

Key University Leaders Begin Second Terms

Bradford Berk '81M (MD/PhD), senior vice president and CEO of the Medical Center, has been re-appointed for a second five-year term. A former chief of cardiology, director of the Cardiovascular Research Institute, and chair of the Department of Medicine, Berk was first appointed CEO in 2008. During his tenure as CEO, federal research funding to the Medical Center reached an all-time high, and the Medical Center has opened a number of new facilities, including the Saunders Research Building and the Ambulatory Surgery Center. Inspired by his own experiences following a serious spinal cord injury in 2009, Berk has also driven the Medical



Bradford Berk

Center to adopt a rigorous approach to patient- and family-centered care, an effort that is boosting patient satisfaction scores across the health system.



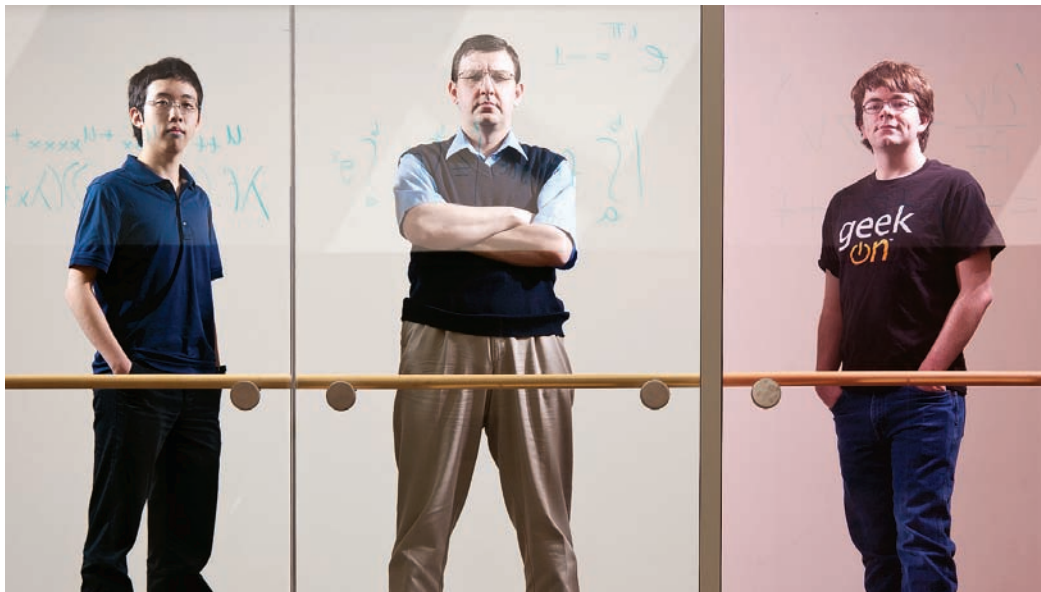
Ralph Kuncel

Ralph Kuncel, provost and executive vice president of the University, begins a second five-year term this spring. He has also been named the University's

chief research officer. First appointed provost in 2007, Kuncel has helped direct the University's initiatives in high-performance computing, including the Health Sciences Center for Computational Innovation, which facilitates access to high performance computational resources for University researchers. He also has led efforts in corporate research collaborations, multi-disciplinary initiatives, diversity, and online education. He's been responsible for reviews of deans, the library, approximately 150 faculty promotion or tenure decisions, sustainability, and faculty-driven learning assessment initiatives.

Math Teams Add Up Top Finishes

For the fourth year in a row, a team from the University has placed among the top 15 in one of the nation's most highly regarded mathematics competitions. The team of Xiaoqing Tang '12, Vincent Yu '14, and Douglas Miller '15 finished 15th among 460 teams in the William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition. They were coached by Dan Geba, associate professor of mathematics. A total of 4,440 students from 572 colleges participated in this year's competition. Harvard took top honors, followed by Carnegie Mellon, Caltech, Stanford, and MIT.



