

Rochester

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/SPRING 2021

Review

ED HAJIM '58

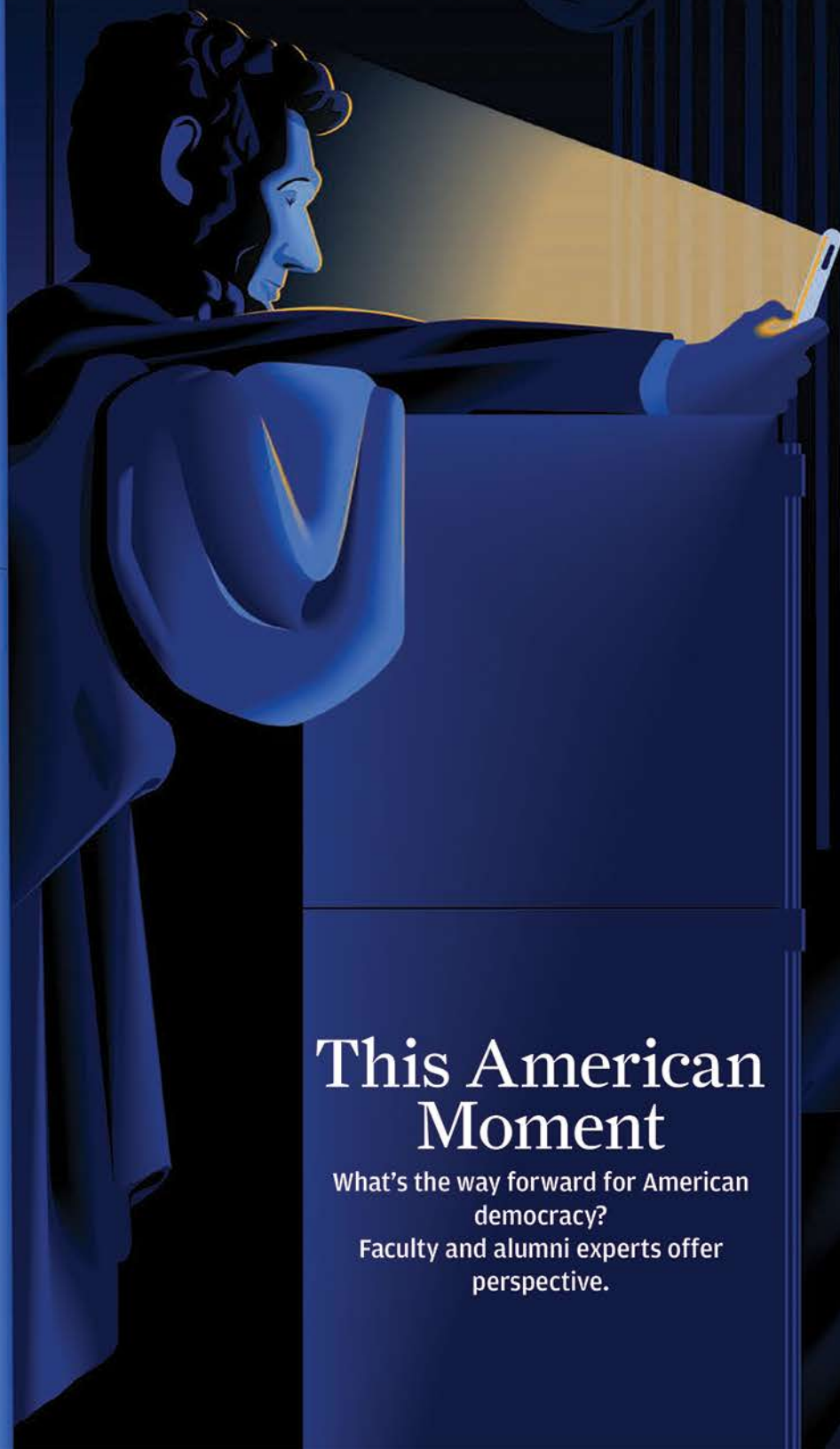
From orphanages to board rooms, a leader's life.

PLACE IN SPACE

The telescopes with ties to Rochester.

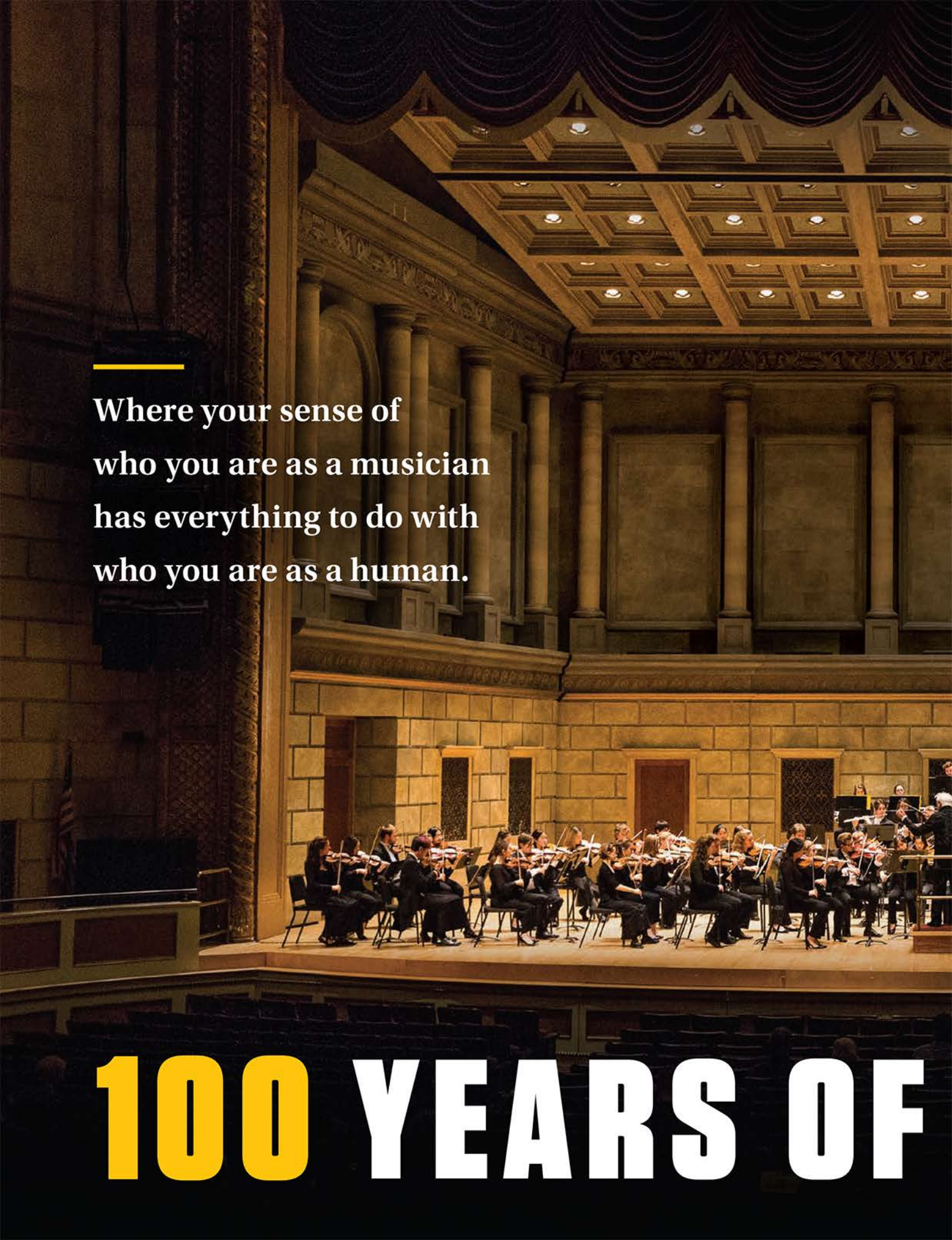
RNA PIONEER

Biochemist Lynne Maquat ushers in a revolution.



This American Moment

What's the way forward for American democracy?
Faculty and alumni experts offer perspective.



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who you are as a musician
has everything to do with
who you are as a human.

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Features

SPRING 2021

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Americans on both sides of the major partisan divide agree: democracy is the best form of government and this past year was a bad one for American democracy. We ask eight faculty and alumni experts to share their perspectives on the challenges and possibilities moving forward. *Interviews by Sandra Knispel and Karen McCally '02 (PhD). Illustrations by John Tomac*

ON THE COVER: Illustration by John Tomac.

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34 Attacking a Pandemic, One RNA Strand at a Time

Pioneering biochemist Lynne Maquat (above) helped usher in the age of RNA-based therapeutics, paving the way to such advances as the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, the first vaccine ever approved by the FDA for human use that is based on RNA technology. *By Lindsey Valich*

38 Driven to Succeed

In a new memoir, Ed Hajim '58 shares his unusual life story, and his discovery that feeling out of place can sometimes help you find what you want in life. *Excerpt by Ed Hajim '58. Interview by Scott Hauser*

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The Reach of One University

The pandemic has reinforced our far-reaching influence as a community and an institution.

By Sarah C. Mangelsdorf

In July I will have served as the 11th president of the University of Rochester for two years. In one sense it feels like I just got here, but in another it feels like I have been here for years. In my time at Rochester, I have been thrilled to meet and speak with so many fantastic faculty, hardworking staff, and engaging students and alumni. But because of the coronavirus pandemic, I am also struck by how many people and University groups that I have not had the opportunity to make a real connection with yet.

It's one thing to join hundreds of faculty or alumni on a Zoom call, but it's altogether something else to meet someone face-to-face and learn firsthand their deep passion for this great university.

Sadly, COVID-19 has kept us apart. And for most of the past year, everyone around the world has been forced to focus on their lives directly around them. But with vaccinations increasing, and the pandemic appearing to pose a lesser threat, we are once again able to look beyond our immediate surroundings and realize the tremendous impact we have as One University.



work helped pave the way for developments like the COVID-19 vaccines that are saving lives around the world.

Rochester's cross-collaborative research doesn't just save lives, it also changes the fabric of the future. Our University is a unique and fertile community where

As I look beyond the world-class instruction, groundbreaking research, and topflight medical care taking place on our campus, I am touched by how our instruction, our research, and our care are impacting the world.

As I look beyond the world-class instruction, groundbreaking research, and topflight medical care taking place on our campus, I am touched by how our instruction, our research, and our care are impacting the world. Just take a look outside of the University of Rochester, and you'll see the greatness that is the University of Rochester.

In this issue of *Rochester Review*, you'll learn about cutting-edge research done by Professor Lynne Maquat, founding director of the University's Center for RNA Biology and recipient of this year's prestigious Wolf Prize in Medicine, whose groundbreaking

nearly 80 percent of our undergraduates engage in research, and, in a recent five-year period, more than half of our research patent applications came from women. In our community more than \$400 million in annual research is predicated on asking "how," "why," and "why not."

Just this semester, a team of chemical engineering seniors worked with the company Waste Management on treatments that could be used to remove persistent chemicals known as PFOAs and PFOS at waste disposal sites. Our students' contribution came as part of our innovative annual capstone engineering project in


anticipation of future regulations from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Also, in this issue, you'll read an excerpt from a new memoir by one of our prominent alumni—Ed Hajim '58. Ed's story is a testament to how the lessons learned at the University of Rochester opened his eyes and helped transform the orphaned son of a Syrian immigrant into a successful Wall Street investor and a current University trustee.

I'd like to also thank Sarah Peyre, dean of the Warner School of Education, and Steve Dewhurst, vice dean for research of the School of Medicine and Dentistry and associate vice president for University health sciences research, for agreeing to serve as interim provost and interim vice provost for research, respectively. They'll step in July 1, succeeding Rob Clark, who has served as senior vice president for research since 2013 and assumed the additional role of provost for the past five years.

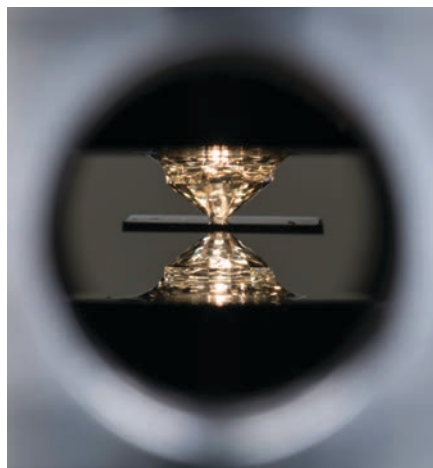
Rob and retiring CIO and Vice Provost Dave Lewis have been pivotal in positioning the University for sustained excellence. Their experience and leadership will be missed as we look to build on their contributions in the future.

Whether making our mark on Wall Street, collaborating with industry to remove harmful chemicals from the environment, or conducting groundbreaking research that's saving lives in the midst of a global pandemic, the University of Rochester is there—making a difference.

With these tremendous contributions in mind, I'm already looking to the future and thinking about my third year as president. I'm eager to establish the connections I missed making over the past year because of COVID. And as my knowledge and appreciation for this University deepens, I hope we will all realize that our greatness comes from more than the sum of our parts. Our greatness flows from our interconnectedness—to each other and to the world beyond our campus. Our greatness comes from being One University. 

Contact President Mangelsdorf at sarah.mangelsdorf@rochester.edu. Follow her on Instagram: [@urochestermangelsdorf](https://www.instagram.com/urochestermangelsdorf).

Progress on Superconductors



It was nice to read the news about recent progress by Rochester researchers on room temperature superconducting materials (“Super-duper Superconductors,” Fall 2020).

In the summer of 1975, as an undergraduate chemical engineering student, I worked on a NSF project for my faculty advisor on a similar research project. My faculty advisor was Dr. Howard Saltzburg, a professor who I admired greatly for his technical knowledge and his dedication to increasing scientific knowledge through research. We worked on making Nb-Ge and

In 1975, handheld calculators were just starting to appear. I did not have such a calculator. But to make my calculations quicker, Dr. Saltzburg bought one such calculator for the project. He attached it securely to a fixture with a long chain and lock so it would not “walk away” if I left my lab for a break.
—Gary Warga ’76

Nb-Si type superconductors using chemical vapor deposition. It was a great learning experience, one I greatly enjoyed.

In 1975, handheld calculators were just starting to appear. I did not have such a calculator. But to make my calculations quicker, Dr. Saltzburg bought one such calculator for the project. He attached it securely to a fixture with a long chain and lock so it would not “walk away” if I left my lab for a break. Times have certainly changed!

Now I find out that this area of research continues. I had wondered if anybody had made any progress in this effort. I learn, 45 years later, progress has been made, at least on a laboratory scale. I wish the research team good luck.

Thanks for the news on current research efforts.

*Gary Warga ’76
Marlton, New Jersey*

One More Presidential Candidate

In “Was That a US President on Campus” (Ask the Archivist, Fall 2020), the list of presidential candidates requires at least one addition.

As I recall, during Freshman Week 1967, national civil rights leader Floyd McKissick addressed students in Strong Auditorium. At that time, Mr. McKissick announced his candidacy for the Democratic Party nomination and distributed “McKissick for President” buttons.

Naively, some of us believed that he had a serious chance of unseating President Johnson (this was before the January 1968 Tet Offensive). As it later developed, McKissick endorsed Richard Nixon and subsequently persuaded President Nixon to provide funding for building Soul City in North Carolina. Sadly, this utopian dream turned into a failed experiment, leaving McKissick disappointed and disillusioned. An attorney, he was eventually made a judge shortly before his death.

His legacy is carried by his son and grandson, both attorneys who bear his name.

*Harry Melkonian ’71
Sydney, Australia*

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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Editor

Scott Hauser

Associate Editors

Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

Kathleen McGarvey

Contributors

Jeanette Colby, Matt Cook, Adam Fenster, Emily Gillette, Peter Iglinski '17 (MA), Sandra Knispel, Jim Mandelaro, Phyllis Mangefrida, Bob Marcotte, Mark Michaud, Melissa Mead, Sara Miller, Dennis O'Donnell, Leslie Orr, Scott Sabocheck, Kristine Thompson, Laura Torchia, and Lindsey Valich

Business Manager

Maureen Baisch

Editorial Office

147 Wallis Hall
University of Rochester
Box 270033, Rochester, NY 14627-0033
(585) 275-4118
Fax: (585) 275-0359
rochrev@rochester.edu
Rochester.edu/pr/Review

Address Changes

300 East River Road
Box 270032
Rochester, NY 14627-0032
(585) 275-8602; toll free: (866) 673-0181
giftoffice@rochester.edu
Rochester.edu/alumni/stay-connected/
alumni-update-form

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Credits

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Let's do this.

It's about everyone pitching in.

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

Together for Rochester

#TogetherForRochester



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Save the Date!

The Day of Giving is May 5, 2021

DayOfGiving.rochester.edu

#RochesterGives

In Review

STUDENT LIFE

Masked Marvels

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT: Wearing masks on campus has been de rigueur since early in the COVID-19 pandemic. Not only are masks considered one of the first lines of defense in limiting the spread of coronavirus, promising to don a mask is also a key component of the COVID-19 Community Commitment, a set of values that students, faculty, and staff agree to abide by to better combat the pandemic. We asked the business manager of the University's photography club, Elissa Moy '21, a business analytics and mathematics double major from Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts, to document a few examples of the latest in masking among students in the College.



Dennis Salinas Mejia '22
Biochemistry/Danli El Paraiso, Honduras

Andre Hodges '22
Digital Media Studies/Washington, DC

Kendall Kohout '24
Biomedical Engineering/North Wales, Pennsylvania

Hanna Bove '22
Music and the Mind/Saunderstown, Rhode Island

Julia Restivo '22
Psychology and Spanish/Ridgefield, Connecticut

Elizabeth Garijo-Garde '23
Music and Public Health/Darien, Connecticut

John Maqui '22
Biology and Anthropology/Anchorage, Alaska



Jack Mandell '23
Math and Computer Science/Roslyn, New York



Natalie Ramesh '21
Chemical Engineering/Lexington, Massachusetts



Ruiyu Zhou '21
Physics/Chengdu, China



Derek Skala '22
Music/West Newbury, Massachusetts



Ermiyas Liyeh '21
Computer Science/Brooklyn, New York



Grace Umerani '21
Public Health/Tuba, South Sudan



Summer Mills '22
Astrophysics/Victor, New York



Maysoon Harunani '23
Biomedical Engineering/Rockford, Illinois



Phuong Le '23
Biomedical Engineering/Rochester

COURSEWORK

Making Ethical Judgments about COVID-19



CAMUS: Students have new view.

Bioethics majors and other interested students are taking a deep dive into some of the most difficult issues surrounding the pandemic.

Ethical issues in epidemics are a standard part of philosopher Richard Dees's course, Public Health Ethics. It's a course he

Ethical issues in epidemics are a standard part of philosopher Richard Dees's course on Public Health Ethics. It's a course he teaches regularly, and he typically devotes three class sessions to questions about epidemics.

teaches regularly, and he typically devotes three class sessions to questions about epidemics.

But in 2020-21, three class meetings didn't seem remotely commensurate with world events. Last summer he asked students if they'd like to devote the seminar to the ethics of pandemics. They unanimously said yes. And so this spring, Dees offered an entirely new course: Pandemic Ethics.

Dees, a professor of philosophy and bioethics, directs the University's program in bioethics. Bioethics majors are required to take a capstone course, a seminar that takes an in-depth look at ethical issues and ties together themes of the major.

Pandemic Ethics fulfills that charge by focusing on ethical issues arising out of the coronavirus pandemic, from disease surveillance and contact tracing to resource allocation to quarantine and lockdowns to vaccine developments. Dees sets current dilemmas within the context of other epidemics, too.

"Government responses to cholera, for example, caused considerable social unrest in Italy in the 19th century, so I tied it to the week on social justice issues. AIDS containment has a lot of contact tracing; the Black Death was all about quarantine," he says.

Diverse diseases require bioethicists to consider varied factors and inhabit a range of perspectives. And so, as the students are examining issues surrounding COVID-19, they're

they're also plunging into the thorny questions of managing the current crisis: the duty to treat; resource allocation; triage and equality; quarantine and isolation; social distancing, lockdowns, and masks; reopening; vaccine development and distribution; and social justice in both US and global contexts.

"The goal of the course is to help students understand how to apply broad ethical principles to particular bioethical issues," says Dees. "I want them to learn how to think through a difficult ethical problem, how to make sure that they are considering all the factors that might be ethically relevant, and how to make sure they are listening to all the points of view that might be relevant. But then they must learn to make an ethical judgment about the best course of action and defend it.

"In the pandemic context, the most difficult issues concern the allocation of resources, and that issue arises in a number of contexts. There are limits to ventilators, to new drug therapies,

to health care workers, and (to a lesser extent) to relief money. And now we are seeing the limits of vaccines. The task is then to find a fair way to distribute those resources."

Among the students' assigned readings, which include optional background selections on polio, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS, is one golden oldie of philosophy and other humanities courses: Albert Camus's 1947 novel, *The Plague*. "The book is often seen as a metaphor for the response to fascism, but it's hard to see it as a metaphor anymore," says Dees.

It was clear how much more relevant the book was to students now.

"They were able to understand the moral and psychological situation in which the characters found themselves, and so they were much more sympathetic to the problems," he says. "Students talked a lot about their own experiences and those of their family, some of whom were gravely affected by COVID-19."

—Kathleen McGarvey

On the syllabus

PHLT 300W/PHIL 311W

Seminar in Bioethics: Pandemic Ethics

Professor: Richard Dees, professor of philosophy and bioethics

Required texts (for spring 2021):

Tom Beauchamp and James Childress, *Principles of Biomedical Ethics*, 8th ed. (Oxford)

Albert Camus, *The Plague*, trans. Stuart Gilbert (Vintage)

Recommended text (for spring 2021):

Frank Snowden, *Epidemics and Society: From the Black Death to the Present* (Yale)

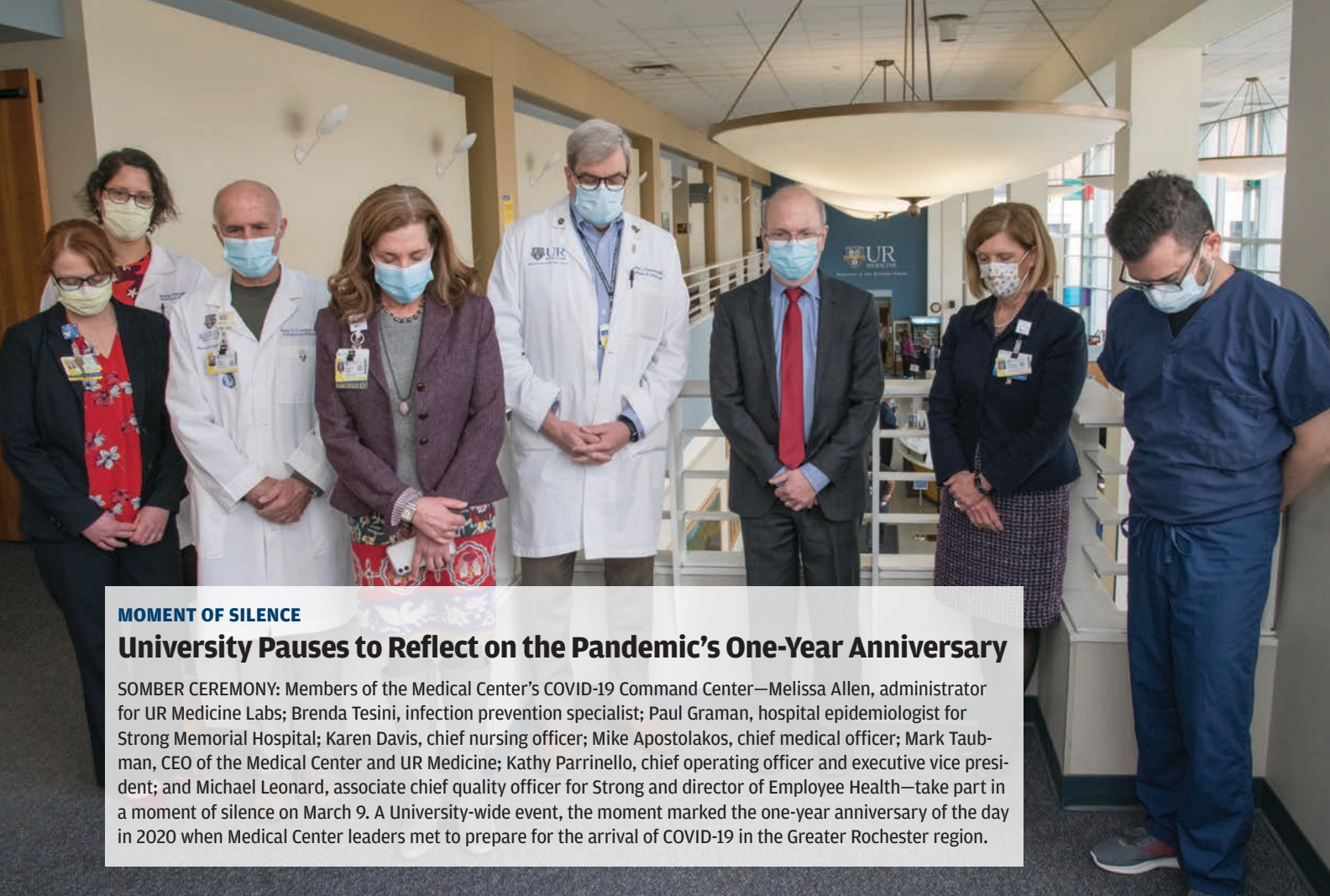
Key questions for students:

How do broad ethical principles apply to particular biomedical issues?

How do you make sure you're listening to all points of view that might be relevant?

How do you make sure you're considering all the factors that might be ethically relevant?

How do you arrive at an ethical judgment about the best course of action—and defend it?



MOMENT OF SILENCE

University Pauses to Reflect on the Pandemic's One-Year Anniversary

SOMBER CEREMONY: Members of the Medical Center's COVID-19 Command Center—Melissa Allen, administrator for UR Medicine Labs; Brenda Tesini, infection prevention specialist; Paul Graman, hospital epidemiologist for Strong Memorial Hospital; Karen Davis, chief nursing officer; Mike Apostolakos, chief medical officer; Mark Taubman, CEO of the Medical Center and UR Medicine; Kathy Parrinello, chief operating officer and executive vice president; and Michael Leonard, associate chief quality officer for Strong and director of Employee Health—take part in a moment of silence on March 9. A University-wide event, the moment marked the one-year anniversary of the day in 2020 when Medical Center leaders met to prepare for the arrival of COVID-19 in the Greater Rochester region.

COVID-19

Medical Center Joins New Clinical Trials, Adds to Antibodies Research

As the COVID-19 pandemic moves into its second year, Rochester researchers and clinicians continue to help lead work to develop vaccines and understand the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

A few highlights:

Can Mothers with COVID-19 Safely Breastfeed?

A new study, conducted by researchers at the Medical Center as well as Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and the University of Idaho, indicates that breastfeeding mothers with COVID-19 do not transmit the SARS-CoV-2 virus through their milk but do confer milk-borne antibodies that are able to neutralize the virus.

The researchers analyzed 37 milk samples submitted by 18 women diagnosed with COVID-19. As reported in the journal *mBio*, none of the milk samples was found to contain the virus, while nearly two thirds of the samples did contain two antibodies specific to the virus.

Critically, the results suggest that mothers with COVID-19 should not be separated from their newborn children.

The team has enrolled nearly 50 women who were diagnosed with COVID-19 and has followed their progress with the disease for as long as two months.

Are Vaccines Safe for Children?

The Medical Center is participating in a pediatric vaccine study to test the efficacy of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in healthy children and adolescents ages 6 months to 12 years.

Along with other select academic medical centers, Rochester researchers plan to test the vaccine in 600 to 700 healthy children and adolescent participants.

The trials will include two doses of the vaccine and will begin this spring.

Is a Third Vaccine Dose Effective?

The Medical Center is also participating in a new clinical trial that will evaluate the safety and efficacy of a third dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in adults.

While the vaccine has been approved for a two-dose regimen, the new study represents an important step in developing long-term vaccination strategies to protect against circulating and emerging variants of the virus.

Rochester is one of four US sites taking part in the study, which will involve individuals who participated in the first phase of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine trials last spring, all of whom were fully vaccinated more than six months ago. [i](#)

Ask the Archivist: Can I Hear It Now?

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

Two themes in my current research have wonderfully rolled into one. The single theme now questions how the voice of a movement leader imprints upon their listeners but is itself shaped by voices of followers. In my work, I have explored this theme concretely in the words and actions of Fidel Castro, Edward R. Murrow, Muhammad Ali, and Congresswoman Barbara Jordan. During quite varied times of crisis the University of Rochester was a lodestone attracting the oratory of three of these well-known voices of the 20th century: Murrow, Ali, and Jordan. That I might have been present—first as a student and later as junior faculty—for all three of them adds a perspective that researchers rarely have. These voices were preceded by a fourth, Winston Churchill, who in 1941 sought to affect audiences beyond both Britain and the UR campus. What can you tell me about why these non-UR orators were invited, who invited them, where on campus did they speak, and what was their message? Are there sound recordings or photographs still extant of their visit? —Richard Ralston '61 (MA); Assistant Professor of History at Rochester, 1970–74; Professor Emeritus (African, African-American, and Caribbean History), University of Wisconsin–Madison

Eighty years ago this June, the audience in the Eastman Theatre heard the 1941 equivalent of a Zoom Commencement Address. On January 20, 1941, President Alan Valentine invited Churchill to speak at the June Commencement and to receive an honorary degree, noting

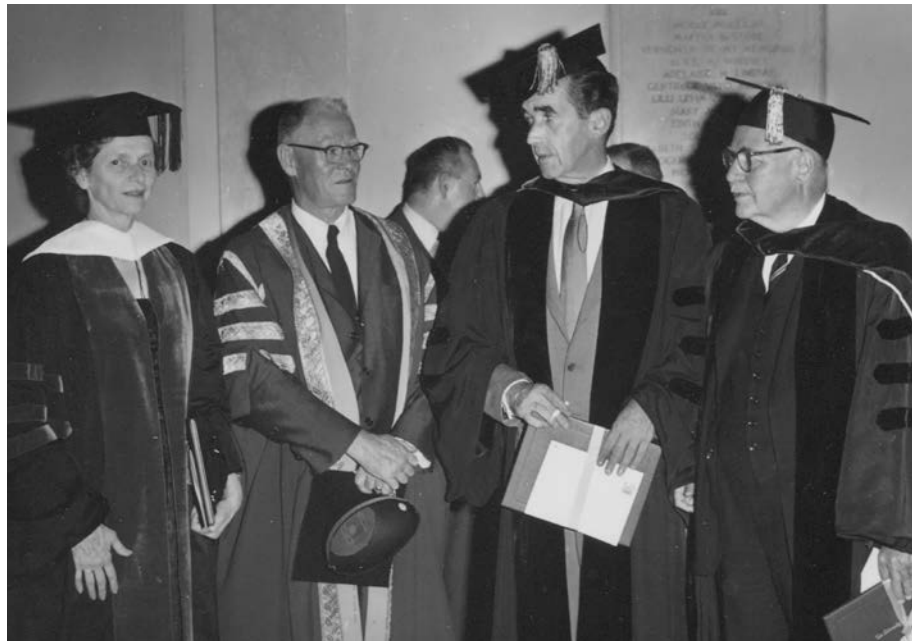
that he hoped the occasion would “attract you . . . because of the standing of this University which, although small, is highly regarded, and because acceptance of the degree would give you an unsolicited opportunity to address the American public from (as it were) a university platform.”

