By Sharita Forrest  
Assistant Editor

By Andrea Lynn  
News Bureau Staff Writer

**Insects, viruses could hold key for better human teamwork in disasters**

**University to borrow money to complete critical repairs**

**Insect engineering**  
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to help the neediest students offset the costs of next year’s tuition and fee increases. Additionally, the governor proposed reforms to the pension system by limiting the pension benefits provided by the State Universities Retirement System. The governor proposed reducing the imputed interest rate for participants in the SYSTEM, which would result in a reduction of an average of about 9 percent to 6 percent, a rate analogous to the other four state retirement systems. This change would reduce the state’s pension debt by about $750 million next year and more than $10 billion over the next 40 years.

To cut costs in FY06 and beyond, the governor also proposed that the pension benefits provided by the State Universities Retirement System. The governor proposed reducing the imputed interest rate for participants in the SYSTEM, which would result in a reduction of an average of about 9 percent to 6 percent, a rate analogous to the other four state retirement systems. This change would reduce the state’s pension debt by about $750 million next year and more than $10 billion over the next 40 years.

Blagojevich also proposed eliminating a SURS provision whereby employers’ contributions are matched at a higher rate than the employees’ contributions. The governor proposed changing the funding formula from a 55:45 contribution to a 45:55 contribution, which would save the state’s budget by about $750 million next year and more than $10 billion over the next 40 years.

Among other changes, the governor proposed changes to the pension system by limiting the pension benefits provided by the State Universities Retirement System. The governor proposed reducing the imputed interest rate for participants in the SYSTEM, which would result in a reduction of an average of about 9 percent to 6 percent, a rate analogous to the other four state retirement systems. This change would reduce the state’s pension debt by about $750 million next year and more than $10 billion over the next 40 years.

May 13: If the trustees approve those proposals, construction might begin by late June or early July, Miller said.

White said he has already begun meeting individually with state legislators, and Rick Scherer, executive director of the IDOT, has already begun discussions that get into the marketplace."
CAPITAL PROJECTS. From page 1.
routine repairs and maintenance, “so the funds to provide unexpected major repairs are extremely limited. And if an air handler goes out, it may cost $60,000 to $70,000 to replace.

 economical crisis prompted a series of budget cuts that would need to be corrected within two to five years. The majority of the Priority 1, 2 and 3 items are renegotiations of deferred maintenance projects that are repaid through leasing arrangements that are extremely limited, and if an air handler goes out, it may cost $60,000 to $70,000 to replace. (Source: Gov. Rod Blagojevich proposed a $10.7 million capital appropriation for major repairs and renovations at the three UI campuses next fiscal year. About $6.2 million of that would be for projects at the Urbana campus, including $1.2 million to convert a gym at Freer Hall into office space, $1.8 million to renovate instructional labs in the Art and Design Building, and $2 million to remodel the Natural Resources Building for occupancy by another campus unit when the Illinois Natural History Survey moves to the South Research Park in late summer or early fall.


March 3, 2005 InsideIllinois PAGE 3


On the Job
Sandra Washington

“Who Can I Run To” is the title of a song that Sandra Washington sang when she entered the Facilities & Services’ Service and Employee Recognition Banquet in December. The title seems fitting for Washington’s “other gig” – answering calls of harried faculty and staff members and students who call the F&S Service Office for assistance with problems that range from malfunctioning projector screens to mysterious odors and icy sidewalks.

Washington, a clerical assistant, started her career with the university about 10 years ago in the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Tell me about your job.
Anything that could possibly go wrong on campus comes through this office: from toilets to ceiling tiles to ice on stairs and sidewalks. People call us for repairs, when they need to dig, or when they need fans or fire alarms shut down, to clean up spills. We route their calls to the correct people.

We get some really strange calls sometimes, and sometimes it’s confusing because the caller is trying to describe the problem but doesn’t know the terminology, and we’re not sure what they’re talking about.

We get calls to remove dead animals. We also get calls about lost property – computers, necklaces, keys – sometimes because people have dropped their keys or IDs down elevator shafts. Sometimes we get calls about unusual odors; sometimes they’re coming from the farms, and people on campus don’t know what it is.

