

HEALING ARTS & LETTERS
A NEW DEPARTMENT—AND
PARTNERSHIP—EMERGES.

ECLIPSE-O-MANIA
A CELESTIAL
CELEBRATION

TOKYO ON YOUR MIND?
A CULINARY ENTREPRENEUR SHARES
SOME FAVORITE SPOTS.

Rochester

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/SPRING 2024

Review



Going Global

Can higher education help mend a fractured world?

“I walk to honor my friends and family, and the Wilmot Cancer Institute doctors, nurses, and researchers—they’re making a real difference and saving lives.

They're all part of my team!”

*Emily Lake,
T-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia survivor*





Dreams fulfilled

A gift from one generation to another

“If I can help students realize dreams that lead to a career as fulfilling as mine has been, this will remain my legacy.”

ALAN JAMES KOZAK '65,
'69M (MD), '72M (RES)
Cooperstown, NY
Member, Wilson Society
Member, George Eastman Circle

When Alan Kozak arrived at the University of Rochester as a college student, he had never spent a day away from home. Quickly his universe expanded through friendship, the demands of his coursework, and a dream to continue his education at the School of Medicine and Dentistry and become a physician.

Thanks to scholarship support, Alan was able to graduate from college and then medical school without debt. A fulfilling career in medicine followed. Now, in gratitude, he supports the University of Rochester so that future students can have the same educational opportunities that he did.

Alan included the University in his estate plans, with provisions for both undergraduate and medical education scholarships. He hopes to ease the journey for students and believes there is great importance in paying his good fortune forward.



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Shining a Light in the Darkness

A total solar eclipse is a rare wonder, with few people seeing more than one or two in a lifetime. See how Rochester celebrated its moment in the dark. Plus, “check out” a few eclipse-related books—some more than 500 years old—housed in the River Campus Libraries and learn about William Harkness, Class of 1858, whose observations led to a new understanding of the solar corona. *By Matt Cook, David Andreatta, and Sandra Knispel*

ON THE COVER: Illustration by Chiara Vercesi for the University of Rochester



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Lainie Ross, chair of a new Medical Center department, and Peter Christensen, director of the Humanities Center, team up to foster collaborations on both sides of Elmwood Avenue. *By Karen McCally '02 (PhD)*

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Rochester enters a new phase of global higher education, building long-term partnerships around the world and welcoming international scholars and students facing violence in their home countries. *By Karen McCally '02 (PhD), Sandra Knispel, and Jim Mandelaro*

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Our Commitment to the 'Rochester Way'

A community steeped in critical analysis, evaluation of information, and respectful debate can help move our world forward.

By Sarah C. Mangelsdorf

When I first started talking to members of the University community, many people I met mentioned what they described as the “the Rochester Way.”

I quickly learned that the Rochester Way was an approach to education that emphasizes analysis and the incorporation of information into the understanding of academic, social, and cultural challenges and an openness to listening to the perspectives of classmates, faculty members, and other scholars.

A graduate of Rochester, accordingly, doesn't just know facts, dates, theories, and formulas. A Rochester graduate knows how to think independently, to analyze, and to ask and answer difficult but important questions.

As a scholar who has devoted my work to discovery, scholarship, and teaching, the Rochester Way resonated deeply with me and my hopes for every academic community where I have found a home.

Recently, though, there seem to be questions about whether the Rochester Way is still the way of our University—or of higher education in general. Media reports and opinion essays paint pictures of campuses captured by ideologies rather than driven by scholarship. The kind of campus described by some of those accounts would fail to be true universities, and they don't represent what's happening at Rochester.

Without robust debate, academic freedom, and the opportunity to pursue ideas honestly and authentically, our community would come to a standstill—intellectually, academically, socially, and morally.

We cannot create the kind of world we aspire to without graduates, community members, and citizens who can evaluate competing sources of information and appreciate that so much of our understanding comes in shades of gray. Despite what so many seem to want, the world and its challenges often don't have a sharp contrast between easy and difficult or obviously right and obviously wrong. Our duty is to engage with one another,



evaluate the evidence rigorously and honestly, and work together respectfully to move our world forward.

As the grounding ethos of our *Boundless Possibility* strategic plan, the Rochester Way is still the way of our University. We will advance our reputation as a national research university through our commitment to discovery that's based on questioning, debate, experimentation, and analysis.

I would be naïve to imply that creating such a community comes easily. It requires leadership, the kind of value-oriented leadership team that we have at Rochester.

And it requires a diverse and engaged community. The rich differences of viewpoint, life experience, socioeconomic status, historical identity, and so many other individual aspects that allow us to thrive at Rochester—those attributes help each of us to analyze ideas and assumptions and to appreciate one another.

Bringing a diverse group of people together to live and learn is a hallmark of the residential and graduate education at Rochester. I've heard many alumni tell me that while the academics at Rochester were stellar, they learned just as much, if not sometimes more, from the experience


of being on campus. Conversations with roommates, sometimes from other parts of the country or with differing politics or experiences, can help shape our understanding of the world. The same can be said for taking part in student government, being on athletic teams, or joining a club or social activity. The day-to-day interactions of working with classmates from other parts of the country or the world help expand how we imagine our individual futures and that of others in our communities.

At the beginning of this year, we introduced John Blackshear as our new vice president for student life. In that role, Vice President Blackshear will outline plans to build on our past, including the Rochester Way, while also extending our commitment to create an exceptional undergraduate and graduate student experience.

Our students will be prepared to appreciate and understand how to be critical, empathetic thinkers and how to be leaders in their communities and workplaces after graduation. As has long been the case, our campus is a microcosm of the political and social conversations playing out on a national stage. At a time when the world is beset with such strife and conflict, we can demonstrate how an academic community leads with its values.

Similarly, that's why the plan seeks to invest in our research and scholarly endeavors, particularly empowering our students to put into practice their ideas for investigation and discovery.

We are a research university, after all, and introducing every Rochester student to the process of research, scholarship, and artistic creativity will equip them as citizens and community members.

We're building an inviting and welcoming culture of innovation, of discovery, of rigorous and critical analysis that will guide us to an incredible future. 

Contact President Mangelsdorf at thepresidentsoffice@rochester.edu.

Follow her on Instagram: [@urochestermangelsdorf](https://www.instagram.com/urochestermangelsdorf).

Unmasked

Thank you for the retrospective “The *Campus Times* at 150” (Fall 2023). As editor-in-chief during the *CT*’s first full year of daily publication (1974), I still feel a strong connection to the paper and the people who made our daily publication a success.

While the 1973 management of the paper did the work of securing funding and launching daily publication in October 1973, the staff that inherited the daily paper in January 1974 did the heavy lift of sustaining the nascent daily going forward.

There was so much in 1974’s daily *CT* that deserves mention, including a robust sports section, comprehensive coverage of campus (and world) news, creative coverage of features and campus life, and original photos of professional quality that were beyond spectacular. And, of course, the “Fifty-nine Cent Special” breakfast (2 eggs any style, toast, and home fries) at Pat and Sandy’s diner on Mt. Hope Avenue each morning after the paper was put to bed.

I wish you would have included the *CT* masthead from 1974 so that this incredible staff can receive the recognition they deserve. Also, our initial editorial, “To Dare Mighty Things” from the first issue of 1974, outlines the spirit and goals of this dedicated group of students.

Gary Birnbaum ’75
Coronado, California

Note: For a look at the 1974 *Campus Times*—and all issues of it and its predecessors back to 1873 and forward to 2019, visit <https://digitalcollections.lib.rochester.edu/ur/student-newspapers>.

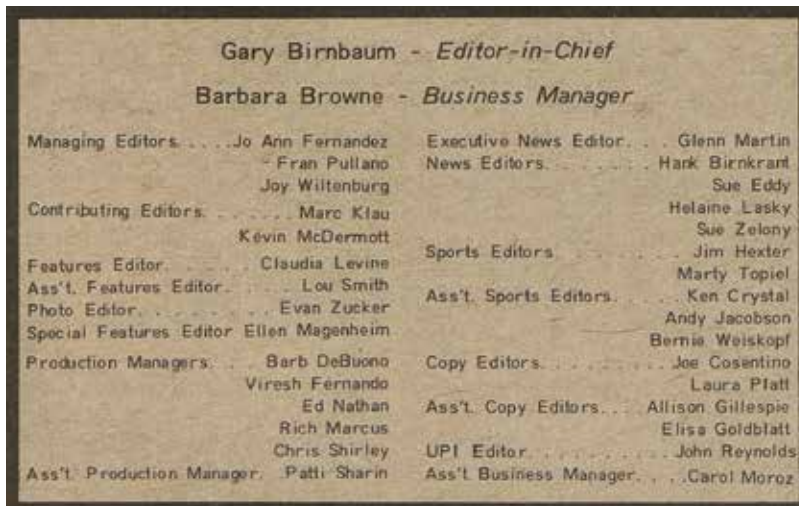
Correction

We owe an apology to Adam Parkes ’93 (PhD), whose book *Modernism and the Aristocracy: Monsters of English Privilege* (Oxford University Press) we inaccurately described (Books & Recordings, Fall 2023).

He writes: “I very much appreciated seeing a notice of my new book in the last issue of *Rochester Review*. I did wonder, though, if you might offer a modified description. The version published makes it sound as if [T.S.] Eliot and [Edith] Wharton were British authors, which isn’t how I described it originally. It should read that the book ‘shows how modern writers such as T.S. Eliot, Edith Wharton, and others represented the British aristocracy during the years of its decline.’”

Indeed. We regret the error.

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.



MIGHTY STAFF: After the *CT* went daily (M–F) in October 1973, the staff that started in January got to work sustaining it. Their first editorial, then editor-in-chief Gary Birnbaum recalls, was entitled “To Dare Mighty Things.” The *CT* remained a daily until 1983.

Rochester Review

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#meliora

In Review





CELEBRATION OF DANCE

Great Performance

STEP BY STEP: UR Celtic's McKenna Young '26, Grace Van Der Meer '25, and Nora Rooney '25 (left to right) prepare for their performance as part of the 2024 American College Dance Association Northeast Conference. About 400 guests came to the River Campus for the four-day event in March, held in coordination with the Program of Dance and Movement. PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER

New Yellowjacket in Town

Meet John Blackshear, the University's first vice president for student life.

Interview by Jim Mandelaro

John Blackshear joined the University in January as vice president for student life, a new cabinet-level position that reflects a fresh way of thinking about the student experience at Rochester.

A native of Savannah, Georgia, with a PhD in clinical psychology from Georgia State University, Blackshear brings to the new role more than 20 years of student life and residential life experience. His most recent position was dean of students and associate vice president for student affairs at Duke University.

What was your own college experience like?

I earned my undergraduate degree at Florida A&M, which is an HBCU [Historically Black College and University]. We were all expected to participate in the excellence of the university and carry it into the world. "How are you going to live a purposeful life?" We had to answer that question a lot.

How did it shape your vision for what student life should be?

I believe that everything we do is important—from how we're feeding students, to where they live, the aesthetics around the campus, how we're maintaining the grounds, how our classrooms are structured, and how we encourage discourse on campus. Students will be challenged. I want them to fall in love with the challenge and learn from it.

What's one way you built community among students at Duke?

I lived on campus for seven years, and my family's signature event every year was "Donut Sunday." We would host alumni and students in our apartment each week and have coffee and dozens of donuts. My wife would bake vegan ones for the vegans. You didn't have to be anything but you. Students would debate God, whether water was wet, or talk about what artistic impressions moved them the most. I've done a lot in 22 years in higher ed, but nothing quite as magical as that.

**BOUNDLESS
POSSIBILITY**

The establishment of Blackshear's position reflects a robust commitment to the student experience at Rochester and is a direct outcome of the the University's 2030 strategic plan, *Boundless Possibility*. Learn more at Boundless.rochester.edu.

How is student life different now from when you were a student?

I've watched student life become more integral to the mission and the public face of the university. I had no idea who ran housing or dining or event planning when I was at A&M. Now, those people have become major players in the reputation of the school.

What are the biggest challenges you foresee in your new role?

The ages of 18 to 26 are periods of growth and significant neurological development. It's also when a person may experience their first significant mental health crisis. It's an opportunity for us to usher our students into adulthood by paying attention to a more holistic framework of care: how we're feeding them, how they're sleeping, their time management. Are they taking part in recreational activities? Students



John Blackshear


will experience stress, but we want them sharper, smarter, and more informed when they leave here.

What attracts you to Rochester?

The more I connect with the students, I find this a place where people really care about the academic mission of the University. The number of times people refer to the ethos of Meliora and our values statement—that's not as common in the academic world as it should be.

I also love the diversity. I was in a meeting of students recently and I remember when I had to work to get a room to look like that. The University understands that diversity is excellence.

What else would you like alumni to know about you?

I view leadership as a service, and I'm committed to serving this institution in a way that will make alumni proud. I welcome their feedback, their partnership, and their support. I'm a father of six, ages 28 to 5, and anyone who knows me will tell you I love music behind only water and air for my survival. I'm the biggest Prince fan on the planet, and I love DJing parties and events on campus. I'm incredibly curious, and I'm going to approach this opportunity with great wonder and deliver my very best. 

COURSEWORK

Optics through Teamwork

A popular engineering course offers students daunting technical challenges, alumni connections, and even some levity.

By Luke Auburn

Course: Advanced Lens Design (OPT 544)

Instructor: Julie Bentley, Professor of Optics

Overview: Students learn about the design of camera lenses, infrared and microscope objective lenses, eyepieces, zoom lenses, and reflective systems. The class includes two complex group design projects and culminates in final group presentations.

Institute of Optics professor Julie Bentley gave the nearly 40 undergraduate and graduate optics students enrolled this year in OPT 544: Advanced Lens Design two daunting tasks. First, design a zoom lens suitable for NASA's upcoming Europa Clipper mission to explore Jupiter's moon. Then, design the ideal zoom lens to record the mission as it blasts off into space.

The students broke into teams to explore the many factors that would influence their final designs, including fields of view, sensors, packaging constraints, and photon budgets.

Some students helped build tools that were first developed in the class more than 10 years ago using programming languages like Python and MATLAB and that each cohort improves upon. Others conducted market research to see what available products could feasibly meet the project requirements.

The result was an education as much about project management, teamwork, and communication as about optics.


Thomas Brown, director of the Institute of Optics, says the course has grown to become one of the institute's most popular, with Bentley, who has taught it for 20 years, teaching her largest cohort ever this year. He notes that everyone from third-year undergraduates to PhD students line up to take the class.

"It's one of the few courses where they really can compete on equal footing," says Brown. "The undergraduates and graduates take all of the lectures together and put their best foot forward on the project."

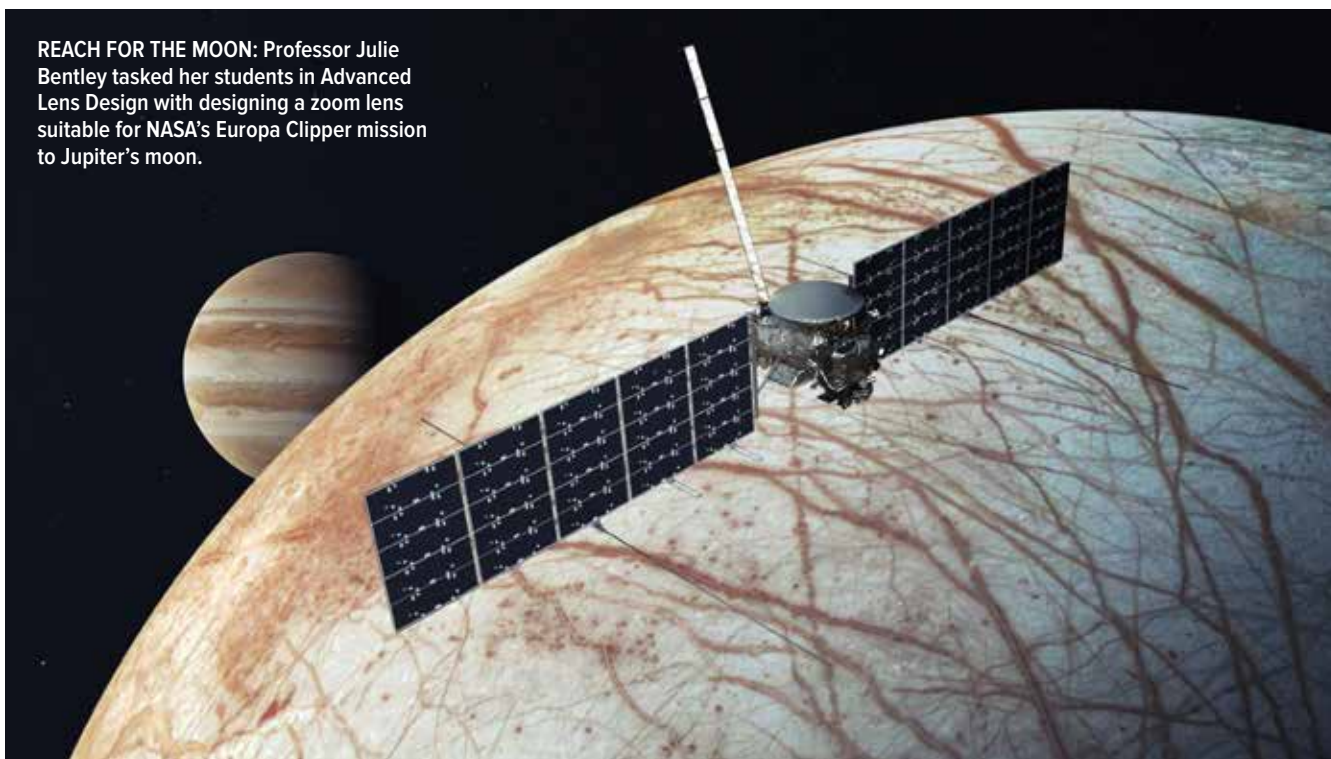
Past projects include exploring lens designs for nondestructive art analysis and zoom cameras for observing underwater coral bleaching and for canopy animal photography in Africa.

This year's project culminated in a marathon session in which each group outlined the project's constraints and students showcased their final designs. And although the class is demanding, Bentley keeps the mood balanced with her trademark sense of humor, peppering constructive feedback with lighthearted jokes, and a pizza break midway through final presentations.

The work-hard, play-hard mentality seems infectious, and the students know that if they can excel in the class, they might catch the eye of prospective employers.

"We had about 50 people from 30 different companies in the Institute of Optics's Industrial Associates program who listened to the final presentation," says Bentley. "The audience includes former optics students who've gone on to work as lens designers at great places. People I know through industry are very interested in these students." 

REACH FOR THE MOON: Professor Julie Bentley tasked her students in Advanced Lens Design with designing a zoom lens suitable for NASA's Europa Clipper mission to Jupiter's moon.



Great Grains

A bowl of cereal, a jar of nuts, the sands of distant planets, and even the concrete on a city sidewalk are all examples of granular materials. Granular materials often segregate rather than mix uniformly, with larger grains rising to the top, posing a problem in the food and medicine industries and in nature, affecting the dynamics of geohazards like landslides and erosion.

A team led by Rachel Glade, an assistant professor of earth and environmental sciences, used advanced computer simulations to study granular materials. While most previous studies have focused on grain size, Glade—also an assistant professor of mechanical engineering—and her team focused on grain shape. The results were published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The researchers found that in dry conditions, increasing the ratio of large to small spheres increased segregation, with larger spheres rising to the top. Introducing larger cubes maintained a similar segregation. However, when smaller cubes were added, the segregation was reduced, with larger spheres rising less. Intriguingly, in wet systems, the trend reversed, with smaller cubes rising to the top.

Understanding these dynamics, Glade says, “paves the way for future work to better understand and predict geohazards, alleviate segregation issues in industrial flows, and enhance our understanding of granular materials on Earth and other planets.”

—Lindsey Valich

GRANULARITY: Understanding the behavior of granular systems—such as piles of dirt and rock—may lead to better predictions of geohazards such as avalanches.



Pollution Solution

A team led by assistant professor of chemical engineering Astrid Müller has invented a new way to remove so-called “forever chemicals” from water. The method is described in the *Journal of Catalysis*.

The chemicals—per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, known as PFAS—are found in clothing, food packaging, firefighting foams, and a wide array of other products. They have been linked to a range of health problems in humans and animals but are also useful in the development of many green technologies.

“I would argue that in the end, a lot of decarbonization efforts—from geothermal heat pumps to efficient refrigeration to solar

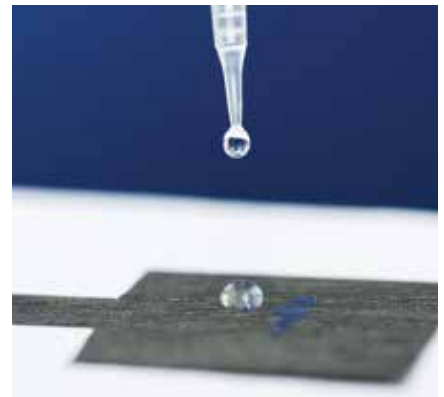
cells—depend on the availability of PFAS,” says Müller.

While previous methods to remove the chemicals require precious metals, the approach Müller’s team developed uses laser-made nanocatalysts created from non-precious metals. It can also be carried out at a small fraction of the cost.

The researchers carried out their study on a specific group of PFAS used in stain-resistant products. Their next step is to test their method on a wider range of PFAS.

Says Müller, “I believe it’s possible to use PFAS in a circular, sustainable way if we can leverage electrocatalytic solutions.”

—Luke Auburn



FOREVER CLEAN: A novel method promises to remove “forever chemicals” from water.

The Role of Genes in a Rising Form of Cancer

A team led by Aram Hezel, the John and Ethel Heselden Professor at the Medical Center and chief of hematology/oncology at the Wilmot Cancer Institute, has made a significant new finding in its long-term study of how gene mutations fuel the growth of bile duct cancer.

Bile duct cancer is a rare but aggressive type of liver cancer that has been on the rise in the US. Known risk factors include gall stones in the bile ducts, alcohol abuse, and infection.

In a study published in *Disease Models & Mechanisms*, the team identified a gene that

plays a unique and major role in suppressing the overgrowth of liver cells and tumors. But when the gene, *SMAD4*, is inactivated, it can no longer stop cancer from developing.

According to the researchers, further investigation of the role of *SMAD4* in bile duct cancer could lead to earlier diagnoses and new treatments, considerably raising estimated survival rates.

The work builds on the team's previous research demonstrating the cooperation of two known cancer genes in disabling bile duct tumor suppressor activity.

