

FROM NIH TO NOBELIST
Harvey Alter '56, '60M
(MD) receives Nobel Prize.

PANDEMIC HISTORIAN
What does 1918 teach
about 2020?

VISIONARY WOMEN
Celebrating the pioneering
women who shaped our world.

Rochester

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/FALL 2020

Review



Rochester Responds

National clinical trials experts Angela Branche and Ann Falsey are among the many members of the University community who joined forces to fight COVID-19.



Let's do this.

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It's about helping our students and graduates find internships and jobs. It's about promoting equity and access. And it's about communicating how important our network of alumni, volunteers, and friends is to our future. **Will you join us?**

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With a distinguished record in vaccine technology and infectious

ON THE COVER: Angela Branche and Ann Falsey, nationally recognized clinical trial leaders. Photograph by J. Adam Fenster



diseases, Rochester is a crossroads for coronavirus vaccine trials, a place where interdisciplinary research meets innovative applications. *By Lindsey Valich*

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UNIVERSITY of
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We Rise to the Occasion

The pathbreaking work of our great institution continues—smartly, safely, and in the spirit of Meliora.

By Sarah Mangelsdorf

I'm delighted that after a bit of a hiatus, *Rochester Review* is once again in print! The COVID-19 pandemic made it necessary for us to focus on other things since the previous issue last winter, but it's important that we share a status report of sorts about how our University has responded to the challenges of this year. There is much to be thankful for as well as notable news to celebrate.

We're obviously not out of the woods yet, and, as I'm writing this, there are troubling reports of increasing infection rates across the United State. We'll have to see what the coming months bring.

What has struck me most during the last few long months is the resilience and dedication of the University's staff and faculty and the conscientiousness of our students. We have all had to adapt quickly, whether continuing to provide outstanding medical care or figuring out how to teach remotely or how to feed undergraduates while maintaining social distancing or providing quarantine space—and how to conduct random COVID surveillance testing. We've developed new ways of connecting virtually with our graduates and new ways of conducting research in labs. We've offered virtual concerts, exhibitions, and other events.

All of us owe a debt of gratitude to the clinicians, faculty, staff, and students who have taken on the challenges of this pandemic and demonstrated their commitment to this University and to our Meliora values.

And our graduates around the world have demonstrated their commitment, too, providing encouragement and support and engaging with us from afar. *Rochester Review* is primarily for our graduates, but



it is the only publication that is provided to all members of the University of Rochester community. So it was extremely important to me that we connect again in a tangible way through this magazine.

You'll be able to read about some of the ways our University has responded to the pandemic in the following pages, but you'll also find stories about University people and projects that continue to move forward despite the pandemic. It's so important to keep in mind that the work of this University goes on and the impact of this University continues unabated.

In October, we cheered the news that Dr. Harvey J. Alter '56, '60M (MD) was awarded a share of the 2020 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his work on the discovery of the hepatitis C virus. That means that in the last four years, three Rochester graduates have been awarded Nobel Prizes. And this recognition doesn't

focus on a single area of academic strength: the awards have been in Medicine, Physics, and Economics. I haven't made a careful study of this, but I expect that few, if any, other universities can match this achievement.

In May, our URM colleagues began participating in COVID-19 vaccine trials, in large part because of Rochester's long-standing expertise and research leadership in vaccine technology, immunology, and infectious diseases. In November, the entire country was heartened by the announcement that one of those vaccines has been identified as being highly effective in preventing the disease.

And recently, a research team led by Professor Ranga Dias of the Hajim School reported in the journal *Nature* that they have developed a material that for the first time achieves room-temperature superconductivity. The significance of this discovery should not be underestimated and has the potential to change the world, with applications from transportation and medicine to more efficient power grids and electronics. This is a discovery that has been sought for over a century and has been described as a "holy grail" of condensed matter physics.

It's clear that when we are confronted with a challenge, the University of Rochester rises to the occasion. We continue to learn, discover, heal, and create—even when we're wearing our masks, washing our hands, and maintaining social distance!

I hope you enjoy this issue, and I hope it finds you in good health.

Meliora. 

Contact President Mangelsdorf at sarah.mangelsdorf@rochester.edu. Follow her on Instagram: @urochestermangelsdorf.

Editor's Note:

During the 98-year history of *Rochester Review*, the magazine has often had to adjust in response to circumstances affecting the University and the world at large.

The gap between February's Winter 2020 edition and this one might be one of the longer breaks between issues. As the pandemic descended last spring, the priority for our

staff was on sharing immediate news about health and safety protocols with the University community. In catching up with this issue, we recognized that we would have to make some modifications to try to capture a challenging year. Some sections are briefer and rely on online resources more than they have before. In others, like Class Notes, we tried to represent a longer

span of time than in recent issues. Some of the notes in this issue go back to late 2019, when so many things about getting together with classmates were different.

But I hope that you find many aspects of your connections to the University in this issue—and in those to come. Feel free to write to me at scott.hauser@rochester.edu.

—Scott Hauser, editor

ALUMNUS LAUREATE

A 'Good Doctor' Receives a Nobel Prize

NIH researcher Harvey Alter '56, '60M (MD) is recognized by Nobel committee for his work to improve blood transfusion safety and reduce the transmission of a potentially deadly virus.

By Lindsey Valich and Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

Rochester's newest Nobel laureate, Harvey Alter '56, '60M (MD), once reflected on what he thought was the most dramatic turn in his life. There were a few, but none so fateful as in 1961, his ninth year in Rochester and his first as a resident at the University's Strong Memorial Hospital, when he received a draft notice in the mail.

It was a tense time in the Cold War between the US and the Soviet Union, as the nations were locked in a stalemate over the status of Berlin. The American military was on alert, and there was a shortage of doctors among them.

Just before he received the letter, however, and with assistance from Scott Swisher, then the chief of hematology at Rochester and one of Alter's favorite professors, Alter applied and was accepted to a position at the National Institutes of Health.

"My mentors at Rochester really meant a lot to me," Alter says. "Dr. Swisher was very influential and helped me get to the NIH and enter public health service before I got to the draft board. It really was a turning point in my life."

For several days, it looked like he was headed for Fort Dix, New Jersey, rather than Bethesda, Maryland. Then it turned out his appointment at the NIH could supersede his draft notice.

Although Alter says an assignment to the Army would almost invariably have been followed by a career in private practice, he had been headed in that direction anyway, ready to fulfill the dream of his father, a first-generation American who could not gather the means to attend medical school himself.

Instead, NIH led Alter "somewhat reluctantly," he says, down a path of medical research that would extend 50 years. That long and innovative career as a researcher was recognized this fall, when Alter was named one of three recipients of the 2020 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

"I think the contributions I made were not the contributions I planned to make," Alter says. "My contribution was going to be just to be a good doctor. I think I did become a good doctor, and I really owe that to Rochester."

A Nobel History

Harvey Alter is the 13th Nobel Prize recipient with ties to Rochester and the eighth alumnus to be recognized. To see a full list of Rochester's laureates, visit Rochester.edu/newscenter/rochesters-nobel-laureates.

'Non-A, Non-B' Hepatitis

Alter now holds the title of NIH Distinguished Investigator in the Department of Transfusion Medicine at the

institutes' Clinical Center. His was a long route to hematology, or to hepatology, for that matter. The New York City native came to Rochester as an undergraduate in part because it had a medical school.

"Getting accepted at Rochester medical school was one of the most exciting days of my life," Alter says. "Everything is a step-wise progression in medicine: the better the place where you start off, the better the place you can go for the next step. Rochester was a great stepping stone, but medicine was also just so intrinsically interesting."

Once in medical school, Alter was drawn to pathology, then ophthalmology, then pediatrics, then internal medicine. He ultimately opted for residency in internal medicine and fast developed a special interest in hematology, the branch of medicine concerned with studying blood.

Beginning at NIH in 1961, Alter worked with geneticist Baruch Blumberg, who was investigating proteins in blood, while Alter was exploring antibodies to those serum proteins. They initiated a collaboration that led to the discovery of hepatitis B, and with that, a Nobel Prize for Blumberg in 1976.

But once hepatitis B had been eliminated from the blood supply, patients who underwent transfusions still developed postoperative liver disease and inflammation. Neil Blumberg (no relation to Baruch Blumberg), a professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at Rochester, says Alter made the quest for an explanation his life's work. "There's no question he was the leader in this effort," says Blumberg. "Harvey worked on this his entire career."

In the 1970s, Alter identified the cause of the persistent infections as a new type of hepatitis viral agent, and he coined the term, "non-A, non-B hepatitis" to describe it (hepatitis A virus had been identified at NIH in 1975 and does not transmit through blood). Alter showed that hepatitis B accounted for only 25 percent of post-transfusion hepatitis.

It would take a few decades to be able to isolate and identify the non-A, non-B agent. That's where Michael Houghton and Charles Rice, the two scientists with whom Alter shares the Nobel, came in. In the late 1980s, Houghton, then a scientist at the Chiron Corporation, succeeded in isolating the virus, which then became known as hepatitis C. Rice, a virologist at Rockefeller University, studied the replication of the virus, leading to highly effective treatments.

"To have seen the first patient that we officially designated as having non-A, non-B hepatitis, and then to see virtually every patient I have now cured of hepatitis C, is something I never could have imagined in my lifetime," Alter says. "I can't call that



BETTER CAMPUS: As a senior in the 1955-56 academic year, Alter was a member of the first class to graduate after the Men's and Women's Colleges merged on the River Campus. "The whole University changed," Alter says of the merged campus. "It became more vibrant and interactive and exciting. Plus, all us men started dressing a little better."



PRIZED ACCOMPLISHMENT: Alter says that helping usher in an era when patients and clinicians no longer have to worry about getting hepatitis from a blood transfusion “is something I never could have imagined in my lifetime.” “I can’t call that my accomplishment, but it was amazing to be a part of that and to lay the groundwork for the discovery of hepatitis C and ultimately the treatments.”

my accomplishment, but it was amazing to be a part of that and to lay the groundwork for the discovery of hepatitis C and ultimately the treatments.”

Nobel Prize: Making Transfusions Safer

Blumberg, an expert in blood transfusion immunology who oversees the Medical Center’s Transfusion Medicine Unit, Blood Bank, and Stem Cell Storage Facility, notes that there are other ways to get hepatitis C, and there’s little understanding of its origins or how it can be spread. “But the good news,” he says, “is that it’s no longer spread through transfusion.”

Lynne Maquat, the J. Lowell Orbison Distinguished Service Alumni Professor in biochemistry and biophysics at Rochester, credits Alter as the spark that has led to dramatic improvements in a key area of global health. Maquat, who directs Rochester’s renowned Center for RNA Biology, has conducted research into the structure and function of RNA that has been critical in developing antiviral treatments.

“Harvey enabled the US to start blood and donor screening programs that lowered the cause of hepatitis due to viral risks from 30 percent in 1970 to nearly zero today,” she says. “It’s a big deal.”



STEPPING STONE: “Getting accepted at Rochester medical school was one of the most exciting days of my life,” says Alter, who received the University’s highest alumni award in 2015. “Rochester was a great stepping stone, but medicine was also just so intrinsically interesting.”

Mangelsdorf Elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences

University President Sarah Mangelsdorf has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the nation's most highly regarded honors for artistic, academic, and scientific leaders who engage in advancing the public good.

Mangelsdorf, who also holds the title of G. Robert Witmer, Jr. University Professor, is one of 276 artists, scholars, scientists, and executives in the public, nonprofit, and private sectors inducted into the 2020 class. Joining her as a member this year are songwriter and activist

Joan Baez, Brandeis University law professor Anita Hill, former US attorney general Eric Holder Jr., author Ann Patchett, poets Joy Harjo and Claudia Rankine, NIH immunologist Yasmine Belkaid, University of Washington president Ana Mari Cauce, and Duke University president Vincent Price.

Also elected this year was Grammy Award-winning composer and Eastman School of Music graduate Maria Schneider '85E (MM).

Since July 1, 2019, Mangelsdorf has served as the 11th president



Sarah Mangelsdorf

of the University, where she is also a professor of psychology.

Hajim Dean Reappointed

Wendi Heinzelman, who in 2016 was the first woman appointed to serve as dean of the Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences, has been reappointed to a second five-year term. The appointment was approved last summer by the University's Board of Trustees.

Under Heinzelman's leadership, the Hajim School has increased research expenditures and added new initiatives in data science, high-energy-density physics, and augmented and virtual reality, among other areas.

She has also expanded experiential learning opportunities for undergraduate students, increased the diversity of Hajim's undergraduate and faculty communities, and increased the number of women on the faculty and enrolled in Hajim bachelor's, master's, and PhD programs.

A professor of electrical and computer engineering with a secondary appointment in computer science, Heinzelman was dean of graduate studies in Arts, Sciences & Engineering before being named the Hajim dean.

A fellow of IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) and the Association for Computer Machinery, Heinzelman earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Cornell University, and her master's and doctoral degrees from MIT.

She joined the Rochester faculty in 2001.



Wendi Heinzelman

Appointment Adds to Diversity and Inclusion Efforts

Adrienne Morgan, who has for two decades led initiatives in medical education diversity and inclusion, has taken on two new roles to better integrate equity and inclusion efforts in the Medical Center and the University.

In July, Morgan became senior associate dean for equity and inclusion at the School of Medicine and Dentistry, where she will oversee diversity and inclusion initiatives across all programs within the medical school.

The position is in addition to Morgan's role in the University's Office of Equity and Inclusion, where she was appointed as associate vice president late last year. As associate vice president, Morgan helps advance strategic goals and initiatives that promote inclusivity throughout the University and ensure that individuals from all cultures, backgrounds, and abilities feel welcomed and supported at the University.

At the Medical Center, Morgan will oversee diversity and inclusion initiatives across all programs within the medical school, including undergraduate, graduate, and graduate medical education. The goal is to foster



Adrienne Morgan

a more equitable and anti-racist culture and create paths of opportunity for underrepresented individuals interested in medicine throughout their careers.

She assumes the role from Linda Chaudron, senior associate dean and Medical Center vice president for inclusion and culture, who has begun a

yearlong, partial sabbatical to develop plans for new faculty and staff leadership development programs while becoming the director of the Paul M. Schyve, M.D. Center for Bioethics. When she returns, Chaudron will serve as the director of a newly formed Center for Gender and Leadership at the Medical Center.

INTERNATIONAL ACCLAIM

Recent Graduate Awarded a Rhodes Scholarship

Beauclaire Mbanya Jr. '20 selected for celebrated program to study at Oxford University.

By Jim Mandelaro

Next October, Beauclaire Mbanya Jr. '20 will begin a two-year paid graduate program in engineering science as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University in Great Britain.

The native of Douala, Cameroon, became Rochester's third Rhodes Scholar this fall when he was named one of two recipients selected from candidates who are outside the program's existing competition zones.

Mbanya plans to conduct research at the intersection of sustainable energy, technology, and policy development. His ultimate goal is to advise government and private institutions in developing nations on sustainable energy solutions and economic development.

Mbanya says his years at Rochester helped him develop the passions and traits he hopes to use for global good.

"I learned to be resilient and always reminded myself that the challenges were designed for me to grow intellectually," he says. "I built relationships with mentors who became part of my support system and constantly challenged me to embody the Meliora value of 'ever better.' And I learned that it's impossible to succeed without being part of a community."

First awarded in 1902, the Rhodes is the world's oldest international scholarship program. More than 100 students are selected each year. Mbanya was named a Global Rhodes Scholar—the third University student or alumnus to earn the scholarship, and the first in 56 years.

Rochester's previous two Rhodes Scholars were the late Robert Babcock '37, who served as lieutenant governor of Vermont, and J. Timothy Londergan '65, a professor emeritus of physics at Indiana University–Bloomington.

Mbanya decided on Rochester his senior year in high school after a visit by former dean of admissions Jonathan Burdick. "He talked about Rochester's support for international students and the campus's spirit of community," Mbanya says. "By the time he was finished, I had decided to apply early decision."

A Renaissance and Global Scholar, the chemical engineering major was awarded a 2019 Davis Projects for Peace grant, a selective awards program designed to support student projects that promote peace and intercultural understanding.

As a senior, he received a highly competitive Schwarzman Scholarship to pursue a master's degree in global affairs from Tsinghua University in China.

"He was someone who took full advantage of every opportunity," says Wendi Heinzelman, dean of the Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences. "I cannot wait to see what the future holds for this very promising leader."

The Rhodes Global Scholarship was launched in 2018 to enable




GLOBAL LEADER: Mbanya's selection as a Global Rhodes Scholar recognizes his motivation to address global challenges and promote international understanding and peace.

students from any country to apply and is awarded to two academically outstanding young leaders who are motivated to address global challenges and promote international understanding and peace. Mbanya was selected with Hanna Yovita of Indonesia out of 80 nominations from 46 countries.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mbanya has been working on his Schwarzman program from the Rochester home of his host family, Raphael Tshibangu '78M (MD), '82M (Res) and Sherry Perry-Tshibangu '75.

Mbanya served as a senator in the University's chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers, worked on a Chem-E-Car project that created a car powered by a chemical energy source, was a peer tutor in the Department of Chemistry, and sang with the Pan-African a cappella group.

He also volunteered providing the elderly assistance with home repairs and at a food bank.

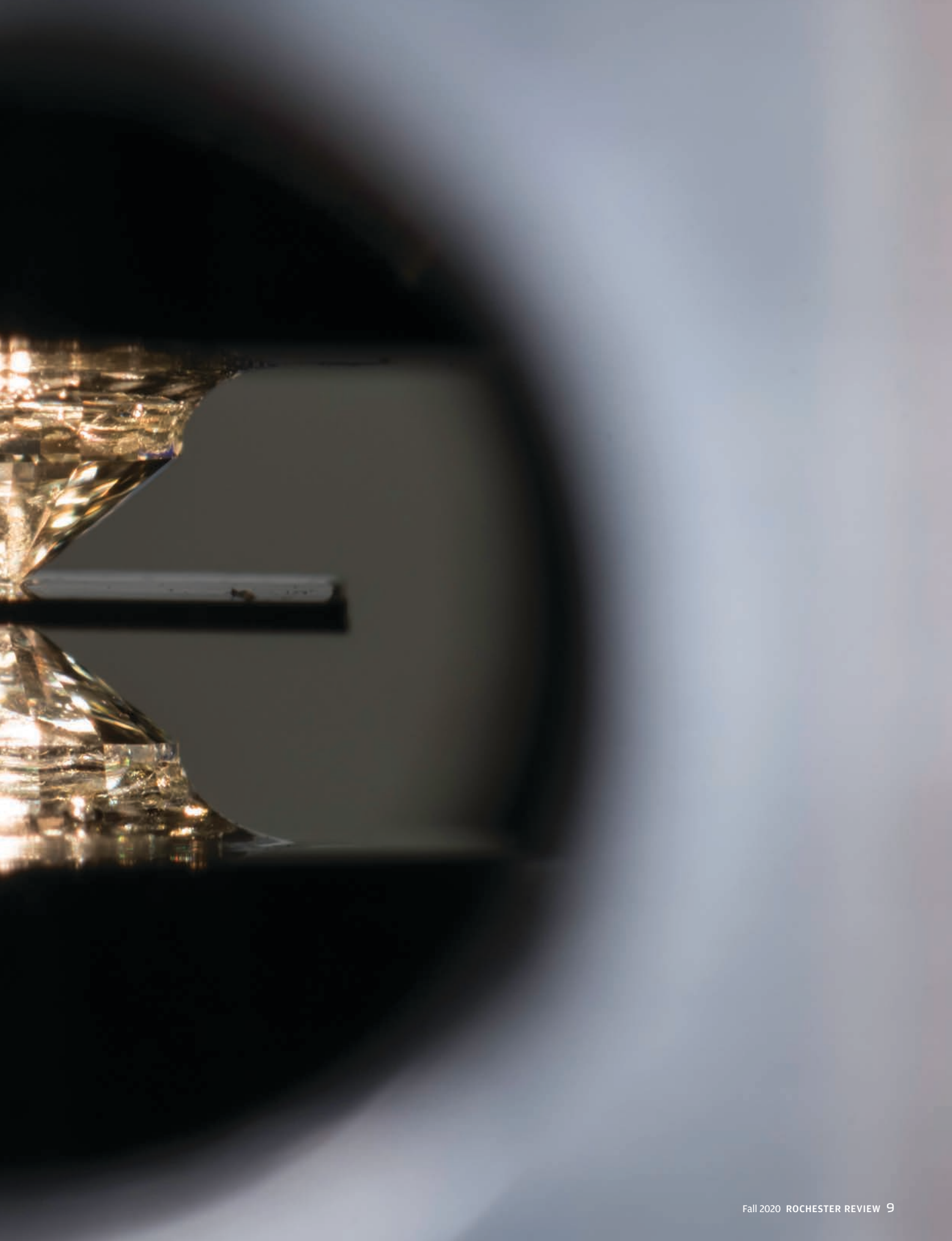
"What has always struck me are his sense of purpose, authenticity, and humility," says Belinda Redden, director of fellowships in Arts, Sciences & Engineering. "He is without pretense or affectation and always expresses gratitude for whatever is done on his behalf." 

MATERIALS SCIENCE

Super-duper Superconductors

ROOM TEMPERATURE RECORD: A team led by Ranga Dias, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering and of physics and astronomy, reported a new record this fall in the race to develop materials that have superconducting properties at room temperature. By compressing molecular solids with hydrogen at extremely high temperatures, Dias's team created a combination of materials that was superconducting at about 58 degrees Fahrenheit, easily surpassing the previous high of about 8 degrees Fahrenheit. Long sought by material scientists, such practicable superconductors—materials that have no electrical resistance or magnetic field—could revolutionize transportation, power generation, imaging, and have applications across many areas. For now, the materials only exist inside a diamond anvil cell (pictured), a research device used to examine minuscule amounts of materials under pressure rivaling the center of the earth, but Dias is exploring materials that could be superconducting at much lower pressures.

PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER



COVID-19 CURRICULUM

Empowering Science Advocates and Influencers

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION: Medical Center physicians Terace Thomas (left) and Jennifer Riche answer questions from local middle school students in the classroom of Alyssa Rutherford '19W (MS) during an event to announce a new science curriculum focused on COVID-19 that was developed as a partnership between the Warner School of Education and the School of Medicine and Dentistry. The project aims to give Rochester-area students in grades 7 to 12 the opportunity to learn about and cope with COVID-19 and to create a diverse network of teachers and schools to help youth explain the virus's impact on their communities. "We want to empower youth to act as science advocates and influencers in their circles and communities, so that they can do their part in keeping the Greater Rochester community healthy and safe," says April Luehmann, associate professor and director of the science education program at the Warner School. She is leading the project with Paul Levy, the Charles Ayrault Dewey Professor of Medicine and chair of the Department of Medicine at the School of Medicine and Dentistry. PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER



Happy Fri-Y
Today is a D

Agenda:
① Tuskegee I
Trials vid
② Opinion poll
③ Combating Po
and Racism M
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EQUITY & INCLUSION

University Launches Anti-Racism Initiatives

Across the institution, units are examining past practices and taking steps to address injustice and inequity.

Committing to holding the University to the highest standards when it comes to matters of race, diversity, and inclusion, President Sarah Mangelsdorf and Chief Diversity Officer Mercedes Ramírez Fernández have launched a series of initiatives designed to make the institution “a better neighbor, employer, health care provider, and educational resource.”

In a series of messages to the University community this summer and fall, the two acknowledged that progress—in the nation, in the region, and at the University—has been too slow, and they outlined an initial set of steps and a road map for more action.

“Systemic change will take time, but we are committed to doing the work,” they wrote. “As we pursue the changes we must implement, we will rely on you to hold us accountable, and we hope to engage with you as we strive to be a better neighbor, employer, health care provider, and educational resource.”

Among the steps under way as of this fall:

- The Office of Equity and Inclusion has requested that every school dean and unit administrative leader work with the office to set specific diversity goals and produce a diversity report using a consistent set of metrics that will allow for the measurement of progress. The reports will be made public and will inform ongoing diversity efforts.
- The University launched a yearlong fundraising campaign, called Together for Rochester, that prioritizes the recruitment of diverse faculty and other key diversity efforts (see pages 28–29). The campaign is also the platform for the launch of three new alumni networks: the Black Alumni Network, the Women’s Network, and the First Generation Network (see page 62). The alumni Diversity Advisory Council, chaired by Noah Pizmony-Levy Drezner ’00 and University Trustee Lance Drummond ’85S (MBA), and the Alumni Board will help to ensure that alumni are consulted, heard, and engaged.
- A new, permanent director of the Frederick Douglass Institute for African and African-American Studies has been appointed, with the goal of working toward transforming the institute into a department-level program in Arts, Sciences & Engineering. Washington University in St. Louis scholar Jeffrey McCune begins his appointment next summer (see page 15).

In addition, the Office of Equity and Inclusion has appointed new staff members to lead strategic initiatives at the Medical Center and the University. The appointments include Adrienne Morgan, a longtime leader in educational diversity at the Medical Center, who has been named associate vice president of equity and inclusion for the University and senior associate dean for equity and inclusion at the School of Medicine and Dentistry. In that role, Morgan reports to Fernández, who also holds the title of Richard Feldman Vice President for Equity and Inclusion, and to Mark Taubman, the CEO of the Medical Center and dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Morgan helped lead one of the first comprehensive efforts to outline a unit-wide effort to address racism and discrimination. This fall, the Medical Center released its Equity and Anti-Racism Action Plan, a five-year effort to strengthen diversity and inclusion,

address inequities in patient care, and reduce health disparities in the Rochester community.

The plan outlines clear strategies and actions that will strengthen diversity across the Medical Center, identifies accountable leaders, sets metrics for measuring progress, and assures transparency through regular reporting mechanisms.

It’s the product of a process that began in June, when Taubman announced the initiative shortly after the death in May of George

“We are deeply committed to making the University of Rochester the welcoming, inclusive, and just community that we know it should be, and that we know it can be.”

*—Mercedes Ramírez Fernández,
chief diversity officer*

Floyd at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer. Floyd’s death, as well as other instances of police brutality, prompted Medical Center faculty, staff, and trainees to organize White Coats for Black Lives demonstrations outside Strong Memorial Hospital and at other UR Medicine facilities. Hundreds joined to call for an end to systemic racism and violence against people of color.

Later in the summer, the Rochester metropolitan area was the focus of national outrage when the city’s police department released disturbing footage of a Black man, Daniel Prude, being restrained during an encounter earlier in the year. Prude, who had been evaluated at and released from Strong Memorial Hospital before the encounter with police, died days later after being taken off life support. The county’s medical examiner ruled the death a homicide.

In acknowledgment of the nation’s history of racial injustice, Taubman and Mangelsdorf, who also serves as the G. Robert Witmer, Jr. University Professor, jointly signed a declaration this summer that racism is a public health crisis. And in November, the Eastman School of Music released its Report and Recommendations of the Eastman Action Commission for Racial Justice, a group convened in June by Jamal Rossi, the Joan and Martin Messinger Dean at the Eastman School of Music.

Rossi has implemented some of the report’s recommendations, including the creation of an ongoing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council; developing Eastman-specific education workshops offered this academic year; and commissioning Black composers to write new compositions as part of Eastman’s upcoming centennial celebration.

Mangelsdorf and Fernández have been meeting with constituencies from across the University community and are welcoming feedback.

“We are deeply committed to making the University of Rochester the welcoming, inclusive, and just community that we know it should be, and that we know it can be,” Fernández says. “We are committed to doing the work.” **R**

—Kathleen McGarvey

Simon and Warner Appoint New Deans

Sevin Yeltekin and Sarah Peyre take the helms of two Rochester graduate schools.



Sevin Yeltekin

The Simon Business School and the Warner School of Education started the school year with new deans.

Former Carnegie Mellon University economist Sevin Yeltekin is the eighth dean at Simon and the first woman to lead the school. And Sarah Peyre, mostly recently the director of an innovative education program at the Medical Center, is the new dean at Warner. Both appointments were effective July 1.

Sevin Yeltekin

A highly respected macroeconomics scholar, Yeltekin was the Rohet Tolani Distinguished Professor of Economics in the Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon, where she was also senior associate dean of education, advancing the academic and student experience for the school's undergraduate and graduate programs.

Yeltekin is well known for her research in the design of sustainable monetary and fiscal policies in environments where policy-makers and the public have different levels of information. She founded multiple interdisciplinary research initiatives at Tepper, including Health Tech and Analytics, Inclusive Growth, Sustainability and the Tepper Blockchain Initiative.

Yeltekin succeeds Andrew Ainslie, who served as Simon's dean for six years. She received her bachelor's degree in economics and mathematics from Wellesley College and her master's and doctoral degrees in economics from Stanford University.

She began her career as a member of the faculty at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University before joining Carnegie Mellon as an assistant professor of economics in 2005.

She has served as an associate editor at four journals: *Operations Research*, *Journal of Monetary Economics*, *Macroeconomic Dynamics*, and *Quantitative Economics*.

Yeltekin's connection to Rochester precedes her appointment as dean. Since 2012, she has been a member of the advisory board for the Carnegie Rochester NYU Series on Public Policy. A semi-annual event rotating among the three universities, the series encourages the interchange of scientific ideas among analysts with



Sarah Peyre

different approaches and offers academic economists greater understanding of practitioners' environments.


Sarah Peyre

Peyre comes to her new position at the Warner School from the Medical Center, where she was associate dean for innovative education and executive director of its Institute for Innovative Education.

Peyre succeeds acting dean Brian Brent, the Earl B. Taylor Professor at Warner. She joined the University in 2011 and also holds faculty appointments as professor of surgery, nursing, medical humanities, and bioethics. She is a national expert in the field of simulation and the development of educational innovations that support collaborative health-care models. Her work in interprofessional education includes curriculum development on disparities in health care, leadership, and technology. Her educational research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, Josiah Macy Foundation, Burroughs Wellcome Foundation, and others.

As executive director of the Institute for Innovative Education, she led advances in health professions education through simulation, adaptive technology, team science, and novel approaches to information and education delivery. Through a mix of services that includes the Miner Library and the Center for Experiential Learning, the institute supports the educational mission of the School of Medicine and Dentistry, School of Nursing, Eastman Institute of Oral Health, Strong Hospital, and the Faculty Practice Group.

Prior to joining the University, Peyre served as the director of education and research for the STRATUS Center for Medical Simulation at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, and as assistant professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School.

She received her bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of California at Berkeley and her master's degree in medical education and doctorate in educational psychology from the Rossier School of Education at the University of Southern California. 

Satz Department of Music Debuts

The Department of Music in the School of Arts & Sciences has become the first named department in the school, thanks to a gift from former music major and influential arts education leader Arthur Satz '51.

The Department of Music in the School of Arts & Sciences has become the first named department in the school.

The late president of the New York School of Interior Design, Satz bequeathed the largest ever gift geared toward supporting the humanities at Rochester.

In addition to establishing the Arthur Satz Department of Music, the commitment will establish a minimum of five new professorships in fields related to the humanities. Honey Meconi, a professor with appointments in the School of Arts & Sciences and at the Eastman School of Music,



Arthur Satz

has been awarded the first of the professorships as the Arthur Satz Professor for the Department of Music.

In 1963, Satz joined NYSID, where he eventually became the school's president and board chair. During his career there, he upgraded the institution from a certificate school into a full-fledged bachelor's and master's degree-granting institution. Before that, he was a faculty member in the music departments at Yale University and Vassar College.

Leadership in Translating Research Recognized

The Medical Center has been awarded \$24.3 million from the National Center for Advancing Translational Science of the National Institutes of Health to continue Rochester's efforts to turn scientific discoveries into health benefits.

This award, announced last summer, brings the Medical Center's total funding from the national center to \$132 million, dating to 2006 when Rochester

became one of the first 12 institutions in the nation to receive one of the awards.

The award continues support for the Clinical and Translational Science Institute, which provides funding, training, and resources to help researchers rapidly translate discoveries into therapies.

Rochester's center was also selected as the coordinating center for the national program in 2017.

Board Elects Two Members, Honors Life Trustees

The University's Board of Trustees elected two new members last spring during a virtual meeting in which the board also recognized three new life trustees.

New Trustees

Martin Sanders is cofounder and CEO of Io Therapeutics Inc., a privately held company based in Santa Ana, California, that develops treatments for Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, multiple sclerosis, and cancers. He is also the executive chairman of the company's board of directors. He is a medical doctor with a long career in clinical care and research. He and his wife, Corazon, established a professorship at the Eastman School of Music in appreciation of the voice teacher of their daughter, Laura, who earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Eastman.

Elizabeth (Betsy) Ward '86 is the chief financial officer at MassMutual, a nearly 170-year-old life insurance company. Before becoming CFO in 2016, she held several prominent positions at the Springfield, Massachusetts-based company, including chief enterprise risk officer and managing director at the company's subsidiary asset management firms. Ward earned a bachelor's degree in economics and Spanish from Rochester, while also studying flute through

lessons at the Eastman School of Music. In 2019, she was the keynote speaker at the University's Simon Women's Conference.

Life Trustees

The board also recognized the service and philanthropic support of three board members, awarding them status as life trustees.

A board member since 2010, Kathleen Murray '74 has held several roles on leadership committees and championed key goals in diversity, alumni engagement, and for River Campus Libraries. She also established the Kathleen McMorrin Murray '74 Endowed Scholarship Fund and supported several other programs.

