Alumni Updates

➤ Speed Networking and Career Fair The Women's Council for Development is hosting a "Speed Networking" event on April 7 in the Alumni Center for alumni and students. The 5:30 p.m. event includes networking tips and an opportunity to meet with alumni mentors and recruiters. Online registration is available. The URI Spring Career Fair is also open to alumni, is held the following day, April 8.

➤ Michele Nota elected to CASE board Michele Nota '87, M.B.A. '06, executive director of Alumni Relations, was recently elected to serve a two-year term as a Member-at-Large on the Board of Directors for the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District 1, which represents the northeastern United States and eastern Canada.

➤ Save the Dates! Members of the Class of 1959 are invited to their 50th Reunion Celebration, to be held May 15-17. Our 2009 Golden Grad Weekend is a special celebration for graduates who have already marked their 50th reunion, will be held May 29-30.

➤ MBA Networking Reception The College of Business Administration Kingston and Providence M.B.A. Program is hosting a networking reception on April 22 from 6-8 p.m. at the Providence Marriott Downtown. The event is open to M.B.A. alumni and...

University News & Events

➤ URI Financial Services Symposium to feature FDIC vice chairman Martin Gruenberg, vice chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.’s Board of Directors, will be the keynote speaker at the University of Rhode Island's 2009 Financial Services Symposium on April 7. "We have held this event to highlight the importance of the financial services industry to the state," said Mark Higgins, dean of the College of Business Administration. "Of course, this year it is even more significant for Rhode Island." More...

➤ Undergraduate Landscape Architecture program rated among top 15 in nation The URI undergraduate program in landscape architecture was ranked among the nation's top 15 programs of its kind by Design Intelligence magazine. URI's program tied the University of Florida for 14th in the rankings. The first URI students to earn degrees in landscape architecture graduated in 1989. Just 20 students each year are accepted into the program, which has five full-time faculty members.

➤ Professor helps poor in developing nations purify drinking water The device looks like a porous clay pot placed in a plastic bucket with a spigot, but Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering Vinka Craver believes it can save lives. When water is poured into the ceramic pot and passes through to the bucket, the water is purified and becomes safe to drink, says Craver. "About two million people die each year from diarrhea and other diseases related to unhealthy water. If we can get people in developing nations to use this filter in their homes, it will save a lot of lives." More...

➤ URI vice president offers management tips The February 2009 issue of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Currents magazine features URI Vice President Robert Beagle in its story about adapting business management strategies for advancement. Beagle, vice president for University Advancement since 1991, has been an executive manager in higher education for 30 years. A contributing author to a national book on staff recruitment and retention, he often speaks at conferences on such topics as building integrated advancement models.

➤ Research ship to depart on 4 ½ month cruise The University of Rhode Island research vessel Endeavor departed from Narragansett this week for a four-and-a-half month cruise to Florida, Brazil, Namibia, and Cape Verde. This is the first time she has ever traveled to Africa and one of her very few trips to the South Atlantic. The 185-foot ship is owned by the National Science Foundation and managed by URI.

➤ Guard donkey counts sheep at Peckham Farm Bonnie, URI's 14-year-old guard donkey, is especially busy this month keeping...
Honoring alumnae CEOs
Sandra Glaser Parrillo M.B.A. '93, president and CEO of Providence Mutual Fire Insurance Co., and Jodi Fournier '82, CEO of Taylor Grey, a New York City recruiting and consulting firm, were recognized as Alums of the Game at halftime during the URI-UMass game on March 7.

At the chapters
On April 3, the Massachusetts Chapter is getting together at Boston's Daisy Buchanan's. The Arizona Rhode Runners are holding their annual Surf and Turf picnic on April 18, and Florida alumni are holding an event in The Villages on April 25. Connecticut alumni are invited to a gathering at First Last Tavern in Middletown on May 14. See what your chapter has planned!

On the calendar
Volunteer training for Watershed Watch will be held March 28 and March 31. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at URI offers programs and events for members 50 or older beginning March 29. "Trust the Journey" will premier at the URI Feinstein Providence Campus on March 29. The URI Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Center will present its 15th annual symposium March 30-April 3. URI hosts GreenShare Garden School Day at Roger Williams Park Botanical Center on April 4. The URI Spring Gardening School runs April 6-May 11. The annual Risica Endowed Lecture on Innovation and Entrepreneurship will be held on April 8. "What Can Centenarians Teach Us About Healthy Aging?" is the topic of the April 8 Thewlis Lecture on Gerontology. Professor Nancy Fey-Yensan will deliver a lecture on women, poverty, and nutrition on April 9. At the Ryan Center: the Harlem Globetrotters on March 26 and Thomas & Friends "A Circus Comes to Town" on April 15.

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