—Leslie Orr

Preventing Cognitive Decline after Radiation

Cognitive deficits following radiation treatment are a major problem for cancer patients. A team at the Del Monte Institute for Neuroscience has identified microglia—the brain's immune cells—as a trigger for postradiation cognitive deficits and a target for preventing the symptoms.

The findings, published in the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology Biology Biophysics*, build on research showing that microglia damage synapses, the connections between neurons that are important to cognitive behavior and memory, after radiation exposure.

“This could be the first step in substantially improving a patient's quality of life and need for greater care,” says M. Kerry O'Banion, a professor of neuroscience, member of the Wilmot Cancer Institute, and the study's lead author. “Moving forward, we are particularly interested in understanding the signals that target synapses for removal and the fundamental signaling mechanisms that drive microglia to remove these synapses.”

O'Banion notes that some of the same mechanisms are connected to Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases.

—Kelsie Smith Hayduk

'Extraordinary' Plasma Oscillations

Plasma, also known as ionized gas, is recognized as a fourth state of matter and is prevalent in celestial bodies like the sun. A team led by Laboratory for Laser Energetics senior scientist John Palastro has unveiled a new class of plasma oscillations—the rhythmic, wave-like movements of electrons and ions in a plasma.

Plasma oscillations were thought to depend on overall plasma properties like temperature or density, but the team discov-

ered a theoretical framework in which the properties of the oscillations operate independently of the plasma in which they exist.

According to Palastro, also an associate professor at the Institute of Optics and an assistant professor of mechanical engineering, the breakthrough, described in *Physical Review Letters*, allows for plasma waves with “extraordinary features.”

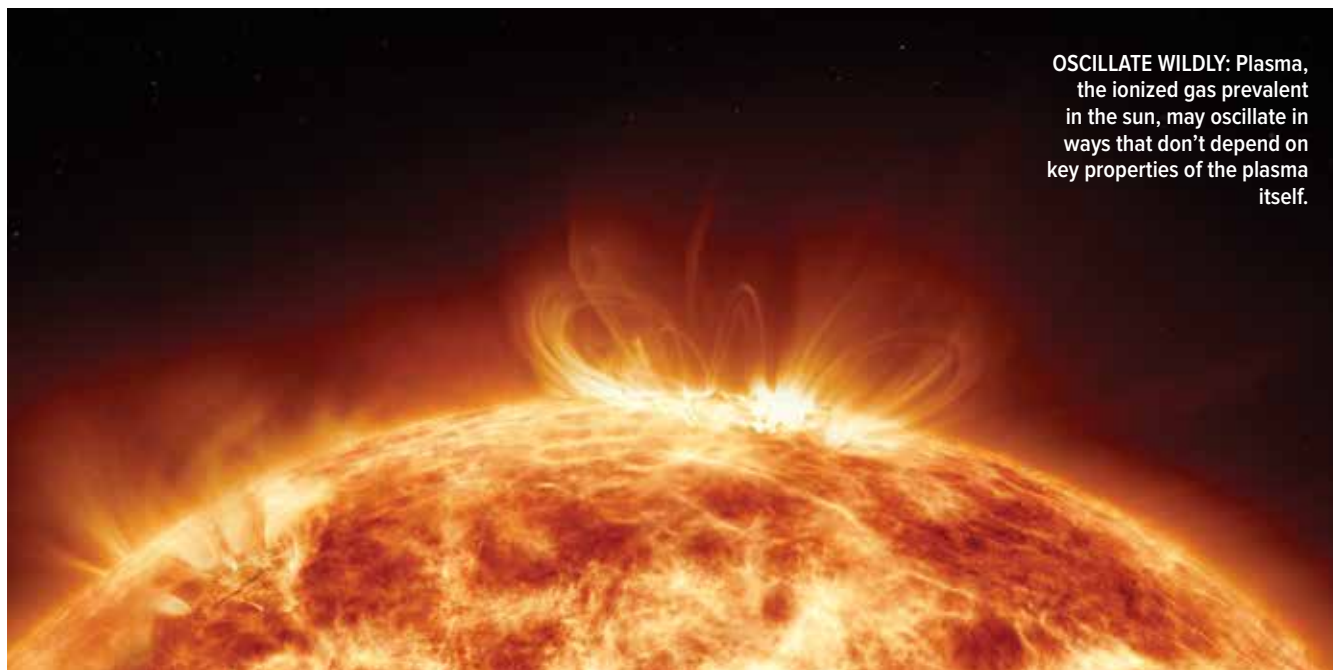
For example, the amplitude of the oscillations could be made to travel faster than the

speed of light or come to a complete stop while the plasma itself moves in an entirely different direction.

The research has implications for improving the performance of miniature particle accelerators and the reactors used to create fusion energy. Managing plasma oscillations in fusion reactors is crucial for the confinement necessary for efficient power generation.

—Lindsey Valich

OSCILLATE WILDLY: Plasma, the ionized gas prevalent in the sun, may oscillate in ways that don't depend on key properties of the plasma itself.



Books

Fugitive Time: Global Aesthetics and the Black Beyond



Matthew Omelsky, an assistant professor of English and of visual and cultural studies, explores the utopian desire for freedom as manifested in 20th- and 21st-century Black music, visual culture, and literature from Zimbabwe, Martinique, Britain, Senegal, and the United States. (*Duke University Press*)

Chinese Popular Religion in Text and Acts



Shin-yi Chao, an associate professor of religion, presents an edited volume exploring Chinese popular religion. The book is targeted to scholars in Chinese religion and popular culture from late-medieval to contemporary times, as well as scholars of folklore, religious art, and ritual studies around the globe. (*Amsterdam University Press*)

Restoration Drama and the Idea of Literature



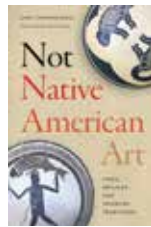
Katherine Mannheimer, an associate professor of English, examines the period in England from 1642 to 1660, when live theater was banned but the market for printed literature, including plays, flourished. After 1660, she argues, plays “exhibited a distinct self-consciousness of drama’s status as a singular art form that straddled both page and stage.” (*University of Virginia Press*)

French Westerns: On the Frontier of Film Genre and French Cinema



Timothy Scheie, an associate professor of French, examines a French cinematic tradition that has spanned the history of cinema but has been largely overlooked by scholars. (*Edinburgh University Press*)

Not Native American Art: Fakes, Replicas, and Invented Traditions



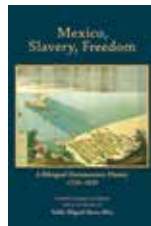
Janet Berlo, a professor emerita of art history and of visual and cultural studies, examines the historical and social contexts within which replicas, fakes, or invented objects pass as traditional Native American art. (*University of Washington Press*)

Inside the Stars



Hugh Van Horn, a professor emeritus of physics and astronomy, offers laypeople an overview of how scientists’ understanding of stellar interiors has evolved. (*American Astronomical Society*)

Mexico, Slavery, Freedom: A Bilingual Documentary History, 1520–1829



Pablo Miguel Sierra Silva, an associate professor of history, has edited and translated a collection tracing the experiences of enslaved Africans, Asians, and their descendants over three centuries in colonial Mexico. The book includes both Spanish and English transcriptions, for use in bilingual classrooms. (*Hackett Publishing*)

There She Goes Again: Gender, Power, and Knowledge in Contemporary Film and Television Franchises



Aviva Dove-Viebahn ’10 (PhD) examines the representation of ostensibly powerful women in transmedia franchises, “examining how presumed feminine traits—love, empathy, altruism, diplomacy—are alternately lauded and repudiated as possibilities for effecting long-lasting social change.” Dove-Viebahn, an assistant professor of film and media studies at Arizona State University, also coedited *Public Feminisms: From Academy to Community*. (*Rutgers University Press*)

The Heart of Innovation: A Field Guide for Navigating to Authentic Demand



Danny Sabbah ’74, ’81 (PhD) coauthors a guide for businesses and social enterprises showing how to identify unmet consumer demands to bring about successful innovations. Sabbah spent four decades at IBM as a researcher, software developer, and eventually as a CTO and GM of divisions in IBM’s software group. (*Berrett-Koehler Publishers*)

Greening America’s Smaller Legacy Cities



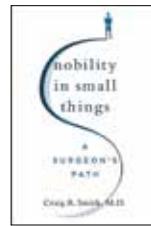
Catherine Tumber ’92 (PhD) and her coauthors show how small and midsize industrial city governments can implement sustainability initiatives related to climate resilience, environmental justice and equity, and green economic development. (*Columbia University Press*)

Environmental Justice in North America



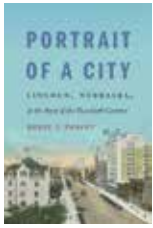
Paul Rosier ’98 (PhD) edits a volume of essays by activists from diverse communities showing their common experience of environmental injustice, their efforts to organize, and the ways their campaigns intersect with Black Lives Matter and Indigenous rights. Rosier is a professor of history and the director of the Albert Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest at Villanova University. (*Routledge*)

Nobility in Small Things: A Surgeon’s Path



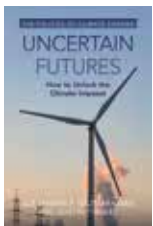
Craig Smith ’82M (Res), ’82M (Flw), offers a memoir of his life and career, from his surgery on President Bill Clinton to his writing during COVID-19, which led the *Wall Street Journal* to call him in 2020 “the pandemic’s most powerful writer.” (*St. Martin’s Press*)

Portrait of a City: Lincoln, Nebraska, at the Turn of the Twentieth Century



Bruce Pauley '67 (PhD), a professor emeritus of history at the University of Central Florida, highlights his hometown of Lincoln during a period of rapid social and technological change between the 1890s and 1920s. (*University of Nebraska Press*)

Uncertain Futures: How to Unlock the Climate Impasse



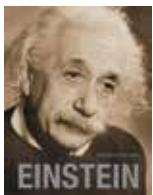
Coauthor **Dustin Tingley '01**, a professor of government at Harvard University, shows how building support for the transition to green energy requires understanding the climate impasse from the ground up. (*Cambridge University Press*)

Gideon's Revolution



Brian Carso '85, '90 (MA) offers a historical novel told through the eyes of a fictional Revolutionary soldier who participates in a failed mission to abduct Benedict Arnold and return him for trial. Carso is an associate professor of history at Misericordia University. (*Cornell University Press*)

Einstein: The Man and His Mind



Gary Berger '69M (MD) and **Michael DiRuggiero**, owner of the Manhattan Rare Book Company, present a visual biography of Albert Einstein, including annotated images of signed photographs, letters, manuscripts, and more from Berger's private collection. (*Damiani*)

The Same Bright Moon: Teaching China's New Generation During Covid



Wendy Bashant '90 (PhD) recounts her experience teaching American culture to students in Xi'an, China, portraying a generation "sure to challenge, inspire, and bring hope for the future." (*Acorn Publishing*)

Recordings

John Harbison: Works for Piano



Se-Hee Jin '15E (DMA), codirector of the Contemporary Music Ensemble at Texas Tech University, performs selections by Harbison from the 1980s to the present, including premiere recordings. (*Naxos*)

Unholy Sonnets



The recording features song cycles by **Samuel Adler**, who chaired Eastman's composition department from 1974 to 1995. Sopranos **Rebecca Karpoff '97E (DMA)** and **Freda Herseith '79E (MM)** and pianist **Cary Lewis '72E (DMA)** perform on the recording. (*Navona Records*)

2



Quarteto Nuevo, which includes **Damon Zick '97E** on soprano saxophone, merges Western classical, Eastern European folk, Latin, and jazz and features three of Zick's compositions. (*Quarteto Nuevo*)

Blessings & Praises



Max Stern '69E, a professor emeritus of music at Ariel University, presents compositions inspired by scriptural sources and performed by members of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, Israel Sinfonietta, and several soloists. (*MS Classical*)

Electric Miles 2



The Charles Pillow Large Ensemble performs works and arrangements by Miles Davis from 1969 to 1975. The ensemble includes **Mike Davis '82E (MM)**, **Jim Hynes '81E (MM)**, **Clay Jenkins**, a professor of jazz studies and contemporary media at Eastman, **Alexa Tarrantino '14E**, **Dave Rivello '89E (MM)**, an assistant professor of jazz studies and contemporary media at Eastman and director of the New Jazz Ensemble, and **Jared Schonig '07E**. (*Summit Records*)

Our Mr. Jackson



Jazz pianist **Darrell Grant '84E** performs on his debut recording with his quartet MJ New, formed as a tribute to the Modern Jazz Quartet. The recording's title honors drummer Carlton Jackson, who died shortly after the album was completed. (*Lair Hill Records*)

Ascension



Pianist and composer **Michael Noble '10, '10E** presents his second album, featuring transcriptions of medieval and Renaissance works juxtaposed with contemporary pieces, as well as his compositional debut. (*Michael Noble*)

Quantum Memoir



Composer **Andrew Waggoner '82E** presents three inter-related concertos for violin, piano, and guitar, performed with the Seattle Modern Orchestra. **Kenneth Meyer '00E (DMA)** performs on guitar. (*Bridge Records*)

Breath & Fire



The Rochester-based contemporary chamber music ensemble fivebyfive presents its third album, featuring a composition by **Marc Mellits '88E**. The group includes **Marcy Bacon '08E (DMA)**, **Haeyun Jeun '16E (DMA)**, **Ken Luk '11, '18E (DMA)**, **Eric Polenik '06E (MM)**, and **Laura Lentz**, who teaches at Eastman's Institute for Music Leadership. The ensemble also released *Eclipse* to mark the total solar eclipse in Rochester on April 8, 2024. (*fivebyfive*)

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.

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

David Linehan Begins as Medical Center CEO



David Linehan began the roles of CEO of the Medical Center, dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry, and senior vice president for health sciences on February 1.

Linehan joined the University in 2014 as chair of the Department of Surgery. He was also the associate director for clinical research at the Medical Center's Wilmot Cancer Institute and retains the position of Seymour I. Schwartz Professor in Surgery.

Linehan succeeds Mark Taubman, who in 2015 became the first person to serve as both CEO of the Medical Center and dean of the medical school. In September 2022, Taubman announced his decision to conclude his terms effective December 2023.

A graduate of Dartmouth College and the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Linehan completed his internship and residency at Deaconess-Harvard Surgical Service in Boston.

SURGEON-SCIENTIST: Linehan is a noted clinician, researcher, and educator.

Mellon Foundation Boosts Black Studies

The Mellon Foundation has awarded \$3 million to support the recruitment and hiring of additional tenure-track faculty members in the Department of Black Studies. The funding comes a little over a year after the creation of the new department as a center for multidisciplinary research and engagement with Black life and culture in the US and beyond.

The department aims to hire several faculty members based on shared interdisciplinary research goals and their ability to make connections and forge collaborations within and across disciplines.

Sarah Jesse Leads Memorial Art Gallery

Sarah Jesse began the role of Mary W. and Donald R. Clark Director of the Memorial Art Gallery in February. A noted museum educator, Jesse previously served as director of the Academy Art Museum in Easton, Maryland.

She takes on the role following the departure of Jonathan Binstock for the Phillips Gallery. She received a bachelor's degree in art history from Oberlin College and a master's degree in art history from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Sarah Jesse

Medical Center Performs Record Number of Heart Transplants in 2023

A record 40 people received life-saving heart transplantation surgeries at UR Medicine's Strong Memorial Hospital in 2023. That number is an 82 percent increase over the previous record of 22 heart transplants in 2022 and places Strong as among the busiest heart transplant centers in the country.

The Medical Center is the only center in upstate New York for heart and liver transplantation and is among an elite group of transplant centers in the nation, along with Duke, Vanderbilt, and Columbia.

Senior Named Schwarzman Scholar



Souleymane Diallo

Souleymane Diallo '24, an international relations major from Guinea, has been selected as a Schwarzman Scholar. He'll begin

a one-year, fully funded master's program in global affairs at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China, starting this August.

Diallo is Rochester's seventh recipient of the Schwarzman Scholarship since investor and philanthropist Stephen Schwarzman established the program in 2013. The aim of the scholarship is to offer promising future leaders an immersive experience in China within an international community of thinkers and leaders in business, politics, and society.

Diallo is one of 150 scholars from 43 countries and 114 universities chosen for the 2024–25 cohort. The class was selected from more than 4,000 candidates.



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

It's a Match!

A 72-year-old tradition in medical education filled the Class of '62 Auditorium at the School of Medicine and Dentistry with anticipation, cheers, and tears of joy, as aspiring medical doctors learned where they will train

as residents during the annual Match Day ceremony.

At noon on Friday, March 15, medical students from across the country opened envelopes to discover which institution they were matched with.

A total of 183 residents matched at the Medical Center, including 30 students from the School of Medicine and Dentistry's Class of 2024. They will begin their training in Rochester this summer.

A DAY TO REMEMBER: "Every physician remembers their match day," says David Lambert, a senior associate dean at the School of Medicine and Dentistry. "It's the culmination of years of work."

Nedergaard Recognized for Pioneering Research

Maiken Nedergaard has been recognized by the International Human Frontier Science Program Organization with its 2024 Nakasone Award for her "groundbreaking discovery and exploration" of the glymphatic system, the brain's waste removal system, and the role that sleep plays in its function.

Nedergaard, the codirector of the Center for Translational Neuromedicine and a professor in neurology, in 2012 first described the glymphatic system, a previously unknown

network of channels used to transport cerebrospinal fluid deep into brain tissue and flush away toxic waste, including proteins associated with Alzheimer's disease.

"Dr. Nedergaard forever changed the way we understand sleep as an essential biological function that promotes brain health and plays a crucial role in preventing diseases, such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and Huntington's diseases," said the organization's secretary-general, Pavel Kabat.



Maiken Nedergaard

Ask the Archivist: What Role Did My Brother Have in the 1964 Honor Code?

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

I am interested in learning more about the University's honor code that I recall that my older brother, Jim Diez '65, was involved in developing when he was a student. It was a thrill when Jim was accepted to Rochester, the first person in our family to go to college. He was a biology major with a strong interest in nature vs. nurture conversations. He later earned a PhD in bio-behavioral genetics. I didn't know a lot about his time at the U of R, but a few things stood out—his interest in the honor code, for example, and the fact that he heard John Lewis speak on campus in 1964, which inspired Jim to go to Missouri during spring break to register voters. —Julie Reynolds

To approach your question in reverse chronological order, your brother had three opportunities to hear John Lewis on the River Campus on March 11, 1964. The 24-year-old Lewis first presented a workshop in Todd Union on nonviolence for those students interested in registering voters over spring break. He then spoke at the Alpha Delta Phi house (your brother's fraternity), and, finally, gave a formal evening speech in what is now Douglass Commons.

Your brother was also a news editor for the *Campus Times*, a member of Yellow Key (sophomore men's service group), the Mendicants (junior men's honor society), the Forensic Society, and the Newman Club. And with classmate Christine Scott '65, he was cochair of the Students' Association Committee on Academic Honor Codes.

In December 1964, the committee offered a new honor code for their fellow students to vote on. The code, based on the principle that "Each student is responsible for his own actions and is expected to maintain the ethic of

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.

HONORABLE: Diez (right), cochair of the Students' Association Committee on Academic Honor Codes, helped develop an honor code in 1964 that fell narrowly shy of approval, as reported in the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* (above).

Honor Code at U. of R. Fails to Win Majority

University of Rochester's proposed Academic Honor Code failed to win a majority vote in last month's campus balloting, according to figures released yesterday.

Voting yes were 1,042 students, or 49 per cent of the student voters; no, 885 or 41.5 per cent, and abstaining, 203 or 9.5 per cent. About four-fifths of the eligible student body voted.

The figures weren't released until yesterday because the code committee wanted to "analyze" the results by class, major field, sex and so forth.

The committee had said it wouldn't feel "legally bound" to present the code to the administration unless it received 50 per cent of the vote.

Committee co-chairman James Diez said yesterday, however, that when the results are broken down by major field they are "encouraging."

He pointed out that English majors and nursing and education students had an affirmative vote of 63 per cent; social science students, 62 per cent; humanities, biology, psychology and pre-med students, all 54 per cent.

Engineering and business students had the lowest affirmative vote percentages, 32 and 21, respectively. Expected until late next semester.

Other breakdowns showed that women were more in favor of the code than men. About 66 per cent of the coeds voted yes, and only 41 per cent of the men did.

The difference in class vote (freshman, sophomore, etc.) wasn't significant, Diez said.

The code would place a large share of the burden of preventing cheating on examinations on the students themselves.

the academic community," also stipulated that "if a student observes another cheating, he is urged to discuss the violation with the offender, and encourage him to discuss the offense with his professor." If the offender took no action, the student would be expected, but not required, "to report [them] to the Student Honor Board."

As a percentage of the student population, incidents of cheating in 1964 were probably fewer than in the 19th century. An April 1877 editorial in the *Rochester Campus* (forerunner of the *Campus Times*) reported, "It is very evident . . . that the habit of 'cribbing,' or cheating in recitations and examinations, is not decreasing in our college . . . The Faculty tell us that they do not wish to put themselves in an attitude to detect and punish . . . but . . . they are bound in honor to protect the honest men, of whom we are glad to say there are many. . . ."


Joseph Gilmore, professor of English from 1868 to 1908, agreed. His recommendations in an undated proposal to monitor exams may have elicited the April 4, 1882, *Campus* editorial noting: "It is certainly very amusing to see the students seated in two long lines, facing in, and

every man exactly ten feet from each of his neighbors. Then . . . imagine two professors pacing up and down between the lines . . . and you have the Rochester style of examination."

Voter turnout for the 1964 honor code was done by roll call. Turnout was 80 percent of the student population, but the proposal failed to pass. Although 49 percent were in favor of the honor code, that was just 1 percent shy of the number needed to send it to the faculty for consideration.

The 1964 proposal was not the first, or last, time an honor code was put forth. The earliest honor code was developed in 1910 and passed in 1912. While it effectively ended for the undergraduate men around 1917, it was retained for at least another decade by the College for Women and the Eastman School of Music.

The faculty's academic honesty regulations preexisted the honor code, although their first appearance in student handbooks may have been in 1929.

The most recent revision of the regulations was approved in May 2023 to address ChatGPT and other AI technologies. It includes a pledge for students to write on their exams or graded work: "I affirm that I will not give or receive any unauthorized help on this exam, and that all work will be my own." 

To read honor codes and Academic Honesty regulations through the years, visit <https://www.library.rochester.edu/rbscp/blog/ata-spring2024>.



Season Spectacular

Yellowjackets make school history at the NCAA indoor track and field championships.

The men's and women's track and field teams both had standout seasons this spring.

The women finished fourth out of 66 squads scoring in the 2024 NCAA Division III indoor track and field championships in March. The finish ranks as the second-best finish in team history at an NCAA track and field competition, trailing only the team from the 1988–89 indoor campaign.

