Sustainability Insider

Where research meets impact



Fall 2024

John Warner, co-founder of green chemistry, named professor of practice



The educator, innovator, and researcher John Warner—known for co-founding green chemistry—has been named a professor of practice in RIT's GIS. Warner's appointment will contribute to the institute's work with industry partners to realize sustainable alternatives to the use of toxic, harmful chemicals. **Read more**



Port Authority of NY and NJ readies for "zero waste to landfill"

NYSP2I-led study propels plan forward

The study revealed that the agency currently keeps 59 percent of waste out of landfills—but that figure could rise to 75 percent if the agency implements the study's recommendations into a new "zero waste" strategy. **Read more**



Inside the conference that's mainstreaming circular economy

"Waste" is not a word in REMADE's vocabulary

Circular economy is more popular than ever before—so what comes next? This is the question that the REMADESM Circular Economy Tech Summit and Conference was developed to answer. **Read more**



RIT-led team wins Phase 1 in U.S. Dept. of Energy prize

\$50K to build a circular economy piloted by Tribal Nations

An RIT-led collaboration—Gen7—was a first-round winner of the Re-X Before Recycling Prize. Gen7 aims to empower Native American-owned enterprises by building a circular economy business model and supply chain for remanufactured office furniture. **Read more**

Upcoming Events

APRIL REMADE Circular Economy Tech Summit and Conference

The conference is open to members, non-members, and university students from across the U.S. and around the world. Those interested in accelerating the transition to a circular economy are strongly encouraged to attend. Learn more

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Recent Faculty Research

"Qualitative analysis of hydroponic container farm adoption, use, and benefits in the United States"

Callie Babbitt (co-author, GIS faculty)

Alexa G. Kaminski (co-author and current GIS Ph.D. student)

"Comparative assessment of biochar produced from waste biomass in laboratory furnace and industrial screw reactor systems"

Thomas A. Trabold (principal investigator, GIS faculty) Yvan D. Hernandez-Charpak (co-author and 2024 GIS Ph.D. graduate) Madan M. Manipati (co-author and current GIS Ph.D. student)

Carlos A. Diaz (co-author and RIT professor of packaging science)

"10 years after: Long-term adoption of electricity in rural Rwanda"

Nathan Williams (contributor, GIS faculty) A collaboration with researchers from Columbia University and the International Growth Centre.

"How much is U.S. office building space reduced per teleworker?" (pdf)

Eric Williams (principal investigator, GIS faculty) Kun Liu (co-author, GIS Ph.D. student) Sinoun Phoung (co-author, GIS Ph.D. student) Eric Hittinger (co-author, RIT professor of public policy) Subhrajit Guhathakurta (co-author, Georgia Tech) Chaeyeon Han (co-author, Georgia Tech)

Video Spotlight

FABSCRAP Success Story



Discover how the NYSP2I Community Grant recipient FABSCRAP investigated a new opportunity to keep textiles out of landfills by auditing thousands of fabric samples sent by mills to designers. Learn more

New Tools and Resources



New York City Textile Repair Systems Map

NYSP2I recently conducted a study with project partner Hyloh to learn how New York City residents might—or might not—go about repairing a piece of clothing or an accessory. This interactive visualization map was developed to show what barriers and opportunities to textile repair the research study revealed. Learn more



RIT's Industry 4.0 Academy

Explore a curated collection of Industry 4.0 learning materials. Get an overview of what it means or dive deeper into the benefits, adoption strategies, essential skills, or ways to maximize post-implementation success. These materials are provided by various educational and research organizations, including RIT. **Read more**



Reducing PFAS: A Fact Sheet for Metal Finishers

Get up to speed on PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances), a class of hazardous substances that has been linked to human-health and environmental risks. This easy-to-use resource offers strategies for reducing PFAS use in the metal-finishing industry. **Read more**



The RIT Industry 4.0 Playbook

Learn how eight medium-sized manufacturers are putting Industry 4.0 to work. With eight in-depth case studies based on our research, it's a great tool for getting started on Industry 4.0 that's heavy on real-world examples and light on the fluff. **Read more**

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