In This Issue

Commencement is May 12

By Kesha Green
News Bureau Staff Writer

The 131st commencement of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will be held in two ceremonies May 12 at the Assembly Hall.

The speaker at both ceremonies will be Maya Angelou, an acclaimed poet, novelist, educator, civil rights activist and recipient of the National Medal of Arts. Angelou and four others will receive honorary degrees at the ceremonies.

WILL-AM (580) will provide on-air and online coverage of the 2 p.m. ceremony through live audio streaming on its Web site, www.will.illinois.edu.

Honorary degree recipients

- Maya Angelou, doctor of humane letters.
- Peter Dobrzynski, doctor of science.
- Sheldon Hackney, doctor of letters.
- Agnes Gund, doctor of arts.
- Stanley O. Ikenberry, doctor of university administration.

At the 10:30 a.m. ceremony, candidates in the colleges of Applied Life Studies, Communications, Law, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Veterinary Medicine; the institutes of Aviation and of Labor and Industrial Relations; the School of Social Work; and the Graduate School of Library and Information Science will receive degrees.

Candidates in the colleges of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences; Commerce and Business Administration; Education; Engineering; and Fine and Applied Arts will receive their degrees at the 2 p.m. ceremony.

Doors will open at 9:30 for the morning ceremony and at 1 p.m. for the afternoon ceremony. After all students and their guests are seated, the remaining seats will be available to the public. Shuttle buses also will stop at various locations on campus, including Assembly Hall, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All students who have earned bachelor’s, master’s, doctoral and professional degrees and advanced certificates during the preceding year are honored at the UI’s annual commencement.

Angelou is well known for addressing issues of race and class in her poetry and books. She is best known for her autobiography “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings” (1970) and her poetry collections “I Shall Not Be Moved” (1990) and “Phenomenal Woman: Four Poems For Women” (1995). She was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 1972 for poetry, for “Just Give Me A Cool Drink of Water ‘Fore I Die.” The St. Louis native became only the second poet to recite an original work at a presidential inauguration. Angelou read “On the Pulse of Morning” at Bill Clinton’s 1993 inauguration.

Angelou, 74, also is a playwright, director and actress. In 1973, she performed in the play “Look Away,” for which she was nominated for a Tony Award. She received a 1977 Emmy nomination for her portrayal of grandmother Nyo Boto in Alex Haley’s “Roots” mini-series.

SEE COMMENCEMENT, PAGE 2

Construction in Campustown continues on schedule

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

Street reconstruction in campustown is a little ahead of schedule although much remains to be done. Champaign city officials reported at an April 24 progress meeting.

The current phase of the $5.5 million construction project is about one-third done, with Aug. 23 as the target date for completion, Louis Braghini, project manager for the city of Champaign, said at the meeting.

The project, which will be completed in the 600 block of Green Street and should be finished soon in the 500 block. Crews are now installing storm sewers in the 300 and 400 blocks of Green Street.

SEE CAMPUSTOWN, PAGE 11

Campustown facelift

Construction crews continue their work on Green Street, reducing it from two lanes to one lane in each direction with a center turn lane. Portions of Green Street will remain closed to vehicular traffic until July or August when new traffic lights have been installed and are operational, city officials said.
Chancellor updates senate on budget

By Sharita Forrest Assistant Editor

Deans and department heads may have to plan for larger reductions in their base budgets than previously thought, Chancellor Nancy Cantor told the Urbana-Champaign Senate at its final meeting for the academic year, April 29.

The state may slash another $15 million from the university’s budget next year, Cantor said. As a contingency plan, Cantor and Provost Richard Herman have asked administrators to plan for baseline budget reductions between 6 and 6.5 percent in academic units and 7 and 7.5 percent in administrative units.

However, university officials are aggressively working with state legislators to minimize the budget reductions, and the actual impact will not be known until the state general assembly closes its session and the Board of Trustees meet in May, Cantor said.

PLAGIARISM, from PAGE 1

put another way, “seemed to concentrate minds and be powerful.” Gaines and Braumoller wrote in a recent issue of PS: Political Science and Politics.

While the professors concede that exist- ing plagiarism-detection software is not perfect, “its success rate is high enough to merit use in a wide range of classroom situations.”

The professors focused on two groups of students and the papers they were assigned to write. One group was given a written and a strong verbal warning about plagiarism for the first paper; the other was not. The assignment was intentionally broad. “Our purpose was not to encourage plagiarism, but rather to remove impediments to it in order to assess student behavior when topi- cal constraints are few.”

On the second assignment, all students were told their papers would be checked by plagiarism-detection software. After the students deposited their papers electronically, the professors used EVE (Essay Veri- fication Engine), a program to test for pla- giarism. Other findings and observations:

• Ironically, paper mills may in the long run make plagiarism more difficult, the professors said.

Forcing paper mills have “created a niche for plagiarism-detection software.” Also, what is available online is “of middling quality at best; students may reach the same conclusion.” And, with the spread of printed matter now being scanned and put online, plagiarism-detection programs are increasingly capable of catching passages taken from printed sources.

