Mock Trial . . . Real Success
Rochester Mock Trial team goes to national championship for second time in four years.

By Melissa Greco Lopes

You can’t mock success.

That could be the unofficial motto of the University’s Mock Trial team, some of whose members earned a place among the top contenders at this spring’s national championships. After placing in the top six during the opening round of the American Mock Trial Association’s championship, the team finished 17th nationally.

The achievement marked the second time in four years that the undergraduate team, which doesn’t have a faculty coach, qualified for the national championships.

“We’re really trying to get our name out there and solidify longevity for the program,” says Brittany Crowley ’10, who has been a team member since her freshman year.

A total of 17 undergraduates participate in the organization and represent themselves as two teams at regional and national competitions throughout the year. The competitions feature a hypothetical case scenario to test each team’s knowledge of courtroom procedures, mastery of case facts, and ability to examine witnesses and deliver opening and closing remarks. Teams must prepare both prosecution and defense arguments and practice by acting out courtroom proceedings, taking on the roles of witnesses, prosecution lawyers, and defense lawyers.

Both Rochester teams advanced to the opening round of the national tournament and one group of eight represented Rochester at national finals in Memphis, Tenn.

At the national championships, Jason Scheff ’10 and Dinisha Fernando ’10 received All-American Witness honors.

Melissa Greco Lopes writes about student affairs for University Communications.
Building an Inclusive Community

Rochester leaders commit to creating an inclusive campus during the first University-wide conference on diversity.

By Kathleen McGarvey

How does an organization as big as the University—with roughly 20,000 employees—focus on an institutional goal like diversity? The first step is to begin a conversation—and make a commitment to continuing the conversation over time.

That was the goal of the first University-wide conference on diversity, held this spring in what organizers expect will be an annual gathering to talk about issues surrounding inclusiveness.

“You can’t get anywhere unless everyone’s rowing in the same direction,” noted Cathy Jones Minehan ’68, a University trustee, a former president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, and a panelist for the day-long Diversity Conference: Building a Stronger Community.

Minehan joined an eight-person panel of trustees, top administrators, and guests from Xerox, Bausch & Lomb, Kodak, and the City of Rochester who discussed the importance of diversity as an institutional goal during an afternoon session. The gathering, held on the River Campus, also included three concurrent morning sessions centered on faculty recruitment and retention, community outreach, and organizational change.

Sponsored by the Office of Faculty Development and Diversity, the conference was designed as a learning opportunity and as “a step on a road forward, not an end in itself,” President Joel Seligman said.

He said diversity is a core University value that’s essential to attracting the finest faculty, students, and staff. “Our ultimate goal is to create as welcoming, diverse, and inclusive an environment on this campus as we can.”

Panelists noted that the University faces challenges in focusing its talents when it comes to initiatives such as diversity.

Thomas Richards, also a trustee and the corporate counsel for the City of Rochester,
And the International Winner Is...

A novel originally written in Hebrew and a collection by a Russian poet are the winners of the 2010 Best Translated Book Awards, sponsored by Three Percent, the online arm of Open Letter, the University’s literary translation press. The prizes are the only awards of their kind to honor the best original works of international literature and poetry published in the United States in the past year.

FICTION

Winner

• The Confessions of Noa Weber by Gail Hareven, translated from the Hebrew by Dalya Bilu (Melville House Press)

Finalists

• Ghosts by César Aira, translated from the Spanish by Chris Andrews (New Directions)
• The Twin by Gerbrand Bakker, translated from the Dutch by David Colmer (Archipelago)
• Anonymous Celebrity by Ignácio de Loyola Brandão, translated from the Portuguese by Nelson Vieira (Dalkey Archive)
• Wonder by Hugo Claus, translated from the Dutch by Michael Henry Heim (Archipelago)
• The Weather Fifteen Years Ago by Wolf Haas, translated from the German by Stephanie Gilardi and Thomas S. Hansen (Ariadne Press)
• The Discoverer by Jan Kjærstad, translated from the Norwegian by Barbara Haveland (Open Letter)
• Memories of the Future by Sigizmund Krzhizhanovsky, translated from the Russian by Joanne Turnbull (New York Review Books)
• Rex by José Manuel Prieto, translated from the Spanish by Esther Allen (Grove)
• The Tanners by Robert Walser, translated from the German by Susan Bernofsky (New Directions)

POETRY

Winner

• The Russian Version by Elena Fanailova, translated from the Russian by Genya Turovskaya and Stephanie Sandler (Ugly Duckling Presse)

