

SENIOR MOMENTS

Students put a capstone on their studies.

COMMENCEMENT 2018

The Class of 2018 takes center stage.

DOCUMENTING DEMOCRACY

Political scientists monitor the state of the political system.

Rochester

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/MAY-JUNE 2018

Review

Show Us Your Town!

Christine Branche '83 and other leaders of the Washington, D.C., regional network offer a guide to an iconic city.



Inspired Stories.



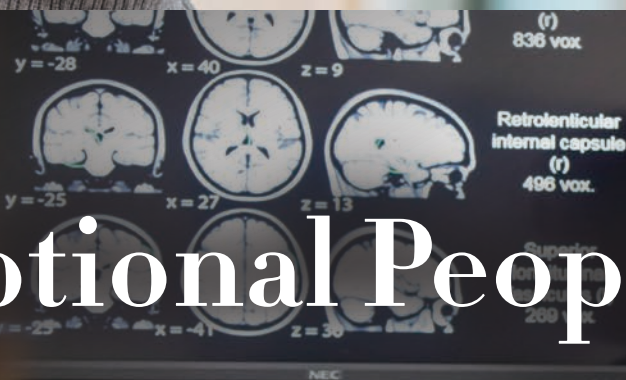
Watch and learn more about what our alumni and friends are doing to make the world ever *better*.

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UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

Exceptional People.



Features

MAY-JUNE 2018

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Senior Studies

To cap off their senior year at Rochester, graduating students—such as Danier Cooper '18, whose work (above) was exhibited in a senior art show on the River Campus this spring—undertake projects that showcase their abilities as researchers, scholars, artists, and community members.



ON THE COVER: Christine Branche '83, photographed by Stephen Voss for *Rochester Review*

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More than just the seat of government, the nation's capital is a city rich in art and culture, foodie havens, and outdoor getaways. Just ask some of the 4,600 alumni who make it their home. *By Matthew Dewald*

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Celebrating Raffaella Borasi

Dean has transformed the Warner School of Education during her remarkable two decades of leadership.

By Richard Feldman

The remarkable 18-year deanship of the Warner School of Education's leader will conclude this year, providing an opportunity to celebrate a pioneer in the field of mathematics education and school reform who has served the University for more than three decades.

Dean and Frederica Warner Professor Raffaella Borasi led the Warner School through a period of transformational growth and progress. External funding is now almost 10 times today what it was in 2001 when she came into her role. In the same period, enrollments have doubled and the number of graduates has tripled. An outstanding faculty has doubled in size. Raymond F. LeChase Hall, the 65,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility that houses the Warner School, is a lasting testament to Raffaella's inspiring commitment, dedication, and passion for education.

Warner has seen numerous instructional innovations during Raffaella's deanship. Recognizing untapped opportunities for intersections between health care and education, she sought out partnerships with the School of Nursing and School of Medicine and Dentistry to create master's and certificate programs for emerging careers in health profession education. She has overseen a number of collaborative projects to do health-based research in the community. To help students excel in degree programs and professionally, she developed specialized services to support academic writing and quantitative research methods and provided support services for international students.

Raffaella's visionary leadership and desire to find solutions to the challenges in urban education were instrumental in the University's decision to partner with East High School to turn the school around. Those same traits led to the decision to create the Center for Urban Education Success. Urban education—and supporting K–12 schools in crisis—was highlighted in the school's 2013 strategic plan as one of the major challenges (and priorities) of our time. But the choice to undertake the monumental challenge of transforming



EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP: Raffaella Borasi is “an innovative leader who leaves a significant legacy of accomplishment” as she returns to the faculty following an 18-year tenure as dean of the Warner School.

East High was not easy. A lot of careful thought and deliberation went into framing the substantial curricular as well as behavioral work we would have to invest in to be able to see measurable progress even after several years.


When the University became the Educational Partnership Organization (EPO) in 2015, East High School was facing the threat of closure from the state because of its inadequate performance across numerous measures of assessment. This year has been our third as EPO, and we are seeing many indications of demonstrable progress. Attendance has increased and annual suspensions are only one-tenth what they were the year before we began our work. Interventions such as “restorative practices” and “family groups” have been instrumental to achieving early results. The graduation rate for 2018 is projected to reach 65 percent—about twice the 33 percent graduation rate reported in the year prior to the start of the EPO.

The Center for Urban Education Success (CUES), which Raffaella helped to launch in 2016, grew out of our project at East. The

initial mandate was conducting research on urban school reform to develop a national model for lifting youths out of poverty. Since inception two years ago, CUES has begun the process of engagement with other urban schools and community members to build on the East EPO project and create a best practices template for urban educational reform more broadly.

Raffaella has overseen Warner's transformation in the last five years into a leader for Learning in the Digital Age. Warner's online course offerings, which did not exist before 2013, today number 40, with a recently expanded initiative to recognize the impact of the “digital revolution” on the future of education. Changes in the way people access information, create and disseminate knowledge, and communicate more generally necessitate changes in how we teach, design programs, and assess learning in more traditional face-to-face classes. Warner is poised to become a leader in this area. I am delighted that after she steps down as dean, Raffaella will serve as founding director of the new Learning in the Digital Age Center, with the mission to harness the power of digital technologies to enhance learning and development for all.

I have worked with Raffaella for 12 years, and I have always been impressed with her extraordinary commitment to improving the lives of her students and those of the students throughout the Rochester region. She is a leader in every sense of the word, with a clear humanistic vision and dedication to developing educators of the future. Everyone who meets with her comes away energized by her tenacity and spirit.

By so many measures—enrollments, faculty recruitment and retention, fundraising, facilities, financial sustainability, instructional innovations, community engagement, and diversity—Warner is a vastly transformed institution with a strength and purpose that have blossomed over the course of the last two decades. Warner's growth during this time is a great credit to an innovative leader who leaves a significant legacy of accomplishment. I am optimistic that Warner will see even more success in the future because of the solid foundation that Raffaella has built. 

Bernard Weiss: Giver of Wings

I read with shock and dismay that Bernard Weiss had passed away (March-April). He was not only a “Force of Nature,” as the article described him, but, for me, a Giver of Wings.

As a young engineer-to-be living in Baltimore, I answered an ad from him (and Vic Laties) in 1964 looking for someone to help program for behavioral experiments the LINC computer he had just received from MIT as a professor at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

I knew nothing of computers, but in what was to be the most fortuitous event of my life, he hired me; six months later, we wound up at the School of Medicine



Bernard Weiss '53 (PhD)

and Dentistry. Seven years later, with little more than his implied permission to sprout wings and grow, and his faith in me, I completed my BS in engineering from Hopkins, received a joint appointment in Rochester's Department of Psychology, taught electronics to medical students, took the medical school's gross anatomy course, published in biomedical engineering, programmed the LINC for behavioral experiments, spent a month at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, setting up their LINC, and so much more.

When Rochester said I could not remain on the faculty with just a bachelor's degree, Bernie allowed me to take needed prerequisites that, with his recommendation, allowed me to enter the School of Medicine and Dentistry's Class of 1972. I did my internship and residency in Rochester.

With a classmate I founded a practice of internal medicine in Perinton, New York, and practiced there until I retired in 2005.

Bernie Weiss, you were a nurturer of me beyond all reason and a giver of the wings that allowed me not only to fly, but to soar. Thank you.

Louis Siegel '76M (MD), '79M (Res)
Rockville, Maryland

Dean Harper: Lifetime of Teaching

It was with great sadness that I read the article about Professor Dean Harper's passing (January-February).

I had already been accepted to the R-Plan, the University early acceptance to the Medical Center, when I took Professor Harper's class, SOC262: Medical Sociology, in 1990. It had so many useful lessons that I took with me to the medical school. He really helped to initiate me into the URM-C's biopsychosocial model of doctoring that was ingrained by Drs. George Engel and John Romano, and that makes medical students graduating from Rochester outstanding in their care, compassion, and empathy for their patients.

It put a huge smile on my face to hear a few years back from a then student and now fellow crew alumna, Katie Lantuh '12, that he was still teaching and influencing students with his course. And I was also pleasantly surprised to learn a few years later that Harold (Hal) Paz '77, '82M (MD), was one of his students as well. Hal was the dean of Penn State College of Medicine, where I currently work.

Edward Fox '91, '95M (MD)

The writer is a professor of orthopaedics and medicine at Penn State's Hershey Medical Center.

Finding a Translator

In your review of literary translators (“Taking on the ‘Culture at Large,’” March-April), you did not mention the work of one of your own Phi Beta Kappa and master's degree graduates, the late Jessie Butts Bright '52, '54 (MA), whose translations from the Italian were published by the Italice Press, now probably defunct, in the years just before the turn of the 21st century.

There were four novels, I believe, by prize-winning Italian author Carlo Scorgion. I think she also published in French.

I, too, took my master's at Rochester, in literature, and she earned hers in history.

L.J. Bright '53 (MA)
State College, Pennsylvania

Review welcomes letters and will print them as space permits. Letters may be edited for brevity and clarity. Unsigned letters cannot be used. Send letters to Rochester Review, 22 Wallis Hall, Box 270044, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627-0044; rochrev@rochester.edu.

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ALUMNI

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NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Thestrals Take Their First Cup . . .

POWER OF POTTER: Members of the Rochester quidditch team—Tim Kwan '17, '18 (T5), Dane Johnson '21, Lucy Franzen '19, Morris Shayo '18, Alex McKinley '19, David Rowcroft '21—rush the pitch after the team won the national championship in the sport of the wizarding world described in the Harry Potter books of J. K. Rowling. Named for the books' magical flying beasts, the Rochester Thestrals defeated the University of Texas at Austin to win the national Quidditch Cup, a competition that featured 87 teams from across the country.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MIGUEL ESPARZA/THE EIGHTH MAN PHOTO





THREE-PEAT

... Kylee Bartlett '19 Wins Third Title

SHE IS THE CHAMPION: Kylee Bartlett '19 added a new entry in her chapter of the Rochester record books when she won her third national title this spring. The rising senior from Williamstown, New York, won her second straight heptathlon championship at the NCAA Division III national meet, adding to the national indoor pentathlon title she won in 2017. She's the fifth woman to win more than one title in the heptathlon, and only the second Yellowjacket to capture three national titles. Josefa Benzoni '89 won three indoor track and field titles—two in the 1,500 meters and one in the 3,000 meters.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CALEB WILLIAMS



ART OF TECHNOLOGY
Look of Laptops

STUCK ON YOU: Bringing a personal flair to a ubiquitous piece of technology, students have long decorated their laptops and other pieces of personal technology as a way to convey their personalities and perspectives. In addition to livening up sometimes nondescript surfaces, the popular stickers also make particular machines—and people—easier to identify in a crowded library. We asked one of our student employees, Nick Foti '19, an economics major from West Seneca, New York, to spend some time in River Campus Libraries this spring to document a few examples of the latest in computer graphics. PHOTOGRAPHS BY NICK FOTI '19



Deiji Emiabata '20
 A mechanical engineering major from Lagos, Nigeria

Kristen Lodato '21
 An environmental sciences major from Greenwich, Connecticut

Maria Majid '19
 A biology major from Rochester

Anna Shors '20
 A mathematics and data science double major from Baltimore

Lydia Currie '20
 A neuroscience and dance double major from Stamford, Connecticut



Madison Saliba '18
A chemical engineering major from Smithfield, Rhode Island

Emma Briggs '18
An international relations major from West Hartford, Connecticut

Lillian Henderson '19
An environmental sciences major from Rockledge, Florida

Erin Sumfleth '20
An optical engineering major from Callicoon, New York

Owen Goettler '21
A computer science major from Pittsford, New York

Samantha Mauser '21
A computational biology major from Ithaca, New York



COMMENCEMENT 2018

**Connect . . .
with People**

While today's college students are connected in ways earlier generations could only imagine, Ancestry CEO Margaret (Margo) Georgiadis says they risk losing touch with what matters most—their close connections with individual people.

“Technological advancements are enabling us to reimagine everything in our lives—how we communicate, commute, shop, learn, entertain ourselves, and more,” Georgiadis told the graduating Class of 2018 during the Arts, Sciences & Engineering ceremony on the Eastman Quadrangle. “And we are only getting started. I've spent 30 years helping companies prepare for and reimagine the future. So my message today may surprise you. While we are more connected and have more opportunity than ever before, our biggest risk is that we forget about people. . . It is these human connections that are essential to enabling the change we all need to see in the world.”

Georgiadis, who received the University's Eastman Medal, was one of several honorees and guests who were recognized as part of Rochester's 168th commencement season. Altogether, during this spring's ceremonies, the University bestowed more than 2,500 undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees.

Among this year's honorees was Frederick Douglass, who was awarded a posthumous honorary degree in recognition of his historic role as an abolitionist, human rights leader, orator, and author. (See page 15.)

This spring also marked the first time Richard Feldman

CLASS GRASP: Class of 2018 graduates Anne Cheng, Venice Magunga, and Anmol Almast celebrate after receiving their degrees at the commencement ceremony for Arts, Sciences & Engineering on the Eastman Quadrangle in May.

presided over the ceremonies as president.

“You have learned the value of the most important gifts we can provide: critical thinking, perseverance, the value of working with others, the value of serving the community, a personal commitment to *Meliora*,” he said in his address to the College Class of 2018.

“You will succeed because of your talents, your education, and your work ethic.”

For more about commencement, visit Rochester.edu/commencement/2018.

Honorees

Among the recipients of University honors during this spring’s commencement ceremonies were:

Margo Georgiadis, the CEO of Ancestry, who gave the commencement address and received the Eastman Medal

Kenneth Morris Jr., who accepted an honorary degree on behalf of his great-great-grandfather, Frederick Douglass

David Primo, the Ani and Mark Gabrellian Professor and associate professor of political science and business administration, who received the Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Chigusa Kurumada, assistant professor of brain and cognitive sciences and **Wyatt Tenhaeff**, assistant professor of chemical engineering, who each received the G. Graydon Curtis ’58 and Jane W. Curtis Award for Nontenured Faculty Teaching

Jane Chu, chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, who received the Luminary Award

Joanne Larson, the Michael W. Scandling Professor of Education at the Warner School of Education, who received the William H. Riker University Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching

Deborah Cory-Slechta, professor of environmental medicine, pediatrics, and public health sciences, who received the Lifetime Achievement Award in Graduate Education



Margaret Georgiadis



Kenneth Morris Jr.



David Primo



Chigusa Kurumada



Wyatt Tenhaeff



Jane Chu



Joanne Larson



Deborah Cory-Slechta



Seymour Schwartz

Seymour Schwartz ’57M (Res), Distinguished Alumni Professor of Surgery, who received the Eastman Medal

Mary Ellen Burris ’68W (Mas), senior vice president of consumer affairs for Wegmans Food Markets, who received the Charles Force Hutchison and Marjorie Smith Hutchison Medal

Ronald Fielding ’73, ’76S (MBA), retired chief strategist and senior vice president of Oppenheimer Funds Inc., who received an honorary degree.



Mary Ellen Burris



Ron Fielding

A HISTORIC HONOR

A Degree for Frederick Douglass

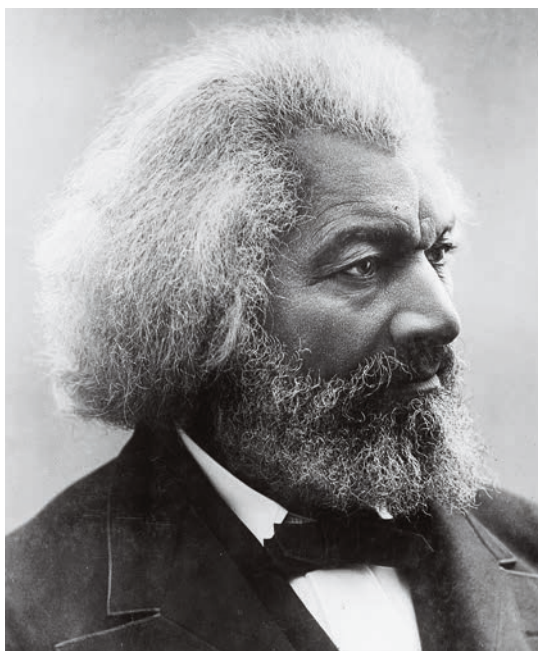
Frederick Douglass, widely considered the most important abolitionist leader in American history, was honored by the University during this spring's commencement ceremonies.

Douglass, who made his home in Rochester from 1847 to 1872, was recognized with an honorary degree, the first time the honor has been presented posthumously. The degree was accepted by his great-great-grandson, Kenneth Morris Jr.

After the ceremony, Morris said the family appreciated the recognition, particularly as a way to mark the 200th anniversary of Douglass's birth into slavery.

"Frederick Douglass said it's easier to build strong children than to repair broken men," Morris said. "We're living in a time right now where we need the glorious light of truth and people who will speak when others say be quiet, and stand when others say sit down. To hear that all these years later, he's inspiring the next generation of leaders is very humbling. He still has that impact, all these years later."

Born into slavery on a Maryland plantation in 1818, Douglass escaped to the North at age 20 with the help of Anna Murray, a free black woman in Baltimore. The two eventually married and settled together in Rochester, where Douglass founded the abolitionist newspaper the *North Star*. From 1847 until 1863, he published



FIRST DEGREE: Abolitionist Frederick Douglass, who made Rochester his home for more than two decades, is the first recipient of an honorary degree recognized posthumously.

the paper—renamed *Frederick Douglass' Paper* in 1851—from a second story office in the Talman Building at 25 East Main Street.

An accomplished writer and speaker, Douglass taught himself to read and write. Before settling in Rochester, he traveled to Great Britain and Ireland—in large part

to avoid recapture—and spoke widely, to growing crowds. In Rochester, Douglass became friends with Susan B. Anthony and took up the cause of women's rights, attending the 1848 Women's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls, New York. Douglass and Anthony were at the center of a prominent group of western New York activists who agitated for abolition and women's suffrage under the common umbrella of human rights.

Douglass delivered many of his most famous speeches while in Rochester, including his 1852 Independence Day address, "What to the Slave is the 4th of July?" He published three memoirs: *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* (1845), *My Bondage and My Freedom* (1855), and *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*

(1881).

After moving to Washington, D.C., in 1872, he would eventually serve in several roles under five presidents.

Douglass died at his home in Washington in 1895. He is buried in Rochester's Mount Hope Cemetery. **R**

TOP TEACHERS

Singer Awards Honor High School Teachers

High school teachers who made a difference in the education of four graduating seniors were recognized for their dedication as mentors during commencement this spring. Supported by Paul Singer '66 through the Paul Singer Family Foundation, the annual Singer Family Prizes for Excellence in Secondary School Teaching are drawn from nominations submitted by members of the graduating class in the College. This year's recipients and their nominating students were (seated) Cristina Duarte, an English teacher at Manhattan Comprehensive Night & Day High School in New York City, who was nominated by Joseph Gray (standing); Teresa Haskiell, a mathematics teacher at James Wood High School in Winchester, Virginia, who was nominated by Brian Baker, who was also commissioned as a lieutenant in the Army through the Army ROTC program offered by the University in



partnership with the Rochester Institute of Technology; Allison Cain, a French teacher at Kent Denver School in Englewood, Colorado, who was nominated by Perry DeMarche; and Michael Zitolo, a physics teacher at the School

of the Future in New York City, who was nominated by Hannah Parker. The students and teachers were joined by Jeffrey Runner, dean of the College (standing, center).

—Joe Hagen '19E

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

Board Elects Two New Members

By Sara Miller

Two alumni were elected to the University's Board of Trustees this spring while two long-time members were also recognized.

New Trustees

Joseph Abrams '74S (MBA) is an entrepreneur, investor, and advisor. An expert in emerging growth companies, he is an early stage investor and advisor with Recruiter.com, an online global recruiting service.

Abrams has advised or acted as principal in dozens of mergers and acquisitions and has been involved with several eco-friendly and socially responsible businesses. A cofounder of the Software Toolworks, he also cofounded eUniverse. Later renamed Intermix Media, the company became the parent of the social network site MySpace. NewsCorp bought Intermix in 2005.

Abrams and his wife, Patricia, are lead supporters of the Simon Venture Capital Fund, a seed fund run by MBA and master's students at the Simon Business School. He is also a member of Simon's National Council and Advisory Council, and the University's San Francisco Network Leadership Cabinet. In 2017, he received Simon's Distinguished Alumnus Award.

The Abramses also established, with their son, Matthew '02, and his wife, Lindsay, the Abrams Family Fund for Myotonic Dystrophy Research.

Elizabeth Pungello Bruno '89 is president of the Brady Education Foundation, an organization focused on closing the achievement and opportunity gap for children at risk for poor school outcomes due to environmental factors associated with living in poverty. She is also a research associate professor in the developmental psychology



Joseph Abrams '74S (MBA)

program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where her research has focused on early care and education environments and school readiness skills.

She serves on the board of Brady Corporation, a public company that manufactures and markets high-performance labels, signs, safety devices, printing systems, and software. She also serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Marriage and Family* and *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, and other nonprofit boards.

In 2011, she established the Brady Scholars Program at the University to support first-generation minority students. In 2016, she renewed her support of the program, which now focuses solely on undergraduates. She is a member of the Arts, Sciences & Engineering National Council and the Parents Council.

Her daughter, Hope, graduated this spring as a member of the Class of 2018.




Elizabeth Pungello Bruno '89

Life Trustees

Also at the May meeting, the board recognized **Alan Hilfiker '60** and **Richard Sands** as they moved to life trustee status.

A trustee since 1988, Hilfiker has served on several board committees. His support established both the Alan F. Hilfiker Endowed Graduate Scholarship Fund and the Alan F. Hilfiker Distinguished Professorship in English, and helps support the Hyam Plutzik Memorial Poetry Series.

Elected to the board in 2008, Sands has served on Simon's Executive Advisory Committee and been active with the University at many levels. His support includes the annual Sands Leadership Lecture Series, the establishment of the Dr. Laurie Sands Distinguished Professorship in Family and Health, and support for other programs at Simon, the Medical Center, and the Memorial Art Gallery. 

Committee Leads Search for Next President

The Board of Trustees has established a committee to select the University's next president.


Cochaired by University Trustee Cathy Minehan '68 and Board Chair Danny Wegman, the Presidential Search Committee is working with three campus advisory committees—a University Advisory Committee, consisting largely of faculty; a Staff Advisory Committee; and a Student Advisory Committee—with the goal of selecting a president by 2019. The new president

would then begin in July 2019 at the start of the 2019–20 academic year.

The committee has established a website, Rochester.edu/presidential-search, where information is posted about the position, the search process, names of committee members, timelines, and other activities. The site will be updated regularly over the course of the search.

Members of the University community can submit suggestions, questions, and nominations in confidence at the site.

The committee has engaged Spencer Stuart, an international executive search and leadership consulting firm with significant successful experience in conducting senior searches in higher education.

A former president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and former dean of the Simmons College School of Management, Minehan has served on the board since 1995. Wegman, the chairman of Wegmans Food Markets Inc., has chaired the board since 2016. 

EVER BETTER

Meliora Guides New Vision and Values Statement

The principles of Meliora are expected to be even more prominent in the life and culture of the University, serving as the grounding idea for a new University statement of Vision and Values.

Approved by the University's Board of Trustees in May, the new statement is designed to better clarify and communicate the University community's shared goals and principles.

Building from the letters of the motto, the statement articulates and defines core principles that are important to the institution and its community. They include equity, leadership, integrity, openness, respect, and accountability.

The statement will become part of a set of defining ideas, including the mission statement, that represent how the University envisions itself and its aspirations.

Drafted by a committee of faculty, students, and staff this spring, the new statement is modeled on similar efforts undertaken by the Medical Center and the College to better articulate the values of those units.

The Medical Center has established "ICARE" as its guiding statement. The word is an acronym for the core principles of integrity, compassion, accountability, respect, and excellence. The College has adopted a program based on six key principles. Called the Communal Principles, they include fairness, freedom, honesty, inclusion, respect, and responsibility. Each year, the College highlights one of the six principles, focusing activities and other programming around the ideas embodied in that principle.

The University's new statement will be used to guide ongoing work to review and revise University policies and procedures.

The statements will also anchor education and training around diversity, equity, and inclusion by tying them to commonly held values, with a goal of helping strengthen a culture of respect.

Mission

Learn, Discover, Heal, Create—
and Make the World Ever Better

Vision

The University of Rochester will continue to frame and solve the greatest challenges of the future.

Steeped in Rochester's rich history of social justice and entrepreneurial spirit, we will always be an inclusive, equitable, sustainable, and responsive organization at every level.

We are a community in which all who work, teach, create, and provide care are welcome and respected, and where all can pursue and achieve their highest objectives for themselves, their communities, and the world.

Values

Meliora: We strive to be ever better, for everyone.

Equity: We commit to diversity, inclusion, and access.

Leadership: We take initiative and share responsibility for exemplifying excellence.

Integrity: We conduct ourselves with honesty, dedication, and fairness.

Openness: We embrace freedom of ideas, inquiry, and expression.

Respect: We value our differences, our environment, and our individual and collective contributions.

Accountability: We are each responsible for making our community ever better, through our actions, our words, and our dealings with others.

The Vision and Values Committee began work in March. The initiative was endorsed by President Richard Feldman, who has emphasized efforts to better articulate the University's values and to find ways to demonstrate that those values are being put into action.

Find More Online

Rochester's Culture of Respect

[Rochester.edu/respect](https://rochester.edu/respect)

Vision and Values Statement

[Rochester.edu/president/vision-and-values/](https://rochester.edu/president/vision-and-values/)

Commission on Women and Gender Equity in Academia

[Rochester.edu/commission-women-gender-academia/](https://rochester.edu/commission-women-gender-academia/)

MELIORA WEEKEND 2018

Set Your Calendar for Meliora Weekend

Award-winning journalists, authors, analysts, and musicians headline the lineup for Meliora Weekend 2018.

By Kristine Thompson

Soledad O'Brien, award-winning journalist, speaker, and author, will be the keynote speaker for Meliora Weekend, one of several acclaimed guests scheduled for the 18th edition of the four-day celebration in October.

O'Brien headlines a lineup that includes Pulitzer Prize-winning author Ron Chernow, former Republican National Committee Chair Michael Steele, comedian Nasim Pedrad, and the genre-hopping musical ensemble Pink Martini.

The weekend kicks off Thursday, October 4, and continues through Sunday, October 7.

"Over the last three years, we have redesigned Meliora Weekend to make it more fun and social while keeping true to the academic and intellectual traditions that in many ways define the University of Rochester," says Thomas Farrell '88, '90W (MS), senior vice president for University Advancement.

University Symposium

Ron Chernow

Friday, October 5

Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Alexander Hamilton*, Chernow will talk about *Grant*, his *New York Times* best-selling biography of President Ulysses S. Grant. The book is the latest of his biographies of pivotal people and families in American history. His life of founding statesman Alexander Hamilton inspired the Tony Award-winning musical *Hamilton*. A frequent contributor to the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*, he received a Pulitzer Prize for *Washington: A Life*, his biography of George Washington.

Eastman Presents

Pink Martini

Friday, October 5

Drawing inspiration from music from all over the world and crossing genres of classical, jazz, and old-fashioned pop, Pink Martini features a dozen musicians who perform a multilingual repertoire.

Keynote

Soledad O'Brien

Saturday, October 6

As CEO of Starfish Media Group, a multiplatform media production

KEYNOTE CAREER: Television anchor, producer, and writer Soledad O'Brien, who is also the CEO of her own multiplatform media company, will deliver the keynote address at this year's Meliora Weekend in October.

company, O'Brien is known for telling stories about pressing social and global issues. She also anchors and produces the Hearst Television political magazine program *Matter of Fact with Soledad O'Brien* and reports regularly for HBO's *Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel* and *PBS NewsHour*.

In addition to appearing as an anchor or contributor on major networks, she is philanthropy editor of *Worth* magazine, and is a frequent author of op-eds for the *New York Daily News* and the *Huffington Post*. She is also the author of two books: her memoir, *The Next Big Story*, and *Latino in America*. In 2011, O'Brien and her husband, Brad Raymond, created the PowHERful Foundation, an organization to help young women get to and through college.

Conversations

Michael Steele

Saturday, October 6


When he was elected lieutenant governor of Maryland in 2003, Steele made history as the first African American elected to statewide office. He made history again in 2009 with his chairmanship of the Republican National Committee. Currently, Steele is president and CEO of The Steele Group, cohost of the *Steele & Ungar* radio show, and a political commentator

for MSNBC. He has been a frequent contributor on the Fox News Channel and a guest on *Meet the Press* and *Face the Nation*, among other news programs. His writing on law, business, and politics has appeared in such major media outlets as the *Wall Street Journal*, *Politico.com*, and *BET.com*.

Comedy

Nasim Pedrad

Saturday, October 6

Nasim Pedrad, best known for her work on *Saturday Night Live*, will provide the laughs during an interactive comedy show. Joining *SNL* in 2009, Pedrad was a cast member for five years. Her recent television credits include appearances on the FOX series *New Girl*, TBS's *People of Earth*, and the 2017 return of HBO's comedy *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. She is now filming Disney's live action remake of *Aladdin*, set to hit theaters in 2019. 

Get Ready to Register

Registration will begin at noon on Wednesday, July 25. For more, visit Rochester.edu/melioraweekend. Email alumni@rochester.edu or call 877.MELIORA (877.635.4672). The website will be updated as more information about guests and other programming becomes available.





HISTORIC FIGURES: Author Ron Chernow, whose work has included biographies of Ulysses S. Grant, George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, and other pivotal American figures and families, will be the guest for this fall's University Symposium.



MEDIA MOVERS: Michael Steele, the first African American to chair the Republican National Committee and now a nationally syndicated political commentator, will be a featured speaker as part of the weekend's events.

MUSIC & LAUGHTER: The genre-hopping musical ensemble Pink Martini (above), whose repertoire crosses jazz, classical, and pop music, will headline the annual Eastman Presents concert, and *Saturday Night Live* alumna Nasim Pedrad (below) will present an interactive comedy show during the weekend.





Liar, Liar?

Can you tell who's being deceptive?

A Rochester research group is using data science to improve screening systems so that security officers and others can better identify people who may be trying to hide important, or even sinister, information.

One of these student models is deliberately not telling the truth.

Can you spot the liar?

The answer is C.

DATA SCIENCE

Who's Telling the Truth?

Can a data-informed system help identify those with something to hide?

By Bob Marcotte

Imagine someone is fidgeting in a long line at an airport security gate. Is that person simply nervous about the wait? Or does the passenger have something to hide?


Even highly trained TSA (Transportation Security Administration) airport security officers have a difficult time telling whether someone is lying or telling the truth—despite the billions of dollars and years of study that have been devoted to the subject.

In a project led by Tay Sen and Kamrul Hasam, PhD students in the lab of Ehsan Hoque, the Asaro-Biggar '92 Family Fellow in Data Science and an assistant professor of computer science, researchers are exploring a screening system that they say may be able to more accurately detect deception based on facial and verbal cues.

In a report this spring, the team used data science

and an online crowdsourcing game to put together a database of more than 1.3 million frames of facial expressions. Further crunching the data, they identified five smile-related faces. The one most frequently associated with lying was a high-intensity version of the so-called Duchenne smile, a facial expression that involves involuntary movement of muscles along the cheekbone.

The team plans to further refine the system, but they think they've only scratched the surface of potential findings from the data they've collected, work that could have implications for how TSA officers are trained.

"In the end, we still want humans to make the final decision," Hoque says. "But as they are interrogating, it is important to provide them with some objective metrics that they could use to further inform their decisions." 

Ask the Archivist: Was the University a Player in the Invention of Baseball?

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

For a number of years I have been interested in the history of baseball, culminating with the recent commemoration of Cartwright Field in Honolulu—named for the true “Father of Modern Baseball,” Alexander J. Cartwright Jr. Can you shed any light on when baseball started at the University, and whether Cartwright played any role?—Capt. Brian Bennett '79 (U.S. Navy, Retired), Honolulu

A comprehensive study of baseball and Rochester by Priscilla Astifan appeared in *Rochester History* (published by the Rochester Public Library) between 1990 and 2002. Rochester—either as city or university—played no special role in the early development of the game.

Possibly the first team in Rochester was the Flour City Club, formed on April 28, 1858, and the University was on deck in fielding a team, despite President Anderson's notable discouragement of athletics. According to a box score in the *Union & Advertiser*, Flour City beat “University Club” on June 19, 1858, 25-8. The *Interpres* yearbook issued that same month confirms a University Base-Ball Club with 29 members: a comparison of the rosters shows that these two University teams were one and the same.

The Civil War caused a hiatus in club baseball on campus and in the United States: no club is listed in the *Interpres* for 1864 and 1865, but soldiers did play the game in camp. Samuel Porter, Class of 1864, describes a match in a January 1863 letter to his brother Farley, Class of 1866: “I played 2nd base and think if you had been here you would have been proud of your brother. Although our adversaries were from New York City they admitted that our 2nd base was played up to the handle.”

Sadly, there are apparently no letters from Cartwright in our collections. Astifan credits Rochester astronomer Lewis Swift with determining in 1877 that the curve ball was not an optical illusion; the University granted Swift an honorary degree in 1879, although probably not for his contribution to the American pastime.

I am a massive fan of Frank Zappa—borderline obsessed. One time I saw a list of student activities at the U of R from the '70s, and I thought I saw a Frank Zappa or Mothers of Invention concert. I know that he toured through Rochester a few times, but did he ever play a show on the River Campus or the Eastman school?—Steven Torrisi '16, Cambridge, Massachusetts

A 1970 article in the *Campus Times* bemoans the high cost of bringing in outside speakers and performers: “. . . Walter Cronkite demands \$5,500 for an appearance, Senator Muskie and Mike Wallace each ask \$2,000, and even Frank Zappa wants \$1,000.”

Although the Palestra has seen its share of music legends, Zappa was not among them. He and various configurations of his band did perform in Rochester, first appearing at the War Memorial on October 28, 1967, then alternating between the War Memorial and the Dome Arena on May 5, 1973, November 17, 1973, November 14, 1974, November 5, 1975, and March 11, 1988.

There are a number of online sources which list dates, venues, and even setlists for performers, but the *Campus Times* concert reviewers provide a richer picture of the experience of being there. G. Joshua Matuszewitch had this to say in the May 9, 1973, issue: “The new Mothers seem to be a return to the Motherness of about three years ago,



BATTERS UP: While no image of the 1858 team is known to exist, a photo donated by team manager Charles Bostwick, Class of 1891, shows the 1891 lineup in (likely) gray uniforms with blue trim.

while retaining some of the jazz of the Hot Rats and Grand Wazoo. The important thing here is the music, with little silliness. . . . That's not to say that Zappa has lost his weirdness. Untrue, it will be said.”

The November 7, 1975, post-concert review by “K.C.” concludes with an affirmation. “Like Dr. Demento said on the advertisements last week, “If you miss this concert, you will forever be an incomplete person.”

To quote Frank Zappa, “Information is not knowledge.” It would be untrue if I were to say that I am well acquainted with the man or his music: my thanks to music historian Ron Fritts for his assistance in verifying the performance dates.

For extra innings on baseball at the University, and reviews of Frank Zappa in the *Campus Times*, visit <https://rbscp.lib.rochester.edu/blog/ATA-May2018>.

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.



WORLD VIEW: A new initiative aims to expand the understanding of the medieval world, depicted here in Robbins Library's facsimile of a 1457 map.

NEW KNOWLEDGE, NEW FORMS

Beyond Medieval

Early Worlds Initiative highlights interdisciplinary scholarship.

By Jordan Mangefrida '20

A new interdisciplinary research project is taking a deep dive into a complex era that stretches from before traditional conceptions of the medieval period up to early modern times.

Encompassing social and cultural developments from the 5th to the 18th centuries, the Early Worlds Initiative is designed to take an interdisciplinary look at the influence of an intriguing era. Participants hope to answer one of the biggest questions among some outside the field: why, in the 21st century, should people care about what happened so many centuries ago?

"Issues like nationalism, representative

government, certainly race—all these things existed in this previous age," says Tom Hahn, a professor of English and a key contributor to the project. "Looking at those very different models of how they existed, not just in Europe but all over the world, helps us understand our own lives a bit more clearly."


The project originated last fall with Joan Rubin, the Ani and Mark Gabrellian Director of the Humanities Center and the Dexter Perkins Professor in History.

"Rochester's long-standing strength in the study of medieval and early modern cultures seemed to me to be the best foundation on which to build an innovative set of scholarly projects that would enhance

the University's reputation and create new knowledge in new forms," she says.

"It's a really dynamic opportunity," says Anna Siebach-Larsen, the director of the Rossell Hope Robbins Library and Koller-Collins Center. "This is both where medieval studies is tending to go, and needs to go. There's so much going on, and one person can't learn all of it. We really have to work together."

She says students and the general public will find value in the project's collaborations and resources while contributing their own perspectives and insights.

"There's this whole world out there that we're just starting to uncover. And there's a place for everyone in it." 

SEEN & HEARD

How's That Again?

A graduating senior offers a primer on some River Campus lingo. Have you Tapingo-ed Dfo?


By Joshua Hill '18

Rochester students acquire a specific lingo that becomes ingrained in their everyday conversations, and, eventually, the vocabulary becomes part of their identity.

While a student here, I found it hard to escape the nicknames and abbreviations, as words and phrases were tossed around in the library or over a Facebook conversation.

The terms are in common use, regardless

of students' class year, club involvement, or major. And I think they deserve to be shared with the larger University family.

I'm not a dictionary writer, but as an English major, I offer a whimsical guide to some of the phrases I can't seem to escape, even if I wanted to. 

Hill, an English and political science double major from Penfield, New York, graduated this spring. He was a student employee in University Communications.



LINGO-IST: Hill chooses his words carefully.



Dfo \ˈdē-fō\ *n* **1** : Danforth Dining Hall **2** : the all-you-care-to-eat dining facility on the first floor of Susan B. Anthony Hall

¹Dougie \ˈdæg-ē\ *n* **1** : Frederick Douglass Dining Hall **2** : the all-you-care-to-eat dining facility on the first floor of Frederick Douglass Commons, one of the student life buildings in the Campus Center <Do you wanna go to ~ for dinner?>

²Dougie *vi* **1** : to go to or to eat in Douglass Dining Hall <Wanna ~?>

Flag Lounge \ˈflæg-ˈlaʊnj\ *n* **1** : a common nickname for Hirst Lounge, the atrium space created by the wall of windows in Wilson Commons, where flags hang representing the nations and territories of the student population

Flex/URos \ˈfleks\ \ˈyūr-(i)ōz\ *n* **1** : a payment method on campus that can be used for food and nonfood purposes **2** : a transaction unit used for the purchase of food, candy, event tickets, fundraising tables, and off-campus locations, such as Chipotle <I'd like to use ~ to pay for this burrito bowl.> **3** : formerly called Flex, there is a shift in recent years to refer to the payment method as URos, a play on the currency of European Union, the Euro

The GAC \ˈθə-ˈgæk\ *n* **1** : abbreviation for the Goergen Athletic Center **2** : shorthand term to refer to the Goergen Athletic Center using the abbreviation

Groundboi \ˈgraʊnd-bōi\ *n pl ground-boiz* **1** : a nickname given to the groundhogs that live around campus—specifically those on the Eastman Quadrangle and near Sage Arts Center **2** : popular name given to the furry creatures that call the River Campus their home and who have inspired a Rochester-specific meme

ITS \ˈi-tē-es\ *n* **1** : abbreviation for Infor-



mation Technology Services **2** : a colloquial term to refer to the area of Rush Rhees Library on Library Road <Meet me at ~ to catch the bus to College Town.> **3** : the area surrounding Connections Cafe, the Barbara J. Burger iZone, TechStore, and the Writing, Speaking, and Argument Program, below Gleason Library

Phase \ˈfāz\ *n* **1** : nickname for Hill Court, a suite-style housing area for juniors and

What's the Word?

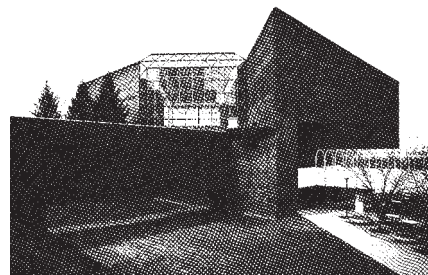
Send us your favorite Rochester references. Write to us at Rochrev@rochester.edu.

seniors; named after a planned three-phase housing project that only saw the completion of Phase 1 <Are you living in ~ this year?>

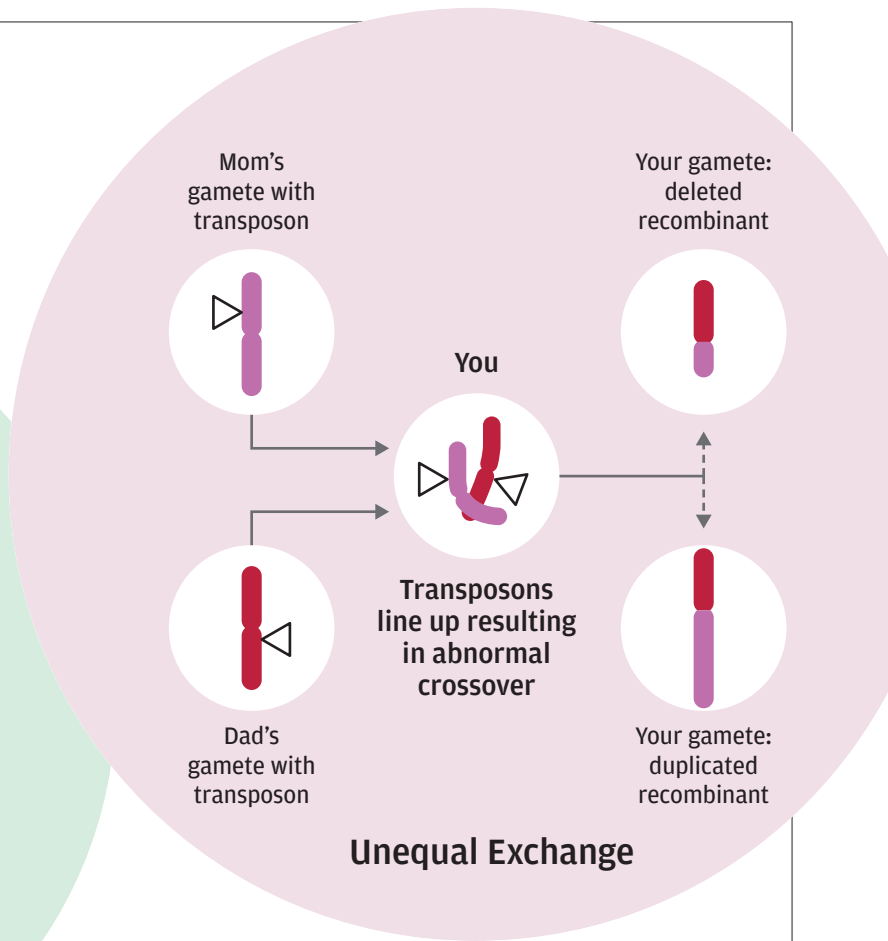
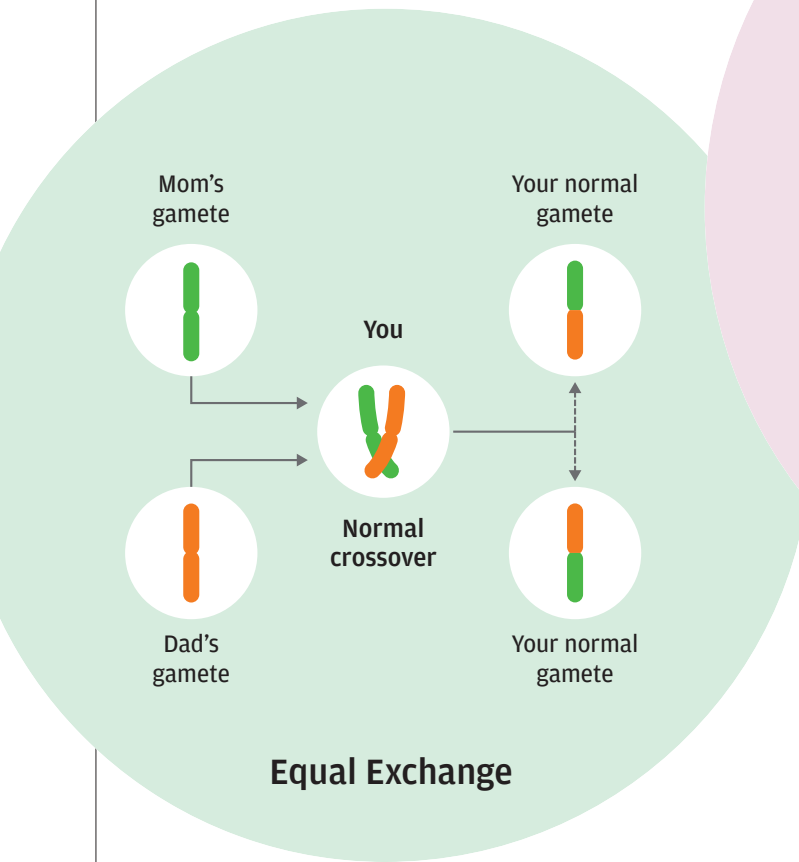
The Pit \ˈθə-ˈpɪt\ *n* **1** : the à la carte dining option on the first floor of Wilson Commons; named after its appearance of an orchestra pit <Let's go to the ~ for a quick snack!> **2** : briefly renamed "The Commons," the Pit offers the Grill, Wok On Up (Asian-style food), Freshens Burrito Bowl & Smoothie Bar, Pizza Pi, a salad bar, macaroni and cheese bar, and fresh sushi from California Rollin' on Tuesdays

¹Tapingo \tā-ˈpɪn-gō, ˈtæp-en-gō\ *n* **1** : an app introduced on campus in 2015 that you can use to order food on and off campus from the convenience of your phone

²Tapingo *vt* **1** : to order food on the Tapingo app <I ~d a bagel and coffee before class let out.>



Wilco \ˈwɪl-kō\ *n* **1** : nickname for Wilson Commons, one of the student life buildings in the Campus Center **2** : home to the Pit, Rocky's Sub Shop, the Common Market, Starbucks, and many student-life spaces used for events and daily gatherings



MEANS OF EXCHANGE: During sexual reproduction, chromosomes line up and cross over (left). Unequal crossover (right) occurs when “selfish DNA” sequences known as transposons (represented here as triangles) interfere in the process. When abnormal crossovers occur, important genes may be duplicated or deleted.