• Only about one out of eight papers turned up “problematic” because of either casual or blatant plagiarism. “While we cannot with confidence establish an upper bound on percentage of papers demonstrat- ing plagiarism, one-eighth serves as a fairly solid lower bound.”

• While a few students engage in inten- tional academic dishonesty, “far more are unclear on the rules about plagiarism, but paradoxically, had received enough lec- tures on it that they simply ‘tuned out’ any reminders.”

• “The challenge for the educator is to deter the first group and to motivate the second to pay closer attention. Plagiarism-detection software seems to serve both func- tions quite well.”

COMMENCEMENT, FROM PAGE 1

The National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences presented Angelou with a spoken- word Grammy for “Phenomenal Woman” in 1995. A member of the Director’s Guild of America, Angelou also has produced six plays, including “And Still I Rise” (1976) for the Oakland Ensemble Theater.

Angelou’s civil activism extends bey- ond her writings and performances. The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. appointed her co-chair of the Southern Chris- tian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in 1959. She served as an ambassador for UNICEF International in 1996. She is a member of several service committees, in- cluding the W.E.B. Du Bois Foundation in Massachusetts. In 1981, she was appointed to a lifetime position as the first Reynolds Professor of American Studies at Wake Forest University.

Angelou will receive an honorary doc- tor of humane letters degree. Among other planned activities in honor of the graduating class, the Illinois Sym- phonic Band will give a free concert at 8 p.m. May 11 in the Great Hall of the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are not required.

All graduating students and their guests are invited to a reception hosted by univer- sity President James J. Stukel and Chancel- lor Nancy Cantor, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. May 12 in the gardens of the president’s house. Academic attire is encouraged.

For daily campus news, Inside Illinois is available online from www.uiuc.edu, and a daily e-mail newsletter is delivered to subscribers and students.

Inquiries about Inside Illinois should be directed to the News Bureau at 244-0161. The editor can be reached by phone at 244-0141 or by e-mail at newsbureau@uiuc.edu

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job market

Aaron Barlow, life science

Melissa Mitchell, applied life studies, arts, and humanities, social sciences

Andrea Lynn, humanities, social sciences

Kesha Green, general assignment

Craig Chamberlain, communications, education, social work

Kesha Green, general assignment

James E. Knoepfler, physical sciences

Andrew A. Luskey, humanities, social sciences

Melissa Mitchell, applied life studies, arts, international programs, Mary Heeter, business, law

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Inside Illinois summer 2002 publication schedule

Inside Illinois continues to be published the first and third Thursday of each month during the summer. Below is the summer publication schedule, including deadlines for calendar items and other copy (such as “Brief notes”).

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"It has been quite the year," Cantor commented about her first academic year on campus. "We have a lot to brag about and a lot to be worried about."

Senator-elect Al Kagan, professor of library administration, questioned the integ- rity of the recent election for chair of the Senate Executive Committee saying that senators were not given ample time to nomi- nate additional candidates besides Senator Robert Forsum, professor of mathematics. Kagan and other senators had voiced simi- lar concerns at the senate’s April 22 organi- zational meeting.

Calling the uncontested election an “out- rageous and egregious situation,” Kagan called for the University Statutes and Sen- ate Procedures Committee to review the election procedures and report back to the senate.

Members of the Committee on Commit- tees (COC) approached three or four people but all declined to be nominated in the election, said Michael Murphy, COC chair, in response to Kagan’s remarks.

In other business, the senate approved an amended version of the university policy on Appropriate Use of Computers and Net- work Systems. Amendments by Senators Susan Kaufman, professor of cell and structural biology, and H. George Fried- man, professor emeritus of engineering, clarified the prohibition against using UIUCnet for commercial or profit-making purposes and other purposes that would interfere with the university’s mission. The revisions also deleted language prohibiting use of UIUCnet for “unauthorized mass mailings” as Kaufman indicated that the term “mass mailings” should be defined before being incorporated into the policy.

The senate approved the Committee on Educational Policy’s proposed 2004-2005 academic year calendar but sent the proposed calendars for the succeeding two years to legislative subcommittees before final approval.

The Academic Human Resources • Suite 420, 807 S. Wright St., MC-310 • 333-6747

Academic Human Resources maintains listings of academic professional and faculty member positions that can be reviewed during regular business hours or online at: Faculty members: http://webmaster.aiir.aiuc.edu/ahr/jobs/faculty/adjunct245.htm Academic professionals: http://webmaster.aiir.aiuc.edu/ahr/jobs/professional245.htm

Prospective employees and students can receive e-mail notification of open positions by subscribing to the academic jobs listserve. Look under Career Information at: http://webmaster.aiir.aiuc.edu/ahr/careers/jobsform3.pl

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Kesha Green, general assignment

James E. Knoepfler, physical sciences

Andrew A. Luskey, humanities, social sciences

Melissa Mitchell, applied life studies, arts, international programs

Mary Heeter, business, law

Inside Illinois

May 2, 2002
Terry Jobin is the director of the Faculty/Staff Assistance Program. Jobin received a master’s of social work degree from St. Louis University in 1973 and a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Marquette University in 1966. A licensed clinical social worker and a certified employee assistance professional, Jobin worked in various inpatient and outpatient mental health settings before joining the U of I in 1985.

