Give the gift of membership to URI Alumni Association members. Not only do they enjoy the benefits of membership, but they also make a difference in the University's future by helping support Alumni Association scholarships. It's easy to join online! If you are already a member, consider making a gift of membership this holiday season to a URI friend or family member.

Chatting with Coach Baron
Read the transcript from our November 19 chat with URI Men's Basketball Coach Jim Baron. Transcripts for all past chats are available online.

Save the date
Our 17th annual Winter Gala will be held on February 9, 2008, at the newly renovated Hyatt Regency Newport. The Winter Gala, sponsored by the URI Alumni Association, is an elegant, festive evening of dining, dancing, and silent auction fun held each year to benefit URI Alumni Association scholarships and programs. Mark your calendars now!

Mount Snow ski trip
Our popular annual Alumni Ski Weekend at Mount Snow, Vermont, will be held January 11-13, 2008. Enjoy two nights' slope-side lodging at the Grand Summit Hotel and Conference Center and purchase a one- or two-day lift ticket at a discounted rate. This spectacular weekend is selling out fast, so register now.

Steel framework complete on URI biotechnology center
Construction of the Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences is on budget and on time for completion in spring 2009. The 140,000 square-foot facility will house modern classrooms, high-tech specialty research and teaching laboratories, support areas for DNA sequencing, faculty offices, incubator space for technology commercialization, a 100-seat classroom and a two-story, 300-seat auditorium, all to meet the needs of URI's growing environmental biotechnology and biological sciences programs. More...

URI rolls out new rapid EmergencyAlert system
The University of Rhode Island has launched a new rapid notification system, called Emergency Alert that will distribute urgent messages in a matter of minutes to students, faculty, and staff through cell phones, voicemail, text messaging, and email. The activation of the EmergencyAlert system follows about five months of work by campus leaders to assess the University's emergency response and communications programs and equipment. More...

Apple Pickers Foundation donates $100,000 to URI
A private charitable foundation in Westerly has made a $100,000 contribution to the University's Center for Vector-Borne Disease in support of the Center's public health education program for preventing tick bites and Lyme disease. The Apple Pickers Foundation made the contribution after meeting with URI Entomology Professor Thomas Mather, director of the Center, and learning about his numerous outreach programs aimed at reducing the risk of contracting Lyme disease. The gift is part of the Making a Difference campaign. More...

URI's premier annual giving program
Karen McKay Davis and Jeff Davis, who each earned undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University, have been named the 2007 chairs of The Fund for URI, the University's premier annual giving program. Unrestricted gifts to The Fund for URI support student scholarships, faculty development, alumni programs and events, and a variety of special student programs and services. Donors may also choose to direct their contributions to specific areas such as The Parents Fund, The Library, the Colleges, and URI Student Affairs. The online giving option is available for unrestricted and restricted gifts. More...

National survey shows URI a leader in learning experiences
URI students like to live and learn together in learning communities, help others through community service, learn more about their fields and themselves through internships, speak foreign languages, and visit foreign countries. In fact, when compared to students at the 609 other colleges
Worth a thousand words  One of the most popular features of our Web site is our Photo Album section. No matter where you live, you can see campus scenes and familiar faces from recent alumni events. Take a look!

At the chapters  On December 2, the Lambda Delta Phi, Phi Sigma Sigma, and Beta Epsilon sororities will hold a special alumnae brunch. On December 8, the Southwest Florida Gators will gather for their annual holiday luncheon, and on January 26, they will host a January gathering in Fort Myers. Find out more and see what your chapter has planned.

Confucius Institute opens at URI  The University of Rhode Island celebrated the opening of its Confucius Institute last month with a drum roll, speeches, gifts, and musical performances. URI is now one of only 20 Confucius Institutes in the United States and 156 in the world. URI’s Confucius Institute creates formal ties between the University and China’s Zhejiang University to strengthen and promote educational programs and exchanges, broadening global opportunities for students, faculty, and the larger community. More...

On the calendar  The URI Theatre Department begins its run of Little Women (the musical) on November 29. URI will screen films directed by Peng Xiaolian on November 29 and December 5, and the director will speak about women in contemporary China on December 11, as part of the China Rising series. A multicultural mixed media exhibit, Vision Creativa!, continues at the URI Feinstein Providence Campus gallery through December 27. At the Ryan Center: the Boston Pops Holiday Concert on December 7; Evanescence on December 8, and Kidz Bop World Tour on December 11. More...

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