The Genes of Genetic Recombination

Scientists have long recognized that the exchange of genetic material in a process known as genetic recombination is vital to natural selection. During recombination, chromosomes from each parent “cross over,” mostly lining up properly, but occasionally so-called “selfish DNA” intervenes to cause deletions or insertions of chromosomes that manifest as birth defects. Some species display far more crossover than others, leading scientists to hypothesize that crossover rates have evolved to balance the benefits of crossing over with its risks.

Dean’s Professor of Biology Daven Presgraves and PhD candidate Cara Brand have

accomplished a milestone in learning about such evolutionary dynamics. By studying two species of fruit flies, they discovered a gene, *MEI-218*, that controls the rate of recombination. In a paper published in *Current Biology*, they explain how *MEI-218* controls differences in the rate of crossing over between species and the evolutionary forces at play.

Selfish DNA sequences known as transposons—repetitive genetic elements that do not seem to have benefits to their hosts—are distributed throughout the genome. Transposons are akin to viruses, but instead of injecting themselves in cells, they invade genetic material. If abnormal crossovers occur

between transposons in different locations on the chromosomes, the chromosomes do not line up properly and important genes may be duplicated or deleted.

Brand and Presgraves hypothesize that the change in recombination rates between two species of fruit flies may reflect an adaptation to their different amounts of transposons. One species, *D. melanogaster*, has more transposons in its genome than *D. mauritiana*, so *D. melanogaster* may have evolved a lower rate of crossing over in order to avoid the higher risk of harmful crossovers between transposons.

If that’s the case, *MEI-218* is constantly evolving to an ever-changing optimum. The

evolution of *MEI-218* is similar to genes involved in immunity, Presgraves says. “That should make some intuitive sense because genes involved in immunity are constantly adapting to the changing community pathogens that are challenging us all the time.”

The gene has so far only been investigated in fruit flies, but the research into recombination has applications for humans. “During meiosis at least one crossover per chromosome, in general, is required to make sure the chromosomes separate properly,” Brand says. “Either a lack of crossing over or crossing over in the wrong regions of the genome is what leads to many birth defects.” —Lindsey Valich

Fracking Chemicals Linked to Immune Imbalance

A study led by Paige Lawrence, chair of environmental medicine, links chemicals associated with fracking to damage to the developing immune system in mice.

“This discovery opens up new avenues of research to identify, and someday prevent, possible adverse health effects in people living near fracking sites,” she says.

Fracking (shorthand for hydraulic fracturing) involves pumping millions of gallons of chemical-laden water deep underground to fracture rock and release oil and gas. About 200 chemicals have been measured in wastewater and in surface water or groundwater in fracking-dense

regions. Of the chemicals found in groundwater, several have been classified as endocrine disruptors, meaning they can interfere with hormones and derail hormone-controlled systems.

For the study, published in *Toxicological Sciences*, Lawrence and her team tested the impact of fracking chemicals on the immune system because it’s greatly influenced by hormones.

The team added the chemicals to the drinking water of pregnant mice at levels similar to those found in groundwater near fracking sites. She and her colleagues found that mouse pups—particularly females—who were exposed to a mixture of 23

fracking chemicals in the womb had abnormal immune responses to several types of diseases later on, including an allergic disease and a type of flu.

Moreover, the mice were especially susceptible to a disease that mimics multiple sclerosis.

Lawrence and her colleagues believe the chemicals derail cellular pathways that control which immune cells are spurred to action. The group plans to continue to investigate how fracking chemicals interact with the developing immune system in ways that will inform biomedical scientists, health care professionals, policy makers, and the public.

—Susanne Pallo

Bugs in the Gut Could Make You Weak in the Knees

Bacteria in the gut, known as the gut microbiome, could be the culprit behind arthritis and joint pain that plagues people who are obese, according to a study by Rochester researchers published in *JCI Insight*.

Osteoarthritis is the greatest cause of disability in the United States, affecting 31 million people. Sometimes called “wear-and-tear” arthritis, osteoarthritis in people who are obese was long assumed to be a consequence of stress on joints. But a team led by Michael Zuscik, an associate professor of orthopaedics, Robert Mooney, a professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, and Steven Gill, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology, provides the first evidence that bacteria in the gut—governed by diet—could be the driving force behind the condition.

The researchers fed mice a high-fat “cheeseburger and milkshake” diet. Just 12 weeks of the diet made mice obese and diabetic, nearly doubling their body-fat percentage compared to mice fed a low-fat, healthy diet. They had more harmful bacteria in their guts compared to lean mice, which caused inflammation throughout their bodies, leading to rapid joint deterioration.

Surprisingly, the harmful gut bacteria, inflammation, and osteoarthritis were completely prevented when the high-fat diet of obese mice was supplemented with a prebiotic. While their weight was unaffected, the knee cartilage of obese mice who consumed an oligofructose supplement was indistinguishable from that of the lean mice.

“Cartilage is both a cushion and lubricant, supporting friction-free joint movements,” says Zuscik. “When you lose that, you have to replace the whole joint. Preventing that from happening is what we, as osteoarthritis researchers, strive to do.”

—Susanne Pallo

Protecting Horses—and Humans—from Deadly Flu

Flu vaccines for horses haven’t been updated in more than 25 years, but Rochester researchers have developed a new live equine influenza vaccine that is safe and more protective than existing vaccines. That’s important not only to horses and their owners, but also to humans, since animals such as horses, pigs, and dogs are the most likely source of future human pandemics.

Although it hasn’t happened yet, it’s possible that animals could be infected with multiple influenza viruses and have the potential to act as “mixing vessels,” generating new flu strains that could infect people. The strains would be particularly dangerous because people wouldn’t have pre-existing immunity.

In the journal *Virology*, Luis Martinez-Sobrido, an associate professor of microbiology and immunology at the Medical Center, and lead author Laura Rodriguez, a research assistant professor in Martinez-Sobrido’s lab, describe a new “live-attenuated” vaccine that’s given as a spray through the nose. Created using a genetic engineering technique called reserve genetics, the new vaccine is designed to replicate and



HORSE SENSE: Rochester work to develop a new vaccine to protect horses from multiple strains of flu virus may have important implications for protecting humans from viruses as well.

generate an immune response in the nose, where the flu first enters a horse’s body, but not in the lungs, where replication of the virus can cause disease.

The use of reverse genetic approaches to create the live-attenuated equine vaccine confers an additional major advantage not available until

now: the vaccine can be updated quickly and easily to protect against newly emerging equine influenza strains.

Traditional equine vaccines, which are made in eggs, take months to produce and do not allow the flexibility to update against newly emerging viruses.

—Emily Boynton

Student Leader Teams Mark Milestones

An international student will serve as president of the Students' Association for the 2018-19 year, in what's believed to be a first for student representation in the College.

Beatriz Gil '19, an economics and political science double major from Barcelona, Spain, was elected this spring on a ticket with Jamal Holtz '20, a political science major from Washington, D.C., who will serve as vice president.

Gil and Holtz campaigned on a platform that emphasized their goal of working to ensure that international and underrepresented minority students feel as engaged in campus life as domestic students of any background.

Meanwhile, at the Eastman School of Music, two trombonists

will serve as president and vice president of student government.

Henry Carpender '20, an applied music and jazz and contemporary media major from Mundelein, Illinois, and Ben Dettelback '19, an applied music major from Martinsville, New Jersey, were elected to lead Eastman's Students' Association.

In June, Gil and Holtz, who have been involved in SA government since their first years on campus, will take part in a conference with student presidents and vice presidents from universities and colleges across the country.

"We've already hit the ground running," Holtz says. "Our goal is to meet with all of the (200-plus) student organizations this fall. We can't wait."



LEADING TEAM: Jamal Holtz '20 (left) and Beatriz Gil '19 will lead the Students' Association in the College for the 2018-19 year.

Library Has Vision for Augmented and Virtual Reality Lab

Students and faculty will have a space on campus to explore augmented and virtual reality, according to a proposal to transform an area in the Carlson Science and Engineering Library into a hands-on lab devoted to the new technologies.

Envisioned as a place where advanced students and faculty could work on projects and where beginners could explore the possibilities for the technology, the new lab is a joint project of the River Campus Libraries and Arts,

Sciences & Engineering.

A steering committee has conducted initial research to outline plans for the space, with the goal of developing a functional program by this fall. The group recommended a hands-on learning lab designed to support a range of research, teaching, and learning activities, including spaces where faculty and students could meet to foster discussion and collaboration, experience AR/VR projects, learn and work with new tools, and have easy access to

expert help.

Identified as a research priority for the University, the new technologies are expected to have an important influence not only in entertainment, but also in health care, education, the performing arts, and other fields.

The committee plans to hold a series of design charrettes—"facilitated brainstorming sessions"—in which faculty and students will be invited to help provide ideas for what they would like to see in the space.

University's Career Links in China Recognized

The University has been recognized for work to help students find jobs with Chinese enterprises.

At the 2018 Global University Career Development Conference, Rochester was selected as the "Most Proactive University Career Services Team" from a consortium of university career centers that work with Chinese employers.

Administered by Global University China Career Union and the recruitment platform Lockin China, the award is presented to the university that actively seeks cooperation with Chinese enterprises by effectively assisting students with future employment through strong job-seeking initiatives.

While the award was presented to the University, the honor highlights collaboration between the Gwen M. Greene Center for Career Education and Connections and Simon Business School.

Partnership Aims to Advance Drug Discovery

The University is joining the University at Buffalo and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center to form a new drug discovery partnership that aims to convert the institutions' scientific breakthroughs into viable pharmaceuticals for commercialization and strengthen the region as a hub for life sciences research and development.

The partners are establishing

the Empire Discovery Institute, an independent, nonprofit entity that will identify promising drug candidates and move them toward clinical trials. The institute will help the institutions' researchers conduct preclinical testing of promising compounds discovered in their labs. Researchers will also receive assistance in designing new drugs for drug targets they have

identified through their work.

During an announcement in May for the new initiative, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said the new partnership will receive \$35.4 million in funding over five years from Empire State Development, a state economic development agency, in addition to \$12 million worth of in-kind support from the partner institutions.

Simon and Eastman Deans Reappointed

The deans of the Simon Business School and the Eastman School of Music have been reappointed to new five-year terms.

Simon's Andrew Ainslie and Jamal Rossi '87E (DMA), who is the Joan and Martin Messinger Dean of the Eastman School of Music, have both led their schools since 2014. Provost Rob Clark made the new appointments, which were approved by the University's Board of Trustees. The new terms are effective July 1, 2019.

Andrew Ainslie

Since being named Simon's seventh dean, Ainslie has led strategic curriculum and recruitment changes, including reducing program offerings to sharpen the focus of the admissions, faculty, career placement, and administrative staffs.

He has also expanded the undergraduate business program and has worked with faculty to move Simon's academic programs from quarters to semesters to better meet student needs.

In 2018 the *Financial Times* listed Simon as No. 44 among business schools worldwide, as well as No. 13 for "Top U.S. MBA Programs for Women"—and No. 21 worldwide.

In 2015, Ainslie cut the total tuition of the full-time, two-year MBA program by 13.6 percent. Designed to provide greater

transparency to prospective applicants and realign Simon among its peers, the move resulted in an increase in global and domestic applications. This is the third year that Ainslie has frozen the MBA tuition rate.

Ainslie came to Rochester from

the Beal Institute for Film Music and Contemporary Media, a program designed to train the next generation of musicians to score music for film and new media, and a new master of arts degree program in music leadership for musicians who also wish to devel-

prominent conservatories around the world.

Rossi joined Eastman in 2005 as senior associate dean and served as executive associate dean from 2007 until 2013. As executive associate dean, Rossi was responsible for



SCHOOL LEADERS: Rossi (left), the Joan and Martin Messinger Dean of the Eastman School of Music, and Ainslie (right), dean of the Simon Business School, have been reappointed to new five-year terms.

UCLA's Anderson School of Management, where he was senior associate dean of the full-time MBA program.

Jamal Rossi '87E (DMA)

Rossi succeeded the late Douglas Lowry, becoming the second Messinger Dean of the Eastman School of Music.

Recognized for his efforts in faculty recruitment and his commitment to innovation, Rossi has overseen the introduction of

op managerial, entrepreneurial, and leadership skills.

Rossi has established new partnerships with numerous organizations, including the Gateways Music Festival, to support and promote greater diversity in classical music; ArtistShare, to support and promote student and young alumni careers; the Yamaha Corporation, to create the "Yamaha Fellows Program" as part of a new Eastman Leadership Academy; and several

Eastman's academic programs and personnel, including faculty hiring and promotions, and for academic and student affairs and enrollment management, among other duties. He also founded RocMusic, a partnership to establish a free after-school music program for Rochester City School District students.

Before joining Eastman, Rossi was the dean of the School of Music at the University of South Carolina in Columbia.

University's First Chief Data Officer Appointed

A former assistant vice president and economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City has been named chief data officer, becoming the first person to hold the new University-wide position.

As associate vice provost for data governance and chief data officer, Sandra (San) Cannon will be responsible for the University's data and information strategy, governance, control, and policy development, effective July 1. She will report to Rob Clark,

University provost and senior vice president for research.

Cannon joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City in July 2014 after 20 years at the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, D.C.

She is active in the international data community and has presented and published on topics such as metadata standards, copyright and licensing issues, and data management and dissemination.

Cannon holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of California, Irvine, and a master's degree in economics from the London School of Economics.

She received a PhD in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Cannon was selected following a national search. Tom Barnett, chief information officer at the Medical Center, led the search committee.



DATA CHIEF: Cannon is Rochester's first chief data officer.

YELLOWJACKET SPORTS

Sensational Seasons

All-American athletes and quarterfinal finishes mark strong 2017-18 campaigns for the Yellowjackets.

By Scott Sabocheck

Powered by the success of three teams that reached the NCAA quarterfinals and the All-American performance of track-and-field athletes, the Yellowjackets finished among the top 25 percent in a national measure of athletic competitiveness.

Rochester was 67th in the Learfield Director's Cup Standings for the 2017-18 season. That's down slightly from last year, but marks the third year in a row that the Yellowjackets have been in the top 25 percent.

Developed jointly by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics and *USA Today*, the Learfield Director's Cup competition awards points based on each institution's NCAA finishes in up to 18 sports—nine women's and nine men's.

Rochester finished 67th of 329 teams in the Division III standings, accumulating 292.5 points. A total of five Yellowjacket teams participated in NCAA team postseason competition.

Field hockey, men's soccer, and women's basketball all reached the national quarterfinals (Elite 8), scoring the most points for Rochester. The other two key teams scoring points were women's indoor track and field and women's outdoor track and field. In addition, Rochester sent an individual participant to the women's cross country nationals and the Yellowjacket squash team qualified for the top division at the College Squash Association championships.

As of early June, Rochester had a total of seven All-Americans for the 2017-18 year.

They are Courtney Dunham '19 in field hockey; Geoffrey Rouin '18 in men's soccer; Alexandra Leslie '18 in women's basketball; Tomotaka Endo '18 and Ashley Davies '21 in squash; Kylee Bartlett '19 in track and field; and Jason Paek '18 in golf.

In another season highlight, men's soccer defender Nik Angyal '19 was named an Academic All-American by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

Overall, the Yellowjackets have finished in the top 75 of the Director's Cup standings for three straight seasons and six of the last nine years. 📍

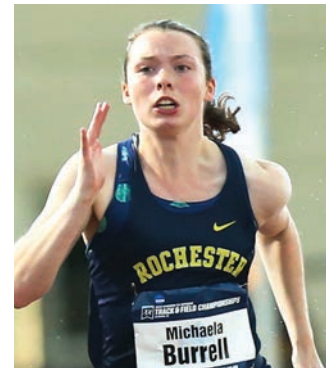
Scott Sabocheck is assistant director of athletic communications.



MILESTONE MOMENTS: Claire Dickerson '18 (right), Maya Haigis '20, and the field hockey team marked milestones: the program's first Liberty League title and third straight NCAA appearance.



QUARTERFINALS: Men's soccer defender Zach Lawlor '20 (left) and women's basketball point guard Brynn Lauer '18 (T5) (right) helped lead their teams to the Elite 8 round of the NCAA tournaments.



STRONG FINISHES: Multi-event athlete Eileen Bequette '21 (left) and Michaela Burrell '20 (right) joined All-American Kylee Bartlett '19 for a strong showing at the NCAA national meet this spring.

HIGHLIGHTS

Baseball Claims Regular Season Title

For the first time since 2010, the Yellowjackets baseball team won the regular season title. With a 16–5 record, Rochester hosted the league tournament, where the Yellowjackets were the No. 1 seed.

The team was one win away from advancing to the NCAA tournament, falling in the championship game to Union.

Also this spring, three-time NCAA champion Kylee Bartlett '19 was named the 2018 Liberty League Field Athlete of the Year for women's outdoor track and field. Jason Paek '18 was the Liberty League Golfer of the Year. And in women's rowing, the Varsity 4 took the state title.

Here's a look at other highlights:

Baseball: The team won a nail-biting 13-inning game to advance to a winner-take-all final in the Liberty League championship, only to see visiting Union College take the league title. The Yellowjackets finished at 19–17. First baseman Aiden Finch '19 and outfielder Steve Pickering '21 earned all-region honors. A total of 10 players were named all-league and the coaching staff was honored as well.

Softball: A rugged schedule at the start (11 of the first 12 came against Top 25 teams) helped Rochester post an 8–4 Liberty League record and make the conference playoffs. Eight of nine starters will return plus both pitchers.

Golf: Jason Paek '18 was the Liberty League Golfer of the Year, all-UAA, all-region, and was named an All-America Scholar by the Golf Coaches Association



TOP TEAMMATES: Outfielder Steve Pickering '21 (above) and first baseman Aiden Finch '19 earned all-region honors as the baseball team captured the in-season league title.

of America. Jack Mulligan '20 earned all-region honors as well. Rochester finished third at the Liberty League championships.

Women's outdoor track and field: Three-time NCAA champion and All-American Kylee Bartlett '19 was named Liberty League Field Athlete of the Year. She won the Division III individual national championship in the heptathlon in May, her second consecutive NCAA national title in the heptathlon and the third time she won a multi-event championship in the last

15 months. First-year teammate Eileen Bequette '21 finished 14th overall at the national meet, while Michaela Burrell '20 just missed the finals in the 100 meters in her first NCAA national meet appearance.


Men's outdoor track and field: Hunter Phinney '19 won a gold medal at the all-Atlantic regional championships in the 5,000 meters. The men finished fifth at the Liberty League championships.

Rowing: The Varsity 4 won the state title while the 8s captured a four-team meet in Worcester, Massachusetts. Elizabeth Sadrakula '20 earned all-Liberty League honors.

Lacrosse: Rochester assembled a four-game winning streak in mid-season to get into the Liberty League playoff picture.

A 10–5 win at Union was a milestone: it was the 200th all-time victory for women's lacrosse over 38 years.

Men's tennis: Sahaj Somani '20 came from 4–1 down in the third set to win, 7–5, 5–7, 7–5 and give Rochester a 5–4 win in the seventh place match of the UAA championships.

Women's tennis: Rochester went on a 6–2 roll after returning from the Florida part of the schedule. 

—DENNIS O'DONNELL

HONORS & AWARDS

Celebrating Success

VARSITY TEAM: Seven Yellowjackets were honored at the 2018 Varsity Awards Banquet this spring. They are (from left) Olivia Denny '18, a four-year letter winner as an attacker on the field hockey team (Terrence L. Gurnett '77 Award); Brynn Lauer '18 (T5), a point guard for the women's basketball team (Sylvia Fabricant Award); Jacob Wittig '19, a point guard for the men's basketball team (John A. Vitone Award); Alexandra Leslie '18, a four-year All-American in women's basketball (Merle Spurrier Award); Daniel Bronson '18, a multipurpose back for the football team (Louis Alexander Award); and Luke Meyerson '18, a starter on the baseball team (Peter DiPasquale '52 Award); Not pictured: Haberly Kahn '18, an outfielder on the softball team (Terrence L. Gurnett '77 Award).—Dennis O'Donnell





CAPITAL PLACE: The Kennedy Center is the performing arts capital of the nation's capital, says Christine Branche '83, but the third-generation Washingtonian says the District has long been home to a thriving arts and cultural community.



MONUMENTAL CITY: Often seen through the prism of politics and iconic monuments, Washington, D.C., is that and more, say alumni who have made it their home. It's a vibrant city that comes alive when you know where to look.

Show Us Your Town

Washington, D.C.

More than just the seat of government, the nation's capital is a city rich in art and culture, foodie havens, and outdoor getaways. Just ask some of the 4,600 alumni who make it their home.

By Matthew Dewald

In the hills that rise in the Northwest section of Washington, D.C., you can ride an elevator to the towers of the National Cathedral, the world's sixth largest Gothic cathedral.

Walking from window to window, **Adam Konowe '90** admires the miles-long views that extend to Virginia and Maryland and the planes coming in and out of Reagan National Airport.

"I'd rather have this view than the one from the Washington Monument," says Konowe, who has lived in Washington since he graduated from Rochester in 1990. "This is the highest point in the District. You get a view of more than just the Mall. It puts the city and its neighborhoods in perspective."

Konowe, a marketing communications executive, has combined a transplant's curiosity with three decades of living experience to put the city into perspective.


One of about 4,600 Rochester alumni who call the metropolitan D.C. area home, Konowe is also a cochair of the Washington, D.C., Network

Leadership Cabinet, an organization designed to better focus activities, programs, and opportunities for alumni and others in Washington.

It's one of 10 regional networks initially identified as part of a strategic effort to build a stronger sense of connection among Rochester's key constituent groups.

During a weekend visit last fall, Konowe and other members of the Rochester community were more than happy to act as inside tour guides, sharing their appreciation for a place that's normally portrayed only through the prism of politics and national monuments.

They all agree that there is much more to their city.

As third-generation Washingtonian **Christine Branche '83** puts it: "All Americans should come to their capital and enjoy it." 

Matthew Dewald is a freelance writer based in Richmond, Virginia.



TREASURES: Works by Renoir are among the Phillips Collection's treasures.

Visual Arts

Although the Smithsonian is a must, alumni guides say some of Washington's best art museums are in private hands and are well worth seeking out.

A Phillips Collection

1600 21st Street NW

Tucked away in a renovated mansion on a side street in the Dupont Circle neighborhood is America's first museum of modern art, the Phillips Collection. "For me this is just a neighborhood treasure," says **Debbie Dorfman Drumheller** '74, who lives nearby. Drumheller's insider tip: score a ticket for "Phillips After 5," which happens the first Thursday of every month. Admission prices are the same as always, but the museum offers hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and live music from chamber music to jazz.

