DEAN'S CORNER

We work hard, give individualized attention to our students, and take pride in seeing them graduate. Although we can all remember individual students, have you ever wondered--Who are ourCASTAlums? Well here are some sound bites of information about our alums I think you will find interesting. These data are inclusive of our May 2003 graduates and were provided by Alumni Services.

We have 34,844 living alumni. In their lifetime, 30.1% have made some kind of a donation to units in the University. In the past two years, 7.6% have made donations.

The number of graduates by department seems to reflect the size and amount of time a department or school has existed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th># of Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>4,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice Sciences</td>
<td>3,761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family &amp; Consumer Sciences</td>
<td>5,044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Sciences</td>
<td>3,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>3,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinesiology and Recreation</td>
<td>8,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>6,223</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Although the College experienced rapid growth in the 1970s, during the 1980s and 1990s we seem to have stabilized in the number we graduate at about 1,000 per year.

What occupations are they in? It is interesting that about 40% of our graduates are in business while only 2% are in government. About one fourth of our graduates are in education.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupational Field</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Males dominate our graduates (56% male; 44% female) although this varies by academic unit. Our alumni are not an ethnically diverse cohort—91.61% are white/Caucasian. The remaining distribution is as follows—Native American/Alaskan 49%; Black/African-American 4.68%; Asian/Filipino 1.83%; and Latino/Hispanic .97% (.42% are unknown). This information is somewhat inaccurate since ethnicity was not recorded until the onset of electronic record-keeping.

Where do they live? About two-thirds reside in the State of Illinois. Clearly, CAST is an economic resource to the State of Illinois. Seventy-two percent of our alums live in Illinois or its contiguous states. Four-hundred or more CAST alumni live in the following states—Arizona, Colorado, California, Texas, Missouri, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Florida. We are indeed a regional institution.

In our BroadCAST publication we have been featuring individual alums who have had significant accomplishments. When viewed as a cohort, there is also much to be proud about. These data, coupled with the reports from our recent graduates panel, indicate that our alums are making significant contributions to economic and community life in Illinois and beyond. Each of you has played a part in developing some of these alums and continue playing a significant role every day in developing a promising future for our students and communities. Thank you.

More later.........

JRR
CAST RESEARCH OFFICE
ISU Research/Creativity Profile Database

The new Research/Creativity Profile Database (R/CPD) is growing steadily. Nearly 200 persons have entered data into the program. CAST faculty and staff can access the database on the University Research and Sponsored Programs webpages, 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) arranging for collaboration on research projects and 2) sharing information about possible funding for research efforts.

CAST faculty and staff who have not yet visited and utilize the database are encouraged to do so. Those who did enter data last year may want to visit the website again and consider updating and/or expanding 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 of 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.

Dawn Beichner has become a new assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice Sciences. Among the research topics that are of interest to her are: Gender and justice, prosecution, race/ethnicity/sex effects on sentencing, and sexual assault. She would welcome opportunities to collaborate on various research projects.

Sara Cole is one of two new faculty members in the Department of Health Sciences. For the Research/Creativity Profile, she has indicated research interest in the areas of cultural competence, sexual health, and community-based public health. In her role as assistant professor, she is most willing to collaborate on research projects.

Jennie Gilbert has recently joined the Kinesiology and Recreation faculty as an assistant professor. She is open to collaborative research endeavors. Her research interests include attitudes and perceptions of physical activity and fitness, fitness of children, and fitness of firefighters.

Mary Henninger is also a new assistant professor in the School of Kinesiology and Recreation. She, too, is willing to engage in collaborative research. Her profile in the R/CPD features these research keywords: physical education teacher education, teachers’ lives and careers, and urban school contexts.

Matthew Kuofie is a new faculty member joining the School of Information Technology this fall. Not only is he open to collaborative research work, but he is also willing to provide stats consultation. His expertise lies in the areas of database design, database management systems, project management, risk analysis and management, and systems development methodologies.

Aslihan Spaulding is a recent addition to the faculty of the Department of Agriculture. Her primary areas of investigation are marketing, new product development and management, and the use of surveys. Aslihan is open to collaborative research opportunities.

Lori Woeste has joined the Health Sciences Department as an assistant professor. She, too, is willing to collaborate on research projects and consult on stats. For the profile, she listed cultural competence, curriculum design, and laboratory management and safety as keywords.

DBG
AGRICULTURE
U.S. Representative, Jerry Weller, R-Ill., was on campus August 27th to speak with students in the AGR 110 course, Introduction to Agricultural Economics. Weller spoke of improving the ag economy through establishing a free trade zone among all 33 democratic countries in the Western Hemisphere, as well as, through the increased use of biofuels via the final passage of an energy bill.

Gary Bachman attended the first Irrigation Association Education Foundation Faculty Training Academy sponsored by the Irrigation Association of America held at the Purdue University Extension in Indianapolis, Indiana, August 7-8, 2003. The goal of the academy was to educate faculty on basic irrigation concepts, create awareness and provide a review of Irrigation Association educational resources available, introduce the IAEF and utilize feedback from faculty to enhance the development of IAEF programs and relationships with university faculty.

Rob Rykerd presented a talk entitled Remediation of Contaminated Soil to the ISU Department of Geography-Geology on September 12 at their weekly colloquium.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES
Dr. Maria E. Canabal traveled to Washington, D.C. this past June and presented "Work and family balance among Latinos in the United States: Barriers and facilitators" coauthored with Dr. Enilda A. Delgado from the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse at the American Association for Family and Consumer Sciences Annual meeting.

HEALTH SCIENCES
Tom Bierma and Frank Waterstraat received a $70,000 grant from the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC) to research how small Illinois manufacturers can reduce waste and employee hazards from metalworking fluids. They will be working with WMRC and the Peoria office of OSHA. In particular, they will focus on opportunities for small manufacturers to achieve these goals by changing the way they work with their metalworking fluid supplier.

Gary Erisman attended the National Institute for Farm Safety meeting held in Windsor, Ontario June 21-26. He is a member of an expert panel advising a Fund for Rural America grant, Past National President and member of the Past President's Advisory Board, and a member of the Machinery Safety and Professional Development committees of the organization.


Jane Turley was elected Treasurer of the Central Illinois Health Information Management Association.


Dr. Gary Erisman and Paul Ronczkowski attended the opening meeting for the year of the American Society of Safety Engineers Central Illinois Chapter at State Farm Park on 9/9/03. Retired safety faculty member, Dr. Ed Dorner, gave a presentation on "The Magic of Fire."

Frank Waterstraat, Paulette Miller, and Jane Turley hosted the quarterly meeting of the Central Illinois Health Information Management Association at the Bone Student Center in May. Rodney Simmons of Safety was a featured speaker presenting JCAHO's Patient Safety Initiative: Implications for HIM.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Dr. Robert Zant traveled to Washington D.C. this past July to attend the annual meeting of the computing Accreditation Commission. He is a member of the commission which is the sole accrediting agency for programs in computer science and information systems.


Dr. H. Joseph Wen has accepted the invitation to server on the editorial board of the International Journal of Electronic Healthcare (ISSN: Print 1741-8453, Online 1741-8461). The journal is published and distributed by Inderscience Publishers. It is a unique and innovative publication in e-Healthcare area. Please visit our web site at www.inderscience.com/catalogue/e/ijeh/ijeh.html. IJEH is dedicated to design, development, management, implementation, technology, and application issues in e-Healthcare. IJEH aims to help professionals working in the field, academic educators and policy-makers to contribute, to disseminate knowledge, and to learn from each other's work through cutting edge thinking in e-Healthcare. The international dimension is emphasized in order to overcome cultural and national barriers and to meet the needs of accelerating technological change and changes in the global economy. IJEH is an outstanding outlet that e-Healthcare research could take shape of its own and results could be shared across institutions, governments, researchers and students, and healthcare industry as well.
KINESIOLOGY & RECREATION

David Thomas gave four presentations to employees of Caterpillar, Inc. in Peoria on August 25 and 29th on Nutrition and Nutritional Supplements for Physically Active People.

David Thomas attended the quarterly meeting of the Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago's Children (CLOCC). The meeting was held at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago on Sept. 3rd.

Dr. Steve McCaw received a grant from the Jump Rope for Heart Program of the Illinois Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance for a project investigating the differences in leg kinematics and kinetics during landings onto either one or two legs. Graduate student Meredith Olsen has been hired to work on the grant.

TECHNOLOGY

A 12-station course of surveying monuments was installed around Turner Hall on August 6, 2003. The monuments were provided and installed by the Heart of Illinois Chapter of Professional Land Surveyor. Mike Mohr of Clark Engineering coordinated the project with volunteer assistance from personnel from Randolph Engineering, Farnsworth Group, and Survey Instrument Consultants. Clark Engineering, Farnsworth Group, and the Will-Grundy Counties Home Builders and Associates provided funding for the project. The monuments will be used for instructional purposes by Construction Management students in TEC 223 Surveying and Building Layout.

Michael K. Daugherty received a $280,000 grant from the Illinois State Board of Education to coordinate the Connections/High Schools That Work project in Illinois. High Schools That Work (HSTW) is a framework for whole-school improvement. HSTW seeks to advance the mathematics, science, and communications competencies of students who complete a career major and to increase the percent of students who continue post secondary education in their chosen field of study. The project will assist school districts by integrating and upgrading the level of academic studies that students receive in both academic and career and technical courses.

Rick Boser gave a presentation titled “Project Management to the Rescue” at the Facilities Conference held at Illinois State University on August 28, 2003. The Central Illinois Chapter of the International Facility Management Association hosted the Facilities Conference.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday  CAST New Tenure Track Faculty
September 19  Orientation from Noon to 3:30 pm in Turner 139

Friday  Outstanding Graduate Student Research
September 19  Award nominations due to CAST Research Office

Thursday  University Research Grant (URG) Proposal Writing Workshop in Turner 104A from Noon to 1:00 pm. Bring a sack lunch. Soda and cookies provided.

Friday  University Outstanding Researcher and Research Initiative Award materials due to the CAST Research Office

Friday  College Outstanding Teacher and College Outstanding Service Award materials due to the CAST Office

Friday  CAST Outstanding Researcher Award materials due to the CAST Research Office

October 17-19  Homecoming

Monday  Deadline for submitting URG proposals to the CAST Research Office

October 27  Deadline for submitting URG proposals to the CAST Research Office