Welcome back. Fall semester is always an exciting time as students and faculty return to campus looking forward to a new school year. The opportunity for a fresh start each year is one of the unique features of our profession. New courses, new students, and the opportunity to take a new approach to old assignments provide an annual renewal of energy and spirit that make a university appointment a special place to work. Best of luck this school year.

We had excellent attendance at our fall College meeting and I appreciate your support of this meeting. Provost Bowman provided an upbeat but realistic account of our budget situation. Dr. Dave Thomas (KNR), the College Outstanding Teacher, gave an inspiring presentation about teaching techniques that have worked well for him. I want to apologize for the late food set-up and consequent delayed start of the meeting. This is the last College meeting we still hold in Turner Hall. Our Holiday Luncheon and spring meeting have been moved. After consulting with the CAST Council, we decided to try and move this meeting to a more suitable venue as well.

My wife and I held a new faculty reception at our home last Saturday evening. In addition, department chairs, college, and university administrators attended. We have hired an excellent group of new faculty who are excited to be at Illinois State University and are working hard getting settled into new homes and a new community. They come to us from excellent degree programs from a variety of institutions around the country. Several of them have chosen to come to ISU as their second professional position and see us as a positive move in their career. One measure of a quality faculty is their ability to attract excellent colleagues. CAST faculty scored well on this account this year. Thanks to each of you who helped with the many searches we conducted last year.

The CAST Council had its first meeting for this school year last Friday. One of several initiatives for this year is to communicate their activities more thoroughly to the College. Minutes of their meetings will be posted on the College web site so faculty may become aware of the issues before the Council. This year’s Council is made-up of an interesting mix of newer faculty who are serving on the Council for the first time and senior faculty who have served on the Council before. This mix represents the current composition of the College well and I look forward to a productive year with the Council.

More later………

JRR
CAST RESEARCH OFFICE

2002-2003 CAST Research Committee Members (CRC)
Ken Smiciklas, AGR; Barbara Becue, ACS; Ed Wells, CJS; Connie Ley, FCS; Dale Brown, KNR; Jim Broadbear, HSC; Dan Brown, TEC.

Research Recognition Deadlines

The fall semester is a busy time for the Research Office and the CRC. During this time, outstanding scholars among graduate students and faculty in the college are determined. These competitions allow us to recognize those individuals who have participated in research activities that are truly exceptional in nature. For the Outstanding Graduate Student Award, the deadline for materials to be sent to the CAST Research Office is Friday, September 20th, 9:00 am. Information related to application procedures for the Outstanding Graduate Student Award can be found on the web as well as by asking one’s CRC representative, Dept. Graduate Coordinator, or Dept. Chair as well as Assoc. Dean Gentry. Each department decides which graduate student will represent them in the college competition. Once a college winner is selected, his/her materials are forwarded to Hovey Hall. For the University Outstanding Researcher and Research Initiative Awards, the deadline for materials to be sent to the CAST Research Office is Friday, October 4th. Faculty can obtain information about eligibility and application procedures by contacting their CRC representative or department chairperson, as well as Dr. Gentry. Each of these persons has an original copy of the award guidelines from which a given faculty member can make his or her own reference copy. This website can be helpful, too:
http://www.rsp.ilstu.edu/internal_grant/

To be eligible to apply for the University Outstanding Researcher Award, one has to have received the CAST Outstanding Researcher Award. The deadline for submitting application materials for this award is Friday, October 18th, 9:00 am. Guidelines for this award can be obtained from Assoc. Dean Gentry, CRC representatives, and department chairpersons. Also see this website:
http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/Research/cast_outstanding_researcher_award_guidelines.htm

For those faculty who anticipate preparing and submitting a University Research Grant this fall, the CAST guidelines for this award can be found among the CAST Research Office web pages at:
ww.cast.ilstu.edu/Research/urg.htm.

Department chairpersons and CRC representatives from each department have a copy of the guidelines in their possession as well. A copy of the guidelines has accompanied at least one message on this topic put out on castlistserv. Faculty new to CAST this fall, as well as those arriving last fall, have been invited to a workshop—the date for which is yet to be determined. The deadline for submitting URG proposals to the CAST Research Office is October 28th.

CAST Research Office Annual Report

A summary of services and supports provided to CAST faculty and staff during FY02 can be viewed at the website given below. Comments and questions are welcome. http://www.cast.ilstu.edu/Research/annual_report.htm

Recipients of External Grant Funding

Mike Daugherty, professor, and Rodney Custer, professor and chair, Department of Technology, have received a $750,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for a three-year project to design high school level technology curricula. The Project ProBase (problem-based) technology curricula will help prepare high school students who plan to go on to community college technician education or enter four-year engineering-related programs.

The curricula will consist of eight learning modules for the 11th and 12th grade levels that will use hands-on problem-solving activities to teach fundamentals of technology in the fields of information and communications; entertainment and recreation; energy and power; transportation; agriculture and biotechnology; medicine and manufacturing. These modules will focus on core concepts identified in Standards for Technological Literacy: Content for the Study of Technology, a comprehensive content framework for technology education in elementary and secondary schools. The Standards were developed by the International Technology Education Association with funding from the NSF and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

The ProBase technology modules are being developed in partnership with a consortium of Central Illinois community colleges including Heartland Community College, Bloomington; Danville Area Community College, Danville; Illinois Central College, East Peoria; Parkland College, Champaign; Lakeland College, Mattoon and Richland Community College, Decatur. Representatives from the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) are also participating in the project.

In addition to curriculum development, the NSF grant provides funding for field-testing the learning modules in selected schools. The completed technology education modules will be available for purchase by schools through the International Technology Education Association.

When asked what they believe contributed to their success in being awarded this grant, Daugherty and Custer had this to say:

- Confidence that their initial ideas about how the project could be carried out were doable.
- Experience as a NSF grant reviewer that allowed them insight about NSF priorities and expectations.
- Networking is important!
- fleshing out their ideas well enough in advance of conversations with program officers. This ensured these conversations were productive.
Not rushing the process of grant writing. They invested a year in conceptualizing the project, writing a preliminary concept paper, considering feedback given them, and writing and rewriting the proposal. They were willing to be persistent. Despite their first full proposal being declined, they responded to reviewer comments, rewrote and resubmitted the proposal. This second try was successful.

Searching for Grant Funding? Try This Resource.


AGRICULTURE

Publications, Posters and Presentations


CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES

Dr. Frank Morn was interviewed by the BBC on the life of Allan Pinkerton, whose private investigative agency still bears his name.

Drs. Dave Falcone, Ed Wells, and Ralph Weisheit have published a peer-reviewed article entitled, "The Small-Town Police Department," in Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management 25 (2): 371-84. This is one outcome of their National Institute of Justice grant to study rural policing.

Dr. Deborah Linnell attended the National Police Week Conference in Washington D.C., which honors police officers killed in the line of duty. She also attended the national conferences of the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation and the American Psychological Association.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

Connor Walters was selected as a member for the Council for Accreditation for the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The Illinois State University Child Care Center has received re-accreditation from the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs. The Center has been granted accreditation since 1987 when it became one of the first programs in the nation to achieve the distinction.

TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Louis Reifschneider was one of five presenters at a Society of Plastics Engineers seminar titled "Plastics for the Wire and Cable Industry." The day-long seminar was delivered on June 9th at the Chicago Navy Pier conference for professionals in the wire and cable industry.

Patsy Stretch completed the first level of certification for PRO program offered by the Department of Human Resources.

Sixteen construction management (CM) students and faculty served as volunteers at Day of the Dozer on August 23. Roberta Ford, a senior CM student, served on the organizing committee for the event.

Students from Illinois State and Illinois Wesleyan have started work on the eighth consecutive Habitat for Humanity Collegiate house. This year's house will be built with the Tita McNiel family. The official groundbreaking will be held September 7th. Students will volunteer their time each Saturday from 8:00-11:30 a.m. until the house is completed next spring. The co-directors for this year's house are Hank Campbell and Rick Boser of the Technology department and Gary Klass from Politics and Government. Campbell also involves his TEC 121 Construction Methods class by assisting with various phases of construction.
### IMPORTANT DATES

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>Research &amp; Sponsored Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>Office Open House – All staff available to answer grantwriting questions from 9:00 -11:00 am</td>
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<td>September 20</td>
<td>CAST New Faculty Orientation from Noon to 3:30 pm in Turner 104A</td>
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<td>September 20</td>
<td>Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award nominations due to CAST Research Office by 9:00 am</td>
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<td>September 27</td>
<td>University Research Grant (URG) Proposal Writing Workshop Turner 104A 10:00-11:00 am</td>
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<td>October 4</td>
<td>University Outstanding Researcher and Research Initiative Award materials due to the CAST Research Office</td>
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