Alumni Updates

- **Online chat update**
  Read the transcript of our April chat with URI tick researcher [Dr. Tom Mather](http://www.uri.edu), and learn how you can prevent Lyme disease. Coming up on May 9 is our Web chat with Master Gardener [Rosanne Sherry ’77](http://www.uri.edu), who will be on hand with gardening advice.

- **50th reunion and Golden Grad celebration coming up**
  The Class of 1956 will celebrate its [50th Reunion](http://www.uri.edu) May 19-21. This milestone reunion is a great event, and we hope all members of the Class of 1956 will plan to attend. On June 2-3, graduates who have already celebrated their 50th reunion are invited to come back to [Kingston for Golden Grad Weekend](http://www.uri.edu).

- **It's election time**
  We hope you will participate in the election of [Alumni Association Executive Board](http://www.uri.edu) committee members. You can [review the nominees](http://www.uri.edu) and cast your ballots online. Deadline is May 31. You may either vote for the nominee or write in the name of the candidate of your choice. To protect your privacy, [log in is required](http://www.uri.edu). Thank you for taking the time to vote! Please note: Only alumni may participate.

- **At the chapters**
  Ohio Chapter members are gathering at Jacobs Field to watch the Red Sox play the Cleveland Indians on April 27. On April 28, the [Massachusetts Chapter](http://www.uri.edu) is taking in a performance of the Big Apple Circus at

University News & Events

- **URI marketing students creating excitement for Ford Fusion**
  A group of 15 URI seniors are putting theory into practice by marketing the Ford Fusion, a sporty car designed to appeal to young buyers. The URI students, along with students from other New England colleges, are participants in a competition to develop a marketing and advertising campaign for the Fusion. The top two teams will present their final projects to the J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency and the New England Ford Dealers, and will be eligible to win a $3,000 first-place scholarship award and a $1,000 second-place award. The project is the curriculum for Marketing Professor Ruby Dholakia’s directed study class this semester. [More...](http://www.uri.edu)

- **Study shows delaying umbilical cord clamping benefits pre-term infants**
  A brief delay in clamping the umbilical cords of babies born before 32 weeks protects them from bleeding in the brain and infections, according to a new study by Judith Mercer, URI clinical professor of nursing and certified nurse-midwife. The results of the federally funded study were published in the latest issue of *Pediatrics*, the journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics. "This is an easy, no-cost procedure that increases the amount of blood the baby receives at birth. This blood gives the baby more red blood cells to carry oxygen and has high concentrations of beneficial stem cells," said Mercer. [More...](http://www.uri.edu)

- **Engineering alumnus establishes nursing scholarship in memory of friend who died in Vietnam War**
  Kam Esmail '66 was a young engineer working in Providence in 1967 when he read that a friend and fellow URI graduate, Marine 1st Lt. Charles Yaghoobian Jr., had been killed on his fourth day in Vietnam. Nearly 40 years later, Esmail, now a consultant engineer in the offshore oil platform construction industry, has established the Lt. Charlie Yaghoobian Memorial Scholarship to benefit Rhode Island high school students enrolling in URI's College of Nursing. [More...](http://www.uri.edu)

- **Women's Council increases women's influence at URI**
  The Women's Council for Development was launched in 2005 as a means of encouraging women to play a more active role in University life and enhancing their influence on campus. Janice DiLorenzo started the group after discussions with University Advancement Vice President Bob Beagle and Annual Fund Director Sarah Howard. "I thought it was a great idea to get women together who were interested in furthering the interests of women at the University," said DiLorenzo. The Council, which meets quarterly and has 33 members, including faculty, staff, students and alumnae, is seeking additional members. [More...](http://www.uri.edu)

- **ROTC cadets join march to honor World War II soldiers**
  Last month, ten URI cadets, a sergeant, and a lieutenant colonel from Army ROTC participated in the annual Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands, N. M. The annual march, a 26.2-mile course, honors World War II soldiers responsible for the defense of the
Boston's City Hall Plaza. Other URI alumni are invited to join them and enjoy the Big Apple Circus at a special rate. On May 7, join alumni in the Fresno, California, area to watch the Fresno Grizzlies play Portland, and to meet the Grizzlies' owners, who are both URI alumni. Find out more!

**Congrats to Rhode Island Alumni Chapter** The Rhode Island Food Bank recently awarded members of the URI Rhode Island Alumni Chapter the Golden Pallet Award for their superior volunteering efforts!

**Seeking alumni and faculty hosts** The Student Alumni Association is sponsoring their Dinner with Strangers program again this spring as a way to bring together alumni, faculty, and students in a warm, friendly environment for good food, conversation, and Rhody camaraderie. Upcoming dinners are April 23 and April 30. If you are a URI alum or faculty member interested in learning more, please contact Kristal Cardone at kristal@uri.edu.

**Upcoming fashion show to feature a runway of fresh student designs** The University's Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design (TMD) department will present its third annual "Spring Splash" fashion show on Thursday, April 20. The event will build on the previous show’s tremendous success, celebrate the accomplishments of alumni and industry partners, and showcase selected fashions created by URI students. Called "Passion for Fashion," the Spring Splash fashion show will feature the best of the students’ designs as judged by a panel of faculty and industry experts. More...

**On the calendar** The spring Community Planning and Landscape Architecture Lecture Series will feature Charles Birnbaum, one of the country's most influential historic landscape preservationists, on April 20. The Pulitzer Prize, Tony-Award winning play, "Angels in America, Part I," will be performed at URI's Fine Arts Center April 20-22 and 26-29 at 7:30 p.m., and April 23, at 3 p.m. URI Hillel will hold a campus-wide commemoration in honor of Yom HaShoah—Holocaust Memorial Day on April 25. A discussion of new and emerging breast cancer treatments will be presented by a panel of physicians and women's health advocates on April 25. At the Ryan Center: alternative rock band O.A.R. on April 21, and the Lipizzaner Stallions on April 22 and 23. More...

**In the News**

- Islands of Luzon, Corregidor and the harbor defense forts of the Philippines. The URI cadets were among the 4,000 or so military and civilian personnel who participated in the event. More...
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