What do you like most about your job?
My job was really hard for me at first because it consisted of so much. It took me about six or seven years to get comfortable. But I like it now because I finally got a feel for what I’m doing, I work with great people. Everybody around here is just like family.

What’s the most challenging part of your job?
Satisfying the customers. We do the best that we can to get what they need done, but a lot of times we don’t have control of when things are done. But it’s fun.

A lot of customers knew us by name and we recognize their voices because we’ve talked to them for so many years. From time to time, one of them will come to our window and introduce themselves, and it’s nice to be able to put a face with the name.

Tell me about your career at the university.
I started working as extra help in the National Animal Poison Control Center in the College of Veterinary Medicine. I went through the learner trainee program and became permanent. When the poison control center left the university, I chose to stay with the university, and I’m glad I did.

How long have you been a singer?
I’ve been singing since I was a little child: in churches, at weddings and funerals. I sang at a party at the American Legion Post 71 in Urbana in celebration of my brother’s group, ToFahxs, releasing their CD. I started singing in church as a trio with my two cousins. When they lost interest, I became a soloist. I sing a variety of things: gospel, rhythm and blues, a little jazz and contemporary music.

At the Facilities & Services banquet in December, I sang Natalie Cole’s “Inseparable” a capella to the oldest married couple and an R&B song, “Who Can I Run to.”

Last Friday, at a co-workers’ birthday party, I sang “Happy Birthday” and Alicia Keys’ “If I Ain’t Got You,” which I dedicated to two men from their wives. It was spontaneous; I just walked in and was told, “You’re going to sing!” That was fun.

We older musicians, we have the talent, but we have nowhere to go. We’d like to get a little exposure too, even if we don’t “make it” in the music industry, even if it were just a yearly talent show or something for people in our area.

Besides singing, what other hobbies do you have?
I play bingo, and I spend a lot of time with my two girls, who are ages 13 and 7. They keep me busy, especially with their age difference. I go to concerts, and I love to read mysteries. I like trying to figure out who did the crime.

– Interview by Sharita Forrest Assistant Editor

Capital crunch
Jack Denapey, executive director of the Facilities & Services Division, recently notatjef campus units that F&S will not receive outside capital appropriations this fiscal year: P&S, which has had a $6.5 million cumulative economic deficit of Lincoln Hall but not an additional $48.6 million that the UI had requested to proceed with the project. Cap
Spanish students get real-world experience, do service work

By Sheila Forrest
Assistant Editor

UI students taking Spanish courses are learning the language skills by helping people in the local Spanish-speaking community.

Ann Abbott, a professor and director of the Spanish Intermediate Language Program, and Darcy Lear, a professor and director of the Spanish Basic Language program, in the department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, are revamping some existing Spanish courses to prepare students from a wide array of academic disciplines to use bilingualism in business settings with their Spaniards and for local organizations that need people who speak Spanish.

“By bringing their experiences in the community back to the classroom and seeking help with language skills, understanding issues such as immigration and just venting the frustrations or other emotions that arise during their work at the center, the students become creators of the content rather than passive consumers,” Abbott said.

Each week, the students work in a classroom that is also a departmental WebCam to make 5-minute videos of themselves talking about an assigned topic and expanding upon it with their personal experiences.

“Really challenges your notion of being the teacher because you’re not even with them when they’re learning,” Abbott said. “I had to learn to tell myself to stop planning all these lessons that are structured to contact them without thought they needed and ask the students, ‘What do you need?’”

Instructor-centered, Abbott said.

Lear also is overseeing Spanish 142, “Spanish in the Professions,” formerly titled “Intermediated Spanish in Business,” to make the content more germane to the professional environment most Hispanic students may face after college and to prepare them to use bilingualism in work settings.

“Those students never know what kind of services they’ll be called upon to provide because there are lots of needs in the community and things just pop up.”