Give me a little background on the Faculty/Staff Assistance Program. The FSAP is what we call a “broad brush” program. People just bring in all kinds of personal and work-related issues, and we try to help them out. We see people with psychological and emotional problems such as depression and anxiety, substance abuse, grief and concerns about marriage and children. It’s a chance to talk with a professional counselor in a confidential setting and assess the situation and determine what resources may be available to help folks deal with the problems they’re having in their lives.

What types of other issues do you encounter? We see people having trouble making transitions from foreign countries. We had a person a few weeks ago who showed up with no money in his pocket and needed help getting a short-term loan until his first paycheck came through. We reach out a lot to supervisors and help with people who may be having conflicts in the workplace. Other people who are having difficulties on the job are having some stressors in their personal lives as well.

Do you do all the counseling here at FSAP? We provide short-term counseling: four to six visits. We refer about half the people who come in to community resources outside this office and help them utilize their benefits to access those services. I’ve had people come in who just wanted to talk about a situation and didn’t want anything beyond that.

What is your favorite part of your job? All of it is my favorite part. I enjoy meeting employees and finding resources for them. I enjoy consulting with supervisors about situations they may be having concerning troubled employees. I like presenting to the campus population. And I like the fact that I meet really wonderful people through this position.

What is the most challenging part of your job? It’s all challenging. Perhaps the most challenging part is finding good resources for people and encouraging them to follow up with those resources I identify that might be helpful to them.

What are your interests outside of work? I like to hike and try to get in about 40 miles a week when the weather is good. I am involved with our church. I like to travel. We get up to Minnesota quite a bit and Wisconsin. I like to fish and take canoe trips up in the boundary waters canoe area in northern Minnesota.

Your Web page said you were in the Peace Corps and went to Micronesia. Tell me about that. I was in the Peace Corps for three years – 1966 through 1969. I had graduated from college and wanted to take some time off before graduate school. It gave me added experience in terms of working with communities and with organizational structures that I have been able to utilize throughout the years. Another thing I learned was an appreciation for different cultures and not to judge other cultures by American culture.

What was it like living in Micronesia? I lived on a small island in the western Pacific. I think it was about 80 to 100 acres. A little over 100 people lived there. I was teaching school and doing health education. We had ships that came out from what we called the district center that would bring mail and supplies. The native foods were very good, very healthy. I had to learn the local language; Trukese. A local family took care of me, and I got very close to them. We still correspond a few times a year. In fact, I will be going back to visit them this June. I haven’t been back there for over 30 years. I will only be able to be there for about 2 1/2 weeks. My daughter is going to accompany me. She was born there.

~ Interview by Sharita Forrest, Assistant Editor
The sword play’s the thing

By Melissa Mitchell

If Robin McFarquhar were to chart his life on a timeline, “The Three Musketeers” would make a dramatic appearance... but not once, not twice, but three.

“If you believe in synchronicity, curiously enough, the only film I recall watching during my undergraduate days [at the Loughborough University of Technology in London] was ‘The Three Musketeers,’” said the Illinois theater professor who has spent the past two decades schooling actors in the fine art of swash-buckling, sword play and all manner of stage combat.

“Still, McFarquhar derivates from satisfaction with the shaping and molding process required when working with less physically inclined actors. "I like to watch the development of students over the years," he said. "Even if someone comes in with very little physical acting background, I can give them a lot of skills by the time they leave. That’s the joy of what I do.""

And while what he does involves a mix of fun and games, laced with loads of illusion, McFarquhar is well aware that it’s still serious business. "That’s because the swords, rapiers, daggers, knives, guns and other weapons used on stage are the genuine article, not plastic imitations. "In all the work I’ve done, I’ve never had a serious accident,” he said, quick to add that bruises, scratches and strained muscles don’t count. “That almost goes without the territory. My job is to make it all as safe as I possibly can so no serious accidents occur. I want to make actors look out of control in a way that they’re in control of their out-of-controlness.""

Since 1983, McFarquhar has directed the movements of nearly every student who’s been through the UI’s professional acting program. Undergraduates and grad students alike are required to take a year of course work in movement and stage combat with McFarquhar. They’re also required to take courses he teaches in circus arts, acrobatics and masks. At the end of their training in stage movement and combat — which includes all manner of physical stage violence — students are tested by an outside adjudicator from the Society of American Fight Directors. Those who pass muster receive stage combat certification, a resume credential that ultimately enhances their chances of landing professional roles down the road.

McFarquhar himself is one of only three or four dozen people nationwide certified as a teacher and fight director by the Society of American Fight Directors.

"It was wonderful because I had all these actors around me who I knew could fight,” he said. “It was fun, but incredibly challenging.”