Francis Price '74, '75S (MBA) has been a board member since 1995, and his tenure included leadership service on several committees. In 2016, he volunteered to serve as the inaugural chair of the Public Safety Review Board and has been a longtime supporter of the David T. Kearns Center and other initiatives.

A member of the board since 2015, E. Philip Saunders has led initiatives across the University and the Medical Center and helped increase engagement with the region. His philanthropy has provided substantial support for neuromuscular disease and translational research while also honoring the nation's veterans.



Martin Sanders



Elizabeth (Betsy) Ward

New Director of the Frederick Douglass Institute Appointed

An award-winning author on issues of race, gender, and identity and a professor at Washington University in St. Louis has been named director of the Frederick Douglass Institute.

Jeffrey McCune Jr., who is currently associate professor of women, gender, and sexuality studies and of African and African American studies at Wash U, will begin his tenure at the institute in June 2021.

As director, McCune will bring together faculty, students, and staff from across academic disciplines to collaborate in the study of the African diaspora and offer programming that explores and promotes African and African American studies at the University. He will also oversee the institute's interdepartmental undergraduate major and minor

programs, as well as the institute's certificate and fellowships programs.

In 2006–07, McCune was a postdoctoral fellow at the institute and a faculty associate at the University's Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender and Women's Studies.

He earned a bachelor's degree in speech/theater and secondary education from Cornell College, and a master's degree in communications studies from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. He earned his PhD in performance studies, with a focus on African American and gender studies, from Northwestern University.

Among McCune's top priorities as director will be to revitalize the institute's academic and programmatic services and expand its scope from an institute to a



Jeffrey McCune Jr.

full department for African and African American studies in the School of Arts & Sciences.

Kristin Doughty, an associate professor of anthropology and director of the Anthony Institute, is serving as interim director until McCune joins the University.

UHS Building Gets a New Floor

A project to add a floor to the University Health Service building is complete, adding more space for psychiatry, mental health, and other programs on campus.

The construction, which began in 2019, adds 6,000 square feet of space for UHS services.

Supported by a \$1 million New York State HECap capital grant, the floor allows UHS to expand access to psychiatry and mental health care services, as well as free up other spaces for health support groups on the second floor.



UHS: More space for services.

Paul Burgett Memorialized on Eastman Quad

A marker to memorialize Paul Burgett '68E, '76E (PhD)—musician, scholar, teacher, and University leader for over half a century—has been

installed on the west end of the Eastman Quadrangle.

A gift from an anonymous donor, the marker honors the life and legacy of one of the

University community's most recognized citizens.

Dean Burgett, as he was known to generations of students and alumni, died in 2018.



MEMORIAL: "If not you, who?" reads a memorial to Dean Burgett, who arrived at Rochester in 1964 to study at the Eastman School of Music and went on to become one of the University's most recognized citizens.

Rochester Named National Research Center

The Medical Center's research leadership in conditions such as autism, Batten disease, and Rett syndrome has been recognized with a new national designation.

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development has named Rochester as an Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center, whose goal is to translate scientific insights into cutting-edge care.

The center will be led by John Foxe, director of the Del Monte Institute for Neuroscience, and Jonathan Mink, the chief of child neurology at Golisano Children's Hospital.

A Low-Cost Catalyst Helps Turn Seawater into Fuel

Rochester chemical engineers have taken an important step toward demonstrating the

feasibility of powering ships by converting seawater into fuel. In collaboration with

researchers at the Naval Research Laboratory, the University of Pittsburgh, and OxEon Energy, the Rochester team reported that a specially designed catalyst can be an efficient and reliable way to convert carbon dioxide to carbon monoxide, a critical step in turning seawater into fuel at an industrial scale.

Described in the journal *Energy & Environmental Science*, the process uses a molybdenum carbide catalyst that, when primed with potassium, becomes a low-cost, stable, and highly selective catalyst that's key to creating a hydrocarbon that ships can use as fuel. Led by Marc

Porosoff, an assistant professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Rochester who was part of an earlier research team at the Naval Research Laboratory, the researchers conducted a series of experiments at molecular, laboratory, and pilot scales to document the catalyst's suitability to be scaled up.

The work is important to the Navy because if ships could create their own fuel from seawater, they could remain in near continuous operation. Currently, most ships require tanker ships to replenish their fuel oil while at sea, which can be difficult in rough weather.

—Bob Marcotte



SEAWORTHY: Rochester research aims to reduce mid-sea refueling.

Mapping Mechanisms: How Cancer Gets Under Way

A project to describe the dynamic push and pull between two proteins is shedding light on the interaction among genetics, nongenetic influences on cells, and cancer, according to new Rochester research.

In a paper published in *Nature Communications*, Patrick Murphy, an assistant professor of biomedical genetics at Rochester, and a team at the Wilmot Cancer Institute mapped the relationship between the two proteins—ANP32E and H2AZ—that are important in cell division and aggressive tumors, as well as metastatic cancer.

The work adds critical information in the study of epigenetics, an effort to understand which biological factors influence inherited gene changes and predisposition to diseases, and how lifestyle behaviors passed down through generations and chemical exposures can also alter the function of genes and lead to cancer and other illnesses.

By understanding and controlling how proteins operate, scientists hope to find an avenue to preventing cancer.

The “precise control of ANP32E levels and H2A positioning may be critical for preventing carcinogenesis,” the researchers report. Thus, it will be important for future studies to investigate the mechanisms described here in the context of human diseases, including cancer.”

—Leslie Orr

Imaging the Secret Lives of Immune Cells in the Eye

Rochester researchers have demonstrated a way to track the interactions of microscopic immune cells in a living eye without dyes or damage, a first for imaging science.

Combining infrared videography and artificial intelligence, the new technique could be a “game-changer” for some clinical diagnoses as well as for fields like pharmaceuticals.

Vision scientist Jesse Schallek and his lab at the

Center for Visual Science and Flaum Eye Institute, reported a new microscopy technique, described in the journal *eLIFE*, that builds on ground-breaking adaptive optics developed at the University more than 20 years ago.

Combined with time lapse videography and artificial intelligence software, the new technique enables researchers for the first time to noninvasively image and track—without labeling—the interactions

of translucent immune cells within live retinal tissue.

Until now, the immune cells had to be labeled with fluorescent agents and often reinjected in order to image them—raising questions about how the procedure might change the behavior of the cells.

Another common, but limiting, approach is to remove cells and study them with a microscope in a lab.

—Bob Marcotte

Was There a ‘Snowball Earth’?

Rochester researchers are providing new evidence for a theory that has intrigued geological scientists for a long time.

Was there a period when ice covered every surface of the planet, as some scientists posit in a hypothesis known as “Snowball Earth”? If so, how could the planet have gone so cold—even in the warmest regions of Earth?

In a paper published in *Science Advances*, Scott MacLennan, a postdoctoral research associate in the lab of Mauricio Ibanez-Mejia, an assistant professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, presented the first geological evidence that Earth's climate may have begun to cool even before a known period of severe glaciation that lasted

from 1,000 to 540 million years ago in Earth's 4.5-billion-year history.

The researchers report that there may have been ice at high altitudes in the tropics in the period before a Snowball Earth event, indicating that the planet may have begun cooling earlier than researchers originally thought.

—Lindsey Valich

BEAUTY OF OPTICS

Finally, a Way to See Molecules ‘Wobble’

Using a plate glass that’s been uniformly stressed (pictured), researchers from Rochester and France have demonstrated a microscopy method that offers groundbreaking insights into the behavior of molecules. The work could provide invaluable information about biological processes, such as when a cell and the proteins that regulate the cell’s functions react to a virus.

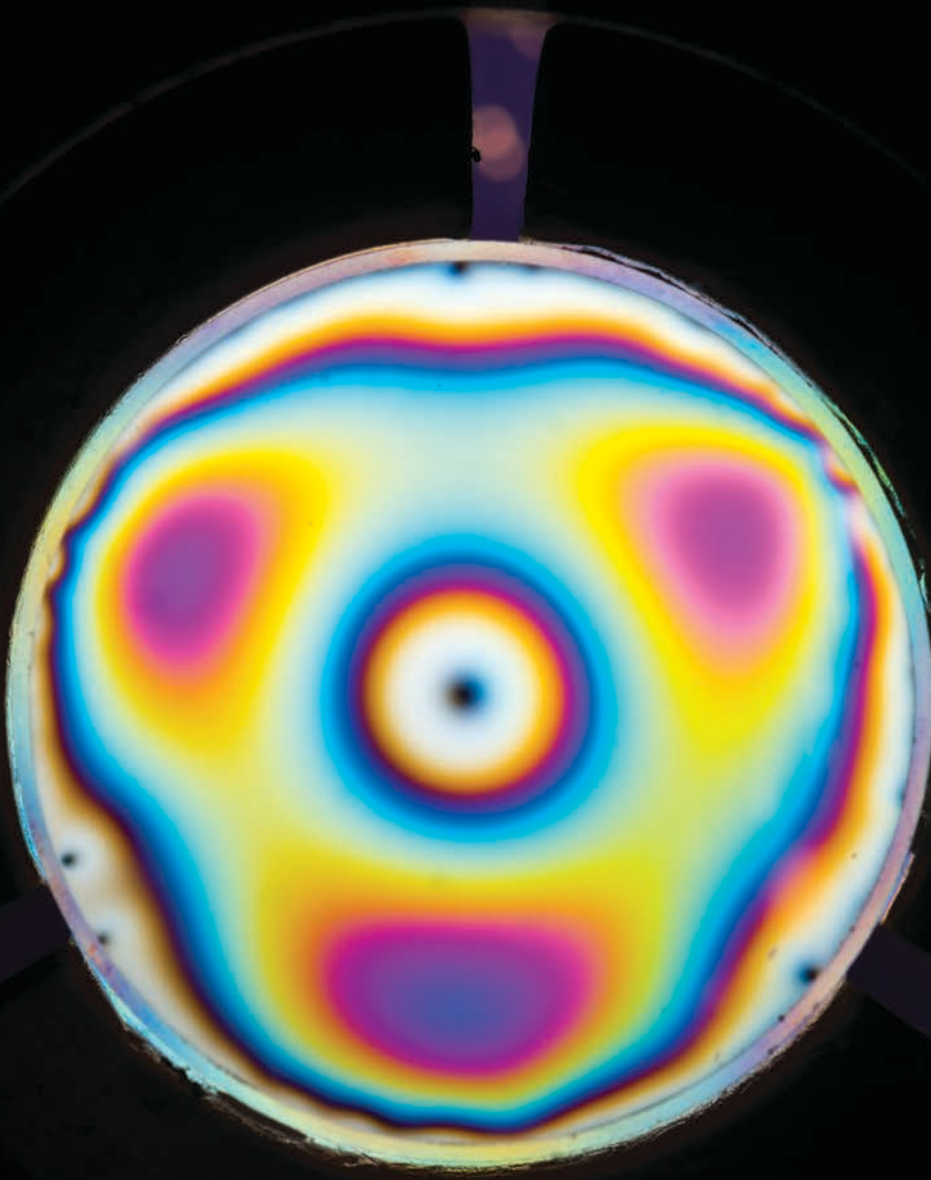
Nicknamed CHIDO—for “Coordinate and Height super-resolution Imaging with Dithering and Orientation”—the technology was described in a new paper published in *Nature Communications*. The project is a collaboration involving Sophie Brasselet, director of the Fresnel Institute in France, and Miguel Alonso and Thomas Brown, both professors at Rochester’s Institute of Optics.

Precise within “tens of nanometers in position and a few degrees of orientation,” the device can show not only the position and orientation of molecules in 3D, the team reports, but also how the particles wobble and oscillate.

The new technology transforms the image of a single molecule into a distorted focal spot, the shape of which directly encodes more precise 3D information than possible with previous measurement tools. In effect, CHIDO can produce beams that have every possible polarization state.

“This is one of the beauties of optics,” Brown says. “If you have a device that can create just about any polarization state, then you also have a device that can analyze just about any possible polarization state.”

—Bob Marcotte



Circadian Rhythms Help Guide Waste from Brain

New Rochester research details how the complex set of molecular and fluid dynamics that comprise the glymphatic system—the brain’s way of removing waste materials—are synchronized with the master internal clock that regulates the sleep-wake cycle.

The findings suggest that people who rely on sleeping during daytime hours are at greater risk for developing neurological disorders.

Published in the journal *Nature Communications*, the study adds to a growing understanding of the operation and function of the brain’s self-contained waste removal system. That system was first discovered in 2012 by researchers in the lab of Maiken Nedergaard, codirector of the Center for Translational Neuromedicine at Rochester.

Nedergaard, the senior

author of the new study, says the findings demonstrate that the glymphatic system’s function is based on daily rhythms dictated by our biological clock and not solely on sleep or wakefulness.

Since the initial discoveries of the system, Nedergaard’s lab and others have shown the role that blood pressure, heart rate, circadian timing, and depth of sleep play in the glymphatic system’s

operation and the chemical signaling that occurs in the brain to turn the system on and off.

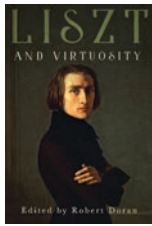
Researchers have also shown how disrupted sleep or trauma can cause the system to break down and allow toxic proteins to accumulate in the brain, potentially giving rise to a number of neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer’s.

—Mark Michaud

Books & Recordings

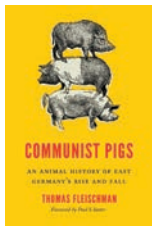
Books

Liszt and Virtuosity



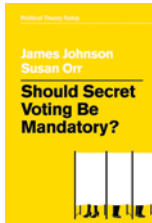
Robert Doran, a professor of French and comparative literature at Rochester, edits a collection of essays originating from the 2017 conference at the Eastman School of Music “Liszt and Virtuosity—an International Symposium.” (University of Rochester Press)

Communist Pigs: An Animal History of East Germany's Rise and Fall



Thomas Fleischman, an assistant professor of history at Rochester, showcases the central role of the pig in East Germany's attempt to create and sustain a modern, industrial food system built on communist principles. Ultimately, he argues, the food system was a factor in the environmental and political collapse of the nation in the late 1980s. (University of Washington Press)

Should Secret Voting Be Mandatory?



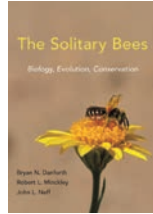
James Johnson, a professor of political science at Rochester, and **Susan Orr**, a political scientist at SUNY Brockport, examine the rationale behind ballot secrecy, the growing threats to it, and the advantages to making voting, as well as voting in secret, mandatory. (Polity Press)

The Path to Paradise: Judith Schaechter's Stained-Glass Art



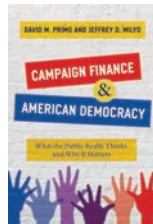
Jessica Marten, curator of American art at the University's Memorial Art Gallery, is editor and contributor to an exploration of the career of Schaechter, a Philadelphia-based artist celebrated for her fresh, 21st-century adaptations of a traditional, Gothic art form. The book is an accompaniment to the 2020 eponymous exhibit at the museum. (RIT/Memorial Art Gallery)

The Solitary Bees: Biology, Evolution, Conservation



Robert Minckley, a senior lecturer in biology at Rochester, coauthors a comprehensive reference on solitary bees. Winner of a PROSE Award from the Association of American Publishers, the book explores the essential role of solitary bees as crop pollinators, and the environmental threats they face. (Princeton University Press)

Campaign Finance and American Democracy: What the Public Really Thinks and Why It Matters



David Primo, the Ani and Mark Gabrellian Professor of Political Science and Business Administration at Rochester, and **Jeffrey Milyo**, a University of Missouri economist, offer empirical evidence to contest an oft-repeated claim that campaign finance reform will increase Americans' faith in the electoral process and democratic government. (University of Chicago Press)

Abusive Policies: How the American Child Welfare System Lost Its Way



Mical Raz, the Charles E. and Dale L. Phelps Professor in Public Policy and Health at Rochester, examines the trajectory of policies against child abuse in the United States from the late 1960s through the 1980s. Amid rising attention to abuse, Raz argues that new policies reflected a moral panic, rooted in white and middle class biases, and at odds with available data. (University of North Carolina Press)

To Describe a Life: Notes from the Intersection of Art and Race Terror



Darby English '02 (PhD), the Carl Darling Buck Professor of Art History and the director of the Scherer Center for the Study of American Culture at the University of Chicago, assesses

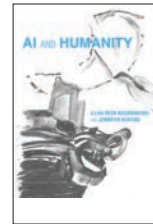
works by Black artists created in response to American police violence against Black men and women during the 2010s. The book—a detailed exploration of works by central figures in contemporary African American art, including Kerry James Marshall, William Pope.L, and Zoe Leonard—was awarded the 2020 Frank Jewett Mather Award for Art Criticism from the College Art Association. (Yale University Press)

Race to the Bottom: How Racial Appeals Work in American Politics



LaFleur Stephens-Dougan '02, an assistant professor of politics at Princeton, demonstrates with empirical data the ways in which candidates across the racial and political spectrum invoke negative racial stereotypes to appeal to the majority of white voters. (University of Chicago Press)

AI and Humanity



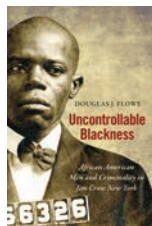
Jennifer Keating '02, a senior lecturer and writing-in-the-disciplines specialist at the University of Pittsburgh, and **Illah Reza Nourbakhsh**, who teaches computer science and robotics at Carnegie Mellon, examine the historical development and social impact of artificial intelligence (AI) systems. The book, developed as a textbook for an interdisciplinary course, includes discussion questions, exercises, and reading lists, and is accompanied by a companion website including video interviews with scientists, sociologists, literary theorists, and others. (MIT Press)

Hope and Scorn: Eggheads, Experts, and Elites in American Politics



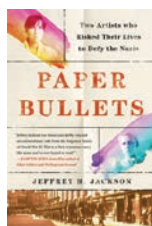
Michael Brown '14 (PhD), an assistant professor of history at Rochester Institute of Technology, explores the place of intellectuals in American politics from the Eisenhower era to the present. (University of Chicago Press)

Uncontrollable Blackness: African American Men and Criminality in Jim Crow New York



Douglas Flowe '14 (PhD), an assistant professor of history at Washington University in St. Louis, draws on prison and arrest records, trial transcripts, letters, and other sources to explore the meaning of crime and violence in the lives of men “whose lawful conduct itself was often surveilled and criminalized.” (University of North Carolina Press)

Paper Bullets: Two Artists Who Risked Their Lives to Defy the Nazis



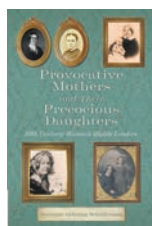
Jeffrey Jackson '99 (PhD), a professor of history at Rhodes College, documents the “artistic acts of psychological warfare” carried out by French artists Lucy Schwob and Suzanne Malherbe during the German occupation of France. (Algonquin)

The Laywoman Project: Remaking Catholic Womanhood in the Vatican II Era



Mary Henold '03 (PhD), the John R. Turbyfill Professor of History at Roanoke College, explores the public and private writings of hundreds of Catholic laywomen during the era of Vatican II in the 1960s. While some chose feminism and others did not, most of the women, Henold argues, crafted a middle position in favor of evolving roles for women as a necessary part of the church's adaptation to the modern world. (University of North Carolina Press)

Provocative Mothers and Precocious Daughters: 19th Century Women's Rights Leaders



Suzanne Gehring Schnittman '87 (PhD) showcases the feminist family dynamics at play in the relationships between four women's rights activists—Martha Wright, Abby Kelley Foster, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucy Stone—and their daughters. (Atlantic Publishing Group)

Mississippi River: Headwaters and Heartland to Delta and Gulf



Photographer **David Freese** '68 presents the final work in a trilogy on North American waters in an era of climate change. The book includes text by author and journalist Simon Winchester and a foreword by Sarah Kennel, curator of photography at the High Museum of Art in Atlanta. (George F. Thompson)

Recordings

Re: manhattan project

Jazz composer and guitarist **Denin Koch** '20E (MM) offers a musical reflection on growing up in Richland, Washington, where nuclear weapons dominated the economy and loomed over everyday life. (Denin Koch)

Job's Trials: A Jazz Song Cycle

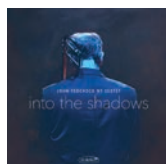
Composer and bassist **Dan Loomis** '04E (MM) presents music based on the Book of Job and narrated by Broadway actor Daniel Breaker. **Jared Schonig** '05E performs on drums. (Self-released)

An & En



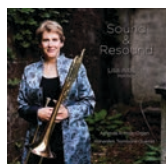
Alt-folk band Anima & Ennui, founded by songwriter and guitarist **Joe Ricci** '14, presents a debut album. (Soulpod Collective)

Into the Shadows



Trombonist **John Fedchock** '85E (MM) performs on his 10th album, along with his sextet that includes tenor saxophonist **Walt Weiskopf** '80E and bassist **David Finck** '80E. (Summit Records)

Sound & Resound



Lisa Albrecht '86E, a trombonist with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, performs solo and ensemble works, joined by organist **Amanda Mole** '09E and fellow members of the Hohenfels Trombone Quartet **Heather Buchman** '87E, **Ben Aronson** '08E, '15E (DMA), and **Matthew Halbert** '12E (MM). (Barkeater Music)

Giantess



Flutist **Jennie Oh Brown** '97E (DMA) presents works by **Carter Pann** '94E. **Kate Carter** '05E (MM) also performs. (Innova Recordings)

Songs and Dances for Solo Flute



Linda Chatterton '90E performs works for solo flute spanning four centuries. (Proper Canary)

The Scrapper



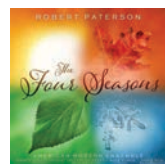
“The Scrapper”—aka jazz trumpeter and composer **John Sneider** '91E—returns with his first recording as a quintet leader in 20 years. (Cellar Records)

The Enlightened Trumpet



Paul Merkelo '91E, principal trumpet with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, performs as soloist with the Oxford (England) Philharmonic Orchestra. (Sony Classical)

The Four Seasons



Composer **Robert Paterson** '95E presents a series of song cycles corresponding to the four seasons and set to the poems of Ann Stanford, Wallace Stevens, and others. Each cycle features a different voice type. (American Modern Recordings)

For a complete list of recent books and recordings by alumni, faculty, and staff, visit rochester.edu/pr/Review/V83N1/books.html.

Books & Recordings is a compilation of recent work by University alumni, faculty, and staff. For inclusion in an upcoming issue, send the work's title, publisher, author, or performer, a brief description, and a high-resolution cover image, to Books & Recordings, Rochester Review, 22 Wallis Hall, Box 270044, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627-0044; or by email to rochrev@rochester.edu.

Ask the Archivist: Was That a US President on the Quad?

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

I was born at Strong Hospital in June 1944, in the shadow of the River Campus, and I saw Jimmy Carter on campus in the 1970s. Can you tell me how many presidents of the United States have visited the University? Who were they? When did they come? Why did they come?—James Anderson, Rochester

Thirty-two US presidents have held office since the University's founding in 1850. Although a number of them have passed through Rochester, as of this writing, only seven future or former presidents actually visited campus. President-elect Joe Biden would make eight.

The earliest appears to have been future president Theodore Roosevelt in 1900. He was serving as New York State governor, and the occasion was the celebration of the University's semicentennial on June 13, 1900. With a speech entitled "Promise and Performance," Roosevelt was the evening speaker at the Lyceum Theatre, where the event was held—the Eastman Theatre would not hold its first event until September 1922. A little over a week after his Rochester appearance, Roosevelt would be nominated at the Republican National Convention as President William McKinley's vice president.

Nearly six decades would pass before another future president visited. On October 1, 1959, Senator John F. Kennedy spoke in Strong Auditorium to a standing-room-only crowd of students. While the future US president was visiting, a future Rochester president, W. Allen

Wallis, was working for President Dwight D. Eisenhower. When Wallis was inaugurated on May 17, 1963, Eisenhower was the keynote speaker for the ceremony in the Eastman Theatre.

Richard M. Nixon was next: he made several appearances on campus, but most memorably as the 1966 commencement speaker. Initial reports that the former vice president would receive an honorary degree as part of the ceremony caused public protests by students and

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.



GUEST SPEAKER: Then former vice president Richard M. Nixon, shown with former University President W. Allen Wallis, addressed the graduating Class of 1966.



PRESIDENTIAL PODIUM: Speaking in 1959 to a standing-room-only audience in Strong Auditorium, then Senator John F. Kennedy was one of several presidents and presidential candidates to visit campus.

faculty. Professor of Philosophy Lewis White Beck stated: "We defend his right to express his opinions as he chooses, but maintain that by honoring him, this university will be grievously compromising one of its most basic ideals, 'that of academic freedom. The controversy ended when Nixon claimed that he did not accept honorary degrees. His commencement speech was entitled "Academic Freedom."

On November 11, 1983, George Herbert Walker Bush was guest of honor—and honorary degree recipient—at the installation of Paul W. MacAvoy as dean of the Graduate School of Management (renamed the Simon School in 1986). The vice president, whose Secret Service detail caused considerable consternation on campus, expounded on the theme "The Prospects for the Manufacturing Industries." A year later, the vice president was back, and took time out from campaigning to jog with students in Fauver Stadium.

Bill Clinton headlined Meliora Weekend 2011, giving the keynote address and then sitting in conversation with President Joel Seligman.

Not surprisingly, many presidential hopefuls have come to campus, whether as part of campaigns or at other points in their careers. They include Thomas E. Dewey (1957); Robert F. Kennedy (1964); Al Gore (2000, and in a Democratic presidential nomination debate at the Eastman Theatre with Michael Dukakis and Jesse Jackson in 1988); Ralph Nader (1984); Gary Hart (1984); Joe Biden (1988); and Hillary Rodham Clinton (2000 and 2004).

Finally, Jimmy Carter made at least two visits. As a former president he gave the second annual Cameros Family Lecture in the Palestra on October 17, 1983. His address, entitled "Striving for a Just Society," advocated for human rights as an essential element of American foreign policy.

His first visit, when you likely saw him, was in 1975, when as a candidate for the Democratic nomination, he was invited by the Outside Speaker's Committee to speak in Hubbell Auditorium. As reported by the *Campus Times*, Carter said that there were "two basic questions asked by the American people. The first is can government be competent? . . . The second . . . [is] can government be decent?" Carter believed the answer to the first question was "yes." For the second, he noted, "As decent as the American people." ^R

To learn more about Rochester's presidential guests, visit <https://rbscp.lib.rochester.edu/blog/ATA-Fall2020>.

HONORS

Garnish Award Winners Recognized

While varsity sports seasons were upended by the COVID-19 pandemic, the outstanding academic and athletic achievements of senior Yellowjackets did not go unrecognized. This fall, 10 students received Garnish Scholar Awards, the highest honor presented annually by the Department of Athletics and Recreation.

Selected by an alumni committee, this year's honorees are:

Ryan Algier, a data science major from Fairport, New York; basketball.

Eileen Bequette, a mechanical engineering major from Albany; track and field.

Kathryn Colone, a biomedical engineering major from Manlius, New York; field hockey.

Hugh Curran, a business major from McLean, Virginia; soccer.

Declan Hickton, a mechanical engineering major from Pittsburgh; golf.


Renae Lapins, a biomedical engineering major from Calgary, Canada; volleyball.

Tessa Ludwick, a chemical engineering major from Chardon, Ohio; basketball.

Mary Panepento, a microbiology major from Walworth, New York; lacrosse.

Alexis Pope, a biochemistry major from Ewing, New Jersey; softball.

Jon Turk, an applied mathematics major from Ramsey, New Jersey; baseball.

The Garnish program was created in honor of Lysle (Spike) Garnish, coach and mentor to Rochester student-athletes from 1930 to 1948. He became a trainer and assistant basketball coach in 1931. He was named an assistant baseball coach in 1932, and was an assistant football coach from 1945 to 1948. 

—Dennis O'Donnell

For more about the Garnish Scholars, visit Uofrathletics.com/garnish.



Ryan Algier



Eileen Bequette



Kathryn Colone



Hugh Curran



Declan Hickton



Renae Lapins



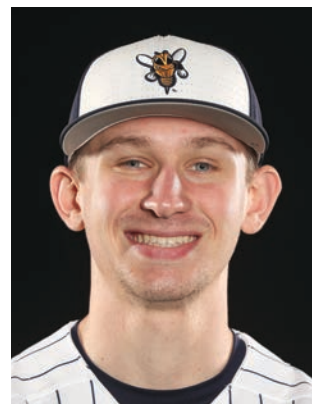
Tessa Ludwick



Mary Panepento



Alexis Pope



Jon Turk

Rochester Responds

As the COVID-19 pandemic sweeps through the country, members of the University community take on new roles and quickly revamp old processes—always with compassion and character.

The global uprooting of lives since the COVID-19 pandemic struck has been so sweeping that an effort to highlight people who have gone to extraordinary lengths in helping their communities is surely daunting. It may be that the more difficult task is to identify those among us who have not gone well beyond what is typically demanded.

Some have invented new ways, on the fly, to continue to meet day-to-day commitments. Some have quit jobs to care for children and to oversee their children's schooling. Some have lost jobs—and found ways to serve their communities, despite their own economic stresses. And some have carried on while shouldering the grief of the sudden and unforeseen death of a loved one.

We've been collecting these stories for months. As of this writing, the cases of COVID-19 are surging in many parts of the world, including in the United States and in Rochester. Circumstances continue to change and are changing for many of the people featured in these pages. What is certain is that most of them continue to find the demands of their work expanding exponentially—or they are continuing to volunteer to make it so.

There are many others we might have included. If you know of others in the University community who belong among this group, please write to us at rochrev@rochester.edu, with "Rochester Responds" in the subject line.

— Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

Contributors: J. Adam Fenster, Jim Mandelaro, Bob Marcotte, Sara Miller, Kristine Thompson, and Lindsey Valich.

Help Is on the Way

Angela Branche '14M (Flw) and Ann Falsey '66M (Res), codirectors of the Medical Center's Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit, lead NIH-sponsored clinical trials.

Last spring, Angela Branche and Ann Falsey, codirectors of the Medical Center's Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit (VTEU), began leading an NIH-sponsored clinical trial to evaluate the safety and efficacy of the antiviral drug remdesivir in adults hospitalized with COVID-19. The drug received emergency use authorization in May, and since then, research has turned to improving the drug's effectiveness by studying it in combination with other drugs.

Under the umbrella of the VTEU, Branche and Falsey also directed several vaccine trials in Rochester as part of Operation Warp Speed, a multi-agency collaboration led by the US Department of Health and Human Services to safely accelerate the development, manufacturing, and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines and therapies. The vaccine efforts at Rochester included phase 3 trials, the final stage of development of a vaccine before FDA approval.

In addition to their research on COVID-19 vaccines and treatments, Falsey and Branche have launched substantial efforts to overcome one of the most difficult problems in clinical trials: participation is usually overwhelmingly white suburbanites. The problem is especially urgent given that COVID-19 disproportionately affects people of color in low-income communities, and the researchers have addressed it through extensive outreach to community organizations, advocacy groups, faith leaders, and even high school students. The two have also been involved in community efforts to distribute COVID-19 "survival kits" to homes in low-income Rochester neighborhoods.

"How can we impact our community in a positive way?" Branche asks. "I think at this specific time, it means really educating people about COVID-19—about what people need to do to protect themselves, about the disease itself, and about why vaccines are important and why we think they're safe."


Ultimately, they hope every community has at least a 70 to 80 percent vaccine rate.

But this is just one small part of their larger mission: in Branche's words, to "develop these vaccines to deploy them across the United States and to effectively vaccinate the US population so that we can really control and put a halt to the spread of COVID-19."

—Lindsey Valich

IMPROVING TRIALS: Branche (left) and Falsey have worked with community organizations to recruit clinical trial participants more representative of the population as a whole.



A full-page photograph of two young women, Destinee and Deziree Bell, standing on either side of a large, moss-covered tree trunk. They are in a park-like setting with many trees showing vibrant autumn foliage in shades of red, orange, and yellow. The ground is covered with fallen leaves. Both women are wearing backpacks and smiling at the camera. Destinee, on the left, is wearing a purple hoodie, light blue jeans with rips, and tan boots. Deziree, on the right, is wearing a black hoodie, blue jeans, and tan boots. The text 'STUDENTS LEND A HAND:' is in the top right corner, followed by a paragraph about their commute and volunteer work.

STUDENTS LEND A HAND:
From March through the summer, twin sisters Destinee (left) and Deziree Bell commuted from their family home in nearby Gates, New York, to help fellow students who could not return home.

Students Stay to Help

For twin sisters Destinee Bell '21 and Deziree Bell '21, part-time jobs at Wilson Commons Student Activities grew in meaning, urgency, and scope.

When students headed home in March, twin sisters Destinee and Deziree Bell did, too—only they kept coming back. Destinee, a biochemistry major, and Deziree, a neuroscience major, are from just outside Rochester.

Throughout the spring and summer, they were among about 30 students who stayed on as staff of Wilson Commons Student Activities.

Among that laudatory group, the Bell sisters stood out by cross-training for every position that needed to be filled. They staffed the food pantry, packing and delivering food bags to students at the River Campus and the Medical Center; passed out masks on the River Campus and at the Eastman School of Music; and Deziree ran online trivia and movie nights throughout

the summer, connecting students with one other.

"They were willing to do work that some students at the time did not feel comfortable doing and never hesitated in saying 'yes' to anything that we asked them to do," says Laura Ballou '97, assistant dean and Campus Center director.