Interacting with Spanish-speaking people in health professional or in the business field, they may only gives students opportunities to practice their language skills in natural conversations, it also disposes the students to get to know about the different cultures and to learn about the problems that Hispanics may have about other cultures. Personal contact is needed, Abbott said, as the students see firsthand the various challenges facing the community’s clients, for whom even mundane tasks such as obtaining medical care, finding jobs or enrolling children in public schools can become complex problems because of language barriers and legal issues.

“A lot of the students were thinking about careers in law or business and saw an opportunity to see that ‘Oh, my gosh, these laws are hurting these people’ or that there are problems that need to be fixed,” Abbott said.

“Many times it was simply a matter of people from different cultural backgrounds coming together facing a legal system that our culture and not theirs. Very little can be said about very general sequences, especially if they are undocumented workers.”

Spanish spoke here

Spanish professors Ann Abbott (left), director of the Spanish Intermediate Language Program, and Darcy Lear, director of the Spanish Basic Language Program, are overhauling existing courses to better prepare students to use their language skills in the business world. The courses bring students in contact with Spanish-speaking people in Champaign and Urbana through community service work and videotaped interviews.

Their work in the community not only prepares them to practice their language skills and learn firsthand about people in need of some experience in community service work, which can be a defining experience for some students, Abbott said. In addition, in the fall, one student decided to join the Peace Corps; another decided to go to law school.

The community-based learning component in Spanish 232 also offers an added benefit of enabling the department to double enroll because the learning is not instructor-centered, Abbott said. Both work through the Center for Undergraduate Teaching and Learning.

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Philippine scholar, legal expert wins UI achievement awards

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

Davey has been the owner of several books and articles about international trade and European Union law. He also serves on the editorial board of The Journal of International Economic Law (Oxford University); and the editorial board of the Academy for International Law (Leiden University); and the editorial board of the Journal of International Law.

The course, which is being partially funded by a grant from the Academy for Entrepreneurial Leadership in the College of Business, will challenge students to apply their knowledge relative to the Spanish-speaking community and devise a product or service to satisfy that need using market research.

Lear is assembling a network of businesses and organizations in the local area that need people with Spanish skills and would welcome the students working with them. “What will be important at their jobs will be their ability to use their Spanish to communicate with the labor force or perhaps do international trade, not write their resumes in Spanish as the old had them to do,” Abbott said. “Most of our students aren’t going to be applying for jobs in Spanish-speaking countries; they’re going to be applying for jobs in the United States, and they’ll need to speak Spanish.”

“We’re trying to give the students a chance to learn a language of the United States and perceive the socioeconomic spectrum,” Abbott said.

Lear and Abbott also plan to redesign Spanish 202, “Spanish for Business.” The course, which is being partially funded by a grant from the Academy for Entrepreneurial Leadership in the College of Business, will challenge students to apply their knowledge relative to the Spanish-speaking community and devise a product or service to satisfy that need using market research.
High-fidelity patterns form spontaneously when solvent evaporates

By James E. Kloeppel
News Bureau Staff Writer

Resembling neatly stacked rows of driftwood abandoned by receding tides, particles left by a confined, evaporating droplet can create beautiful and complex patterns. The natural, pattern-forming process could find use in fields such as nanotechnology and optoelectronics.

“A lot of work in nanotechnology has been directed toward the bottom-up imposition of patterns onto materials,” said Steve Granick, a UI professor of materials science, chemistry and physics. “We found that beautiful patterns of high fidelity and regularity could form naturally and spontaneously, simply by allowing a drop to evaporate in a confined geometry.”

Granick and former postdoctoral research associate Zhiqun Lin (now a professor of materials science at Iowa State University) describe their work in a paper that has been accepted for publication in the Journal of the American Chemical Society, and posted on its Web site. Funding was provided by the U.S. Department of Energy.

To produce the patterns, Granick and Lin began by gluing two small mica sheets to cylindrical mounts. With the cylinders at right angles, a droplet of volatile solution containing small polymer chains was inserted between the curved mica sheets. The sheets were then brought into contact and left undisturbed until evaporation was complete.