And McFarquhar is always up for a good challenge. Among the toughest, he said, are situations in which one of the actors has a good sense of movement, but his or her foil does not. With such a mismatch, even the best fight choreographer’s plans for the scene can fizzle, and sometimes have to be scrapped altogether.

“Often the best stage fighters, if they have dance or basketball training, have some sort of awareness of their bodies,” he said. Those individuals, naturally, are a pleasure to work with. Still, McFarquhar derives satisfaction from the shaping and molding process required when working with less physically inclined actors.

“I’ve been through the UI theater department, threw McFarquhar a lot of talent. And by all accounts, he’s among the best.”

Robinson, the former UI theater professor, himself is one of only three or four dozen people nationwide certified as a teacher and fight director by the Society of American Fight Directors. Robinson McFarquhar frequently serves as fight choreographer for productions staged at some of the top theatrical venues in Chicago. He has directed fight choreography for productions staged at some of the top theatrical venues in Chicago. He has directed fight choreography for productions staged at some of the top theatrical venues in Chicago.

In addition to teaching at Illinois, McFarquhar frequently serves as fight choreographer for productions staged at some of the top theatrical venues in Chicago — the Steppenwolf, Goodman, Court and Chicago Shakespeare theaters among them. His credits include the American premieres of “A Clockwork Orange” and “The Libertine,” starring John Malkovich, at the Steppenwolf, as well as that theater’s Tony Award-winning production of “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest,” starring Gary Sinise. He also has directed fight choreography at Shakespeare festivals in Idaho, Illinois, Utah and Virginia. Among his professional credits, he counts more than 75 Shakespeare productions, including 10 runs of "Romeo and Juliet." Most recently, McFarquhar worked with cast members of “The Royal Family,” which opened April 18 at the Steppenwolf. Actor David New, who engages in a round of playful dueling in that play, praised McFarquhar as “one of the best I’ve ever worked with.”

“The extraordinary thing about Robin is his humility as a creative artist in the presence of the text,” New said. “Most fight choreographers tend to be creative and inventive, but they are not always in tone with the story. Robin has this incredible sense of what is right internally of the fighting onstage. He’s a great collaborator as well,” New said, explaining that McFarquhar welcomes input from the actors.

Some of the actors McFarquhar works with in Chicago are former students.

“One of the great pleasures of what I do is that I can help students get work,” he said. “But sometimes students have helped me.”

See McFarquhar, page 8.
Not applicable.
2002 Campuswide award-winners to be honored

Campuswide Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

By Mare Payne
Associate Director

Fourteen University of Illinois faculty members, four academic professionals and five teaching assistants were honored for excellence in teaching and advising undergraduate students April 29 at the annual UI Institutional Awards Banquet.

The teaching assistants, five professors and two academic professionals received the Campus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the principal award for undergraduate instruction at the UI, at the banquet in the Illini Union.

The award recognizes professors, lecturers and graduate teaching assistants who display consistently excellent performance in the classroom, take innovative approaches to teaching, affect the lives of their students, and make other contributions to improved instruction, including influencing the curriculum.

Faculty winners of the award are Carol K. Augspurger, plant biology; Brigit P. Kelly, English; Darrel J. Kesler, animal sciences; Robert D. Reid, journalism; Douglas B. West, mathematics.

Instructional staff winners of the award are Julie P. Price, English, and Jason Zych, computer science.

Graduate teaching assistants who received the award are Bryan F. Ganaway, history; Yi-ping Hsu, East Asian languages and cultures; John Gardner Rogers, English; Sarah J. Schoppe, psychology; and Mahmut Yasar, agricultural and consumer economics.

Faculty members who are selected for the award receive $5,000 and a $3,000 raise; instructional staff members receive $4,000 and a $1,500 raise; graduate teaching assistants receive $3,500 and a $1,000 increase in their stipends.

Others honored at the banquet:
• James A. Gentry, professor of finance; Michael C. Lessi, professor of electrical and computer engineering; and Shelly J. Schmidt, professor of food science and human nutrition, were recognized as Distinguished Teacher/Scholars.
• Carol H. Firkins, academic advisor in the department of community health, and Keith D. Hjelmstad, professor of civil and environmental engineering, received the Campus Award for Excellence in Advising Undergraduate Students, which provides $2,000 to each.
• Kevin G. Waap, lecturer in finance, received the Award for Innovation in Undergraduate Instruction, which provides $2,000 to the recipient.

SEE AWARDS, PAGE 7

Carol K. Augspurger, professor of plant biology
Augspurger makes science come alive for students. Students in her field ecology course take a 10-day trip to an “ecologically rich” area of the United States to work and explore. She encourages them to take nothing for granted, to ask questions and to seek answers whether or not any are apparent. Several past students have said Augspurger was instrumental in helping them determine their lifetime pursuits.

