Dean’s Corner

Science and Technology Week, for me, signals that we are nearing the end of the semester. Congratulations to the entire College for “putting its best foot forward” during the week-long series of lectures and events.

Last Monday we were treated to a lecture by Dr. Antoine van den Bogert, a biomechanist from the Cleveland Clinic. His work in developing motion capture technology was fascinating. Dr. van den Bogert demonstrated the importance of collaboration and what benefits may accrue from such activities.

Tuesday’s keynote address by Chef Charlie Trotter was motivational and thought provoking. He stressed the importance of setting the bar high and striving for excellence. He shared many stories about his quest to be the best in the restaurant business. His stories about service resonated very well with those in attendance.

Dr. David Wildt, a senior scientist at the Smithsonian, and an ISU alumnus, presented his work Wednesday evening. Dr. Wildt talked about species survival and efforts he and his team are making around the world to assist many animals. He and his team have made significant impacts in the survival of many different species throughout Africa and Asia.

Thursday marked the closing of Science and Technology Week by recognizing several of our CAST colleagues for their accomplishments this past year at the annual CAST College spring meeting. The meeting closed with a “state of the College” address. I think the state of the College message bears repeating - today the state of our College is strong, and each of you has contributed to positioning CAST well for the 21st Century.

Dr. Michael Walsh, Executive Vice President of the Chicago Climate Exchange, spoke about greenhouse gas emissions and some creative financial incentives that are emerging to help reduce potentially harmful emissions. He too is an alumnus of ISU, though not from a CAST program. Despite that, he was warmly welcomed and his message was fascinating.

The objective of the CAST Science and Technology Week is to showcase disciplines represented in the College to the rest of the university community and the community at large. I am pleased to say “mission accomplished!” Our attention now turns to planning for next year. Thanks to all who helped plan and participate in this year’s CAST Science and Technology Week!

JAW

CAST Office

With the end of the semester coming soon and the arrival of spring (finally), most of us are thinking about enjoying time outdoors. Certainly our students have been struck by spring fever and who can blame them. As you think of outdoor activities, please consider adding the 2008 Celebrate CAST! Golf Scramble to your calendar. It is scheduled on Friday, May 16 at the D.A. Webring Golf Club at Illinois State University (aka the ISU Golf Course) starting at noon.

The purpose of this event is to celebrate the end of the academic year, socialize with CAST colleagues, alumni, and friends of the college, and to enjoy an affordable golf scramble. For those of you not familiar with a golf scramble, in this format everyone in your group hits and then your group proceeds to the best shot. You continue to follow this format until you get the ball in the hole.

Your score is a best ball team score. This means if you hit a poor shot, it usually doesn’t count and you just go pick it up and move to the best positioned shot. It is an enjoyable format that allows golfers of all levels to play and have fun.

The $60 entry fee includes lunch, green fee, cart, on-course beverages, and dinner. Last year we had 99 golfers and with the large amount of early interest, we anticipate needing to close registration early. If you are interested in playing, I encourage you to register ASAP. An entry form is available on the CAST website at http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/documents/Celebrate_CAST.pdf.

There are prizes for longest putt, closest to the pin, long drive for men and women, and chances to win prizes for a hole-in-one on all four of the par 3 holes, highlighted by the grand prize of a Saturn automobile with a hole-in-one on #17. You also will be eligible to win door prizes if your name is drawn at the awards presentation after dinner.

Everyone had a great time last year at this event, and we hope to see you at the 2008 Celebrate CAST! Golf Scramble. Best wishes on a successful close to the spring semester.

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AOL
CAST RESEARCH OFFICE

Research Symposia
The annual Graduate Student Research Symposium was a grand success when it was held last month. Based on information provided by the Graduate School, it appears that more than 25 graduate students enrolled in CAST programs presented at the symposium. Professors Beichner, D. Brown, Elkins, Hurd, Kethineni, Krienert, Laudner, McCaw, Rahn, Steffen, Thomas, Tudor, Walters, and Whitacre have served as mentors for the research efforts conducted by participating graduate students. Additionally, 11 faculty members from the College volunteered in some capacity during the event itself. Among those to be thanked for such service are Professors Beggs, D. Brown, Elkins, Hansen, Henninger, Laudner, McEvoy, Spaulding, Walsh, and Woeste, as well as Vince Boyd.

The annual Undergraduate Student Research Symposium held this month was also quite successful. Based on information provided by the Graduate School, it appears that over 30 undergraduate students enrolled in CAST programs presented at the symposium. Professors Byrns, Garrahya, Krienert, Nnakwe, Qaddour, Rabe-Hemp, Temple, Thomas, and Walsh have served as mentors for the research efforts conducted by these students. Additionally, 6 faculty members from the College volunteered in some way during the Symposium. Among those to be thanked are Professors Anderson, Hansen, Henninger, Laudner, Spaulding, and Walsh.

External Grant Development Fund
The deadline for submitting an application for the new External Grant Development Fund (which provides 25% reassigned time for pursuing substantial external funds to support research/scholarship) for Fall 2008 is Monday, May 19th. See the CAST research related webpages for guidelines: http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/facultyresources/research/GrantDevelopmentFund.shtml

CAST TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Spring is here! The days are finally warmer, the grass is green, and you are counting down the days until exams are given, grades are turned in, and the summer break begins. The summer for most of you means a quieter schedule, time to regroup before starting over again in August, and time to try new things.

On May 13th, 14th, and 15th we will be giving you 6 opportunities to expand your horizons by offering a series of workshops involving some new and not so new software. We will be giving you a chance to revisit Second Life and to learn how to create Podcasts. We’ll be checking out some new software that creates files for the Web and Blackboard – Microsoft’s Expression Web (the replacement for FrontPage) and Softchalk’s LessonBuilder, an application that allows you to add learning activities to your Web pages. And finally, now that we all have it, we’ll take another look at Outlook and explore its many features. The workshop schedule is posted on the CAST Web site, and copies will be available in your department offices. I hope that many of you will be able to take advantage of this opportunity.

Kate Plantholt

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Congratulations!

Illinois State University Student Chapter of the National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA)
The 2008 Outstanding Registered Student Organization

and

Jack Glenn Fombelle of Atwood, IL
Agriculture Major

Robert G. Bone Scholar for 2008-2009

On March 17th at the joint Midwestern Section Annual Meetings of the American Dairy Science Association and American Society of Animal Science, Jake Lee and Delta Stoner tied for first place presentation of the Undergraduate Student Competitions Research Papers - Poster Division. The title of Delia’s paper was “Economic analysis of beef cattle finishing diets containing corn and soybean co-products”. The title of Jake’s paper was “The effects of extruding distiller’s grain on particle size and extruder emissions”. Dr. Paul Walker was the faculty advisor for these research projects, which were partially funded by Illinois C-FAR, ADM and ISU.

On March 16th and 17th the ISU Department of Agriculture Alumni Association sponsored the ISU Academic Quadrathlon team’s trip to the joint Midwestern Section Annual meetings of the ADSA/ASAS held in Des Moines, Iowa. The AQ Team competed in the Midwestern section Academic Quadrathlon competition. The team members were Jessica Brown, Sara Jane Bretzman, Andrea Hanson and Daniel Clark. Dr. Walker was also the AQ Team advisor.

On March 16th and 17th the ISU Department of Agriculture Alumni Association sponsored the ISU Academic Quadrathlon team’s trip to the joint Midwestern Section Annual meetings of the ADSA/ASAS held in Des Moines, Iowa. The AQ Team competed in the Midwestern section Academic Quadrathlon competition. The team members were Jessica Brown, Sara Jane Bretzman, Andrea Hanson and Daniel Clark. Dr. Walker was also the AQ Team advisor.
Numerous faculty presented papers at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences conference in Cincinnati. Ohio from March 11th to March 15th. Dr. Cara Rabe-Hemp, Ms. Susan Woollen (Assistant to the Department Chair/Academic Advisor), and Gail Huimiston (graduate student) presented “A Comparative Analysis of Student Engagement, Satisfaction, Success and Learning in Lecture Hall and Online Learning Settings.” Dr. Dawn Beichner and Alexis Miller (Tennessee State University) presented “Thinking, Teaching, and Talking About Race Revisited: Incorporating Derrick Bell’s “The Space Traders”, Dr. Ling Ren and Jihong Solomon Zhao (Sam Houston State University) presented “Race, Ethnicity, & the Risk of Homicide Victimization: A Multilevel Model Comparison of Three Time Periods in Chicago.” Dr. Ralph Weisheit presented “Making methamphetamine.” Dr. Sesha Kethineni and Rebbecca Lawson (graduate student) presented “Extraordinary Renditions: Legal or Human Rights Violations?”

Dr. Jessie L. Krienert received a Grant Writing Initiative Award for summer 2008. Dr. Krienert also received an Instructional Virtual Reality Development Initiative Grant for the project “Second Life in a Web-Based Classroom.” It is a $500 grant from CTLT.

Dr. Jeffrey A. Walsh received a Grant Writing Initiative Award for summer 2008. Dr. Walsh also received an Instructional Podcasting Development Initiative Grant for a guest speaker project he is working on in a Victimology course.

Together Drs. Krienert and Walsh received a Teaching-Learning Development Grant from CTLT for a project they are working on that involves student webpage development using web snapshots and tools provided by the Carnegie Foundation.

