PHYSICS HISTORY

Notable Nobel

PRIZED MOMENT: King Carl Gustaf of Sweden presents the Nobel Prize in Physics to Donna Strickland ’89 (PhD) during the Nobel awards ceremony last December in Stockholm. Recognized for work that paved the way for lasers to be used in surgery, technology, manufacturing, and other applications, Strickland, who shared one-half of the prize with her Rochester doctoral advisor Gérard Mourou, is only the third woman in history to receive the physics prize. She’s now a professor at the University of Waterloo in Ontario.

PONTUS LUNDAHL/POOL PHOTO VIA AP
OPERA CLASSIC

Mythic Music

VIEWS OF THE UNDERWORLD: Ellen Robertson ’19E, a voice major at the Eastman School of Music, performed the role of Euridice in Eastman Opera Theatre’s winter production of *Orfeo ed Euridice*, composer Christoph Willibald Gluck’s operatic retelling of the Greek myth of Orpheus, who tried to rescue his wife from the underworld. Staged in Eastman’s “black box” venue, the opera was directed by Stephen Carr, the associate artistic director of Eastman Opera Theatre, with music direction by Wilson Southerland, assistant music director of the company. The production, the second of the company’s three productions for the 2018–19 season, featured scene and projection design by Charles Murdock Lucas and lighting by Nic Minetor. Robertson alternated with voice major Jessica Gu ‘20E in the role of Euridice, while graduate students Krysten Chambers-Jones and Marissa Miller performed as Orfeo during the production’s run.

PHOTOGRAPH BY NIC MINETOR
DOUGLASS COLLECTION

Famous ‘Farewell’

RARE COPY: University Libraries became home to a rare copy of the sheet music for “Farewell Song of Frederick Douglass,” a song written to commemorate the famous abolitionist’s return to the United States from England in 1847. Bound as part of a volume of other sheet music, the Douglass work is believed to be the only copy in the United States and one of only two in the world. Composed by Douglass’s close companion and fellow abolitionist, the Englishwoman Julia Griffiths, the music was performed this winter in Rochester for the first time in more than a century as part of a celebration of the bicentennial of Douglass’s birth. To hear the song and see it performed by Jonathan Rhodes ’20E and Lee Wright ’03E, ’18E (DMA), visit Youtube.com/watch?v=I53djcD777A.

PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER
‘SOMETHING I WANTED TO DO’

An Officer and an Organ Donor
One officer donates a kidney to another.

By Sara Miller

In late January, a ceremony in the Department of Public Safety represented a remarkable moment in the lives of two longtime officers. That’s when Lieutenant Dan Schermerhorn Jr. and Peace Officer Paul Wlosinski returned to work for the first time after an operation in which Wlosinski donated one of his kidneys to Schermerhorn.

The operation, which took place last fall at Strong Memorial Hospital, will allow Schermerhorn to return to activities—running, swimming, competing in triathlons, traveling, and spending quality time with his family—that were restricted by 15 years of kidney disease.

“There’s a lot of things in my life that he’s impacting by doing this, and I’m very grateful for it,” says Schermerhorn.

Says Wlosinski, “I always have in my mind, ‘never go through life saying you could have done something.’”

Schermerhorn’s search for a new kidney began in 2016, when he was placed on the kidney transplant waiting list, and he also joined the National Kidney Registry, a nonprofit network that aims to match thousands of individuals in need with a compatible, willing donor. Compatibility doesn’t come easily. His father tried to be a donor to his son, but after being evaluated for a match, found he was not compatible.

In October 2017, Lieutenant Keri Stein sent an email to the entire department, explaining Schermerhorn’s condition and the living donor process. Several colleagues responded by making appointments to be evaluated as possible matches.

Willing donors are first checked to see that their blood and tissue types are compatible with the recipient’s, and that the recipient’s antibodies won’t fight against the donated organ. From there, potential donors are evaluated for their health, the functioning of their kidneys, and their mental preparedness for the donation.

Last October, after Wlosinski was cleared as a match, the Medical Center’s transplant team, led by Jeremy Taylor, associate director of transplant nephrology, and surgeons Mark Orloff and Koji Tomiyama successfully performed the transplant.

Public Safety Chief Mark Fischer says the willingness of one officer to help another has rippled through the 140-person department.