Finalists

• Selections by Nicole Brossard, translated from the French by Guy Bennett, David Dea, Barbara Godard, Pierre Joris, Robert Majzels, Erin Moure, Jennifer Moxley, Lucille Nelson, Larry Shouldice, Fred Wah, Lisa Weil, and Anne-Marie Wheeler (University of California)
• The Brittle Age and Returning Upland by René Char, translated from the French by Gustaf Sobin (Counterpath)
• If I Were Another by Mahmoud Darwish, translated from the Arabic by Fady Joudah (Farrar, Straus, Giroux)
• Killing Kanoko by Hiromi Ito, translated from the Japanese by Jeffrey Angles (Action Books)
• KB: The Suspect by Marcelijus Martinaitis, translated from the Lithuanian by Laima Vince (White Pine)
• Scale and Stairs by Heeduk Ra, translated from the Korean by Christopher Merrill (White Pine)
• In Such Hard Times by Wei Ying-Wu, translated from the Chinese by Red Pine (Copper Canyon)

cautioned that, by their nature, universities are designed to achieve only a certain level of coordination.

Provost Ralph Kuncl acknowledged the University’s tradition of decentralization, noting that it can result in “fragmented anecdotes rather than a coherent story.”

The conference, he said, was created to foster such communication.

▲ COMMUNITY CONVERSATION: Ernest Hicks of Xerox Corp. answers a question during the first University-wide conference on diversity. Joining Hicks for a panel discussion were (from left) life trustee Jerry Gardner ’58, ’65 (Mas), Augustine Melendez of Eastman Kodak Co., trustee Carl Williams ’75 (MBA), trustee Thomas Richards of the City of Rochester, trustee Cathy Jones Minehan ’68, President Joel Seligman, trustee G. Robert Witrmer ’58, and trustee Francis Price ’74, ’75 (MBA).
Spring Fling (Part 1)

DISC DAYS: Raphael Benjamin ’10 (Take 5) takes advantage of an unusually early burst of summer-like weather in April with the campus tradition of catching a Frisbee on the Eastman Quadrangle. The flinging of flying discs has long been a sign that spring has arrived on campus. For more, see Spring Fling (Part 2) on page 35.
Community Connections

Recent graduates help build connections with local communities as part of a national program to alleviate poverty.

By Kathleen McGarvey

When Ferdous Zannat ’09 was preparing to graduate, she knew she wanted to go on to medical school—but she didn’t want to start right away.

She had worked hard on her chemistry degree and, although eager to continue her studies, she was also ready for a break from student life. “I wanted to do something different for a year,” she says.

And so she has, working with women refugees in Rochester as a Rochester Youth Year fellow.

Begun in 2007, the program is run by a consortium of seven Rochester-area colleges and funded in part by the national AmericaCorps/VISTA program. It aims to alleviate youth poverty (Rochester has a child poverty rate of almost 42 percent), strengthen communities, and promote civic engagement and community-centered leadership.

“Rochester Youth Year contributes to our efforts to connect students and, in this case, recent alumni with the community,” says Glenn Cerosaletti, director of the University’s Rochester Center for Community Leadership. “The program allows graduates to remain in Rochester, contributing their talents full time” to those in need in the local area.

The fellows—since the program began, there have been 17, all graduates of the consortium colleges—have generated almost $200,000 in resources for the groups they have worked with and mobilized 1,000 volunteers to serve more than 2,000 youngsters in the community. Several have ultimately taken positions with their host organizations.

Four of this year’s nine fellows are University graduates: Kaitlin Fitzgerald ’09, who is working on a program to provide alternatives to suspension at the city’s Center for Youth; Kyvaughn Henry ’09, who is collaborating with Writers and Books, a literary center in Rochester, to provide outreach to city youth; Matt Merriman ’09, who is working on an entrepreneurship program for youth through the city’s parks and recreation department; and Zannat.

Through Westside Health Services, a health center that serves the northwest and southwest quadrants of the city, Zannat works with women from Burma, Bhutan, the Congo, and other countries to help them become health promoters in their own communities.

Rochester is a refugee host city, and Zannat spent the first several months of her fellowship getting to know the newcomers to Rochester and those who provide services to them.

Eventually, Zannat assembled a group of women interested in becoming health promoters. They chose the topics about which they wanted to learn, and Zannat has
The Large Hadron Collider, a circular tunnel straddling the French-Swiss border near Geneva, began successful operation on March 30 this year. During its initial run, “the world’s biggest science experiment” set a record for energy as protons collided at almost the speed of light. By studying the byproducts of such collisions, scientists—including Rochester researchers—will investigate the fundamental building blocks of matter.