Ballou, as well as Madeleine Aborn, assistant director of student activities, played outsized roles themselves. But as Aborn says, "I don't think we would have made it here as smoothly as we've managed without [the Bell sisters]. They're truly superstars."

Says Deziree: "We decided to help out because there was really no one on campus who was able to do these things. If we didn't, a lot of people's needs wouldn't have been met."

—Jim Mandelaro

Care in Quarantine

As students faced quarantine on campus, staff members like Molly Morrison pitched in for a "collaborative effort to support our students."

As director of international student engagement, Molly Morrison typically supports a sizable group of undergraduates who come from around the world. But once the pandemic hit, her efforts incorporated all students in the College.

As staff from Education Abroad helped students return from programs overseas, Morrison hastily arranged quarantines for the recalled students who were returning to campus. That experience helped her in the late summer, when she oversaw quarantining of new and returning students from areas on the New York State travel advisory.

"It was important to me that while we were quickly learning how to establish a quarantine center and infirmary, we considered how students' mental and emotional needs were met during this extremely stressful and scary time," Morrison says. "If I was particularly concerned about a student, I'd call or text them and answer whatever questions I could and provide a bit of comfort."

She arranged for the delivery of snacks, yoga mats, blankets, toiletries, SIM cards, and other items and expanded the College's Basic Needs Hub, which assists students with food,

shelter, clothing, or academic supplies, to make it University wide. With donations from the University community, she organized the delivery of laptops, groceries, and emergency rent to students in need.

Morrison calls the last several months "a roller coaster" and says there are unsung heroes throughout the University. "There are heroic efforts happening behind the scenes across campus in departments like Facilities, Transportation, and Dining," she says. "We couldn't be doing any of this without them. This is a truly collaborative effort to support our students."



Team Leaders

Leaders at Strong Memorial Hospital establish command center to direct UR Medicine's regional response to the pandemic.

No one knew much about COVID-19 last winter. But patients were calling their doctors and arriving at hospitals—and relying on treatment.

Mike Apostolakis '90M (Res), '93M (Flw), chief medical officer at the Medical Center, and Kathy Parrinello '75N, '83N (MS), '90W (PhD), chief operating officer and executive vice president at Strong Memorial Hospital, moved quickly into action. They organized more than 200 colleagues from six hospitals as well as labs and physicians offices, as cochair of a regional command center at the University-affiliated Strong Memorial Hospital. With that team, Apostolakis and Parrinello developed new protocols for patient care, employee protection, visitation, and much else. Above all, they made sure UR Medicine would have the capacity to weather a surge.

In the spring, a surge never arrived. In the fall, however, as cases spiked, Apostolakis and Parrinello went to work full throttle once again.

"We all want to go back to normal, but it's time to get our second wind and fight through the COVID fatigue we are suffering from," Apostolakis said in a November news conference.

Throughout, they have given credit to UR Medicine staff members for their commitment, dedication, and sacrifice. "I couldn't be more proud to be part of UR Medicine," Parrinello said.





Public Health in Pittsburgh

Jamie Sokol '05 helps implement emergency plans in western Pennsylvania.

As public health administrator for the Allegheny County Health Department, Jamie Sokol had to help implement a COVID-19 emergency response plan for the county that includes Pittsburgh. That meant shutting down some of the health department's programs, scaling back others, and building up new ones for an area that serves more than 1 million people across urban and rural areas of western Pennsylvania.

"A crisis like this underscores the need for strong public health funding," says Sokol.

Almost overnight, she helped transform an abandoned clinic into a COVID-19 specimen collection site. In September, as cases began to climb, Sokol worked with local and state agencies to open another community-based, free, drive-through testing site. The site is located in a part of Allegheny County where many people do not have easy access to health care.

A Pivot to Online Teaching Gets a Primer from Educational Experts

Eric Fredericksen '84S (MBA), '09W (EdD), associate vice president for online learning, and Lisa Brown '16W (EdD), assistant director of University IT, help faculty members adapt courses both on the fly and for the long haul.

Like their colleagues around the country, University faculty members received a rude awakening last March when they learned they would have to move all of their courses online—in the middle of a semester, with little time to prepare for the transition.

Eric Fredericksen, a Warner School faculty member and a national expert on online learning, and Lisa Brown had already anticipated what could be coming. The two worked side by side in the weeks before the campus shut down to develop materials and workshops for faculty. They created an online resource, Teaching and Learning During Times of Disruption. When the decision was made to move courses online, they ran departmental trainings and Zoom workshops multiple times per day to help hundreds of faculty members transition to online teaching. Fredericksen continued to instruct faculty over the summer, running 10 sections of a single course.

During the spring, one of Fredericksen and Brown's students was John Lambropoulos, professor of mechanical engineering. "I simply do not know how I

would have accommodated online learning for an 80-plus-student class without what Eric and Lisa taught me," he says.

What's more, "Eric and Lisa provided for me one of the most exhilarating educational experiences in more than 30 years of teaching at Rochester," added Lambropoulos, a gifted teacher who won a Goergen Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in 2018.

The team works closely with staff at the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Fredericksen praises the work of the center's executive director, Rachel Remmel, who, he says, "leverages all of this work, including the use of what we learn from studies of the student experience, to the support and resources her organization provides to faculty and students."

Remmel says Fredericksen and Brown made a strong team. "They worked together to develop new resources and vastly expanded the capacity of their Warner School of Education courses that prepare instructors to teach online. I can't say enough about their efforts."

—Jim Mandelaro



Preventing the Spread

The Medical Center adjusts to care for patients and to protect staff.

In some ways, the story of the Medical Center's response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been what hasn't happened.

As of late fall, the clinical operation has never been so overwhelmed that staff couldn't care for all patients. The Medical Center's infection prevention team has been at the heart of UR Medicine's COVID-19 response.

Led by Paul Graman, professor of medicine in infectious diseases and hospital epidemiologist, and Brenda Tesini, associate

hospital epidemiologist and assistant professor of medicine and pediatrics in infectious diseases, the team consists of nine infection preventionists, including many nurses.

"It has been a challenging time, but we're inspired by the dedication of everyone at URM who has been going above and beyond their pre-COVID roles during this pandemic," Tesini says. "It's our job to use our knowledge of COVID-19 to keep everyone safe and protected while they are under our roof."



Balancing Acts

HOME SCHOOL: For faculty members and students alike, the pandemic has blurred the lines between work and home and between the professional and the private. During the spring 2020 semester, Molly Ball (pictured), a lecturer in the history department, and her husband, Pablo Sierra Silva, an assistant professor of history, found themselves juggling teaching schedules as well as schooling for their three children, aged 2, 5, and 8. The couple split their home into two zones—a downstairs home school and an upstairs “uni chauqita,” or “little university,” off limits to the kids, where Ball and Sierra Silva conducted their classes.

BY THE NUMBERS

Together for Rochester is a one-year engagement and fundraising campaign. Here's a look at the numbers so far.

4,530
volunteers



\$2.9 Million
raised to support equity + access

22 Experience
Rochester
virtual events

15,285
virtual event
attendees

 **6,345** members of the
Meliora Collective

\$49 Million raised



\$25 Million
for endowment
\$12 Million
for faculty

24,000
gifts



GOAL OF
25+ new endowed
scholarships and
internship support funds

GOAL OF
750 new jobs and
internship
opportunities

\$1.6 Million raised for student,
faculty, and staff
emergency funds

4,630 gifts to Golisano
Childrens Hospital



Helping the University—and Each Other

The Together for Rochester campaign responds to the University community's desire to make a difference in the life of the institution and in the lives of students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

Within the first days of the pandemic, the effect of the disruption became clear: students would need immediate support for housing and food, as well as help for keeping on track with their academic and career plans; staff would need help with child care and household expenses; and faculty would need support to switch research to focus on COVID-19 and to move teaching activities to online venues.

Throughout the University, there were troubling shortages of supplies, including personal protective equipment, hand sanitizer, and gloves. There were also challenges to keep up with demands for community services administered by University programs.

And from the first days, University community members began asking, "How can I help?"

Tom Farrell '88, '90W (MS), senior vice president for University Advancement, says offers of help poured in from alumni, friends, faculty, community members, staff, parents, and students.

"Even though everyone's personal lives were extremely

disrupted, what was coming across to us was a deep interest in helping the University during a difficult and unprecedented time," he says.

"The Together for Rochester one-year campaign is our response to the community's desire to help and make a difference. What we wanted to do was combine the tremendous loyalty of our alumni and friends with the resources of the broader University community to create something positive."

Farrell believes the University will come back stronger with greater engagement of alumni and friends throughout the world.

"Our focus is on finding jobs and internships for students and recent graduates, supporting faculty and staff in their important work, and making a real difference in the area of diversity and inclusion," he says. "As well as seeking the resources to keep this very special institution moving forward."

For more about the campaign and how to help, visit Rochester.edu/together.



International Community Sends Needed Masks

Initiative delivers more than 100,000 masks to campus.

In early April, Evans Lam '83, '84S (MBA) was actively engaging Rochester's alumni and parent community in China.

On China's social networking platform, WeChat, Lam—a University trustee and chair of the George Eastman Circle, the University's annual giving leadership society—posted, "we are all partners in education."

The University's network of parents and alumni in China responded generously and quickly. By mid-April, the University's China Parent Network Committee arranged an initial donation of 3,000 face masks for distribution to students who were still on campus. The network then called upon the broader Chinese parent community—comprising about 1,800 people—to rally more support for the University.

Collectively, that larger group raised nearly \$30,000 for the University's COVID-19 student emergency fund. Soon after, they launched an additional effort through WeChat that raised \$43,000, which they used to purchase 100,000 surgical face masks for the Medical Center's frontline health care staff and for students who remained on campus.

Emergency Funds Put to Good Use

Donations help provide food, technology, and other needs.

As of this fall, about 2,900 supporters have given \$1.6 million to support the University's emergency funds—special resources set up to help students, faculty, and staff affected by the pandemic.

The total includes donations that span \$10 to \$100,000 and includes support from students, parents, alumni, community members, and organizations.

Additionally, hundreds of people and companies have made thousands of in-kind donations—from boxes of latex gloves to dozens of hospital beds to bins full of face masks to pallets of personal protective equipment.

Molly Morrison, the director of

international student engagement and associate director of advising services, says the emergency support for students was especially helpful in the early months of the pandemic.

The money helps pay for students to travel home, to cover temporary storage costs, and to get laptops for online learning as well as to support dining accounts for students who need additional funds, particularly as the pandemic extended into the summer and fall.

"[It's] increasingly important to have a resource like the emergency fund," Morrison says. "We need a way to support those who don't have any other options."

Scholarship initiative encourages equity and diversity

University trustee establishes fundraising challenge to encourage new support.



Guided by one of the key pillars of the Together for Rochester campaign, Naveen Nataraj '97 and his wife, Courtney, have established a \$1 million effort to encourage potential donors to create new, endowed financial aid scholarships in support of the University's diversity, equity, and inclusion goals.

For each new endowed scholarship that qualifies, the Nataraj Challenge will add additional funding to the contributed value of that specific

endowed scholarship. For instance, if a donor establishes an initial \$100,000 scholarship, the Nataraj Challenge will add \$50,000 to it, for a total value of \$150,000.

The goal is to add at least 25 new endowed scholarships this year.

A member of the University's Board of Trustees since 2019, Nataraj is a senior managing director of the corporate advisory business at Evercore, a global investment advisory firm.

Building a Stronger Career Network

Volunteering, mentoring, and helping connect students and alumni in their career paths take on new resonance in the pandemic.

The pandemic meant an abrupt end to the campus experience for University seniors and a potential threat to their immediate employment futures.

COVID-19 created turmoil in the job market and challenges to graduating students not seen since the Great Recession of 2008–09.

One of the goals of the Together for Rochester campaign is to build a stronger career network among members of the University community.

Some of the initiatives include developing a structure in which alumni can readily volunteer to help students find internships, help recent graduates get their first jobs, and help one

another with networking and career growth opportunities.

Joe Testani, assistant dean and executive director of the Gwen M. Greene Center for Career Education and Connections, led a series of Zoom workshops through spring and summer that helped students gain—and maintain—jobs and internships by transitioning to a virtual work environment.

He also held "Ask Me Anything" sessions, which offered students the chance to speak directly with him about career advice.

In Zoom sessions, Testani moderated conversations featuring Rochester alumni who were students during the Great Recession and

weathered the economic storm to find jobs and build careers.

"The most important thing is to be authentic and let people know why you're reaching out," Testani says. "Tell them you want to know more about the job or the industry sector they work in."

"Showing a real interest in another person is a great starting place. The authenticity extends to the setbacks you're experiencing—'my internship got canceled,' 'my job offer was reneged,' 'I'm lost over what to do next and could use your advice.' That authenticity allows people on the other end to be more willing to reach out and engage."

STAR STRUCK: “I have made lifelong friends,” Libby, who retires this year, says of working with the University’s facilities staff. “I have been blessed to work with these amazing people. There are just so many. They’re shining stars.”



Delivery Service

Nurse Justin Chaize organizes needed help in Mexico.



As COVID-19 spread around the world last spring, Justin Chaize, a registered nurse and a School of Nursing graduate student, made a split-second decision to travel to Guadalajara, Mexico, to deliver as much personal protective equipment (PPE) as he could to assist health care workers.

Mexico’s health care system had

been neglected well before the pandemic. When COVID-19 struck, there were severe shortages of PPE. But donating a valued resource at a time of dire need is no simple procedure. After collecting donations in Rochester, Chaize worked through family members as well as Mexico’s Secretary of Health to make connections with

health care workers in Guadalajara’s province of Jalisco—and to verify the legitimacy of those workers. And then he got on the plane. “It was really bad in Mexico City,” he says, “and I had to transfer through there. I was very nervous. I had a whole [protective] suit on. I didn’t get any food or drink. I just sat there in a chair.”



Logistics Leader

Don Libby, associate director of University Facilities, keeps track of a campus on the move.

Last March, when residential life staff were confronted with the necessity of moving close to 400 students in a single day, they weren't sure just how it would be done. Don Libby was more confident.

"I had done logistics in Iraq," says the veteran who once performed both operations and logistics on the staff of Gen. Martin Dempsey. That job involved "moving thousands of troops and civilians and all the gear and figuring out how to get everybody to where they needed to go with everything they needed when they arrived. So that came in really handy."

And yet it was less his military precision than his soft touch that colleagues say distinguished Libby during that challenging time.

"Don has been the University's on-the-ground leader, moving students and their belongings from place to place, making sure the quarantine and isolation spaces have been properly equipped with everything students need, and—probably most importantly—doing everything with a reassuring attitude that lets students know that things will be fine," says Pat Beaumont, interim senior associate vice president of University Facilities and Services.

Libby credits colleagues from multiple offices. "Jim Chodak and Tim Coughlin from Parking and Transportation helped set up the buses," he says. Libby stepped out of his customary role and directed traffic in the parking lot; Chodak did the same, helping students lift and move belongings, as he was dressed in shirt and tie. Libby moved some of the students himself, in his own truck.

Throughout the summer, as students arrived in waves for quarantine both on and off campus in advance of the fall semester, Libby oversaw the complete sanitation of the units before arrival and after departure. "Housekeeping staff has been stretched very thin," he says. But staff members such as Dewan Perry and Randy Poole, he added, went well beyond their assigned responsibilities helping to furnish the units.

As fall approached, he had another large task: ensuring that ventilation systems on the River Campus and at the Eastman School of Music were compliant with state regulations issued in response to the pandemic.

Libby retires at the end of 2020. "I have made lifelong friends," he says. "I have been blessed to work with these amazing people. There are just so many. They're shining stars."

—Karen McCally

News Makers

Rochester alumni are heralded as examples of selfless care among the many professionals at the epicenter of last spring's crisis.

Eric Gottesman '85, the head of the intensive care unit at North Shore University Hospital, and Gary Gwertzman '87, a vascular surgeon at Mount Sinai Hospital, were among the many frontline medical professionals who found themselves at the center of this spring's crisis in New York City.

As the stories of the pandemic

were being told, they were called upon as experts and witnesses.

Gottesman, a pulmonologist, talked with the *New York Times* as well as *60 Minutes* about preparing health care facilities for a potentially overwhelming surge of patients.

Gwertzman was featured in *New York* magazine as part of its series

"Diary of A Hospital." "Like countless other health-care workers in New York, [Gwertzman] has left his area of specialty to focus entirely on COVID-19 patients," *New York's* Anna Silman wrote.

As a vascular surgeon, Gwertzman offered critical help inserting intravenous and arterial lines into COVID-19 patients.

Different Dining Options

SERVING SAFELY: Food service employees like D'Janna Fulton (left) adapted to new protocols to protect themselves and students like Annie Wang '20, one of about 750 College students who remained on campus last spring. "We often had to switch gears each day," says Cameron Schauf, director of Campus Dining Services and Auxiliary Operations as safety protocols were updated and evolving restrictions required dining centers to move to takeout and grab-and-go options. Jayquan Coley, a cook's helper, says it was "a bit lonesome," adding "I'm used to a big crowd. That's what gets us going."



Putting Food in the Pantry

Jordan Ratzlaff '20W (MS) tackled food insecurity on the University's campuses.



The food pantry in Wilson Commons opened quietly in the spring of 2019. Jordan Ratzlaff, a Wilson Commons Student Activities graduate student employee at the time, leapt at the chance to become its first coordinator. "Food insecurity is kind of a hidden thing on college campuses," she says. But it exists, including at Rochester. And when the pandemic struck, it increased.

Ratzlaff had to staff the pantry, train reassigned workers, set up an online ordering system, and arrange for contactless delivery. She credits assistant dean and Campus Center director Laura Ballou '97 for the leadership it required to raise money and increase donations—many of them coming from parents, alumni, faculty, and staff—and to work with colleagues around the University to expand the eligibility from students in Arts, Sciences & Engineering to *all* University students facing food insecurity, as well as postdocs.

For her part, Ballou calls Ratzlaff, who was also completing her master's thesis at the time, the "unsung hero." "We would never

have had a food pantry without Jordan's efforts," she says. "Her passion and energy laid the groundwork for all this."

Ratzlaff was named the University's Graduate Student Employee of the Year, and she was recognized with that same honor by the Northeast Association of Student Employment Administrators.

From March 18, the day the University closed its residence halls and classrooms, until the end of the spring semester, the pantry provided nearly 500 grocery bags of food. Nearly 400 bags of food went to more than 100 students over the summer.

Students weren't always able to get to campus to pick up food. "There were a couple times I just personally did stops, and just dropped off bags," Ratzlaff says. "My heart just can't stand people not having food."

Now an academic advisor with an Upward Bound program at Genesee Community College, Ratzlaff has written a book chapter about the pantry. It will be published next year in a collection intended for professionals in higher education student affairs.

—Karen McCally



Meeting A Rising Need

Foodlink's Mitch Gruber '17 (PhD) oversees "regular, consistent, and touchless distribution of food" throughout the pandemic.

When schools and day cares closed in New York state last March, it meant that thousands of children in the Rochester region—including in the city, where the child poverty rate is above 50 percent—lost access to federally subsidized breakfast and lunch. Foodlink, the regional food bank serving a 10-county region that includes Rochester, dedicated itself to stepping in and ensuring that all children in need were fed.

As chief partnerships officer, Mitch Gruber says his job has been to oversee "regular, consistent, and touchless distribution of food" during the pandemic. He worked with school districts, recreation centers, YMCAs—"any organization that serves kids in our community," he says—to meet that challenge. From March through June, those collaborations enabled Foodlink to distribute more than 260,000 grab-and-go meals to Rochester children.

Over the summer, Gruber worked with the City of Rochester and the Regional Transit Service (RTS) to deliver roughly 44,000 meals "ice cream truck style" in neighborhoods throughout the city.

Elected to the Rochester City Council in 2017, Gruber says that role has taught him the inner workings of local government, something that has served him well in his role at Foodlink. Tremendous challenges lie ahead, however, and Gruber, who was named this year to *Rochester Business Journal's* Forty under 40, isn't sanguine. Job losses and the lack of federal assistance since the summer have taken a toll.

Without renewed federal stimulus, he says, "we're going to struggle to meet the rising need."



BUSES OF FOOD: As chief partnerships officer at Foodlink, Gruber initiated a collaboration with the Regional Transit Service (RTS) to make free healthy lunches available during summer months. Each bus—including this one, shown stopping for a father and daughter—was staffed by two city youths. More than half of children in the City of Rochester live in poverty, and COVID-19 forced the cancellation of most summer programs for kids.



'Community Hero'

Intensive care nurse Jose Perpignan Jr. '16N tends to his neighbors.

This fall, Jose Perpignan Jr. got a big surprise: the Bronx resident was recognized as a "Healthcare Hero" on the syndicated TV program *Live with Kelly and Ryan*. "I thought I was going to pass out," he told a local news network.

A frontline health care worker who treated patients in the intensive care unit at New York Presbyterian Hospital during the height of the first wave of the pandemic, Perpignan was nominated by a friend who followed his daily journey last spring.

Under the title "Husband, Father of Two, and Local Community Hero," Perpignan's nominator wrote that after long shifts at the hospital, "Jose took action for the residents of the Soundview section of the Bronx, assisting them with tele-visits, up-to-date information, and ensuring that they had the capabilities to navigate their technology. He also supported at-risk seniors: checking in on older residents, tackling their grocery shopping needs, and picking up and delivering their needed medications."

Perpignan took one brief break when he stayed in a hotel to avoid any chance of transmitting the virus to his wife, Tiara, and their two young children.

A founding member of the Greater New York City Black Nurses Association, Perpignan graduated from Binghamton University with a degree in Africana Studies before coming to Rochester for the School of Nursing's accelerated bachelor's degree program. The Healthcare Hero award carries a financial award: Officially called the Healthcare Hero \$100K Giveaway, it's a partnership between the TV program and the company SoFi, dedicated to helping clients pay down student debt.



SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS: DeCuir, Afah-Manin, and Moreau (left to right), who met in medical school at Rochester, offer underserved communities access to medical experts, information, and resources.

An Innovative Approach to COVID-19 Testing

Nana Afah-Manin '07M (MD), Briana Southerland DeCuir '03, '07M (MD), and Joanne Moreau '07M (MD) bring COVID-19 testing to under-resourced communities.

Last summer, friends and former classmates at the School of Medicine and Dentistry Nana Afah-Manin, Briana Southerland DeCuir, and Joanne Moreau launched an innovative program to help people in under-resourced communities during the pandemic. The initiative—myCovidMD—offers pop-up, drive-through COVID-19 testing sites with an onsite lab, in addition to follow-up telehealth medical services through a convenient mobile app. As of the end of October, they've tested more than 5,000 people.

Designed for uninsured and underinsured populations, the program began in Los Angeles, where Afah-Manin is an emergency physician. Later it branched to Oakland, California; Chicago, where DeCuir is an emergency physician; and New York City, where Moreau has a practice in allergy and immunology.

MyCovidMD is offered through Shared Harvest, a social entrepreneurial venture the three physicians started less than three years ago. Shared Harvest aligns medical and other professionals with volunteer opportunities, which creates a unique way for them to pay down their student loan debt in the process.

"It's a model similar to what you see with the Peace Corps and the military," says Afah-Manin. "But our approach serves local communities."

In addition to people volunteering their health care expertise, services, and time, a number of businesses have also pitched in.

"It's heartening to see so many people step up to do the right thing for someone else," says Afah-Manin. She and her partners invite other Rochester medical school alumni and students to join as volunteers or donors. They say that the programs are deeply rooted in the School of Medicine and Dentistry's biopsychosocial model.

They also underscore that their programs reduce patient crowds at hospitals, decrease provider burnout, and help keep hospitals and patients safe.

"We offer the uninsured and underinsured and those in marginalized communities much-needed access to experts, information, and resources," she says, noting that these programs benefit medical professionals, too.

"Helping others through volunteering is a proven way to decrease anxiety and increase well-being. Everyone wins with these programs."

—Kristine Thompson

MEDICAL APPOINTMENT: Mendoza talks with patient Lakesha Devoe of Rochester during an appointment at Highland Family Medicine in Rochester.



The Calming Commissioner

As commissioner of public health for Rochester's Monroe County, Michael Mendoza '12S (MS) has developed a following as the go-to source for community-minded information.

What the NIH's Anthony Fauci has been to the nation, Mike Mendoza—or, @DrMikeMendoza on Twitter—has been to the Rochester area: a ubiquitous presence on TV and print news, radio, and social media; and the go-to person for the most reliable and up-to-date information and advice, based on the best available science, under relentlessly shifting circumstances.

Last spring, the Rochester area fared comparatively well. Hospitals never neared the capacity that they had prepared for, and in mid-October, data reported in the *New York Times* showed that Monroe County had the lowest rate of infection of any community in the nation with a population greater than 500,000. But cases have risen dramatically since then, and Mendoza, with his characteristic blend of candor and positive community spirit, is helping lead a renewed effort to educate the public.

Mendoza is a native of Chicago who earned his bachelor's and medical degrees from the University of Chicago, later adding a master's in public health degree, as well as a master of science degree in medical management from the Simon School, to round out his formal training. Holding faculty appointments in both the School of Medicine and Dentistry and the School of Nursing, Mendoza was widely praised for taking early and decisive action last

spring that helped keep infection rates down in some of the traditional hotspots. For example, in the early weeks and months, Monroe County faced the same challenges as every other region when it came to protecting residents of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, as well as those who care for them. He called upon Thomas Mahoney '83M (Res), chief medical officer at Common Ground Health—an organization itself dedicated to forging regional partnerships—to launch a collaborative group among long-term care facilities and hospitals countywide. Mahoney says that kind of leadership was not typical.

"We're part of national organizations, and I've spoken to folks and presented what we did," Mahoney said in October. "A collaboration like this, thought out by Mike, trying to get community members to work with what the county was doing, was pretty unique." The county's efforts included a push, forged by Mendoza, to distribute appropriate personal protective equipment, or PPE, throughout the county.

Mendoza's job has only gotten harder this fall, however, as a weary public has begun to take less heed of the expert advice he and his colleagues in public health have offered repeatedly. As he told a local news station on the first of December, "We truly do hold the future of the pandemic in our hands."

—Karen McCally

A Different Kind of Commencement

As graduation ceremonies moved online, the messages of perseverance and hard work in the face of challenge took on new meaning.

For the first time in the institution's history, members of the graduating classes and their families, along with faculty, staff, and friends were unable to gather for a celebration to mark graduation and the end of an academic year.

As with many of life's milestones during the pandemic, the 2020 commencement ceremonies moved online. In May, University President Sarah Mangelsdorf conferred degrees to nearly 4,000 graduates in an online ceremony accessible to all members of the University community.

"This may not be the commencement you hoped for, but you are as well prepared for life's challenges as any class we have ever graduated," Mangelsdorf told the graduates in a video message.

She praised the graduates for their perseverance and their ability to adjust to difficult circumstances.

"You will succeed because of your talents, your education, your work ethic," she said. "You have shown resilience in an uncertain and deeply unsettling time; you have demonstrated sacrifice during a crisis. In the face of so many obstacles, you have triumphed.

"You are the leaders in whom we are all investing our future."

The spring's commencement events also featured virtual ceremonies held by each of the University's schools.

One of the first units to hold a ceremony last spring was the School of Medicine and Dentistry. The graduation event was moved up about six weeks so that the newly minted doctors in the Class of 2020 had the opportunity to work as soon as possible during the early surge of the COVID-19 pandemic.



VIRTUAL STAGE: Graduating members of the Class of 2020 celebrated last spring from their homes and other off-campus locations as the pandemic forced spring ceremonies to be held online. Jamal Holtz '20, social justice and public policy major and 2019–20 Students' Association president, celebrated from his brother's home. His mom had to work in Virginia, so she watched the conferral with everyone via Zoom. From left to right: Thennie Freeman (godmother), Andrea Holtz (sister), Phillip Walker (mentor), Yvonne Holtz, mother (on Zoom), Lauryn Renford (girlfriend), Kemry Hughes (mentor), and Markus Batchelor (brother and mentor).



Campus Gets a Virtual Makeover

Rochester undergraduates joined their talents to create an online version of iconic campus spaces.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic has forced students into a virtual world of remote learning, why not create a virtual replica of Rush Rhees Library?

That was the idea behind a project organized by a team of students to use Minecraft—a video game that uses 3D cubes to build virtual structures and mechanisms—to create online versions of some of the University's iconic spaces.

Similar projects popped up at universities across the country as students who were studying remotely because of the pandemic banded together online to build simulated versions of campuses and the beloved spaces that were often closed for health and safety reasons.

Members of the Rochester team kept the University community up to date on the project at the website VirtualUR.com.

Meet Dr. Chat Bot

A Rochester-developed app helps track symptoms.

Starting last summer, many members of the University community got to know Dr. Chat Bot, an electronic tool designed to monitor for potential outbreaks of COVID-19.

Developed by a Medical Center team, the online app asks people to report whether they have any of the hallmark symptoms of infection or have been in contact with others who may have been infected. The daily data help campus and regional health officials identify whether people are reporting symptoms associated with the disease and whether to take steps in response.

All faculty, staff, and students are required to sign in with the app each day that they're on campus.

The Medical Center also made the technology behind the app available for free to other universities and organizations that wanted to get to know Dr. Chat Bot.



DOUBLE DUTY: At the same time that Li ramped up his work as a volunteer EMT, his regular job got a lot more demanding, too. Director for clinical research for emergency medicine at Northwell Health in New York, Li says, “My workload increased tremendously during this time due to COVID-related research studies.”

Central Park Hero

When he’s not working full time for the state’s largest health network, Timmy Li ’11, ’17M (PhD) can be found volunteering as an EMT in New York City’s Central Park.

In addition to his role overseeing clinical research for emergency medicine for New York state’s largest health network, Timmy Li has long been part of a team of volunteer EMTs, the Central Park Medical Unit, that responds to medical emergencies in the 800-plus-acre Manhattan park. As the pandemic reached a crisis level in the city early last spring, Li, along with other volunteers in the group, pivoted to COVID-19 response throughout the city, fulfilling a critical need, as many EMTs in the area had already fallen ill.

In April, the *New York Post* named Li “Hero of the Day” for his role with the group.

Li did not take a leave from his full-time job. In fact, he says, “My workload increased tremendously during this time due to COVID-related research studies. During the weekdays, I worked on my Northwell duties from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and then worked on the ambulance from 4 p.m. to midnight.” He worked most week-ends on the ambulance as well.

Li continues to volunteer with the unit. “We continue to remain vigilant and are ready to supplement the New York City 911 ambulance system again, should the need arise,” he said in late October.

—Karen McCally

Getting Students on Campus Safely ...

Before students arrive for campus housing, a testing regimen is put in place.

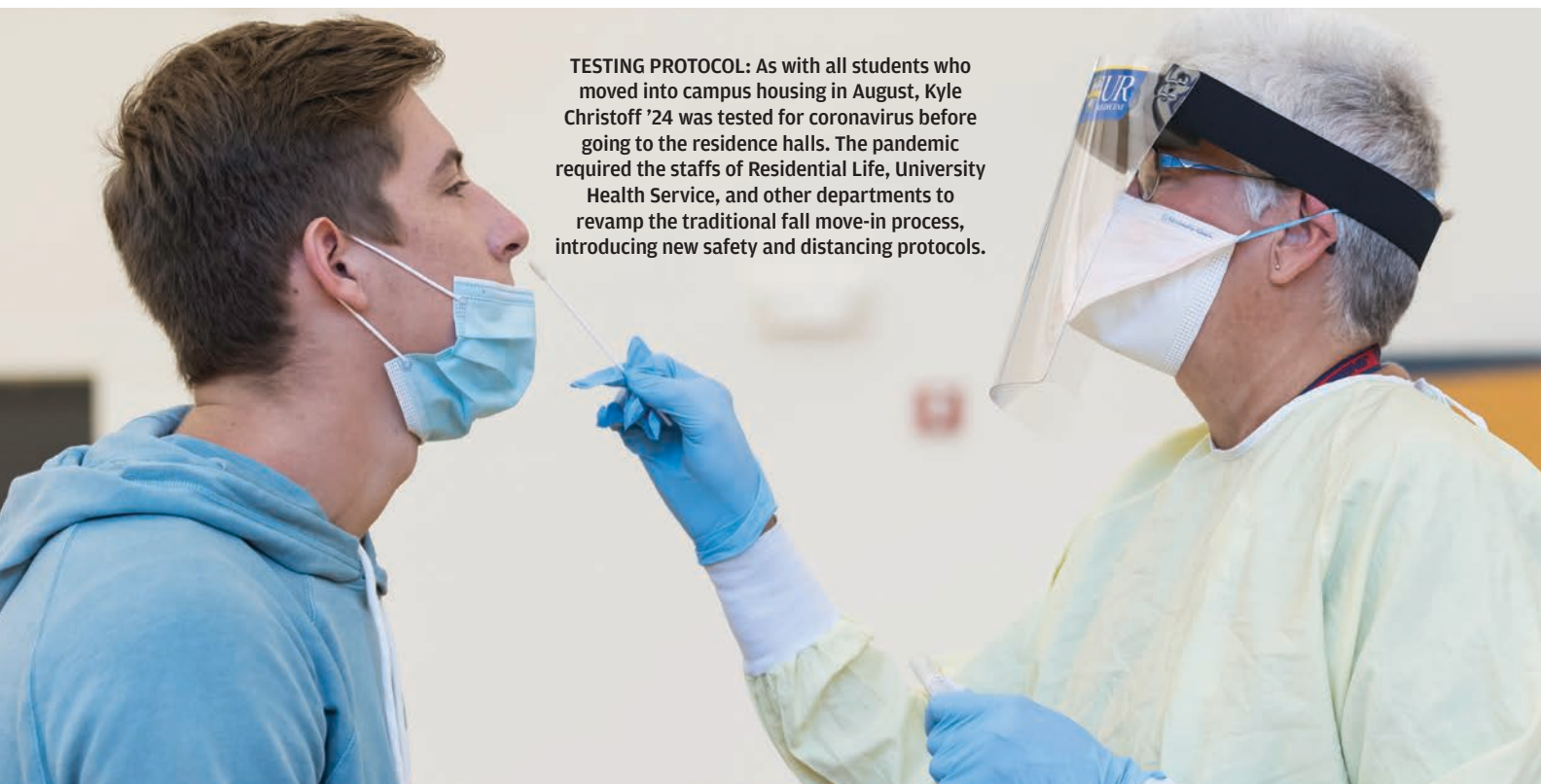


The director of the University Health Service for more than 25 years, Ralph Manchester has provided medical guidance to University leaders responding to the COVID-19 crisis ever since President Sarah Mangelsdorf first convened the Coronavirus University Response Team, or CURT, last February. He developed and oversees a complex, extensive, and continually evolving COVID-19 testing program for students; a contact tracing collaboration with the Monroe County Health Department; and the case of every student at the University who is placed in quarantine or isolation.

