**Women's Council for Development event**

On April 9, the Women's Council for Development hosts Career and Life Coach Dr. Adele Scheele, whose presentation will take place at 7 p.m. in Independence Auditorium. At 5 p.m., a book signing and reception will be held at the University Club. Take a look at photos from the recent Women's Council for Development speed networking event.

**"Ask the Pharmacist" chat**

Read the transcript of our recent Web chat with Dr. Kristina Ward '94 of URI-ABC6's "Ask the Pharmacist" feature. Dr. Ward, who is also director of the College of Pharmacy's Drug Information Services, responded to a variety of pharmacy and medication questions.

**A cheer for our alums**

If you have been at the Ryan Center cheering on the Rams this basketball season, you are familiar with a new feature we call Alumni of the Game. At home A-10 games this year, we have been honoring URI alumni through mid-court presentations. Our objective is to highlight the career, community, and personal achievements of a diverse group of URI alumni, reinforcing our belief that at the University of Rhode Island our alumni are our greatest assets.

**Engineering students helping to develop advanced 'rebreather' device for scuba diving**

One drawback to scuba diving has always been the short duration that divers can spend underwater before returning to the surface for additional air tanks. But thanks to the work of two University of Rhode Island students and a Providence-based non-profit organization, an advanced technology may soon be available so divers can dive longer on one tank of air. Junior ocean engineering students Andrew Valainis and Travis Barao have been working with Michael Lombardi, founder of Ocean Opportunity, to improve the "rebreather" device.

** URI researchers: Warming waters may make Antarctica hospitable to sharks, with potentially disastrous consequences**

It has been 40 million years since the waters around Antarctica have been warm enough to sustain populations of sharks and most fish, but they may return this century due to the effects of global warming. If they do, the impact on Antarctic ecology could be serious, according to University of Rhode Island researchers. Biology professors Cheryl Wilga and Brad Seibel analyzed the physiological adaptations and metabolism of sharks and other warm-water predators and concluded that an increase of just a few degrees Celsius could make Antarctic waters hospitable to some species.

**Professor's poem recaptures life of enslaved Africans**

When Vanessa Quainoo and her family traveled to Ghana, West Africa, two years ago, she had no idea the profound effect a one-day trip to the ancient castle of Elmina would have on her. Quainoo, director of the URI African and African American Studies program and a communication studies professor, said she could hear the history and pain of oppression throughout the walls of the castle during her tour. The result is *Cry Elmina*, a book-length poem written for performance in a readers' theater format.

** URI police officer takes plunge for Special Olympics**

Patrolwoman Erica Vieira joined with police, fire, and corrections personnel from around the state March 9, to take a dip in the frigid waters of Easton's Beach, in Middleton, R.I., for the Torch Run Polar Plunge, an event to help support Special Olympics Rhode Island events and athletes. Vieira manages the URI Police Department's involvement with Special Olympics. She and her team named "Team Maxwell" after her search and rescue dog, raised nearly $1,400. "Special Olympics Rhode Island events happen all year, and I would really like to draw attention to the summer games that happen every year at URI," Vieira said.

** 400 celebrate 50th anniversary of pharmacy at URI**

The 50th Anniversary Gala of the University's College of Pharmacy marking the college's opening year, 1957-58, was more like a reunion with young and old alumni reconnecting, faculty members sharing laughs...
Children Academic Excellence Scholarships, which are awarded to six alumni children each year on the basis of their academic achievement for the previous year. All credits and grades must be earned at the University of Rhode Island. Application deadline is June 6, 2008.

Golf tournament Mark your calendars for the 2008 Alumni Golf Tournament to be held at Valley Country Club in Warwick, R.I., on Monday, June 2. Sponsored by the URI Alumni Association, this annual event is a great way to enjoy your favorite game, catch up with fellow alumni and friends, and raise funds to benefit URI students.

Family time Save the date for Alumni Family Camp, which will be held this year July 18-20. This will be the eighth year for Family Camp, two days of fun activities for adults and children of all ages! A full schedule of events and registration information will be available soon. See photos from last year's Family Camp!

Professor aims to keep mature women fashionable, comfortable Claire Lacoste Kapstein arrived at the URI in the fall of 2006 after a successful career designing knitwear for women and children, operating a global wholesale children's clothing business, and managing a specialty store. Along the way she developed an interest in designing clothing that addresses the unique needs of a group she dubbed "Wellderly women" older women who are still active and healthy. "I've always been comfortable talking with older people, I'm a woman, and I'll grow old, so I seemed only natural to want to design for this population," said Kapstein, an assistant professor in the Department of Textiles, Fashion Merchandising & Design. More...

On the calendar URI presents its series of events addressing work/life issues beginning March 27. A talk sponsored by the URI psychology department on the effects of military deployment, focusing specifically on deployed persons, returning veterans, and their families, will be held on March 27. In a joint venture, the URI Great Performances and the Courthouse Center for the Arts present the Cashore Marionettes on March 28 and March 29 at the Courthouse Center for the Arts in Kingston. Gardeners interested in learning how to turn leaves and yard debris into valuable compost are invited to attend a composting workshop on April 12. At the Ryan Center: The Harlem Globetrotters on March 22, and the Doodlebops Live on April 12. More...

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