African plant can be grown in Illinois, shows promise as wood substitute

By Jim Barlow
News Bureau Staff Writer

S
amples of potential wall-sheathing, sub-flooring, tiles and interior car panels are seen through a photo by Bill Wiegand.

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News Bureau Staff Writer

Southern Illinois have been as much as 7 tons of dry fiber. What is missing, however, is industry demand for fibers harvested from trees.

Corn is a primary crop in Illinois, but a new use for it would add yet more value. Kenaf is new to the state – grown only by Chow and Robert J. Lambert, a UI professor emeritus of crop science – but it could be a viable, alternative income-producing crop in Illinois, Chow said.

What is missing, however, is industry demand for its fibers, which replace wood in products made in parts of Africa, Europe and Asia. Chow’s initial research on kenaf, a plant native to east-central Africa, already has helped to improve Texas-grown crops that find their way into newswraper.

A need for non-wood fibers is approaching, Chow says. Each American uses some 700 pounds of paper a year. The U.S. paper industry alone produces more than 200,000 tons of paper and paperboard daily, using natural fibers called cellulose taken from wood such as fir, pine and oaks.

Chow is urging Illinois farmers to consider using small portions of set-aside land to experiment with kenaf to broaden the state’s knowledge base, “so when the market is ready, we’ll be ready.” Kenaf grows quickly, up to 10-15 feet high, into a forest of narrow poles and leaf-colored branches. Yields per acre on a test plot in Southern Illinois have been as much as 7 tons of dry fiber.

“Growing kenaf lets you produce a fiber similar to that made from wood, but you can do it in 150 days,” he said. “Compare that with the time it takes to plant and grow a tree to maturity. We know how to grow kenaf in Illinois. You don’t have to buy new equipment, just modify existing machinery.”

The research – led by Chow, Lambert and J.A. Youngquist of the USDA Forest Products Laboratory in Madison, Wis. – is part of a value-added project funded by the Illinois Council for Food and Agricultural Research and the USDA Forest Service. Their findings have garnered attention worldwide.

At the Third Annual American Kenaf Society Con-

Research news

Wood alternatives

Poo Chow, a professor of wood science, is experimenting with non-wood fiber crops to show that it’s possible to make high-quality products and reduce the demand for fibers harvested from trees. In addition it could increase demand for current Illinois crops, such as corn, or introduce alternative income-producing crops, such as the African plant kenaf.

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David Daniel named dean of engineering

By James E. Kloeppe1
News Bureau Staff Writer

At its March 8 meeting in Urbana, the UI Board of Trustees approved David E. Daniel, head of the department of civil and environmental engineering, as the next dean of the College of Engineering.

David Daniel has proven to be a skilled leader, outstanding teacher and scholar, and he has had an impressive tenure as head of his department,” Provost Richard Herman said. 

David E. Daniel

Leaving his Mark

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UI researchers find osteoporosis drugs combat malaria, other diseases

By Jim Barlow
News Bureau Staff Writer

A series of bisphosphonate drugs already approved to treat osteoporosis and other bone disorders in humans carry potent anti-parasitic activity, offering a new approach to the treatment of malaria, sleeping sickness and AIDS-related infections such as toxoplasmosis.

Researchers from the UI, the Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research in Caracas and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine report their findings in the March 15 issue of the Journal of Medicinal Chemistry. The paper is online at the journal’s Web site.

“It’s a very welcome development to find a class of compounds that have strong anti-parasitic activity and are already approved for use in humans,” said Eric Oldfield, a UI professor of chemistry and biophysics. “New drugs are urgently required in the less developed nations, since the parasites are becoming drug resistant at an alarming rate. And many of the current drugs are either too expensive or too toxic to be used routinely.”

Oldfield and veterinary pathology professor Roberto Docampo and Silvia Moreno led a team of eight UI researchers on the paper. Julio A. Urbina and Simon L. Croft headed the teams from Venezuela and London, respectively.

Parasitic protozoan diseases are the world’s most widespread human health problem. An estimated 3 billion people suffer from one or more parasitic infections. Plasmodium falciparum, the causative agent of malaria, infects 500 million people a year, resulting in 2 million to 3 million deaths a year, while Trypanosoma brucei, Trypanosoma cruzi and Leishmania species cause 20 million disease cases annually. The organism Toxoplasma gondii is the causative agent of AIDS-endemic encephalitis.

The most common treatments for these parasitic diseases often cause adverse side effects, requiring a stoppage of treatment. The bisphosphonate drugs are active against the causative agents of African sleeping sickness, Chagas’ disease, malaria, leishmaniasis and toxoplasmosis, the scientists found. The drugs — such as Merck’s Fosamax, Procter & Gamble’s Actonel and Novartis’ Aredia — act much as they do in inhibiting bone resorption, by targeting and inhibiting a specific enzyme, farnesylpyrophosphoryl synthase, in the parasites. (The names of the three drugs are registered trademarks of their respective manufacturers.)

The specificity is thought to be due in part to enhanced uptake into specialized granules called acidocalcisomes, which were discovered by Docampo and Moreno and are present in all of the parasitic cells. “These granules are chemically similar to bone,” Docampo said, “and we think this may contribute to drug uptake and selectivity.”

The National Institutes of Health, World Health Organization, Burroughs Wellcome Fund, Howard Hughes Medical Institutes and the American Heart Association, Midwest, funded the work.