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.

On June 15, the day before Commencement, the public learned about the special guest. There were many things with the technology that could have gone wrong, and as a precaution, Churchill had prerecorded his speech. In the end, everything went perfectly, and Churchill’s live remarks were transmitted from London via radio hookup from the BBC and NBC. A cover story in the July 1941 *Rochester Review* provides all the details of the event.

Murrow also received an honorary degree, not at Commencement but as part of our first All-University Convocation in 1960, which



HONORIS CAUSA: Edward R. Murrow (third from left) received an honorary degree from President Cornelis de Kiewiet during a 1960 convocation attended by US Ambassador Frances Willis and Williams College's president, James P. Baxter III.

coincided with Homecoming as a kind of proto-Meliora Weekend. The three-day event was planned in conjunction with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and called “Perspectives in Peace.” According to a press release, “Rochester was among the American universities and colleges invited . . . ‘to explore the theme of the Endowment’s semi-centennial anniversary this year.’” It is not clear who chose the participants for the session in Strong Auditorium, entitled “Communications and the Cause of Peace,” where Murrow appeared along with Frances Willis (US Ambassador to Norway and UN General Assembly delegate) and George Kistiakowsky (President Eisenhower’s special assistant for science and technology).

The undergraduate Outside Speakers Committee invited Ali to speak on May 17, 1971. The main event occurred in a packed Palestra with Ali addressing race relations, his refusal to be drafted, and his recent loss to Joe Frazier. The Palestra was not Ali’s only venue: he apparently first held a brief press conference in the Field House, spoke to a small audience of Black students in Danforth Hall afterward, and then attended a gathering at the Brighton home of Lonnie Mitchell, head of the University’s Center for Afro-American Studies. Not surprisingly, coverage of the events was extensive and included articles in the *Campus Times* and the *Democrat and Chronicle*; the *Times-Union* (Rochester’s afternoon newspaper) was the only paper to report on the Mitchell event, where Ali apparently played the piano.

“Jordan Denounces Separatist Politics” is the headline in the *Campus Times*. Only a press release and two articles in the CT provide evidence of Jordan’s Hoyt Hall speech at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 12, 1974. She was invited as part of the “Afro-American Lecture Series” sponsored by the College. Her talk focused on civil rights and coalition politics and had no published title.

For more, including audio clips of Churchill and Murrow, visit <https://rbscp.lib.rochester.edu/blog/ata-Spring2021>.

SPRING CELEBRATION

Commencement Adjusts to Pandemic

This spring's graduation ceremonies will have a different look and feel from 2020, but the annual celebrations will not quite be back to normal.


In a message to the University, President Sarah Mangelsdorf announced that the ever-changing nature of the pandemic and state, county, and University guidelines mean that only students who are graduating and faculty and staff who have been on campus this spring will be allowed to attend the ceremonies. All the ceremonies will be livestreamed so that families, friends, and guests can join the events virtually.

Known as a hybrid approach, the in-person/virtual format is being adopted by many universities and colleges this year.

Mangelsdorf said the decision to limit the ceremonies to graduates was a difficult one.

"We studied many options before choosing this approach," she said. "And the importance of having family and friends on hand to share in the moment weighed heavily in those deliberations. However, the welfare of our students, faculty, staff, and our community is our foremost concern."

In addition to following a hybrid model, because of the limits on the size of gatherings and the seating capacities of University venues, ceremonies will be held over two weekends—May 14 to 16 and May 20 to 23—instead of one.

For the Class of 2020, whose commencement ceremony was entirely virtual last May, the University is planning to host special events for the class as part of a fall celebration. 

For updates about Commencement 2021, visit Rochester.edu/commencement.

GAME SHOW GURU

Senior Takes Spin on 'Wheel of Fortune'

Karyssa Harris '21 has long enjoyed watching *Wheel of Fortune* on television and playing the legendary game on her smartphone. "I'm super into it," she says.

In February, she played for real.

The developmental biology major from Carson City, California, was a contestant on the show during "College Week Spring Break," which aired nationally in April. Harris solved two toss-up puzzles and earned \$4,000.

"It was so surreal," she says. "When my mother dropped me off at the studio the day of taping, I screamed before walking in."


Harris had sent *Wheel of Fortune* two audition videos before receiving an email from a show representative last summer. She successfully auditioned again on Zoom.

Harris has been studying remotely in California since March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so the day of taping was an eye opener.

"They taped six shows that day, so there were about 20 college students there," she says. "It's the first time I've interacted with college students since the pandemic hit."

Harris is in the Rochester Early Medical Scholars (REMS) program, an eight-year program for select students that leads to a bachelor's degree from Arts, Sciences & Engineering and an MD from the School of Medicine and Dentistry.

She will return to the University this fall for medical school.

"I want to be a doctor," she says. "I'm just not sure what kind yet." 

—JIM MANDELARO



An Optical Coating Like No Other

Researchers at the Institute of Optics along with colleagues at Case Western Reserve University describe in *Nature Nanotechnology* a new class of optical coatings, so-called Fano-resonance optical coatings, that can simultaneously reflect and transmit the same wavelength, or color.

“Before our technology, the only coating that could do this was a multilayered dielectric mirror, that is much thicker, suffers from a strong angular dependence, and is far more expensive to make,” says Chunlei Guo, a professor of optics at the institute. “Our coating can be a low-cost and high-performance alternative.”

The researchers—including postdoctoral associates Mohamed ElKabbash (lead author) and Julia Zhang, and James Rutledge '19, who worked on the project as an undergraduate—say the technology could



BOTH SIDES NOW: Rochester-developed coatings simultaneously reflect and transmit the same wavelength.

lead to a sixfold increase in the life of photovoltaic cells, devices that convert light energy directly into electricity. The rest of the spectrum “is absorbed as thermal energy, which could be used in

other ways, including energy storage for nighttime, electricity generation, solar-driven water sanitation, or heating up a supply of water,” Guo says.

He adds that the coating will

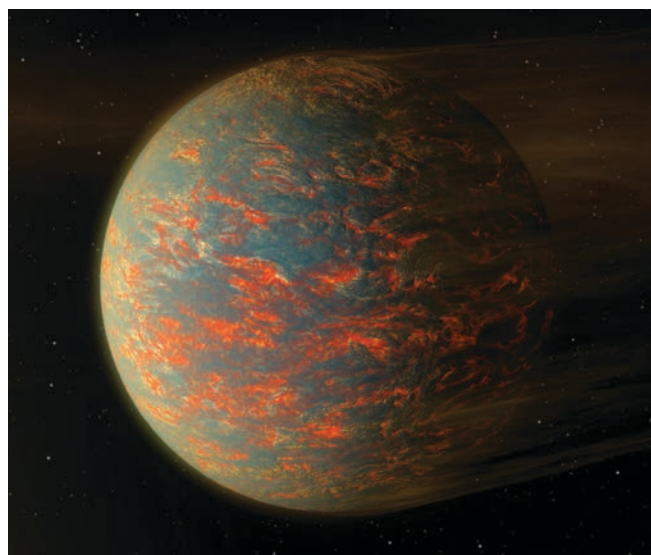
likely have more applications; but as with many discoveries, “it will take a little bit of time to further study this and come up with more applications.”

—Bob Marcotte

Cracking the Secrets to the Interior of Exoplanets

An international team of researchers from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, the University of Oxford, and the Laboratory for Laser Energetics at Rochester has developed the first model of carbon structures that may make up planets outside the solar system. In developing the model, the team measured carbon at the highest pressures ever achieved in a laboratory.

As the fourth most abundant element in the universe, carbon is a building block for all known life and forms the interior of carbon-rich exoplanets. Graphite and diamond are the most common carbon structures found at ambient pressures, but scientists have long predicted that there are several other structures of carbon that could be found at pressures greater than that in Earth's core.



UNDER PRESSURE: Laser Lab scientists explore the properties of carbon deep inside exoplanets such as 55 Cancri e (artist rendering).

As reported in the journal *Nature*, the researchers succeeded in measuring carbon at

pressures five times the pressure in Earth's core. That's nearly double the maximum pressure at

which carbon's crystal structure has ever been directly probed. They found that even under that condition, solid carbon retains its diamond structure far beyond its range of predicted stability, resulting in large energy barriers that hinder carbon's conversion to other possible structures. “The diamond phase of carbon appears to be the most stubborn structure ever explored,” says Ryan Rygg, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering and of physics and a senior scientist at the LLE.

The findings could have implications for carbon in the deep interiors of planets.

“Now we anticipate the diamond structure of carbon will persist over a much greater range of planetary conditions than we previously thought,” Rygg adds.

—Lindsey Valich

Age-Related Macular Degeneration: A Step toward a Cure

Rochester researchers have made an important breakthrough in the quest for a cure for age-related macular degeneration (AMD), the leading cause of blindness in adults 50 years of age or older: they've created the first three-dimensional (3D) lab model that mimics the part of the human retina affected in macular degeneration.

Their model combines stem-cell-derived retinal tissue and vascular networks from human patients with bioengineered

synthetic materials in a three-dimensional "matrix." Notably, using patient-derived 3D retinal tissue allowed the researchers to investigate the underlying mechanisms involved in advanced neovascular macular degeneration, known as the wet form of macular degeneration, which is the more debilitating and blinding form of the disease.

The lab of Danielle Benoit, professor of biomedical engineering and director of the Materials Science Program, engineered

the synthetic materials for the matrix and helped configure it, as described in a paper in *Cell Stem Cell*.

Ruchira Singh, an associate professor of ophthalmology at the Flaum Eye Institute, says the model suggests wet-AMD-related changes in the human retina could be targeted with drugs.

"Once we have validated this over a large sample," Singh says, "the next hope would be to develop rational drug therapies and potentially even test the



THESE EYES: New model sheds light on blinding eye disease.

efficacy of a specific drug to work for individual patients."

—Bob Marcotte

How Does the Brain 'Comprehend' Spoken Language? AI Helps Map Meaning

A study by Rochester researchers describes the complex network within the brain that comprehends the meaning of a spoken sentence.

"The meaning of a sentence is more than the sum of its parts," says Andrew Anderson, a research assistant professor in the Del Monte Institute for Neuroscience and lead author of the study. "Take a very simple example: 'The car ran over the cat' and 'The cat ran over the car.' Each sentence has exactly the same words, but those words have a totally different meaning when reordered."

Published in the *Journal of Neuroscience*, the study is an example of how the application of artificial neural networks, or AI, are enabling researchers to unlock the complex signaling in the brain that underlies functions such as processing language. The researchers recorded brain activity in study participants who read sentences while undergoing functional MRI (fMRI). The scans showed activity in the brain spanning a network of different regions. Using an AI model developed by Facebook that's trained to produce unified semantic representations of

sentences, the researchers were able to predict patterns of fMRI activity reflecting the encoding of sentence meaning across those brain regions.

Anderson and his team, which included School of Arts & Sciences faculty members in the Departments of Brain and Cognitive Sciences and in Linguistics, believe the findings could be helpful in understanding several clinical conditions.

The team says the model may also be useful in predicting brain activity in the production of spoken sentences.

—Kelsie Smith Hayduk

A Clue to Alleviating Frailty in Cancer Patients

"Frailty," while part of common parlance, is also the name of a medical condition. Characterized by weakness, fatigue, weight loss, and slow walking speed, it's often associated with cancer and its treatments. Understanding frailty and how to prevent it is important to improving quality of life for people at any age who are facing disease.

In a study of women with breast cancer, Medical Center researchers found that patients were more likely to exhibit frailty if they showed higher levels of inflammatory markers in the blood prior to chemotherapy.

"Our findings confirm that oncologists should consider inflammation and frailty in their patients and perhaps personalize treatment, especially in older adults," says Nikesha Gilmore, a research assistant professor of surgery who conducts studies for the Wilmot Cancer Institute's Cancer Prevention and Control program.

The mean age of the women in the study was 53, suggesting that frailty can occur among younger patients, too. Gilmore adds that future research should focus on whether it's possible to reduce inflammation before treatment begins.

—Leslie Orr



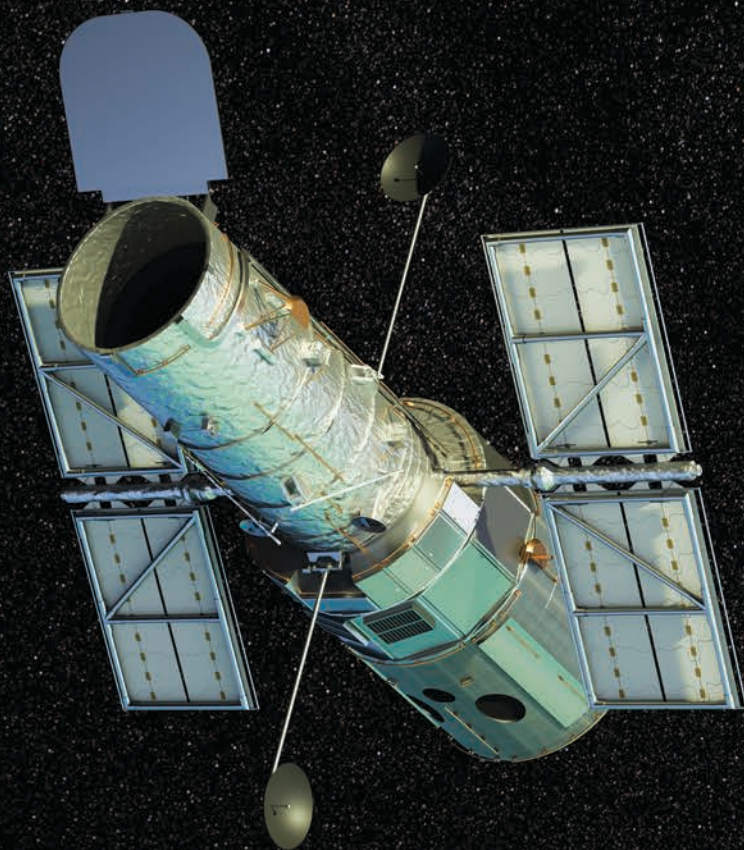
WHAT'D I SAY: Comprehending a sentence requires complex signaling across multiple brain regions.

In Review

A PLACE IN SPACE

Where Rochester Has Gone Before

News that the James Webb Space Telescope is nearing a launch date—perhaps going into space as early as this fall—creates excitement among those who marvel at the breathtaking images captured by such powerful observatories and those who rely on the instruments to understand at new levels of detail the processes behind the formation of planets and stars. The journey of the Webb telescope will mark a milestone for planetary science and human ingenuity. Closer to Earth, the new telescope adds to the galaxy of space-based telescopes, observatories, and satellites that Rochester faculty and alumni have played significant roles in over the past half century. Here are some of the space-based telescopes and observatories with Rochester connections.



Hubble Space Telescope

Launch date: April 1990

Mission: To take the sharpest optical images ever made, revealing the structures of galaxies and the nebulae and stellar clusters they contain.

Shortly after launch, scientists recognized that NASA's visible-light Great Observatory and the first major optical telescope to be placed in orbit had flaws in its mirror. Duncan Moore, the Rudolf and Hilda Kingslake Professor in Optical Engineering Science, chaired a review panel to determine how to give the mirror the right prescription to correct what was, in effect, the telescope's nearsightedness. Jim Fienup, the Robert E. Hopkins Professor of Optics, who was then at the University of Michigan, also served as an advisor to the national panel.



Spitzer Space Telescope

Launch date: August 2003; retired January 2020

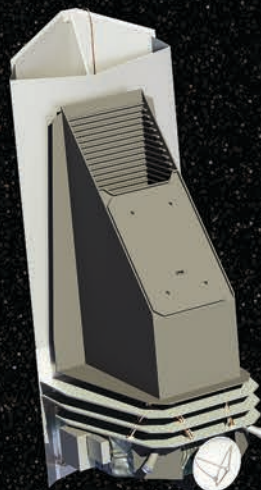
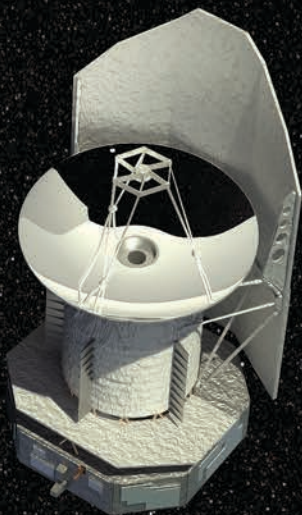
Mission: To map the faintest obscured birthplaces of stars and planets in the Milky Way and other galaxies. Dan Watson and William Forrest, professors of physics and astronomy, were members of the Infrared Spectrograph instrument team for NASA's infrared-light Great Observatory; Forrest and Judith Pipher, professor emeritus of physics and astronomy, were members of the Infrared Array Camera team. The team designed the instrument and its connections to the telescope and spacecraft, and used it to make discoveries in planet formation, extragalactic star formation, and exoplanets.

Herschel Space Observatory

Launch: May 2009;
deactivated June 2013

Mission: To study the cold regions of space to understand the formation of stars.

Rochester's Dan Watson was co-investigator and a lead scientist on one of the largest programs for the observatory, a joint effort of the European Space Agency and NASA.



Near-Earth Object Surveillance Mission

Launch date: Estimated 2025

Mission: To search for hazardous near-Earth asteroids.

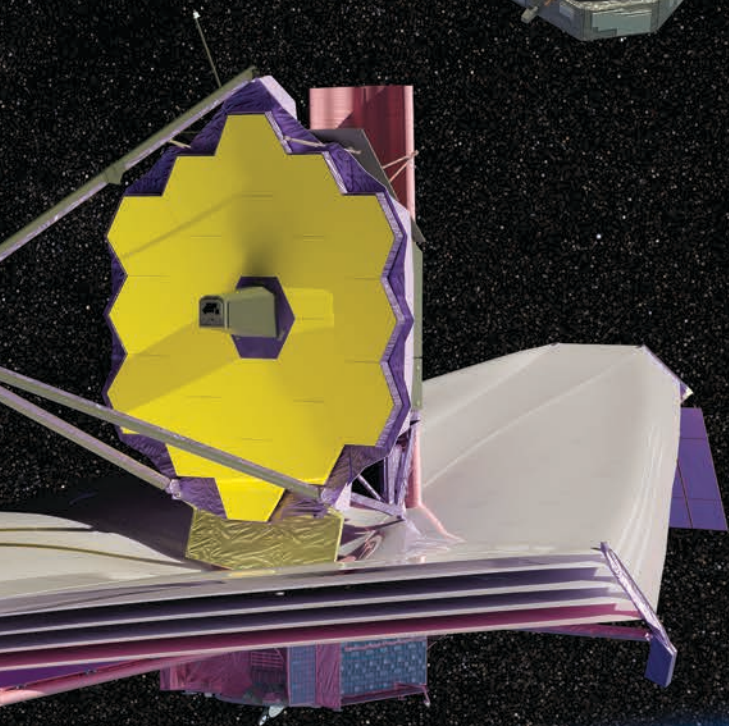
The mission includes a space-based telescope that uses an infrared light sensor developed by Rochester scientists Judith Pipher, William Forrest, and Craig McMurtry. The sensor can collect infrared light emitted by asteroids and comets traveling close to Earth.

James Webb Space Telescope

Launch date: Estimated 2021

Mission: To complement and extend the discoveries of the Hubble and Spitzer Space Telescopes, with improved wavelength coverage and sensitivity.

A group of Rochester alumni and faculty members are involved in a series of optical, thermal, and functional tests of the telescope's key elements. Rochester faculty members involved include William Forrest, Judith Pipher, James Fienup, and Duncan Moore, who cochairs a group of national experts in optics and space science that is advising NASA on the telescope.



SOFIA

First science flight: November 2010

Mission: To provide a highly detailed view of star and planet formation and serve as a test bed for future space-based observations.

The Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy is situated on a Boeing 747SP jet airliner modified to carry a telescope and fly at altitudes up to 45,000 feet. Rochester scientists Judith Pipher, William Forrest, and Dan Watson built instruments for the previous two generations of airborne observatories, the Lear Jet and the Kuiper Airborne Observatory. The instruments have been used to study the formation of massive stars; the motions and distribution of gas clouds in the center of the Milky Way; and the composition of dust made by dying stars, among many other topics. Pipher, Forrest, and Watson continue to be involved in the development of instrumentation for SOFIA and other suborbital observing platforms.



UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

Interim Provost and VP for Research Named

President Sarah Mangelsdorf has announced that she plans to make separate appointments for Rochester's next provost and next vice president for research.

Separating the two cabinet-level positions marks a return to a previous organizational structure, Mangelsdorf noted, but the move represents the importance of having designated leadership to focus on each of the key areas

of academic affairs and the research enterprise.

Beginning July 1, Sarah Peyre, currently dean of the Warner School of Education, will serve for six months as interim provost, while a search of a new provost gets under way. That search will be chaired by Mark Taubman, CEO of the Medical Center and UR Medicine.

Also on July 1, Stephen

Dewhurst, currently vice dean for research at the School of Medicine and Dentistry and associate vice president for health sciences research for the University, will begin a one-year appointment as interim vice president for research.

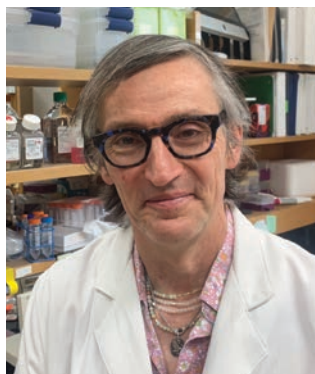
The interim appointments come as Rob Clark, who has served as both provost and senior vice president for research, steps down from the roles to return to the faculty in the Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences.

Also this spring, Dave Lewis, the University's chief information officer and vice president for information technology, announced he is retiring at the end of June.

And Mary Ann Mavrinac, vice provost and the Andrew H. and Janet Dayton Neilly Dean of the University of Rochester Libraries, announced she is stepping down at the end of October.



Sarah Peyre



Stephen Dewhurst



Rob Clark



Dave Lewis



Mary Ann Mavrinac

Yamaha Recognizes Eastman School's Excellence

The Yamaha Corporation of America has named the Eastman School of Music as one of just 10 schools in the company's inaugural Institution of Excellence program.

The recognition acknowledging Eastman's commitment to innovation in the study of music.

Yamaha and Eastman have enjoyed a long-standing relationship. The Yamaha Graduate Fellows program at the Eastman Leadership Conference, established in 2017 and run by Eastman's Institute for Music Leadership, recognizes Eastman's role in music leadership and development, and provides current and future music school leaders the opportunity to learn and discuss policies, programs, and strategies in a collaborative, professional, and musically rich environment. Yamaha graduate fellows receive full-tuition scholarships, supported by Yamaha.

This year's 10 schools were selected by Yamaha following a rigorous, nationwide nomination and review process. Honorees were chosen for their dedication to providing unique and challenging experiences to their music students through diversity of thought and curriculum, exposure to a wider variety of voices and opportunities, and an emphasis on preparing students for the modern world of music.

Nursing Office Named for Harriet Kitzman

The School of Nursing has renamed its Center for Research Support in memory of the late Harriet Kitzman '61W (MS), '84N (PhD). The Harriet J. Kitzman Center for Research Support is a tribute to the legacy of

Kitzman, who died in March 2020. A prolific researcher in a more than 60-year career as a nurse, professor, mentor, and leader, she was known on campus as much for her groundbreaking work with nurse-home

visits as she was for encouraging and supporting others in their own lines of research.

Over a 45-year tenure, Kitzman was closely associated with the school's research mission. She was the school's longtime senior

associate dean of research, serving in that capacity into her 80s.

The center helps facilitate the research and scholarly development of nursing faculty and advances research dissemination and evidence-based practice.

AWARDS & APPOINTMENTS



Rangas Dias

Time Magazine Highlights Engineer

Ranga Dias, a professor of mechanical engineering, was named to *Time* magazine's list of emerging leaders. Recognized for his lab's work to develop materials that are superconducting at room temperature, Dias was selected for the Time 100 Next list, an offshoot of the magazine's well-known annual list of innovators, pioneers, artists, and other leaders.



Peter Christensen

Double Honors for Art Historian

Peter Christensen, an associate professor of art and art history, has been awarded a Guggenheim fellowship for the 2021-22 academic year, as well as a residency at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey. He was one of only 175 scholars chosen by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation for the highly sought fellowship.



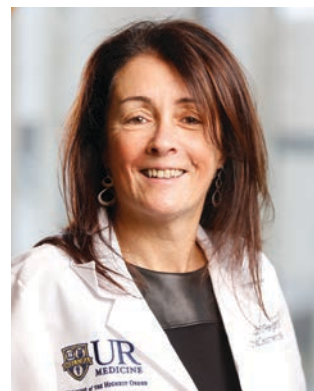
Susana Marcos

Visual Science Center Director Named

Susana Marcos, an internationally recognized expert in the optics of the eye and the interactions of light with the retina, has been appointed the David R. Williams Director of the Center for Visual Science.

The position, named for the longtime center director, is endowed with a \$2 million gift from University Trustee John Bruning and his wife, Barbara. Marcos will also be the inaugural holder of the Nicholas George Professorship at the University's Institute of Optics.

Currently a professor at the Instituto de Óptica, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas in Madrid, Spain, Marcos succeeds Williams as director on July 1.



Ruth O'Regan

Largest Medical Department Has New Chair

Ruth O'Regan, most recently the chief of hematology, medical oncology, and palliative care at the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed as the Charles A. Dewey Professor and chair of medicine at the School of Medicine and Dentistry, as of January 1.

As chair, O'Regan oversees the Medical Center's largest clinical and academic department, home to nearly 500 faculty across 14 divisions. She succeeds Paul Levy, who stepped down after a decade as chair.

An internationally recognized breast cancer researcher and clinician, O'Regan has also been named an associate director at the Wilmot Cancer Institute.

University Commits to \$15 Minimum Wage

As part of a regional effort to address poverty, the University has committed to setting the institution's minimum wage at \$15 an hour by December 2022.

President Sarah Mangelsdorf announced the increase this winter as part of the University's work with the Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative, a multi-sector community collaborative founded in 2015 with a goal of reducing poverty and increasing self-sufficiency in the region.

The University has been involved with the initiative since its founding and is a member of the effort's steering committee.

The University's wage increase will be implemented in two stages—December 2021 and December 2022.

Across all of its affiliates, the

University represents the fifth largest private sector employer in New York State; the largest private employer in Rochester and the Finger Lakes region; and, through UR Medicine, the largest health care system in upstate New York.

In addition to the wage increase, the University and its affiliates, including the Mt. Hope Family Center, UR Medicine Homecare, and the Children's Institute, as well as East High School have contributed to the initiative's plans and to other important community partnerships.

The University has also joined other community organizations in signing RMAPI's pledge to combat poverty and structural racism in the community.

Simon Named Most Diverse Top-50 MBA Program

The Simon Business School is the most diverse MBA program within the top 50 business schools, according to a new ranking in *US News & World Report*.

The ranking is based on the percentage of African American, Black, Hispanic American, and Native American students enrolled in full-time MBA programs last year.

For Simon, that class includes students from 19 different countries; 46 percent of domestic students are from historically underrepresented groups; and 42 percent of students are women.

In 1968, Simon was one of the first schools to join the Consortium for Graduate Study in Management, which promotes diversity among American businesses.

