I have returned after a successful sabbatical. I appreciate the kind welcome so many of you have given me. Permit me a few thoughts about my experience.

Things went very smoothly during my absence. I want to thank a very competent and hardworking corps of Associate Deans, Department Chairs, School Directors, and CAST staff for making everything run smoothly.

Spending seven weeks in Australia was the highlight of my sabbatical. One thing I learned is that budget woes are worldwide. During my final two weeks there, the Dean of the College of Business, my host, was consumed with pending budget cuts. These were to be in addition to cuts they had endured for the previous three years. Even though I was also well experienced with this problem, there are only tough choices when faced with budget rescission.

The local park and recreation systems in Australia are not directly comparable to ours. In the USA, these systems are much more developed and comprehensive. I had to search for showcase operations and facilities to develop case studies of successful operations. The Australian system is modeled after the British system rather than the US and is much more reliant on private clubs and club sports. They are much more into facility provision than recreation program development. Interestingly, there are some new showcase facilities that are professionally managed that are providing a good return on investment and demonstrating that well-managed facilities are full of customers and can provide sufficient revenue to sustain the facility and its operation.

The universities there attract high performing students due to a smaller percentage of high school graduates that move on to a university degree program. The students are a joy to interact with. I met several American students from other universities who were studying in Australia. They were all enjoying their experience and found it very useful.

Australians are very friendly to Americans. Although I spent most of my time in Sydney, their largest city, I never once felt unsafe at any time of the day or night. I have been in higher education since 1975 and this is the first sabbatical I have ever taken. It was rewarding to be able to focus on the literature and practices in my discipline for a few months.

Congratulations to Dr. Mark Temple who has been selected as the CAST Teacher of the Year and Dr. Frank Waterstraat who has been selected to receive the CAST Service Award for this year. Both are members of the Health Science faculty. You can read a brief account of their accomplishments in an announcement elsewhere in this issue of NewsCAST.

More later…………… JRR

CAST RESEARCH OFFICE

EndNote Workshop Offering

Another workshop being sponsored by the College of Education Research Committee will be held on February 10, 2005, related to EndNote. CAST faculty and staff can attend if interested. The workshop is to be held in DeGarmo 533 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. If you are interested in participating, contact Cris Christopher at cechris@ilstu.edu to register.

For those who are unfamiliar with EndNote, it is bibliographic software that allows users to search for, retrieve and store citations from bibliographic databases such as Education Full Text, PsychInfo, LLBA, and the catalogs of individual libraries and library consortia.

EndNote creates desktop databases and links directly to Microsoft Word and WordPerfect, and lets users add information and format citations. It is especially useful for manuscript, thesis, and dissertation preparation.

Teacher and Leader Education Related Opportunities

CAST faculty may be interested in joining colleagues in the College of Education to take advantage of a variety of opportunities related to research in the area of teacher and leader education. Research on teacher and leader education provides a basis for improving the education of P-12 educators from recruitment and initial preparation through the induction of beginners to continued development as career professionals (adapted from Handbook of Research on Teacher Education: A Project of the Association of Teacher Educators, 1996).

To support research on teacher and leader education, the College of Education announces an assortment of calls for posters, manuscripts, and research teams on research in teacher and leader education. More information about guidelines can be found at this website: http://www.coe.ilstu.edu/organizationsandgrants/grants/calls_for_research.shtml.

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Department of Agriculture

Dr. Randy Winter was presented with an Outstanding Service award by the Department of Agriculture Alumni Board on October 30, 2004. Doug Reeves, alumni board president, commended the dedication and hard work that Randy put forth as Chair of the Department of Agriculture.

Congratulations to Meredith Caldwell, Kim Fletcher and Kara Nelson for representing the ISU Student Agriculture Association and taking second place in the highly competitive National Student Club Poster Contest at the American Society of Agronomy Meetings, October 31, 2004.

Drs. Doug Morrish, Aslihan Spaulding, and Rob Rhykerd are club advisors.

Drs. Ken Smiciklas and Rob Rhykerd and four students (Meredith Caldwell, Kim Fletcher, Wade Meteer, and Kara Nelson) attended the American Society of Agronomy National Meetings in Seattle, Washington from October 31 - November 4 and gave the following presentations:


Dr. Gary Bachman and his Turfgrass Management class went to Soldier Field on November 8 to learn the techniques of maintaining high quality athletic turf. John Nolan, the Chicago Bears grounds superintendent, spent 2 hours teaching the class about the finer points of professional sports turf management including maintaining the 40 miles of glycol tubing underneath the field to maintain root zone temperatures.

The Department of Agriculture held an Open House in conjunction with the University Open House on Thursday, November 11. Dave Malone did an excellent job in organizing the event. The department had 16 prospective students and their parents attend. There were about 55 people all together, counting faculty and a few current agriculture students. Faculty from the department were given the opportunity to speak individually to the group about his/her program. A great lunch was prepared by Dr. Doug Kingman.

Department of Criminal Justice Sciences

Dr. Sesha Kethineni has been selected for inclusion in the Academic Keys’ ‘Who's Who in the Social Sciences of Higher Education’.

On Thursday, November 11, Dr. Ralph Weisheit was a guest on AM580, a talk radio show on WILL in Urbana, Illinois. He spoke about rural crime issues and was joined by Criminal Justice Sciences alum Richard Goff, who is a public defender in Dewitt County, Illinois.


Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

Dr. Tricia Widner Johnson presented a poster titled ‘Innovative Products and Strategies: Perceptions of Rural Manufacturers and Retailers’ at the International Textile and Apparel Association conference in Portland, Oregon, November 5-6. This research project was funded by the Cooperative State Research Service of the USDA. Additional authors for this project included Nancy O. Bryant (Oregon State University), Molly Eckman (Colorado State University), Sonya Meyer (University of Wyoming), and Bruce Cameron (University of Wyoming).

Dr. Sharon Pate attended the International Textile and Apparel Association Conference in Portland, Oregon where she presented two Peer Reviewed Posters. One was from her research with Dr. Jean Memken, ‘Report of Technology Self-efficacy for Apparel, Merchandising, Textiles and Design Students’ and the other was from research done with AMD graduate student Maitreyee Ghosh, ‘Tracking the Rapid Rise of RFID Tags-Smart Labels’. Dr. Pate also chaired the Publicity Committee for the organization.

Dr. Connor Walters presented “Training Family Therapists to Work with Children: Competence and Relevance” at the annual Meeting of the National Council on Family Relations in Orlando, Florida. On November 12, Lisa Lee and Barb Gallick, head teachers in the child care center, presented a display of the Fire Station project completed by the children at the Illinois State University Child Care Center. This display was part of “Project Night: An Evening of Sharing” held at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference held in Anaheim, California. There were 17 displays of projects done in preschool through elementary aged classrooms from around the world.

On November 13, Lisa Lee and Barb Gallick, head teachers in the child care center, presented "Practical Ideas for Implementing the Project Approach" at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference held in Anaheim, California.
School of Kinesiology and Recreation

Dr. Todd McLeod co-authored a refereed article that was published in the Journal of Athletic Training. The article was in Volume 39, No. 3, and was titled, "Low-Level Laser Therapy Facilitates Superficial Wound Healing in Humans: A Triple-Blind, Sham-Controlled Study."

Dr. Dale Brown (KNR) was the invited presenter at the Cornbelt Health Educators Association of Central Illinois meeting on November 4. The topic of his presentation was "Addressing Childhood Obesity".

Drs. Dale Brown (KNR), Robert Cullen (FCS), Karen Dennis (KNR), Betty Henson (KNR), Kim Walker-Smith (KNR), and Margo Coleman (KNR), along with Kelly Laurson (KNR - Exercise Physiology Grad Student), Mike Hammersmith (KNR - Undergrad PE Teacher Ed), Dan Earley (KNR - Undergrad PE Teacher Ed), and Ben Jordahl (KNR - Undergrad PE Teacher Ed) presented at the Unit 5 K-12 Physical Education Institute on October 22 in Normal. Dale Brown, Robert Cullen, and Karen Dennis lead a group discussion on "Curricular Issues in PE: Current Trends". Betty Henson and Kelly Laurson presented on and demonstrated "Fitnessgram Testing Procedures in Physical Education". Kim Walker-Smith, Margo Coleman, Mike Hammersmith, Dan Earley, and Ben Jordahl lead a discussion and provided a demonstration of "Fitness/Wellness Based Activities in Physical Education".

Dr. Brent Beggs recently conducted a research presentation entitled Internships in Commercial Recreation: Differences in Student and Practitioner Expectations at the Resort and Commercial Recreation Association Annual Conference in Keystone, Colorado.

The Health Education Club and Eta Sigma Gamma, the Health Education Honorary, held its annual Senior Banquet to recognize the seniors who will graduate Fall 2004-Summer 2005. The banquet was held Sunday, November 14, 2004 in Old Main at the Bone Student Center. All seniors and Health Education faculty were given commemorative mugs in appreciation of their hard work. Guest speakers were Dr. Marilyn Morrow, department chair; Dr. Jim Broadbear, program director; and Dr. Sara Cole, faculty advisor to the club.

Dr. Sara Cole represented the Illinois Chapter of Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) at the national SOPHE Annual Meeting where she prepared and submitted the documents for the Illinois state chapter to be re-designated, which passed unanimously. The conference was held November 4-7 at the Capital Hilton in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Sara Cole presented, "Health Education Students’ Attitudes towards Homosexuals" at American Public Health Association Annual Meeting. The paper was co-authored with Michael Reece, PhD, MPH from Indiana University. The conference was held November 7-10 at the Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Gary Erisman attended the Illinois Network for Agricultural Safety and Health meeting held at the Illinois Agricultural Association building in Bloomington, November 8, 2004. Business included describing the academic Safety programs being conducted at each of the institutions represented at the meeting.

Department of Health Sciences

Dr. Gary Erisman, Mr. Stig Ruxlow, and 3 members of the ISU Student Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers attended the monthly meeting of the Central Illinois Chapter of ASSE held at Pawnee, Illinois. In addition to the business meeting, the group toured the Kinkaid power station near Pawnee.

Ruth Ann Lipic, CHES, Director of the Radon Awareness Program that is domiciled in the Health Sciences Department, attended the 2004 International Radon Symposium, November 7-10, 2004 in Newport, Rhode Island, sponsored by American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists, Inc.

Department of Technology

Gary Kayser’s Master’s thesis entitled “Application of Tinto’s Model to the Persistence of Freshmen Students Enrolled in the First-Year, Second-Semester Military Science Course Within 10th Brigade, Western Region Undergraduate Institutions” was recently selected as the CAST Outstanding graduate student research project for the 2003-2004 academic year. It was also selected as runner-up in the university wide James L. Fisher Outstanding Thesis Award Competition. Dr. Paul E. Brauchle, Technology, was his Thesis Advisor.

Dr. Richard Boser attended the Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) midyear Board meeting in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, November 13-16, 2004. The meeting was attended by all ASC national officers and regional directors. The ASC is the professional organization of faculty from 90 plus 4-year construction management/science programs across the nation. The second day of the meeting was devoted to updating the strategic plan for the organization.

Drs. Rod Custer and Chris Merrill attended the ITEA Board of Directors meeting in Baltimore, Maryland from November 12-14.

Dr. Merrill received the “Big Thinker” award, which is the highest-level award given by the Technology Education Association of Illinois at its 11th Annual Illinois Technology Education Conference.

Members of the Technology Education Collegiate Association (TECA) won two first and two second place awards at the Midwest TECA competition in Peoria, Illinois November 4-6.

ISU-TECA competed against seven other Midwestern universities in six different competitive events.

The Technology Department hosted the Thursday program of the Illinois Drafting Educators Association’s Fall Conference on Thursday, November 11. Drs. Ryan Brown, Kevin Devine, and Chris Merrill were in attendance for the program. Dr. Ryan Brown also presented “Incorporating Mechanism Design into Drafting Classes” during the Friday program at Heartland Community College.

Dr. Dan Wilson presented “Automation in Print Manufacturing: Implications for Educators” at the International Graphic Arts Education Association Region 5 conference on November 20 in Chicago.
2004 CAST SERVICE AWARD

Dr. Frank Waterstraat, Associate Professor of Health Information Management in the Department of Health Sciences, has been selected to receive the 2004 CAST Service Award. He has been on the faculty in the Department of Health Sciences for fourteen years. Over these years, he has provided high quality, important service to Illinois State University and to his profession, Health Information Management (HIM).

Frank’s service record to his program and department is stellar. He has served in many roles including his unit’s Social Committee, DFSC, and DCC. He has served on and chaired numerous search committees. He authored the most recent IBHE Program Review and national accreditation document for his program, both in 2002.

Frank Waterstraat has also provided leadership on two significant university committees, the University Curriculum Committee and the Academic Senate (representing CAST). In the Senate, Frank served on the Finance and Planning Subcommittee that tackled revision of the Program Review process at Illinois State University.

Frank has continually been active at the local, state, and national level. He believes he should “give back” to the HIM profession that has done so much for him. Of particular note, he is serving as the President of his state association, Illinois Health Information Management Association.

Congratulations Frank, and thank you for your extra effort in providing service to ISU and your professional organizations.

2004 CAST TEACHING AWARD

Dr. Mark Temple, Associate Professor of Health Education in the Department of Health Sciences, has been selected to receive the 2004 CAST Teaching Award. Mark began his seventh year at ISU in August, having come to us with prior experience at Texas Tech University. Mark has demonstrated remarkable teaching talents and has established a reputation at the departmental and university level as being an outstanding educator.

Throughout his career here he has demonstrated leadership, versatility, and excellence in fulfilling his teaching responsibilities. After his first semester of teaching on this campus, his DFSC noted his strong teaching evaluations along with his use of web-based instruction, classroom assessment techniques and mid-term evaluations. Based on classroom observations of his teaching, his Chairperson has noted that Dr. Temple uses a hands-on, interactive approach, develops a wonderful rapport with his students and provides a classroom environment where students feel safe and comfortable in asking questions and admitting confusion. Student comments about his classroom performance are consistent over many different courses and include the following comments, “good communications skills”, “cares about students”, and “enthusiasm for teaching and his profession”.

Mark Temple has also made a significant contribution to the department, college, and university by his involvement in teaching activities and committees. He provided the leadership for his program in Health Education to begin an organized approach to incorporating service learning into the undergraduate professional practice preparation experience. His knowledge of web-based instruction and WEB CT is very strong and he has often served as a resource to others. His teaching expertise was acknowledged early in his teaching career at Illinois State as he was selected to receive the University Teaching Initiative Award in 2000.

He has also been involved in developing the General Education Program at Illinois State University. He has taught IDS 100 and Foundations of Inquiry. Dr. Temple was the first faculty member to teach a newly developed Outer Core course, Dynamics of U.S. Contemporary Health Problems.

Congratulations Mark, and thank you for your commitment to teaching.