The facilities picture in the College and University is still a bit cloudy due to the budget crunch within state government. However, there are some bright spots. First, while we do not know the details, it appears that the recently announced Caterpillar grant will allow work to proceed on remodeling Old Union to provide classrooms and laboratories for Applied Computer Science. Given enrollment growth over the past ten years, this space is sorely needed.

Second, the passage of the recreation center referendum brings closer to fruition a much needed recreation and academic facility. The success of the referendum was due to hard work on the part of the Student Government Association, Campus Recreation, and the School of Kinesiology and Recreation. This will be a facility that will benefit the entire University community. However, this will not proceed until the University makes a request to the Capital Development Board for the State’s share of the money. It is still too early to tell when this will happen and how long it will take for an appropriation from the Legislature.

Other projects that are currently in the “quiet phase” are childcare center expansion and Ropp renovations. Since Ropp is part of the Schroeder Hall relocation project, funding will be available in the near future. The move out of Schroeder is to take place next May. On the other hand, funding for childcare center expansion is much more exposed to economic conditions in the State. While the goal is to have the expanded center ready by January, the timetable is based on some funds being available in the current fiscal year. This may not be the case. The good news is that it continues to be a high priority of the University and President Boschini and will become a reality soon.

Finally, work on the ISU Farm at Lexington continues and should be nearly completed by the time it is to be dedicated in mid-June. Favorable construction prices have allowed a few “extras” that would have eventually needed to come out of department and college funds.

The bottom line is that funding from a large number of sources within and outside the University are being focused on critical College facility needs. Many of these projects could not have been dealt with in a timely manner, if at all, using departmental and CAST resources. We will now be able to concentrate more of our resources on the re-capitalization of technology within the College and on the backlog of other facility needs. Your patience as we work through a number of these projects is needed and appreciated.

More later........WL
CAST OFFICE

Suzie Zeigler, our new Secretary IV, is now at the front desk. Stop by and introduce yourself! Remember to send your NewsCAST items to Suzie at mszeigl@ilstu.edu.

AGRICULTURE

On April 6 the Agriculture Department and Student Agriculture Association will host the first ever Agriculture Awareness Day at the University Farm on Gregory Street. The event will run from 10:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. and feature a variety of activities including agribusiness displays, farm safety demonstrations, farm tours, agriculture literacy activities, judging practicum, and ISU student and faculty displays. The activities and displays are targeted at all audiences in order to educate them about issues in agriculture and the farming communities.

The day will also feature three keynote speakers. At 10:30 a.m., William Graff, Illinois Executive FSA Director and ISU Alumnus will be speaking about current issues facing Illinois. At 11:30 a.m., Mike Williams, Chief Policy Advisor to the Director of Agriculture, will be speaking about the farm bill and Agrifirst. At 1:00 p.m., Larry Keene, the Director of Value Enhanced Products from GROWMARK, will be speaking about the changes in the agricultural industry.

Patrick D. O'Rourke attended the annual meeting of ABSEL -- Association of Business Simulations and Experiential Learning -- in Pensacola, Florida, March 20 - 23. He presented the following paper: Wood, Jeffrey A. and O'Rourke, Patrick D., "Developing a Web-based Agribusiness Simulator."

APPLIED COMPUTER SCIENCE


CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES

Donna Vandiver received her Ph.D. from Sam Houston State University of Texas.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

Dr. Sylvia Chard, Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education, from the University of Alberta, Canada, visited ISU Child Care Center March 25. Her visit was to gather information on the implementation of The Project Approach with preschool children. Prior to her observation, she interviewed Head Teachers Barb Gallick, Lisa Lee and Pam Morbitzer on how they adapted their teaching styles to the Project Approach.

HEALTH SCIENCES

Drs. Harvey Thomas, Rod Simmons, Gary Erisman and Paul Ronczkowski attended the March meeting of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) Central Illinois Chapter. A presentation on an OSHA initiative from the Peoria Area office was given as well as a presentation on Society benefits from a member of the national ASSE office

Dr. Mark A. Temple represented the American School Health Association at the Coalition of National Health Education’s Second Invitational Conference: Improving the Nation's Health Through Health Education: A Vision for the future in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Temple served as facilitator for the workgroup focused on "Conducting, translating, disseminating, and diffusing research into dynamic and contemporary professional practice."

Dr. Audrey E. Hentzen will travel April 4-5 to Marquette, Michigan as a National Accreditation Agency for Clinical Laboratory Scientists Site Visitor for the Northern Michigan University CLT/CLS Career Ladder Program in Clinical Laboratory Science.


KINESIOLOGY AND RECREATION

Dr. Sandra Klitzing presented at the Conference on Teaching with Technology that was held at the Bone Center on March 27. She was part of a panel that discussed "A Student's Perspective on Web-enabled Courses."

Dr. Steve McCaw (KNR) hosted the Midwest Graduate Students' Biomechanics Symposium on March 22 and 23 at Illinois State University. There were 9 student presentations, including Andrew Billing and Tara Holmes from the Biomechanics Lab at ISU. Other presenting students came from Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Kansas.

Three keynote presentations were given, including Dr. Mark Grabiner from the School of Kinesiology at the University of Illinois in Chicago, Dr. Irene McClay from the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Delaware, and Dr. Geza Kogler from the Orthopedic Bioengineering Research Lab at the Southern Illinois School of Medicine in Springfield.

Approximately 40 people were in attendance during the sessions, including undergraduate and graduate students, faculty advisors and a parent. Funding for the symposium was provided by the American Society of Biomechanics.
The Midwest Graduate Students' Biomechanics Symposium has been an annual event for 23 years, the oldest symposium of its kind in the country. Dr. McCaw and the School of Kinesiology have served as the host four times since 1991. Details on the symposium are available at http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/mccaw/midwest_graduate_students.htm.

TECHNOLOGY

Anu A. Gokhale was invited to participate in the National Skills Standards Board (NSSB) focus group on Information Technology and Telecommunications. The group is responsible for identifying Critical Work Functions, its associated Key Activities, and Performance Indicators.

Richard Boser was appointed to the Education Committee of the Illinois Home Builders Association. The committee meets bi-monthly to plan educational programs for professional homebuilders in Illinois.

Dr. Dan Brown was invited to attend the West Kentucky Technology Education Association (WKTEA) Technology Challenge awards ceremony, held on the campus of Murray State University on March 2, 2002. While there, he was honored for his long-time commitment and dedication to the Marshall County Schools Technology Student Association chapter, the WKTEA organization, and the WKTEA Technology Challenge competition held annually since 1998.

Department of Technology faculty members were well represented at the International Technology Education Association annual convention in Columbus Ohio. Dan Brown, Rod Custer, Mike Daugherty, Franzie Loepp, Chris Merrill, Rick Satchwell, Cathy McKay, and TECA students were there presenting, working on committees, recruiting, and competing in student competitions.

Drs. Ryan Brown, Ron Meier, and Ken Stier took 20 students to the National Manufacturing Week Exhibition and Conference at the McCormick Place Complex in Chicago on Tuesday, March 19. This event is comprised of four interrelated areas: 1) Enterprise IT which showcases cutting edge e-business, collaborative, supply-chain and extended enterprise solutions for manufacturers, 2) industrial automation, 3) plant engineering, and 4) design engineering. The faculty and students had the opportunity to study the latest technology and interact with company representatives while attending the exhibition.

The 2002 Council on Technology Teacher Education yearbook "Standards for Technological Literacy: The Role of Teacher Education" contains a chapter co-authored by Rodney Custer and Tom Wright entitled, "Restructuring the Teacher Education Curriculum." The yearbook was presented at the recent ITEA conference and was co-authored by former Dept. of Technology chairperson, Dr. Everett Israel.

Two Dept. of Technology faculty members have been elected to the Executive Board of the Council on Technology Education (CTTE). Mike Daugherty will serve as secretary, and Rodney Custer was re-elected as President. The CTTE is the teacher education affiliate of the International Technology Education Association. Other news from the recent ITEA/CTTE conference includes the appointment of Chris Merrill as chair of the Undergraduate Studies committee and Dr. Mark Sanders' (a Masters Degree alumnus of ISU and professor at Virginia Tech) selection as CTTE's Technology Teacher Educator of the Year.
IMPORTANT DATES

March 29   Deadline for CAST Presentation Travel Program applications.

April 5   Undergraduate Research Symposium.

April 8   Application Deadline for University-Wide Grant Writing Workshop.

April 8 & 9   Workshops on Scholarly Writing Publication. Libby Rankin presenting.

April 12   Next Issue of NewsCAST Published.

April 15   Informal seminar with Barb Heyl about interview methods and techniques, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Turner 139

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

April 26   Graduate Research Symposium.

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


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

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Ideas In Progress

March 29

April 4   BSC Faculty Commons Conference Room

April 17

See next page for details

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