Science and Technology Week
The Dean’s Office has been busy this week, with help from members of the CAST Council and faculty from many departments, operating our second Science and Technology Week. I want to thank all who helped make the week a success. Each program was unique but contributed to our overall goal of showcasing the research, issues, programs, and accomplishments of the College.

The keynote address and featured event of the week was Sally Ride’s appearance on campus. Her slides were fantastic and her presentation informative and entertaining. During the down time between public appearances, I had a good opportunity to find out more about her current interests and passions. Presently, she is very focused on making a difference in helping encourage girls and young women to enter math and science careers. Her notion is that if girls can see the exciting engagements and outcomes of science careers, like space travel, they will be encouraged to continue pursuing the study of math and science. She is a determined lady and I believe she will stick with this mission until she succeeds.

Other events were also well attended as many individuals from across campus and the community commented about the fine range of programs we offered this year.

Spring Faculty Meeting
Thanks to all for attending our Spring Faculty Meeting and CAST Expo. I continue to be impressed with the diverse accomplishments of our faculty. As I said at the meeting, many of our CAST Departments are applied units staffed with faculty from a variety of disciplines. Thus, we often have interdisciplinary work groups within our departments. This seems to not be noticed across campus and we all need to make this more visible to the campus community.

CAST RESEARCH OFFICE
The Graduate Student Research Symposium held Friday, April 26th featured many participants from CAST. A total of 23 students from four CAST units (ACS, AGR, FCS, and KNR) provided 11 oral presentations, 3 multi-media presentations, and 9 poster presentations. Eleven CAST faculty members served as mentors for these students as they engaged in and reported their research efforts. All of these participants represented the College well. Three CAST faculty members serve on the Symposia Steering Committee. Comments about and suggestions for this annual event, as well as the Undergraduate Student Research Symposium, can be forwarded to Deb Gentry, Steve McCaw (KNR), and/or Bev Smith (CJS).

Well over a dozen CAST faculty attended a noontime seminar on April 15th on the topic of using interviews as a method for conducting qualitative research. Dr. Barbara Heyl, Sociology, facilitated the seminar. Among the numerous sub-topics addressed were purpose(s) of interviewing, human subjects concerns, participant selection, interview techniques, and managing and analyzing data. These three books have been newly purchased for the CAST Research Office: InterViews: An Introduction to Qualitative Research Interviewing by Steinar Kvale; Interviewing as Qualitative Research: A Guide for Researchers in Education and the Social Sciences by Irving Seidman; and Qualitative Research Interviewing by Tom Wengraf. Faculty wishing to check one or more of these books out for their use are encouraged to do so. Several attendees remarked they would be interested in forming a qualitative research interest group and would welcome the inclusion of any persons not present for the seminar yet who would like to be a part of such a small group. Contact Deb Gentry should you have such an interest.

More later……… JRR
On April 11, **Drs. Randy Winter** and **Jeff Wood** attended the Illinois Committee for Agriculture Education annual conference in Springfield, Illinois. The annual conference is designed to share with key groups and individuals progress on curriculum development and innovation related legislative issues. Dr. Wood served as a focus group leader for a session titled “Fostering Communication within Career and Technical education programs.” Included in the focus group was Assistant Superintendent for Education, Dr. Richard Miguel.

Dr. **Jeff Wood** has been nominated to serve on the Illinois Committee for Agricultural Education (ICAE). ICAE is composed of thirteen members sanctioned by Public Act 84-1452, which was signed into law September 19, 1986. ICAE is the governor's committee that is mandated to develop curriculum and strategies to establish a continuing source of trained and qualified individuals in Agriculture. His nomination requires Senate confirmation.

The Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) and Illinois Soybean Checkoff Board (ISCB) have announced five finalists in this year’s SoyLutions Contest – the annual event that gives Illinois college students a chance to create new uses, marketing ideas and educational programs for soybeans. This year’s contest focused on classroom material development for 4th through 6th grades. Finalists include a team from Illinois State University. Members of the ISU team include seniors Nathan Sasse, Andrew Thoron, Samantha Weber, David Belusko, and Brian Deverell. The team advisor and mentor is **Dr. Jeff Wood**, Professor of Agriculture.

Team ISU created a web page and two educational games, which feature soybean facts. The games include a board game and a “Soypardy” game for use in grades 4 through 6. Both games and the web page are linked to Illinois Learning Standards. A cash prize will be awarded to the top three teams.

**APPLIED COMPUTER SCIENCE**

And

**TECHNOLOGY**

The “Discover Financial Services” case competition was conducted last Thursday, Friday and Saturday (April 11-13) here at ISU. **Dr. Klaus Schmidt** (TEC) and **Dr. Mark Myerscough** (ACS) served as coordinators for the contest. **Dr. Joseph Wen** (ACS) and David Beard of State Farm Insurance, assisted in the preliminary round judging, held Saturday morning from 10:00 am to noon. Drs. Schmidt and Myerscough assisted with both the preliminary round judging Saturday morning and the final round judging Saturday afternoon. The competition was strong, and the final standings were extremely close. Based on the scoring methodology used, the difference between first and third place was approximately 3% of the total points possible. The final results were:

First place Team Name: TRON ($1,000 scholarship per person)
Jeff Hampson
Dan Morgan
Jeremy Kopstein

Second Place Team Name: Beyond ($600 scholarship per person)
Jiao Yu
Yan Sun
Li Zhang

Third Place Team Name: Cider Group Consulting ($400 scholarship per person)
Ke Li
Xuesong Zhang
Hao Zheng

Fourth Place Team Name: TEC Team 8 ($200 scholarship per person)
Dave Benton
Steve Ellis
Rory Nolan

The winning teams were recognized Saturday evening at a banquet in the Bone Student Center Circus Room.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES**

**Dr. Ralph Weisheit** was in Washington, DC, April 3-6, to assist in the development of a training program for federal prosecutors and other involved in the Safe Neighborhoods Program, which is designed to reduce gun-related violence.

