



## Alumni Updates



► **50th reunion celebration** The Class of 1956 celebrated its [50th reunion](#) May 19-21, and showed their commitment to URI with a [class gift](#) of \$334,310! Our sincere thanks to the 50th reunion class for its generosity. See our [photo album!](#)



► **Summer chats** Here's a look at our [summer chat schedule](#). On **June 20** meteorologist [Steve Cascione '77](#) will

address your questions about the upcoming hurricane season. On **July 18**, our chat will feature [John Grant '86](#), a member of the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Science Team, whose topic is the Mars Rover Mission.



► **Annual Alumni Golf Tournament** Golfers won't want to miss this year's [Alumni Golf Tournament](#) on **June 5**

at Triggs Memorial Golf Course in Providence. Enjoy a great day of golf and support URI student scholarships. [Register online today!](#)



► **Save the date** Mark your calendars for **October 14** and the inaugural presentation of the University of Rhode Island

Distinguished Achievement Awards, which combine all University affinity-based recognitions into one premier event. This gala evening at Rhode Island Convention Center will conclude a weekend of campus performances, receptions, and the URI homecoming game. Further details coming soon!

## University News & Events



► **University's 120th commencement celebrates the achievements of 3,434 new graduates** The sun was shining in Kingston on May 20 and 21, as the University of Rhode Island celebrated the achievements of 2,702 undergraduate and 732 graduate degree recipients. At the main ceremony on May 21, [Chief Justice Frank J. Williams](#) delivered an inspiring address to the University's newest graduates. Here's a chance to meet some of the accomplished members of the Class of 2006. Congratulations to all the graduates and their families on this important occasion. [More...](#)



► **Revolutionary War shipwrecks discovered in Newport Harbor**

Marine archaeologists from the Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project and the University of Rhode Island have found four Revolutionary War-era ships in Newport Harbor. The ships are believed to be part of a fleet of 13 British transport ships deliberately sunk by British forces defending Newport in 1778. "We identified a series of eight targets using side-scan sonar, and four of them turned out to be shipwrecks," said Rod Mather, a URI associate professor of maritime history and underwater archaeology who has wide experience studying shipwrecks on the Eastern Seaboard. [More...](#)



► **URI retains all intercollegiate sports programs for 2006-07**

The University of Rhode Island has announced it will sponsor a full complement of its 22 intercollegiate sports programs for the 2006-07 academic year. The challenge of timing for current student-athletes to pursue both their academic and athletic goals was the key factor in the decision. The University administration has been evaluating all of its University-wide programs, as part of its strategic plan and current financial challenges. [More...](#)



► **Ballard expedition to explore Greek volcano, survey Black Sea and Sea of Crete**

Using advanced deep-sea technology, a team of scientists from the University of Rhode Island and the Institute for Exploration headed by Robert Ballard are exploring the archaeology and geology of the Aegean and Black seas. The expedition's primary focus is to study the seafloor around the Greek island of Thera (Santorini), site of a massive volcanic eruption in 1600 B.C. Immersion Presents, an after-school program founded by Ballard in 2002, will broadcast live from the volcano's exploration site **June 3-8**, and the University has launched a [Web site](#) tracking the *R/V Endeavor's* location and providing regular updates about the work of the scientists onboard. [More...](#)



► **URI Campbell Scholarship is a triple treat** Three URI students studying physics are among the latest recipients of the [Campbell Scholarship](#), established in 1995 by Bruce D. Campbell '62. When Campbell was a young physics major, he received a small scholarship



▶ **Chapter news** On **June 2**, the **New Jersey**

**Chapter** heads to Yogi Berra Stadium for the N.J. Jackals/ Worcester Tornadoes game. On **June 10**, it's "Beauty and the Beast" for the **New York Metro Chapter**. (Please note: ticket price has been reduced). On **July 14**, the **Rhode Island Chapter** will be ringside at the Big Apple Circus! [Find out more.](#)

▶ **There's still time** The deadline to vote for Alumni Association [Executive Board](#) committee members is **May 31**. You can [review the nominees](#) and vote online. To protect your privacy, [log in is required](#). Alumni are also invited to the Alumni Association [annual meeting](#) at the W. Alton Jones Campus on **June 7**.

▶ **Membership matters** We invite you to become a member of the [URI Alumni Association](#). Enjoy membership benefits, support Alumni Association scholarships, and make a difference in the future of the University! [Join or renew online](#). It's easy!

from the Alumni Association. After URI, he did graduate work at Brown, postdoctoral work at New Mexico's Los Alamos Scientific Lab, and was a physicist for IBM. Later he took the helm of Coto Wabash, a Providence coil and relay company. Income from the endowment provides annual scholarships to physics students who show academic merit. "There comes a time to do something for URI," says Campbell, who is now retired. [More...](#)



▶ **University launches engineering partnership in China with six-week trip to learn language, culture** Fourteen engineering students are heading to China for six weeks this summer to learn to speak Chinese. The trip is the first step in establishing a Chinese option in URI's International Engineering Program, which requires students to major in an engineering discipline and a foreign language, and to spend a year abroad studying and interning at an international company. Attleboro-based Texas Instruments provided seed money to fund the planning process for this initiative and is subsidizing the trip. In addition, its president, Thomas Wroe, has established a scholarship for students enrolled in the program. [More...](#)



▶ **On the calendar** The [Summer Gardening School](#), an informal series of bi-weekly sessions sponsored by the URI Cooperative Extension, will be held on Tuesday evenings from **May 30-September 5**. URI Master Gardeners and the Northeast Regional Master Gardeners Conference are sponsoring a [Garden Marketplace & Expo, June 6-8](#), at the Hyatt Regency in Newport. The third annual Rhody the Ram Charity Yard Sale to benefit the [Rhody the Ram Endowment](#) will be held on Saturday, **June 10**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Keaney Parking Lot on the Kingston Campus. Rain date is June 11. [Oceanography Explorer Day Camps](#) for students in grades 6-8 will be offered at the Narragansett Bay Campus **July 10-14**, and **July 17-21**. [More...](#)

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