Books & Recordings

Books

Objects of Vision: Making Sense of What We See



Joan Saab shows how seeing became “the foundation for knowing (or at least for what we think we know)” and how “what we see and how we see it are often historically situated and culturally constructed.” Saab is the Susan B. Anthony Professor of Art History and vice provost of academic affairs at Rochester. (Penn State University Press)

Navigating Life and Work in Old Republic São Paulo



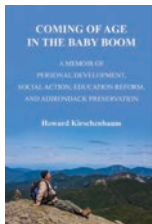
Molly Ball, a lecturer in history at Rochester, shows how São Paulo’s racially and ethnically diverse working classes adapted to urbanization, discrimination, migration, and the disruptions of World War I. (University Press of Florida)

The Lyric Now



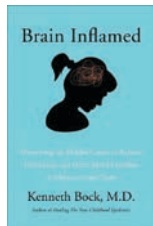
In a follow-up to his 2018 book, *How Poems Get Made* (W. W. Norton), **James Longenbach**, the Joseph Henry Gilmore Professor of English at Rochester, examines 13 lyric poets and musicians of the 20th and 21st centuries, returning to his underlying thesis that lyric poetry is always concerned with the present moment in which the poem is read. (University of Chicago Press)

Coming of Age in the Baby Boom: A Memoir of Personal Development, Social Action, Education Reform and Adirondack Preservation



Howard Kirschenbaum recounts his coming of age in the post-World War II United States. Kirschenbaum is a professor emeritus and former chair of the Department of Counseling and Human Development at the Warner School. (Independently published)

Brain Inflamed: Uncovering the Hidden Causes of Anxiety, Depression, and Other Mood Disorders in Adolescents and Teens



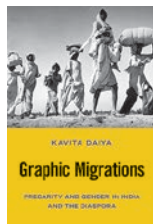
Integrative family physician **Kenneth Bock** ’79M (MD) examines the role of the immune system and the microbiome in mental health. (HarperCollins)

Carte Blanche: The Erosion of Medical Consent



Harriet Washington ’76 tells the story of a 1996 legal loophole that has led to the performance of medical experiments on thousands of trauma victims, without their knowledge. Washington is also the author of *Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans from Colonial Times to the Present*, which won the 2007 National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction. (Columbia Global Reports)

Graphic Migrations: Precarity and Gender in India and the Diaspora



Kavita Daiya ’95 explores refugee stories from the post-1947 Partition era, and the ways in which elements of popular culture such as literature, Bollywood films, and advertising depict their experiences. Daiya is the director of the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program and an associate professor of English at George Washington University. (Temple University Press)

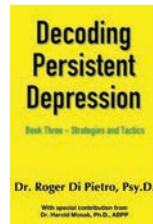
First and Only: A Black Woman’s Guide to Thriving at Work and in Life



Jennifer Farmer ’99 offers a leadership guide for Black women, addressing the unique challenges Black women face as they navigate career paths in which they are often “the first and only.” Farmer is the founder of Spotlight PR, a firm specializing in strategy and training for leaders and groups advancing social

and racial justice, as well as a member of the University’s Board of Trustees’ Diversity Advisory Council. (Broadleaf Books)

Decoding Persistent Depression: Book Three—Strategies and Tactics



In the third book of a series, **Roger Di Pietro** ’04M (Pdc), a clinical psychologist in private practice, examines the psychological reasons why long-term depression can rise and remain. (Di Pietro)

Seeing Mad: Essays on Mad Magazine’s Humor and Legacy



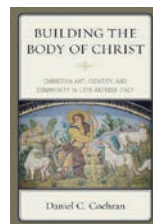
John Bird ’86 (PhD) coedits an illustrated volume of scholarly essays on the iconic magazine of satire that launched in 1952 and reached a peak in circulation and influence in the early 1970s. Bird is a professor emeritus of English at Winthrop University. (University of Missouri Press)

Gender, Tenure, and the Pursuit of Work-Life-Family Stability



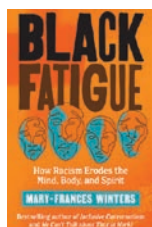
Kristen Willmott ’13W (PhD) offers the perspectives of nine female tenured faculty members as well as four administrators charged with faculty diversity. The book, part of the publisher’s Work-Life Balance series, is intended for tenure-track faculty members, their departments, and leaders in higher education. (Information Age Publishing)

Building the Body of Christ: Christian Art, Identity, and Community in Late Antique Italy



Art historian **Daniel Cochran** ’08 argues for the important role of Christian visual art in the processes of religious and social change that shaped early medieval Italy. Cochran earned a PhD in art history from the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 2018. (Lexington Books/Fortress Academic)

Black Fatigue: How Racism Erodes the Mind, Body, and Spirit



Mary-Frances Winters '82S (MBA), president and CEO of the Winters Group and a University life trustee, investigates the impact of systemic racism on the health of Black Americans.

(Berrett-Koehler)

The Gaming Overload Workbook: A Teen's Guide to Balancing Screen Time, Video Games, and Real Life



Psychologist **Randy Korman** '77, founder and president of Learning-Works for Kids, offers a guide for teens, parents, and professionals on the healthy use of screen-based technologies. (New

Harbinger Publications)

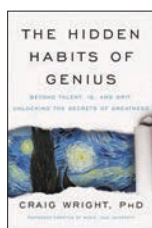
Constructing the Spanish Empire in Havana: State Slavery in Defense and Development, 1762-1835



Evelyn Jennings '01 (PhD), the Margaret Vilas Professor of Latin American History at St. Lawrence University, examines the use of state-owned slaves in Cuba's transition to a plan-

tation economy. (Louisiana State University Press)

The Hidden Habits of Genius Beyond Talent, IQ, and Grit—Unlocking the Secrets of Greatness



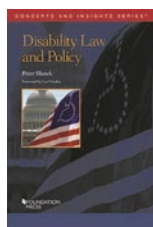
Craig Wright '66E, the Henry L. and Lucy G. Moses Professor of Music Emeritus at Yale, explores the meaning of "genius" and what can be learned from such figures as Charles Darwin, Marie Curie, and Toni Morrison (HarperCollins)

Thirty-three Ways of Looking at an Elephant



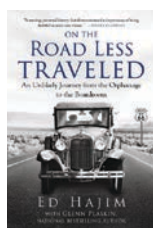
Dale Peterson '67 edits a collection of historical, scientific, and cultural writings on the elephant. A science and nature writer, Peterson teaches at Tufts University. (Trinity University Press)

Disability Law and Policy



On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), **Peter Blanck** '79, University Professor at Syracuse University, provides an overview of themes and insights in disability law. (Foundation Press)

On the Road Less Traveled



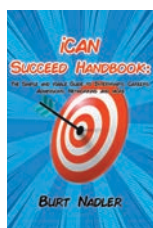
Ed Hajim '58, chairman emeritus of the University's Board of Trustees and chairman of the money management company High Vista, recounts his life from orphanhood to the University to success in the world of finance. (Skyhorse)

Images from A Life on the Road



Bassist **Tony Levin** '68E of the Stick Men and King Crimson presents a coffee-table-sized book of photographs he has taken while on tour with performers including Peter Gabriel, Sting, Peter Dinklage, **Steve Gadd** '68E, **Chuck Mangione** '63E, and others. The book is accompanied by text telling stories behind some of the images. (Independently published)

iCAN Succeed Handbook



Burton Nadler presents lessons to help high school and college students find meaningful internship, career, and networking opportunities. Nadler retired from the University in 2018 after serving as assistant dean and director of the Greene Center for Career Education and Connections in Arts, Sciences & Engineering. (Page Publishing)

Creative Strategies in Film Scoring



Composer **Ben Newhouse** '98E introduces a framework for film scoring that enables composers and filmmakers to make decisions about music systematically and methodically. The book

includes case studies that apply the framework to previously unscored scenes. (Berklee Press / Hal Leonard)

Recordings

A Lad's Love



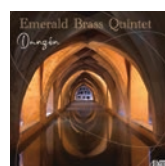
In his solo debut, tenor **Brian Giebler** '10E performs a collection of English songs, primarily from the early 20th century, that explore love and loss among gay men. The work earned Giebler a Grammy nomination for Best Classical Solo Vocal. (Bridge Records)

Our Highway



The jazz quintet Cowboys & Frenchmen presents a video album recorded live at SubCulture in New York City early in 2020 and juxtaposing high-definition footage of the band onstage with footage taken during a cross-country tour. The quintet includes cofounders **Ethan Helm** '12E and **Owen Broder** '12E on saxophone and **Matthew Honor** '12E on drums. (Outside In Music)

Danzón



The Emerald Brass Quintet presents its debut album. The quintet is composed of **Thomas (T. J.) Ricer** '10E (DMA) on tuba; **Brett Long** '13E (DMA) and **Max Matzen** '11E (DMA) on trumpet; **Leslie Beebe Hart** '11E (DMA) on horn; and **Christopher Van Hof** '08E (MM) on trombone. Van Hof is also the arranger for the ensemble. (Albany Records)

For a complete list of recent books and recordings by alumni, faculty, and staff, visit [Rochester.edu/pr/Review/V83N2/books.html](https://rochester.edu/pr/Review/V83N2/books.html).

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

TOGETHER FOR ROCHESTER

Scholarship Challenges Set for Women's Network and Simon Students

New efforts aim to boost alumni giving for key aspects of a yearlong, pandemic-driven campaign.

University Trustee Evans Lam '83, '84S (MBA) arrived in the United States with \$180 and a four-year scholarship to the University.

Today, he's the managing director of wealth management and senior portfolio manager at UBS Financial Services and recognizes the important role that scholarship support played in his success.

"I am forever grateful to the University and Simon for providing me with the foundation for my career in corporate finance and investment management," Lam says.

In recognition of his success, he's challenging other Simon Business School alumni and friends to create new scholarships for the school's students. For each qualifying endowed scholarship that's established, the \$500,000 Evans Lam Opportunity Scholarship Challenge will add funds to enhance the scholarship.

The challenge is one of several such efforts encouraging alumni and donors to participate in the second half of the University's Together for Rochester one-year campaign.

Designed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the campaign has a goal of raising

\$100 million in the 2020-21 fiscal year to provide support for key University initiatives and to improve the outlook for students, faculty, staff, and alumni whose lives were disrupted during the past year.

Specifically, the campaign supports several priorities: scholarships and financial aid, diversity initiatives, faculty recruitment, clinical and academic research, and career opportunities and internships.

The initiative is emphasizing efforts to engage alumni and volunteers to help current students and recent graduates with internships, job and networking opportunities, and other non-financial support.

In a similar fundraising challenge announced earlier this year, University Trustees Gail Lione '71 and Gwen Greene '65 are spearheading the Women's Network Challenge to provide support for women's educational initiatives, health research, athletics, student activities, and other areas.

And last fall, University Trustee Naveen Nataraj '97 and his wife, Courtney, launched a scholarship fundraising challenge to create new undergraduate

financial aid scholarships in support of the University's diversity, equity, and inclusion goals.

"It's gratifying to see our alumni leaders engage so deeply with the Together for Rochester Campaign and its initiatives," says Tom Farrell '88, '90W (MS), senior vice president for University Advancement. "The campaign was organized to give our community a platform to help each other in specific ways during these difficult times. This kind of leadership provides additional motivation for donors who want to participate in this effort."

others to create new, endowed scholarships at Simon. If a donor establishes an initial \$100,000 scholarship, the Lam challenge will add \$50,000, for a total of \$150,000. Likewise, if a new donor makes a \$67,000 commitment, the challenge will add \$33,000, for a value of \$100,000. Lam has contributed \$100,000 to an unrestricted scholarship fund to be put to use immediately.

For the Women's Network Challenge, the goal is to encourage greater participation in the campaign from alumnae and friends.

The Women's Network is connecting and supporting women through programming, mentorship opportunities, and meaningful conversations.

In general, for each challenge, the lead sponsors promise to add a set dollar amount to qualifying gifts as a way to build support quickly and as a way to engage the broader community in supporting the campaign.

For the Lam challenge, the initiative is designed to encourage

The University's new volunteer-led Women's Network was launched in October 2020 and is cochaired by Lione and Tiffany Taylor Smith '91.

The Women's Network is connecting and supporting women through programming, mentorship opportunities, and meaningful conversations. When the challenge reaches 1,000 donors—at any level of support—\$25,000 will be made available for student scholarships and an additional \$25,000 for the Susan B. Anthony Center, thanks to early donations from the women trustees serving on the Women's Network Leadership Committee. Overall, the challenge hopes to raise \$150,000.



Evans Lam



Gail Lione



Gwen Greene

For more about the Together for Rochester campaign, visit Rochester.edu/advancement/together-for-rochester.

CENTENNIAL SERENADE: The Sequoia Reed Quintet—Gwen Goodman '22E, Trevor Chu '22E, Michael Miller '22E, master's student Julianna Darby, and Harrison Short '22E—took the stage as part of Eastman's centennial kick-off event.



MUSICAL MILESTONE

Eastman School Launches Centennial Campaign

The initiative aims to raise \$100 million to celebrate the school's "second century of excellence."

The celebration of the Eastman School of Music's 100th anniversary officially got under way this spring with a nod to the school's storied history and a look toward the next 100 years of musical and educational excellence.

At a socially distanced event livestreamed from the stage of Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre, President Sarah Mangelsdorf and Jamal Rossi, the Joan and Martin Messinger Dean of the Eastman School of Music, publicly announced a \$100 million Centennial Campaign as part of the school's anniversary this year.

"The Eastman Centennial Campaign will launch Eastman into its second century of excellence in musical artistry, scholarship, leadership, and community engagement," Rossi said as he outlined the campaign's

priorities. They include scholarships for talented student musicians; the recruitment and retention of exceptional faculty; and program support for emerging studies such as film and video game scoring and arts leadership, as well as innovative programs that bridge music and medicine.

The campaign's cochairs are University Trustees Joan Beal '84E, who is also chair of Eastman's National Council; Cathy Minehan '68; and Tim Wentworth and his spouse, Robin Wentworth.

With more than \$50 million already raised, the campaign has secured several leadership gifts, including a \$5 million gift from the Wegman Family Foundation—\$2 million of which is designated for a scholarship challenge to encourage other

donors to support the establishment of 40 to 50 new endowed scholarships.

The kick-off event included performances by two student groups, the Sequoia Reed Quintet and the Eastman Wind Ensemble. Directed by Professor of Conducting and Ensembles Mark Davis Scatterday '89E (DMA), the Eastman Wind Ensemble performed the world premiere of a brass fanfare, *Festival Music*, by Steve Danyew '10E (MM).

The Sequoia Reed Quintet—oboist Gwen Goodman '22E, clarinetist Michael Miller '22E, saxophonist Trevor Chu '22E, bass clarinetist and master's student Julianna Darby, and bassoonist Harrison Short '22E, performed "Praeludium" from the *Holberg Suite* by Edvard Grieg, arranged by Raaf Hekkema, and

the movement "Cherry" from *Splinter* by Marc Mellits '88E.

Established in 1921, the school will more formally mark its 100th anniversary beginning this fall with a celebration that continues throughout 2022.

Events include world premieres of more than 40 new compositions and fanfares composed by preeminent composers; acclaimed guest artists performing alongside Eastman's ensembles, national academic and music conferences, alumni events throughout the country, a documentary produced in partnership with Rochester's PBS affiliate, WXXI, and other programming and activities.


For more information, visit the website www.esm.rochester.edu/100.

LIBERTY LEAGUE

Spring Sports Resume Competition

After nearly a year without intercollegiate competition, the Yellowjackets were able to finish the 2020–21 spring seasons of baseball, golf, lacrosse, rowing, softball, tennis, and track and field with some on-field games and meets.

In early March, Liberty League commissioner Tracy King announced that the league's Presidents Council unanimously agreed on a plan for a return to spring athletics with

schedules predominantly against league member institutions. Student-athletes and team personnel had to adhere to rigorous COVID-19 testing protocols in order to compete. Spectators were not allowed to attend competitions, but in early April, on-campus students were allowed to attend to cheer on Rochester's teams. 

Follow the Yellowjackets at Uofrathletics.com.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Yellowjackets Take Home Academic Accolades

Several Yellowjacket teams and athletes were recognized this year for their work in the classroom. Honorees include:

UAA Winter All-Academic

Thirty-five student-athletes from winter athletics programs were honored as members of the University Athletic Association All-Academic teams.

Women's basketball: Hannah Lindemuth '23, Julianna Okoniewski '22, Kelsey Stites '23.

Men's basketball: Ryan Algier '22, Brian Amabilino Perez '22, C.J. Amsellem '23, Ross Gang '22, Andrew Jackson '23, Mitchell Kershner '23, Josiah Knight '23, Kailan Lee '21, Matt Niemczura '23, Rowan Niemela '23, Trent Noordsij '22, T.C. Price '22.

Women's swimming and diving: Maggie Brennan '22, Emily Brzac '21, Anna Cook '21, Maya Doll '22, Emma Dowd '21, Meirav Flatte '23, Sofia Guarnieri '21, Sophie Lever '23, Jaelyn Shaver '23, Serena Uong '22.

Men's swimming and diving: Chris Bushnell '23, Eric Chang '21, Jose Corredor Alvarez '23, Sean Finnerty '23, Robert Gelb '22, Trevor Hoch '23, Adam Hopson '22, Matt Kiel '23, Kyle Sullivan '23, Grant Yap '22.

UAA Fall All-Academic

A total of 90 Yellowjackets were named to the UAA's Fall All-Academic teams.

Women's cross country: Meredith Ackley '21, Amanda Adams '22, Eileen Bequette '21, Jenna Bottone '21, Rachel Dennis '23, Sarah Farid '22, Claudia Garcia '23, Kristen Lodato '21, Samantha Mauser '21, Teghan Murray '22, Ximena Reyes Torres '21, Elisabeth Rott '21, Kyra Sandercock '23, Caroline Stockwell '22, Grace VanGorder '21, Helena Winkler '23, Ella Wise Bellin '22.

Men's cross country: Nate Brunacini '22, Davis Crowe '23, Konstantin Dits '23, Blaine Doyle '23, Andres Garcia Coletto '21, Alec Glazier '22, Andrew Korts '23, Tommy Oddo '22, Scott Sikorski '23, Griffin Weiner '23.

Football: Nick Annechino '23, Bradley Beckwith '23, James Bentayou '23, Noah Braid '23, Braydon Bush '23, James Carl '22, Jack Dippolito '22, Ryan Eamer '23, Carter Forbes '23, Aaron Galley '21, Ethan Herbold '23, Yianni Koutsofivas '23, Joey Moore '23, Luke Muir '21, Nicholas Petruzzello '22, Antony Ramirez '23, Ben Schwartz '23, Noah Shinaman '22, Josh Stams '23, Tom Tommaso '23, Troy Warner '22, Aaron Whitley '23, Deon Willis '22, Tommy Wunder '23, Damon Yargeau '22.

Women's soccer: Savannah Berry '23, Lexi Bostley '22, Maeve Bostley '22, Robin de Jong '23, Anna Frizzell '23, Sam Hawkins '23, Julie Hyatt '21, Andrea Lopez '21, Meghan Martin '21, Becca Rust '23, Emma Saubermann '22, Emma Schechter '22, Cesca Sheppard '22, Kailee Sowers '22, Giuliana Vasile '21, Torrie Welch '23, Sophie Wolf '21.

Men's soccer: Tejan Borchers '23, Matt Cosentino '23, Hugh Curran '21, Caden Dowd '22, Ryan Hecker '23, Jayson Ho '22, Tony Hypsher '23, Andrew Moglianesi '23, Tommy Nelson '22, Sam O'Connor '23, Shray Parimoo '23, Noe Reyes '23.

Volleyball: Allie DeRubertis '21, Megan Hauer '22, Renae Lapins '21, Lauren Lopez '23, Kellie McCrea '23, Sonia McGaffigan '23, Isabelle Miranda '23, Gillian Reeder '23, Kaylin Williams '22.

Three from Squash Named Liberty League All-Academic

Three members of the squash program have been honored by the Liberty League as members of the 2021 winter All-Academic team.

Seniors Ashley Davies and Siddhant Iyer and junior Thijs Van Der Pluijm were recognized this year.

Cross Country Teams Recognized by National Association

The men's and women's cross country programs earned the All-Academic Team awards from the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. Both programs have earned the recognition in nine of the last 10 seasons.

Field Hockey Earns National Honors

The field hockey program was well represented in the 2020–21 academic awards from the National Field Hockey Coaches Association.

A total of 25 members of the team earned National Academic Squad honors, including three who were recognized each their four-year careers: seniors Kathryn Colone, Kira Ozer, and Ava Schwartz. Joining the seniors were juniors Juney Lee, Julia McDonough, Alex Pritchard, Savannah Schisler, Amanda Strenk, and Abigail Walrond. Sophomores named were Susan Bansbach, Karina Bridger, Armita King, and Elisabeth Siderski. The first-years include Vivianna Arnold, Kayla Ballas, Rachel Blumberg, Grace Crochiere, Molly Gorman, Delainey Hebble, Mara Heppard, Bella Militi, Abigail Mohl, Dani Reiser, Sara Vechinski, and Jodie Zeng.

This is Rochester's 18th straight season earning the award. 

BACK STORIES

'How I Got Started'

Varsity athletes offer glimpses into their sports, why they push themselves to excel, and how they balance collegiate academics and athletics.

What does it feel like to launch yourself into the air at the end of a slender, flexible metal pole—and set a school record in the pole vault?

Why is the 400-yard individual medley so brutal for a swimmer? And what is the key to winning a 60-meter dash?

As many of Rochester's varsity athletics competitions were paused during 2020–21, Dennis O'Donnell, director of Athletic Communications, found an opportunity to talk with this year's

Yellowjackets about their lives as students and athletes. Framed as a conversation about "How I Got Started," the series features members of every Rochester varsity team.

Subjects for the Q&A series, which began this winter and continues through the spring, were nominated by each team's coaching staffs. [@](#)

The series can be found online at [Uofrathletics.com](https://uofrathletics.com).



Alizah Ayon '22
Softball



Chris Bushnell '23
Swimming and Diving



Hass Diallo '24
Lacrosse



Hannah Glucksman '22
Rowing



Trey Johnson '24
Football



Hannah Lindemuth '23
Basketball



Tommy Nelson '22
Soccer



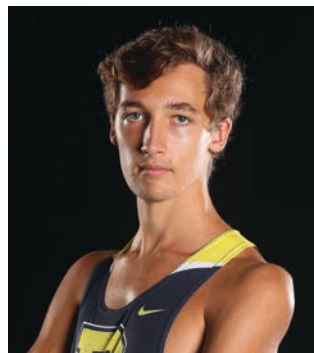
Brian Amabilino Perez '22
Basketball



Joseph Rende '22
Baseball



Elisabeth Sidorski '23
Field Hockey



Scott Sikorski '23
Track and Field



Natasha White '24
Volleyball

This American Moment

Faculty and alumni scholars offer perspectives on the state of American democracy, its challenges, and its possibilities.

Interviews by Sandra Knispel and Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

Illustrations by John Tomac

The polls are clear: Americans on both sides of the major partisan divide agree on two things. Democracy is the best form of government, and this past year was a bad one for democracy in the United States.

We asked eight faculty and alumni experts to share their insights on the state of American democratic institutions and the challenges to them. The questions and issues go beyond the outcome of one election, but they have consequences for how we think about electoral politics at the federal level.

Is American democracy in crisis? Where are the biggest challenges? The areas of possibility? How do we restore broadly shared trust in our federal institutions?

Our experts address these questions and share a few of their own—ones designed to help point the way forward in a nation whose demographics and social geography will continue to evolve.

Cracks in the Foundation

Democracy is under strain, but the infrastructure remains largely intact.

The way I tend to think about democracy is that people have to trust that the rules are basically fair and that if their party or their team loses, the stakes of that loss are tolerable; that in the future they'll be able to contest an election again; and that they'll have a chance of winning. That trust keeps everyone committed to democracy and committed to playing by the rules.

But once you break that faith—that elections actually determine the winner—people's allegiance to democracy may eventually falter. Although more than three quarters of the public surveyed, in both parties, still say that a democratic system is still the best form of government, the public is polarized over whether there was fraud in the last election, which is really problematic for future democratic stability. To me that polarization ranks among the most concerning factors in American politics during these last few months and, as we are seeing, is providing the basis for ongoing attempts to make voting harder and less accessible for Americans.

For most of my career I have studied democratic crises in Latin America, where I see some parallels in the sense that you had a president elected who was an incredibly polarizing figure and who basically tried to undermine the integrity of elections. We had a leader who basically

didn't want to leave power—no elected official ever wants to lose in an election—but the hallmark of a democracy is that they're willing to leave when they're beaten at the polls. What we've seen in some Latin American cases, and what we saw in this case, is that the president was basically going to use every possible means to try to cast doubt on the legitimacy of the US election to stay in power. That sort of thing has also happened throughout Latin American history.

Yet, the biggest difference is that in most Latin American countries that have experienced those problems you don't have the same federalist set-up that we have in the United States and you don't have people in place who are willing to go against someone's bid to stay in power illegally. In the US, particularly at the local level, a lot of officials—lower-level bureaucrats, election officials, and judges—basically all stood up for the rule of law. Those weren't partisan decisions; they were just doing their jobs, such as administering elections or making court decisions in a neutral, professional way.

What happens to that democratic infrastructure—whether it is maintained or strengthened, or whether it crumbles—will be critical for the fate of US democracy over the next several years.



Gretchen Helmke

Professor of political science at Rochester; cofounder of Bright Line Watch, a nonpartisan research project that monitors democratic practices in the United States

Specialist on democratic political institutions with a focus on Latin America; author most recently of *Institutions on the Edge: The Origins and Consequences of Institutional Instability in Latin America* (Cambridge University Press, 2017). Courses include Dictatorship and Democracy, Democratic Erosion, and Latin American Politics.

American Revolution Redux

Why are some Americans waving the flags of 1776?

The kind of distrust in mainstream institutions that we're seeing in some sectors of the population today has a lot in common with the way British colonists in North America were thinking in the middle of the 18th century. Among the protesters outside the Capitol last January 6, and the rioters who attacked the building, were people who carried the Betsy Ross flag (13 stars) and the Gadsden flag ("Don't Tread on Me"), as well as flags, banners, and signs displaying "1776" and other references to the founding era. If the past is a guide, these are people who believe that both Republicans and Democrats in positions of authority are corrupt and that society is so corrupt that the whole system needs to be disrupted and possibly overturned.

In the period leading up to the American Revolution, there was this belief that the British constitution had been corrupted by Parliament in league with the monarchy. And, once in a while, when the colonists were talking about the government, they started talking about the corruption of the Church of England or what they saw

as a threatening tolerance by the government for the rights of minorities, such as Native Americans and Catholics in Quebec. There could be racism embedded in the calls for representation then as now.

In the minds of colonists who advocated revolution in the 1770s, all of these pieces fit together in the same way that any number of institutions, such as the media, universities, scientists, and the medical profession; experts or authorities of all kinds; and events such as the 2020 presidential election, all seem to fit together in the minds of protesters and conspiracy theorists today as part of corruption at the heart of American society.

Some of the people who see the country this way are drawing on national folk myths that have a very long and deep history and have been invoked periodically since the generation following the Revolutionary War. We saw this for the first time in 1786 in Shays' Rebellion in western Massachusetts and, in 1794, with the Whiskey Rebellion, in which farmers in western Pennsylvania refused to pay an excise tax on home-distilled



Thomas Slaughter

Arthur R. Miller Professor of History at Rochester

Specialist on American Revolution, abolition, political violence, and just war theory; author of six books, including *Independence: The Tangled Roots of the American Revolution* (Hill and Wang, 2014) and *The Whiskey Rebellion: Frontier Epilogue to the American Revolution* (Oxford University Press, 1986).

whiskey because they believed themselves under-represented in the government, which they saw as corrupt. They envisioned themselves as replicating the Boston Tea Party and the Stamp Act protests in the years leading up to the Revolution.

These Patriots of the 18th century are forebearers of the people who invaded the Capitol invoking American Revolutionary slogans and imagery, a fraction of whom belong to modern-day militias and who have a keen sense of their historical relationship to the Minutemen in Concord, Massachusetts. The attackers of the Capitol on January 6 don't tell the same story about the Revolution that I do, but they believe they are working in a historical tradition of patriotic defense of American ideals.

I think an essential context for understanding

this group is that we are on the threshold of being a minority white nation. It's projected that this will happen by 2045.

If you look at the states where that is already happening, it's like reading a list of states where elections are most contested—states that are already barely or less than 50 percent white, like Nevada, Texas, New Mexico, Georgia, and California.

When Donald Trump said, “you have to fight or you won't have a nation,” the “you” here is really the important word. His followers see him as echoing Patrick Henry or Thomas Paine, who were clearly speaking to white, Protestant colonists and not Native Americans or enslaved people any more than Thomas Jefferson was in the Declaration of Independence.

The Votes of Others

Why are so many Americans doubting the integrity of the ballot?



Mayya Komisarchik

Assistant professor of political science at Rochester

Specialist on race and ethnic politics in the US, representation, and voting rights. Courses include Race and Ethnicity in American Politics.

There have been previous periods in American history of wavering confidence in the integrity of elections. Although we did not have public opinion polls at the time, during the late 19th-century era of Democratic machine politics, for example, the popular press regularly reported on voting fraud.

But what's different now is that there is an extreme lack of confidence in electoral institutions that's been instilled on the Republican side. There's a lot of partisan asymmetry, as demonstrated in polls showing that Democratic voters largely think that democratic institutions that ensure free and fair elections work, while Republican voters, particularly Trump supporters, do not think that that's true. And that's fairly novel.

This asymmetry is a function of messaging in which Republican elites, wholly without evidence, are asserting that there was widespread fraud. What has surprised me is the persistence of Republican elites who, to this day, nearly six months after the election, carry forward the lie about fraud. As of the beginning of April, 33 states, the vast majority under Republican legislative control, had proposed significant restrictions to mail and/or early in-person voting based on the pretext of fraud.

Race plays a huge role in these developments. In 2020, there were efforts to throw out votes in close states such as Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Georgia, but those efforts were focused on Detroit, Philadelphia, and Fulton County and other areas with heavy concentrations of Black voters.

