



Alumni Updates



▶ **Alumnus Ross Kauffman wins Academy Award** Our congratulations go to New York film editor and producer **Ross Kauffman '89** and photographer Zana Briski, who received the Academy Award for Best Documentary Film on February 27. (Above:

AP Photo/Mark J. Terrill.) Their film, "[Born Into Brothels](#)," features the children of prostitutes in the red light district of Calcutta.



▶ **Browse our Blue & White Ball and Young Alumni Weekend Photo Albums** Last weekend was a busy one for URI

graduates of the last decade who attended [Young Alumni Weekend](#) events, including the [Blue & White Ball](#) at the Hotel Viking in Newport. Take a look at photos!



▶ **Upcoming Web chat** Our next Web chat will be with financial planner **Chris Jarvis '92** on

Tuesday, **March 15** at 1 p.m. EST. This is the latest in our ongoing [spring chat series](#), sponsored by the URI Division of University Advancement.



▶ **Alumni and students get together for dinner** This spring, we are introducing a new program to the URI

University News & Events



▶ **Women's Studies Program to celebrate 25 years** The URI Women's Studies program, one of the country's first, is marking its silver anniversary this year, and the program, which focuses on the lives, experiences, and culture of women, continues to engage students. Today nearly 300 students are enrolled in 65 women's studies interdisciplinary courses jointly offered by 16 different departments and five colleges. To celebrate its silver anniversary, the program plans two special events, open to the public: a talk by author Judy Norsigian, executive director of Our Bodies Ourselves, on **March 23** (see Calendar below), and a 25th anniversary celebration, held at the UClub on **April 16**. [More...](#)



▶ **President Carothers receives national award in D.C.** On February 13, at the American Council on Education (ACE) annual meeting in Washington, D.C., URI President Robert L. Carothers was presented with the first Council of Fellows Outstanding Mentor Award. The ACE Fellows Program is for academics interested in pursuing higher education leadership positions. Since joining URI in 1991 as its tenth president, Carothers has mentored nine Fellows. [More...](#)



▶ **URI researcher part of team inventing small-diameter artificial arteries** A patient needs a small-diameter bypass graft to replace a diseased blood vessel because of the progression of his diabetes, but his veins can no longer be used for such a procedure. While large artificial arteries have been in use for about 50 years for replacing large blood vessels, the creation of a small-diameter artificial artery has been unsuccessful due to rapid failure when implanted. Now, Martin Bide, URI textile chemist, is part of a team working to develop a new way to synthesize such grafts from material made of polyester and collagen. [More...](#)



▶ **Swimming mice to help URI researcher study enlarged hearts** It's not only the members of the swim team that regularly hit the pool. Soon there will be a team of Rhody mice swimming laps in the name of research. The laboratory mice will be exercising to help Frederick Vetter, assistant professor of biomedical engineering, discover the mechanisms involved when regular exercise leads to growth of the heart. He will ultimately apply what he learns from the swimming mice to understand abnormal heart growth caused by disease. [More...](#)

community, [Dinner with Strangers](#), in which alumni and faculty are invited to open their homes to students for small dinner parties. The goal is to bring together URI alumni, faculty, and students in a friendly environment for good food and conversation. Contact Erin Colman at 401-874-2821 or uridinnerwithstranger@yahoo.com



▶ **Former Basketball Player Reunion Photo Album** On February 26 and 27, former URI men's and women's

basketball players gathered for a reunion. [Take a look at photos!](#)



▶ **College of Business Hall of Fame** The URI College of Business Administration [2005 Hall of Fame](#) inductees have

been announced. They are **Charlene K. Butler, former Gov. Bruce Sundlun,** and **David J. Weiner.** Induction ceremonies will be held on **April 7** at the Crowne Plaza at the Crossings in Warwick.



▶ **Graduate student awarded prestigious cytotechnology scholarship** Nicole Crothers, a graduate student studying cytotechnology, was recently awarded a highly competitive scholarship from the American Society of Clinical Pathology.

Cytopathology is the microscopic study of cellular samples from body tissues, and cytotechnologists are the medical laboratory professionals who evaluate these samples to detect evidence of disease at the cellular level. Crothers is the first URI student to receive this award, and the first recipient from Rhode Island in 20 years. [More...](#)



▶ **URI student wants to help members of armed forces phone home** Tom Shevlin wants to help service men and women stationed outside the U.S. to reach out and touch their families and friends by providing them with prepaid calling cards. To accomplish that, Shevlin is asking Rhode Island businesses with high pedestrian traffic to place collection canisters to support Operation Phone Home. There are similar programs, but I liked Operation Phone Home because 100 percent of the donations are designated for the purchase, shipping and distribution of the calling cards, he says, noting that a \$10 donation will provide a 100-minute global calling card. [More...](#)

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▶ **On the calendar** In celebration of Women's History Month, the Feinstein Providence Campus Gallery presents a [mixed media exhibit](#) of original works by indigenous women of the Americas **through March 31.** A Gallery Night reception will be held on **March 17.** The second annual [URI Music Department piano sale](#) will be held **March**

17, 18, and 19. The sale, through a special agreement with M. Steinert & Sons of Boston, will offer purchasers a discounted price, and give URI a percentage of the net proceeds. On **March 23, Judy Norsigian,** executive director of Our Bodies Ourselves, will give a talk entitled "[The Media and Women's Health: Sorting Fact from Fiction](#)" at 7:30 p.m., White Hall Auditorium, free and open to the public. Coming up at the [Ryan Center](#) are the **Harlem Globetrotters** on **March 25** and **Alison Krauss and Union Station** on **April 16.** [More...](#)

The next issue of **inAdvance** will be sent on **March 17.**

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