

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?

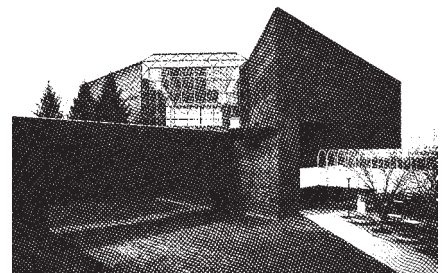
Send us your favorite Rochester references. Write to us at Rochrev@rochester.edu.

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