Welcome back for Spring 2006. When you finish reading this, you will have already completed two weeks of this semester. Time does not literally fly, but it seems to.

Two CAST committees I work with are already busy this semester. The College Faculty Status Committee has almost completed reviewing ten candidates for promotion and/or tenure. Members of this committee always begin work shortly after the first of the year to give each candidate’s file a thorough review and consideration. The CAST Council has completed the first draft of revised College bylaws, acted on new wording for a revised mission statement, and is preparing to complete their evaluation of the dean. I would urge each of you to read the bylaws changes proposed and let your unit’s representative to the Council know your position on the revised document.

I would also urge each of you to provide evaluation feedback regarding the performance of your unit leader as well as me. During the past five years, we have received very low return rates on evaluation surveys investigating the performance of College, Department, and School administrators. Only you can improve this return rate.

Units who are conducting searches this year evidently did an excellent job this fall screening candidates and scheduling their interviews. I have had one or two interviews each day over the past ten days. The good news is that we are attracting excellent candidates from high quality graduate programs. They are excited to be joining the professoriate and possibly ISU.

Next weekend, I head to Thailand for a week along with Dr. Barbara Schlatter and Dr. Sandy Groves. We have been invited to help the faculty and administration at Srinakharinwirot University develop a program in recreation and tourism. President Bowman, staff members from the university’s development and alumni relations offices, and faculty from the College of Education will be there at the same time. During our final evening there, we are all attending a reception for ISU alums from the Bangkok area. I expect an exciting and educational experience from this trip.

More later………

JRR
CAST Research Office

CAST Research Annual Report

A link for the 2004-05 Annual Report prepared by the CAST Research Office can now be found online at http://www2.cast.ilstu.edu/facultyresources/research/. The report includes a summary of the scholarly accomplishments of faculty, staff, and students undertaken during this year can be compared and contrasted to those of last year as the annual report for 2003-04 is also posted online.

Bob Lucas Invited Back Again to Conduct Writing Workshops

Robert Lucas, Director of the Institute for Scholarly Productivity in San Luis Obispo, California, will be on campus again on Tuesday, April 4 to present a morning workshop focusing upon writing for scholarly publications such as journals and books. He will additionally present a workshop on grant writing in the afternoon. The workshop is open to the entire ISU campus community, however there are a number of seats specially reserved for CAST faculty who wish to attend. At some point, these seats will be released, so interested persons should register soon. A registration form can be accessed on the College homepage: http://www2.cast.ilstu.edu/. See the “In the News” section.

Grant Writing Initiative (GWI) Offered for Second Year

The Research and Sponsored Programs Office offered its Grant Writing Initiative program for the first time in the spring of 2005. Many CAST faculty received funds from this program. As the program was deemed successful last year, it is being offered again this spring. The purpose of the program is to encourage the development of competitive external grant proposals, specifically those prepared by newer and less experienced principal investigators, especially if teamed with a research mentor.

This program will support the development of institutional external grant proposals that will have a broad impact upon the University and/or colleges or departments. Funding through this program is intended only for grants or contracts to be submitted and administered through Research and Sponsored Programs.

Priority will be given to newer and less experienced principal investigators, regardless of their rank or years of service. Newer investigators are encouraged to identify and coordinate grant-writing efforts through a mentor. If a mentor is identified, please complete the applicable portion of the cover sheet, including signature. If a new investigator chooses not to identify a mentor, an explanation should be included within the first section of the proposal abstract.

While mentors are encouraged to serve as co-PIS on the eventual external grant submission, mentors cannot receive salary dollars from the GWI and should not be listed as project directors. Mentors need not be an ISU faculty member.

Information about Indirect Rate Policy Update

The University Research and Sponsored Programs Office has revised and updated its Indirect Rate Policy. One can learn more about the rationale for indirects and current rates by accessing a link found on the following RSPO webpage: http://www.rsp.ilstu.edu/grant_contract/

Proposals for University Research Grants Due Soon

CAST faculty wishing of submitting a URG proposal for review and consideration for funding by the CAST Research Committee should recall the deadline is fast approaching. The deadline for proposal submission is February 6.