With the help of his staff of about 70 health care professionals, Manchester also monitors the intake of Dr. Chat Bot data for students and faculty and staff, and they perform the individual follow-ups as needed. As autumn settled in, Manchester also arranged campus flu shot clinics for faculty, staff, and students.

Manchester is recognized nationally for his skill in responding to health crises: his swift action and skilled management during past measles and norovirus outbreaks were cited by the American College Health Association this summer, when they honored him with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

—Karen McCally and Sara Miller



TESTING PROTOCOL: As with all students who moved into campus housing in August, Kyle Christoff '24 was tested for coronavirus before going to the residence halls. The pandemic required the staffs of Residential Life, University Health Service, and other departments to revamp the traditional fall move-in process, introducing new safety and distancing protocols.

... and Making Sure They Have Room to Keep Their Distance

Residential Life leaders adjust student housing assignments during a time of “ever changing expectations and scenarios.”



When the University moved to remote learning in March, hundreds of students at the River Campus and Eastman School of Music campus were away on spring break. Many never returned, leaving behind residence rooms filled with food, laundry, passports, electronics, fish tanks, plants, and more. All students' property had to be sorted, packed, stored, or discarded,

depending on each student's preference. The process took months. Leading that arduous task was Laurel Contomanolis on the River Campus and Robert (Bert) Bones at Eastman.

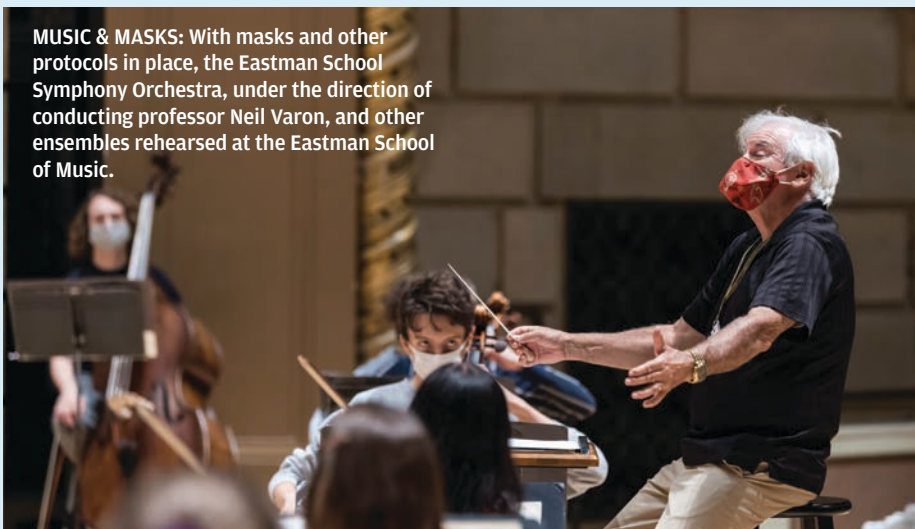
In August, when the University welcomed back close to 4,000 undergraduate students, Contomanolis and Bones led the process of assigning rooms, scheduling student arrivals,

and coordinating COVID-19 testing, all while planning how to manage a nine-week break between semesters and take care of students who stay on campus after the fall semester ends. At the River Campus, Contomanolis says the entire residential life staff have risen to the challenge at a time of “ever changing expectations and scenarios.”

Teaching Gets a Hybrid Model

As the fall semester got under way, faculty adjusted their courses and classrooms to emphasize safety for in-person instruction while providing remote access.

MUSIC & MASKS: With masks and other protocols in place, the Eastman School Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of conducting professor Neil Varon, and other ensembles rehearsed at the Eastman School of Music.



ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS: Graduate student Molly Over '20 and mechanical engineering professor Chris Muir work with a clear board made by Christine Pratt, a senior technical associate, with plexiglass donated by Greg Gdowski, an associate professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering.



DANCE STUDIO: Dance faculty member Kerfala (Fana) Bangoura and Missy Pfohl Smith, director of the Program of Dance and Movement, set up a Zoom option for remote students before Bangoura leads a West African dance class in person and remotely.



HYBRID LECTURE: Robert Minckley, a senior lecturer in the Department of Biology, leads a session in Lander Auditorium that offers a Zoom option for remote students, while students who attend in person wear masks and follow distance protocols to reduce capacity in the auditorium.



FACETIME CLASS: Elizabeth Garijo-Garde '23 FaceTimes with classmate Ashley Wang '22 during a trip to Rochester's Cobbs Hill as part of a class led by Katrina Korfmacher, an associate professor of environmental medicine.

'PRAGMATIC IDEALIST': That's the phrase Vargas uses to describe himself as a public servant. Last summer, Vargas tried to convince his colleagues in the Nebraska state legislature to consider his measure to protect the state's meatpackers from COVID-19 infection. Having failed by two votes, he will reintroduce the measure in January. "One really encouraging change is that doctors and nurses and health care and infectious disease experts from our state have been using their voices to sound the alarm," he says. "And I think it's brought the public closer to changing their views" regarding public health mandates.



Protecting the Public

Nebraska state legislator Tony Vargas '08 works to safeguard a community.

Tony Vargas experienced firsthand the tragedy of the pandemic last spring, as it ravaged the New York City region. His parents, immigrants from Peru, continued to work their jobs, as they had for decades. Both contracted the virus. His father, Antonio, a machinist who worked onsite and in close proximity to others, spent a month on a ventilator before he died in late April.

Vargas did not see his father in that final month. In constant touch with his family in New York, he remained in his adopted hometown of Omaha, Nebraska, protecting his constituents in one of the hardest-hit areas of the state.

Vargas is the only Latino lawmaker in Nebraska's unicameral legislature. The state and many of its public and private establishments have resisted mandates concerning masks and physical distancing. That has made the task of educating the public critical. Vargas, who represents a district in which nearly half of the population is identified as Hispanic, arranged for the first Spanish language video in the Omaha region. He showed up everywhere from testing sites to produce distribution stands talking to Spanish-speaking constituents in their native language about the health guidelines and why they were important.

"I think it puts people at ease," Vargas told the *Omaha World Herald*. "When people see me and

they recognize me, and they see me with a mask and I'm telling them, 'This is an important behavior practice that we can do to protect each other,' more people see it as normal, and it's not invasive, and it's gonna help our community."

In July, Vargas took on a greater battle: to convince his colleagues in a deeply conservative state to support mandatory protections for the state's meatpackers. Their factories were COVID-19 hotspots, and workers and their family members were contacting their leaders, desperate for support. The story made it all the way to the BBC, which called Vargas's quest "a battle against time that revealed much about race, politics and workers' rights in the pandemic."

Vargas made his appeal in starkly personal terms, reminding his colleagues about his own loss, a tragedy magnified so many times over in the lives of the state's meatpackers. By only two votes, his colleagues decided against considering the measure on the floor.

"There wasn't enough time, but also there wasn't enough will," Vargas said in late November. "Now, we're facing a substantial surge. But I have to remain hopeful."

Handily reelected to a second term, Vargas will return to work in January. He has a number of items on his agenda. Among them, he says, "is to reintroduce this bill."

—Karen McCally

Offering Hope and Rejuvenation

The director of the Center for Performing Arts Medicine at Houston Methodist Hospital says music and art are key to supporting health care for all.



Todd Frazier '92E and his team of 10 music therapists, six artists, and four arts-in-health specialists have been creating more music, more art, and more creative resources to serve and benefit hospital staff, frontline health care teams, patients and their families, and the community at large. Their goal: to help heal, calm, and inspire as

many people as possible through the arts. "We are deploying music and art in many innovative ways to relieve stress and anxiety, offer hope and rejuvenation, and support health care outcomes for all," Frazier says. Some of the initiatives involve photography, creative writing, and of course, virtual musical performances.

The renowned celebrity cellist Yo-Yo Ma even performed live through his iPad (from his New York studio) for COVID-19 patients and others in intensive care units.

"Concerts like this provide a different dimension to the healing process, not just physical healing but the enrichment of the soul and the spirit," said one ICU patient.



A woman with blonde hair, wearing a white lab coat and a purple face mask, is working in a laboratory. She is looking down at something in her hands. The lab coat has a name tag that says "Diane Cn, RN".

The Road to a Vaccine

May Lead to Rochester

In the race for potential vaccines against COVID-19, pharmaceutical companies, federal agencies, and evaluation teams turned to Rochester, drawing on a distinguished record in vaccine technology and infectious diseases.

By Lindsey Valich

Last January, before Zoom meetings were the norm and travel restrictions were instated as part of lockdowns across the country, members of the University of Rochester's Vaccine Trial and Evaluation Unit (VTEU) traveled to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) headquarters in Maryland. The NIH was holding its annual inaugural meeting of representatives from the nine organizations in the US serving as VTEU sites.

The meeting was led by the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Anthony Fauci.

"Dr. Fauci comes into the room and he says, 'Have you heard of this coronavirus coming out of China?'" says Angela Branche, an assistant professor of medicine and codirector of Rochester's VTEU.

As most of the people in the room were respiratory scientists, they had indeed heard about SARS-CoV-2, the novel strain of virus that causes COVID-19. The virus had begun making its way across the globe. At the time, however, information about the pathogen was extremely limited.

"That was actually the day we had our first case here on US soil, so it was just kind of a remarkable moment in history to be given our marching orders on the day when COVID-19 actually became a real problem in the United States," Branche says.

Fauci told the group that combating the novel coronavirus would be their first mission as a new cohort of VTEU sites. With their directive clear, Rochester's teams began mobilizing to start testing treatments and vaccines for COVID-19.

TESTING SITE: Licensed practical nurse Linda Anderson (left) works with clinical research coordinator Doreen Francis to prepare Eron Damercy of Rochester for a COVID-19 vaccine trial at the Medical Center.



COVID CHALLENGE: “We work seven days a week,” says Branche, a codirector of Rochester’s VTEU. “We eat, breathe, and sleep COVID.”

DISEASE SPECIALIST: Falsey, a codirector of Rochester’s VTEU, has been working with Pfizer on vaccines for dangerous respiratory diseases.

Rochester’s VTEU

Directed by Branche and Ann Falsey, a professor of infectious diseases, the VTEU is one of two NIH networks at Rochester. The other is an HIV Vaccine Trials Network, run by Michael Keefer, also a professor of infectious diseases. Both are part of a larger network called the Coronavirus Prevention Network, created this year to help combat COVID-19.

With a mission to develop vaccines and treatments for emerging pathogens that spans six decades, the VTEU program is the NIH’s oldest network. While Rochester had been a member of the VTEU for part of that history, in December 2019, the University was awarded one of only nine VTEU sites in the United States.

Only a week later, the Chinese government announced a newly discovered pathogen with pandemic potential.

“[We received accreditation] just in time for us to get involved in the national effort to develop vaccines for COVID-19,” Branche says.

As the COVID-19 pandemic hit the US and the race for developing, testing, and evaluating potential vaccines against COVID-19 intensified, pharmaceutical companies, federal agencies, and vaccine evaluation teams turned to Rochester. In addition to its designation as a VTEU site and other important research, the University is home to the vaccine that all but eradicated *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) and played key roles in the vaccine against cervical cancer caused by human papillomavirus (HPV).

Some of the leading candidates for COVID-19 vaccines trace their roots to technology developed at Rochester, and members of the research community have played vital roles in studying the processes involved in the disease.

“The history of Rochester’s infectious disease unit is very strongly associated with respiratory viruses, so it’s a very natural place for this kind of work to get done,” says Edward Walsh, professor of infectious disease medicine, who has been involved in the University’s past and present vaccine development efforts. “There has been a lot of collective expertise from the people who’ve been through here.”

Operation Warp Speed

Under the umbrella of the VTEU, the Medical Center is testing several vaccines as part of Operation Warp Speed, a federal initiative that aims to deliver 300 million doses of a safe, effective vaccine for COVID-19 by 2021. The goal of the effort is to bring together

individual networks to expand the nation’s capacity to address the challenge posed by the pandemic.

“There are six vaccines that have been selected by Operation Warp Speed to move through the process,” Branche says. “We are involved in four of them, which is pretty remarkable for any single institution.”

In May, as part of a collaboration with Rochester Regional Health, the Medical Center was one of four sites in the US involved in pharmaceutical giant Pfizer’s phase 1 study for a COVID-19 vaccine developed by Pfizer and the German biotechnology company BioNTech. Although Pfizer did not join Operation Warp Speed and did not take federal money to pay for research and development for the vaccine, the company contracted with the US government to provide doses of the vaccine to Americans, contingent on the vaccine’s effectiveness.

Several months later, Rochester made national headlines when the Medical Center was the site where the first volunteer in the US received a dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine during phase 3 of the study. Phase 3 marks the final stage of a vaccine’s development before FDA approval, mass production, and distribution.

As of mid-November, the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine was pending review by the FDA for Emergency Use Authorization after findings of the phase 3 trial showed it was 95 percent effective.

“The University of Rochester was one of only two sites in the world given the task of ‘First in Human’ studies of the mRNA vaccine construct that is now in phase 3 development and played a major role in making this possible,” says William Gruber, senior vice president for vaccine clinical research and development at Pfizer. “The Rochester group is a leader in guiding trial design, assuring safety of participants in the trials, and assuring acquisition of data that would help progress a potentially safe and effective vaccine.”

Another vaccine being tested at Rochester has been developed by British pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca and the University of Oxford. Falsey is a national coordinating investigator for the vaccine trial, which also traces its roots to Rochester, through a former faculty member named Tom Evans.

Evans, an associate professor in the division of infectious diseases from 1995 to 2000, is the CEO/CSO of Vaccitech, a University of Oxford start-up that worked on the early-stage development of the COVID-19 vaccine before AstraZeneca took over. He was part of the broader research community in infectious diseases that developed

Continued on page 47

'A Therapeutic Wrench'

Rochester scientists leverage research on RNA to fight COVID-19.

Viruses like the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 are able to unleash their fury because of a devious weapon: ribonucleic acid, also known as RNA.

COVID-19, short for "coronavirus disease 2019," is caused by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. Like many other viruses, SARS-CoV-2 is an RNA virus. This means that, unlike in humans and other mammals, the genetic material for SARS-CoV-2 is encoded in ribonucleic acid. The viral RNA is sneaky: its features cause the protein synthesis machinery in humans to mistake it for RNA produced by our own DNA.

A contingent of researchers at Rochester study the RNA of viruses to better understand how RNAs work and how they are involved in diseases. As COVID-19 continues to spread around the globe, the research provides an important foundation for developing antiviral drugs, vaccines, and other therapeutics to disrupt the virus and stop infections.

"Understanding RNA structure and function helps us understand how to throw a therapeutic wrench into what the COVID-19 RNA does—make new virus that can infect more of our cells and also the cells of other human beings," says Lynne Maquat, the J. Lowell Orbison Distinguished Service Alumni Professor in biochemistry and biophysics at Rochester and the director of Rochester's Center for RNA Biology.

In the past few decades, as scientists came to realize that genetic material is largely regulated by the RNA it encodes, that most of our DNA produces RNA, and that RNA is not only a target but also a tool for disease therapies, "the RNA research world has exploded," Maquat says. "The University of Rochester understood this."

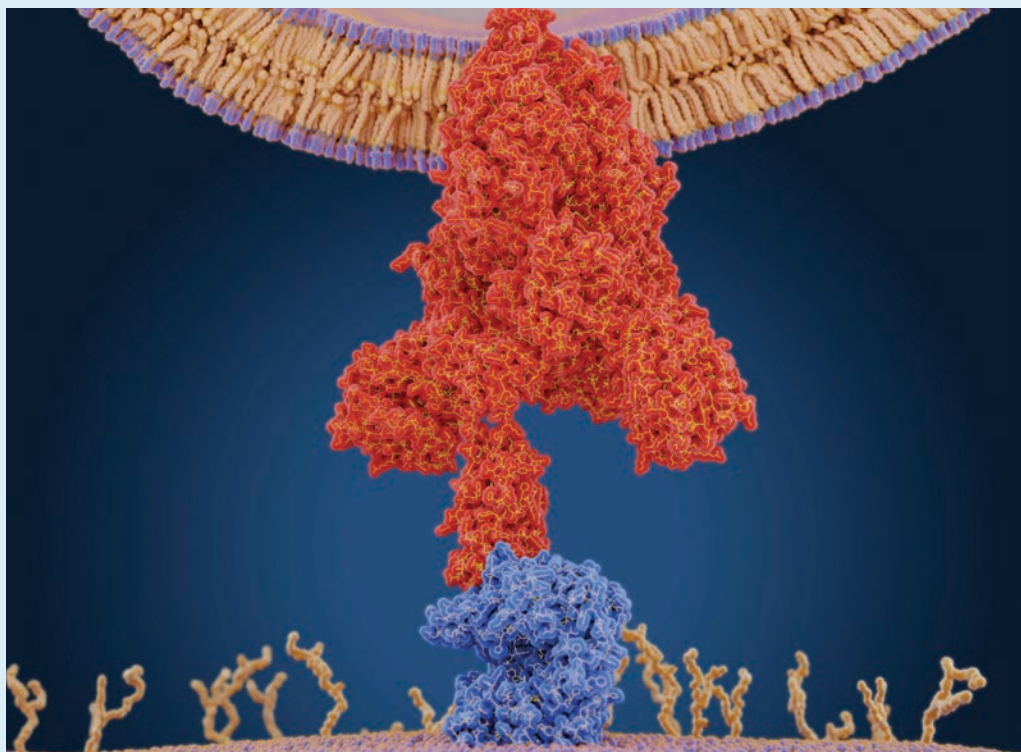
In 2007, Maquat founded the Center for RNA Biology as a means of conducting interdisciplinary research in the function, structure, and processing of RNAs.

The center involves researchers from Arts, Sciences & Engineering on the River Campus and at the Medical Center, combining expertise in biology, chemistry, engineering, neurology, and pharmacology.

As lab spaces began to reopen on campus this summer, many researchers pivoted to coronavirus research.

Maquat's research focuses on non-sense-mediated mRNA decay (NMD), a mechanism that our cells use to combat viruses. Recently, she began testing how viral proteins, such as those involved in COVID-19 infections, can inhibit the mechanism's machinery.

"At this point, combating this pandemic is an



COPY MACHINE: A coronavirus uses a protein on its membrane—shown here in red in a molecular model—to bind to a receptor—shown in blue—on a human cell to enter the cell. Once inside, the virus uses the cells' machinery to make more copies of itself.

'all-hands-on-deck' situation," says Elaine Sia, professor and former chair of biology.

In the Department of Biology, Dragony Fu, an assistant professor of biology, and Jack Werren, the Nathaniel and Helen Wisch Professor of Biology, received expedited funding awards from the National Science Foundation to apply their expertise in cellular and evolutionary biology to research proteins involved in infections from COVID-19.

The funding was part of the NSF's Rapid Response Research (RAPID) program to mobilize funding for high priority projects.

Werren's research will be important in ameliorating some of the potential side effects of COVID-19 infections, including blood clots and heart diseases, while Fu's research will provide insight into the potential effects of viral infection on a host cell's cellular processes.

"Identifying which cell functions are affected by the virus could help lessen some of the negative effects caused by COVID-19," Fu says.

This research on the fundamentals of cellular processes highlights collaboration between the Medical Center and the River Campus.

"Our strength as a university is our diversity of research expertise, combined with our highly collaborative nature," Fu says. "We are surrounded by outstanding researchers who enhance our understanding of RNA biology, and

"Understanding RNA structure and function helps us understand how to throw a therapeutic wrench into what the COVID-19 RNA does—make new virus that can infect more of our cells and also the cells of other human beings."

—Lynne Maquat, the J. Lowell Orbison Distinguished Service Alumni Professor in biochemistry and biophysics and director of the Center for RNA Biology

a medical center that provides a translational aspect where the knowledge gained from RNA biology can be applied for therapeutics."

—Lindsey Valich

Research Roundup

Rochester scientists and clinicians have been at the forefront of research efforts focused on the COVID-19 pandemic. Here's a brief roundup.

Is Remdesivir Effective?

Last spring, Rochester began participating in a clinical trial sponsored by the National Institutes of Health to evaluate the safety and efficacy of the antiviral drug remdesivir. The double-blind, placebo-controlled trial is led by Ann Falsey and Angela Branche, directors of Rochester's Vaccine Trial and Evaluation Unit. The drug received emergency use authorization in May, and research has turned to studying remdesivir in combination with other anti-inflammatory drugs such as baricitinib and steroids.

Remdesivir, developed by Gilead Sciences, is a broad-spectrum antiviral treatment that has been previously tested in humans with the Ebola virus and has shown promise in animal models for treating Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), which are caused by other coronaviruses. Researchers believe the drug blocks RNA polymerase, an enzyme that is required for viral replication.

"The results with remdesivir are positive, but it's not a miracle drug," Falsey says. "It becomes our building block on which we try to improve."

Does Convalescent Plasma Help?

In July, the Medical Center joined researchers in a national trial led by John Hopkins University to test whether transfusions of plasma from recovered COVID-19 patients can prevent infection in healthy individuals or speed recovery in people with mild COVID-19 infections. Rochester's trial is led by nephrologist Martin Zand, professor of medicine and senior associate dean for clinical research at the Medical Center.

Convalescent plasma from recovered COVID-19 patients contains antibodies that flag the SARS-CoV-2 virus for destruction by the immune system. Researchers hope the antibodies against the virus will prevent healthy people from getting infected and will boost immune responses in volunteers with mild disease—keeping them out of the intensive care unit and helping them recover faster.

"Academic medical centers, and especially the University of Rochester, have the entire spectrum of development and testing built into what they do every day," Zand says. "We have basic researchers who study how the virus

infects cells; we have biosafety facilities to work with the viruses within human cells and in animal models; we have the experience of clinical trials. And this is all under one roof."

Are Nursing Homes Safe?

A series of studies conducted by Rochester researchers indicates that older residents from underrepresented racial and ethnic backgrounds and their caregivers bear the severest burden from COVID-19 across the entire spectrum of US nursing homes and assisted living communities.

According to one study, conducted by Yue Li, a professor of public health sciences, nursing homes with disproportionately higher numbers of residents from underrepresented populations reported two to four times as many new COVID-19 cases and deaths per facility than other nursing homes. Li studied data reported from 15,587 nursing homes in the US.

Disparities of that magnitude, Li says, suggest that long-standing, fundamental inequalities in nursing homes resulting from segregated facilities with limited resources and poorest quality of care are being "exacerbated by the pandemic."

Another study, conducted by Helena Temkin-Greener, a professor of public health sciences, and using data from 4,685 assisted living communities in the US, found a fourfold higher COVID-19 case fatality rate among US assisted living communities, compared to the counties in which the facilities are located.

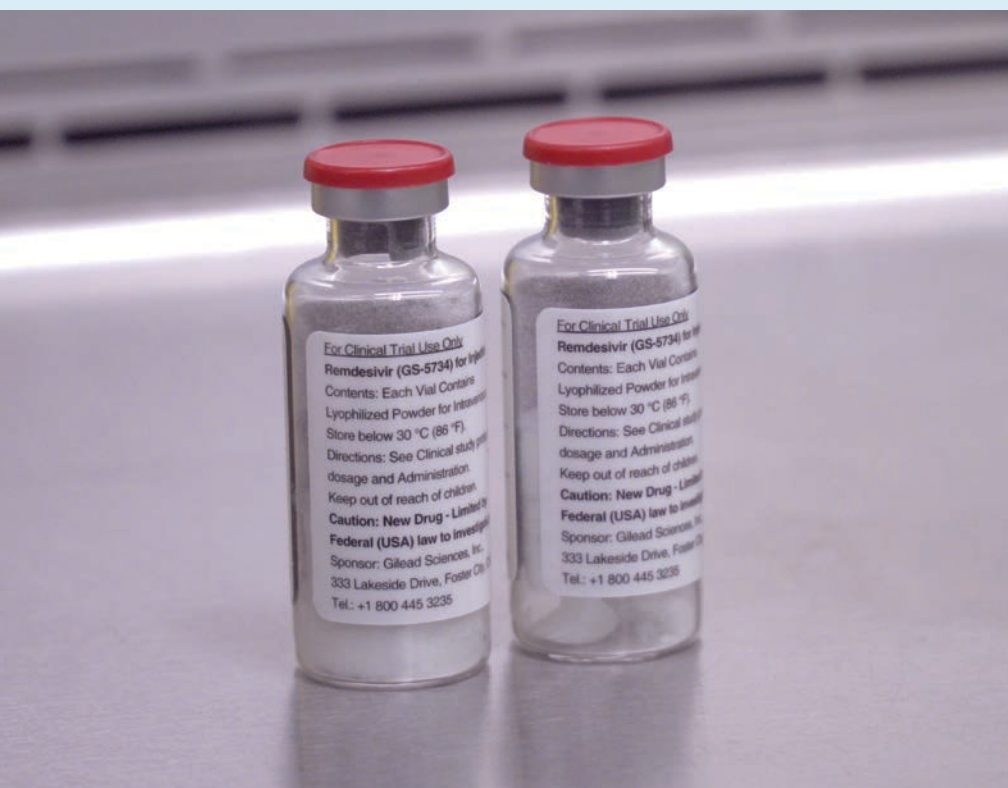
How Do Immune Systems Respond?

Rochester infectious disease experts have launched a study to understand how the body's immune system responds to COVID-19 infection, including if and when a person could be reinfected with the virus and whether some people have preexisting immunity.

The researchers, including Dave Topham, the Marie Curran Wilson and Joseph Chamberlain Wilson professor of microbiology and immunology and an investigator of the Medical Center's VTEU, are studying blood samples from people who recovered from mild to moderate COVID-19 as compared to blood samples from healthy donors whose samples were collected 6 to 10 years ago, long before they could have been exposed to COVID-19.

The team's first published paper suggests that the seasonal colds people have had in the past may provide some protection from the virus and that immunity to COVID-19 is likely to last a long time—maybe even a lifetime.

—Lindsey Valich



DRUG TEST: Rochester was invited last spring to join an NIH study of the efficacy of the antiviral drug remdesivir.

Continued from page 44

the HPV vaccine, although his focus was more on HIV during his time at Rochester. Evans has since returned to the Rochester faculty and today is an adjunct professor at the Medical Center, where he continues his vaccine-related research.

A Robust History

When Branche first came to the University eight years ago as a fellow in infectious diseases, she didn't plan on staying.

"I came here, and I thought I would do my two years of infectious disease training and then go back to New Jersey and set up a practice and that'll be that," Branche says. "Of course, once you come to Rochester, it's like quicksand; you never leave, which is good. I'm just one of a long line of people who came to Rochester to train and realized that there's more to medicine than just the practice of it; there's what's happening behind the scenes to invent and innovate and make medicine better."

The institution's strong lineage in the fields of vaccine technology and infectious disease research, combined with an institutional ethos of collaboration among clinicians and basic science researchers, has brought Rochester to the forefront of the medical community in the face of a global pandemic.

Rochester's history of infectious disease research dates back to the late 1960s, when the University hired Gordon Douglas from the NIH as chief of the newly created department of infectious diseases. Under Douglas's direction, the department brought in new faculty members committed to studying infectious diseases such as seasonal flu and viruses including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

In the 1980s, Rochester entered the "golden age" of vaccine research. That was when a Medical Center team led by pediatrician David Smith and including chemist Porter Anderson and pediatric immunologist Richard Insel ushered in a new era of pediatric medicine with the development of an innovative approach to boosting the immunity-inducing power of vaccines. Their technology was a key component in the development of the vaccine that eradicated Hib, a bacterium that typically attacks children younger than five and can cause serious illnesses such as meningitis and pneumonia.

Throughout the 1980s, the team worked through iterations of the vaccine. When Smith found he couldn't interest a pharmaceutical company in commercializing their research, the three established their own start-up, Praxis Biologics.

In 1982, Walsh—and later Falsey—began collaborating with Smith and Praxis on developing a vaccine against RSV.

Meanwhile, in another nondescript room at the Medical Center, two Rochester professors of medicine, Richard Reichman and William Bonnez, and then graduate student Bob Rose, were developing technology that would prove to be instrumental in vaccines against HPV, a family of sexually transmitted viruses associated with diseases of the reproductive system, including cervical cancer.

Such collaborations between clinicians and researchers studying fundamental science principles are a hallmark of Rochester that make it a hub for revolutionary discoveries, says Stephen Dewhurst, chair and the Albert and Phyllis Ritterson professor of microbiology and immunology and vice dean for research in the School of Medicine and Dentistry.

"The University of Rochester has always been a very collaborative place, with partnerships involving basic science and clinical/translational research," Dewhurst says. "This has been a big driver of Rochester being a site for all of this groundbreaking research in infectious diseases and vaccines."

Pfizer Comes Calling

A vaccine against RSV has yet to be developed, but one of Walsh's

most significant contributions to RSV research was studying the proteins involved in RSV that allowed the virus to attack human cells.

"I had purified one of the important proteins involved in RSV, called a fusion protein," Walsh says. "Praxis wanted to develop a vaccine for RSV, so we would help them in many aspects of this research."

Praxis eventually became so successful in their research efforts that they were bought out by Pfizer, and many of the people—scientists and administrators—that Walsh and Falsey had worked with over the years in developing an RSV vaccine ended up at Pfizer.

Walsh and Falsey continued to work with Pfizer on RSV-related research, also studying seasonal coronaviruses—the family of viruses that now includes the pandemic SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.

Through research conducted at Rochester and technologies originally developed by Walsh, Smith, and the Praxis group at Rochester for RSV, NIH investigators gained critical knowledge that is now being applied to a vaccine for COVID-19: specifically, fixing the fusion protein in the right shape and stabilizing it, which is key in developing a vaccine that will prevent SARS-CoV-2 from attaching to healthy cells.

"The history of Rochester's infectious disease unit is very strongly associated with respiratory viruses, so it's a very natural place for this kind of work to get done."

—Edward Walsh

When it became clear in the spring that a new strain of coronavirus was the cause of an escalating pandemic, Pfizer turned to Rochester to help evaluate its vaccine efforts, drawn by the historical relationships that had been built between researchers at the pharmaceutical company and the University.

"Ed Walsh and Ann Falsey are recognized scientific and clinical trial experts in understanding the epidemiology of respiratory diseases and conducting clinical trials of intervention strategies, including vaccines," Gruber says. "And Ann directs an internationally recognized NIH-sponsored vaccine evaluation unit that provides expertise and infrastructure for clinical trials of vaccines. It was therefore natural to call upon this expertise for investigation of a vaccine against COVID-19."


Just as it had in the 1980s and '90s, Rochester again became an epicenter for developing treatments and vaccines.

An 'Incredibly Intense' Experience

With COVID-19 still raging across the globe, researchers and clinicians at Rochester and around the world continue to work tirelessly to develop vaccines and treatments to fight the pandemic.

"It's been incredibly intense," Branche says. "It's exciting on the one hand, because we're on the forefront of things that are happening very quickly. But it's very tiring. We work seven days a week. We eat, breathe, and sleep COVID."

However, she says, as infectious disease doctors, "this is what we train for.

"It's good to be a part of it and to be able to have an impact. It's good to know that we're contributing to the science that's really needed right now." 



FIRST RESPONDERS: The novel coronavirus moves more slowly than the virus behind the 1918 influenza pandemic, which spread quickly and lethally, says author John Barry '69 (MA). Members of the St. Louis Red Cross Motor Corps (above) were at the ready to help.

‘Always Tell the Truth’

John Barry '69 (MA), author of *The Great Influenza*, discusses how COVID-19 compares to the 1918 flu pandemic.

Interview by Kathleen McGarvey

When the novel coronavirus went from epidemic to pandemic early this year, John Barry '69 (MA) found himself in rather familiar territory. Barry is the author of *The Great Influenza: The Epic Story of the Deadliest Plague in History* (Viking). When the book was first published in 2004, the National Academy of Sciences named it the outstanding book of the year on science and medicine. In 2020, Barry's book has returned to bestseller status.