Because evaporation in this geometry is restricted to the edge of the droplet, the process results in hundreds of concentric rings with regular spacing, very much resembling a miniature archery target. Each ring—composed of polymer chains abandoned as the solvent receded—is several nanometers high and several microns wide.

The droplet evaporates in a jerky, stick-slip fashion, said Granick, who also is a researcher at the Frederick Seitz Materials Research Laboratory and at the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology.

“While the droplet is sticking to the surface, a ring of polymer is deposited,” he said. “As evaporation continues, tension builds in the droplet. Eventually the droplet jerks to a new position, the tension is temporarily relieved, and another ring is deposited.”

The simple evaporative process could be used to form patterns with many other materials, such as electrically conducting polymers, nanoparticles and proteins. Pattern formation could be controlled by altering the size of the material, changing the solvent, or modifying the surfaces.

“The pattern emerges spontaneously from the geometry in which we put the droplet,” Granick said. “This means we could make other kinds of patterns by using different geometries or surfaces with tailored wettability.”
Temperature inside collapsing bubble four times that of sun

By James E. Kloppe
News Bureau Staff Writer

Using a technique employed by astronomers to determine stellar surface temperatures, UI chemists have measured the temperature inside a single collapsing bubble.

Their results seem out of this world.

“When bubbles in a liquid get compressed, the insides get hot—very hot,” said Ken Suslick, the Marvin T. Schmidt Professor of Chemistry at Illinois and a researcher at the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology. “Nobody has been able to measure the temperature inside a single collapsing bubble before. The temperature we measured—about 20,000 degrees Kelvin—is four times hotter than the surface of our sun.”

This result, reported in the March 3 issue of the journal Nature by Suslick and graduate student David Flannigan, already has raised eyebrows. Their work is funded by the National Science Foundation and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

Sonoluminescence arises from acoustic cavitation—the formation, growth and implosion of small gas bubbles in a liquid blasted with sound waves above 18,000 cycles per second. The collapse of these bubbles generates intense local heating. By looking at the spectra of light emitted from these hot spots, scientists can determine the temperature in the same manner that astronomers measure the temperatures of stars.

By substituting concentrated sulfuric acid for the water used in previous measurements, Suslick and Flannigan boosted the brilliance of the spectra nearly 3,000 times. The bubble can be seen glowing even in a brightly lit room. This allowed the researchers to measure the otherwise faint emission from a single bubble.

“IT is not surprising that the temperature within a single bubble exceeds that found within a bubble trapped in a cloud,” Suslick said. “In a cloud, the bubbles interact, so the collapse isn’t as efficient as in an isolated bubble.”

What is surprising, however, is the extremely high temperature the scientists measured. “At 20,000 degrees Kelvin, this emission originates from the plasma formed by collisions of atoms and molecules with high-energy particles,” Suslick said. “And, just as you can’t see inside a star, we’re only seeing emission from the surface of the optically opaque plasma.” Plasmas are the ionized gases formed only at truly high energies.

The core of the collapsing bubble must be even hotter than the surface. In fact, the extreme conditions present during single-bubble compression have been predicted by others to produce neutrons from inertial confinement fusion.

“We used to talk about the bubble forming a hot spot in an otherwise cold liquid,” Suslick said. “What we know now is that inside the bubble there is an even hotter spot, and outside of that core we are seeing emission from a plasma.”

‘Protracted symposium’ mixes talking, walking and investigation of places

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

Kinesiologists regard walking as a good starter activity for couch potatoes just easing into an exercise regimen. For others, walking is simply a logical means of getting from Point A to Point B.

But Kevin Hamilton, a UI professor of art and design, views the act of walking in less pedestrian terms. For him—and a host of artists, activists, writers, scholars and others—who will be visiting the UI campus this spring to participate in a “protracted symposium” and related activities—walking can be a form of personal, creative expression. Or as Hamilton describes it: “a distinct mode of acting, knowing and making.”

That concept will be explored—from both theoretical and applied perspectives—during the semesterlong symposium, “Walking as Knowing as Making,” organized by Hamilton and Nicholas Brown, a graduate student in art and design. Symposium events, which are free and open to the public, will take place at various campus and off-campus locations during a series of sessions Feb. 24-25, March 10-11, April 7-8 and April 28-29.

