory-Slechta**, chairwoman of the committee that wrote the report. (Also Reported in: *MSNBC, ABC News, Yahoo! News, Science News, WXXI PBS News*)

Local

R News Cable Rochester
Rochester Democrat and Chronicle
WHEC TV NBC 10 Rochester

US News and World Report (December 30)

Rising Blood Sugar May Harm the Aging Brain

Mark Mapstone, an associate professor of neurology at the **University of Rochester Medical Center** in New York, said: "If these findings are replicated and confirmed, I think the implications could be very important, specifically, that maintaining optimal blood sugar levels throughout aging is a feasible way to [slow or prevent] cognitive decline. (Also Reported in: *ABC News, Forbes, MSN, Washington Post, Yahoo! News, Business Week*)

The Chronicle of Higher Education (December 15)

Another Legitimate Voice; Science and Spirituality; Chicago's Metropolitan Diary

As a boy, **Adam Frank** would climb onto the roof of his parents' home in New Jersey to stare up at the night sky's "indefinable beauty and perfection." Now a professor of astrophysics at the **University of Rochester**, Frank is similarly stirred by the "giddy vertigo of recursion relations in the mathematics of electromagnetic fields." Such moments reveal "the world's sacred character," a "universe sensed beyond the senses," he writes in *The Constant Fire: Beyond the Science vs. Religion Debate* (University of California Press), an elegant reimagining of the relationship between science and spirituality.

CBS News (December 10)

Half-Dose Flu Shots Work Best In Women

An editorial accompanying the study, **Ann R. Falsey**, MD, of the **University of Rochester**, N.Y., ponders whether the half-dose strategy really stretches thin supplies — or whether it wastes precious vaccine. (Also Reported in: *U.S. News and World Report, Medicine Net, The Sault Star, The Simcor Reformer, St. Catharines Standard, Yahoo! Canada, WebMD, Hamilton Spectator, Medbroadcast*)

Reuters UK (December 23)

Skimping on sleep is bad for the heart: U.S. study

Kathy Parker, a sleep researcher from the **University of Rochester's School of Nursing** in New York, said the study underscores the role sleep plays in health. (Also Reported in: *Business Week, ABC News, MSNBC, The Straits Times, The Ottawa Citizen*)

Wisconsin Public Radio (December 30)

The Best Books in Translation

While the whole world is busy writing great books, fewer than three percent of them get translated and make American bookshelves. This prompted the New York Times five years ago to declare that "America Yawned" at foreign fiction, but is it still true? (We asked **Chad Post**, director of **Open Letter**, a press at the **University of Rochester** that publishes literature in translation, as well as renowned translator Esther Allen. Open Letter will soon announce the winner of its "Best Translated Book of 2008" award; read a list of contenders at its blog, aptly titled, Three Percent.)

Business Week (December 31)

How Madoff Is Burning the SEC

In hindsight, the episode should have been remembered a decade later when regulators started receiving anonymous tips about potential improprieties at Madoff's operations; but the resulting inquiries yielded nothing significant. "The commission doesn't seem to have pursued its enforcement mandate with enough vigor," says noted SEC historian **Joel Seligman**, president of the **University of Rochester**. (Also Reported in: *Wall Street Journal*)

Houston Chronicle (December 16)

Nobelist a novel pick for energy

Rejected by the Ivy League schools for what he called his "lackluster A-" average in high school, **Steven Chu** attended the **University of Rochester**. There he was exposed to Nobel Prize-winning physicist Richard Feynman's writings, which **Chu** found "mesmerizing and inspirational." (Also Reported in: *Yahoo! News, National Public Radio, Wall Street Journal Blogs, Chicago Tribune, WHAM AM 1180, 13WHAM-TV, WHEC-TV, R News, Newsday, New York Times, Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, PBS, Oakland Tribune, US News and World Report*, and many others)

ABC News (December 29)

Hard to Hear at Holiday Parties? Blame Your Brain

Scientists are still trying to piece together why our hearing goes downhill with age, with the goal of trying to slow it or even reverse it. When it comes to the cocktail party problem, the dimmer switch is a piece of that story, though it's not clear just how big a factor. "I think it's a significant player," said **Robert Frisina** of the **University of Rochester** in New York, who is studying it. (Also Reported in: *Fox News, Chicago Tribune, MSNBC, USA Today, Newsday, Los Angeles Times, Boston Herald*)

Rochester Democrat & Chronicle (December 22)

Five area leaders named to New York Fed advisory board

Rochester-area board members include Jonathan Judge, president and CEO of Paychex Inc. in Rochester; James Laurito, president and CEO of Rochester Gas & Electric Corp.; Robert Sands, president and CEO of Constellation Brands Inc.; **Joel Seligman**, president of the **University of Rochester**; and Kim Zuber, co-owner of Zuber Farms LLC in Churchville. (Also Reported in: *Rochester Business Journal*)

WHEC TV NBC 10 Rochester (December 10)

New planet discovered, U of R astronomer credited

The universe has a new planet and one local astronomer has taken the credit for discovering it. **University of Rochester** astronomer **Alice Quillen** says she first noticed the planet in 2006.