“If 36 years in law enforcement, I am always amazed how willing brother and sister officers are to sacrifice for each other,” he says. “Paul’s actions have touched my entire department and will forever impact the life of Dan and his family. “It’s truly inspirational.”
**IN REVIEW**

**HOW-TO**

**Spikeball, Anyone?**

Often described as “volleyball, but with a trampoline net,” the game known by its generic name roundnet or its trademarked name Spikeball is the latest leisure activity of choice for busy college students at Rochester and elsewhere.

By Suzie Ziegler ’19

**Object:** outscore opponents by successfully maneuvering the game ball so that the opposing team fails to return it within the rules

**Number of players:** two to four, playing as one- or two-person teams

**Equipment:** a small net; an inflatable ball

**Playing field:** Eastman Quadrangle is a prime location

The players on each team stand two to a side at the beginning of play, at least six feet away from a small net—three feet in diameter—on stilts about half a foot above the ground.

One player serves by tossing the ball into the air and spiking it down onto the net so that it bounces into the opposing team’s air space. Immediately following the serve, players need no longer abide by their starting side and can play a full 360 degrees around the net.

Each team must touch the ball no less than once and no more than thrice—think “bump, set, spike”—before returning it to the other team via a bounce off the net. As with volleyball, the ball may not be touched twice in a row by the same team member, nor is scooping or carrying the ball allowed—clean hits only! Unlike volleyball, players can only use one hand to touch the ball, although any other body parts—knees, feet, noggins, etc.—are permitted. The rally continues until a team scores a point.

Teams earn a point in one of four scenarios:
- **the ball dribbles** on the net more than once
- **the ball bounces** off the rim
- **the ball misses** the net entirely
- or, **a team fails to return the ball** to the net within three touches.

**Standard games** are played to 11 points or 21 points—perhaps depending on how much studying you have to do—so anyone can make a little room in their schedule.
Students who studied abroad last year shared images from around the globe in the annual photo contest of the Center for Education Abroad. The winners were selected from 223 images submitted by 49 students who were abroad during the 2017–18 year. Jessica Shang ’19, a health, behavior, and society major from Chino Hills, California, won the grand prize among undergraduates, while Saikat Chakraborty, a PhD student in chemistry, won the grand prize among international students. To see the winners, visit Rochester.edu/college/abroad/photo-contest/winners.html.

GRECIAN YEARN: Jessica Shang ’19 won the grand prize in this year’s education abroad photo contest for her photo of Santorini, Greece.

CAMPUS EXPERIENCE: Zhengdong Ge ’18, an electrical and computer engineering major from Suzhou, China, was the runner-up in the Rochester Experience category for a unique view of Rush Rhees Tower.
‘Innovation Is a Muscle’

Interview by Sandra Knispel

What’s the iZone’s raison d’être?
All humans have the inborn potential to be creative problem solvers. But the reality is that we, and especially young people, are told, “get good grades, get into a good school, get a high salary.” That means we often deprioritize creative pursuits that might otherwise help us unlock true innovations. We’re out to prove that every single one of us is born to be a creative problem solver.

What happens at the iZone?
We have a peer-led model led by undergraduates and graduate students who provide tools to help other students explore their ideas. We also offer workshops and programs such as project management, design thinking, pitching and brainstorming—things that students can walk away with and feel they immediately have something in their tool kit.

What’s behind “design thinking?”
Design thinking is a method for solving problems that starts by empathizing with real people. Before coming up with concrete ideas, we first spend time really understanding the people who experience a problem—talking to them, shadowing them, learning from them. Only then, when we have a human-centered understanding of the challenge that we’re trying to tackle, do we start to come up with possible solutions. Design thinking encourages us to brainstorm previously untapped ideas and then to quickly experiment with that idea by building it, by acting it out, tweaking it—and maybe burning it all down if we realize it wasn’t a good idea after all.

What gets in the way of innovation?
Truly innovative ideas lie somewhere between the expected and the impossible. At iZone, we help students hunt for those ideas. Ten years ago, would we ever have imagined going to a city and staying in a stranger’s house? Or summoning a stranger on our phone to have them come and pick us up in the car? You cannot come up with groundbreaking ideas if you do not allow yourself to wander around in the zone of the unknown. So much of what we do at iZone is helping students develop the mental muscles they need to come up with those ideas.
Discover

More to Seeing than Meets the Eye

How can we tell where one object ends and another begins—especially in the dark?

Researchers previously believed contrast sensitivity function—the minimum level of black and white that a person needs to detect a pattern—was mainly dictated by the optics of the eye and processing in the brain.