“Between February and May, we will bring to campus a diverse group of scholars, activists and pedestrians to present ideas, engage in conversation, generate questions, tell stories, and, of course, walk,” Hamilton said. “Supplementing and also weaving together this series of convergences will be an informal film series about place, a grading group (sponsored by the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities), a series of informational and experimental walks and tours, production of a monthly sound collage for broadcast on local community radio stations, a museum exhibition, and a digital and print archive of all the events and activities.”

How, exactly, does Hamilton explain the notion that walking can be interpreted as more than just a way to get around?

“As ubiquitous as walking may be in everyday life, it is growing less frequent for many of us,” Hamilton said. “The more we depend on cars or even public transportation to carry us about, the less walking we do, and the more anachronistic walking becomes. Walking takes on new symbolic resonance, even as it retains its unique capacities for revealing the particularities of the places we inhabit. Walking connects our bodies to spaces, places, details of their ecological, social, political, historical makeup.”

“As artists, Nick and I see an investigation of walking as rightly located in practice as well as theory, and so we have planned a series of symposia that mix talking, walking and investigation of our own places and spaces. We’ve invited a truly distinguished international group of presenters, with the specific goal of getting people together who might not normally get to converse – artists and activists, historians and ecologists, psychologists and musicians.”

The first symposium session, on Feb. 24-25, will feature presentations by John Francis and Anne Wallace, from 2-5 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Levis Faculty Center. Francis is a writer, artist, U.N. Goodwill Ambassador and founder of Planetwalk, who has walked and sailed around the world and did not travel in any form of motorized vehicle for 22 years. Wallace is a professor of English at the University of Southern Mississippi, author of the book “Walking, Literature and English Culture” and co-editor of “The Walker’s Literary Companion” and “The Quotable Walker.”

Guest talks by Hamish Fulton and Dennis Banks continue that night, from 7-10 in the Plym Auditorium, Temple Hoyne Buell Hall. Fulton is known as a sculptor, photographer, conceptual and “land” artist who characterizes himself as a “walking artist.”

Stee WALKING, Page 7
From Disasters Involving Critical Physical Infrastructures,1 was funded as part of NSF’s Information Technology Research Program for National Priorities.

Co-principal investigators in the study, all from the UI, include Noshir Contractor, professor of speech communication and of psychology; Indranil Gupta, professor of distributed systems in the department of computer science; Andrea Hollingshead, professor of speech communication and of psychology; and Gene Robinson, professor of entomology and of neuroscience. Stuart Foltz, also a co-principal investigator, is a civil engineer at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Construction Engineering Research Laboratory in Champaign.

Other researchers include Liang Liu and Khaled El-Rayes from Illinois’ department of civil and environmental engineering, Lucio Soiselman from Carnegie Mellon University and Brian Brauer from the UI Fire Service Institute.

At the core of the research team’s effort is the belief that civil engineers should be key players in disaster relief operations involving critical physical infrastructures—a fourth group of “first-responders,” along with firefighters, police and medical personnel.

According to Pena-Mora: “The civil engineer’s role—particularly the engineers and contractors who were involved with the original design and construction of the critical physical infrastructure—needs to be extended beyond infrastructure life-cycle management and sustainability to also involve first response against disasters.

“The professionals are able to provide critical physical infrastructure information, from 3-5 p.m., by Banks, Francis, Fulton and Wallace at the UI’s Krannert Community Park, in Sadorus, Ill., the start

For example, soon after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, inaccurate site maps were distributed to the emergency response teams in Manhattan. A week later, the World Trade Center design firm provided updated maps with accurate subconscious locations.

Contractor said that one of the challenges being explored in the new research is “how first responders have to rely on local information and often work in the absence of global information.”

“An emergency-response strategy based on complete global information being made available instantly to all responders is fundamentally flawed,” Contractor said. “Instead, we need to develop a strategy that leverages cutting-edge research in information technology to enable the rapid assembly and deployment of ad hoc, flexible networks of responders who act largely on the basis of local information. Such a strategy would be enormously helpful in helping us cope with disasters such as the recent tsunami in the Indian Ocean.”