Darrel J. Kesler, professor of animal sciences
Kesler, who has been a professor at the UI for more than 24 years, has influenced thousands of students. His peers rated him as the “best instructor at the university in the ability to inspire students to do their best and on the contributions toward preparing students for life.” He spearheaded the creation of new courses, the revision of existing courses and helped revise the animal sciences curriculum. He is described as “the best of the best, an inspiration to his students and a role model to many.”

Julie P. Price, lecturer, English
Price encourages students to write on topics they like. Through independent and group analysis and an ongoing revision process, students submit a final version of a work that they have come to love. One student wrote, “I left her class a better writer, a better thinker, and a better person.”

Douglas B. West, professor of mathematics
West said that his goal is for “students to learn as much as possible and to feel that they have benefited from their efforts.” His teaching techniques apply to all facets of thinking, not just mathematics. He emphasizes reading, writing and the ability to communicate clearly. Students are often seen milling around his office, waiting for a stimulating conversation to begin.

Photography by Bill Wiegand
### Campuswide Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

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| Excellence in Guiding Undergraduate Research                          |
| Robert M. Skirvin                                                     |
| Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences                           |

| Excellence in Advising Undergraduate Students                         |
| Carol H. Finkins                                                     |
| Community Health                                                     |

| Excellence in Graduate and Professional Teaching                      |
| Michael T. Heath                                                     |
| Computer Science                                                     |

### Other campuswide honors

- **Robert D. Reid**, professor of journalism: Reid emphasizes that it is his students' duty to fight corruption and the abuse of power and to be the voice of the forgotten. He has a strong belief that journalism can do good in the world and encourages his students to do so less. One former student wrote that when he is discouraged, he reads the comments Reid made on his papers and continues to fight to make a difference.

- **Brigit P. Kelly**, professor of English: Kelly teaches students writing - and she teaches students about themselves. Her courses nurture creativity and individuality and as one student wrote, “broadened my philosophical, emotional and spiritual worlds.” She pushes them to think in new ways. A number of colleagues and students model their classroom practices after hers.

- **Jason Zych**, lecturer, computer science: Zych gives students the tools to comprehend, rather than memorize, the material by building a framework for understanding. Zych has also developed and revised material for fundamental courses, integrated a new textbook, created a series of lecture notes and written tutorials to supplement the text, and, to accommodate a variety of learning styles, he integrated new technologies into the classroom. Zych is described as a departmental treasure.

- **Other campuswide honors**

  - **John I. Marden**, professor of statistics, received the Campus Award for Innovation in Undergraduate Instruction Using Educational Technologies, which recognizes faculty members who have introduced successful innovations into undergraduate education using educational technologies. The award provides $2,000 to the recipient.
  
  - **K. Peter Kuchinke**, professor of human resource education, received the Campus Award for Excellence in Off-Campus Teaching. He received $4,000, and his department will be provided with $1,000 to improve off-campus instruction and develop programs.
  
  - **Robert M. Skirvin**, professor of natural resources and environmental sciences, received the Campus Award for Excellence in Guiding Undergraduate Research, a $2,000 award designed to foster and reward excellence in involving and guiding undergraduate students in scholarly research.
  
  - **Michael T. Heath**, professor of computer science, and **Debra Richtmeyer**, professor of music, received the Campus Award for Excellence in Graduate and Professional Teaching, which is designed to reward faculty members in professional or graduate programs who normally wouldn't have an opportunity to compete for undergraduate teaching awards. Each received $5,000 and a $3,000 raise.
Decade of divorce set stage for message of teen horror films

By Craig Chamberlain
News Bureau Staff Writer

"Jason X" is now in theaters, film number 13 in the "Friday the 13th" series. And yet another "Halloween," number eight, is due in July.

Contrary to conventional wisdom, it wasn’t just screams and blood that made the "teen slasher" movie popular, says Pat Gill, an Illinois professor of sociology. 

The award in the arts category, and Carol A. McFarquhar, from Page 4

McFarquhar said. In fact, his first big break in Chicago resulted when a former student recommended him for a job.

The slasher movies are not really that popular, says Gill. The kids who become victims are similar to the "Romeo and Juliet" theme. "The kids who become victims are similar to people they know, so the thing is not to offend anyone.

By this point in his career, McFarquhar

A transfer student from Parkland College in Champaign, Kory A. Langhofer, Robinson, Ill., is a junior majoring in political science and intends to pursue a career involving international relations and foreign policy.

Each scholarship provides $30,000 — $3,0000 for the senior year and $27,000 for graduate study. Recipients must be U.S. citizens, have outstanding leadership potential and communication skills, be in the top quarter of their class, and be committed to careers in government or the not-for-profit sector.

The Truman Scholarship program was established by Congress in 1977 as a federal memorial to the nation’s 33rd president.

Two students win Truman Scholarships

Two students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign have won the 2002 National Truman Scholarship.

The award was created in 1966 to pay the Mothers Association for her service to the campus and community and was honored during Moms Weekend April 12-14.

The IFLA is the leading international association of library and information science professionals. It is part of Prairienet, a community service project. He also has been involved in a chapter of the NAACP, joining them will be UI theater professor Terry L. Weech, Urbana, is a junior majoring in honors biology.

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Galaxy cluster surveys may help explain 'dark energy' in the universe

By James E. Kloeppep
News Bureau Staff Writer

The universe appears to be permeated with an invisible force -- dark energy -- that is pushing it apart faster and faster. By conducting redshift surveys of galaxy clusters, astronomers hope to learn more about this mysterious force, and about the structure and geometry of the universe.

"Galaxy clusters consist of thousands of galaxies gravitationally bound into huge structures," said Joseph Mohr, a professor of astronomy at Illinois. "Because of the expansion of the universe, the clusters appear denser at larger redshifts, when the universe was younger and denser. Galaxy cluster surveys that probe the high-redshift universe can potentially provide a wealth of information about the amount and nature of both dark matter and dark energy, said Mohr, who presented the results of an ongoing study of galaxy clusters at a meeting of the American Physical Society in Albuquerque, N.M., April 20-23.

"Till now, galaxy clusters have only been used to study the dark matter component of the universe," Mohr said. "We would measure the total mass in a galaxy cluster, and then determine the fraction of mass that was ordinary, baryonic matter.

Those measurements have shown there is insufficient baryonic and dark matter to account for the geometry of the universe. Astronomers now believe the universe is expanding at ever-increasing speed, and is dominated by a mysterious dark energy that must be doing the pushing.

"The next step is to try to figure out some of the specifics of the dark energy, such as its equation of state," Mohr said.

"By mapping the redshift distribution of galaxy clusters, we should be able to measure the equation of state of dark energy, which would provide some important clues to what it is and how it came to be."

Mohr is using data collected by NASA’s Chandra X-ray Observatory to study scaling relations -- the relationship between mass and luminosity or size -- of galaxy clusters and how they change with redshift. "These scaling relations are expected to evolve with redshift, reflecting the increasing density of the universe at earlier times," Mohr said.

In particular, Mohr -- in collaboration with John Carlstrom at the University of Chicago and scientists at the University of California and Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics -- is studying the effect that hot electrons within galaxy clusters have on the cosmic microwave background, the afterglow of the big bang.

Galaxy clusters are filled with dark matter, galaxies and hot gas. Electrons in the gas scatter off the protons and produce X-rays. The emission of X-rays diminishes with higher redshift because of the larger distances involved.

"There also is a tendency for the electrons to give up some of their energy to the photons of the cosmic microwave background, which causes the blackbody spectrum to shift slightly," Mohr said. "The resulting distortion -- called the Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect -- appears as a cold spot on the cosmic microwave background at certain frequencies. Because this is distortion in the spectrum, however, it doesn’t dim with distance like X-rays.

By comparing the X-ray emission and the Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect, Mohr can study even faint, high-redshift galaxy clusters that are currently inaccessible by other means. Such measurements, correlating galaxy cluster redshift distribution, structure and spatial distribution, should determine the equation of state of dark energy and, therefore, help define the essence of dark energy.

"Within the context of our standard structure formation scenario, galaxy surveys provide measurements of the geometry of the universe and the nature of the dark matter and dark energy," Mohr said.

"But, to properly interpret these surveys, we must first understand how the structure of galaxy clusters are changing as we look backward in time."

Dark energy

Joseph Mohr presented the results of an ongoing study of galaxy clusters at a meeting of the American Physical Society in April.

Obesity, common in postmenopausal years, linked to other health risks

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

It’s no secret that women begin to lose bone mass and density as they exit their childbearing years, but other changes in body composition associated with menopause may trigger additional health problems, says Illinois kinesiology professor Ellen Evans.

"The risk of osteoporosis in the postmenopausal woman is well characterized," said Evans, whose research focuses on body composition and disease prevention in the elderly. "But just as problematic, if not more so, she said, are health risks -- such as diabetes and heart disease -- associated with obesity in postmenopausal women.

And since the nation’s population of postmenopausal women is expected to double by 2025, Evans said, the implications are profound.

"Seventy percent of women age 45-54 are overweight or obese," Evans said.

"Before age 50, the majority of women tend to slowly increase their weight, whereas after menopause there appears to be an accelerated increase in fat mass and a change in preferential fat storage to a central -- that is, abdominal -- location."

Those facts have caused Evans and other researchers to ponder the obvious question: "Is it age, or menopause?"

"Only recently emerging in the scientific literature is the finding that menopausal transition produces a detrimental change in body composition both in terms of overall body fatness and body-fat distribution," Evans said. "If decreases in sex steroid concentrations influence body composition, the metabolic impact may explain why a woman’s risk for diabetes and heart disease increases after menopause."

Evans, who joined the UI faculty last year after completing postdoctoral studies at Washington University School of Medicine’s Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology, is co-author of a study titled "Contributions of Total and Regional Fat Mass to Risk for Cardiovascular Disease in Older Women," published recently in the American Journal of Physiology -- Endocrinology and Metabolism. The other co-authors are A.A. Ebani and K.B. Scheckman, Washington University School of Medicine, and R.E. Van Pelt and W.M. Kohrt, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver.