New findings: A report in the March 15 issue of the Journal of Medicinal Chemistry outlines new uses for a series of bisphosphonate drugs already approved to treat osteoporosis and other bone disorders in humans. The UI research team was led by, from left, Eric Oldfield, professor of chemistry and biophysics, and veterinary pathology professors Silvia Moreno and Roberto Docampo.

Engineers from Page 1

“We believe he has all the qualities that will sustain this university’s exemplary record of achievement in engineering education and research.”

Daniel earned his bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees at the University of Texas at Austin. He was a member of the civil engineering faculty at UT-Austin from 1981 to 1996 and then joined the faculty at the UI. He was named Gutegoll Professor in 2000.

Daniel’s research has focused on engineering containment systems for waste disposal and on the cleanup of contaminated waste disposal sites. He has won the American Society of Civil Engineers highest award for papers published in its journals. He served for three years as editor in chief for the Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering, and has served as a member of the National Research Council’s Board on Energy and Environment, and on its Geotechnical Board.

Daniel, who worked as an engineer for Woodward-Clyde Consultants in San Francisco in the early 1970s, has taught more than 125 continuing education and training courses on waste containment.
Expert proposes new ideas about technology, evolution

By Andrea Lynn
News Bureau Staff Writer

What distinguished near-modern humans from their predecessors 300,000 years ago, it is widely believed, was their ability to make and use complex tools, but there is no consensus among experts about how this dazzling leap in technology influenced human evolution.

In the March 2 issue of the journal Science, paleoanthropologist Stanley Ambrose challenges conventional wisdom about Paleolithic technology and hammers out a set of new hypotheses about our evolutionary odyssey. In his article, “Paleolithic Technology and Human Evolution,” Ambrose offers a comprehensive review of the evidence for tool-making and the evolution of hands and brains as a foundation upon which to propose ideas about the co-evolution of our ancestors’ technology, hands, brains and language. Complex tool-making, which required fine motor skills, problem-solving and task planning, he argues, may have influenced the evolution of the frontal lobes and co-evolved with the gift of grammatical language 300,000 years ago.

Bimanual tool use was the first major break-through. The ability to steady an object with one hand while working the object with a tool held in the other, led to preferential handedness. Habitual tool making and use “may have led to lateralization of brain function and set the stage for the evolution of language,” Ambrose said. The chimpanzee has poor bimanual coordination, no overall preference for right-handedness, weak precision grip and limited wrist mobility and thumb strength—anatomical features critical for making and using complex tools.

Ambrose, a professor of anthropology at the UI, traces early man’s ability to accomplish “complex fine motor control (FMC) non-repetitive action sequences involved with making complex tools” to the precursor of Broca’s area in the modern brain, which controls the oro-facial FMC, and thus, language—also a series of FMC non-repetitive sequences. Broca’s area is “adjacent to and probably has a common developmental origin with the hand’s FMC area,” Ambrose said.

“Grammatical language, planning complex tasks and composite tool use were closely related,” he said. “The ordering of sequences and the hierarchical assembly of the same components into different configurations makes tools of different functions and makes phrases of different meanings.” Gathering the components for composite tools (stone inserts, handles, binding materials) requires planning and coordinating different tasks before a tool is assembled. “The part of the frontal lobe that we now use for planning complex tasks may have co-evolved with composite tool-making around 300,000 years ago.”

As makers of single-component tools, we progressed at a remarkably slow pace between 2.5 and 0.3 million years ago. But “with the appearance of composite tools, near-modern brain size, anatomy and perhaps of grammatical language 300,000 years ago, the pace quickened exponentially. We became long-range planners and grammatical speakers. Composite tools made us what we are today.” ♦
Academic professionals honored for excellence with CAPE award

Unlike many teen-agers, Paul Bermingham knew exactly where he wanted to be. So he haunted the UI Carpenter Shop, repeatedly asking for a job, until one day he was hired. That exceptional perseverance and drive help explain why, during his 40-year career with the university, Bermingham rose steadily through the ranks. From his entry-level position as a mill-shop apprentice, he eventually became assistant director of Operation and Maintenance, where he was responsible for 450 people and a $25 million operation. Bermingham retired Dec. 31, but only after ensuring that the right people and work-control systems were in place to sustain customer satisfaction and maximum productivity after his departure.

Over his many years with the university and in the various positions he held, Bermingham built a reputation as an innovative leader who willingly tackled difficult challenges and always delivered excellence. "There are VERY few people who consistently meet or rise above one's expectations – seldom more than a handful for whom your respect actually increases over the years," wrote Terry Ruprecht, chief facilities officer and associate vice chancellor for administration and human resources. "I needed a very special person to reduce the balkanization in the shops and begin to build a bridge to O&M management. The more I looked, the clearer it became that Paul Bermingham may have been the only one capable of this tough task."

Bermingham was instrumental in achieving better relationships between O&M and other elements as well as with the labor unions. His expertise and reputation for integrity made him a valued member of the Laboratory Animal Care Advisory Committee and the Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers, a national group dedicated to improving management of universities' facilities.

An amiable problem-solver, Bermingham spearheaded the $500,000 renovations to the animal research and farm facilities to ensure they would meet the revised accreditation standards. These renovations enabled scientists to continue their research with continued access to vital sources of research funding, said Donald Holt, senior associate dean in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

Bermingham also led the clean-up efforts after the Boneyard flood in 1993.

