The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs recently sponsored a recognition reception for all faculty who submitted grant applications during the past year. CAST faculty members were well represented among this group. Research and sponsored program contracts plus fund raising are two increasingly important sources of revenue for the institution. State funding continues at a reduced level and the ability of students and their families to pay increasingly higher tuition is reaching its limit. So, we must continue giving attention to the two revenue streams with potential for growth. Grants and Contracts are one of these.

The Departments of Health Sciences and Technology were among the top ten units in the University both in the total dollar of submissions as well as the total dollar of awards. Below is CAST’s record on grant submissions and awards over the past three years. In parentheses by each year is the percentage of the overall university funding that CAST’s awards represent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>FY 2003 (18%)</th>
<th>FY 2004 (16%)</th>
<th>FY 2005 (14.5%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Submissions</td>
<td>$20,142,200</td>
<td>$29,048,752</td>
<td>$13,408,915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
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</table>

As you can see, we are doing very well. In terms of personnel, CAST represents about fifteen-percent of the University. There is a weak relationship between the total dollar of submissions and our awards. More importantly, the record seems to indicate that we are getting more selective and better at investing our effort where there are higher probabilities of success.

Thirty-nine CAST faculty members submitted grant applications last year. I want to recognize and thank each of them. The increased dollars in indirect funds we receive from their successes have made more funds available to support your research. The programs administered by Associate Dean Gentry are better funded as a result of their successes in acquiring grants and contracts. You can thank these individuals for this. Better yet, join them in submitting grants next year.

Matt Ginder, AGR  Martha Power, FCS  Frank Waterstraat, HSC
Douglas Morrish, AGR  Connor Walters, FCS  Tibor Gyires, ITK
Patrick O’Rourke, AGR  Susan Winchip, FCS  Chu Jong, ITK
Robert Rhykerd, AGR  Thomas Bierma, HSC  Dale Brown, KNR
Ken Smiciklas, AGR  James Broadbear, HSC  Karen Dennis, KNR
Aslihan Spaulding, AGR  George Byrns, HSC  Alan Lacy, KNR
Kerry Tudor, AGR  Sara Cole, HSC  Kevin Launder, KNR
Paul Walker, AGR  Vernon Hanks, HSC  Todd McHoda, KNR
Randy Winter, AGR  Guang Jin, HSC  Rodney Custer, TEC
Thomas Ellsworth, CJS  Timothy Kelley, HSC  Anu Gokhale, TEC
Donna Vondier, CJS  Marilyn Morrow, HSC  Ron Meier, TEC
Robert Cullen, FCS  Rod Simmons, HSC  Chris Merrill, TEC
Nweze Nnakwe, FCS  Mark Temple, HSC  Klaus Schmidt, TEC

More later….  JRR

CAST Office

One of the surest ways to increase faculty member’s blood pressure is to mention end of semester student evaluations. Used to evaluate our teaching, student evaluations can also be very helpful in diagnosing undesirable teaching behaviors, validating positive ones, identifying appropriate pedagogy, and planning subsequent courses.

The research literature demonstrates that well designed student evaluations belie most of the negative beliefs commonly held by faculty. One very common impression is that student ratings of instructors correspond strongly with the actual or expected grades students receive in a particular class. Over 800 studies of this issue indicate that no significant correlation exists between grades and properly constructed ratings. Two other popular beliefs are (1) students cannot make consistent judgments about instructor quality (they can), and (2) student ratings are simply popularity contests (students can certainly praise professors who display a pleasing classroom affect and criticize them for poor course design, lack of organization, inadequate knowledge, or other instructor-related hindrances to learning). Factors such as the gender of the instructor or the rater, the time of day when class is held, a student's major, and an instructor's rank have no impact on properly designed student ratings.

Our own use of the IDEA system for evaluating instruction has yielded very positive analyses that are useful for such things as annual faculty merit increases, course planning, remediation, validation of positive teaching behaviors, and promotion tenure decisions. The system we use is reliable and valid and can yield rich data for those who have been evaluated. Use the IDEA Faculty Feedback to help diagnose, validate, and plan, instead of letting end of term student evaluations become stressors in your life.

JAW
CAST RESEARCH OFFICE
Extending Thanks

The annual Undergraduate Student Research Symposium brings this week to a close. Based on information provided by the Graduate School, it appears that 63 undergraduate students enrolled in CAST programs will be presenting at the symposium. **Professors Bachman, Bierna, Byrns, Cole, Hurd, Jin, Memken, Thomas, Trautmann, P. Smith, Vandiver, and Walsh** have served as mentors for the research efforts conducted by these students. Additionally, 11 faculty members from the College are volunteering during the Symposium as evaluators, room monitors, and so on. Among those to be thanked for such service are **Professors Gentry, Henninger, Lauder, Memken, McCaw, Reitzel, B. Smith, Walsh, Winchip, and Woeste**, as well as **Faculty Associate Hansen**.

