Alumni Updates

University News & Events

Alumni Center taking shape The University of Rhode Island's first Alumni Center is beginning to give passersby a hint of what the final product will look like. "Now we are starting to see the architectural elements that are going to make this building such a great meeting place for our alumni, and a striking landmark on the Kingston Campus," said Michele Nota, executive director of the Alumni Association. See recent photos!

Explorer Dr. Robert Ballard returns to the Titanic in June Nearly 20 years after first finding the sunken remains of the R.M.S. Titanic, marine explorer Dr. Robert Ballard will return in June to help the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) study the ship's rapid deterioration. Dr. Ballard, a URI professor of oceanography and director of its Institute for Archaeological Oceanography, and scientists from NOAA, Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration (MAIFE) and other institutions will spend 11 days at the site, mapping the ship and conducting scientific analyses. More...

URI's donkey keeps watch over her flock Bonnie, the University of Rhode Island's guard donkey, keeps watch over 25 lambs, 20 sheep, including one about to give birth, and a ram that occasionally comes calling. The 7-year-old jenny (female donkey) protects the sheep at URI's Peckham Farm. The University uses the farm and its animals for hands-on teaching of its animal science students. More...

Enlisting support of Rhode Island residents Since endowment fundraising is such a priority for URI we are encouraging our Rhode Island alumni and friends to contact their local legislators to urge passage of proposed legislation that would establish a state matching grant program. Simply put, the State of Rhode Island would give URI (and the two other public institutions) additional funding in support of monies that we raise for endowment from the private sector—matching every $2 we raise for endowment with $1 in state funding. More...

URI Greek System participates in national fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Last month more than 125 students from eight sororities and four fraternities participated in the Up 'Til Dawn letter writing campaign for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, thanks to the efforts of URI junior Christina Mastrangelo. The University of Rhode Island is one of more than 100 schools participating in the program. Approximately 3,800 letters from URI were sent; and with an average donation of $20 Mastrangelo hopes the event will raise $50,000 for the hospital. More...

Instrument that simulates the rotation of the earth garners scientists $1.1 million NSF grant Physical oceanographers at URI's Graduate School of Oceanography (GSO) and the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth have received three new National Science Foundation grants totaling more than $1.1 million. The grants were awarded to support two projects that will utilize a new rotating table in GSO's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory. The rotating table, purchased by GSO physical oceanographer Dr. Peter Cornillon with funding from NASA and URI, is used to simulate the rotation of the earth, which has a major influence on the circulation in the ocean. More...
Calling all golfers Be part of the 2004 URI Alumni Golf Tournament, which has been bringing together alumni and friends for more than 50 years! This year's event will take place on Friday, June 4, at Triggs Memorial Golf Course in Providence. Sponsored by the URI Alumni Association, this tournament raises funds to benefit URI students through scholarships and grants. Register online today! On Thursday, May 6, the College of Human Sciences and Services is sponsoring a golf tournament at Beaver River Golf Club in Richmond, R.I. to raise funds for a Habitat for Humanity home. Pre-register by April 29. Contact Brenda Faulkner at bfaulk@uri.edu for details and to register.

Scholarship Opportunity for Children of Alumni The URI Alumni Association is currently accepting applications for the 2004 Alumni Children Excellence Scholarships. Any alumni son or daughter currently enrolled at the University is eligible. The deadline for application is June 11.

The next issue of inAdvance will be sent on May 6.

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