In the study, Evans and her colleagues found that postmenopausal women with higher levels of trunk fat may be at an increased risk for type 2 diabetes mellitus and cardiovascular disease, whereas leg fat appears to confer protective effects against metabolic dysfunction.

Evans’ current research interest centers on postmenopausal women and the potential utility of exercise as an alternative to traditional hormone replacement therapy for disease prevention.

Deaths

Herbert Q. Cade, 84, died April 21 in his daughter’s home in Mahomet. He had worked as a plumber for the Division of Operation and Maintenance and retired in 1977 with 30 years of service. Memorial: Carle Hospice program, United Methodist Church of Mahomet or an organization of the donor’s choice.

Donald Robert Cox, 73, died April 21 at Provena Covenant Medical Center, Urbana. He worked at Illinois from 1947 until he retired in 1984 with 37 years of service. For most of that time, he was a sound technician with the Division of Operation and Maintenance.

Merton L. "Jack" Johnson, 75, died April 24 at the Carle Arbours, Savoy. He worked as a project coordinator for the College of Fine and Applied Arts from 1987 until he retired in 1991.

Arthul Kelly Jr., 76, died April 24 at Provena Covenant Medical Center, Urbana. He was a building service worker with the Division of Operation and Maintenance from 1970 until 1972.

Joseph Patton, 88, died April 23 in his home in Girard. He was a building service worker for the Division of Operation and Maintenance from 1973 until 1976.

Shirley Jean Peters, 84, died April 20 at the Carle Arbours, Savoy. She had been a secretary in the French department, the Illinois Union and UI Extension. She left in 1997.

Ruth M. Siewart, 100, died April 19 at Country Health Nursing Home, Gifford. She worked as a cook from 1947 until she retired in 1964. She worked at the Illini Union and McKinley Hospital Memorial: St. Patrick’s or Country Health Auxiliary of Gifford.

Richard James Trippy, 83, died April 14 at his Villa Grove home. He worked as a plumber for the Division of Operation and Maintenance from 1970 until 1972.

Shirley Jean Peters, 84, died April 20 at the Carle Arbours, Savoy. She had been a secretary in the French department, the Illinois Union and UI Extension. She left in 1997.
Music retrieval colloquium is May 2

Ever had a tune running through your head that you could not name? Attend the “Midwest Regional Colloquium on Music Information Retrieval: Demonstrations and Discussions” to see what researchers are doing to solve this problem. The colloquium will be from 9 a.m. to noon May 2 in Room 126 of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Among the demonstrations is “Moving MIR Research to the Next Level: Fostering Research, Implementation and Evaluation Connections” providing information from the MIR Annotated Bibliography and MIR Evaluation Frameworks Projects at the UI.

Contact J. Stephen Downie at jdownie@uiuc.edu for more information. A full list of demonstrations is at http://music-ir.org/MIR_meeting.html.

For more information on general information on the multi-disciplinary research being done on Music Information Retrieval.

Changes planned for online catalog

The University Library will enhance its online catalog this fall with a new Web-based system called Voyager. Implemented in phases beginning this spring, Voyager will provide better and quicker access to library materials through ILLINET Online.

Certain services will be affected during the implementation of Voyager. From now until the end of June, newly cataloged materials will not be viewable online. Faculty and staff members and students are encouraged to contact library staff members for assistance in finding these materials.

For more information about Voyager and changes in the online catalog, visit: www.library.uiuc.edu/voyagerweb/voyagerfaq.htm.

Documentary focuses on Japanese

“Under Another Sun: Japanese in Singapore,” a documentary produced and directed by David W. Plath, professor emeritus of anthropology and of East Asian studies, looks at the lives of 30,000 Japanese living and working in Singapore. The documentary will be broadcast on WILL-FM Second Sunday Concerts at 10 p.m. May 7.

The program explores the tensions between the attachment of these Japanese to their native land and their desire of these Japanese to their native land and their desire to return to Singapore. The documentary will be broadcast on WILL-FM Second Sunday Concerts at 10 p.m. May 7.

Another Sun” was directed by Chet Kincaid of Nebraska Educational Telecommunications. Previous award-winning programs created by Plath and Kincaid include “Makiko’s New World” (1999) and “Flower Surroundings” (1994).

The May WILL-FM Second Sunday Concert, “Solomon & Friends,” will feature performances by Millennium University clarinetist Solomon Baur with cellist Amy Flores, violinist Rudolf Haken and pianist Susan Teicher. Haken and Teicher are professors of music at Illinois.

The concert, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 2 p.m. May 2 in the Weir Gallery of the Krannert Art Museum and Kinokuni Pavilion. It will be broadcast live on WILL-FM (90.9/101.1 in Champaign-Urbana) with host Brian Mustain.


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

To register for the event, call Japan House at 244-9934.

For more information, e-mail Toshie Kasada at tkasada@uiuc.edu or 333-2353.