It's part of a history in the United States of claiming fraud as a pretext to challenge minority votes. In 2013, Kansas started requiring voters prove their citizenship, a measure premised on the claim that large numbers of Mexican

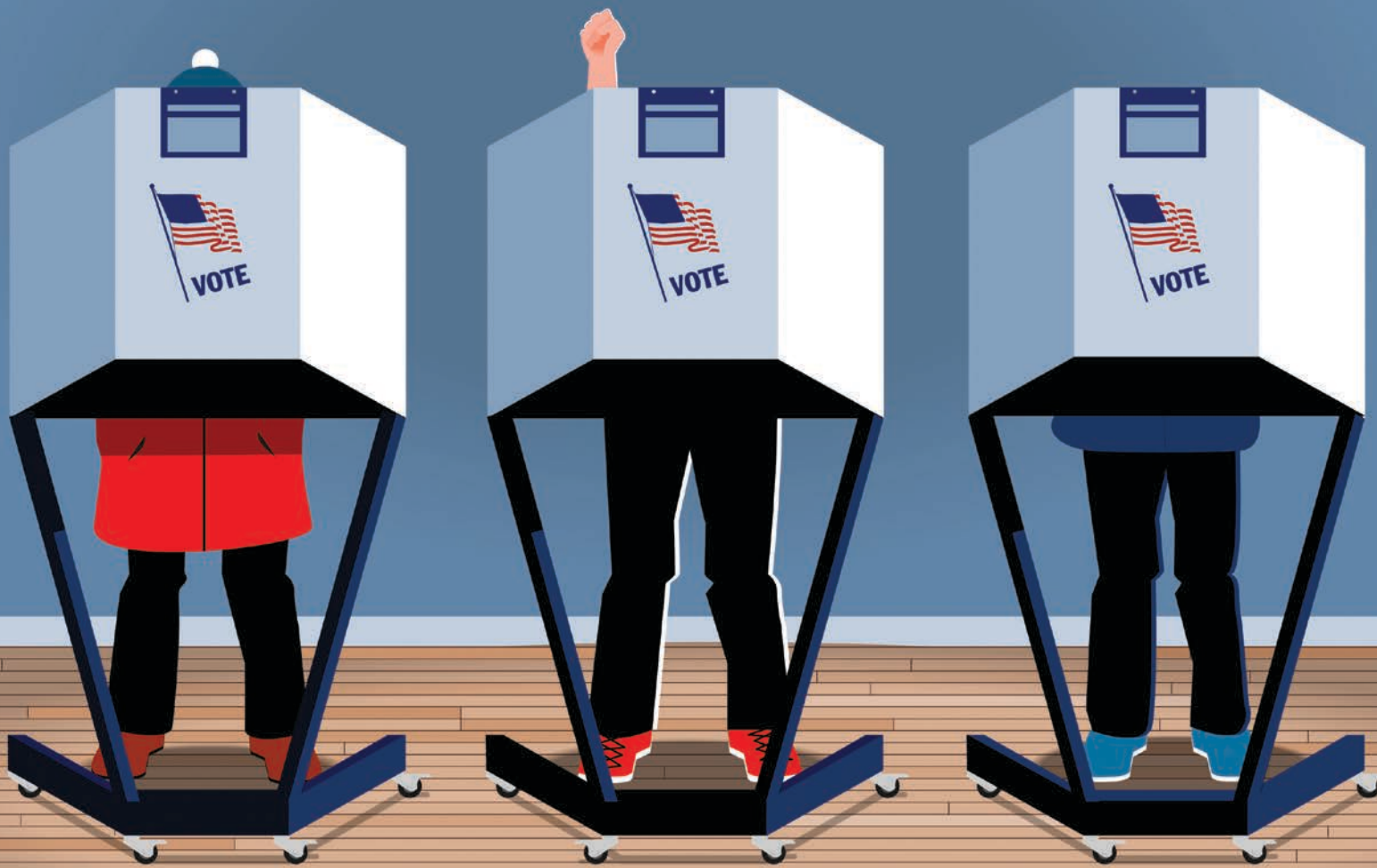
noncitizens were showing up to vote illegally. When the law was challenged in court, expert witnesses for the state testified that one of the approaches they use to try to identify alleged noncitizens is to look for Hispanic names on the voter rolls.

Rhetoric about fraud also surfaced during the debate over the National Voter Registration Act in 1993. We heard rhetoric warning that making it easier for people to register and to vote would open the gateway for widespread fraud, and we saw a slew of voter ID measures introduced in the early 2000s based on that false assumption.

There's also a long history of outright attempts to suppress Black votes, apart from any charges of fraud. Until the mid 1960s, for example, voters were charged poll taxes in the South, which disproportionately affected Black voters. It really wasn't until the Voting Rights Act in 1965 that we saw blanket protection against a lot of explicit forms of vote suppression.

Since the Supreme Court struck down a key provision of the Voting Rights Act in the *Shelby v. Holder* decision, one of the things I've been watching is how widely we have opened the door to explicit attempts at voter suppression.

The Biden administration's For the People Act, known as H. R. 1, is a good start, but preventing state-level vote suppression requires even more sweeping reforms that cover things like uniform election dates and the distribution of resources to precincts, for example. For Congress to respond to the *Shelby* decision by renewing the coverage formula put in place by the Voting Rights Act would put jurisdictions with long histories of vote suppression back under federal supervision. That, too, would help discourage vote suppression.



Power of Protest

Voters at home are listening and learning from citizens in the streets.

Protest has really been resuscitated in the United States in the past few years, to a level we haven't seen since the late 1960s. At that time, President Nixon introduced the idea of a "silent majority" of voters, content with the status quo, who stood in opposition to protest and protesters.

But there's been a real change since then in how most people view protests. If you look at the relationship between protesters and the larger electorate, the evidence suggests a much less adversarial relationship. In fact, protests are serving as part of a social learning process for voters. There are no longer people just standing on the sidelines, just observing protests over gay rights or gender issues or race or the climate. Individuals are now taking sides based on their ideological leanings. And they don't necessarily go pick up a sign or a banner and begin to march. Rather, they decide whether that particular movement buttresses their own perspective on a particular issue.

That means that ideological polarization is actually feeding the growth of protest. The protester on the street is speaking to that citizen sitting at home watching and observing—and seeking to establish a link with them. For

example, a white gay man protesting on the street may establish a link with an African American woman observing, who sees the world through a liberal perspective.

There are no longer people just standing on the sidelines, just observing protests over gay rights or gender issues or race or the climate. Individuals are now taking sides based on their ideological leanings.

A really important point, and one that comes out of the research I did for *The Loud Minority*, is the effect protests have had on the voting public. The evidence shows that protest not only influences opinion but also leads people to acting in a way that has consequences. They're getting



Daniel Gillion '09 (PhD)

Julie Beren Platt and Marc E. Platt Presidential Professor of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania

Author most recently of *The Loud Minority: Why Protests Matter in American Democracy* (Princeton University Press, 2020); 2018 Andrew Carnegie Fellow. Courses at Penn include Political Participation, Social Movements, and the Modern Presidency and Race.

out and voting, and they're making campaign contributions.

If you look at protests since the 1960s, in areas where there have been greater levels of protest by racial minorities, we have seen liberal politicians benefit because individuals are mobilized to come out to vote in that direction. In 2020, we saw an increase in campaign contributions to the Democratic party because the protests happened to have a liberal link. And then when it was time to vote once again, it's not a coincidence that the areas in which we saw major rises in voter turnout

taking place happened to be areas that were centers of protest.

It's significant that when President Biden came into office, on his first day in office he put forth executive orders that look to address racial inequality. That's the effect and the impact of protest. It's a political tool that individuals use when they feel as though government is not moving in the right direction.

Racial minorities have long used it and will continue to use it. Now they're using it in an environment in which the powers that be are more likely to pay attention.

Speaking in Code

Campaigns can still thrive on racial stereotyping and coded language.



LaFleur Stephens-Dougan '02

Assistant professor of politics at Princeton University

Specialist on racial attitudes, Black politics, and public opinion in the US; author of *Race to the Bottom: How Racial Appeals Work in American Politics* (University of Chicago Press, 2020).

Politicians historically have used race as a wedge issue and, in the American context, that's most often meant appealing to white voters through negative stereotypes of African Americans. Whether it was during Reconstruction or the Jim Crow era or in contemporary American politics, African Americans have often been the target of negative stereotypes around work ethic, criminality, and things of that nature.

There's a traditional political science model that might have predicted the tactics of racial stereotyping and coded language would become less effective over time. It says you have this median voter, and you have a party on the left, and you have a party on the right, and they are going to try to converge toward the middle to reach that median voter. But we're not seeing that in our politics.

During Barack Obama's presidency and in its aftermath, we actually saw greater use of racial stereotyping and coded language. If you look back to the discussions following the defeat of Mitt Romney to President Obama in 2012, what emerged was the idea that you couldn't continue to build a party just of white people and that the party had to reassess its strategies. But rather than taking that approach, they doubled down in 2016, nominating a winning presidential candidate who was by far the most willing of any Republican candidate for national office in recent memory to explicitly appeal to white grievance and white identity.

One reason candidates continue to make race-based appeals to voters is that the tactic works. My research has shown that even candidates of color have been successful winning the votes of racially conservative and moderate whites by evoking negative racial stereotypes. For African American candidates, these efforts succeed in signaling to white voters that they won't disrupt the status quo.

One departure from this dynamic came from the Warnock campaign in the high-profile Georgia Senate race last fall between Rafael Warnock, a Black pastor, and Kelly Loeffler, a white incumbent. Warnock didn't really engage in racial distancing in his effort to attract white support. I would say that he embraced the strategy of deracialization. He did a lot to appear nonthreatening—one Warnock ad that got a lot of airtime showed him playing with a puppy—but not to the extreme that he was necessarily distancing himself from African Americans.

In fact, Warnock was the pastor of the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, which was the church that Martin Luther King Jr. pastored. Thus, for many voters, Warnock was associated with the legacy of Dr. King. Although King was hugely unpopular when he was alive, posthumously, popular culture has a sanitized version of him and his legacy. If you invoke King, for many people that's about the content of our character, and not being judged by the color of our skin—about blacks and whites joining together. It's a hopeful, aspirational message that's associated with him at this political moment, which, to some degree, Warnock was able to capitalize upon.

The Loeffler campaign tried to portray Warnock as an extremist and as a socialist. But when Loeffler charged Warnock with being a socialist, it was never because of whatever tangential association he had with King, who embraced socialist principles. It was because of Warnock's own sermons, which are part of general Black liberation theology. They're not different from what you'd hear in the average Black church on a Sunday morning. And given the tremendous role of churches in Black communities, that has made it easy for white candidates to charge Black candidates with being too liberal.

Civil and Uncivil Discourse

The new world of digital media has amplified an old concern: What speech, if any, should be limited? And who should decide?

There's a trade-off between allowing people to speak in an unfettered way and risking that at some point unfettered speech might veer into the realm of inciting or threatening violence. The rise of the internet and social media have amplified concerns about incendiary speech, but the concern is not new. Political philosophers have debated this trade-off for centuries, with those like John Stuart Mill arguing in favor of erring on the side of an unfettered exchange of ideas.

One famous illustration of this trade-off took place in 1977, when a neo-Nazi group calling itself the National Socialist Party of America made plans to march through the heavily Jewish Chicago suburb of Skokie. Social media has made the difficult issues presented by events such as this one much more complex. Skokie was about the regulation of *public* spaces; today, *private* social media services have become, as former Supreme

go back to Mill, is that deciding what is true and what is not requires us to believe that government actors or social media companies are going to make the correct calls in what speech they allow and what speech they suppress. There's a certain amount of hubris in that kind of thinking. We can look throughout history and find ideas that everybody was certain were true, or certain were false, and it turned out that was not the case. Just think about how knowledge about COVID-19 has evolved in the past year. (Remember when we were told to sanitize our mail?) What's more, concerns about misinformation can be used as a pretext for suppressing unpopular viewpoints. We should call out claims that are factually false, but suppressing speech doesn't make the misinformation go away. In fact, it may serve to amplify it.

Currently social media companies are engaging in self-regulation of political speech on their platforms, and many observers believe they are



David Primo

Ani and Mark Gabrellian
Professor and professor of
political science and of business
administration at Rochester

Author most recently
of *Campaign Finance and
American Democracy: What
the Public Really Thinks and
Why It Matters*, with Jeffrey
Milyo (University of Chicago
Press). Courses include Politics
and Markets, Disagreement
in a Democratic Society, and
Pandemic Politics.

Currently social media companies are engaging in self-regulation of political speech on their platforms, and many observers believe they are ill-equipped for this role. The question becomes, what's the alternative? If the government steps in, is the cure going to be worse than the disease?

Court Justice Anthony Kennedy has written, the "modern public square." Who should be drawing the lines in the world of social media? Private companies? The government? Both? Does the First Amendment get "canceled" because of social media's reach? Our society will continue to wrestle with these questions in the coming years.

The spread of disinformation is another challenge that is not new but has been amplified in a digital environment. To some degree, disinformation is covered by existing laws. Defamation laws, for instance, are basically about disinformation. If you write or say something about somebody that is false, that person can sue you, and there's an adjudication process for deciding whether the speech qualifies as libel or slander.

But when it comes to dealing with misinformation more broadly, the caution I give, and I



ill-equipped for this role. The question becomes, what's the alternative? If the government steps in, is the cure going to be worse than the disease? I like to raise this thought experiment: pick the politician you least like and ask yourself whether that politician should oversee the writing of rules governing political speech.

In spite of the obvious challenges digital media poses, I would argue there's more space for ideas today than there was 20 to 30 years ago, when media gatekeepers essentially controlled the

distribution of ideas. Now you don't need to publish your ideas on the op-ed page of the *New York Times* or the *Wall Street Journal* to reach a wide audience. The algorithms that guide what we see in digital spaces are powerful precisely because there is so much more information available. As for the power of the companies that rely on them, the US economy is very dynamic. Just because a company is dominant today doesn't guarantee that it will be in a few years. History shows us, in fact, that market power is temporary.

What to Do about Q

Ever present on the fringe, conspiracy talk has pierced the mainstream.



Scott Tyson

Assistant professor of political science at Rochester

Specialist on game theory, conflict, authoritarian politics, and collective action. Courses include Conspiracy Theories in American Politics.

The kinds of conspiracy theories that we see circulating today are what I call "conspiracism."

They're theory-less. They're assertions that something was rigged, something was hidden, but there's no elaborate theory behind them. For example, there's no elaborate theory behind the claim that the 2016 or the 2020 election was rigged. There are only a bunch of disconnected assertions that don't really fit together into a cohesive story.

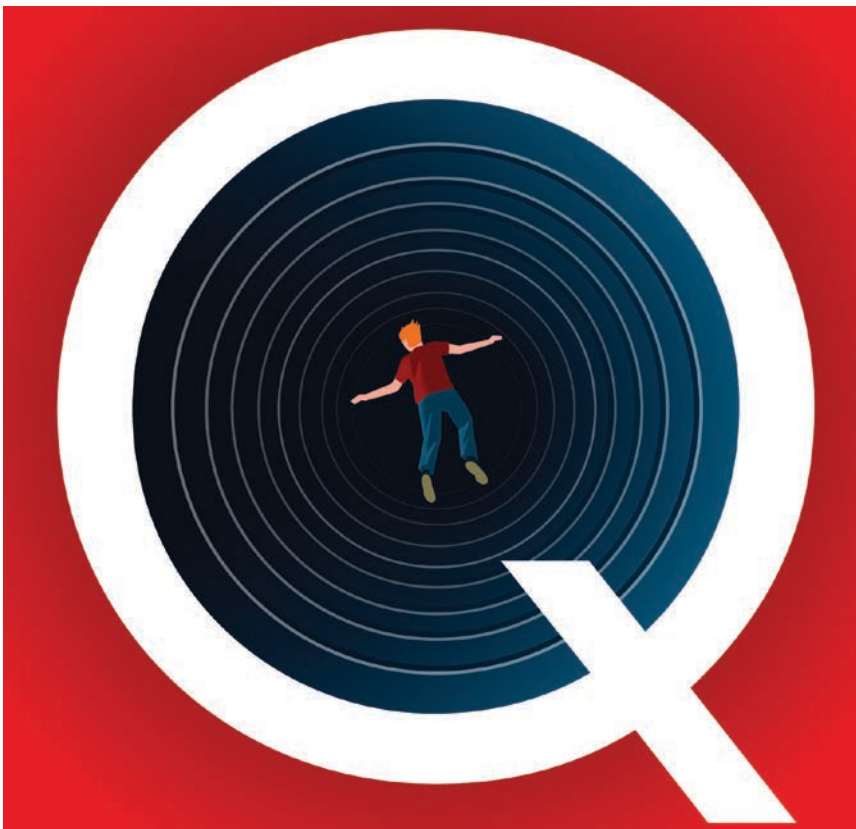
Conspiracism takes hold in part through the deliberate spread of misinformation through a practice that Vladimir Putin pioneered called "flooding the zone." People or outlets that spread

false information are not trying to persuade people of anything in particular. They're just trying to make it hard for people to figure out what's going on by flooding the internet with misinformation so that people who say, "I'm going to go on the internet to try to figure out what's going on," may well discover that they can't because there's so much misinformation there.

President Trump was incredibly important in giving a megaphone to conspiracism. He had always been interested in conspiracist ideas—birtherism a case in point—which had been on the fringe until he became a political force. He took these ideas from the fringe and amplified them in public appearances that were reported on the news and through his Twitter account. And he actually weaponized a lot of these ideas as well. He knew what he was doing—or at least his outfit knew—in that they picked which conspiracies they would amplify, and they amplified the ones that they thought were useful to them. Often this meant recycling the kind of charges of voter fraud that have historically been used in the South in regions with large numbers of Black voters.

Conspiracism takes hold in part through the deliberate spread of misinformation through a practice that Vladimir Putin pioneered called "flooding the zone."

When it comes to newer and more bizarre examples of conspiracism, such as QAnon, one of the questions people often ask is, how can people believe in all these crazy things, some of which are contradictory? For example, one claim associated with QAnon is that Hillary Clinton had John



F. Kennedy Jr. killed. But another is that JFK Jr. currently lives in Pittsburgh and is in cahoots with Donald Trump. Well, how could both of these things be true at the same time?

One explanation is that QAnon is gamified, meaning that people can pick and choose which parts of it they believe. Some people believe one of those statements, some people believe the other, some people believe neither of them, and some people do actually believe both.

The challenge of conspiracist phenomena such as QAnon is they create cult-like followings among large groups of people. How do we then pull people from the cult? We're now seeing data showing that QAnon has geographic pockets in the country. You can't deprogram an individual

who lives in a town where most of the people in that town also follow QAnon. How do we adapt the strategies that have been used to get people out of cults? How do we apply those on a macro level to large groups of people who are geographically connected?

The end of the pandemic may help. People have been more isolated, which means the echo chamber has become narrower. When cults recruit people, they isolate them, and they keep them in that echo chamber long enough until they've been able to radicalize them. The number of QAnon members and people under other fringe groups today would be much lower if the pandemic hadn't forced us all to isolate in the way that it did.

Mask Wars

Do Americans agree on the meaning of liberty? Of truth?

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored how interdependent we really are and how inadequate and even naïve our thinking about liberty really is. In the United States we've tended to see liberty as a matter of, "I should be free from interference to do certain kinds of things." But there are two dimensions to liberty.

Any rights that protect liberties—the rules by which we delineate and specify the kinds of freedoms that we have—have a correlated set of obligations. And my obligations are to *not* exercise my rights in ways that harm other people.

The masking requirements put in place during the pandemic, by both public and private entities, are a perfect illustration of this concept of rights and corresponding responsibilities. It's true that I have a right not to wear a mask. But I don't have a right to impose potentially fatal, communicable diseases on you and have never had that right. There's some segment of the population that is acting from an extremely partial understanding of what our liberties entail. They're justifying doing so in large measure in terms of "information," or "knowledge," or "facts" that they have adopted without paying attention to the way that knowledge is generated and disseminated through science, through the press, through sets of institutions that have checks and balances built into them. Maybe not perfect checks and balances. But if you're a journalist, or if you're a scientist, there are conventions on how you check sources, or run experiments, and publish your results.


People who insist on exercising their right not to wear a mask—in enclosed public spaces, under conditions scientists know and have advised the public that the virus can easily be transmitted—are doing that because they heard or decided or adopted a set of views that could not pass muster under those standard journalistic or scientific conventions.

The most worrisome trend is that there's no shared trust in the basic arrangements by which we generate, disseminate, or agree upon what counts as knowledge and what counts as true.

We're not even agreeing on who won the election. All of the processes by which elections are certified were called into question in 2020. As a society, we've given up trust in basic institutions. And one of the results is what we saw at the Capitol on January 6. That's more disturbing than, "I don't trust you or people like you." There's no institutional framework within which you and I can interact and on which we both agree.

Ultimately, there's no scaffolding of institutions through which we can interact in a way that mutually recognizes each other's obligations to respect life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness—that I have to recognize *your* rights to life and liberty, and you *mine*. That lack is frightening. It's a kind of skepticism and distrust of institutions that I have not seen before in my lifetime.

The question then is, what can be done? We can try to address the predicament that we're in in democratic ways, or we can opt for a technocratic or authoritarian kind of response. I think we risk the latter when we label the January 6 attack on the Capitol as terrorism and say that we need to strengthen the laws against terrorism. We have laws already on the books, democratically enacted and enforced, that will cover any of the actions that the people who invaded the Capitol undertook. Revising and expanding terrorism laws that were put in place after 9/11 would simply make the world less democratic and less open.

We are really in a predicament in which we have to figure out how to accommodate antidemocratic tendencies and proclivities in a democratic way, without giving up democratic arrangements. 



James Johnson

Professor of political science at Rochester

Political theorist specializing in democratic theory and pragmatist political thought; coauthor with Susan Orr of *Should Secret Voting Be Mandatory?* (Polity Press, 2020). Courses include Democracy in America, Democratic Theory, and Theories of Political Economy.



AWARD-WINNING RESEARCH: The development of two RNA-based COVID-19 vaccines spotlighted the potential for RNA biology to improve human life. Maquat has been recognized as a pioneer in RNA biology for four decades.



Attacking a Pandemic, One RNA Strand *at a Time*

Pioneering biochemist Lynne Maquat helped usher in the age of RNA-based therapeutics, a key defense against coronavirus.

By Lindsey Valich

When the US Food and Drug Administration approved emergency use authorization for the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, the vaccine made history, not only because of its high efficacy rate at preventing COVID-19 in clinical trials, but also because it was the first vaccine ever approved by the FDA for human use that is based on RNA technology.

Traditional vaccines against viruses like influenza inject inactivated virus proteins called antigens. The antigens stimulate the body's immune system to recognize the specific virus and produce antibodies in response, with the hope that the antibodies will fight against future virus infection.

RNA-based vaccines, however, do not introduce an antigen but instead inject a short sequence of synthetic messenger RNA, which provides cells with instructions to produce the virus antigen themselves.

The world is only beginning to pay closer attention to the importance of ribonucleic acid (RNA) in disease treatment. That's in part due to the research that Lynne Maquat, director of Rochester's Center for RNA Biology, has been working on for decades.

Maquat, the J. Lowell Orbison Distinguished Service Alumni Professor in Biochemistry and Biophysics and a professor of oncology and of pediatrics at Rochester, was part of the earliest wave of scientists to realize the important role RNA plays in human health and disease. She says she "never questioned" whether or not RNA was important: "Every time I looked at something, it seemed to go to RNA."

This year, as the first-ever RNA-based vaccines are having such a profound effect—promising to end the pandemic that has put the world close to a standstill for more than a year—Maquat is heartened that RNA is finding its time in the spotlight.

And it's just the beginning: "The development of RNA vaccines is a great boon to the future of treating infectious diseases," she says.

Fundamental discoveries in RNA biology'

Maquat joined the Medical Center in 2000 after 18 years in the Department of Human Genetics at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo. She has spent her 40-year career studying messenger RNA (mRNA), RNA molecules that receive genetic instructions from DNA and create proteins that carry out functions within our cells. Her research has contributed to the development of drug therapies for genetic disorders such as cystic fibrosis and may be useful to developing advanced treatments and therapies for COVID-19.

Messenger RNA has taken on new promise during the pandemic with the development and approval of multiple COVID-19 vaccines—including those developed by Moderna and Pfizer/BioNTech—that use RNA as a vehicle for the body to produce disease-fighting antigens.

This year, Maquat was awarded the 2021 Wolf Prize in Medicine from Israel for her “fundamental discoveries in RNA biology that have the potential to better human lives.” The acclaimed international award is presented to outstanding scientists from around the world for achievements that benefit humanity.

While she has spent her career deciphering the many roles of RNA, Maquat is internationally known for her discovery of nonsense-mediated mRNA decay, or NMD. One of the major surveillance systems in the body, NMD is a quality-control mechanism that removes flawed messenger RNA molecules that can lead to mistakes in gene expression and, consequently, disease. According to the Wolf Prize Committee, her work has “furthered our understanding of the molecular basis of human disease and provides valuable information to help physicians implement ‘personalized’ or ‘precision’ medicine by treating the disease mutation that is specific to each individual patient.”

“Lynne Maquat has been a true pioneer in an important aspect of eukaryotic gene expression—nonsense-mediated mRNA decay—that is extremely important for medical implications,” says Joan Steitz, the Sterling Professor of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry at Yale University, who shares the 2021 Wolf Prize in Medicine with Maquat. “Understanding this molecular mechanism is providing the basis for developing therapeutics for diseases such as Duchenne

muscular dystrophy. Maquat’s tenacity, creativity, and insight in this challenging area, as well as her exceptional record of training and service, have had great impact on the field of RNA research.”

A major surveillance system

As a biology undergraduate at the University of Connecticut, Maquat took a cell biology course where she first learned about protein synthesis.

“I thought it was so cool,” Maquat told the Wolf Prize Committee in a recent interview. Working in the lab of her cell biology professor, she studied messenger RNA and continued this work—researching mRNA in bacteria—as a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, where she received her PhD in biochemistry.

“I continued to study messenger RNA in the context of human diseases and was able to show that human diseases can be due to mutations in DNA that cause misprocessing of precursors to mRNAs or unstable mRNAs,” she says.

In 1980, she traveled to Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem to retrieve and begin processing bone marrow samples from children suffering from a severe form of an inherited blood disorder known as thalassemia major. The bone marrow of people with the disease is unable to produce beta-globin protein, which is necessary for the oxygen-carrying function of red blood cells. Maquat wanted to find out why.

DNA in the nucleus of our cells is like a genetic instruction manual, while RNA is the vehicle that puts the genetic instructions into action: genetic in-

structions in DNA are transcribed into precursors to mRNAs that are then processed to mRNAs, which in turn, travel out of the nucleus to deliver the instructions to ribosomes. From there, the ribosomes translate the information into proteins, which carry out functions throughout the body.

Normally, once RNA’s instructions have been read from start to finish by the ribosome, a stop signal appears to indicate that all of the information has been translated into a full-length, functional protein. Disease is gene expression gone awry, and a common flaw in gene expression is the introduction of an early “stop” signal, which prevents the instructions from being read completely.

“Lynne Maquat has been a true pioneer in an important aspect of eukaryotic gene expression—nonsense-mediated mRNA decay—that is extremely important for medical implications.”
—Joan Steitz, the Sterling Professor of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry at Yale University

Helping Women Advance in STEM

When Lynne Maquat was in the fourth grade, her teacher told her mother she didn’t think Maquat was “college material.”

“I would clam up in class when that teacher called on me because I was afraid of her,” says Maquat, the J. Lowell Orbison Distinguished Service Alumni Professor in Biochemistry and Biophysics as well as the founding director of Rochester’s Center for RNA Biology. “I often tell that story to high school students as a reminder to never allow themselves to be defined or held back by anyone.”

Maquat overcame her shyness and became the first in her family to attend

college, eventually earning a PhD in biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Now she is one of the top RNA researchers in the world.

In addition to her research, Maquat has worked to help women overcome obstacles in scientific careers. In 2003, she established the Graduate Women in Science program at Rochester to provide mentoring and personal and professional development to encourage more women to enter STEM fields.

“When I was in college and graduate school there were very few female scientists and many male scientists who believed

women didn’t belong in the field,” Maquat says. “Fortunately, I came across women and men who were particularly supportive, including some very successful female scientists who had it even harder than I did when they were starting out.”

Beyond the 2021 Wolf Prize in Medicine, she is the recipient of several other significant honors, including the 2018 Wiley Prize in Biomedical Sciences from Rockefeller University, the 2017 Vanderbilt Prize in Biomedical Sciences, and Canada’s Gairdner International Award in 2015, and was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2017 and the National Academy of Sciences in 2011.



RNA INSIGHTS: Maquat’s lab is internationally known for its work to understand the many biological processes involving RNA. Her discoveries “furthered our understanding of the molecular basis of human disease and provide valuable information to help physicians implement ‘personalized’ or ‘precision’ medicine by treating the disease mutation that is specific to each individual patient,” noted the committee that awarded her this year’s Wolf Prize.

Similar to baking a cake but only completing half the recipe, early stop signals can lead to undesired results: a protein might not be produced at all, or a truncated protein may be produced, either of which can cause disease.

Maquat helped reveal one of the most important mechanisms behind gene expression: quality control, or what has been called “nonsense-mediated mRNA decay.” Her studies documented how NMD works as a surveillance system to detect and destroy mRNAs that contain bad copies of instructions. By eliminating the production of potentially toxic truncated proteins, NMD can act as a cellular weapon to combat disease.

Her 1981 breakthrough manuscript, published in the journal *Cell*, documented her research on thalassemia and was the first manuscript to reveal the role of NMD in human cells. The paper opened an entirely new field of research into how mRNAs are monitored and regulated.

A vehicle for COVID-19 treatment

Throughout her career, Maquat has figured out the rules by which NMD functions to reduce the expression of unwanted mutations in the human genome. The research is vital to better understanding and combating COVID-19.

Like many other viruses, SARS-CoV-2 is an RNA virus, meaning that the genetic material for SARS-CoV-2 is encoded in RNA. The virus’s features cause the protein synthesis machinery in humans to mistake the virus’s RNA for RNA produced by our own DNA.

Researchers have shown that viruses with a genome similar to that


of COVID-19 evade NMD by having RNA structures or producing proteins that prevent NMD from degrading viral RNAs.

“SARS-CoV-2 reproduces its RNA genome with much higher efficiency than other pathogenic human viruses,” Maquat says. “Maybe there is a connection there with evading NMD; time will tell.”

In the meantime, she says, “RNA treatments will most likely be a wave of the future for relatively recent RNA viruses and other emerging diseases.”

RNA-based vaccines, for instance, are beneficial in that they inject mRNAs that instruct our cells themselves to produce antigen molecules, which then stimulate the production of antibody proteins to fight disease. RNA-based vaccines have other advantages over traditional vaccines: they eliminate the need to work with an actual virus and are quicker to develop than traditional vaccines, although “no one should think the vaccine-development process is simple,” Maquat says.