In *The Great Influenza*, he considers what became known as the Spanish flu—so called because Spain, which stayed neutral in World War I, had not clamped down on press coverage of the virus in the name of morale—from a broad range of angles: scientists' quest to understand a new pathogen, officials' efforts or lack thereof to contain

the spread of infection, communities' and families' horrifying experiences of a disease so contagious and lethal that it infected about a quarter of the US population and killed between 50 and 100 million people around the world, the equivalent of 220 to 440 million today.

Anchoring *The Great Influenza* is Barry's consideration of leadership, science, and society. Trust, he argues, is crucial, because without trust in information people have no reliable knowledge of what is happening. In 1918, when leaders gave wartime morale priority over public health communication, terror overran society, so much so that some flu victims starved to death because others were too frightened to bring them food.

The fundamental lesson of the 1918 pandemic, Barry writes, is this: "Those in authority must retain the public's trust. The way to do that is to distort nothing, to put the best face on nothing, to try to manipulate no one."

Barry's expertise drew him into public policy efforts. In the year *The Great Influenza* was published, he began to collaborate with federal government entities and the National Academies on influenza preparedness and response, and he was part of the original group that developed plans for public health measures in a pandemic before a vaccine is developed. He contributed to pandemic preparedness and response efforts during the administrations of Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

(This conversation has been edited and condensed.)

What are some of the important similarities between the 1918 flu virus and COVID-19?

They're both animal viruses that jumped to humans. So, they're novel for the given population. The mode of transmission is identical: primarily droplets, some airborne, maybe some fomite [transmission from contact with objects]—nobody knows how much.

Number three, they're both primarily respiratory viruses.

Number four is less well known, and that is that the 1918 virus infected practically every organ, much like COVID-19. There were notable neurological impacts and cardiovascular events—they were very common. It's been noted that even the testes can be affected. That was true in 1918 as well. That's very unusual and certainly not the case for other influenza viruses.

“Those in authority must retain the public's trust. The way to do that is to distort nothing, to put the best face on nothing, to try to manipulate no one.”

—John Barry '69 (MA)

What are the differences?

I guess the most important one is a different target demographic. In 1918, 95 percent, roughly, of the excess mortality was people younger than 65. Of course, that's the opposite with COVID.

And number two is duration. This virus moves much more slowly

than influenza, whether it's the incubation period, how long you shed virus, how long you're sick.

It has put vastly more stress on the economy because of the duration. We tried to interrupt transmission and save people's lives, which was the right thing to do. But it certainly caused an increase in economic stress.

The most obvious difference is virulence—the rapidity of the virus's spread and its severity. In 1918, it was many times more virulent.


You conclude the book, written in 2004, with the warning that in future pandemics, authorities must maintain the public's trust. What do you think when you look at what's happened in 2020?

A lot of countries did the right thing. They were extremely transparent. In those early meetings about nonpharmaceutical interventions [in the advisory groups that Barry joined in 2004], my message was to always tell the truth. And I didn't get a lot of pushback. Every now and then somebody would say, “Well, we don't really want to scare people.” Yeah, you do, actually. You don't want to use fear as a tool, but you want them to be able to judge the risk themselves, truthfully. And to understand the risk. And be honest. And a lot of countries have done that because it's pretty clearly the best thing to do. And as you know, the US is pretty close to dead last in the developed world in containing the virus. Unfortunately in Europe, which did have the virus pretty much contained—less than 200 cases a day in all of Italy, for example—they relaxed. The virus is teaching them they only won the battle, not the war.

What worries you most as you look ahead?

In April, I said I didn't expect summer to provide relief. I said I expected something akin to ocean swells rather than waves, depending on how we came out of various lockdown phases. I also said that there is a danger of a storm surge. It's relatively easy at this point to predict the behavior of the virus, but you cannot predict human behavior. The key is really behavior. And what worried me most was the real possibility of that storm surge. Clearly that's what we got. Now I'm worried that transmission will become so widespread as to be uncontrollable without massive interventions, which might not work anyway because there will be so much resistance. The frustrating thing is that it doesn't have to be this way. Tens of thousands if not several hundred thousand people who will die could survive.

And there's still so much we don't know about the virus, such as its long-term impact. We know a significant percentage of those who get sick show some kind of heart damage. Is that permanent? Does it heal? Even people who have no symptoms whatsoever on X-ray show what's referred to as “ground glass opacity” in the lungs. What is that damage? What does that mean long term?

The virus certainly affects blood vessels. What does that mean in terms of stroke and other cardiovascular problems years from now? In 1918, there were complications that didn't surface at all until the 1920s. So, we just don't know. 



BEHIND A MASK: People turned to masks to help curb the spread of 1918's flu virus. San Francisco passed a law promising fines or jail time for those who, unlike these residents, did not comply.

John Barry studied in the graduate program in history at the University of Rochester. He went on to work as a football coach and then as a journalist in Washington, DC, covering economics and national politics. He's now an adjunct faculty member at Tulane University's School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and the author of books including *The Great Influenza: The Epic Story of the Deadliest Plague in History*, *The Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How It Changed America*, and *Roger Williams and the Creation of the American Soul: Church, State, and the Birth of Liberty*.

Visionary Women of Rochester

Illustrations by Michael Osadciw

Honoring extraordinary women who had their roots in Rochester—and who made an impact worldwide.

It's been a challenging year, without a lot to celebrate. But 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of women in the United States getting the right to vote, and that's worth some rejoicing. To commemorate the centennial, the University is telling the stories of women who represent the spirit of Meliora.

Nominated by students, faculty, and staff, Rochester's "Visionary Women" have contributed to the work of achieving full equality for all women, regardless of race, ethnicity, or religion. Here are a few of the women the University proudly recognizes. To read profiles of all the honorees, visit Rochester.edu/2020-celebration/.

Susan B. Anthony (1820–1906)

Activist and icon, the Rochesterian was pivotal in the fight for women's suffrage

Rochester icon Susan B. Anthony galvanized the nation in the fight for women's rights. Her powerful voice and her arrest in Rochester after casting a ballot in the 1872 election helped inspire and shape the suffrage movement. The 19th Amendment to the Constitution gave all women in the US a voice in their political destiny, but barriers such as poll taxes, literacy tests, and violent voter suppression prevented African American and other marginalized women from exercising their right to vote.





Mary Steichen Calderone (1904–1998)

The ‘grandmother of modern sex education’

Calderone earned her medical degree at Rochester in 1939 and worked as a school physician, where she saw children unprepared for adolescence, with no access to education about sex. She became the medical director of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and fought to establish sex education in public schools across the nation.

Olivia Hooker (1915–2018)

Psychologist, professor, and first African American woman to serve active duty in the US Coast Guard

A survivor of the Tulsa Race Massacre in 1921, Hooker led efforts to gain recognition and restitution for those who lost loved ones, homes, and livelihoods in the massacre. After earning a bachelor's degree in education at Ohio State, she taught and then tried to join the US Navy during World War II. The Navy refused to enlist a woman of color, but Hooker did not give up, joining the Coast Guard instead. Attending graduate school on the GI Bill, she received a master's degree from Columbia and a doctorate in psychology from Rochester in 1961. As a teacher, mentor, and clinician, she devoted the rest of her life to helping people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



Naomi Lee (b. 1983)

Scientist and professor focused on Native American and Alaska Native health

Born and raised on the Seneca Cattaraugus Indian Reservation in western New York, Lee earned a bachelor's degree from Rochester Institute of Technology and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Rochester. As a biomedical researcher, she's driven to improve the lives of American Indian and Native people. Lee and her lab team in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Northern Arizona University develop vaccines that may transform the viral enemies of human health into powerful allies.

Connie Mitchell (1928–2018)

Fierce advocate for housing, jobs, education, and equality in Rochester

Mitchell walked alongside Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in the historic 1965 March for Freedom, from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. The hatred the marchers encountered demoralized her, but she returned to Rochester determined to improve lives and conditions in her own community. As the first woman and African American to serve on the Monroe County Legislature, Mitchell fought for educational opportunities, improved living and working conditions, better employment opportunities, and higher pay for minorities. With her husband, John, she founded the community-action agency Action for a Better Community under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty.



Renée Richards (b. 1934)

Leading eye surgeon and activist for transgender rights

Richards's accomplishments span the medical and athletic worlds. She had a long career as one of the world's leading strabismus surgeons, correcting the eye muscles in cross-eyed children. And she became the first person to compete in the US Open both as a man and as a woman. Graduating with a medical degree from Rochester in 1959, she played competitive tennis while completing her medical training. After multiple surgeries to complete her transition, she sought to play competitive tennis on the women's circuit. When the United States Tennis Association instituted a chromosome test to qualify players by their gender at birth, Richards sued for gender discrimination and won. She went on to compete in the 1977 US Open, breaking new ground for transgender rights.

Ruth Watanabe (1916–2005)

Creator of one of the world's greatest music collections, at Sibley Music Library

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Watanabe was a student of music and English at the University of Southern California when she became one of the thousands of Japanese Americans displaced and imprisoned in internment camps in the US during World War II. Each Sunday, before crowds of nearly 5,000 people imprisoned with her, she spoke about music and played recordings of music provided by friends on the outside. A telegram from Eastman School of Music director Howard Hanson, who had heard of Watanabe's plight, offered her a student fellowship. Arriving at Eastman, she took a part-time job at the school's Sibley Music Library—and loved it. She became head of circulation in 1944 and Hanson named her librarian in 1947, encouraging her to do whatever she could to bring the library to a position of leadership. She proceeded to build one of the greatest collections of musical scores and research materials in the world, acquiring an extraordinary collection of rare books in postwar Europe. She earned her PhD from Eastman in 1952. In 1996, the library named the Ruth T. Watanabe Special Collections in her honor.



Cecilia Rios-Aguilar (b. 1976)


National leader in the study of educational and occupational trajectories of marginalized students

Rios-Aguilar, born in Mexico City, was the first in her family to attend college. She received a bachelor's degree in economics from Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México before earning an MS in educational administration and a PhD in education theory and policy from the Warner School of Education at Rochester. She's now a professor of education and associate dean of equity, diversity, and inclusion at UCLA. Her research remains focused on the issues that marginalized students face in education. She considers essential skills, cultural insights, talents, and abilities to be "funds of knowledge" endowed in minority and marginalized students by virtue of their diverse experiences and history. Rios-Aguilar explores how those funds of knowledge, when brought into classrooms, curricula, and student services, provide a solid foundation for learning.



Donna Strickland (b. 1959)

Pioneer in the field of lasers and recipient of the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics

Captivated by lasers since childhood, Strickland studied optics as an undergraduate and then came to Rochester for a PhD in physics. Her work under mentor Gérard Mourou on chirped pulse amplification—a method to amplify an ultrashort laser pulse to the petawatt power level—has contributed to advances in science, industry, energy, and medicine. And it brought Strickland and Mourou the Nobel Prize in Physics for work the Nobel Committee said helped paved the way toward “the shortest and most intense laser pulses created by mankind.” At the time her prize was awarded, Strickland was one of just three women—among them, Marie Curie—to win the physics prize. (A fourth woman, Andrea Ghez, received the prize in 2020.) 

Class Notes



HONORARY CLASSMATE: Now the face of the fight against COVID-19, Anthony Fauci, a world-renowned AIDS researcher and director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, was the keynote speaker at the School of Medicine and Dentistry's 1999 commencement ceremony, where he received an honorary doctor of science degree for his achievements in understanding and eradicating infectious diseases.

College

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

1936 **Gilbert Forbes** (see '62). . . **Grace Moehlman Forbes** (see '62).

1950 The daughter of **Charles Wadhams Jr.** writes that her father died in May. "While at U of R," Jean Geller writes, "he was a proud member of Psi Upsilon, and his stories of his University antics are the stuff of legend among the grandkids. He lived a long life and was loved by countless friends and family, but he is deeply missed."

1952 **Joan Klein Brauer** died in August 2020 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, at age 90, her son, David, reports. "My mom was a proud U of R alum, and I know she'd want the school to know of her passing," he writes. "The U of R was a big part of her life, and we appreciate all of you." Joan's sister, **Roberta Klein Courtman** '50, died in 2017. . . **Arnold Brenman** passed away in April, writes his son **Paul Brenman** '83. After attending the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine,

Arnold served as a physician in the US Army, stationed in Puerto Rico from 1956 to 1958. He practiced otolaryngology and microsurgery of the ear in Philadelphia for almost 40 years and made contributions to the field of medical photography. . . **Chesley Kahmann** writes, "Here comes another recording . . . my 16th—with still more to come." *Love of Life* (Orbiting Clef Productions) is the 13th volume in the Kahmann Touch series by composer and pianist Chesley with her long-time singing group, the Interludes.

1953 **Allen Brown** has published *Constitution II: A New Beginning* (Xlibris US), in which he posits the need for a new US Constitution. A retired Air Force avionics engineer, Allen is the author of six books, including, most recently, *The Elevator*.

1958 **Joyce Timmerman Gilbert, Nancy Kelts Rice, Joan Rosenthal Nusbaum, Susan Storing Maybeck, and Linda Russell Messina** (from left to right in the group photo), who met at the University in 1954 and have reestablished their long-

time friendships by connecting at their class reunions, send an update: During their 50th reunion, they enjoyed learning about what each of them had accomplished and found challenging in their lives. After their 60th reunion, they decided 10 years between visits was simply too long. They all live in the Rochester area and have made a point to keep their renewed friendships strong. In an effort to see one another more, they have created a "monthly lunch bunch" and select different Rochester restaurants to visit. They share stories of marriage, careers, motherhood, and loss. Living in the 2020s, they write, provokes fascinating thoughts. Susan writes, "Living on the Prince Street Campus for the first year brought us together as women." They were among the first group of women to move onto the newly expanded River Campus in September 1955. Susan remembers meeting her husband, the late **Edward Maybeck**, a mechanical engineering student, on the first day in the new dorm. Nancy, who majored in history, writes, "My experience at UR helped me in my later life in so many ways, includ-

ing comfort in all kinds of situations with other people, exposure to the wider world, and opportunities for developing leadership skills. And, of course, history gave me such a lovely background for understanding world developments." Susan shares advice for current students: "Don't be too focused on your career. Expand your experiences, dabble in something unfamiliar, meet new people, and take your time." Nancy adds: "Take advantage of every opportunity you can for learning, experiencing, and developing your writing and analysis skills." The picture is from their last lunch get-together before the COVID-19 pandemic put a hold on

Abbreviations

E	Eastman School of Music
M	School of Medicine and Dentistry
N	School of Nursing
S	Simon Business School
W	Warner School of Education
Mas	Master's degree
RC	River Campus
Res	Medical Center residency
Flw	Postdoctoral fellowship
Pdc	Postdoctoral certificate



1958 Maybeck

their lunch dates. For the past few months, they have kept in touch through modern technology by sharing and commenting on “clever/humorous/thoughtful” emails as well as through Zoom.

1960 Thomas Grubb sends an update: “This past January I turned 80 but don’t feel at all different, probably because I am fortunate to be in relatively good health (knock on wood). In May 2014, I resigned from the faculty of the Juilliard School after 50 years of classroom teaching at the university level. Since then . . . my hands [were] full caring for my dear dog, Roo, who died at the age of 15. I miss her terribly, but luckily, I am surrounded by good friends who do their best to cheer me up. Since leaving Juilliard, I have had the chance to practice at the piano in order to prepare for several performances I have given with various singers under the aegis of the Art Song Society of New York. Since March of 2017, I have been working with my personal trainer twice a week in my apartment with amazing results. Although I have difficulty walking without the aid of a cane (or two), I am much stronger than ever before and plan to continue this regimen as long as possible. Until the onslaught of the coronavirus, I was coaching here in my studio on the Upper West Side, but since March this activity has been denied me. Not only a source of supplemental income, coaching singers is something that I love to do, one on one, instead of classroom teaching, which was never much fun for me because it was more disciplinary than educational (yes, even at Juilliard!). Just a note to others like me: there IS life after retirement, if one chooses to live it.”

1961 Russ Hatch, owner of MCSI Water Systems Management in Carmel Valley, California, writes that his company is celebrating its 30th year of providing operations and consulting for community and agriculture-based water systems in the Monterey Bay region. He writes, “Water is a critical resource, and my passion to provide quality licensed water management is what keeps me going at 80+ every day.”

1962 Joseph Citro ’73W (EdD) died in July, writes his wife, **Constance Forbes Citro** ’63, a senior scholar with the Committee on National Statistics at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Joseph had a “distinguished career as a professor of American history at Prince George’s Community College in Largo, Maryland,” writes Constance. “Many members of my family are U of R grads, including our son, **Jeremy Citro** ’93, and my parents, **Gilbert** ’36, ’40M (MD) and **Grace Moehlman Forbes** ’36. . . . **Bob Hetrick** died in February, writes **Carol Dye Lattimer**. She sends a photograph: “Here is a fun photo of our crazy classmates at our 50th wedding anniversary party in March 2013. We were doing our class cheer



1962 Hetrick

and having a great time. Bob was the entrepreneurial Pizza Truck guy on campus—a much sought-after repast on the weekends. Happy memories! He will be greatly missed, as will **Tony Cohen**.” Pictured are Bob and Bonnie Hetrick, **Bill and Patty Keenan Knapp**, Carol and **George Lattimer**, and Tony. . . . **Robert Mead** sends an update: “I have recently accepted a full-time position as a research engineer at the Rotorcraft Systems Engineering and Simulation Center at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. I’ll be engaged in research on the use of unmanned aircraft systems in emergency response and disaster situations. I recently concluded my six-year engagement with the FAA-designated UAS test site at the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.” . . . **Jerome Mark Spector** (see pages 58–59). . . . **Patricia Wager Wheeler** ’65W (EdM) in November published *Therapy Dogs in Action: Their Stories of Service and Love* (Russian Hill Press), “as told to Patricia by her dogs, Lawrence, Albert, Maddie, and Wylie.” A therapy dog handler since 2002, she is also the author of *Successful Tails: The Wonders of Therapy Dogs* (AuthorHouse).

1963 Paula Rabinowitz writes: “**David Joseph Bernstein**, my comrade and lover of more than 42 years, died of the horrible disease caused by the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, at Mt. Sinai Queens Hospital. He went into the hospital on Easter Sunday and survived through April, the cruelest month. He died at 3:47 am on May Day 2020, fitting for a red-diaper baby and lifetime radical and number theorist (two primes and a square), *The Hour of the Wolf*. He loved me,



1958 Maybeck

Jacob and Raphael more than anything. A solitary man who biked, kayaked, fished, did crossword puzzles and math problems, he deeply believed in collectives, both political and artistic. A teacher, actor, director, producer, activist, he founded and built a number of theaters in Michigan—the Attic Theater in Detroit, The Performance Network of Ann Arbor, among them—and, as an early member of SDS was arrested and jailed for participating in the first draft board sit-in in 1965 in protest of the Vietnam War. He continued his activism in support of workers, especially at the University of Minnesota, and for the joy of solidarity with others, most recently as a volunteer with the Long Island City Boathouse. A homebody, he had the misfortune to marry a wandering woman, with whom, during just the past year, he traveled to Portugal, Spain, Hawaii, and Cuba. I never agreed with Joe Hill’s slogan: ‘Don’t mourn, organize!’ I say mourn David, and then organize. After 42 years of love and struggle together, I am at a loss. He endures in the love he felt for our sons, his family and his friends.” Paula Rabinowitz is the editor-in-chief of the Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Literature and a professor of English emerita at the University of Minnesota. (See pages 58–59). . . . **Constance Forbes Citro** (see ’62).

1965 Sharon Cornell Rose shares the news that her third grandchild will attend Rochester: **Jessica Rose** ’16, current student **Zachary Rose** ’23, and **Jacob Rose** ’24, accepted last spring.

1966 Jeffrey Raffel has published his memoirs, *Lessons Learned: A Memoir of Leadership Development* (NASPAA Press). Jeffrey, who went on to earn a PhD in political science at MIT, analyzes his experience in academia, government, and non-profit organizations, including as codirector of Joe Biden’s polling in his first senate race, special assistant to Delaware’s Governor Pete du Pont, president of NASPAA (the



1967 Lewy

international organization of academic leaders in public policy and administration), and the founding director of what is now the Biden School of Public Policy and Administration at the University of Delaware. The memoir includes what Jeffrey learned about leadership in his time at Rochester, including how to overcome the academic-practitioner gap in teaching, research, and public service. . . . **Michael Weiss** (see '67).

1967 Robert Lewy sends a photograph. Pictured (left to right) are **David Green** '71M (MD), **James Croll**, **Michael Weiss** '66, Robert, and **Paul Stein**. Robert writes, "Five Phi Epsilon Pi fraternity brothers from the classes of '66 and '67 got together in Naples, Florida, in February 2020. David, Paul, and I were Towers suitemates in 1966–67. We all went on to medical school and successful medical careers. We owe our reunion to the efforts of our classmate **Alan Carmasin**, who passed away in 2018."

1968 David Freese has released his third book of photographs, *Mississippi River: Headwaters and Heartland to Delta and Gulf* (George F. Thompson), published in July. The text is written by the *New York Times*-bestselling author Simon Winchester, and the foreword is by Sarah Kennel, the curator of photography at the High Museum of Art in Atlanta. "This book completes a trilogy on North American waters in a time of increasing climate change and presents the Mississippi River as a microcosm of American history with all its admirable qualities and persistent faults," writes David.

1969 Daan Braveman has joined Harter Secrest & Emery, a law firm with offices throughout New York State, as senior higher education counsel. He will lead the new consulting services of the firm's higher education practice. Daan spent 43 years in higher education as a professor and leader, including the last 15 years as president of Nazareth College in Rochester. Before joining Nazareth, Daan spent 28 years at Syracuse University College of Law, including eight years as dean; he also served as an associate professor, professor, and associate dean. He earned his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania. . . . **Alan Finder** (see pages 58–59). . . . **Gary Kinsland** '74 (PhD) sends an update: he has been a professor in the School of Geosciences at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette since 1977 and writes he has "no reason to quit . . . having too much fun."

1970 James Ellis updated a university-level textbook, *Remote Sensing Principles, Interpretation, and Application* (Waveland Press), with author Floyd Sabins Jr. The fourth edition explores the growing use of technologies such as drones and Lidar as well as the scientific and societal impacts of remote sensing. James is the founder and principal of Ellis GeoSpatial. . . . **Robin Lynn** writes, "I cocurated the exhibition *Ridgewood Reservoir for the 21st Century*, which should have opened at the Queens Museum on April 5. Matt Malina, director of NYC H2O, and I tell the story of the evolution of the city of Brooklyn's water supply system—leading to the consolidation of Greater New York—through maps, drawings, and photographs. You can still enjoy

the show online at www.nych20.org/, where you can immerse yourself in 19th-century technology and see how infrastructure and open space can be been repositioned in the 21st century. Enjoy, be well, and drink water." . . . **Ralph Rakieten Singh** writes, "As my 50th reunion approaches, I thought I'd share that my Wisdom Thinkers Network has been adopted and funded by Fetzer.org. My multicultural wisdom stories, 'Stories to Light Our Way,' bring a unique approach to spirituality and values into education. Combining SEL/Character Ed with ethical discussions, we help children find their stories and then go out [to] change the story of the world. I can no longer march, but my op-ed appeared online [at Syracuse.com] and in [the] Sunday paper (we actually still have one). Of special note is my memory of the white marble Frederick Douglass bust in the lobby in 1968—being a symbol of the University's insensitivity to race—which was replaced by a black marble image shortly thereafter to show their compassion!" . . .

Tom Williams sends an update: "I was a professional journalist—an enemy of the people. I worked for a couple of small community newspapers in and around Utica, New York, from 1972 to 1976, then moved back to Rochester in 1976 to work as a reporter and editor for *City Newspaper*, Rochester's alternative weekly. In 1979, I went to the Rochester *Times-Union* and was a reporter on the police, suburban, and 1984 Rochester sesquicentennial beats. From 1984 to 1988, I was a reporter (and a following spouse) at the *Knoxville (Tennessee) Journal*. After, my wife and I moved to the Albany, New York, area for her internship. I worked for many years as an editor of several national trade magazines published by a company based in Latham, New York. I am now retired and living in Malta, New York, near Saratoga Springs. My wife, **Carol Atwater** '82, is a clinical psychologist and also a UR alum (we didn't cross paths at the UR; we met later). I am now a member of the Malta Democratic Committee, seeking to restore sanity to the United States government. Hi, everybody!"

1972 Burns Fisher '79 (MS) writes, "Does anyone remember 'Howie Specials' from the cafeteria at the WRH? Does anyone actually know who 'Howie' is? My wife and I still make them!" He recom-

mends, however, that "those of us of 'a certain age'" use English muffins rather than bagels, making them easier to eat and with fewer calories. Burns adds, "I am retired after spending most of my career working for DEC/Compaq/HP. I actually spent seven years as an employee at UR and then a couple years after my retirement as a start-up. I still write software to fly in space on amateur radio satellites as a volunteer for the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT)." . . . **John Newton** has published *The Addison Collection* (Resource Publications), a compilation of stories and other short works. He is a retired patent specialist at Eastman Kodak Research Labs.

1973 David Greenbaum, the vice chairman of Vornado Realty Trust, received the Harry B. Helmsley Distinguished New Yorker Award in recognition of outstanding professional achievements and leadership. The award is presented by the Real Estate Board of New York. Among other projects, David and Vornado are working with the Economic Development Corporation and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to create a new entrance to Penn Station and revamping the Long Island Railroad concourse. . . . **Len Joy** '74S (MBA) writes that he has published a new novel, *Everyone Dies Famous* (BQB Publishing). He and his wife, **Suzanne Sawada**, attended the November 2019 Readers' Favorite Award Banquet, where Len's novels *American Past Time* (Hark! New Era Publishing) and *Better Days* (self-published) won the gold and silver medals in the category of Fiction—Sports. "It was a great opportunity to meet other writers who are working, as I am, to establish themselves," he writes. He also notes that during Meliora Weekend in October 2019, Suzanne received the John N. Wilder Award for her philanthropic support and her many years of service to the University. "She was honored to be recognized by her alma mater," he writes.

1975 James Bennett has published *Leave No One Behind: Guidelines for Project Planners and Practitioners* (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit). The concept of "leave no one behind" is a guiding principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015. . . . **Catherine Coates** writes



1975 Iler

to say that she retired from Xerox in January after 19 years. . . . **Bill** and **Iris Lipman Iler** send a photograph of their young grandchild. Iris writes, "Henry Pfeffer, age two, sports his new Yellowjackets T-shirt." Henry is the son of **Sarah Iler '04**, Bill and Iris's daughter, and Todd Pfeffer. . . . **Mark Moretti** writes that he received multiple honors in 2019: he was presented with the Distinguished Service Award from the Trial Section of the New York State Bar Association and the Adolf Rodenbach Award from the Monroe County Bar Association, was selected Lawyer of the Year for 2020 by Best Lawyers of America for real estate litigation in Rochester, and was elected a vice president of the New York State Bar Association for 2020. . . . **Mathew Tekulsky's** forthcoming book *Americana: A Photographic Journey* (Goff Books), featuring commentary on and photographs of things representative or stereotypical of America "from sea to shining sea," is scheduled to be released in spring 2021. Matthew has previously published several books, including *The Martin Luther King Mitzvah* (Fitzroy Books) and *Backyard Bird Photography* (Skyhorse), among others. . . . **Robert Vigoda** sends an update: He is a partner at Rubin & Rudman in Boston, where he focuses his practice on high-net-worth families in areas such as estate and trust planning, administration, and business succession for family-owned businesses. He has been recognized as a top attorney in his field by such publications as *Worth* magazine (Top 100 Attorneys in the country), *Chambers High Net Worth* guide, *Best Lawyers in America* and *Super Lawyers* (Boston and New England). Rob is also cofounder of a health care venture capital firm, Catalyst Health Ventures, investing early

stage through exit in transformative medical technology companies. CHV was named Healthcare Fund of the Year 2018 by the New England Venture Capital Association. Rob and his wife, Donna, live in Lexington, Massachusetts, and enjoy spending time with their children and five grandchildren, golf, and traveling.

1976 David Brown has been appointed as interim chair of the Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine. He is a professor of pharmacology and has been on the department faculty for 36 years. . . . In recognition of her role as an educator, **Theresa Canada '89W (EdD)**, a professor of education at Western Connecticut State University, has been selected as one of the 100 Women of Color in Connecticut for 2020. She was honored at the fifth annual 100 Women of Color gala and awards banquet in August in Hartford. The awards recognize contributions to business, education, entrepreneurship, entertainment, and service that have an impact on people throughout Connecticut and west-

ern Massachusetts. . . . **Richard Cogen** (see '77 College). . . . **Andrew Rackear** writes, "A bunch of us from the Class of 1976 had planned to get together in Santa Fe for a gathering of old college friends. The coronavirus may have prevented our gathering, but a pandemic couldn't keep us apart. We had a great time catching up on Zoom. It certainly didn't seem like it had been 46 years since we were hanging out together on the quad!"

1977 Peter Friedenberg, a partner in Boston-based Sherin and Lodgen's real estate law department, was named to *The Best Lawyers in America* 2021 list. He's a fellow of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers. . . . **Rose Lewis** sends a photo from "a mini reunion for '77 suitmates in the Berkshires in February—a fabulous time was had by all! Note the young man in the photo—**Richard Cogen '76**." In the first row are **Barbara Grossman Berger**, **Kathy Cusack Cogen**, **Linda Duffus Flanagan**, and **Rose**. . . . **Richard Rubin** writes, "Like many others, I am sure, the pandemic has brought old friends and classmates together again in

many different ways. Although not flattering to some, here is a screenshot from a Zoom call with 'our gang' from the mid to late '70s. Revitalizing old friendships is a bright spot in an otherwise horrible situation." Pictured (left to right) are (top row) **Barbara Shore Richman '78**, **Richard**, and **Maureen Hart Hennessey '78**; (middle row) **Joel Lind**, **Dan Kimmel**, **Christine Gray**; and (bottom row) **Ira Emanuel**, and **Cindy Rizzo**.

1978 Barry Bergen writes that he and his husband and partner of 22-plus years, Jim Schank, both retired since 2017, have moved to Lisbon, Portugal. Barry retired from Gallaudet University, where he was a professor of history. . . . **Michael Corp** has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* for 2021. Michael is a partner in the tax, trusts and estates, and elder law and special needs practices at Hancock Estabrook in upstate New York. . . . **Maureen Hart Hennessey** (see '77). . . . **Barbara Shore Richman** (see '77). . . . **Joseph Sellers**, the Eastern Region medical director for the Bassett Healthcare network, is the new president-elect of the Medical Society of the State of New York. He's a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Physicians. An attending physician in internal medicine and pediatrics at the Bassett Medical Center in Cooperstown, New York, and the Cobleskill (New York) Regional Hospital, he is an assistant professor of clinical medicine at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

1979 Jean Merenda Conway (see '80 Nursing). . . . **Steven Goldberg**, a partner at Downey Brand, a law firm with offices in California and Nevada, was selected as a 2020 Northern California Super Lawyer and to Best Lawyers in America 2021 for his work in environmental litigation.

1980 Penny Cagan publishes a daily blog about the Talmud in the *Times of Israel*. She has lived in New York City, where she works as a risk manager, since 1980. She has published two books of poetry, *And Today I Am Happy* (Chatoyant) and *City Poems* (Chatoyant). . . . **Howard Rudzinsky** sends a note and a photo (page 60) taken in Vail, Colorado, in February. Pictured (left to right) are **Stephen Jensen**, **Harold Goldstein**,

Continued on page 60



1977 Lewis



1977 Rubin

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Those We Lost

The members of the University community taken by the COVID-19 pandemic will be remembered for their lasting impact on their fields, their communities, and their families.

Journalist. Pianist. Doctor. Candlemaker. Mother. Son. Daughter.

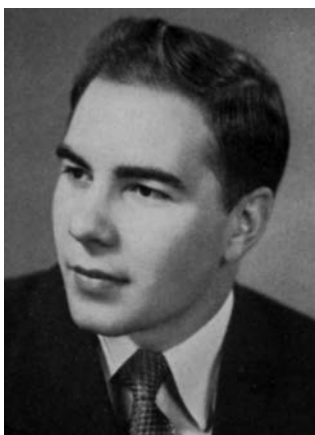
Among the grim toll of the COVID-19 pandemic were several alumni from all walks of life. One made innovations in musical instruments that are used worldwide. Another recorded a Top 10 national hit. One taught for decades in a small town in upstate New York, while another busily covered news stories in New York City.

They graduated from the University with degrees in diverse fields—history, physics, neurology, and bassoon.

Each of them made a lasting impact—in small communities, big cities, on the world stage, and within their grieving families. This list is based on information *Review* received through September. If we missed someone, email us at rochrev@rochester.edu.

Alan Abel '51E

A legend in the world of percussion, Abel performed in the Philadelphia Orchestra from 1959 to 1997 and taught at Temple University from 1973 to 2019. His inventions, used worldwide, include triangles and a bass drum stand that allowed the instrument to be suspended with rubber bands. "He was a builder of instruments," the *Philadelphia Inquirer* wrote. "His particular take on the orchestral triangle was so successful that it became used in orchestras all over."



Abel is considered one of the most important percussion educators of the second half of the 20th century. Philadelphia Orchestra timpanist Don Liuzzi told the *Inquirer* that more than a third of notable American orchestras include a percussionist who studied with Abel or with one of his students.

