**Fall semester marks changes for course registration, numbering**

UI2 Self-Service registration system replaces UI-Direct

By Sharita Forrest  
Assistant Editor

When continuing students at the Urbana campus begin registering for fall classes this week, they may find that the software for registration has taken a technological leap forward. UI-Direct, the registration system that students have used since 1994, is being retired this year and replaced with UI2 Self-Service, a Web-based system that is part of SCT Banner’s student module.

Web-savvy computer users may find Self-Service more convenient than its predecessor since users will be able to access the system from any computer with a browser such as Netscape or Internet Explorer, unlike UI-Direct, which is a mainframe-based system that required people to download specialized software.

The new system integrates information that was previously provided in two separate systems: UI-Direct, such as the Programs of Study, the General Education Course listing and the Class Schedule, which was previously known as the Timetable. Those resources are packaged together online as the Course Information Suite.

In Self-Service, students will be able to search for classes using various criteria, such as classes that meet on certain days, at specific times or that fulfill general education requirements, said Todd Nelson, UI Integrate campus manager.

The system also will display course sections’ maximum enrollments and the number of seats still available as students register. By contrast, UI-Direct only indicated whether enrollment was open or closed for a particular course section.

Self-Service also will provide students with graphical displays of their weekly class schedules and allow them to view their registration eligibility, their earliest registration times and any holds on their records.

When the records modules is implemented in fall 2004, students also will be able to access their tuition and fee assessments, grades and academic histories.

The new system also has perks for faculty members, such as printed class rosters with students’ names and e-mail addresses, real-time enrollment information.

**Provost Herman to be named interim chancellor**

By Sharita Forrest  
Assistant Editor

President James J. Stukel will recommend that Provost Richard Herman be appointed interim chancellor of the Urbana campus when Chancellor Nancy Cantor departs to become president and chancellor of Syracuse University.

In a March 20 e-mail message to the campus community, Stukel announced his intention to make the recommendation to the UI Board of Trustees, who must approve the appointment. The board’s next scheduled meeting is set for June 17 in Chicago although a special meeting of the board or its executive committee could be called to address the recommendation sooner.

Stukel said Herman is a seasoned administrator capable of providing the strong and stable leadership needed during a time when the university is losing two key administrators — Cantor and Stukel, who intends to retire in February 2005 — and the university faces the prospect of another lean budget year.

Despite a state economic crisis that has eroded the university’s state funding in recent years, Herman has striven to uphold the campus’s reputation for academic excellence and public engagement, Stukel said.

“Dr. Herman is highly respected by those who know him, both on and off campus,” Stukel said.

Calling the opportunity to serve as interim chancellor an honor and a privilege, Herman said he looks forward to serving in that capacity.

“I welcome the opportunity to help guide and shape the future of our campus,” Herman said. “Such a challenge would be the culmination of a life spent dedicated to higher education.”

Herman said that he has developed a solid working relationship with the trustees and intends to retire in February 2005 — and the university faces the prospect of another lean budget year.

Over the years, as courses were approved and added, the limitations of the four-level system led to inconsistencies in course numbering.

In side-by-side comparisons of UIUC and Urbana students’ transcripts, the four-level course numbers at Urbana were occasionally misinterpreted as indicating that Urbana students had taken lower-level classes than their peers who took similar courses but with higher course numbers at UIUC, said David Rutje, professor of nuclear engineering and materials science. Rutje also chairs the faculty advisory committee on the UI Intel project, an inter-campus committee that has represented faculty concerns throughout the implementation of the new system.

As courses were added through the years, some academic units ended up with a hodgepodge of course numbers, and the course-renumbering project offered the opportunity for them to organize courses in a more systematic way.

As new courses were developed, students rightfully believed that the number, the more difficult or advanced the course, but that didn’t always happen because maybe the right number and sequence wasn’t available,” said Kirby Barrick, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry.