**‘World’s Biggest Science Experiment’**

The Large Hadron Collider, a circular tunnel straddling the French-Swiss border near Geneva, began successful operation on March 30 this year. During its initial run, “the world’s biggest science experiment” set a record for energy as protons collided at almost the speed of light. By studying the byproducts of such collisions, scientists—including Rochester researchers—will investigate the fundamental building blocks of matter.

**7 trillion** electron volts of energy released in collisions between two protons

**10 billion** dollars spent to build the collider

**30** Rochester scientists involved, from faculty to undergraduate researchers

**25** years to build

**17** miles around the tunnel

**6** continents represented by the many thousands of scientists working on the project

**2** crucial parts of the Compact Muon Solenoid, one of four main detectors collecting data from the collisions, were designed and built by Rochester scientists.

**1** 2010 J.J. Sakuri Prize for Theoretical Particle Physics awarded to Carl Hagen, a professor of physics and astronomy, for a 1964 paper theorizing the existence of the Higgs particle—a particle scientists hope the Large Hadron Collider will help them find.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

**Lake Geneva**

**Geneva**

**CERN**

**Geneva**

**Lake Geneva**

Diameter 5.3 miles (8.5 km)

Tunnel about 300 ft. deep; circumference 17 miles

Experiment station

5 km

5 miles

6 continents represented by the many thousands of scientists working on the project

2 crucial parts of the Compact Muon Solenoid, one of four main detectors collecting data from the collisions, were designed and built by Rochester scientists.

**DETECTIVES: Rochester scientists helped design parts of the Compact Muon Solenoid, one of the collider’s main detectors.”**

CERN

May-June 2010

ROCHESTER REVIEW

11
IN CLASS

Design Time

Senior biomedical engineering students design medical devices for hospitals and industry.

By Kathleen McGarvey

When Lynn Wood at Unity Health System in Rochester used to help patients rehabilitating from strokes and traumatic brain injuries to improve their walking gait, she paid a physical price.

“The work was taxing on our bodies,” says Wood of her team of physical therapists. “We’re bent way over and have to lift the limb, and we could only do it for a short time.”

So when Amy Lerner and Scott Seidman, associate professors of biomedical engineering, asked if the therapists might have a project for Rochester’s senior design course, the answer was an emphatic yes.

The students—supervised by Seidman—went to work, consulting with Wood over six months as they proposed solutions, developed designs, and manufactured prototypes for a chair that today is in constant use at Unity Health.

“I love it,” says Wood. “We use it for rehabilitation, but it could also be useful for older people, or for gardening.”

The chair also caught the attention of a local company, which is in the process of licensing the students’ design.

“It was a lot of fun—to have this thing that worked, that did what we wanted it to do, and that people would pay for,” says Brian Flynn ’09, a member of the team, called Therassist.

Flynn’s experience is what a yearlong, capstone course required of all biomedical engineering majors aims to provide. Senior Design is built around hands-on experience in designing medical devices or research instruments. “Our goal is for students to apply as much as they can of what they’ve learned in biomedical engineering to a real-world problem,” says Lerner.

“We try to make it a realistic experience for them,” Seidman says. “What’s not real is the nine-month time frame. These things can take years. But the frustrations they encounter are very real.”

Students collaborate in 15 four-member teams, and apply to work on specific projects by demonstrating the skills and experiences that they bring to the group.

Collaboration is a critical skill, says Kevin Staton ’09, a Therassist team member and now a research specialist at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute.

“When you're interviewing for biomedical engineering jobs, one of the questions employers will ask is, are you comfortable working on a team?”

Ideal projects, Lerner says, are “back-burner” ideas that need brainstorming, significant improvements, or a fresh look.

“For some projects, they just have a need,” she says. “Other times, there’s an existing device that needs to be refined. And it’s open-ended. The customers aren’t married to a solution. The students create the solution.”

Customers typically come from the Medical Center, the community, local industry, and area hospitals. But they needn’t be based in Rochester. This year’s projects include three carried out with students and
faculty at Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú in Lima, Peru.

Among this year’s other projects are a portable and cost-effective *E. Coli* detector, a dynamic brace to extend chronically contracted arm and wrist muscles in patients with traumatic brain injuries, a radiation exposure detection system for urban populations, and improvements to a childbirth simulator for training medical professionals.

