

# NTID Academic Affairs

Newsletter

Fall 2010



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## New acronym to know: ADSCC

The RIT ASL Deaf Studies Community Center (ADSCC) will be established as one of the initiatives recommended in Strategic Decisions 2020. RIT is dedicating space in the Student Alumni Union (SAU) for the new Center, which will promote orientation to the Deaf Community and provide opportunities to learn ASL for all members of the RIT community. The ADSCC is targeted to open later this year.

## SAVE THE DATES!

The 2010-11 Edmond Lyon Memorial Lectureship presentations are:

### **December 16-17, 2010**

Tom Humphries, Ph.D.  
University of California, San Diego  
Presents Deaf Identity Discourse: Some Theoretical Frames

### **April 7-8, 2011**

Jane K. Fernandes, Ph.D.  
University of North Carolina, Asheville  
Presents Inclusive Deaf Studies:  
Barriers and Pathways

## A Message from Laurie Brewer

Hello everyone! I'm excited to share this newsletter with you because it presents a snapshot of the accomplishments of Academic Affairs since Fall, 2009. I think you'll agree with me that the work we've done together is outstanding. Thank you all for your continued dedication to the academic mission of NTID!

With Fall Quarter almost completed, we are all feeling the push and pull of exciting change as NTID transitions into the implementation phase of Strategic Decisions 2020. Comfort zones are being challenged. Old ways of doing business are yielding to fresh ideas. Abundant opportunities are opening for innovation and collaboration. Ahhh, the smell of change (and Fall) is in the air! As the academic year unfolds, let us move forward with the same confidence, enthusiasm and curiosity for learning that we encourage in our students.

Please join me in looking back with pride and applauding a job well done. Your hard work and dedication to excellence for our students has laid a strong foundation for the implementation of SD 2020. This is an exciting time!

We are rockin' and rollin'!!

# Semester Conversion

By Marianne Gustafson

After careful analysis and discussion of program screening data last spring, the conversion from quarters to semesters caused a lot of rockin' and rollin' over the summer that's carried into Fall Quarter. Faculty, chairs and program directors were geared up in early June to begin working on the redesign of their programs. They had to wait until mid-June for the "Conversion Packet" to be distributed via RIT's Semester Conversion website

[www.rit.edu/conversion/](http://www.rit.edu/conversion/). The packet included the Provost's Program Framework listing parameters to be used across the University to design all graduate and undergraduate semester programs. It also contained the "deliverables" needed by faculty working over the summer: the NYSED/Program Proposal form, associated tables, outcomes assessment templates, and the new RIT Course Outline Form.

By the end of August most departments had taken a fresh look at the goals and content of their programs and made preliminary decisions about how to deliver the "5x3 model" in which students take five 3-credit courses each semester. Efforts began in earnest this quarter to determine how to combine, delete, and design courses for the converted programs. Progress was halting at times as new information and necessary revisions came forward. The RIT Calendar Conversion Committees had many process decisions to make and the RIT and NTID General Education Framework Committees needed time to create and vet their proposals for

graduation requirements. By October RIT's and NTID's credit-related parameters were solidified, resulting in added flexibility through an increase to 77 credits for AOS/AAS programs and allowing a limited number of 1-, 2- and 4-credit courses. There was a collective sigh of relief as the conversion could move forward on a more stable course. Attention has turned to finalizing program decisions and work has begun on converting the courses themselves, a process that will stretch throughout this academic year.

Meanwhile, the NTID Curriculum Committee (NCC) doubled in size and formed NCC-A and NCC-B with chairs and ICC representatives on each group. The NCC established submission and review dates for each of the 27 programs NTID currently has registered with the state. These were grouped and assigned to the nineteen review sessions scheduled by the Intercollegiate Curriculum Committee (ICC) and Grad Council. Training occurred for faculty/staff/chairs on how to upload documents to NTID's Calendar Conversion myCourses shell when they are ready for review. Several programs stepped up to the plate for October NCC review dates and the process will continue through mid-May when ICC reviews the last NTID program in preparation for submission to the New York State Department of Education. It's exciting to anticipate the results of the creative energies of our hard-working faculty and chairs as we prepare for a semester-based academic portfolio.