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For the past 12 years, the Chancellor’s Academic Professional Excellence Award has recognized outstanding UI academic professional staff members. Thirty-three nominations were considered by the selection committee this year, and the committee unanimously recommended three winners to Chancellor Michael Aiken.

This year’s three CAPE Award winners were selected based on their outstanding contributions in their professional fields, within the unit and campus and for the positive impact each has had on colleagues, students and the public.

The winners will be honored at an award ceremony and reception from 4 to 5:30 p.m. March 29 in the Pine Lounge of the Illini Union.

Each CAPE Award winner will receive $2,000 at the ceremony and a base salary increase of $1,000 effective Aug. 21. In addition, $3,000 will be added to their departments’ budgets to be used at their discretion to benefit their workplaces.

**Vera D. Mainz, director
Vairan-Oxford Instrument Center for Excellence, School of Chemical Sciences

"Dr. Vera Mainz epitomizes the reasons the CAPE Award was created," Scott Denmark, R.C. Fuson professor of chemistry, wrote in his nomination letter. "I am absolutely convinced that we are better faculty [members], researchers and students because Dr. Mainz is our colleague."

Mainz also is the founder of the Association of Managers in Magnetic Resonance Laboratories, a professional alliance that meets annually to exchange information about technical advances. She also chairs the American Chemical Society’s Division of History.

During her years at the university, Mainz has served as a mentor for graduate students and as an advocate for other academic professionals through her work on the Professional Advisory and University Professional Personnel committees.

"Dr. Vera Mainz is one of the reasons that the SCS maintains its national stature of professional excellence," wrote Thomas B. Rauhuffman, director of the School of Chemical Sciences. "The spectacular success of our faculty and students in garnering recognition in the form of awards, grants, fellowships and the like is due, in no small part, to Dr. Mainz."
Forms to be returned to campus office

Brief notes

The Office of the Secretary of State will send notification letters and forms to UI employees who are required to file Statements of Economic Interests under the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act.

Employees who receive notification from the Secretary of State should return their completed Economic Interests forms as soon as possible to: Richard O. Traver, Ethics Officer and Executive Director of University Audits, 505 E. Green St., Suite 206, MC-498.

Traver, in turn, will forward them to the Office of the Secretary of State.

Employees with questions about the criteria for filing these statements may consult the University Office of Human Resources Web page at http://hrm.uiui.edu/economic.html and the ethics Web page at http://ethics.uiui.edu/.

For more information, or to register, visit www.ips.uiuc.edu/filc/filip.html, or call 333-1990.

College of Law

Women’s Law Symposium

The Annual Women’s Law Symposium, titled “Women’s Rights Across Borders,” will be from 4 to 7:30 p.m. March 29 at the College of Law Auditorium.

The Derha Nussbaum from the University of Chicago will give the keynote address, “Sex Equality, Liberty and Privacy: A Comparative Approach.”

A panel of respondents will feature UI law professors Frances Boyle and Alice de Sturler; law student Htilina Tamrat; Winnie Poster, UI sociology professor; and Gale Summerfield, director of the Gender and Global Perspectives Program and professor of human and community development.

For more information and to register, visit www.law.uiuc.edu/students/organizations/wls/Home.htm.

Milton Derber Lecture

Blau to address gender pay gap

Francine D. Blau, the Frances Perkins Professor of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University, will address the pay gap between men and women during the Milton Derber Lecture at 3 p.m. March 30 in the Wagner Education Center of the Labor and Industrial Relations Building. Her lecture is titled “The Gender Pay Gap: Going, Going … But Not Gone.”

A UI professor of economics and labor and industrial relations between 1983 and 1994, Blau is the author of “Equal Pay in the Office” and, with UI economist Marionne A. Ferber and Anne Winkler, of “The Economics of Women, Men and Work.”

The Lecture is sponsored by the UI Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, is free and open to the public.

Conference coaches technology entrepreneurs

TechStart 2001 is April 10

Courtney Price, critically acclaimed author of “Courtney Price Answers the Most Asked Questions From Entrepreneur,” will be the keynote speaker at TechStart 2001, being held at the UI on April 10.

Price is an internationally recognized management writer, lecturer and consultant conducting seminars on entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation worldwide for corporations, government and professional organizations.

TechStart is the second annual conference to support technology entrepreneurs, and features information and expertise on a variety of issues related to launching and sustaining a successful technology business. TechStart 2001, which is sponsored by techComm/Unity and Bank of Illinois, is open to the public. Registration by April 6 is required. Cost is $20 for students; $35 for non-students.

To register online, go to www.techCommUnity.org. By mail, contact Liz Kellner, techComm/Unity, 1817 S. Neil St., Suite 201, Champaign, IL 61820. For questions or registration by phone, call 355-5659.

Richard G. & Carole J. Cline Symposium

Friedman to speak on globalization

Thomas Friedman, a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning writer and foreign-affairs columnist for The New York Times, will discuss globalization and its impact at 7:30 p.m. March 29 in 112 Gregory Hall. The Derber Lecture, sponsored by the UI Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations at Cornell University, will be held at the UI on April 10.

Friedman is the author of the current bestseller ‘The Lexus and the Olive Tree’ and of ‘From Beirut to Jerusalem’; which won a 1989 National Book Award.

For more information, or to register, visit www.ips.uiuc.edu/filc/filip.html, or call 333-1990.

