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## URI Diversity Awards Banquet Program

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## SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Francisco Vargas— *Videographer & Video Editor*

Stefan Correia— *Audio Coordinator*

Holly Tran— *Assistant Producer*

## MEMBERS OF THE AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE

Ahmed El- Araby

Garry Bozylinsky

Joan Harrington

Roxanne Gomes

Denise Gorenski

Dr. Mailee Kue

Dr. Kang- Won Lee

Dr. Dean Libutti

Nikeisha Monaco

Dr. Manjari Murali

Joseph Santiago

## MULTICULTURAL CENTER STAFF & STUDENTS

Katheryn Arias

Stefan Correia

Shenty Hernandez

Joey Huang

Dr. Mailee Kue

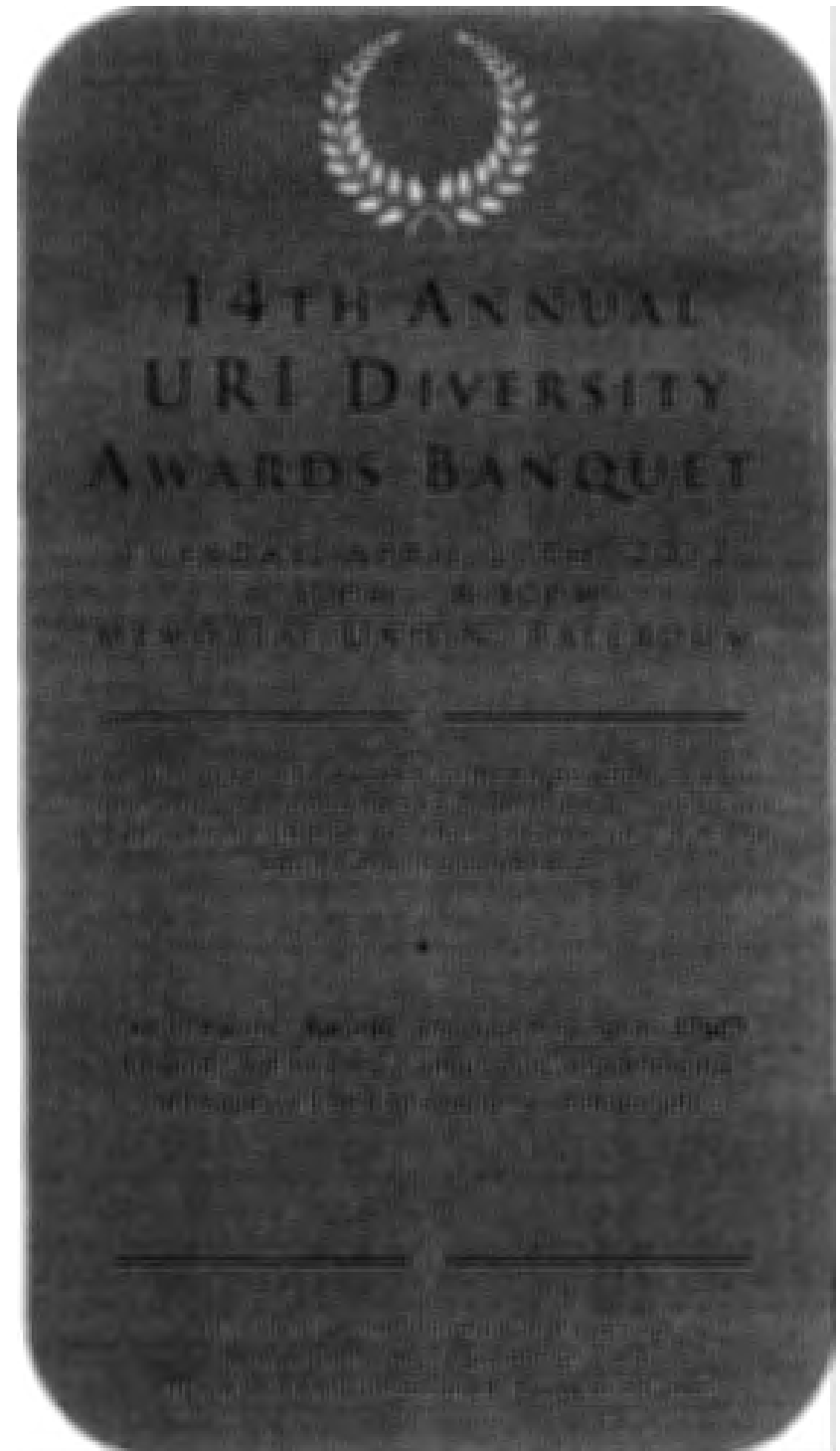
John Moore III

Pamela Thompson

Holly Tran

Francisco Vargas

Melvin Wade





## DR. JOHN J. RAMOS SR.



is honored for his executive and professional leadership and innovation in promoting public education reform and increasing student achievement. His career aspiration has been to construct pathways to success for diverse students in urban schools. As Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Norwalk (CT) Public Schools from 2000-2002, he prepared a report describing the persistent achievement gap between white students and students of color, and proposed a plan

for narrowing the gap, published in the journal *Principal Leadership* (April, 2002). As Deputy Commissioner for Educational Programs and Services, Connecticut Department of Education, he assisted low-performing school districts in elevating student achievement, promoting character education, and advising about education reform. As Superintendent of the Watertown (CT) Public Schools from 2002-2004, he was known as "the Healer" for easing tensions between the school board, teachers, principals, and the community while engaging the schools in a broad-based strategic planning process. As Superintendent of the Bridgeport (CT) Public Schools from 2005-2011, he twice led the school district in gaining recognition as a national finalist for the prestigious Eli Broad Prize for Urban Education, utilizing data-based teaching to close achievement gaps in reading, writing, and math, lowering suspension rates, and improving graduation rates. Dr. Ramos holds a B. A. degree in Literature from Brown University; a Master's of Public Administration from URI; and a Doctor's of Educational Administration from Columbia University. He served as Director of Minority Affairs at URI during 1982-1983. He is the recipient of several awards, such as the John Winthrop Wright Ethics in Action Award, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award from the Consulate of Israel, the Living Waters Award from the Connecticut United Church of Christ, and an Outstanding School District Leadership Award from the U. S. Congressional Black Caucus.



## PROGRAM

**MC:** Dr. Patricia Morokoff, *Professor and Department Chair, Psychology*  
Dr. Nasser Zawia, *Dean, Graduate School*

**Welcome from** Melvin Wade, *Director, Multicultural Center*

**Dinner**

### Awards

#### **Undergraduate Student Excellence (Arts & Culture)**

Presenter: Nikeisha Monaco, *Undergraduate Student, Biology*

#### **Undergraduate Student Excellence (Academics & Service)**

Presenter: Roberto Vega, *Undergraduate Student, Communication Studies*

#### **Undergraduate Student Excellence (Leadership & Service)**

Presenter: Charlie Shen De Leon, *Undergraduate Student, Kinesiology*

#### **Graduate Student Excellence (Leadership & Service)**

Presenter: Dr. John McCray, *Vice Provost, Urban Programs, CCE*

#### **Student Organization Excellence (Leadership & Service)**

Presenter: Dr. Nancy Eaton, *Professor and Department Chair, Mathematics*

#### **Staff/Administrator Excellence (Leadership & Service)**

Presenter: Abu Bakr, *Interim Associate Vice President for Community, Equity and Diversity, Executive Assistant to the President*

#### **Faculty Excellence (Leadership & Service)**

Presenter: Provost Donald DeHayes, *Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs*

#### **Lifetime Achievement**

Presenter: President David Dooley, *President, University of Rhode Island*

#### **Closing by**

Dr. Mailee Kue, *Assistant Director, Multicultural Center*  
Roxanne Gomes, *Director, Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity and Diversity*



## 2012 NOMINEES

### Undergraduate Student Excellence (Arts & Culture)

Yetunde Babaola	Narvan Hilliard	Josiane Octavius
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### Undergraduate Student Excellence (Academics & Service)

Maria Beltre	Eric Matos	Tim Quainoo
Kayla Butts	Theophilus Osei	Ann Sam
Riley Davis		

### Undergraduate Student Excellence (Leadership & Service)

Erick Betancourt	Jhokania De Los Santos	Christian Perez
Portia Burnette	Melissa Fajardo	Brian Sit
Mohammed Raza	Precious Kafo	
Chandoo		

### Student Organization Excellence (Leadership & Service)

Alima International Dance Association  
 Brothers On a New Direction (BOND)  
 Hillel: The Jewish Student Center at URI  
 Native American Student Organization (NASO)  
 The URI LGBTQ Women’s Group  
 Women’s Leadership Coalition (WLC)

### Graduate Student Excellence (Leadership & Service)

Jennifer Armstrong	Jen Kaye	John Moore III
Alexandrea Bowman	Yifei Li	Wilson Okello
Jennifer Brandt	Kimberly McGuiness	Yasah Vezele
Nancy Caronia		

### Staff/Administrator Excellence (Leadership & Service)

Dr. Laura Beauvais	Robert Britto–Oliveira	Holly Nichols
Melissa Boyd–Colvin	Mark Chearino	Tammy Vargas- Warner

### Faculty Excellence (Leadership & Service)

Dr. Walter Besio	Dr. Yvette Harps– Logan	Dr. Rosaria Pisa
Dr. Mary Cloud	Dr. Anita Jackson	Dr. Annemarie Vaccaro



## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE (ARTS & CULTURE)

**NARVAN HILLIARD** is honored for his commitment to propagating the diffusion of Capoeira, the Afro-Brazilian martial art. Preserving the remnants of traditional African dances and rituals, slaves developed capoeira in their work-free hours, training the body and mind for combat. When their captors eventually forbade the practice, the slaves concealed capoeira in the guise of recreational dance. More than a dance, a game, and a fighting technique, capoeira is a way of seeing and interacting with the world, transmitted from teacher to student across the generations. A senior majoring in Mechanical Engineering and Chinese, Narvan is President of the URI Capoeira Club. As President, he coordinates development activities, arranging for members to conduct demonstrations on and off-campus, manages communications and outreach to other groups, and maintains connections to alumni. A member of the URI National Society of Black Engineers (NESBE), he also is a recipient of the Beatrice Demers Foreign Language Fellowship.



## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE (ACADEMICS & SERVICE)

**KAYLA BUTTS** is honored for her record of academic excellence, and her leadership and advocacy for an inclusive campus in which the values of scholarship, leadership, and community service are prioritized. A junior majoring in French with a GPA, Kayla served in 2010-2011 as President of the URI chapter of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, an academic honor society for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year college students which facilitates career and graduate school opportunities, and provides access annually to over a quarter-million dollars in scholarships. The URI chapter engages in several projects that promote diversity: Bowling for Bods (to raise funds to prevent eating disorders); a Halloween Candy Drive (to help underrepresented children); and a Thanksgiving Food Drive (to assist families in financial need). A proud member of the Talent Development Program, she is a Language and Culture Coach for French 204, conducting tutoring sessions and exam reviews – an experience in supporting diverse students which has helped to shape her career aspiration to be a teacher. In addition, she was a URI 101 student mentor whose first-year students wrote journals about events during URI Diversity Week.

**RILEY DAVIS** is honored for her record of academic excellence, and her leadership and advocacy for a campus community characterized by safety, equity, and community. A junior majoring in biology, biomedical engineering, and Chinese with a GPA, Riley has been a central figure in the campaign to build a new URI Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Center; and works as a resident member of the student staff at the current Center in Adams Hall. She currently serves as the undergraduate representative to the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education. A member of the President's Commission on the Status of Women, a peer facilitator of Welcome Wednesday conversation groups, a volunteer at URI Emergency Medical Services, and a member of Hillel, she has also been a convener of I AM U URI – UNITY IN DIVERSITY, a student organization which has advised senior administration on a broad-based diversity agenda. Aspiring to a medical career, she has authored a published research paper on the effects of electrical stimulation on epilepsy. One of her reactions to her month of study at Zhejiang University in China provides insight into her perspective on the value of diversity. "Living in China...was like throwing yourself into another culture feet first....By coming to China, I wanted to feel the language and



## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

**ERICK BETANCOURT** is honored for his inspirational life narrative and his passionate commitment to the acting profession. While spending two years at the Rhode Island Adult Correctional Institution, he began reconstructing his life by initiating a book club and successfully seeking admission to CCRI. After his release, he has utilized his job as a community peacekeeper at the Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence in Providence; his admission to URI; his relationships; and his discovery of the theatre to give positive direction to his life. He has acted in *Tartuffe*, *The Sea Gull*, and *The Rocky Horror Show* at URI; *A Christmas Carol* and *Blackout* in Cranston; *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* in Pawtucket; and the *House of Death* in Providence. He has also solicited books for donation to incarcerated men through ProjectBook.org, and recruited at-risk youth for URI campus tours and theatre performances. A senior majoring in theatre with a nonviolence minor, and a Latino Dollars for Scholars recipient, Erick recently received news that he has been admitted to the next Master of Fine Arts class at the prestigious Actors Studio School at Pace (NY) University, whose interviews with stage and film luminaries hosted by James Lipton are widely viewed on *Bravo* Television.

**PRECIOUS KAFO** is honored for her leadership and advocacy in promoting effective and dynamic student organizations at URI. A senior majoring in Human Development and Family Studies, Precious is President of Powerful, Independent, and Notoriously Knowledgeable (PINK) Women, which has created a culture of empowerment for its members through peer mentoring and leadership development. In addition, she is Vice President of Student Organization Leadership Consultants, which provides technical assistance and problem-solving to student groups. A member of the Housing and Residential Life Diversity Committee, an intern at the Multicultural Center, and Resident Advisor at Heathman Hall, she was selected to be an employee finalist for the Rainville Student Leadership Awards, and is currently a participant in the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Undergraduate Fellows Program, which mentors students considering careers in Student Affairs.

**BRIAN SIT** is honored for his leadership and advocacy in encouraging the creation of an inclusive campus community free from bullying, sexism, racism, and homophobia. A junior majoring in chemical engineering, Brian is President of the URI Gay-Straight Alliance, a program coordinator for the LGBT Center, and a member of the LGBTQ Committee of the URI Equity Council. He has helped to organize the Day of Silence, National Coming Out Day, the Transgender Day of Remembrance, the Rally for Marriage Equality, and the Love is Louder Rally. However, his commitment to social justice is expansive. He is a URI Student Senator; a past Secretary of RI College Democrats and the RI Student Political Boot Camp; a certified nonviolence trainer through the URI Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies; a tutor for the Academic Enhancement Center; a member of I AM U URI - UNITY IN DIVERSITY; and a recipient of the Stephen Myles Scholarship for Social Justice.



## STUDENT ORGANIZATION EXCELLENCE (LEADERSHIP & SERVICE)

**HILLEL: THE JEWISH STUDENT CENTER AT URI** is honored for its leadership and advocacy in enabling Jewish students to engage in *tikkun olam*, the doctrine of repairing the world through social action and the pursuit of social justice. After the Fall of humankind from grace, it is said that evil entered the created world, resulting in the need for repair and healing. URI Hillel seeks to engage its constituency in meaningful public service on and off campus. During 2011-12, URI Hillel collaborated with the URI Muslim Student Association in co-sponsoring a Jewish/Muslim Shabbat dinner and Tu Bi-Sh'vat Seder, the Jewish New Year of the Trees, bringing together students from diverse but related religious and cultural traditions, and honoring a late Jewish student from Brown University who sought to build bridges for multicultural dialogue. Co-leaders Elissa Weinberger, Education Chair of URI Hillel, and Hania Zaman, Recording Secretary of the URI Muslim Student Association, welcomed the gathering of 75 URI students, faculty, staff, and friends, who participated in readings and songs drawn from both faiths before consuming a meal of apricot chicken, hummus, salad, and homemade baklava. In addition, 18 URI Hillel students traveled to New Orleans for an Alternative Spring Break to continue to rebuild homes still devastated by Hurricane Katrina. The students spent days cutting wires, ripping up linoleum, removing nails, and tearing away sheetrock and insulation to prepare the interior of the home of the Martinez family for renovation. URI Hillel also collaborated with the URI Multicultural Center for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual URI Diversity Week; with the LGBT Center for the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual LGBTIQQ Symposium and PFLAG meetings; and with the Israel Culture Club.

**THE URI LGBTQ WOMEN'S GROUP** is honored for its leadership and advocacy in the campaign to protect URI students who are struggling with sexual identity from harassment and bullying. During the spring semester of 2011, five members of the URI LGBTQ Women's Group decided in their weekly meetings at the URI Women's Center to contribute a brief video to the national It Gets Better movement. In response to a burst of suicides by lesbian, gay, and transgender youth, a video in sympathy with the youth had gone viral on YouTube, resulting in the creation of what is now 40,000 videos viewed globally more than 40 million times. While the students – graduate students Jen Kaye and Kim McGuinness, senior Christina Kinney, junior Dana Speesler, and sophomore Portia Burnette – had no prior experience in filmmaking, they and their mentors sent emails and delivered project flyers to academic departments, raising over \$10,000 to underwrite their project and working all summer to complete the video. Premiered during URI Diversity Week last October before a packed audience in Edwards Auditorium, the video seeks to provide support to students who are struggling with the responses of others to their sexual identity. It connects them to supporters, and offers reflections to the University on creating a welcoming and affirming climate. *It Gets Better at URI: Coming Out for Change* has been described as “a candid, sometimes surprising, sometimes inspirational, and often emotional record of testimony from students, faculty, and staff...” 100 copies of the film have been sold. It has been screened during the Rhode College Conference on Multicultural Education and at the URI Providence Feinstein campus, and will be aired on Rhode Island PBS.



## GRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE (LEADERSHIP & SERVICE)

**JENNIFER BRANDT** is honored for her adaptation of 21<sup>st</sup> century perspectives to teaching based on engaging diverse students through social media and other technology to become self-directed, activist-learners. Infusing cultural studies into her dissertation and her published articles on gender, she asserts that our concepts of femininity and masculinity, our representations of the female and male body, our images of women in popular culture and literature as well as in the workplace, and our awareness of the planet and others on the planet are “socially constructed” within a dynamic field of meanings shaped by economic, cultural, and political institutions of power. The inequalities of influence caused by these social constructs can be transformed if classrooms can be reconstructed to empower women and their allies to become insightful agents of systemic change. A Ph. D. student in English who will graduate in May, Jenn has designed and taught a number of classes, such as *Contemporary Women Novelists of the Americas*, *The Body as an Image in Post-9/11 Literature and Film*, and *Postfeminisms, Popular Culture, and Contemporary Gender Studies*; acted as Program Adviser for a number of diverse major and minor undergraduates; helped to organize the important URI Graduate Student Conference; and co-presented workshops for URI Diversity Week in 2009 and 2011. She holds a B. A. in English from Drew University, an M. A. in Popular Culture from Bowling Green (OH) University, and a Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies from URI; and teaches English at RISD.

**YIFEI LI** is honored for his leadership in developing an infrastructure of relationships between Chinese students, faculty, local communities, and the University. According to Professor Vanessa Fong, a thriving economy has enabled students from China to embrace a transnational model by which they can gain academic, workplace, and multicultural competencies that enhance value in their home nation and in the wider world. China now sends more graduate and undergraduate students to the United States than any other country. During 2010, graduate schools in the U.S. saw a 21% increase in Chinese applicants. Yet many students were found to experience exclusion, homesickness, and disillusionment. A Master's student in Chemical Engineering, Yifei is a former President of the URI Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA). Among his many leadership accomplishments were his incorporation of a safety and self-protection component into CSSA New Student Orientation; and his collaborations with the Confucius Institute, the Chinese Culture Club, and the Chinese Flagship Program on the Mid-Autumn Gala/Moon Festival and Chinese New Year, featuring the Wenqin Arts Troupe from Zhejiang University in China, which exposed a cross-section of URI administrators, faculty, and staff to Chinese cultural traditions. He also worked to establish the RI Chinese Student Athletic Association in conjunction with Brown University and Johnson and Wales University; organized a RI Badminton Tournament attracting players from surrounding states; held a monthly International Student Potluck Dinner at Graduate Village; and collaborated with others on the memorial service for the late URI Professor Peng Wang.



## STAFF /ADMINISTRATOR EXCELLENCE (LEADERSHIP & SERVICE)

**DR. LAURA BEAUVAIS** is honored for her leadership and advocacy for increasing the diversity and the diversity-preparedness of the URI faculty; and for her scholarship on preparing organizational cultures for organizational change. The Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and a Professor of Management, Dr. Beauvais serves with the Provost as Co-Chair of the Academic Affairs Task Force. The task force has been successful in developing 10 learning outcomes for multicultural competence that have been recommended for incorporation in the general education curriculum; in instituting a competitive grant program to fund multicultural teaching and research projects; and coordinating faculty development workshops for diversity committees in the academic colleges. In conjunction with the Provost, she helped to implement the Multicultural Faculty Apprentice Fellowship Program, a one-year fellowship which provides mentoring and support for teaching and research to post-doctoral candidates for the purpose of increasing faculty diversity. She is the project leader for the Evidence to Initiative, a three-year grant from the Davis Educational Foundation to encourage innovative approaches to teaching by faculty. She is Chair of the Search Committee for the University's Chief Diversity Officer; and has served on the Equity Council, the President's Commission on the Status of Women, the Women's Studies Advisory Committee, the ADVANCE Program Climate Committee, and the Work-Life Committee. In addition, her substantial body of collaborative research published in leading business and social science journals addresses several themes: How does the culture, structure, and values of the organization influence the ability to attain its goals? What is the impact of the culture, structure, and values of the organization on the work-life balance, relationships, and other behaviors of its members? How do members of the organization facilitate organizational change? How should business faculty prepare students to ethically and competently adapt to the constantly changing workforce, customer base, and competitive environment in which organizations operate? She is a previous recipient of the URI Association for Professional and Academic Women's (APAW) Woman of the Year Award.



## FACULTY EXCELLENCE (LEADERSHIP & SERVICE)

**DR. WALTER BESIO** is honored for his scholarship in conducting the research that inspired the formation of the University's new Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program; his leadership in developing medical devices that will contribute to the fast-growing bioscience industry in Rhode Island; and his advocacy for the entry of Native American students and other underrepresented populations of color in biomedical engineering and neuroscience. An Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering and a Co-Founder of the Neuroscience Program, Dr. Besio is a member of the Mohawk tribe, and the CEO of CREmedical Corp., a startup company that will streamline the advancement of biomedical devices from laboratory to market. In 1975, his brother Jim was paralyzed in a car accident. He vowed to apply his undergraduate electrical engineering studies to help his brother; and subsequently received a Gates Millenium Scholarship through the United Negro College Fund to further his studies. The genius of his research has been to increase the efficiency of monitoring brain impulses by augmenting conventional, disc-shaped electrodes with two concentric rings of copper around the disc; non-invasively attaching the new electrodes to the scalp; and linking the refashioned "bull's eye" electrodes to computers to receive EEG readings. The expectation is that the new electrodes will eventually enable medical personnel to treat brain disorders, such as epilepsy and multiple sclerosis, by directing electrical impulses to malfunctioning areas of the brain; and paralyzed people to control their limbs. In addition, he has initiated outreach to a local Narragansett school to acquaint children with the University and with engineering; and is helping to promote the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) at URI. He is a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Scholars.

**DR. YVETTE HARPS-LOGAN** is honored for her leadership in promoting a welcoming and inclusive campus climate for those who are underserved; and her advocacy for creating new pathways for student diversity and success. An Associate Professor of Textiles, Fashion Merchandising, and Design (TMD), Dr. Harps-Logan is a member of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, and the International Textile and Apparel Association, the latter professional organization which she has served as Chair of the Cultural Diversity Committee. Her teaching and research interests include fashion merchandising and marketing, and consumer behavior of communities of color. Seeking to enhance diverse voices on campus, she has served on the Search Committees for the Associate Vice President for Community, Equity, and Diversity, and for the LGBT Center Director; the Athletics Advisory Board, the Competitive Grants Advisory Committee, the Psychology Department Multicultural Task Force, the University College Outcomes and Assessment Team, the Association of Professional and Academic Women (APAW) Executive Committee, the Women of Color Network, and the Black Faculty and Staff Association. The well-being of students has been a constant focus of her advocacy. She is a co-founder of the Black Scholar Awards, which provide recognition of academic achievement to seniors of African descent; and has been a member of the Rainville Student Leadership Awards Committee. In 2010, she was selected as the second annual recipient of the University College Advisor of the Year Award. She was an inaugural faculty member for the TMD Winter Study Tours to Paris and London; is a Disability Resource Mentor, and a freshman orientation adviser; and provided career advice to Central Falls High School students.





## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE (ACADEMICS & SERVICE)

- 2011: John Brito § Maxwell Edmonds
- 2010: Brian Stack § Christina Knoll
- 2009: Ronald Duarte § Jessica Adefusika
- 2008: Andrew McQuaide § Sojattra Soeung
- 2007: Brandon Brown § Destiny Woodbury
- 2006: Richa Gujarati § Victor Omoayo
- 2005: Elvira Arias § Suchismita Datta
- 2004: Andrea Mesa § Judy Lau
- 2003: Ana Franco § Mountha Nhem
- 2002: Babatunde Ologun § Benjamin Wesley
- 2001: Lawrence Perry § Mavis Nimoh § Vannou Nhem
- 2000: Angelica Gomes
- 1999: Danielle Hill § Ibrahim Abdul-Matin

### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE (ARTS & CULTURE)

- 2011: Jason Almeida § Darnell Spencer
- 2010: Kanseesé Xiong
- 2009: Samuel Aboh
- 2008: Shane Lee § Theo Martins
- 2007: N/A
- 2006: Odoum Maknoxa § Rama Ly
- 2005: Elka Arredondo § Emily Chen
- 2004: Kimberley Andrade § Paul Bessette
- 2003: Carol Pegg § Jonathon Ho
- 2002: Daniela Gongora § Vasilios Georgopoulos
- 2001: Pedro Malave
- 2000: Ammala Douangasavanh
- 1999: Jhomphy Ventura



## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE (LEADERSHIP/SERVICE)

- 2011: Michaela Cashman § Brandford Davis
- 2010: Tyrene Jones § Shauntel Martin
- 2009: Brandon Brown § Yasah Vezele
- 2008: Stephanie Beauté § Karina Luna § Michelle Rosa
- 2007: Kevin Martins § Elizabeth Lyons
- 2006: Bekki Davis § Natasha Austin § Princess Garrett
- 2005: Momodou Jobe § Tara Germond
- 2004: Candace Ranglin § Rosie Mean
- 2003: Kevin Lopes § Soanny Delgado
- 2002: Augusto Dougal § Muhammad Shloul
- 2001: Carlos Pena § Patricia Dos Santos
- 2000: Belinda Bracey § Jonathan Lewis § Laura Tanner § Sara Bendoraitis
- 1999: Ebony Brown § Silas Pinto § Winston Bedell

### GRADUATE STUDENT EXCELLENCE (LEADERSHIP/SERVICE)

- 2011: Bryana White
- 2010: Kepler Judy § Kevin Martins § Radhika V. Pasuplet
- 2009: Katyana Champlain § Cassandra Golding
- 2008: Megan Frost § Claire Reynolds
- 2007: Curtis Ferguson II § Yafei Yang
- 2006: Koyei Ghosal § La'Shunda Reed
- 2005: Darshell Silva § Malini Som
- 2004: Ana Barraza § Candida Pereira § Brian Chmielewski
- 2003: Ashima Singh § Susan Peterson
- 2002: Damita Davis § Lynn McGrath
- 2001: Christine Volpe § Silas Pinto
- 2000: Cristiana Delossantos
- 1999: Vonda Jones Hudson





## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

### ORGANIZATION EXCELLENCE (LEADERSHIP/SERVICE)

- 2011: eXposure § We're Offering Women Wisdom
- 2010: I AM U URI-Unity in Difference § Violence Prevention Peer Ad-
- 2009: vocates
- 2008: LASA and Uhuru SaSa (Joint Nomination)
- 2007: URI Keep a Child Alive § Mentor/Tutor Internship  
NSBE § Origins/URI
- 2006: URI NAACP and Uhuru SaSa (Joint Nomination)
- 2005: D3 § ZBT
- 2004: CSSA § ICON
- 2003: SHPE § BCV Capoeira
- 2002: AAA § SLU
- 2001: The Psychology Club § NSBE and SHPE (Joint Nomination)
- 2000: GLASS § Uhuru SaSa
- 1999: BUA

### STAFF/ADMINISTRATOR EXCELLENCE (LEADERSHIP/SERVICE)

- 2011: Tripp Hutchinson § Amy Olson
- 2010: Catalina Martinez
- 2009: Abu Bakr § Dr. Harold Bibb
- 2008: Chris Bannon § Dr. Celina Pereira
- 2007: Dr. Grace Frenzel § Dr. Bobbi Koppel
- 2006: Andrew Llaguno § Merith Weisman-Ross
- 2005: Cleveland Kurtz § Stephen Pennell
- 2004: Jennifer Longa § Michael Lapointe
- 2003: Dr. Thomas Dougan § Dr. Winifred Brownell
- 2002: Gail Faris § Dr. Stephen Myles
- 2001: N/A
- 2000: Andrew Winters § Christine Wilson
- 1999: Linda Palazzo



## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

### FACULTY EXCELLENCE (LEADERSHIP/SERVICE)

- 2011: Dr. Mercedes Rivero- Hudec § Dr. Jody Lisberger
- 2010: Dr. Su L. Boatright § Dr. Susan Trostle Brand
- 2009: Dr. Gordon Dash, Jr. § Dr. Margaret Rogers
- 2008: Dr. Donald Cunnigen § Dr. Yan Ma § Dr. Judy Van Wyk
- 2007: Dr. Patricia Morokoff § Dr. Arthur Stein
- 2006: Dr. Kathleen Ellis § Dr. Kathryn Quina § Dr. Roger LeBrun
- 2005: Dr. Francine Roy § Dr. Lynne Derbyshire
- 2004: Dr. Christopher Hunter § Dr. Nasser Zawia
- 2003: Diane Gerzevitz § Dr. Sylvia Spears
- 2002: Dr. Lisa Bowleg § Dr. Mohammed Sharif
- 2001: Dr. Alfred Killilea § Assist. Dean Ruth Waldman
- 2000: Dr. Faye Boudreaux-Bartels
- 1999: Dr. Bette La Sere Erickson § Dr. Cynthia Hamilton § Dr. Paul Bueno de

### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

- 2011: Paul J. Hastings
- 2010: Chief Sachem Matthew Thomas
- 2009: Clarice Odhiambo
- 2008: Leo DiMaio, Jr,
- 2007: Judge Alton W. Wiley, Sr.
- 2006: Dr. Josepha Campinha-Bacote
- 2005: Dr. Bernard Lafayette, Jr.
- 2004: Dr. John McCray, Jr.
- 2003: Judge Frank Caprio
- 2002: Dr. Robert Carothers



# THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS  
RECOGNIZES

*LGBTQ Women's Group*

AS A NOMINEE FOR THE  
A. ROBERT RAINVILLE  
TEAM EXCELLENCE AWARD

*David M. Dooley*

DR. DAVID M. DOOLEY, PRESIDENT  
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

APRIL 3, 2012

THINK BIG WE DO™