The Indiana native discovered drums as a young child, often joking that "my mother was a singer/pianist and my dad was a carpenter, so I combined the two." While attending the Eastman School of Music, he performed as a part-time member of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and, after graduating, spent two years in the US Air Force Band stationed in Geneva, New York.

After retiring, Abel continued to play frequently with the Philadelphia Orchestra and held annual workshops at Temple that attracted students from around the world.

A member of the Percussive Arts Society Hall of Fame, he died in April in Wynnwood, Pennsylvania. He was 91. Survivors include his wife of 68 years, Janet, and three children.

David Bernstein '63

The *New York Times* called him an "ex-calculus teacher, lifelong political radical, and multitalented theater worker." But there

was much more to Bernstein, who died at 78 in Queens, New York, in May.

An early member of the national organization Students for a Democratic Society, Bernstein was arrested and jailed in 1965 for participating in the first draft board sit-in protest of the Vietnam War. He continued his activism in support of workers throughout his life.

After retiring from the University of Minnesota, where he served as a grant writer and taught in the theater arts and dance department, Bernstein and his wife of 42 years, Paula Rabinowitz, moved in 2016 to New York City, where he worked with the Long Island City Community Boathouse, a volunteer collective dedicated to providing the public with access to New York City rivers through free kayaking. Bernstein wrote grants, fixed equipment, and instructed people on how to kayak.

Rabinowitz called him "a solitary man" who biked, kayaked, fished, and solved crossword puzzles and math problems. A teacher, actor, director, and producer, he founded and built several theaters in Michigan. "A homebody, he had the misfortune to marry a wandering woman with whom, during just the past year, he traveled to Portugal, Spain, Hawaii, and Cuba," his wife said. "After 42 years of love and struggle together, I am at a loss."



Alan Finder '69

For nearly three decades, Finder reported on or oversaw coverage of New York City government, education, sports, and other news for the *New York Times*. He served as reporter, bureau chief, editor—and mentor.

"He was," the *Times* said, "an unflappable eye in the storm of daily newspapering."

Former colleague Scott Falton spoke for many journalists when he tweeted after Finder's death: "He handled my stories with a trademark 'don't-worry-kid-I've-been-here-a-million-times' demeanor. Alan was an all-world human being. I'm devastated."

The Brooklyn native earned a bachelor's degree in history from Rochester and a master's in American studies from Yale before embarking on his newspaper career. He loved music, cooking, and books, but journalism was his passion.

Finder retired in 2011 but was working part time as an editor

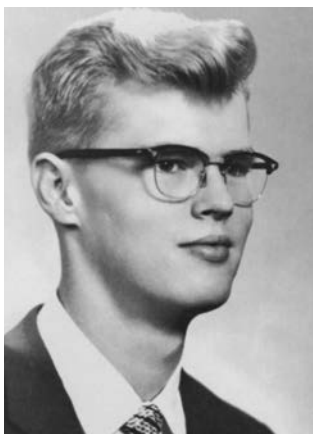


for a few publications before his death in March in Ridgewood, New Jersey. He was 72.

James Hughston '57E

After graduating from the Eastman School of Music, where he majored in bassoon, the South Carolina native earned his master's from Northern Illinois University and worked as a music teacher in Illinois for six years. He then took a similar position with the public school system in Johnstown, New York, working as an elementary music and school band teacher until his retirement. He also served as organist of the Amsterdam United Methodist Church for 42 years and was a member of the Guild of Organists.

Hughston died in April in Schenectady. He was 84. Survivors include his husband, James Vallee, and two children.



The alumni taken by the COVID-19 pandemic were musical innovators, teachers, reporters, doctors, activists, and others who made a lasting impact on the world's stage, in their communities, and among their families.

William Pursell '52E, '53E (MM) '95E (DMA)

Pursell was touring as a jazz and R&B musician in 1960 when country singer Eddy Arnold heard him play and suggested he move to Nashville, the capital of country music. It was life-changing advice.

Pursell made Nashville his home and achieved great success as a recording session pianist, performing with stars such as Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash, and Willie Nelson. His piano performance of the 1963 song "Our Winter Love" reached No. 9 on the *Billboard* Hot 100, while the full-length album of the same name peaked at No. 15 on *Billboard*.

Pursell earned two Grammy Award nominations—for his performance on Ken Medema's 1974 album, *Listen*, and for his 1978 arrangement of "We Three Kings" for a National Geographic album. He taught at Belmont University's School of Music in Nashville from 1980 to 2017. He died in Nashville in September. He was 94.



Jerome Spector '62

Whether at work, at play, or at home, Spector was a man of long commitments. He owned a candle-making business for 30 years, attended weekly card games with the same friends for 40 years, and was married to his wife, Paula, for 50 years.

Spector started making candles while living on a commune in Vermont in the 1960s. Eventually, he started a business, Big Dipper Candles. He worked from his home in Chester, New York, and sold the homemade products—sometimes shaped like sushi rolls or matzoh balls—at craft shows up and down the East Coast. He also supplied Jewish community centers and synagogues around the world with distinctive and elegant Hanukkah candles.

In his spare time, he tended to gardens at his home and synagogue, volunteered at a soup kitchen, and started a program to supply low-income children with snacks at school they couldn't otherwise afford.

Spector died in April in Warwick, New York. He was 79.



Janice Wiesman '80

Wiesman was one of the first undergraduates to earn a bachelor's degree in neurology at the University and built an acclaimed career in the field. She was considered a leading authority on the neurological ramifications of the rare disease known as amyloidosis and founded the New York City branch of the Women in Neurology Group. Harvard trained, she worked as a clinical associate professor of neurology at New York University's School of Medicine and staff neurologist at Bellevue Hospital, as well as an adjunct assistant professor at Boston University's School of Medicine and staff neurologist at Boston Medical Center.

Longtime friend David Higgins '80, '87 (PhD) says it was Wiesman's role as mentor and advisor to medical students and residents that gave her the most satisfaction.

Higgins met Wiesman when both were first-year students at Rochester in 1976. He says Wiesman's professional accolades are only part of her story.

"She had a zest for life," he says. "She was a political activist, avid traveler, and fashion lover." Wiesman, Higgins, and their spouses traveled extensively together, including trips to Hawaii and Cuba, and had planned visits to Denmark and Ireland before the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Wiesman died in August at age 61. She's survived by her husband, John Mannion, her daughter, Hannah, and her 94-year-old mother.

"The three most important people in the world to her," Higgins says. ①



Continued from page 57

Glen Mattioli, and Howard. He writes, "Still crazy, skiing together after all these years. We are all in touch and close to **Arthur Brown**, **Bruce Forman**, **Chuck Weinstein**, **Rich Hodin**, our Gilbert basement gang, as well as Dan Hertz and Joe Sherman who did two years at Rochester with us. We're coming to our 40th; how about you?" . . . **Janice Wiesman** (see pages 58-59).

1981 Tracy Mitrano writes: "When I graduated as president of the Students' Association, I bet many of you thought I might go into politics. You were right! It only took me almost 40 more years to get there, after a doctorate and law degree, a career in higher education, and, who knew: a specialty in internet and cybersecurity policy." In the November 2020 elections,



1980 Rudzinsky

Tracy ran for Congress in NY-23, south of Rochester, a district that runs west of Binghamton along the Pennsylvania border to Lake Erie. "After growing up in Rochester and going to the UR, I have lived my entire adult life in the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes region, most of it while working at Cornell University and raising a family in Ithaca. I live in Penn Yan now, on Keuka Lake. I left work (that paid more than Congress!) to jump into the 2018 race for the same reasons that many women got involved—a dedication to citizenship and democracy—but also because of a concern that our government was not paying sufficient attention to the Russian interference in cyberspace. Predicting that it would take two times to unseat the incumbent, I am keeping my promise to run twice." . . . **Robert Wayne** has joined the Pittsburgh-based law firm Rothman Gordon. Robert specializes in commercial transactions, corporate formation, real estate, employment issues, and litigation. He also provides expertise in the oil and gas industry related to ownership and leasing of natural gas interests.

1982 Carol Atwater (see '70). . . . **Mike Kaestle** (see '83).

1983 Paul Brenman (see '52). . . . **Beth Solomon German** (see '90). . . . **Dave Lewy** writes that Rochester alumni who were also members of the Omega fraternity got together on Zoom last spring for a mini reunion—"some of us not seeing each other for 40 years." In the

photo are (top row) **Robert Segura**, Dave, **Mathew Rice** '84, and **Cyndy Brown** '84; (middle row) **Mimi Richart**, Corbett Johnson, **Elliot Garbus** '84, and Andy Middleton; (bottom row) **Michael Urban**, **Mike Kaestle** '82, **Marc Pekowsky** '86, and **Leslie Zigel** '85; and in the bottom square is **Aroon Chinai** '85.

1984 Cynthia Brown (see '84 Nursing). . . . **Tracy Haswell** has been named dean of academics at the Purnell School in Pottersville, New Jersey. The school is a college preparatory boarding and day school for girls in grades 9 through 12 who have learning or language challenges.

1985 Aroon Chinai (see '83). . . . **Leslie Zigel** (see '83).

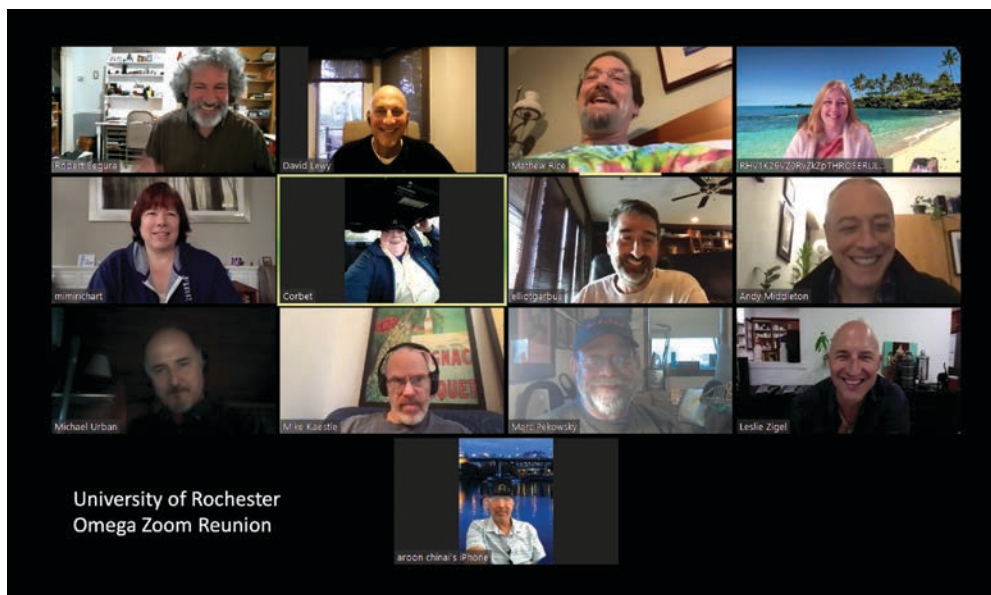
1986 Randall Abate, a professor and endowed chair in marine and environmental law and policy at Monmouth University, adds 12 new chapters to the second edition of *What Can Animal Law Learn from Environmental Law?* (Environmental Law Institute Press), published in July. . . . **Marc Pekowsky** (see '83). . . . **Glenn Stambo**, a vascular and interventional radiologist in Tampa, Florida, writes, "I hope you are staying safe and well, and I know these are difficult times, but I wanted to share some good news that an article I have been working on getting published for five years was finally published." "The Use of Rapid Sequence Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Brain as a Screening Tool for

the Detection of Gross Intracranial Pathology in Children Presenting to the Emergency Department With a Chief Complaint of Persistent or Recurrent Headaches" was published in the journal *Pediatric Emergency Care* in April.

1987 David Morris '91M (MD) has been appointed chief medical officer for Enterprise Therapeutics, a biopharmaceutical company based in the UK. David also has held faculty appointments at the University of California, San Francisco, and Yale University's School of Medicine. . . . **Jeffrey Tyburski** '98S (MBA) writes, "I recently started a financial literacy educational service called Your Sherpa. I focus on students and young adults, engaging their parents in the process." He also released a companion book primarily geared toward parents, *Your Sherpa: Your Parental Guide to Financial Literacy* (Authors Place Press). He adds that the analyst in him identified the problems solved in the book; the engineer created the framework; and the teacher, mentor, and parent deliver the message. Jeff worked as an engineer, analyst, and portfolio manager for a combined 33 years. He is the president of a nonprofit organization helping aspiring entrepreneurs in Africa. . . . **Thomas Uzzo**, president and CEO of Whitestone Associates, has been named a 2020 award finalist for New Jersey in Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year program. Whitestone Associates provides environmental and geotechnical engineering and consulting services.

1988 Amy Steinman Cohen writes, "My daughter, Jessica Brynn Cohen, is a young actress and just finished filming her first feature film in Austin, Texas. The Richard Linklater film *Apollo 10 1/2* that Jessica was a lead actress in will be out on Netflix in 2021."

1990 Jodi Rubtchinsky Smith, president and owner of Mannersmith Etiquette Consulting in Marblehead, Massachusetts, sends a photo from "an impromptu reunion." She writes, "December brought an added surprise at a community holiday party when we realized our table was a random Rochester Reunion!" Pictured (left to right) are **Douglas Smith**, **Beth Solomon German** '83, Jodi, and **Christopher Bruell** '96. . . . **John Sotomayor** sends an update: "I launched my second mag-



1983 Lewy

azine brand under Sotomayor Media Creations, *Embrace*, to rave reviews. My first brand, *Elevate*, established in 2017, has won its third national award as Best Digital Magazine two years in a row." *Elevate*, the Spanish-language version of *Elevate*, won one of those awards.

1991 Luke Bellocchi writes that he has returned to Washington, DC, after living in Hawaii for three years and has taken a policy position at the US Department of Transportation as strategic advisor for aviation policy to the secretary's office. . . . Jazz trumpeter and composer **John Sneider** released *The Scrapper* (Cellar Live Records), featuring Joel Frahm, tenor saxophone; Larry Goldings, organ; John Hart, guitar; and Andy Watson, drums. The CD also features singer Andy Bey and trumpeter David Sneider, the son of John and **Robin Kornblith Sneider** '91E.

1992 Lesli Myers-Small '93W (MS) was named superintendent of the Rochester City School District in May. She began her career in the district as a guidance counselor and intervention specialist. She led Brockport, New York, public schools for seven years before leaving in 2020 to become the New York State Education Department's assistant commissioner of school reform and innovation. Before her tenure in Brockport, Lesli spent five years as an assistant superintendent in Ithaca, New York. . . . **Valery Perry** sends news about a documentary film she directed and produced, *Looking for Dayton*, which premiered at the Sarajevo Film Festival in August 2020. The feature-length film looks at the Dayton Peace Agreement that ended the war in



1990 Smith

Bosnia in 1995, with a focus on the people affected by the agreement, not the politicians who negotiated it. With the 25-year anniversary of the end of the war in November 2020, she says the film provides a different look at the war and its end, blending comedy with reality and suggesting the lessons that can be learned from the war and from the peace. Valery lives in Sarajevo.

1993 Jeremy Citro (see '62) . . . **Alexis Hart**, an associate professor and the director of writing in the English department at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania, has published *Writing Programs*, *Veterans Studies*, and *the Post-9/11 University: A Field Guide* (National Council of Teachers of English) with coauthor Roger Thompson of Stony Brook University. Alexis is a US Navy veteran and a former associate professor of English at the Virginia Military Institute. . . . **Anita Hattiangadi** is a research program director at the Center for Naval Analyses in Arlington, Virginia, where she oversees a portfolio of about 20 studies for Department of Defense, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps sponsors. . . . **Ross Warner** writes that his first book, *Drunk on Sunday* (No Frills Buffalo), was released in June. He adds that "it takes place partially at the U of R" and that both his late parents belonged to the Class of '64 and would have "loved to know it made the magazine."

1994 Grace Bacon Garcia has been elected vice president of the Massachusetts Bar Association for its 2020-21 membership year. She is a partner at Morrison Mahoney in Boston, where she has more than 20 years of trial experience, and a board member and past president of the Massachusetts Defense Lawyers Association. Also in 2020, Grace was inducted into *Massachusetts Lawyer Weekly's* Top Women of Law Circle of Excellence and was elected by her peers for inclusion in *Best Lawyers in America*.

1995 Andrew Adachi '04S (MBA) graduated from New York Law School in May and was preparing to take the New York State bar exam in September. . . . **Jerrid Chapman** sends a photograph from his December 2019 wedding to Ellen Colebank. . . . **Ann Marie Mason** was promoted to general counsel and corporate secretary

at the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company in Philadelphia. Active with the Corporate Counsel Women of Color, Anne Marie is a member of the board of directors of Listen to Our Voices, a nonprofit organization advocating for children and young adults.

1996 Joseph Brown has joined the Buffalo-based law firm Hurwitz & Fine as a member of its employment and business litigation departments. He received his JD from the University of Virginia School of Law. . . . **Christopher Bruell** (see '90).

1997 Ghassan (San) Haddad has written *The File: Origins of the Munich Massacre* (Post Hill Press), which draws on previously unavailable archives to shed light on the terrorist attacks at the 1972 Summer Olympics. San writes, "I hope that it can positively influence the public debate about the Israel-Palestine Olympic file. I worked closely with Israeli, Palestinian, and Olympic stakeholders, and it is the most significant work in this area since Simon Reeve's *One Day in September*." San is a visiting instructor of business management at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. . . . **Maureen Roche** (see '99).



1995 Chapman

1998 Rebecca Grant Lederman, pictured on the right with her business partner, Sari Lee, started Pickleball Palace in October 2018 to bring pickleball to people ages 8 to 80. In August, they opened their own dedicated outdoor pickleball courts in West Orange, New Jersey. Rebecca, who played on the varsity tennis team all four years at Rochester, writes, "I feel so lucky that I have turned a passion into a business. Pickleball is fun, social, and great exercise. If any alumni live nearby, come out and play!" . . . **Stacey Trien** is serving as president-elect of the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys and will assume duties as president in May of 2021. She writes that she is excited to take on the leadership role in the Rochester legal community. She is a partner at Adams Leclair, specializing in employment law and

Continued on page 61



1998 Lederman

TOGETHER FOR ROCHESTER

University Launches Three New Affinity Networks for Alumni and Friends

By Kristine Thompson

As part of the University's Together for Rochester one-year fundraising and engagement campaign—and in response to growing interest from alumni and friends—the University has formed three new affinity groups: the Black Alumni Network, the First Generation Network, and the Women's Network. Each network is designed to deepen connections within the University community.

"We want all of our alumni to feel welcome, heard, seen, supported, and valued," says Karen Chance Mercurius, associate vice president for Alumni and Constituent Relations. "Forming these networks is a step toward creating a more diverse and inclusive environment—one that allows everyone in our University community to leverage the resources and benefits available to them."

The Office of Alumni and Constituent Engagement, its Diversity Advisory Council and Alumni Board, and the University's Office of Equity and Inclusion helped set the strategy that formed the groups. "2020 has ignited a social justice movement where equity and access are at the heart of the dialogue," says Lizette Pérez-Deisboeck, a University trustee who chairs the Alumni Board. "Our new networks will provide a platform not only to address inequities but also celebrate successes and support each other."

Mercurius adds that increasing the number of diverse alumni in the networks and in key volunteer roles helps ensure that many voices are a part of the critical conversations that build both strategies and communities. "Understanding we may have differing views and experiences, and sharing those perspectives, can greatly enhance the richness of our alumni community, encourage the professional growth of others, and be a catalyst for societal change," she adds.

Alumni, parents, and friends can join any of the networks. They're encouraged to attend virtual network events, volunteer

or mentor students and recent graduates, and connect with each other on social media. They can also participate in the University's professional networking platform, The Meliora Collective, which offers ways for alumni to connect based on location, professional interest, affinity- and identity-based interest, and more.

The Women's Network: The University's new volunteer-led Women's Network launched in October 2020. Its mission is to harness and celebrate the rich contributions of women around the globe who are part of the University of Rochester family. Through dynamic programming and engaging conversations, the network helps members connect and support one another.

Rochester.edu/advancement/womens-network

The Black Alumni Network: The Black Alumni Network is an inclusive leadership organization that empowers, connects, and celebrates the University's Black community. The group encourages communication and cooperation between alumni, students, friends, faculty, and staff who are committed to the advancement of people of the African diaspora. It also fosters personal and professional connections and provides a sense of community for alumni of color. The network will launch at the end of 2020.

Rochester.edu/advancement/black-alumni-network

The First Generation Network: The First Generation Network comprises alumni, parents, and students who are the first in their families to attend college. Through programs and discussions, the network will connect people across generations, provide mentorship, and share experiences and resources. It will support current members and provide a positive community for future generations of University alumni. This network will launch in 2021.

Rochester.edu/advancement/first-generation-network



Karen Chance Mercurius



Lizette Pérez-Deisboeck

Women Who Roc: Voices of Our Leaders

Some of Rochester's key women leaders offer their perspectives and advice in a discussion on leadership.

More than 200 alumni, parents, and friends Zoomed into a panel discussion this fall to hear from some of Rochester's women leaders. Organized by the Women's Network and cohosted by Rochester's 2020 Collaborative, the event featured President Sarah Mangelsdorf and a panel of deans who lead prominent units and programs at University.

Moderated by University Trustee Gail Lione '71 and Tiffany Taylor Smith '91, the cochair of the Women's Network, the conversation was one of several events held in October in what became Meliora Month, an online version of the signature University celebration Meliora Weekend.

A complete video of the conversation is available at [Rochester.edu/advancement/womens-network](https://rochester.edu/advancement/womens-network), but here's small sample of some of the conversation.

"I think Rochester has a special place in history, in the abolition movement and suffrage movement. It's a legacy that we in Rochester are proud of. But it shouldn't just be a legacy. We owe it to ourselves and the nation to continue to push forward racial and gender equity issues in our society. We, as a place of higher learning and knowledge creation, need to be part of the solution, and not part of the problem."

—**Sarah Mangelsdorf, University president**



"I saw myself as a reluctant leader. I had to ask myself, what were people seeing in my possible leadership that I wasn't seeing, and can I get out of my comfort zone? Now, that's what I use when I try to mentor younger women. I push them to think about the same questions. What is it that I'm seeing, or colleagues are seeing?"

—**Gloria Culver '94M (PhD), dean of the School of Arts & Sciences**



"My first year as dean, the Hajim School hired something like eight faculty across the school and 100 percent were male and majority race. It was an eye opener. You can't sit back and wait for it to happen. You have to go out and actively recruit. Since then, we've completely changed how we go about recruiting. Every class of faculty hires since then has been close to 50 percent women."

—**Wendi Heinzelman, dean of the Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences**



"Young alums are often hesitant to reach out to a more seasoned professional to forge a mentoring relationship. They fear they may be rejected, or they have nothing to offer, in their minds. In fact, most people who are approached to form a mentoring relationship are honored to be asked. Our alums are eager to engage with our students and eager to have a meaningful connection to the University. You're probably doing them a service to reach out. These relationships are mutually beneficial. Each will gain in this relationship."

—**Mary Ann Mavrinnac, vice provost and Andrew H. and Janet Dayton Neilly Dean of the University of Rochester Libraries**



"Some women don't know how to say no. They say yes, because that's our capital. That's how they're going to keep asking us to the table, and eventually we'll work our way up to the big table if we just keep saying yes. But say yes strategically, say yes to the right things."

—**Sarah Peyre, dean of the Warner School of Education**



"When I went to my first president's cabinet meeting, [former Warner Dean] Raffaella Borasi and I were the only two women. It was a little intimidating. [The number of women deans] have multiplied . . . but we also have a woman who is the chief financial officer, a woman who is the head of communications, and a woman who is the chief legal counsel."

—**Kathy Rideout '95W (EdD), dean of the School of Nursing**



"When do we do our best work and really get to shine? It's when someone gives you the trust, support, and direction and then lets you do your job. I don't like to micromanage. I like to advocate, trust, and support. I really want my colleagues to believe in themselves and really take charge."

—**Sevin Yeltekin, dean of the Simon Business School**



Continued from page 61
commercial litigation throughout
New York State.

1999 Joshua Boxer, a health care regulatory attorney, was named chief compliance and privacy officer at Integra Connect, a health care technology start-up. . . . **Nancy D'Angelo Kusmaul**, an assistant professor at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, writes that she was selected for the 2019-20 Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program, during which she worked with Congress and with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on issues related to quality of life and quality of care for older adults. . . . **Jean Marie Sullivan** celebrated taking command of the USS *Whidbey Island* with her fellow alumni (left to right left) **Maureen Roche** '97, **Julie Peck Swanson** '00W (MS), Jean Marie's brother, **Roger Sullivan**, Jean Marie, and **Chris Swanson** '00 (MS). Jean Marie notes that Roger (then an ensign in the Navy) commissioned her in the Welles-Brown Reading Room in January 2000.

2000 Maria Talavera Barber sends a family photo and an update: "I'm a neonatologist and recently moved from Columbus, Ohio, to Sioux Falls, South Dakota." Maria has been "married for six years to a wonderful man, Andrew Barber, from Nelsonville, Ohio." They have two children: a four-year-old daughter and a six-month-old son. . . . **Katherine McClung** has been selected by the *National Law Journal* as a 2020 Employment Law Trailblazer. Katherine is an attorney with Bond, Schoeneck & King at the Rochester office of the Syracuse-based firm.

2002 Jennifer Keating, a senior lecturer and writing-in-the-disciplines specialist at the University of Pittsburgh, is a coauthor of *AI and Humanity* (MIT Press) with her colleague Illah Reza Nourbakhsh. The book uses the tools of literary explication to examine the societal impact of AI systems while exploring the historical development of AI technologies beginning with the "apparently benign" Roomba vacuum cleaner. . . . **Yusuke Shimizu** writes, "I had the honor of being the interpreter for Pope Francis in his meetings with the Japanese Emperor and Prime Minister Abe in November 2019. It was the first papal visit in 38 years." Yusuke is the princi-

pal deputy director of the South America division for Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. . . . **LaFleur Stephens-Dougan**, an assistant professor in the Department of Politics at Princeton University, has published *Race to the Bottom: How Racial Appeals Work in American Politics* (University of Chicago Press).

2003 Thomas Marples Czarples (see '05). . . . **Magdalena Nogal Silva** writes that in October she celebrated the fifth anniversary of the opening of her Austin, Texas-based luxury fashion consignment business, Fashion Reloved.

2004 Corinne Samler Brennan, a partner at the law firm Klehr Harrison Harvey Branzburg in Philadelphia, was selected for the *Legal Intelligencer's* Lawyers on the Fast Track list as part of its 2020

Professional Excellence Awards. . . . **Michael Dunham**, an assistant professor of physics at the State University of New York at Fredonia, received the 2020 William T. and Charlotte N. Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award. The annual award recognizes an individual who has made outstanding recent achievements in research or creativity. . . . **Sarah Iler** (see '75). . . . **Jenni Smith** sends an update: she and her husband, Jonathan Derby, welcomed a second daughter, Tallulah May Derby, last August. Tallulah joins four-year-old Clementine. Also in 2019, Jenni became a partner at the Boston law firm, Sandulli Grace, which she joined in 2012. She practices primarily public sector labor law.

2005 Keil Anderson (see '06). . . . **Alexander Brody** (see '06). . . . **Anna Czaplá Czarples** and **Thomas Marples Czarples** '03

welcomed their first child, Ondrej Glennon Czarples, in August 2019. . . . **Bradley Henson** (see '06). . . . **Francis Liu** (see '06). . . . **Michael Mastromonaco** (see '06). . . . **Bijan Pajoohi** (see '06).

2006 Alec Immerman writes that he and fellow University and Alpha Delta Phi alumni "through the magic of Zoom video conferencing, had a three-hour forum chock full of some pretty groundbreaking material to discuss how to achieve world peace." Joining Alec on the conference were **Francis Liu** '05, **Bradley Henson** '05, **Michael Mastromonaco** '05, **Marc Perez**, **Alexander Brody** '05, **Bijan Pajoohi** '05, and **Keil Anderson** '05. . . . **Rebecca Kowaloff** writes, "In October 2019 my husband, John, and I welcomed our first child, Wesley. We've been enjoying parenthood ever since!"



1999 Sullivan



2000 Barber



2003 Silva



2005 Czarples



2006 Kowaloff

2007 **Bryan Bernstein** writes that he published his first book, *Computer News 2018-19: micro LED TV, 5 nano meter chips* (Self-published), in January 2020.

2008 **Ben Aronson** '15E (DMA) (see '86 Eastman).

2009 **Erica Gelb** '10 (MS) sends a photograph from her June 2019 wedding to Dan Edlow in Maryland, "with so many of my Rochester friends in attendance," she writes. Pictured are (back row) **Greg Rose**, **Will Archambault** '10 (MS), **Megan Jenkins**, **Sean Tanny**; (middle row) **Maeghan Kirsch Archambault** '10W (MS), **Kari Plewniak** '08, **Rana Pedram Kinnaman** '08, **Robin Levy Gray** '08, **Laura Giusto** '07, **Michelle Levine**, **Tara Gelb** '10, **Rex Gelb** '12, **Dan**, **Shoshana Abramowitz Bereskin** '11W (MS), **Erica**, **Katie Moll Reitz** '15M (MD), **Abby Woodward Yochim**, **Maureen Dooley Gardner** '08, **Jayne Van Schaick** '08, **Bridget Hoffman** '08, **Mimi Hong** '08; (front row) **Natalie Mroczka Leroux**, **Kristen Fitzgerald Tanny** '10W (MS), and **Rachel Cahan** '08.



2006 Immerman



2009 Gelb

2010 **David Maystrovsky** (see '12). . . **Rosemary Shojaie** has published her first picture book, *Tout Seul?* (Didier Jeunesse). An English edition has also been published by Starfish Bay Publishing under the title *The Snow Fox*. Rosemary writes, "It's really thanks to the Take 5 program that I was able to shift gears and pursue art!" She has an MA in children's book illustration from the Cambridge (UK) School of Art. . . **Alaina Tosatti** and **John (JK) Vaughn** were married in October. There was, she writes, "a large contingent of Rochester alumni at our wedding!" Pictured (page 66) with Alaina and JK are **Madeline Korber** '12, **Melissa Alwardt Othmer** '11, **Amy**

Woods '13, '19M (MPH), **Kate Agan** '12, **Lauren Latona** '11, **Michelle Ketcham Wallace** '12, **Jodie Luther Reid** '12, **Alicia Testani** '11, **Caroline Bernal-Silva** '11, **Jessica Mastronardi Dowgin** '10, **Heather Uvanni** '10, **Gretchen Bauer Giraldo** '10, and **Kristyn Wright** '13. Alumni who attended but are not in the photo include **Katherine Kolben Lerro** '09, **Daniel Shapiro** '13, **Robert Reid** '13, **Phyllis Pallett-Hehn** '86N (PhD), and **Bill Brownstein** '74.

2011 **Keegan Edwards** has published *A Store Near Me: The Online Presence That Outranks, Outshines and Outlasts the Competition*

(BookBaby). Drawing on his experience helping more than 1,500 independent retail stores over the last 10 years, Keegan provides retailers with strategies for creating an online presence. . . **David Gould** has been named the chief diversity and impact officer for Harris Blitzer Sports & Entertainment, a conglomerate that owns the Philadelphia 76ers of the NBA and the New Jersey Devils of the NHL as well as the Prudential Center in Newark, New Jersey, the home facility for the Devils and for Seton Hall University's basketball program. A former member of the Yellowjacket basketball team, David has also held community engagement and communications roles for

civic and nonprofit organizations in Philadelphia. . . . **Jerome Nathaniel** and Kelsey Bailey were married in Brooklyn in last January. Jerome writes that the wedding theme was “Spread love, it’s the Brooklyn way.” Pictured with Jerome are his former UR Hip Hop cohort: **Angad Singh** ’09, **Dave Liebers** ’09, **David Kotler**, **Derek Acheampong** ’12, **Zibran Ahmed** ’12, **Grace Hong** ’10, **Hannah Donner** ’10, **Aric Hernandez** ’12, Daniel Estrada, **Sanket Hendre**, **Philippe St. Juste** ’14, **Alykhan Alani** ’12, and **Justin Lyttleton** ’13. Sanket was Jerome’s best man, and Philippe, Alykhan, and Justin were groomsmen. . . . **Emily Tsai** (see ’11 Eastman).

2012 **Susana Gutierrez-Luke** has completed the doctor of osteopathic medicine degree at the Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine last May and is completing an emergency medicine residency at Strong Memorial Hospital. . . . **Caitlin Olfano** and **David Maystrovsky** ’10 were married in October 2019 in Rochester—“nine years after meeting at U of R through the *Campus Times*!” she writes. In attendance were (left to right) **Lindsey Novick** ’14N, **Kimberly Olfano** ’18N, **David Trotto** ’13S (MBA), **Chelsea Flint** ’12, Caitlin, David, **Lian Law** ’12, and **Kate Groenevelt** ’12. . . . **Alex Parker**, the director of marketing for the Miami Dolphins, Miami Open, and Hard Rock Stadium, was named as one of the inaugural members of “New Voices Under 30,” selected by *Street and Smith’s Sports Business Journal*. . . . **Emily Watson** and **Jonathan McLinn** ’15 (MS) were married in New York City in October 2019. Emily writes that they were thrilled to be joined at their wedding by fellow alumni. Pictured (front row) **Elaine Hernandez**, **Emily Nash**, Emily, and Jonathan; and (back row from left) **Collin Rodgers** ’17, **Alvin Aviles**, and **Michael Beckley** ’14 (MS).