Cozad Lecture

CEO to speak on entrepreneurship

Anthony DiTommaso, president and chief executive officer of Infram Inc., will speak on “Career Fulfillment From Entrepreneurism” at the V. Dale Cozad Lecture in the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign at 5 p.m. April 3 in 152 Main Hall.


The lecture, named after the founder of Cozad Asset Management, is free and open to the public.

Campus Recreation

Family fun is safari-style March 30

Campus Recreation will host its second Family Fun Night from 5:30 to 9 p.m. March 30 at the Intramural-Physical Education Building.

This event is free and open to the community. The safari-themed night will introduce kids and parents to camps, programs and adventure clinics offered for the summer. Snorkeling, sand art, face painting, hockey and a scavenger hunt are some of the events scheduled for the evening. To receive more information, call 265-0779.

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Child Development Laboratory

Child care deadline is April 1

The UI Child Development Laboratory is now accepting applications for the 2000-01 school year. Half-day preschool programs for 2-, 3- and 4-year-old children meet Tuesday through Friday for three hours a day during the regular academic year. Full-day childcare programs for 3- and 4-year-old children are from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday year-round. For further information, or to obtain an application, or schedule a classroom visit, contact Debbie Trouth at 244-8063 or visit www.childui.edu. The application deadline is April 1.

The Heterojunction

Nobel laureate to speak March 15

The 2000 Nobel laureate, Zhores Alferov, will speak on "The Heterojunction: Its Origin, Its Science and Technology" at the lecture sponsored by the electrical and computer engineering department, the Microelectronics Laboratory and the physics department, will be at 7 p.m. March 15 in 151 Everett Lab.

Alferov is the director of Lebed Physical-Technical Institute in St. Petersburg, Russia. In December, Alferov shared the Nobel Prize in Physics for developing semiconductor heterostructures used in high-speed- and opto-electronics.

See BRIEFS, Page 6
The Office of Academic Human Resources, Suite 420, 607 S. Wright St., maintains listings of academic openings that can be viewed during regular business hours. Applications are invited from minority and female candidates. For Academic professional positions; www.uiuc.edu/jobs. Faculty job opportunity announcements are also available online (http://www2.ad.uiuc.edu/academic). Applications and materials from visiting professionals and students from underrepresented groups must be received within 2 weeks after the advertised date. Employees and students can receive e-mail notification of open positions that are of interest to them by accessing the Academic Human Resources Web site. User Information at http://webster.uiuc.edu/ahr/default.asp?acjob.

Admissions and Records. Visiting assistant to the director. Bachelor’s degree and one year’s relevant experience required; master’s degree and three years’ relevant experience preferred. Valid driver’s license required. Available. April 9. Contact Gregory Perry, 333-0082. Closing date: March 16.

Admissions and Records, Director of Division of Student Services. Associate director. Graduate or bachelor’s degree with equivalent experience required, preferred. Available immediately. July 1. Contact Nancy Wilson, 333-8307. Closing date: March 16.

Business and Financial Services, Financial Analyst. Bachelor’s degree in business administration, accounting, administration, or a minimum of three years’ experience in accounting or a related field required. Immediately available. Contact V. Gordon Oyewo, 263 Henry Administration Building, 505 S. Wright St., 217-333-1100. Closing date: March 16.

Computer Science, Research information specialist. Bachelor’s degree required. Excellent knowledge of spoken and written English required. A high degree of facility with computer systems such as MS Office (required), available immediately. Contact Lorie Molich, 244-7490 or molich@uiuc.edu. Closing date: March 16.

Computing and Communications Services, Visiting research professor. Visiting professor with a Ph.D. or equivalent credential in computer science, or computer engineering. Experience in the design, development, or use of Macintosh computers or UNIX computing platforms on TCP/IP networks required. Immediately available. Submit CV, a one-page statement of research and service activities, and three letters of recommendation. Available immediately. Contact Donna Swain, 1120 Digital Computer Science, 209 S. Goodwin Ave., 217-333-1100. Closing date: March 16.

Crop Sciences, Senior research specialist in agriculture. PhD in computer science or related field required. Research experience in the development of online databases, genealogies, gene flow analysis and molecular methods required. Knowledge of genealogy, C, Perl, or other statistical programming language. Available immediately. Contact UI-Integrate Research Foundation, 600 N. Mathews St. 217-333-2624. Closing date: March 16.

Electrical and Computer Engineering, Advisory committee. Bachelor’s degree at minimum required. A substantial number of graduate-level courses in the area appropriate to the position, plus a high degree of familiarity with spreadsheet and database applications required. Available immediately. Contact P. Harris, 333-2060 or pharris@uiuc.edu. Closing date: March 16.

Environmental Health and Safety, Chemical safety specialist. Advanced degree in biomedical sciences in a related life science field with substantial work experience in the area is required. Immediately available. Contact Todd Hoelscher, Division of Environmental Health and Safety, 101 S. Gregory St., MC-225, 217-333-7984. Closing date: March 16.

Fine and Applied Arts Administration, Assistant/associate dean for undergraduate student affairs and a member of the division’s dean’s office. Bachelor’s degree preferred. Fine arts discipline, preferably music, theater, or dance. Experience working with non-profit or private sector employers. Must be a US citizen or legal resident. Available: Aug. 21. Contact Robert Graves, 333-1660 or rgraves@uiuc.edu. Closing date: March 16.

Housing Division, Computer network administrator specialist. Bachelor’s degree in computer science or equivalent degree required. Basic knowledge of Microsoft Windows NT and Windows 2000 server operating systems, Windows NT and Internet communication protocols required. Available immediately. Contact Donna Swain, 1120 Digital Computer Science, 209 S. Goodwin Ave., 217-333-1100. Closing date: March 16.

Instructional Resources, Division of. Engineering, Services coordinator. Bachelor’s degree required. Availability of experience with project management, UNIX and Windows NT is required. Excellent writing skills, verbal communication skills, and ability to work well under pressure required. Available immediately. Contact UI-Integrate Research Foundation, 600 N. Mathews St. 217-333-2624. Closing date: March 16.

Instructional Resources, Coordinator of network and system operations. BA or BS with two to five years’ experience administering local area or campus scale networks and information systems, working knowledge of VLAN management and operation required. Knowledge and experience working with Microsoft Windows NT and Windows 2000 server operating systems, MS Internet Explorer and Netscape Web browsers, along with working knowledge of UNIX is required. Immediately available. Contact UI-Integrate Research Foundation, 600 N. Mathews St. 217-333-2624. Closing date: March 16.

Intrahospital Biologic, Academic advisor: Master’s degree and one year’s experience in an area of expertise in the field of biologic. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills required. Available immediately. June 4. Contact Academic Advisor, 333-0396. Closing date: March 16.

Intrahospital Biologic, Clinical director. Assistant to the head flight doctor. Bachelor’s degree required; three years’ coaching or relevant administrative experience required. Available immediately. Contact Ron Turner, 333-3878. Closing date: March 16.

Library, Visiting research programmer (support specialist). Bachelor’s degree and a minimum one-year’s experience in computer systems implementation and maintenance required. Demonstrated experience with UNIX operating system, microcomputer, workstations, network technologies and client server technologies (using knowledge of integrated UNIX and Solaris, or Windows NT and allied hardware) required. Available immediately. Contact Cindy Kelly, 333-8180 or mkelly@uiuc.edu. Closing date: March 16.

Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, Visiting research specialist. BS degree in aquatic science and related required; experience with study of DNA sequence analysis and molecular biological techniques required. Available immediately. Contact LaAnn Schaff, 244-1484. Closing date: March 16.

Sustainability, Director of budget and resource planning. Bachelor’s degree with at least three years’ management experience involving research administration and work with diverse campus units. Excellent written and oral communication skills, a thorough understanding of the federally sponsored research regulations and rates, experience working with campus resources and campus infrastructure required. Available immediately. Contact LuAnn Schiff, 244-1484. Closing date: March 16.

Publications and Marketing, Media/communications specialist (design). Bachelor’s degree (preferably in art, graphic design or design related field) with at least three years’ experience required. Available: May 1. Contact Don Miles, 333-2424. Closing date: March 16.

Student Financial Aid, Student financial aid administrator. Bachelor’s degree required. Experience in financial aid administration or a combination of experience with the America Rebuild Program required. Master’s degree preferred. Available immediately. Contact UI-Integrate Research Foundation, 600 N. Mathews St. 217-333-2624. Closing date: March 16.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is an Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action Employer. Employers: For information regarding the state’s online employment center, go to www.pacis.uiuc.edu. To complete an online employment application and to apply at an equal opportunity employer. Available immediately. Contact the online Employment Center at www.pacis.uiuc.edu/jobs.

Academic Professional Positions: www.uihr.uillinois.edu/jobs. Faculty positions: www.uihr.uillinois.edu/jobs. Submit an exam request, visit the online Employment Center at www.pacis.uiuc.edu/jobs. View faculty opportunities at http://webster.uiuc.edu/ahr/default.asp#acjob. Faculty positions may be submitted to the academic jobs listserve (look under Career Communications). Faculty positions may be submitted by subscribing to the academic jobs listserve (look under Career Communications). Academic positions may be submitted by subscribing to the academic jobs listserve (look under Career Communications). To view Professional positions: www.uihr.uillinois.edu/jobs. Faculty job opportunity announcements are also available online (http://www2.ad.uiuc.edu/academic). Applications and materials from visiting professionals and students from underrepresented groups must be received within 2 weeks after the advertised date. Employees and students can receive e-mail notification of open positions that are of interest to them by accessing the Academic Human Resources Web site. User Information at http://webster.uiuc.edu/ahr/default.asp?acjob.

The Provost’s Initiative on Teaching Advancement (PITA) is now accepting proposals for projects to begin during the 2001-02 fiscal year. PITA provides resources for enabling faculty to work toward the goals of continuous improvement in teaching and learning. The due date for proposals is April 15. For more information about project criteria and for an application, visit the Provost’s Web site, www.provost.uiuc.edu/ departments/taha/pita.html.

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Trustees ratify student charges, approve appointments and contracts

By Craig Chamberlain
News Bureau Staff Writer

The UI Board of Trustees spent considerable time at its meeting March 7-8 in Urbana on the issue of Rich Illiniewk and a report on the status of women. But in other business, the board:

• "Ratified" student charges for fiscal year 2001-02, including tuition, fees and housing rates.
• The trustees originally were scheduled to vote on the charges at this March meeting, but went ahead with a motion to approve them at its meeting in January.
• Continuing undergraduate students will pay an additional 3 percent, 4 percent and 5 percent, respectively, for tuition at the Chicago, Springfield and Urbana campuses.
• New students at Urbana, however, will pay an additional $500 per year in fall 2001 and an additional $1,000 per year starting in the fall of 2002.
• Student fees were increased 4.3 percent at Chicago, 4.5 percent at Urbana, and 26 percent at Springfield. Room and board rates were increased 3 percent at Chicago and 4.5 percent at Urbana, based on a standard plan of double occupancy and 14 meals per week.
• At UIS, the increase was 3.7 percent for a four-bedroom apartment.
• Approved an increase in the enrollment deposit for new Urbana freshmen from $30 to $200. The increase was requested to minimize the number of students who indicate an intent to enroll but then do not.
• According to administration officials, the deposit would be waived for students for whom paying the deposit would create a financial hardship. Deposits are credited to student accounts upon enrollment.
• The $30 deposit had been in effect since 1963.
• Approved the appointment of Richard D. Ringsenberg as chancellor of the Springfield campus, effective April 1. He will succeed Naomi B. Lynn, who is retiring.
• Ringsenberg, the vice chancellor for academic affairs at East Carolina University, Greenville, N.C., was recommended to the board following an eight-month national search. He also will hold the rank of professor in the Mathematical Sciences Program at UIS.
• Appointed the appointment of Avijit Ghosh as dean of the College of Commerce and Business Administration on the Urbana campus, effective Aug. 21. He will succeed Frederick L. Neumann, currently serving as interim dean. (His pending appointment was featured in the Feb. 15 issue of Inside Illinois.)
• Approved John D. Colombo, professor of law and acting associate dean of the College of Law at Urbana, as the college’s acting dean, effective March 21 through June 4. He will serve in the absence of Dean Thomas M. Mengler, while he is a visiting scholar at Katholieke University Leuven in Belgium.
• Amended the contract of Ron Turner, head football coach on the Urbana campus, extending the term of his contract by one year, to January 2006, and increasing his compensation.
• The coach’s base salary was increased by $10,000, to $195,000 for 2001, and compensation for radio and television broadcasting services was increased by $15,000, to $265,000.
• Combined with $240,000 in compensation for educational, public relations, consulting, and promotional activities, which did not increase, this brings Turner’s total compensation to $700,000 in 2001.
• Approved the appointment of Linda M. Scott as head of the department of advertising on the Urbana campus, beginning March 12. Scott is an associate professor in the department, and had served as its interim head since last year.
• Approved the appointment of Michael D. Sullivan as head of the department of physics on the Urbana campus, beginning May 18. Sullivan has been a member of the department faculty since 1973.
• Approved the appointment of Alexis M. Tate as interim executive director of the University Office of Public Affairs, effective Feb. 1. of this year. Tate has worked in the office since 1985, and held the position of associate director since 1987. She succeeds Susan Trebach, who resigned.
• Delegated authority to award contracts for an $11 million first phase of remodeling of Chicago Circle Center at UIC.
• Approved employment of an architect/engineer for design of a $30 million classroom and office building on the Springfield campus.
• Approved employment of an architect/engineer for design of an $18 million south campus parking deck on the Chicago campus, which will accommodate 600-700 vehicles.
• Approved design plans for a research incubator facility to be located in the South Center Research Park on the Urbana campus. The facility will be located on the northeast corner of Hazelwood Drive and Oak Street Extended.
• Authorized the university comptroller to acquire three pieces of real estate necessary for construction of the Thomas M. Siebel Center for Computer Science on the north side of the Urbana campus – either through purchase or power of eminent domain.
• Gave similar authorization to acquire properties needed for south campus development on the Urbana campus.

Committee reports to trustees on status of women at UI campuses

By Craig Chamberlain
News Bureau Staff Writer

The UI Board of Trustees is in the habit of responding to reports, not conducting them. But the trustees decided to do some research on their own in November 1999 after receiving a report on the status of female faculty members on the Urbana campus.

The report came from the Urbana cam- pus’ Chancellor’s Committee on the Status of Women (CCSW) and raised serious concerns about promotion, pay and hiring of female faculty members – particularly in relation to peer institutions.

The report got some added attention because it followed a similar and highly public- ized study earlier that year at the Massa- chusets Institute of Technology.

A committee of three, chaired by now- former trustee Martha O’Malley, Belleville, spent more than a year on the effort – a combination of data gathering, interview- ing and public meetings, with significant assistance and cooperation from UI ad- ministrators and staff members. They de- livered their written report, including rec- ommendations, at the board’s March 7-8 meeting in Urbana.

In its general assessment of the three campuses and university administration, the committee had significant praise for the climate for women at UIC. “The Chi- cago campus appears to be very supportive of women and women report a supportive environment,” the report said.

The committee had significant praise for the climate for women at UIC. “Life is good for women at UIC,” the committee noted, among them being that the east side of the campus was established in the mid- 1960s, a “time of ferment” in higher educa- tion, and a time when many women were joining college faculties.

At Urbana, the committee found “mixed results” with negative reactions from women on their situation on that campus,” said the report. Concerns ranged from perceived salary inequities, to campus safety, to child care.

In one section of the report, the commit- tee noted particular concerns about the climate for women on the campus, es- pecially in certain units. “The trustees realize that some colleges on the campus have traditionally been nearly all male and that while the representation of women is much greater today than even 10 years ago, there are serious instances of sexism and sexual harassment.”

At Springfield, the committee said a principal problem, due in part to the cam- pus’ small size, was isolation and lack of support for women who find themselves alone in their units.

Even when noting problems, the com- mittee was careful also to emphasize posi- tive programs that have been developed, as well as its general perception that campus administrators were supportive of past and future efforts.

Along with O’Malley and Plummer, the committee also included a student trustee – first UIS student trustee Melissa Neely, and former trustee Martha O’Malley, Belleville, as the college’s interim executive director.

The committee also held a session at each campus, “there are no significant differ- ences in hiring and promotions for men and women faculty members.”

Among the statistics and observations for Urbana:

• “Tenure outcomes of men and women are remarkably similar,” running at about 67 percent for both.
• Of 25 senior administrators, 11 (or 44 percent) are women.
• Based on a salary-equity study by the campus, “there are no significant differ- ences in salaries of women faculty and men faculty.”

Among the statistics and observations for Springfield:

• “Women are clearly apparent in the recruitment of female faculty members overall, and in some units in particular. “On the other hand, there remain some areas where little progress has occurred,” and 14 departments were identified as having “fewer female faculty than the availability statistics predict,” including six with no female faculty members.
• The tenure rate is 58.1 percent for men and 52.1 percent for women, “not statisti- cally significant,” but still worth closer examination. And several units with wider gaps might merit more review.
• Efforts to retain women, especially those at the level of assistant and associate professor, might be stymied by unusually heavy demands for them serving on committees and in other administrative capacities.

Chairman’s remarks at the end of the report on the central university administration were relatively

SEE STATUS OF WOMEN, Page 12
A sound combination

The Paul Dresher Ensemble Electro-Acoustic Band performs at 8 p.m. March 24 in the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. Composer and pianist Terry Riley performs with the group.

Dresher formed the band in 1993 in an effort to address the needs of contemporary composers: "This ensemble has two defining ideas, one technical and one musical," Dresher said. "If we want to integrate, in a profound way, traditional acoustic instruments with the rapidly evolving resources of contemporary music technology — Musically, my goal is to bring to as wide an audience as possible a reperatory of contemporary chamber music."

Riley has been at the forefront of contemporary composers for nearly 40 years, working in movements as varied as minimalism and new-age music and influencing rock groups such as The Who and Tangerine Dream. He describes the piano concerto he is writing and will perform with Dresher’s band as "a harmonious and dynamic dialogue between friends and excellent musicians who each have a part of the story to tell."

March 15 to April 8

Entries for the calendar should be sent 15 days before the desired date to appear in Inside Illinois Calendar, News Bureau, 807 S. Wright St., Suite 520 East, Champaign, IL 61820, or to insideill@uiuc.edu. More information is available from Marty Yeakel at 333-0865. The online UIUC Events Calendar is at www.uiuc.edu/calendar/cal.html.
Inside Illinois
March 15, 2001

CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Friday March 16
30 Friday
“Feeding Fuel to a Powerful Energy Generating Ma-
chine: Cytochrome c Oxidase.” Shekhar M.
Ferguson-Miller, Michigan State University. 2 p.m. LeRoy E.
Lounge, Foreign Languages Building.
“The Bubble” and Beyond: The Evolution of a New
Urban Architectural Culture in Japan.” Botolou Bognar, UI. 5 p.m.
“The Ploemaeus Universe.” Wolfgang Huheer, University of
Classics: A Censored “Duals and Duels in
Egypt.” Rita A. Faulkner, UI. 8 p.m. Foellinger Great Hall.
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Master of Music Recital. Owen Rockwell, trumpet. 1 p.m. Recital Hall, Smith Hall.

Laurien Laufman, cello; and Jiang, violin; Susan Teicher, piano. 7 p.m. Krannert Center. "French Chamber Music: Duo for Cello and Piano" with Sinfonia da Camera.


Master of Music Accompanying Recital. Dana Jones Milan, piano. 7 p.m. Memorial Room, Smith Hall.

Thursdays

3 Tuesday Emerson String Quartet. 8 p.m. Foellinger Great Hall, Kranert Center. Eugene Drucker and Philip Setzer, violin; Lawrenceutton, violin; David Funckel, cello. Admission charge: $12.50, $7.50, $5.50, $2.50.

7 Friday

7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Dance Refrshal Studio, Kranert Center. UI department of dance seniors present two concerts of their works. Admission charge.
Choreographer Mark Morris begins three-year collaboration with Krannert Center

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

The Washington Post called choreogra-
pher Mark Morris “our Mozart of modern dance.”

Others refer to him in less poetic terms, re-
ferring to him simply as one of the world’s lead-
ing contemporary performers.

No matter what you call him, Michael Ross, director of the UI’s Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, is just thrilled that Morris will be coming to call at the UI on a regular basis during the next three years.

“This season, and in each of the next two, Mark Morris and his company will come to Krannert Center for both public performances and residency activities that will generate close contact between Mark, his company and UI faculty (mem-
bers) and students as well as community members,” Ross said. “Each set of resi-
dency activities will include master classes and workshops, as well as ‘idea sessions’.

The first such session will take place at 11 a.m. March 30 in the Byrd Theatre.

That evening, and the following evening (March 31), the Mark Morris Dance Group will
take in the same theater at 8 p.m.

The choreographer and dancers will return to the stage following the March 30 perform-
ance for a talk back session with the audience. Preceding the March 31 dance concert, the company’s general manager, Barry Alterman, will host a chat about the company and Morris’s work at 7 p.m.

Ross is eager for the campus and local communities to have the opportunity to observe and connect with an artist of Mor-
ris’s caliber.

“The fact that individuals as varied as Susan Sontag, Baryshnikov, Yo-Yo Ma and Fredricka von Steade are passionately supportive of Mark speaks powerfully to the breadth of impact his work as a creative artist has had,” Ross said.

Among the characteristics of Morris’s style that sets him apart from other contem-
porary choreographers is his insistence on setting his dances to live music. “Mark is devoted to music – classical music in particular,” Ross said, adding that “even more particularly, he loves baroque music.” True to form, the Krannert Center program will include one of Morris’s signature works: Vivaldi’s “Gloria,” with musical accompaniment by the UI Chorale and Sinfonita da Cam-
ero.

Ross said the Krannert Center decided to extend the entered collaboration with Morris because “to engage in a multi-year relationship with an artist of this stature is to create the framework for a deeper explo-
ration of both the product – the dance works themselves in this case – and the process – the manner in which the artist generates such work – associated with such a distin-
guished career.

“In short, for this campus to have a deeper relationship with such a prominent, internationally renowned figure as I, I be-
lieve, a very special opportunity.”

CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10


31 Saturday Men’s Baseball. UI vs. Northwestern University. 4:05 and 6 p.m. Illinois Field. Admission charge.


1 Sunday Men’s Baseball. UI vs. Northwestern University. 1:05 p.m. Illinois Field. Admission charge.


4 Wednesday Men’s Baseball. UI vs. Western Michigan University. 4:05 p.m. Illinois Field. Admission charge.

Thursday Women’s Tennis. UI vs. Notre Dame University. 3 p.m. Atkins Tennis Center. Admission charge.

8 Sunday Women’s Tennis. UI vs. University of Iowa. Noon. Atkins Tennis Center. Admission charge.

et cetera

15 Tuesday Retirement Planning Series: “Financial Planning.” 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. 404 Illini Union. Learn the basics of financial planning and see how to put a plan into action. For more information and to register online, visit https://tessee.illinois.edu/UI/benefits/seminars or call 333-3111. Human Resources and Benefits.

20 Tuesday Meeting & Discussion: Asian American Studies Committee Spring 2001 Council Meeting. 4-6 p.m. 406 Illini Union. A talk and town-hall discussion with Shamina Singh, former executive director of the first White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islanders. For more information, call 244-9350. Asian American Studies Committee.

Scuba Clinic for Beginners. 6-8 p.m. IMPE Pool. The six-week course is the initial instructional phase to acquire your diving card. For more information, call 333-7250 or e-mail campuse@uiuc.edu. Admission charge. Campus Recreation.

Travel Adventure Series: “At Home in Austria.” 6:30 p.m. IIIlini Rooms A, B and C. Illini Union. With Charles Hartman. For more information and to make reservations, call 333-5660. Admission charge. Illini Union Faculty Staff Social Committee.

Kayak Rolling for Beginners. 10-12 p.m. IMPE pool. A 4-session clinic, this will be an introduction to great boats, boat fit, safety, rescues, and an introduction on how to roll a kayak. For more information, call 333-7250 or e-mail campuse@uiuc.edu. Admission charge. Campus Recreation.

22 Tuesday Retirement Planning Series: “Basics of Invest-
ment.” 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. 404 Illini Union. This interactive workshop introduces the fundamental concepts of investing. For more informa-
tion or to register online, go to https://tessee.illinois.edu/UI/benefits/seminars or call 333-3111. Human Resources and Benefits.


Coffee Hour: Japanese. 7:30 p.m. Millennium Student Center. "The White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islanders; Executive Director Bob Atkins..." For more information, call 367-3079 or e-mail campusrec@uiuc.edu. Admission charge. Campus Recreation.

24 Saturday Bike or Hike at Allerton. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Meet at the Outdoor Recreation Center. For more information, call 333-7250 or e-mail campuse@uiuc.edu. Admission charge. Campus Recreation.

25 Sunday Ice Fest. 1 p.m. Lobby, Krannert Center. Presenting a travelogue of cultures through the performing arts. Krannert Center Students Association International Dinner Series: Greek. 6 p.m. Cosmopolitan Club, 307 E. John St. Champaign. Members of the Hellenic Student Association will present the dinner. For more information and to make reservations, call 367-3079. Cosmopolitan Club.

27 Tuesday Tuesdays@Seven. "Beyond Smalley: Building Self Esteem." 7-9 p.m. 209 Illini Union. For more information, go to www.counselingcenter.uiuc.edu/counselingcenter/paraprofessionals.

29 Thursday Basics of Backpacking. 1-4 p.m. Outdoor Recreation Center. For more information, call 333-7250 or e-mail campuse@uiuc.edu. Campus Recreation.

See CALENDAR, PAGE 12
Starting March 17.

**AUTHOR’S NOTE:**

Though this month’s writing was rather abbreviated, it has been more than ten years, I suppose, since I’ve written about my personal employment history and experiences, and having decided to keep writing regularly here, I thought it worth re-introducing you to some further details of my career and academic life. A deeper look at my current position, the Public Information Officer for the University of Illinois, will follow in a future post.

In the meantime, I’ll keep sharing my reading and writing with you right here on Goodwin’s Way.

**SHERYL GOODWIN**