HIGH MARKS: Coached by Dan Geba (center), Vincent Yu '14 (left), Douglas Miller '15 (right), and Xiaoqing Tang '12 (not pictured) finished 15th at the William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition.

Win at the Met Puts Eastman Student on Prestigious Stage

Eastman School graduate student Matthew Grills was one of five winners of the Metropolitan Opera's National Council Auditions this spring. He and four other winners were chosen

among nine finalists. His winning performance included the aria "Ah! Mes Amis!" from Donizetti's opera *La Fille du Regiment*, an aria which, with nine high Cs, has been called "the Mount Everest

for tenors"—and which Grills reprised a month later to win the 2012 Lotte Lenya Competition for singing and acting. Nearly 1,500 singers entered this year's Met auditions, which are considered

the most prestigious in North America for singers seeking to launch an operatic career. Past winners include Renée Fleming '83E (MM), Susan Graham, and Jessye Norman. —Helene Snihur



PLANNED SPACE: Rendering of the new Golisano Children's Hospital

Plans for New Golisano Children's Hospital Taking Shape

Updated plans for a new Golisano Children's Hospital emphasize spaces for gathering, playing, resting, and finding respite. "Our families are so dedicated to participating in the care of their children while they're hospitalized that our nurses have to firmly remind them to take care of themselves, too," says Nina Schor, the William H. Eilinger Chair of Pediatrics and pediatrician-in-chief at Golisano Children's Hospital. "Having these services

so close will make it easier for all our parents to stay rested and nourished." Designed by the Philadelphia-based Ballinger architectural and engineering firm, the new \$145-million tower, attached to Strong Memorial Hospital, will feature eight floors and nearly 245,000 square feet of space. Groundbreaking is planned for later this year, with an expected opening in 2015. For more about the plans, visit www.urmc.rochester.edu/childrens-hospital.

Where Is Flat Pi?

Flat Pi—the mascot for the University's Pi Week celebration—has begun a trip around the world to demonstrate the universality of the mathematical constant and the role of math in our lives. In a project of the Society of Undergraduate Mathematics Students (SUMS) that combined mathematics awareness and so-

cial media, the initiative provided math-minded people with copies of the paper icon and asked them to share photos of Flat Pi at sites around the world. As of the end of April, the mascot had been spotted in Alaska, Finland, South Africa, and Thailand. To follow Flat Pi, visit www.rochester.edu/news/flat-pi. —Peter Iglinski

University Joins National Effort to Improve Science, Engineering Education

Rochester is joining a national effort to develop a new generation of college-level science and engineering faculty. The Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching & Learning, which began in 2003 with a handful of universities, has expanded to include 25 of the nation's top educational institutions. Supported by the National Science Foundation and headquartered at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the center's mission is to improve the teaching of

science, technology, engineering, and mathematics at colleges across the country. As a member, Rochester will have access to the teaching and learning innovations of other network members, as well as a platform for sharing its own successes, including the peer-led workshop model, the WeBWorK online homework tool for math and science, and diversity-oriented approaches for creating an inclusive campus environment.

—Peter Iglinski



Barbara Walters



Craig Ferguson

Walters and Ferguson Headline Meliora Weekend 2012

Famed journalist Barbara Walters, a correspondent for ABC News, the host of *The Barbara Walters Specials*, and creator, cohost, and executive producer of *The View*, will be the keynote speaker at Meliora Weekend on Oct. 13. Comedian Craig Ferguson of *The Late Late Show* on CBS will be the headline entertainer

as part of the weekend's activities for alumni reunion, homecoming, and family weekend.

More than 5,000 attendees are expected for four days of lectures, performances, seminars, and social gatherings, Oct. 11 to 14. For more information, visit www.rochester.edu/melioraweekend.

"[Dick Clark] was able to position himself in the center of the television and music industry in the way that allowed him to have a career that spanned a half a century."

—John Covach, a rock 'n' roll historian and chair of the Department of Music, talking on CNN about the death of Dick Clark, celebrated music producer, television personality, and "America's Oldest Teenager."