CAST OFFICE

This spring marks the 146th annual commencement at Illinois State University. Commencement is defined as “an act of starting something” or “a time when diplomas are conferred.” I would add that commencement signals success, reflection and celebration. Success will be conferred. I would add that commencement signals success, reflection and celebration. Success will be

CAST RESEARCH OFFICE

As described by Dr. Gary McGinnis, Associate Vice-President for Graduate Studies, Research, and International Education at ISU, “The Undergraduate Research Symposium provides students with an opportunity to engage in a culminating experience of the research process, displaying, presenting, exhibiting, and demonstrating the results of research.” CAST participation in last week’s Undergraduate Research Symposium was outstanding. Seventy-four students were involved in 23 presentations (19 posters, 3 oral presentations, and 1 multimedia display). These students represented six of the College’s departments/schools: Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, Health Sciences, Information Technology, Kinesiology and Recreation, and Technology. The following faculty advisors are commended for guiding the students research efforts, as well as for encouraging them to participate in the symposium: CAST graduates and their families. You are encouraged to attend this joyous occasion and take the opportunity to wish our graduates well as they embark on “new beginnings” in their lives and leave the University to become productive citizens.

JAW

This week, an accreditation team from the National Association of Industrial Technology (NAIT) will be on campus to examine our Department of Technology, which first accredited in 1989. Programs in Construction Management, Graphic Communications, Industrial Computer Systems, and Integrated Manufacturing Systems are all being reviewed.

Many thanks to the faculty in these units who have worked hard to ensure the programs meet national standards, have prepared reflective self-studies about their programs, and have met with site visitation teams to complete these accreditation processes. In almost all cases our accredited programs received their accreditation - we meet national standards with our curricula and all other criteria. Thanks to these three faculties and others in the College who help us maintain this level of excellence.

More later………..

JRR

DBG

DEAN’S CORNER

This year we have worked hard to maintain CAST’s commitment to accreditation. This fall, the Construction Management Program in the Department of Technology received their initial accreditation from the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE). This was the result of five years of work to develop the curriculum and staff the program so it could successfully complete accreditation. The program is fully enrolled and we continually have to turn students away.

Last week, a team from the Accreditation Council of the National Recreation and Park Association/American Association for Leisure and Recreation is on campus to examine our program in Recreation and Park Administration. This program was first accredited in 1985 and has had its accreditation renewed at every five year interval since then. A general program in recreation and park management and our specialized program in Therapeutic Recreation are both accredited.

This spring marks the 146th annual commencement at Illinois State University. Commencement is defined as “an act of starting something” or “a time when diplomas are conferred.” I would add that commencement signals success, reflection and celebration. Success will be conferred. “I would add that commencement signals success, reflection and celebration. Success will be conferred.”

Over 1,000 CAST students will join the ranks of more than 31,000 living College alumni this spring. This truly is a time for all involved in our academy to celebrate the “new beginnings” of our most recent graduates.

Faculty recently received a letter of invitation to participate in the commencement ceremony. CAST’s ceremony will be held in Redbird Arena on May 14 at 1:00 p.m. Immediately following the commencement, a reception will be held in Linkins Dining Center for all CAST graduates and their families. You are encouraged to attend this joyous occasion and take the opportunity to wish our graduates well as they embark on “new beginnings” in their lives and leave the University to become productive citizens.

JAW

Important Dates to Note

Friday, 4/22:
Graduate Research Symposium at BSC

Monday, 4/25:
Science and Technology Week

• 7:30 pm Monday 4/25-Old Main Room-BSC
What have I learned about ACLI presented by Dr. K. Donald Shelbourne

• 7:30 pm Tuesday 4/26-
Braden Auditorium-BSC
A time for Mars: From Fantasy to Reality presented by David Levy

Thursday 4/28-
Circus Room-BSC
Response presented by Donald Kauerauf, B.S.

• 7:30 pm Thursday 4/28-
Circus Room-BSC
Energy Conservation and its Impact on Global Warming presented by Ty Wooding, Environmental Engineer

Saturday, 5/14:
Commencement at 1:00 pm in Redbird Arena

March 28, 2005
Dr. Tom Ellsworth was interviewed for the March 22 issue of The Pantagraph about the use of unmarked police cars for traffic enforcement.

The following CJS faculty made peer-reviewed paper presentations at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS). ACJS is one of two international associations in the criminal justice field. The meeting was held in Chicago, Illinois from March 16-19.

Dr. Dawn Beichner and Kevin Cannon, of Southern Illinois University, presented “Integrating Gay and Lesbian Issues into the Criminal Justice Curriculum.”

Drs. Sesha Kethineni and Bev Smith presented a paper entitled, "Domestic Violence Related Homicides in India.”

Drs. Jessie Krienert and Donna Vandiver were the authors of “Assaultive Behavior: A Gendered Comparison of Arrest.”

Dr. Jeffrey Walsh presented a paper on “Theoretical Explanations of Motor Vehicle Theft: Macro vs. Micro Level Explanations.”

Dr. Donna Vandiver and graduate student Maria Yumatova presented a paper entitled, "An Exploration of Russian and American Student Attitudes towards Euthanasia.”

Dr. Jeff Walsh has been interviewed by the media on a number of topics recently:

March 22, 2005: Newspaper interview with Pantagraph reporter Greg Cima. The interview addressed issues pertaining to school violence and shootings.

March 1, 2005: Radio interview for “Afternoon Drive” with KTAR 620, Phoenix, Arizona News Radio show host David Liebowitz. The issue discussed was the recent arrest of BTK serial killer Dennis Rader in Kansas.


Feb 1, 2005: Newspaper interview with the Peoria Journal Star (Dave Haney). The interview addressed issues relevant to the apprehension of a suspected serial homicide offender Larry Bright in the Peoria community. Published as an article in Peoria Journal Star on Feb. 1, 2005.

Jan. 29, 2005: News Channel 31 WMBD television interview for 6:00 and 10:00 news discussing a local serial homicide case and victim selection characteristics and patterns.


The Radon Awareness Program (coordinated by Ruth Ann Lipic) sponsored a booth at the HOME SHOW at Interstate Center March 11-13, 2005. Volunteer members of the McLean County Radon Task Force, in its 11th year of organization, distributed literature, coupons for test kits and answered radon questions from more than show 1000 patrons.

Dr. Frank Waterstraat attended the American Health Information Management Association’s “Capitol Hill Day” on March 16 as the representative of the Illinois Health Information Management Association (IHIMA). Several health information professionals visited a total of 8 Illinois senatorial and congressional offices to voice their support for the allied health professional educational support initiative and the confidentiality of genetic data. For the most part, the Illinois delegation met with senate and congressional aides, but Rep. Jerry Weller did take time out of a very busy day on Capitol Hill (budget negotiations) to personally meet with the Illinois delegation. He stated that he was willing to support both HIIM initiatives.

Dr. Gary Erisman and 10 student members of the ISU Student Chapter attended the monthly meeting of the Central Illinois Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers on March 8 in Bloomington. Five of the students participated in the Career Day opportunity by job shadowing a practicing safety professional for the day. The topic of the program was Generational Synergy presented by Carla DeFlorio from National ASSE headquarters.

Dr. Rod Simmons attended a meeting of the Health, Safety and Environmental Credentialing Board (HSECB) in Kuwait City March 12-16, 2005. The 7-member board also met with the Chairman of Kuwait Petroleum Company (KPC, which is responsible for all activity in the Kuwait national oil sector) on March 17 to discuss the role that the HSECB will play in addressing the Kuwait Supreme Petroleum Council’s strategic directive to train and certify KPC professional employees to international standards. Dr. Simmons serves as Vice-Chair of the HSECB.

Dr. Rajinder Mangraf.

Dr. Rod Simmons presented a 5-day short course entitled, “Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment” to engineers and safety professionals employed by Kuwait Oil Company and Kuwait National Petroleum Company from March 12-16 at the Kuwait Hilton Resort in Mangraf.

Dr. Rod Simmons attended a meeting of the Kuwait Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers on March 13 in Kuwait City.