Dean’s Corner

The College received good news last week. The Illinois Board of Higher Education has granted us the authority to offer two new degrees. The Department of Applied Computer Science will offer the B.S. in Information Systems. This program has previously been a sequence. The degree was requested to make the students in this program more visible to employers and to help the University document its contributions to helping the State of Illinois with the shortage in information technology workers. Congratulations to the faculty in Applied Computer Science.

The Department of Industrial Technology received permission to offer the B.S. Degree in Technology Education. Formerly this program was a sequence. It was moved to a separate degree program because of the increased enrollment in the program and because of a requirement of their program accrediting body, the National Association of Industrial Technology. This program prepares technology education teachers for the K-12 systems of the state. It is a teaching field that is transitioning from industrial arts education to technology education. This degree program also contributes to preparing a technologically prepared workforce for the State of Illinois. Congratulations to the faculty in the Department of Industrial Technology.

Lieutenant Colonel Nick Lilak represented the College at a recent University Club Discussion Hour sponsored by the College. He spoke on Leadership Opportunities in ROTC. Following his presentation, he answered questions about the ROTC program as well as the U.S. Army. Thanks Nick for representing CAST and the U.S. Army so well.

Please join me in congratulating faculty and staff from the College of Applied Science and Technology who were honored with awards at the Founders Day convocation on February 17th.

**Dr. Deborah Gentry**, Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences and Assistant Dean for Research in the college, was recognized as an Outstanding University Teacher.

**Dr. Mark Temple**, Health Sciences, was recognized with a University Teaching Initiative Award.

**Ms. Danielle Lindsey**, academic advisor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, received the Herb Sanders Award for Outstanding Academic Advisement.

A special thanks to each of these individuals for their superior work and the recognition their efforts have brought to the College.
I am pleased to report to you that there were no appeals of merit review filed this year. During the past three years there was one appeal of annual merit. I mention this because I think it is a compliment to the hard work of the faculty in this college who serve on the Departmental Faculty Status Committees. For a merit system to work this well it takes hard work by those serving on DFSC’s to do a thorough job of evaluating their peers as well as mutual respect from those being evaluated for the integrity of their work.

We received word that the Illinois Board of Higher Education has approved two new sequences in the MS degree in Industrial Technology. In the future, the department will be able to offer Training and Development and Technology Education sequences. Congratulations to the faculty in Industrial Technology on these new sequences.

CAST Office Announcements

Turner Tile Project

A number of you have asked questions about the new tile installed on the first floor of Turner Hall. The old tile contained asbestos and, due to water damage and deterioration, was abated and replaced over the past four weekends. It was done at this time for two reasons. First, it has been increasingly difficult for building service workers to mop the floors without tile coming loose. As a result, shutting down parts of Turner Hall down was discussed. Second, a temporary relaxation in EPA rules regarding tile abatement made it very cost effective to complete the work at this time. The color of the tile is a different issue and has been addressed.

Another question being raised relates to the safety of working in buildings containing asbestos ceilings and tile, particularly during the removal process. In the tile abatement case, an independent observer monitored the air quality in Turner Hall during tile removal. This is standard practice for all abatement projects. He indicated that contamination levels were way below even minimal levels of asbestos established by the EPA. In fact, the ISU Director of Environmental Health and Safety indicated that asbestos levels are higher outside on the corner than they are inside buildings like Turner Hall.

Spring Commencement

It is time again to organize Spring Commencement. The CAST ceremony will be held Saturday, May 13, 2000 at 1:00 p.m. in Redbird Arena. Jeri Ryburn, CAST Secretary, will be asking the department chairs to send her a list of faculty who are willing to do the following at this spring’s commencement:

1. Read graduate names
2. Present diploma covers
3. March in college ceremony
4. Assist in lining up of graduates (2 per department for baccalaureate)

Faculty wanting to participate should inform their Department Chair now. Chairs are being asked to give this information to Jeri (jdrybur@ilstu.edu) by Wednesday, March 1.
CAST Research Office

More than 30 CAST faculty have voiced interest in having the EndNote program available for use. After some investigation into other similar programs, the decision has been made to purchase five copies of the software, along with one manual. The program will be installed on the server once the copies arrive. When it is available for use, CAST faculty will be notified. If enough potential users express interest, one or more training sessions will be held.

Recently, a graduate assistant who is working with a CAST faculty member, came to the CAST Research Office looking for resources telling of possible sources of external funding. She found quite a few, and checked-out several for closer examination. Perhaps others in CAST could benefit by a reminder of what resources are available. The Research Office subscribes to three publications that come weekly or every two weeks: Federal Grants & Contracts Weekly; Federal Research Report; and Foundation & Corporate Grants Alert. Each provides announcements of funded research opportunities. Additionally, the Research Office has acquired the 1999 editions of these publications: The Foundation Grants Index; The Foundation Directory, and the National Directory of Corporate Giving. The web pages for the CAST Research Office and the University Research Office provide links to various organizations that provide information about opportunities for external funds for research projects.

Over the years, the CAST Research Office has maintained file folders of information faculty have collected on various funding sources. As some of these folders could benefit from updating, faculty are encouraged to provide extra copies of booklets and other publications describing funding sources which they have obtained as a result of their own networking efforts to the Research Office.

The FY00 Cumulative Second Quarter Report (through Dec. 31, 1999) was released earlier this month by the University Research Office. CAST faculty-staff have submitted 52 external grant proposals (as compared to 69 for this same time period last fiscal year). As to external grant awards, CAST faculty-staff have received 53 (as compared to 52 last year). The cumulative total of external funds awarded thus far is $1,579,882.21 (as compared to $2,465,226.87 last year at the same time). University Research Office web pages provide information about projects that have recently been awarded external funds. Check out the variety of researchers from CAST who have been successful in obtaining funds, and the nature of their projects, on these web pages.

Several opportunities for “continuing education” are scheduled during upcoming weeks. Remind yourself of those possibilities by reviewing the “important dates” section of this newsletter. Information and application materials concerning the May Grant Writing Workshop sponsored by the URO will be available soon. Until that workshop date arrives, those wishing to learn of some tips regarding grant writing can find some useful ones at this web site sponsored by the Eisenhower National Clearinghouse: http://www.enc.org/focus/depts/grants/a04/index.htm
Agriculture


Criminal Justice Sciences


"Employment and Crime: Revisiting the Resiliency Effect of Work on Crime," co-authored by Adam Bossler (MA candidate), Mark Fleisher, and Jessie Kriener, was published in February, 2000 in Corrections Compendium, the journal of the American Correctional Association.

Mark Fleisher presented an invited seminar on youth gangs for faculty and students in the social psychology program at the University of Chicago. Fleisher also has been invited to conduct a research project on highly mobile street populations for the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Frank Morn has an entry in the Dictionary of National Biography on "Allen Pinkerton."

Family and Consumer Sciences


Health, Physical Education & Recreation

Dr. Deb Garrahy gave a research presentation entitled, "Gender Experiences in the New Millenium: A Lot Depends on Where We Lead Them," at the National Conference for the Association of Teacher Educators, February 11-16, in Orlando, Florida.

Health Sciences

George Byrns was the lead author for an article entitled, "Chemical Hazards in Radiology," that was published in the journal, Applied Occupational and Environmental Hygiene, Vol. 15, No. 2, February 2000. The article describes two case studies of radiology technologists who appear to
have become sensitized to chemicals used in the processing of radiographic film. A primary concern is that some x-ray film processing equipment is not being installed according to manufacturer's recommendations, thus putting workers at risk of hazardous chemical exposure.

Paul Ronczkowski attended the recent meeting of the American Society of Safety Engineers, Central Illinois Chapter, meeting in Peoria.

Please join us in congratulating this year's Health Sciences Department award winners. Selections were made by their DFSC based upon materials presented for the 1999 year.

For Teaching, Gary Erisman received the award based on outstanding student evaluations across a diverse group of Safety courses and his commitment to enhancing the teaching/learning process in the department through long term work on the Assessment Committee, Critical Thinking Work Group, and Master's Development and Implementation Committee.

Jim Broadbear was presented with the Scholarly Productivity award based on his three peer-reviewed journal publications; collaborations with colleagues; a presentation at a national conference in his research area that resulted in two submissions of journal articles this fall; and for his submission and funding of a university research grant.

The Service Award was presented to Teresa Bellingar for commitment to her profession through her leadership of the student chapter of ASSE, the McLean County Disaster Council and in the local chapter of ASSEE; the strong relationship between her teaching and choice of service; and student oriented service.

**Industrial Technology**

Dr. Anu A. Gokhale, presented a paper, "Classroom Integrated Web-based Interaction to Enhance Critical Thinking," at the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education 11th International Conference held in San Diego, California, February 8-12, 2000.

Dr. Louis Reifschneider delivered a full-day seminar, "Introduction to Injection Molding," to forty professionals in the plastics industry on Tuesday, February 15th at Itasca, Illinois. The Chicago Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers sponsored the seminar. Monies raised from the seminar are used to support schools in the state of Illinois involved with plastics technology.

**Military Science**

On February 10, 2000, Lieutenant Colonel Nick Lilak, Ph.D. served as a faculty member for a workshop on “Sexual Harassment in the Military,” sponsored by the Menninger Clinic Division of Continuing Education in Topeka, Kansas.

Major Wes White, Assistant Professor of Military Science, received his Master's Degree in Instructional Technology at Illinois State University in December 1999.
Editor’s Notes:

Remember, the electronic version of NewsCAST is still available on our Web site at:
http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/Newscast/2000

The next deadline for NewsCAST items is Friday, March 3, 2000. Please let your NewsCAST reporter know if you have anything to contribute to our newsletter.

Important Dates

February 29th  Workshop (108 Faculty Tech Services building) related to preparing 3’ X 4’ poster displays for professional conference presentation. Call 438-7602 to register soon.

March 1  Deadline for Chairs to send names of faculty who are participating in Spring Commencement to Jeri at jdrybur@ilstu.edu

March 3  Deadline for CAST Outstanding Undergraduate Student Research Award applications. See http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/Research/honor.htm#COG

March 3  Deadline for abstracts to Graduate School Office for Undergraduate Student Research Symposium. See http://www.grad.ilstu.edu/grad/menus/research.htm

March 23rd  New faculty workshop on scholarly writing for journals

March 30  Undergraduate Student Research Symposium, Ballroom, BSC

March 31st  Deadline for CAST Presentation Travel Program applications. See http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/Research/travel.htm

March 31st  Deadline for abstracts to Graduate School Office for Graduate Student Research Symposium. See http://www.grad.ilstu.edu/grad/menus/research.htm

April 7th  Afternoon workshop on qualitative research methods, etc. Call 438-7602 to register on or before April 3rd.

April 28  Graduate Student Research Symposium, Ballroom, BSC

May 15-18  URO sponsored Grant Writing Workshop, mornings. Applications will be out soon.

Sometime during the semester, a possible workshop on End Note software program use may be planned and delivered.