One of the ways the researchers hope to advance understanding of the dynamics of communication and knowledge networks among first responders is by “learning basic principles on how bees and ants are able to effectively self-organize based on local information,” said Contractor, who directs the Science Networks in Communications Group at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications at Illinois.

According to Illinois’ Gupta, the ad hoc communication networks the researchers eventually develop to spread critical information among first responders also will “mimic the epidemiological spread of viruses and rumors.”

“Epidemiological algorithms can be used in large groups of participants to spread, collect and search for information,” Gupta said, adding that “the resulting software systems can scale to networks with hundreds or thousands of first responders, as well as withstand unresponsive participants and poor communication channels.”

“This behavior is very similar to how rumors or fads spread in society and viruses spread in populations, both rather reliably and rapidly.”

Understanding insects’ collaborative behavior also will help in the development of more efficient and effective ways of coordinating knowledge.

“Although human social systems are far more complex than insect societies, where a reduced set of rules govern the behavior of each insect for a given situation and the group’s behavior emerges from such interactions, these models may be useful in understanding the basic principles and best practices to be considered when developing strategies that will coordinate knowledge sharing in chaotic social settings where a small set of rules applied to local information drives decision-making,” Hollingshead said.

Put another way, while individual honeybees process only “partial and local information,” they are able, through interactions with each other, to produce “a coherent response to a change in their environment,” said Robinson, an expert on honeybees.

To date, no specific application has been found in computer science or engineering domains using bee behavior as a source of analogy.

However, the researchers envision a smooth transition of concepts from the collaborative honeybee behavior to solve complex tasks, like foraging, into the disaster relief context, because of the modeling similarities of both settings.

Although many research initiatives have used ants as a source of knowledge in telecommunications and transportation, no specific application has yet been found that applies models of ant behavior under threatening situations for any given application in engineering. However, the way ants “detect and propagate alarms and the interactions produced in ant colonies can be used to model complex systems and cascading effects,” Robinson said.

**WALKING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6**

Banks is an American Indian leader, teacher, lecturer, activist, author and co-founder of the American Indian Movement, who has organized protest walks and spiritual runs throughout the world.

On Feb. 25, at 11 a.m., the symposium venue moves to the Sadorus Community Park, in Sadorus, Ill., the starting place for a public walk. The walk will be followed by a panel presentation, from 3-5 p.m., by Banks, Francis, Fulton and Wallace at the UI’s Krannert Art Museum.

The UI museum also will be the venue for a symposium-related exhibition focusing on Fulton’s work. The exhibition, which runs from March 5 through July 31, is expected to consist of a photo-text installation based on the artist’s walking experiences in the community.

“Fulton creates each work specifically for the hosting institution, so we won’t know for sure what the work will be until he arrives,” Hamilton said. “He may do another in a series he’s been working on where he walks 25 miles away from the gallery and back in a day.”

More information about the symposium, biographies of visiting lecturers and related activities can be found on the Web at www.walkinginplace.org/converge. Hamilton said the Web site will continue to be updated throughout the semester as details about forthcoming symposium sessions become available.
Hyalophora cecropia -

The nocturnal cecropia moth is the largest North American moth. In “Insights From Insects,” Waldbaeur describes 20 different types of pests. He includes how each pest is destructive to humans, how it sustains itself through feeding, reproduction and avoiding predators, and the various methods that people use to get rid of pests. The book is written for a general audience.

“Many basic biological concepts such as evolution and genetics can be learned through pests,” Waldbaeur said. For example, he described recent evidence of how a new species of fruit fly is evolving based on how its diet differentiates it from other fruit flies.

Waldbaeur uses examples from history, his career and conversations with his entomologist colleagues to illustrate what we can learn from bad bugs.

Many of the pests he describes are found in Illinois, including the corn rootworm. Other regional insects also are mentioned, such as the evergreen bagworm that spans the east coast of the United States and stretches westward to Nebraska and Louisiana. Other pests with wider ranges, such as disease-toting mosquitoes, produce-feasting fruit flies and sap-sucking aphids, also are featured.

The history of how many insects were spread to the United States also is discussed. For example, in 1869, the gypsy moth (Lymantria dispar) arrived in Medford, Mass., from Europe when the French naturalist Leopold Trouvelot brought them to use in silk culture experiments. A few escaped as camp followers and their descendants thrived, leading to rampant defoliation 20 years later.

Such destruction has led people to devise various methods to exterminate bad bugs. “The least creative way to get rid of bad bugs is by using insecticides,” Waldbaeur said. Biological control, a practice in which natural predators are introduced, is a more creative and effective way to control pests, he said.

In the book, Waldbaeur explains how various pests can be controlled. He also recounts a more recent example when tsetse flies were being used to get rid of pests. The book is written for a general audience.
Nominations sought for campus awards

Nominations for the 2005 Campus Awards for Excel-

Excellence in Public Engagement

are now being accepted. The awards recognize faculty members, academic profes-

sionals, staff members, and students who contribute to the uni-

versity’s commitment to public engagement in exemplary ways.

Each faculty member, academic professional and staff

employee honoree will receive $1,500 cash and a $1,500 salar

y increase. Up to two awards will be made in this
category. In addition, up to three cash prizes of $1,500 each
will be awarded to undergraduate, professional or graduate
students to be used for professional development or to sup-
port other educational activities.

A new team category will recognize faculty, academic profes-

sionals, and/or students who, working as a team, have made a

significant contribution to public engage-

ment. Nominations are due March 14. Guidelines and applica-
tion materials for both Excellence in Public Engagement
Individual and Team Awards can be found at www.peir.
uiuc.edu/peawardsandgrants.html.

For more information, contact Rose Ann Miron at 333-
9793 or rmiron@uiuc.edu.

‘Reinventing Reality’

Engineering Open House is March 11, 12

The 85th annual Engineering Open House will take

place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on March 11 and from 9 a.m.
to 3 p.m. on March 12. One of the largest technological show-
case events in Illinois, it is attended by more than
10,000 visitors each year.

This year’s theme, “Reinventing Reality,” emphasizes
the creative side of engineering. The event is organized by
students in the Engineering Council.

Wild and wacky Robe Goldberg machines, robots
launching mini basketballs, and more than 130 entertain-
ing and educational exhibits are among the attractions.
Visitor guides containing a campus map and descriptions
of the activities and exhibits will be available at the EOH head-
quarters booth in the Digital Computer Lab. All events are
free and open to the public.

A major highlight will be the 18th annual W.J. “Jerry”
Sanders Creative Design Competition. The contest is spon-
sored by the House of Devices and is named for the
company’s founder, an Illinois alumnus. This year’s com-
petition features an expanded course and bigger objectives.
Student-built, remote-controlled vehicles will fight for pos-
session of mini basketballs, which must be moved from
a team’s base and placed in another team’s base. Approxi-
ately 23 teams will compete in the contest, which will be
held noon to 1 p.m. March 11 in the Kfenzy Gymnasium Annex.

In addition, there will be a high school design compe-
tition. This year’s task is to change batteries in a flashlight
and to make it waterproof. Devices and possible. Approxi-
ately 25 teams from Central and Southern Illinois will
compete in the contest, which will be from 10:30 a.m. to
1 p.m. March 11 in the Illini Union. Visitors can vote for the
best design of the competition.

Even younger visitors can participate in the activities
and will have an opportunity to test their creativity as they
learn about science and engineering. On March 12, seventh-
and eighth-grade students will design and build bridges out
of spaghetti in the Kenney Gymnasium Annex. A special on-
site design challenge will be open to visitors March 12, also
in the gymnasium annex.

Spread throughout the engineering campus, more than
130 exhibits will reflect the theme of Engineering Open
House. Prepared primarily by undergraduates, the exhibits
will demonstrate some of the concepts and creativity be-
hind successful engineering endeavors.