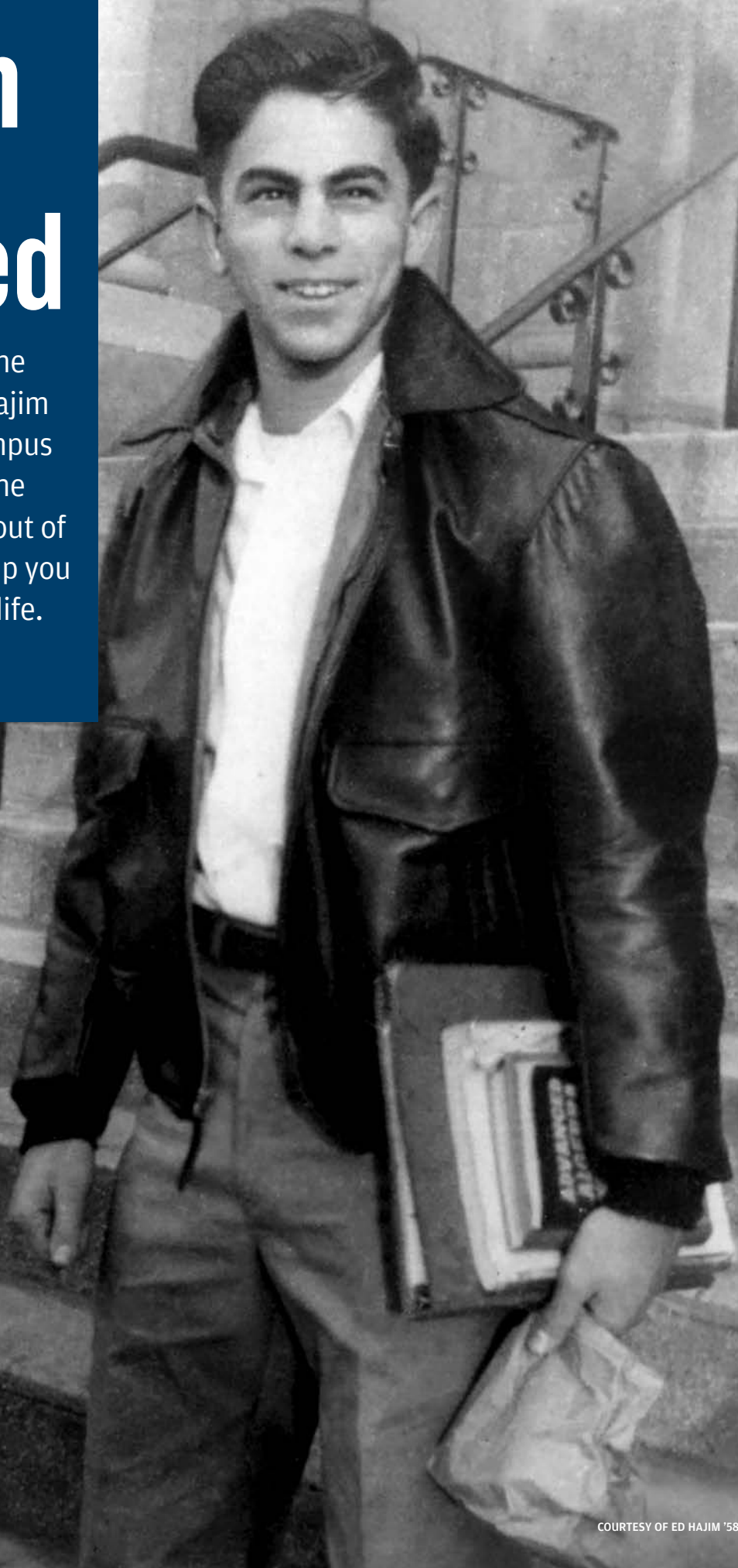
Epidemiologists now know new infectious pathogens are imminent, given the increase in international travel, including to and from places where humans and animals are in close contact. Bats, in particular, are reservoirs for viruses. Many bat species are able to live with viruses without experiencing ill effects, given bats’ unusual physiology. If such bat viruses mutate so they become capable of infecting humans, however, there will be new diseases.

“It is just a matter of when this will happen again and what the virus will be,” Maquat says. “The hope is that we will be ready and able to develop vaccines against these new viruses with the new pipelines that have been put in place for COVID-19.” 

Driven to Succeed

From 1954 to 1958, the peripatetic life of Ed Hajim '58 took him to the campus of Rochester, where he discovered that feeling out of place can sometimes help you find what you want in life.

By Ed Hajim '58



From the Orphanage to the Boardroom

By the time he enrolled at Rochester, Ed Hajim '58 had lived in more than 15 different places, from foster homes arranged by Catholic social service agencies in California to orphanages operated by Jewish organizations in New York City. As a toddler, the young Hajim had been taken by his father from his mother's family in St. Louis and driven to southern California, where his father then placed him with foster families while he sought work on commercial and merchant marine ships. The pattern of parental neglect continued until Hajim set foot on the River Campus as a teenager.

That early sense of desertion and resilience fueled an unlikely success story, as Hajim worked to become a prominent Wall Street executive, financier, and philanthropist.

In a new memoir, On the Road Less Traveled, Hajim tells his life's story for the first time, including his time on campus and his longtime connections to the University.

ARRIVED AT THE UNIVERSITY of Rochester campus in the fall of 1954 alone with just a black leather jacket and an ROTC scholarship.

Let me explain. First, my clothes were cheap looking and way out of style. I stuck out like a sore thumb among my fellow students. My black leather jacket didn't fit in with the more conservative clothes other people were wearing. And no one I saw on campus had my kind of haircut, so my appearance contributed to my feeling of self-consciousness.

In addition, inwardly, I chose to lock up my past and bury it for good. I vowed never to speak of my origins. I didn't want my classmates to know where I came from or how hard I had to work to get there. If someone asked about my past, I didn't answer. I felt so ashamed of it all—the orphanages, the poverty, the loss of my mother and abandonment by my father, the years of feeling so lonely and isolated. In my mind, keeping my past secret was the only way I could break free from it. It was as if I had to cut off the reality of my past to build a new future.

I think the new friends I met sensed my secrecy and sensitivity. Once they saw how I reacted to their inquiries, they quickly backed off and knew not to “go there” with me. There was one classmate from high school who also was attending Rochester, but I made it clear to him that I didn't want my past discussed.

Because my father was part of that past, I placed all the letters Dad had written to me in boxes and stored them away. I told everyone he was a merchant marine and spent most of his time at sea. If I was asked, I'd say that my mom died in childbirth, because that's what my father had told me. I made no further information available. The truth was, I was humiliated and embarrassed by my past—and that included my father, a man who despite his talents was never able to support me emotionally or financially.

Expendng all this energy covering up gave me a dark side. I often felt a return of the rage I had experienced during my childhood. But as I look back on it now, I can see that this inner turmoil also drove me to succeed in ways I could never have imagined. Back in those days, going to therapy was uncommon,

ROCHESTER BOUND: Hajim realized he was ready to “build a new future.”

We were selling enthusiasm—and passion. I learned a very important lesson that year: if you can sell something that does not yet exist to people you have never met before, you will have a leg up on life.



NAVAL DUTY: After graduation, Hajim spent three years as a naval officer.

so I didn't seek professional help in dealing with my feelings, even though I needed it. Instead, I just continued to keep myself as busy as possible, piling extracurricular activities on top of the very rigorous academic program I'd chosen for myself.

AFTER PLAYING FRESHMAN BASKETBALL and baseball, I chose not to try out for the varsity teams. Academics and extracurricular activities became more important to me, and I knew I didn't have much of a future as a professional athlete. I played three years of intramural football, basketball, and baseball. Intramural sports gave me the opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of being part of a team and the rush of adrenaline I got from competition—without the practice requirements of the varsity teams.

During my freshman year, I served on the integration committee, which was responsible for combining the women's campus, called the Prince Street Campus, with the men's campus, called the River Campus. At the time, the two campuses sat five miles apart. Even though the University had been admitting women since 1900, men moved to the River Campus upon its completion in 1930, and the women had been separate ever since. The integration was successfully completed in 1955. As a freshman I was

rejected by all the fraternities—probably because of my appearance and because all but one fraternity didn't take Jewish students. I didn't think of my appearance as a big deal, but I guess it was. As my freshman year progressed, I cut my hair in a crew cut, bought some new clothes, and was helped by a residence-hall mate, Ed Kaplan, who lent me a few of his suits. Fortunately, he was exactly my size, and his father was a haberdasher. Another hall mate, a sophomore named Zane Burday, befriended me early on and counseled me on what to do and not do. His organic chemistry notebook was instrumental in getting me and a number of others through the course. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa, became a doctor, and was my internist for 30 years. He died a few years ago, and, as I said at his funeral, he did so much for so many but never asked for anything for himself.

In my sophomore year, my new look and campus activities resulted in my being pledged by Theta Chi fraternity, making me the first Jewish pledge in the 100 years of the organization's history. My fraternity brothers were a great group of guys, and pledging was a real milestone for me. In my junior year, I became the social chairman, my job being to take charge of the events the fraternity held each Saturday night. During my tenure, I dreamed up a party for the month of February called the Beachcombers Ball. In all modesty, it turned out to be one of the fraternity's best parties ever, and it became a tradition for a number of years.

I really enjoyed participating in projects that took me in various directions that I wouldn't otherwise have explored. I was in all

three honor societies; I was chairman of the University's finance board, which distributed money for campus activities; I was one of 15 elected student government representatives; I was chairman of the engineering council; I was business manager of the dramatic society, responsible for filling the theater for every show; and I was a member of the yearbook staff. I was Mr. Involved!

IN ADDITION TO EVERYTHING ELSE, in my sophomore year I got the idea to start a humor magazine modeled along the lines of *The Harvard Lampoon*. It was called *UGH* (for *UnderGraduate Humor*), and it didn't come into being until my junior year. Although I was seen by most people as a pretty serious guy, I also had, and continue to have, a very dry sense of humor. (As my wife, Barbara says, I'm not always fun, but I am funny.)

At the time, I thought the students could use an infusion of levity, especially my fellow engineers, who spent more time studying and working in the lab than anything else. The engineering program was tough on all of us, and a large number of students flunked

out each year. In my junior year, when the magazine was launched, I was taking organic and physical chemistry plus a couple of other demanding courses. I had six 8 o'clock classes and a laboratory every afternoon.

To get the magazine started, I first put together a blue-ribbon group of students to help get the project approved by the president and deans, who were not really in favor of what they considered to be

When you can lead people—whether it's a group of 20 or a group of 2,000—to believe they are better than they think they are, they feel good about themselves and become more productive.



MERGERS: As a student, Hajim (first row, far right) was a member of a committee charged with helping plan the merger of the Men's and Women's Colleges.

a frivolous project. The administrators were a little touchy at first because they weren't sure what to expect. Was the magazine going to be farcical? Satirical? Would it mock "the system"? I gave the University every assurance that my goal was to entertain the reader and not embarrass the school, and the officials eventually gave us the green light.

Then the staffers and I went out and collected all the various humor magazines we could find from around the country. We studied the best features from each and adapted them to produce a prototype of the first issue.

As it turned out, I really liked entrepreneurialism—especially sales—and I still do.

To finance the publication of the first issue, we went to local merchants, knocking on the doors of every kind of establishment, from bars and hamburger joints to hardware stores and gas stations, all in an effort to sell them ad space. It was a risky buy for them because it was a new magazine with no track record to point to. We were selling enthusiasm—and passion. I learned a very important lesson that year: if you can sell something that does not yet exist to people you have never met before, you will have a leg up on life.

Luckily for us, there was obviously latent demand for humor on campus, since we sold out the first print run in 45 minutes. I got a big kick out of the fact that the librarian, who was originally not in favor of the project, later came begging for a few copies to put into the archives. Fortunately, I was able to save a few copies for myself and have held on to them to this day. Once you launch a start-up like that, nothing else seems terribly hard. I discovered that when you operate on passion, it isn't work. It's pleasure.

BECAUSE I HAD NOWHERE TO GO during most summers and holidays, and because I needed the money, I worked multiple jobs during those periods. My scholarship only gave me 50 dollars a month, so money was always tight. Working was a necessary means of survival. My jobs ranged from waiting tables to working in the college laundry, to removing railroad ties from an abandoned rail line. When I needed a typewriter in order to write my papers, I wrote to a manufacturer and offered to sell its products on campus if it would give me one as a sample that I could also use for my own needs. The manufacturer took me up on it, even though I only wound up selling one typewriter in two years. I also worked at a local foundry, the post office, and on a Saint Lawrence Seaway construction site. In my senior year, to earn extra income, I became a resident advisor in the dorms.

At one job I had during the summer between my junior and senior years, I waited tables at a Bob's Big Boy restaurant from 6 p.m. until 1 a.m. When I got off work, I would sleep for a few hours, then head over to the University library, where I helped with various tasks during the day. It was a perfect job because when I wasn't busy, I could doze off. One morning, however, the librarian caught me sleeping.

"Shhh. Don't wake him. He works nights," I heard her whisper to her colleague.

I will always remember what a kind lady she was.

Working all these jobs gave me the opportunity to test several career paths and meet all kinds of people. I discovered that we all have our own joys, our own passions—enthusiasms that inspire us to get out of bed every morning. Even more important, I understood that we can react the opposite way, too, in response to our own aversions. There's great benefit in trying new experiences, especially when you're young. Each job, each experience you have, moves you closer to your calling. And there's no better time than college to experiment, to try new things, so you can become the person you were meant to be.

I had another life-altering epiphany that year. I realized that the more involved I got in extracurricular activities and the more groups I joined, the more my passion for science and math began to shift



NEWSMAKER: Hajim met with Rochester-area media in 2008 after announcing a historic \$30 million commitment to the University.



CAMPUS RECOGNITION: In 2016, alumni, parents, students, and guests gathered for a dedication ceremony for the new Hajim Science and Engineering Quadrangle, during which the Hajim family was recognized.

and turn into a keen interest in managing people. I felt as though this was truly my calling.

I loved putting projects and people together to solve a problem.

Even greater was my desire to help people do better than they believed they could do, just as I had been helped in the past by teachers and foster parents.

The University of Rochester has a motto, *Meliora*, which translates into "ever better."

I don't know if that motto rubbed off on me, but ever since I realized my calling, that philosophy has been something I have strived to inspire in others. It has carried into everything I've done. My unwavering drive for improvement motivated me to strive to be a little bit better than I was and then encourage others to do the same.

When you can lead people—whether it’s a group of 20 or a group of 2,000—to believe they are better than they think they are, they feel good about themselves and become more productive. That’s really what life is all about. If you can do that, ultimately you will have a success story to tell.

ON A COUPLE OF CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, I was invited to my classmates’ homes and gratefully accepted the invitations. My friends Dick Wedemeyer and Al “Jesse” James (yes, that’s his real name; he was my sophomore roommate) were particularly kind. But seeing them interact with their families was emotionally difficult for me. There they were, in the midst of a happy reunion, being

so affectionate and having so much fun, which caused me to reflect on the lack of familial warmth in my own life.

Several months after launching the first issue of *UGH*, I went on a visit to the home of my good friend David Melnick—a year younger than I—who was going to be the next editor of the magazine. Of course, I wanted to pass on to him all the information he would need to take over the magazine, but I also enjoyed his company and wanted to spend time with him. While I was there, I met his younger sister, Barbara, for the first time. She was a pigtailed 13-year-old—seven years younger than I. To me, she was my friend’s kid sister. Cute, of course, but the thought never crossed my mind that we might someday become a couple.

Q&A

My Magic Two Words Are ‘What’s Next?’

Ed Hajim tried to hide the story of his life from most of the people who know him. Even his wife, Barbara, and their children, G. B., Corey, and Brad, didn’t get the entire account until 2008, when Hajim was named chair of the University’s Board of Trustees.

Despite a five-decade connection to the University that began when he was a student, Hajim kept his background as a child who grew up in foster homes and orphanages as private as he could. Today, as a successful philanthropist, Hajim sees himself in a position to help students with hardscrabble backstories like his.

“In the end, adversity is a gift,” Hajim writes in his new memoir, *On the Road Less Traveled* (Skyhorse Publishing, 2021). “If you don’t experience it, you’ll never know how to overcome it. The disadvantages I endured sparked my ambition and work ethic. So it wasn’t fate. It was drive—some call it grit. It’s the one thing privileged people who feel entitled to everything and have nothing to fight for often lack. That was never me.”

His life’s story is harrowing but ultimately a story of success. As a toddler he was, for all intents and purposes, kidnapped by his father, led to believe that his mother was dead most of his life, and was left to fend for himself in foster services and orphanages. He worked to become one of the late 20th-century’s most successful Wall Street executives as well as a major philanthropist. A generous supporter of education, Hajim committed \$30 million to Rochester, the largest single gift in the University’s history.

Working with his family, Hajim spent seven years on the memoir. In completing it, he realized that recounting his story might help other people.

“To me, if you could help a few people have it a little bit easier on their trip through the forest, then you’re doing something,” he says. “Love is doing things for other people. And this seems like the right time.”

Why did you want to write a memoir?

I was very embarrassed by my back history, so I buried it for most of my life. In fact, my wife, Barbara, really didn’t get the whole story for a long time. The kids got pieces of the story. Nobody got the story until I came to Rochester to become chairman of the Board of Trustees. I was planning to make the gift

STORYTELLER: After being embarrassed by his early life, Hajim decided to tell his story because “it might help other people.”



Later I would learn that Barbara had a teenage crush on me from that very first meeting. She thought I was cute, too. And funny. But we wouldn't see each other again until seven years later!

At the time of my first visit with the Melnicks, I was concentrating on more immediate concerns. I had a growing realization that by the end of my junior year, there would no longer be an enormous gap between where I was and where I wanted to go in life. In fact, I felt as though the brass ring was within my grasp. I could visualize my goal because I knew what I wanted. The mosaic of who I was had begun to take shape.

What I didn't know at the time was how important it was to find the right life partner.

Sure, I had thought about getting married. I wanted the beautiful movie-star wife I saw on the big screen. I also wanted a white picket fence, a house in the suburbs, the whole package. In short, I wanted the life I never had, giving my children the love that I was denied. I wasn't going to settle or compromise my principles until I could turn that vision into reality. But there were things I had to do first. I had to leave behind my college relationships because I just wasn't ready. That dream would have to wait. **R**

The essay is adapted from On the Road Less Traveled: An Unlikely Journey from the Orphanage to the Boardroom (Skyhorse Publishing, 2021). Copyright Edmund A. Hajim. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

anonymously, but Jim Thompson [then chief advancement officer] said, "We can't do that." And Mark Zupan [then dean of the Simon Business School] started digging into my background—typical research guy—and found some details. I watched this, and I thought, "You know, you're 72, we've got to get this down on paper." Once I started writing it, I really wanted it to be private and self-publish it and give it away to friends. But you start to learn things when you start to write.

What did you learn?

Your background is very important to you. It can give you advantages and disadvantages. Even when you have a very disadvantaged background, it gives you certain definite advantages that other kids don't have. Think about me, going 15 different places before I was 18 years old. Am I adaptable? You bet your ass I am. People say, "Give me a one-liner on the book. Is it, 'Anything is possible?'" Anything *is* possible, given my background.

You've overcome extraordinary odds. Do you think your story is exceptional?

Am I the exception or the rule? Well, that's the essence of what I think I have to share. Am I just unusual, or are there other aspects to it?

There are certain things you get by having a background like mine. Like adaptability, resilience, the ability to bounce back, perseverance. And gratitude and appreciation for having to earn what you have. There are advantages to having a challenging background. Luck is certainly a factor, and so is the context you find yourself in. I refused to accept the fact of my circumstances.

Some of my success was due to the fact that I had a certain innate talent. I had capabilities in engineering and math. But I also had a dream. I really wanted something, and I felt I could get it. I think some of these things can be learned. If someone like me can communicate that with kids, it can make their trip a little bit easier.

You arrived at Rochester in 1954 from an orphanage. Why didn't you want your classmates to know your background?

When I came to Rochester, I decided to hide my life. I didn't want pity. I didn't want sympathy; I didn't want to get something I didn't deserve. It just didn't do me any good. After the first year at Rochester, I decided I was really going to join campus life as much as I could. I got a crew cut, went down to a store in Rochester and bought a tweed jacket. The whole transition. I wanted to be accepted, so I made those changes, but people didn't know the story.

For someone who wrote a memoir, you seem keen to look ahead rather than back.

I always tried to look ahead. People say to me, "Why didn't you look for your mother?" When I was six years old, I realized she wasn't there. Until I was 60, I thought she was dead. I had enough things to cope with, so actually it was a defense mechanism, in many respects. I didn't realize

what I was doing. In my business life, my magic two words are, "What's next?" What are we going to do here to stay ahead of our competitors?

What's next for you?

At the Nantucket Golf Course, we have a foundation that supports 40 to 50 charities on the island and has put 25 kids through college. Our newest effort is vocational scholarships for kids who want to become chefs, welders, carpenters, or pursue occupations that don't require a four-year college degree. This is one of my new mini crusades since I believe vocational education is one of the solutions to our US employment problem. I may try to take our model to other clubs in communities like ours.

I also have a couple more books that I'm working on. One is focused on what I've often described as the importance of defining the "Four P's" of your life—your passion, your principles, your partner, and your plans—but it's really about the conversation you need to have with your inner voice. Your inner sense of yourself is one constant you have in your life, and you need to develop ways to keep going back to it and listening to it.

Do you have advice for listening to that inner voice?

Every year you should sit down and review certain characteristics that you have. I do that, and then every three years, I do a deep dive. It isn't business strategy but personal strategy. Self, family, work, community—reviewing each one of those areas and saying, "Am I doing those things correctly?"

In my business life, I really tried to make sure there was a certain amount of balance. I had a goal of having a family. One of my legacies is having a family. Having three children and eight grandchildren is a pretty good deal. That's a pretty special experience. —Scott Hauser

From Leather Jacket to Board Chair: About Ed Hajim

Now the chairman of High Vista, a Boston-based money management company, Hajim has more than 50 years of investment experience, holding senior management positions with the Capital Group, E. F. Hutton, and Lehman Brothers before becoming chairman and CEO of Furman Selz.

In 2008, after 20 years on the University's Board of Trustees, Hajim began an eight-year tenure as board chair. In recognition of his gift commitment of \$30 million—the largest single donation in the University's history—the Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences was named in his honor.

Through the Hajim Family Foundation, he has made generous donations to organizations that promote education, health care, arts, culture, and conservation. In 2015, he received the Horatio Alger Award, given to Americans who exemplify the values of initiative, leadership, and commitment to excellence and who have succeeded despite personal adversities.



‘SOLUTIONS JOURNALISM’: With her grounding in environmental humanities, Brown returned to her hometown of Flint, Michigan, to report on “how people are solving problems and in what ways they’re responding to” issues affecting local communities.

ALEXANDRIA BROWN ’18

‘Cracking the World Open’

Alexandria Brown ’18 says environmental humanities pointed her toward life as a journalist and environmental justice advocate.

By Kathleen McGarvey

When **Alexandria Brown** ’18 returned to the Flint, Michigan, region after graduation, she went home with a purpose: to tell the stories of how Flint residents were facing manifold challenges.

A former manufacturing hub for the auto industry and an impoverished city with a majority Black population, Flint was still reeling from the 2014 decision by city leaders to draw water from the highly polluted Flint River. Added to that catastrophe were the living conditions resulting from a longtime economically distressed city run by state-appointed emergency managers, not representatives elected by the people.

The state government’s response to what happened in Flint was a result of systemic racism, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission ultimately concluded.

Once back in Flint, Brown began writing for two local publications, *Flintside* and *Flintbeat*.

“My journalism was focused on the city of Flint from a ‘solutions journalism’ perspective. You’re working on covering how people are solving these problems and in what ways they’re responding to these issues.” Such an approach “can draw attention to the intricacies of how people relate to their environment,” she says.

Brown grew up in the Flint suburbs as a bookish child. “Books were a transformative portal for me,” she says. She arrived at Rochester as a Handler Scholar keen to study literature and to explore the past, becoming a double major in English and history. But it was her eventual declaration of an environmental humanities minor that she says has had an outsized influence in shaping her life plans.

Environmental humanities melds humanities methodologies with the study of ecological issues. An area of growing scholarly interest, it’s a relatively recent addition to Rochester’s curriculum. The Environmental Humanities Program was established in 2017, with Brown in its first cohort of students.

“It offers an interdisciplinary understanding of the environment,” says Brown. “I think the program does an excellent job at bridging these worlds between the humanities and STEM [science, technology, engineering, and mathematics]. I’d be in class with students from so many disciplines—biology or chemical engineering or anthropology, and everybody is coming to the table offering their thoughts and perspectives on these major themes.”

As someone raised in a fundamentalist, evangelical Christian household, Brown says her experiences as a university student shifted her perspective dramatically. “Coming to college obviously

can crack that world open for you in a lot of ways. I started becoming committed to finding the realities of things outside of myself, or at least trying to face them.”

Her religious instruction had taught her that the Earth existed for human use. Her environmental humanities classes altered her view. “We weren’t talking about the environment as something outside of ourselves but as something we were participating in and had effect over.”

Her family’s conservatism had taught her to be wary of “tree huggers,” she wrote recently in an autobiographical essay on the environmental humanities program’s website. And race played a role in the distance she once felt from environmental questions, too. “Environmental issues seemed even more out of touch for me as a Black person. Nature was wilderness. A location of sharecropping labor, King Cotton, and strange fruit. It was a landscape of struggle.”

Gradually, she began to see connections between environmental and human exploitation, worldviews that “sanctioned elements of humanity and elements of an environment being for our use exclusively.”

Seeing literature as a gateway to learning about the environment in courses taught by the environmental humanities program director, Leila Nadir, “piqued my interest,” Brown says, and non-fiction texts—such as Elizabeth Kolbert’s *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History* (Henry Holt and Company, 2014)—got her thinking about other ways of telling stories. Her participation in a 2016 Black Lives Matter protest in downtown Rochester over the police shootings of Alton Sterling in Louisiana and Philando Castile in Minnesota gave that thinking a practical shape.

“I went. I took my camera with me that I won from a talent show, and I started taking pictures. I made a Facebook post about what I’d seen there, and I realized that what I was doing—recording these events, being a witness to these things—was an actual occupation known as journalism,” she says.

It’s important to look beyond the headlines that a disaster like Flint’s water crisis produces to see the complexities of the problems that underlie it, Brown contends.


“I think the instinct is to focus on the hype of any crisis and to essentialize that problem—almost to its own detriment because then you get to the point where you’re dehumanizing the situation, dehumanizing the circumstances, and you’re also doing a disservice to the intricacies of what makes a city a place that can become vulnerable to something like that in the first place,” she says.

Nadir calls Brown’s work in Flint an “inspiration” to current environmental humanities students. “Her writing and activism demonstrate not only how deeply environmental problems are intertwined with social justice issues but also how to translate humanities degrees into meaningful postgraduation work.”

These days, Brown is working with the Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition, where she has accepted the position of Energy Democracy Justice Storyteller. She has also contributed to the organization’s work as an energy justice interviewer, talking with people in Detroit and in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula about their experiences with their energy providers.

For a lot of people in Michigan, a state surrounded by four of the world’s five Great Lakes, environmental questions are tightly bound up with water issues, Brown says. The data collection process she’s contributing to has been eye opening, teaching her about energy justice and demonstrating the strong feelings many people have about their energy providers.

It’s the unending learning process that attracted her, and still attracts her, to journalism, she says, and it’s what she found in the interdisciplinary field of environmental humanities, too.

“The point is to be constantly learning, constantly making connections, and having conversations with people who are not only different from you but also have a different wealth of understanding.” 

Alice Holloway Young ’57 (Mas), ’69W (EdD) Pioneer educator honored by New York Senate

A groundbreaking educator in Rochester for more than 50 years, **Alice Holloway Young ’57 (Mas), ’69W (EdD)** received the New York State Senate’s highest honor this spring.

The first African American in the Rochester City School District to hold the titles of reading specialist, vice principal, and principal, Young was presented with the Senate’s Liberty Medal in recognition of her lifetime achievement and exceptional community service.

In announcing the award, State Senator Samra Brouk said, “Dr. Young played a life-changing role in the lives of thousands of children and adults in our community. Her work will impact families in our region for generations to come.”

Born in 1923, Young grew up in the Jim Crow era of the South. Her parents sold their farm in Virginia, where there was no high school for Black students, and purchased a farm in North Carolina. The youngest of seven children, Young was 15 when she graduated as valedictorian of her high school and

headed off to college. She earned valedictorian honors again while receiving her bachelor’s degree in childhood development and family relations from Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Her first job out of college was working at a migrant camp in Poolville, North Carolina, where she established a preschool childcare center. Young married James (Buddy) Young at a church reception in 1946 and moved to Rochester in 1952 for a job as a substitute teacher in the Rochester schools. While raising a family, she earned master’s and doctoral degrees in education supervision and administration from the University.

In Rochester, Young wrote and supervised the city school district’s first integration programs, including the Urban-Suburban Inter-district Transfer program, which allowed city students to attend school in a participating suburban program. She also was a founding trustee of Monroe Community College and served as board chair from 1978 to 1998.



LIBERTY MEDALIST: Educator Holloway Young

“I suppose I have been a pioneer willing to face challenges,” Young once said. “Any achievements or successes I may have did not belong to me. Rather, they were for those following me. I knew that my performance had to be much higher than was expected.”

—Jim Mandelaro

LIFETIMES: FRED AMAN '67

'Merging the Worlds of Law and Music'

Now the holder of a named professorship at the Maurer School of Law at Indiana University Bloomington, University Life Trustee **Fred Aman** '67 retired last year after a decorated career as an attorney, legal scholar, and academic administrator. Along the way, he's been an accomplished jazz drummer.