UPI (December 25)

Unconscious brain makes best decisions

The unconscious brain makes the best decisions possible with the information given, **University of Rochester** researchers said. **Alex Pouget**, associate professor of brain and cognitive sciences, has shown people make optimal decisions, but only when their unconscious brain makes the choice. (Also Reported in: *Scientific American, Science Daily, Red Orbit, EMax Health, India Times of India, Webindia123*)

CNN (December 11)

Boom times for brain training games

“There is still a lot of work that needs to be done. There is no definitive consensus over whether these programs are as beneficial as people would like to think they are,” says **Dr. Mark Mapstone**, associate professor of neurology at the **University of Rochester Medical Center** in New York.

R News Cable Rochester (December 23)

Zupan Reappointed as Simon School Dean

The University of Rochester reappointed **Mark Zupan** dean of the **William E. Simon Graduate School of Business Administration**. (Also Reported in: *Rochester Business Journal*)

Forbes.com (December 18)

We Need a Strong SEC (commentary)

Joel Seligman is the author of 20 books on securities law and regulation and is the president of the **University of Rochester**.

Few cases better illustrate the need for a vigorous SEC than the Bernard Madoff debacle. Through most of its history, the Commission has been the so-called “cop on Wall Street,” whose uncompromising enforcement program has had a major impact on deterring fraud.

The Madoff case has at once tarnished the Commission’s reputation and highlighted the need for a revitalized SEC — one with new leadership and an uncompromising commitment to enforce the securities laws without fear or favor.

Rochester Democrat & Chronicle (December 28)

Robot-assisted surgeries becoming common at Strong Memorial Hospital

Doctors at **Strong Memorial Hospital** have now performed more than 2,000 robot-assisted surgeries, a volume that’s one of the highest among the nation’s medical facilities and a sign of the steady rise in the use of the 8-year-old technology.

Business Week (December 23)

MBA Specialty Rankings

Second Tier programs also have a presence in the rankings, led by the **University of Rochester’s Simon School**, which ranks ninth for most improved and 10th in accounting.

ABC News (December 31)

Report Links Osteoporosis Drug to Esophagus Cancer

J. Edward Puzas, a professor of orthopaedics at the **University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry**, added that the data on this particular side effect of Fosamax is incomplete. “It is premature to make any conclusions about this side effect of the drug,” Puzas said. (Also Reported in: *ABC News*)

Discovery Channel (December 2)

New Laser Technique Produces Bevy of Antimatter

“The first step was to show that you can make enough positrons,” said **David Meyerhoffer**, a professor of physics and astronomy at the **University of Rochester**. “The next step in the research is to come up with an interesting experiment, and that’s even more challenging. (Also Reported in: *MSNBC*)

Chicago Tribune (December 10)

The longest literary sentence

Open Letter at the **University of Rochester** has purchased the rights to the book and expects to publish a translation by Charlotte Mandell in spring 2010, according to **Chad Post**, the press director. (Also Reported in: *Philadelphia Daily News*)

U.S. News & World Report (December 3)

Epilepsy Drug May Raise Autism Risk in Offspring

“There’s a fair amount of early data that indicates, for instance, that valproate may cause neural tube closure problems. That’s an indication that valproate affects brain development,” said **Dr. Michel Berg**, medical director of the Strong Epilepsy Center at the **University of Rochester Medical Center**. (Also Reported in: *Forbes*, *ABC News*, *Business Week*, *MSN*, *KATC ABC TV Lafayette*)

Rochester Democrat & Chronicle (December 16)

UR women climb to No. 1 in Division III

The **University of Rochester** women’s basketball team has climbed to No. 1 in this week’s D3hoops.com national poll.

MSNBC (December 26)

Secondhand smoke tied to fertility problems

“These statistics are breathtaking and certainly (point) to yet another danger of secondhand smoke exposure,” said lead researcher **Luke J. Peppone** at the **University of Rochester**, New York. (Also Reported in: *ABC News*)