Dean’s Corner

Being a leader in acquiring new technology is expensive and risky. One of our responsibilities as a College of Applied Science and Technology is to experiment with new technologies to investigate their use for a wide range of applications. This fall the College is experimenting with four new technologies—integrated manufacturing teaching cells, computer tablets, a smart board and Segways.

The Department of Technology has been developing an integrated manufacturing cell for use in the Caterpillar Integrated Manufacturing Lab. Each cell will contain a six axis industrial robot, a conveyor belt, a vision system, pneumatic devices, and other electronics to guide various functions. Kevin Devine and Dave Kennel have spent a good part of the summer designing the cell to support the instructional curriculum needed to teach integrated manufacturing competencies. This is groundbreaking work that will bring much notoriety to ISU.

Several faculty members in the School of Information Technology have been using Tablet Technology since last spring semester. Tablets are the next generation in the evolution of lap top computers. Dr. Terry Dennis, Director of the School of Information Technology, demonstrated a Tablet to a group of students from Kennedy High School in Chicago when they visited campus last spring. They were very impressed by the technology. Tablets have many capabilities but one of the most important is how they fully integrate instructional activities of the instructor and students in a classroom.

The College has already installed a Polyvision Board in Turner 104A. An Interactive White Board is a white board that is also interactive with any computer image that is projected on it. For example, you can interact with a projected Power Point presentation while a lecture is delivered. Later this semester, Kate Piantholt will offer some additional demonstrations of the equipment for faculty who may be interested.

Finally, the staff from Motorcycle Safety will soon purchase three Segways for a variety of uses. We believe that Segways are a robust technology that will eventually be used for a wide variety of applications. Motorcycle Safety is planning to examine various ways of teaching how to use Segways safely.

CAST office

An educational model that has stood the test of time is “specific teaching methods influence certain types of student progress (learning) under certain circumstances.” The IDEA system we utilize in CAST aids us in documenting the teaching methods that fosters student progress.

The teaching methods and learning objectives most utilized in the college are validated each semester as a result of analyzing our teaching with the IDEA system. Together these help bring into focus a clear picture of what it means to be in CAST, or put another way, it helps formulate a CAST instructional profile.

Within the college this past spring semester we emphasized several teaching methods in our classes. Encouraging student involvement, as a discreet category of instruction, included teaching methods such as “involving students in hands on projects such as research, case studies, or real life activities.” This method was closely followed in frequency by “relating course materials to real life situations,” “encouraging students to use multiple resources (e.g., data banks, library holdings, outside experts) to improve understanding,” and “gave projects, tests, or assignments that required original or creative thinking.” Fostering student collaboration as a broad instructional area was supported this spring within CAST by faculty who “formed teams or discussion groups to facilitate learning.” Each of these methods underscores a close alignment within several of our core values espoused in Educating Illinois.

Important Dates & Deadlines:

- University Outstanding Researcher Award Application due to CAST Office 9/30/05
- University Research Initiative Award Application due to CAST Office 9/30/05
- Homecoming 10/3-8/05
- CAST Outstanding Service Award Application due to CAST Office 10/14/05
- CAST Outstanding Teacher Award Application due to CAST Office 10/14/05
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CAST RESEARCH OFFICE

Curt Suplee, Director of the Office of Legislative and Public Affairs for the National Science Foundation, has issued the following invitation to interested faculty and staff at Illinois State University and other regional universities:

The National Science Foundation and Illinois State University will be holding a one-day workshop on Tuesday, October 25, 2005. We want to extend an invitation to you and to anyone else at your institution who would like to attend this workshop and learn more about the NSF and its programs. Representatives from five of the NSF directorates will make presentations on their programs and will also be available individually and in breakout sessions for more specific discussions of potential research proposals. The Biological Sciences; Mathematical and Physical Sciences; Computer & Information Science & Engineering; Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences; and Education and Human Resources directorates will have representatives at the workshop.

The National Science Foundation is charged with keeping our nation’s science and engineering enterprise healthy, dynamic, and relevant and with advancing science, mathematics, engineering, and technology education at all levels from pre-K through postdoctoral. It is our hope that events such as this will stimulate new interest in NSF programs at institutions that have not been among our traditional customers, as well as at premier research institutions.

There is no registration fee for this workshop; however, pre-registration is required. A registration form is enclosed. You can register by sending the requested information by email to gwilson@nsf.gov or by faxing or mailing the registration as indicated on the form. Please register by Thursday, October 20, 2005.

Sincerely,
Curt Suplee
Director

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Department of Agriculture is sponsoring the ISU-IAA Ag Policy Lecture Series event at the Interstate Center in Bloomington on September 13. The event begins at 7 p.m. A panel will discuss the development, status and future of soybean production in South America with particular emphasis on Brazil. Dr. Rick Whitacre, professor of Agribusiness, will be one of the panel members. The event is free and open to the public. No registration is required. Refreshments will be provided both before and after the panel presentation. This event is funded by a donation from the Illinois Agriculture Association Foundation.

The Department of Agriculture sponsored an exhibit at the 2005 Farm Progress Show near Decatur, Illinois August 30 - September 1. Most of the faculty and staff flew the Department colors in a combination promotion/recruiting/development activity. Many contacts were made and many pizzas will now have cleaner cuts.


Dr. Gary Bachman attended the 3rd Annual Irrigation Association Education Foundation Faculty Forum in Orlando, Florida, July 27-29, 2005. The goal of this forum was to educate faculty on basic irrigation concept, create awareness and provide a review of IAEF’s educational resources available and planned for the future, and to provide an update on the IAEF program and utilize feedback from faculty to enhance the development of curriculum opportunities, irrigation careers for students and relationships with instructors.

DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES

Susan Woollen, Undergraduate advisor, had an article published in The Journal of College Orientation and Transition entitled “Influencing Parental Behavior Through An Orientation Program”.


Dr. Jeff Walsh was interviewed by Sarah Antonacci for Springfield’s State Journal-Register (Sept. 6, 2005). The article entitled “Who’s being burglarized?” discusses some of the particulars of robbery events in the state capital.

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

Dr. Jean Memken published an article in Housing and Society entitled “Housing the Elderly: Investigating solutions to help seniors age in place.” Co-author was former graduate student and licensed interior designer Starr Gobtop.
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

Dr. George Byrns and Denise Strode (research collaborator at OSF Medical Center) received the 2005 Julie Schmid Research Scholarship Award from the Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare for their research study entitled, “The Effectiveness of a No-Lift Policy in Reducing Back Pain in Nurses.” The award provides $2000 of research support. The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage, promote and strengthen the knowledge base and expertise of occupational health professionals.

Drs. Jim Broadbear and Marilyn Morrow have received a second year of funding from the Illinois Department of Public Health - Office of Women’s Health to develop a Women’s Health Curriculum. The curriculum will be revised and pilot tested during year two, and then offered to local health departments throughout the state during the third year. Collaborating on this curriculum development project are: Christy Bazan, Dr. Sara Cole, Anjie Almeda (all HSC faculty/staff); Jim Almeda, (Student Health Services and HSC Alum); and Julie Maschhoff (FCS faculty).

Dr. Sara Cole reviewed a manuscript for the Journal of Sex Research.

Dr. Rod Simmons attended the 23rd International System Safety Conference in San Diego, California, August 21-26, where he chaired a session entitled “Hazard and Reliability Analysis I” and presented a paper, “Truth in Expressing Risk—An Excursion into Myth busting.” He will serve as technical program chair for the 24th ISSC in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 2006.

**SCHOOL OF KINESIOLOGY AND RECREATION**

Dr. Steve McCaw and graduate student Saori Hanaki presented the research posters “Joint Contributions to Energy Absorption Differ Between Drop Landings onto One Or Two-legs” and “A comparison of the lower extremity kinematics between one and two-leg drop landings” at the Annual Meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine last June in Nashville, Tennessee.

At the joint meeting of the International Society of Biomechanics and the American Society of Biomechanics held in Cleveland, Ohio this past August, Dr. McCaw and Ms. Hanaki presented “Quantification of energy absorbed by the lower extremity depends on endpoint of the impact phase.” Dr. McCaw also presented “Joint torsional stiffness contributions to leg stiffness vary during drop landings onto one or two legs”, co-authored with colleagues from East Carolina University.

Dr. Kevin Laudner recently published “Neuromuscular and Biomechanical Adaptations in Patients with Isolated PCL Deficiency” in the American Journal of Sports Medicine, July 2005.

Dr. Chad McEvoy published an empirical article entitled “Facility Age and Attendance in Major League Baseball” in the May 2005 edition of Sport Management Review.

Dr. Deb Garrahy was the lead author on a manuscript entitled “Voices from the trenches: An exploration of teachers’ management knowledge,” for The Journal of Educational Research. The manuscript was co-authored with colleagues from Indiana University and Arizona State University.

**SCHOOL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Dr. Tom Portegys presented his paper, “An Application of Context-Learning in a Goal-Seeking Neural Network”, at the IASTED International Conference on Computational Intelligence (CI 2005) held in Calgary, Canada, July 4-6, 2005.

Mr. James Wolf and co-authors Hal Arkes and Waleed Muhamma, both of Ohio State University, have had their paper, "Endowment Effect without Actual Endowment: An Experimental Investigation," accepted for presentation at the Society for Judgment and Decision Making’s 2005 Annual Meeting, November 12-14, 2005 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Dr. Matthew Kuofie presented the paper “Intention Directed Software Engineering Life Cycle Methodology: Domain Expert Approach” at the Conference on Information Science Technology & Management in Delhi, India from July 24-26. Dr. Christian Wagner of Oakland University and Dr. Abel Usoro of the University of Paisley, UK, were the co-authors of the paper. In addition to presenting his paper, Dr. Kuofie also served as the International Chair for the conference.

Drs. Matthew Kuofie, Jihad Qaddour, et. al.’s paper “An Interactive Methodology for Gathering Quality Requirements” was presented at the IRMA International Conference, San Diego, CA, May 15-18, 2005.

**ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY**

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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.