Cross-campus initiatives
Faculty retreat focuses on collaboration, innovation

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

Innovative research applications and interdisciplinary collaborations were the focus of discussions at a Feb. 27 faculty retreat at Levis Faculty Center.

During the morning session, faculty galvanized their separate group discussions around one of four broad themes provided by Chancellor Nancy Cantor and Provost Richard Herman: arts in a technology-intensive world, the humanities in a globalizing world, American institutions in a demographically changing world and biotechnology/ bioengineering in a nano world. Faculty members exchanged ideas about fields ripe for breakthroughs, critical societal issues and instructive opportunities related to these themes.

Group facilitators presented summaries of their groups’ discussions at the afternoon plenary session.

Faculty members’ recommendations were wide-ranging and included establishing an arts center on the Urbana campus where artists and scientists could more easily collaborate as well as a suggestion that the administration revamp the humanities curricula and the general education requirements.

Faculty members recommended directing research toward areas such as nanoscience applications in global resource management and security and into societal problems such as the economic impact of the burgeoning elderly population.

Many of the suggestions proffered by faculty were pragmatic and economical, only requiring a change in perception, said Christine Catanzarite, associate director of the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities.

“Tall order...”

“It was interesting to see that people have the templates in place to support the programming being suggested,” Catanzarite said. “We don’t need to reinvent the wheel because people are already talking about these things.”

Faculty groups also asked the administration to restructure academic policies that they believe are too stringent and preclude innovative course design and interdepartmental and intercollege co-teaching.

Faculty members also cautioned that the UI’s eminence in technology is eroding, and the university should strive to establish itself as a world leader in information technology by strengthening the human-technology interface.

While the faculty groups were enthusiastic about new research and educational opportunities, they also cautioned administrators that existing programs such as the humanities are underfunded and need support.

Some faculty members welcomed the opportunity to exchange ideas with their colleagues in smaller groups the morning of the faculty retreat Feb. 27. Facilitators representing each of the initiatives then presented suggestions gleaned from the groups at a plenary session in the afternoon.

New resource guide deals with violence prevention from birth to 18

By Craig Chamberlain
News Bureau Staff Writer

Bullies, video carnage, uncaring parents, access to guns. All have been pegged as a major cause — the only cause — of violence among children and youth.

Parents call the National Parent Information Network, at the UI, about all these subjects and more. Yet NPIN’s staff members found no easy-to-use, balanced guide on the topic. So they wrote one.

The result, published last month, is the “Violence Prevention Resource Guide for Parents,” a 91-page, spiral-bound booklet. It’s a parenting sound advice handbook, say authors Peggy Patten and Anne Robertson, both specialists on the NPIN staff.

“Our approach here is not to provide the answer,” Robertson said. The guide does not tell parents, “You need to do this, this and this...” and if you’re not doing this, you’ll feel guilty,” she said. The guide is designed to offer resources, but without adding to parents’ guilt.

Parents say the NPIN Network specialists, have written a violence prevention guide for parents.
Governor’s budget address confirms lean year

By Sabryna Cornish
UC News Bureau

A governor’s budget address confirms the lean year for next year. That forecast became more likely after Gov. George Ryan unveiled his proposed budget in his State of the Address Feb. 20.

“It appears the governor has tried to protect education as much as possible,” said Randy Kangas, director of university planning and budgeting.

However, the effects on the university and its campuses are not yet certain, Kangas said.

Ryan recommended that higher education as a whole receive about $2.6 billion, which is $29.3 million less than the current FY 2002 budget.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Continued from Page 1

marketplace,” Bohn said.

According to the 10-year development plan, the UI broke ground for the fourth building of the research park.

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Money for several UI building projects was included in Ryan’s budget. “We are grateful to be shielded with (the governor’s) capital commitments,” said UI President James J. Stukel.

Projects in the proposed budget:

• $73.5 million for Urbana’s Post Ge- nomic Institute
• $28.8 million for Urbana’s National Center for Supercomputing Applications
• $18 million to expand Urbana’s Micro- electronics Laboratory
• $25 million for continuing construction of Chicago’s College of Medicine building
• $57.6 million for construction of an advanced chemical technologies building at Chicago

The university also will receive funding for repairs and renovations, an important part of its deferred maintenance plan.

The UI and other state agencies cut their budgets mid-fiscal year after the state’s finances took a downward turn.

The university trimmed $34 million from its current budget, including $15.2 million at Urbana.

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FACULTY RETREAT, FROM PAGE 1

colleagues from other disciplines, de- partments and colleges.

“I am from the science side of the world, and we don’t get a chance very often to cross-polinate with people from law, the social sciences, the humanities and other disciplines,” said Mark Shannon, a professor of me- chanical and industrial engineering.

“We come with different assumptions and different languages. It was very dynamic and very useful.”

Michael Ross, director of Kranert Center for the Performing Arts, said he hoped the administration would provide ongoing opportunities for cross-campus interaction.

“For me, the gathering was a very encouraging manifestation of the team approach I sense between the chancellor’s, the dean’s and provost’s offices and across campuses,” Ross said.

Although the retreat’s timing might have seemed less than ideal given the university’s budgetary problems, Can- tor said it was an opportune time for faculty to investigate new research applications and nontradi- tional collaborations.

“We will be able to attract more resources to the campus in this way,” Cantor said at the plenary session.

“We’ve got to move forward. These are real leadership areas for this cam- pus.”

Cantor told the participants that she was grateful for the faculty’s willingness to redefine existing boundaries and explore new collaborations.

In his closing remarks, Herman assured faculty members that the admin- istration would support their ef- forts.

“We need to pledge our willing- ness to do things in new ways,” Herman said. “We will redesign things so that existing structures no longer get in the way. We will work on these issues to make your rich ideas come to fruition.”

Administration is reviewing the faculty members’ recommendations. Once the administration has design- ated the areas of focus, faculty/stu- dent work groups will be convened to develop implementation plans for new programs and curricula and to secure funding.

