Dean's Corner

Dean Rossman is away on Sabbatical until November 8, 2004.

CAST OFFICE

I strive not only to learn the names of my Foundations Of Inquiry (FOI) students but also what makes them tick. How do they learn, what motivates them, do they have goals? The twenty-eight freshmen that are enrolled in my FOI section are officially counted among the “Generation Y” group or the “Millennials”. They were each born after 1981 (incidentally the year IBM rolled out the first PC).

According to a study by the Pew Foundation, these students began using computers at least by the time they were teens, and one-fifth were computer-literate before the age of eight. Around 72 percent check e-mail daily; 85 percent own their own computers. On a typical day, 26 percent of these students use instant messaging. Additionally, they routinely use the Internet to help with their coursework and use e-mail to communicate with their professors.

This new generation demands instant digital gratification. Previous generations waited a week for the film to be returned from the photomat; Generation Y snaps digital pictures with camera phones and e-mails them to friends within minutes. Previous generations went to the local library to do research during normal business hours; Generation Y accesses multiple libraries around the world via the Internet at any time. Previous generations waited until 6 p.m. for the nightly news with Walter Cronkite or Dan Rather; Generation Y gets e-mail headlines as they occur from CNN.com.

By the time these students leave college they are fully accustomed to shaping their digital world. This is user-centricism (think learner-centricism) to the extreme. They customize their Yahoo home pages to get local headlines and weather. They choose which news stories to read based on topic. And, of course, they create their own greatest hits collections by downloading favorite songs.

Fortunately, there are strategies for successful interaction between the “Boomers” and the “Millennials”. According to Eric Chester, who coined the term Generation Y, we should consider the following when motivating these digitally connected students:

1. Let them know that what they do matters.
2. Tell them the truth – don’t try to pull the wool over their eyes (to put it politely)
3. In order to get ‘buy in’, explain the ‘why’ of what you are asking them to do and tell them what’s in it for them.
4. Learn their language – communicate in terms they understand.
5. Be on the lookout for “rewarding opportunities”
6. Praise them in public

CAST RESEARCH OFFICE

ISU Research/Creativity Profile Database

The Research/Creativity Profile Database (R/CPD) has been maintaining steady growth. Approximately 200 persons have entered data into the program. CAST faculty and staff can access the database on the University Research and Sponsored Programs web pages, more specifically, at: www.research.uro.ilstu.edu/research/register/register.html. The effectiveness of the database will be based on the number of faculty and staff who enter and update their data on a regular basis, as well as on the number of people who use the database to learn of the research interests of colleagues for purposes of:

1) convening collaborative research teams and 2) sharing information about possible funding for research efforts.

CAST faculty and staff who have not yet visited and utilized the database are encouraged to do so. Those who did enter data last year may want to revisit the website to update and/ or expand their profile information.

Faculty members new to CAST have been entering data about their research interests into the Research/Creativity Profile Database. As a means introducing several of them to the rest of the College, the following information has been taken from the database. Consult the database for more details.

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Research Office continued...

Tricia Widner Johnson has recently joined the faculty of the Family and Consumer Sciences Department as an assistant professor. Her research interests include personality and appearance management, consumer behavior, and fashion theory. She is open to the idea of collaborating on research projects with other interested scholars.

Jong Eun Kim has also joined the Family and Consumer Sciences faculty. In her role as assistant professor, she looks forward to conducting research projects that have as their focus such topics as consumer behavior, E-commerce, entrepreneurship, and retailing. Not only is she willing to engage in collaborative work with others, she is also willing to provide statistical consultation.

Department of Agriculture

Over 100 Agriculture students and faculty enjoyed an evening of fellowship as the Student Agriculture Association and the Department of Agriculture hosted a Welcome Back Cookout on September 1 for new and returning students. The event was sponsored by Archer Daniels Midland.

The Horticulture Club is taking orders for spring bulbs, those planted in the fall, as a fundraiser for the Associated Landscape Contractors of America (ALCA) Landscape and Judging Team which is traveling to the University of Maryland for their national competition in March. There are a wide variety of daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, crocus, iris, and lilies available. Orders are due September 30. See a Horticulture Club member or Dr. Gary Bachman for details.

The Department of Agriculture hosted its annual Agriculture Alumni Golf Tournament July 9, 2004 at ISU Golf Course. Alumni, guests, and agriculture faculty/staff competed in a scramble format golf tournament. Turn out was great and old times were revisited. Awards were distributed afterwards. The agriculture faculty showed up, but unfortunately most went home empty handed!

Bryon Wiegand judged the American Cured Meats Championships held during the American Association of Meat Processors National Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan, July 17-20.

Bryon Wiegand gave a presentation on out-of-class group work for the University Teaching Workshop held August 17-18.

Kerry Tudor presented the following two papers at the Fifth International Conference on Recirculating Aquaculture in Roanoke, VA. “An Evaluation of the Potential Market for Hybrid Striped Bass Produced in Illinois”, Kerry Tudor, Mercy Nyamiah (graduate student), Sivakumar Ramaswamy (graduate student), and Dongmei Li (graduate student). “Utilization of High Available Phosphorus Soybean Meal in Practical Diets for Nile Tilapia (Oreochromis niloticus)”, Kerry Tudor, Paul Brown (Purdue University), and David Rice (Pioneer Hi-Bred International).

Recently Published


Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

Jean Memken and Sha Pate presented a research paper entitled “The Impact of WebCT on Students’ Computer Self-Efficacy at the WebCT Users Conference in Orlando, Florida on July 12-16.


Jean Memken and Sha Pate had an article published in “With Zeal Unceasing”, a compilation of scholarship of teaching and learning articles published by the Center for the Advancement of Teaching. The title of the article was "Factors that Predict Computer Proficiency: The Role of Web-Based Courseware".

Kevin Laudner is a new assistant professor in the School of Kinesiology and Recreation. His research foci are sports medicine and joint instabilities. Shoulder injuries in athletes resulting from throwing movements are of particular interest to him. He, too, is willing to collaborate with other researchers.

Borinara Park is one of two new assistant professors to join the Department of Technology. Among the keywords he has listed in the R/CPD as representative of his research interests are construction simulation, process modeling, virtual reality, and technology transfer. Working with others with similar interests on research projects would be appealing to him.

Recently Published

Mardell Wilson was an invited speaker at the American School Food Service Association’s National Meeting in Indianapolis in July. The topic of her presentation was "Does Pointing Fingers Solve Childhood Obesity?"

**Department of Health Sciences**

Natalie Berger, a senior in the Safety program, attended the American Society of Safety Engineers Professional Development Conference in Las Vegas in June. At the conference, she received a UPS Scholarship, the largest awarded by the ASSE Foundation. In addition to the scholarship, the award also included conference-related registration, travel and lodging expenses.

Molly Pistorius, a senior in the Safety program, was selected by the Society of Casualty Safety Engineers to receive their 2004 scholarship.

Dr. George Byrns was installed as president of the Prairie Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association at the section meeting on August 26, 2004.

**School of Information Technology**

The School of Information Technology helped Dr. David Doss start his retirement with a retirement party on August 31st. David spent almost 20 years at ISU and served as a professor, as Chair of the Department of Applied Computer Science, and as interim Director of the School of Information Technology. Professor Jaquelin Villa-Ruez presented a summary of David’s life. Dean Rossman then presented David with a plaque commemorating his service to ISU, and Dr. Terry Dennis gave David an ISU rocking chair from the school’s faculty and staff.

Professor James Wolf had a paper entitled “Endowment Effect without Actual Endowment: Evidence from Bidding in Online Auctions” accepted for presentation at the 2004 Society for Judgment and Decision Making (SDJM) annual meeting in Minneapolis Minnesota.

Dr. Terry Dennis attended the “Informatics: Defining the Research Agenda” Conference at Indiana University on September 10-12, followed by a meeting of the IT Deans to discuss “IT Identity.”

Rajshri Chopde, an ITK graduate student, has published a peer-reviewed research paper, titled “Factors Affecting the Adoption of Web Services Technology,” in the Communications of IIMA journal. The paper is the product of the ITK M.S. thesis chaired and co-authored by Dr. Joseph H. Wen and Dr. Winn (Pruthikraii) Mahatananoom. Dr. Mahatananoom will also be presenting this paper at the 15th Annual Conference of International Information Management Association held in Chicago, October 7-9, 2004.

Mary Goodwin and Dr. Mary Elaine Calliff have had a paper entitled “Preliminary Findings on the Significance of Learning Styles over Time” accepted at the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning which will be meeting at Indiana University October 21-24.


**School of Kinesiology and Recreation**

Dr. Amy Hurd and Dan McLean (Indiana State University) published an article titled “An analysis of perceived competencies of CEOs in public parks and recreation agencies” in Managing Leisure.

Dr. Amy Hurd co-authored a textbook with Dan McLean and Nancy Rogers. The introductory text titled “Kraus’ Recreation and Leisure in Modern” society was released this summer.

The Encyclopedia of Recreation and Leisure in America was published this summer. Chapters were authored by Dr. Amy Hurd (board games), Dr. Sandy Kitzing (antiquing), and Dr. Barb Schlatter (auto racing).


**Department of Technology**

Drs. Dan Brown, Rod Custer and Klaus Schmidt published a refereed article entitled “A national Benchmark Study of Computer Technology-Related Programs in Industrial Technology” in the Journal of Industrial Technology (JIT) 20(4). The article is also available on-line at www.nait.org.


Dr. Anu A. Gokhale and Dr. Ken Stier, co-authored a refereed article “Closing the gender gap in technical disciplines: an investigative study” published in the Journal for Women and Minorities in Science & Engineering, 10(2), 30-39.

Dr. Dr. Kevin Devine attended a trade show in Indianapolis, Indiana entitled “Complete Automation on the Move”. The trade show, sponsored by Rockwell Automation, showcased industrial automation technology that will play a key role in the Caterpillar manufacturing lab currently being designed.

Mr. David Kennell and Dr. Kevin Devine attended a trade show in Indianapolis, Indiana entitled “Complete Automation on the Move”. The trade show, sponsored by Rockwell Automation, showcased industrial automation technology that will play a key role in the Caterpillar manufacturing lab currently being designed.

Several ISU HIM students volunteered for specific tasks associated with the meeting.

Dr. Sara Cole delivered an invited presentation, “Sexual Health for Sexual Minority Youth,” at the Questioning Youth Center in Naperville on July 21, 2004. Dr. Cole has also served as a peer reviewer for Personal Relationships and Journal of Sex Research.

Dr. Rod Simmons served as an external examiner for senior engineering student design projects in the College of Engineering and Petroleum at Kuwait University in May 2004.