Alumni Updates

Counting the days! The Big Chill Weekend is coming up on February 13-15, but there's still time to sign up for some of the events offered at this cool new weekend. Take off the chill and register today!

Thinking big in Boston Join us for our next Big Thinkers Series event on February 26 in Boston. Nina Saberi '82 will be our featured speaker. Learn more about the URI Big Thinkers Series, which features prominent URI alumni from around the country.

Alumni honored Our "Alumni of the Game" tradition, held at men's basketball home games, honors alumni for their achievements and commitment to the University and their communities. Congratulations to our 2009 Alumni of the Game honorees.

ACC Forum coming up The Alumni of Color Coalition Forum will be held on February 26 in the Ryan Center Alumni Room. Join us for a panel discussion, career Q&A, and light supper, which will be followed by the URI-Dayton women's basketball game. The event is free, but registration is required.

URI baseball in Miami Take in the URI-University of Miami baseball game on March 3 and get together with

University News & Events

URI scientist to advise United Nations research group on water quality, water supply issue Art Gold, professor of watershed hydrology in the Department of Natural Resources Science, has received a five-year appointment as a senior advisor to a United Nations Research Coordination Project on water conservation and water management. The project explores the role of wetlands in augmenting water supplies and improving water quality in developing countries in Africa, Asia, and Eastern Europe.

Nile Delta fishery grows dramatically thanks to run-off of sewage, fertilizers While many of the world's fisheries are in serious decline, the coastal Mediterranean fishery off the Nile Delta has expanded dramatically since the 1980s. The surprising cause of this expansion is run-off of fertilizers and sewage discharges in the region, according to a researcher at the URI Graduate School of Oceanography. "This is really a story about how people unintentionally impact ecosystems," said doctoral student Autumn Oczkowski, whose research was recently reported in The New York Times.

Champlin Foundations boost hands-on study at URI Students in kinesiology, nutrition, and food science will be better trained in osteoporosis assessment and treatment thanks to a Champlin Foundations grant to purchase a dual energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) unit. The Champlin Foundations recently awarded URI four grants totaling $578,510 to upgrade laboratories in kinesiology, nursing, pharmacy, engineering, and the College of Arts and Sciences, and a fifth grant for renovations on the W. Alton Jones Campus.

Pharmacy student targeting breast cancer, AIDS in her research Jessica Lehmann, a fourth-year pharmacy student, member of the URI track and field team, and daughter of a breast cancer survivor, was a 2008 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow with Pharmacy Professor Keykavous Parang, focusing on breast and colon cancer research. She is continuing her work with Parang, now turning her attention to anti-HIV research.

URI opens Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences The University has opened the doors to the Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences (CBLS), the largest classroom and research building project in its history. The Center is the anchor of the new North District of the Kingston Campus, which will also be the future home of new buildings for the University's pharmacy, nursing, and chemistry programs. The University welcomed numerous public officials, industry executives, and hundreds of faculty, staff, and students to the January 26 CBLS open house.

Chinese Immersion Program prepares students for year
alumni, family, and friends for a special pre-game gathering. Online registration is now available.

**At the chapters** On **February 15**, the Louisiana/Mississippi Chapter is holding its annual Mardi Gras event, and on **March 1**, the Ohio Alumni Chapter is planning a trip to Pittsburgh for the URI-Duquesne men’s basketball game. See what your chapter has planned!

**abroad** Ten URI students, who will work and study in China next fall, recently enrolled in a Chinese Immersion Program designed to boost their Chinese language skills and prepare them for an exciting cultural experience. The program was a preview of an eight-week Chinese immersion program that URI will offer this summer. More...

**On the calendar** The Spring Forensic Science Seminar Series begins on **February 6**. The Women’s Studies Program annual Dana Shugar Colloquium series begins on **February 10**. The URI Theatre production of “The Foreigner” starts its run on **February 26**. At the Ryan Center: Jason Mraz on **February 12**; Larry the Cable Guy on **February 22**; the Southern New England Home Show on **February 28** and **March 1**; and the Harlem Globetrotters on **March 26**. More...

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