Inside Illinois

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Inside Illinois

March 7, 2002

On the job

Artice James

A 22-year employee of the UI, Artice James is a subforeman in the sheet metal shop in the Operation and Maintenance Division. James also is the president of the Champaign chapter of the National Council of African-American Men. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing.

Tell me a little about what you do every day.

The type of work we do is more or less heating and ventilation. We also get into some architecture sheet metal such as gutters, downspouts and copper roofs. It's a very rewarding trade.

We also get into special fabrications: fume hoods, range hoods for cooking and different types of wheeled janitor carts and table carts.

You said you found your work very rewarding.

Why?

We are one of the few trades that builds things from scratch. We take flat sheets of metal and form it into something worthwhile. I like the variety of work that we get into. One day, we could be building a stainless steel sink. The next day we might be putting in an air-handling unit or a heating and air conditioning unit.

What are some of the more unusual things your shop has built?

I think that at one time our shop built a stainless steel enclosure for a popcorn machine at the Assembly Hall. Years ago, when they had the Prairie State Games here, our shop made an Olympic torch out of stainless steel, and it had a burner in it. I was kind of proud of that. Somebody in our shop designed it.

Tell me a little bit about your educational background.

I graduated from Champaign Central High School. I went to a real small college for two years, the University of South Dakota at Springfield. I played basketball and played football there. In that whole school, there were only maybe eight black kids, me being one. It was a little different and took some adjusting.

What is the mission of the National Council of African-American Men?

The main focus is to create a more positive image of black males. We also have a community summit to talk about different problems and issues and try to come up with solutions. The summit has expanded to what we call now the Black Male Symposium. Parkland College is spearheading that. The symposium brings together different organizations from the community, such as NCAM, NAACP, the National Council of Negro Women and the United Way. We try to get the police chiefs involved too.

What types of issues is NCAM working on?

We are trying to come up with an action plan to address the large amount of black males in the criminal justice system and other problems plaguing the minority community. Maybe if we get different minds together we can come up with something that can make a difference.

Does NCAM do outreach programs?

One of the things that we have done is give scholarships to boys who are being good role models.

Every summer, we have a couple of camps for boys between the ages of 8 and 14. We’ve been averaging 27 to 30 kids; we’ve been doing it for probably seven years. One of the purposes is to try to introduce them to the outdoors: fishing, pitching tents, telling stories at the campfire.

We also try to give them a little black history or give them a male perspective, since a lot of these boys don’t have fathers around. On occasion, we have a speaker come and talk to them.

During the summer, we also build a float for the Fourth of July parade. This is for girls and boys.

At Douglass Center, we’re involved with the Easter Egg Hunt. We actually hide the eggs, help supervise the kids and support the hunt.

This year we are hoping to have a soapbox derby where we actually build cars and race them in teams. We try to introduce these kids to different things. If they’re not skilled at sports, maybe they’re skilled at designing something or working with their hands.

We mentor kids, but each guy does it in his own way. I have taken seven or eight kids to Ag Day and to basketball games. Some of the men may drop in at the schools and sit in on a class. I think if the kids see more men that are out there doing the right thing, maybe it will influence some kids not to go on the negative side.

—Interview by Sharita Forrest
The Fire Within

Benny Gomes, a lecturer in the UI’s theater department, helped design the ‘dancing mobiles’ costumes for the opening ceremonies’ “The Fire Within” number of the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. The costumes, some of which towered 40 feet high and spanned 32 feet in width, were the largest costumes to date designed by the Callaloo Company.

The designers were charged with creating a dramatic but simple story and illustrating that story through a stadium-sized production number containing little or no narration. The design team conceived a scene akin to a Grimm fairy tale in which a child would wander through a magical winter forest and become lost in the darkness and would be beset by crows and a snowstorm of “scicle people” until the child was rescued by hundreds of other children carrying lights. “And that’s where we had 750 or other children coming into the stadium with their little lights,” Gomes said. “It was really a story of the human spirit but told with light.”

For the Trinidadian design team, an added challenge was that the adult performers, the dancing mobiles, would be ice skating rather than walking, in keeping with the season of the games. Thus, the team had to find a way to incorporate the skaters’ boots into the designs so they would not be obtrusive and demystify the illusion created by the rest of the costume. In addition, outfitting skaters also posed a few challenges for the designers because of the added speed and wind resistance. Yet another challenge was that the designers were working with a choreographer with whom they had never worked.

The designers also had to create the production keeping in mind that the major- ity of its viewers would see it by television rather than in person as they would a theater production. “Designing for the box, for television,” said Gomes, “is quite different than designing for the theater, which is an entirely different shape and style.”

Nonetheless, the performers and designers had only two dress rehearsals prior to the opening ceremonies. Frigid 30-degree weather and a television viewing audience of millions made for “controlled chaos,” Gomes said.

Throughout his 30 years with the Callaloo Company, Gomes has helped design costumes and stage productions for other major events, including the 1994 World Cup Soccer Tournament in Chicago and the 1987 Pan American Games in Indianapolis.

Gomes earned his undergraduate degree in theater production from Boston University and his master’s degree in light- design from the UI. Gomes joined the UI’s theater department in 1999. He has worked in costume and lighting design internationally, and his credits include produc- tions of “Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches” (1994) and “La Boheme” on First People’s TV, which aired on the First People’s TV channel. First People’s TV, which is licensed to be part of a national series on First People’s TV, which airs on the Worldlink satellite channel. First People’s TV, which will feature 26 award-winning documentaries and dramas focusing on the lives of contemporary Native and Aborigi- nal people and the issues they face, is to be broadcast at 9 p.m. each Thursday. “Erased” aired on the Independent Film Channel.

The designers also had to create the production keeping in mind that the major- ity of its viewers would see it by television rather than in person as they would a theater production. “Designing for the box, for television,” said Gomes, “is quite different than designing for the theater, which is an entirely different shape and style.”