Now, in a study published in the journal eLife, Michele Rucci, a professor of brain and cognitive sciences at Rochester, and his colleagues explain another factor at play: contrast sensitivity also depends on small eye movements that we’re not even aware of making.

When we fix our eyes on a single point, the world may appear stable, but at the microscopic level, our eyes are constantly jittering. These small eye movements, once thought to be inconsequential, are critical to the visual system in helping us reconstruct a scene.

“Some scientists believed that because they are so small, the eye movements might not have much impact,” says Rucci. “But compared to the size of the photoreceptors on the retina, they are huge, and they are changing the input on the retina.”

By looking at contrast sensitivity, Rucci has found that the movements play a much larger role in our visual system than previously believed.

He likens that system to our sense of touch. To glean information about the surface of a solid object, we rely on a sensory process (the tactile receptors in our fingers) and a motor process (the way we move our fingertips). Similarly, our ability to visually distinguish one object from another relies on the interaction between a sensory process, involving neurons, and a motor process consisting of the small eye movements.

“Vision isn’t just taking an image and processing it via neurons,” says Rucci. “We see because our eyes are always moving, even if we don’t know it.”

Now researchers will be able to incorporate the new research into models of human vision, providing more accuracy in understanding exactly how the visual system processes information—and what can go wrong when it fails.

—Lindsey Valich

A Silver Lining for Amazon Also-rans

When Amazon announced the locations for its new headquarters last November, 18 semifinalist cities breathed a sigh of disappointment—or relief, for those who worried about increased congestion and soaring housing prices.

But according to Simon Business School doctoral student Zhao Jin, there’s some good news for cities that may have been disappointed by the decision. Jin studied entrepreneurial activity in the 20 semifinalist cities both before and after Amazon announced the list, and found a notable uptick in certain kinds of entrepreneurial activity following the announcement.

According to Jin, the results suggest that “the mere possibility of a large company entering a market encourages entrepreneurs to find profitable ways to be useful to that company.”

Assistant Professor Michael Gofman, who supervised Jin’s research, says the paper addresses a fundamental question.

“As Amazon, Apple, Facebook, Alphabet, Microsoft, and other tech giants increase their investment in internal R&D and attract the best talent, some have argued that it discourages startups. Zhao shows that big tech firms actually foster the establishment of startups.”

But will the startups in those cities remain there? “I certainly don’t expect all of them to move or close up,” says Jin. “They knew the risks when they founded their companies and are likely to continue operations.”

The paper, entitled “How Do Large Companies Affect Entrepreneurial Entry: Evidence From Amazon HQ2,” is published online by the Social Science Research Network.

—Peter Iglinski
Why High Blood Pressure May Lead to Alzheimer’s

In 2012, Maiken Nedergaard, codirector of the University’s Center for Translational Neuro-medicine, made the pathbreaking discovery that the brain had its own waste removal system. She’s since shown that the system is more active while we sleep, can be damaged by stroke and trauma, and can also be harnessed to deliver therapeutics to the brain.

To describe the dynamics of the so-called glymphatic system, Nedergaard has been assisted by Douglas Kelley, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering in the Hajim School and an expert in fluid dynamics. Collaborative research by Nedergaard and Kelley has found that the glymphatic system—which pumps cerebrospinal fluid into brain tissue to flush away waste—is driven by the pulsations of adjoining arteries, and that changes in the pulsations caused by high blood pressure slows the removal of waste.

The research, reported in Nature Communications, might explain the association between high blood pressure and Alzheimer’s disease. Alzheimer’s is characterized by abnormal clumps (amyloid plaques) and tangled bundles of fibers (tau tangles) in the brain.

“Artery walls ‘have to flex harder in order to hold the same shape when there’s more pressure inside,’” Kelley says. “And that changes the waveform of the flexing of the artery wall.”

The collaboration between the two labs is part of a $3.2 million National Institute on Aging grant.

—Bob Marcotte

Nurse Practitioners Critical to Primary Care

A growing number of nurse practitioners are providing primary care in low-income and rural areas where physician supply is low, according to a study by School of Nursing researchers published in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

The researchers examined data trends in 50 states and Washington, D.C., from 2010 to 2016, and charted a narrowing gap between the supply of primary care nurse practitioners and physicians, particularly in low-income and rural communities. While previous studies have shown that primary care NPs have a higher propensity to practice in low-income and rural areas than primary care physicians, the Rochester study is the first to examine the breakdown and distribution of the supply of primary care clinicians in relation to income and population density.

