This fall’s CAST in Focus series was launched on September 18 by Dr. Chris Merrill, who spoke about “living in a technological world.” The event was held at the Challenger Center in Bloomington and was well attended by several CAST faculty and staff. Each month a faculty member will be featured at a CAST in Focus event; each being held at a different off-campus venue. Food is provided by the College at each presentation. The objective of these events is to showcase faculty talent and to provide a venue to entertain our friends. Please consider using these opportunities to network with the non-academic community. You can help make these events a success through your attendance and by inviting a friend. Your support is critical.

The semester is well under way and all seemed to have settled into a routine. Progress is being made on razing Dunn/Barton/Walker Halls to give way to construction of a new $50 million dollar Student Wellness/Kinesiology and Recreation Building. A groundbreaking ceremony has been planned for October 16. Stay tuned for additional details in subsequent NewsCAST issues. The construction of this new building will certainly change the complexion of south campus and provide KNR with much needed laboratory and classroom space. It is an exciting addition to the College and one that I hope will be celebrated by all CAST colleagues.

I am pleased to announce a new initiative this year used to venerate the College Outstanding Researcher and CAST Outstanding Teacher. Both previously carried a cash award and an invitation to present at the fall or spring CAST meetings. Beginning this year, each recipient will now be granted a ¼ reassigned time from teaching for one semester. The reassigned time, though voluntary, must be used to support the recipient’s teaching or research. This elevated recognition for these two awards directly supports several goals, strategies, and actions that are espoused in our CAST Strategic Plan.

CAST in Focus

October 16
Ralph Weisheit, Criminal Justice Sciences
The Mysteries of Methamphetamine
NV Ultra Lounge, Normal, IL
This presentation addresses methamphetamine; how they affect the Midwest, the general trends regarding use and production of the drug, how communities are responding, and what the future holds.

November 20
Julie Schumacher, Family and Consumer Sciences
Food Safety: An Important Ingredient for Your Thanksgiving Meal
Illinois State University Alumni Center
Foodborne illness is very serious, but easily prevented if foods are handled, prepared, and cooked properly. As Thanksgiving approaches, learn more about cooking the traditional turkey dinner to ensure a delicious and safe meal for you, your family, and your friends.

December 11
Doug Twitchell, Information Technology
Cyber Threat: How to keep your identity and information private in today’s interconnected world
The Chateau, Bloomington, IL
The rise of the Internet has brought new threats to security and privacy. Chief among them is the stealing of one’s own identity. Given these threats, which technologies and actions can provide security and privacy?

All events run from 4–6 p.m. • Lectures begin at 5 p.m.
There are opportunities to mingle/network before and after the presentations. For more information, visit www.cast.ilstu.edu/castinfous.shtml
CAST Office

CAST initiated the Technology Enhanced Academic Learning (TEAL) program two years ago. The purpose of this program was to provide professional development to faculty and to ensure quality in our on-line instruction. The second purpose of this program was to serve students who might not otherwise be able to take a summer class. In the first year, six faculty and two faculty mentors from six departments/schools participated. Each faculty member in this cohort developed and delivered an on-line class for six weeks for the first time in the 2007 summer session. Student response to these classes was favorable, and enrollments were healthy. Last summer we expanded the program by adding a second cohort of seven faculty, and offered nineteen online courses. By offering on-line courses, we can serve students that are not on campus for the summer. Despite some delivery problems caused by the Blackboard system, these courses were also well received.

Given the success in the past two summers, CAST has selected a third TEAL cohort this year made up of nine faculty members. These nine faculty members will be mentored by someone who has participated in TEAL in the past two years from their respective academic units. They will develop and deliver their courses online during the 2009 summer term. The TEAL-1 and TEAL-2 cohorts will also deliver their courses. Thus, we will have twenty-two online courses next summer associated with the TEAL program.

The enrollment maximum for these courses is 30, and the vast majority fill to capacity. These courses are delivered in six week sessions and are completely online. It is tentatively planned that the TEAL program will decentralize and move to the departments/schools after summer 2009. That decision will be finalized sometime next summer.

Combining all TEAL courses with other on-line classes being scheduled in CAST, it is anticipated that over 45 courses will be delivered on-line in the upcoming summer. Our primary goal in providing summer school courses is to serve students. By expanding the student population being reached in the summer with high quality, on-line courses, it certainly helps us meet that goal. The efforts of all the faculty and mentors involved with the TEAL project are greatly appreciated, and the CAST office looks forward to working with the new cohort of faculty that will help us expand this initiative.

CAST Research Office

It is an exciting time as the candidates come to campus to interview for Dean of CAST. I hope that you take advantage of the numerous opportunities to meet with the candidates and hear their vision for our college.

It is always a pleasure to acknowledge the outstanding research completed by CAST faculty and students. The College Research Committee selected the thesis completed by Mike Moline (KNR) for consideration in the CAST Outstanding Researcher Award. The Award honors a member of the CAST faculty for research agenda of the winner. The reassignment must be taken within two years of being selected, at a time negotiated between the winner and the head of the academic unit. The use of the reassigned time is voluntary, and it must be used to further develop the research agenda of the winner. Applications are due in the CAST office by October 25, and the winner will be selected by the College Research Committee. Application guidelines are available from the “Research Support and Recognition” link on the college webpage.

An updated list of all CAST research support programs is available on the CAST webpage “Faculty resources and support” through the line “For a complete summary of Research Support, Opportunities, and Recognition in CAST, click here”. In addition, the application guidelines and forms are all online. The new application format for the CAST Presentation Travel program has been extremely popular. Briefly, rather than a single spring-semester submission deadline, applications should be submitted when a paper is accepted for presentation at a national or international conference. The new deadline has enticing applications from many individuals who present at meetings during the fall semester, enhancing the utility of the program to serve all CAST faculty.

One CAST research support program that is relatively undervalued is Statistical Consulting. Most faculty associate this program with the availability of assistance for conducting the statistical analysis. However, a critical time to consider the use of this program is when the research project is being conceived. Faculty can use the program to consult with an expert on any aspect of research design, including subject selection and assignment, protocol, and data collection. Not only does this make it easier to conduct the statistical analysis, taking advantage of the expertise before starting data collection can help avoid methodological issues that could decrease the quality of the finished project.

Complementing the research support programs offered by CAST are those from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (http://www.rsp.ilstu.edu/). Of special note is the approaching deadline (October 31) for the Grant Writing Mentorship Program. In this program, an inexperienced grant writer is mentored by an experienced grant writer in the preparation and submission of an external grant. Since many faculty lament that a lack of time is a hindrance to submitting an external grant, this program also reassures the mentee from one course during a semester (the program provides $3 to the academic unit to pay for a suitable replacement). This program is similar to CAST’s Grant Writing Development program in offering the reassigned time. If you have a serious idea for a grant, consider applying for both or either of these programs (you can only benefit from one in a year), and also consider the Summer Grant Writing workshop which can give you valuable help in starting the grant writing process.

Recently, Interim Director Jenny Daugherty of CeMaST (Center for Mathematics, Science, and Technology) and the Associate Vice President for Research Dr. Rod Custer came to discuss the many opportunities available to CAST through the center’s programs. As stated on the website (http://www.cemast.ilstu.edu/), “The Center for Mathematics, Science, and Technology is a cooperative group established in 1991 to promote excellence in the teaching and learning of mathematics, science, and technology.” The seven major programs are funded by various national and state grants. Dr. Chris Merrill (TEC) is one of the Associate Directors of CeMaST. In a future edition of NewsCAST, Dr. Merrill will expand on the opportunities available to CAST faculty through the CeMaST programs.

Please contact me if you have questions, concerns or suggestions on any CAST research program. Until next time, keep your stick on the ice.

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### Department of Agriculture
The Horticulture Club held a Welcome Back reception for new and returning members on August 20th at the Horticulture Center. About 25 students, faculty members, and family were in attendance.

The Department of Agriculture also held a Welcome Back Cookout for students on Wednesday, August 27th in the Ropp Agriculture Building. The event was hosted by the Student Ag Association and gave students of the department a chance to meet the officers of the various organizations.

The 2008 Agriculture/Horticulture Career Day will be held on September 24th in the Brown Ballroom of the Bone Student Center. Currently, over 35 companies have registered to attend the event and the list continues to grow. Students will have a great opportunity to meet with potential employers.

### Department of Health Sciences
The student section of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) held their first meeting of the year on September 3. New members were welcomed and current board members were introduced. The section is planning on building a float with former student section ASSE officers (alumni) for homecoming. Dr. Gary Erisman, retired safety program faculty member, was the guest speaker on the value of ASSE and the safety program at ISU.

### School of Information Technology
The paper entitled, "Why won't consumers adopt m-commerce?: an exploratory study," was published in Journal of Internet Commerce, 6(4), pages 113-128, earlier this year. Dr. Pruthikrai Mahatanankoon and Joaquin Villa-Ruiz co-authored the peer-reviewed research article.

### School of Kinesiology and Recreation
Dr. Steve McCaw made a podium presentation titled "The preferred balance leg absorbs more energy than the preferred striking leg in single leg landings", co-authored with graduate student Mitch Waller and colleagues Drs. Kevin Laudner and Pete Smith, at the 2008 annual meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine in Indianapolis. Dr. McCaw was also the keynote speaker at the Biomechanics Interest Group meeting held at ACSM, on the topic of "Basics of peer review", explaining the expectations of a journal editor when a manuscript is peer-reviewed.

At the 2008 meeting of the North American Congress on Biomechanics held at the University of Michigan, Dr. McCaw and former graduate student Marissa Link presented the poster "ACL reconstruction affects lower extremity energy absorption more than task diversion during one leg landings".

Dr. Sandra Klitzing presented at the National Institute on Recreation Inclusion in Eugene, Oregon on September 5. Her presentation was titled "Facebook and Inclusive Friendships." The presentation was designed to help practitioners understand Facebook and how it can be used in connection to social capital and friendship maintenance for young adults with disabilities.

Dr. Amy Hurd's co-authored textbook "Leisure Services Management" was published this month. This book is a junior and senior level management text for parks, recreation, and tourism majors.

Dr. Kevin Laudner presented "Shoulder Characteristic Differences between Baseball Pitchers and Position Players" at the American Society of Shoulder and Elbow Therapists Annual Meeting in Santa Barbara, California.

### Department of Technology
Dr. Dan Wilson served on the Print & Graphics Scholarship Foundation (PGSF) selection committee, meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 11 & 12. PGSF represents a consortium of graphic communications companies, pooling their resources and providing $500,000 in annual scholarships to top college students pursuing graphic communications-oriented degrees.

On September 8, Dr. Kevin Devine took students from TEC 233 (Introduction to CNC Programming and Metals Machining Processes) to the International Manufacturing Technology Show (IMTS) in Chicago. IMTS is America's largest manufacturing technology show.

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The College of Applied Science and Technology graduates individuals skilled in critical thinking with a lifelong passion for learning and a strong commitment to civic engagement.

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