On Thursday, April 11, **Dr. Weisheit** was back in Washington to testify before the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control. The Caucus, co-chaired by Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware and Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa, held hearings on the ability of small towns to adequately enforce drug laws. Also on the panel were Asa Hutchinson, head of the Drug Enforcement Administration and Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees of the National Guard. Sue Foster of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University; William Bryson, Chief of the Camden, Delaware, Police Department; and Sheriff Gary Anderson from Appanoose County, Iowa, rounded out the pane
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

Elaina Osterbur co-presented "Marketing and Planning PACTS" (Parents and Children Together Screening) with Dr. William Gingold, UIUC, College of Medicine, Family Studies, at the Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children on March 16, 2002 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Karen Stephens, Director of the Child Care Center, was one of the 80 professionals statewide invited to participate in the Governor’s Forum on Professional Preparation and Development of Early Childhood Education Workforce, which was held April 12th at the Executive Mansion in Springfield.

HEALTH SCIENCES

Dr. Gary Erisman attended the ASSE meeting held in Springfield. The meeting included a tour of the IDPH, IEPA, and SIU School of Medicine Laboratories.

Dr. Bette Keyser will receive the Honor Award from the Illinois School Health Association at the Annual Conference this April. This award is given to a school health professional who has made a significant and ongoing contribution to promoting health in school children in Illinois.

Dr. Beverly Barham presented a program on "Choosing the Right Graduate Program" at the Illinois Clinical Laboratory Science Association 2002 Annual Meeting in Rockford, Illinois on April 11, 2002.

Dr. Harvey Thomas was nominated for the Meritorious Service Medal (US Navy Reserve) and was appointed Vice-President US Navy League, Chicago Council. He was also a finalist in the Health Scientist Leadership position reporting directly to the Surgeon General.

KINESIOLOGY AND RECREATION


Several faculty and students from ISU’s School of Kinesiology and Recreation gave a two-hour presentation on Successful Mentoring of University Junior Faculty and Students, Thursday April 11th, at the Annual Convention of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance held in San Diego. Participating in the session were:

Tami Rudsell, undergraduate student
Tara Holmes, graduate student
Michele Rahija, graduate student
Kristen Lagally, assistant professor

David Thomas, associate professor
Steven McCaw, professor

Additionally, Bo Fernhall, department chairperson, Syracuse University, and Garth Tymeson, interim Dean, University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse participated in the session.

Mary-Margaret McHugh chaired the Credentials Committee at the AAHPERD National Convention held in San Diego, April 9-13. She received the Honor Award, given for scholarship and professional service.

Dr. Deb Garrahy presented “Teachers' Perspectives on Classroom Management in Elementary Physical Education”, and co-authored “Students' Perspectives on Effective Class Management”, at the annual conference for the American Educational Research Association.

Dr. Sandra Wolf Klitzing attended the Midwest Symposium on Therapeutic Recreation from April 15-17 at Springfield, IL. Dr. Klitzing presented on “Coping with Stress and Trauma”. She also worked with the following students:

Jenny Setterlund and Jamie Marshall who presented on “Inclusion and People with Autistic Spectrum Disorders”.
Heather Sharpe, Jenny Harris, and Corrine Walkoe who presented on “Diversity with Applications to Therapeutic Recreation”.
Julie Sprouse who presented on “Including Adventure Therapy in Your Program”.

At the ISU Faculty Mentor Luncheon, held April 15th, Mary-Margaret McHugh received the Outstanding Faculty Mentor of the Year Award; given by the Office of Residential Life, University Housing Services. This year, she mentored the residents of Manchester Two.

Jennifer Gorecki and co-presenters conducted a workshop entitled "Exploring Sport-Related Games Instruction: Applications for Physical Educators, Youth Sport Coaches, Teacher Educators and Researchers“ at the American Alliance for Health Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Convention April 10, in San Diego, California. This workshop sponsored by the Motor Development Academy explored approaches to game instruction, provided hands on instructional techniques for practitioners, and addressed the philosophy encompassing each teaching modality.

Peter Smith, together with RoDina Williams, an undergraduate student, presented "The Effect Of Practice Length On The Contextual Interference Effect For Skill Variations With Different Relative Timing Goals" at the annual convention of the American Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance at San Diego, California.
MILITARY SCIENCE

Reminder: A retirement reception will be held for LTC Nick Lilak on May 2, 2002 in the Founders Suite at the Bone Student Center. The reception will be held from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Anu A. Gokhale was invited to present "Using the Internet to Teach Critical Thinking" at the Connected Classroom Conference held in Minneapolis April 16-17, 2002.

Dr. Louis Reifschneider delivered a half-day seminar "Introduction to Extrusion" to twenty-three professionals in the plastics industry on Tuesday, April 16th in Itasca, Illinois. The seminar was sponsored by the Chicago Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers. Monies raised from the seminar are used to support schools in Illinois that teach plastics technology.

IMPORTANT DATES

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

May 11-12
ISU Spring 2002 Commencement.  
http://www.commencement.ilstu.edu/schedule.shtml

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

June 7
Workshop on Using On-Line Surveys for Research from 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Instructional Technology Development Building