This really does give students an advantage by providing a more consistent, **SEX COURSE NUMBERS**, PAGE 2
**Take a number**

A college faculty member in the Office of Faculty Development and Student Affairs has been planning a new type of project and the implementation of new Banner software. "We really need to change the people in our system to include courses that were never unionized," said Assistant Dean John Loos, who oversees Banner software.

As a result of testing and users' recommendations, the Banner software will be used to create a new system that faculty members can use to access courses.

Data such as continuing students' demographic information, program and courses that are accepted from UI-Direct to the new system and in mid-March, and the colleges and departments spent one week the first full term using the new course numbers and Self-Service

The Dean's Reorganization Committee had also been to revitalize the new course numbers and academic advising. The committee and faculty members will be able to view information in real-time and the academic portion of the student module goes live and is expected to be available for registration in D.A.B. at the end of the first term.

In addition, the Academic Technology Center is expected to have the registration system ready for use for courses.

**What is the most challenging part of the new Banner system?**

The hardest part right now is the training we are doing. It's a lot of work and the system will be in place by the end of the year.

**What is your favorite part of your job?**

I enjoy working with the students. The graduate students are a really interesting group of people, and that's the most rewarding part, just helping them and getting to know them.

**How long have you been an employer?**

I've been an employer for over 30 years. I work almost exclusively, when I'm here, for the graduate program in architecture.

**What draws you to your job?**

I like the diversity in the students. We work with about 400 or 500 applications a year. I coordinate evaluations and admissions and have managed to balance the other responsibilities.

I'm the admissions and records officer for the graduate program in architecture. I coordinate evaluations and admissions and have managed to balance the other responsibilities.
Six academic professionals honored with CAPE award

By John Loom

Anne Brown, Student Intern
Six UI employees will receive the 2004 Chancellor’s Academic Professional Excellence Awards in the 16th year, the award program is designed to recognize the importance of academic professionals and support staff on campus.

Recipients are chosen for excellence in the work, personal and professional contributions they make to their fields and the impact they have had on colleagues, students and the public. A committee of three academic professional employees from units across campus reviewed more than 20 nominations and unaniously recommended to Chancellor Nancy Cantor this year’s award winners.

An awards ceremony and reception is scheduled from 4 to 5:30 p.m. April 7 in the Beckman Alumni Center. At the ceremony, each recipient will receive $5,000 and a $1,000 increase in base salary effective Aug. 16. They also will receive $1,000 in their departmental budget to be used for professional development activities.

Laura L. Bauer was hired in 1990 to manage the department of animal sciences at the UI and has served as an ambassador to the university with professors in a temporary capacity. However, her talents and leadership abilities have led to a much more prominent role in one of the most active and dynamic research programs in animal nutrition in the United States.

Bauer’s research in animal nutrition, supports the vet science curriculum and animal facilities and the animal nutrition program, which is ranked among the nation’s top three programs. She has developed, refined and implemented techniques in nutritional biochemistry/animal nutrition in her role as a laboratory technician.

“Laura Bauer is a truly outstanding academic professional employee of the University of Illinois,” wrote Neal R. Mitchen, professor and head of the department of animal sciences, in nominating Bauer. “She works hard and her work is of the highest quality. She relates well to all with whom she comes in contact, and she has the good of our group and the department of animal sciences in mind as she goes about her daily work.”

Bauer’s expertise in the area of high performance laparotomy has led to reliable measurements of food and feed, reduced stress and increased animal performance, and is often required by government agencies.

“Dr. Twesten has proven himself as an outstanding teacher and a leader in environmental and agricultural importance. He has helped us in our efforts to improve teaching and research capabilities in the department of crop sciences. He has received major contributions to both the university and the nation.”

Ray D. Twesten, professor of computer science, was named March 25 as the Frederick Seitz Materials Research Laboratory director. He has served as computer science and the computer science program director for 14 years. The department of computer science has over 500 students.

Along with his work to raise awareness among UI faculty members, students and the surrounding community in his role as the director of the Illinois River Center, Frazee has presented the Center of Excellence for Education and Outreach (CEOEO) with the award for a creative and timely reporting for some of the university’s student journalists. In addition, Frazee gives guest lectures at local schools as well as giving comprehensive and extended demonstrations to groups of students visiting campus.

E. J. Hurley, a research electron microscopist, has made major contributions to both the university and the nation. He has made major contributions to both the university and the nation. He has made major contributions to both the university and the nation. He has made major contributions to both the university and the nation. He has made major contributions to both the university and the nation.

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High cost of assistive technologies keeping some people from work

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

Access to assistive technologies (AT) may be a critical factor in the employment success of persons with spinal cord injury or disease (SCI/D), according to UI researchers.

Study findings suggest that AT is important for employment success, however, the relationship between AT ownership and employment appears to be affected by a wide range of variables.

As defined in the 1986 Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act, AT is “...any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.”

The Illinois study assessed the use of AT across seven categories: manual mobility and independent living devices, powered mobility and independent living devices, prosthetic and orthotic devices, adapted computer technology, assistive listening devices, assistive seeing devices, and augmentative and alternative communication devices.

Although employer AT accommodation reports were positive, the high cost of some assistive technologies may still prevent persons with disabilities from joining the labor force, especially those most inclined toward self-employment. The study, which analyzed data from two groups of working-age adults with SCI/D – 94 Illinois alumni and 101 adults with mixed educational backgrounds – was conducted by a team of researchers led by Brad Hedrick, the director of the University’s Division of Rehabilitation Education Services.

Hedrick said the research was motivated, in part, by the fact that “little is known about the extent to which AT ownership promotes employment outcomes.”

In this study, the researchers determined that the employment rate of AT device owners was 68 to 125 percent greater for persons who were self-employed than for individuals in other areas of employment. “Depending upon the individual’s underlying resource options, this could be a substantial barrier to individuals for whom AT is essential to participate in the workforce,” Hedrick said.

The study also found that individuals with more severe disabilities, those for whom transportation is a major obstacle, or those whose cognitive medical appointments require substantial time away from a traditional office setting “...who are self-employed don’t have a lot of environmental assets that you’d have in a corporate structure,” Hedrick said. “Some things would have to be provided, and that would require a resource that would have to be removed for AT use may prove to be considerable.”

Hedrick said the researchers weren’t surprised to find a positive response from respondents regarding employers’ willingness to provide AT, but “we were surprised that it was so overwhelmingly positive.”

Hedrick hopes the survey used by the researchers developed for this study will be adapted to investigate the role of AT and employment outcomes for people with different types of disabilities. If barriers to employment could be removed “...the potential cost savings realized by the Social Security Administration through the successful efforts to facilitate beneficiaries’ return to work through AT use may prove to be considerable,” Hedrick said.

Highlights of the study were presented during a symposium hosted by the Disability Research Institute at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., on March 16. 2003, themed the College of Applied Life Studies at Illinois, which was established in 2001 to assist the SSA in conducting research that would inform policies and procedures affecting those applying for and receiving Social Security benefits. The institute is funded by a five-year, cooperative agreement from SSA’s Office of Disability Income Security Programs.

Study looks at employment rates of UI graduates with severe disabilities

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

The UI’s Urbana-Champaign campus has long been known for its comprehensive programs and services for students with disabilities. And judging by results of recent studies of employment outcomes for university graduates with severe disabilities, these programs are continuing to prove to be successful.

Recent survey responses from 94 Illinois alumni with SCI/D and injury or disease (SCI/D) who graduated between 1978 and 2002 indicate that 79 percent of graduates with paraplegia and 70 percent of those with quadriplegia were employed five years after graduation. “...92 percent had worked for pay in the past five years; 90 percent had graduated degree; 75 percent had annual personal incomes greater than $35,000; 42.8 percent had annual personal incomes in excess of $50,000.”

Brad Hedrick, the director of the University’s Division of Rehabilitation Education Services and principal investigator for the study, said these figures compare to a 2000 National Organization on Disability/Harris poll that indicated only 35 percent of working-age persons with disabilities with college degrees were working full-time for pay, and 12 percent were working part-time.

These data and others were presented by Hedrick and Tanya Gallagher, the dean of the College of Applied Life Studies and the director of the Disability Research Institute, at the Emerging Workforce Issues last month in Winston, Fla.

The presentation by Gallagher and Hedrick focused on the strengths of the “Illinois Model” for educating students with disabilities. The model “...is born of a holistic philosophy that includes academic, physical and social and psychological supports.”

Among the strengths, Gallagher said the Illinois Model includes intensive transitional orientation for students on both ends of the collegiate spectrum – those most inclined toward self-employment and those most inclined toward self-employment and services for students with disabilities. And Hedrick said, “...model is born of a holistic approach to work and education.”

In addition to the survey results of alumni with SCI/D, Hedrick said another measure of the success of the Illinois Model is the fact that “...only one percentage point separates the graduation rates of Illinois students with disabilities from that of the campus at large. Among the campus’s alumni who lived at Bucklew Hall – they received personal assistant support services to perform daily living activities – 60 percent graduated since 1995 obtained professional employment following graduation, while 52 percent entered graduate school. Only 8 percent did not enter the workforce after graduation.”

UI senior wins Gates Cambridge Scholarship

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

A UI senior is among the recipients of this year’s prestigious Gates Cambridge Scholarship.

Joannah Metz, a chemistry major, was recently awarded the Gates Cambridge Trustee award for three years of study at the University of Cambridge, England. The Gates Cambridge Trustees award is given to outstanding students from around the world who are selected on the basis of academic ability, leadership capacity and desire to use their knowledge to contribute to society.

“This will be the 14th consecutive year that the University of Illinois has sent a student to Cambridge on a prestigious scholarship,” said David Schug, who heads the UI’s Office of Scholarships for International Students.

Metei has three majors – engineering physics, astronomy and geophysics – faces her academic attention on the interstellar. In fall 2004, she will begin a one-year master’s program at the Cambridge University in the field of polar studies. There she will study glacial ocean sedimentation – the delivery of sediments from ice sheets to the ocean and the impact of sediment homogeneity on the process.

As an undergraduate at Illinois, Mete gained research experience working with astronomy professor You-Bin Chu and geology and paleontology professor Bruce Fiske. She has participated in research projects at NASA, the Flat- stone-Smirnov Center for Astrophysics, and the University of Manchester, England, where she studied during the fourth year of her five-year academic program in the colleges of Engineering and Rehabilitation and Liberal Arts and Sciences.

At Illinois, Mete’s extracurricular activities have included working with Volunteer Illini Projects and serving as president of the student organization fleets of Illiniana and the Illinois Space Development Society. She also has served as a mentor and tutor for prospective and current Illinois students, and has done volunteer work at St. Jude’s Catholic Worker House.

After she completes her studies at Cambridge, Mete plans to return to the United States, where she will pursue her doctorate in marine science. From there, she hopes to become an astronomer and pursue fieldwork on Mars.
Arts and artists round-up for April 1

A number of arts and artists round-ups are presented. Details can be found at www.cvm.uiuc.edu/care/ (Japanese flower arranging) created by members of the

Distinguished sociologist Joe R. Feagin, a professor of educational policy and justice at Texas Southern University in Houston, will speak on "Making the Case for Reparations." Dr. Feagin will discuss how government policy affects innovation and how insufficient property rights for the environment and knowledge are obstacles to innovation.

Seeds of Change: Intellectual Property Protection for Genetically Modified Organisms and Their Relationship to Intellectual Property Rights will be the subject of a UI webinar. Jennifer McDonald, a law professor at the University of Virginia, will moderate the webinar. McDonald will discuss how government policy affects innovation and how insufficient property rights for the environment and knowledge are obstacles to innovation.

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**CALENDAR**

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