Seventy-six percent of the classes fell within the middle to highest category on “improved student attitude.” These data show students’ response to the item “As a result of taking this course, I have more positive feelings toward this field of study.” This rating gives us an important insight into the feelings of students who we all hope will develop a respect and appreciation for our disciplines. This measure is also helpful in gauging student feelings about our subject matter who may be non-majors.

Seventy-five percent of the classes fell within the middle to highest category on “excellence of teacher.” It is well documented within the literature that teacher impressions have a strong effect upon such things as student attitudes, effort, and learning.

Students in our fall courses responded that seventy-one percent of CAST classes fell within the middle to highest category when asked “Overall, I rate this course as excellent.” Students can also provide valuable feedback to us on such things as teaching style, student satisfaction with course outcomes, and course organization. These analyses can be very helpful in providing us with feedback that can be utilized to augment our instruction.

In sum, instruction in CAST is meaningful and effective. Faculty are central to the college mission and your instructional efforts are validated very well through the CAST Group Summary Report for the fall 2004 semester.

CAST OFFICE

Teaching Effectiveness in CAST

One benefit of utilizing the IDEA system when evaluating our courses is that college and departmental profiles may be generated. These profiles are useful for a variety of things. Departmental profiles are useful in validating goals and objectives set forth by the faculty. You may find these departmental “Group Summary Reports” (GSR) to be a valuable tool when discussing programmatic goals and objectives at departmental meetings.

The CAST “Group Summary Report” provides a fascinating insight into the collective teaching effort within the college. It is very useful in creating a college profile that is also helpful in validating the College mission. The GSR has also been used in describing the teaching effectiveness of CAST faculty in a broad sense. From the CAST GSR one may gain insight of how faculty in CAST help students make progress on relevant objectives. Other important outcome measures that are analyzed include “improved student attitude”, “excellence of teacher”, and “excellence of course.” These four outcome measures have been used to summarize the quality of instruction within the College.

During the fall 2004 semester, we processed IDEA forms for 392 CAST classes. This included feedback from 8892 students in our courses. The four categories that make up the “Overall Outcome Measures” include “Improved student attitude”, “Excellence of teacher”, and “Excellence of course.” These four outcome measures have been used to summarize the quality of instruction within the College.

Seventy-nine percent of all CAST courses taught in fall 2004 fell within the middle to highest evaluation categories when “progress on relevant (essential and important) objectives” was queried. This item is a highly correlated to teaching effectiveness. The analysis from the fall semester in CAST would indicate very strong attention to this teaching function.

Seventy-six percent of the classes fell within the middle to highest category on “improved student attitude.” These data show students’ response to the item “As a result of taking this course, I have more positive feelings toward this field of study.” This rating gives us an important insight into the feelings of students who we all hope will develop a respect and appreciation for our disciplines. This measure is also helpful in gauging student feelings about our subject matter who may be non-majors.

Seventy-five percent of the classes fell within the middle to highest category on “excellence of teacher.” It is well documented within the literature that teacher impressions have a strong effect upon such things as student attitudes, effort, and learning.

Students in our fall courses responded that seventy-one percent of CAST classes fell within the middle to highest category when asked “Overall, I rate this course as excellent.” Students can also provide valuable feedback to us on such things as teaching style, student satisfaction with course outcomes, and course organization. These analyses can be very helpful in providing us with feedback that can be utilized to augment our instruction.

In sum, instruction in CAST is meaningful and effective. Faculty are central to the college mission and your instructional efforts are validated very well through the CAST Group Summary Report for the fall 2004 semester.

JAW
CAST RESEARCH OFFICE

Student Research Symposia. Consult the following website for information about the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Research Symposia that are scheduled to take place this spring semester: http://www.grad.ilstu.edu/symposium/. Registration deadlines are fast approaching. Students wishing to participate should begin completing registration paperwork now. Faculty guidance is both helpful and expected. When these events take place, there is always a need for faculty members to serve in a variety of ways. Those willing to serve as poster and oral presentation evaluators are urged to contact the Graduate School or utilize the sign-up form that is featured at the end of this newsletter. According to the Graduate School website, some funds are available for participating students who want to travel to state or national venues to additionally present their research after the ISU symposia.

Interested in learning more about the National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants process? Two regional seminars covering topics related to NIH extramural program funding and grants administration have been planned for 2005. The two-day seminars provide information about the NIH funding process, from opportunity identification and application preparation through post award administration. Presentations are targeted towards research administrators, researchers new to NIH, post docs and trainees.

The 2005 seminars will be held on:

- **April 7-8, 2005** in Albuquerque, New Mexico, hosted by the University of New Mexico.
- **June 23-24, 2005** in West Lafayette, Indiana, hosted by Purdue University.

Information on programs, registration and logistics for the 2005 NIH Regional Seminars is available from the NIH Office of Extramural Research regional seminar website at: [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/seminars.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/seminars.htm).

CAST Research Office Annual Report, 2003-04, Interested faculty, staff, and students can now access and read the 2003-04 Annual Report of the CAST Research Office by visiting the following website: [http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/research/annrep04.pdf](http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/research/annrep04.pdf). There is also a link provided on the main CAST Research webpage. Finally, a copy can be electronically sent to you upon request. Contact Associate Dean Gentry should you wish to have a copy in that format. Questions and comments are welcome. Write to dgentry@ilstu.edu or Campus Box 5000, or call 438-8748.

CAST RESEARCH OFFICE Annual Report, 2003-04

CAST Research Office Annual Report, 2003-04, Interested faculty, staff, and students can now access and read the 2003-04 Annual Report of the CAST Research Office by visiting the following website: [http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/research/annrep04.pdf](http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/research/annrep04.pdf). There is also a link provided on the main CAST Research webpage. Finally, a copy can be electronically sent to you upon request. Contact Associate Dean Gentry should you wish to have a copy in that format. Questions and comments are welcome. Write to dgentry@ilstu.edu or Campus Box 5000, or call 438-8748.

Department of Agriculture

Drs. Rob Rhykerd, Kerry Tudor, Bryon Wiegand, and Doug Kingman presented a paper entitled "Cultivating Active Learning in Agriculture", at Enhancing the Campus Learning Culture: A University-Wide Symposium on Teaching and Learning, held January 12, 2005 at The Chateau in Normal, Illinois. The Department of Agriculture hosted a meat cook-off on January 15, 2005. The contest was coordinated by Dr. Bryon Wiegand. The cook-off consisted of three categories: beef, pork, and other. A special thanks goes to President Al Bowman and Associate Provost Jan Shane for acting as the honorary judges for the contest. Dr. Gary Bachman received first place in the "pork" division and the "other" division. Dr. Rob Rhykerd received first place in the "beef" division.

Department of Criminal Justice Sciences

Dr. Sesha Kethineni has been invited to serve on the International Editorial Advisory Board for the International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences (IJCJS). IJCJS is a peer-reviewed on-line journal focusing on the contemporary issues in criminology, criminal justice and victimology.


Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

Dr. Martha Bauman Power and Dr. Brenda Krause Eheart (University of Illinois) were invited to present at Stanford University Center for Psychiatry and the Law's Symposium on Foster Care: Issues and Approaches, held January 14, 2005. Their presentation was entitled "Generations of Hope: An Intergenerational Community-based Model of Care for Foster Children."

DBG
Drs. Chu Jong and Arthur Maccabe, of the University of New Mexico, published a paper entitled "Syntetic Implementations of Performance Data Collection in a Massively Parallel System", in Lecture Notes in Computer Science, LNCS 2033, Grid and Cooperative Computing, Part II.

Drs. Chu Jong and Pruthikrai Mahatanankoon presented their paper "Enhancing ASP Infrastructure Through p-split Parallel Systems", at The 8th World Multi-Conference on Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics.

Dr. Joaquin Vila, Dr. Billy Lim and former graduate student Archana Anajpure, published a paper, "VOWELS: A Voice-Based Web Engine for Locating Speeches", in the Journal of Educational Multimedia and Hypermedia.

Dr. Mary Elaine Califf and Mary Goodwin's paper on "Effective Incorporation of Ethics into Courses that Focus on Programming" has been accepted for publication in the 2005 Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (SICSE 2005). They will be presenting the paper at the conference in St. Louis, Missouri in late February.


Mr. James Wolf presented a paper, "An Experimental Investigation of Pseudo-Endowment and Auction Bidder Behavior", at the Fourth Annual SIG IS Cognitive Research Workshop/Ph.D. Student Research Workshop in Washington, DC.

Drs. Matthew Kuofie and Jihad Qaddour, along with ITK student J. E. Shinall, presented a paper, "An Approach to Eliminate the Middle Man: Maximize Profit – Minimize Cost", at the 3rd International Business Information Management Association (IBIMA) Conference in Cozumel, Mexico.

At the same conference, Dr. Kuofie, Dr. Qaddour and Mr. Shinall also presented their paper, "Alignment of Information Technology with Agricultural Marketing Strategies: Promotion of Global Optimal Marketing of Citrus Products."

Both papers were published in the proceedings. In addition, Dr. Kuofie also served as one of the conference’s session chairs.

Dr. Amy Hurd had a paper published in Parks & Recreation for Research Update entitled "Competencies: Keys to Individual and Agency Success".

Dr. Chad McEvoy published a peer-reviewed article entitled "Revenue and Wealth Maximization in the National Football League: The Impact of Stadia" with three co-authors in the December 2004 issue of Sport Marketing Quarterly.

Dr. Sandra Klitzing’s article, "Women living in a homeless shelter: Stress, coping and leisure", was recently published in the Journal of Leisure Research. Her study utilized photo-elicitation and appeared in the special issue on visual leisure research.

Dr. Sandra Klitzing and Julie Sprouse had an article entitled "Youth at risk: Recreation and prevention", published in the Research Update section of Parks & Recreation magazine.

Drs. Dan Wilson and Klaus Schmidt co-authored a peer reviewed article entitled "Color Quality Assurance for Package Printing", which was published in the Journal of Industrial Technology. The article is the culmination of a year long project during which Dr. Wilson implemented a color quality assurance system for the Eureka Paperbox Company, a major manufacturer of candy packages.

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 in Orlando, Florida from January 12-15, 2005. The students participated in the Residential Construction Competition sponsored by Centex Homes. The students developed a business feasibility proposal for a single family community in Mr. Pleasant, South Carolina. 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. The ISU team finished in the top third among the 29 teams from across the nation who competed in the 4-year construction program.

Drs. Rodney Custer, Michael Daugherty and Chris Merrill recently participated in a meeting of the Center for Engineering and Technology Education consortium in Washington, DC. The $10M national center is funded by the National Science Foundation and is engaged in a range of activities including funding doctoral students, technology teacher professional development, and research. The Department of Technology at Illinois State University is one of nine members of the consortium.

Drs. Rodney Custer and Michael Daugherty recently published an article in the Journal of Applied Research in the Community College entitled "Bridge Competencies Necessary for Community College Technical Programs."
Research Symposia

University-Wide Showcase of Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Achievement

Undergraduate Research Symposium March 24
Graduate Research Symposium April 22

Faculty volunteers are needed (for as little as 1 hour) to fill the vital role of providing feedback to student participants. Cross-disciplinary faculty perspective is greatly appreciated by presenters.

Faculty volunteers will provide feedback to students from all disciplines presenting a wide variety of topics. Faculty are not expected to be an expert in each student’s field, but provide general feedback using a symposium feedback form.

If you are available for one hour or more between 9 am and 2 pm on either date please join us! Complete the form below and forward to symposium@ilstu.edu or mail to 4040 Graduate School.

For more information about the research symposia visit our website at www.grad.ilstu.edu/symposium. If you have questions, please contact Jamie Hughes, Graduate Assistant for the Research Symposia at 438-5679 or symposium@ilstu.edu.

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Name:     Email:

Department/School:     Phone:

Check one

_____ I would like to volunteer to provide feedback at the Undergraduate Research Symposium on Thursday, March 24.

_____ I would like to volunteer to provide feedback at the Graduate Research Symposium on Friday, April 22.

_____ I would like to volunteer at both Symposia!

Check one

_____ I prefer to provide feedback to oral presenters (lecture style presentations)

_____ I prefer to provide feedback to poster presenters

_____ Where most needed

I am volunteering for the following time slot (s):

_____ 9 to 10
_____ 10 to 11
_____ 11 to 12
_____ 12 to 1
_____ 1 to 2

Send to: 4040 Graduate School or symposium@ilstu.edu