Alumni Updates

- **You are invited!** Join us for the 2nd annual Distinguished Achievement Award Celebration, which will be held in conjunction with the University's Making a Difference campaign kick-off on October 13 at the Providence Westin Hotel. Help us honor alumni who are making a difference in our world: the four alumni who will receive the University's 2007 Distinguished Achievement Awards and the 26 alumni and friends who have been named to our 2007 Dean's List. Find out more and register online today!

- **Homecoming 2007**
  This year's Homecoming, to be held October 12-14, promises to be a great weekend. New this year is Rhodyville, our first ever Homecoming tent village where alumni and affinity groups can reserve space for their own special gatherings. Find out more about all the Homecoming festivities, which include spectacular fireworks, the Homecoming 5K Road Race, the URI-JMU football game, and reunions.

- **Fall Chat Series**
  Our online chat series begins its fourth year on Thursday, September 13 at 1 p.m. EST. Our first chat will feature a preview of the University's 2007 Honors Colloquium Series China Rising with Colloquium organizers Yan Ma and Timothy George.

- **Rhody pride photos**
  More than 300 URI alumni, family, and friends turned out for our 2007 Pride in URI Night.

University News & Events

- **URI celebrates opening of Hope Commons Dining Hall and dedication of three new residence halls**
  State leaders and campus community members became part of the buzz when they cut a ceremonial ribbon officially opening Hope Commons, which features a 600-seat main dining hall, a 110-seat coffee/pizza/ice cream shop with a four-sided gas fireplace, and a mini-market. With the official opening of the new dining hall and dedication of three new residence halls on August 22, the University marks the completion of almost $100 million in new construction. The University dedicated its three new residence halls in honor of five individuals who distinguished themselves through their work in elective office, higher education, the judicial system, and community activism.

- **Honors Colloquium to examine China Rising**
  URI's Fall 2007 Honors Colloquium, China Rising, will explore China's dramatic transformation during the past three decades. The 12-lecture series, which runs from Sept. 18 to Dec. 11, will explore the issues of labor, government, business, security, the environment, dissenters, education, and the arts. Speakers include David Sanger, New York Times senior writer; Orville Schell, author and one of America's leading sinologists; Xu Lin, general director of China's Office of Chinese Language Council International; Peng Xiaolian, one of China's leading filmmakers; and Lien Chan, former vice president of Taiwan and the leading figure in breaking the 50-year silence between Taiwan and the mainland.

- **URI grad student named Switzer Fellow**
  Doctoral student Karen Hyun spends her days analyzing laws, policies and agreements about water use in the Southwest, trying to find solutions to the region's water woes. To help her sort out competing needs and seek ways to more effectively manage the region's primary water source, the URI student was awarded a Switzer Environmental Fellowship, one of the nation's most prestigious awards for graduate students studying environmental issues. The award provides a $15,000 grant to be used for educational and research expenses.

- **URI Theatre announces 2007-2008 season**
  University of Rhode Island Theatre selections for the 2007-2008 season offer something for everyone: political satire, musicals, drama, and comedy. The four plays in this year's lineup include Stuff Happens; Little Women, the musical; Amadeus; and The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie. Plays will be performed in the Robert E. Will Theatre or J Studio of the Fine Arts Center, Kingston campus. For reservations, please call the URI Theatre Box Office at 401-874-5843. For group rate information, call 401-874-2712, and for mailing list or additional questions, call 401-874-5921 or 5922.

- **Men's Soccer named pre-season favorite in Atlantic 10 coaches poll**
  The University of Rhode Island men's soccer team
was picked to finish first in the Atlantic 10 Conference, in voting conducted among the league's head coaches. URI also earned a national ranking of 29 in the 2007 College Soccer News Pre-season Poll, which was released last month. Rhody returns ten starters from last year's squad that posted a 12-5-6 record, won its second-straight A-10 Championship, and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. More...

Last Chance! More than 500 Rhody fans will travel to West Point on September 8 to cheer on the Rams at Michie Stadium. Call the Ryan Center Box Office 401-874-RAMS (7267) to reserve your game and bus tickets. Bus tickets can be purchased until noon on Wednesday, September 5. Purchasing game tickets through the Ryan Center will ensure seating with fellow Rhody fans. Hotel packages are available, and a post-game party is planned. Don’t miss this special URI event! Note: A photo ID will be required for admission to Michie Stadium.

On the calendar Tickets for the 2007 URI football season are now on sale. Also coming up at the Ryan Center: Providence BruinsSpringfield Falcons game on September 26 (Boss Arena); Bob Dylan and his band, with special guest Elvis Costello, on September 29; the Business to Business Statewide Expo on October 3; the Lipizzaner Stallions on October 4 and 5; Playhouse Disney on October 28; and on November 3, An Evening of Comedy with Bill Cosby, who will be featured as a part of this year's URI Family Weekend. More...

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