2013 **Chandra Ade-Browne** (see ’18 Graduate). . . . **Alexander**



2011 Nathaniel

Sundermann writes, “I want to share that I was selected in Pittsburgh’s 30 Under 30 2020 class!” He is a clinical research coordinator and doctoral student in epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania) Graduate School of Public Health, where he earned his master of public health degree.

2014 **Joe Ricci** writes that he and his band have released their debut

album, *An & En* (Soulpod Collective). Joe lives in Copenhagen, Denmark, where, he writes, “the album was produced in a defunct crematorium, possibly informing the recordings with the stories of those that have passed through it.”

2015 **Anansa Benbow** has launched *The Black Language Podcast*, “dedicated to talking about Black people and our languages, and the beauty, rawness, and compli-

catedness of our various realities.” Anansa earned a master’s degree in applied linguistics from Columbia University’s Teachers College in 2019. While at Columbia, she pursued her interests in sociolinguistics, discourse analysis, phonetics and phonology, and psycholinguistics and was a *TedXColumbiaUniversity* speaker on the subject of Black English and its invalidation in educational settings. She’s a college and career advisor for high school



2010 Tosatti



2012 Maystrovsky-Olfano



2012 McLinn-Watson

youth in New York City. . . . **Maria (Isabella) Cazacu** writes, "I got married to **Jacob Bohannon** in August 2019 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. A bunch of our friends and classmates from UR made the trip down to make our day ever better!"

2016 Jennifer Jordan, a third-year medical student at Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine in Scranton, Pennsylvania, helped lead Meals for Medics to help others during the pandemic. Jennifer and her classmates raised money to purchase hot meals from restaurants, which they delivered to staff members working overnight shifts at a local hospital. . . . **Maya Kovach '17M** (MS) and **Adam Lott '17** were married in July 2020. Although the ceremony was small, Maya writes, her sister, **Jenny Kovach Gold '18, '19W** (MS), was in attendance, and dozens of Rochester classmates and mentors joined via Zoom. . . . **Jessica Rose** (see '65 Warner). . . . **Matthew Todd**, a second-year student in the



2015 Bohannon-Cazacu



2016 Kovach-Lott

doctor of osteopathic medicine program at Des Moines University in Iowa, received the college's 2020 Physiology and Pharmacology Discipline Award.

2017 Adam Lott (see '16 College). . . . **Amanda Van Auken** is a JD candidate at the University of Chicago Law School.

2019 Emily Kumpf has published *I'm Fine: A Student Perspective on Suicide and Mental Health on College Campuses* (New Degree Press), which she began writing during her senior year at Rochester. "The book is written from my perspective as a student at the University of Rochester and a recent college graduate working full time at McLean Hospital, a psychiatric affiliate of Harvard Medical School," she writes. "I very much used my personal experiences being a student (in an academically rigorous environment) in combination with research and primary interviews from leaders in the field of psychology." Emily is a postbaccalaureate clinical fellow in the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at McLean Hospital in Belmont, Massachusetts.

2020 Seiji Yamashita '20E (see '20 Eastman).

Graduate

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

1957 Walter Cooper (PhD) was honored at a private ceremony in October by Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, Pennsylvania, where he completed his undergraduate studies. The college dedicated the renovated former Beau Hall in honor of Walter to recognize his standing as a noted research scientist, steward of education, and advocate for civil rights. Cooper Hall occupies a prominent location on campus and is home to first-year students. Walter is recognized as the first Black student to earn a PhD in physical chemistry at Rochester. He spent 30 years at Kodak and holds three patents for his inventions. He is one of the founding members of the Rochester chapter of the National Urban League and Action for a Better Community and a New York State regent emeritus.

1966 Gary Starkweather (MS), who is credited as the inventor of the laser printer, died last

December. Beginning his career at Xerox, Gary began work on the idea at the Webster, New York, campus before transferring to the company's Palo Alto Research Center (PARC), where he perfected a prototype for the printer. According to the National Inventors Hall of Fame, which inducted Gary in 2012, Xerox's 9700 laser printer became one of the company's best-selling products and the most profitable commercial product developed at Xerox PARC.

1967 Sarah Hubler Johnston (PhD) writes, "My debut fictional novel, *Mostly on Sunday* (Covenant Books), captures the enduring relationship of two women born long before iPhones and Google replaced imagination, instinct, and tea leaf readers." The novel is set in the Allegheny Mountain and Susquehanna River regions of central Pennsylvania.

1970 Joseph Amato (PhD), a professor emeritus at Southwest Minnesota State University, has written and published a book of poetry on aging, *Towers of Aging* (Crossing Press), his fourth book of poetry. He has previously published books on European intellectual and cultural history as well as family, local, rural, and regional history and two memoirs.

1971 K. Bradley Paxton (PhD) has published a second edition of *Pictures, Pop Bottles and Pills: Kodak Electronics Technology That Made a Better World But Didn't Save the Day* (Fossil Press). The new edition follows Kodak's transformation through 2019 and includes information about projects that have been declassified since the book was first published in 2013. Bradley retired from Kodak in 1992 after a 32-year career. His company, Advanced Document Imaging, has done systems software testing for the 2020 Census.

1974 Gary Kinsland (PhD) (see '69 College).

1979 Stephen Fantone (PhD) (see '87). . . . **Burns Fisher** (MS) (see '72 College).

1987 Suzanne Schnittman (PhD) published *Provocative Mothers and Their Precocious Daughters: 19th Century Women's Rights Leaders* (Atlantic Publishing) in August. Suzanne sends memories of her studies at Rochester and her life

afterward: "I received my PhD from the U of R in 1987 in American history. I worked under the advisement of Stan Engerman. The entire department, under the chairmanship of Christopher Lasch, was very supportive of 'nontraditional' students, of which I was [one of only a] few. I went on to teach history at SUNY Oswego, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Wells College, and SUNY Brockport. I have lived in Rochester all my adult life, supported the U of R financially and emotionally, and am proud to say its training always inspired me on a nontraditional path that included jobs in nonprofits that worked for justice." About her book, she writes, "My passion for women and families intersected perfectly with my research interest in women's rights leaders. Finding the niche to present them in families rather than only from the podium gives this work a unique twist." . . . **Susan Houde-Walter** (PhD), cofounder and CEO of LMD Power of Light Corp., received the Optical Society's 2020 Stephen D. Fantone Distinguished Service Award in recognition of outstanding service to the society. An OSA fellow, she has served in several advisory and leadership roles, including 2005 president, board of directors member, and chair of the *Optics & Photonics News* editorial advisory committee. The award is named in honor of **Stephen Fantone** '79 (PhD), founder and president of Optikos and the OSA's incumbent president.

1992 Andreas Arvanitoyeorgos (PhD) writes to say that he was promoted to full professor in the Department of Mathematics at the University of Patras, Greece. . . . **Jenny Lloyd** (PhD) describes the pleasures and perils of daily expatriate life as the wife of a corporate executive and as a teacher in international schools in the 1970s in her 2019 book *Expatriation: A Corporate Wife in Italy and Mexico* (Self-published). She is an associate professor emerita in the Department of History at the College at SUNY Brockport and a former director of the women and gender studies program there.

1995 Nancy Dunham writes that her husband, **Wayne Dunham** (PhD), died suddenly in December 2019 in Alexandria, Virginia, where they lived. They met at the University, she continues, so it held a special meaning for them. Wayne was an

economist in the antitrust division of the US Department of Justice. He was a key participant in high-profile cases, including the 1998 *US v. Microsoft* case. He also served on the President's Council of Economic Advisors. He was the primary author of Chapter 10 of the 2006 Economic Report of the President, on economic issues related to intellectual property. In his free time, Wayne enjoyed studying history, specifically the American Revolution and George Washington, and space exploration. Other interests included photography, cats, politics, and music. He was a lifelong fan of the prog-rock band Jethro Tull. . . . **Kristen Kulinski** (PhD) assumed duties in May 2020 as director of the Science and Technology Policy Institute at the Institute for Defense Analyses, a nonprofit corporation that operates three federally funded research and development centers. Since 2015, Kristen has been a Senate-confirmed member of the US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, and she served as the board's interim executive authority for the last two years. . . . **Emanuel Waddell** (MS) (see '18).

1996 Edward Ashton (PhD), vice president for oncology imaging at BioTel Research, a division of BioTelemetry Inc., writes science fiction in his spare time. Warner Brothers has acquired rights to *Mickey7*, a science fiction novel by Edward that will be published in 2021. . . . **Carl Bonner** (PhD) (see '18). . . . **Jim Cain** (PhD), the author of 20 books focused on team- and community-building activities, has published his first novel, *Rise Again: The Story of the Mary Ellen Carter* (self-published). Jim writes that he came to Rochester in 1983, where he joined a folk music club and discovered the powerful songs of Canadian folk legend Stan Rogers. For the past 37 years Jim had dreamed of turning Rogers's four-minute song, "The Mary Ellen Carter" into a full-length novel. Set in the Canadian Maritimes through Nova Scotia and on to western Newfoundland, the novel, he says, "starts off at the U of R in the Hopeman Engineering Building."

1999 Jeffrey Jackson (PhD), an expert on European history and culture who teaches at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, has published *Paper Bullets: Two Artists Who Risked Their Lives to Defy the*



2018 Abdul-Rashed

Nazis (Algonquin Books). The book offers a fresh look at the World War II resistance through the lives of Lucy Schwob and Suzanne Malherbe, two gender-norm-defying artists who lived on the British Channel Island of Jersey throughout the Nazi occupation.

2000 Chris Swanson (MS) (see '99 College).

2002 Darby English (PhD), the Carl Darling Buck Professor of Art History and the director of the Scherer Center for the Study of American Culture at the University of Chicago, was selected to receive the 2020 Frank Jewett Mather Award for Art Criticism from the College Art Association for his 2019 book *To Describe a Life: Notes from the Intersection of Art and Race Terror* (Yale University Press).

2003 Mary Henold (PhD), the John R. Turbyfill Professor of History at Roanoke College in Virginia, has published *The Laywoman Project: Remaking Catholic Womanhood in the Vatican II Era* (University of North Carolina Press).

2005 Nathan Nobis (PhD), an associate professor of philosophy at Morehouse College, has coauthored with Kristina Grob, an assistant professor of philosophy at the

University of South Carolina Sumter, *Thinking Critically About Abortion: Why Most Abortions Aren't Wrong and Why All Abortions Should Be Legal* (Open Philosophy Press).

2010 Erica Gelb (MS) (see '09 College).

2011 Alexandra Mairs-Kessler (MA) contributed to the book *Prudent Rebels: Bermudians and the First Age of Revolution* (National Museum of Bermuda Press in partnership with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Government of Bermuda).

2014 Douglas Flowe (PhD), an assistant professor of history at Washington University in St. Louis, has published *Uncontrollable Blackness: African American Men and Criminality in Jim Crow New York* (University of North Carolina Press).

2015 Jonathan McLinn (MS) (see '12 College).

2016 Lloyd Munjanja (PhD) (see '18).

2017 Antonio Tinoco Valencia (MS), a PhD student in chemistry, has accepted a position as a post-doctoral fellow in the lab of Emily Balskus at Harvard University. Last

November, he was recognized with an outstanding graduate student award by the chemistry department. He is the founding president of the Rochester chapter of Alliance for Diversity in Science & Engineering.

2018 Shukree Abdul-Rashed (MS), a Rochester PhD candidate with Frontier Research Group, attended the convention of the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) with **Liz Daniele** '13W (MS), the assistant director for graduate diversity in the University's David T. Kearns Center for Leadership and Diversity. While there, they met with **Emanuel Waddell** '95 (MS), the organization's president. Pictured are (left to right) Emanuel, Shukree, **Chandra Ade-Brown** '13, a PhD candidate at Kumari Lab at the University of Cincinnati, **Lloyd Munjanja** '16 (PhD), and **Carl Bonner** '96 (PhD).

Eastman School of Music

1937 David Diamond (see '69).

1951 Alan Abel (see pages 58-59).

1952 William Pursell '53 (MM), '95 (DMA) (see pages 58-59).

1955 Thomas Hohstadt '62 (DMA) published *Film Music: A Journey of Felt Meaning* (Damah Media) in 2016 and *The Age of Virtual Reality* (Damah Media) in 2013. Both books are now available in Spanish. Thomas is a senior lecturer in the music department at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin in Odessa, Texas.

1956 Carl Leazer (MM) sends an update. His older daughter, Kristin, and her husband, Keith Uhl, presented triplet granddaughters to Carl and his wife, Beverly, in 2015. Carl adds that his granddaughters "are now ready to graduate from pre-school and on their way as very good singers. That's Poppy's opinion!"

1957 James Hughston (see pages 58-59).

1962 Thomas Hohstadt (DMA) (see '55).

1965 Riana Ricci Muller '70 (MM) writes, "I published an article titled 'Violin Recital Programming from Paganini to Today' in the August issue of the *American String Teacher* magazine. Also, my arrangement of *The Battle of Trenton*, by James Hewitt, is now available at Sheet Music Plus. The arrangement is for middle school string orchestra and percussion with added narration and optional staging."

1967 Nancy Goodman Weintraub (see '72).

1969 Vivien Goh writes, "Led by **Kang (Joshua) Tan** '01, the Eastman Camerata, a group of Eastman alumni in Singapore, gave their debut performance in February at the Esplanade Recital Studio, featuring 'Rounds for String Orchestra' by [the late] **David Diamond** '37 and **Adeline Wong** '98." Pictured (page 70) are (front row) **Edward Tan** '07; **Adeline**; **Lynette Lim** '84; **Wern Yeow (Gerard) Chia** '98, '03 (MM); **Cindy Lee Kim** '00, '11 (PhD); **Boon Hua Lien** '18 (DMA); **Brett Stemple** '90; (back row) Vivien, **Jan Wea Yeo** '94; **Han Oh** '99; and Wang Xu, "our non-ESM bass player."

1970 Geary Larrick (MM) sends an update: he wrote an article titled "Marimba Classics" that appears in the December 2019 issue of *Rhythm! Scene*, published by the Percussive Arts Society. He says his first article for the society was a history paper



1969E Goh



1972E Weintraub

he wrote while a student at Eastman in 1967 that was published a year later in the journal *Percussionist*. . .

Art Michaels has written *A Practical Guide to Becoming a Composer: A Wealth of Advice, Tips, Strategies, and Examples* (self-published). "I wrote the book mainly to help those early in their journeys as composers," writes Art. . . **Riana Ricci Muller** (MM) (see '65).

1972 Jason Weintraub (MM) writes that he has retired from the Chautauqua Symphony at the Chautauqua Institution in New York state after 48 years as English hornist. For 25 of those years he also served as the personnel and business manager. Jason founded and still conducts the Chautauqua Community Band. He and his wife, **Nancy Goodman Weintraub** '67, also have retired the "Weintraub

Duo." Since moving to Florida in 2004, the Weintraubs have performed more than 300 concerts for retirement communities and country clubs and as guest entertainers on Celebrity cruise ships. They now plan to focus on their main job of grandparenting.

1973 Ted Moore composed and arranged music for his jazz trio's new CD, *The Natural Order of Things* (Origin Records). The Ted Moore Trio features Ted on drums, pianist **Phil Markowitz** '74, and bassist Kai Eckhardt. The CD, recorded in 2019 at Skywalker Sound in California, marks 30 years of Ted and Phil's musical partnership that began in 1970 at Eastman. Ted also continues as director of the jazz department at the University of California, Berkeley.

1977 Fredrica Prior Phillips '78 (MM) has been named by the Texas Music Teachers Association to be a Music Teachers National Association Foundation Fellow in 2021. She also received the Texas association's Teacher of the Year 2020 award.

1979 Composer Michael Isaacson (PhD) has been commissioned by the Schola Cantorum of Florida and its music director, Patricia Fleitas, to create "Una Vida Cubana," a Cuban life cycle choral suite with interim dramatic monologues for soprano, tenor, alto, and bass chorus and soloists. He also has completed a new musical, *Two Hans Please!*, based on two Hans Christian Andersen stories: "The Emperor's New Clothes" and

"The Ugly Duckling." Michael wrote both the lyrics and the music.

1980 David Finck (see '85). . . **Walt Weiskopf** (see '85).

1981 Dan Locklair (DMA) was commissioned in 2019 by the Chapel of the Cross in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, to compose pieces in memory of Dale Volberg Reed. *Chapel Hill Service* premiered in February 2020.

1984 Darrell Grant was commissioned by Portland, Oregon's experimental music organization Third Angle New Music to compose *Sanctuaries*, a site-specific chamber jazz opera. Darrell, an associate professor of music at Portland State University, writes, "Over the past four years, I've had the chance to immerse myself in the backstory of gentrification in Portland and beyond. . . . The paths of discovery that *Sanctuaries* has led me down are so numerous it's hard to list them—cultural history, urban planning, critical race theory, redlining, urban renewal, community development, housing policy, restrictive covenants, genealogy, collaboration, grant writing, the history of the Black Panthers, composition, orchestration, notation, vernacular expression, slam poetry, exclusion laws, community organizing, storytelling, and identity are among them." Blending elements of jazz, spoken word, and devised theater, *Sanctuaries* bears out the experience of displaced residents of color

in Portland's historically black Albina district. . . **Lynette Lim** (see '69).

1985 Trombonist John Fedchock (MM) has released his 10th album as an ensemble leader. *Into the Shadows* (Summit Records) features the John Fedchock NY Sextet, which includes tenor saxophonist **Walt Weiskopf** '80 and bassist **David Finck** '80. . . **Maria Schneider** (MM) was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences last April.

1986 Lisa Albrecht, the second trombonist with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, has released *Sound & Resound* (Barkeater Music), featuring solo and ensemble works for trombone and organ. She is joined on the recording by organist **Amanda Mole** '09 and fellow members of the Hohenfels Trombone Quartet **Heather Buchman** '87, **Ben Aronson** '08, '15 (DMA), and **Matthew Halbert** '12 (MM). . . **Terry Rhodes** (DMA) has been named dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Before being named interim dean in 2019, she served for seven years as senior associate dean for fine arts and humanities in the college. She joined the faculty in 1987.

1987 Gregg August, a bassist, composer, arranger, and educator, has released a new recording, *Dialogues on Race* (Iacuesa Records), which explores the issue of race relations through instrumentals and vocal pieces inspired by the works of poets Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou, and others. Live performances of some tracks can be found on YouTube. . . **Heather Buchman** (see '86).

1989 Mike Goldberg (see '91).

1990 Linda Neuberger Chatterton released her seventh CD, *Songs and Dances for Solo Flute* (Proper Canary), featuring works for solo flute spanning four centuries by Marin Marais, CPE Bach, Yuko Uebayashi, Arthur Honegger, and Eugène Bozza and including the recording premieres of works by Yip Ho, Kwen Austin, and Cristóbal Halffter. . . **Brett Stemple** (see '69).

1991 Thomas Lanners (DMA), a professor of piano at Oklahoma State University, sends an update. He was selected to serve as an adjudica-



1991E Lanners

tor for the #StayHome International Piano Competition, an online event in June. The international panel included Andrei Pisarev, chair of the Moscow Conservatory piano faculty. Thomas was also selected to judge this year's Shanghai International Young Artist Piano Competition, having judged the Music Teachers National Association Southern Division competitions last December. In the past few months, Thomas presented the monthly MTNA webinar session to the organization's membership of 25,000; participated in a panel discussion as part of the first MTNA virtual conference; and presented sessions at both the Shanghai Conservatory International Piano Pedagogy Conference and the Shanghai Music Teachers Association Piano Pedagogy Conference, also teaching master classes at both events. Thomas is pictured at the Shanghai Conservatory in October 2019. *Canadian Music Teacher* published his feature article in September 2019. . . . **Paul Merkelo**, the principal trumpet with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra for the past 25 years and an active soloist, has released a new CD, *The Enlightened Trumpet* (Sony Classical). He is joined on the album by the UK's Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra and its founder and music director Marios Papadopoulos. Paul was interviewed in February on the Richmond, Virginia, public radio station VPM Music by **Mike Goldberg** '89, a classical music host at the station. . . . **Robin Kornblith Sneider** (see '91 College).

1993 Kelly Hall-Tompkins was selected by New York City classical radio station WQXR as one of the "20 For 20": Artists to Watch for the Upcoming Year for 2020. She joined fellow musicians cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason and violinist Elena Urioste and others. She also was scheduled to make her debut as soloist with the Baltimore

Symphony in two concerts and her nonprofit Music Kitchen—Food for the Soul, an organization she founded to bring top artists in concert to homeless shelters, was scheduled to give the world premiere of a project the organization commissioned, *Forgotten Voices*, in association with Carnegie Hall. . . . **David Klement** (MM) writes that after completing his doctorate in May 2018 at the University of Northern Colorado, he has begun a tenure-track position as an assistant professor of choral studies at the University of Idaho's Lionel Hampton School of Music, where he directs choirs, teaches choral and instrumental conducting and secondary choral methods, and actively composes choral works for local and national choirs.

1994 Carter Pann (see '97). . . . **Jan Wea Yeo** (see '69).

1995 Composer **Robert Paterson** and the American Modern Ensemble premiered his new work, *The Four Seasons* (American Modern Recordings), at Carnegie's Weill Hall in April. The performance celebrated Robert's 50th birthday as well as the release of *The Four Seasons* CD, which was available for the first time at the performance.

1996 Kurt Fowler (DMA) (see '97).

1997 Jennifer Blyth (DMA) (see '97). . . . **Jennie Oh Brown** (DMA) is featured on two commercially released albums with Innova Recordings. Her solo album, *Giantess*, features works by **Carter Pann** '94. **Kate Carter** '05 (MM) also performs. Jennie is also featured on the album *Vox* as a member of the Heare Ensemble with **Kurt Fowler** '96 (DMA) and **Jennifer Blyth** '97 (DMA) performing music by George Crumb, Narong Prangcharoen, Stacy Garrop, and Carter Pann.

1998 Wern Yeow (Gerard) Chia '03 (MM) (see '69). . . . **Adeline Wong** (see '69).

1999 Jonathan Bumpus (MM) (see '20). . . . **Han Oh** (see '69).

2000 Cindy Lee Kim '11 (PhD) (see '69).

2001 Kang (Joshua) Tan (see '69).

2003 Wern Yeow (Gerard) Chia (MM) (see '69).

2004 Composer and bassist **Dan Loomis** (MM) released a new album in February, *Job's Trials: A Jazz Song Cycle* (Self-released), based on the biblical Book of Job. Along with Dan on bass, the performers are singers Song Yi Jeon and Yoon Sun Choi, guitarist Jeff Miles, drummer Jared Schonig, and actor Daniel Breaker as narrator. In addition to performing and recording with his own bands, Dan is also an active sideman based in New York City and has performed in all of New York's major clubs and at Jazz at Lincoln Center in addition to appearing on stages across Europe, Canada, Australia, China, and throughout the United States.

2005 Kathleen (Kate) Carter (MM) (see '97).

2006 J. (JG) Miller performed on a recording of "The Star-Spangled Banner" with the French horn section of the US Army Field Band, which was included as one of three songs in the NASA astronauts' playlist for their ride to Kennedy Space Center's Launch Complex last May to board SpaceX's spacecraft for the first manned space launch from the US since 2011.

2007 Mike Cottone has released his second CD, *Thank You* (self-produced). . . . **Olukola (Kola) Owolabi** (DMA) joined Notre Dame's Department of Music and Sacred Music faculty in fall 2020 as a professor of music and head of the graduate organ studio. Kola previously taught courses in organ performance, improvisation, and sacred music at the University of Michigan, and before that he taught at Syracuse University. . . . **Edward Tan** (see '69). . . . **Christopher Thibdeau** has been named artistic director of Boston's Project Step, a string training education program for talented young musicians from communities that are historically underrepresented in classical music.

2008 Ben Aronson '15 (DMA) (see '86).

2009 Nick Finzer has released *Cast of Characters* (Outside in Music), his third recording. The nine-track CD is on his own record label. Nick's compositions are brought to life by his Hear & Now sextet. . . . **Amanda Mole** (see '86).

2010 Gregory Millar (DMA) writes that he made his acting debut in

the film *In the Shadow of the Moon*, released in 2019 and streaming on Netflix. He appears during the opening sequence of the film as a concert pianist whose recital takes a horrifying turn. The scene features Gregory's actual performance of a solo piece by Jeff Grace. The film was shot in Toronto, where Gregory lives with his wife and fellow Eastman graduate **Lisa Raposa** (DMA). . . . **Kara LaMoure** (see '11). . . . **Matt Podd** (MM), a pianist, composer, arranger, and music director based in Brooklyn, organized a performance of a virtual chorus performing "How Can I Keep from Singing" with a new arrangement and orchestration as a way to bring an uplifting message during the last spring's pandemic shutdown. Matt writes on his website that he and his brother Adam "ended up with over 100 singers in the choir and 35 musicians in the orchestra, all longing to make something together, even if the process was in isolation." . . . **André Washington** has been appointed to the board of the Illinois Arts Council agency by the governor of Illinois. The council is charged with developing the state's public arts policy, fostering culturally diverse programs, and approving grant expenditures to artists and arts organizations throughout the state. André is an associate in the Global Finance group at the law firm Sidley Austin and a board member of SkyART, a nonprofit that provides free visual arts programming to underprivileged children on the south side of Chicago.

2011 Cindy Lee Kim (PhD) (see '69). . . . As members of the wind quintet Windsync, **Emily Tsai**, **Kara LaMoure** '10, and **Julian Hernandez** were guests of the Eastman School's Dr. James E. Clark Chamber Music Residency for 2019–20. The quintet gave a public performance and a public master class and presented workshops and private coaching sessions for Eastman students during a three-day campus visit last March.

2012 Matthew Halbert (MM) (see '86). . . . **Dongryul Lee** was named a 2020–21 postdoctoral researcher for the Chicago Center for Contemporary Composition at the University of Chicago beginning this fall. He received his DMA in music composition from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign earlier in 2020. Dongryul will develop

new works for the center's resident Grossman Ensemble and guest artists, and he will teach an undergraduate course, provide music lessons, and participate in the center's workshops and events.

2015 Ben Aronson (DMA) (see '86).

2016 Arda Cabaoglu (DMA) completed a long-duration performance art project, *Forced Misophonia: BLAST BLOW PULSE*, in which he improvised for eight hours a day. The project took place in Istanbul. The four-and-a-half-week performance was recorded, with a clip available at [instagram.com/p/B9hF4prgg9T/](https://www.instagram.com/p/B9hF4prgg9T/). . . . Mezzo-soprano **Margaret (Sun-Ly) Pierce** won first place in the Houston Grand Opera's 32nd annual Eleanor McCollum Competition for Young Singers Concert of Arias. More than 650 singers from around the world applied to the competition. The concert was the final event in a months-long process of selecting winners. Sun-Ly completed the graduate vocal arts program at the Bard College Conservatory of Music.

2017 Peter Folliard (DMA) has been named the inaugural dean of the School of Music at Augustana University in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Peter has been the conductor of the Augustana Orchestra since 2017 and was instrumental in establishing the university's recording studio. Before joining Augustana, he served as interim director of orchestras at the Crane School of Music at the State University of New York at Potsdam. . . . **Stephen Morris** '20 (MM) (see '20).

2018 Mitchell Hutchings (DMA) is a tenure-track assistant professor of music at Florida Atlantic University. Last February 2020, an alumna of his voice studio competed in the semifinals of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. In June, CSMusic.net (*Classical Singer* online) published a double interview with Mitchell and one of his voice students, who credits Mitchell with saving his life after Mitchell observed early warning signs of thyroid cancer. . . . **Boon Hua Lien** (DMA) (see '69).

2020 Denin Koch (MM) wrote the song "b reactor" after a 2016 visit to the Hanford Site in Washington, home to the first full-scale plu-

tonium production reactor in the world and near his hometown of Richland. Plutonium manufactured at the site was used in Trinity, the first nuclear explosion, and in Fat Man, the bomb that was detonated over Nagasaki, Japan. In an interview with Northwest Public Broadcasting, Denin says that one of his Eastman professors encouraged him to arrange "b reactor" for a big band. Doing so inspired him to write *re: manhattan project*, a 10-movement song cycle for jazz quintet. The quintet, beta particle, that Denin brought together for the project consists of **Jonathan Bumpus** '99 (MM) on trombone, pianist **Seiji Yamashita**, bassist **Robert MacPartland** (MM), and drummer **Stephen Morris** '17 (MM), as well as James Marshall, a current graduate student at Eastman, who plays viola on the final track. The CD was released on August 6, 2020, 75 years after the Little Boy bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Denin is beginning a doctorate in jazz studies at the University of Northern Colorado this fall.

School of Medicine and Dentistry

1940 Gilbert Forbes (MD) (see '62 College).

1962 Geoffrey Sperber D (MS) writes, "The University of Alberta School of Dentistry established the Geoffrey H. Sperber Annual Lectureship, which Tracy Popowics [associate professor of oral health sciences at the University of Washington School of Dentistry] delivered in June 2019. I was awarded the 2019 Distinguished Service Award by the Society for Craniofacial Genetics and Developmental Biology at its annual meeting in Houston, Texas, in October." He's a professor emeritus of medicine and dentistry at the University of Alberta.

1971 David Green (MD) (see '67 College). . . . **James MacGregor** (PhD), a consultant for major international companies and government and nonprofit organizations on product safety issues, has written *A Natural Mistake: Why Natural, Organic, and Botanical Products Are Not as Safe as You Think* (Self-published). In the book, he advises consumers about dietary and phar-

maceutical choices, and he appeals to regulators to provide more uniform safety standards for dietary constituents, pharmaceuticals, and botanical supplements. Jim also received the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award this year from *Marquis Who's Who*.

1972 Arthur Schlosser (MD) sends an update: "I was a Southern California Kaiser Permanente pediatrician for over 30 years before retiring from medicine in 2012. I've also been a songwriter since 1971, a year before graduating from medical school. For years I've been performing under the stage name Dean Dobbins. My band, the Dean Dobbins Band, was voted California Country Music Association Band of the Year in 1990, and I won CCMA awards for Songwriter of the Year and Male Vocalist of the Year. In recent years, I've been performing solo in retirement communities and wineries, playing both keyboard and guitar." Since late March, Arthur writes, his performances have been canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions, but he can be found (as Dean Dobbins) performing the song "Together," which he calls his "COVID-19 pandemic song," on YouTube.

1974 John Vanek (MD) writes: "I've retired from medicine and am pursuing a second career as a mystery author. The third book in my Father Jake Austin Mystery Series, *Absolution* (Coffeetown Press), was recently released worldwide in paperback and ebook. The first two books in the series, *DEROS* and *Miracles*, are also available in large-print hardbound editions (Thorndike Press). Father Jake Austin is a 21st-century *Father Brown* with hints of PBS's *Grantchester*. I hope you'll pick up a copy and support me on my crazy new journey."

1982 Mark Adams (MD), '84M (Res), '93S (MBA), a professor of clinical imaging sciences at the Medical Center, has been elected treasurer of the Medical Society of the State of New York. An active member in several radiological societies, Mark has served on the Council Steering Committee of the American College of Radiology, as president of the New York State Radiological Society, and as president of the Rochester Roentgen Ray Society.

1991 David Morris (MD) (see '87 College).

2003 Erika Fullwood Augustine (MD), '14 (MS) has been named the inaugural associate chief science officer and director of the Clinical Trials Unit at the Kennedy Krieger Institute, a nonprofit organization located in Baltimore. Erika will serve as one of the senior-most leaders in developing research strategy and overseeing research operations. She will work closely with the institute's Office of Human Research Administration to provide clinical research oversight and regulatory compliance and also will be the primary liaison with the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine's Institute for Clinical and Translational Research.

2004 John Mamoun D (Pdc) published *Nine Men's Morris Book of Board Game Strategy* (Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing). The book presents a comprehensive overview of the strategies of the game—a board game that has been played for more than 2,000 years—verified using modern computer analysis.

2014 Erika Fullwood Augustine (MS), '03 (MD) (see '03).

2017 Maya Kovach (MS) (see '16 College).

School of Nursing

1966 Raleigh (Jane) Hess Klein's son Jonathan writes that his mother died in July 2020. "Throughout our lives, she was deeply grateful for her undergraduate experiences with Rochester friends and faculty in the mid 1960s."

1979 Susan Wilson, Jayne Freedman Quinn, Eliza Bates, and Susan Harrington (see '80).

1980 Chris Coburn sends a photo from a recent mini reunion with fellow nursing graduates (with the exception of **Jean Merenda Conway** '79 College) and varsity athletes from the classes of 1979 and 1980. She writes, "We've been getting together every two years and sometimes in between for the past 10 years. Missing this year is **Susan Harrington** '79. We met up in Rehoboth, Delaware." Pictured are (front row) **Susan Wilson** '79, Jean, Chris, and **Jayne Freedman Quinn** '79; (back row) **Eliza Bates** '79 and **Suzanne White Villarini**.

1982 Kathy Cusack Cogen (see '77 College).

1984 Susan Lansbury sends a photo of herself with **Cynthia Brown** and writes, "We went to high school and college together and really had an awesome time at our 35th UR reunion. This was taken on the Kohala Coast of the Big Island of Hawaii in January. We both needed some relaxation."

Simon Business School

1974 Len Joy (MBA) (see '73 College).

1984 Jesse Grissom (MBA) became the first African American to serve as president of operations in the Americas for Kao USA, the US-based subsidiary of Japan's Kao Corporation, when he was

appointed to the position this year. He has been at Kao USA for 16 years, having previously worked as regional executive officer and vice president for finance and as corporate controller.

1993 Mark Adams (MBA) (see '82 Medicine).

1998 Jeffrey Tyburski (MBA) (see '87 College).

2001 Diana Zinnecker Nole (MBA) joined Nuance Communications as executive vice president and general manager of the company's health care business in June. She will be based in the Burlington, Massachusetts, headquarters. She most recently served as chief executive officer of the Wolters Kluwer Health division.

2004 Andrew Adachi (MBA) (see '95 College).



1980N Coburn



1984N Lansbury

Warner School of Education

1965 Patricia Wager Wheeler (EdM) (see '62 College).

1970 Richard Kellogg (EdD), a professor emeritus of psychology at Alfred State College, has written the seventh installment of his mystery series for young readers featuring boy detective Barry Baskerville. *Barry Baskerville's Christmas Mystery* (Airship 27) was published in September. In this story, young Barry must use all his skills of observation and deduction to identify who is stealing Christmas trees from Watsonville's lawns.

1973 Joseph Citro (EdD) (see '62 College).

1989 Theresa Canada (EdD) (see '76 College).

1992 Ray Grosshans (PhD) was elected to a two-year term on the board of directors of the Artist Blacksmith's Association of North America. Founded more than 45 years ago, the association focuses on preserving the blacksmithing legacy and on educating future blacksmiths.

1993 Lesli Meyers-Small (MS) (see '92 College).

1994 Kate Smith (MS), the interim president of Rio Salado College in Tempe, Arizona, was one of 40 leaders selected for the 2020-21 class of the Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship, a leadership program for community college presidents delivered by the Aspen Institute. Kate moved to Arizona in 2016 to serve as Rio Salado's vice president of academic affairs and chief academic officer and has served as interim president since 2018. Before her tenure at Rio Salado, she served Monroe Community College in Rochester for 21 years, first as an instructor, then as a full professor, and later as the dean of the academic foundations division.

2000 Julie Peck Swanson (MS) (see '99 College).

2008 Pietro Sasso (MS), an assistant professor and a program director at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and Mónica Miranda,

the director of the Center for Student Involvement at the University of South Florida in Tampa and a Warner School PhD candidate, along with J. Patrick Biddix, a professor of higher education and an associate director at the University of Tennessee, have edited two textbooks: *Supporting Fraternities and Sororities in the Contemporary Era* and *Foundations, Research, and Assessment of Fraternities and Sororities*. Both texts were published by Myers Education Press and released in January 2020 as part of a new book series, *Culture and Society in Higher Education*, which analyzes the role of higher education as an incubator, transmitter, and transformer of culture.

2013 Liz Daniele (MS) (see '18 Graduate).

2017 Lori Birrell (EdD), the associate dean for Special Collections at the University of Arkansas, has published *Developing the Next Generation of Library Leaders* (Association of College and Research Libraries), with a foreword by Mary Ann Mavrinac, vice provost and Andrew H. and Janet Dayton Neilly Dean of the University of Rochester Libraries. Through the stories of 22 assistant and associate deans, Lori examines how the library profession can systematically cultivate leadership skill development in new leaders and help prepare them for the challenges of the changing academic library.

2018 AnneMarie Cucci (EdD), a former assistant director of alumni relations at Rochester, sends a photo (page 74) from her wedding with Luke Haumesser in November 2019 in Buffalo. She writes that classmates and people she was close to during her years on the job posed with her, including **Brian Magee** '09, '19 (EdD), associate director of Wilson Commons Student Activities; **Jennifer Linton** '98, executive director of Alumni Relations; **Alvin Lomibao** '09, '13 (MS), assistant director for undergraduate programs in the Hajim School; **Lauren Bradley White** '11 (MS), director of student and young alumni engagement; **Jason Rice** '02, '03S (MBA); **Jeremy Hairfield-Schmidt** '14 (MS); Tyler Bauer, former assistant director of Alumni Relations; **John DiSarro** '09 (MS), director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs; Dan Warren, assistant director in Advancement;



1992W Grosshans

Ben Nissan '14 (MS), former resident director; Heather Maclin, former assistant director of Student Activities; Kayla Virts, former CARE staff member; Stacy Mohr, program assistant in Alumni Relations; **Michaela Salvo** '17M (MD); Michael Dedes, former assistant director of Wilson Commons Student Activities; **Kimberly Harvey** '16 (EdD); Danielle Warren, assistant director in Advancement; **Alyssa Bell Burtchin** '15 (MS), Bianca DeJesus, former assistant director for Residential Life (Eastman); **Lacey Fox-Smith**, '13N (MS); **Lisa Bonnländer Cardamone** '19N; **Cristin Monahan** '11, former assistant director of alumni relations; **Niece Gonzalez** '14 (MS); **Angela Cucci Rice** '03; and Kathleen Brucato, a PhD student at the

Warner School. AnneMarie is the associate vice president for philanthropy and engagement at D'Youville College in Buffalo.

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

John G. Cioffi '40, '48W (Mas), April 2020
Pauline Parks '40, January 2020
Marjorie Countryman Shimp-Middleton '41E, May 2020
Ernest D. Courant '43 (PhD), April 2020
Doriot Anthony Dwyer '43E, March 2020
Naomi Kruger Kennedy '43, August 2020



2018W Cucci

Gloria Licastro '43, May 2020
Virginia Tousley Nordbeck '43E, March 2020
Caroline Pierce Paddock '43, July 2020
Jane Boswell Quin '43, February 2020
Joseph M. Bonafede '44, August 2020
Jerome J. Gillette '44, May 2020
Rose Marie Sapienza Mead '44, '51W (Mas), April 2020
Lillian Kircher Neill '44, '49W (EdM), February 2020
Harriet Shulman '44N (Dpl), February 2020
Jane Curtiss Watkin '44, '45N, May 2020
Virginia Nicholson Dent '45E (MM), April 2020
Susan Cooper Eddy '45, April 2020
Katherine Dryer Fitzpatrick '45E, July 2020
Thelma Smith Ludwig '45, '46N, January 2020
Sally Ingalls Rohrdanz '45, May 2020
Henry A. Thiede '45, '56M (Res), January 2020
Evelyn McNutt Tuck '45, August 2020
Alicia Parker Anderson '46N, August 2020
Charles R. Bigelow '46, January 2020
Caroline Blackwell Gale '46N, August 2020
Mary Nixon Greenlees '46, '48 (MA), December 2019
Jean Thompson Harris '46, March 2020
Barbara Connally Kaplan '46E (MA), August 2019
Janice Wignall Mitchell '46E, March 2020

Marcia Glazer Shapiro '46, January 2020
Lois Schramm Siegmund '46, '48 (MS), February 2020
Rezsín Benjamin Adams '47, August 2020
Stanley H. Bloom '47, June 2020
Gorman L.D. Burnett '47, January 2020
Michael J. Esposito '47, May 2020
Annelise Mischler Kraemer '47, January 2020
Milton L. Ray '47, July 2020
Catherine Lindsay Ward '47E, January 2020
Ann Field Bell '48E, February 2020
Henry C. Campbell '48E, '49E (MM), March 2020
Alice Nemetz Castner '48, April 2020
Gloria Oskola Cohen '48, March 2020
Elizabeth Sullivan Ehling '48, January 2020
Evelyn Hessler '48, April 2020
Wilburetta McDonald Wilder '48N, January 2020
Barbara Peters Winn '48, January 2020
Patricia Smith Bing '49, January 2020
Harvey Biskin '49E, '50E (MM), June 2020
Ralph J. Brown '49, April 2020
Arthur M. Campbell '49E (MM), '59E (PhD), June 2020
Roy H. Johnson '49E, '51E (MM), '61E (DMA), January 2020
Elinor Stone Kritzman '49, March 2020
Catherine Cowles McKenzie '49, May 2020
Ian S. McLuckie '49E, '50E (MM), June 2018

Angela Bonomo Nassar '49E, August 2020
Charles F. Roberts '49E, March 2020
Robert M. Speer '49, '56 (MA), January 2020
Jean Schreiner Toothman '49, April 2018
Richard C. Barker '50, May 2020
E. Katherine Crews '50E (MA), July 2020
Mary Shenk Dodd '50E, '53E (MM), August 2020
Neil J. Elgee '50M (MD), March 2020
Gisela Cloos Evitt '50, June 2020
Frank T. Giangioffe '50, March 2020
Dwight J. Hotchkiss '50, August 2020
Clement W. Knight '50, January 2020
Harold E. Leonard '50, January 2020
Arthur B. Ryan '50, May 2020
Emily Diyulio Scinto '50, September 2018
Marilyn Morrow Shaw '50, '51N, June 2020
Elizabeth Weterings Smith '50N, January 2020
Charles H. Wadhams '50, May 2020
Alice Davis Zloth '50, January 2020
Alan D. Abel '51E, April 2020
Allan J. Braff '51, July 2020
Robert W. Carpenter '51, May 2020
Avadna Seward Coghill '51, March 2020
Jenny Ziemer Corris '51E, January 2020
Morris S. Dixon '51M (MD), May 2020
Doris Hedges Gallemore '51E (MA), August 2020
Ralph J. Goulds '51, April 2020
Peter E. Graf '51, December 2019
Forrest K. Huntington '51, '55M (MD), April 2020
Dorothy Nothhard Leidig '51, March 2020
James E. Longfield '51 (PhD), July 2020
Gilbert D. Malerk '51, January 2020
Lucia Cottone Talley '51, '69W (MA), June 2020
Deborah Weilerstein '51, July 2020
Warren H. Woerner '51, February 2020
Ralph W. Barber '52W (Mas), '68W (EDD), March 2020
Alan M. Bloomfield '52, April 2020
Joan Klein Brauer '52, August 2020
Arnold K. Brenman '52, April 2020
Dolores Machi Campbell '52, April 2020
Mary Lou Tickner Culley '52, '56W (Mas), April 2020

Jay M. Donovan '52, November 2019
Hans M. Grainer '53, August 2020
Dorothy Pugsley Grandolfi '52, January 2020
Gayle Lockhart Harder '52 (MA), May 2019
Elizabeth Arink Kavelman '52E, February 2020
Marilyn McElwee '52N (Dpl), March 2020
Edward T. Peterson '52, April 2020
Barbara Rice Pulsifer '52, May 2020
Beatrice Meiowitz Shriver '52 (PhD), January 2020
Vincent A. Tacci '52, March 2020
Michael A. Telesca '52, March 2020
Donald J. Bardell '53, June 2020
Ann Sheppard Benedict '53N, July 2020
J. Neil Boger '53M (MD), '58M (Res), May 2020
Lorrie Bright '53 (MA), April 2020
Neil T. Bunker '53E, June 2020
Shirley Winfield Doolittle '53, '54N, February 2020
Warren F. Downs '53E (MM), February 2020
Shirley Goebel Fien '53, March 2020
Natalie Russell Findlay '53, March 2020
Nancy Godshall '53N (Dpl), March 2020
William J. Linn '53 (PhD), March 2020
Sheila Alber Muller-Girard '53, April 2020
Philip H. Smith '53M (MS), May 2020
Patricia Crowley Trimble '53, '54N, April 2020
Robert A. Watson '53M (MD), June 2020
Franklin F. Butler '54E, '59E (MM), July 2020
Charlotte Bloom Cohen '54, February 2020
Thomas A. Detro '54, March 2020
William F. Deverell '54, June 2020
James A. Duane '54E, April 2020
Diantha Chesnutt Granger '54, '55N, May 2020
Victor Laties '54 (PhD), February 2020
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Bruce R. McAvoy '54, May 2020
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David A. Ohlwiler '54M (MD), January 2020
Harriet Word Peters '54, July 2019
Robert E. Resseger '54E, '56E (MM), May 2020
Charles M. Rowland '54, May 2020

Stanley Willner '54M (MD), May 2020
Catherine McFadden-Dunning Young '54E, '60E (MM), June 2020
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Joan Brainard Bacon '55N, April 2020
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Ralph E. DeFrank '55, April 2020
Samuel J. Fricano '55E, July 2020
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Kazmera Cole Schenk '55E, November 2019
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William J. Scouler '55, February 2020
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Bruce Derbyshire '56M (Res), July 2020
David Eisenberg '56M (Res), May 2020
Robert Smythe Fraser '56, '58 (MA), April 2020
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Mary Daniel Meahl '56E, '62E (MM), July 2020
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Samuel Santandrea '56, May 2020
James J. Schultheis '56M (MS), April 2020
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James M. Stormont '56M (Res), March 2020
Joseph A. Zawistowski '56E, January 2020
Janet Edwards '57, January 2020
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Jack M. Jarrett '57E (MA), August 2020
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Roberta Meyers Rosen '57, January 2020
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Betty Jane Cleveland Bantle '58 (MA), January 2020
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Jane Hoose Bentsen '58 (MS), February 2020
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Sylvia Weber Masucci '58, April 2020
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Don L. Ridgeway '58 (PhD), February 2020
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Claire Velin Stukas '58 (MS), February 2020
Eloise Crump Terho '58, '61 (MA), July 2020
Elaine Hollander Benedict '59, February 2020
Thomas E. Dorman '59, January 2020
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Marvin S. Shepard '59 (PhD), May 2020
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TRIBUTES

Remembering Community Members

In each issue of the magazine, we regularly note the deaths of members of the University community by sharing stories of the extraordinary influence they had on the lives of their classmates, friends, and communities. With this issue, the first since February, we highlight a remarkable group of Rochester people whom we have lost in the last year. For more about the lives they led, visit Rochester.edu/pr/Review/tributes.

—Scott Hauser, editor

Doriot Anthony Dwyer '43E: Barrier-breaking Flutist

As the great niece of suffragist Susan B. Anthony, it's fitting that Dwyer also would break down gender barriers. In 1952, she became principal flutist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, a position she would hold for four decades.

Dwyer, who died in March, was only the second woman to hold a principal chair in a major American orchestra. Dwyer retired from the Boston Symphony Orchestra in 1990. A 1992 *Symphony* magazine highlighted her among 50 who made a difference in the past century.



Richard Fenno Jr.: 'Soaking and Poking' in Politics

A professor in the University's political science department for nearly 50 years, Fenno is best known for breaking new ground as a scholar of Congress and the legislative process. In the course of 19 books, he provided a previously unseen view of the House of Representatives and Senate, as well as close-up looks at individual lawmakers and politicians.

Fenno, who died in April, called his research strategy "soaking and poking"—soaking up information and poking into details. He did this by visiting his subjects not just in Washington, DC, but also in their home districts. In an effort to get his students close to the action, in 1968 he created the Washington Semester, allowing Rochester students to work in the political spheres of the nation's capital while earning credit. He joined the Rochester faculty in 1957 and remained until his retirement in 2003.



David Flaum: Builder of Philanthropy

Real estate developer. Philanthropist. University trustee. Presidential appointee. Those were some of the hats worn by Flaum, who died in August.

The New Jersey native founded Flaum Management Company in 1986, focusing on the development of retail shopping centers, office buildings, call centers, and high-technology facilities. Flaum joined the University's Board of Trustees in 2007 and became a life



trustee in 2017. In 2006, the Flaums established an endowed fund to support the University's Eye Institute—renamed the David and Ilene Flaum Eye Institute in 2009.

The son of Holocaust survivors, Flaum received three presidential appointments: two by George W. Bush as a member of the Holocaust Memorial Museum Council and one by Donald Trump as member of the governing body of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Flaum also served as national chairman of the Republican Jewish Coalition.

Irwin Frank '50, '54M (MD): Influential Urologist

From his faculty and administrative positions at the School of Medicine and Dentistry, Frank earned national recognition as a practicing urologist, pioneering researcher, and educational leader. He died in October.

Considered one of the most influential urologists in the last half-century, he was a president of the American Urological Association, a founding member and past president of the New York State Urological Society, and a past president of the Northeastern Section of the national association. After serving in the Navy, he earned his bachelor's and medical degrees from Rochester. He made his academic and medical home at the University, serving for six decades in senior positions in the medical school, Strong Memorial Hospital, and the Medical Center.



Harriet Kitzman '61W (MS), '84N (PhD): Pioneering Nurse and Educator

As a young pediatric nurse, Kitzman was struck by the disparities she encountered with socioeconomically disadvantaged mothers and their children.

Kitzman, who died in March, became an early leader in the development of the nurse practitioner's role, and her lifetime of work in pediatrics reshaped how health care is provided to young mothers and their children. She developed, designed, and implemented a nurse-home visitation program that became the basis for the Nurse-Family Partnership, which sends specially trained nurses to regularly visit first-time moms-to-be and follows them from early pregnancy through the child's second birthday. Joining the University in 1967, Kitzman spent most of her 60-plus year career at the School of Nursing.



Masatoshi Koshiba '55 (PhD): Nobelist Known for Neutrinos

Koshiba helped solve one of the great mysteries of 20th-century physics: detecting and measuring neutrinos, subatomic particles that are a byproduct of interstellar nuclear reactors such as the sun.

Among the most abundant particles in the universe, neutrinos are sometimes referred to as “ghost particles” because, compared to other known subatomic particles, neutrinos rarely interact with atoms.

Koshiba, who died in November, shared the 2002 Nobel Prize in Physics for leading an effort to build an apparatus to detect neutrinos. Located in an abandoned mine in Japan, the observatory detected neutrinos from a supernova explosion in 1987 and a year later observed neutrinos from the sun. That facility, Kamiokande detector, was later superseded by other observatories in Japan that determined neutrinos have mass.

In addition to his many international honors, Koshiba received a Distinguished Scholar Medal from the University in 2000.



Jacqueline Levine '80, '84 (MA): Getting Students 'Out into the World'

As founding director of the College's Center for Study Abroad from 1983 to 2015, Levine helped build a program that sent thousands of students around the world for educational experiences that stretched beyond the classroom.

Levine, who died in May, also served as assistant dean and director of special projects from 2016 to 2020, working to enhance study abroad and other experiential opportunities for students in collaboration with alumni. In 2016, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Institute for the International Education of Students.

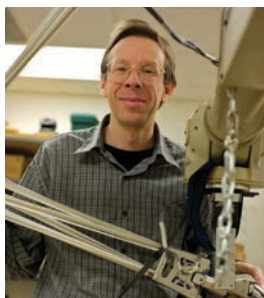


Randal Nelson: Robotics Mentor

Nelson was a man of many interests—woodworking, photography, reading science fiction, and playing the keyboard. But nothing stirred his passions more than his students at the University, where he taught computer science for 32 years.

Nelson earned degrees in physics and mathematics at the University of Wyoming, then switched to computer science and completed his PhD at the University of Maryland in 1988. He joined the Rochester faculty that same year and was an associate professor at the time of his death in April.

Nelson's research interests included machine vision and robotics. He led the UR Robotics group for years and taught a course on robot construction. In his spare time, he played keyboard with a small group of other computer scientists in a band called the Algo-Rhythms.



Seymour Schwartz '57M (Res): Wrote the 'Bible of Surgery'

Schwartz literally wrote the book on surgery. He was the founding editor of the 1,800-page surgery textbook *Schwartz's Principles of Surgery*, first published in 1969, that became something of a bible for medical students.

Schwartz, who died in August, also served as president of the Society of Clinical Surgery, the American Surgical Association, and the American College of Surgeons at different points in his life, and edited several medical journals. Schwartz completed a one-year internship in surgery at Rochester before serving in the US Navy. After returning to Rochester, he was a member of the faculty for seven decades.

His late wife, Ruth Schwartz '52M (Res)—herself a pioneer in obstetrics and gynecology—suggested in the 1960s that he find a hobby to relieve the stress of his job. He turned to collecting rare and unusual maps, many of which now reside in the Dr. Ruth W. Schwartz and Dr. Seymour I. Schwartz Collection in the Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation on the River Campus.



Peter (Pat) Stark: Record-setting Coach

Stark, who died in June, was already well known in sports circles when he became Rochester's head football coach in 1969. An all-East quarterback for Syracuse University in 1952 and 1953, he led the Orangemen to the 1953 Orange Bowl. He also played on the Syracuse men's basketball team.

He later joined Syracuse's football coaching staff, helping the Orangemen win the 1959 Division I national championship. He served on the coaching staffs at Rhode Island and Harvard before taking the head spot at Rochester in 1969.


At Rochester, Stark guided the Yellowjackets to a No. 1 ranking in the East for Division III schools in 1970. When he retired in 1983, his 69 career wins ranked second in program history. Stark continued working at Rochester as assistant athletic director and helped create the Athletic Hall of Fame in 1992. He was inducted himself in 2000, five years after he retired from the University.



Gary Starkweather '66 (MS): Printing Innovator

What if information could be transferred between two distant photocopiers, so that one person could scan a document and send a copy to someone else?

That was the question Starkweather asked as a Xerox engineer in the late 1960s. By 1971, he had demonstrated the first working laser printer. By the 1990s, it was in offices around the world and today is a staple in many homes with computers.

After leaving Xerox, Starkweather went on to work at Apple and Microsoft. He died in December 2019. 



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William A. Diedrich '60W (Mas), May 2020
John H. Drexler '60M (PhD), March 2020
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Bernard L. Haertjens '61M (MS), May 2020
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Margaret Piper Bushey '62N, '71, '92N (MS), March 2020
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Audrey Gardner '62E (MM), August 2020
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Julius Pasztor '65 (MS), March 2020
Euan I. Pearce '65M (MS), February 2020
Alan P. Poland '65M (MD), '66M (MS), February 2020
Dolores Dawson Powers '65W (MA), February 2020

Richard J. Reulbach '65, April 2020
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Julianne Zuck '65, March 2020
Lawrence D. Aronson '66M (MD), January 2020
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Raleigh Hess Klein '66N, July 2020
Robert B. McKelvie '66 (MS), June 2020
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Edward J. Rinalducci '66 (PhD), March 2020
Gary K. Starkweather '66 (MS), December 2019
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Jacqueline Wrzosek Kuczkowski '67N (MS), August 2020
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Theodore M. Winther '67, August 2020
Don B. Allen '68S (MBA), January 2020
Linda Sue Adler Brandler '68, January 2020
George W. Corwin '68E (DMA), March 2020
Richard A. DeCicca '68, August 2020
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Ann Busch Githler '68 (MA), January 2020
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Claude B. Wilson '68W (Mas), March 2020
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Alan A. Finder '69, March 2020
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M. Virginia Spaulding Pagel '69W (MA), August 2020
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Jackson A. Stauber '69E, January 2020
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Richard M. Baker '70M (Res), July 2019
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Venkatesh H. Kamath '72 (MS), '77S (MBA), August 2020
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<p>Craig Vanvessem '72, February 2020</p> <p>David A. Youngerman '72, November 2019</p> <p>Thomas J. DiGiacomo '73 (MS), February 2020</p> <p>Robert E. Doran '73 (MS), April 2020</p> <p>Joan Kinlan '73M (Res), May 2020</p> <p>Stanley C. Perkins '73, May 2020</p> <p>David L. Terrell '73 (PhD), October 2019</p> <p>Hersch H. W. Bornstein '74S (MBA), April 2020</p> <p>Abe M. Erlichman '74, May 2020</p> <p>Cheryl Ann Holloway '74, August 2020</p> <p>Ronald S. Kareken '74S (MBA), April 2020</p> <p>Steven S. Lazarus '74 (PhD), April 2020</p> <p>Stephen J. McIntire '74 (MA), June 2020</p> <p>Clinton V. Strickland '74, '76W (EdM), January 2020</p> <p>George A. Winters '74E (MM), November 2019</p> <p>Patricia Fender Fleming '75W (Mas), July 2020</p> <p>Constance Miller '75N, June 2020</p> <p>Michael F. O'Hara '75M (MD), January 2020</p> <p>Marilyn Weissend '75N (MS), March 2020</p> <p>Peggy Graessle Wier '75S (MBA), '77S (MS), '81S (PhD), December 2019</p> <p>Jane McConaughy Labrum '76, August 2020</p> <p>Frank W. McCullar '76M (Res), August 2020</p> <p>Donald W. McGregor '76S (MBA), June 2020</p> <p>Susan Singh '76S (MBA), February 2020</p>	<p>Susan Nichols Thomson '76E, July 2020</p> <p>Carl W. Winkelbauer '76, '82W (Mas), June 2020</p> <p>Gloria Becker '77 (MS), January 2020</p> <p>Calvin F. Deyermont '77W (EdD), January 2020</p> <p>Diane Istvan Drysdale '77, August 2020</p> <p>James G. Hemmings '77, April 2020</p> <p>Peter Jonas '77E, April 2020</p> <p>James S. Moser '77S (MBA), March 2020</p> <p>Dennis J. Wittman '77 (MS), July 2020</p> <p>Pawlo Choroszyłow '78, April 2020</p> <p>Don C. Fisher '78, April 2019</p> <p>Vincent G. Grassi '78, May 2020</p> <p>Thomas R. Peasley '78, July 2020</p> <p>Noel D. Zidel '78S (MBA), July 2020</p> <p>Linda Kuritzkes '79, '83S (MBA), July 2020</p> <p>Mark J. Marchese '79, '83M (MD), '89M (Res), July 2020</p> <p>Virginia Romano Duffy '80N (MS), '92N (PhD), April 2020</p> <p>Gordon Comstock '80M (Res), October 2019</p> <p>Jacqueline Levine '80, '84 (MA), May 2020</p> <p>Marion A. Simon '80W (EdD), October 2019</p> <p>Joan Linhos Whittenberg '80N (MS), April 2020</p> <p>Janice Wiesman '80, '84M (MS), August 2020</p> <p>Catherine Gorman Humphrey '81, January 2020</p> <p>Christopher P. McCormack '81E (MA), April 2020</p> <p>Mario Esquivel Rodarte '81 (MA), January 2020</p> <p>Paul A. Sturm '81E (MM), August 2019</p>	<p>Jeffrey A. Herchenroder '82, February 2020</p> <p>Allan D. Huff '83 (MS), August 2020</p> <p>Walter J. Petersen '83 (PhD), April 2020</p> <p>Kenneth A. Robar '83S (MBA), March 2020</p> <p>Robert J. Smith '83 (MS), July 2020</p> <p>Thomas Gee '84, '87S (MBA), April 2020</p> <p>Richard T. O'Shea '84, April 2020</p> <p>William J. Spear '84, June 2020</p> <p>Donald M. Demko '85 (PhD), February 2020</p> <p>Rose Marie Chierici '86 (PhD), August 2020</p> <p>Joel C. Davis '87E, '88E (MM), March 2020</p> <p>Lowell H. Fewster '87W (EdD), May 2020</p> <p>Evelyn C. Fink '87 (PhD), May 2020</p> <p>Darryl Y. Nishimura '87, March 2020</p> <p>Rocco Colangelo '88S (MBA), February 2020</p> <p>Carole Frances Meyers '88, October 2018</p> <p>Sean M. Powell '88, July 2020</p> <p>Patricia Coniglio Roche '88N (MS), July 2020</p> <p>Joan Rossi '88N (MS), July 2020</p> <p>Neil D. Washburn '88, January 2020</p> <p>Janet Sue Ahlquist '89E (MM), April 2020</p> <p>Marlene Caroselli '89W (EdD), May 2020</p> <p>Peter F. Olnowich '89S (MBA), August 2020</p> <p>Ronald D. Kostecke '90W (EdD), July 2020</p> <p>Carrie Ann Savage Bonawitz '91, April 2020</p> <p>Regine Cadet Roache '91, '93W (MS), December 2019</p>	<p>Nobel A. Bellosillo '92M (MD), July 2020</p> <p>Scott L. Rosenfeld '92M (MD), December 2019</p> <p>William T. Aprill '93, August 2020</p> <p>James P. Schmidt '93 (PhD), March 2020</p> <p>Tamara Schmiede '93E, January 2020</p> <p>Elizabeth Kaplan Bentley '94W (MS), '07W (EdD), January 2020</p> <p>Carrie I. Moore Lapiana '94N, February 2020</p> <p>Cheryl Robinson '94N (MS), June 2020</p> <p>James F. O'Brien '95S (MBA), January 2020</p> <p>Patricia Ann St. Martin '95N (MS), March 2020</p> <p>Predrag C. Stamenkovic '95S (MBA), June 2019</p> <p>John M. George '96W (MS), February 2020</p> <p>Joseph A. Sheridan '96, June 2020</p> <p>William Foresman '98M (Res), February 2020</p> <p>Lisa Marie Fischer Harding '98, '07S (MBA), August 2020</p> <p>Sean McCarthy '02 (MS), July 2020</p> <p>Sean P. O'Hara '02, May 2020</p> <p>Joseph J. Santora '02E (MM), January 2020</p> <p>Jose D. Useda '03M (Pdc), January 2020</p> <p>Jennifer Daise Berry '04E, July 2020</p> <p>Karl Scheible '04S (MBA), June 2020</p> <p>Azure Allen '05, May 2020</p> <p>Richard Muindi Mwanzia '15S (MBA), April 2019</p> <p>Leigh Taylor Sundem '17M (MD), April 2020</p> <p>Matthieu D. Sherwood '18, May 2020</p>
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Jazz Music Is Protest Music

For jazz composer and trumpeter Nabaté Isles '99E, jazz is inseparable from the history and culture of the people who invented it.

Interview by Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

Jazz was invented by Black artists in the late 1800s as a combination of harmony and rhythmic and soulful expression. It was influenced by the Blues, Church and African music mixed with Western European harmony and instrumentation.

Jazz was originally protest music—music with a social message, promoting social change. Especially in the early part of the 20th century, through the 1920s, '30s, and '40s, it was meant to show the brilliance of African Americans in their capabilities of expression, and their ability to play their instruments at a high level of proficiency, and to be able to express themselves in a sophisticated way.

Also important was how a lot of Black artists presented themselves in the 1930s and '40s, and '50s. Artists like Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, and Thelonious Monk, dressed in suits. Jazz musicians with Blue Note Records, Prestige Records, Impulse Records—Columbia, of course, where Miles Davis was for a long time—those labels, into the 1960s showed musicians impeccably dressed, in suits or tuxedos. This trend continues to this day.

The music really started to go in a different direction in the 1950s and '60s. With the civil rights movement, it went hand in hand.

In the early 1960s, Max Roach and Abbey Lincoln produced the ultimate protest music with *We Insist!* John Coltrane, Charles Mingus, and of course, Nina Simone augmented

the moment. Gil-Scott Heron's and The Last Poets' social commentary merged jazz and spoken word, which was the roots of hip-hop. People forget about the Jazz and People's Movement, led by Rashaan Roland Kirk and Lee Morgan as they would stage protests on television talk shows to express the need for "Black Classical Music" to have more exposure in the mainstream.

I recently composed a four-movement piece for the Festival of New Trumpet Music in which I try to capture this history. It's called *Same Strife, Different Life*, meaning it's the same strife that we've always had, but with different generations of Black people's lives. In the first movement, Slavery, I wanted to exude the pain through my trumpet and chilling sounds through the percussion. In the second movement, about Reconstruction, I wrote a down-home blues, "gut-pocket" type of piece. Reconstruction was a painful experience for Black people, and that's when jazz began. In the third movement, about the civil rights movement, I wanted to do a Blue Note/Stax type of groove—funky and groovy, with remnants of R&B music, which was just emerging. And for the last movement, with police brutality still going on, I wanted a hip-hop groove. I was really influenced by groups like Public Enemy (PE), Boogie Down Productions (BDP), X-Clan and Brand Nubian.

We've lost appreciation of this history, especially in jazz education. It shouldn't be exclusively about learning vocabulary, or how to play this lick, or [John Coltrane's] chord progressions. It should be learning what this music is about. It's from the heart and soul, and about experience. Courses in Black history and culture should be required for any jazz degree.

Musicians need to have a sense of what Black artists went through, because this history ties into the music. Miles

Davis was beaten by police in front of a club and thrown in jail. Charlie Parker couldn't get a cabaret card, which allowed musicians to perform in venues throughout the city. Many artists were expatriates, in order to express themselves to the fullest.

There still aren't many Black students in jazz programs. I'm glad Eastman is seeing that and wants to make that change. I'm here to help make that change. 📍

Nabaté Isles '99E

Jazz musician/composer and sports broadcaster/producer

Home: New York City

Major works: *Same Strife, Different Life*, debuted at 2020 New York Festival of New Trumpet Music; *Eclectic Excursions* (2018); "Super Hero: An Ode To Chadwick Boseman," with Chadwick (Niles) Phillips and featuring Beth Griffith-Manley on voice.

Grammy Awards: Best Large Jazz Ensemble Album as member of Christian McBride Big Band for *Bringin' It* (2018) and *The Good Feeling* (2012).

Broadcasting: Creator and host of podcast "Where They At," interviews with retired professional athletes; and Manhattan Neighborhood Network (MNN) cable TV program "So Much to Talk About."





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Lines of Communication

OUTDOOR ADVOCATE: College Students' Association president Justyna Gorka '21, a political science and philosophy major from Chicago, catches up in one of the chairs lining Wilson Quad that were put in place this fall to offer more outdoor recreation areas as distancing policies restricted indoor gatherings. One of several hundred students who had to quarantine for 14 days before the start of the semester, Gorka helped students navigate the policies and procedures put in place because of the pandemic.

PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER

