

R.I.T

Chester F. Carlson

College of Science

Center for **IMAGING** SCIENCE

Seminar Series

# **This Technical Life: Some Lessons Learned at RIT and in the Workplace that Made a Real Difference.**

**Tom Lianza**

*Director of Display  
and Capture Technologies  
GretagMachbeth  
and CIS (Photo Science) Alumnus*



The Author in College, 1972.....

Note the HP-35 secured to his hip...

The Sinar View Camera at his side.

A Color Chart in his hands...

And a stupid hat on his head....

Some Things Never change....

**4pm Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2006**

**Auditorium of the Center for Imaging Science**

Tom will explain a number of technical problems and the underlying technical, political, and financial resources that were employed in their solution (or sometimes, the non-solution). These problems include early work in areas such as:

- Measurement of small line structures on film using Fourier Transform techniques
- Development of Phase Retrieval (Technology that saved Hubble 12 years later)
- Focal Plane scanning and the first commercially available flat bed scanners
- How and why the CIE Luv system found its way into Graphic Arts systems in 1979.
- Some Techniques employed in making 100,000 colorimeters a year.

The talk will highlight significant lessons Tom learned as the founder of 3 companies.

**[www.cis.rit.edu/seminar](http://www.cis.rit.edu/seminar)**

**for up-to-date seminar schedule, video archives and abstracts.**

## Speaker Bio:

Early in his technical career, Tom returned to RIT for a recruiting visit. Professor Albert Rickmers introduced Tom to his statistics class as "a young man who never let RIT get in the way of his education".

During his RIT student days, Tom was an intern for the Central Intelligence Agency. He received his BS&MS in Photographic Science and Instrumentation in 1979, although he had already left the Institute in 1976 to begin work for Eikonix corporation. While at Eikonix, Tom was instrumental in the development of the first line of commercially available digital scanners. Tom was head of the Electro-Optics department and later served as the Director of the Designmaster Program, the first commercial system to utilize CIE color descriptions as a basis for graphic arts manipulation. The Designmaster system was the one of the earliest systems to employ what would later be called "Color Management".

In 1984, Tom took a founding position in Howtek corporation, as Director of Scanner Development. At Howtek, Tom developed the low cost color scanner market by introducing the Sharp Jx600 scanner engine. Tom left Howtek in 1989 and founded Sequel Imaging, a company devoted to low-cost color measurement equipment. In 2003, Gretagmacbeth acquired Sequel Imaging and today, Tom is Director of Display and Capture Technologies at that corporation.

Tom's other interests include Photography, Woodworking and collecting Scientific calculators.

Tom Lianza

Director Display and Capture Technologies

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