

URI Informed

Vol. 20 Issue 2 Spring 2014

THE URI EMPLOYEES' NEWSLETTER

URI to award honorary degrees to four distinguished leaders

by Jhodi Redlich

The University of Rhode Island will celebrate the achievements of its students, and salute the accomplishments of four distinguished citizens at its 128th commencement exercises on Saturday and Sunday, May 17 and 18.

To honor their unique contributions to the University, the people of the State of Rhode Island, and the nation, the University will confer four honorary doctorates at Commencement. The Honorary Degree is the highest honor bestowed by the University and is reserved to recognize true distinction. The following individuals will be so honored:

- Richard Blanco**, U.S. Inaugural Poet who will speak at commencement will receive a Doctor of Letters

- LTG Michael T. Flynn**, director, Defense Intelligence Agency, will receive a Doctor of Humane Letters

- Bernard LaFayette Jr.**, Civil Rights leader, Candler School of Theology at Emory University, will receive a Doctor of Humane Letters

- Anne Nolan**, president and chief executive officer of Crossroads Rhode Island, will receive a Doctor of Humane Letters

Following are brief biographies of each honored guest:

Richard Blanco, Poet, Author: One of today's most beloved and influential poets and storytellers, in 2013 Richard Blanco also became this nation's fifth inaugural poet, and the youngest person given the honor of preparing and presenting a signature poem. His poem, *One Today*, which he delivered at President Barack Obama's second inauguration, pays homage to the American experience. He is the first Latino, first immigrant, and first openly gay writer to have received such an honor.

As Blanco describes himself, he was "made in Cuba, assembled in Spain, and imported



to the United States." The son of Cuban exiles, he was raised and educated in Miami, and earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering and a master of fine arts degree in creative writing from Florida International University. Blanco has been a practicing engineer, writer and poet since 1991 and he has traveled extensively in his adult life, living and working throughout Europe and South America. He has taught at Georgetown University, American University, Writer's Center and Central Connecticut State University and was named a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow. He also has participated in URI's annual Ocean State Summer Writing Conference. A resident of Bethel, Maine, Blanco will receive a Doctor of Letters.

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THINK BIG  WE DO™



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If you have a suggestion for an article about a co-worker or colleague, or perhaps information about an event, or simply have an interest in being involved with the newsletter, you may send your request to:

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The editorial board reserves the right to select the material printed and to edit it to conform to space restrictions.

Please get involved! This is your newsletter and we need your support to make it work.

URI is an equal opportunity employer committed to the principles of affirmative action and values diversity.



gence Agency's mission to help the nation and its leaders understand the threats it faces, and assists in decisions and actions that will help our country prepare for the future. Raised in Rhode Island, the nationally known expert on intelligence, cyber, special operations, and security has, for many years, brought his insights home to share with students, faculty and area businesses attending URI's annual high profile Cybersecurity Symposium.

In addition to his undergraduate degree from URI, Flynn holds a Masters of Business Administration in Telecommunications, from Golden Gate University, San Francisco; a Masters in

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LTG Michael T. Flynn, 18th Director of Intelligence, Defense Intelligence Agency: A 1981 URI College of Business Administration graduate, LTG Flynn is a three-star Army general and serving as the 18th director of the Defense Intelligence Agency. During his 33 years of service at the highest levels of the U.S. Intelligence Community, he led the multinational intelligence effort in Afghanistan and became well known for his novel approaches to strategically gathering intelligence.

Through his writings and frequent congressional testimonies, the highly decorated officer clearly positions and communicates the Intelli-

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URI prepares for one of its largest undergraduate commencement ceremonies

Tickets required for everyone attending indoor undergraduate college ceremonies

by Jhodi Redlich

To prepare for the big day next month when The University of Rhode Island bids farewell to more than 3,000 graduating seniors, the University has formalized plans to ensure that the ceremonies will be safe, smooth and enjoyable for the large number of guests expected.

On Sunday, May 18, from about 8:30 a.m. until after 5 p.m., about 20,000 students, parents, family members, faculty, staff, dignitaries and more are expected to gather at various locations on the Kingston Campus to attend one or more of the commencement activities planned. The day includes the University-wide, main ceremony on the Quadrangle at 12:30 p.m. and the individual ceremonies for each of the eight academic colleges -- four held in the morning and four in the afternoon at different indoor locations.

To ensure the safety of all participants, **tickets are required for everyone attending the undergraduate college ceremonies that are all held indoors.**

Based on requirements from the State of Rhode Island Fire Marshal's Office, the University chose to adopt a ticketing system to ensure that each facility does not exceed its legal seating capacity. Students will also receive two guest rain tickets for entry into the main Commencement Ceremony that would be held in the Ryan Center in the event of rain.

This will be the first time tickets are required for these ceremonies. The tickets are time- and location-specific and will be provided to each graduating senior by their college dean's office. Although tickets are required for admittance, guests will be seated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Based on the Fire Marshal's requirements and best practices for such large-scale events, the University's public programming, public safety, facilities services, college deans, and other offices have worked closely to develop plans for all seating and staging in each commencement venue.

The number of tickets provided to each student has been determined based on the number of graduates in each of the colleges and the seating capacity of each ceremony location.

Public Safety

In addition to the requirement for guests to have tickets, they are also asked to understand and adhere to security procedures that are very similar to those at other big events. The University recommends that students and guests evaluate the contents of their bags and pockets as they may be subject to search, as needed. Guests are prohibited from bringing balloons, backpacks, coolers and duffel bags.

Bags larger than 1 cubic foot (12" x 12" x 12") will not be permitted unless there is a medical or childcare related reason; in such cases they may be subject to additional security. People with these special needs should plan on arriving early to accommodate any potential delay. Best practice is to leave all bags in your car(s).

Go to *URInformed* page 4 for the full Commencement Day Schedule.



Commencement Day Schedule



Morning College Ceremonies, 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

- College of Continuing Education, Fine Arts Center, Park: Fine Arts Lot
- College of Engineering, Keaney Gymnasium, Park: Boss Arena Lot
- College of Human Science & Services, Mackal Field House, Park: Plains Road Lot
- College of Nursing, Ryan Center, Park: Plains Road Lot

University Ceremony, Main Quad, Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Note: The University Ceremony is also livecast into College ceremony sites.

Afternoon College Ceremonies, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

- College of Arts and Sciences, Quadrangle (or the Ryan Center if rain), Park: Fine Arts Center or Plains Road Lot
- College of Business Administration, Keaney Gymnasium, Park: Plains Road Lot
- College of the Environment and Life Sciences, Mackal Field House, Park: Boss Arena or Plains Road Lot
- College of Pharmacy, Edwards Hall, Park: Fine Arts Center Lot

Students cross the stage and actually receive their diplomas at the individual College ceremonies listed above. The noontime University ceremony includes remarks by the president and presentation of honorary degrees.

Families wishing to remain at the individual College ceremony sites for the entire day are advised that following the morning ceremonies, all buildings will be closed for safety purposes. Additionally, buildings will be closed following the University ceremony on the main Quad, again for safety purposes and to prepare for the afternoon College ceremonies.

Guests are invited to gather nearby the College ceremony sites during the brief interludes between the ceremonies.

Commencement Rain Plan

In the event of rain, the Ryan Center is the largest venue to accommodate the more than 3,000 undergraduates and some of their guests for the 90-minute main ceremony, at which commencement speeches and honorary degrees are presented.

The main ceremony will be streamed live on large screens at five satellite viewing locations (Edwards Hall, Keaney Gymnasium, Mackal Field House, Fine Arts Center Recital Hall, and Memorial Union Ballroom, Atriums and Ram's Den).

All detailed information about commencement is available online at:

<http://web.uri.edu/commencement/>

Honorary Degrees....continued from page 2

the Military Arts and Sciences from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; and a Masters in National Security and Strategic Studies from the United States Naval War College. He also holds an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from The Institute of World Politics, Washington, D.C. He resides with his family in Washington, D.C. Flynn will receive a Doctor of Humane Letters from his alma mater.