“We’re thinking about real people and how our project will affect them,” says Nicholas Vavalle ’10, from Binghamton, NY. He’s on one of this year’s design teams, called Lens Metrix, which has created a device for Bausch & Lomb to test the material properties of soft contact lenses.

Renea Faulknor ’10, from New York City, and her teammates met with representatives of Becton, Dickinson and Co.—a New Jersey–based medical supply, device, and technology company—to compare ideas on an injection test device that nurses and EMTs could use to learn how to draw blood.

Faulknor and members of Injector Perfectors designed a simulator that reproduces the challenges medical technicians and others often encounter.

“We’re trying to model venous system complications such as collapsible veins and small or fragile veins,” Faulknor says.

Students are treated in the same manner as faculty and staff with respect to intellectual property, and “the University is very supportive of their being inventors and holding patents,” Seidman says.

Corine Farewell, the director of the University’s Office of Technology Transfer, meets with the students to discuss intellectual property, confidentiality issues, and the disclosure process for commercially viable projects.

The course also covers what Lerner and Seidman call “realistic constraints” on the design process, including economic, social, political, ethical, regulatory, environmental, safety, and manufacturing issues.

Ten years in, Senior Design is a signature element of Rochester’s biomedical engineering curriculum.

This year, Lerner and Seidman had so many interested customers they had to turn projects away.

“The community is realizing how valuable it is having a team of students working towards their goals,” Lerner says.

“Our students are interested in solving problems with a global impact.”

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**EARTH SCIENCE**

**A New Look at Ancient Earth**

SOLAR STORY: About 3.5 billion years ago, Earth faced a bombardment of solar wind (shown here in a NASA illustration) that likely stripped much of the water out of the young planet’s atmosphere. That’s according to new research led by Rochester geophysicist John Tarduno that indicates the Earth’s magnetosphere, the boundary where the planet’s magnetic field shields the planet from the energetic particles released by the Sun, was once only half as strong as it is today. The work was published this spring in the journal *Science*. 

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**ROCHESTER REVIEW**

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—Scott Hauser
HEALTH CARE

Putting Patients First

AMA president says goals for reform should focus on patients.

By Becky Jones

A key player in efforts to reform the nation’s health system knows that the legislation approved by Congress this winter isn’t perfect. But James Rohack, the president of the American Medical Association, told Rochester’s future physicians that the law is the first part of a historic effort that will help improve the system over time.

“The AMA’s goal with health system reform was to make the system better for our patients,” Rohack, a cardiologist, told a gathering of medical students during an April visit to the Medical Center. “And if you make it better for the patients, it’ll be better for physicians…. Churchill said, ‘America will get it right—once they’ve tried everything else.’ And that’s where we are. Health system reform is just a step. It’s not the final step. And we will continue to evolve our health care system.”

During his visit, Rohack, a native of East Rochester, spoke with audiences about reform, the AMA’s efforts to represent physicians in the reform process, and the future of health care. He delivered the Department of Emergency Medicine’s annual Shapiro Lecture, and he visited a kindergarten class at Rochester’s School 23, where his niece is a teacher.

While he acknowledged that the new law is not perfect—failing, for example, to address the way Medicare funding is calculated—he credited the Obama administration with bringing the AMA into the reform process early and in recognizing that including language to limit medical malpractice lawsuits was a key requirement for reform.

He said the AMA has long acknowledged the need to be involved in federal policy discussions. “The principle is clear: We have an obligation to respect the law, but also to seek changes in those laws that are contrary to the best interests of the patient.”

To view Rohack’s talk with Rochester medical students, visit http://tinyurl.com/y23nvyz.

PRESIDENTIAL SYMPOSIUM

Celebrating the Power of Innovation

As the president of MIT, Susan Hockfield ’73 has a unique vantage point in championing the role that research universities play in sparking innovative ideas, technologies, and economic policies.

During a special spring Presidential Symposium titled “Innovation in the 21st Century,” Hockfield emphasized that universities can do four specific things to support innovation: foster a culture of entrepreneurship; disseminate models of innovation ecosystems; accelerate a new wave of innovation by promoting basic research in emerging fields; and be active in discussions of national policy.

“It’s going to be important for this nation to run a new cycle of the innovation economy,” Hockfield said. And where will the new jobs in that economy come from?

“Research universities.”

