The Annual Fund Campaign for the College is going well again this year. University Advancement retained a consultant this past year to analyze our annual fund raising practices and several new strategies have been used as result of this consultation.

CAST has benefited. The average Annual Fund pledge for the University this year was $53.76. The average Annual Fund pledge from CAST donors was $68.04—26.5% higher. Thus far this year, and there is a little bit of follow-up calling yet to be done, 1,669 individuals have made pledges to CAST that total $113,555. This is up from last year’s total of $103,895—a 9% increase.

There are three cohorts of individuals that make up pools of individuals to be called--ongoing donors, lapsed donors (i.e. individuals who have previously given but stopped giving), and young graduates. Our consultant advised that young donors are an especially fruitful group to pursue. The results indicate that pursuing this group was effort well spent. Below is the average gift for each cohort.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cohort</th>
<th>Average Gift</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donors</td>
<td>$81.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lapsed</td>
<td>$52.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young</td>
<td>$56.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Given the State’s budget woes, all of us must help sustain the effort to diversity our revenue streams. CAST faculty members have done an excellent job of increasing the dollar amount of grants received by the College. I am convinced that excellent efforts from both faculty and staff with students and alumni are directly responsible for the willingness of alumni to give back and contribute to our work in the College. Nurturing alumni at homecoming, bring back alums to speak for Science and Technology Week, providing sound curriculum advice, working with graduating seniors, attending post commencement receptions, and other similar activities are examples of faculty and staff efforts that give individualized attention to students outside of the classroom. This attention is continued through a number of initiatives whereby we nurture alums. All of these efforts make a difference when alums receive their Annual Fund solicitation call. Thanks for your attention to this effort.

More later………………. JRR

**AGRICULTURE**

The Student Ag Association helped in hosting Section 9 FFA Agricultural Sales Career Development Event on March 31. The event was held at Normal Community West High School. Dr. Rob Rhykerd and Dr. Doug Morrish helped in judging the sales presentation portion of the contest. Students from the Ag Association helped in judging the other portions of the contest.

Dr. Gary Bachman and Dr. Doug Morrish hosted a Department of Agriculture FFA Horticulture Career Development for high school agriculture students on April 6, 2004. Students competed in plant identification, general horticulture knowledge, horticulture commodity judging, and individual horticulture practicum’s. Thanks go to the following for providing support for this important recruiting event: The Ag Alumni Association (meal), the ISU Horticulture club (awards), and Casey's Garden Shop (plant material).

Dr. Doug Morrish, in conjunction with Harley Hepner, agriculture teacher at Kewanee High School, held the Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers Student Branch Conference on campus April 2 and 3. Approximately 36 agricultural education majors attended representing Western Illinois University, Southern Illinois University, Western Kentucky University, Joliet Junior College, and Illinois State University. Guest speakers included Dr. Gary Bachman, Dr. Pat O’Rourke, Mindy Porter (District II FCAE Field Advisor), and Eric Reutter (agriculture teacher at Gridley High School).

Dr. Gary Bachman was a presenter at the Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers (IAVAT) Student Branch Workshop held at ISU April 2-3, 2004. Gary's presented "Training for the Horticulture CDE".

**FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES**

Karen Stephens, Child Care Center, and FCS 308 students (Organization and Administration of Early Childhood Programs) were hosted for a tour, orientation and luncheon by Abbot’s Center for Child Development in Abbot Park, Illinois. The Abbot Center, which was built 3 years ago for $11 million, offers employee child care for Abbot Laboratories. The site has an employee base of 17,000. The Child Development Center serves 400 children, ages 6 weeks to school-age, with a waiting list of 500.
**Dr. Sharon Pate** has an article on school uniforms that has been approved to be in the following book by Dr. David L. Brunsmma, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Alabama, Huntsville, Alabama. *Evaluating Public School Uniforms: A Decade of Research*, Edited by David L. Brunsmma; *Tentative Table of Contents* [March 16, 2004]; Preface- David L. Brunsmma Introduction to Volume; *School Uniforms In Elementary Schools*; Sharon S. Pate; The Influence of a Mandatory School Uniform Policy in a Rural and Urban School District.

**HEALTH SCIENCES**

The Environmental Health Program in the Department of Health Sciences has received $1500 from the Prairie Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), and will be receiving another $2000 from the Chicago AIHA Section to support student attendance at the next American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition. The Department will be sending 4 environmental health students to this years’ conference in Atlanta.

**Dr. Jim Broadbear** and **Dr. Sara Cole** received a $100 compost grant from CAT for a service-learning luncheon to be held April 23rd.

**Dr. Tim Kelley** is currently doing a Fellowship in New Zealand. He has met with a number of public and private representatives concerning water quality, wastewater management and solid waste management (including his primary hosts at the Otago University School of Medicine and Health Sciences), and he has plans to meet with representatives of the New Zealand Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Health. Dr. Kelley plans to develop a presentation concerning his trip to New Zealand to share with colleagues at ISU. He is scheduled to return to Illinois on Sunday, April 18, 2004.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The ITK student club (ITSA) just competed at the Association of Information Technology Professionals 9th Annual National Collegiate Conference in Omaha, Nebraska on April 1-3, 2004. They received awards as follows:

- Josh Habdas - 1st place for ITSA's student chapter web site;
- Brett Miller & Eric Poole - 2nd place for Network Design;
- Tom Ness & Neil Wilson - 3rd place for Visual Basic.NET programming;
- Neil Wilson & Michael Filipponi - Honorable mention for C++ programming;
- Tony Simek & Keith Bernicki - Honorable mention for COBOL programming.

**Dr. Tom Portegys** will present a peer-reviewed paper, "An Evolvable Artificial Chemistry Featuring Continuous Physics and Discrete Reactions", at the Ninth International Conference on the Simulation and Synthesis of Living Systems (A Life 9) in Boston next September 12-15th.

**Dr. Winn (Pruthikrai) Mahatanankoon** has published a peer-reviewed research article entitled, “Development of a Measure of Personal Web Usage in the Workplace,” *CyberPsychology & Behavior*, Vol. 7, No. 1, 2004, pp. 93-104. The development of the PWU scale followed the standard psychometric procedures. Practitioners, sociologists, psychologists, information and computer scientists will find the new instrument useful to further investigate workplace Internet usage activities as a multi-dimensional construct. The article is co-authored by Dr. Anandarajan.

**KINESIOLOGY & RECREATION**

**Drs. Barbara Elwood Schlatter and Marta Moorman** presented a refereed poster at the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance entitled: Physical activity instructors: Are they providing quality programs? The conference was held in New Orleans, Louisiana, March 30 - April 3, 2004.

**Dr. Margo Coleman** and **Kim Walker-Smith** presented "Fitness and Sports - Can You Teach Them Together?" at the national conference of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) in New Orleans. The presentation focused on methods to improve components of health related fitness while not losing sight of skill development in sport activities.

Also at the AAHPERD conference, physical education teacher education major Michelle Schmidt received the NASPE major of the year award for Illinois State University and the School of KNR.

**Dr. Steve McCaw** co-presented the session "The Future of Graduate Education in Biomechanics" at the national conference of the American Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, held in New Orleans April 2. The co-presenter was Dr. Joe Hamill of the University of Massachusetts. Dr. McCaw also presented the introduction of Dr. Hamill at the award ceremony of the biomechanics, when Dr. Hamill was the recipient of the Ruth B. Glassow Award for distinguished contributions to biomechanics.

**Dr. Jennie A. Gilbert** attended the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, March 30 - April 3.

Don Snider, Angela Bartsch, Alyssa Feek (undergraduate students), and **Dr. David Thomas** attended the annual conference of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance March 30 - April 3 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Snider, Thomas, and Bartsch co-authored a presentation on "The Impact of Participating in an Army ROTC Program on Physical Fitness of Cadets."
Dr. Brent Begg recently attended and presented the keynote speech at the Indiana University Executive Development Program entitled *Trends in the Management of Leisure Services.*

Dr. Peter Smith recently presented two research papers with KNR undergraduate students Laura Copeland and Kristin Morgan at the annual convention of the American Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance in New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Dr. Alan Lacy** was an invited speaker at the 2004 Colloquium Series sponsored by the College of Education and Allied Professions at Western Carolina University on April 14 and 15, 2004. He made three presentations to various audiences. They were *Assessment and Teaching - Is There a Connection* made to students in the Department of Health and Human Performance, *Obesity in America: How Big a Problem is it?* presented as open forum to the entire campus community, and *Faculty Performance Evaluation: Suggestions from the Trenches* given to the faculty of the College of Education and Allied Professions.

**TECHNOLOGY**

**Dr. Richard Boser** and Christina Hepner, TEC graduate student, presented a poster entitled, *Impact of LEED Indoor Environmental Quality Requirements on Employee Productivity,* at the Associated Schools of Construction annual conference in Provo, Utah.


On April 3rd, Dr. Hank Campbell attended a workshop seminar on Timber Frame construction and energy efficient structural insulated panels for residential and light commercial construction held in Blissfield, MI sponsored by Riverbend Timber Framing.

**Dr. Hank Campbell** attended the April meeting of the American Society for Quality, Section 1200 at Richland Community College in Decatur, Illinois. Rory Nolan, a graduate student in Project Management, received the annual John Henry Memorial Scholarship Award for his work in the area of quality sciences and representing Illinois State. Engineering student Ben Hamilton of the University of Illinois and Industrial Technology student Scott J. Mueller of Eastern Illinois also received scholarship awards.

**Mark Comerford** received the Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) National Teaching Award for the Great Lakes Region at the recent ASC Annual Conference in Salt Lake City. The award is in recognition of excellence in teaching.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

| April 19-23 | CAST sponsored “Science and Technology” Week |
| Thursday   | CAST Expo Displays |
| April 22   | 2:30-3:00 p.m., Circus Room, BSC |
| Thursday   | Spring College Faculty Meeting |
| April 22   | 3:00-5:00 p.m., Circus Room, BSC |
| Friday     | Graduate Research Symposium |
| April 23   | BSC, 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. |
| Friday     | Deadline for election of DFSC |
| April 30   | |
| Saturday   | CAST Commencement, 1:00 p.m. |
| May 8      | Redbird Arena |
| Saturday   | CAST Reception in Linkins Dining Center |
| May 8      | immediately following Commencement |