My childhood

My parents and I lived in an apartment on the top floor of my grandparents' house, which was just off Hudson Avenue in Rochester. Our neighborhood was full of people from Eastern Europe who spoke Polish along with some Russian and Lithuanian. My grandparents emigrated from Poland and taught themselves how to read and write English when they arrived. My grandfather also taught himself to play the piano, accordion, and the violin. It is entirely possible that my later interests in global issues, particularly transnational and comparative law, may very well have started back then.

My drumming lessons with jazz great Cozy Cole

There was a generous man in our neighborhood who annually took small groups of youngsters to New York City. We flew on a plane, stayed in a hotel, went to a Yankees game, and our eyes opened up to the world. Our host knew Cozy Cole, a great jazz drummer who played with legends like Louis Armstrong and Cab Calloway. He arranged for me to meet Cozy at the Metropole Café, a popular club where Cozy often played. I learned he had a drum school in the city and I really wanted to take lessons with him.

I was the first in my family to go to college, and I soaked in all the lectures and new ideas with enthusiasm. I learned from some of the best faculty members, like legendary political scientists Richard Fenno and William Riker.

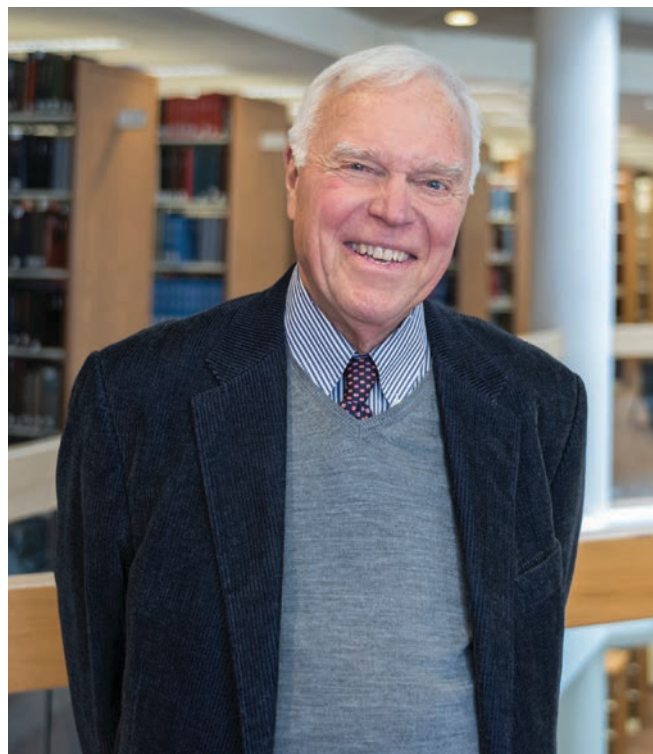
My Aunt Helen made this possible, promising that if Cozy agreed to the lessons, which he did, she'd get me to the lessons. So, several times a year, we'd take the Friday midnight train from Rochester to Manhattan. I'd have a three-hour lesson with Cozy, go to the Metropole to hear him play a set, and then we'd take the midnight train back. It was a wonderful experience, in every way.

My time at Rochester

I was the first in my family to go to college, and I soaked in all the lectures and new ideas with enthusiasm. I learned from some of the best faculty members, like legendary political scientists Richard Fenno and William Riker. I also played a lot of gigs, too. The fraternities would call on me and my quintet when they wanted a "smooth" sound at their parties.

My summer as an arranger at Eastman

Ray Wright '43E, head arranger at Radio City Music Hall, taught a very challenging and rewarding summer class called



STRUCTURE AND FEELING: Law and music embody both, Aman says.

the Arrangers' Workshop. While taking the class, I wrote an arrangement that played at the Arranger's Holiday concert that year. Carmen McRae, a famous jazz singer, was the featured artist and performed at a nearly sold out concert at Eastman Theatre. That was a huge thrill for me.

My civil rights experience

In 1970, when I graduated from law school, I was offered a clerkship with Judge Elbert P. Tuttle in Atlanta. He was a truly great judge and was instrumental in deciding and writing many landmark cases involving racial discrimination. His approach and dedication to equity, fairness, and justice in the law inspired me and helped me see the positive impact that a legal career could make.

I met Carol during that time, too. Later, I asked Judge Tuttle if he'd marry us. In response, he said, "You know, there aren't many things you can ask an 80-year-old to do for the first time, but this is one of them." He married us and we've been together for almost 45 years.

My approach to both law and music.

The two aren't nearly as different as many might think. I enjoy merging the worlds of theory and practice, in both law and music. Often, people think that music is all feeling, but there is more structure in it than they realize. You have to learn the technique to excel. Similarly, there's a lot more feeling in the law than people think. You have to consider the human dimension, the world of justice, what the law means in a particular context, and how it applies to an intricate set of facts and situations. **R**

To read more and hear some of Aman's music, visit uofr.us/fred-aman.



Jazz composer and ensemble leader Maria Schneider '85E (MM)



Classical composer Christopher Theofanidis '92E (MM)



Soprano Sarah Brailey '04E

Grammy Goodness

Three Eastman School of Music alumni receive Grammys during this year's award ceremonies.


Three Eastman School of Music alumni were winners at the 63rd Grammy Awards this spring. In addition, a Grammy was awarded to a composition by the late Christopher Rouse, a Pulitzer Prize-winning composer who taught at Eastman for two decades.

Maria Schneider '85E (MM), jazz composer and leader of the Maria Schneider Orchestra, won two awards: Best Large Jazz Ensemble Album for the double album *Data Lords* and Best Instrumental Composition for "Sputnik," a track on the album.

A previous winner of the National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master Award—the highest American honor in jazz—and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Schneider has also become a prominent critic and activist working against an internet economy based on the sale of consumer data and dominant streaming services that limit the capacity of artists to make a living from their work. (Schneider sells her music through the crowd-funding platform ArtistShare). *Data Lords* is a musical critique of the digital economy and its major players.

Sarah Brailey '04E was a featured soloist on the Best Classical Solo Vocal Album, *The Prisoner* by Ethel Smyth. Smyth (1858–1944), a British composer and suffragist, wrote the choral symphony, a dialogue between a prisoner and his soul, in 1930, based on text by philosopher Henry Bennett Brewster. The Experiential Orchestra and Chorus's 2020 recording, with bass-baritone Dashon Burton as a prisoner and soprano Brailey as his soul, was the symphony's first.

The Best Classical Instrumental Solo award went to Richard O'Neill and the Albany Symphony's performance of *Concerto for Viola and Chamber Orchestra* by **Christopher Theofanidis** '92E (MM). Theofanidis is a professor in the practice of composition and coordinator of composition studies at Yale School of Music. His compositions have been performed by leading orchestras from around the world, including the London Symphony, the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Moscow Soloists.

Composer **Christopher Rouse**, who taught at Eastman from 1981 to 2002, was honored posthumously with the Best Contemporary Classical Composition for *Symphony No. 5*. Rouse, who died in 2019, wrote the piece as an homage to Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, the first classical piece he ever heard and which inspired him to become a composer. The Nashville Symphony Orchestra performed the premiere—and only—recording of the symphony in 2020. 

Class Notes



HISTORIC DEBUT: Jack End '40E directs the Eastman Jazz Ensemble in its first public performance, a November 28, 1967, concert at Strong Auditorium. An outgrowth of the Eastman School's then brand-new Jazz Laboratory, the ensemble was one of two student groups established "in recognition of the growing demand for greater versatility on the part of performers in all areas of music," according to the night's program.

College

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

MEDALLION REUNION

Rochester.edu/reunion

Medallion Reunion Alumni who graduated before the Class of 1971—this year's 50th reunion class—are invited to take part in Medallion reunion events. Learn more at Rochester.edu/reunion.

1947 Louis Evangelisti died last November, writes his son, **Robert (Bob) Evangelisti '76**, a lecturer at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Louis was in the US Navy V-12 program at Rochester and achieved the rank of lieutenant junior grade in the Navy.

1958 Ed Hajim, a life trustee and chair emeritus of the University's Board of Trustees, has published a memoir, *On the Road Less Traveled* (Skyhorse), about his unlikely rise from being largely abandoned by his father to be raised as a child in foster homes and orphanages to become a prominent Wall Street

executive, financier, and philanthropist. The namesake for the Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences, he's currently the chair of the Boston-based money management company High Vista.

1962 Steven Price has published a memoir, *The Outside of a Horse: My Life On, Off, and Around Horses* (Ashmere Books), in which he shares seven decades of equestrian adventures as participant as well as spectator. Highlights include foxhunting in Ireland and Virginia, cross-country riding in Spain and France, dude ranching in Wyoming and real ranching in Montana, and an equestrian journalist show-jumping class in New Jersey. Steven is the author, editor, collaborator, or compiler of 44 books, 20 of which are on horse-related topics.

1967 Dale Peterson, a long-time adjunct faculty member in the English department at Tufts University and the author of 20 previous books, has written *Thirty-Three Ways of Looking at an Elephant* (Trinity University Press). The edited collection of 33 writings about ele-

phants from across history ranges from folktales to current practices. . . **Daniel (Bill) Record** writes, "With a BS in mechanical engineering from the U of R, as a world traveler, and as a student of various Traditional Teachings, I have formulated a few unique thoughts about the human condition [that are] summarized in my website, www.reality-r-us.com." Bill adds, "There was a centerfold article about my motorcycle travels in Europe and Africa in the *Campus Times* in 1973 or so."

1970 Steve Coffman has retired as professor and chair of the Department of Communication at Montana State University-Billings after 41 years of service. . . **Nancy Heller Cohen '70N** writes that her book *A Bad Hair Day Cookbook* (Orange Grove Press) won first place in the 2020 TopShelf Magazine Book Awards in the Non-Fiction-Cooking/Food category. Nancy adds, "These past few months have seen major changes come our way. We've packed and moved to the Orlando area to be near our kids. From worrying about moving logistics to hiring vendors to getting our new

home comfortable, it's been an anxiety-fraught journey. Hours that I could have spent writing have been occupied in researching service companies and shopping online for bookcases, bathroom shelves, and towel racks. We've had a steady parade of workmen that provides a constant disruption. Despite these intrusions, we are slowly getting reorganized. As the clutter abates, so does the chaos in my mind. This means I am finally able to resume writing-related activities."

1971 50TH REUNION

Rochester.edu/reunion

1973 Mary-Frances Winters '82S (MBA) has published *Black Fatigue: How Racism Erodes the Mind, Body, and Spirit* (Berrett-Koehler). Mary-Frances, a diversity and inclusion leader, author, and University life trustee, joined University President Sarah Mangelsdorf for a virtual presentation and conversation in October as part of REAL, a new monthly lecture and discussion series focused on authentic and candid discussions

about equity, measurable action, and meaningful change.

1974 Ray O'Neill (see '75).

1975 Rickard (Rick) Renzi died in December due to complications from COVID-19, writes **Sandra Hughey** '76, his former wife. Rochester attorney **Ray O'Neill** '74, a colleague of Rick's, also wrote; he adds that Rick played football at Rochester and was a longtime Yellowjacket sports supporter. . . . **Mathew Tekulsky** has published *Galapagos Birds: A Photographic Voyage* (Goff Books), a collection of 54 photographs from a trip to the Galápagos Islands in 2004 with his mother, the late Patience Fish Tekulsky, to whom the book is dedicated.

1976

45TH REUNION

Rochester.edu/reunion

1976 Science writer and medical ethicist **Harriet DeBose Washington** was appointed to the National Book Critics Circle Board of Directors in July 2020. Harriet also has a new book coming out in 2021, *Carte Blanche: The Erosion of Medical Consent* (Columbia Global Reports). She is a fellow at the New York Academy of Medicine and has been a research fellow in medical ethics at Harvard Medical School, a visiting fellow at the Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, a visiting scholar at DePaul University College of Law, the Miriam Shearing Fellow at the University of Nevada's Black Mountain Institute, and a senior research scholar at the National Center for Bioethics at Tuskegee University. . . . **Robert Evangelisti** (see '47). . . . **Sandra Hughey** (see '75).

1977 Randy Kulman, a licensed clinical child psychologist and the founder and president of LearningWorks for Kids, has writ-

ten *The Gaming Overload Workbook: A Teen's Guide to Balancing Screen Time, Video Games, and Real Life* (New Harbinger Publications). He writes, "My long-standing interest in children's play—hence my second book about kids playing and learning from video games and an ongoing informational website for parents and professionals—derives from many classes with Dr. David Elkind as an undergrad at the U of R." Randy adds that out of 30 vignettes of teenagers used as examples in the book, about a third "are named [for] and based upon my close group of Rochester friends—all of whom have very regular contact 47 years later."

. . . **Rose Lewis** has been named executive director of marketing communications at Commonwealth Medicine, the consulting and operations division of UMass Medical School.

1978 Jodi Rosenshein Atkin '82 (MA), an independent college admissions counselor in Rochester, has earned the designation of Certified Educational Planner. She provides support and guidance to students and their families in the college selection process, and she advocates for students engaged in the transfer process as well. In addition to the designation, Jodi is a professional member of the Independent Educational Consultants Association, Higher Educational Consultants Association, National Association of College Admissions Counselors, and the New York state Association of College Admissions Counselors. . . . **Jane Dubin** '79 (MS), president of the production company Double Play Connections, writes, "My first movie—*Radium Girls*—missed its national rollout last April, but not to be deterred, it is streaming." Jane adds, "[I'm] excited that Lily Tomlin and Jane Wagner are executive producers of the film."

1979 Peter Blanck, who holds the title of University Professor and chairs the Burton Blatt Institute at Syracuse University, writes, "My new book may be of interest to the UR community and classmates." *Disability Law and Policy* (Foundation Press), released in honor of the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, provides an overview of the themes and insights in disability law. . . . **Seth Rubenstein** was elected president of the American Podiatric Medical Association last April. His practice

in Reston, Virginia, is affiliated with Foot and Ankle Specialists of the Mid-Atlantic. Seth writes that he has enjoyed volunteering in his profession for 35 years, including serving as a board member and leader for many of the association's committees and organizational activities. He adds that he and his wife, Caroline, have made multiple trips to the University for Meliora Weekend, "taking in the beautiful fall colors and enjoying the many social activities on and off campus." . . . **Theresa King Mattioli** '84 (MS) (see '84 Nursing).

1980 Penny Cagan has started teaching at Columbia University's School of Professional Studies. She is a managing director for MUGG Union Bank and sits on the boards of the Professional Risk Managers' International Association and the Workforce Professional Training Institute. She also writes a daily blog published at the *Times of Israel* online newspaper. . . . **David Higgins** '87 (PhD) has been appointed to a second term on the Independent Citizen's Oversight Committee at the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, also known as California's Stem Cell Agency. The committee was created by voter initiative in 2004, and in 2020 California voters extended its life with additional funding. The committee is the governing body of the institute and is responsible for funding and managing one of the world's leading organizations dedicated to stem cell research and the development of stem cell therapies to treat and cure neurodegenerative diseases, heart disease, diabetes, spinal cord injuries, blindness, blood cancer, MS, and others.

1981

40TH REUNION

Rochester.edu/reunion

1982 Meredith Fine writes that she "won a case of first impression in the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. The court ruled that Medicaid claims against an estate must be presented within three years from the beneficiary's date of death or are otherwise barred." Her position was supported by the Massachusetts Bar Association, the Real Estate Bar Association, and the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. Meredith has offices in Gloucester and Ipswich, Massachusetts, and focuses her practice on real estate, business

counseling, and dispute resolution. . . . **Randy Kornfeld Marber** writes, "I am happy to report that I have been reelected as a New York State Supreme Court Justice. In 2021, I will begin my 20th year as a judge, following many years of private practice as a trial attorney and two years as a principal law clerk." She adds, "My best to all in the Class of '82." . . . **Patrick Simning** sends an update: He retired from medical practice after 14 years with the US Navy (including medical school), and 25 years in private practice with Bend Memorial Clinic in Bend, Oregon. He attended the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences School of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland, after earning a BS in neuroscience in 1981 and a BA in philosophy in 1982 from the University. "My favorite professor was Professor Colin Turbayne of the philosophy department. His book, *The Myth of Metaphor*, holds an honored place on my office shelf. Rochester provided me with a superb undergraduate education, mixing together scientific and metaphysical elements which have served me well during my career in medicine."

1986

35TH REUNION

Rochester.edu/reunion

1986 Ted Hart, president and CEO of Charities Aid Foundation of America, has been recognized as part of *Virginia Business* magazine's inaugural Virginia 500 Power List in the Nonprofits/Philanthropy category. In addition to his role with the foundation, Ted is a motivational speaker and author. He also hosts a radio show/podcast, *Nonprofit Coach*, interviewing experts from the nonprofit sector.

1988 Mara Shapiro James, founder and CEO of the Extraordinary Lives Foundation, sends an update. She started her nonprofit in 2015, and she has a children's book scheduled for a March release: *The Power of Piggie Bear* (Brown Books). Mara adds, "After the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be a mental health pandemic, and Piggie Bear will be there to help children's emotional and mental well-being."

1989 Jenifer Kirin (see '91).

1990 John Geremia (see '91).

Continued on page 52

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

CLASS OF 1960

60th Reunion: 'All the Memorable Classmates'

While last fall's reunions on campus had to be suspended, that didn't stop alumni from connecting with one another, catching up on their lives after Rochester, and sharing their favorite campus memories.

Here, some members of the Class of 1960 reflect on their time at Rochester.

For updates about reunion, visit Rochester.edu/reunion.

Ruth Danis

Rochester

I experienced the 1960s to 2020, and I will be happy to stay around for the "new normal."

Favorite memories: As president of the Young Democrats (all male) I was host to John Kennedy when he was running for president. We had a meeting and we discussed Algeria. Professor **Richard Wade** '43, '45 (MA) provided us the opportunity.

Howard Feldman

Aventura, Florida

I've always been proud to be a graduate of the U of R, but, as time has worn on, I have become even more so as I regularly read in *Rochester Review* about the many innovative changes that have been introduced at the University in the recent decades. Not only is the campus no longer recognizable, but the expansion in programs and schools is amazing. Whenever I hear about a new initiative or discovery attributable to a U of R faculty member, I know that the item is going to be of real value to the world.

Favorite memories: Boar's Head Dinner, dinners in the dining hall, football games, Richard Fenno's political science classes.

Robert Greeves

Bethesda, Maryland

For 22 years I have been married to Mary Ann McNamar. Between us we have two girls, two boys, and six

grandchildren. We live outside DC six months per year and the rest in Walnut Creek, California.

I retired from the Justice Department in 2013 but continue to work as a senior policy advisor with the National Criminal Justice Association on the reform of the criminal justice system.

Favorite memories: Sunny days in the fall. Frisbees and footballs on the quad. Pizza car outside dorms. Girls with moms headed for football games. Friends meeting in Todd Union. Parties at the fraternity house (DU for me). Fall weekend activities and home football game. Dates from the Hill and from Helen Wood Hall (nurses).

Soirees from campus to Jim's Hots across the river. Beers at the Bungalow Pub. Panty Raids on the Hill. Singing in the Q Club and watching K-Scope. Walks along the river and blankets in the parks. Outings to the suburbs to play shuffleboard and dance with coeds at the Genesee Inn. Tennis with **Pete Lyman** '47 as coach. Great record of the football team in 1960. Big win over Tufts at the end of the season.

Richard Miller

Washington, DC

We have been married for 45 years, living in Washington, DC. Our two children live in New York City and San Francisco, with two grandchildren in New York, whom we see as often as we can.

Howdy Pratt '66 (PhD)

San Juan Capistrano, California

I spent nearly 10 years (1956–1966) getting educated at the University of Rochester. I graduated with a BS in geosciences in 1960 and a PhD in 1966. I was a member of the Theta Chi fraternity and long-term friendships—**John Milliman**, **Speed Speegle** '61 (MA), **Kenny Hayden**, **Roger Nelson**, and I attended our 50th Reunion in 2010. John Milliman and **Bob Witmer** '59 were close friends for 60 years. I played varsity tennis for three years and was elected to the U of R's Athletic Hall of Fame (tennis) in 2004. I've been an active alumnus—a member of the George Eastman Circle, Trustees Council, and the regional San Diego council.

Susan Allison and I were married in 1960. We went through graduate school together, both getting our PhDs. We had two sons, Kevin and David Riley, of whom we are extremely proud. Susan and I divorced, but we have remained friends to this day.

From 1966 to 1969, I was a lieutenant and then a captain in the US Air Force in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where I managed and conducted programs in nuclear weapons effects and site characterization.

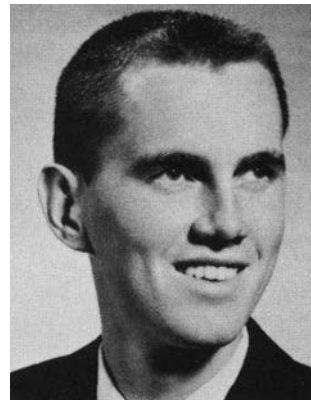
The Salt Lake City decade began when I became the first employee and technical director of Terra Tek, a company conducting applied research and development for the defense and energy fields. We grew from 1 person to 200 in staff. I was also an adjunct professor in the Department of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Utah from 1972 to 1982.



Ruth Danis



Howard Feldman



Robert Greeves



Richard Miller

In 1977, I married Sharon Decker, and her two sons, Jake and Drew, which was soon followed by my son, Riley. In 1980, we moved to La Jolla, California, where over the next 23 years, I became senior VP and group manager for Science Applications International Corp., a Fortune 500 company. It was the largest employee-owned high technology company in the United States, before going public. I managed physical sciences and environmental sciences and technology groups. Think developing and implementing geophysical information systems around the world, including Russia; scientific and engineering consulting for the Department of Energy, especially nuclear waste disposal in Nevada; and environmental analysis of Exxon's environmental impact statement for proposed offshore platforms and onshore facilities near Santa Barbara, California—the answer was they have a very large environmental impact and have not been built. La Jolla has been a special place for almost 40 years.

During my career and in retirement, Sharon and I have traveled to 50 countries on six continents. In retirement, I served on the boards of directors for five companies, one as chairman and one as a founder. We have loved traveling and seeing our children (5) and grandchildren (8) scattered around the country. Sharon and I enjoyed tennis and restoring the Pratt family home in Hanover, Pennsylvania, for our annual family reunion. We are still playing golf, bridge, and walking the beaches of La Jolla at sunset looking for the good flash. A good life traveled.

Roger Silver

San Francisco

I taught freshman comp and intro to literature at various universities for 25 years. As of now, I have been fortunate

to have visited 94 countries, including 15 trips to Italy. I am nesting in my apartment, reading up a storm, but I do get to the gym three times a week and am able to enjoy San Francisco's restaurants as they open.

Dennis Turk

Belton, Texas

Immediately after graduating as a mechanical engineer and a brand new second lieutenant in the US Air Force Reserve, I received orders to report to a Naval air facility in the middle of a California desert. After two years, I was transferred to Great Falls, Montana, where I was part of the original Minuteman Missile program. After discharge, I served in engineering and general management assignments ending as Mobil Chemical's vice president for commercial recycling, retiring in 1996.

During an assignment in Temple, Texas, I was delighted to marry my wonderful wife, Anne, and our family of four daughters was "blended."

One consistent aspect of my journey was a deep interest in community affairs and my service in numerous volunteer capacities. Also, I have always been deeply involved in vocal music, both in church choirs and in community musical ensembles.

Favorite Memory: It is difficult to single out a favorite experience from my U of R days. Perhaps the most memorable experience was being a part of a student-led organization, the Engineering Council. This group conceived of holding an open house for Rochester-area high school seniors who were interested in an engineering career. Under the patient guidance of Dr. Lou Conta and Professor **Richard Eisenberg** '45, '48 (MS), we managed to pull this off, and I will always remember fondly the looks of all our high school guests as they observed all manner of machines and processes being

operated. The engineering lab was abuzz!


Marilyn Robinson Cline Whiting '59N, '60N

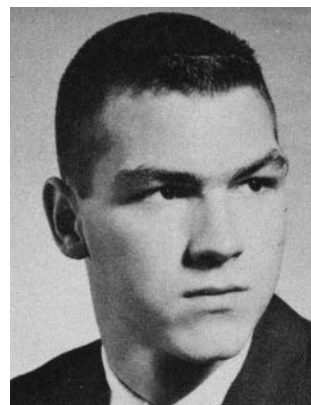
Stone Mountain, Georgia

After leaving the U of R, my husband, **Earl Cline** '60M (MD), and I headed for the U of Michigan for his internship. Following seven years with the Air Force (including three in Germany), we settled in Oneida, New York, to raise a daughter and a son. Once they were both out of college and the daughter was married, we moved to New Hampshire, where Earl passed away in 1987.

I had utilized my nursing training in the OR and had been running and assisting in an ophthalmology practice in Oneida. Ultimately in New Hampshire, I was hired by UPS to serve as an occupational health manager, a demanding but exciting career as my territory covered all New England except Connecticut.

After retiring in 2002, I married Kim Whiting and inherited a step-daughter and son, four step-grandchildren, and two step-great-grandchildren. (My own family now includes three grandchildren as well.) We moved to a private golfing community in Bluffton, South Carolina (near Hilton Head), where we lived for 16 years. In December 2019 we started a new life in a lovely retirement community near Atlanta. We are thoroughly enjoying an active life and lots of fascinating new friends.

Favorite memories: Cheerleading at games, singing in the Chapel Choir and violing briefly in the all-University symphony orchestra, playing the role of "Perry the Friendly Ghost" in K-Scope, shenanigans in the Helen Wood Hall, meeting and marrying my first husband, Earl, before we both graduated. All of the memorable classmates. 



Howdy Pratt



Roger Silver



Dennis Turk



Marilyn Robinson Cline Whiting



1991 Sarachan

Continued from page 49

1991 30TH REUNION

Rochester.edu/reunion

1991 Luke Bellocchi has returned to the Department of Homeland Security as ombudsman in the Office of the Immigration Detention Ombudsman, a new position that reports directly to the secretary to assist in resolving immigration detention-related issues, investigate detention facilities, and recommend changes to improve immigration detention conditions. He had previously served at the department as assistant commissioner and as deputy ombudsman for Citizenship and Immigration Services. . . .

Jeremy Sarachan, chair and associate professor in the Department of Media and Communication at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, writes, "Staff members of *The Norm*, the campus humor magazine from 1987 to the mid-1990s, have been meeting on Zoom to reconnect

during the COVID pandemic and see where we all ended up. Apparently, working on a humor magazine leads to careers in publishing, writing, teaching, medicine, engineering, and art. We are all still funny." Pictured are **Marney Roemmelt**, Jeremy, **Eric Lopresti '93**, **Dennis Tucker '94**, **Merritt Taylor '93**, and **Tom Mutchler '93**. Not pictured but present at previous meet-ups are **John Geremia '90**, **Jenifer Kirin '89**, and **John Todd '93**.

1992 Shail Mithani Rajan has written and published her first novel, *The Summer Breeze* (independently published), which is set in upstate New York. She lives in the Bay Area with her husband and three children.

1993 Eric Lopresti (see '91). . . . **Tom Mutchler** (see '91). . . . **Merritt Taylor** (see '91). . . . **John Todd** (see '91).

1994 Emily Hackett '95 (T5), a software engineer in Portland,

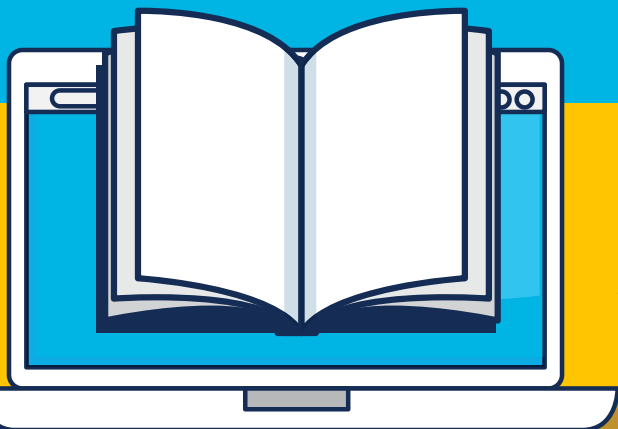
Oregon, writes, "My newly self-published memoir, *Ghost Years: Recollections of an American Student in 1990s China* (independently published), recalls the year of graduate study that I did at Tsinghua University through the generous support and sponsorship of the UR mechanical engineering faculty." . . . **Dennis Tucker** (see '91).

1995 Kavita Daiya has written *Graphic Migrations: Precarity and Gender in India and the Diaspora* (Temple University Press), which explores how stories of the 1947 Partition of India migrations shape the political and cultural imagination of secularism and gendered citizenship for South Asians in India and the United States. Kavita is the director of the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program and an associate professor of English at George Washington University.

1996 25TH REUNION

Rochester.edu/reunion

1996 Ramón Rivera-Servera has been named dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of Texas-Austin, where he will be the first Latino dean of the college. Currently the chair of the Department of Performance Studies at Northwestern University, he begins his role at Texas on July 1. As dean, Ramón will oversee the Butler School of Music, the Department of Art and Art History, the Department of Theatre and Dance, and the School of Design and Creative Technologies; Texas Performing Arts, the university's arts presenting organization; and Landmarks, the university's public art program. He's the author of *Performing Queer Latinidad: Dance, Sexuality, Politics* (University of Michigan Press) and the coauthor of *Performance in the Borderlands* (Palgrave Macmillan)



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UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

and *Blacktino Queer Performance* (Duke University Press).

1997 George Getman sends an update: In November 2020, he was appointed executive director of the Newark Housing Authority, where he's responsible for the administration of HUD's Housing Choice Voucher and the Rental Assistance Demonstration housing programs, in Wayne County, New York. . . . *Classmates, faculty, and friends of the late Robert Greene* are working to establish a lecture series in Robert's memory. A scholar of Russian and Soviet history, Robert was a professor and former chair in the history department at the University of Montana. A founding member of the University of Rochester Stingers, an a cappella trombone group, Robert died last December due to complications from pancreatic cancer. For more information, visit [Rochester.edu/giving/roberthgreene](https://rochester.edu/giving/roberthgreene). . . . **Jason Hart** directed, edited, and starred in *The Dying Light*, a music video that won Best Short Film in the Experimental Dance & Music Film Festival in

January. His film was selected from among 7,000 entrants in the short film category.

1999 Laura Kelley Wagner was appointed to the position of support magistrate in Niagara County (New York) Family Court last spring. Laura writes, "After working for the Niagara County Department of Social Services for 17 years prosecuting cases of child abuse and neglect, this new role allows me to expand my experience in the judiciary. I was also reelected to my third term as town justice in the Town of Royalton."

2001 20TH REUNION

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

2001 Matthew Burns, an associate professor of humanities at SUNY Cobleskill, has published his first collection of poems, *Imagine the Glacier* (Finishing Line Press), which was released in March. His poetry and essays have appeared in national and international journals, and his poem "Rhubarb" was the winner of

the James Hearst Poetry prize from *North American Review*. Matthew and his wife, **Jill Tominosky**, live in Schenectady, New York.

2006 15TH REUNION

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

2008 Daniel Cochran, an art historian of the late Roman and early medieval Mediterranean world as well as an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, has published his first book, *Building the Body of Christ: Christian Art, Identity, and Community in Late Antique Italy* (Fortress Academic), an academic monograph which argues that monumental Christian art and architecture played a crucial role in the processes of religious and social change that shaped early medieval Italy.

2010 Lauren Davis has been named marketing specialist at CPL, a full-service design firm serving public and private-sector clients in Rochester. She most recently served as client services mar-

keting analyst for PartnerCentric. . . . **Shirali Shah**, a senior attorney in the tenant protection unit of the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal, married Kartik Pilar in November 2019. Shirali and Kartik, center, are joined by fellow alumni (left to right) **Christina Kuraciose '11**, **Neha Kale Karambelkar '09**, **Aleida Sainz '09**, **Zachary Shulruff '09**, **Daniel Mooncai**, **Julia Munteanu**, **Brett Sereysky Kaufman**, **Aalok Karambelkar '07**, and **Rohan Naik '09**. . . . **Rosemary Shojaie** writes to announce the publication of another picture book she illustrated: *Comme on s'aime* (Didier Jeunesse), written by Marie-Sabine Roger. In 2020 *The Snow Fox* (Starfish Bay Publishing), which Rosemary also wrote, was released in English and as *Tout Seul?* (Didier Jeunesse) in French. . . . **Raisa Trubko** has joined the faculty of Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts, as an assistant professor in the Department of Physics. She was previously a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University. While a PhD student in optical sciences at the



2010 Shah

University of Arizona, Raisa founded the University of Arizona Women in Physics group.

2011

10TH REUNION

Rochester.edu/reunion

2011 Andrew Scala wrote *And So, He Did: A Children's Book for Adults . . . And Children . . . About Following Your Mind's Glow* (independently published), which was released in September 2020. Andrew works with special education students in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

2013 Alina Czekai and Ross Pedersen write to announce that they got engaged in Rochester in August and are planning a May 2022 wedding. They met while working on former Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks's campaign during their senior year. Alina works as a senior advisor at the US Department of Health and Human Services, and Ross is training to become an Army Green Beret. . . . **Conor Reynolds** was selected in October by the Rochester Police Accountability



2013 Czekai

Board as its inaugural executive director. In December, the board submitted its plan for police reform as part of a working group organized by Mayor Lovely Warren to satisfy New York Governor Andrew Cuomo's mandate for a reform plan from each municipality by April. Conor is a lecturer at Yale Law School. He has worked for President Barack Obama and clerked for a federal judge in Mississippi, where he helped handle cases of police misconduct and discrimination.

2016

5TH REUNION

Rochester.edu/reunion

2016 Malia Rogers '17W (MS) writes that she has been enrolled in New York University's counseling for mental health and wellness master's degree program since September 2020. Malia adds that after she graduates in May 2022, she'll have two master's degrees. "My goal is to use my U of R knowledge in higher education, brain and cognitive science, and psychology to become a well-informed and effective mental health counselor for college students."

Graduate

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

1958 Tom Harris (MS), a fellow of SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, and of the Optical Society of America, writes, "At the age of 90, I still follow developments in optics. I am in touch with the staff at Optical Research Associates (now Synopsys), which I founded after my year at Rochester. They have succeeded beyond my hopes! I still remember my teachers, Rudolf Kingslake and Bob Hopkins, both the best. I know some of the Institute of Optics current staff and

keep track through your publications. Their quality continues!"

1970 Joseph Amato (PhD) writes:

"I just completed my fifth book of poetry, *The Trinity of Grace* (Legas). It comes after a long career of writing numerous reviews, articles, and more than 25 books with 10 or so major university presses and a variety of small presses. My primary focus has been in European intellectual and cultural history. I also pioneered rural and regional studies in Southwest Minnesota State University and reflective works of bypass surgery, golf, and death. My work in poetry started in my 70s and continues to last into my early 80s. My five published works crowned by *The Trinity of Grace* began with *Buoyancies: A Ballast Masters' Log* and include *My Three Sicilies*, *Diagnostics: Poetics of Time*, and *Towers of Aging*. Together they form a continuing studying of aging registering my standing interest in everyday life and mind, anthropology, philosophy, and religion. Poetry proves a vehicle for preparing for the end, considering aging; making sense of life as met and thought; and expressing thanks for a life, the gift of words, faith, and hope—the graces of the Trinity."

1979 Jane Dubin (MS) (see '78 College).

1982 Jodi Rosenshein Atkin (see '78 College).

1984 Theresa King Mattioli (MS) (see '84 Nursing).

1986 John Bird (PhD), professor emeritus of English at Winthrop University, has coedited, with Judith Lee, *Seeing MAD: Essays on MAD Magazine's Humor and Legacy* (University of Missouri Press), an illustrated volume of

scholarly essays about the popular and influential humor magazine. John is a past president of the Mark Twain Circle of America and of the American Humor Studies Association.

1987 David Higgins (see '80 College).

1998 Aalok Misra (PhD), a professor of physics at the Indian Institute of Technology, writes that he organized, as convener, "the first online *Mysteries of the Universe* Institute Lecture Series [October–November 2020], which featured Professor John Schwarz (Caltech), Professor Edward Witten (IAS, Princeton), Professor Cumrun Vafa (Harvard), Professor Juan Maldacena (IAS, Princeton), and Professor Abhay Ashtekar (Penn State) as the speakers." He adds that, in collaboration with Professor T. V. Ramakrishnan of the Indian Institute of Science, Aalok is organizing the second installment of the online series, which began in January and runs through May 8 this year.

1999 Laura Ettinger (PhD), an associate professor of history at Clarkson University in Potsdam, New York, produced the short documentary *Trailblazers: The Untold Stories of Six Women Engineers* along with a related collection of three educational videos. She writes, "I am very grateful for my education at the University of Rochester. In particular, my advisors, Ted Brown and the late Lynn Gordon, were so supportive of me as a budding academic and as a person. My education in the UR's history department encouraged me to want to use history to make a difference in the world." . . . **Jeff Jackson (PhD)** has been recognized this year by the American Library Association for his 2020 book, *Paper Bullets: Two Artists*

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 **University of Rochester Alumni**

Who Risked Their Lives to Defy the Nazis (Algonquin). It was selected for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence Longlist for Nonfiction and was named a Stonewall Honor Book in Non-Fiction. Offered since 1971, the Stonewall Book Awards recognize books published in English demonstrating “exceptional merit relating to the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender experience.” Jeff’s book tells the story of two French women, artists and lesbian partners Lucy Schwob and Suzanne Malherbem, and their creative and subversive campaign against the Nazi occupation.

2001 Evelyn Jennings (PhD), the associate dean of academic affairs and the Margaret Vilas Professor of Latin American History at St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York, has published her first single-author book, *Constructing the Spanish Empire in Havana: State Slavery in Defense and Development, 1762-1835* (LSU Press), the first book-length exploration of state slavery on the island.

Eastman School of Music

1963 Chuck Mangione ’63 (see ’68).

1966 Robert (Bob) Ludwig ’01 (MM) was nominated for a Grammy Award in the best engineered non-classical album category as the mastering engineer for *Black Hole Rainbow* (Capitol) by Devon Gilfillian. . . . **Craig Wright**, the Henry L. and Lucy G. Moses Professor of Music Emeritus at Yale University, has published *The Hidden Habits of Genius: Beyond Talent, IQ, and Grit—Unlocking the Secrets of Greatness* (Dey Street Books), which examines the lives of transformative individuals ranging from Charles Darwin and Marie Curie to Toni Morrison and Elon Musk and demonstrates that the habits of mind that produce great thinking and discovery can be actively learned and cultivated. Craig is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

1968 Tony Levin has published a new a coffee-table-sized book of photographs from his life as a touring bass player with prominent jazz and rock groups and performers, from King Crimson to Paul Simon to

Seal and others. Photographs taken by Tony featured in *Images from a Life on the Road* (independently published) include Peter Gabriel, Sting, Peter Dinklage, **Steve Gadd**, and **Chuck Mangione** ’63, as well as scenes from their travels. Tony also tells the stories behind some of the images.

1973 A composition by **Bruce Reiprich** ’75 (MA), a professor of music and director of Ensemble Flageolet at Northern Arizona University, was performed in a program produced by PARMA Recordings and livestreamed from the Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, an early baroque church in Varaždin, Croatia, in October. Bruce adapted an earlier arrangement of his piece, “Lullaby,” specifically for the event featuring Goran Končar on violin and Edmund Borich-Andler on organ.

1975 Bruce Reiprich (MA) (see ’73).

1985 Conductor and composer **Maria Schneider** (MM) received two Grammy Awards in February: *Data Lords* (ArtistShare) by the Maria Schneider Orchestra won for best large jazz ensemble album and “Sputnik” from *Data Lords* earned a Grammy for best instrumental composition.

1987 Bassist **Gregg August** was nominated for the best large jazz ensemble album Grammy Award for *Dialogues on Race* (Iacocca).

1990 As composer, arranger, and conductor on his 2020 release *Songs You Like a Lot* (Flexatonic), **John Hollenbeck** ’91 (MM) was nominated for the best large jazz ensemble album Grammy Award. Eastman associate professor of jazz studies and contemporary media Gary Versace, who plays piano and organ on the album, was also nominated.

1992 As cellist with the Pacifica Quartet, **Brandon Vamos** was nominated for a Grammy Award in the best classical chamber music/small ensemble performance category for *Contemporary Voices* (Cedille). . . . **Caroline Whiddon** was featured in a documentary about the organization she cofounded in 2011 with her husband, Ronald Braustein. The film, *Orchestrating Change*, follows the development of Me2/Orchestras, a classical music organization creat-

ed for individuals living with mental illness and the people who support them. The film was broadcast on PBS stations nationwide last fall.

1997 Ben Newhouse, a faculty member and course author for the continuing education department of the Berklee College of Music, published *Creative Strategies in Film Scoring* (Berklee Press/Hal Leonard), which details a six-step process for making creative decisions when composing or selecting music for film.

2000 Todd Queen (DMA) has been named dean of the College of Music at Florida State University. Before his new appointment, he served as dean of the Louisiana State University College of Music & Dramatic Arts, where he’s credited with helping to modernize the undergraduate curriculum for 21st-century artists and led the college in a multimillion-dollar fundraising campaign. Prior to LSU, Todd served as a professor of voice and chair of the Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance at Colorado State University.

2001 As members of the vocal ensemble Roomful of Teeth, **Eric Dudley** and **Martha Cluver** ’03 received Grammy Award nominations in the classical producer of the year category for *The Ascendant* (New Amsterdam). . . . **Robert (Bob) Ludwig** (MM) (see ’66).

2003 Martha Cluver (see ’01).

2004 Soprano **Sarah Brailey** received a Grammy Award in February for *The Prison* (Chandos), which was nominated for best classical solo vocal album. As a member of the Lorelei Ensemble, Sarah received a second nomination in the classical producer of the year category for *love fail* (Cantaloupe). . . . As a member of the Chicago-based quartet Third Coast Percussion, **Sean Connors** was nominated for a Grammy Award in the best engineered classical album category for the quartet’s album with Devonté Hynes, *Fields* (Cedille). Sean is pursuing a doctoral degree at Eastman.

2006 Amy Wlodarski (PhD), a professor of music and director of the college choir at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, has been named associate editor of the *Journal of the American*

Musicological Society. In 2023, she will automatically transition to editor-in-chief for a two-year term.

2008 Christopher Van Hof (MM) (see ’10).

2009 Soprano **Julia Bullock** has been named one of three Artists of the Year for 2021 by *Musical America*. Julia lives in Munich, Germany, with her husband, pianist and composer Christian Reif.

2010 The New York City-based tenor **Brian Giebler** writes, “I am overjoyed that my album, *a lad’s love* (Bridge Records), and I were nominated for a Grammy Award in the Best Classical Solo Vocal category.” The debut solo recital recording, released in July, is a collection of English songs primarily from the early 20th century that explore love and loss. Brian adds that the recording has earned favorable international reviews and many additional accolades, including appearing on Billboard’s Traditional Classical Chart and earning an Opera News Critic’s Choice stamp. . . . Baritone **Malcolm Merriweather** (MM) was nominated for a Grammy Award in the best classical choral performance category for the album *Sanctuary Road* (Naxos). . . . **Thomas (T. J.) Ricer** (DMA), tubist for the Emerald Brass Quintet, a group composed entirely of Eastman alumni, writes, “We have just released our debut album, *Danzón* (Albany Records).” He and fellow group members—trumpeters **Brett Long** ’13 (DMA) and **Max Matzen** ’11 (DMA), hornist **Leslie Beebe Hart** ’11 (DMA), and trombonist and arranger **Christopher Van Hof** ’08 (MM)—each serves on the music faculty of a US university: Utah State University (Max), Ball State University (Chris), East Tennessee State University (Brett), University of Hawaii (T. J.), and Santa Clara University (Leslie).

2011 Leslie Beebe Hart (DMA) (see ’10). . . . **Max Matzen** (DMA) (see ’10).

2012 Ethan Helm and **Owen Broder**, saxophonists and cofounders of the jazz quintet Cowboys & Frenchmen, along with bandmates **Matthew Honor** (drums), Addison Frei (piano), and Ethan O’Reilly (bass) have released *Our Highway* (Outside In Music). Recorded live at SubCulture in New York City, the “video album” juxtaposes high-defi-

dition footage of the band onstage in one of the city's most renowned venues with footage taken during a cross-country tour. Ethan wrote all of the music and envisioned the theme for the project.

2013 Brett Long (DMA) (see '10).

2015 Mezzo-soprano **Megan Moore** (MM) won one of only three first prizes awarded in the 2020 Young Concert Artists International Auditions. More than 100 artists from around the world competed in the months-long audition process. She is a board member of Lynx Project, a Chicago-based nonprofit organization she cofounded in 2015 with **Catherine (Caitleen) Kahn** (MM), **Steven Humes** (MM), and **Florence Mak** '17 (DMA). Megan is currently completing her artist diploma at the Juilliard School.

2017 Florence Mak (DMA) (see '15).

School of Medicine and Dentistry

1968 Martin Curzon (Pdc), '69 (MS), a professor emeritus of child dental health at the University of Leeds and a former University associate professor on the staff of the then Eastman Dental Center, has written *Teeth, Trees and Totem Poles* (self-published). He writes that before coming to Rochester in 1966, "I had been a paedodontic extern in British Columbia, traveling the backwoods communities, including First Nation reservations, caring for children. Having kept a diary, and [my] parents having kept all my letters home, I have now written this . . . memoir and travel log." Martin adds, "It records a time when dental services for many isolated villages of Canada were provided by young, recently graduated dentists. Children 3 to 9 years of age had to be made dentally fit, without any possibility of backup support, radiographs, or general anesthesia, before [the dentist moved] on to another village."

1969 Martin Curzon (MS) (see '68).

1979 Kenneth Bock (MD) writes that he has a new book scheduled to be released in March: *Brain Inflamed: Uncovering the Hidden*

Causes of Anxiety, Depression, and Other Mood Disorders in Adolescents and Teens (HarperCollins). He's the coauthor of four previous books: *The Road to Immunity* (Pocket Books), *Natural Relief for Your Child's Asthma* (Harper Collins), *The Germ Survival Guide* (McGraw Hill), and *Healing the New Childhood Epidemics: Autism, ADHD, Asthma and Allergies* (Random House). Kenneth is board certified in family medicine; a certified clinical nutrition specialist; and a fellow of the American Academy of Family Practice, the American College of Nutrition, and the American College for Advancement in Medicine, of which he is a former president. He is also a faculty member of the Institute for Functional Medicine.

1986 Betsy Edwardsen (MD), '89 (Res) has written *Elusive Equity, Empathy and Empowerment* (Rushmore Press), a "partial memoir about the gender bias and inequality I experienced while striving for and achieving a career in medicine." She has also written short articles in American Medical Women's Association *Member Spotlight* and *Emergency Medicine News*. She adds, "I am a 1982 graduate of Colgate University (summa cum laude in mathematics). I grew as an activist and an individual with a greater sense of social responsibility while in Hamilton, New York. . . . Health care is a national issue. My action and conflict pyramids are generalizable to any social bias. Cultural biases may be allowing our institutions to maintain self-interest over morality."

1987 Robert Montgomery (MD) was honored in October with the Physician Award from the nonprofit organization Hearts for Russ. The organization was formed in memory of Russ Housman, who died after waiting more than a year for an unsuccessful heart transplant, to bring awareness to and raise money for organizations that help those who need organs, organ recipients, and their families. Robert describes his life as a transplant surgeon as well his experience as a transplant recipient in "I Died Seven Times," a November 2020 episode of the podcast *Vital Signs* from NYU Langone Health and SiriusXM. Robert is chair of the Department of Surgery at NYU Langone Health and director of the NYU Langone Transplant Institute, where, in 2018, the team he assem-

bled performed a heart transplant on him.

1988 Robbin Dick (Res), a consultant in observation medicine and hospital capacity management, has published a novel, *Longevity* (Dorrance), a thriller about a recent college graduate on assignment in the Amazon rain forest for a medical research company. "It is fiction and my first attempt," Robbin writes. "I am a previous faculty member and was a resident at the University in internal medicine from 1985 to 1988. I hope individuals find the book entertaining."

2004 Roger Di Pietro (Pdc), a clinical psychologist in private practice, wrote *Decoding Persistent Depression: Book Three—Strategies and Tactics* (Lulu), which provides ways to illuminate why long-term depression arises and persists and what's necessary to reduce it.

School of Nursing

1970 Nancy Heller Cohen (see '70 College).

1984 Kathleen (Kathy) King (PhD), professor emerita of the School of Nursing, died in January at Strong Memorial Hospital, writes her sister **Theresa King Mattioli** '79, '84 (MS). "She was an MS and PhD graduate of the School of Nursing. She was a professor of nursing at UR, and she was recently appointed to the board," writes Theresa, adding, "I have two other sisters who graduated from UR as well."

Simon Business School

1979 Gordon Jensen (MBA) has published a science fiction novel, *The Way Out* (Highsmith Creative Services), the first in a series.

1982 Mary-Frances Winters (see '73 College).

Warner School of Education

2013 Kristen Willmott (PhD) has published *Gender, Tenure, and the Pursuit of Work-Life-Family Stability* (Information Age Publishing), in which she offers an insider's glimpse

of modern faculty and administrative life for the benefit of tenure-track faculty, their departments, their families, and higher education institutions at large.

2017 Malia Rogers (MS) (see '16 College).

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Betty Merrell Madden '41E, December 2020
George R. Miller '41, '43M (MD), September 2020
Myron C. Beal '42, December 2020
Donald A. Forsyth '43, November 2020
Nelson W. Grabenstetter '43, '69S (MBA), September 2020
Arthur M. Holtzman '43, November 2020
Alfred O. Ginkel '44, '46 (MA), November 2020
Arlene Miller Koerner '44N, December 2020
William J. Starr '44E, '47E (MM), December 2020
William G. Urbon '44, '44 (MS), September 2020
Carol Tinker Aldridge '45E, '50E (MM), October 2020
Charlotte Stuart Bergstrom '45, November 2020
Joseph W. Henry '45, November 2020
Barbara Chandler Rayson '45, January 2021
Warren S. Richardson '45, '50, December 2020
Peter G. Gleason '46, '49M (MD), January 2021
Gertrude White Husted '46E, '51E (MM), December 2020
Jane Woodin Mallory '46, December 2020
Catherine Notopoulos Master '46E, January 2021
John H. McKeenan '46, October 2020
Paul M. Auman '47, September 2020
Louis Evangelisti '47, November 2020
Vincent Q. Fanton '47, October 2020
C. Benn Forsyth '47, December 2020

Continued on page 59

GENERATION CONVERSATION

Then and Now: Being a Student During Times of Change

What's it like to live on the River Campus during historic times?

By Kristine Thompson

Although they are from different generations, Irene Colle Kaplan '58 and Johanna Matulonis '23 have both been part of University history during periods of great change. Colle Kaplan, a retired teacher in Minneapolis, was a sophomore when the Men's and Women's Colleges merged on the River Campus, and Matulonis, a biology major from Belmont, Massachusetts, has been living on campus during the pandemic. Among their many connections, Matulonis is the recipient of the Edward L. and Irene Colle Kaplan Scholarship, which Colle Kaplan and her husband, Ed, also from the Class of 1958, established in 2013.

What are some of your standout memories from campus?

Colle Kaplan: I have two. One is about the classes themselves. Back when I was a student, all the classes in the first two years were assigned. It was called "core curriculum." We went to English, Government, Western Civilization, and other classes together. It was just an old-fashioned, healthy atmosphere that we all loved. Mind you, we only had about 400 students in our class, so things were much smaller back then.

And, here's a funny memory. Our synchronized swim team was doing our last show in our senior year. The lights went down, and we got into position. When the lights came back on, we saw that we had an extra swimmer with us. A duck. One of the guys had put it there. It was probably my husband-to-be and friends, although he and the others never fessed up. That would not have happened at an all-girls school.

Matulonis: Here's something I don't think I'll ever forget that happened during the pandemic. It was a warm Saturday early in October, around 75 degrees. I was involved in organizing bonding events for my sorority, Sigma Delta Tau, so we all grabbed food and blankets—and masks—and went to Highland Park where we had a picnic together. That was so much fun, and it felt so normal, which is a hard feeling to find right now.

I also remember a pre-COVID time when a friend and I bought an ice cream cake to celebrate her birthday and we ate the whole thing together in one sitting. I love that it's a close-knit community here.



THEN: Colle Kaplan (third row from bottom; at left) and Prince Street classmates.



NOW: Matulonis (left) and her friend Arielle Savoy '23 on the River Campus during the pandemic.

What was your biggest challenge as a student?

Colle Kaplan: People were ambivalent about the merger. But, on the plus side, we looked at it like a new adventure. We were uncertain but optimistic. Before it happened, we were very comfortable. Twenty-three of us lived together at the Bragdon House on Prince Street.

We had a house mother, a curfew, and we started forming our lasting friendships there.

Matulonis: All the COVID restrictions can be isolating. For instance, we

can't hang out or go to the library. Being a college student on campus right now requires a certain level of maturity. We have to constantly think about what's safe for ourselves and for those around us. I've chosen to be on campus because I know I can still share experiences with my campus friends. We've created this very solid support system for each other.

We are all going through this together and there's comfort in that. **R**

Read more of the conversation at uofr.us/then-and-now.

TOGETHER FOR ROCHESTER: HIRE + MENTOR

Josh Richards '12, '14S (MS): 'Alumni Are in a Position to Help Students, Especially This Year'

Engagement initiative puts emphasis on student-alumni connections for internships, networking, and career opportunities.

By Kristine Thompson

Josh Richards '12, '14S (MS) has seen the power of internships as a student and now as the business planning and analysis director for North America at Sandoz Pharmaceuticals.

In 2011, the year before he graduated, Richards learned about an internship opportunity at Sandoz, a division of Novartis. "I discovered that Sandoz's president at the time—**Don DeGolyer**—was a Rochester alumnus and former college athlete," says Richards, who was on the soccer team for four years. "Because we had something in common, I felt comfortable reaching out to him directly. We ended up connecting a number of times over email, which helped me secure the internship that eventually turned into a full-time job." Richards has been with Sandoz for 10 years.

During the past few years, Richards has worked closely with Sandoz's human resources department on its internship program—and he lobbies for Rochester undergraduate and MBA-level interns whenever possible. This year, Sandoz and the Simon Business School's Jay S. and Jeanne Benet Career Management Center formalized their internship partnership program, something Richards helped coordinate.

Finding ways to improve career opportunities for Rochester graduates and students is a key aspect of the Together for Rochester campaign.

Richards says that alumni—in whatever fields they are in—are in a position to really help students, especially given the COVID-19 pandemic and the toll it has taken on employment and hiring, especially for undergraduates.

"With opportunities so limited right now, I feel it's my responsibility to give back and help the next generation gain the

experiences that will help them on their career paths," he says. "We all can do something."

Finding ways to improve career opportunities for Rochester graduates and students is a key aspect of the Together for Rochester campaign, a yearlong effort to strengthen engagement among the University community.

Joe Testani, assistant dean and executive director of the Greene Center for Career Education and Connections, says the campaign is an opportunity to reinforce what he says is critical for Rochester students—"gaining experience to explore different career paths and apply what they learn here."

"These valuable opportunities can lead to stronger networks, future job prospects, and an increased understanding of work and a students' skill set. We hope we continue to have more alumni like Josh help current and future generations of students."


Within Sandoz's finance department this summer, more than 100 undergraduate and graduate students, including 30 from Rochester, applied for five internship spots. "We extended offers to two rising juniors from Rochester, and they both accepted," says Richards. "And, one of our incoming MBA interns is from Simon."

Nandini Joshi '22, an international student with a double major of financial economics and business, is one of the undergraduate interns. She met Richards last summer via Zoom after posting her résumé to Handshake, a job networking platform offered through the Greene Center. Richards was intrigued by Joshi's résumé, reached out to her, and then told her about the internships at his company. She was struck with how interested he was in helping her.

Sandoz's internships are paid, which makes them all the more competitive. "Internships give undergraduates great, real-world experience," Richards says. "The more we teach them, the more they get from the opportunity, and the more likely they will want to come back here next summer."

Richards adds Sandoz expects a lot from its interns. "I'm a firm believer in throwing them into the fire and seeing what they can do," he says, noting that **Bryan Kim** '20, an undergraduate intern from two years ago was given an opportunity to present to the company's chief financial officer in the first few weeks of his assignment.

"That internship was the starting point of my career," says Kim. "Not only was I able to learn a lot about a complex industry like pharmaceuticals, but it also solidified my interest in finance. I was gaining real-life experience in projects that had significant impact while also developing my technical and analytical skills."

"Even during the pandemic last summer, 100 percent of Simon's MBA Class of 2021 had a corporate internship or pursued project work with tech start-ups or new ventures," says Angela Petrucco '01W (MS), assistant dean of the Benet Center. "Simon alumni like Josh and many others helped make these opportunities possible." 

Helping Students and Communities Prepare for the Future

The COVID-19 pandemic has created turmoil in the job market and new challenges for college students. To help address those challenges, President Sarah Mangelsdorf and 37 presidents and chancellors of higher education institutions across the US have launched the Taskforce on Higher Education and Opportunity, a consortium that's focused on partnering with local communities, delivering accessible high-quality education, and helping students prepare for the future of work. At Rochester, a priority is to help students find internships and jobs through engagement with alumni and the community.

For more: [Taskforceonhighered.org](https://taskforceonhighered.org).

Learn more about Together for Rochester at Rochester.edu/advancement/together-for-rochester.

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Marjorie Fenton Garrett '47N,
December 2020
Carol Farnum Gavett '47,
September 2020
Joshua N. Goldberg '47,
October 2020
Janet Schoonmaker Hempton '47E,
September 2020
Eloise Duffy Liddicoat '47,
August 2020
Runne C. Ohrberg '47,
September 2020
Virginia Reeves '47N,
January 2021
Bonita Grant Staples '47E,
December 2020
George A. Brown '48,
November 2020
Raymond A. Schneider '48, '52M
(MD), September 2020
Robert G. Sutton '48, '50 (MS),
March 2020
Bert D. Butler '49,
November 2020
Joan Laforce Durkin '49,
January 2021
James A. Fullerton '49,
November 2020
Frank M. Gangarosa Ganis '49,
'56M (PhD), September 2020
Hobart A. Lerner '49M (Res),
September 2020
Joan Mack '49E, '62E (DMA),
January 2021
Angela Bonomo Nassar '49E,
August 2020
Millicent Price Neese '49,
October 2020
Carol Golden Rosenberg '49, '72W
(MA), January 2021
Richard C. Scott '49,
September 2020
Myrna Brener Weinstein '49,
December 2020
Lillian Hoffman Brent '50,
October 2020
Irwin N. Frank '50, '54M (MD), '59M
(Res), October 2020
Carol Blackwell Mapp '50,
July 2020
Howard G. Menzel '50,
January 2021
Richard W. Palizay '50,
November 2020
David B. Robinson '50, '51W (EdM),
January 2021
Virginia Webber Robinson '50,
September 2020
Gerald E. Tregae '50,
January 2021
David J. Breault '51,
December 2020
Jean Ritchie Cooper '51, '52N,
December 2020
Anthony A. Davenport '51,
November 2020

Wendell V. Discher '51 (MS),
November 2020
Holly Koch Elwell '51,
November 2020
Kenneth D. Faas '51, '60 (MS),
January 2021
Lilajane Hiatt Frascarelli '51E, '52E
(MM), December 2020
Doris Hedges Gallemore '51E (MA),
August 2020
Margaret Slosser Hall '51E,
December 2020
Alfred M. Perry '51 (PhD),
December 2019
John J. Reinhardt '51,
January 2021
George B. Biggs '52E (MM),
October 2020
Robert S. Fackler '52,
December 2020
Martin P. Feldman '52,
November 2020
Grace Lighthouse Franke '52,
March 2020
Walter C. Griggs '52M (MD),
December 2020
Patricia Paul Jaeger '52E, '53E
(MM), November 2020
Janet Ryker La Cava '52E,
October 2020
Daniel L. Mari '52,
December 2020
Paul J. Romano '52,
December 2020
John W. Sexton '52,
November 2020
Wallace W. Tourtellotte '52M (Res),
July 2019
Robert C. Buckingham '53M (MD),
December 2020
Marie Pike '53N (Diploma),
December 2020
Anne Scofield Pollock '53W (EdM),
November 2020
Bertha Meisel Santirocco '53,
January 2021
William V. Sharp '53,
November 2020
Eugene J. Faust '54,
August 2019
Norman A. Gebauer '54, '57W
(EdM), November 2020
Daniel J. Patrylak '54E, '60E (MM),
January 2021
Grace Ange '55, December 2020
David M. Chalmers '55 (PhD),
October 2020
Douglas C. Evans '55M (Res),
December 2020
William M. Hammon '55M (MD),
November 2020
Paul V. Hoyer '55M (MD),
December 2020
Faith Bishop Jolley '55,
December 2020
Masatoshi Koshiba '55 (PhD),
November 2020

Patricia Ager Lewis '55E,
November 2020
Evelyn Lutz '55N, '63,
November 2020
Carol Brautigam Quinn '55,
November 2020
Raymond Rosen '55, October 2020
Janet Eddy Scala '55N, August 2020
Douglas A. Smith '55,
November 2020
Rochelle Soble '55N (Diploma),
January 2021
James A. Basta '56E,
December 2020
John R. Benzoni '56, July 2020
Lee R. Chutkow '56M (Res),
November 2020
Wesley M. Clapp '56M (MD),
December 2020
Waldo H. Comfort '56E,
November 2020
Robert J. Fosmoe '56M (MD),
June 2019
Henry H. Fraser '56W (EdM),
September 2020
C. Thomas Fruehan '56,
December 2020
Judith Nagle George '56W (EdM),
January 2021
Robert E. Hentschel '56,
September 2020
Ann Dalrymple Knapp '56,
December 2020
Joseph G. Lighthouse '56,
December 2020
Ronald C. Simons '56,
October 2020
Robert W. Van Niel '56,
December 2020
Valentine C. Anzalone '57E (MM),
January 2021
Barbara Floyd Blank '57, '58N,
December 2020
Robert E. Canfield '57M (MD),
December 2020
Sydney P. Hodkinson '57E, '58E
(MM), January 2021
Erwin L. Hoffman '57M (Res),
October 2020
John B. Maier '57, December 2020
Joyce Tolf Petz '57, November 2020
Joan Willert Casterline '58,
January 2021
Elaine Lamberson Hopkins '58N,
September 2020
Diane Forbes Kaufman '58N,
October 2020
Rosemary Richens Ksiazek '58,
January 2021
Carol Ann Hammond Laniak '58N,
December 2020
Frederick B. Parker '58, '62M (MD),
December 2020
Margot Spies Romberg '58E,
November 2019
Philip K. Russell '58M (MD),
January 2021

LeRoy E. Welkley '58 (MS),
December 2020
Jill Haak Adels '59, December 2020
Kathleen Dicioccio Bissell '59,
September 2020
Sylvia Bienenstock Ettinger '59,
January 2021
Cynthia Maier Krutell '59N
(Diploma), '75, '88N (MS),
October 2020
Roger J. C. Meyer '59M (Res),
December 2020
Donald C. Schindler '59W (EdM),
January 2021
Donald K. Smith '59E,
November 2020
Jean M. Taylor '59M (PhD),
January 2021
Raymond VanDerslice '59E (MM),
'66E (DMA), December 2020
Joan Waldorf '59N (Diploma),
May 2020
Edward C. White '59E, '61E (MM),
December 2020
Peter J. Whitney '59M (MD),
September 2020
Ann Bartles '60N, '61, June 2020
David W. Fisher '60,
December 2020
Marshall S. Galinsky '60,
February 2020
Marshall E. Atwell '61M (MD), '69M
(Res), January 2021
Shirley Cole-Cartman '61E
August 2020
Janet Filsinger Hagadorn '61,
November 2020
Joyce Vanburen McMullen '61,
September 2020
Ronald S. Gigliotti '62, '64W (EdM),
April 2019
Richard Z. Glerum '62W (EdM),
January 2021
Thomas A. Montzka '62 (PhD),
December 2020
Nasser Sabokbar '62M (Res),
May 2020
David A. Sears '62M (Res),
October 2020
David G. Clark '63W (EdM),
December 2020
Carole Curry Federer '63N,
December 2020
Kathleen Murray Ford '63 (MA),
September 2020
Wayne R. Manning '63,
October 2020
Angeline Mastromatteo '63N,
December 2020
Ernst J. Riedl '63, November 2020
Elizabeth Rolfe Schaeffer '63W
(MA), January 2021
Henry B. Smith '63 (MA),
November 2020
Richard K. Steele '63, January 2021
Carolyn Hefler Steppe '63E,
September 2020

Richard L. Stieg '63M (MD),
September 2020
Roger B. Trefethen '63E,
October 2020
John W. Corris '64, January 2021
Howard C. Ellison '64,
November 2020
Jerry M. Exline '64E, '77E (PhD),
November 2020
Marvin B. Gottlieb '64,
November 2020
Gerard T. Guerinet '64M (Res),
January 2021
Donald K. Stein '64, January 2021
J. Rebecca Taylor '64E (MM),
January 2021
Peter C. Wallace '64,
October 2020
Nathan H. Yost '64, November 2020

Raymond L. Chaput '65M (MS),
December 2020
Gerald S. Cohen '65, November 2020
Alex E. Jvirblis '65, August 2019
Lucy Anne Loux '65, June 2020
Richard Nalchajian '65D,
November 2020
Mary Lee Versprille Nicoll '65,
September 2020
Caroline Bedette White '65N,
November 2020
Norman O. Aarestad '66M (MS),
February 2020
Robert A. Cantrick '66,
November 2020
Narayan V. Deshpande '66 (PhD),
September 2019
Richard C. Friedman '66M (MD),
March 2020

Linda Hamilton '66N (Diploma),
January 2021
Douglas McConkey '66,
February 2020
Donald Rankin '66M (MD),
August 2020
Michael D. Smith '66,
August 2020
Linda Chalmer Zemel '66, '68W
(MA), November 2020
Christian O. Abreu '67,
January 2020
Harry D. Butler '67, November 2020
Edward S. Finein '67,
September 2020
George Jung '67 (MS),
September 2020
Jacqueline Wrzosek Kuczkowski
'67N (MS), August 2020

James D. Laird '67 (PhD),
December 2020
John A. Moreland '67M (Res),
December 2020
Nancy Fanning Bachus '68E (MM),
September 2020
Evan Brodie '68M (MD),
October 2020
Danitza Castillo Bull '68W (MA),
December 2020
John M. Dennee '68, January 2021
Barbara Jane Gibas '68E,
December 2020
Audrey Emanuel Kliman '68, '68N,
October 2020
Arthur R. Starnes '68E,
December 2020
Gale Cohen-DeMarco '69,
November 2020

TRIBUTE

Andrew Brooks 'OOM (PhD): Created First Coronavirus Spit Test

In the early days of COVID-19, tests were limited, and lines were long. Andrew Brooks 'OOM (PhD) developed a testing system that helped millions expedite their results in a safe and effective manner.

By creating a test that used saliva to detect antibodies to the virus, Brooks established an alternative to the standard nasal swab test, one that had the added benefit of protecting essential workers from exposure to the virus by eliminating the need for them to be present when fluid was gathered.

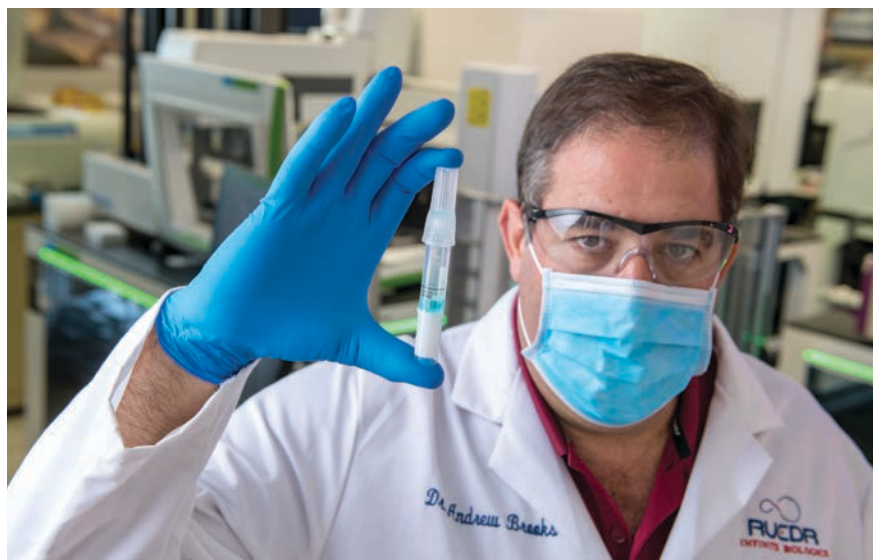
"It completely mitigates the risk of contracting the disease while you're getting a test," Brooks told the *Scientist* in July 2020. "You don't have to be in someone's face like you do for a nasopharyngeal swab."

The Food and Drug Administration authorized emergency approval of the test in April 2020 and expanded marketing for in-home use a month later.

Brooks, a research professor at Rutgers University, died in January at age 51. More than four million people have used his test, and it remains a reliable manner of determining whether a person has COVID-19.

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy called Brooks "one of our state's unsung heroes, who undoubtedly saved lives."

Brooks graduated from Cornell University with plans to become a veterinarian. Following a summer internship at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in Manhattan, he became interested in the study of human disease and enrolled at




'A SENSE OF PURPOSE': "I have never felt so much stress or pressure in my life," Brooks said shortly before his death, "but you have a sense of purpose."

Rochester, where he earned a doctorate in microbiology and immunology in 2000.

He spent the next four years working at the Medical Center as the director of its core facilities before moving to Rutgers to serve as director of the Bionomics Research and Technology Center, a partnership between Rutgers and several neighboring institutions. In 2009, he joined the Rutgers-owned Cell and DNA Repository, where he rose to chief operating officer and expanded the company from a few dozen employees to 250, forging relationships with nearly every major pharmaceutical company.

Brooks used his background in molecular genetics to design the saliva test. Brooks's ability to ramp up the operation impressed his friend, Rutgers geneticist Jay Tischfield. "I've been doing this for 50 years, and I've met all kinds of people," he told the *New York Times*. "But Andy, he was a force of nature."

Brooks admitted to sometimes working 22 hours a day and told the *Scientist*, "As a professional, I have never felt so much stress or pressure in my life, but you have a sense of purpose. I hope we never see anything like it in our lifetime again." 

—JIM MANDELARO

Paul Goldring '69 (PhD),
September 2020
Boyce O. Jones '69W (EdM),
November 2020
Donald D. Nord '69 (MS),
December 2020
James M. Pyne '69E (MM),
September 2020
Robert A. Stookey '69M (Res), '74M
(Res), December 2020
Eugene (Gene) J. Alpert '70,
October 2020
Horst O. Heisrath '70S (MBA),
March 2020
William H. Ritchie '70S (MBA),
August 2020
Richard I. Simon '70,
November 2020
Lawrence J. Baskewicz '71,
October 2019
Elizabeth Bell '71, January 2021
Jeanne Penrose Culver '71,
November 2020
Stuart P. Goldberg '71, June 2020
Sarah Smith Martin-Munley '71M
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David R. Starbuck '71,
December 2020
Robert J. Weiss '71, November 2020
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David S. Facinelli '72,
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Marilyn Berry Williams '72W
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Martha Wilson '72W (MA),
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Debra Beckmann-Hein '73,
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Daniel R. Carroll '73E,
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Jay A. Gershen '73D,
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David M. Marshman '73,
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Benjamin Massachi '73S (MBA),
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Edward J. Speakman '73,
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Merle C. Winn '73, December 2020
Michael B. Gehl '74M (Res),
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Peter C. Gekas '74, December 2020
Suzanne Randall McLaughlin '74W
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Anita Lipson Cohen '75W (EdM),
'87W (EdD), August 2020
Lyn Thomas Eaton '75, January 2021
Richard P. Renzi '75,
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TRIBUTE

Mary Young: A Trailblazer in the Field of Native American History

As a graduate student at Cornell University in the 1950s, Mary Young so impressed her thesis advisor that he recommended her to a colleague at a major university seeking to hire his best student. The colleague's initial response was typical for the times. "Don't you have a man?" he asked.

For Young, a professor emeritus of history at Rochester who died in February, the gender barrier was only one of the constraints she would face and overcome. She also helped blaze a new path in the study of American history as one of the first historians in the academy to recognize and explore the active role of American Indians in shaping the nation's course.

Louis Roper '92 (PhD), a professor of history at SUNY New Paltz who holds the title SUNY Distinguished Professor, says Young's innovation "wasn't just the fact of doing Native American history, but in looking at American history from a Native perspective." At the time, he says, "no one did that."

In her 1961 book, *Redskins, Ruffshirts, and Rednecks: Indian Allotments in Mississippi and Alabama, 1830–1860*, Young analyzed the complicated dynamics of multiple groups—indigenous peoples, white settlers, and land speculators—in the scramble for Indian lands following the Indian Removal Act of 1830. Theda Perdue, a professor emeritus of history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an expert on indigenous people of the southeastern United States, says the book broke new ground on racial and class dynamics in the pre-Civil War South.

"I think Mary had a real impact in shifting the history of southern Indians in particular away from war and the Trail of Tears toward a deeper understanding of race and of the dynamics that led to removal," Perdue says.

Following on the heels of her book, which the University of Oklahoma Press reprinted in 2002, Young published several major articles in the leading journals of American history. She won two major awards for her article "The Cherokee Nation: Mirror of the Republic," published in the *American Quarterly* in 1981.

Born in Utica, New York, Young attended Oberlin College, graduating Phi Beta Kappa with a bachelor's degree in history, magna cum laude, in 1950. After completing her PhD in 1955, she taught at Ohio State University until she was hired at Rochester in 1973. When Young joined Rochester's history department as a full professor in 1973, she was the first female scholar in the department ever to hold that rank.

Joan Shelley Rubin, the Dexter Perkins Professor in History and Ani and Mark Gabrellian



SHIFTING VIEW: Starting her career in the 1950s, Young explored US history from a Native perspective.

Director of the Humanities Center, says Young balanced "very high standards of intellectual rigor" with unusual professional generosity and a disregard for academic hierarchies. She was also, Rubin notes, "an incredible character."

Young attended virtually every departmental lecture, during which she inevitably sat in the first row and listened intently—albeit with her eyes closed, a habit that misled many an invited speaker.

"Everyone deferred to Mary to ask the first question," Rubin recalls. "She appeared to have been asleep, but then her question was brilliant."

It was almost always "the tough question that went right to the heart of the matter," says Casey Blake '87 (PhD), a professor of history and the Mendelson Family Professor of American Studies at Columbia University.

Blake recalls another dimension to Young: her attachment to the "Burned-over District."

"One of the things that I came to learn about Mary over time was just how connected she was to the landscape and history of western New York and eastern Ohio," he says. The region was known as the "Burned-over District" in the first half of the 19th century due to the intertwined radical movements, including abolition and religious revivalism, that prospered there.

"I think Mary had an attachment to the legacy of that moment," Blake says. "In some respects, I think of her as politically and intellectually formed by it." **R**

—KAREN MCCALLY '02 (PHD)

TRIBUTE

Richard Friedman '66M (MD): Pioneer Studied Sexual Orientation's Roots in Biology



'AN ETHICAL OBLIGATION': That's what motivated Friedman to do the research that led to major changes in how psychiatrists and psychologists viewed and treated homosexual patients.

The driving forces for Richard Friedman '66M (MD) were simple: ethics and science.

"I felt an ethical obligation to find the reasons for antihomosexual prejudice," the acclaimed psychoanalyst once said in an interview.

In his 1988 groundbreaking book, *Male Homosexuality: A Contemporary Psychoanalytic Perspective*, Friedman illustrated that sexual orientation was largely biological and not pathological. Using studies of identical twins and theories of developmental psychology, Friedman showed that biology—not upbringing—made the biggest impact on a person's sexual orientation.

It was a direct contradiction of the widely held Freudian notion that same-sex attraction was somehow curable, and it made Friedman a champion for gay men who dreamed of marrying and adopting children.

The book led to major changes in the way psychologists and psychotherapists viewed and treated homosexual patients.

Friedman died in March 2020 at the age of 79.

Even after the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from its list of mental disorders in 1973, many therapists considered it an illness that could be cured. "Straight people had the same

personality issues, and they got away with murder," Friedman's wife, Susan Matorin, a clinical social worker at the Weill Medical College of Cornell, told the *New York Times*. "Gay people were stigmatized, and he didn't think that was right."

Born and raised in the Bronx, Friedman attended Bard College before enrolling at Rochester for medical school. He completed his psychiatric residency at Columbia.

While serving in the Army Medical Corps, he treated traumatized Vietnam veterans at a medical center in El Paso,

Using studies of identical twins and theories of developmental psychology, Friedman showed that biology—not upbringing—made the biggest impact on a person's sexual orientation.

Texas. He later became a faculty member at Columbia University.

In his acknowledgments for *Male Homosexuality*, Friedman cites his time at Rochester as being key to the book's inspiration. "I was fortunate enough to spend a year in the laboratory of Dr. Seymour Reichlin," he writes. "Dr. Reichlin's brilliance, patience, kindness, sense of humor, and warmth were appreciated beyond measure.

Dr. George Engel's lectures on psychological development in health and disease were also remarkably enlightening."


Matorin says her husband "cherished" his time at Rochester. After his death, she found his old textbooks in their apartment. "That so moved me," she says.

Friedman's early research focused on sleep deprivation experienced by physicians in training. He was the first to demonstrate that lack of sleep impaired the ability of doctors to function during surgery. His later psychiatric research examined sexuality, and a 1998 article he authored on female homosexuality was named best publication of the year by the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*.

Author Andrew Solomon, winner of the 2001 National Book Award for *The Noonday Demon: An Atlas of Depression* and Friedman's patient for 25 years, said Friedman gave him the optimism to see a bright future during some of his darkest days.

"He seldom proposed anything as a possibility. He talked in absolutes," Solomon wrote in a tribute piece in *The New Yorker* last May. "I am happily married, have children I love, and enjoy reasonable career success. I once said to Dr. F. that if I had been able to see one day of life in my fifties when I first entered his office, I wouldn't have had to go through so much anguish and peril along the way. He replied that if I hadn't gone through so much anguish and peril, I wouldn't have ended up with the life I had."

Friedman's obituary in the *New York Times* noted his impact on the world while also depicting a man with strong passions—he always carried a copy of the US Constitution—and at least one dislike:

"A devoted fan of both opera and professional basketball, he was a lifelong lover of literature, a passionate student of history, a gifted pianist, and hated broccoli." 

—JIM MANDELARO

TRIBUTE

Th. Emil Homerin: A 'Blue-collar Scholar' of Arabic Literature and Islam

Professor of Religion Th. Emil Homerin “was at the top of his game” when he died in December, said his longtime colleague, Douglas Brooks, a professor of religion at Rochester who first met Homerin at an academic conference nearly 40 years ago. Homerin’s death came shortly after a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.

A scholar of Arabic literature and Islam and a formidable translator of Arabic and Sufi poetry, Homerin joined the University’s religion and classics department in 1988. Promoted to full professor in 2000, he was a popular undergraduate teacher, known especially for his course *Speaking Stones*, which grew out of his research on the mystical poet Umar Ibn al-Farid. The research took him to Cairo’s al-Qarafah cemetery, where his fieldwork led him to a focus on death and the afterlife. *Speaking Stones* included visits to Rochester’s historic Mount Hope Cemetery, where students explored art, symbolism, and religion as a way to illuminate customs and symbolic connections between the living and the dead.

Last year, as the COVID-19 pandemic was placing additional demands on faculty members, Homerin agreed to supervise an independent study on mysticism for Juliana South ’22. “I can’t believe the amount of work he put into teaching one person,” South says.

Born Thomas Emil Homerin in Pekin, Illinois, Homerin was what his childhood friend, artist and art historian Mark Staff


Brandl, called a “blue-collar scholar,” who always rode the bus to work and brought a lunch from home. Homerin graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he obtained a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree before completing his doctorate at the University of Chicago. It was at college that he met his wife, Nora Walters, and when he began going by his middle name, Emil. The couple had two sons together, Luke and Elias.

The author of seven books; one edited volume; and numerous articles, book chapters, and encyclopedia entries, Homerin published his most recent book, *Aisha al-Ba’uniyya: A Life in Praise of Love* (Makers of the Muslim World), in 2019. At the time of his death, he and Matthew Brown, a professor of music theory at the Eastman School of Music, had just signed a contract with Indiana University Press for a forthcoming book, *Ariane & Bluebeard: From Fairy Tale to Comic Book Opera*.

The project demonstrated the breadth of Homerin’s interests. Brown and Homerin had met at a 2012 event celebrating the release of books authored by University faculty. Brown promoted a performance of Debussy’s opera *Pelléas et Mélisande* and mentioned the ensemble’s use of images by the comics artist P. Craig Russell. This thrilled Homerin, who happened to be a comic book aficionado, Brown recalls. The serendipitous meeting led to a friendship and multiple collaborations.



TAKE FIVE: Homerin was a champion of the program and of learning for its own sake.

Homerin’s dedication to undergraduate education made him a valuable asset to the College’s signature Take Five Scholars Program. As a member of the program’s review board for more than 25 years, “he always brought enthusiasm and curiosity to the review process,” says program coordinator J. B. Rogers. “He was somebody who really believed in our core tenets, which are essentially the idea of learning for learning’s sake, pursuing things for the purpose of academic enrichment, and celebrating the classical liberal arts education. He embodied all those things.” 

—JEANETTE COLBY

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Carolyn Edelmann Kaydough ’76N,
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Kathleen King ’76N (MS), ’84N
(PhD), January 2021

Wesley L. Hanson ’77E (DMA),
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Joyce Rumpf ’77, June 2020

Luz Colon Teicher ’77 (PhD),
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Carolyn Keith Burr ’78N (MS),
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Douglas A. Donofrio ’78,
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Eric C. Kullberg ’78S (MBA),
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Christopher McDowell ’78E,
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Charles I. Schachter ’78,
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Dennis J. Gilmartin ’79,
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Barbara Ann Seneca ’79S (MBA),
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Brent Bailey ’81E (MA),
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Faye Dudden ’81 (PhD),
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Mark R. Wadlinger ’81,
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Stephen C. Weber ’82S (MBA),
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Kyle P. Hennicke ’85N, ’95N (MS),
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Lucio M. Sorre ’88,
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Thomas Storey ’88M (Res),
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Mark R. Nunge ’89,
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Stephen M. Lessard ’91, ’91E,
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Georgette Garcia-Kaufmann ’92,
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Robert H. Greene ’97,
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Otis Lee Hightower ’98,
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Matthew R. Yudd ’99M (PhD),
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Andrew I. Brooks ’00M (PhD),
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Venkat Aachi ’03M (Res),
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Jason P. Price ’04E (MM), ’05E
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John M. Derogowski ’06 (MA),
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Timothy E. Baker ’08E (MM),
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Elizabeth Barnes ’10,
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Rebecca Ditomasso ’11W (MS),
August 2020

Jacqueline Anson ’14 (PhD),
November 2020

Patrick Harless ’16 (PhD),
December 2020

Mary Kay Hayes ’16S (MBA),
September 2020

Agnes Marie Seneway ’17W (EdD),
November 2020

Goal Orientation

Elite runner Allison Goldstein '08 tells how she set and met a major personal goal—and answered the question, what next?

Interview by Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

In November 2019, I qualified for the US Olympic Team Trials in the women's marathon. I had a pretty short turnaround before the actual trials, which were the following February. But the goal had really been qualifying for the trials. Making the Olympic team is a whole other level. The trials course was definitely harder. I went in knowing that my time wasn't going to be outstanding. My qualifying time, at the Philadelphia Marathon, was 2:44:14. I finished the trials in Atlanta in 2:55:09.

I certainly didn't set out with the goal of anything like the Olympic trials. I don't think I even knew what that was. My goals started small and got more ambitious as I progressed. I ran my first half-marathon in 2008. Then I set the goal of finishing a marathon, and I thought that was going to be it. But then it went well, and I thought, "maybe I can improve my time." In the marathon, breaking the three-hour barrier is a major milestone, but I actually did not set that as a goal. It just sort of happened after I ran several marathons. I ran a 2:53 in Berlin, when I actually had a pretty bad race, and I thought I could have done better. If I was so sure about that, I thought, "why not target the Olympic trials? Because if I make it, it will be the accomplishment of a lifetime. And if I don't, I will still have gotten faster. I still will have set PRs [personal records] along the way."

To help me stay motivated, I've always found people to train with, rather than going it alone. Having people around is motivating because you're seeing them put in the work, so it makes you want to put in the work. It's also grounding. You suddenly realize that other people also have bad days, whereas

if you're by yourself, it's easier to think, "Oh my gosh, I'm never going to get there."

I also think having a coach, no matter what your goal, can be really helpful. A coach can take a lot of the guesswork out. When I'm feeling really tired and a little sore, I can't really step outside myself and decide: Should I just suck it up and do the workout, or am I risking injury? It's good to have a guiding force to help you think through things in a less emotional way.

After every marathon I've run, I've felt a little bit of a void.

This is a common experience after meeting a big goal.

You feel a void, because you spent all this time and energy and attention on that one thing, and suddenly it's gone. I've had this happen enough times now to know that it's going to come, but that doesn't make it easier to get through. And I don't like to decide too hastily what to do next. For me, that always backfires. I've needed to take time to decide what's going to be meaningful.

Last year, I dealt with that void by thinking about my next goal before the Olympic trials. I knew it couldn't be another marathon. I needed something completely different. I decided to try a triathlon and signed up for the SOS (Survival of the Shawangunks) Triathlon in New Paltz, New York.

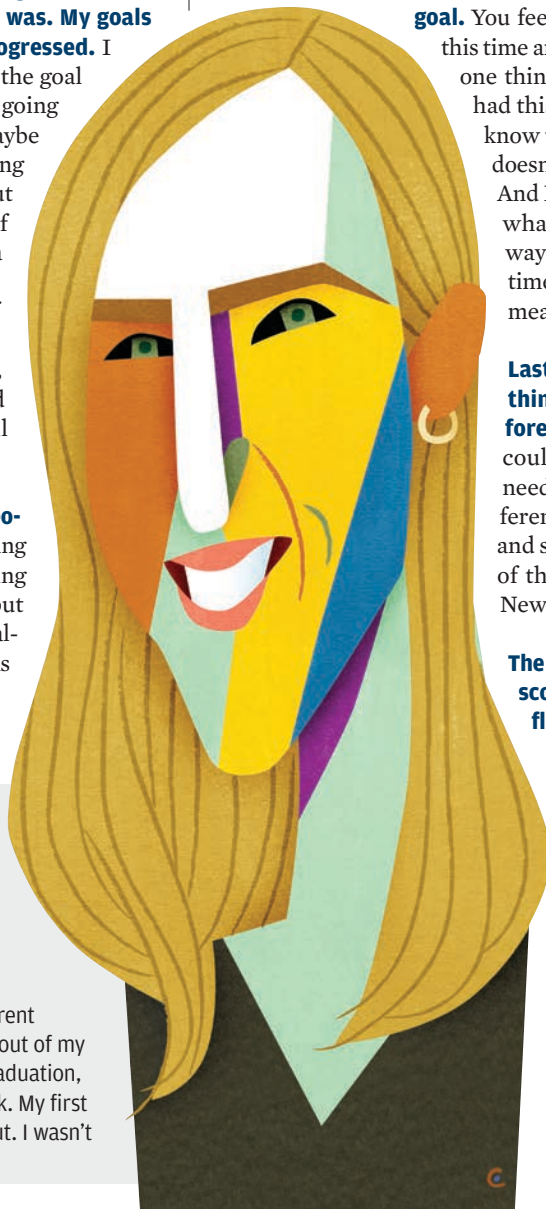
The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored how important it is to be flexible. The triathlon was supposed to take place last September. It's now supposed to take place this year, but we'll see. When I started training, as always, I relied on a group to keep me going. I have some friends who are into cycling, and one of them is in Paris, and one is in Copenhagen. So we all got on our bike trainers and set up a Zoom so that we could ride together virtually. It's very unlikely we would have done that in normal times. 

Allison Goldstein '08

Home: Jersey City, New Jersey

Qualifier, US Olympic Team Trials in women's marathon; principal, Allison L. Goldstein Writing & Editing Services at AllisonGoldstein.com; contributing writer, *Runner's World* and *Women's Running*

On having a modest start: "I played several different sports growing up, none of them well. I swam two out of my four years at Rochester, just as a walk-on. After graduation, I started running at lunchtime with a group at work. My first half-marathon wasn't anything to write home about. I wasn't immediately good at this."





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HOWARD SPINDLER '81E (MA)

Rochester, NY



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**DINING SERVICES****Who Makes the Best Chili?**

CHILI TODAY: The heat was on this spring during the first on-campus chili cook-off organized by Dining Services. One of several innovations introduced as dining options for students while adhering to COVID-19 restrictions, the competition featured the staffs of Danforth, Douglass, the Pit, and catering services vying to win the votes of campus chili aficionados. Here, executive chef Jason Walker hands a sample to Ethan Peltier '22 as catering director Deirdre Goodall looks on outside Feldman Ballroom. While the competition was close, the results—tabulated through Dining Services' Instagram account (@UofRDining)—declared Danforth the winner. PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER