This week is the final installment about CAST initiatives for the Family Campaign. Previously, I wrote about the Student Scholarship endowment and the Science and Technology Lecture endowment. This week, I want to discuss two additional initiatives.

Technology Endowment Fund: The College’s ability to attract top students and faculty members requires access to the constantly changing technologies that shape work in the College’s disciplines. To fully educate students in technical careers, we must have access to cutting-edge equipment and technology in our classrooms and laboratories. Over the past four years we have worked very hard to re-capitalize the technology in the College rather than beginning new programs. The current budget slowdown is a perfect example of why we need an endowment to ensure that we can better take care of our technology needs in the future, regardless of the state of the economy. Our ability to educate Illinois in science and technology and sustain the work of our faculty is dependent on current technology.

Professional Development Fund: Quality faculty and staff are central to the educational experience of our students. Because so many of our disciplines are grounded in rapidly changing technologies, keeping our faculty trained and up to date is a continuing challenge. To be competitive in attracting and retaining leading scholars and educators, the College needs an endowment fund to support faculty research, publications, scholarly development, and ongoing professional development needs of both faculty and staff. Endowed chairs and professorships would be supported under this general effort as well. We simply need more discretionary funds to support faculty and staff development.

Through the campaign, the College’s goal is to raise $8.5 million distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endowment Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technology Endowment Fund</td>
<td>$3.5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Development Fund</td>
<td>$2.0 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAST Student Scholarship Endowment</td>
<td>$2.0 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science and Technology Lecture Endowment</td>
<td>$1.0 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I hope each of you will seriously consider making an investment in the future of Illinois State University. There are many opportunities to enhance programs at the University, College, and Department levels. No gift is too small, or too large for that matter.

What does matter is the signal University employees send to alumni and the general public when we step forward with a high percentage of employees who have participated with donations to the Comprehensive Campaign. You can help send this message.

More later…

JRR

CAST RESEARCH OFFICE

An opportunity to volunteer

Evaluators for student oral presentations are needed for one-hour (or multiple) time slots during the morning and early afternoon of Friday, April 5, for the Undergraduate Research Symposium. Similarly, evaluators are needed for the Graduate Student Research Symposium on Friday, April 26. When a lot of faculty members volunteer to serve in this way, no one person has to be burdened by a major time commitment. Another benefit is that the students who give oral presentations have adequate feedback regarding their efforts.

If you have some time to devote on one or both of these days, contact Mary Stack at mastack@ilstu.edu or 438-2583. As has been the case in past years, let's have CAST faculty be visible on these two days.

CAST OFFICE

Congratulations to Dr. Frank Waterstraat, Health Sciences, and Dr. Richard Boser, Technology, who were elected Wednesday, February 27, to a three-year term on the Academic Senate. They will begin serving their terms of office September 1, 2002. The Academic Senate is the primary governing body at Illinois State University and provides for faculty and student participation in academic governance.

AGRICULTURE

Dr. Kerry Tudor participated in the annual meeting of the North Central Regional Aquaculture Center held in St. Louis, February 16 and 17. Dr. Tudor, who serves on the executive committee of the Technical Committee/Research Subcommittee, assisted with development of regional funding priorities for fiscal year 2003.


APPLIED COMPUTER SCIENCE

Dr. Robert F. Zant recently attended a meeting of Deans and Directors of Information Technology programs in Arlington, Virginia.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES

Dr. Bev Smith was the guest speaker at the Lincoln-land meeting of the American Society of Industrial Security. She spoke about the sociological and psychological theories used to explain white-collar crime.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

The winter 2001-2002 Illinois State University Alumni magazine featured an interview with Karen Stephens, childcare director, on the topic of grandparenting. The article, written by Susan Marquardt Blystone, was entitled, A Sacred Mission: Grandparents sacrifice to nurture the next generation."

On February 23, 2002, Karen Stephens, childcare director, presented a keynote on ways to raise resilient children at the 5th annual ParentExpo in Bloomington. Her presentation was titled, "Helping Children Bounce Back from Trials and Tribulations." Segments of the presentation were aired on WJBC.

HEALTH SCIENCES

Mr. Robert Bovie', VP for Marketing and Research with A.P. Buck, spoke with 18 EH and safety majors on recent advances in air sampling technology on February 21. He also presented this information at the Prairie Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association dinner meeting on February 21.


Thirteen students from the Environmental Health and Safety Programs worked at the registration table.

Dr. Gary Erisman and Paul Ronczkowski attended the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) Central Illinois Chapter meeting in Lincoln, Illinois. Several safety majors also attended. A presentation was given from the US Postal Inspection Service.

KINESIOLOGY AND RECREATION

The Chicago Sun-Times and the Daily Herald interviewed Dr. Dave Thomas. The interviews concerned schools that do not require physical education classes. Dr. Thomas's comments and opinions in the Chicago Sun-Times: "If we are going to have a mandate in the state, the mandate should be enforced." Thomas said he thinks daily P.E. is "critical" to kid's health. Thomas is the author of the ISU Report and ISU's program director in exercise science and fitness. The link for the complete article is http://www.suntimes.com/cgi-bin/print.cgi

The reference in the Daily Herald to Dr. Thomas is as follows: Dave Thomas, ISU's program director in exercise science, surveyed 200 districts randomly. Forty-six acknowledged that they do not require daily physical education for all students. And none of the 46 had applied for a waiver. The link for the complete article is http://www.dailyherald.com/search/main_story.asp?intID=37308215

TECHNOLOGY

Drs. Richard Boser, Hank Campbell, and Ed Francis attended the National Association of Home Builders International Builders Show in Atlanta, Georgia, February 7-10. Also attending were six ISU Construction Management students who participated in a residential development competition. Students analyzed a potential development and produced a 60-page project feasibility study, the results of which were presented to a panel of housing experts. Dr. Boser is serving a one-year term as Chairperson of the National Association of Home Builders Student Chapters Advisory Board. The Board's annual meeting is held in conjunction with the Builder Show.

An interview with Dr. Rodney Custer was recently aired on WGLT. The interview with Charlie Schlenker focused on issues related to technological literacy and was based on the recently released Technically Speaking report, conducted by the National Academy of Engineering.

An audio archive is on the GLT website at http://www.ilstu.edu/depts/wglt/currentnews.html
Dr. Anu A. Gokhale has been elected Secretary of the Central Illinois section of IEEE (Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers). This is a two-year term.

Dr. Louis Reifschneider published a peer reviewed article in the Journal of Injection Molding Technology in December titled, "Documenting and simulating flow imbalances in geometrically balanced runners."

The Illinois Occupational Skill Standards published the Plastics Molding Cluster Skills Standard, developed by Dr. Louis Reifschneider, in December. The document outlines occupational training skills needed by technicians working in the plastics molding industry.

Dr. Klaus Schmidt had a refereed article published in the Journal of Industrial Technology entitled, "The Web-Enhanced Classroom," (Volume 18-2, February, 2002). It is available online at www.nait.org. The paper addresses four fundamental components of successful web teaching: administration, assessment, content, and community. The paper also discusses web-tools that can be used to meet the technical requirements for each of these four components.

Dr. Ken Stier has been invited to serve on the Illinois Manufacturing Extension Center (IMEC) Partner Institution Referral Task Team to help identify methodologies for improving communications between the IMEC, community colleges, and universities in the state to help provide expertise to small to medium sized manufacturing companies in need of assistance.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 1 All CAST awards forms due in the Dean’s Office.
- Larry R Miller Scholarship
- CAST Associate's Award
- Alumni Association’s CAST Recruitment Award
- Alumni Association’s CAST Retention Award

March 1 Deadline for CAST Outstanding Undergraduate Student Research Award applications.

March 11-15 Spring break.

March 15 Next issue of NewsCAST published.

March 22 Registration deadline for Graduate Research Symposium to be held April 26.

March 29 Deadline for CAST Presentation Travel Program applications.

April 5 Undergraduate Research Symposium.

April 8 & 9 Workshops on Scholarly Writing Publication.

April 22-26 CAST sponsored “Science & Technology Week.”

April 26 Graduate Research Symposium.

May 14-17 Tentative dates for University-wide Grant Writing Workshop sponsored by the Research and Sponsored Projects Office.

May 11 CAST Spring Commencement in Redbird Arena at 9:00 a.m. Reception at 10:30 a.m. in Linkins Dining Center.


March 6 Ideas In Progress

March 21

March 29

April 4

April 17 See next page for details
"Ideas In Progress"

Brown Bag Lunchtime Discussion Series

Who: CAST faculty and staff and their guests

When: Noon to 1:00 p.m.

- Wednesday, March 6
- Thursday, March 21
- Friday, March 29
- Thursday, April 4
- Wednesday, April 17

Come to one or more sessions, as desired.

Where: Turner 139

Why: To experience an informal “think tank” environment for refining one’s ideas related to potential research questions, project goals and objectives, methods, procedures, means of data analysis, etc.

How: Persons who attend should come prepared to both launch an idea of his/her own as well as to react to/expand upon an idea shared by a fellow participant.

What to bring: Brown bag lunch and ideas. Beverage and dessert provided by CAST Research Office.

Questions: Contact Deb Gentry, 438-8748 or dgentry@ilstu.edu