Welcome back! I hope your summer was productive and you used every opportunity to rejuvenate. Summer for me is a time to catch up on things left undone from the spring semester and to think about the future. I had plenty to keep me occupied this summer!

I was able to visit CAST alumni at several different venues. As I have written many times before, alumni are eager to re-engage and are inquisitive about their alma mater. I found myself fielding questions about facilities and curriculum, but most often the alumni wanted to know about their favorite Professor. It gave me great pleasure to relay stories about many of our excellent faculty and to update alumni about campus events. Maybe it was my imagination, but I witnessed many of our alumni transcend back through time as I relayed stories about ISU.

What started last February during Founder’s Day will continue throughout the fall semester and into the spring term. The sesquicentennial marks a significant point in time for our institution and should cause us to celebrate the past and dream about the future. There will be many activities this fall to celebrate this remarkable milestone and I encourage each of you to take part in as many events as possible. Of course the highlight of the fall semester will be homecoming. The College will again participate in the parade and will have a presence at the sesquicentennial gala on October 13th.

Thinking about the future is an interesting exercise but pointless if action doesn’t follow desire. To that end, I have set about an ambitious ambition doesn’t follow desire. To that end, I have set about an ambitious action doesn’t follow desire. To that end, I have set about an ambitious action doesn’t follow desire. To that end, I have set about an ambitious...
CAST Research Office

For the 2007-08 academic year, the following persons will comprise the CAST Research Committee: Aslihan Spaulding, AGR; Jeffrey Walsh, CJS; Yoon Jin Ma, FCS; Winn Mahatnankoon, ITK; Peter Smith, KN; Tom Biema, HSC; and Chris Merrill, TEC. The primary responsibilities of the Committee will be to review applications/nominations for assorted college and university research awards. A number of research related workshops are planned for the fall semester for which Committee members will have various roles. The review of University Research Grants submitted by CAST faculty for this academic year will be done during the 2008 spring semester.

A complete listing of Research Support Programs, Opportunities, and Recognitions in CAST can be found online at: http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/facultyresources/ and http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/facultyresources/research/ Besides a short description of each offering, relevant deadlines are provided as well. The University Research and Sponsored Programs Office (RSPO), on occasion, has similar funds. Web addresses where information about these offerings is also provided in this document.

For example, in addition to CAST's offering of travel monies for purposes of meeting with program officers (associated with sources of external grant funds) or potential collaborators in an effort to secure significant external research grant, the RSPO has similar funds that can be requested. For CAST's Grant Support Program (GSP), see http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/facultyresources/research/grantsupport.shtml. For RSPO's Travel Award Program, see http://www.rsp.ilstu.edu/internal_grant/travel_award_program/

Dr. Rob Rhykerd has been selected to serve as Editor for the Journal of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Education

Dr. Gary Bachman was chosen as the Agriculture Section Division Chair at the 100th Annual Meeting of the Illinois Academy of Science on April 22nd.

Dr. Gary Bachman, along with co-author Jim Metzger from The Ohio State University, published the paper entitled “Physical and Chemical Characteristics of a Commercial Potting Substrate Amended with Vermicompost Produced From Two Different Manure Sources” in HortTechnology 117(3):336-340.


Dr. Spaulding also presented the following research projects:

"Determining College Students’ Perceptions, Concerns, and Knowledge of Obesity and Health” - Aslihan Spaulding, Illinois State University; Christiane Schroeter, Arkansas State University; Timothy J. Schmidgall, Illinois State University (placed in the top 10 of 180 posters) and “Impact of a New Price Support Policy on Turkish Hazelnut Industry” - Aslihan Spaulding, Illinois State University; Oner Tulum, University of Massachusetts at Lowell; Sayed Saghaiian, University of Kentucky; Gokhan Ozertan, Bogazici University.

The Department of Agriculture participated in the 2007 Farm Progress Show this week in Decatur, Illinois. The Department was represented by several faculty and students at the ISU Agriculture exhibit.

Dr. Randy Winter discussed renewable energy and the proposed renewable energy major at Alltorfer Caterpillar’s Challenger Days on August 7th and 8th in Clinton, Illinois.

Drs. Paul Walker, Rob Rhykerd, and Tim Kelley (HSC) received a grant of $124,869 from the Illinois Council for Food and Agricultural Research for a project entitled “Evaluation of Land Application Systems for Swine Manure to Reduce NPS Pollution”.

Department of Criminal Justice Sciences

Drs. Beverly A. Smith, & Sesha Kethineni had the article “Homicides by males and females in India: The domestic context” published in the International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice. They also had the article “Cultivation and use of opium in rural India: Bottom-up insights into anti-drug efforts” published in the Journal of Asian Criminology.


Dr. Walsh, along with Ralph B. Taylor, had the article “Community structural predictors of spatially aggregated motor vehicle theft rates: Do they replicate?” published in the Journal of Criminal Justice.

Dr. Krienert presented “Author Meets Critics: Ethno-Methodological Study of the Subculture of Prison Inmate Sexuality in the United States” at the American Correctional Association’s 137th Congress of Correction in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Walsh was interviewed by the Peoria Journal Star as part of series of stories connected with the Illinois Sex Offender Registry. Dr. Walsh discussed the use of technology, including global positioning system (GPS), as a tool for monitoring sex offender’s whereabouts. The story ran in the Peoria newspaper on August 27th.

For those in CAST who are actively pursuing new or carrying out existing external grant projects, should a situation arise in which you wish to request contingency funding, the Research and Sponsored Programs Office staff have developed a new form to be completed and submitted on such occasions. The form can be found online at: http://www.rsp.ilstu.edu/forms/Contingency%20request%20form.pdf
Dr. Connor Walters served as a presenter for the Council for Accreditation Site Visitor Training at the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Annual Meeting in June in Reno, Nevada.

Dr. Julius (Bill) Anderson, along with FCS student Gabrielle Smith, had their article “Does parental chronic illness impair adolescent development?” published in the NCFR Report.

Dr. Anderson also co-authored the article “Health and safety education with first-time mothers” which was published in the Health Education Research Journal.

On May 26th, Karen Stephens, Director of the Child Care Center, presented the keynote address, “Parents and Children Connecting to Nature” at the Mindstretcher’s Institute’s Outdoor Early Education conference held in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Dr. Jean Memken attended the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences meeting in Reno, Nevada in June. She served as chair of the housing and environment division, presiding at the division meeting and serving as coordinator of the program on Native American housing.

Richard Kane, Academic Advisor, was awarded a Kauffman Scholarship to present a paper titled “Brazil’s Fernando Henrique Cardoso: an Early Entrepreneurship Scholar” at the 2007 UIC Research Symposium on Marketing and Entrepreneurship in Washington DC.

**Department of Health Sciences**

Drs. Jim Broadbear and Marilyn Morrow have received funding from the Illinois Department of Public Health, Office of Women’s Health, to provide training and technical support as agencies and organizations across the State implement Life Smart for Women, a ten-session curriculum written by Drs. Broadbear and Morrow, in cooperation with others.

Dr. Beverly Barham is serving her second term as an editorial board member for the Journal of Microbiology & Biology Education (formerly Microbiology Education), which is one of the ASM (American Society of Microbiology) journals.

Dr. George Byrns attended the American Industrial Hygiene Association conference held in Philadelphia in June. He presented one platform session entitled, “Are all "no-lift" policies the same?” and a round table session entitled, “Promoting safe lifting practices in the prevention of low back pain.”

Dr. Frank Waterstraat and Professor Jane Turley hosted the Central Illinois Health Information Management Quarterly Education Meeting last May. Frank presented “Managing and Securing Health Information in Illinois” to a large audience of Health Information Management professionals of whom many are alumni.

Academic Advisor, Ms. Anjie Almeda, has completed the QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Instructor Certification. She is one of 25 people on campus who are charged with training Gatekeepers in this model of suicide prevention. The goal is to train 500 Gatekeepers at ISU within the first year.

In May, Dr. Rod Simmons delivered a five-day short course entitled, “Risk Management and System Safety,” to 17 engineers and managers employed by the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Dahlgren, Virginia.

In June, Dr. Simmons conducted a credentialing examination item-writing workshop and attended a meeting of the Health, Safety and Environmental Credentialing Board in Kuwait City, Kuwait.

Dr. Simmons met with faculty in the Department of Industrial and Enterprise Engineering at Tunghai University in Taichung, Taiwan on July 16th to discuss graduate programs in health, safety and environmental engineering.

Professor Paul Ronczkowski was appointed to the OSHA Peoria Area Office OSHA “Z” Conference Committee, and attended an August 22nd committee meeting at Richland Community College.

The ISU Student Section of the American Society of Safety Engineers won a national Section of the Year Award. A plaque was presented, along with a check for $500, at the national conference this summer in Orlando.

Dr. Rod Simmons conducted a seminar, “Ergonomics for Semiconductor Wafer Inspection Stations” at Macronix, a semiconductor fabrication plant in Hsinchu, Taiwan on July 13th.
Dr. Steve McCaw attended the annual meeting of the American Society of Biomechanics at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, August 22nd-25th. to present “Push up Bars and hand position affect upper extremity muscle activity during the push up exercise”. The poster was coauthored with students Amanda Somers, Nadia Lam, Mitch Waller, and Aaron Decker. Dr. McCaw was also elected Program Chair, and will be responsible for all program content at the 2009 meeting of the ASB.

Dr. Chad McEvoy co-authored a refereed article entitled, “Variable Ticket Pricing in Major League Baseball”, which was published in the July 2007 edition of the Journal of Sport Management.

Dr. Kevin Laudner co-authored “Neuromuscular and Biomechanical Characteristics Do Not Vary Across the Menstrual Cycle” in the Journal of Knee Surgery, Sports Traumatology, Arthroscopy.

Dr. Laudner presented “Strategies for Assessing the Functional Adaptations of Overhead Athletes” and “Injury Prevention of the Overhead Athlete” at the 2007 National Athletic Trainers’ Association Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium in Anaheim, California.

Dr. Anu Gokhale presented a refereed paper, “Sustainable Development by Increasing Women Participation in Science and Technology”, at LITCON 2007 held in Penang, Malaysia, July 25th-27th. This event was sponsored by the International Literacy Research Unit.

Dr. Chris Merrill co-authored and delivered a research paper entitled “Delivering Core Engineering Concepts to Secondary Level Students” at the American Society for Engineering Education Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dr. Merrill, Dr. Jeff Barrett, Dr. Willy Hunter, and Dr. Marilyn Morey, co-principal investigators, received three separate one million dollar Illinois Mathematics and Science Partnership grants through the Illinois State Board of Education.

Dr. Merrill received a $75,000 grant from the Illinois State Board of Education for the Illinois University Council for Career and Technical Education. Dr. Merrill also received a $15,680 grant from the Illinois State Board of Education for the Illinois Technology Student Association.

Dr. Merrill hosted the professional development workshop for the National Center for Engineering and Technology Education at Illinois State University. Merrill is the professional development director for the five technology teacher education institutions involved with the Center.

Dr. Merrill attended the final session in the year-long series on Nanotechnology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and is a member of a state-wide steering committee on nanotechnology.

Dr. Merrill also attended the High Schools That Work Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana and was trained to be a state HSTW evaluator.

Dr. Merrill served on a state-wide committee (Content Area Specialist) for the Illinois learning standards that address Career and Technical Education.

Dr. Merrill and two of the Illinois Technology Student Association officers attended the three-day, state-wide leadership training for Career and Technical Education student organizations in Springfield.

Dr. Dan Wilson was reelected to the Accreditation Council for Collegiate Graphic Communications (ACGCC) and will serve as Site Chair for the University of Houston Digital Media degree program.

Dr. Wilson traveled to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to serve on the selection committee for the Print & Graphic Scholarship Fund, a committee that chose 200 students to receive over $350,000 in scholarships.

### Illinois State University

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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.

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