



Alumni Updates



► **Class of '57 reunion**
Members of the Class of 1957 celebrated their 50th reunion on May 18-20, and showed their commitment to URI with a [class gift](#) of \$935,648. We thank the Class of '57 for their generosity. See our [photo albums](#)!



► **Feeling the heat?**
GSO Dean David Farmer and Associate Dean Kate Moran will lead the [June 2007 Chat](#) on Tuesday, **June 12 at 1 p.m. EST**. Join them to discuss global warming issues, their own research on the topic, and the documentary "*An Inconvenient Truth*," which has been making headlines and sparking controversy since it was released in 2006. Read the [transcript](#) of our May Chat on healthy weight loss with URI Professor Kathleen Melanson.



► **We need your vote!**
The deadline to vote for Alumni Association Executive Board committee members is **May 31**. Review the [nominees](#) and vote online. To protect your privacy, [log in](#) is required. Thanks for taking the time to vote!



► **Golden Grad Weekend** This special celebration for alumni who have already celebrated their 50th reunion will be held on **June 1 and 2** at the Kingston and Alton Jones campuses, with a special luncheon at the Dunes Club in Narragansett. [More](#)

University News & Events



► **URI students earn national scholarships** URI junior Elana Viola is majoring in four different disciplines - chemistry, mathematics, electrical engineering, and German. But it's not because she can't make up her mind. She knows exactly what she wants, and her four majors will help her get it. "I want to conduct research in the field of nanotechnology, probably something with national defense implications," says the Cranston resident. Viola's academic and research achievements have earned her a Goldwater Scholarship, the most prestigious national scholarship for students interested in math and science careers. [More](#) about Viola, and Fulbright Scholars Sharon Ruggieri and Melissa Lake, Udall Scholar Rachael Gately, and National Science Foundation Scholar Bridget Druken.



► **Scholarship funds growing by leaps and bounds** [Recent gifts](#) from turf industry leader H. Winfield Tucker and the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association have boosted URI scholarship funds. Tucker '43 and his wife, Phyllis, donated \$160,000 to the H. Winfield Tucker Jr. Engineering Scholarship Endowment, which they established in 1992 to support undergraduate engineering students from South County. [The Tucker's gift](#) nearly doubles the size of the fund. "If I hadn't had the education at URI, we wouldn't be in a position to give these scholarships," says Tucker. [The RINLA gift](#) establishes a \$100,000 scholarship endowment for students studying plant sciences, horticulture, turf science, and related fields. RINLA members, many of whom are URI alumni, have been generous supporters of URI for many years.



► **Driving simulation to boost highway safety** URI and the Rhode Island Department of Transportation recently completed a study to test the effectiveness of overhead electronic traffic signs. The research included a unique driving simulation in which participants sat in a real car parked in front of a projection screen with moving images of a highway and an upcoming message board. As people "drove" toward the board, they pressed a button to show how quickly and accurately they identified the message. The study will bolster three years of research by Jay Wang, chair and professor of URI's Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering. [More](#)



► **Rhody women's rugby club wins national Division IV title** URI has earned another national championship, this time through the efforts of the women's rugby club. With an undefeated fall 2006 schedule, the squad earned the right to play for the national title this spring. In late April, the Rams traveled to Philadelphia and crushed Ursinus College 36-5 for the national title. Because of their success this year, the team is going to move up to Division III. "This is a group of women who will be able to compete in every game at the D-III level," said Head Coach Nate Godfrey. [More...](#)



► **State Crime Lab at URI gains distinctive national accreditation** The Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory at URI has been granted international accreditation, the first multi-disciplinary lab in New



▶ **Don't miss Family Camp**

The seventh annual URI Family Camp will be held **July 27-29, 2007**. [Online registration](#) is available for this popular summertime event designed for adults and children of all ages. Take a look at what we have planned for our [2007 Family Camp](#) and browse photo albums from previous years.



England to earn the designation. "This is an outstanding testament to the professionalism of the crime lab staff and the commitment to the lab by the University of Rhode Island," said Attorney General Patrick C. Lynch. Criminalists in the lab, which is based in URI's College of Pharmacy, collect and analyze physical evidence in criminal cases and report their findings to law enforcement agencies. [More](#)



▶ **Your gift makes a difference** Every gift to the University of Rhode Island matters. Every URI scholarship makes a difference in the life of a student, a family, and a community. Whether you make an online gift to the [Fund for URI](#) or the [Rhode Island Rams Athletic Association](#), or choose to support an existing endowment, your contribution matters. If you have not already done so, please consider a gift before the end of the fiscal year on June 30. Thank you for your generosity. [More](#)



▶ **Take me out to the ball game!** This year's Pride in URI Night at McCoy Stadium will be held on Tuesday, **August**

21. Don't miss this popular event, including an all-you-can-eat barbecue, raffle, Rhody the Ram, and a chance to meet Paw Sox players. [More](#)



▶ **On the calendar** The Rhode Island Legislature has proclaimed **June 2 Tick Control Awareness Day** in Rhode Island. Rhody the Ram wants to see you at the 4th annual [Rhody the Ram Yard Sale](#) to benefit the [Rhody the Ram Scholarship Endowment](#) on **June 9** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Keaney Parking Lot. Contact gbeagle@foundation.uri.edu or hawksley@uri.edu to learn more. Please join the URI College of Business Administration to honor [Professor Clay V. Sink](#) on the occasion of his retirement, at the Crowne Plaze in Warwick, **June 14, 2007**. At the [Ryan Center](#):

Tickets on sale now for **Vince Gill**, the Friends and Family Tour, featuring Amy Grant and the Del McCoury Band on **July 19**; and two performances of the **Wiggles** on **August 7**. [More...](#)

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