B Kreeger Museum

2401 Foxhall Road NW

Far from the crowds of the Mall and not easily accessible by public transit, the Kreeger Museum, located in the Foxhall neighborhood, comes recommended by **Nancie Kennedy** '79E (MM). Five acres of woods and sculpture gardens surround the museum, which focuses on 19th- and 20th-century European painting. The Kreeger home is itself a work of art, having landed in the pages of *Vogue* when the building was under construction in 1964.

C Hillwood Estate, Museum, and Gardens

4155 Linnean Avenue NW

Dusty Riddle '09S (MBA) and Kennedy both recommend a visit to the former home of Marjorie Merriweather Post, heir to the Post cereal fortune and a lifelong art collector. She amassed a stunning collection of Imperial Russian treasures while her third husband served as U.S. ambassador to the early Soviet Union. Hillwood's famed House of Fabergé eggs, picture frames, jewelry, and other decorative items used by the Russian royals are a true must-see.

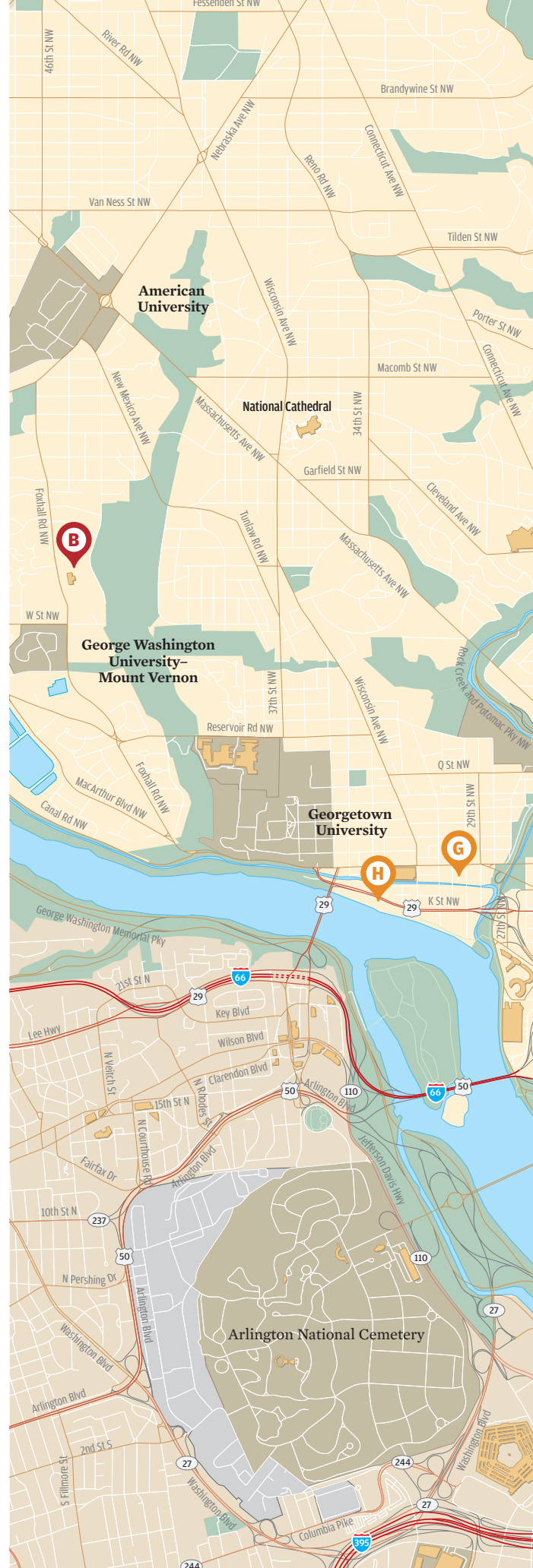
Performing Arts

"You get your credentials at the Kennedy Center," says Kennedy of the capital's most famous performing arts venue. But she adds that the District's offerings extend well beyond it.

D Arena Stage

1101 Sixth Street SW

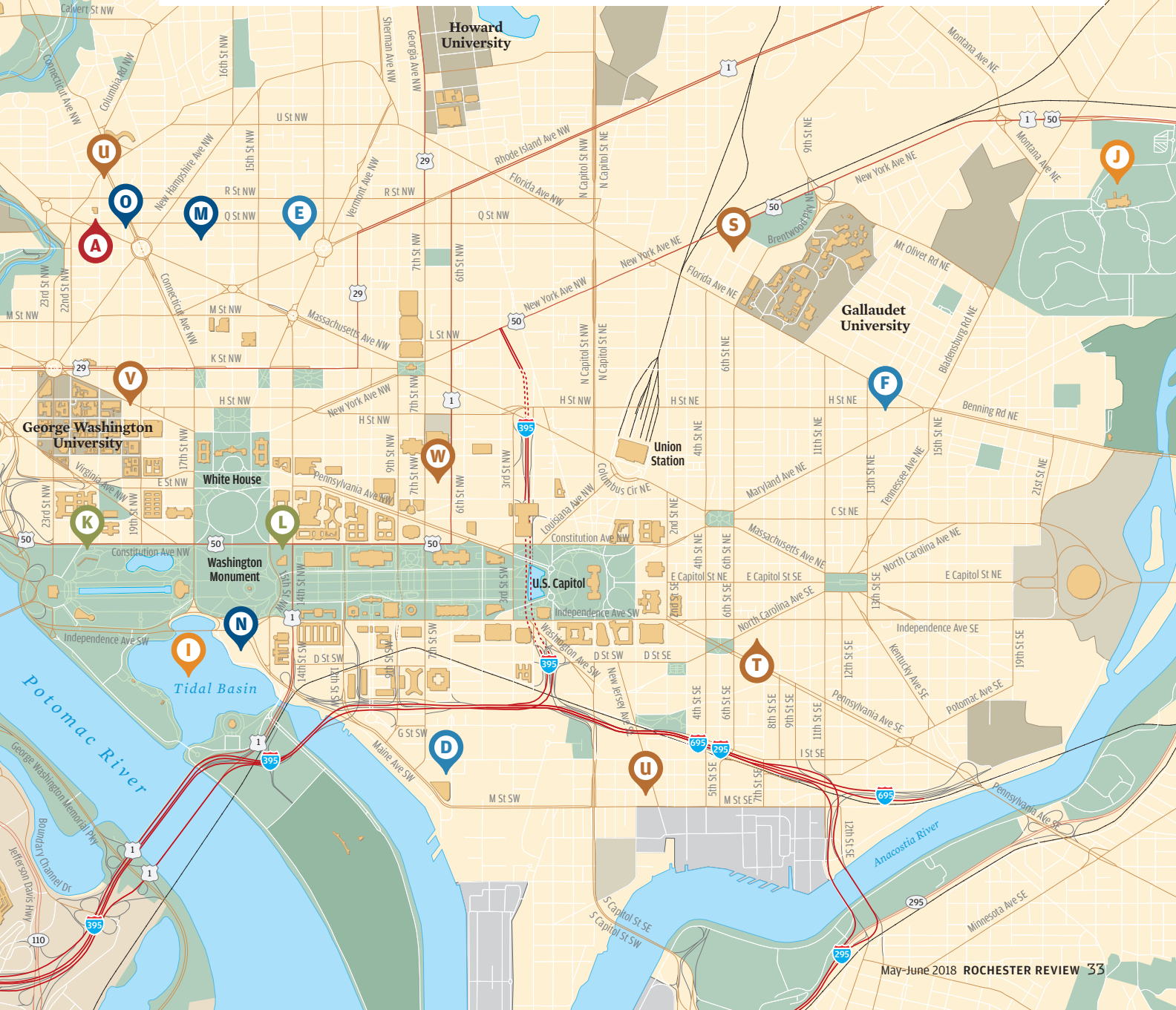
Kennedy enjoys the solidly American themes of Arena Stage—devoted exclusively to American theater—which sits right on the Potomac in the city's Southwest quadrant.



When You Go ... An Insider's Guide

Members of the Washington, D.C., Regional Network shared their expertise as residents of the nation's capital to put together a short list of favorites—sites that are off the standard itinerary as well as quintessential D.C. traditions. The color-coded circles match the descriptions for each spot.

The D.C. edition of *Show Us Your Town* is part of a series highlighting the University's regional networks.





Meet Your Guides

Members of the Washington, D.C., Network Leadership Cabinet served as guides to the nation's capital.

Cochaired by Christine Branche '83, Debbie Dorfman Drumheller '74, and Adam Konowe '90, the group organizes activities, programs, and opportunities for alumni and other members of the University community in the region to volunteer, network, and stay connected.

Christine Branche '83

Bowie, Maryland

A third-generation Washingtonian, Branche is an epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control.

Debbie Dorfman Drumheller '74

Washington, D.C.

Drumheller retired from a career as a financial executive and treasurer for a major oil company.

Adam Konowe '90

Reston, Virginia

Konowe began his career as a television producer before moving to public relations.

Dusty Riddle '09S (MBA)

Washington, D.C.

Riddle works in credit card finance for a national company.

Nancie Kennedy '79E (MM)

Annapolis, Maryland

A retired opera singer, Kennedy frequently visits the District for performances.

Mia Alqadi Comrie '08

Silver Spring, Maryland

Comrie is a senior program specialist for the Department of Justice, working on police-community relations.

E Studio Theater

1501 14th Street NW

Located just off Logan Circle, Studio Theater produces contemporary works that hit head and heart, says Riddle, who described a recent show there about a father's descent into dementia as something that "made you think. It was very raw and emotional." Its shows are intimate, with none of its four theaters seating more than 225.

F UrbanArias

UrbanArias is a contemporary company giving opera a makeover. "If I were taking somebody into Washington and they've done the tourist things, the traditional things—this would take you in different directions," says Kennedy. The company produces short contemporary operas with titles like *Craigslist Cabaret* and *Photo-Op* at the Atlas Performing Arts Center on H Street in Northeast Washington and at Signature Theater in Arlington, Virginia.



HIDDEN HIGHLIGHT: The C&O Canal trail is an accessible, outdoor asset.

☀️ Outdoors in the District

Rochester alumni are in consensus: D.C. is a town that rewards ambling outdoors, and it has abundant options.

G C&O Canal Trail

A walking and biking path built on a converted railroad bed, the C&O Canal Trail is a mainstay of Drumheller's outdoor routine. "It's a D.C. asset that not a lot of people know about," she said during a walk along it, the Potomac River just beyond the tree line. She often spots geese, turtles, and other wildlife on her regular bike rides. "If you live in Washington and haven't been here, it's a shame. It's so accessible. Here we are just a few miles from the Capitol, and it's beautiful."

H Georgetown Waterfront Park

Overlooking the Kennedy Center and Roosevelt Island, the Georgetown Waterfront Park is the place to kayak or paddleboat, says Drumheller. The Georgetown University crew team practices there, too.

I Tidal Basin

Branche treasures walks along the Tidal Basin, which is ringed by memorials for Thomas Jefferson, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Martin Luther King Jr. "MLK is looking right at Jefferson; someone had a very interesting sense of humor," she says. "I've been there at sunset, and it's refreshing. I've noticed that people speak more quietly there."

D.C. MARVELS: Nancie Kennedy '79E (MM), Debbie Dorfman

Drumheller '74, and Adam Konowe '90 (opposite, top to bottom) say that the nation's capital has cultural gems, outdoor opportunities, and out-of-the-way places that offer a richer view of D.C. and its attractions for those willing to explore beyond the well-known sites.





J National Arboretum

Don't miss the National Arboretum, says Branche. "They have trees from all over the country there," she says. "Your tax dollars at work."

W The Mall

You have not fully walked the Mall until you've done it at night, says **Mia Alqadi Comrie '08**. Once darkness falls, footlights and spotlights illuminate the monuments and museums, lending drama to familiar views. "My favorites at night are the African-American Museum and the Jefferson Memorial—if you can have a favorite memorial."

K Vietnam War Memorial

"It's one thing to see it on television," says Branche of the Vietnam War Memorial. "It's another to go see people interacting with it." The massive black granite memorial displays the engraved names of each of the more than 58,000 Americans killed in the war. "It gives it a kind of majesty. You don't think of Vietnam and majesty, but the memorial brings that word to mind."

L National Museum of African-American History and Culture

Part of the Smithsonian, the National Museum of African-American History and Culture opened in September 2016. "What a beautiful place, in the broadest sense," says Branche. Tickets, she notes, are released months in advance and are snatched up quickly.

R Right Place, Right Time

"D.C. is a town of traditions, things you can go to every year," says Riddle during a walk down the hill from the Capitol. Sometimes the secret to seeing a familiar city anew is to come at a different time of year.

M High Heel Drag Queen Race

A fall favorite for both Riddle and Drumheller, Dupont Circle's annual High Heel Drag Queen Race attracts thousands every October to watch elaborately costumed drag queens race down 17th Street. Drumheller also recommended a walk along Q Street during the Halloween season for a look at the residents' over-the-top decorations.

N Cherry Blossom Festival

If you can time it right, both Comrie and Branche say the Cherry Blossom Festival is worth the hype. "When the blossoms are at their peak, it's an amazing time to walk around the Tidal Basin," Comrie says. "The event draws tourists and locals. It's quintessentially D.C. to see people walking around in their suits enjoying the cherry blossoms."

O Around the World Embassy Tour

A long-standing tradition happens every May, when dozens of embassies coordinate to offer open houses one Saturday. "When I was a Girl Scout, we were at an embassy greeting people," says Branche, who grew up in D.C. "My best friend and I were stationed at the embassy of Iran."

X Farther Afield

For visitors, "the challenge is to get off the beaten path," says Konowe '90, whose daughter is a member of the Class of 2021. "More than most cities, the natural tendency is to do stuff on the Mall because it's so central. The Mall is no more emblematic of D.C. than Times Square is of New York City."

P The Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center

Chantilly, Virginia

Part of the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, the Udvar-Hazy is much larger than its counterpart on the Mall. "Unlike a



Regional Networks and You

The University of Rochester's regional networks offer alumni, parents, and friends a variety of social events, networking opportunities, and community service initiatives in Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York City, Philadelphia, Rochester, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C., with new cities added regularly. Many volunteer opportunities also exist, and include organizing events, interviewing and mentoring students, welcoming new alumni to an area, and serving as social media ambassadors.

"Regional networks are central to keeping alumni, parents, and friends connected to each other and to the University of Rochester," says Paul Lanzone '03, assistant vice president of alumni and constituent engagement. "As an alumnus myself, I know firsthand the professional and personal benefits of staying involved, be it as a program participant or a volunteer who is helping to shape our community."

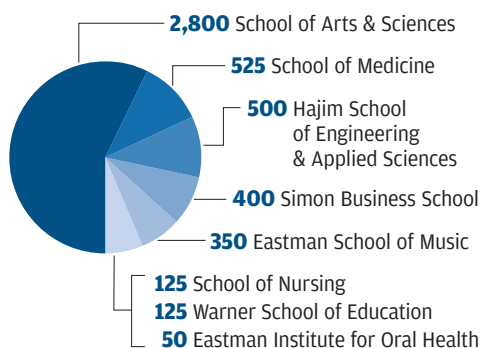
How to connect

For more about the Washington, D.C., regional network, including upcoming and ongoing activities, social media connections, volunteer opportunities, and other information, visit the network's website at Rochester.edu/alumni/dc

D.C. Deep Dive

4,600 alumni
940 young alumni (10 or fewer years out)
180 volunteers
325 current parents

Alumni by School



lot of museums where it's really about the exhibits and secondarily about the artifacts, Udvar-Hazy is all about the artifacts."

WOLF TRAP NATIONAL PARK FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Vienna, Virginia

A favorite of Konowe's, Wolf Trap is the country's only national park devoted to the performing arts. Featuring the architecturally renowned Filene Center, it's also home to a smaller venue that hosts year-round performances and serves as the home to Wolf Trap Opera.

GREAT FALLS NATIONAL PARK

McLean, Virginia

Across the Potomac from Maryland, Great Falls National Park is a favorite dog-walking spot for Comrie and her pup, Jake. "Once you get away from the falls, it's so peaceful and quiet even though you're so close to the city."



MARKETPLACE: Eastern Market is one of D.C.'s original public markets.

Let's Eat

"Twenty years ago, D.C. was a food desert. Not today," Drumheller says. Branche described it as a proudly foodie town these days, with celebrity chefs and excellent cuisines from all over the world.

UNION MARKET

1309 5th Street NE

For Comrie and Riddle, the D.C. food scene starts with its public markets. "Union Market embodies D.C.," Comrie says. All around, construction cranes in every direction speak to a neighborhood in transition. "You can walk around and create a meal with so many different styles and flavors. It's been really fun to watch it expand."

EASTERN MARKET

225 7th Street SE

Eastern Market is one of Washington's original public markets and reminiscent of Rochester's, with rambling tables of produce outside and delis, butchers, and fishmongers within. "Here you see the vitality of the city," Riddle says.

BETHESDA BAGEL

1718 Connecticut Avenue NW and 120 M Street SE

If you're looking for breakfast, it's "the best bagel in the city," says Drumheller. "I say that as a native New Yorker who grew up not far from H&H and Zabar's."

FOUNDING FARMERS

1924 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

For brunch, Comrie recommends Founding Farmers, a restaurant



MARKET TO MARKET: “Union Market embodies D.C.,” says Mia Alqadi Comrie ’08 (above) of the District’s nationally recognized food hall; the nation’s capital offers much more than politics, says Dusty Riddle ’09S (MBA) (left). “People really live here. It’s not just the seat of government.”



born from an alliance of farmers in North Dakota. “Everything is fresh,” she says. “I love going on Sundays. They have amazing biscuits and great décor. It’s a warm environment, and the food is outstanding.”

W All in the Neighborhood

To sample D.C.’s food scene, Branche says, you need a strategy. One of her favorites is to pick one of the many spots close to the National Portrait Gallery in Penn Quarter. “I could go to a different restaurant there every night,” she says.

Her favorites include Zaytinya, Rosa Mexicano, Clyde’s, and Rasika. Zaytinya offers a Greek/Mediterranean tapas menu developed by celebrity chef José Andrés. Rosa Mexicano offers a fine-dining, white-tablecloth take on Mexican cuisine. Clyde’s is a D.C. institution, with wood-paneled booths and an attentive staff serving a menu of upscale pub food. On game nights at the Verizon Center nearby, don’t be surprised to see a healthy collection of Wizards and Caps jerseys at the bar. Rasika, just a couple of blocks away, features modern Indian cuisine.

Such vibrancy—exemplified in the people who make the District their home—is what makes the capital special.

Says Riddle: “People really live here. It’s not just the seat of government.” **R**

Senior Studies

To cap off their senior year at Rochester, graduating students showcase their abilities as researchers, scholars, artists, and community members.



As a computer science major with a minor in philosophy, Josh Pachter '18 was looking for a way to combine his interdisciplinary interests. The Lexington, Massachusetts, native found the perfect avenue when he was selected for the Senior Scholars Program, a Rochester initiative designed to support select students as they focus on a yearlong intellectual project.

Pachter set out to address some timely, practical—and philosophical—questions involving self-driving cars: can machines be trained to act ethically? And if so, how?

“It’s not a conventional research project done in a lab,” says Pachter. “It’s a combination of philosophy and computer science—lots of literature review and philosophizing.”

The project is one example of the kind of intellectual endeavor that many Rochester students undertake during their senior year. For some students, senior projects are part of the curriculum requirements for their departments, and for others, the motivation is grounded in the chance to engage in a scholarly, creative, or scientific endeavor. For all of them, the projects help bring their interests into focus and deepen their experience as Rochester students.

Here’s a look at some of this year’s projects.



SENIOR SHOW: For her senior thesis exhibition, titled *toxins*, Brianne Landwersiek '18 displayed a selection of work (above, left) at the Rochester Public Market. The studio art and public health double major was one of several seniors who capped their year with an exhibition featuring their work at galleries on campus and in spaces in the Rochester area.

POWER OF DANCE: Combining her interests in dance with her studies in biology, Erin Dong '18 (above) explored the physical and emotional manifestations of grief. She brought together science, emotion, and creative movement in a performance called “The Beautiful Awful: Experiencing Grief Through Movement,” which she presented at the end of the academic year.



The Biology of Grief—through Dance

Erin Dong '18 knew from a young age that she wanted to study biology. While at Rochester, she supplemented her coursework with stints as a volunteer in rehabilitation physical therapy at the Medical Center and as a research assistant in the School of Nursing.

But what surprised her was that she also developed a love of dance, leading to a double major in both biology and dance.

For her senior project, Dong created a dance called “The Beautiful Awful: Experiencing Grief Through Movement” that

combines aspects of both her majors. Along the way, she learned lessons about the creative process, taking risks, and the wisdom that can come from failure.

“I only started dancing when I came to college,” Dong says. “But I love how it’s this universal way of expression. I wanted to help people remember the loss they felt and experienced, connect to others who also shared that, and allow them to feel the emotions in their entire bodies, not just in their heads.”

Dong started her project by examining other performances,



specifically work by Bill T. Jones and the dance company MBDance, which visited Rochester in January.

At about the same time, her beloved grandmother, Peggy, passed away. While at a conference in Boston, she saw a dance by students at Bates College in which choreographers had asked people how they would spend their last days on Earth. The dancers' movements mirrored the answers, which ranged from "sitting and watching the sun rise" to "eating a gallon of ice cream with my childhood sweetheart."

"Seeing this dance is when I finally cried about my grandmother, because I was able to connect to the joy, but also the pain and the sadness, evident onstage," Dong says. "The piece really coaxed out my emotion and gave me a safe space to feel."

She wanted to create a similar kind of space in her own dance, one in which people would have an outlet to grieve freely. She turned to her knowledge of anatomy and physiology to create a piece that incorporated both the emotional aspects and the physical symptoms of the grieving process.

Her faculty mentor, Anne Harris Wilcox, a senior lecturer in the Program of Dance and Movement, says building on such a broad understanding of the body's anatomy and mechanics, and the functions involved in movement, are important in dance.

Dong's final product was a meditation on grief that brings together science, emotion, and creative movement. But it's the lessons she learned from the process that Dong will carry with her. This summer she starts a three-year doctoral program for physical therapy at the University of Pittsburgh.

—LINDSEY VALICH

WALKING TALLER: Rosemary Buckley, the daughter of Mark Buckley, an assistant professor of biomedical engineering, tests a walker designed by a team of senior engineering students, including Jennifer Choi, Devan Foggio, and Jo Cappotelli. (Team member Daniel Myers is not pictured.)

Building a Better Walker

For young children with Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and other developmental disabilities, learning to walk can be a long-term process. In the meantime, the children find it hard to keep up with their peers, which can increase their social isolation.

A team of biomedical engineering majors, working with Leah Talbot, a Rochester-area physical therapist, hopes to address both issues with an inexpensive, "hybrid" walker that will be portable enough to accompany the children wherever they go.

"This is right up our alley," says Joe Cappotelli '18, whose senior design project teammates Hyun Jennifer Choi '18, Devan Foggio '18, and Daniel Myers '18 developed a prototype for a less expensive, more therapeutically sound walker. The design consists of a frame of relatively light-weight plastic tubing, an adjustable harness to support a child, a steering column, and an axle assembly to propel everything.

