A Letter from the General Managers
Abi Milner ’19 and Nate Nickerson ’20

Howdy Alumni!

We’re Abi and Nate, WRUR’s General Managers for the 2018-2019 academic year. Abi is a senior studying political science, psychology, and religion. In her time at WRUR, she has been Music Director, Creative Director, and has hosted shows on both The Sting and WRUR 88.5. Nate is a junior majoring in mechanical engineering and minoring in art history. He had a Sting show from 2016-2017 and was Productions Director last year.

We’re thrilled to be the General Managers of this great club and to work with such a motivated Executive Board. All of our department heads are very enthusiastic about the plans for the semester. Not only are we improving the station physically and technologically, we are also focusing on emphasizing the emotional significance that the club has to so many people associated with the University.

WRUR is central to both of our experiences at the University of Rochester. Since we first came to campus, the station has been our home away from home. Our dorms have changed every year, but the station has always been there for us. The college radio community is like no other in the fact that it gives students a chance to express their individuality and creativity through a wide spectrum of outlets. Radio means something different to each station member, and each station member brings something unique to the club. Students from many majors and backgrounds are brought together through their devotion to bettering WRUR, whether they’re sharing music that they love, running live sound for events on campus, or rewiring speaker systems in our ceiling. WRUR holds a special place in both of our hearts, and we can’t wait to spread our passion to the rest of the radio community this year.

We hope you enjoy our newsletter! Feel free to contact either of us to hear more about what’s happening this semester.

Meliora,
Abi and Nate
Old and New on FM

**Ben Schmitz '19**

To start off the year on FM, we have a number of returning shows as well as some newcomers.

General Manager Abi Milner '19 and Chief Engineer Molly Rubins. 20 are back on air with their show "Breadtime", a gracious pas de trois of generic indie rock, experimental electronic, and men yelling over guitars. Catch them every Monday from 8-10 p.m.

Also returning is "Rock Rewind" with Ben and Jim, two WRUR engineers who play rock deep cuts from the 60s up through the 90s from 6-8 p.m on Thursdays.

Also on Thursday we have a brand-new show from Joshua Copperman '20 titled "Two Sets of Headphones" from 10-11 p.m. Josh is always on the hunt for the newest songs from alternative and indie favorites, so be sure to tune in to stay up to date.

My alternative variety show, "Ben & Dan’s Soiree Musicale", now Wednesdays 9-10 p.m., remains on air despite my cohost, Dan, being abroad for the semester. I have been trying this semester to limit my music selection to one CD from the station’s music library instead of my own. This often results in me choosing songs to play that I had never heard before auditioning them for my playlist. This has made the playlist creation process much more exciting week to week, so I've been encouraging other DJs to explore WRUR's CD library in the same way.

As the year progresses, we should have even more shows coming on air, hopefully including a show from our Music Director, Mike Gallagher '21, and another from former station manager Scott Kirschner '17.

Lastly, here at WRUR we are remembering long-time community DJ Heavy Metal Bob, who passed away last year. Bob and his show “Academy of Shred” were WRUR staples for years and will be dearly missed.

**TV Moving Forward**

**Sam Torrellas '21**

This is a very exciting year for WRUR TV! This semester we welcomed seven new members to the TV family. The crew has many plans for this semester, and a few ideas are already in motion. A weekly parody news show will soon be airing on our YouTube channel and in Rettner Hall. TV has also started live streaming our home hockey games on The Sting page with our amazing announcer, David. There are also plans to continue the tradition of interviews at school events, such as the pumpkin launch.

We plan on collaborating with other clubs in publishing material. We recorded the UR BeatBoxing Collective’s performance and plan to use either studio with a little bit of training. Once we get into the live room and working on some acoustic treatments. Productions are also planning on working closely with engineering on a couple of interdepartmental projects. We will be broadcasting hockey games with the help of the TV and Engineering Departments. This is going to be a fun chance to get the casts on The Sting more often, and let the productions team work on some live setups.

The Sting’s Bright Future

**John Pinto ‘20**

Every fall semester brings in a new wave of fresh faces, and that means new Sting showst! Just a month into the semester, The Sting has over twenty students currently undergoing the process of becoming Sting DJ’s, with some shows due to premiere in the week ahead. This month, students can listen to publica- tion! Be on the lookout for new shows centered around country, post-punk and dance. We will also have interviews with faculty members, and in the case of the new show “Woof,” songs played from albums whose covers feature some very good dogs.

These new shows will be joining a number of returning favorites, including, “The Chronicles”, hosted by Joel Mack- ziel from the Department of Physical Education and campus poetry slam, “The Zoo” with DJ Em (Fridays at 5 p.m.), “MAPShow” with Christophe (Fridays at 3 p.m.), “Soundcheck” with Ann Zhang (Thursdays at 2 p.m.), “Midday Madness” (Fridays at 11 a.m.) with Jess Alexander. And of course, rounding out our week is long-time community DJ Jermaine Jackson, blasting out four straight hours of soul on The Soul Monologue (Saturdays at 5 p.m.).

With so much variety and even more on the way, The Sting is sure to offer up something that will catch your ear. Tune in to TheSting.wrur.org and find your new favorite niche!
Radio Beyond College
An Interview with Alumnus Adam Konowe '90

Q: What was your role at WRUR?

I had a few. My first gig was as an engineer helping cover the 1986 local elections in the fall semester of my first year. But mostly, I was a FM DJ for two shows a week (folk at lunchtime and jazz/new age at night). I also served as an operations manager helping enforce station and FCC regulations. The latter wasn't always easy or fun, but it was necessary and helped preserve FM for today's students to enjoy.

Q: What were your proudest accomplishments at WRUR?

Running a radio station, let alone two channels under the same roof, is tough for any e-board. However, as an operations manager, I was proud of how we provided amazing opportunities for students across all roles, yet still kept FM fully programmed seven days a week and AM (what's now The Sting) most of the time too. As a DJ, I had the pleasure of sharing my love of two very different genres of music with listeners on and off campus.

Q: How did your experiences with WRUR help you with your current career?

After graduating from the University of Rochester in 1990, I went directly to graduate school at American University (AU) in Washington, D.C. AU’s student station, WVAU, was in pretty bad shape, but I dove in regardless as a DJ and chief engineer. After earning my master’s degree in communications, I went into live television as a producer and director. My WRUR experience definitely helped me embrace the stress of live television as a producer and director. My WRUR helped preserve FM for today’s students to enjoy.

Q: If you could bring back any former WRUR projects/events back, what would they be?

I mentioned election coverage earlier. I think it was awesome that WRUR would send reporters and engineers to the local Democratic and Republican election night events, plus the Monroe County Board of Elections, to report live alongside the area’s professional radio and TV stations. Also, the University of Rochester used to host a dance marathon to raise money. WRUR would simulcast it from the Palestra via underground cables that went from there to Burton/ Crosby, where we did an initial mix, then to the station for air. Both of those events were great and taught useful skills, but even just expanding and sustaining our FM presence would be noteworthy.

Q: As you continued with your career, did you find any aspects of radio to be specifically unique to WRUR?

WVAU never had a true FM signal and these days it’s an internet only station. Unfortunately, a lot of college radio stations don’t broadcast in the traditional sense anymore. I think that’s a shame since the stakes are higher, so I encourage WRUR staff to protect and grow their FM presence. However, any college radio and TV experience is great. Understanding media and other forms of content creation and distribution has never been more important. Moreover, college media consistently attracts an amazing group of people who can become as close as those in Fraternity and Sorority life or athletics. What could be better?