## Ongoing work for RIT/NTID Gen Ed Framework Committees

Marianne Gustafson represents NTID on the RIT Semester Conversion Committee and collaborates with the NTID General Education Framework Committee to oversee the conversion process within the college. The NTID Gen Ed Committee is co-chaired by David Lawrence and Annemarie Ross. Other members are: Linda Bryant, Karen Christie, Judy MacDonald, John Panara, Cindy Sanders, J. Matt Searls, and Brenda Whitehead.

## NTID Presidential Search nears completion

RIT/NTID hosted campus interviews with three final candidates for the next President of NTID. The search is now in its final stages. Chris Kurz co-chairs the search committee along with RIT Senior Vice President Jim Miller.

## RIT committee investigating online course evaluation system

An RIT task force committee is investigating an online course evaluation system similar to NTID's Student Rating System (SRS) that will eventually be adopted for use across campus. Gary Long represents NTID on the RIT committee, which is charged by the Provost to make a recommendation later this year.

## NTID Tenure and Promotion Revision Committee

New tenure and promotion process guidelines have been revised by the Committee and are now out for a vote and comments. A big thank you goes out to Stephen Aldersley, chair, and committee members Paula Grcevic, Keith Mousley, Katie Schmitz, Don Sims, and Charlotte Thoms for their diligent work. To be continued...



## Strategic Decisions 2020

### New Analysis/Recommendation Teams Forming

The President's Interim Administrative Council (IAC) has appointed four new teams to begin the implementation of selected SD 2020 initiatives. The teams, charged to conduct a study and then make recommendations to the IAC, are:

1. **Achieving Enrollment Targets**—Stephen Aldersley, team chair; Mary Lou Basile, Alvin Boyd, Pam Carmichael, Chris Felo, Scott Hooker, Mark Sommer, and Shelley Yehl
2. **Establishing Flexibility In Use of NTID's Direct Instruction Model**—Dino Laury and Mary Pat Magde, team co-chairs; Mitchell Bacot, Jessica Cuculick, Kathy Darroch, Sally Skyer, and Brett Doty-Lupold
3. **Institutional Research**—John Macko and Jeff Porter, team co-chairs; Joe Bochner (will step up as co-chair in January, 2011), Richard Dirmyer, Joan Graham, Ron Kelly, Janet MacLeod, Rhonda Sliker, and Shelley Yehl
4. **Innovation, Scholarship, and Research**—Laurie Brewer and Gary Long, co-chairs; Jim DeCaro (represented by Bill Clymer until January, 2011), Rich Dirmyer, Susan Foster, Marc Marschark, Todd Pagano, Mike Stinson, and Brian Trager

### Kudos to Strategic Vision 2020 Planning Committee

As SD 2020 initiatives rock and roll out, it is necessary to recognize the foundation work already done by the Strategic Vision 2020 Planning Committee. Co-Chairs Mary Lou Basile and Chris Kurz led the successful team of Stephen Aldersley, Stacy Bick, Steve Campbell, Peter Hauser, Astrid Jones, Denise Kavin, Donna Lange and Chris Monikowski.

### More Kudos to NTID's Innovation Funding Committee

The Innovation Funding Committee was charged by Interim President Jim DeCaro in April 2010 to solicit project proposals demonstrating innovative collaborations between faculty, staff and students. Selected projects will share up to \$1.5 million. Submissions were accepted until September 17. The committee received 89 proposals that involve 347 faculty/staff and 262 student participants. A recommendation will be made to the President in November.

The Innovation Funding Committee is chaired by Peter Hauser and includes Denise Kavin, Donna Lange, Chris Monikowski, Tina Nelson and Brian Trager.

Thanks to all on both committees for a job well done!

## Spotlight on Innovative Teaching Strategies

### Enhancing the Notetaking Support Process: Utilizing Graphic Notes and New Technologies

In the past 40 years, notetaking has become an integral part of the support provided to deaf and hard-of-hearing students. Dr. L.K. Quinsland and RIT students Ben Rubin, Dan Thompson and Jen Hand have been experimenting with innovative enhancements to the traditional notetaking process that show a promise of increasing the learning value of notetaking to deaf and hard of hearing students, as well as other students with special needs.

Their experimentation includes alternative enriched notetaking graphics and collaborative support technologies that could lead to greater learner independence. Specific techniques include graphic support technologies (e.g., hand drawn, digital pens, & tablets), new speech-to text and text-to-speech technologies, digital graphic options (e.g., clipart), and digital camera and cell phone options.

## Grant Projects

The National Science Foundation has awarded almost \$395K to Mike Stinson, Lisa Elliot and Mitchell Rosen for research on “Analyzing the Use of C-Print Mobile Technology in STEM Lab Settings across Multiple Postsecondary Sites.” The grant runs from September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2013.

The Silicon Valley Community Foundation has granted the NTID Center on Access Technology with an award of \$100K for the first year of a multi-year project. Bill Clymer, the Center’s Interim Director, and faculty member Gary Behm, along with colleagues from NTID and the other RIT colleges will provide a team of experts to consider the application and adaptation of the ways in which CISCO products can benefit communication access for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals.

The U.S.-Japan Foundation has announced an award of more than \$72K to support the first year of a two-year pilot program for high school students who are deaf to enhance and enrich their understanding of the cultures (Deaf and hearing) of each country. Faculty and students in grades 11-12 from Rochester School for the Deaf and Tokyo Metropolitan Chuo School for the Deaf will participate in the project, “Secondary Educational Enrichment for Deaf Students—International: Sowing the Seeds of Cross-Cultural Understanding (SEEDS-International).” NTID Associate Professor Nora Shannon will direct.

The Musser Foundation has awarded \$25K to fund the Intercultural Art Exploration Project, which will bring together the deaf and hearing communities by exploring the differences, similarities and evolution of deaf and hearing art within each the Asian, African, European, Latin, and Native American cultures. Despite their differing modes of communication and ethnic backgrounds, Deaf and hearing students attending NTID, RIT, MCC, Keuka, and UR will interact regularly to create original works of art for the goals of appreciating how their shared ethnic culture ties them together as well as the differences between deaf and hearing cultures. For questions or more information on the Intercultural Art Exploration Project, contact Pamela Conley at [prcnge@rit.edu](mailto:prcnge@rit.edu).



## Student Rating System (SRS) Update

The Student Rating System (SRS) has been accepting Fall Quarter and Academic Year survey requests from faculty and staff during Weeks 3-7. The surveys, administered online only, will be accessible to students beginning Monday, November 1, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. and will remain open until Sunday, November 14, 2010 at 11:59 p.m.

SRS reports will be distributed to faculty and staff during Break Week.

The SRS Advisory Committee, co-chaired by Stephen Aldersley and Gary Long, has created a calendar, FAQ and a new Online Handbook for SRS. Go to [www.ntid.rit.edu/srs/sp](http://www.ntid.rit.edu/srs/sp) and click on the appropriate button.

Questions regarding SRS may be directed to Stephen Aldersley at [sfance@rit.edu](mailto:sfance@rit.edu) or Sue Roethel at [smrnvd@rit.edu](mailto:smrnvd@rit.edu).

## Department News

### Cultural and Creative Studies

Proposals were completed for certificates in Deaf Cultural Studies and Performing Arts as part of the semester conversion, thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Jeannette Giagios and Marianne Gustafson. Also, the Performing Arts program offered a series of theater workshops presented by program faculty and outside theater artists. The workshops were informative and well attended.

### Arts and Imaging Studies

Omobowale Ayorinde is one of seven alumni featured in an exhibit at Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt), October 4 to November 20, 2010. PEERS AND PATHWAYS: A PHOTOGRAPHIC REDUX documents the work of seven extraordinary photographers and artists who were launched in Boston in the 1970s. This exhibition highlights their influence on the art scene in other U.S. cities, Africa, and the Caribbean. Over the course of some thirty years, these photographers and artists effectively enriched the visual representation of black communities worldwide.

# Staffing News

## Academic Affairs welcomes many new hires

**Henry Adler**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, Science & Math*  
**Scot Atkins**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, Business Studies*  
**Bonnie Bastian**, *Speech/Language Professional, Communication Studies & Services*  
**Gary Behm**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, Engineering Studies*  
**Jennifer Briggs**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, ASLIE*  
**Jesse “Rupert” Dubler**, *Research Assistant, Research & Teacher Education*  
**Mark DeCaterina**, *Artist-in-Residence, Cultural & Creative Studies*  
**Eugene Galasso**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, Engineering Studies*  
**Austin Gehret**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, Science & Math*  
**Anne Hock**, *Staff Assistant, Science & Math*  
**Patricia Iglesias-Victoria**, *Engineering Studies*  
**Bonnie Jacob**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, Science & Math*  
**Denise Kavin**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, Liberal Studies*  
**Kim Brown Kurz**, *Instructional/Support Faculty & Dept. Chair, ASLIE*  
**Raja Kushalnagar**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, Information & Computing Studies*  
**Erica MacArthur**, *Staff Assistant, Research & Teacher Education*  
**Cheryl McLean**, *Staff Assistant, Engineering Studies*  
**Susan Lane-Outlaw**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, MSSE*  
**Beth Lockwood**, *Staff Assistant, Information & Computing*  
**Damita Peace**, *Visiting Instructional/Support Faculty, Cultural & Creative Studies*  
**Gina Richards**, *4<sup>th</sup> Year Audiology Doctoral Extern, Communication Studies & Services*  
**Sue Roethel**, *Sr. Staff Specialist, Office of Vice Dean/Associate VP for Academic Affairs*  
**Ron Rood**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, ASLIE*  
**Deirdre Schlehofer**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, ASLIE*  
**Kristen Snopek**, *Speech/Language Professional, Communication Studies & Services*  
**Debra Teesdale**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, ASLIE*  
**Karen Tobin**, *Lecturer, Science & Math*  
**Jennifer Verbakel**, *Speech/Language Professional, Communication Studies & Services*  
**Jillian Welks**, *Staff Assistant, Liberal Studies*

*Welcome to our newbies and congratulations to those who’ve chosen to blaze a new trail!*



## Appointments

**Jerry Berent**, *Chair, Research & Teacher Education Studies/MSSE (succeeding John Albertini as Department Chair)*  
**Eileen Contestabile**, *Staff Assistant, Science & Math (moved from Engineering Studies)*  
**Melisa DiDomenico**, *Staff Assistant, Communication Studies & Services (moved from Transition Services/College Advancement)*  
**Marianne Gustafson**, *Curriculum Resource Associate, Academic Affairs*

## Retirements

**Sid Barefoot**, *Speech/Language Faculty, Communication Studies & Services, retired June 2010*  
**Frank Caccamise**, *Research Faculty, Research & Teacher Education Studies, retired June 2010*  
**Donna Gustina**, *Instructional/Support Faculty, ASLIE, retired June 2010*  
**Marilyn Spampinato**, *Staff Assistant, Communication Studies & Services, retired June 2010*

## Tenure and Promotions

Promoted to Associate Professor and awarded tenure:

**Christopher Kurz**, *Master of Science in Secondary Education of Deaf/HH*

Promoted to Senior Lecturer:

**Patricia Billies**, *Science & Math*  
**Luane Haggerty**, *Cultural & Creative Studies*  
**Samuel Holcomb**, *ASLIE*  
**Aaron Kelstone**, *Cultural & Creative Studies*  
**Kenny Lerner**, *Liberal Studies*  
**Thomas Warfield**, *Cultural & Creative Studies*  
**Jeanne Yamonaco**, *Liberal Studies*

## Five-Minute Interviews

Meet three of our new members

### **Kim Brown Kurz**, Chair, ASLIE

**Years at RIT/NTID:** NTID alumna and first-year faculty

**Your favorite thing about NTID:** The students, faculty and staff. The RIT community is one of the major reasons why I've chosen to work here. It is a wonderful place to be at and I feel very fortunate to be here.

**Where did you grow up and do you miss it:** I grew up in Lincoln, Nebraska. I do miss my family there. I am really happy to be here in Rochester, though. The deaf community is bigger here in Rochester.

**Where would you go on your next vacation (if money were not a concern):**

Greece, Russia, India, Mexico

**Favorite websites:** Facebook and Twitter

**Hobbies:** Spending quality time with husband (Chris Kurz) and four sons, family and friends. Nothing beats a good conversation. Everyone has a story to tell. I also enjoy reading, watching movies, going for long walks or hikes, taking care of our rabbit named "Bingo."



### **Raja Kushalnagar**, Instructional/Support Faculty, Information & Computing Studies

**Years at RIT/NTID:** RIT alumnus and first-year faculty

**Your favorite thing about NTID:** Wearing orange or brown on Fridays!

**Where did you grow up and do you miss it:** Mysore, India. I miss the sandalwood and cashew trees.

**Where would you go on your next vacation (if money were not a concern):** Maldives!

**Favorite Websites:** Wikipedia, NY Times

**Hobbies:** Encyclopedias, technology and sci-fi books



### **Erica MacArthur**, Staff Assistant, Department of Research and Teacher Education

**Years at RIT/NTID:** First-year staff

**Your favorite thing about NTID:** I work with wonderful people and enjoy being in the university atmosphere.

**Where did you grow up and do you miss it:** Seattle, Washington – I do miss it sometimes, especially Puget Sound and the mountains!

**Where would you go on your next vacation (if money were not a concern):** Croatia/Dalmatian Coast

**Favorite Websites:** designspongeonline.com, polyvore.com, pyramidbrew.com

**Hobbies:** soccer, art/graphic design, travel



## Standing Committees

Some of the work that happens in Academic Affairs throughout the year comes from the dedication of faculty and staff who participate on a number of standing committees. In recognition of this work, here are the committees and their chairs:

**Mark Rosica**, Academic Advising Committee (AAC)

**Myra Pelz**, Academic Conduct Committee (ACC)

**Kurt Stoskopf**, Communication Advocacy Committee (CAC) [*formerly known as Communication Issues Committee*]

**Dominic Peroni & Cynthia Sanders**, NTID Curriculum Committee (NCC)

**David Cohn**, Equipment Purchase Review Committee

**Elissa Olsen**, Faculty Evaluation and Development Committee (FEAD)

**Kurt Stoskopf**, Instructional Technology Consortium (ITC)

**Mark Pfuntner**, Marketplace Scanning Committee

**James Fugate & Tracy Magin**, Outstanding Graduate Award Committee (OGAC)

**Linda Siple**, Outstanding Undergraduate Scholarship Award Committee (OUAC)

**Stephen Aldersley & Gary Long**, Student Ratings Advisory Committee (SRS)

**Sidonie Roepke**, Trustee Scholarship Award (TSA)

**Linda Bryant**, Associate Professor Promotion Committee



## Professional Development

New faculty and staff were welcomed to NTID at a college brunch in August and were given resource materials to begin their orientation.

The cohort of new faculty began a year-long schedule of events that include bi-weekly forums on a variety of topics.

In September they received helpful hints from alumni of last year's New Faculty Forums. Fall Quarter topics include:

- ASL
- Sign Language Assessment using the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI)
- The Early Alert System
- The Student Rating System
- How NTID Students Learn
- Early Intervention
- NTID's Diverse Student Population
- Access to the Classroom

The Professional Development Team has many activities planned for all NTID faculty and staff on topics such as:

- Scholarly research resources and teaching tools
- Conducting meetings remotely
- How to boost your creativity
- Using Microsoft Office software
- Social Networking
- Using software for the Mac

...and many more!

Watch for announcements via email and register online at:

[www.ntid.rit.edu/pd/events/events.php](http://www.ntid.rit.edu/pd/events/events.php)

If you have ideas regarding professional development offerings, please contact a member of the PD Team:

Linda Rubel [larnge@rit.edu](mailto:larnge@rit.edu)

Hope Williams [hdwedr@rit.edu](mailto:hdwedr@rit.edu)

Sue Roethel [smrnvd@rit.edu](mailto:smrnvd@rit.edu)

## Upcoming PD Events

### Creative Connections: Out of the Box Thinking and Doing

Presented by Ginny Hronek of Dynamix Training on Friday, November 5, 2010, 9-11:30 a.m. in CSD/SDC 55-2102

### Meeting Notes Made Easy

Presented by Joan Matochik of JM Communications on Tuesday, November 9, 2010, 10-11:30 a.m. in CSD/SDC 55-2102

### Organizing Using the 5-S System

Presented by Duane Beck, M.S., M.Div., and adjunct professor at RIT on Friday, December 10, 2010, 9 a.m.-noon in CSD/SDC 55-1300

### Generational Collaboration

Presented by Duane Beck, on Friday, January 14, 2011, 9 a.m.-noon in CSD/SDC 55-2102

### RIT Retirement Transition/Benefits

Presented by Judy DeCoursey, on Friday, January 18, 2011, 10-11:30 a.m. in CSD/SDC 55-1300

## Additional Opportunities

### Several NTID Lecture Series continue throughout the year

In addition to NTID's Professional Development Program, there are numerous growth opportunities through lectures and workshops sponsored by other Academic Affairs departments. Watch for email announcements and register online for these events:

- **ASL Lecture Series** presented by the Department of American Sign Language and Interpreting Education (ASLIE)
- **Brown Bag Research Series** presented by the Department of Research and Teacher Education (RTE)
- **Deaf Culture Series** presented by ASLIE
- **Edmond Lyon Memorial Lectureship** presented by the Department of Liberal Studies, RTE, and the Rochester School for the Deaf ([www.rit.edu/ntid/lyon](http://www.rit.edu/ntid/lyon))
- **Spoken Communication Techniques & Strategies** workshops presented by the Department of Communication Studies & Services (CSS)

[www.ntid.rit.edu/pd/events/events.php](http://www.ntid.rit.edu/pd/events/events.php)



## The Last Word...from Stephen Aldersley

### Interim Associate Dean for Academic Administration

Is there anything that isn't changing? New president, new semester-based curriculum, new Strategic Plan, new scholarship expectations, new generation of faculty and staff. Throw into the mix the widespread sense that the growth in our federal appropriation is going to slow, if not stop in the coming years, and it's apparent that the Institute is faced with a set of unprecedented challenges. Are we ready for the ride? At least the students are not going to change. Or are they? Well, maybe not quite so dramatically, but even there, 2020 calls for a re-proportioning in the make-up of the student body, with increased numbers of more highly qualified students in the associate+baccalaureate and baccalaureate programs and a proportionate decrease amongst the underprepared.

The optimistic prefer to see challenges as opportunities, and clearly, we're entering this new era in the Institute's life with an historically strong base. We have had record numbers of students for two years in a row, including a record number in baccalaureate programs, our retention rate is better than ever and the integration of NTID with the other colleges has never been closer, both from the point of view of the students, for example, in student government, and the faculty and staff, for example, in the ever-increasing variety of roles we are asked to play in the greater Institute. It's taken a while but NTID has now clearly taken its place as an equal member of the RIT collegiate body, acknowledged as such in all Institute publications and activities. You only have to look at the remarkable fact that our Department of American Sign

Language and Interpreting Education is offering 16 fully-subscribed sections of ASL through the College of Liberal Arts, that the RIT ASL Deaf Studies Community Center is about to rise in the dead center of campus, that it now goes without saying that the Board of Trustees has deaf members. When Laurie and I speak at Open Houses, we emphasize the point that NTID faculty and staff are housed in almost every building on campus. Our Access Services budget is somewhere in the region of 12.5 million dollars. LBJ may still be on the east side of campus, but NTID is everywhere.

So, are we ready for the next phase in our evolution?

### We're Rockin' and Rollin'!!

Do you have any news or thoughts about this newsletter you'd like to share?

Is there anything you want to know that you'd like to find in the next newsletter?

Send an email to Sue Roethel at [smrnvd@rit.edu](mailto:smrnvd@rit.edu).

**All photos in this newsletter are courtesy of Mark Benjamin, Educational Design Resources (EDR).**

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