"Humor: no joke, it's a learning tool for children" by Karen Stephens, Child Care Director, was published in the March 2008 issue of The Space for Anything Early Childhood, a magazine published by Childspace Early Childhood Institute in Wellington, New Zealand.

Ms. Stephens was also interviewed by Peoria Journal Star's feature reporter Ryan Ori for an article on developing children's social skills that appeared in the newspaper on 1-28-08. It can be found at the following web link: http://www.pjstar.com/stories/012808/FAM_BFCRP6PE_022.php

Twenty-three Family and Consumer Sciences students will complete a travel study to London, Florence, and Paris May 14-28. The students will visit Apparel Merchandising and Design sites and Interior & Environmental Design sites in these cities. Faculty accompanying the group are Dr. Connor Walters, Dr. Haeh Jin Gam, Ms. Margaret Ann Hayden, Ms. Connie Dyrar and Mr. Richard Kane. The department takes students abroad every two years.

Dr. Haeh Jin Gam along with FCS students Jaclyn Bennett and Lauren Watermann participated in the P3 Awards (P3: People, Prosperity and the Planet) Student Design Competition for Sustainability. They received honorable mention for their project.

Brenna Bricker of Family and Consumer Sciences was recently awarded $2,000 from the Susan T. Kern Special Opportunity Scholarship Fund to help finance her travel to Europe in May to learn more about interior and environmental design. The vision for the Susan T. Kern Special Opportunity Scholarship Fund is to provide financial support to Illinois State University women students in support of one-time special academic or co-curricular opportunities.

Lauren Watermann, Family and Consumer Sciences student, is one of five finalists in the International AATCC-CITDA 2008 Design Competition in the Apparel Design/Product Design Category. Submissions were invited from both graduate and undergraduate students from institutions with textile design programs and those with art, interior design, and fashion merchandising programs. The finalists will now submit story boards and final products for judging, and the winners will be announced at AATCC’s C2C Interest Group meeting, to be held in conjunction with the AATCC Committee Meetings this spring. This is the fourth annual competition hosted by the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC), the Computer Integrated Textile Design Association (CITDA), and the Concept 2 Consumer Interest Group (C2C).

Ms. Rose Harms was recognized at a small ceremony on February 29th with a Professor Appreciation Week Award. Professor Appreciation Week is an event that is organized by the members of the Student Education Association to recognize professors at Illinois State who go above and beyond the call of duty. Sixteen faculty members out of 150 nominations were chosen for the award.
Dr. Beverly Barham presented, “Meet the KeyPURs” at the Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference (CLEC) on February 22nd in Savannah, Georgia. KeyPURs is an acronym for “keypoints & useful repetition” which assist students in mastering discipline specific information throughout the semester.

Dr. Rod Simmons presented an invited seminar, Health, Safety and Environmental Practice in Kuwait and Taiwan, at Indiana University of Pennsylvania on February 29th.

Safety faculty members Dr. Chris Grieshaber, Professor Paul Ronczkowski and Dr. Rod Simmons (along with emeritus faculty member Gary Erisman) attended the March 11th meeting of the Central Illinois chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers in Lincoln. Brian Bothast (EH alum employed by US Department of Labor, OSHA Peoria Area Office) gave a presentation on the Z Program and regulatory updates.

Safety faculty members Dr. Grieshaber, Professor Ronczkowski and Dr. Simmons (along with emeritus faculty presentation entitled Agricultural Safety. ISU Safety and EH students assisted with registration and other conference duties. Many ISU EH and Safety alums stopped by the ISU booth.

Ms. Jane Turley was elected to a two-year term as Director of Education for the Illinois Health Information Management Association. She was installed at the annual meeting in Lincolnshire, Illinois on April 11th.

Dr. Sara Cole received the “Outstanding Faculty Member” award at the 20th Annual Commitment to Diversity Recognition Ceremony held on April 13th in Old Main.

At the Illinois School Health Association (ISHA) meeting in Bloomington on April 18th Dr. Jim Broadbear was recognized as the School Health Educator of the Year for his role in the professional preparation of health teachers.

Environmental Health majors Lucy Loftus and Valerie Scola won the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) undergraduate research competition. They will receive an expense-paid trip to the NEHA annual meeting this summer in Tucson to present their research on rainwater harvesting for industrial efficiency.

Ms. Loftus was also recognized at the CAST Spring Meeting as the recipient of the CAST Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award and the Larry R. Miller Scholarship. She is donating the funds from the Miller Scholarship to begin an endowed account to help fund student research in Environmental Health.

On Friday April 18th, Michael Rosenow and Rober Utesch from Argonne National Laboratories discussed potential careers in industrial hygiene. Attending were 26 Environmental Health and Safety students, in addition to faculty members Drs. George Byrns, Tom Bierna, and Guang Jin.

