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Robert A. Altenkirch
President

September 25, 2006

Dear Colleagues,

The NJIT Technology and Society Forum is about to enter its third year. If you have attended past forums, you know what a valuable source of provocative ideas it has been, as we explore the complex ways in which US technological and socio-political agendas interact with one another. The forums enable a variety of experts to converse with one another and the audience. The broad goal is to explore the connections between the focused technological expertise that our students learn in the classroom and real-world geo-political issues that affect the quality of life. In the past the forum has brought such notable speakers to NJIT as Freeman Dyson, Leon Lederman, Michael Oppenheimer, and William McDonough.

This year the forum will be an important part of our celebration of NJIT's 125th anniversary, and it has chosen the theme of "entrepreneurship" and "innovation," two of the university's characteristics contained in its vision statement. The first speaker this fall is **Gerard Puccio** who is the director of the Center for Studies of Creativity at Buffalo State University. His talk, **Creative Thinking and Problem Solving: an Essential Skill for the New Millennium**, will take place on Wednesday, September 27, in the Campus Center Ballroom at 3 PM. Professor Puccio has provided training and consulting services to more than 200 private and public sector organizations, including Procter & Gamble, 3M, and Delphi Thermal Systems. He will also share studies that demonstrate how an emphasis on creative problem solving can have a positive effect on student performance.

On October 25, **Nathan Glasgow** from the Rocky Mountain Institute will talk about his work with the well known inventor and environmentalist, Amory Lovins, in a talk, **Winning the Oil Endgame**, based on their recent book. Then on November 8, **Joel Garreau**, an editor with the Washington Post, and the author of **Radical Evolution**, will explain how current discoveries in the areas of nanotechnology and computer science are changing our world.

I hope that you will join me in supporting the forum committee which has worked hard to bring us these enlightening events. You can find additional information about the speakers, their bios, position papers, and an archive of the videotapes of past forums at the forum website: **tsf.njit.edu**, soon to be linked with the NJIT website. If you have further questions concerning the forum please contact **Jay Kappraff at ext. 3490**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert A. Altenkirch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bob Altenkirch