Department of Agriculture

Mark your calendars now! The Ag Policy Lecture Series event featuring Dr. Vernon Eidman, University of Minnesota, discussing Agriculture's Role in Energy Production: Current Levels and Future Trends will be held Thursday, March 30 at 7 pm in the Old Main Room of Bone Student Center. This event is free and open to the public.

Dr. Rob Rhykerd, along with K. Nelson, and M. Caldwell presented "Transferring Knowledge of Agriculture to Urban Third Grade Students. Making Connections: Fostering Integration of Learning" at the 6th Annual University-Wide Symposium on Teaching and Learning. The symposium was held at the Radisson Hotel Conference Center in Bloomington, Illinois on January 11, 2006.

Department of Criminal Justice Sciences

Dr. Donna Vandiver & Masha Yumatova, CJS Graduate Student, have published an article entitled, "An Exploration of Russian and American Students’ Attitudes towards Euthanasia," in the peer-reviewed Criminal Justice International, Jan-Feb 2006.

Drs. Jeff Walsh & Donna Vandiver presented a paper on "Utilizing Active Learning Techniques: Student Attitudes, Perceptions, and Practical Considerations in Teaching Research Methods to College Students Employing the Research Project Model." The paper was presented at the January 2006 Annual Conference of the International Conference of Education in Honolulu, Hawaii.


Department of Family and Consumer Sciences


In the Jan-March 2006 issue of KidShowbiz: The magazine for the young performer, Stephens shared tips for parenting talented children so they avoid becoming overly praise-dependent in the show business environment.

Karen Stephens was also quoted in the January 2006 Parents magazine on ways parents can teach children positive problem solving skills.
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

**Dr. Gary Erisman** and **Rod Simmons**, along with ISU American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) student chapter member **Dan Heinen**, attended the monthly meeting of the Central Illinois ASSE Chapter at the Wood Lawn Country Club in Farmer City, Illinois January 11, 2006. The topic of the meeting was Peer-to-Peer Networking.

**Dr. Sara Cole** attended the Society for Public Health Education annual meeting in Philadelphia. Pennsylvania and presented “Multicultural Attitudes of Health Education Students”. She presented “Racism and Sexism among Health Education Students” at the American Public Health Association’s (APHA) annual meeting. **Dr. Cole** received funding from the Dr. Phebe M. Scott Endowment Fund for Professional Development of Women in the School of Kinesiology and Recreation and the Health Education Program in the Department of Health Sciences for a pre-conference workshop entitled “Community-Based Participatory Research”, which she attended during the APHA Conference. Ms. Anjie Almeda made two presentations at the SoTL Conference on January 1, 2006 at the Bloomington Doubletree Conference Center. The first was “Advisors as Teachers - A Learning Centered Advising Model,” as a co-presenter and the second was “Challenging and Supporting First Year Students” as a panelist. She was also a co-presenter at an ISU Campus-wide training and development session for academic advisors held January 23, where she presented “Project Success: the University’s Academic Probation Assistance Program.”

**Drs. George Byrns and Guang Jin** participated in a panel discussion on the use of response technology during the ISU Spring Symposium on Teaching and Learning (January 11). Their contribution centered on the use of technology for classroom assessment and discussions.

On January 18, 2006, the Radon Awareness Program, an outreach program of HSC, coordinated by **Ms. Ruth Ann Lipic**, hosted the third annual statewide networking consortium in the Old Main room in Bone Student Center. The three individuals who manage the radon program at the Illinois Emergency Management Agency in Springfield presented, along with other code officials, health department and hospital personnel, and health educators. Over 30 professionals learned about radon programs throughout the state and how to request and manage a radon grant. **Dr. Marilyn Morrow** presented “Creative Ways to Make Grant Match” which was developed to assist current and future grantees in identifying multiple ways to cost-share on grants.

**SCHOOL OF KINESIOLOGY AND RECREATION**

**Dr. Steve McCaw** and undergraduate student **Amy Heinrichs** recently completed a workplace biomechanics evaluation for Flexitech, Inc. This company is located in Bloomington and has contracts with multiple automobile manufacturers for the assembly line and testing of brake and engine hoses. The evaluation consisted of two visits to the facility for the recording of employees at the workstations, analysis of the video and submission of a written report on each station, and an on-site presentation to the company.

**Dr. Brent Beggs** co-authored a textbook entitled Mastering the Job Search Process in Recreation and Leisure Services.

**SCHOOL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**James Wolf** presented his paper, “Do Online Auction Bidders “Really” Want to Win the Item, or Do They Simply Want to Win?” at the PhD Workshop, IS-CORE 2005, The Fifth Annual IS Cognitive Research Workshop, December 11, 2005 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The paper was co-authored by Hal Arkes and Waleed Muhanna, both of Ohio State University.

**Dr. Mark Myerscough and James Wolf** have had their paper "Reputations in Markets with Asymmetric Information: A Classroom Game" accepted for publication in the Journal of Economics Education.

**Dr. Douglas P. Twitchell** had a paper, "Augmenting Detection of Social Engineering Attacks Using Deception Detection Technology," accepted for publication at the ICIW 2006: The International Conference on i-Warfare and Security, which will be held at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, March 15-16, 2006.

**Drs. Douglas P. Twitchell and Matthew Kuo**fe have had their paper "Diversification of Personality Type and Systems Security" accepted at the 5th Annual Security Conference which will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, April 19-20, 2006.

**Drs. Chu Jong and Winn P. Mahatanankoon** published a refereed article entitled, "Extending Online Communities through Virtual Parallel Systems" In S. Dasgupta (Ed.), Encyclopedia of Virtual Communities and Technologies.

**DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY**

**Dr. Richard Boser, Professor Emeritus Hank Campbell**, and six students from the Construction Management sequence attended the National Association of Home Builders annual International Builders Show (IBS) in Orlando from January 10-13, 2006. The students participated in the Residential Construction Competition sponsored by Centex Homes. The competition requires students to develop a business feasibility proposal for an urban in-fill town home development in Addison, Texas. The proposal was comprised of a market analysis, marketing plan, cost estimate, schedule, and financial analysis. The proposal was sent to the judges in December and the students then traveled to Orlando to present and defend their business solution at the IBS. ISU finished 9th out of the 35 teams from across the nation that participated in the 4-year CM program event.

At the IBS it was also announced that two ISU CM students, Jonathan Ribskis and Seth Braker, were awarded the prestigious National Housing Endowment Lee S. Evans Scholarships. These nationally competitive scholarships are designed to benefit students interested in careers in the residential building industry. Scholarship awards range in value from $500 to $5000.

**Dr. Rodney Custer** and **Dr. Michael Daugherty**, University of Arkansas, have submitted the final copies of their engineering-based curriculum materials, developed through a three-year NSF grant, to the International Technology Education Association. The ITEA will publish and distribute the materials on a national scale to technology teachers. The curriculum includes units in energy and power, agriculture, medical technologies, construction, manufacturing, transportation, entertainment and recreation, and communication technologies.
Academic and Grant Writing: Breaking Through the Barriers

This two-part workshop is designed to help faculty members break through writing blocks and accomplish more professional writing. Special application of the principles will be made to writing proposals for external support.

**CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:**
- Confronting the myths about writing
- Overcoming the major obstacles to writing
- Varying the patterns to sustain momentum
- Managing a successful grant application

**Tuesday, April 4, 2006**
**Morning: 8:30-11:30 am**
**Afternoon: 12:30-3:30 pm**
**Turner 104A**

**Light lunch provided for those who attend both parts of the workshop.**

**Space is limited. Registration required. For more information and to register, contact Deborah Gentry, CAST 5000, 438-8748, DGENTRY@ilstu.edu**

**College of Applied Science and Technology**
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**Conducted by**
**Dr. Robert Lucas, Director, Institute for Scholarly Productivity, San Luis Obispo, CA**

**Illinois State University**
College of Applied Science and Technology
Office of the Dean
Turner 143

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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.