As the students surveyed commercially available walkers, they found two main options. One kind enabled 3- to 5-year-olds to keep up with their peers, but weren't very helpful from a therapeutic standpoint because they didn't require children to propel themselves. Walkers used in clinical settings, on the other hand, were often bulky and expensive—great for therapy, but not for keeping up with more mobile playmates, or for taking home.

The team "has definitely come up with a very unique idea to help children with motor delays learn to walk in a fun and active way," Talbot says. "Ideally this motorized walker will allow these children to access their environment to play with their peers while improving their cognitive, motor, and social skills."

—BOB MARCOTTE

Making Diabetes Screening Portable

The diabetes that's endemic in Micronesia is a legacy of modern store-bought foods and a less strenuous lifestyle than South Pacific islanders enjoyed before the encroachment of Western culture. But detecting and treating the disease in Micronesia is complicated by the fact that electrical power and cell phone coverage is erratic or nonexistent in many of the remote villages and outer islands. Moreover, many of the inhabitants are distrustful of Western medicine, and reluctant to travel to clinics or hospitals for help.

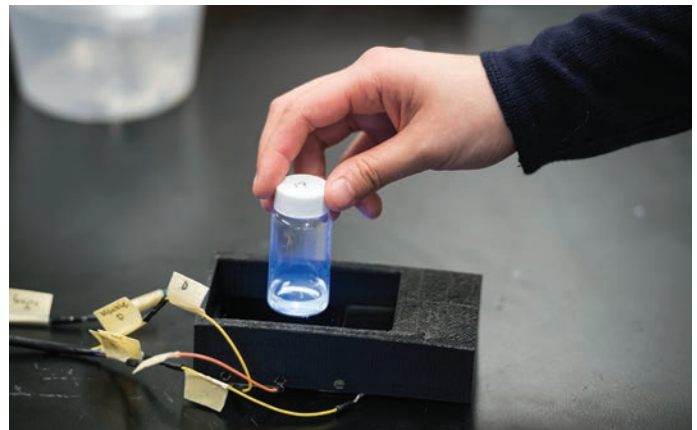
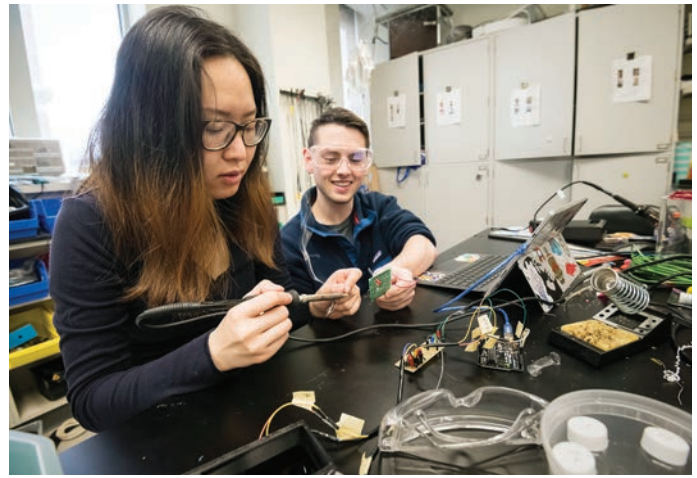
To address such challenges, four biomedical engineering students worked with Timothy Dye, a professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the Medical Center, on a portable diabetes screening device that could be carried by health workers into remote areas. The device could make it easier to identify people at high risk of the disease. Dye's research team is eager to test such a device on Pohnpei Island.

"This would help start the educational process with people who are kind of scared of Western medicine and who think hospitals are where you go to die," says Matt Boulanger '18, who was part of a senior design team that also included Jack Hayden '18, Fredella Lee '18, and Sue Zhang '18.

The students took their cue from a Dutch technology that uses skin tissue as a biomarker of diabetes and other age-related disorders. The team came up with a device that looks like a small black box with an opening where a patient's arm is placed for screening. A form of ultraviolet light bounces off the skin to detect biomarkers for diabetes. While there's more research and testing to do, faculty members in biomedical engineering and optics were impressed.

"This is exactly what we want—something that's portable, easy to use, and can help us provide some actual clinical information in the field and is not just estimating risk based on weight and symptoms," says Dye.

—BOB MARCOTTE



TEST TAKERS: Seniors Sue Zhang and Matt Boulanger (top) work on a device that uses ultraviolet light (above) to help identify biomarkers for diabetes. The team developed the portable screening device for use in testing people living in remote areas of Micronesia.

Engaging the Community

As a senior selected for a new initiative, Leslie Kaze '18 set out to share her academic interests as a public policy major with the Office of Mental Health Promotion in Rochester.

Among the first students at Rochester to receive a citation in community-engaged scholarship, Kaze and a handful of other seniors completed capstone projects in which they worked with nonprofits and other organizations as a way to help address local, national, and global challenges while weaving their connections to the community into the curriculum.

Administered by the Rochester Center for Community Leadership, the program pairs students with a faculty mentor to work with a community organization. For her project, Kaze worked with Anne Marie White, director of the Office of Mental Health Promotion, to explore how social stigma might keep church-going African-American millennials from using mental health care services. Others in the first group were Emma Baker '18, a studio art major who worked with Taproot Collective in Rochester with Heather Layton, a senior lecturer in the Department of Art and Art History; Katherine Bakrania '18, a political science major who worked with the Monroe County Division of Child and Family Services in Rochester with Stu Jordan, an associate professor of political science; Katheryn Lapusnak '18, a political science major who worked with LifeMoves in Menlo Park, California, also with Jordan; Shoshana Preuss '18, a health,



COMMUNITY NEWS: During a poster session this spring, Leslie Kaze '18 (left) shares her project in community-engaged scholarship with associate professor Nancy Chin (center) and President Richard Feldman (right).

behavior, and society major who worked with Common Ground Health in Rochester with Ted Brown, the Charles E. and Dale L. Phelps Professor of Public Health and Policy; and Samantha Stoma '18, a health, behavior, and society major who worked with Bethany House in Rochester with Nancy Chin, an associate professor at the Center for Community Health and Prevention. —JIM VER STEEG



Engineering a Better Guitar

Juan Estrella '18 is a classical guitarist who chafes at the constraints traditional instruments place on artistic expression.

“We can still create great art, but not as great as it would be with better tools,” he says.

Estrella, who was in the audio and music engineering program, is attempting to create a “new electronic musical interface” that would free musicians from those constraints—and set a new standard for instrument design.

This is not just a senior design project, Estrella says. “I regard it as my life’s work.”

A traditional six-string guitar has a range of only three octaves. Two hands are required to produce a single note: One to fret, the other to pluck. “That’s really inefficient,” Estrella says.

What does he have in mind?

“Basically, think of an elliptical guitar neck, two feet long, with 48 frets and 14 strings that go all the way around,” Estrella says. “Retractable legs on both ends lift it off the table.”

The instrument will produce tones over 12 octaves—using just the three strings on top of the neck. Tones are generated by simply pressing the strings against a touch screen wrapped around the underlying surface.

In other words, no more plucking. Both hands are free to fret chords and scales, while simultaneously adjusting pitch, volume, vibrato, speed, loop, distortion, or any other user defined effect, thus making guitar foot pedals obsolete as well.

The idea is to create tones that merge together in a continuous sequence, like a singer’s voice—not in discrete notes, or “chunks,” which is still the case even with many of the new musical interfaces on the market, Estrella says.

Estrella has completed the neck and the stands and has attached



SOUNDER SYSTEM: Juan Estrella works on an electronic musical interface that he hopes will give musicians a much greater range of possibilities for making music than that offered by traditional instruments.

the strings. The next challenge is creating a touch screen and coming up with the electronics needed to process as many as 672 inputs.

“That’s a tough engineering problem,” says David Anderson, an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, who supervises the audio and music engineering senior design projects.

“But it’s a neat path that Juan’s going down.”

In September, Estrella will enter the University’s technical entrepreneurship and management (TEAM) master’s program—the next step on his path to eventually starting his own company.

“I’ve never felt any ambiguity about my purpose in life, or what I’m supposed to be doing,” Estrella says. “There is nowhere else I’d rather be.”

—BOB MARCOTTE

The Ethics of Autonomous Vehicles

When it comes to self-driving automobiles, Josh Pachter '18 hopes to create ethical machines through a process similar to how humans raise children. A computer science major with a philosophy minor, Pachter spent the year studying whether autonomous vehicles could learn to be more ethical.

He found that machine learning is plagued by forms of bias when programmed by humans, who bring their own moral frameworks to their work. Examples of bias include hugging the side of the road too closely or choosing to run over one group of humans rather than another based on arbitrary factors.

"If we expect autonomous cars to drive better and safer than we do, we should provide the groundwork," he says. "We can provide some fundamental moral truths, and through a training process, the machine will ultimately learn to make good higher-level decisions without the need for bad input from its parents—humans—who are actually bad drivers."

Pachter's advisor, Hayley Clatterback, an assistant professor of philosophy, says Pachter's synthesis of complex theories in both fields generated "fascinating" results.

"His project truly embodied the promise and necessity of interdisciplinary work. If we use machine learning to train autonomous vehicles, which machine-learning approaches should we use and on which data should we train them? Josh examined various cutting-edge machine-learning processes to determine which problems they are most apt to solve. Then, he considered what kind of problem morality is, a surprisingly complicated topic that raises many important questions."

Last summer, Pachter landed an internship at Amazon's Seattle headquarters. He was hired before returning to school and will begin work this September as a software development engineer. —JIM MANDELARO



FOOD FOLLOWERS: Seniors Teron Russell, Chris Smith, Stephen Cohen, and Vivian Li developed an app to manage and inventory items in a fridge, freezer, or pantry.

Using an App to Reduce Waste

Vivian Li '18 lives off campus and cooks all of her own food in order to save money. There's one drawback. "I sometimes leave food in the fridge, and oh, two weeks later, it's fuzzy," she says.

She may soon have an app for that. One she helped create.

Li was the project lead on a student team that worked to design Pip, a voice-enabled mobile application for smart home assistants like Google Home and Amazon's Alexa to help users manage their food inventory and balance their grocery budget. The project was a senior capstone for the Digital Media Studies Program, where eight senior projects emerged from a seminar course taught by Michael Jarvis, an associate professor of history and the director of Digital Media Studies, and Stephanie Ashenfelder, the program manager for studio art in the Department of Art and Art History.

Rounding out the team were Teron Russell '18, Christopher Smith '18, Matthew Burg '18, and Stephen Cohen '18.

Jarvis says that while students use their experience in the class to find success in many ways. "We have about a 95 percent job or career placement rate right now," he says. "They either wind up working for the IBMs, Googles, and Spottifys out there or marketing firms." —JEANETTE COLBY



SHOWCASES: Senior art shows included work by Ruoxue (Astra) Chang '18 (left) and Alexandra Cunningham '18.

An Art Exhibition of Their Own

Studio arts majors in the Department of Art and Art History capped off their senior year with an art thesis exhibition. During the spring, their work was on view in galleries on the River Campus and in the Rochester area. The 10 students graduating this year explored several themes in their shows, including the intersection of the food and pharmaceutical industries, social interaction and anxiety, and the role of the professional artist in society. The installations featured a variety of media, including acrylic on canvas, video, and audio materials. —Jeanette Colby



DOCUMENTING DEMOCRACY:
“Our goal is to take what we’ve learned from our scholarly work on other parts of the world and bring that perspective to public debates about the quality of democracy in the United States—its vulnerabilities as well as its sources of resilience,” says political scientist Gretchen Helmke. With colleagues at Yale and Dartmouth, she has launched an initiative to survey opinions about democracy, both among the public and political scientists.

Drawing a Bright Line

Political science professor Gretchen Helmke monitors the state of U.S. democracy.

By Sandra Knispel

Gretchen Helmke lives and breathes democratic principles. She and her grade-school daughter once drafted an outerwear constitution, signed and ratified by both. Not unlike the constitutions of the nations she studies, the precise meaning of the language of the family outerwear law proved less clear-cut than its framers intended. Helmke sighs at the sight of the constitution that remains pinned to the family's kitchen bulletin board.

"It's a law that remains on the books, but is dead in spirit," she admits.

It's a familiar scenario for the Rochester political science professor who studies constitutional crises—albeit usually ones in Latin America, where the consequences of failed democracies have been dire.

These days the Latin Americanist spends a good chunk of her time monitoring democratic institutions in the United States. The health of such institutions relies, in part, on their perceived legitimacy. She worries that, for many Americans, that legitimacy is in question.

"Growing polarization is what I am most concerned about," says Helmke. With public trust at historic lows and partisanship riding high, she's not alone in her worries. For many Americans, democracy seems more imperiled now than at any time in living memory.

Simply put, one of the greatest threats to democracy is the idea that it is unassailable. That's the tagline of Bright Line Watch, a non-partisan initiative founded by Helmke and three other political scientists—Brendan Nyhan and John Carey of Dartmouth College and Susan Stokes of Yale University.

Two of the three other scholars Helmke already knew well: Stokes was her dissertation advisor at the University of Chicago; Carey, who taught at Rochester before Helmke arrived, recalls being aware of Helmke's research when she was still a graduate student. "Her work was great—like the kind of scholarship I hoped to produce myself,"

Carey, then a junior faculty member, remembers. "When you become aware of a scholar like that, you look for opportunities to collaborate."

The project found its *raison d'être* in the widespread concern over the possible erosion of democratic institutions in this country, says Helmke. The quartet writes that "at a time of potential danger to American democratic norms and institutions, it is more urgent than ever for scholars to highlight the risks to our system of government."

Supported by grants from the Democracy Fund and the Hewlett Foundation, the group set out in the aftermath of the 2016 presidential election to monitor democratic practices in the United States, the system's resilience, and potential threats.

Robert Blair, the Joukowsky Family Assistant Professor of Political Science and International and Public Affairs at Brown University, is the coordinator of a multi-university collaborative course on democratic erosion—taught simultaneously at nearly two dozen universities across the United States and one in the Philippines. Blair says Bright Line Watch has been "extremely valuable" to the consortium. "Students at several participating universities, including Brown, have gotten their hands dirty working with the BLW data. Their survey instrument has given students a lot to think about in terms of what democracy means and how to measure it," says Blair.

He's noticed that, generally, students become more optimistic about the United States after taking the course, attributing that change, in part, to the students' becoming more "expert" in their understanding of democracy and democratic erosion worldwide. "This is quite similar to what Bright Line Watch finds—that experts tend to be more optimistic than the public."

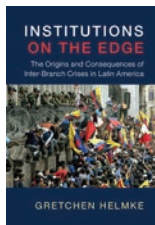
Blair says the democratic erosion consortium is planning more ways to integrate the two initiatives in the future.

Helmke underscores that Bright Line Watch is not concerned with policy disagreements. Instead, the group focuses on the institutions of democracy, such as free and fair elections, the effectiveness of checks and balances, and the freedom of the press.

Gretchen Helmke

Professor of Political Science
Chair, Department of Political Science,
2011-2013 and 2014-2017

Major Publications



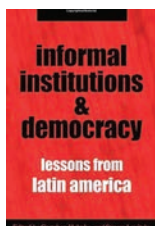
Institutions on the Edge: The Origins and Consequences of Institutional Instability in Latin America (Cambridge University Press, 2017) considers interbranch conflict and how a crisis in one branch of government can spill over

to another. Helmke concludes that concentrating power in the presidency triggers political crises across all three branches of government. Surprisingly, often the most constitutionally powerful presidents prove the most fragile, she finds.



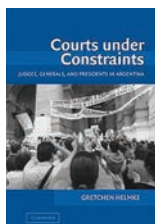
Courts in Latin America, coedited with Julio Ríos-Figueroa (Cambridge University Press, 2011) examines to what extent courts in Latin America protect individual rights and limit governments. Drawing

on examples from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Bolivia, the authors demonstrate widespread variation in the performance of Latin America's constitutional courts.



Informal Institutions and Democracy: Lessons from Latin America (Johns Hopkins University Press 2006), coedited with Steven Levitsky, analyzes the function of informal institutions in Latin America and how they

support or weaken democratic governance. Drawing from a wide range of examples, the contributors examine how informal rules shape the performance of state and democratic institutions, including contemporary problems of governability, the “unrule of law,” and the absence of effective representation, participation, and accountability in Latin America.



Courts Under Constraints: Judges, Generals, and Presidents in Argentina (Cambridge University Press 2005) grew out of Helmke's dissertation about Argentine courts and why some

deferred to the president while others were independent. Helmke concluded that courts sometimes look independent of the current government when in fact they are already currying favor with the next government.

“Our goal is to take what we've learned from our scholarly work on other parts of the world, and bring that perspective to public debates about the quality of democracy in the United States—its vulnerabilities as well as its sources of resilience,” says Helmke.

To that end, Helmke and her three collaborators compile quarterly reports, based on careful scientific polling of about 1,000 political experts (all of them political science professors at U.S. universities) and a nationally representative sample of 2,000 members of the public. Aiding the group in the design of its surveys is Mitch Sanders '97 (PhD)—a fellow political scientist, and Helmke's husband, who sometimes jokingly refers to himself as “the fifth Beatle.” The results of their survey are “sobering,” the group says.

According to Helmke, on the one hand, the chances of a complete breakdown of democracy in the United States—the kind that occurred in the 20th century in parts of Latin America—are slim. A military-coup-style breakdown, for example, is highly unlikely. Scholars have studied the statistical likelihood of such an event by looking at the relationship between levels of wealth in a given nation and the likelihood of a democratic breakdown. They would put the chances of something like that happening in the United States near zero, she argues—based not only on the overall wealth in the United States, but also on the longevity of American democracy. Research shows that the age of a democracy serves to protect it. The longer, the stronger.

But on the other hand, a gradual erosion of democracy may be at work. “That process—where it's a slow, kind of piecemeal challenge to different institutions that support democracy—is something that we see in several parts of the world, and something that we are now seeing in the United States,” Helmke says.

The group released its fifth survey in May. The participants were given a battery of 27 questions, on topics ranging from free speech and an unimpeded press, to constitutional limits on executive powers, vote representation, and the independence of the judiciary. Helmke and her colleagues detected a significant decrease in confidence on all but four questions, especially in the areas of press freedom, judicial independence, and the integrity of government agencies, among the public sample in the past six months. While those who approve of President Donald Trump rated U.S. democratic performance more highly than those who disapprove, both groups' assessment of U.S. democracy's health declined.

Scrutinizing the U.S. political system on a regular basis was originally not on Helmke's radar. A California native, she began her graduate studies at the University of California at Berkeley, and completed them at the University of Chicago, where she earned her PhD in 2000 under Stokes, who was then a faculty member there. Her dissertation was a study of Argentine courts.

“When she started this work, very few Latin Americanists or comparative politics scholars were studying them,” remembers Stokes, who is now the John S. Saden Professor of Political Science and the director of the Yale Program on Democracy. “Gretchen developed a simple but highly sophisticated model to explain her interesting and, in some ways, surprising findings.” Among those findings was the realization that courts sometimes look independent of the current government when in fact they are already currying favor with the next.

When Helmke first started conducting her field research in Buenos Aires some 20 years ago, it turned out to be an adventure, of sorts. It dawned on her pretty quickly that despite her nearly fluent Spanish, she wasn't getting anywhere fast. In 1997, for a graduate student with no established reputation in the field and little experience, doors didn't exactly fly open. Studying one of the most politicized institutions in Argentina—the Argentine Supreme Court—she often didn't even know on which ones to knock.

“It's very unusual for a young American woman to go to the Supreme Court and ask them what they're doing,” says Helmke.

Helmke would soon learn that in a country like Argentina, she first needed to gain access to the right political networks in order for its key members to help open doors for her and to point her in the right directions. Even looking the part became important. Her student outfit—jeans, a backpack, and tennis shoes—just didn't cut it.

“To be taken seriously by local elites you needed to wear heels and a suit, and carry a bag,” Helmke says. “And you needed business cards.”

Fast forward to today. She's long ditched the heels. On most days, a simple white canvas bag, bearing the logo of a public radio station, holds her iPad and necessary papers. The sneakers have returned. Now the author of multiple scholarly works, she has received prestigious fellowships from the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame, the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University, and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C. In 2016 Helmke became a full professor.

As a PhD advisor, Helmke has influenced a new generation of scholars. One is Rabia Malik '16 (PhD), currently a postdoctoral associate in political science at New York University Abu Dhabi. Helmke's advice and mentorship "were invaluable to me as a grad student and that hasn't changed since I left," says Malik, who recalls that the road to finding her dissertation topic was anything but linear. "Through the endless months of chasing different ideas that all resulted in dead ends, Gretchen was the one who didn't let me lose hope, despite my fears that I was falling behind. Without her supporting me that way, there's no way I could've completed my PhD, to be blunt."

Last fall, Helmke embarked on a new project, tentatively titled "To My Enemies, the Law"—an utterance attributed to Brazilian President (who at some point turned into a dictator) Getúlio Vargas. In it, Helmke looks at the frequency with which Latin American leaders are put on trial within 10 years after leaving office. With the research assistance of political science honors student Adriana Tobar '18—who has been gathering data on all Latin American leaders since 1980—Helmke can say with confidence that more than a quarter of all democratically elected leaders in the region were, indeed, tried after losing office.

She's now working on a theoretical model to try to understand under what circumstances corruption trials are used as political weapons, and when they actually serve as legitimately working mechanisms of democratic accountability.

The approach illustrates how Helmke's expertise in democratic political institutions and the rule of law—regardless of geographic location—lends itself to Bright Line Watch. Scrutinized in a wider, international context of democratic erosion, certain domestic patterns might become apparent and be recognized more easily.

As the group mulls over the results of its latest survey—and a growing number of media outlets, including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *Wall Street Journal* take notice—they've begun to ponder important hypotheticals. Would violating a democratic principle that most citizens agree on as being vital trigger a defense of American democracy? Would political leaders act against their own immediate partisan interests to protect a higher ideal? And what would be the violation threshold for such a response to occur?

Helmke says her Bright Line work reminds her of a sentence uttered by a then little-known, 28-year-old lawyer. A gifted orator, he would later go on to become one of the most influential presidents of the United States. In one of his first published speeches—the so-called Lyceum Address—given 23 years before the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln talked about threats to the rule of law and political institutions in the United States.

"We hope all dangers may be overcome, but to conclude that no danger may ever arise would itself be extremely dangerous," Lincoln cautioned his audience.