Gomes’ preliminary designs sketches show multi-layered costumes, symbolizing the multidimensionality of the texts from which the stories are drawn.
Education center provides unique hands-on learning opportunities

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant to the Editor

The UI’s Fred and Donna Giertz Education Center at Krannert Art Museum is a portal to the world for many Central Illinois students and educators.

The Giertz Center’s collection of more than 3,200 items is available for loan to university students, educators and community groups. The collection comprises replicas of art objects, poster prints, slide sets, books, interactive multimedia programs and videotapes.

Bethany Papajohn, a teacher at Yankee Ridge Elementary in Urbana, was able to enrich her kindergartners’ study of Japan through Japanese wood-block prints borrowed from the center. “It really made the study of Japan come to life for my students,” Papajohn said. “They fell in love with Japan.”

With budgets tight at many institutions, the Giertz Center’s free-loan collection of art education materials has become very important to area teachers like Papajohn who want to supplement their curricula.

“I really think the Giertz Center has pooled resources that I can’t find,” Papajohn said. “I could never afford to give my students those things.”

Besides art appreciation, teachers utilize the center’s materials in a variety of contexts, according to Virginia Erickson, Giertz Education Center coordinator.

“The things we have here are multicultural from throughout the world, so the center enables educators and UI art education students to do a lot of multicultural teaching,” Erickson said. “They might be doing a unit on animals, but they will provide representations of cave paintings or sculptures by African or South American or Native American people so their students are exposed to art from countries all over the world and cultures throughout time as well.”

The Giertz Center is an outreach program of the university’s College of Education. In its 19 years of operation, the center has been able to provide educational services to more than 17,000 people in the greater Champaign-Urbana area.

Achievements, from page 4

Koreaness” of the dramas as well as their

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Giertz Education Center

Hours during the academic year: Summer hours may vary.
Monday: closed
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10 a.m. to noon, 3 to 5 p.m.
Wednesday: 10 a.m. to noon, 1 to 7 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Phone: 333-8218

Check it out

Center coordinator Virginia Erickson and a staff of volunteers operate the Giertz Education Center. The center’s mission is to support East Central Illinois primary and secondary school teachers by providing resources that integrate art appreciation and art history into humanities and science curricula. Schools may borrow materials free of charge.

Significance of the pieces as well as their utilitarian aspects.

“Europeans and Americans often view art as something that’s extra and excessive, but that’s not the case in much of the rest of the world,” Erickson said. “That’s very important for kids to understand: that many cultures in the world don’t create art to be hung on the wall and viewed as interesting. Objects are created to be used and understood and appreciated. Art is part of their whole lifestyle. To us here, art is often considered something extra.”

Recent additions to the center’s collection include a Kyoto Dancing Doll and 19 poster prints representing works from the Heritage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia.

With a grant from Target Stores, the center’s resources on multicultural diversity in the United States were expanded by the collection of more than 30 resources related to African-American and Latin-American art. Included in the purchases was a kit of sugar molds of skulls similar to those used by people in Mexico to celebrate the Days of the Dead.

A traveling exhibition on the art and culture of Japan titled “Japanese Culture as seen through Ukiyo-e” is under development and will contain many hands-on items, valuable than most objects in the center’s collection, the donors expressly indicated they wanted viewers to be able to touch the prints and not just gaze at them through protective glass.

Kazu Nakamura, a postdoctoral student in art education, is working with teachers at Barkstrall, Robeson, Westview and Yankee Ridge elementary schools to develop multicultural curricula for which will be available during the 2002-2003 academic year for loan to area elementary schools. The exhibition is funded by a grant from the Champaign-Urbana Community Schools Foundation.

Most of the center’s items are replicas and not valuable artifacts; therefore, in order for future patrons and students to be able to handle them freely, a feature that makes the center’s pieces popular with area teachers.

“I really change my teaching to give the kids things they can touch and see instead of just my talking about it,” said Sarah Carduff, an art teacher at Urbana High School. “The kids always want to come up and look at things, and it’s easier to motivate them to write about it or to be more conscious about their own craftsman- ship when they can actually see a sculptural piece versus looking at it on a slide.”

Originally called the Resource Center, the center was renamed the Giertz Center in 1990 by the Junior League of Champaign-Urbana to serve as an art education resource for area schoolchildren. In 2001, the Resource Center was renamed the Fred and Donna Giertz Education Center in recognition of the couple’s $500,000 endowment in support of Krannert Art Museum.

Achievements, from page 4

“Koreaness” of the dramas as well as their beauty and theatricality in English. A production of one of the play translations was performed last year by the theater department at the University of California at Los Angeles.

liberal arts and sciences

Brenda Krause Eheart, a research specialist in finance and social policy at the Institute of Government and Public Affairs, was among a group of people honored as honorary members of the Linguistic Society of America in 1990.

Virginia Erickson, a professor of linguistics, of the classics and of English as an international language and director of the South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Program, was appointed to the Committee on Honorary Members of the Linguistic Society of America for a three-year term beginning in January 2002.

library and information science

Boyd Rayward, professor of library and information science, was elected a member of the Union of International Associations in October. The union, located in Brussels, is a non-profit clearinghouse for information on more than 40,000 international organizations and constituencies. It has been a pioneer in the provision of information on international organizations and its global challenge since its foundation in 1910.

The union’s 250 members are elected on the basis of their interest and activity in international organizations. Rayward’s election results from the reputation of his studies since the 1970s on the internationalization of People’s publishing and documentation and on his work on Paul Otlet, one of the founders of the union.

veterinary medicine

Peter Bahnsom, professor of veterinary pathology, was invited to give a lecture on Salmonella epidemiology and control in pork at the fourth International Symposium on the Epidemiology and Control of Salmonellosis and other Foodborne Pathogens in Pork, in Leipzig, Germany, in September.

Gordon Baker, professor of veterinary clinical medicine, was invited to speak at the Swiss seventh Congress of Equine Medicine and Surgery in Geneva in December.

Roberto Decampo, professor of veterinary pathology, received a $5,000 Burroughs Wellcome Fund Visiting Professorship in Microbiological Sciences Award at the University of California, City University of New York, in April.

He was invited to serve as a member of a Special Emphasis Panel of the National Institute of Health to receive applications for the Tropical Medicine Research Centers.

He also was invited to serve as a peer review panel member for the FY03 intra- medicial Infectious Diseases Research Program.
Students getting hands-on experience designing unique tours

By Melissa Mitchell

New Bureau Staff Writer

For students enrolled in UI professor Bruce Wicks’ leisure studies seminars, just learning about tourism can be an adventure.

Last semester, Wicks launched a pilot course, “Dynamics of Tourism,” which teamed UI students with students at South Korea’s Dongguk University in Kyongju. The UI-based students used online resources to plan mock tours of the United States of eight to 10 days for the Korean students.

Guided tours

According to UI professor Bruce Wicks, who directs the UI’s Office of Recreation and Tourism Development, the pilot course “Dynamics of Tourism” provided the kind of hands-on experience tourism professionals need to compete and succeed in the 21st century. The coarse trained UI students with students at South Korea’s Dongguk University in Kyongju. The UI-based students used online resources to plan mock tours of the United States of eight to 10 days for the Korean students.

Are there medical implications of geomicrobiology?

By Jim Barlow

New Bureau Staff Writer

If microbial life is found on Mars, will it be native to the planet or something carried there from Earth? Either way, it will be safe to return to samples of such organisms to Earth? Astrobiology, the search for life elsewhere, says a UI microbiologist, is making us look a lot closer at microbial life on Earth—how it adapts and its relationship to emerging infectious diseases.

“Even if we don’t find life on other planets, we are learning a lot about life on the Earth, particularly microbial life,” Abigail Salyers said in an interview about her speech Feb. 15 at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She challenged scientists to consider far-reaching possibilities in a talk titled “Are There Medical Implications of Geomicrobiology?”

Salyers, a professor of microbiology and in the College of Medicine, is the outgoing president of the American Society for Microbiology, the oldest and largest life sciences organization in the world, with more than 42,000 members. Her year as president, she said, has made her “an antena absorbing the information coming from the members and trying to transmit some sense of it all.”

Although the ASM represents 25 disciplines of microbial specialization, she said, there has been in the last five years a blurring of distinctions among them, and an increasing amount of communication. And now, she said, scientists need to focus more on life on Earth as the quest for life “out there” is attracting growing attention.

“The big question for scientists, and which has implications for Earth, is can you have microorganisms evolve that would be able to cause disease in humans, animals or plants in a place where there are no humans, animals and plants?” she said.

Adaptability, Salyers added, “makes the issue a big one for astrobiology as we send spaceships to other planets.” Earth already has yielded examples of the ability of microbes to exist in seemingly harsh and hostile environments, and bacteria normally not associated with disease have turned deadly under unexpected conditions, she said.

In January, scientists reported in the journal Science the discovery of bacteria and fungi deep below the ice, in the rocks and soil, of Antarctica. For astrobiologists, Salyers said, this discovery heightens speculation that microbial life could dwell on or under a similar landscape on Mars or in the ice-covered seas of Europa and Ganymede, two of Jupiter’s moons. Interestingly, while the early Viking and Mariner space probes were gathering data from Mars in the 1970s, scientists on Earth were discovering bacteria and the Archaea living and thriving in deep-ocean vents and other harshly cold and hot environments, she said.

Could it be, she asked, that previous probes to Mars—Viking, Mariner and, more recently, the failed Mars Polar Lander—carried Earth bacteria that survived the cold vacuum and intense radiation exposure of space? “Many microbes are not as fragile as we long thought,” she said.

If microbial life is found on Mars, it may be difficult to determine if it began there or was imported from Earth and adapted to the Martian climate, she said. “Is it possible that we could populate Mars with bacteria from Earth? And if there is life on Mars, would the bacteria we introduce prove to be Mars’ version of the ‘Andromeda Strain,’ ” she said, referring to the 1970 movie in which scientists faced a deadly alien virus.

On Earth, unexpected adaptations do happen. Salyers noted that:

- In 1976, a mysterious lung-damaging illness to be known as Legionnaires’ disease swept through a Philadelphia convention, killing 34 people. The causative bacteria was dubbed Legionella pneumophila, which lives in water. Microbiologists theorize that the bacterium may have adapted to live inside of amoebas, which use slime to digest and kill bacteria. Instead of dying out, the bacteria simply hitched a ride to a human host.

- Another bacterium, Listeria monocytogenes, which is found in soil and water, often makes its way into food and causes food poisoning. Scientists have discovered that Listeria can survive and multiply even during refrigeration.

- Black-band disease, which has been killing corals in the oceans, “may be caused or exacerbated by cyanobacteria,” which normally dwell as part of phytoplankton in the ocean. Salyers was part of a research team, led by UI geologist Bruce Fouke, that reported in December that these bacteria might be teaming with human sewage and shipyard discharge in a way that kills coral under certain conditions.

“In recent years, we’ve had unpleasant surprises in the form of emerging infectious diseases,” Salyers said. “This is a shock. You would think that any organism capable of causing disease would have done so by now. Yet it is clear that there are microorganisms that have not been discovered out there in nature that are capable of causing disease.

“Every human does something to benefit human beings, be it surgery, construction or air conditioning, we create new opportunities for microorganisms to counter things they have never encountered before,” she said. “So, we as scientists must ask, what are the limits? Can we predict an emerging infectious disease before it happens?”

“We are hoping that by learning more about the bacteria and fungi that exist in nature, we might be able to determine what makes it possible for them to change and cause disease,” she said.
New theory says cooperation, not competition, drives primate behavior

By Andrea Lynn
News Bureau Staff Writer

One of the most basic assumptions about primates is under attack.

Two American primatologists are challenging the current and dominant theory that competition – mainly over access to food and sexual partners – is the driving force of social behavior in primates, both human and non-human.

In place of the widely held “aggression-competition-reconciliation model” of primate sociality, the researchers offer a new theory that recognizes cooperation and affiliation as the species’ primary social behaviors.

The new paradigm or model proposed by professors Paul Garber, from the UI, and Robert Sussman, from Washington University, is based on their extensive review of the literature on wild diurnal primates. One of their criticisms of the dominant model, which has focused on competition and aggression to the virtual exclusion of cooperation and affiliation, concerns the database that has been used to test theories of primate sociality.

Until now, “data on the contexts and functions of affiliative, cooperative and agonistic behaviors in wild primates have been extremely limited,” Garber and Sussman wrote in a paper they presented Feb. 15 at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Boston.

Also driving their research is the concern that “some authors have accepted a competition-agonism-reconciliation model as a default strategy of evaluating social primates without critically evaluating its assumptions or appropriately testing alternative hypotheses.”

For their study, Garber and Sussman reviewed much of the literature on the socioecology of wild diurnal primates in order to identify percent time group members spent in social activity, size of the study group, length of the study, degree of sexual difference in adult male and female body mass and rates of agonism, affiliation and aggression.

What they found with regard to social behavior in group-living primates, New and Old World monkeys and apes, is that most primate species devote only 5 to 10 percent of their “activity budget” to social interactions. Their data also indicate that rates of aggression are “extremely low, normally less than 1 percent of the activity budget.” “Affiliative” behaviors, on the other hand, are 10 to 20 times more common.

“Overall, we see no empirical justification for elevating competition and aggression as sovereign or more important behavioral tactics than affiliation, coordination and cooperation in primate sociality,” the authors wrote. “Most primate social interactions are affiliative, and individuals that reside together in the same social groups may receive critical fitness benefits by interacting in ways that enhance social cohesion, predator protection, social learning and information exchange, and access to and defense of resources desired by individuals in other social groups.”

Primate behavior

Paul Garber (pictured), professor and head of anthropology, and Robert Sussman, Washington University, are challenging the current model of primate behavior. The two primatologists’ new theory recognizes cooperation and affiliation as the species’ primary social behaviors.

Bankruptcy reform bills would allow Enron-type ‘off-book’ deals

By Mark Reutter
News Bureau Staff Writer

One way to test Congress’ resolve in resisting the blandishments of special interest money is to see how a conference committee handles the bankruptcy bills now before it, a UI expert says.

Last year, the House and Senate passed bankruptcy bills that “were loaded down with goodies for corporate givers to Congress,” said Charles J. Tabb, a nationally recognized expert on bankruptcy law at the UI. A conference to reconcile the two bills is expected soon.

Tabb, the author of “The Law of Bankruptcy,” has been one of more than 100 law professors who have criticized the bills as biased against poor and middle-class families, while leaving untouched breaks for corporations and wealthy families filing for bankruptcy protection.

The political fallout of the Enron bankruptcy has refocused attention on several provisions of the bills. For example, as currently written, both versions allow assets moved off a corporation’s balance sheet to be excluded from a company’s estate in a bankruptcy proceeding.

If approved, the billions of dollars that Enron executives funneled through controversial “special purpose vehicles” would not be available to creditors or former employees. “In addition to being unjust to employees who lost their life savings in now-worthless 401(k) retirement plans, the provision would encourage companies to move transactions off their books to escape creditors,” Tabb said.

A provision in the House bill permits people filing for bankruptcy to shield their homes, whatever their worth, from creditors in five states, including Texas. This opens the possibility that Enron officials owning multi-million-dollar homes in Houston could thumb their nose at creditors.

While Enron has received bad publicity for its outsized contributions to Congress, supporters of the bankruptcy bills have spread even larger amounts of cash and “soft money” around Washington. MBNA America, the nation’s largest credit-card issuer, was the single biggest contributor to the Bush presidential campaign in 2000 ($237,675) and gave $100,000 for Bush inauguration events. Consumer credit companies – including banks, retail chains and auto finance companies – have been leading campaign contributors to both political parties, giving more than $30 million since 1997 individually and through political action committees.

Much of the impetus to change the Bankruptcy Code has come from these groups, which are expected to gain $3 billion a year extra from debtors under a “means test” stipulated under the bills. In testimony, Tabb has faulted the means test as “unwieldy, unfair and mean-spirited.”

Contrary to representations by industry-sponsored groups, the majority of personal bankruptcies are not caused by “irresponsible scofflaws,” the UI expert said, but by middle-income persons grappling with medical problems, divorce or the loss of a job.
**brief notes**

**A tale of money**

**David Kinley Lecture is March 7**

Thomas J. Sargent, a professor of economics at Stanford University, will deliver the David Kinley Lecture in Economics at 4 p.m. March 7 in Room 141 of Wohlers Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Sargent’s lecture, “Flawed But Enduring: The Monetary System From 1200-1800, A Tale of Small Fixed Costs,” will focus on the history of money and why, even today, so many governments fail to put knowledge about sound currency to work.

The lecture is based on his latest book, “The Big Problem of Small Change,” co-written with Francois Velde.

The lecture is sponsored by the economics department and the College of Commerce and Business Administration.

**Levis Faculty Center**

**Social to be held March 12**

Faculty and staff members are invited to gather in an informal setting from 5 to 7 p.m. March 12 on the fourth floor of Levis Faculty Center. Hors d’oeuvres prepared by Classic Events will be served for $.45. Beverage and cocktail services also will be available. The event is sponsored by Levis Faculty Center Sponsors.

**Civil Service Employees and Dependents**

Scholarship applications due April 8

Applications for the Civil Service Employees and Dependents Scholarship are available from the Personnel Services Office Web site at www.pso.uiuc.edu. Copies also are available at the Personnel Services Office, the Division of Operation and Maintenance, and the Benefits Center. Applications also may be obtained from Civil Service representatives Barney Bryson, Gary Fry, Bob Schmees, or Tim Sawyer.

Application deadline is April 8. Recipients are usually selected in the second week of May and presented the award at a mid-June ceremony.

As many as eight scholarships will be awarded.

**Society of Women Engineers**

**‘Take Our Daughters to Work Day’**

The Society of Women Engineers is holding tours and lab demonstrations April 25 as part of “Take Our Daughters to Work Day.” Anyone who wants to learn more about jobs and science-based careers available at the UI can participate.

Tours and lab demonstrations are scheduled from 1-4 p.m. The planned activities are geared toward first through sixth graders, ages 7-12. Children 10 and younger should be accompanied by an adult.

Participants must be registered by March 10 to attend. Participants will be contacted to confirm registration.

To purchase an SWE T-shirt, send a T-shirt order form and a check for $10 made out to the Society of Women Engineers with registration forms.

For more information, visit the Web at http://eng-council.cen.uiuc.edu/soc/swe/ or e-mail swe@uiuc.edu or call 244-8867.

**Center for Enterprise Development**

**New center offers consulting**

The Center for Enterprise Development (CED) offers professional consulting and business research assistance to current and potential occupants of the UI Research Park and Incubator, which is scheduled to open in November. Assistance also is available to start-up ventures initiated by UI faculty members and students.

The center is sponsored by the College of Commerce and Business Administration and is coordinated through the Office for Strategic Business Initiatives. Students from the Illinois MBA Program, together with graduate students from other university academic programs, will provide professional services for entrepreneurs and those planning to start their own businesses.

Services will include competitive and marketing analysis and feasibility studies as initial steps in the creation of a business plan. More comprehensive services, such as comprehensive market, financial analyses of full business plan preparation, will be directed to the Office for Strategic Business Initiatives’ regular consultation section.

In addition, CED will sponsor periodic seminars, workshops and networking events. CED also is planning to establish an online resource library for entrepreneurs.

The center will be housed in the administrative suite of the Director of the Art Research Park and Incubator at 1901 S. First St., Champaign. Interested parties can reach CED weekdays between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. by calling 333-4122 or by e-mail at CED@ch.illinois.edu.

**Environmental Council**

**EH Conference will be April 1, 2**

The Environmental Horizons conference, hosted by the UI’s Environmental Council, will be April 1 and 2 at the Illini Union.

The keynote address, “Climate Change: From Awareness to Action,” will be given at 3:30 p.m. April 1 in Illini Room A and B. Eileen Claussen, president of the Pew Center on Global Climate Change, will hold a plenary session to discuss with presenter and viewers the performance and climate of environmental inspired music, dance, and poetry.

On April 2, there will be discussions on communicating nature to today’s generation, social perspectives on the environment, mercury in the environment, tropospheric ozone and ecosystems, global warming and government policy, sustainability and agriculture, and clean energy.

Anne LeBaron, of California Institute of the Arts, will close the conference with the CAS/MillerCom program on “Women in the Arts: Art and Music” which will be from 7:30-10:30 p.m. in the auditorium, Room 2100, of the Music Building.

For a complete schedule and more information on speakers, see www.environ.uiuc.edu/Horizons2002.

**WILL-FM Second Sunday Concert**

**Brass quintet will perform March 10**

The UI Graduate Brass Quintet will perform “Suite for Brass Quintet,” by Grieg, and “Sonatine,” by Eugene Bozza, and other selections at the March 10 WILL-FM Second Sunday Concert. The public is invited to the 2 p.m. free concert in the West Gallery of the Krannert Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion. It will be broadcast live on WILL-FM (90.9/101.1 in Champaign-Urbana) with host Roger Cooper.

Members of the ensemble are Steve Roberts and Malgorzata Wlodarska, trumpet; Lukasz Hodor, trombone; Gerald Wood, French horn; and Joel White, tuba. UI music professor Ronald Romm is faculty adviser for the group.

The UI Graduate Brass Quintet was formed last fall by Romm, a former member of the Canadian Brass. The group consists of top graduate students in the UI brass department, including soloists with both the University Orchestra and Wind Symphony.

Second Sunday Concerts are a joint venture of WILL-FM, the UI School of Music and the Krannert Art Museum.

**Functional Foods for Health Program**

**Health conference to be May 12-14**

The 11th annual conference of the Functional Foods for Health Program will be May 12-14 at the UI campus. The conference’s focus is “Diet and the Genome.”

The conference will assemble recognized authorities from the FDA, NIH, academia and industry to address specific scientific and regulatory issues. Topics to be addressed include; genome interactions involving micronutrients to consumer perceptions and commercialization potential of biotechnology.

The Functional Foods for Health Program is a joint program of UI’s Chicago and Urbana campuses. It is the Illinois’s only dedicated functional foods program that integrates academia, industry and government functional foods experts.

For more information on the conference or the Functional Foods for Health Program, e-mail harriss@uiuc.edu or call 333-6364.

**How are university presses coping?**

**UI Press director to speak March 14**

Willis Regier, director of the UI Press and immediate past president of the Association of American University Presses, will present a lecture titled “University Presses and University Pressures” from 4-5 p.m. March 14 at 180 Beverly Hall.

Regier will examine how university presses are coping with escalating expectations and decreasing financial support, and he will concentrate on what libraries and faculty members should know about recent changes and impending threats to university presses. Light refreshments will follow.

The lecture is sponsored by the UI Library and the Senate Committee on the Library.

For more information, call Paul Watson at 333-0318.

**Natural Resources and Environmental Science**

**‘Green’ conference to be March 26**

Sim Van der Ryn, professor of Van der Ryn Architects, a California architectural firm recognized for its national leadership in the responsible use of resources, will be the keynote speaker at the Illinois Governor’s Conference on Green Building to be held March 26 at the Illini Union.

As California State Architect, Van der Ryn developed the nation’s first government-initiated energy efficient office building program and led adoption of energy standards and disability access standards for all construction in California.

Prominent national and state experts will present sessions covering green building fundamentals, including design standards, new technologies, site considerations, state initiatives, funding resources and national trends in green building design.

Information on conference speakers, sessions and registration form are available on the Web at www.greenbuild.illinois.edu. Interested individuals also can add their name to the conference program mailing list by sending their request to Lisa Thompson, MPS Solutions, at MPS@uiuc.edu.

The conference is hosted by UI’s department of natural resources and environmental science in conjunction with Gov. George Ryan’s Green Government Coordinating Council.

**Conference to be held April 4-7**

The Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities will hold its fourth annual conference, “The Means of Reproduction,” April 4-7. The conference, which is free and open to the public, will examine how reproduction, in all of its forms, has been constructed and understood in historical and cultural contexts.

There will be four guest speakers in addition to presentations made by UI faculty members from a range of disciplines.

Roger Chartier, Annenberg Visiting Professor of History from the University of Pennsylvania, will present a lecture titled “The Work of Literature in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction” from 7:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. April 4 on the third floor of Levin Faculty Center.

Martin S. Perlman, professor of history from the University of Michigan, will present a lecture, “The Black Stork: Eugenics, Euthanasia and the Mass Culture in Early 20th-Century America,” from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. April 5 at Pyle Auditorium in Temple Hoyne Buell Hall.

Robert Rosen, dean of the School of Theater, Film and Television at UCLA, will discuss the historical memory in film and other media from 1 to 2:30 p.m. April 6 on the third floor of Levin Faculty Center.
Come to the Open House and send a plant to jail.
That’s what creators of an entertaining and educational exhibit hope children do when they identify invasive plant species at the exhibit, part of the ACES Open House at the UI’s Urbana-Champaign campus.

Children will be encouraged to send non-native plants to the “slammer” in an Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant exhibit called “Arrest That Invader!” When they identify and imprison an invasive plant, children will be designated a Junior Plant Deputy. The exhibit will be in the Stock Pavilion.

This year, the Open House, sponsored by the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 8 and 9 (Friday and Saturday) at the south end of the UI campus.

This will be the 13th year that the college has opened its doors for a unique, behind-the-scenes look at what goes on in some of the hundreds of labs, fields and greenhouses at the UI.

“We try to make it educational and entertaining,” said Scottie Miller, director of special events for the college. “It has become a very popular annual event for the college and for the community. We have visitors all the way from nursery school to high school and beyond.”

Every year there are some old favorites that people come to expect, but there are also always new exhibits, too, Miller said.

One addition this year is the new ACES Library, which was dedicated Oct. 4. In the atrium, visitors will be able to browse some ACES Web sites at an interactive computer exhibit. There will be bookmarked sites featuring information on nutrition, gardening, pest management and other topics.

Demonstrations are scheduled throughout the two-day event.

“One demonstration that’s always a lot of fun is watching the floral design students make arrangements to music,” Miller said. “Sometimes you’ll see a beautiful, floral wedding arrangement created to some soft, dreamy music, and other times it’s sunflowers and rock and roll.

It’s interesting, too, because it’s timed so the students have to get the arrangement done by the end of a song.”

There will also be exhibits in which visitors can touch a giant cockroach, milk a cow, and, if they’re up to it, watch maggots “race.”

A free brochure with maps, a complete listing of exhibits and demonstrations, and information on parking and concessions will be available at any of the ACES Open House buildings.

Bill Nye the Science Guy among guests at Engineering Open House March 8 & 9

Wild and wacky Rube Goldberg machines, robots fighting for possession of a bowling ball, lively talks by Bill Nye the Science Guy, and more than 150 fun-filled exhibits are among the attractions awaiting visitors to the 82nd annual Engineering Open House at the UI.

The event, organized by students in the Engineering Council at the UI, will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 8 and 9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 9. The UI Engineering Open House is one of the largest technological showcases of its kind in the nation, attracting more than 30,000 visitors each year.

This year’s theme—Free Your Mind—encourages participants to open their minds and think outside of the box.

Visitor guides containing a campus map and descriptions of the activities and exhibits will be available at the EOH headquarters booth in the Kenney Gymnasium Annex.

All events are free and open to the public.

“The purpose of the two-day event is to educate and fascinate the public about science and technology,” said Adam Lubchansky, a UI mechanical engineering student and this year’s open house director.

“Students from all engineering disciplines will showcase their talent through innovative projects, design competitions and demonstrations.”

One of the highlights of this year’s celebration will be the Nye’s talk. Nye, host of an Emmy Award-winning weekly television series, will speak from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. both days on the Engineering Quad south of Grainger Engineering Library and Information Center.

Another highlight will be the 15th annual W.J. “Jerry” Sanders Creative Design Competition, sponsored by Advanced Micro Devices Inc., and named for the company’s founder, a UI alumnus. In this year’s competition, student-built robots will fight for possession of 10 bocce balls and a bowling ball.

Approximately 20 teams will compete in the contest, which will be held both days in the Kenney Gymnasium Annex.

On March 9, Sanders will give a brief speech and present an award for the most ingenious robot design. The event will take place at noon in the Kenney Gymnasium Annex.

In the high school design competition, students will again pay homage to Goldberg, a satirical cartoonist best known for his designs of ridiculously complicated gadgets that performed the simplest tasks in whimsical, roundabout ways. This year’s task is to build a machine that can secure, raise and wave a national flag in the weirdest way possible.

Each machine must use at least 20 steps to accomplish the task. Approximately 18 teams from Central and Southridge, Illinois, and several teams from outside the state, will compete in the contest, which will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 8 in the Illinois Union. The top three Illinois teams will advance to the state championship Rube Goldberg contest, to be held in Chicago in the spring.

Younger visitors, too, will have an opportunity to test their creativity as they learn about science and engineering. On March 8, visitors age 3 and up will race homemade sailboats in the Kenney Gymnasium Annex.

A special on-site design challenge will be open to visitors of all ages March 9, also in the gymnasium annex. The task will be to build the tallest freestanding paper pillar. Building supplies—paper and tape—will be provided.

Spread throughout the engineering campus, more than 150 exhibits—featuring student research and projects sponsored by engineering societies—will reflect the heart and soul of Engineering Open House.
Generous gift
The UI Asian Library added to its collection with a gift of more than 1,200 Chinese-language books from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago. Karen Wei, head of the Asian Library and professor of library administration, said the gift is an important addition to the Asian Library, which currently ranks third in size to the Midwest and 14th in the nation. The books, all published in Taiwan, consist of 150 recently published volumes and more than 1,000 books published between 1970 and 1990. They include books in the study of Chinese culture, economy, education, history, law, literature, politics, religion and social conditions. "These valuable resources have greatly strengthened our humanities and social sciences collection and re-enhanced our Ph.D. program," Wei said. Six members of the Taipei office met with the University of Illinois Library secretary, librarians Paula Kaufman, George Yu, director of the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies, and other officials Feb. 26 prior to an official ceremony acknowledging the gift.

CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

March 7, 2002

Benny Chen, piano. 8 p.m. Memorial Room, Smith Hall. 2002 Spring Korean Music Festival. 8 p.m. Recital Hall, Smith Hall. Korean Student Association.

13 Wednesday
Studio Recital. 6:30 p.m. Recital Hall, Smith Hall. Student Oboe Quartet. 8 p.m. Recital Hall, Smith Hall. "State of Mind," Dan Decker, author, will host all-day seminar lecturing on "Sticky and Structure." Part of the Illinois/Chicago 2002 screenwriting competition. All interested parties must RSVP at (312) 814-8711. For more information, visit www.filmmusicians.state.il.us/CinemaStudies.

14 Thursday
Thursdays at Twelve. 12 Thursday, Jones Hall. 12:30 p.m. Each week, Sandy Rawson, piano. Program will feature 20th-century works for violin and piano.

15 Friday
Master of Music Recital. Brent Davis, baritone. 8 p.m. Recital Hall, Smith Hall.

24 Sunday
Doctor of Musical Arts Recital. Mario Coppedge, mezzo-soprano. 8 p.m. Recital Hall, Smith Hall. Public Relations Office.

25 Monday
Doctor of Musical Arts Project Recital. Mario Coppedge, mezzo-soprano. 5:30 p.m. Recital Hall, Smith Hall.

26 Tuesday
Ministries Recital. Julia Cate, piano. 8 p.m. Smith Hall. Music Building auditorium. University, tuba. 8 p.m. Studio Theater, Krannert Center. Admission charge: Department of Dance.

9 Saturday
Studiodance I, 7 and 9 p.m. Studio Theater, Krannert Center. Admission charge: Department of Dance.

10 Saturday
Studiodance II, 7 and 9 p.m. Studio Theater, Krannert Center. Admission charge: Department of Dance.

Bills won by the Republicans in Congress include legislation that would allow the federal government to control more than 150 exhibits, food and entertainment for more information, visit huch.cen.illinois.edu/cobf/cp/EngineeringCouncil.

ACS Open House. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Stock Pavilion, Science Laboratory. Plant Sciences Laboratory, ACS/University of Illinois. "State Stories from the Holy Lands." 6:30 p.m. IU, Champaign. For more information and tickets, call 829-5000. Champaign-Urbana. For more information and to make reservations, call 337-3079. Cinema Social luncheon. "Food Science and Human Nutrition." 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 101 Arbory Building. Dan Decker, author, will host all-day seminar lecturing on "Sticky and Structure." Part of the Illinois/Chicago 2002 screenwriting competition. All interested parties must RSVP at (312) 814-8711. For more information, visit www.filmmusicians.state.il.us/CinemaStudies.

11 Monday

12 Tuesday
Viva Castro! Boris Frumin, director, 6:30 p.m. 101 International Studies Building. Featuring clips from the new film "Viva Castro!" How new legislation enacts a change in a Market Downturn." Retirement Planning Seminar: "Staying on Track for Retirement Planning." 10:30 a.m.-noon or 1:30-3 p.m. 405 N. champagne, with 15,000 students. Other highlights: the 15th annual Beckman Institute Open House; "Free Your Mind." 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Keeny Gyme Annex. Bill Nye, the Science Guy, will speak from 12:30-1:30 p.m both days on the Engineering Quad. Other highlights this annual event offers a chance to meet over 150 exhibits, food and entertainment for more information, visit huch.cen.illinois.edu/cobf/cp/Engineering Council.

ACS Open House. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Stock Pavilion, Science Laboratory. Plant Sciences Laboratory, ACS/University of Illinois. "State Stories from the Holy Lands." 6:30 p.m. IU, Champaign. For more information and tickets, call 829-5000.
MFA candidates display art

KAM exhibition runs through April 7

UI students will exhibit new works in the annual Master of Fine Arts Exhibition at the UI’s Krannert Art Museum March 9-April 7. Always lively and progressive, the annual exhibition provides graduate-student artists in the UI School of Art and Design the opportunity to leave a lasting impression on the campus community just before they exit academia. This year’s exhibition features art by 14 students working in a variety of media.

The show’s opening reception, from 6-8 p.m. March 9, is free and open to the public. During the show’s run, student artists will talk about their work as part of the University of Illinois Midweek ArtSpeak program, a Wednesday noontime lecture series. Dates and speakers: John Chicon, sculpture (March 13); Feng Feng, industrial design (March 20); Meredith Cantor, photography (March 27); Nicholas Schanz, sculpture (April 3).