Children’s Day is May 5

Children’s Day at Japan House, which is free and open to the public, will be from 1-3 p.m. May 5.

Toshie Kasada, a kimono instructor from the Hakubi Kyoto Kimono School in Tokyo, will demonstrate the art of kimono dressing as well as dressing children in kimonos. Other activities will include origami and calligraphy.

For more information, call Japan House at 244-9934.
Krannt Center announces its 2002-2003 Marquee Season

As Krannt Center for the Performing Arts announces its 2002-2003 Marquee season, it also invites audiences to “come as you are” and “leave different” after a unique performing arts experience.

The new season includes a broad range of performing arts experiences and guest artists who offer variety and diversity, family or adult fare, thought-provoking ideas, creative encounters, meditative moments and joyful offerings.

The season kicks off Sept. 12 with jazz vocalist Cassandra Wilson and culminates April 30 with Britain’s Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble.

To better meet patron needs, Krannt Center has implemented a variety of evening performance start times throughout the season, ranging from 7 to 7:30 to 8 p.m.

New season brochures will be mailed the first week of May. Ticket orders will be accepted as soon as patrons have received their brochures.

Information about the 2002-2003 season performances is available on the Krannt Center Web site, KranntCenter.com, or call the ticket office (800/KCPATIX or 333-6280) to request a brochure.

Discounts are available to patrons who purchase one of several performance series: the Great Hall Series of five performances; the Chamber Music Series of five concerts, or the Sunday Salon Series of four concerts. Patrons who purchase tickets to five or more Marquee events can take advantage of discounted Flex ticket prices.

Single ticket purchases also can be made immediately. At any time during the season, patrons unable to attend an event for which tickets have been purchased may receive a full refund in the form of CenterChecks until 6 p.m. the day before the event.

CAMPUSTOWN, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, portions of Green Street will remain closed to vehicular traffic until traffic lights have been installed and are operational, which will be well into July or August, said Rick Marley, assistant city engineer.

When construction is complete, Green Street will become one lane in each direction with a center turn lane.

Braghin said construction crews and city officials are doing their best to move the project along quickly and minimize the economic impact on Campustown businesses.

The changes in traffic circulation patterns on Campustown streets have prompted some complaints from motorists about congestion at the Pennsylvania Avenue-Sixth Street intersection and about the difficulty of northbound progress since Wright Street was closed to auto-mobile traffic between Daniel and Green streets.

Acknowledging that the new traffic circulation plan can be inconvenient for motorists trying to travel north out of campus, Marley said the traffic pattern is specifically designed to enhance pedestrian safety by diverting automobiles away from high-volume pedestrian areas.

On May 1, university officials formally requested that Champaign-Urbana Urbanized Area Transportation Study (CUATS) officials examine how the intersections at Sixth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue and Sixth and Armony Avenue have been affected by the new circulation plan, said Gary Eisler, management engineer, UF Operation and Maintenance.

In late May, the city expects to receive approval from the Illinois Department of Transportation for planned improvements at the Wright Street-Springfield Avenue intersection, which will facilitate two-way bus traffic on Wright Street north of Healey Street. Construction is expected to begin in July and be finished by the end of 2002.

In spring 2003, work will begin on the north-south Campustown streets.

Seasoned Campustown motorists may not be surprised to learn that pedestrians are causing headaches for the city’s construction crews. Wayward walkers are frequently circumnavigating construction barricades and tramp ing through freshly poured concrete, city officials said.

“As we all know, students walk wherever they want to, and that’s happened to us many times,” Braghin said.

Making progress Much underground work remains to be done on Green Street, such as reconstruction of storm and sanitary sewers. The current phase of the reconstruction and streetscape project should be "substantially complete" by Aug. 23.


music

2 Thursday  Junior Recital. Laura Joy Lang, violin. 8 p.m. Memorial Room, Smith Hall.

3 Friday  Superstate Concert Band Festival. Peter Griffin, coordinator. 5 p.m. Foellinger Great Hall. Krannert Center. Festival of outstanding school bands.

3 Friday  Studio Recital. 8 p.m. Memorial Room, Smith Hall. Voice students of Jerold Sienk.

4 Saturday  Superstate Concert Band Festival. 8 a.m. Foellinger Great Hall. Krannert Center. Festival of outstanding school bands.


3 Sunday  Ilini Jazz Lab Band. Shane Pich, leader. 2 p.m. Music Building auditorium.

6 Monday  Doctor of Musical Arts Recital. Anna Clewell, violin. 8 p.m. Memorial Hall, Smith Hall.

11 Saturday  Composers Promenade. Peter Griffin, coordinator. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Altgeld Chime-Tower Tours. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Thursdays. Altgeld Chime-Tower Tours. Open to the public. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. weekdays. 3 p.m. Monday-Friday. Closed for the summer.

11 Saturday  Altgeld Chime-Tower Tours. Open to the public. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. weekdays. 3 p.m. Monday-Friday. Closed for the summer.

12 Sunday  Second Sunday Concert.