Bernard LaFayette, Jr. A distinguished senior scholar-in-residence, at Emory University's Candler School of Theology, LaFayette, has been a Civil Rights movement hero and nonviolence activist for more than 50 years. A proponent of nonviolent resistance, he was a co-founder and leader of the 1960 Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee Nashville Sit-ins, and courageously participated in 1961's Freedom Rides to help enforce federal integration laws on interstate busses. He then worked with the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to organize the Selma to Montgomery marches that were critical to the eventual passing of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Through all of these actions and much more, LaFayette played a critical role in the movement toward non-violent racial equality in the United States.



An ordained minister and professor LaFayette co-founded and led the University of Rhode Island's Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies from 1999 through 2009. He also developed Kingian Nonviolence education and training programs and provided them in Rhode Island and around the world.

LaFayette earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, Tenn. and his master's and doctorate of education degrees from Harvard University. A resident of Tuskegee, AL., LaFayette will receive a Doctor of Humane Letters.

Anne Nolan, president and CEO of Crossroads Rhode Island: Nolan is well known for opening new doors for many people in the Ocean State and for inspiring others to do the same. After volunteering as a member of the Crossroads' board and learning about the challenges of poverty and homelessness in Rhode Island, the former business executive chose to direct her decades of corporate leadership and management experience to really making a difference in the lives of others.

Since 2000, Nolan has led Crossroads' dedicated staff to implement the organization's



core values of safety, respect, and effectiveness with rigorous accounting and management changes--and humanity. Under her leadership, revenue at this private, non-profit has doubled and assets increased tenfold. The or-

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ganization now has developed everything from permanent supportive housing units for singles, families, and homeless adults with disabilities, to the state's first permanent housing for homeless elders, a new women's shelter and the largest emergency shelter for families.

A resident of Cumberland, Nolan received an Associates Degree from Endicott Junior College, a Bachelor of Arts from Westfield State College, a Master's in Education from McGill University, and a Doctorate in Education from the University of Illinois. Nolan will receive a Doctor of Humane Letters.



J. Kent Morrison, past-president of Walden University, Minneapolis, Minn. and former dean of URI's Graduate School (1989-1995), will address graduate students at Commencement exercises on May 17.



Community Items of Interest

Sometimes it feels like we are all an island. Well we're not and it does take... every single one of us (you thought I was going to say a village, didn't you?!) I personally would like to send a shout out to all the people in the Accounts Payable Department. We have a great working relationship and help each other to get vendors paid and work well at helping each other support our individual efforts. A sincere **Thank You** and you all know who you are!

If you would like to send a shout out to another department, please send your request to:

Lou Ann Diomandes
louandiomandes@uri.edu

Did you know -- that The Division of Administration & Finance has an Equity & Diversity Committee? The committee has been researching items of interest geared more towards staff that may be helpful to us all. They are also working through how to bring these items of interest to you. More to come.

The Sierra Stanton Book Award -- Carol "Kippa" Stedman, from the Memorial Union, Union Express has worked tirelessly to set this in motion on behalf of her niece who passed away last fall. The money raised will go to the Talent Development Program for a Native American Book Award in Sierra's name. This award will target seniors who are at risk of leaving school due to financial difficulties. Please help in establishing this financial goal and help to pay it forward for continuing education. Any amount will be greatly appreciated.

More information at:

<http://www.gofundme.com/6l7gmc>



New and Familiar Authors and Poets to Highlight Ocean State Summer Writing Conference, June 19-21

by Jan Wenzel

The eighth Ocean State Summer Writing Conference will continue the tradition of offering writers of all ages and talents the opportunity to enjoy a weekend of lively and inspiring interactions that will fire up your imagination and keep you intrigued and writing. The conference, which runs June 19 through 21, continues another custom: all URI faculty, staff, and students who sign up for the three-day conference will receive a substantial discount again. A full conference schedule and registration is available at:

<http://www.uri.edu/summerwriting/2014/index.html>

“Once again, our conference committee’s hard work and acumen have paid off: not only have we secured three of the most outstanding American writers to keynote for us, but two of our three 2013 keynote presenters--2014 Folio Prize Finalist Amity Gaige and 2013 Pulitzer Prize Winner Ayad Akhtar--have asked to come back to give master classes,” said Professor of English Mary Cappello, who with Associate English Professor Peter Covino, plans and hosts the conference. (Last year’s third writing conference keynoter, poet Richard Blanco, is this year’s commencement speaker.)

“That our previous keynote speakers think of themselves as conference “alum” who want to return is really sort of unheard of at literary conferences,” added Cappello.

2014 Keynote Speakers

Alison Bechdel, a graphic memoirist who has written, drawn, and syndicated the comic strips, *Dykes to Watch Out For*, for the past 30 years. Her groundbreaking graphic memoir, *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic* was a National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist and named best book of 2006 by *Time Magazine*.

Percival Everett, author of more than 20 novels, three collections of short fiction, and two volumes of poetry. His stories have been included in the Pushcart Prize Anthology and *Best American Short Stories*. His many awards include the PEN Center USA Award for Fiction.

Charles Bernstein, poet, theorist, and scholar who has published dozens of books, including poetry and essay collections. His innovative poetry and writing on poetics have been widely anthologized and translated, appearing in more than 500 magazines and periodicals worldwide.

Features of the Conference

Three-Day Workshops led by accomplished conference faculty members in a supportive environment, offer a choice to study fiction, young adult fiction, creative nonfiction, memoir, poetry, or TV screenwriting.

Master Classes are offered by featured speakers on specific topics and have limited enrollment to ensure you have a chance to interact with the instructor and fellow classmates.

Craft Sessions are designed around a particular aspect or approach to writing. They offer an opportunity to discuss examples of writing, complete a short in-class writing assignment, and get feedback.



Alison Bechdel



Percival Everett



Charles Bernstein

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URI to host 13th annual East Farm Spring Festival, May 10

by Todd McLeish

The University of Rhode Island's 13th annual East Farm Spring Festival, featuring plant sales, workshops and a wide variety of vendors, educational displays and exhibits, will be held Saturday, May 10 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at URI's East Farm.

The event, started in 2002 by a group of URI Master Gardeners who volunteered at the farm, annually draws thousands of visitors to the 79-acre research facility. It is sponsored by the URI Outreach Center and the URI Master Gardeners.

"The sale of plants and other spring gardening products is what usually attracts most people to the event, but once they get there they also find lots of other useful products and information and plenty of food and entertainment," said Kim Downes, the festival coordinator at the Outreach Center and a URI Master Gardener.

Workshops and demonstrations will be held all day long on such topics as pruning, garden tools, container gardening, beneficial insects, and "raising chickens 101." Rhode Island Resource Recovery will be on hand selling compost bins, the Rhode Island Water Lady will sell rain barrels, and electronics recycling company Indie Cycle will be available to recycle used computers, televisions, monitors and other electronics. The Rhode Island Blood Center will host a blood drive and the South Kingstown Farmers Market will be in operation during the event as well.

Children's activities will be provided by the URI Learning Landscape Program and the 4H Program, and live entertainment and raffles will add to the fun. Gardening advice can be obtained from the Ask a Master Gardener booth, while free pH soil testing will be available for those who bring soil samples from home.

"The event is happening rain or shine, and we encourage folks to bring a wagon to transport their purchases to the parking lot," said Downes. "It's always a perfect opportunity to get a last minute Mother's Day gift or to get plants and groceries at the same time."

East Farm is located on Route 108 in South Kingstown, a half mile south of the intersection with Route 138. Parking and admission are free. For additional information, visit:

<http://www.uri.edu/cels/ceoc/east-farm-spring-festival.html>

or call 401-874-2900



URI Lifetime Service Society *In Recognition of 40 Years of Service*

On Tuesday, June 24th URI will induct seven retirees, three being honored posthumously, at the Lifetime Service Society Ceremony and Brick Dedication. The 10 a.m. event will take place on the Robert L. Carothers Library and Learning Commons' patio. All living retirees and relatives of those who have passed away and the entire campus community are invited to attend.

What formed from an idea on how best to recognize long-term employees who have retired, is now becoming an annual event. Last year 90 retirees were honored during the morning ceremony. They were presented with a framed plaque, a state citation and a commemorative brick inscribed with their names and number of years served installed in a dedicated area on the Library patio.

This year President David M. Dooley will once again congratulate the retirees and their families. They include: Paul Cieurzo (posthumously) with 40 years, Joel A. Cohen with 48 years, Anthony J. Frias with 42 years, Joseph G. Morello with 45 years, Norman Sherman (posthumously) with 43 years, Marshall H. Tyler (posthumously) with 44 years, and Malcolm E. Stone with 54 years.

According to an article last year, "One characteristic of an outstanding organization is its commitment to people," said retired vice President of Advancement Robert Beagle, chair of the Lifetime Service Society committee. "This Society is an important reflection of URI, as it says that the University respects and appreciates employees who have devoted their careers to it. The bricks are a forever visible reminder of this." Beagle and eight other URI employees set the criteria for the society and decided where the tribute would be placed on campus. Committee members, who agreed that 40 years represented a career lifetime, include: Katherine Faella, Laura Kenerson, Cynthia Yemma Faria, Sarina Rodrigues, Diane Soule, Jerry Sidio, Sheleen Clark, and Michael Rice.



URInformed Unscrambled Winner

Congratulations to **Eric Battcher**, Lands and Grounds
The Secret Phrase was BE MY VALENTINE!

Please contact Michelle Curreri in the President's Office
(4-4462) to claim your prize.

Check out the Scramble puzzle on page 9!

Personnel Script

Job Opportunities

The classified and non-classified application process is now automated so that you can apply on-line for positions here at the University. You will also be able to review the status of your application during the recruitment process, update your on-line application, and apply for positions that become available in the future. For the job opportunities visit:

<https://jobs.uri.edu>

We Welcome the Following People to our Community...

Kate R. Balestracci (Nutrition & Food Science); Anthony E. C. Bassett (Men's Soccer); Amy Botello (Music); Ann N. Cannon (Sponsored & Cost Accounting); Kristen M. Conway (Health Services); Jennifer C. Critcher (Cellular & Molecular Biology); Celeste A. DiCesare (Kingston Library); Richard Finnegan (EEC Summer Residential Camps); Mark D. Flanagan (Facilities Services Admin.); Monique Giguere (Counseling Center); Barbara S. Harrison (Gender and Women's Studies); Zachary Hofer (EEC Summer Residential Camps); Valerie A. Hupf (Budget & Financial Planning); Allison M. Jedson (Health Services); Thomas R. Jones (Maintenance & Repair); John R. Maher (HRL Security); Victoria M. Pierson (Dining Central Operations); Micheline L. Poirier-Woolf (Health Services); Gwendolyn C. Pugh (Whispering Pines Conferences); Michael W. Rainey (Recycling); Michael Rohde (Chemistry); Elizabeth R. Schaefer (Communications & Marketing); Deborah L. Sheely (Cooperative Extension Admin.); Ryan D. Tassone (Cellular & Molecular Biology); Erica J. Tefft (Natural Resources Science); Sean J. Thompson (University College); Kevin L. Tirone (Men's Basketball); Kerri A. Viele (Research Purchasing); Christopher R. Wroblewski (GSO Marine Office)

... and Say Goodbye to ...

David G. Borkman (GSO Research); Staci M. Croy (Student Life); Mary Kate DeMarco (Division of Research & Economic Development); Katie E. Donnelly (Graduate Library &

Information Studies); Rachel M. Jordan (Undergraduate Admissions); Kevin M. Kennedy (Police); Hisanori Kobayashi (Cancer Prevention Research Center); Steven W. Lerner (Disability Services Student); John T. Messere (Enrollment Services); Katie Moulton (Undergraduate Admissions); Ananda Mukherjee (Cellular & Molecular Biology); Nicole Raineault (GSO Marine Archaeology); John W. Shannon (Geosciences); Shi-Jun Shen (University Computing Systems); George S. Stedman (Dining Central Operations); Hilary Stevens (GSO Coastal Resources Center); Gehad M. Subaiea (Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sciences); Ericka D. Tavares (Communications & Marketing)

... and Best Wishes To Those Who Retired

Michele A. Ferrucci (Provost for Academic Affairs); Lorraine I. Keeney (Nutrition & Food Science); Barbara A. Reilly (Enrollment Services); David E. Tetreault (University Computing Systems)

In Memoriam

- ❖ Kathryn Murray, Assistant Administrator, Catering Services Operations
- ❖ Elton Rayack, Professor, Economics



URInformed is now on the Web
at
<http://www.uri.edu/newsletter/URInformed/>

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URInformed**

Back issues are also available



MOVE OUT 2014

The University of Rhode Island is partnering with Big Brothers Big Sisters Organization (BBBS) and the Jonnycake Center of Peace Dale to assist with “Move out 2014”

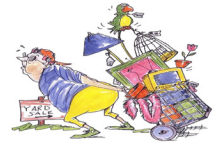
May 5 - May 14, 2014

Look for the clearly labeled donation bins at your residence hall.

BBBS is collecting gently used clothing, shoes, sheets, blankets, towels and any reusable items. No furniture or large televisions, please.

Jonnycake Center of Peace Dale will be collecting unopened food and drink to help stock the local emergency food pantry.

** Drop off Info:



BBBS truck and the Jonnycake Center of Peace Dale Van will be parked across from Potter (Health Services) to collect donations from Staff and Faculty on Friday, May 9th from 3-5:30pm.

Thank you for 10 years of donations (time and items) to the Yard Sale-
Sorry, there will NOT be a URI Rhody the Ram Charity yard sale this year.

Cook's Corner

Share your favorite recipes in the Cook's Corner

Grilled Chicken Breasts with Lemon and Thyme

A bold mixture of red-pepper flakes, garlic, thyme, lemon juice, and olive oil serves as a spicy marinade for bone-in chicken breasts. If you want your chicken spicier still, increase the red pepper or leave the breasts in the marinade for an hour or two.

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon dried red-pepper flakes
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon fresh-ground black pepper
- 4 bone-in chicken breasts (about 2 1/4 pounds in all)

Directions:

Light the grill or heat the broiler. In a shallow dish, combine the lemon juice with the thyme, red-pepper flakes, garlic, oil, salt, and black pepper. Coat the chicken with the mixture.

Grill the chicken breasts over moderately high heat or broil them for 8 to 10 minutes. Turn and cook until the chicken is just done, about 10 minutes longer.

Variations:

- Try any dried herb you like in place of the thyme. Marjoram, oregano, rosemary, or sage are all good choices.
- Use boneless, skinless chicken breasts instead of bone-in breasts. Grill them until just

done, about five minutes per side over moderately high heat.

-- Use a quartered chicken instead of bone-in breasts. Cook the breast sections as directed in Step 2 and allow thirteen minutes per side for the leg quarters.

Total Time: 25 Minutes. Serves 4

Recipe from Cooking.com



Chefs Wanted!

Do you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share with the URInformed community? Send your recipe to:

URInformed
73 Upper College Road
Kingston Campus
or
NGillespie@uri.edu

Writers' Conference....continued from page 7

Conversations: moderated conversations with writers about the work of writing.

One-on One Consultations: An opportunity to learn from a conference faculty member who will discuss your manuscript, offer suggestions for improvement, and brainstorm ways to get you to the next level. There is an additional cost for each consultation session. This year will feature consultations with visiting editors as well.



URInformed

THE URI EMPLOYEES' NEWSLETTER

URInformed
73 Upper College Road
Kingston Campus

THINK BIG  WE DO™



URI Livecasting

Are you interested in reaching your maximum audience without adding extra seats? Do you want to ensure that people who can't attend your program have the benefit of learning from your speakers even after the presentation is over?

If the answer is Yes to even one of these questions you should consider URI Livecasting. You may already have seen cameras set up at URI events and heard from people who watched an event online. Now you can offer that experience to your students and decision-makers who cannot be on campus for your event.

Please call or e-mail us for more information and to book your date TODAY! We already have dates secured for the remaining academic year, so don't miss out!

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