Sometimes we are easily distracted from the realities and rigors of academic life and focusing on the semester’s end is a concept that seems elusive. The end of a semester signals a milestone that we embrace in different ways and yet, it is repeated over and over again. Personally, it has been a whirlwind of activity and the semester has flown by much too fast.

My energies have been focused these past few weeks on the typical responsibilities of a dean in conducting the “business” of a college as well as a few new challenges that I have decided to take on. I have spent a few days away from campus visiting alumni to reconnect with that extremely important constituency group. As I write this column I am away at a conference for Deans who are interested in development and fund raising activities. I have learned much in conference sessions and by networking with colleague Deans across the country. I have also learned much from an Executive Director of Development, who works absolutely tirelessly to advance CAST. Joy is a valued member of the CAST family and I encourage each of you to get to know her better. We are extremely fortunate to have her in our college and no one works harder than Joy in promoting what we do.

I have learned that friend and fund raising is a team effort that requires all of us to be on the same “bus.” The benefits of working toward a common goal of friend raising should be obvious. By reconnecting with our former students who are now our alumni, we open tremendous new possibilities for student internships, inviting guest lecturers, and job opportunities for our graduates. Through friend raising efforts we also help ourselves when selected alumni wish to give back to their alma mater. This of course helps replace eroded state support and resources that may have been diverted elsewhere. Through the generosity of our alumni we can focus upon the collective vision, mission, and core beliefs in CAST that are important for our current students and that have served our former ones very well.

I am energized by the challenges that lie ahead of me and all of us in CAST as we work to remain focused on our academic work and at the same time to engage in friend and fundraising. In future weeks and months I hope to share with you ideas of how we may work together as a team to re-engage our alumni and participate in friend and fundraising activities. I am eager to work with each of you on these and other important initiatives as we advance the mission, vision and core values of CAST.
CAST Office

We have many diverse academic programs in CAST. Some of these programs are oversubscribed and others have capacity for more students. In our enrollment efforts, it is a constant challenge to have appropriate numbers of students in our programs. Faculty, academic advisors, and chairs/directors cannot do enrollment management in isolation. It requires cooperation and clear communication with entities across campus.

It is critical that we have good working relations with Admissions and University College. We work with Admissions to set enrollment targets for incoming freshman and transfers. We also should work closely with academic advisors in University College. All of our freshman students are advised by these advisors. General students (no declared major) are also advised by University College. These advisors can be valuable allies for CAST in referring students to our undersubscribed majors and sequences. Thus, it is critical that we provide up-to-date information to both Admissions and University College about the nature of our programs and where we have enrollment capacity.

In my eight years at ISU, I have noted distinct improvement in the working relationship between CAST, Admissions, and University College. This is especially true in the last several years. Beyond academic advising, University College also includes Instructional and Curricular Services, the Minority Student Academic Center, the TRIO program and Student Support Services, Preview, University Center for Learning Assistance, and University College Testing Services. Check out their website at www.ucollege.ilstu.edu for more information.

Working with Admissions and University College in a collegial and cooperative way should create a symbiotic relationship. This type of mutually beneficial working relationship helps everyone. It helps Admissions recruit high quality students, it helps University College provide services to students and place general students into appropriate majors, and it helps our departments and schools control enrollment in our high demand programs and increase enrollment in our programs that have capacity. Ultimately, all of this should help students be more successful and have a more satisfying educational experience at ISU. I think we can all agree that this is a most worthwhile goal! ACL

Department of Agriculture

The Annual Agriculture Career Day was held on Wednesday, October 18th in the Brown Ballroom of the Bone Student Center. This year’s Career Day was the largest ever, with nearly 190 students visiting with representatives from 37 agriculture and horticulture businesses. The Agriculture Career Day was co-sponsored by the Student Chapter of the National Agri-Marketing Association, the ISU Horticulture Club and Alpha Zeta.

Dr. Randy Winter participated in a “Renewable Energy Roundtable” with U. S. Congressmen Jerry Weller and Ray LaHood at the Children's Discovery Museum in Normal on October 20th. Dr. Winter provided an overview of renewable energy initiatives underway at Illinois State University. Other participants included Illinois State University President Al Bowman and Normal Mayor Chris Koos.

Department of Criminal Justice Sciences


On October 18th, Karen Stephens, Director of Child Care Center, addressed the Working World Forum on Nature Education, which hosted 250 early childhood professionals, landscape architects and environmental educators from 25 different countries. Her presentation was titled, “Supporting Teachers and Parents in Providing Positive Nature Experiences for Young Children.” The event was hosted by the World Forum Foundation and the Arbor Day Association at Arbor Day Farm in Nebraska City, Nebraska.

Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

Illinois State University Student Chapter of the National Agri-Marketing Association

NAMA

Ground Beef Sale

ISU Farm Grown

10 – 1 lb packages for only $25

Contact:
Dr. Rick Whitacre rwhitacr@ilstu.edu
or Dr. Asilhan Spaulding adspaul@ilstu.edu

Dr. Randy Winter

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Ms. Jane Turley has been appointed to the Board of the McLean County Health Department for a three-year term.

Dr. Sara Cole presented a stress management workshop entitled “Living Healthy, Living Well” at the Women’s Mentoring Network Conference held September 30th on ISU’s campus.

Dr. Sara Cole, Dr. Lori Woeste, Mr. Chris Grieshaber, and Ms. Jorie Glassner (Health Education student) worked hard in creating and presenting the CAST mobile unit for the Homecoming Parade on October 14th. The theme was “Alice in Reggieland”, so everyone was spreading the red in anticipation of King Reggie’s arrival. Other CAST faculty and students assisted in this endeavor. Drs. Cole and Woeste would like to thank everyone who participated.

The student section of the American Society of Safety Engineers had their annual coffee tent set up along the Homecoming parade route. Many alumni and friends stopped by; the student section received a little over $300 in donations.

Jennifer Snyder, a senior in Community Health Education, was named the Lincoln Laureate for Illinois State University. As the student chosen by President Bowman to represent Illinois State, she will join Lincoln Laureates from other universities at a celebration in Springfield in November.

Ms. Anjie Almeda (HSC Academic Advisor) presented two papers at the October 17-20 NACADA national conference in Indianapolis: “Project Success: Changing the Culture of Academic Probation” (with Amy Roser, EMAS; Michelle Schultine, EMAS; and Sharon Walsh, Ucollege); and “Linking Academic Advising and Career Services” (with Wendi Whitman, Ucollege; Pam Cooper, Career Services; Teri Farr, Sociology/Anthropology; and Mark Vegeter, English).

Dr. Tom Birmea and 13 Environmental Health students attended the Illinois Environmental Health Association Annual Educational Conference in Peoria on October 23rd.

Dr. Tom Birmea gave an invited presentation entitled “Efficiency Performance Contracting” at the 2006 Illinois Governor’s Pollution Prevention Awards on October 25th. The presentation summarized his work on market-based approaches to reducing industrial waste. The event was held in Bloomington and attended by five Environmental Health students.

Drs. Mark Temple and James Broadbear presented “Making Change Work: Understanding the process of creating lasting school-based changes” at the annual meeting of the American School Health Association, October 10-14 in St. Louis. Three HED students also attended the conference: Lauren Barone, Laauren Cheek, and Savannah Knowles. Dr. Temple also serves as Chair of Councils and is a member of the Board of Directors.

Drs. Amy Hurd and Sandra Klitzing facilitated a session titled Research to Practice: Let’s Talk Healthy Lifestyles at the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) conference in Seattle.

Dr. Barbara Schlatter and Marta Moorman presented a poster, Urban adventure recreation: Coming soon to your community, at the World Leisure Congress on October 19th in Hangzhou, China.

Dr. Brent Beggs was the lead author on a manuscript published in Scholic titled Internships in Leisure Services: An Analysis of Student and Practitioner Perceptions and Expectations.

Dr. Brent Beggs lead a presentation at the Leisure Research Symposium in Seattle, Washington titled An Analysis of Student and Practitioner Expectations of Undergraduate Internships.

Dr. Anu Gokhale, IEEE Region 4 Student Activities Chair, organized Leadership Training for Branch Officers and Ethics Competition for student members of IEEE. The conference was held on October 21st at Valparaiso University in Indiana.

Drs. Chris Merrill and Ed Livingston attended the National Center for Engineering and Technology Education fall conference in Menomonie, Wisconsin.

Dr. Chris Merrill delivered two presentations at the 53rd Annual University of Wisconsin-Stout Technology Education Conference entitled “Engineering-Related Curricular Resources for Technology Education” & “Professional Development and curricular Resources: An Engineering and Technology Education Partnership”.

Dr. Mohamed El-Gafy presented a paper entitled “A Simplified Risk Analysis for Design-Build Construction Projects” at the 2006 ASC Region III Conference held October 18-21at Downers Grove.

Dr. El-Gafy and Dr. Rick Boser also presented a paper entitled “A Diffusion of Innovation Perspective for Construction Waste Management” at the Conference.

Drs. Dan Elkins and Brent Beggs co-presented research at the Leisure Research Symposium in Seattle titled Examination of Leisure Satisfaction and Participants and Nonparticipants in Campus Recreational Sports.

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Dr. Mohamed El-Gafy became a Master Format ™ accredited Instructor (MAI) in September, adding resources for contractors associated with the Construction Management program to convert to the new 2004 Master Format.


The College of Applied Science and Technology, through its teaching, research, and service programs, will be a leader in preparing broadly educated, technologically competent professionals who can solve real-world problems in a workforce that builds economic viability and better communities in the State of Illinois and beyond.
FEEDBACK SHEET

Provide answers to one or all of the questions provided below. Print out and submit completed form to the CAST Dean’s Office by fax (438-5037) or by campus mail (Campus Box 5000) by November 10th. Thank you for taking time to share your thoughts.

1. The practice of hooding candidates for master’s degrees during spring commencement ceremonies should continue?  YES  NO (circle one)

Why or why not? From your observation, how do graduate students perceive this practice?

If this practice is to continue, share any suggestions you have for making this component of the ceremony go more smoothly.

2. In which ways are you willing to assist with the planning and carrying out of the 6th annual CAST golf outing? (check all that apply)

____ represent my dept/school on golf outing steering committee
____ secure one or more hole sponsorships
____ secure one or more foursomes
____ attend as a golfer myself
____ other: __________________
____ I do not wish to participate this year

Share any suggestions you have for making this event more successful.