The American Society for Clinical Pathology announced the winners of its National Student Honor Award for the 2007-2008 academic year. The award recognizes Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) students who demonstrate academic excellence, commitment to community and leadership. Fourteen CLS students from Illinois State were recognized. They are Cheryl Berezan, Stephanie Bilyeu, Heather Michelle Bryant, Valerie Gosack, Diana Lynn Grace, Sarah A. Grochowski, Brent E. Hammock, Erin Kamowski, Natalie Navarro, Michael Plochocki, Erin E. White, Jiraporn Willet, Jackelyn Williams and Rachel Young.

In addition to sponsoring Dr. Michael Walsh as part of Science and Technology Week, Environmental Health students hosted an Earth Day celebration on the quad April 22nd. Activities included educational booths from campus and community organizations and a display of vehicles with “green attributes” (hybrid, flex fuel, diesel, or high fuel economy).

There will be a retirement reception to honor Vern Hanks for his thirty-two years of service to the Motorcycle Safety Program and the College of Applied Science and Technology on Tuesday, May 6th from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the Founder’s Suite in the Bone Student Center.

**School of Information Technology**

Dr. Tibor Gyires and Gyorgy Terdik co-authored a paper entitled “Levy Flights and Fractal Modeling of Internet Traffic” that has been accepted for publication in the IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking. The journal published jointly by the IEEE and the Association of Computing Machinery is one of the most-cited journals in electrical and electronics engineering and in computer science.

Dr. Bryan Hosack published a book entitled, *Putting Values in IT: Designing System Feedback that Considers a User’s Personal values*.
Dr. Chad McEvoy co-authored an article entitled “The Effects of ROSIER Turnover on Demand in the National Basketball Association” recently published in the International Journal of Sport Finance. Co-authors included former KNR graduate student Alan Morse. Dr. McEvoy also presented “Evaluating the Effectiveness of Major Infractions Penalties in NCAA Division I Athletics” on April 18th at the annual conference of the College Sport Research Institute in Memphis, Tennessee.

Dr. Mary L. Henninger along with co-author K. Pagnano-Richardson had the article “A model for developing and assessing tactical decision-making competency in game play” published in the March issue of the Journal of Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance.

Dr. Amy Hurd received the 2007 Illinois P & R Magazine Best Administrative Article Award for her article “Becoming competency driven – Reaching agency efficiency and effectiveness.”

Dr. Brent Beggs and former graduate student Ben Hickerson co-authored “Leisure Boredom of College Students” that was published in the College Student Journal.

Dr. Beggs was also the lead author on a manuscript published in the Journal of Hospitality, Leisure, Sport and Tourism Education titled “A Comparison of Student and Practitioner Perspectives of the Travel and Tourism Internship.”

Drs. Dan Elkins and Brent Beggs co-authored two presentations at the 2008 National Intramural Recreational Sports Association Annual Conference. The presentations were “Participation in Campus Recreational Sports and Subjective Well-Being of College Students” and “Differences in Leisure Motivation Based on Frequency of Participation in Campus Recreation.”

Dr. Beggs was the co-recipient of the 2008 President’s Award for Outstanding Writing given by the Recreational Sports Journal for the manuscript titled “Campus Recreational Sports Internships: An Analysis of Student and Employer Perspectives.”

The Technology Education Program hosted the 2nd Annual Transportation Day for 34 three and four year old children from Playmates Preschool at Illinois State University in late January. The students of ISU-TECA competed at the International TECA Competition February 20-22 as part of the International Technology Education Association Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. ISU-TECA members earned first place in the TECA Challenge and Transportation Technology competitions.

Dr. Chris Merrill published a chapter on engineering and technology K-12 initiatives in the 2008 Custer and Erekson Council on Technology Teacher Education “Engineering and Technology Education” Yearbook.

Dr. Merrill was elected Vice-President of the Council on Technology Teacher Education. In addition, Dr. Merrill was appointed to the Council on Technology Teacher Education Yearbook Committee; his terms expire in 2011 and 2012, respectively.

Dr. Anu Gokhale was honored with a Center for Mathematics, Science, and Technology (CeMaST) Faculty Fellow Award for partnering closely on CeMaST projects and in recognition of her efforts on grants and research.

Dr. Ken Stier served as a member of the National Association of Industrial Technology (NAIT) accreditation site visit team that conducted the site visit of the Industrial Technology Degree Program and Agricultural Systems Technology Degree Program at Iowa State University April 16-18.

The team also consisted of a faculty member from the Arizona State University Department of Technology Management and an industry member from Leeson Electric Motor Company in Lincoln, Missouri.

At the Mechanical Contractors Association of America, Inc. annual convention AwardsCenter Breakfast, held in Palm Desert, California, Professor Keith Rahn was named the MCAA Educator of the Year for 2007.

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.