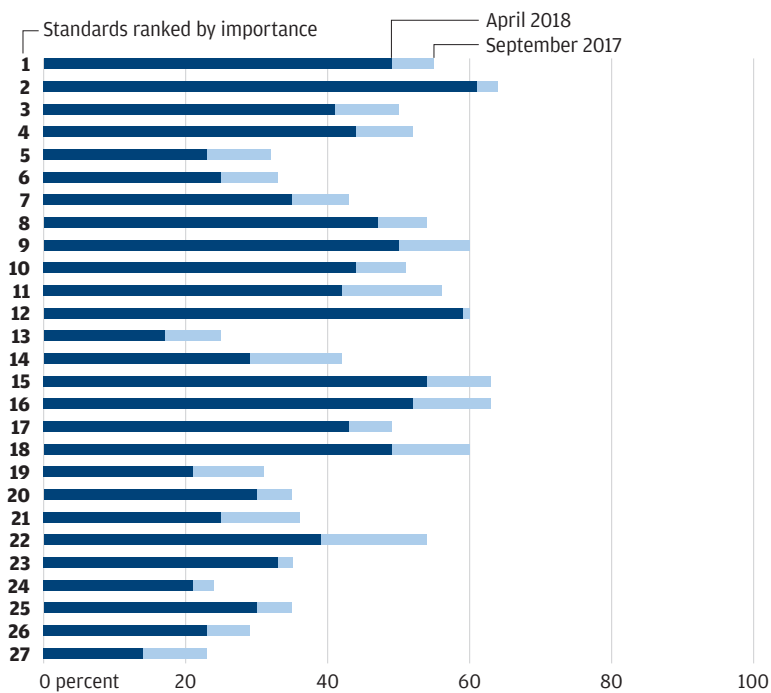
And these days, being aware of such dangers, Helmke says, is more important than ever. **R**

Listen to a Quadcast conversation with Gretchen Helmke and Mitch Sanders: <http://urochester.libsyn.com/website/2018/04>.

Keeping an Eye on Democracy

Bright Line Watch periodically surveys an expert sample of about 1,000 political science faculty at American universities and a nationally representative sample of 2,000 adults. Each group is asked to rate the importance of 27 democratic standards and to assess how they are currently upheld in the United States. Here is a comparison of the public sample's responses from September 2017 and April 2018.

Public Belief That Democratic Standards Are Mostly or Fully Met



Democratic Standards

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Elections are conducted, ballots counted, and winners determined without pervasive fraud or manipulation 2 All adult citizens have equal opportunity to vote 3 All adult citizens enjoy the same legal and political rights 4 Citizens have access to information about candidates that is relevant to how they would govern 5 Law enforcement investigations of public officials or their associates are free from political influence or interference 6 Government officials are legally sanctioned for misconduct 7 Elections are free from foreign influence 8 Executive authority cannot be expanded beyond constitutional limits 9 Citizens can make their opinions heard in open debate about policies that are under consideration 10 All votes have equal impact on election outcomes 11 The elected branches respect judicial independence 12 Government protects individuals' right to engage in peaceful protest 13 Government officials do not use public office for private gain 14 Government agencies are not used to monitor, attack, or punish political opponents 15 Parties and candidates are not barred | <p>due to their political beliefs and ideologies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16 Government protects individuals' right to engage in unpopular speech or expression 17 The legislature is able to effectively limit executive power 18 The judiciary is able to effectively limit executive power 19 Even when there are disagreements about ideology or policy, political leaders generally share a common understanding of relevant facts 20 Voter participation in elections is generally high 21 The geographic boundaries of electoral districts do not systematically advantage any particular political party 22 Government does not interfere with journalists or news organizations 23 Information about the sources of campaign funding is available to the public 24 Public policy is not determined by large campaign contributions 25 Government effectively prevents private actors from engaging in politically motivated violence or intimidation. 26 Elected officials seek compromise with political opponents 27 Political competition occurs without criticism of opponents' loyalty or patriotism |
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SOURCE: BRIGHTLINEWATCH.ORG

IDEAS

The Staggering Cost of Being Black in America

Armed with the tools of modern finance, engineer and businessman Shawn Rochester '97 offers an accounting.

Interview by Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

The premise isn't new: engineer and business executive **Shawn Rochester '97**, in a recent book, *The Black Tax: The Cost of Being Black in America* (Good Steward Publishing), shows myriad ways in which African Americans have borne and continue to bear financial costs rooted in racial discrimination.

But while there's been a steady outpouring of studies detailing racial discrimination in housing, consumer lending, e-commerce, the job search, social programs, and other aspects of American economic life, Rochester has found a way to organize and share that information to increase its impact. He surveys much of the research in the form of a slender paperback. And while many studies focus on the discriminatory nature of policies, and the moral wrongs associated with them, Rochester notes that his book is among very few, if any, that examine the costs of being black through the lens of personal finance.

Relying on research in journals of economics, law, and public policy, Rochester tallies the lost income of blacks, relative to whites, as a result of racial discrimination in the private marketplace as well as in government-sponsored economic development initiatives. The costs to black individuals and families are sobering. Take the example of a car purchase. Rochester looks at the research and adds it up: \$1,100 more in purchase price; \$500 more interest per year on an auto loan; an additional \$500 more per year in insurance premiums, all of which could cost a black family more than \$70,000 over a lifetime.

When it comes to the aggregate costs associated with public programs and discriminatory laws, the figures are staggering. The list of programs from which African Americans were excluded, either explicitly or in practical terms, is long, including the land grants provided under the Homestead Act of 1862 (a \$1.6 trillion loss), the Social Security Act (a \$143 billion loss), and the GI Bill of Rights (up to a \$45 billion loss). By the time he adds in an estimated value of uncompensated labor through nearly 250 years of slavery and the economic deprivation from 75 years of Jim Crow, he arrives at a grand total of more than \$70 trillion.

Rochester worked in industry after earning his bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering. He went on to earn an MBA from the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business and worked for more than a decade in executive roles in global sales and distribution, mergers and acquisitions, and strategic planning before starting his own financial education and advisory service, Good Steward. *The Black Tax* is the first book in his Good Steward Financial Empowerment Series.

When did you start thinking about what you call the black tax?

I was well into my corporate career, but post business school. Periodically, I would read articles about some research about discrimination in a particular marketplace. And I would think,

"There's a cost there. At some point, I'll go back and I'll look at that, and I'll see if I can quantify it."

But the trigger for actually doing it was when I was developing a course to help people with personal financial management. I realized that there are three things that prevent us as African Americans from accumulating wealth. One is that we are lacking the knowledge to put our limited resources to their best use. The next is that we do very little commerce with black businesses and service providers. The last is the massive cost of discrimination. If we had better access to information, we could actually accumulate significant resources, and if we did business with black enterprise, we could create millions of jobs. But the problem is, we also have biases against ourselves, and often view doing business with black enterprises as a cost or a form of charity. So I started looking at what the research says about the costs that we actually bear, and the idea really just started to evolve. It's kind of like when you start pulling on that string on your sweater. Some really interesting things start to happen.

Why do you think there have been so few efforts to quantify the costs of racial discrimination to African Americans?

I think there are two things going on. We have a tradition of focusing on the injustice and the immorality of things. We have a tradition of focusing on civil rights and notions of coming together, which are important outcomes. It seems like there was an assumption that economic advancement would just flow naturally from civil rights. So economics took a back seat.

There's also just such little information out there about this story of continuous economic deprivation. I think we have a qualitative sense that things were bad. I think we have a qualitative sense that it was a long time ago. But as for how bad it was, it's very difficult to come across this information.

But my training fits into providing this information. So I thought, "Let's try to quantify it." And what I've found is a lot of people working on small portions of a large puzzle, creating the important elements of the calculation, but in many disparate places.

You've spoken about the book to a range of audiences—a multiracial audience at Google, an elite group of black business



executives, undergraduates at Rochester, United Nations ambassadors. What kinds of reactions have you received?

The reactions are, “Wow. I had no idea.” That’s what I hear continually. I think there’s also a sense of, “I felt this way. But I couldn’t put the words to it.” The question I get inundated with is, “What can we do?”

How do you respond to that question?


I urge people to do what I call getting your PHD: Purchase, Hire, and Deposit black. The majority of impact happens through payrolls and supply chains. And then, if you put deposits in a black financial institution, you’re directly investing in black enterprise, which is starved of capital. That’s hugely powerful. And anybody can do that.

My next projects continue to address this question. I’ve completed a second book in my Good Steward Financial Empowerment Series, which will be out soon. It’s called *CPR for the SOUL: How to Give Yourself a 20% Raise, Eliminate Your Debt, and Leave*

ADDING IT UP: In a recent book, businessman and engineer Rochester examines the financial impact of racial discrimination on African Americans. Just how much can it cost black families over a lifetime? What’s been the cost to African Americans over centuries?

an Inheritance for Your Children’s Children. It offers financial advice targeted to African Americans, in the context of the circumstances outlined in *The Black Tax*. SOUL stands for practicing Stewardship, Ownership, and Legacy.

And then my other project is to help people who are looking for those black enterprises to find them. People want to act on what they now want to do. I’m working on putting something together.

This is a grassroots movement. I think people are coming from the right place. I think it’s wonderful when people cut a check to the Boys and Girl Club, or some other nonprofit organization in the black community. But don’t do *just* that when you control a business that has a \$15 billion supply chain. You could create 10,000 jobs. 

ALUMNI FORUM

The World's a Stage

How does your experience in the performing arts affect your work in other fields?

Professions for some and hobbies for others, the performing arts can assert themselves in anyone's daily life, often in unexpected ways.

In the inaugural *Rochester Review* alumni forum, three alumni with careers in business and technology—all with long-term involvement in the performing arts—describe how they draw on their arts experiences in the rest of their work lives.

Angela Kim '95E

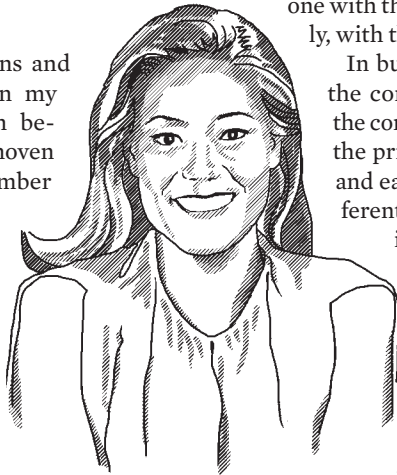
A former concert pianist, Angela Kim is the founder and CEO of Savor Beauty + Spa, transforming some of the Korean skin-care rituals she grew up with to produce organic and easy-to-apply products. The company has three New York City locations and ships worldwide through partners including Nordstrom, Neiman Marcus, and QVC.

I started making lotions and potions as a hobby in my Manhattan kitchen in between practicing Beethoven and Mozart. My chamber music colleagues began asking if they could buy the creams from me, and I became an “accidental entrepreneur.”

I was recently asked what the most challenging aspect of transitioning from concert pianist to businesswoman has been, and my response was leading a cohesive company comprised of a growing team, now with 25 employees.

I had frequently performed with a cellist, a dear friend who is now the principal cellist of one of the nation's finest chamber orchestras. I told her of my scaling challenges, and she said something that changed my life: “You should run your company like a chamber orchestra,” she told me. “Not like a top-tier orchestra that is run like a major corporation, but like a chamber orchestra that attracts equally talented musicians who are more interested in a collaborative ensemble where their creative and artistic input matters.”

We talked through the idea. I left the



brunch with my friend feeling energized and hopeful. I connected on a visceral level with the musical illustration and began to execute it.

In a chamber orchestra, the conductor has the big picture vision. It's the conductor's job to hear every intricate detail and determine whether it is contributing or not to the success of the whole.

The concertmaster conveys the conductor's vision to the principals, who connect their sections to the entire ensemble. The principal's goal is for their section not to sound like individual voices with different bowings and character, but to blend to become one with the section and, ultimately, with the orchestra.

In business, one can replace the conductor with the CEO, the concertmaster with a COO, the principals with managers, and each section with the different departments operating in a business.

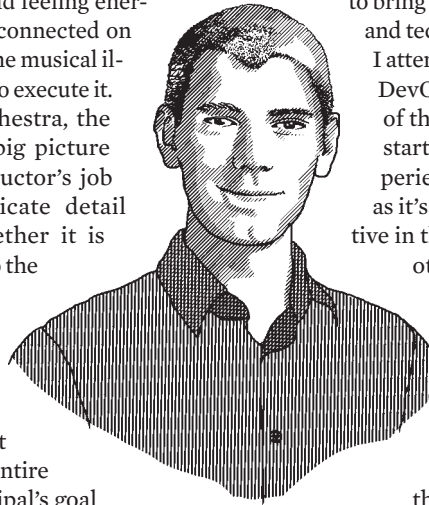
A year after I began executing this new vision, we are more harmonious and cohesive, and I feel supported by the “ensemble” who works together for the overall vision that I have set forth as the “conductor.”

Is our work done? Not by a long shot, but that's another thing music taught me. The work will never be done, and that's the beauty of it all.

Brad Orego '10, '11 (T5)

Brad Orego is a user-experience researcher, product designer, entrepreneur, and dancer. He designs and builds products with Prolific Interactive and dances professionally with Kanopy Dance Company in Madison, Wisconsin, and Sokolow Theater Dance Ensemble in New York City.

Historically, I never really made an effort



to bring the two worlds of dance and technology together. Then I attended a conference called DevOpsDays Madison. One of the speakers urged me to start thinking about my experience straddling the two, as it's such a unique perspective in the tech industry. At another event last March, the NYC Service Design Jam, I met Tim Gilligan, a designer who also has a background in theater, and who also urged me to dig into this perspective.

Tim and I recently launched a blog called “Performing Design: Informing Design Practices with Lessons from Performing Arts” (<http://performing.design>). It turns out there's a lot more material there than I ever really thought about. For example, I write about embodied cognition, which is a fairly recent concept in cognitive science that explores how we use our bodies—beyond just the brain—to help us perceive, interpret, and understand the world. Embodied cognition is imperative for dancers, who use the physical sensation of moving their bodies through space to both understand and remember choreography. But it helps designers as well by teaching them to try to physically interact with something they've sketched out.

I started dancing at Rochester. I never imagined that a ballroom dancing class would have catapulted my interest in all things dance and would inform my approach to technology and problem-solving, nor would I have thought I would have been able to live a life in both worlds. But, I have. My dual degree in computer science and psychology, combined with a minor in dance (I was the first dance minor granted by the University), has given me a perspective that no one else has.

Mark Perlberg '78

Mark Perlberg is president and CEO of the human resources firm Oasis Outsourcing, a leading business in the industry with more than 1,000 employees. He also serves on the boards of the Minneapolis-based

Playwrights' Center, which is focused on developing new work, and the non-profit theater company Palm Beach Dramaworks, where he is cocreator and executive producer of the Master Playwright Series.


I was consumed by theater when I was a student at Rochester. I did some acting and then, as a sophomore, I directed a Drama House production of Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. I didn't have any experience with directing at the time, but it showed me I had an aptitude and an appetite for it. I went on to direct two musicals along with many other productions in college, and have continued my involvement in theater to this day.

My experience in theater has benefited my professional work in that, above all else, it has taught me about people. It has given



me the "soft" skills that are so important in business. From the stage, I've learned that everyone is different and that getting everyone to perform at their best requires the ability to ascertain what makes each one "tick." Ultimately, a director is in charge of making a performance happen and producing a cohesive event that makes an impact on people.

It's what a CEO does, too. I love directing and I always have—whether it's for a stage production or within the parameters of doing business. You have to get people to cooperate with one another to achieve results. You have to build an environment where people can communicate openly and where there's a high degree of trust. You also have to be comfortable experimenting, building consensus, testing ideas, and responding to audience or customer feedback.

I find I use my directing skills every day. 

U.S. Attorney Robert Khuzami '79 Leads Investigation of Trump Lawyer

The United States Attorney's investigation of Michael Cohen, a lawyer for President Donald Trump, is being led by **Robert Khuzami '79**. Named deputy United States attorney for the Southern District of New York last January, Khuzami took on the role after interim U.S. Attorney Geoffrey Berman, a Trump appointee, recused himself from the case.

Khuzami began his legal career in the same office. As a prosecutor there from 1991 to 2002, he won the conviction of Omar Ahmed Ali Abdel Rahman in the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center. He also won several high-profile convictions as head of the office's Securities and Commodities Fraud Task Force. From 2009 to 2013, he led the enforcement division of the Securities and Exchange Commission.



ASKING QUESTIONS: Khuzami leads the investigation as deputy U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York.

Alumni Head to UK for Select International Scholarship Program

Two alumni are among 92 people worldwide to be awarded the 2018 Gates Cambridge Scholarship—considered the most prestigious international postgraduate scholarship offered by the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom.

Levan Bokeria '14 and **Garrett Rubin '12E, '13 (T5)** were selected from a pool of 5,798 applicants on the basis of their intellectual ability, commitment to improving the lives of others, leadership potential, and academic fit with Cambridge.

Bokeria will pursue a PhD in biological science at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit at Cambridge. He was born and raised in Tbilisi, the capital of the Republic of Georgia, and transferred from George Mason University to Rochester, where he majored in philosophy and brain and cognitive sciences. A Phi Beta Kappa member, he earned highest distinction honors in both of his majors.

After Rochester, Bokeria continued his scientific training at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., where he was a research assistant and laboratory manager. He is now at the Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition, and Behavior, in the Netherlands, and will graduate in August with a master's degree in cognitive neuroscience.

Rubin will pursue a PhD in education at Cambridge, with a focus on the sociology of education in armed conflict. Last year,



Levan Bokeria



Garrett Rubin

the Roseville, California, native completed a master of philosophy in education, globalization, and international development at Cambridge, through support from Rotary International's Global Grant Scholarship program.

While studying voice at Eastman, Rubin completed a Take Five Scholar program entitled *US-Middle Eastern Cultural Diplomacy* and was honored with the Presidential Award for Community Service. In 2013, he also won a Fulbright mtv-U Award to Jordan. Given to just four applicants each year, the mvt-U grant supports projects that promote music as a global force for mutual understanding.

Three other alumni—**David Liebers '09**, **Anjalene Whittier '14**, and **Pedro Vallejo-Ramirez '16**—have won the scholarship in previous years. Vallejo-Ramirez was selected while still a student at Rochester. —Jim Mandelaro

Noted Optical Scientist Eyed for Leadership Role at Imperial College London

Ian Walmsley '86 (PhD), a pioneer in ultra-fast and quantum optics and a former faculty member of Rochester's Institute of Optics, has been named provost at Imperial College London, effective September 1, 2018.

He is currently pro-vice-chancellor for research and innovation and Hooke Professor of Experimental Physics at the University of Oxford.

At Oxford, Walmsley has overseen the university's relationships with its research

funders and has worked to engage wider audiences with scientific research.

Elected a fellow of the American Physical Society in 2001, Walmsley has helped advance the fields of spectroscopy, cryptography, quantum computing, and precision measurement. He joined the Institute of Optics faculty in 1988 and became director of the Center for Quantum Information Systems, established in 1999 with a Department of Defense grant and drawing together faculty from Rochester,

Cornell, Harvard, Rutgers, and Stanford. He led the Institute during a period of transition in 2000.

A dedicated teacher, Walmsley won the Goergen Award for Distinguished Achievement and Artistry in Undergraduate Education from Arts, Sciences & Engineering in 1999.

He is an undergraduate alumnus of Imperial College, having earned a BSc degree with first-class honors in physics. —Karen McCally



MEDIA MAESTRO: Composer Ko combines aural, visual, and tactile elements.

ACCOLADES

Multimedia Composer of 'Tactile Performance' Recognized with Guggenheim Fellowship

Composer **Tonia Ko** '10E has continued to rack up honors ever since winning the Eastman composition department's award for excellence, the Louis Lane Prize, three out of her four years as a student.

Her latest accolade is a 2018 Guggenheim fellowship, a testament to her past achievements and continued creative promise.

Ko, who was born in Hong Kong and raised in Honolulu, incorporates a variety of media into her compositions, bringing aural, visual, and tactile elements together. In her ongoing project "Breath, Contained," for example, Ko transforms stretches of bubble wrap into a versatile musical instrument. In "Whistling Tree,"

sculpture serves as both visual art and a sound installation. She writes, "I have developed a mode of tactile performance—techniques that reveal a material's potential as both art and sound object. For example, bubble wrap's buoyancy, transparency, and inherent rhythm determine its sonic identity and the performer's physical movements. I investigate the space where pressure meets friction."

Ko's works have been performed at such venues as Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center, and at the Tanglewood, Aspen, and Santa Fe chamber music festivals. From 2015 to 2017, she was composer-in-residence for Young Concert Artists. —Karen McCally

Flutist Named Yamaha Young Performing Artist

Flutist **Abby Easterling** '18E is one of 11 winners of the 2018 Yamaha Young Performing Artists Competition. The competition, in its 30th year, recognizes young artists ages 18 to 22 with exceptional promise in jazz, classical, and contemporary music.

As an award winner, Easterling will travel to a celebration weekend at Ball State University in June, during which she'll deliver a live performance that will be professionally recorded and photographed and attend workshops on launching a professional career.

Previously, Easterling was the winner of the National Flute Association Masterclass Competition. In summer 2014, just prior to beginning her studies at Eastman, the Dallas-area native was selected as part of Carnegie Hall's National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America.

—Karen McCally



FIRST-RATE FLUTIST: Easterling wins an elite early-career award.



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Class Notes



GRADUATING GRADUATES: Master's and doctoral candidates line up during commencement ceremonies in 1988, when the robes for postbaccalaureate candidates were Dandelion yellow. Recognize anyone? Write to us at rochrev@rochester.edu.

College

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

1950 Dave Morrow died in January in Rock Hill, South Carolina, at age 92, writes a friend, Wayne Drew. Dave was a U.S. Army veteran and later worked in education and education administration, including as a school principal in Le Roy, New York, and as director of admissions and dean of students at Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester, where a residence hall is named in honor of Dave and his late wife, Beryl (Jean).

1951 Mario Sparagana '55M (MD) published *Musings* (Peppertree Press), a book of poetry, in January.

1953 Paul MacGregor died at home in South Hadley, Massachusetts, in February. His son, Bob, sends Paul's obituary, which appeared in the *Daily Hampshire Gazette*. Paul was a native of Rochester and, after graduating and then serving in the Military Intelligence Corps, pursued a doctor-

al degree at Rutgers while working full time and raising a family, which grew to include five children and eight grandchildren. Paul spent most of his career in R&D at Polaroid, where he was instrumental in formulating the highly popular SX-70 instant film.

1960 Michael Blumenfield sends an update: he coedited *Depression As a Systemic Illness* (Oxford University Press), released in March. Michael is the Sidney E. Frank Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at New York Medical College. He and his wife, Susan, live in Woodland Hills, California, where he has a part-time psychiatry practice and where, he says, they can frequently see their three children and four grandchildren, who live in the area. . . . **George Hole '68 (PhD)**, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor at Buffalo State College, published a book of poems, *Buffalo Dust* (Buffalo Arts Publishing), in June 2017.

1966 Chuck Friday died in December 2017. "He was a very

proud Rochester alumnus," writes his daughter, Lori. He grew up in New Baltimore, New York, and after graduating from Rochester, served in the U.S. Navy and started a family. "Chuck had a successful career with the State of New York . . . The story of Chuck's life would include his talents in many areas, including photography, public speaking, historical research, writing, and papermaking," adds Lori.

1970 Miriam Kazanjian, a founder of and independent consultant for the Coalition for International Education, received the Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession from the Modern Language Association/Association of Departments of Foreign Languages for her longtime national advocacy and policy work on international and foreign language education. "This is the first time in the history of this award that it was given to a nonacademic," Miriam writes, adding that, "My 1970 participation in [the University's] Washington Semester Program as an intern for Senator Jacob Javits (ranking

minority member of what was then called the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare) marked the beginning of my Washington career." The award announcement, mentioning her Rochester BA in political science and history, can be found at Adfl.mla.org.