Among the highlights:


Senior **Madeline O'Connell** won the national championship in the pole vault—the first such win in school history.

Senior **Ashley Heffernan** earned first-team All-America honors in the pentathlon.

Follow the Yellowjackets

If you can't cheer on Rochester in person, you can follow the Yellowjackets online. Live coverage is available for nearly all home events. Find live stats and livestreams at uofrathletics.com/coverage.

The 4x400 meter relay team consisting of seniors O'Connell and Heffernan, first-year **Nora Chen**, and junior **Megan Bell** won its second straight crown. The team posted a time of 3:45.21, ranking fourth all-time in Division III women's indoor track history.

Then men finished 10th in the competition overall, the best-ever for the indoor squad. Junior jumper **Cole Goodman** came away with two first team All-America awards—a designation for an event's top eight finishers—and junior **Sean Hendricks** was first team All-America for the 800 meters. 



HIGH BAR: Madeline O'Connell '24 wins the pole vault championship.

Chris Apple '92, Longtime Soccer Coach, Retires

After 23 years at the helm of the men's soccer program, head coach Chris Apple '92 will retire at the end of the 2023–24 academic year.

Following his announcement in January, Apple recognized the leadership of the Department of Athletics and Recreation, alumni, and, above all, players.

"As their coach, I have enjoyed this wonderful window of time in their lives when they are growing and maturing and preparing for adulthood," he said. "To not only be front and center to witness the transformation, but to play a small though not inconsequential role in helping them develop—this has been my greatest joy and reward."

Rochester won five University Athletic Association (UAA) titles under Apple and made the NCAA Division III Final Four in 2018, embarking on the program's deepest postseason run in history. Apple's peers in the United Soccer Coaches voted him as Northeast Regional Coaching Staff of the Year four times during his career.




Chris Apple

Apple also enjoyed a remarkable career as a student-athlete. He was a three-time All-UAA honoree and 1990 UAA Player of the Year. He earned All-America status from the NSCAA in both 1989 and 1991, becoming just the second first team All-American in program history.

With Apple as a player, the Yellowjackets soccer program produced four post-season appearances, including three trips to the NCAA tournament.

His legacy extends beyond the soccer pitch at the University as well. Apple served on multiple University committees over the years and was an instructor

for the Leadership Experience, a course offered in Arts, Sciences & Engineering for upper-class undergraduates in student organizations or on varsity teams.

In the summer of 2022, Apple was awarded the Lamar Riley Murphy Leadership Award, a distinction honoring exemplary role models and innovative leaders across the University. 

—SCOTT SABOCHECK

HEALING ARTS



▼
A new **MEDICAL CENTER DEPARTMENT TEAMS**
up with the **HUMANITIES CENTER** to foster **COLLABORATION**
on both sides OF **ELMWOOD AVENUE**.

BY **KAREN MCCALLY '02 (PHD)**
PHOTOGRAPHS BY **J. ADAM FENSTER**



AND LETTERS

A

LITTLE OVER A YEAR AGO, LAINIE ROSS, Dean's Professor and chair of the Medical Center's Department of Health Humanities and Bioethics, crossed Elmwood Avenue and walked into Rush Rhees Library to pay a visit to Peter Christensen, the Ani and Mark Gabrellian Director of the Humanities Center.

Ross, a pediatrician and an ethicist with a PhD in philosophy, had arrived in Rochester just months earlier from the University of Chicago's McLean Center for Medical Ethics. The Department of Health Humanities and Bioethics was brand new, and she had been hired to shape and lead it, along with the Paul M. Schyve, MD Center for Bioethics. Christensen, a scholar of architectural and urban design and the Arthur Satz Professor of the Humanities, was halfway through his first year heading the Humanities Center, and only its second director. Finding their footing in new roles, they each sought inspiration and a potential partner in elevating the profile and practice of the humanities across the University.

It was a fruitful meeting.

"We had a kind of immediate synergy," says Christensen, who since January also serves as associate dean of the School of Arts & Sciences. "I was taken by her incredible initiative."

Says Ross, "We met, and within five minutes, it was like we were old friends."

They traded notes on everything from their shared roots as New Yorkers to their thoughts on the academic literature on hospital design. They found they harbored similar views about the relationship between the humanities and the life sciences.

Viewed through the modern academy's operational lens, with its divisions into departments and programs, the humanities and the life sciences can seem to occupy separate universes. But seen in terms of

the problems they address, they can be inseparable.

Ross describes the humanities as “embedded” in medical research and practice. And nowhere has that been more the case than at Rochester.



ELECTED TO THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF Medicine last year, Ross has written and presented internationally on ethical issues raised by organ transplantation, genetics and genomics, clinical research with human subjects, and multiple aspects of pediatrics. After three decades at Chicago, she’d grown frustrated.

“They had a very narrow role for ethics as just clinical ethics at the bedside,” she says of the school’s medical establishment. “I wanted [to see] a much broader, 360-degree role.”

She calls the opportunity that arose at Rochester “the perfect job,” and shares an oft-told story that’s still not widely known outside the University. In short, the School of Medicine and Dentistry was the birthplace of an influential approach to patient care and research called the biopsychosocial model.

With roots stretching back to the 1940s, the model was formally proposed and described by Medical Center psychiatrist George Engel in a landmark article, “The Need for a New Medical Model: A Challenge for Biomedicine” published in the journal *Science* in 1977.

The deceptively simple model transformed medical education. As Engel explained, a physician should not be trained to look exclusively at physiology as though a patient was best seen as a system of organs. “The physician’s basic professional knowledge and skills must span the social, psychological and biological, for his decisions and actions on the patient’s behalf involve all three,” he wrote, at a time when physicians were still overwhelmingly male.

The biopsychosocial model opened a door to collaboration between researchers in medical science and other disciplines, including the humanities. In 1981, the Medical Center established a Division of Medical Humanities, and Ross credits its first director, Kathryn Montgomery, a scholar of English literature, with a groundbreaking development. Montgomery’s book *Doctors’ Stories: The Narrative Structure of Medical Knowledge* (Princeton University Press, 1991) “is sort of the precursor to all of narrative medicine,” Ross says, alluding to a type of medical practice that considers

the role of storytelling—the patient’s, the doctor’s, and the interaction between the two that creates yet another narrative that guides clinical decision making.

Under the leadership of its last director, physician and art historian Stephanie Brown Clark, the division expanded into the arts, partnering with the University’s Memorial Art Gallery, and more recently, with the Eastman School of Music.

As Ross puts it, the Medical Center “was among the first in the country with a humanities division, and now, is one of just eight academic medical centers in the nation to have a dedicated humanities and bioethics department.”

The decision to elevate a division into a department is no mere administrative detail. It has allowed Ross the chance to develop that “360-degree role” for ethics in a way she couldn’t at Chicago. She calls Mark Taubman, the CEO of the Medical Center and dean of the medical school until he stepped down this past year to resume his position in cardiology, “visionary” in making the critical decision.

“One of the most important things I do is what I call embedding,” Ross says. Health humanities and bioethics “have to be embedded across the entire clinical and research spectrum.”

That means standing on an equal footing with clinical departments.

“If you’re doing a lecture on neurology, I want to be included, because I’ll talk about determinations of death and the ethical issues [that presents],” she says. “If you’re talking about cardiology, I’m going to talk about the ethics and humanity of what it means to get somebody else’s heart in a heart transplant. No matter what area of medicine you talk about, I can come up with an ethical issue. And if I can’t, I can just go back to the fundamental doctor-patient relationship, because that’s a moral relationship.”

By addressing the ethical implications of medical research and practice, she has been able to bring additional grant funding to Medical Center researchers. “When you write a grant, you have to be innovative,” she says. “By bringing in an ethics component, we’re saying, ‘we’re doing great science, but what are its implications?’”

But Ross didn’t want such embedding to be limited to ethical philosophy or to the Medical Center. That’s why, she says, “I reached over to Peter.”



WHEN CHRISTENSEN MET ROSS, HE WAS about a semester into his role leading the

Humanities Center. He was at a busy and productive point in his career. A specialist in architecture and urban design, his second book, *Precious Metal: German Steel, Modernity, and Ecology* (Penn State University Press, 2022), had just come out, and another, *Prior Art: Patents and the Nature of Invention in Architecture* (MIT Press, 2024), was at press.

The Humanities Center was established in 2015, and its inaugural director, Joan Shelley Rubin, the Dexter Perkins Professor of History, articulated a set of values as part of its mission, describing them as “some of the gifts the humanities provide: deeper understanding of ourselves and others, along with the sense of collective welfare essential for democracy to thrive.” Under her leadership, the center brought in new scholars as fellows, created forums for scholars across disciplines to share perspectives, and sponsored a faculty-led, reading-and-discussion summer program called Experiencing Civic Life for select high school students in the Rochester City School District, among other programs and initiatives.

From that footing, Christensen’s charge was to expand the center’s role. New initiatives launched in the past year include the Scholar in Exile program (see “Dmitry Bykov: Satirizing Putin,” page 36) and a global book series, *Humanities in the World*, in cooperation with the University of Rochester Press.

And he’s asked, what more could the humanities be doing—literally? He points to an assumption about the humanities with deep roots, but one that he believes needs rethinking.

In Western culture at least, starting with the 18th-century Enlightenment period, the humanities came to be thought of as the study of “what defines the human experience,” he says. “And that is why music is a humanity, but it’s also why literature is, and why art is, and why philosophy is. These are all things that only we can do, right? That animals and nature can’t do. This is what defines us as a species and what defines the human experience.”

That was still the idea at the dawn of the 20th century. But within the rapidly growing academy, Christensen says, “it became associated with thinking versus doing. We actually need to think also about what the humanities can do.”

In that vein, Ross’s arrival could not have come at a better time. Medicine is fundamentally about doing—caring, healing, and improving the quality of life in the most elemental sense. Christensen had already been interested in connecting with col-

leagues in medicine for that very reason. Ross was someone who saw a humanistic discipline—ethical philosophy—as part of every aspect of clinical care and research.



DURING THAT FIRST MEETING, CHRISTENSEN disclosed to Ross something that had been weighing on his mind.

“A dear friend of mine had just been diagnosed with a stage 3 brain tumor at the age of 40,” he says. “I was really struggling with all that that meant about dying young, or potentially dying young, and about your life being turned upside down.”

Ross recalls that point in the conversation well. “I said, ‘You know, what you’re experiencing is anticipatory grief. We talk about this all the time in medicine.’” Their conversation turned to the universality of grief. And by the time the meeting was over, they had a plan for their first collaboration.

They called it, simply, the grief series. Through the 2023–24 academic year, Ross and Christensen have brought before the University authors, musicologists, poets,

SYNERGISTIC: When Ross (right) met Christensen, “within five minutes, it was like we were old friends,” Ross says. As leaders of the Department of Health Humanities and Bioethics and of the Humanities Center, respectively, Ross and Christensen aim to foster greater collaboration among Rochester’s scientists and humanists.

physicians, and photographers to discuss grief over sudden loss; the connection between music and mourning; a doctor’s experience declaring a child dead; grief in the face of violence and social injustice as experienced in Black communities, and more. The series invited faculty, students, and staff “to expand our networks exploring this complex topic as one university.”

Susan Dodge-Peters Daiss, a senior associate in the Department of Health Humanities and Bioethics, calls the series “a daring first move” in what promises to be a vibrant collaboration between the department and the center, extending to other areas of the University over time.

Daiss was the inaugural McPherson Director of Education at the University’s Memorial Art Gallery and trained as a hospital chaplain at Strong Memorial Hospital. In 2002, she and Clark cocreated a course using art as a means for medical students and clinicians to enhance their skills of observation. More recently, she created Art at the Bedside, offering patients a chance to look at works of art as a means to reduce anxiety and fear. She recalls “sitting beside a woman who was dying, who would never be outside again. And we went on walks in the woods together, thanks to artwork.”

“This is an important collaboration,” Daiss says. In choosing a theme with universal relevance, “we’re showing that whether you’re a historian, a political scientist, a psychologist, a musician, or a clinician, we can all share ideas.”

But there is a method at work when it comes to turning ideas into action. Ultimately, the hope is that the collaboration will lead to new research. But that takes time, says Ross, who has a philosophy about how research germinates. “You can’t get to research until you have relationships,” she says. “The first step of trying to do research that spans the Medical Center and the River Campus is to develop relationships.”

Relationships, perhaps, like the one that has arisen between her and Christensen.

Like old friends and colleagues, Christensen and Ross don’t always agree, and their back-and-forth can help refine their thinking. Christensen observes that in the contemporary United States, there’s a stigma against expressing grief, yet none against expressing anger. As a result, people may “bypass grief and express it as anger.”

He asks Ross what she thinks, and she replies, “Well, sort of.”

“I’m going to go all Kübler-Ross on you,” she says to him, referring to the University of Chicago professor Elisabeth Kübler-Ross who identified and articulated five stages of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. “We’re sort of stuck in our anger stage, rather than going through the five stages. And you don’t have to go through the five stages in order. Grief encompasses a lot of different emotions, not just one.” When grief gets expressed communally, there can be real beauty in that experience, says Ross.

Later in their conversation, Christensen returns to that thought. “It reminds me a bit of the art historical concept of the sublime,” he says. He offers “a nutshell version” of the concept as described by the 18th-century German philosopher Immanuel Kant: “a mix of awe and fear and beauty that you experience when looking over the top of a mountain, for example. It’s not about positive or negative emotions but about profundity of emotions.”

Ross and Christensen report hearing from colleagues and people in the community inspired by the grief series to converse and connect with others. In that spirit, the scholars are exploring the next joint venture for the department and the center.

“I think Lainie and I have some fun topics that we want to deal with,” says Christensen. “Our lives have joy, right? Joy, being the opposite of grief—maybe we want to get there at some point.”

Visit the Department of Health Humanities and Bioethics at Urmc.rochester.edu/medical-humanities.aspx and the Humanities Center at Sas.rochester.edu/humanities/.





Shining a Light in the Darkness

CELL PHONES AIMED AT THE SKY, STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF MET THE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE WITH AWE AND WONDER.

BY MATT COOK

A large crowd of people gathered at night for a solar eclipse viewing event. The crowd is dense and extends far into the distance. In the background, a large, illuminated building with a prominent archway is visible. The scene is dark, with the crowd and the building providing the main sources of light.

A

ABOUT EVERY 400 YEARS, a specific place on Earth will have the opportunity to bask in the darkness of a total solar eclipse. April 8 was Rochester's moment. Expecting as many as 500,000 out-of-town visitors, the city hosted several public watch parties, including those at the Rochester Museum and Science Center and Parcel 5 downtown. ¶ On the River Campus, thousands of Rochester students, faculty, and staff flooded the Hajim, Eastman, and Wilson quads to experience the marvel of cosmic happenstance in a festival-like atmosphere. But the only ecliptic interplay that could be seen came in the form of two students in inflatable sun and moon costumes. Clouds concealed all views of the umbra and solar corona. ¶ Nevertheless, the moments leading up to totality were filled with excited "Woos" which eventually gave way to murmurings of awe and wonder.

ROCHESTER'S MOMENT:
Rochester hasn't experienced
a total solar eclipse since
1925—and it won't happen
again until 2144.

Rare Looks

WHAT DID PEOPLE MAKE OF SOLAR ECLIPSES IN THE DISTANT PAST?
RIVER CAMPUS LIBRARIES HOLDS SOME CLUES.

BY DAVID ANDREATTA AND SANDRA KNISPEL

CAREFULLY PRESERVED within the roughly 3 million volumes in the River Campus Libraries are a couple dozen rare volumes, some published more than 500 years ago, that explore astronomy and solar eclipses, revealing the perspectives from a particular place and time in the distant past. You can't check them out, but here are three examples that are worth "checking out."

1

Institutio Astronomica (1653)

By Petri Gassendi

You won't be able to read this work by French astronomer and mathematician Pierre Gassendi unless you know Latin. But you can marvel at its illustrations of solar eclipses and at how far science—and graphic design—have come in the last 400 years.

Institutio Astronomica was based on a series of lectures Gassendi gave in his day and is considered one of the first modern astronomy textbooks. Gassendi made many of his observations through telescopes given to him by Galileo, and in 1631 was the first person to observe and record a special kind of eclipse in the transit of Mercury across the sun.

2

Bat Book Almanac (c. 1390s)

"Manuscripts like this one, a folding almanac that would have been used by a physician, are extremely rare," says Anna Siebach-Larsen, director of the Rossell Hope Robbins Library and Koller-Collins Center for English Studies.

This so-called "bat book almanac" is based on the *Kalendarium*, written in the 1390s by John Somer, one of England's leading astronomers from that period. As a tool for astronomy, prayer, and astrology, this small parchment almanac was designed to be folded and carried around, attaching easily to a person's belt. It

would have played a role in a patient's prognosis, diagnosis, and treatment.


According to Siebach-Larsen, there are only 31 known almanacs of this type from England, and only three are from the 14th century. "Our manuscript might be one of the earliest English manuscripts of these texts and of this type," she says.

3

Astronomicum Caesareum (1540)

By Petrus Apianus

Holy Roman Emperors Charles V and Ferdinand I commissioned German humanist Peter Apian to complete this work, whose title translates to "The Emperor's Astronomy." The University's copy is not an original, but rather a facsimile. It is worth a look, though, because of its intricate and colorful volvelles, a set of overlapping paper disks that the reader can rotate to calculate astronomical information. Volvelles are like a cross between a primitive computer and a pop-up book.

The volvelles of *Astronomicum Caesareum* rely on the debunked geocentric model of the universe, which places Earth at the center of it all. But they are nevertheless something to behold. 

To learn more, visit [Rochester.edu/news/eclipse-books](https://rochester.edu/news/eclipse-books) and [Rochester.edu/news/medieval-eclipses](https://rochester.edu/news/medieval-eclipses).



Harkness and Light

THE WORK OF A CLASS OF 1858 ALUMNUS
SETTLED A LONG-HELD DEBATE ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE SOLAR CORONA.

BY DAVID ANDREATTA

DURING THE SOLAR eclipse of 1869, William Harkness, Class of 1858 and namesake of Harkness Hall, made observations of the sun's corona that were considered a landmark discovery.

At the time, few people had ever had a good look at the solar corona—the outermost jacket of gases that make up the sun's atmosphere. The sun's blinding brilliance made studying anything in its immediate vicinity almost impossible. Only during eclipses did its radiant halo, the corona, become visible.

In fact, astronomers of the day debated whether the ring of light revealed during an eclipse was the sun's atmosphere at all. Some thought it was just sunlight penetrating Earth's atmosphere. Others speculated it was a lunar atmosphere.

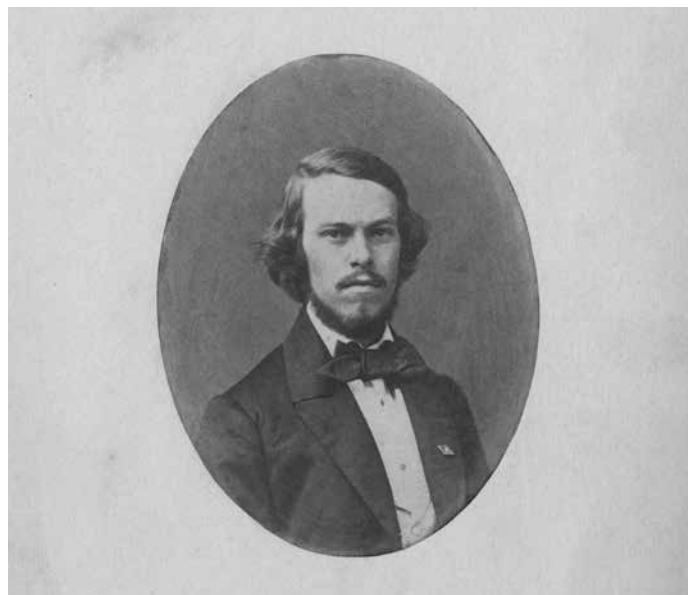
Harkness helped put the debate to rest with his study of a solar eclipse on August 7, 1869, from a hilltop on the outskirts of Des Moines, Iowa, one of the cities in the eclipse's path of totality. Vital to his research was his use of a relatively new instrument called a spectroscope, a glass prism that splits light into a rainbow of colors emitted by specific atoms and molecules. The hues act like a key to identifying different elements.

Affixing a spectroscope to a telescope enabled Harkness to observe a continuous green line ringing the sun as the moon slipped between the star and Earth and punched a hole of darkness in the daytime sky.

In a report published by the United States Naval Observatory, Harkness concluded that the corona was "a highly rarefied self-luminous atmosphere surrounding the sun, and, perhaps, principally composed of the incandescent vapor of iron."

"Could see no absorption lines in the spectrum of the corona," he added. "It gave a continuous spectrum with one bright line on it."

Scientists hypothesized that the green line might be the emission of a new element of the sun, which came to be known as coronium. They studied that green line during eclipses for the next seven decades before concluding that coronium was not a new element, but rather iron stripped of half of its electrons.