“This paper is really sending a message from a policy perspective about how to more effectively use NPs in primary care delivery,” says Ying Xue, an associate professor at the School of Nursing and the paper’s lead author. “It may be most beneficial in looking at how to further structure the entire primary care workforce and how to mobilize all primary care clinicians in order to maximize timely access to care for populations in need.”

—Patrick Broadwater

Is a Widely Used Assessment Biased?

A psychological test performed routinely and recommended by the National Institute for Mental Health contains racial and other biases, according to researchers at Rochester and Harvard. The study is published in Psychological Medicine.

Psychologists use the phrase “mental state understanding” to describe the ability to decipher and infer the hidden emotions and intentions of others. The Reading the Mind in the Eyes Task (RMET) requires participants to view a series of black-and-white photographs, originally from magazines and cropped to include only the eyes of female and male actors.

But the subjects in the photographs are all Caucasian. And participants are asked which of four adjectives—panicked, incredulous, despondent, or interested—best describes the mental state expressed in the eyes (the correct answer has been generated through consensus ratings).

The test is “biased against the less educated, the less intelligent, and against ethnic and racial minorities,” says lead author David Dodell-Feder, an assistant professor of psychology at Rochester. “It relies too heavily on a person’s vocabulary, intelligence, and culturally biased stimuli.”

What surprised the researchers most was that the difference in the performance of people of some races and certain levels of education was as large or even larger than the difference between people with schizophrenia or autism—two groups who exhibit well-documented marked and pervasive social difficulties—and people without those conditions.

One remedy, says Dodell-Feder, would be to keep the design of the task but use stimuli that are multiracial and include different response options.

“Either way, our findings show that it might be premature for NIMH to make strong recommendations regarding the use of certain tasks for measuring mental state understanding before we can thoroughly assess the validity of their usage across peoples,” says Dodell-Feder.

—Sandra Knispel
Ask the Archivist: Do You Have Insider Information on These Stocks and Bonds?

A question for Melissa Mead, the John M. and Barbara Keil University Archivist and Rochester Collections Librarian.

The Office of Institutional Research recently moved from Wallis Hall on the River Campus to College Town. These old securities were framed for display in the office and later filed away after Treasury renovated, and transferring them to the Archives seemed appropriate. They no longer have monetary value, but are intriguing with certain notable University names. Whatever you could tell me about them would be of great interest, especially the one in Cyrillic. —Vincenzo Falciano '85, University director for institutional research

While their monetary value was realized long ago, the stories these documents can tell us are still of interest, and the Archives is happy to accept them for the collections.

The treasurer’s office would initially have retained the documents in its files because the University purchased them directly as part of its own financial affairs, or because the original owners made planned gifts. These few examples were presumably retained by your predecessors for their aesthetic value, and as a tangible reminder of the work of those who have stewarded our assets in the past.

The original owners include Martin Brewer Anderson (1815–1890), Mary Steele Morgan (1820–1883), the Schlegel Corporation, the estate of George Eastman, and of course the University itself. The investments vary as well, and show (on a modest scale) the progression of industries viewed as assuring a good return: mining, real estate, construction, railroads, governments, motion picture production and distribution, and button manufacturing.

Two certificates were owned personally by the University’s first president, Martin Brewer Anderson. In April 1881, he purchased 100 shares in the Tombstone Mill and Mining Company, which operated silver mines located in Arizona. Tombstone’s directors do not appear to have an obvious Rochester connection, unlike the executives of Anderson’s other holding in the Manhattan Construction Company. The president of that company was John Hall Deane, Class of 1866 and a University trustee from 1879 to 1923. Deane is remembered today for the professorship held currently by Russell Peck, the John Hall Deane Professor Emeritus of Rhetoric and English Literature. President Anderson and his wife, Elizabeth, died within a few weeks of each other in 1890; the University was the main beneficiary of the Anderson estate.

In 1851, Mary Steele married Lewis Henry Morgan, noted lawyer and scholar. Three years later, she purchased a home for the family on Fitzhugh Street in Rochester with money inherited from her father. Her stocks, both acquired after her husband’s death in 1881, are also for shares in mining companies, one located in South Dakota, the other (again) in Arizona. The Morgan estate was left to the University for the specific purpose of funding women’s education.

The January 2, 1928, Democrat and Chronicle reports that the Genesee Button Company was one of a number of firms lured to Rochester by the “New Industries Bureau” of the Chamber of Commerce. While Genesee Button seems to have been newly formed, its product was hardly a new industry in Rochester, the “button center of the United States;” nor was its president, Nelson Sage, a stranger to Rochester or buttons. His father, William Sage, served as the University’s treasurer from 1850 to 1890, and is the namesake of the Sage Art Center. Until 1926, the younger Sage was president of the Rochester Button Company. After it merged with two other button makers, he was replaced. It is not clear why he chose to associate with a new company to compete with the larger concern, but it was not a successful venture. By March 1932, the Genesee Button Company had folded.

The certificate was registered to the Schlegel Company in 1931. The Schlegel firm was founded in the mid-1880s in Rochester and made specialized textiles, from hem bindings for women’s dresses to decorative fringe for the canopies of carriages (and surreys) to machine-gun webbing during the Second World War. A gift from Helen Schlegel Moretz named Schlegel Hall, the home of the Simon Business School, in 1991.

A Treasurer’s Office report for February 4, 1929, begins, “We are still seeking the man who can tell us with even the slightest degree of certainty what the future of the market may be, particularly as it affects the holdings of the University.”
Eight months after the October 1929 stock market “crash,” the finance committee of the Board of Trustees signed an order to reduce the University’s holdings of Kreuger & Toll: selling $200,000 “Secured” shares and reinvesting a smaller amount in “American Certificates” of the same company. Despite the now clearer signs about the future of the market, the K&T stock was widely considered comparatively stable.

Ivar Kreuger, the son of a match manufacturer, formed a company with Paul Toll in 1908 and bought the rights to use a reinforced concrete process in Sweden. Their construction business initially did well, but Kreuger focused on creating a worldwide match monopoly, and along the way speculating in currency and real estate on a massive scale, paying dividends too good to be true. It was not until almost a month after Kreuger’s March 12, 1932, suicide that his personal duplicity would be recognized. It would take five years to unravel most of his schemes.

Two days after Kreuger’s death, George Eastman would also take his own life: the two men could not have been more different. The companies whose certificates are registered to the estate of George Eastman combine two of his great passions. The Martin Johnson African Expedition Corporation was an investment in the work of Martin and Osa Johnson, professional filmmakers, explorers, and longtime friends who accompanied Eastman on his 1926 expedition to Africa. They could not have been more different. The companies whose certificates are registered to the estate of George Eastman combine two of his great passions. The Martin Johnson African Expedition Corporation was an investment in the work of Martin and Osa Johnson, professional filmmakers, explorers, and longtime friends who accompanied Eastman on his 1926 expedition to Africa.

Need History?
Do you have a question about University history? Email it to rochrev@rochester.edu. Please put “Ask the Archivist” in the subject line.

Some of their footage would be shown at the Eastman Theatre, and later in educational films distributed by the other company in the “portfolio,” Talking Picture Epics Inc. Finally, there is the mysterious bond to fund the construction of the Trans-Caucasus Railway Company. Fully guaranteed by the Imperial Russian Government, “The bearer will receive interest, at four per cent per annum,” at six-month intervals beginning in July 1900 by presenting one of the 40 coupons attached to the page (three coupons remain). The bonds would be redeemable at their face value—$1,000 in gold—after 1915 according to a lottery drawing of the number assigned to the bond (this one is number 3863). There are no ownership markings on the sheet, and it does not appear in any lists of securities found in the Archives.

The University treasurer’s annual report for 1916 does list other Russian bonds, maturing in three years and paying 6 ½ percent interest. A New York Times headline of January 11, 1918, reads, “Plan to Repudiate the Russian Debt; Bolsheviki Talk of Canceling All Loans and Bonds Held at Home or Abroad.” The 1919 treasurer’s report states: “The only securities in default either as to principal or interest are $10,000 Imperial Russian Bonds . . . which are now in the hands of a protectorate.”

The Dutch East Indies Company is credited with issuing the first paper stock certificates in 1606; electronic documentation has now supplanted these often beautifully designed certificates. Whether paper or digital, there is always a story to remind us of our fiduciary responsibility and our gratitude.

To see images of all the documents and speculate on their history, visit https://rbscp.lib.rochester.edu/blog/ATA-Winter2019.
Warner School Introduces New Dean

Anand R. Marri, a former vice president at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and a professor of social studies and education at Columbia University, is leading the Warner School of Education.

Marri, whose academic research focuses on economic literacy, civic and multicultural education, teacher education, and urban education, formally began his tenure on January 1.

He succeeds Raffaella Borasi, the Frederica Warner Professor who served as Warner dean for 18 years. Borasi is continuing at Warner as founding director of the new Learning in the Digital Age Center.

Rob Clark, University provost and senior vice president for research, announced Marri’s appointment, which was the culmination of a national search led by Kathy Rideout ’95W (EdD), dean of the School of Nursing.

A former high school social studies teacher in Santa Clara and San Jose, California, Marri joined Teachers College at Columbia in 2003 as assistant professor of social studies and education and became full professor (research) in 2017. At Teachers College, he founded the Economic Literacy Initiative as part of the college’s Institute on Education and the Economy, and worked closely with faculty on a variety of multidisciplinary projects.

Since 2013, while holding a faculty position at Teachers College, he has also served as the highest-ranking officer for education in the Federal Reserve System. As head of outreach and education at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, he was responsible for the organization’s strategic vision for community and economic development initiatives, and educational programs that reach more than 40,000 people annually. He also oversaw the Federal Reserve Bank of New York’s Museum and Learning Center.

He received a PhD from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, a master’s degree from Stanford University, and a bachelor’s degree from Bowdoin College.

—Sara Miller
The University has established an Ethical Investment Advisory Committee to help ensure that the University’s endowment excludes investments in companies that represent business, labor, social or environmental practices that are inconsistent with the University’s values.

In collaboration with the Students’ Association, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee proposed creation of the new group, and the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees approved the proposal. The new committee, which includes student, faculty, and staff representatives, began working this winter with senior leaders in the Office of Institutional Resources on its mission to research funds in the endowment portfolio and provide input on potential ethical and social conflicts that can arise.

Douglas Phillips, senior vice president for institutional resources, notes that ethical investing practices have been in place for many years at the University, and the institution’s external fund managers are asked to avoid investments in companies widely identified as violating human rights or failing to respect environmental or social issues. The University also pursues investments in companies that are developing promising new technologies related to hydro, solar, and wind energy, and biofuels.

---

**‘Lewis Henry Morgan at 200’ Reintroduces a Landmark Scholar**

The legacy of Lewis Henry Morgan, a key figure in the history of American anthropology, is being commemorated in an online project.

Marking the 200th anniversary of Morgan’s birth, the project “Lewis Henry Morgan at 200” takes a fresh look at the pioneering social scientist.

Morgan, who spent much of his career in Rochester, is the author of the 1851 work *League of the Ho-de-no-sau-nee* (or Iroquois), often cited as a foundational text in American anthropology.

“Morgan tried to avoid the trap of understanding other cultures in terms of his own,” says Robert Foster, the Richard L. Turner Professor of Humanities in the Department of Anthropology. “He learned that the social and political world of the Haudenosaunee was organized, systematic, and logical, but not on terms that were familiar to Europeans.”

**NEW LIFE: A pivotal figure in anthropology, Morgan gets a “fresh look” in a new project.**

A lawyer by profession, Morgan studied Native American cultures, researched beaver colonies, corresponded with Charles Darwin, served in the New York State Legislature, and influenced the likes of Karl Marx. And, in his role as an attorney, he helped secure the charter for the University.

The University is the principal repository for artifacts and materials related to Morgan, and owns Morgan’s own copy of *League of the Ho-de-no-sau-nee*. The book was on display at Rush Rhees Library as part of a *Lewis Henry Morgan at 200* companion exhibition. Central Library of Rochester and the Rochester Museum and Science Center also mounted exhibitions.

To see the online project, visit [http://rbscp.digitalscholar.rochester.edu/wp/Morgan200](http://rbscp.digitalscholar.rochester.edu/wp/Morgan200).

—Peter Iglinski

---

**Surgery Simulation Garners International Recognition**

A Rochester program to improve training for surgeons by creating lifelike organs that physicians can practice on has received a major international honor.

Medical Center urologist Ahmed Ghazi, who has spearheaded the Department of Urology Simulation Innovation Laboratory, was awarded first place at this winter’s Falling Walls Lab Finale. The international showcase in Berlin, Germany, is designed to encourage young entrepreneurs and inventors from around the world to pursue ideas that “break down the walls” that sometimes hinder progress in dealing with social and scientific challenges.

Ghazi’s presentation was selected from among 100 finalists from institutions across the globe who pitched their ideas to a jury of academic and business leaders.

The Rochester lab has developed an innovative way to build patient-specific replicas of anatomy that allow surgeons to practice complex cases before surgery.

The program uses medical imaging, computer modeling, and 3-D printing systems to fabricate lifelike organs that look and feel like the real thing.

—Mark Michaud

---

**New Director of Alumni Relations Joins Rochester from Harvard**

Karen Chance Mercurius, the director of alumni relations at Harvard Law School, has been named to lead the Office of Alumni Relations and Constituent Engagement at Rochester.

Chance Mercurius, who has earned recognition as an innovative and strategic leader, will assume the role of associate vice president for alumni and constituent relations in March.

In her new role, she will provide strategic leadership and management of the University’s integrated alumni and constituent relations program, an area that has grown significantly in recent years, with the establishment of a national Alumni Board, the development of several regional alumni networks, a reimagined Meliora Weekend, an innovative volunteer and class agent structure, and new career, diversity, and affinity initiatives for more than 110,000 alumni worldwide.

Chance Mercurius began her advancement career in alumni relations at the University of Pennsylvania and joined Harvard Law School as director of alumni relations in 2012.

She received both bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Penn. She earned degrees from Fielding Graduate University: a master of arts in human development and a doctoral degree in organizational development and change.

—Erin Martin Kane

---

**Ethical Advisory Committee Ensures Responsible Investing**

The University is the principal repository for artifacts and materials related to Morgan, and owns Morgan’s own copy of *League of the Ho-de-no-sau-nee*. The book was on display at Rush Rhees Library as part of a *Lewis Henry Morgan at 200* companion exhibition. Central Library of Rochester and the Rochester Museum and Science Center also mounted exhibitions.

To see the online project, visit [http://rbscp.digitalscholar.rochester.edu/wp/Morgan200](http://rbscp.digitalscholar.rochester.edu/wp/Morgan200).

—Peter Iglinski

---

**DIRECTOR: Chance Mercurius will direct alumni relations.**
A Winning Track Record

One of the most decorated athletes in Rochester’s history, national champion Kylee Bartlett ’19 is cherishing the balance she’s found in her final season.

By Scott Sabocheck

Kylee Bartlett ’19 admits she was unsure about continuing her track and field career after high school.

A state-championship pentathlete as a student in Williamstown, New York, Bartlett thought she, and her body, needed a break from the rigors of competition.

When she initially visited the River Campus, she didn’t contact Rochester track and field coaches, but Bartlett eventually met with Jay Petsch, a former NCAA Division I decathlete who is now a Rochester coach. Petsch talked about Rochester’s commitment to academic excellence and how the track and field program works to complement the sometimes challenging workload.

Bartlett says many of her worries dissipated as she learned more about Rochester.

“It seemed more manageable, that I would be receiving help and guidance on how to maintain my body and health while still competing at a high level,” she says. “I think the training in the offseason is really helpful to stay healthy too, not having to come back each year from ground zero.”

Far from having to begin each season from scratch, Bartlett has established a remarkable legacy as an athlete and as a student. A three-time NCAA Division III national champion, Bartlett is a two-time Academic All-American, including a selection as a first team honoree, the first woman track and field athlete to earn that recognition.

Going into her final indoor season this winter and final outdoor season this spring, she’s a two-time defending title holder in the outdoor heptathlon, a multi-event competition that’s scored based on each athlete’s results in the 100-meter hurdles, high jump, shot put, long jump, javelin throw, and 200- and 800-meter runs.

In 2017, she won the indoor track and field national championship in the pentathlon, a competition that includes the 60-meter hurdles, 800-meter run, long jump, shot put, and high jump.

In the history of Rochester athletics, only Bartlett and Josefa Benzoni ’88, ’92W (MA), who was a member of the track and field teams of the 1980s, have captured three national titles.

As a first-year student at Rochester, Bartlett finished in 16th place at the national indoor championships. Then came her sophomore year, when she won the first NCAA title for Rochester track and field since Benzoni’s title in 1989 and the first Rochester championship in any sport since 2006. She did so in school record fashion, accumulating 3,528 points.

“Indoor was a huge surprise to win,” says Bartlett. “After I won,
I kept waiting for someone to tell me that it wasn’t real or I did something wrong.”

That spring, at the outdoor championships, Bartlett captured the heptathlon crown with another school record of 5,020 points. “I was kind of riding out a high all year after the indoor title,” says Bartlett. “Coming into the outdoor meet, I knew I had a right to be there and really could compete with these amazing athletes. If I focused on myself and what I was doing, it will just fall into place, which it did.”

Her double win was just the third in NCAA Division III women’s track and field history, matching Hardin-Simmons’s Ashley Husted in 2009 and Carleton’s Amelia Campbell in 2014.

As a junior, she set another school record for the pentathlon at the national indoors meet, but she finished in fourth place.

“Junior year I struggled a lot, trying to follow up sophomore year,” says Bartlett. “My mind and body were fighting each other; they weren’t always working together. Obviously in the moment of losing, it really stunk.”

Entering the 2018 Division III outdoor championships, Bartlett was seeded third, but viewed herself as an underdog because of her performance at the indoor meet. But she responded with a gritty performance and won the title, eking out a win by 38 points.

“It probably is one of the proudest moments of my athletic career,” she says. “It wasn’t a huge win, where I had a really good day, but I worked until the very end to sneak out with that victory. It was just something that I could walk away with from track that year.”

Petsch agrees. “The win outdoors was the best emotional feeling because she had to battle back. She didn’t have her best meet, but she pulled off something special, and it was so cool to see.”

Going into her final two seasons, Bartlett is less concerned about the possibility of winning two more championships than she is with cherishing her time as an athlete and student.

She credits some of that perspective to her activities off the track, including studying abroad last summer. She’s also a regular volunteer at Heritage Christian Stables in the Rochester suburb of Webster, where she is part of a group that helps with horseback riding lessons for people with disabilities.

Her studies as a brain and cognitive sciences major have been key as well, helping to provide a “more cerebral approach to track,” she says.

“I am very aware when my mind isn’t on board with my body, and I know that trying to fake it doesn’t work out.”

“Sometimes your body’s response to stressors is worse than the stressor itself,” Bartlett says. “It is better to acknowledge the stressor’s presence in your life without fighting it because that only makes things more difficult.”

Benzoni says that’s an important lesson for athletes to learn.

“Perhaps mental preparedness is more important than physical at the NCAA championships,” says Benzoni. “At NCAAs, all athletes have the physical ability to achieve a championship, but he or she who is optimally prepared mentally conquers the competition.”

Regardless of where she finishes on the podium, Bartlett is on pace for success.

“I want to finish out the hard work and make sure it’s all worth it, seeing where it takes me,” she says. “Trusting in the process is really what it comes down to. This year I want to come back as an all-around athlete, not just physically, but mentally as well.”

Scott Sabocheck is assistant director of communications for the Department of Athletics and Recreation.

RECORD YEAR: Men’s soccer finished with a trip to the NCAA Final Four and national honors for seniors Bryce Ikeda (above) and Nik Angyal.

NATIONAL HONORS

Final Four Finish

Men’s soccer has best finish in program history; several Yellowjackets earn national recognition.

The men’s soccer team advanced to the national semifinals late last fall, finishing in the NCAA Division III Final Four for the first time in program history. The Yellowjackets lost to eventual national champion Tufts, ending the season with a 16–3–2 mark, tying the school record for wins in a season.

The program’s banner year also included national honors for Nikolas Angyal ’19 and Bryce Ikeda ’19.

Angyal, a chemical engineering major from Stormville, New York, was named the Google Cloud Academic All-America Team Member of the Year for Division III, an award administered by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). He also was the winner of the men’s Elite 90 Award by the NCAA, presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade point average among all of the athletes at the Division III Final Four. Angyal was also named a first team Academic All-American by CoSIDA.

Ikeda, an electrical and computer engineering major from Tacoma, Washington, was named a first team All-American, the first men’s soccer player selected to the first team in 13 seasons.

Also earning All-America honors was Nancy Bansbach ’19, who helped lead the field hockey team to its best season in history. She was one of 16 players selected as a Longstreth/NFHCA Division III All-American as a first team honoree. Bansbach, a biomedical engineering major from Fayetteville, New York, led the team with 21 goals, one shy of the program’s single-season record.

The Yellowjackets advanced to the NCAA Division III quarterfinals, finishing the year with a 19–3–2 record. That set new school records for wins in a season, a campaign that began with the best start in program history, a 14-game winning streak. The Yellowjackets reached the NCAA playoffs for the fourth straight season, a first for the program.

And Rochester’s squash team was off to a strong start to the 2018–19 season, defeating legendary powerhouse Trinity College for the third time in four meetings. The win catapulted Rochester into the No. 2 position in the squash poll as January ended.

—DENNIS O’DONNELL AND SCOTT SABOCHECK