1971 David Skonieczki, recently retired from Fidelity Investments, published *Selling Options . . . Simply Called and Simply Put* (TheBookPatch) earlier this year. David presents the primer for newcomers to equity options trading in an autobiographical format.

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

1974 Paul Strauchler died in January. **Maralyn Goldsmith Solarz, Nancy Spector Rosenwasser, and Marc Rosenwasser** write: “Paul lived with his characteristic exuberance for one year after being diagnosed with a rare cancer. A partner in the New Jersey law firm Post Polak, Goodsell & Strauchler, he continued to work as an attorney, make crazy road trips to major- and minor-league baseball stadiums, and, literally, put his foot down in previously unvisited U.S. states. He and a dear childhood buddy regularly visited favorite New Jersey and New York City karaoke bars to belt out tunes from long, exhaustively researched song lists Paul prepared. This past November, Paul traveled to Argentina with his daughters, Andrea and Robin. Paul also remained an active and optimistic online dating aficionado, as well as a rabid, life-long Mets fan. A political junkie, Paul expressed regret that he would not live to see the completion of the Mueller investigation. Paul was loved and supported by his daughters; stepson; sister, Meg Novorro, and brother-in-law, **Richard Novorro**; nieces; and best friends. He always kept up with his many and varied Rochester friends. His steadfast presence, intelligence, conversation, sense of humor, and wacky zest for life will be truly missed.”

1975 Mark Waldman '78 (MS) (see “Working on the Webb,” page 56).

1976 Joseph Long is continuing to build an international business advisory group, Oaklawn Partners, in Washington, D.C. He was recently made a member of the Worshipful Company of Master Mariners in London. An NROTC participant at Rochester, Joe is also part of a new company in microsatellite communications.

1977 Brett Gold writes that his CD, *Dreaming Big*, consisting of 11 original big band compositions recorded by the Brett Gold New York Jazz Orchestra, has been recognized by several jazz blogs on their “best of 2017” lists. It was named best debut recording of 2017 by W. Royal Stokes and fifth-best big band recording of the year and a top 25 instrumental album by Arnaldo deSouteiro’s Jazz Station. Jazz Station also recognized Brett as sixth-best composer and third-best arranger of 2017. . . . **Terry**



1980 Goldstein



1987 Jensen



1990 McLean

Gurnett (see '87). . . . **Dan Kimmel** (Daniel M. Kimmel as author and film critic) writes that, to his “complete surprise,” he received the Skylark Award from the New England Science Fiction Association at the annual convention in February. Previous recipients of the award include Terry Pratchett, George R. R. Martin, Orson Scott Card, and Isaac Asimov. “I’m utterly amazed to be in their company,” he adds.

1979 Joseph Behrman '84D writes to announce the birth of his grandson, Theo Behrman. Theo was born at Washington Hospital, near Pittsburgh, in August 2017 to Joseph’s daughter-in-law, Lindsey

Rubino Behrman, and son, Matthew Behrman. Matthew is a family physician and Lindsey is a dentist.

1980 Hal Goldstein writes: “To celebrate 40 years of friendship that started in Gilbert Hall, this group got together over Father’s Day weekend last summer on Cape Cod (where we re-created a Smitty’s/Sal’s feast), in Boston Harbor, and at Fenway Park to see Dead & Company. The weekend was dubbed ‘G3/40’—the ‘G3’ stands for ‘Grateful Gilbert Getaway.’ Hoping to have more G3s in the future! Pictured from left to right are **Steve Jensen, Arthur Brown, Rich Hodin, Glen Mattioli, Bruce Forman, Chuck Weinstein, Howard**

Rudzinsky, Dan Hertzler, Joe Sherman, and yours truly.”

1984 Scott Rummler sends an update: “I am the founder of BooleanGrid, a fintech start-up. It is the only product that screens stocks using concepts drawn from quantum mechanics. Initial testing indicates it may have the ability to predict and beat the market. I’ll be giving a fintech presentation hosted by SaddleRock Advisors in New York City, and BooleanGrid was covered in *AlleyWatch*. More information is at BooleanGrid.com.”

1985 Mike Livingston sends an update: “On March 6, I received my second U.S. patent for my work at CA Technologies, patent 9,910,854, ‘Managing Embedded Digital Signature Locations in a Stream of Data Files.’ In June, I’ll be celebrating my 16th wedding anniversary and my 15th anniversary with CA Technologies. Where does the time go? And if anyone’s curious, yes, I’m still going to Washington Capitals games, having had my season tickets since 1986.” . . . **Kim Mehalick** (see “Working on the Webb,” page 56).

1986 Joel Salomon published *Mindful Money Management: Memoirs of a Hedge Fund Manager* (SaLaurMor) in January. Joel is a fellow of the Society of Actuaries, a chartered financial analyst, an Infinite Possibilities certified trainer, and a prosperity coach.

1987 Lee Feinberg (see “Working on the Webb,” page 56). . . . **Maria Budihas Jensen** writes, “During Meliora Weekend 2017, former Rochester women soccer players gathered to celebrate the opening of the Boehning Varsity House, named for Julie and **Chris Boehning '88 (MS)**, and the Big R Atrium, named for **Stephen Biggar '92** and **Liz Asaro-Biggar '92**. Most importantly, we joined together for the dedication of the Women’s Soccer Locker Room, named for our much-loved coach **Terry Gurnett '77**. Terry made an incredible difference in all of our lives. He believed in us, and we believed in him. This was a special way to let Terry know how deeply we appreciated him. We have so many fond memories we will cherish forever!” Pictured from left to right outside the door to the new locker room are **Laura Gelina '90, '94W (MS)**, Liz, Maria, Terry, and **Dave and Molly O’Donovan Dix '89**.

1989 Molly O'Donovan Dix (see '87).

1990 Patria Frias-Colon was sworn in as Brooklyn's first elected Dominican-born judge, a milestone that was highlighted by the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (Brooklyneagle.com). . . . **Laura Gelina '94W (MS)** (see '87). . . . **Renee Saunders Gracey** (see "Working on the Webb," right). . . . **Mary Ann Cook McLean** sends a photo (see page 55) and writes, "The ladies of Fairchild 410, Class of 1990, **Alexandra Bodnar, Sumilu Cue, Julie Chang Poist, Sarah Wood Sandler**, and I, got together in Fenwick Island, Delaware, in October 2017 to celebrate 27 years (gasp!) since graduation. It was like no time had passed, although we really missed **Maria Dario Nizza**."

1992 Stephen Biggar and **Liz Asaro-Biggar** (see '87). . . . **Amy Frishberg Siegal** writes that she has joined Valerie Wilson Travel in New York City as a travel advisor, and, after several years living in Italy, Hong Kong, London, and Tokyo, she's collaborating with the agency to help her clients discover and enjoy the world as she has. She welcomes mail at her new email address, amyf@vvti.com.

1993 George Molnar has relocated to Washington, D.C., to lead the PBS WARN Project, providing public alert and warning and emergency communications support through Public Television.

1995 James (Josh) Link died in January, his father, Troland Link, writes. After graduation, Josh went to the French Culinary Institute and was a chef at the Stagecoach Tavern in Sheffield, Massachusetts.

1997 Atif Sheikh has been elected to the Pennsylvania Humanities Council board of directors. Atif is cofounder and resident curator of the Philadelphia gallery 12Gates Arts, where he curates an annual experimental video arts festival, in addition to several other exhibits, including an ongoing project concerning "alternative narratives of history and exploration of memory through art." After studying computer science and economics at Rochester, Atif earned a master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania in liberal arts with a focus on nonprofit administration and art history.



TESTING: Several Rochester alumni took part in a series of tests of the James Webb Space Telescope at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston last summer and fall. From left to right are Renee Saunders Gracey '90, Matthew Bergkoetter '17 (PhD), Tom Zielinski '11, Scott Paine (PhD candidate), Alden Jurling '15 (PhD), Kim Mehalick '85, Lee Feinberg '87, Mark Waldman '75, '78 (MS), Joe Howard '00 (PhD), and Garrett West '12, '14 (MS). According to Waldman, participating in the project, but not pictured, are David Aronstein '02 (PhD), Joe Cosentino '14, '15 (MS), John Johnston '93, Conrad Wells '89, '91 (MS), Tony Whitman '88 (MS), and Michael Zarella '13.

TELESCOPE TEAM

Working on the Webb

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's James Webb Space Telescope, under way since 1996, is scheduled to launch in May 2020. When it does, it promises to yield knowledge about the universe that surpasses even what the awe-inspiring images of its predecessor, the Hubble telescope, have shown.

Last summer and fall, several Rochester alumni played roles in a series of tests of some of the key elements of the telescope. The tests took place from July through October at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Writes optical consultant Mark Waldman '75, '78 (MS): "U of R graduates supported the cryo-vacuum testing of the James Webb Space Telescope. . . . In this test, the Webb's Optical Telescope Element and

Integrated Science Instrument Module (OTIS) was placed in the space center's Chamber A, where it was subjected to a simulated space environment, including high vacuum and cryogenic temperatures to 40 Kelvin, for 100 days. The system underwent optical, thermal, and functional testing, which had been planned for over 10 years."

Several Rochester faculty are also prominent among scientists working on the telescope. They include Duncan Moore, the Rudolf and Hilda King-slake Professor in Optical Engineering Science, who chairs the product integrity board advising NASA on the project; James Fienup, the Robert E. Hopkins Professor of Optics; and professors of physics and astronomy William Forrest and Judith Pipher.

2005 Adam Bink writes: "I'd love to share the news that I bought my first home, a condo in the Pacific Cannery Lofts, a converted building with an award-winning design, in the rapidly growing area of West Oakland." . . . **Neil Spitkovsky** sends a photo from his wedding. He married Rachel John in October 2017 at the Coney Island Museum in Brooklyn. Pictured from left to right are **Lauren Kasky '06, Andrew Newman '06, Jason Thall '06, Neil, Nick Sciretta, Rachel, Nels Youngborg, and Carol Faden Berkow** with her baby daughter, Helen.

2006 Marc Perez (see '07).

2007 Beth Devine and **Marc Perez '06** were married last October near their home in Napa Valley. Beth writes, "We first met in spring 2004 on the River Campus, during a party between Sigma Delta Tau sorority and Alpha Delta Phi fraternity." Pictured are: (front row, from left) **Michael Mastromonaco '05, Bijan Pajoohi '05, Dulip Ratnasoma '05, Jamie Svenson, Alec Immerman '06;** (middle row, from left) **Leonard Zheleznyak '05, '14 (PhD), Aedan Coffey, Michelle Potash Brody '06, Maura McCourt Burton '11N, Brienne Dixon Anderson '06, Keil Anderson '05;** (back row, from left) **Paul Sonneborn '06, Alexander**

Brody '05, Mark Salama '06, Alexander Gustafik '05, '08W (MS), and Francis Liu '05.

2011 Tom Zielinski (see "Working on the Webb," above).

2012 Garrett West '14 (MS) (see "Working on the Webb," above).

Graduate

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

1949 Milton Rock (PhD) died in January in Philadelphia, writes **Rick Shorin '77, '78S (MBA)**. The Hay Group, the human resources con-

sulting firm that Milton helped build after he completed his PhD in psychology—and eventually served as managing partner—is “an incredibly successful organization, well known in the Philadelphia area,” Rick writes. When Milton began working for the company, it was a three-man organization. When he retired in 1984, it had grown to include 94 offices in 27 countries. During his decades with the company, he promoted its “Hay System,” which became a foundation for salary administration and executive compensation throughout the industry. Milton was also a dedicated patron of the Philadelphia arts community, serving for many years as an active board member of the Curtis Institute of Music, the Pennsylvania Ballet (which he chaired in the 1990s), and at Temple University, where he helped strengthen its music facilities.

1958 Israel Charny (PhD) writes that he “has now at age 86 published three books in just about one year.” A retired professor of psychology and family therapy at Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University, Charny is the author of *Psychotherapy for a Democratic Mind: Treatment of Intimacy, Tragedy, Violence, and Evil* (Lexington Books, 2018); *A Democratic Mind: Psychology and Psychiatry with Fewer Meds and More Soul* (Lexington Books, 2017); and *The Genocide Contagion: How We Commit and Confront Holocaust and Genocide* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2016).

1968 George Hole (PhD) (see '60 College).

1978 Mark Waldman (MS) (see “Working on the Webb,” page 56).

1988 Chris Boehning (MS) (see '87 College).

1992 Andreas Arvanitoyeorgos (PhD), an associate professor of mathematics at the University of Patras, won a research grant from the Empirikon Foundation of Athens, Greece. An expert on differential geometry and topology, Andreas writes that he received the grant at a ceremony in the Old Parliament building—an architectural landmark in Athens that, constructed in 1858, was the first permanent home of the Greek parliament. . . . **Mariana Rhoades** (MS) writes: “As a UR graduate and a receiver of the *Rochester Review*, I have noticed the Yellowjacket icon appearing in

many different places. This morning I found one in a curious place—the Trader Joe’s in Pittsford Plaza!” Mariana sends a photo of Rocky, who was clad in a scarf and hat and perched among the cut flowers on that February morning.

1993 Ian Gordon (PhD), an associate professor of history at the National University of Singapore, has edited a collection of work by cartoonist Ben Katchor, *Ben Katchor: Conversations* (University Press of Mississippi). In 2017, Ian authored *Superman: The Persistence of an American Icon* (Rutgers University Press) and coedited *The Comics of Charles Schultz: The Good Grief of Modern Life* (University Press of Mississippi).

1996 Margaret (Maggie) McCarthy (PhD) writes that she’s published *Mad Mädchen: Feminism and Generational Conflict* (Berghahn). She’s the chair of the German studies department and coordinator of the film and media studies concentration at Davidson College.

2000 Joe Howard (PhD) (see “Working on the Webb,” page 56).

2001 Nicholas (Nick) Waddy (PhD) writes that he’s authored a textbook, *The Essential Guide to Western Civilization* (Routledge). He’s an associate professor in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Alfred State College.

2014 Garrett West (MS) (see “Working on the Webb,” page 56).

2015 Arden Jurling (PhD) (see “Working on the Webb,” page 56).

2017 Matthew Bergkoetter (PhD) (see “Working on the Webb,” page 56).

Eastman School of Music

1950 John (Billy) Tamblyn (MA), '61 (PhD) died in January, his wife, Carolyn, writes. A pianist and composer, Billy was a native of Auburn, Alabama, and served on the Auburn University faculty for four decades. A veteran of World War II who served in the Pacific theater, “Dr. T,” as he was later known to his students, founded the Auburn Chamber Music Association and the Auburn chapter of Phi Mu Alpha. Although his music was per-



2005 Spitkovsky



2007 Devine and Perez



1992G Rhoades



1969E Stern



FOOTBALL ALUMNI

Dinner with the Coach

GRIDIRON GROUP: Former Yellowjacket football players gathered for their 13th annual spring “Dinner with the Coach” celebration to honor their iconic head coach, Pat Stark, and to reconnect with one another at Perlo’s restaurant in East Rochester in April. A Rochester and a Syracuse Hall of Famer, Coach Stark is credited with elevating the stature of the Yellowjacket football program during his coaching tenure at Rochester from 1969 to 1983, including a No. 1 Division III ranking in the East. This year’s dinner was an additionally special event as it marked 35 years since Coach Stark retired from the Rochester football sidelines, and he was presented with some special mementos of that occasion. A member of each of his Yellowjacket teams, and one from his coaching staff, traveled from throughout New York State, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Delaware, and Virginia to join in this celebration of enduring camaraderie.

—Phil Chrys '75

Kneeling: Brian Pasley '76, Brian Heagney '77, Mike Roulan '71, Dave Cidale '71, Rick Stark '79, Tony Cipolla '81, Mike Garritano '76.

First row: Dave Skonieczki '71, Phil Chrys '75, Coach Pat Stark (head coach, 1969–83), Bill Falandays '74.

Second row: Erick Bond '77, Rick Magere '72, Jim Mazur '78, Paul Macielak '72, Kevin Maier '78, Andy Fornarola '79, Sam Guerrieri '87, Steve Sloan '78, Lou Spiotti (assistant coach 1971-73), Erv Chambliss '76.

Third row: Jim Wesp '74, '76M (MS), '78S (MBA), Bill Hammond '73,

Don Barber '79, John Cogar '71, Mike Flanigan '72, Herm Neid '76, Ray Kampff '74.

Fourth row: Roger Watts '72, Jim Vazzana '87, Leo Fusilli '80, Rick Basehore '72, Jim Juraska '73, Ralph Gebhardt '76, Paul Caputo '73.

Fifth row: John Loiacono '84, Kevin Callahan '77, Dave McNelis '74, John Badowski '77, Joe Novek '73.

Sixth row: Quentin Call '76, Bob Quirk '72, Ron Haines '72, Bob Kulpinski '71, '73 (MS), '86 (MS), Tony Hanley '82, Ed Heffernan '76.

Not pictured: Rene Piccarreto '71, Tony Serratore '74.

formed widely, Carolyn shares that “his family took particular pleasure in the music he composed for the weddings of his daughters and the improvisational pieces he wove into his organ music.” Carolyn and Billy were married for 68 years, and their family includes three daughters and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

1968 Bill Cahn, cofounder with **Bob Becker** '69 of the percussion ensemble Nexus, writes that the group created music for

the soundtrack of a documentary released by the National Film Board of Canada. The film, *La part du diable (The Devil's Share)*, explores Québec's “Quiet Revolution” of the 1970s. Nexus has also released a new CD, *Quantum Fields* (William L. Cahn), which includes performances by the Eastman Marimba Ensemble and the Eastman Percussion Ensemble. Bill adds that in June, he'll be on the faculty of Tócolo Tucson, a new weeklong chamber percussion seminar at the University of Arizona's Fred Fox School of Music.

1969 Bob Becker (see '68) . . .

Max Stern, a professor emeritus at Israel's Ariel University, has published a book on music theory, *Speech of the Angels* (KTAV Publications). He adds: “I wanted to let friends at the U of R know about a conference inspired by my books *Bible and Music* (KTAV, 2011) and *Psalms and Music* (KTAV, 2013) that took place in Poland last October under the auspices of the faculty of fine arts and music at the University of Silesia in Katowice, entitled *Biblical Motifs as a Source*

of *Inspiration for Artists at the Turn of the 21st Century*. I was invited as opening speaker and special guest composer for a concert devoted entirely of my works. It was really something.” Max sends a photo from the conference (see page 57).

1975 Pianist and composer **John Serry** '91 (MM) has released a new album, *Disquisition* (SPCo Records). He notes that the title track was included on *Jazziz on Disc*, the CD sampler that accompanies *Jazziz* magazine.

1977 Composer **Clement Reid** has received several honors in the past year. They include a Silver Medal (Outstanding Achievement) from Global Music Awards in the contemporary classical category for his *Adventure for String Orchestra*, and the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award. In addition, his *Realizations for Horn and Piano* was premiered at the Seattle Composers Salon last November, and his music was featured on several programs by the Pacific Northwest Chamber Ensemble in 2017.

1981 Last February, **Rodney Winther** was invited by the U.S. Coast Guard Band as guest conductor for its concert "Music from Around the World." The performance, including music from British, Chinese, Czech, and American-born composers, took place in the band's Leamy Concert Hall in New London, Connecticut. Rodney has served as director of wind studies at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music and as director of bands at Ithaca College. Several Eastman alumni are members of the U.S. Coast Guard Band, including chief musician and tubist **Stephen Lamb '00** (tuba), principal percussionist **Robert McEwan '90**, and chief musician and harpist **Megan Sesma '02, '02RC**. Chief Warrant Officer **Richard Wyman '92, '93**, who has served as assistant director of the band since 2004, delivered his final performance in the role in April.

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To ensure timely publication of your information, keep in mind the following deadlines:

Issue	Deadline
Fall 2018	July 1, 2018
Winter 2019	September 1, 2018
Spring 2019	December 1, 2018

1984 Saxophonist **Tom Christensen '86 (MM)** writes that the quartet *Spin Cycle*, which he coleads with drummer Scott Neumann, has released its second CD, *Assorted Colors* (Sound Footing Records). Tom and other members of the group marked the April release with a performance at Smalls in New York City, followed by a tour of the Midwest.

1985 **Mallory Thompson (DMA)** is conductor of the Northwestern University Symphonic Wind Ensemble, which released a CD, *Reflections* (Summit Records), last December.

1986 **Tom Christensen (MM)** (see '84).

1988 **Rob Barrett** is an assistant professor of recording arts and music business at North Central University in Minneapolis. He and his students have recorded a CD, *The Classroom Sessions* (Third Street Music). Rob writes: "I try to use hands-on projects as much as possible to engage students in my classroom. So, for the last couple of years, we have recorded songs in the classroom using students as the musicians and learning audio engineering and mixing techniques. This project is a compilation of those classroom sessions."

1991 **John Serry (MM)** (see '75).

1992 **Richard Wyman '93** (see '81).

2002 **Mirna Lekic** won third place in the professional solo division of the 2017-18 American Prize in Piano contest. Founded in 2009, the American Prize is awarded in a variety of performing arts to recognize excellence among artists, ensembles, and composers in the United States. Mirna is an assistant professor of music at Queensborough Community College, City University of New York.

2007 **Hao-An (Henry) Cheng** won first prize at the 2018 European Union Competition for Orchestra Conductors. Based in Berlin since 2015, Henry is music director of the Klangkraft Orchestra. As winner of the prize, he'll conduct throughout Italy, Hungary, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, and Poland during the 2018-19 season.

School of Medicine and Dentistry

1955 **Mario Sparagana (MD)** (see '51 College).

1974 **John Vanek (MD)** writes: "I've retired from medicine and begun a second career writing mysteries and poetry. My debut novel, *DEROS* (Coffeetown Press), was recently released worldwide (in both paperback and e-book). I hope you'll pick up a copy and support me in this crazy new journey that I'm on." The first in the Father Jake Austin mystery series, the book—whose title is the acronym for Date of Expected Return from Overseas—concerns a priest returning home after a war only to face a series of murders which "force him to confront his own violent past, regrets over lost love, and his doubts about the priesthood." John adds: "It took me nine years to write the three books in the Father Jake Austin mystery series. The second book in the series (*Miracles*) should be available in early 2019." You can visit his website at JohnVanekAuthor.com.

1984 **Joseph Behrman D ('79 College)**.

School of Nursing

1986 **Nina Gaby '90 (MS)** won a Monthly Musepaper Award for her essay, "The Sum of Its Parts," from the literary journal *New Millennium Wings* in January. Nina is an essayist, artist, and psychiatric nurse practitioner in Vermont. This is her first literary award. Her blog is at Ninagaby.wordpress.com.

Simon Business School

1990 **Nick Lantuh (MBA)** has been named president and CEO of Fidelis Cybersecurity. He's the founder and former president of NetWitness and executive chairman of eSentire.

1994 **Art Smith (MBA)** has been named managing director of distribution and marketing for Crossmark Global Investments. Art has held a variety of senior sales, marketing, and branding roles with global financial institutions prior to joining Crossmark. He was most recently

managing partner of the management consulting firm Vire.

1998 **Shannon Masten Silsby (MBA)** has been promoted to partner at the professional recruitment and talent advisory firm the Pi Group (Perpetual Insights). She's been with the company since 2014.

Warner School of Education

1994 **Laura Gelina (MS)** (see '87 College).

1995 **Joseph Morgan (MS)**, '07 (EdD) has been named superintendent of the Rondout Valley Central School District in Ulster County, New York. One of seven finalists, he was approved unanimously by the district's board of education. Joseph began his teaching career in Webster, outside Rochester, where he taught Advanced Placement economics and later became principal of Willink Middle School. He was most recently the superintendent of the Spencer-Van Etten Central School District in Tioga County, New York.

2013 **Marybeth Yerdon (MS)**, a social studies content specialist and curriculum writer, accepted a position as educational product developer at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in April 2017. This spring, she wrote a blog post for the *Smithsonian Magazine* blog, Smithsonian Voices, about the museum's Native Knowledge 360° initiative. Marybeth is helping to develop the collection of digital resources, aiming to provide "new perspectives on Native American history, cultures, and contemporary lives." The post, called "Teachers, Do You Need Better Resources? You're Not Alone: Native Knowledge 360° Is Here to Help," can be found at Smithsonianmag.com/blogs/national-museum-american-indian/.

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Susan Griswold Cotton '43, November 2017

Shirley Schell Hayden '43E, February 2018

Helen Forrestel Spink '44E, February 2018

Irving R. Abel '45, October 2017

Patricia Ryan Leo Grande '45N,
February 2018

John W. Colgan '46M (MD),
March 2018

Doris Brill McNulty '46N,
January 2018

Billie Clow Howes '47,
February 2018

Lora Gahimer Koomanoff '47E
(MM), March 2018

Marjorie Whitehouse Raysor '47N,
March 2018

Virginia Deisher Alexander '48N,
February 2018

James W. Blumer '48,
January 2018

Benjamin B. Dayton '48 (Mas),
February 2018

Doris Woolfe Farwell '48,
February 2018

Muriel Warren Halstead '48E,
February 2018

Andrew Stalder '48,
February 2018

Carolyn Cartwright Tenney '48N,
October 2017

Velma Cavagnaro Durland '49,
'50N, February 2018

Elizabeth Larson Fox '49N,
November 2017

Martha Ballew Morey '49 (MS),
February 2018

Mary Weir Tanenbaum '49E,
February 2018

Barbara Knuth Jameson '50,
February 2018

William R. Jenkinson '50, '83S
(MBA), February 2018

Raymond C. King '50,
January 2018

Irene Schafer Manitsas '50,
March 2018

Martha White Schreiner '50N, '74,
February 2018

Fredric D. Kirshman '51,
October 2017

Vanza Rudy '51N (Dpl),
March 2018

Edwin A. Welch '51,
January 2018

Arthur T. Hall '52M (MD),
February 2018

Mary Kay Clark Jackson '52E,
March 2018

Alexander D. Mallace '52,
March 2018

Marie Kratochvil May '52N, '58,
March 2018

Henry H. Beckler '53,
May 2017

James W. Brennan '53,
September 2017

Frank J. Colgan '53M (MD),
February 2018

C. Eileen Early '53,
February 2018

Paul T. MacGregor '53,
February 2018

APPRECIATION

Andrew Kende: A Professor 'I Wanted to Learn From'

Lanny Liebeskind '77 (PhD) remembers walking into Andrew Kende's lab for the first time as a new PhD student.

"I remember asking Andy when I should start my research. His succinct answer, in effect, was 'Now!'" says Liebeskind, the vice provost for strategic research initiatives and Samuel Dobbs Professor of Chemistry at Emory University.

"I got the message loud and clear. It was a bit like being dropped into a professional sports team, where the coach is constantly challenging you to push yourself beyond the comfort level. In doing so, you grew in ways as a scholar and person that you never would have on your own."

Yuh-geng Tsay '77 (PhD) had a similar experience.

"When I toured Professor Kende's labs, I noticed there was a memo from him posted in each cubicle of his graduate students and postdocs. Two key phrases stood out that got my attention. 'When you are here, you should roll up your sleeves and work. If you cannot manage at least two experiments at the same time, you don't belong to this group.'

"At that moment, I knew he would be the professor I wanted to learn from," says Tsay, a venture partner at Vivo Capital, former senior vice president and group president at Thermo Fisher Scientific, and a recipient of the University's Rochester Distinguished Scholar Medal.

Kende, the Charles F. Houghton Professor of Chemistry Emeritus and former chair of chemistry, was a world renowned organic chemist and inventor who specialized in the synthesis of complex molecules, including ones used for anticancer treatments. He died in February.

In a University profile, Kende once noted: "I am happiest when faced with a result that is truly counter to the best theories. That is when new insights into the nature of the physical world can be discovered."

Robert Boeckman, the Marshall D. Gates Jr. Professor of Chemistry and recent chair of the department, was recruited to join the faculty by Kende. "He was a very astute scientist; he had a really good nose for important problems," he says.

Kende also had a knack for identifying students, such as Liebeskind and Tsay, who had the potential to rise to the tops of their fields—and for pushing them to excel.

"He was a hard taskmaster," Boeckman says. "But the vast majority of the more than 50 PhD students and postdocs that Andy mentored went on to perform at the highest levels. That's a testament to how he taught them about the importance of excellence in whatever they do."

Born in Budapest, Hungary, Kende emigrated to the United States with his family in 1939, and grew up in Evanston, Illinois. After earning degrees at the University of Chicago and Harvard University, he worked in industry before joining Rochester's faculty in 1968.

As department chair from 1979 to 1983, he worked with the University's chief science librarian to introduce chemistry undergraduates to the wonders of a computer as a new way to search for articles and information "buried in the huge and growing body of scientific literature."




INVENTIVE CHEMIST: Specializing in the synthesis of complex molecules, Kende was an internationally known organic chemist and inventor.

The research consisted of using an "ordinary phone" to dial a database, attaching the receiver to a portable computer terminal, typing in a request, and "within seconds" getting a printout.

Kende "enjoyed teaching," Boeckman says, "but his real thrill was in mentoring and training his graduate students and participating in the research they did."

Tsay remembers that when Kende returned from a business trip, "he would stop by the lab first to see how everyone was doing. This type of work ethic has inspired us not only to work hard, but to have a sense of urgency in everything you do. His teaching style empowered us to solve any technical challenge and to be independent problem solvers."

"Armed with the skills that I learned from him as a graduate student, I was able to excel in every venture that I chose to tackle," Tsay says. 

—BOB MARCOTTE

Joan Salerno Acitelli '54N,
March 2018
Samuel M. Baker '54,
February 2018
John S. Eppolito '54,
February 2018
Frank Ingenito '54,
February 2018
Joseph T. Mullhaupt '54,
February 2018
Leona Hart Lee '55N,
January 2018
Gail Hodgins Lucker '55,
March 2018
Robert B. Segal '55,
January 2018
William D. Yule '55,
February 2018
Florence Colwell Coomber '56,
February 2018
Marenes R. Tripp '56M (MS),
January 2017
Nathan Cohen '57M (MD),
February 2018
John O. Helling '57,
February 2018
Munroe K. Aaron '58,
February 2018
Robert T. Jacobsen '58,
March 2018
Leonard E. Poryles '58,
February 2018
Shirley McGaugh Zielinski '58E,
February 2018
Linda Thorburn Gorin '59,
February 2018
Ivan M. Grotenhuis '59M (MS),
March 2018
Leon H. McGurk '59,
February 2018
Seward Smith '59 (PhD),
February 2018
Barbara Anderson Weider '59N,
December 2017
Quenten D. Doolittle '60E (DMA),
March 2018
Gretchen Diez Evans '60E (MM),
January 2018
Joyce Hansen Colotti '61E (MM),
January 2018
John R. Karp '62W (MA),
March 2018
Arthur J. Moss '62M (Res),
February 2018
Elizabeth Frashure Norod '62N,
'71W (EdD), February 2018
Anthony F. Stranges '62,
February 2018
Phyllis Sternberg Perrakis '63,
March 2018
Elizabeth Rousseau '63E,
December 2017
Paul H. Snell '64,
February 2018
Roger C. Breslau '65M (Res),
August 2016
Donna Taylor Mobley '65M (MS),
January 2018

Ethel Thirtle '65,
February 2018
Sydney Sutherland '66W (MA),
March 2018
Lynne Osman Elkin '67,
February 2018
Marian Diehl Griswold '67 (MA),
March 2018
Mary Hueller '67E (DMA),
November 2017
Don J. Cushing '67S (MS),
February 2018
Edward W. Markowski '67, '69 (MS),
December 2017
Iris Mitgang '67 (MA),
May 2017
David S. Ross '68,
December 2016
Mark R. Eckman '69M (Res),
February 2018
Mary Lu Brown Keep '69W (MA),
'78W (EdD), January 2018
George T. Partis '70,
February 2018
Hester Hellebush Cramer '71W
(MA), February 2018
Steven S. Davis '72,
June 2016
Thomas J. Lanseer '73W (MA),
February 2018
Ronald A. Mazeau '74S (MBA),
February 2018
Paul D. Strauchler '74,
January 2018
Walter J. Kusak '75,
February 2018
Susan Stack '75,
February 2018
John E. Benitez '76W (Mas),
March 2018
Frank D. Lewis '77 (PhD),
March 2018
Robert C. Dale '78M (Flw),
March 2018
Georges G. Grinstein '78 (PhD),
February 2018
Donald D. Schaper '80 (MS),
February 2018
Gary Wahl '82M (Res), '85M (Flw),
March 2018
Wanda Holsten Gardner '84 (MS),
January 2018
Saul G. Rudman '85, '87W (MS),
February 2018
Natalie Epps Stewart '85 (MS),
March 2018
Nicole Bernard '93, '95 (MS),
December 2017
James J. Link '95,
January 2018
Carlton E. Quallo '97S (MBA),
February 2018
Matthew L. Palermo '09D,
March 2018
Kayla Jenkins '11S (MBA),
February 2018

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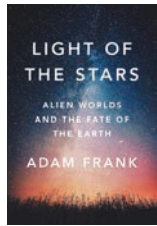
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Books & Recordings

Books

Light of the Stars: Alien Worlds and the Fate of the Earth

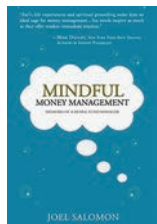
By Adam Frank
W. W. Norton & Co., 2018



Frank traces the history of human musings and exploration of alien life, from the time of the ancient Greeks to the present, when astronomical research shows “that we are just one of 10 billion trillion planets in the universe.” Drawing on evidence of human-driven climate change, Frank also poses the question, “What can the likely presence of life on other worlds tell us about our own fate?” Frank is a professor of physics and astronomy at Rochester and a commentator for National Public Radio’s *All Things Considered*.

Mindful Money Management: Memoirs of a Hedge Fund Manager

By Joel Salomon '86
SaLaurMor, 2018



Salomon, founder of SaLaurMor Capital, offers tips to investors for eliminating stress and fear and incorporating mindfulness into financial decision making.

Social Studies in the New Education Policy Era: Conversations on Purposes, Perspectives, and Practices

Edited by Kevin Meuwissen
and Paul Fitchett
Routledge, 2018



Meuwissen and Fitchett bring together a collection of essays as a facilitated conversation on issues ranging from curriculum standards and testing mandates to the appropriate roles of social studies teachers as policy advocates. Meuwissen is an associate professor and director of the social studies teacher preparation program at the Warner School of Education and Fitchett is an associate professor of social studies education at the University of North Carolina Charlotte.

Patriotic Education in a Global Age

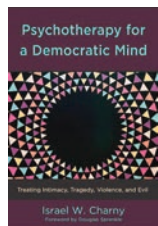
By Randall Curren and Charles Dorn
University of Chicago Press, 2018



Curren and Dorn join forces to examine fundamental assumptions about patriotic education—including whether and how schools should attempt to cultivate patriotism; what concepts of patriotism would be meaningful; and whether patriotism is essential to national unity or sustained commitment to just institutions. Curren is a professor of philosophy and of education at Rochester, and Dorn is associate dean for academic affairs and a professor of education at Bowdoin College.

Psychotherapy for a Democratic Mind: Treatment of Intimacy, Tragedy, Violence, and Evil

By Israel Charny '58 (PhD)
Lexington Books, 2018



Charny—the executive director of the Institute on the Holocaust & Genocide in Jerusalem and a retired professor of psychology and family therapy at Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University—examines relational (couple and family) and individual psychiatric conditions through the lens of social and political forces and institutions. Charny is also the author of *A Democratic Mind: Psychology and Psychiatry with Fewer Meds and More Soul* (Lexington Books, 2017) and *The Genocide Contagion: How We Commit and Confront Holocaust and Genocide* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2016).

Secular Lyric: The Modernization of the Poem in Poe, Whitman, and Dickinson

By John Michael
Fordham University Press, 2018

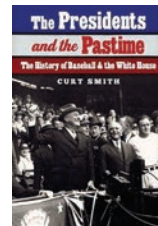


Michael explores the unique ways in which Poe, Whitman, and Dickinson adapted ancient and Renaissance conventions of lyric expression into a modern context characterized by secularization and heterogeneous systems of

belief. Michael is a professor of English and of visual and cultural studies at Rochester.

The Presidents and the Pastime: The History of Baseball and the White House

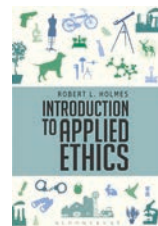
By Curt Smith
University of Nebraska Press, 2018



Smith—a former White House speechwriter for President George H. W. Bush and a senior lecturer in English at Rochester—traces the historic relationship between the presidency and “America’s pastime.”

Introduction to Applied Ethics

By Robert Holmes
Bloomsbury, 2018



Holmes, a professor emeritus of philosophy at Rochester, presents an “all-in-one” textbook that integrates the introduction of practical moral problems with relevant theories and readings.

Alone and Content

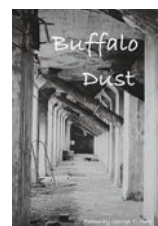
By Gwenn Voelckers
Gwenn Voelckers, 2018



Voelckers presents “inspiring, empowering essays to help divorced and widowed women feel whole and complete on their own.” She’s the former director of health communications for the Medical Center’s Center for Community Health and Prevention.

Buffalo Dust

By George Hole '60, '68 (PhD)
Buffalo Arts Publishing, 2017



Hole’s collection of 23 poems, steeped in the imagery of Red Jacket, the Buffalo skyway, and the author’s own life experiences, “reflect his love of a blue-collar city, rooted in an industrial past.” Hole holds the title of Distinguished Teaching Professor in the philosophy department at Buffalo State College.

Ben Katchor: Conversations

*Edited by Ian Gordon '93 (PhD)
University Press of Mississippi, 2018*



Gordon, an associate professor of history at the National University of Singapore, edits a collection of work by cartoonist Ben Katchor. In 2017, Gordon authored *Superman: The Persistence of an American Icon* (Rutgers University Press) and coedited *The Comics of Charles Schultz: The Good Grief of Modern Life* (University Press of Mississippi).

Selling Options . . . Simply Called and Simply Put

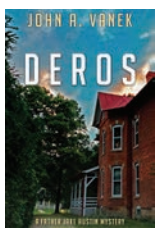
*By David Skonieczki '71
TheBookPatch, 2018*



Skonieczki, retired from a 30-year career as a broker at Fidelity Investments, offers an autobiographical primer for investors on the often intimidating world of options trading. Presented from the seller's perspective rather than the buyer's, Skonieczki shares his own stories of learning to master arcane strategy.

Deros

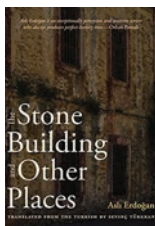
*By John Vanek '74M (MD)
Coffeetown Press, 2018*



Vanek's debut novel, and the first in a three-part Father Jake Austin mystery series, tells the story of a priest returning home after a war only to face a series of murders which "force him to confront his own violent past, regrets over lost love, and his doubts about the priesthood."

The Stone Building and Other Places

*By Asli Erdogan, translated from the Turkish by Sevinç Türkkan
City Lights Press, 2018*

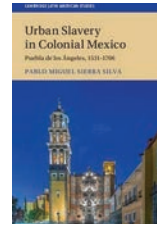


Türkkan, an instructor of Turkish studies at Rochester, offers the first English translation of the best-selling 2009 work by noted Turkish journalist, author, and human rights activist Asli Erdogan. Erdogan, a physicist-turned-writer who was imprisoned for several months

in 2016 for her work with the newspaper *Radikal*, explores the themes of exile, illness, and imprisonment in the collection of stories.

Urban Slavery in Colonial Mexico: Puebla de los Angeles, 1531-1706

*By Pablo Sierra Silva
Cambridge University Press, 2018*



Sierra Silva, an assistant professor of history at Rochester, explores the ways in which enslaved Mexicans in the 16th and 17th centuries formed family and social networks to contest

their bondage.

Musings

*By Mario Sparagana '51, '55M (MD)
Pepper Tree Press, 2018*



Sparagana offers 50 poems on the subjects of love, nature, and death.

Mad Mädchen: Feminism and Generational Conflict in Recent German Literature and Film

*By Margaret McCarthy '96 (PhD)
Berghahn, 2017*



McCarthy explores trans-generational debates in modern German feminism, as a rising group of activists have come to challenge many of the movement's strategic and philosophical orthodoxies. McCarthy is the chair of the German studies department and coordinator of the film and media studies concentration at Davidson College.

Speech of the Angels: Thoughts on the Theory of Music

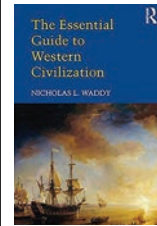
*By Max Stern '69E
KTAV Publications, 2018*



Stern, a professor emeritus at Israel's Ariel University, presents a global overview of the physics and metaphysics of sound and music.

The Essential Guide to Western Civilization

*By Nicholas Waddy '01 (PhD)
Routledge, 2017*



Waddy, an associate professor in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Alfred State College, presents an overview of European history designed for undergraduate courses in Western civilization.

Recordings

One Lives But Once: A 90th Birthday Celebration

*By Samuel Adler
Linn Records, 2018*



Eastman students and faculty members perform on the three-disc recording of compositions by Adler on the occasion of Adler's 90th birthday. Adler taught at Eastman from 1966 to 1995 and chaired the composition department from 1974 to his retirement.

Quantum Fields

*By Nexus
William L. Cahn, 2018*



Nexus, which includes Bill Cahn '68E and Bob Becker '69, performs three selections. The Eastman Marimba Ensemble and the Eastman Percussion Ensemble also perform on the recording.

Disquisition

*By John Serry '75E, '91E (MM)
SPCo Records, 2017*



Jazz pianist and composer Serry performs original numbers accompanied by bass and percussion.

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 e-mail to rochrev@rochester.edu.

Talking Science So the Public Will Listen

Madeline Sofia '16M (PhD) helps scientists—whom the public trusts more than the media or elected officials—to broaden their reach.

Interview by Lindsey Valich

I was a curious, outdoorsy kid who loved frogs and salamanders. I thought I was going to be a veterinarian. Even at a young age, I was fascinated with how living things worked and how the little critters I loved so much were able to fight off diseases.

I interned at NPR while I was getting my PhD in microbiology and immunology at the Medical Center. I realized that what I really enjoyed was communicating the awesome, unbelievable things that scientists were doing. I love sharing that excitement, joy, and nerdiness with other people in a way that's attainable and entertaining.

One of my main projects at NPR is working on the storytelling series *Joe's Big Idea*. We try to highlight stories that feature the people and processes behind scientific discovery and, at the same time, get more involved in helping researchers become better science communicators. Recent Pew Research studies show that the nonscientific public actually trusts scientists more than they trust the media and elected officials. Scientists are in the right place at the right time to communicate because they have the public's trust, plus they are the experts; they know whether things are scientifically sound.

Madeline Sofia '16M (PhD)

Assistant producer, National Public Radio's *Science Desk* and *Joe's Big Idea*
Home: Washington, D.C.

Favorite story I've worked on:

One of my favorites is called "To Catch Prey, Frogs Turn to Sticky Spit." It's about how frog saliva is a non-Newtonian fluid, which means it actually changes its properties based on how much force is applied to it. These scientists were trying to figure out how frogs are so good at catching crickets—because their tongues move so fast that there's no way that little cricket should stick on their tongue. The process is really weird and cool. And the scientist I was talking with was hilarious.

Right now I work in video storytelling, which allows you to actually see the people behind the science as well as their labs and what they're working on. When I was growing up, I didn't see or know about a lot of women or people of color working in science, but video gives us the ability to show the diversity within the field. It also allows people to see scientists as relatable human beings, rather than as stuffy, which is how I think they have been portrayed in the past.

One of the most important things for scientists in communicating research is knowing their audience. Not everybody has the same understanding or skill sets. But this doesn't mean you have to dumb down the science. It means using the appropriate language to connect with them. It's also really important to tell a story, and to put yourself into that story. Scientists tend to say "It's not about me, it's about the science." But really, if you're telling people about science, it's about you, too. Communicating what you're passionate about makes people even more interested because enthusiasm is infectious.

Science communication doesn't have to involve starting a podcast or a blog. Science communication can be talking about yourself and your research to your friends and family members. Or

talking to people you meet in places where people aren't necessarily there because they're excited about science. This is actually a great way to practice because it's easy to talk to a captive audience, but it's harder to talk to an audience when you need to keep their interest. Teaching kids is also a good way to be a better science communicator, because kids are brutal—if you ask kids if they understand something, they are not going to lie to you and say that they do.

I think one of the hardest things for science communicators is leaving out the jargon. The way we're taught to communicate as academics is not the way people outside academia talk. We have training in how to design an experiment and how to present the background, methods, and results to other scientists. We don't have a lot of training in how to write snappy, interesting, fun stories about our research. This takes practice. 



A Legacy of Support

WHEN NORMA ANDZER AND HER late husband, Arnold, updated their estate plan, they asked themselves three key questions: What do we value? Where can we have an impact philanthropically? How do we ensure we will have enough income in retirement? Supporting the Golisano Children's Hospital was an answer to all their questions. It was important for the Andzers to give back to the community they love and to help the youngest and most vulnerable patients and their families. The Andzers made this happen through a provision in their will, naming the University as beneficiary of retirement assets, and funding charitable gift annuities which pay six percent income for life. Through the combination of these gifts, they will provide generous support including the establishment of the Norma and Arnold Andzer Endowed Fellowship in Pediatrics. "We want all children to have healthy and productive lives," said Norma.

Norma Andzer in the Ganatra Family Atrium of the new Golisano Children's Hospital. She and Arnold are members of The Wilson Society. They also provide for the Memorial Art Gallery and the Eastman School of Music in their estate.



IMAGINE YOUR LEGACY. PLAN TODAY TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.

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SCREEN TIME

Pixel Perfect

SPRING SELFIE: Lingling Li '21, an economics major from Shanghai, and Lucy Song '21, an economics major from Hangzhou, China, take a selfie in the last days of the spring semester. PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER