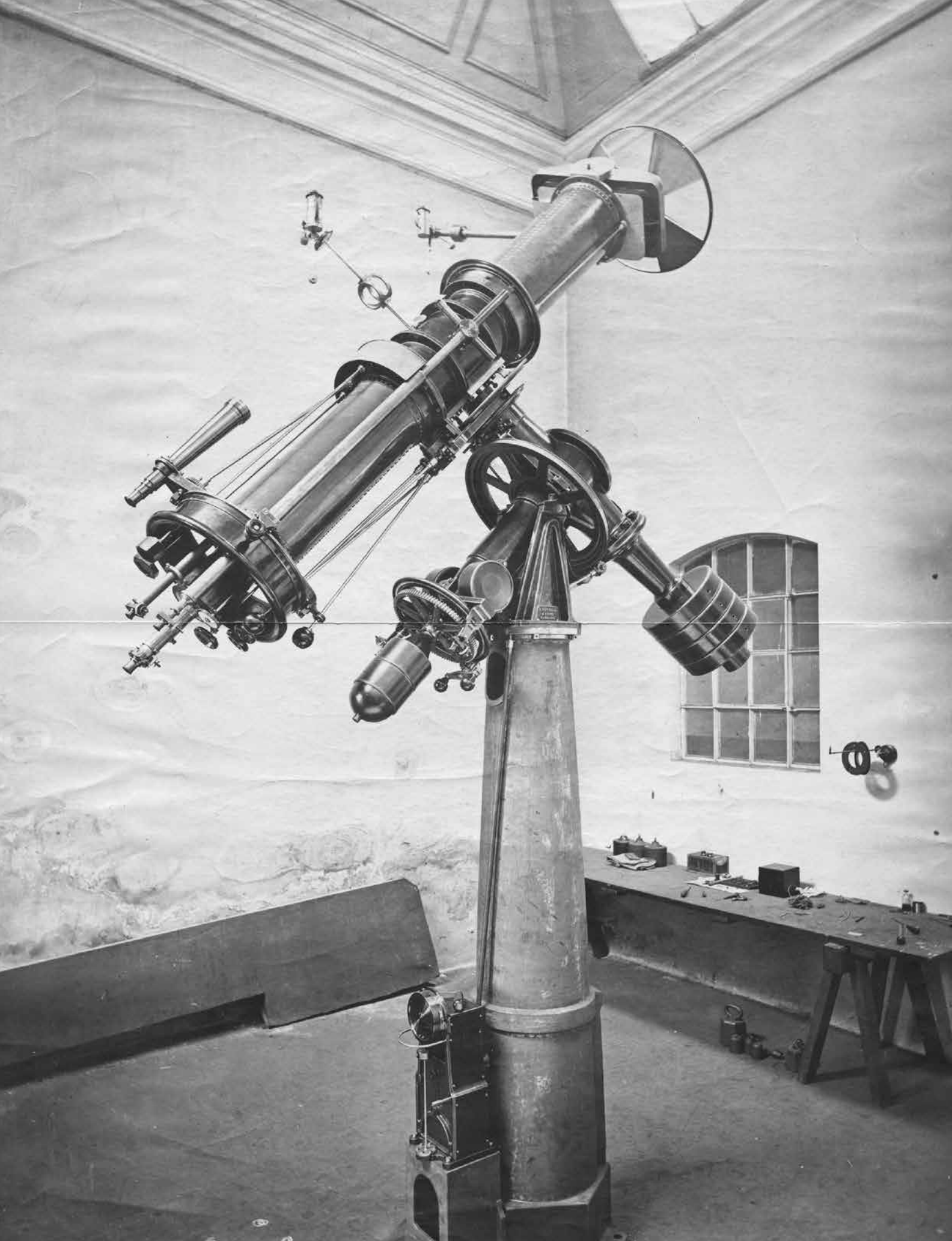


SCOPING IT OUT: Astronomer, admiral, and adventurer William Harkness (above) made landmark observations in 1869 using a spectroscope affixed to a telescope (right). A spectroscope—a glass prism that splits light into a rainbow of colors emitted by specific atoms and molecules—was a relatively new instrument at the time.

That finding suggested the solar corona was hotter—millions of degrees hotter—than the surface of the sun and has since helped the scientific community better understand how stars work.

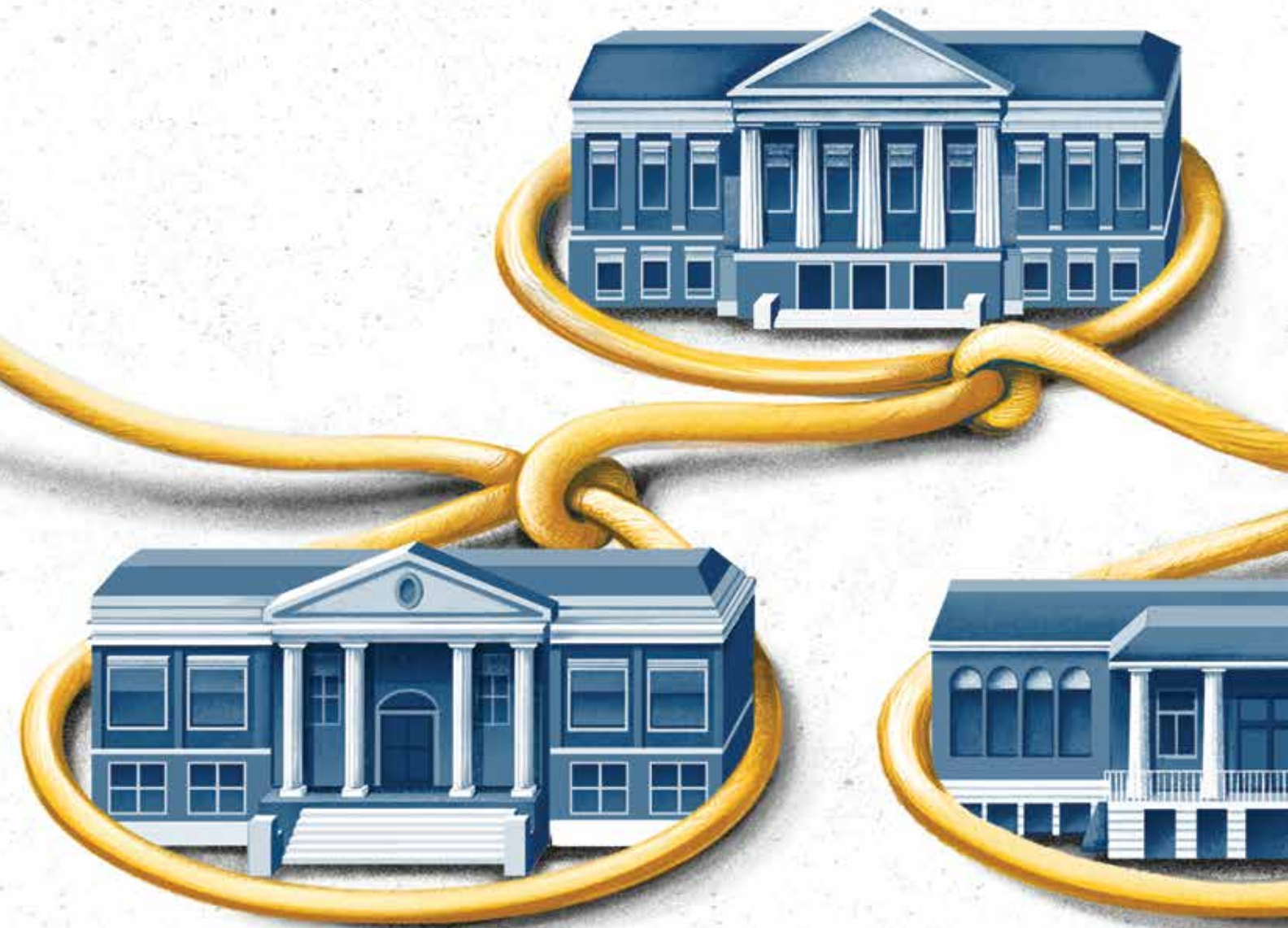
Harkness was 11 years on from graduation at the time of his discovery, but he kept his alma mater in mind throughout his life. When he died in 1903, having reached the rank of rear admiral in the Navy, he bequeathed to the University his collection of nautical and scientific instruments as well as his library and papers. [R](#)

For full coverage, visit [Rochester.edu/news/harkness](https://www.rochester.edu/news/harkness).



GOING GLO

CAN HIGHER EDUCATION HELP MEND A FRACTURED WORLD?



BAL!

By Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

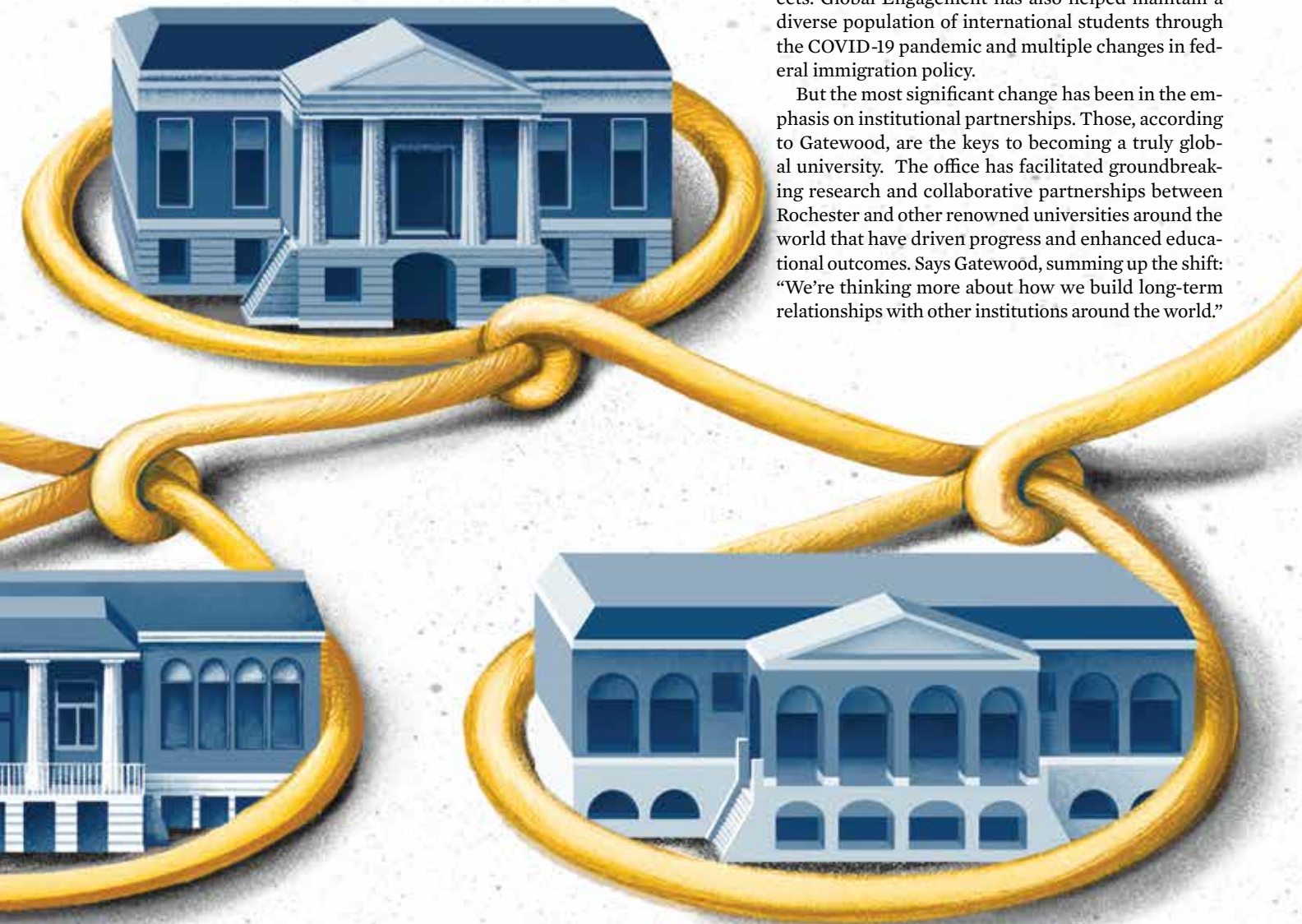
with additional reporting by Jim Mandelaro

READING THE HEADLINES can show the world to be a dangerous place. But imagine looking at the world through the lens of research and educational partnerships between universities around the globe. In the 21st century, it's not an overstatement to say that national boundaries begin to fade away.

It's a point that Jane Gatewood, the vice provost for global engagement, likes to underscore. It gets to the heart of what a global university is about—a celebration of global exchange, cooperation, and talent mobility uncoupled from the barriers that borders sometimes pose. And it's all in the service of education and research that enriches lives and addresses problems that extend far beyond the borders of any one nation or continent.

The University's Office for Global Engagement, 10 years old this year, launched Rochester into a new chapter in international education. Encompassing the Center for Education Abroad and International Services Office, Global Engagement has, on the one hand, furthered the efforts of staff who had long worked to expand study abroad opportunities and to serve the needs of international students. The results of that work are increased opportunities for study and work abroad and for faculty exchanges and overseas projects. Global Engagement has also helped maintain a diverse population of international students through the COVID-19 pandemic and multiple changes in federal immigration policy.

But the most significant change has been in the emphasis on institutional partnerships. Those, according to Gatewood, are the keys to becoming a truly global university. The office has facilitated groundbreaking research and collaborative partnerships between Rochester and other renowned universities around the world that have driven progress and enhanced educational outcomes. Says Gatewood, summing up the shift: "We're thinking more about how we build long-term relationships with other institutions around the world."





PARTNERSHIPS FACILITATE STUDENT AND FACULTY MOBILITY, but the work to create and maintain them is complicated, arduous, and takes place mostly behind the scenes.

Some of the work starts with faculty initiative and input.

“When you get faculty involved, and you get the schools involved, you can knit the curriculum together so that more students can move between schools, and have a richer, deeper understanding not only of their discipline, but also of the global context of their discipline,” says Gatewood.

Tynelle Stewart, director of the Center for Education Abroad, has seen the fruits of that work, which is vital to her efforts to increase student participation in study, work, and research abroad. It used to be that students in disciplines such as engineering, which adhere to strict accreditation requirements, had few opportunities to study abroad. Now, students across disciplines are participating in educational programs, and not just in their junior year.

“We’re seeing that students are engaging in opportunities for longer periods of time,” Stewart says. “A student might do a semester of courses and then stay and do a research project over the summer and add on an internship. There’s just so much more flexibility in what students can do.”

Gatewood, Stewart, and Shankar all worry that the American immigration system may be placing the United States at a disadvantage in attracting the brightest students from around the globe.

“We’re still the top country for our international students in terms of sheer numbers,” Gatewood says. “But when you look at surveys of where students want to go, and where they’re thinking about going, it’s increasingly Australia, New Zealand, and the UK.” Why? One factor is almost certainly that in those places, unlike in the US, higher education creates a smooth path to immigration.

AS GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT marks its first decade, it is also turning attention to scholars and students around the world whose lives and livelihoods are in danger. “There are nearly three dozen active conflicts around the world as we speak,” Gatewood says. “And there are scholars who are affected in even more places than there are active conflicts, because there may be laws that affect their ability to do their research in their home country.”

Scholars and students facing such circumstances can be considerable assets to the University community, but it takes resources to host them. Some of those resources come from the Global Emergency Response Fund, established in 2021, in the aftermath of the

HIGHER LEARNING, GATEWOOD SAYS, “IS FUNDAMENTALLY ABOUT PROVIDING SPACE TO THINK AND LEARN WITHOUT BARRIERS.” AROUND THE WORLD, NATIONALISM IS ON THE RISE AT THE VERY TIME THAT SOCIETY’S BIGGEST CHALLENGES ARE GLOBAL IN SCOPE.

Some of the most complex work falls to Ravi Shankar, assistant vice provost for international services and support, and his 20-plus staff members in the International Services Office. They serve the University’s entire international population, including students, visiting scholars, international employees, and their dependents. International Services has long provided immigration advising to international students, but a couple of years ago, Shankar began a new initiative, the support and engagement team, which assists international community members with everything from navigating an entirely new culture to filling out tax forms.

Then there’s what he calls the office’s “bread and butter.”

“Our day-to-day work really is processing immigration requests that come in from students and from departments to bring in faculty, staff, and scholars,” he says. “We do a lot of workshops to educate the students and departments about what is required right now to sponsor a visa for students, scholars, physicians or faculty members who are not US citizens or permanent residents.”

The process for moving international students and scholars across borders is complex and chock-full of places where plans can go awry. “If a student or faculty member is trying to come in and they’re denied entry into the United States, we might get called at midnight,” Shankar says. During high-travel seasons—winter and spring breaks, the end of spring semester and the beginning of fall—the work is nonstop, extending to evenings and weekends.

US military withdrawal from Afghanistan, with seed funding from Board of Trustees Chair Richard Handler ’83 and the Jefferies Group, the investment company he leads.

Individual programs and schools have secured funding to host scholars as well. The Humanities Center, for example, funded and launched its Scholar in Exile program, with some additional support from the School of Arts & Sciences.

These efforts have brought to Rochester visiting scholars such as Baitullah Hameedi (see “Escaping the Taliban,” opposite page) and Dmitry Bykov (“Satirizing Putin,” page 36), and visiting students like Anastasiya Yushchenko (“From the Epicenter of War,” page 37). Some, like Hameedi, are seeking asylum. Others, like Bykov and Yushchenko, are longing for the time when they can return home.

Higher learning, Gatewood says, “is fundamentally about providing space to think and learn without barriers.” Around the world, nationalism is on the rise at the very time that society’s biggest challenges are global in scope. The internationalization of higher education is one means of stitching the world together.

Gatewood was inspired toward her career path after she went on a student exchange to the former Soviet Union at the end of the Cold War. “It was billed as an initiative for mutual understanding, people-to-people, as a way to foster peace,” she says.

She and her colleagues remain committed to the same spirit of peace and understanding. Says Gatewood: “Building stone by stone is critical to do, and it’s what the world needs now.”

BAITULLAH HAMEEDI

ESCAPING THE TALIBAN

LESS THAN THREE YEARS AGO, Baitullah Hameedi held a secure position on the faculty of Kabul University. But after the Taliban returned to power in the aftermath of the United States military's withdrawal from Afghanistan in August 2021, he fled, along with nearly 3.6 million other Afghans in the year that followed.

Now he's a visiting scholar at the Susan B. Anthony Center, a position he holds through the 2023–24 academic year.

Hameedi applied for the role through Scholars at Risk, an international network that works with universities to find sanctuary and temporary appointments for scholars whose lives and careers are at risk in their home countries. The catch, however, is that universities must fund the positions themselves. In 2021, the University, which is an institutional member of the network, established the Global Emergency Relief Fund, or "GERF," with initial funding from Board of Trustees Chair Richard Handler '83 and the Jefferies Group, the company he leads. So far, the fund has enabled positions for Hameedi and a small number of other Afghan scholars, and support and scholarships for students fleeing war (see "From the Epicenter of War," page 37) and natural disasters.

Hameedi began a perilous journey to the United States and on to Rochester on August 31, 2021. At 2:43 p.m., a WhatsApp message from an unknown European number buzzed on his phone. "There is a possibility to leave today," it read. "You should receive information soon."

The text, from a French nonprofit, set in motion a harrowing escape, from Kabul to the northern Afghan city of Mazar-i-Sharif, to a chartered flight that took him, his wife, and two young children to Doha, Qatar, and then eventually to a US military base in New Mexico where they lived for two months in a sprawling refugee camp.

"In Afghanistan we have smartphones, we have cars, we have streets," Hameedi says. "But when you think of the development of society, we still live in the 19th century. Overall, our culture hasn't yet caught up with modernization."

Hameedi attended Jamia Millia Islamia, a university in New Delhi, for a master's program in convergent journalism. It was in India that he first experienced a democracy, in all its complexity, at work. In 2017, he returned to Afghanistan and was promptly hired as a multimedia instructor in Kabul University's nascent communications department.

With the advent of social media in Afghanistan, made possible after the temporary end of Taliban rule in the early 2000s, Hameedi enthusiastically embraced the greater freedom of expression it enabled. He became vociferous on Facebook, posting several times a day on the virtues of democracy and the need to educate women.

Before the Taliban's return in 2021, the first cohort of communications students—male and female—had been set to graduate the following year—to Baitullah's immense pride. As he prepared to leave, he knew that the young women among them wouldn't be able to complete their studies.

"As a female student in Afghanistan, you're not just fighting for good grades. You're fighting the extremely patriarchal education system, often your own family, and also society—every time you step out



Baitullah Hameedi

the door," Hameedi says, describing women's challenges even before the Taliban regained control.

In the classroom, he often had to walk a fine line, respecting religious beliefs while carefully guiding his students toward asking critical questions, including who stood to benefit most from perpetuating female stereotypes in Afghan society.


This year at the Anthony Center, he has been helping with a research project involving victims and survivors of intimate partner violence. In addition, two days a week, he works at the University's Mt. Hope Family Center as a cultural broker within a trauma therapy team that supports refugee students in upstate New York. He has developed resources to help families recognize the signs of mental health problems and understand the American school system and how to navigate it to support their children's education. He also works with schools to foster cultural understanding.

"Sometimes American teachers say the students from Afghanistan will not look at them, interpreting the lack of eye contact as shiftiness or a sign of disrespect," he says. Yet the opposite is true. "To look a teacher or a parent directly in the face is very disrespectful in Afghan society."

"We are fortunate to host him," says Anthony Center Director Catherine Cerulli. "Having Baitullah as a visiting scholar has been a remarkable experience for our students, staff, and faculty," she says. "He speaks with the wisdom of an old soul, the heart of a fierce social justice advocate, and as someone with the lived experience of a harrowing journey to America."

Once his appointment at Rochester ends, Hameedi is hoping to enter a PhD program in media and communications. He is keen to ensure that his family, and especially his wife, Yasamin, and their 11-year-old daughter, continue to receive a solid education. Yasamin is taking English classes in Rochester and plans to go back to school for a high school diploma or GED. Their daughter is now in 6th grade.

According to Hameedi, his wife is at once in awe of "how powerful American women are in so many ways" and yet intimidated by the idea of holding down both a job and running a household.

"I tell her 'it's not only the women doing the cooking or taking care of the family. Men do this here, too. It's culturally accepted. Men are expected to be active partners.'" 

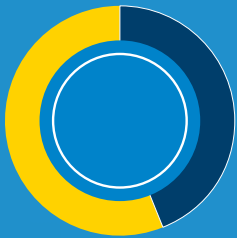
—Sandra Knispel

AT A GLANCE

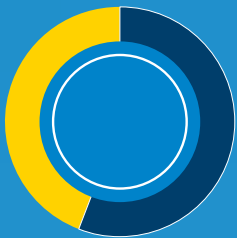
GLOBAL ROCHESTER: ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-23

STUDENT BODY

4,306
international
students
from **135**
countries



44% of undergraduates



56% of graduates

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: TOP 10 COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



China



India



South Korea



Canada



Taiwan



Vietnam



Bangladesh



Brazil



Pakistan



Iran

VISITING STUDENTS: TOP 5 COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



China



Colombia



India



France



Spain

63 VISITING STUDENTS FROM 25 COUNTRIES

EDUCATION ABROAD



25% of undergraduate students participate in a semester, year, or summer program abroad

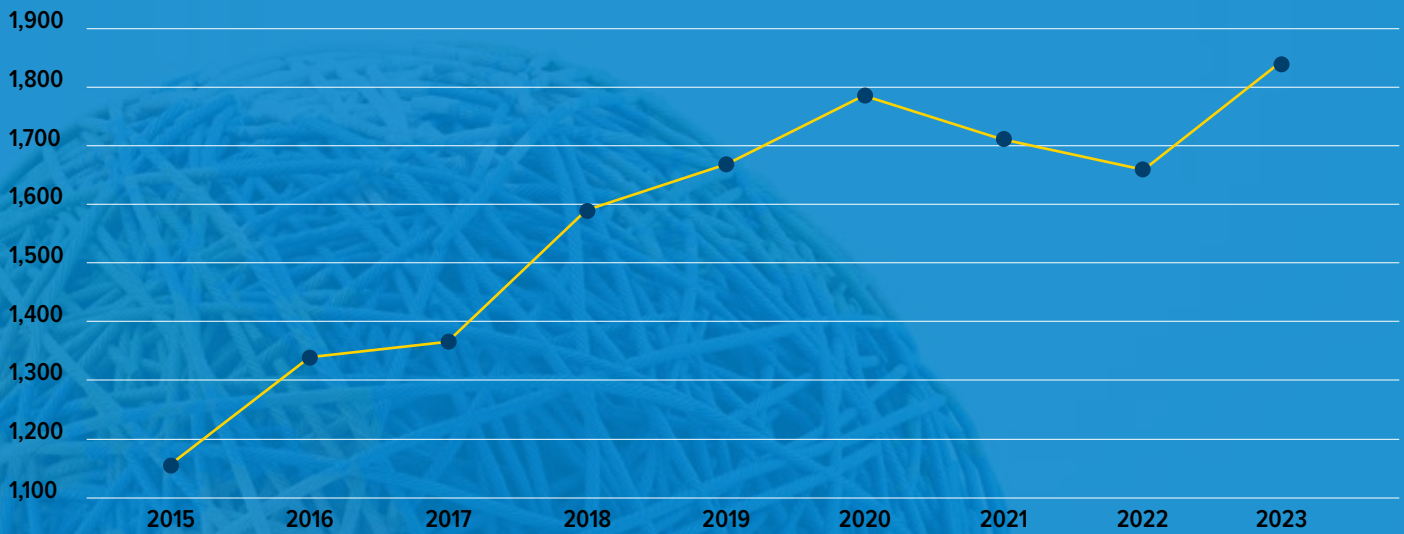


32% of study abroad participants study in nations or territories outside the continental US, Europe, or Australia/New Zealand

Sources: Dashboard: International Enrollment at Census, Global Visitor Program Application, Terra Dotta, Office of Global Engagement; Salesforce

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

NUMBERS OF PUBLISHED PAPERS OR OTHER WORKS OF RESEARCH



Publications (total) by Rochester faculty in collaboration with scholars outside the United States.

ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

119 active partnership agreements extend across units of the University with higher education institutions around the globe.

Those units include the School of Arts & Sciences, the Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences, the Eastman School of Music, the Eastman Institute of Oral Health, the School of Medicine and Dentistry, the School of Nursing, the Laboratory for Laser Energetics, the Simon Business School, and the Warner School of Education.



DMITRY BYKOV

SATIRIZING PUTIN

RUSSIAN POET, journalist, professor, and literary critic Dmitry Bykov is no stranger to the power of words. His satirical poems and sharp political commentaries—often aimed squarely at Russian President Vladimir Putin—did not amuse their subject.

“I think Russian officials hardly know my novels,” says Bykov, who arrived in January as the Humanities Center’s Scholar in Exile. “But some lines from *Citizen Poet* were well-known among Russian elites,” he says of actor Mikhail Efremov’s performance of his satirical verses. “They used to visit our performances and my lectures, which was fashionable in late 2020.”

The center created the Scholar in Exile program last year with funding from its own resources as well as from the School of Arts & Sciences. The idea behind the program is twofold—to demonstrate a commitment to global academic freedom and to bring prominent and endangered scholars into the campus community where they can work directly with students.

Despite his many hats, Bykov sees himself as a poet first—in Russia, a vocation likened to “a prophet, a pillar of civic disobedience, the best kind of lover, whomever we’d like him to be,” as Bykov told the *Los Angeles Review of Books* in 2016. Known for his wit and charm, he was so popular that people would line up to pay admission to his public lectures on literature.

Yet, as a radio and television personality and one of Russia’s most outspoken public intellectuals, Bykov hit a sore spot. Running afoul of the Kremlin is what ultimately drew him out of Russia and to the United States.

Bykov’s woes came to a head in April 2019 during a domestic flight to the western Russian city of Ufa. En route to a public lecture, he suddenly fell violently ill, eventually losing consciousness, and slipping into a coma. Five days later, he awoke in the intensive care unit of a specialized neurological clinic in Moscow with no doubt in his mind that he had been poisoned.

“They are typical bureaucrats and feel danger only if you participate in some organized activities,” he says of the Russian government. Back in 2012, Bykov had been a member of the now-defunct Russian Opposition Coordination Council that had tried to plan strategies for opposing Putin’s regime. Clearly that membership had been deemed organized enough. Subsequently, he was banned from appearing on radio or television, fired from universities and two editorial offices, including the newspaper *Kommersant*, well known for its liberal, independent views.

The council’s roster—which also included Alexei Navalny, the opposition leader who died in prison in February in what Bykov describes as a murder—soon became a checklist for Kremlin-directed secret operatives.

“The poisoners followed the list systematically,” says Bykov, an admirer of Navalny who calls his role as a regime critic “quite modest” in comparison.

Writing frequently about Russian and Soviet historic and contemporary figures and themes, Bykov is a well-known biographer of Russian stalwarts, such as authors Boris Pasternak, Bulat Okudzhava, and Maxim Gorky. In 2005, he wrote *How Putin Became President of the USA: New Russian Fairy Tales*.

While his work has garnered a variety of Russian literary prizes, including the National Bestseller Prize, three Big Book awards, and



Dmitry Bykov

the Strugatsky International Literature Prize, some of the titles alone have placed him directly in the Kremlin’s crosshairs. In early 2022, right before Russia invaded Ukraine, the Kremlin declared him a foreign agent and many Russian booksellers pulled his works—some 90 total, including novels, literary biographies, essays, and poetry collections—off their shelves.

Before his move to the United States in 2022, Bykov had held temporary visiting positions at American universities, including at UCLA and Princeton University. In 2022–23, he was a visiting critic at Cornell University’s Institute for European Studies.

Bykov is now at Rochester as a visiting assistant professor in Russian through the 2024–25 academic year.

“He is a huge figure in Russian culture, and it’s something of a miracle that he’s here in Rochester,” says John Givens, a professor of Russian.

This spring, Bykov is teaching courses in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, including *Hard Labor, Exile, Prison: The Culture of Incarceration in Russia*, and *Nikolai Gogol and the Creation of Ukrainian Literature*.

“It’s not every day that a student can take a class from someone who was poisoned by Vladimir Putin for using his status as a celebrated writer and the public performance of his writings as weapons,” says Givens. “This is a powerful message to students—the ability of art to speak truth to power, and the power of the individual to stand up to tyranny.”

Most recently, Bykov wrote a literary biography about Ukraine’s president Volodymyr Zelensky, *VZ: Portrait Against the Background of the Nation* (Freedom Letters, 2023).

In the fall, he will teach two courses: *Russian Folklore: Ballads, Romances, Tales, Proverbs, Anecdotes and Poetics of Horror: Gothic, Thriller, and Suspense Stories*. He also plans several public lectures.

Meanwhile, Bykov is certain that one day he’ll return to Russia, ideally splitting his time between the US and his homeland. Putin, he says, won’t last. “He has no ideas for a new Russia.”

Once Putin is deposed—whether by his inner circle, rebellion, or military defeat—Bykov predicts brief turmoil, “followed by a period of peaceful and fruitful development, and psychological recovery.”

And that, he says, he can’t wait to be part of. 

— Sandra Knispel

ANASTASIYA YUSHCHENKO

FROM THE EPICENTER OF WAR

LIFE WAS GOOD for Anastasiya Yushchenko two years ago. She was studying at the Ukraine Leadership Academy and living peacefully with her family in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, located in the country's northeast.

That peace was shattered on February 24, 2022, when the Russian military invaded the country, with Kharkiv as one of its first targets. According to a UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission, as of February 2024, more than 10,000 civilians have been killed, and nearly 20,000 injured. Millions have been displaced. Yushchenko's close friend and classmate, Serhii Movchanov, was killed on the front lines.

Yushchenko was luckier. While she is among the displaced, she has been able to continue her education as a River Campus undergraduate student this year on a one-year study abroad program. Her expenses, like Baitullah Hameedi's (see "Escaping the Taliban," page 33), are covered by the University's Global Emergency Response Fund, set up with initial support from Board of Trustees Chair Richard Handler '83 in 2021.

She credits Jen O'Neill, enrollment and special programs manager in the Center for Education Abroad, and the International Services Office for her smooth acclimation to Rochester.

"We did so many wonderful things with other study abroad students when I arrived, such as going to the mall, going to an Asian market, and apple picking," she says. "It really made me feel I belonged here."

Yushchenko applied to study at Rochester through the Ukrainian Global University, a program with which the University is a partner. She moved with her family initially to England, where she began studying at City, University of London, in the fall of 2022. Now an international politics major, she lives on the River Campus and is taking four classes this spring. Her favorite is War in Our Time, taught by political science professor Hein Goemans, which examines the war in Ukraine.

"It's a subject I unfortunately know all too well," says Yushchenko.

Goemans says Yushchenko's knowledge and experience make her a great asset to the class. At times, he says, "She deliberately holds back a bit. But when asked she always gives her own perspective. Her knowledge has been very helpful to fill in the picture of recent history for the other students."


Before the end of the semester, Yushchenko or one of her family members will speak to the class. "It will make the war, and the daily life of Ukrainians at war, more immediate and visible for the other students," Goemans says.

Yushchenko has befriended fellow Ukrainian students at the University and has found time to join the Debate Union, attending tournaments in Binghamton, West Point, and Suffolk County. "Debate club is a community and so much fun," she says. "Debate excites me, especially policy debate. I like that you can argue, prove your point, and learn great perspectives from others."

She speaks to her family daily and worries about her grandmother in Ukraine. "She is in her 70s and has to get up at 3 a.m. and go to air raid shelters," she says.

Yushchenko will return to study in London after this semester. Eventually, she hopes to work in the Ukrainian government. Her goal will be to show the world what she already knows.

"I want to share that Ukraine isn't part of Russia, that we have our own culture, language, and traditions," she says. "I want to show my country at its best, and I want people to come to Ukraine. I think our country has amazing potential."

And she wants to make her late friend proud. Movchanov was only 19 when he died and had recently become engaged to be married. "He had his whole life in front of him," Yushchenko says. "I want to make my life have value, and do good things." 

—Jim Mandelaro



Anastasiya Yushchenko

Tokyo



Entrepreneur Yohay Wakabayashi '10, '11S (MS) shares some of his favorite things to do in one of the world's top destinations for culture and cuisine.

By Kristine Kappel Thompson

Visitors love Tokyo's temples, shrines, and gardens. They savor its sushi, noodles, yakitori, and many culinary delights. And they soak up the city's museums, nightlife, and shopping opportunities. For American tourists, it's an ideal time to visit, too, says **Yohay Wakabayashi '10, '11S (MS)**.

"The US dollar is very strong in Japan right now—the strongest it's been in years—making it much more affordable for people to travel here," says Wakabayashi, who frequently meets up with alumni and friends from the US. "I recommend that people visit now to experience all that Tokyo has to offer."

Planning a visit and only have three days? Here's how Wakabayashi—one of about 500 Rochester alumni in Japan—recommends you spend your time.



Begin your trip in **Harajuku**, a vibrant part of the city that's full of vintage stores, street art, and youthful energy. Then, head to the **Omotesando**—a sophisticated area often referred to as Tokyo's Champs-Élysée. Shop for souvenirs like *tenugui* (Japanese hand towels), *washi* (Japanese paper), pottery, textiles, and tea ceremony

HOMMAGE TO TOKYO: Japan's capital is experiencing a culinary heyday, with cornucopias of tasty street food and more Michelin-rated restaurants in 2023 than Paris and New York combined. Among those is Hommage, where, incidentally, you can sample Wakabayashi's Rococo Tokyo White—Japan's first luxury beer.



goods. Consider visiting the **Ukiyo-e Ota Museum** to admire traditional woodblock prints and the **Nezu Museum of Fine Art**, which houses a large collection of pre-modern Japanese and East Asian art and features a traditional Japanese garden.

Then explore the **Meiji Shrine**. It's a religious and cultural icon dedicated to modern Japan's first emperor and empress. The shrine and its adjacent **Yoyogi Park** are nestled inside a 170-acre urban forest, which is home to 120,000 trees and offers a respite from the city. "Visit here and you'll forget you are in the heart of Tokyo," says Wakabayashi.

For dinner, Wakabayashi recommends Nishiazabu Taku for Edomae (Tokyo-style) sushi. "Sushi was created in Tokyo, so it is best experienced authentically in its

birthplace," he adds. "The chef prepares the sushi and presents it to you—it's a very special experience."



Day
2

Explore traditional Tokyo in the **Asakusa** district. Start with a visit to the **Tokyo Skytree**, the world's tallest tower, and take in a 360-degree view of the city. Then, wander through some of Asakusa's craft shops. Pick up local items like as *yukata* (an informal style of kimono) and *hashi* (chopsticks). Try some street foods, too, such as *gyoza* (deep-fried dumplings), *yakitori* (grilled, skewered chicken), and *taiyaki* (fish-shaped snacks filled with sweet bean paste). Later, visit the **Sensoji Temple**, the oldest temple in Tokyo.

After a day of sightseeing, dine at **Hommage**, a two-star Michelin restaurant in Asakusa. The chef "blends modern French cuisine with authentic Japanese fare," says Wakabayashi, calling dining there "an unforgettable experience."



Day
3

Spend your last day in **West Tokyo**. Take a walk around **Nakameguro**, a trendy neighborhood along the Meguro River that offers many taprooms, cafés, shops, galleries, and museums. From there, explore nearby **Daikanyama**. Its tree-lined, pedestrian-only streets are packed with boutiques, open-air eateries, and upscale architecture. Explore the stylish **Tsutaya Daikanyama** bookstore, too. "Be sure to go up to the second floor where you can enjoy a drink in a stylish lounge surrounded by rare vintage Japanese magazines," he adds, noting that his beer—Rococo Tokyo White—is served there.



Meet Your Guide

Yohay Wakabayashi '10, '11S (MS)

was born in Japan and spent 11 years in the US attending junior high, high school, and college. At Rochester, he majored in economics and stayed on to earn a master's degree in strategic marketing at the Simon Business School. He also was a top scorer on the squash team.

Wakabayashi is a cofounder and CEO of Maison Rococo, which brews and markets Japan's first luxury beer under the Rococo Tokyo White brand name (Rococotokyo.com) and is available in restaurants, luxury hotels, and ryokan in Japan, Taiwan, and Singapore.

Wakabayashi credits Rochester for helping him develop an entrepreneurial mindset, gain an appreciation for networking, and cultivate his strong work ethic. "Rochester taught me to never give up, taught me about grit, and gave me the skills to achieve my goals," he says.

For dinner, visit **Towa**, a Kaiseki restaurant in Nishi Azabu, which features a traditional multicourse menu with *wagyu* (high-end Japanese beef) as its signature item. Wakabayashi adds that Tokyo, in addition to being known for its sushi, is famous for *wagyu*. Time-permitting, take in a theatrical performance at the **Kabuki-za** in the trendy Ginza area nearby. [R](#)

International Networks and You

With more than 10,000 alumni living outside the US, the University offers networking groups in Japan, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, Guam and Indonesia, Guatemala, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Korea, Paraguay, Spain, Taipei, and the United Kingdom and Ireland. Learn more at [Rochester.edu/alumni/regional-network/international](https://rochester.edu/alumni/regional-network/international).



Julia Bullock

2024 GRAMMY AWARDS

Best in Class

Soprano **Julia Bullock** '09E won the category of Best Classical Solo Vocal Album for her solo debut, *Walking in the Dark*, at the 2024 Grammy Awards held in February. The St. Louis, Missouri, native and Munich-based artist performed on the album with the London Symphony Orchestra directed by Christian Reif, who is also Bullock's husband.

A National Public Radio critic praised the album for "its smart, wildly diverse repertoire" and Bullock's voice as "among today's most expressive." The selections are ones Bullock grew up with and which she counts as integral to her development as a singer.

In the liner notes to the album, Bullock wrote: "Over the years, I've returned to this material with reconsideration, revision, and review, and that makes me undoubtedly call these songs 'classics'—classics, which are inclusive of traditions across cultures, and celebrate a diversity of thought, expression and experience."

Soprano **Martha Cluver** '03E also took home an award, along with the other members of the experimental vocal ensemble Roomful of Teeth. The group won Best Chamber Music/Small Ensemble Performance for *Rough Magic*, their third album. Cluver is an original member of the ensemble.

The Count Basie Orchestra, whose members include **Shawn Edmonds** '87E (trumpet), **David Glasser** '84E, '86E (MM) (alto saxophone), and **Isrea Butler** '04E, '06E (MM) (trombone), won Best Large Ensemble Album for *Basie Swings the Blues*.

And **Sara Gazarek**, an associate professor of jazz voice at Eastman and founding member of the vocal ensemble säje, won Best Arrangement, Instrument and Vocals, along with the other members of the group for their rendition of "In the Wee Small Hours of the Morning." The song, which featured Jacob Collier, appears on their self-titled debut album.

This year marked the 66th Grammy Awards, given annually by the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences. 



SCORE: Greenwood earns a coaching role with the Phillies minor-league affiliate.

Great Catch

Beth Greenwood '22—the first woman player in Yellowjackets baseball history and the first American woman catcher in NCAA baseball history—has reached another milestone.

Greenwood was hired in February as a development coach by the Philadelphia Phillies of Major League Baseball. The Amherst, New Hampshire, native works for the Jersey Shore BlueClaws, the Phillies' Class A minor-league affiliate.

Greenwood, who majored in mechanical engineering at Rochester, completed an 18-month stint with the Phillies as a baseball research and development fellow while also gaining coaching experience. She's also a member of the US national women's baseball team.

"I'm excited to stay in the Phillies organization and help develop players and build relationships," says Greenwood, who primarily works with catchers and helps with the BlueClaws' daily game plan. "When I was growing up, women coaching in pro baseball was practically nonexistent. Over the last decade, major strides have been made in proving there are experienced and qualified women to coach baseball. I look forward to following in their footsteps to help pave the way for the next generation of girls and women in the game."

—Jim Mandelaro

Hello, Coffee

Entrepreneur **Craig Dubitsky** '87 has teamed up with actor Robert Downey Jr. to build a brand with a social mission.

The brand is Happy and its first product is coffee. Happy partnered with the National Alliance on Mental Illness to aid in the group's efforts to destigmatize mental illness and encourage freer conversation about mental health. Happy's single-serve pods are sourced through Rainforest Alliance–certified farms, and the products come with a QR code linking to the NAMI website and its mental health resources. NAMI was granted an equity stake in the company.

Dubitsky cofounded Eos skin and body-care products and the oral-care company Hello products, which was acquired by Colgate-Palmolive in 2020. Happy is designed to help consumers "rediscover the magic in the everyday," Dubitsky says. As he told *Inc.* magazine at the time of the company's launch, "I love this idea of turning commodities—something that's generally widely available and does something—a little bit more desirable and interesting."

—Karen McCally



BRAND-NEW BRAND: Dubitsky (right) says the project with Downey aims to "try to reimagine the relationship between entrepreneurship and philanthropy."

Class Notes



DON'T LET THE SUN CATCH YOU CRYIN': Spectators take in an annular eclipse on May 10, 1994. At 5:12 in Rochester, the moon passed directly in front of the sun—but appeared smaller than the sun, leaving a bright ring of light in the sky. Recognize anyone? Write to us at rochrev@rochester.edu.

College

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

1958 Robert Stern shared three poems he's written in memory of professors at Rochester who have meant a lot to him and his wife, **Paula '59**. In his poem to Elmer Suhr, who taught classics, Robert begins: "as I read Thomas Mann's / *The Magic Mountain* the presence / of my greatest teacher Elmer George Suhr / is with me on every page . . ."; his poem remembering Kathrine Koller, a professor and chair of the Department of English [the first woman to chair a department at Rochester] begins with the lines: "she could make you believe / Edmund Spenser was your brother / and I was one of her duller students / I never heard anyone who knew / more about what they were talking about . . ."; and in a remembrance of Larry Raisz, a professor at the School of Medicine and Dentistry and a postdoctoral mentor to Paula and a friend to the couple, he concludes with the lines: ". . . toward his last days we hugged one another tightly / knowing the end

may be darkness without any light / but the mysteries of life still swim with the whales / and the purpose of deadly mosquitoes is beyond our understanding." The poems "are a testament to the importance a university has on its graduates," Robert writes. "I am now 87 and often reflect on these teachers and their wisdom."

1959 Paula Siegel Stern (see '58).

1966 Bo Ozols '71M (PhD), '74M (MD), a retired senior vice president and chief clinical officer of Temple University Health System's Fox Chase Cancer Center, was selected by a committee of peers as the 2023 Giant of Cancer Care in Gynecologic Cancers. The award recognizes physicians who have made significant contributions to the cure and treatment of cancer patients.

1969 Neil Baldwin writes that his book *Martha Graham: When Dance Became Modern* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2023) made *Pittsburgh Magazine's* list of recommended reading in December. In spring 2023, *Review* published an interview with Neil and an excerpt from

the book in the feature story "When Martha Graham Danced."

1970 Elliot Richman '75 (PhD) sends some professional and personal news. Last year he was selected from among more than 200 active National Association of Science Writers volunteers to receive the NASW Diane McGurgan Service Award. He has also been elected to the governing board of the American Association of Chemistry Teachers, an initiative of the American Chemical Society (ACS), where he also serves in the ACS Science Coaches Program, a joint AACT-ACS educational outreach program that pairs chemists with teachers. And the American Association for the Advancement of Science has designated him as an AAAS Community Superhero. Now retired from his careers as a science journalist and a chemistry teacher, Elliot continues to be an enthusiastic mentor to students, fledgling science writers, and teachers. He and his wife, Laura, have departed the northern New Jersey—metro New York area and relocated to Baltimore, Maryland, to be close to their son, **Daniel Richman '08**, who is now a scientist at the Johns

Hopkins University School of Medicine after earning his physics and astronomy PhD at that institution. Elliot and Laura are also celebrating the arrival of their new grandson.

1974 Scott Cardiner writes that he is "saddened to share that my beloved wife, Sarita (Sara), passed away in April 2023." Scott and Sarita retired and became permanent residents of Ajijic, Mexico, in 2019. He says they enjoyed their last five years together in their adopted country "among great communities and amidst the number one climate in the world." . . . **Raymond Kampff** (see '75N).

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



1976 Jones

1976 Mike Jones sends a photograph from a mini reunion. He writes, "Three Class of 1976 classmates and fraternity brothers from Psi Upsilon got together in Westchester, New York, for a 'reunion round' of golf. A beautiful day and enduring friendship put a smile on our faces!" Pictured from left to right are **Stuart Tapper, Joel Beckman,** and Mike.

1978 Seth Stern writes that he has been diagnosed with frontotemporal dementia (FTD) and notes that a *Wall Street Journal* article featured him and his long and difficult path to the diagnosis ("Diagnosing Dementia Early On Is Important, but Often Tough," May 29, 2023). The article is available at [Wsj.com/articles/dementia-diagnosis-difficulties-frontotemporal-9c1486c5](https://www.wsj.com/articles/dementia-diagnosis-difficulties-frontotemporal-9c1486c5). Concerned with his memory lapses, Seth began writing them down in 2017. When he sought medical advice, his MRI results were normal and he passed several cognitive tests, he told the newspaper. It was a PET scan that revealed FTD. Seth, now retired from his practice as an OB-GYN, remains physically and mentally active, participating in webinars on dementia and speaking at conferences. In June he married his longtime girlfriend, Laurie, and in July, Seth and Laurie moved from New York to Georgia to be closer to Seth's grandchildren.

1979 Bob Bly has written his 109th book, *Machine Learnings: Science Fiction, Science Fact, and Landscapes in Between* (ARIS Books).

1982 Deb Green—a writer, geologist, sailor, and partner in the independent bookstore Bookworks in Albuquerque, New Mexico—has published her first novel, *No More Empty Spaces* (She Writes Press). It's the story of a divorced geologist who takes his children with him on a work jaunt in Turkey—with no plans to send them home. Deb describes the book as "part travel story, part adventure, part family



1982 Mazelsky

saga." . . . **Jonathan (Jay) Mazelsky**, president and chief executive officer at IDEXX Laboratories, rang the Nasdaq opening bell in December in honor of IDEXX's 40th anniversary. Jay joined the pet health care technology company in 2012 as executive vice president.

1983 University Trustee Barbara Burger, a former president of technology ventures and former vice president of innovation at Chevron, was the guest for a fireside chat at the Cleantech to Market (C2M) Annual Climate Tech Summit in December at the University of California, Berkeley's Haas School of Business. She was interviewed by **Harshita Mira Venkatesh '16**, a business fellow at Breakthrough Energy. C2M is a partnership among graduate students, start-ups, and industry professionals to help accelerate the commercialization of clean technology. Barbara and Harshita were photographed with **Katie Sharp '07**, a senior fellowship manager at Activate, where Barbara is on the leadership council. From left to right are Harshita, Katie, and Barbara.

. . . **Michele Marder Kennedy '84W (MS)** writes, "After working as a high school counselor for 38 years in public and private high schools in Massachusetts, I officially retired in June 2023. Most people see the public side of my job—helping adolescents and their parents with the college process—which was not the reason I became a school counselor. Supporting students throughout high school with their academic, social, and emotional development always brought me joy. I was fortunate to spend the majority of my professional career in the Newton North High School in Newton, Massachusetts, where I had autonomy in executing my job. I loved the mix of academic collaboration, family counseling, individual counseling, academic advising, and future planning. It's no surprise that the pandemic shone a light on



1983 Burger

public education, highlighting both its strengths and weaknesses. So, with no professional regrets," adds Michele, "I am now on to new adventures—travel, family time, volunteering, and ???"

. . . **Jeff Kranis** writes, "After first meeting freshman year in September of 1979, this group of close friends has remained in constant touch over the decades despite living in different states and different countries." From left to right) are **Dominick Palma** (Sayville, New York), **Yoram Yossefy** (Roslyn, New York), **Douglas Roth** (Springfield, New Jersey), **Dave**

Hirschler (Westport, Connecticut), Jeff (Randolph, New Jersey), and **Vinny Tritto** (Tokyo, Japan). **Keith Sommers** (Delray Beach, Florida) was also present, but not pictured. . . **Randy Whitestone** sends a *Campus Times* 150th anniversary celebration photo that is also a class reunion photo. From left to right are **Lee Burnley**, Randy, **Gary Stockman**, **Mark Mozeson '86S (MBA)**, **Dick Keil**, **Steve Silverman**, **Susan Krasner**, and **Ilyse Kaplan**.

1984 Scott Evans writes, "In November, my sci-fi story 'Spaghetti Forever' was published on the website *AmazingStories.com*, and *CreepyPod* accepted my piece 'Bird Brain' to be made into a podcast."

1985 Brian Carso '90 (MA) has published a novel, *Gideon's Revolution* (Cornell University Press), based on historical events but told through the eyes of the fictional Gideon Wheatley, a Revolutionary soldier who participates in a failed mission to abduct Benedict Arnold from behind enemy lines and return him for trial. A lawyer and a historian, Brian is an associate professor



1983 Kennedy



1983 Kranis



1983 Whitestone



1989 Mueller

of history and director of the pre-law program at Misericordia University.

1988 Jim Sauer (see '89).

1989 Monica Mueller writes, "Greetings from Tucson. In November 2023, **Daphne Lagios** joined pedaling forces with **Jim Sauer** '88 and me in the annual El Tour de Tucson, a perimeter bike race. Here we are celebrating our completion of a combined 236 miles (XX-large pizza not shown)."

... **Mark Zaid**, founder and managing partner at Mark S. Zaid, P.C. and a lecturer at Johns Hopkins University's Krieger School of Arts and Sciences writes, "I have been appointed to the advisory board of the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC, and to the board of directors for the Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Law." Mark adds that he wrote the introduction to a new nonfiction graphic novel, *Whistleblowers: Four Who Fought to Expose the Holocaust to America* (Dark Horse Comics). Mark came to campus in January to present "Pan Am Flight 103: 35 Years Still Fighting for Justice." He was one of the key players in the civil lawsuit against the government of Libya that resulted in a monetary settlement with families of the victims of the aircraft explosion over Lockerbie, Scotland, in December 1988. Mark established the Pan Am 103 Memorial Scholarship Fund in honor of **Eric Coker** '90 and **Katherine Hollister** '90, who died on the flight.

1991 Leslie Butler, an associate professor of history at Dartmouth College, has written *Consistent Democracy: The "Woman Question" and Self-Government in Nineteenth-Century America* (Oxford University Press). The book reveals through opinions published at the time how an array of theorists, reformers, and critics compelled Americans to assess and reassess their popular political ideas and assumptions against the backdrop of a turbulent century that witnessed the violent end of slavery. . . . **Edward Fox** '95M (MD) was featured in *Orthopedics Today* discussing the benefits of 3D printing's ability to reconstruct bone defects. Edward is the chief of Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center's division of musculoskeletal oncology.

1994 Jay Bruns (see '90 Eastman) . . . **Abby Levine Shallom** sends career news: "I celebrated my six-year work anniversary at Spectrum in executive search."



1996 Aiello

1996 Paul Aiello won a Perry Award from the New Jersey Association of Community Theaters for outstanding featured actor in a musical. He played Albert in *It Shoulda Been You* at the Bergen County Players. It was his third nomination for a Perry and his first win. The association evaluates hundreds of community theater shows throughout the season to nominate only seven people annually in each category. . . . **Kevin Sweeney** writes that after having suffered two severe strokes in August 2020, he has published an autobiography, *Trapped: Living with Non-Fluent Aphasia* (self-published), meant to inspire people. He is the author of twelve scholarly articles and has written another two unpublished books. He retired in 2022 after a 17-year career with the federal government.

2000 Jodi Reynolds, an attorney in the Rochester-based full service business law firm Harter Secrest & Emery, has been elected a partner in the firm. She has more than 15 years of experience in intellectual property and patents. Jodi serves as a leader for a local Girl Scouts of Western New York troop and is a Boy Scouts of America merit badge counselor.

2001 Dustin Tingley, a professor of government and deputy vice provost for advances in learning at Harvard University, has coauthored *Uncertain Futures: How to Unlock the Climate Impasse* (Cambridge University Press) with Alexander Gazmararian. The book is part of the press's Politics of Climate Change Series.

2007 Attorney **Amanda Burns**, formerly a partner at the firm Ward Greenberg's Rochester office, has joined the Rochester office of the Buffalo-based law firm Hodgson Russ as part of an acquisition. . . . **Katie Sharp** (see '83).

2008 Daniel Richman (see '70).

Continued on page 46

MEET THE LEADERS

Navigating the First-Gen Experience: Lessons Learned and Shared

The First-Generation Network connects students with alumni who have walked a similar path.

By Kristine Kappel Thompson

Transitioning to college can be challenging for any student, but those who are the first in their families to attend college face unique hurdles. That's why Rochester launched the First-Generation Network in June 2021. The network serves first-generation alumni, students, families, friends, and supporters, offering mentorship, networking, and community building.

"The college experience can be incredibly isolating and intimidating without a community of those with shared backgrounds," says **Celeste Glasgow Ribbins** '91, a facilitator and consultant who cochairs the network with **Doug Austin** '98, '04S (MBA) and **Jessica Colorado** '12, '20W (MS).

Austin, a health plan operations, finance, and IT specialist echoes Ribbins. "The network provides opportunities for first-generation students to ask questions that they might not be able to ask of their families because—as much as those who are closest to them may want to help and have encouraged them along the way—they haven't gone through the same experiences."

Each of the cochairs wishes they'd had more guidance both on their paths to college and once they arrived.

"Many high school students don't even realize college is a possibility or understand the application process," says Colorado, who grew up in New York City and majored in chemistry. She credits her high school English teacher, Dr. Barbara Rows—who was awarded the University's Singer Family Prize for Excellence in Secondary Education in 2012—with helping her navigate applications and better understand her choices.

Colorado faced an additional challenge in that her parents immigrated to the US from Colombia in the 1980s and didn't know English well. "When they came to campus for orientation and other events, they couldn't ask questions, and I didn't know what I should be asking for them," she says. "They also needed me to translate. It was a lot."

Colorado has dedicated her career to helping underserved populations. She's a policy analyst at the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association in Washington, DC, and a member of the University's Diversity Advisory Council. Earlier in her career, she worked at the University's David T. Kearns Center.

Ribbins, who is from Cleveland, chose Rochester for its proximity to home, its relatively small size, and its rigorous academics. She sang in the Gospel Choir and in Vocal Point, was a resident advisor, and was a member of the Black Students Union.

Austin grew up in the Catskills, where he says the "cows outnumbered the students." In addition to his leadership role within the network, he serves as a mentor through his local Chamber of Commerce. He's also served on many College class reunion committees and is a member of the University's Diversity Advisory Council.

Claudia De Leon, Rochester's associate director of affinity networks and equity, diversity, and inclusion programs, was a first-generation student herself.

"The First-Generation Network amplifies the voice of first-generation students and alumni by connecting them with those who have already navigated college's challenges and many of life's 'firsts,'" De Leon says.

The cochairs encourage first generation alumni to join the network, and they want current student and recent alumni to know the network is here help them on their paths.

Adds Colorado, "I had to figure out a lot on my own, but I made it to Commencement, and they can, too." 📍

Learn more at [Rochester.edu/advancement/first-generation-network](https://rochester.edu/advancement/first-generation-network). For stories about some of Rochester's current first-generation undergraduates, see "First-generation students find mentors, resources, and niches at Rochester" on the University News Center at [Rochester.edu/newscenter/first-generation-students-find-mentors-resources-niches-590202](https://rochester.edu/newscenter/first-generation-students-find-mentors-resources-niches-590202).



Jessica Colorado



Doug Austin



Celeste Ribbins

Continued from page 44

2009 Robert Letson has been promoted to principal at Cornerstone Research in Washington, DC, where he has been consulting on litigation and regulatory investigations involving market manipulation claims, market microstructure, financial benchmarks, and trading activity for more than a decade. Before joining Cornerstone, Robert worked at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors.

2010 David Maystrovsky (see '12) . . . **Michael Noble** (see '10 Eastman).

2012 David '10 and Caitlin Olfano Maystrovsky write that they welcomed their first baby, Emilia, in October.

2013 Jacek (Jack) '18E (PhD) and Elizabeth Huberlie Blaszkiewicz welcomed a son, Hugo William, in November 2023. (See also '18 Eastman.)

2014 James (Meng-Ju) Wu sends an update: "Now based in Warsaw, Poland, with my wife, I have just started my career as a global training lead for an Italian HR company called GI Group Holding after finishing a stint in regional/global training at TikTok and Hays."

2015 Alyssa Arre writes that she and **Andrew Zeccola '16 (MS)** were married in August 2023 at a small ceremony in Maine. They both competed on the cross country and track and field teams throughout their time at Rochester and are "grateful for the many former teammates that were in attendance for the celebration." Pictured are (front row) **Christopher D'Antona '16, Audrey McCarthy '17, Rachel Bargabos '19, Andrew, Alyssa, Jeremy Hassett '16, '18 (MS), '21W (MS), Ayumi Yuasa '18, '22W (MS),**



2012 Maystrovsky



2013 Blaszkiewicz

Catherine Knox '16, '18 (MS), Amanda Connell Keene '14, Lauren Gabriel Crowley '14, and Connor Crowley; (back row) **Siobhan Seigne '19, Austin Davis, Christopher Cook '17, Brian Barker '14, Aaron Sadholz '16, Joseph DiFabio '16, James Meyers '12, '13 (MS), Andrew Keene '14, Daniel Nolte '17, Bradley Kowalczyk, Ethan Pacheck, Brianna Loughran '18, Ronnie Judge '18, '19N, Anya Joynt '16, Mintesinot Kassu '16, Victoria Stepanova '16 (T5), and Mark Rollfs.**

2016 Harshita Mira Venkatesh (see '83).

2018 Chris Palace (see '19). . . **Jordan Rabinowitz '19 (MS)** (see '19).

2019 Siena Facciolo has written, recorded, and produced a new song, "Human," on which she plays piano and sings. **Beau Hanson '21, '21 (MS)** is the producer and recording engineer and performs on electric guitar, synthesizer, and organ. **Chris Palace '18** plays drums, and **Jordan Rabinowitz '18, '19 (MS)** plays bass

guitar. The live studio recording has received radio airtime on Rochester's WXXI (*Open Tunings*) and on Rochester Free Radio. . . . **Saralinda (Linnie) Schell** has created Tabletop Gone Mad (*Twice Rolled Tales*), a tabletop role-playing game for novices as well as experienced players to make up custom scenarios and characters and complete one-shot adventures. Linnie is the creative producer at New York City-based *Twice Rolled Tales*.

2021 Beau Hanson (MS) (see '19). . . **Yvonne Rogers '21E** (see '21 Eastman).

Graduate

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

1967 Bruce Pauley (PhD), a professor emeritus of history at the University of Central Florida, has written *Portrait of a City: Lincoln, Nebraska, at the Turn of the Twentieth Century* (University of Nebraska Press), highlighting a period of rapid social and technological change in the United States and beyond between the 1890s and 1920s. Using his hometown as an example, Bruce examines changing aspects of daily life, such as the modernization of homes, public and private transportation, education, the status of women, and entertainment, and addresses the challenges, like the loss of civil liberties during World War I.

1969 Richard Dienstbier (PhD), past chair and a professor emeritus in the University of Nebraska's Department

of Psychology, has written *Food for Thought: Nutrition and the Aging Brain* (Vernon Press). Richard provides this brief summary: "The book analyzes how much various nutrients can affect cognition in aging people and then how those impacts are achieved by activating genes that in turn have impacts on neural structures and neurochemistry. It is designed for lay readers who want a deeper understanding of the underlying science and for professionals in nutrition, geriatrics, and psychology."

1970 Calvin Kalman (PhD) has published a memoir, *My Lucky Life* (self-published), telling a story of personal tragedies, including the death of a son from cancer, and professional successes in high-energy physics. "How, you might ask, can I call this book 'My Lucky Life,' when my younger son died June 6, 2023?" he writes. "I am grateful and thankful to have experienced 46+ remarkable years with Ben. There are so many extraordinary memories to treasure." Calvin is a professor of physics at Concordia University and an expert in theoretical high-energy physics. In 2017, Springer released a second edition of his book *Successful Science and Engineering Teaching: Theoretical and Learning Perspectives*.

1975 Elliot Richman (PhD) (see '70 College).

1990 Wendy Bashant (PhD), who taught and served as a dean and professor of English for 30 years at various colleges and universities, has



2015 Arre and Zeccola



1992 Arvanitoyeorgos

written a memoir, *The Same Bright Moon: Teaching China's New Generation During Covid* (Acorn Publishing), a 2023 New York Book Festival winner. In 2019 she quit her job as a college dean to teach in the ancient walled city of Xi'an, China. While there, tensions between China and the US escalated over tariffs, and then the pandemic broke out, leading China to institute lockdowns, close consulates, and expel foreign journalists. During that time of uncertainty, Wendy tried to teach a class on American literature; instead, her students—China's future leaders—taught her about the realities of growing up in an emerging global power. Wendy has said she wrote the book to provide nuance in the West's understanding of China. She has previously published scholarly articles, book chapters, poetry, and travel articles and currently teaches adult literacy through the public library system and volunteers at the San Diego Zoo. . . .

Brian Carso (MA) (see '85 College).

1992 Andreas Arvanitoyeorgos (PhD), professor of mathematics at the University of Patras in Greece, writes that he was awarded the Epaminondas Papastratos prize in geometry by the Academy of Athens for the joint paper with Marina Statha and Nikolaos Souris "Geodesic orbit metrics in a class of homogeneous bundles over Stiefel manifolds," which appeared in the *Journal of Geometry and Physics*. The awards ceremony took place at the Academy of Athens in December.

2003 Dan Sykora (PhD), vice president of engineering at Jenoptik Optical Systems, writes that he has been recognized among the top 100 most innovative people in the photonics industry for 2024 by Electro Optics, a technology media company based in the UK. At Jenoptik, Dan is develop-

ing metrology solutions for current and next-generation AR/VR displays, investigating how to qualify multifocal tunable optics in AR/VR headsets to enhance visual comfort and address user fatigue, and exploring machine learning techniques to optimize high-precision lens assembly.

2010 Aviva Dove-Viebahn (PhD), an assistant professor of film and media studies at Arizona State University, has written *There She Goes Again: Gender, Power, and Knowledge in Contemporary Film and Television Franchises* (Rutgers University Press), which explores under what terms and in what contexts women protagonists are imagined, envisioned, embodied, and replicated in transmedia franchises. Aviva is a frequent contributor to *Ms.* magazine and a screenwriter as well as a coeditor of *Public Feminisms: From Academy to Community* (Lever Press).

2016 Andrew Zeccola (MS) (see '15 College).

2019 Jordan Rabinowitz (MS) (see '19 College).

2021 Beau Hanson (MS) (see '19 College).

Eastman School of Music

1963 Chuck Mangione (see '72).

1969 Max Stern, a professor emeritus of music at Ariel University, shares news of the release of his new CD, *Blessings & Praises* (MS Classical). The recordings is inspired by scriptural sources and is "one of the things I've been doing since retirement," he

writes. The five compositions inspired by classic biblical Jewish texts are performed by soloists and members of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra and Israel Sinfonietta.

1970 Vince DiMartino '78 (MM) (see '72).

1971 Joe Mosello (see '72).

1972 Vibraphonist **Ted Piltzecker** released his sixth album, *Vibes on a Breath* (Origin Records), last August. "Because I was a trumpet major at Eastman," he writes, "I always remembered the feeling of pushing air through the horn and having each and every phrase connected with my diaphragm. While in school I played in the trumpet section with some extraordinary alumni—**Al Vizzutti** '74, '76 (MM), **Jeff Tyzik** '73, '77 (MM), **Vince DiMartino** '70, '78 (MM), and **Joe Mosello** '71—and me on the end holding down the fifth trumpet chair. To this day I still breathe with phrases as a wind player would do, even on the vibes. So arranging and performing music in this configuration (four horns) is a way to stay connected with the flow of breath and with my past in Rochester. But what makes me feel especially connected to Eastman is the last piece on the album, *Bus*. **Chuck Mangione** '63, '85 (Hnr), was the director of the Eastman Jazz Ensemble then, and he programmed the piece many times. The composition was heavily influenced by the atmosphere at school. I had just learned about twelve-tone rows, so I gave a row of notes, not chord changes, to DiMartino to use as a basis for his improvisation (he was amazing). I wanted to work with instruments I'd never orchestrated before—so the bassoon took the lead line. As it turns out, when we recorded *Bus* for this latest album, I was thrilled to have the trumpet solo played by one of Vince DiMartino's noteworthy students, Brad Goode (presently the head of the jazz program at UC Boulder). I was also fortunate to work with the wonderful **Judith LeClair** '79, principal bassoonist with the New York Philharmonic and an extraordinary Eastman alum. In a way I've never left the conservatory, as Eastman has continued to influence my thinking all along the path."

1973 Jeff Tyzik '77 (MM) (see '72).

1974 Allen Vizzutti '76 (MM) (see '72).

1976 Allen Vizzutti (MM) (see '72).

1977 Jeff Tyzik (MM) (see '72).

1978 Vince DiMartino (MM) (see '72).

1979 Judith LeClair (see '72).

1981 Jazz pianist, composer, and Grammy Award-winning arranger **Bill Cunliffe** (MM) released in September a three-movement composition, *Rainforests* (BCM+D Records), performed by the Temple University Studio Orchestra. *Rainforests* is the first of three commissioned works to be released digitally by BCM+D. . . . **Jim Hynes** (MM) (see '82).

1982 Mike Davis (MM) plays trombone on *Electric Miles 2* (Mama Records), released in October by the Charles Pillow Large Ensemble, featuring Eastman assistant professor of saxophone Pillow, trumpeter **Jim Hynes** '81 (MM); Eastman professor and trumpeter Clay Jenkins; producer and Eastman assistant professor **Dave Rivello** '89 (MM); drummer **Jared Schonig** '05; and saxophonist **Alexa Tarrantino** '14. A follow-up to *Electric Miles* (Mama Records) released in 2018, the recording explores Miles Davis's music from 1970 to 1974. . . . Composer **Andrew Waggoner**'s most recent CD, *Quantum Memoir* (Bridge Records), presents three interrelated concertos for violin, guitar, and piano with the Seattle Modern Orchestra. Guitarist **Kenneth Meyer** '00 (DMA) performs on the recording.

1983 Minneapolis-based composer **David Evan Thomas** (MM) has released a new album presenting his solo piano music for the first time on a recording. *Transformations: Music of David Evan Thomas* (Centaur), featuring pianist Sonja Thompson, came out in September.

1984 Pianist **Darrell Grant** has released *Our Mr. Jackson* (Lair Hill Records), his debut recording with his band Darrell Grant's MJ New. The band is inspired by the Modern Jazz Quartet.

1986 Alan Weinstein (MM) (see '90).

1988 Chicago-based **Marc Mellits** composed "Dreadlocked," the opening piece on fivebyfive's third album, *breath & fire* (fivebyfive), released in October. Fivebyfive also commissioned "Eclipse," a piece premiered in concert at the Strasenburg Planetarium in Rochester in honor of the total solar eclipse this spring. The contemporary chamber music ensemble fivebyfive

includes clarinetist **Marcy Bacon** '08 (DMA); pianist **Haeyeun Jeun** '16 (DMA); guitarist **Yi Heng Ken Luk** '11, '18 (DMA); and bassist **Eric Polenik** '06 (MM).

1989 Dave Ravello (MM) (see '82).

1990 Clarinetist **Seunghye Lee**, the founder and director of the independent classical label Musica Solis, is one of seven musical artists who performs on *Turning into Song* (Musica Solis). Over a period of 11 years, six composers created a total of 15 world-premiere songs derived from poetry by Lucy Miller Murray from the 1960s to the present. . . . Composer, violinist, and computer music researcher **Charles Nichols**, an associate professor of composition and creative technologies at Virginia Tech University's performing arts school and a Faculty Fellow of its Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology, has released *Crossing the Divide* (Centaur Records), recorded by the Beo String Quartet and with cover art by **Jay Bruns** '94RC. Included on the album is the acoustic string quartet "In Gratitude" which Charles composed for his violin professor at Eastman, Charles Castleman, who performed the piece with **John Irrera** '07, '14 (DMA) and **Alan Weinstein** '86 (MM) during his residency at Virginia Tech, where Charles Nichols, John, and Alan are on the faculty.

1991 The Memphis Symphony Orchestra has extended its contract with music director **Robert Moody** (MM), now in his seventh season as director. The orchestra's board of directors unanimously approved the contract that continues Robert's leadership through 2032. In addition to being the orchestra's primary conductor, his role includes guiding the overall artistic vision of the institution and acting as a leading voice for music and the arts in the Greater Memphis community and beyond. He is the long-standing music director of the Arizona Music Festival, is a Rotarian, and has served on the boards of AIDs Care Services, Winston-Salem YMCA, WDAV Classical Radio, and the Charlotte Master Chorale.

1994 Kristin Roach '96 (MM), an assistant professor of opera at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, won the 2023 American Prize in Conducting in the opera division. She is committed to the ongoing evolution of opera in the 21st century by leading newly composed works, championing

underrepresented artists and creators, and training the next generation of performers. The American Prize national nonprofit series of competitions in the performing arts seeks to fill a gap that leaves exceptional artists and ensembles unrecognized and unheralded.

1996 Kristin Roach (MM) (see '94).

1997 Damon Zick writes that his world chamber jazz ensemble, Quarteto Nuevo, released an album in 2023 titled 2 (Quarteto Nuevo). The ensemble merges Western classical, Eastern European folk, Latin, and jazz. Damon plays soprano saxophone on the recording, which features three of his original compositions. He is on the music faculty at California State University, Fullerton.

2000 Kenneth Meyer (DMA) (see '82).

2005 Vocalist and pianist **Michelle Murphy DeBruyn** (DMA), a professor at Columbus State University, writes with news of a second album release by the band Wolf & Clover, *twelvemonth and a day* (Wolf & Clover). "We play Celtic roots music—a slightly different take than other Irish (or Celtic) music you all might be familiar with but in the same tradition as the Chieftains, Solas, Dervish, and Danú," she writes. "Our 2018 album received radio play in eight countries, is nearing 300,000 listens on Spotify, and resulted in the highest attended concert in the history of the Schwob School at the RiverCenter here in Columbus, Georgia. We're anticipating this and much more with the new album!" . . . **Jared Schonig** (see '82).

2006 Eric Polenik (MM) (see '88).

2007 John Irrera '14 (DMA) (see '90). . . . Composer **Vera Ivanova** (PhD), an associate professor of music and assistant director of music theory and composition at Chapman University's Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music in Orange, California, won the second- and third-place prizes in the same category at the 2023 Corinfesta International Composition Competition for Children's and Youth Choirs in Italy last August. Her second-place winner, "High Up," was commissioned for Eastman's 100th anniversary celebration and was premiered in April 2022. Vera's other winning choir piece is entitled "Time Is." She also teaches music theory and ear training at the Colburn Music Academy in Los Angeles.

2008 Marcy Bacon (DMA) (see '88). . . . **Michael Lee**, a music theory and composition lecturer at Chapman University in California, writes, "I am happy to share with you that my most recent composition, '2020: Danse Macabre' for string trio, was recorded by the Juventas New Music Ensemble in March 2023 at the Shalin Liu Performance Center in Rockport, Massachusetts. This is my first string trio—and my first completed—composition since being in a manual wheelchair due to a spinal cord injury accident in September 2021." Michael's composition is included on *Lock & Key Volume III* (Navona Records), released in October.

2010 Chris Jones (MM) (see '13). . . . Pianist **Michael Noble** '10RC released his second album, *Ascension* (Michael Noble), featuring transcriptions of medieval and Renaissance works juxtaposed with contemporary pieces from 1965 to the present, in September.

2011 Yi Heng Ken Luk '18 (DMA) (see '88).

2013 Jennifer Bellor (PhD), an assistant professor of music composition and theory at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, writes that Clocks in Motion, a percussion ensemble based in Madison, Wisconsin, has released, *Oneira* (Aerocade Music), an album of music that she composed for them. "My friendship with one of the members, **Chris Jones** '10 (MM), '18 (DMA), formed while at Eastman when he played my music," she writes. "Clocks in Motion's most recent initiative, Clock Shop, is a collaborative relationship with a single composer over a four-year period: creating, workshopping, and developing multiple works for percussion to perform and record. When his group was looking for a composer-collaborator for the new project, Chris recommended me, and I was thrilled to have the opportunity to collaborate with him and Clocks in Motion. *Oneira* features all the music I wrote for Clocks in Motion percussion quartet over the last four years as their resident Clock Shop composer."

2014 Conductor **Reed Chamberlin** (DMA), director of bands at the University of Nevada, Reno, has released *Ave Maris Stella* (Navona Records), featuring the highly acclaimed Nevada Wind Ensemble, consisting of both graduate and undergraduate students. Reed arranges each of the motets and secular works from the 14th and 16th centuries in a 21st-century recasting using novel recording and editing

techniques. . . . **John Irrera** (DMA) (see '90). . . . **Alexa Tarantino** (see '82).

2015 Se-Hee Jin (DMA), an assistant professor of piano and codirector of the Contemporary Music Ensemble at Texas Tech University, has released a new CD, *John Harbison: Works for Piano* (Naxos). Se-Hee has been exploring Harbison's body of work since they met at the Tanglewood Music Festival when she participated as a Leonard Bernstein Fellow years ago.

2016 Haeyeun Jeun (DMA) (see '88).

2018 Jacek (Jack) Blaszkiewicz (PhD), an assistant professor of music history at Wayne State University, has written *Fanfare for a City: Music and the Urban Imagination in Haussmann's Paris* (University of California Press). By exploring the sounds of exhibitions, cafés, streets, and markets in Paris during the Second Empire (1852–70), Jack explores how the city's musical life shaped urban narratives about the metropolis at a crossroads between its classical, Roman past and its capitalist, imperial future. At the heart of the narrative is "Baron" Haussmann, the engineer of imperial urbanism and the inspiration for a range of musical responses to modernity. (See also '13 College.) . . . **Chris Jones** (DMA) (see '13). . . . **Yi Heng Ken Luk** (DMA) (see '88).

2021 Pianist, composer, and multimedia artist **Yvonne Rogers** '21RC writes that she released her debut album, *Seeds* (Relative Pitch Records), in September. Yvonne was a member of the 2021–22 Focusyear Band in Basel, Switzerland, whose album of original music was released in May 2022. *Seeds* was recorded at Jazzcampus in Basel. Yvonne, now based in Brooklyn, New York, performs and records regularly with her trio and quartet and creates multimedia audiovisual works that combine composition, sound art, and video art.

School of Medicine and Dentistry

1968 James Allison (MD), a professor emeritus of clinical medicine at the University of California, San Francisco's medical school, received the C4 Visionary Award from the California

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THE MELIORA COLLECTIVE

Harmonizing Careers

Mentorship partners become professional collaborators.

By Kristine Kappel Thompson

In the world of music education and performance, two alumni from the Eastman School of Music, **Chris Foley** '94E (DMA) and **Tyler Ramos** '22E (DMA) excel not only as musicians, performers, and educators, but also as mentorship partners.

Foley is a pianist on the faculty of the Royal Conservatory in Toronto and a senior examiner who evaluates conservatory performances across North America. He and his wife, Wendy Hatala Foley, operate Foley Music and Arts, a small music school catering to students of all ages.

Ramos teaches applied piano, group piano, and music theory at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and to K–12 students and community members at the Punahou School. He is also treasurer-elect and director of the Hawai'i Music Teachers Association, performs as a pianist and organist, and maintains a small private studio of cello students.

Foley and Ramos were matched through the Meliora Collective Mentorship Program in October 2022. The program invites undergraduate and graduate students, alumni, faculty, staff, and parents into relationships that provide “enriching opportunities for all participants to learn, expand their networks, and gain new perspectives,” says Michelle Cavalcanti, senior associate director of Career and Professional Affinity Programs. Foley has served as a mentor eight times, and Ramos has benefitted as a mentee twice.

“Those who sign up as mentors provide real-word context, personal insights, and ongoing support to their mentees who are looking for help achieving their career and life goals,” Cavalcanti adds. Since the program launched in 2020, it has paired more than 3,000 people. The program matches people twice each year, with the next cycle beginning in the fall.

The official program lasts three months. But relationships last much longer. Following the conclusion of their program, Foley and Ramos remained in contact. During one of their conversations, Ramos shared a new composition: an arrangement of “Aloha Oe.” The piece, a fusion of Queen Lili'uokalani's 1878 Hawaiian folk song and the classical style of Franz Liszt, deeply impressed Foley—he knew he had to play the piece. A few months later, Foley brought this composition to life during



Chris Foley



Tyler Ramos

a performance at an Ontario Registered Music Teachers Association recital.

“Playing my mentee's work at a concert was never in the mentorship handbook, but it was a lot of fun, and the audience loved it,” says Foley. He adds that both he and Ramos hope to collaborate again in the future.

Participating in this mentorship program has allowed Foley to give back to the community that has given him so much. “After completing my doctorate, some of my initial opportunities came through fellow Eastman graduates—they literally helped me get my career started,” he says.

In addition, he's been a mentee. He counts **Jean Barr**—professor emerita of piano accompanying and chamber music at Eastman and Foley's primary teacher during his time as a student—as particularly influential. Decades after meeting her, Barr still offers guidance to Foley, which, he notes, is important for those mid-career like him.

Foley emphasizes that true mentorship goes beyond developing task lists, reviewing professional documents, and providing job-hunting tips. “Understanding a person's aspirations, cultural background, and educational experience is essential. From that foundation, we can engage in genuine, meaningful conversations that can facilitate personal and professional growth.”

Ramos's first mentor through the program was **Steve Vacchi** '90E, a bassoonist and faculty member at the University of Oregon School of Music and

Dance. Vacchi helped Ramos realize that his professional path could encompass more than “just” being one type of musician. “The program, through both Steve and Chris, has broadened my perspective,” he says. “I've learned that my career doesn't have to be narrowly defined—that it can be as diverse and encompassing as the range of instruments I play.”

Cavalcanti underscores the mutual benefits of mentorship. “Our mentees get to connect with alumni whose career paths aren't strictly linear, helping them envision career opportunities they may never have considered,” she says. “Our mentors benefit, too—refining their leadership and communication skills, forging new connections, and helping people reach their career goals.”

Join the Meliora Collective at [Thecollective.rochester.edu](https://thecollective.rochester.edu) and learn more about its mentorship program.

Continued from page 48
Colorectal Cancer Coalition (C4) for his work as the Champion of Low Cost CRC Screening Options. Jim is currently a board member of the C4.

1969 Gary Berger (MD) is a coauthor, with Michael DiRuggiero, of *Einstein: The Man and His Mind* (Damiani). The book consists of selections from Gary's collection of Einstein's original documents and signed photographs. DiRuggiero curated the collection, and they wrote the book to share what the historical materials reveal about Einstein. Gary is the medical director and laser safety officer at Medical Day Spa of Chapel Hill following a 35-year career performing tubal microsurgery.

1971 Bob Ozols (PhD) (see '66 College).

1974 Bob Ozols (MD) (see '66 College). . . . **John Vanek (MD)** has published his fifth and final Father Jake Austin mystery. *Epiphany* (Coffeetown Press) was released worldwide in paperback and eBook last October. John writes, "Stolen church funds, a pedophile priest, a hospital ghost, an exorcist, and a crazed car bomber? What could possibly go wrong?"

1982 Craig Smith (Res/Flw), chairman of the Department of Surgery at Columbia University and the New York Presbyterian Hospital, has written a memoir, *Nobility in Small Things: A Surgeon's Path* (St. Martin's Press). The book describes experiences both routine and extraordinary in his life and career, including performing quadruple bypass surgery on President Bill Clinton in 2004. When New York City became the world's COVID-19 epicenter in March 2020, Craig began writing daily COVID email updates to inform and reassure his colleagues. The emails were a balm to his colleagues, and when the *Wall Street Journal* published them in April of that year, they were recognized as essential dispatches from "the pandemic's most powerful writer," as the newspaper dubbed Craig at the time.

1986 Ralph Lanza (MD) was appointed to system division chief of internal medicine for Main Line Health in Pennsylvania. Serving portions of Philadelphia and its western suburbs, the not-for-profit health system includes four acute care hospitals.

1995 Edward Fox (MD) (see '91 College).

2005 Michael Palone (MPH) has moved into a new role at Swisslog Healthcare, leading their global product management organization focused on pharmacy automation solutions. He has lived in the Boulder, Colorado, area for more than 15 years.

2010 Julie Allen (MD) and Tom Pashalides (MD) traveled to Minnesota with their family to visit **Calla Brown '11 (MD) and Bela Denes '11 (MD)**. **Ben Faustich (MD)** and his family also joined the minireunion. They are pictured together at a Minneapolis farmer's market.

2011 Calla Brown (MD) (see '10). . . . **Bela Denes (MD)** (see '10).

School of Nursing

1967 Helen Bisha DePrima has written *Cave Creek* (self-published), the first novel in her new mystery series set in Kentucky against the backdrop of an equine rescue stable.

1975 Debbie Campbell Kampff, a semiretired pediatric nurse, teaches CPR, AED, and first-aid training for local school districts while also working as an RN at Cradle Beach Camp on Lake Erie near Angola, New York. Her husband, **Raymond Kampff '74RC**, still works full time from home for Day

Engineering. They keep busy with their children and grandchildren, regularly traveling between Kenmore, New York; and London, England, to see their family.

1980 Eileen Sullivan-Marx (MS) stepped down last summer after 11 years as dean of the New York University Rory Meyers College of Nursing. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she served as chair of the NYU Deans Council and president of the American Academy of Nursing. In October she received the academy's President's Award for exemplary leadership during the pandemic, adding to a long list of accolades she has received over her career. Eileen is a professor of nursing at NYU, an adjunct faculty member at Howard University's nursing and allied health sciences college, and a professor emerita clinician-educator at Penn Nursing. She holds board of director positions at VNS Health, United Hospital Fund, and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation. She also hosts the twice monthly *Nurse Practitioner Show* on NYU Langone Health's Doctor Radio Sirius XM station, which reaches both professional audiences and lay people interested in health and health care.

1983 Nancy Gaden, the senior vice president and chief nursing officer of Boston Medical Center, was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing's 2023 class of fellows at the academy's annual Health Policy Conference in October in Washington, DC.

1989 Cheryl Field, a nurse with more than 30 years of experience in senior care, has written *Prepared! A Healthcare Guide for Aging Adults* (She Rises Studios). She writes that it "was ranked a best seller in 14 categories and two countries in the first two weeks after launch."

1991 Cynthia Cantu Cruz completed her doctor of nursing practice degree in nursing education leadership from Post University in 2022. She has accepted a position as the clinical coordinator for the South University bachelor of science in nursing program in Round Rock, Texas.

2001 Julie Berkhof '03 (MS), the director of regional nursing at Wilmot Cancer Institute, was one of four nursing leaders in the state to receive the Region Leadership Award from the New York Organization for Nursing Leadership. Julie oversees nursing at



2010M Allen and Pashalides



1975N Kampff

Wilmut Cancer Institute's 14 community oncology locations.

2003 Julie Berkhof (MS) (see '01).

2007 Yvette Freeman Conyers joined the University of Maryland School of Nursing as the associate dean for equity, diversity, and inclusion and assistant professor in the Department of Family and Community Health in June 2023.

2012 Clare Lyons started as the regional nursing manager at Sollis Health's premier concierge emergency department in New York City last July. She previously worked in Level 1 trauma centers as well as in labor and delivery in New York.

2013 Michael Hasselberg (PhD), the chief digital health officer for UR medicine and codirector of the UR Medicine Health Lab, was selected to serve a three-year term on a National Academies Standing Committee that will inform the future of primary care nationwide. Michael works with Microsoft, Stanford, and the Mayo Clinic on regenerative AI work for health care.

2015 Vincent Tata was named director of patient services for HCR Home Care's Finger Lakes Certified Home Health Agency last August. Before that he served as a senior manager of clinical operations at UR Medicine Home Care.

2016 Jose Perpignan, a registered nurse at Highland Hospital, received the Daisy Health Equity Award for a Frontline Registered Nurse from the National Black Nurses Association. The award recognizes a frontline registered staff nurse who goes over and beyond to address health equity and works to mitigate one or more of the social determinants of health. Jose was featured in *Review's* "Rochester Responds" (Fall 2020) for his work during the height of the COVID pandemic caring for his Bronx neighbors while simultaneously working in the intensive care unit at New York Presbyterian Hospital.

2017 Victoria Winogora has begun a PhD program at Columbia University's School of Nursing.

2020 Jassel Glanville graduated from Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base last spring and began a new role as a medical-surgical clinical nurse at Travis Air Force Base in California.

Simon Business School

1979 Peter Vanderwall (MBA) has written a children's book, *Mac's Big Wish* (Luminare Press). Mac spends his early days at a pet rescue, almost giving up hope of finding a home. But a special job at a care center teaches him how much he has to give. The book, with illustrations by Janis Lillian, was nominated for the 2024 Patricia Gallagher Children's Choice Award, offered since 1997 by the Oregon State Literacy Association.

1983 Richard Schiavo (MBA) has published two books: *Interactive Venturing: Blending Informal Partnering with Planning Elements for New Business Development* (self-published) and *Bright Thoughts: Principles & Parodies in 101 Parts* (self-published), a collection of Richard's personal reflections and original artwork.

1984 Jesse Grissom (MBA) writes that he received the Harvey E. Beech Outstanding Alumni Award from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in November. The award recognizes outstanding Black alumni who have been stellar leaders within the university community and/or within their local community. The award is named after Harvey Beech, who was one of the first four African Americans to be admitted to UNC and the first to earn a degree.

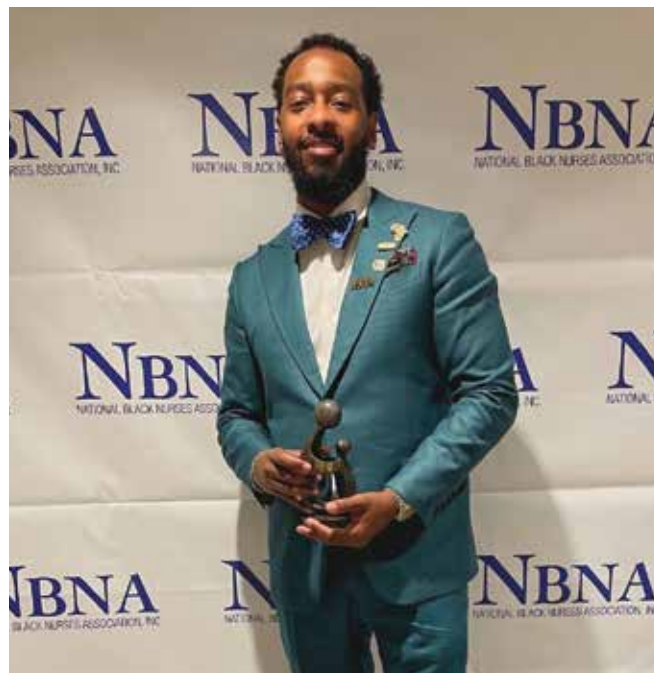
1986 Mark Mozeson (MBA) (see '83 College).

Warner School of Education

1984 Michele Marder Kennedy (MS) (see '83 College).

In Memoriam Life Trustees

James Wyant '69 (PhD), '21 (Honorary) Life Trustee, died in December. Elected to the board of trustees in 2012, Wyant was professor emeritus and founding dean of the James C. Wyant College of Optical Sciences at the University of Arizona. An expert in the fields of interference, diffraction, and optical testing, he was also the cofounder and chairman of 4D Technology Corp. In 2019, Wyant and his wife, Tammy,



2016N Perpignan



2020N Glanville

TRIBUTE


Brian Thompson: University Leader, Optics Pioneer

Brian Thompson, a professor emeritus of optics, director of the Institute of Optics (1968–75), and University provost (1984–94), made a lasting impact on his field and the University.

Thompson, who died in January, was an expert in coherent optics, holography, phase microscopy, and image processing. His experimental studies on partially coherent light and its effects became standard works in the literature of the field.

“I believe you need to be teaching something you really understand,” Thompson said in 2009. “If you’re not involved at the cutting edge, all you’re doing is interpreting what’s in the textbook. I wanted to convey, through experimentation and theoretical knowledge, physical insight.”

As director of the Institute of Optics, Thompson played a key role in the early days of the Laboratory for Laser Energetics. As provost, he was instrumental in establishing the University of Rochester Press, and as a member of the University’s Arboretum Committee, he helped beautify the River Campus.

In an interview with *Review*, Thompson lent insight into his fondness for administrative work. “If you can create an environment in which people can prosper, that’s just as satisfying, and creative, as a new discovery,” he said. “I find it very stimulating to make things happen—which is not too different than research, if you think about it.” 

—LUKE AUBURN

To read the full remembrance, visit [Rochester.edu/news/thompson](https://www.rochester.edu/news/thompson).



LEADING LIGHT: Thompson, an expert in coherent optics, also played a key role in the development of the Laboratory for Laser Energetics.

made a significant gift to the Institute of Optics to help increase the faculty by 50 percent by 2029.

Faculty

Raman Qazi, hematology and oncology, December 2023

Heikki Rantakari, economics and management, October 2023

Faculty Emeriti

Manuel del Cerro, ophthalmology, October 2023

George Hoch, biology, July 2023

Donald Hunsberger '54E, '63E (DMA), conducting and ensembles, November 2023

Joseph McDonald, neurosurgery, November 2023

Barbara Iglewski, microbiology, December 2023

Ansgar Schmid, Laboratory for Laser Energetics, December 2023

Jerome Schwartzbaum, psychology, December 2023

Edward Thorndike, physics and astronomy, December 2023

Donald Young, medicine, December 2023

Alumni

Frank A. Okey '42, December 2023

Samuel A. Montello '44, December 2022

Jane Taylor Duerr '46, October 2023

Dorothy Wallace Droser '47, October 2023

Eleanor Riegel Newell '47, November 2023

Mary Proctor Bissett '48, October 2023

Alice Pillischer Kujala '48E, October 2023

Patricia A. MacDonald '48 (MA), '52 (PhD), February 2023

Crystal Isham Michel '48N, October 2023

Betty Jean Barney Miller '48E (MM), October 2023

E. Regina Wiggins Schnacky '48N (Dpl), '57N, September 2023

Roger C. Thielking '48, '50W (EdM), November 2023

Betty Morehouse Zeth '48N, November 2023

Michael Fedoryshyn '49, '60W (MA), December 2023

Francis J. Hone '49, November 2023

Ruth Gastel Polur '49, December 2023

Martin Halpern '50, '53 (MS), September 2023

Jean Poole Alderman '50, June 2023

Richard W. Blide '51, December 2023

Elizabeth Lilygren Bonvin '51N, October 2023

John C. DeMocker '51, '55M (MD), September 2023

Eloise Wood Guy '51E, '52E (MM), June 2023

Mildred Claeson Dillon '51E, December 2023

Marcia Vandecarr Momtchiloff '51, October 2022

J. Carter Perkins '51, May 2023

Paula Hunt Stull '51, '52N, September 2023

Donald A. Wright '51, '58 (MS), October 2023

John L. Goble '52M (MD), October 2023

Peter B. Olson '52, December 2023

Nancy Hayes Van de Vate '52E, July 2023

Phyllis Padgett Beard '53N, November 2023

Helen Kansas Blanchard '53, October 2023

Barbara G. Bloomer '53E, March 2023

Patricia M. Caulfield '53, July 2023

Raymond W. Klem '53, September 2023

Lena Prato '53N (Dpl), September 2023

Helen Rothra Valenza '53E, September 2023

Donald P. Wichman '53, September 2023

Jane McNamara Eck '54, October 2023

Mary Jane Mack Healy '54, November 2023

James J. Mandros '54E, July 2023

Lois Krieg Mandros '54E, August 2023

Harold W. Sobel '54, December 2023

Donald P. Wefer '54, November 2023

Richard R. Crawford '55, September 2023

Lawrence J. Giangreco '55, December 2023

Alfred L. Jacobsen '55, November 2023

Karl M. Johnson '55M (MS), '56M (MD), October 2023

Lois Treadwell Miller '55, '56N, October 2023

Edwin M. Bradley '56M (MD), '63M (Res), December 2023

Joanne Campanella Cimino '56, November 2023

Carole Frinke Hannemann '56, '58 (MS), September 2023

Myron D. Kleinberg '56, '59 (MS), October 2023

Gerald Lucovsky '56, '58 (MA), October 2023

George L. Mizner '56M (MD), September 2022

Lester D. Nichols '56, November 2023

Alphonso F. Nuzzo '56, April 2023

Richard H. Pollen '56M (MD), '60M (Res), October 2023

Joan Marie Beauchamp Ward '56 (Mas), December 2023

TRIBUTE

Suzanne O'Brien '59: Shaper of Curriculum, Founder of Advising Services

On a gray day in February, our friend, former supervisor, and mentor Dean Suzanne O'Brien '59 passed away. She was a remarkable woman—brilliant, determined, kind, occasionally stern, and above all fair and truthful. She loved opera, *The New Yorker*, spicy Thai food, a good cocktail or glass of wine, travel, and all things French. She loved U of R and believed in its mission of *Meliora*. She was devoted to the College Center for Advising Services and was staunchly proud of the University's undergraduate students.

You may not have met Dean O'Brien—but if you were an undergraduate on the River Campus between the years of 1961 and 2016, chances are she shaped the course of your studies. If you visited the College Center for Advising Services (CCAS), participated in the Take Five Program, declared a cluster, submitted a petition or appeal, or benefitted from the flexible Rochester Curriculum, Dean O'Brien impacted your education.

When Suzanne Jagel arrived at the University in 1955, bright-eyed and nervous, she was already a pioneer: she and her female classmates were the first group of women to live on the River Campus. Suzanne may have guessed at some of the adventures that lay ahead of her: a year studying abroad in Paris, falling in love with her fellow student and later husband John O'Brien '56, being inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. But she had no inkling that in one sense, she would never leave—that she would build a 55-year career as a visionary leader whose work would not only impact generations of U of R students but would go on to shape academic policies and practices for decades.


Her greatest contribution to the University was the creation of CCAS, which she directed for nearly 40 years. It's hard to remember, but CCAS once was a radical idea: an office where staff members worked side by side with faculty to nurture stu-



STUDENT-CENTERED: O'Brien devoted her career to student support and advocacy.

dent success. Suzanne guided generations of advisors to act with integrity, to think critically, to practice equity, and to demonstrate compassion. She held high expectations for her staff, for our ability to master a complex intersection of knowledge and skills, and in her insistence that we approach each student individually.

Working for Suzanne offered its own kind of education to CCAS advisors. We learned to write—clearly and unambiguously—and no one (deans, colleagues, faculty, and perhaps even a few University presidents) could escape her red pen. Few people appreciated the English language more than Suzanne. She loved to think through a grammatical conundrum and took special delight in malapropisms (she kept a file of some of her favorites). We fondly remember her debating word choice with equal parts ferocity and glee.

Suzanne received many awards during her time at the University, including the Goergen Award for Distinguished Contributions to Undergraduate Learning in 2003; the Susan B. Anthony Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007; the Witmer Award for Distinguished Service in 2014; and the College Award for Distinguished Contributions to Undergraduate Learning in 2016. Shortly before retiring, she gave one last, important gift to the University, establishing the Suzanne Jagel O'Brien Director of the College Center for Advising Services. Through this final gift, Suzanne has ensured that that undergraduates will always have a place that is dedicated to their support and advocacy. 

—MARCY KRAUS AND JULIET SULLIVAN '06 (PHD)

Kraus is a senior associate dean and served as director of CCAS from 2009 to 2023. Sullivan is a senior academic advisor in the Student Fellowships Office.

Leo J. Cavanagh '57, August 2023

Ann Vonderahe Clough '57N,
October 2023

Bonnie Lau Collipp '57N,
December 2023

Mark H. Elias '57M (MD),
December 2023

Ruth Gillette Hennessey '57N,
November 2023

Warren H. Lenhardt '57,
September 2023

Louanne Larson Lind '57E,
November 2023

William K. Mangum '57M (MD),
November 2023

Mark G. Perloth '57, September 2023

Barbara Eklund Peterson '57E,
May 2022

Patricia Buys Adduci '58,
November 2023

Robert D. Armstrong '58M (MS),
November 2023

Frederick E. Dever '58 (MS),
November 2023

Norma R. Finley '58, October 2023

John P. Lowe '58, September 2023

Ann Steger Smith '58N,
October 2023

David M. Thomas '58, '60W (MA),
September 2023

Barbara Cobleigh Weber '58,
October 2023

Mary C. Woolverton '58,
May 2023

Jeanette Behnke '59N (Dpl),
October 2023

David F. Bishop '59E, November 2023

Carol M. Edwards '59N,
November 2023

Virginia Reed Fisher '59, '59N
(Diploma), October 2023

Lorna L. Greenberg '59,
September 2023

Donald W. Lewis '59S (MS),
January 2023

Harriet Price Merl '59,
November 2023

Christa Brauch Perea '59N (Dpl),
'65N, September 2023

Vivian Emery Speca '59E,
November 2023

Beverly Houseman '60N (Dpl),
August 2023

Suzanne Ogden Inglefield '60E,
November 2023

Edgar R. Miller '60M (Res),
February 2022

Lewis B. Morrow '60M (MD),
November 2023

Richard E. Borst '61, January 2023

Joan W. Buell '61N (Dpl), December 2023
Virginia Barnes Parker '61, September 2023
David P. Peters '61, December 2023
Dana Bigelow Rodgers '61, September 2023
Maevonia Daniels Caldwell '62, November 2023
Molly Gordon Ceri '62, October 2023
Leonard M. DeFrancesco '62W (EdM), November 2023
Carol Buerklin Doran '62E (MM), '78E (DMA), November 2023
Ronald J. Forte '62, October 2023
E. Neal Gipson '62M (MS), September 2023
Bogdan Gumowski '62 (PhD), August 2023
Theodore L. Miller '62, '76 (MS), October 2023
Vicki Proschel Schwartz '62, October 2023
Roger P. Thorpe '62E (MM), December 2023
Barbara Jesco Fallesen '63, September 2023
Patrick J. Roncone '63D (Pdc), October 2023

LaWayne R. Stromberg '63M (MS), September 2023
Brice W. Bowerman '64, November 2023
Thomas D. Bowman '64 (MA), September 2023
Angela Tucci Burr '64E, February 2023
Lawrence R. Cushing '64, April 2023
Henry H. Damon '64, September 2022
Lawrence H. Krasnow '64, September 2022
Peter J. Leadley '64M (MD), '66M (Res), November 2023
Philip C. Rotoli '64 (MS), November 2023
Henry I. Simon '64, October 2023
John E. Staples '64, November 2023
Robert T. Anselmi '65 (PhD), August 2023
Carol G. Bailey '65N, October 2023
Pierre E. Bertrand '65M (Res), September 2023
Leslie J. Knox '65, '74S (MBA), December 2023
Alexander J. MacGillis '65M (Res), September 2023

Jason B. Weintraub '65E, '72E (MM), November 2022
Margery Gross Adelson '66, July 2023
Ali-Akbar Bahreman '66D (Pdc), '67D (MS), September 2023
Carol Brain Cashen '66W (MA), October 2023
Shanyong Kuo Chang '66 (MA), October 2023
Alan M. Dattner '66, November 2023
John M. Dluhy '66M (Res), January 2023
David F. Gipner '66S (MBA), November 2023
Barbara E. Gross '66E (MM), December 2023
Mark J. Horowitz '66, September 2023
James W. Moyer '66, October 2023
Phyllis A. Rosenberg '66, October 2023
Ronald E. Mesolella '67, September 2023
Peter L. Scharf '67, August 2023
Dixie Lee Setti '67E (MM), August 2023
Ralph S. Childs '68E, December 2022
Charles M. Eldredge '68, December 2023

Carl A. Griffith '68, September 2023
Adolph M. Hutter '68M (Res), December 2023
John R. Lovett '68N, September 2023
Joan M. Lusardi '68, October 2023
Paul N. Samuelson '68M (MD), '72M (Res), October 2023
Jean Polster Parkes Stahly '68, October 2022
Irvin L. Wagner '68E (DMA), September 2023
Roy Dexheimer '69W (EdD), December 2023
Ronald E. Feldman '69M (MD), September 2023
William D. Gilson '69, June 2023
Frederick G. Guggenheim '69M (Res), September 2023
William A. Mastin '69W (EdM), October 2023
Glorian Mulligan-Stratton '69W (EdM), October 2023
Joel E. Suben '69E, August 2023
James Wyant '69 (PhD), December 2023
Patricia Seymour Alexander '70E (MM), September 2023
James A. Block '70M (Res), October 2023

TRIBUTE

Ezra Tawil: A Professor of Substance and Style

As a professor of English, Ezra Tawil helped define the “American style” of literature. As a teacher, he had a knack for connecting with students.

Tawil, who died in January, served as the English department’s director of graduate studies. Department chair Katherine Mannheimer recalls Tawil’s leading sessions with groups of incoming students and deftly encouraging them to reveal themselves with a playful ice-breaker: “Tell me something weird about yourself.”

“He got people to share the weirdest stuff,” Mannheimer says. “I think it was because he was so open and warm and just set that tone.”

Tawil was as much a serious scholar of early American literature as he was a student of American pop culture. Anyone who entered his office on the fourth floor of Morey Hall would have found a copy of Henry Highland Garnet’s “Address to the Slaves of the United States of America” sitting on his desk, and an oversized copy of the iconic *Life* magazine cover depicting a rapt film audience wearing 3D glasses in 1952.

At the foot of his desk sat a gray dog bed reserved for Misha, his black therapy dog, for whom he kept an Instagram page. Tawil maintained residences in Rochester and in Manhattan,



AMERICAN STYLE: Tawil made the case for a distinctly American national literature.

where he lived with his wife, Kirsten Lentz, and their son, Jules.

Tawil graduated with high honors from Wesleyan University and went on to earn a doctorate in American civilization from Brown University. Prior to joining the Rochester faculty in 2011, he taught in English departments at Wesleyan, Harvard, and Columbia universities.

He was the author of two books: *The Making of Racial Sentiment: Slavery and the Birth of the Frontier Romance* (Cambridge University Press, 2006) and *Literature, American Style: The Originality of Imitation in the Early Republic* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2018). In the latter book, he addressed how Americans can claim “a national literature” distinct from other literatures in English.

The topic in many ways mirrored Tawil’s approach to scholarship and pedagogy. “That there is a particularly American style of literature is a very old topic,” says John Michael, the John Hall Deane Professor of Rhetoric and Poetry. “But one of the things that characterized his work was his ability to return to a topic like that and make it both fresh and exciting.”^R

—DAVID ANDREATTA

For the full remembrance, visit [Rochester.edu/news/tawil](https://rochester.edu/news/tawil).

Gail Greene Buckland '70, October 2023
John A. Dunaway '70S (MBA), December 2023
Theresa R. Heinsler '70W (EdM), August 2023
Arthur P. Ismay '70S (MBA), January 2022
Philip A. Meurer '70S (MBA), September 2023
Barry S. Steckler '70, November 2023
Anthony J. Stein '70 (MS), October 2023
Adel Kafrawy '71 (MS), August 2023
Richard N. Miller '71, June 2023
Patricia Hannan Piorkowski '71W (EdM), September 2023
William J. Stander '71, October 2023
Douglas F. Ahlstedt '72E (MM), November 2023
Thomas W. Broughton '72M (Res), November 2023
Charles H. Hoke '72M (MD), September 2023
Nancy Abbott Lebda '72M (MS), September 2023
Donald L. McCarthy '72S (MS), November 2023
Martin L. Morrissey '72, November 2023
Paul J. Turek '72S (MBA), December 2023
Louis C. Vaz '72 (PhD), December 2022
Fredrick C. Zumsteg '72 (PhD), September 2023
Carol Gustafson Giffi '73N, '85N (MS), November 2023
Joyce L. Gillette '73N, November 2023
Daniel M. Greene '73, September 2023
Randolph St. John '73 (MA), October 2023
David N. Smith '73M (MD), '77M (Res), '86M (PhD), October 2023
Michael T. Sullivan '73 (MA), August 2023
Ernest J. Bastian '74 (Flw), October 2023
Thomas M. Donnan '74 (MA), '83 (PhD), August 2023
Nancy Fellows Dunn '74, September 2023
Scott C. Dunn '74, July 2023
Robert John Farrell '74, '78 (MS), September 2023
John S. King '74, November 2023
Peter B. Allison '75 (PhD), September 2023
Husayn A. Rashid '75M (Res), October 2023
John S. Stolarek '75 (MA), August 2023
Roger F. Baglin '77W (EdM), October 2023
Mary Oliver Hauptmann '77N, September 2023
David A. Siefer '77, April 2023
David C. Thurber '77M (MD), November 2023
Leo A. Waickman '77M (MD), November 2023
Norris Fox '78, September 2023
Mark C. Hargrave '78S (MBA), November 2023
Robert S. Kowal '78D (Pdc), October 2023
Darlene Roose Wiegandt '78W (MS), August 2023
Gavin E. Kent '79, October 2023
Edward P. Matricia '79, October 2023
Ronald T. Poness '79, September 2023
Anthony C. Sorge '79M (Res), October 2023
Joan B. Turner '79, August 2023
Joanne E. Layton '81N (MS), November 2023
William J. Ludwig '83S (MBA), October 2023
Michael B. Maddock '83S (MBA), September 2023
J. Jason Berman '84W (EdD), January 2023
Paul R. Prabhaker '84S (PhD), September 2023
Mary Elizabeth Balthasar '85W (EdD), October 2023
Thomas I. Jackson '87, December 2023
Kenneth W. Klimpel '89M (PhD), July 2023
Nicholas V. Angle '90S (MBA), August 2023
Eric J. Smith '92, October 2023
Linda Buzzeo Best '93W (EdD), September 2023
Alan J. Irish '93, December 2023
Alfred M. Neill '93 (MS), March 2022
Eileen C. Ward '93, October 2023
Stephen M. Giardino '95S (MBA), October 2023
William S. Macomber '95, October 2023
Shannon M. Kula '96, August 2023
Roland G. Wentwich '96D (Pdc), October 2023
Robert J. Scheller Jr. '98, November 2023
Maureen E. Ferris '00, September 2023
Gilbert B. Porter III '00S (MBA), October 2023
Christopher L. Barker '01, October 2023
Jeffrey S. Clark '03M (MD), October 2023
Marlaine Ortiz Mangels '05W (EdD), September 2023
Cynthia A. MacDonald '12N, October 2023
Henry O. Macias '14, November 2023
Martha Manson French '16W (PhD), December 2023
Michael Vandemar '18W (MS), May 2023
Adeeso Ayokunie Adetoye '20S (MBA), October 2023



DIGITAL PIONEER: When Eaves and two other Blake scholars conceived the online William Blake Archive, the internet was in its infancy.

TRIBUTE

Morris Eaves: Breathed New Life into Blake Scholarship

A member of the faculty since 1986, Morris Eaves was credited during his career for his pioneering preservation of the work of English poet, painter, engraver, and printmaker William Blake. A professor of English and the Richard L. Turner Professor of Humanities at Rochester, Eaves died in February.

The breadth of Blake's work had posed a major challenge for students, who were seldom able to fully experience Blake because his artworks were scattered among collections around the world and his poems were typically reproduced without their illustrations.

Eaves and two other Blake scholars sought to change that in the early 1990s when they began exploring the then nascent territory of digital humanities. The William Blake Archive began publishing its first digital editions in 1995, and in ensuing years Eaves enhanced the archive by overseeing the digitization of every edition of *Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly*, a peer-reviewed journal devoted to Blake research that Eaves had coedited since 1970.

During his tenure at Rochester, Eaves served as chair of the department for eight years and sat on dozens of committees on a medley of issues, from advising on the use of technology in the classroom to theater study and University apparel.

"He once said to me, and this was the best thing he ever said to me, 'We take the work seriously, but we don't take ourselves too seriously,'" says Sarah Jones, the managing editor of *Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly*, who worked closely with Eaves. ^R

—DAVID ANDREATTA

To read the full remembrance, visit [Rochester.edu/news/eaves](https://rochester.edu/news/eaves).

Flump! Splatter! Pop!

Grace Stensland '23, a sound designer and sound effects editor for animated films and TV, delights in odd noises.

Interview by Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

I got started in sound design during my second semester at Rochester, when I took sound design with Professor [Robert] LaVaque. On the first day, I remember my jaw just being on the floor. He showed us a session from the movie *Forrest Gump* that broke down all the different layers of all the sounds that went into it. It was the coolest thing. I graduated with a major in film and media studies and a minor in audio and music engineering.

Sound design exists in other fields as well, but for film or TV it means creating sound effects by recording, synthesizing, editing, and layering sounds together to amplify the story that's happening on screen. Each movie or show requires its own set of sounds, like a tonal palette that exists within that universe and that works to tell the story. I work in animation, where you start with a blank slate. Sound editing is similar to video editing, except it's only with audio elements. You're taking the sound effects, and you're mixing and matching them to create a soundscape or enhance the moment.

We use a lot of sound effects from sound libraries. And then we'll also record our own sounds. A lot of the time, I'll be at my desk recording objects from my prop collection. Then I'll record them into my digital audio workstation and edit and layer things together.

Grace Stensland '23

Home: Los Angeles

Sound designer and sound effects editor, Sound Rebels

Major projects: *Orion and the Dark*, *Teen Titans Go!*, *My Dad the Bounty Hunter*, *Selling Sunset*, *Big Nate*.

Rochester class that comes in handy every day: "Sara Bickweat Penner's *The Actor's Voice*. I've done gasps, sighs, hissed like a rat, and done guttural death screams in my office. So much of that class teaches you how to control your voice. I think about that class and I'm, like, 'I can do this.'"



My most recent project and my favorite to this day, is *Orion and the Dark*, a DreamWorks animated feature that came out on Netflix in February. There's a character in it named *Unexplained Noises*. Her elbows and knees look like bendy straws, and we had to make a sound for her joint movements. But a straw is not going to make a loud enough noise. I had some pop tube sensory toys that I once found at Target and was, like, "I'm going to use this sound someday." You pull on them and, *WROOP!* We recorded them as the character was walking around. The design is so custom that we'd never find it in a library.

More recently, my team needed a sound to go with a character shaking their leg. They had to come up with just a little creak of the boot. Last summer I had found this beautiful-sounding piece of super-thick red leather at a thrift store for craft supplies. Playing with it, they could make it squeak to record this rhythmic, hyperrealistic sound for a close-up foot shaking.

At Rochester I just started recording things to make my own sound effects library. I have so many recordings from my time as a student that have made it into film and television. One of my first recordings was in the Spurrier Hall basement. In one of the practice rooms, there was a piano with a really squeaky hinge. I put that into a show. It had the perfect metal squeak.

Not every sound designer records their own sounds, but that's my favorite part of the job. I know it's been a fun day when my desk is an absolute mess of random objects. Audio tape, coconut shells, flutes, tissue paper, balloons, stretch bands for exercising—I have all kinds of really weird stuff that you wouldn't ever think, "Oh, I'm going to record this." One of the challenging and fun parts of sound design is just walking around and being an active listener in the world—picking up on little things, hearing even the smallest of sounds and finding ways to make them larger than life. 🎧



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ECLIPSE 2024

My Sun, My Moon

AIN'T NO SUNSHINE: Seniors Rianna Ehrenreich (left) and Alexia Dubois stroll in costume across the Eastman Quad in the hours preceding the total solar eclipse of April 8. The moon began crossing over the sun just after 2 p.m., with dense crowds of students, faculty, and staff gathered to witness the event. PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER