

******This message is sent on behalf of Jeremy Haefner, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs******

Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Jennifer Schneider, professor in the College of Applied Science and Technology, has accepted my offer to become RIT's second recipient of the Eugene Fram Chair in Applied Critical Thinking. This appointment is effective on August 17, 2015 and is a three-year appointment.

Schneider, a certified industrial hygienist (CIH), is a risk analysis & HAZMAT process expert, and known for her scholarship in the areas of global resilience and community criticality, including research on decision support systems, infrastructure, emergency management and response. She is the principal of the Collaboratory for Resiliency & Recovery at RIT, a trans-domain, cross-institute applied research laboratory, and was a 2014 RIT Board of Trustees Scholarship Award winner. As a 'million dollar PI', she has successfully completed multiple collaborative research initiatives funded by the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Labor, and the National Science Foundation. She has contributed to the creation of five academic programs across three colleges at RIT and was a member of the initial Fram Chair advisory board. Outside of RIT, she has been active in many capacities, including an appointment to the New York State Respond Commission, a National Academy of Sciences Committee on Windfarm Safety & Health, the Military Operations Research Society (MORS) and in several professional societies. Dr. Schneider is also a professor within the civil engineering technology, environmental management and safety (CETEMS) department of the College of Applied Science & Technology at RIT. Prior to RIT, she was with ITT/Goulds, Mobil (Chemical) Oil, and Eastman Kodak.

Dr. Schneider received her undergraduate degree from Roberts Wesleyan College, her MS from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, and her

Sc.D. from the University of Massachusetts Lowell College of Engineering.

Dr. Schneider follows in the footsteps of Dr. Chip Sheffield, who served as the inaugural Fram Chair and laid very important ground work in advancing RIT's contributions to the applied critical thinking arena, including the establishment of the annual Fram Chair lectureship, development of a university-wide conceptual framework for critical thinking across the curriculum, and development of faculty workshops on the pedagogy of critical thinking.

The Eugene Fram Chair in Applied Critical Thinking, funded by an anonymous donor to honor Dr. Eugene Fram, professor emeritus from the Saunders College of Business, provides a means by which RIT's strong tradition of providing students with educational experiences that foster critical thinking can be continued and strengthened and new cross-disciplinary approaches can be realized. During the next three years, the Fram Chair will partner with faculty, staff and administrators across all programs to more fully integrate critical thinking into existing and new curricula and facilitate faculty development and scholarship related to critical thinking, with the long-term vision of developing a National Center of Excellence in Applied Critical Thinking.

My appreciation to Dean Jamie Winebrake (CLA) and Associate Dean Laura Tubbs (COS) for chairing the search committee and to the search committee members: Tim Engstrom (CLA), Elizabeth Hane (COS), Sylvia Perez-Hardy (GCCIS), Marty Lawlor (SCB), David Long (CIAS), Anne Wahl (Academic Affairs), with staff support provided by Karel Shapiro (Academic Affairs) who worked throughout March, April and May on this internal process.

Please join me in congratulating Jen Schneider on her new role!

Jeremy Haefner
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs