I hope to see each of you next week at the many events offered during Science and Technology Week. These events have been well publicized across campus so I will not reiterate the schedule here. A special reminder however about CAST Expo and our Spring Faculty Meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 2003 beginning at 2:30 p.m. in the Circus Room of Bone Student Center. We have few occasions that we come together as a College, so I hope you will make an effort to attend this function.

Although budget woes continue to occupy much of our time and attention, a brighter spot is how well we are doing in hiring new faculty. We are attracting good new faculty from excellent programs. Our offers are competitive. Thus far we have hired nine new faculty members, declared one search as failed, have an offer extended on one position, and are completing interviews for two positions. We know of three of our current faculty who are likely to accept offers from other institutions and leave us at the end of spring semester.

I want to remind everyone about our College golf outing that helps us raise money for scholarships. It has been named the “Links for Milt Golf Outing” in honor of Milt Weisbecker, a long-standing member of our faculty and an avid golfer. The outing this year will be on June 3, 2003 at the Chalet Hills Golf Club in Cary, Illinois. It is in a scramble format and the fee is $150.00. It is a beautiful course that is well worth the trip around it even if you are not too good at golf. I hope you can join us this day and bring a former student to build a foursome from your department.

More later……

JRR

AGRICULTURE

Patrick D. O’Rourke presented “Case Studies and Other Simulations”, at The National Conference On Writing And Critical Thinking In Agriculture, April 2 - 5, 2003, Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Participants in the workshop learned to use an agribusiness management simulation [dynamic case] that is Web-enabled and may be used in an asynchronous distance education mode in teaching agribusiness management courses/topics. The ProStar+ simulation creates an effective medium for learning more about the complexity of managing a business such as a retail farm supply dealership. In addition to learning about the simulation, participants learned how it functions within the classroom.

Barb Gallick and Lisa Lee, Head Teachers in the 3-5 year old classroom of the Child Care Center, displayed and discussed documentation of the "What Happens at McDonald's" project at the Midwest Association for the Education of Young Children conference in Peoria, Illinois on Friday, April 11, 2003.
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES, continued

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Jean Memken as the recipient of the 2002-2003 FCS Outstanding Teacher Award and Dr. Nweze Nnakwe as the 2002-2003 recipient of the FCS Outstanding Researcher Award.

HEALTH SCIENCES

Gary Erisman and Paul Ronezkowski attended the March meeting of the American Society of Safety Engineers held at the State Farm Regional Headquarters in Bloomington. They were accompanied by 17 members of the ISU Student Chapter of ASSE that took part in the annual student - host Exchange Day experience.

Kynes Westbrook, a senior health education major, won the American Association for Health Education Undergraduate Scholarship. This is an award for the outstanding health education student in the nation. Ms. Westbrook is currently completing her internship at the McLean County Health Department where she is involved in cardiovascular disease prevention for women, breast cancer prevention, and educating public health professionals on the link between Helicobacter pylori and peptic ulcer disease.

Frank Waterstraat and Paulette Miller presented their paper "Autobenchmarking: A tool to measure productivity and quality" at the 50th annual Illinois Health Information Management Association Meeting on April 11, 2003 in Bloomington, Illinois.

KINESIOLOGY & RECREATION

After serving for 2 years on the editorial board of the journal Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise (MSSE), Dr. Steve McCaw has been appointed Associate Editor of the journal. He will be responsible for assigning and coordinating the review of submitted manuscripts in biomechanics, and making acceptance recommendations to the editor-in-chief. MSSE is the official publication of the American College of Sports Medicine.

Alan Lacy and Margo Coleman presented a paper at the recent American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance National Convention entitled Using Rubrics to Facilitate Faculty Performance Assessment.

Faculty member David Thomas and undergraduate students Ashley Miller and Beth Ann Young, presented two papers as part of the Research Consortium of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance at their annual conference held in Philadelphia April 1-5. The papers were entitled: Muscular Fitness Profile of Collegiate Cheerleaders. A.L. Miller, D.Q. Thomas, B.A. Young, T.L. Holmes, T.K. Rudsell, & J.G. Seegmiller and Body Composition and Aerobic Fitness Profile of Collegiate Cheerleaders. B.A. Young, D.Q. Thomas, A.L. Miller, T.L. Holmes, T.K. Rudsell, & J.G. Seegmiller.

Diana Jones and Jim King, physical educator at Eureka Middle School, presented a program entitled, "Making Connections Between Schools, Universities, and Communities through Adventure Education" at the national AAHPERD convention in Philadelphia on April 5th.

TECHNOLOGY

On April 10th at the monthly meeting in Decatur, IL, Chuck Brumley, a Technology student in the Construction Management sequence, received the ASQ John Henry Scholarship Award sponsored by the Central Illinois Section 1200 of the American Society for Quality. He was nominated by Dr. Hank Campbell. Also receiving scholarship awards were a top student in quality studies from the Industrial Technology Department at Eastern Illinois University and one from the Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department at University of Illinois.

At the recent Epsilon Pi Tau initiation ceremony, Dan Brown was awarded the Laureate Citation. Epsilon Pi Tau is the International Honorary for Professions in Technology.

Richard Boser was a member of the American Council for Construction Education accreditation visiting team at the University of Florida Rinker School of Building Construction from April 5-7.

Richard Boser attended the Associated Schools of Construction Annual Conference at Clemson University from April 8-12. He served as a monitor for the research paper presentations and also attended the Board of Directors meeting as the representative for the Great Lakes Region.

Dr. Anu A. Gokhale presented a refereed paper "Curriculum and Instruction in US versus India in Information Technology- A Fulbright Experience" and led a roundtable discussion on "Strategies to Promote Female Participation in Science and Technology-An NSF Funded Project" at SITE 2003, Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 24-29, 2003.

IMPORTANT DATES

April 21-25 CAST sponsored “Science & Technology Week.”

Thursday April 24 Spring College Faculty Meeting

Friday April 25 Graduate Student Research Symposium BSC, 9:00-1:30

Saturday May 10 CAST Commencement, 1:00 pm

May 13-16 Grant Writing Workshop (applications Due to Deb Gentry on April 18)