Hockfield, who was named president of MIT in 2004, was one of three panelists who shared their insights about innovation during the symposium, hosted by President Joel Seligman, who began the series in 2005. Joining her were Arunas Chesominis ’91S (MBA), ’99 (Honorary), a University trustee and chairman and CEO of PAETEC Holding Corp.; and Antonio Perez ’09 (Honorary), the chairman and CEO of Eastman Kodak Co. Trustee Hugo Sonnenschein ’61, the president emeritus of the University of Chicago, moderated the discussion.

INNOVATIVE TALK: Panelists (from left) Perez, Chesominis, and Hockfield, along with moderator Sonnenschein, focused on innovation during the Presidential Symposium.
Storied Sculpture

The Memorial Art Gallery counts down to its centennial celebration in 2013 with a new sculpture park.

An outdoor work of massive limestone sculptures and smaller bronze figures by the artist Tom Otterness will highlight a new sculpture park that’s designed to celebrate the Memorial Art Gallery’s 100th anniversary in 2013.

Scheduled to be completed in spring 2012, the work is the gallery’s largest acquisition and will be the centerpiece of a surrounding park—named Centennial Sculpture Park—located on the gallery’s campus at the corner of University Avenue and Goodman Street.

Otterness, who has completed several outdoor commissions in the United States, Canada, Germany, and the Netherlands, is known for narrative works that are at once lighthearted and socially pertinent. He has multisculpture installations located in New York City, Indianapolis, Grand Rapids, Mich., and Beverly Hills, Calif.

His Rochester proposal—featuring limestone sculptures intended to echo the surrounding buildings as well as smaller bronze figures—is designed to tell the story of a sculpture from quarry to finished product. The work is also expected to serve as a gateway into the museum.

“The Otterness installation is the first site-specific sculpture in the gallery’s long history and, with its sense of whimsy and wonder, seems a fitting way to celebrate the gallery’s centennial,” says director Grant Holcomb. “The work will animate the site and serve as an enticing invitation to explore the grounds and, eventually, the treasures of the gallery.

“The installation even seems reminiscent of the old town square concept where people meet to carry on public conversations.”

Preparatory work will begin this year on several acres at the southeast corner of the gallery’s campus. Installation of the Otterness sculptures is scheduled to begin in summer 2011 and be completed in spring 2012.

The project will be underwritten by the gallery’s Maurice R. and Maxine B. Forman Fund for art acquisition.

In addition to the Otterness installation, the new park will showcase works from the gallery’s collection by such national and local artists as Deborah Butterfield, George Rickey, Tony Smith, and Albert Paley.

The sculptures and the park will be opened to the public as the gallery counts down to its 100th anniversary in 2013.

For more about the gallery, visit http://mag.rochester.edu.
Record Seasons

Squash team and women’s basketball finish their seasons with trips to national finals.

By Ryan Whirty

The Yellowjacket squash team came within a whisker of ending more than 80 years of Ivy League domination this winter while the women’s basketball team’s season of upsets almost carried the Yellowjackets through the Final Four. Both teams finished fourth in the country after posting stellar performances throughout their seasons.

Finishing at 10–4, the squash team beat Cornell in the quarterfinals of the national championship before falling to Yale in the semis and to Princeton in the third-place playoff. Season highlights included a third straight Liberty League title as well as victories over Princeton, Cornell, and Harvard.

“The match against Yale saw some of our guys really raise their game for their team, which is what I believe is the goal of this kind of competition,” said coach Martin Heath of his team’s performance.

Jim Bristow ’10 and Ben Fischer ’12 were named first team All-Americans by the College Squash Association. Bristow was the only player among the 20 honorees on both the first and second teams to be selected as an All-American in each of his four seasons.

ACCOLADES: Melissa Alwardt ’11 (opposite) was named to the Final Four All-Tournament team, and Jim Bristow ’10 (above, left) was the only squash player this year who earned All-American honors in each of the four seasons he played.

The women ended the year with a 23–8 record, losing in the first round of the Final Four to Hope College and in the consolation round to Amherst. On the way to the national championship, the Yellowjackets snapped second-ranked Kean University’s 29-game Division III winning streak and defeated 10th-ranked Christopher Newport University. “This is the best we have played all year,” coach Jim Scheible noted after the Yellowjackets knocked off Kean and Christopher Newport.

Guard Melissa Alwardt ’11 was named an All-American by D3Hoops.com for her performance at the Final Four, where she also was named to the All-Tournament team.

The trip to the national finals was the second in a row for the squash team, and the first for the women since 2003–04.

Ryan Whirty writes about sports for Rochester Review.