**Friends of CAST—Links for Milt Golf Outing**

As many readers will recall, the most recent issue of the College’s alumni newsletter, **BroadCAST**, featured an article about three recipients of the CAST Dean’s Scholarship. The talents and activities of Jennifer Snyder (HSC), Heather Looney (FCS), and Jillian Ganschow (FCS) were highlighted. This scholarship is made possible, in part, by funds raised during the College’s annual golf outing, CAST faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in this event in one or more ways. It is going to be held at the ISU Golf Course on Thursday, May 18. For more information about the event, contact the CAST Dean's Office. The College’s website also provides information. A registration form can be found on the back page of this newsletter.

DBG

Dr. Gary Bachman will have his research paper "Day and Night Temperature Differential (DIF) or the Absence of Far-red Light Alters Cell Elongation in 'Celebrity White' Petunia", co-authored by Dr. Peg McMahon from The Ohio State University, published in the May 2006 issue of the Journal of the American Society for Horticultural Science.

**Dr. Gary Bachman** was the faculty mentor for three student research projects presented in the Undergraduate Research Symposium April 21, 2006. **Andrea Eaton** presented "Effects of Vermicompost Sterilization on Growth of Tagetes patula 'Queen Sophia'", **Michael Wolf** presented "Alternative Method of Applying Paclobutrazol (Bonzi) for Growth Control of Impatiens walteriana", and **Heather May** presented "Using Vermicompost as a Media Amendment for Cleome hassleriana". **Heather May** also was the CAST student representative in the opening ceremony.

Dr. Harvey Thomas delivered an invited presentation, entitled **Comparison of Student Outcomes for a classroom-based vs. and Internet based courses in Construction Safety and Safety and Society** to the Department of Allied Health Science, School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation at Indiana University, Bloomington on April 14, 2006.

As part of an Independent Study with **Dr. Sara Cole**, Lauren Lewandowski, a senior Health Education major, presented "College Women and Sexual Compulsivity: Implications for Sexual Health" at the Women’s Studies Symposium in the University Galleries on April 7, 2006.

American Society of Safety Engineers Foundation as awarded a $2,500.00 scholarship funded by the Northeastern Illinois Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers to **Nicole Eisenrich**, a senior Safety major.

At their monthly meeting on April 11, the **Central Illinois Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers** announced their scholarship award winners for the 2005-2006 year. **Heather Barrick**, senior Safety major, was awarded a $500 scholarship for developing a teaching module, **Heat Stress**. **Nicole Eisenrich**, senior Safety Major, was awarded a $250 scholarship for developing a reaction paper to findings of a NIOSH case study on .

On April 11, 11 members of the ISU ASSE student section participated in **Exchange Day** - an activity involving spending a day job-shadowing a Safety Professional. Host companies included State Farm Loss Control and Safety and Health offices, The Hennepin Power Plant, Getz Fire Protection, Keystone Steel and Wire, Peoria Parks and Recreation, and Williams Bros. Construction. That evening 9 of the students and section sponsor, **Dr. Gary Erisman**, attended the monthly meeting of the Central Illinois Chapter of ASSE. Representative Dan Brady spoke on legislation pending in Springfield that would impact the Safety profession.

**Dr. Rod Simmons** has been named to the Academic Committee of the International Association of Space Safety.

**Ms. Ruth Ann Lipic**, Radon Awareness Program Director, published a radon awareness article in the **Pantagraph's** second edition of the new Health magazine on April 10.

The Radon Awareness Program was one of the sponsors for B/N Association of Realtors spring get-together at Chevy’s. Radon information and imprinted golf tees were distributed to more than 50 realtors. Members of the McLean County Radon Task Force attended the event to be resource people for radon questions.

As a long time MADD volunteer and victim advocate, **Ms. Ruth Ann Lipic** testified at an IDOT Traffic Safety Public Hearing on April 18, 2006 in Pekin. Lipic’s comments concerned strategies for deterrence of drunk driving and difficulty for victims to relive the crash and pain through the court process, including inconsistent sentencing.

**The following Earth Day 2006 Activities were sponsored by the ISU Student Environmental Health Association and the Department of Health Sciences**:

**Dr. Tim Kelley**, on behalf of the Environmental Health program, presented an award to **Mr. W. Stan Born**, Director of Social Responsibility, Caterpillar Inc., in recognition of Caterpillar’s longtime support of the ISU Environmental Health Program on April 17.

The Environmental Health program sponsored an April 17 evening presentation by **Mr. John Long**, Director of Business Development at Blue Sun Biodiesel. **Dr. Tom Bierna** hosted the event.

Members of the Livestock and Urban Waste (LUW) Research Team (**Drs. Tim Kelley, Rod Simmons, HSC, and Bryon Wiegand, AGR**) and the ISU Wind Energy Team (**Randy Winter, AGR**) and ISU Environmental Health senior and Bone Scholar **Caroline Wade** met with Illinois EPA Director Douglas P. Scott after his presentation during Earth Day in the Quad on April 20, 2006.

To close out the Earth Day program for 2006, the Student Environmental Health Association sponsored an evening address by **Mr. Bob Crowell**, Director of Business Development, Horizon Wind Energy at the Bone Student Center on April 20, 2006.

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**DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES**

On March 31, 2006, Drs. Dawn Beichner and John McHale, Communications, were given the Civil Engagement Project of Excellence Award for their work with the ISU Innocence Project and the Student Television Workshop.

**DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

Dr. Tricia Widner Johnson has been nominated for the 2006 National Society of Collegiate Scholars Faculty of the Year award. This award is the only student nominated national collegiate faculty award.

**SCHOOL OF KINESIOLOGY AND RECREATION**

Drs. Brent Beggs and Dan Elkins presented "Overcoming Barriers to Participation in Campus Recreational Sports" at the 2006 National Intramural Recreational Sports Association Research Symposium in Louisville, Kentucky.

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**SCHOOL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Dr. Matthew Kuofie was recently appointed Associate Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Global Management Research and of the International Journal of Information System Research.

Dr. Jihad Qaddour presented two papers, "Wap and Push Technology Integrated Into Mobile Commerce Application" and "A Comparative Analysis of Maintainability Approaches for Web application", at the 4th ACS/IEEE International conference on Computer System and Application (AICCSA-06), held in Dubai/Sharjah, UAE on March 8-10, 2006. The two papers were also published in the conference proceeding. Additionally, Dr. Qaddour chaired two sessions, "Database and Web Technology" and "Software Application".

Mary Goodwin and Dr. Mary Elaine Califf have had their article "An Assessment of the Impact of Time Management Training on Success in a Time-Intensive Course" accepted by The Journal on Excellence in College Teaching. The article will be published later this year.

Dr. Winn (Pruthikrai) Mahatanankoon presented a peer-reviewed paper entitled, "Which Information Technology Major is Right for Me? A Preliminary Finding," at the ACM SIGMIS 2006 conference in Claremont, California.

This research was funded by a University Research Grant (URG).

Dr. Thomas "Tal" Parmenter and Information Technology Student Association (ITSA) members Neil Wilson, Karen Grimes, John R. Keippel III, Andrew Duckett, Matt Bell, Brandon Windham and Daniel Hernandez attended the Association of Information Technology Professionals' (AITP) 2006 National Collegiate Conference held March 30 - April 1 in Dallas, Texas.

The highlight of the conference was a series of completions that tested students' technical skills against teams from 86 other colleges and universities.

In the Java programming competition, with 25 teams competing, the ISU team of Andrew Duckett and John Keippel finished in 2nd Place.

In the Visual Studio.Net competition, with 48 teams competing, the ISU team of Matt Bell and Andrew Duckett finished in 2nd Place and the ISU team of John Keippel and Neil Wilson finished in 3rd Place.

In the Systems Analysis and Design competition, with 38 teams competing, the ISU team of Andrew Duckett and Karen Grimes earned Honorable Mention.

Dr. Anu Gokhale presented a refereed paper "Nanotechnology Applications for Renewable Energy" at the C3 Conference held in Montego Bay, Jamaica, April 10-12, 2006.

Dr. Chris Merrill was the keynote speaker at the Ohio Technology Education Association conference on April 8 and delivered a presentation on identifying, securing, and using resources to teach technology.

Dr. Chris Merrill delivered a presentation at the Connections Conference in Springfield, Illinois on April 12 entitled "Virtual Manufacturing: Implementing Engineering into Technology Education".

Dr. Ken Stier had a refereed article published in the spring edition of the Journal of Industrial Technology entitled "A Preliminary Manufacturing Competencies Study of Small and Medium-Sized Manufacturers in Illinois."

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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.
Registration Form

NAME: ________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: _______________________________________________________________________

PHONE: HOME: ___________ BUSINESS: ________________

FAX: ______________________ E-MAIL: _______________________

IF COMING AS A MEMBER OF A FOURSOME, PROVIDE NAMES OF OTHERS IN YOUR GROUP:
_________________________________________________________________________

Mark which golf outing option(s) you wish to register for:

__________  $100 per person. Includes golf, cart, tee-gift, lunch, on-course beverages, and closing awards/social event in gazebo next to clubhouse.

__________  $200 per person. Includes golf, cart, tee-gift, lunch, on-course beverages, and closing awards/social event in gazebo next to clubhouse, plus a hole sign and recognition at awards/social event.

__________  $100 per hole sponsor. Includes a hold sign and recognition at closing awards event.

__________  I would like to make a donation of $ __________ .

__________  My employer, ________________________________, will match my gift with a donation of $ __________.

Register by mail or fax: Send this completed form and check made payable to Illinois State University Foundation to: CAST Golf Outing, c/o Julie Barnhill, Campus Box 3200, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-3200. The form may also be faxed to Julie Barnhill at 309-438-5748. Those wishing to pay using a credit card, provide credit card number and expiration date:

DISCOVER CARD: No. ___________________________ Expiration _________

VISA No. ___________________________ Expiration _________

MASTER CARD No. ___________________________ Expiration _________

Questions should be directed to Deborah Gentry at 309-438-7602 or dgentry@ilstu.edu.

Additional copies of this form can be found on this website: www.cast.ilstu.edu