The open house will be held in “Area 51” at the

end of the engineering Quad. Student-led tours, highlighting
some of the most exciting exhibits and lasting approximately
30 minutes, also will leave from Area 51.

More information can be found at http://eob.ece.uiuc.
edu.

Executive MBA Program Reception

Scholarship available for UI employee

The UI executive MBA program will host an informa-
tional event on Friday, March 16 at 6 p.m. in the Compa-
naign Country Club. The executive MBA program is a

32 general management program that grants an MBA degree
after successful completion of 18 courses. Participants in the
program will be engaged by accomplished professionals who
wish to pursue an MBA degree with minimal disruption to their professional and personal life.

Class sessions are held primarily in downtown Chicago’s
Illinois Center and meet for two full days (Friday/Saturday)
every other weekend for 20 months.

For the class cohort beginning in fall 2005, the cam-
pus will fund one full scholarship for a UI employee. Ap-
plicants must submit EMBA application items by May 5
and the scholarship application by May 27. For additional
scholarship information, visit www.provost.uiuc.edu/pro-
vest/oncourse/emba.htm.

RSVP. To learn more about the executive MBA program,
visit www.befemubma.com.

Concert and workshop

American Indian storyteller featured

4. The seminar will be held in the School of Music audito-
ry. For more information, contact Curt McKay, 244-8863 or
curt@uiuc.edu; or Anita Hund at ahund@uiuc.edu.

The concert and workshop are sponsored in part by the

Local author to speak at IUB

For program and registration information, visit www.
uiuc.edu/tv/britcoms/britcom.htm.

Collaboration of Colleges

2005 Community of Scholars Conference

The 2005 Community of Scholars Conference is set to
take place March 14 and 15 in the Illini Union. The annual
event is free and open to all UI students, faculty and staff
members, postdoctoral students and alumni. The theme of
this year’s conference addresses how recent political and

children’s books featured

Local author to speak at IUB

At noon on March 5, the Illini Union Bookstore will
welcome author Maureen Hughes, a semiconductor moni-
tor operator at the micro and nanotechnology laboratory.
The free reading will take place in the Authors Corner on
the second floor of the bookstore, and will be followed by a
book signing.

Hughes will discuss four historically based fiction books
that target students from the third through sixth grades. The
format is ideal for helping students remember more than
just the names, dates, and locations of historical events.

Children’s books featured

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Proposals requested for ‘05-06

Each spring, proposals for the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities reading groups are accepted for the following academic year. Awards are made for up to $1,500, and the funds are made available to reading groups to support operational expenses. Proposals are encouraged from both new and existing groups.

Reading groups may be formed around any topic or themes of interest and need to be coordinated with the IPRH theme for the year. Groups that focus on readings of seminal texts and/or works that would need to be translated for non-English speakers are also invited to submit proposals for consideration. The goals of a reading group should include encouraging collaborative studying in the humanities and across disciplines, and investigating questions of sufficient breadth to draw scholars from a reasonably diverse array of intellectual traditions.

For more information about the current 37 reading groups sponsored by the IPRH, visit www.iprh.uiuc.edu. Applications are due in the IPRH office, MC-057 by 5 p.m. March 30.

For additional information or questions, contact Christine Carver at 244-3344.

Exploring the world of research

Beckman hosts open house March 11-12

The Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology will host an open house from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 11 and 4-7 p.m. March 12. The institute is an interdisciplinary research organization devoted to basic research in the physical sciences, computation, engineering, biology, behavior and cognition. This year’s open house will feature displays and demonstrations of current institute projects and facilities. The projects include a self-aiming camera, a flight simulator and a disco ball that induces temporary blindness. In addition, a tribute to the late Arnold O. Beckman, “A Legacy of Discovery,” will feature memorabilia from his life, including a working pH meter, one of his most famous inventions.

The event is open to the public, and the Beckman Café will be open for meals, snacks and beverages.

Ad removed for online version

Need help integrating technology into teaching?

CITES EdTech offers workshops

CITES Educational Technologies is offering a variety of seminars, workshops and training opportunities to instructors who wish to integrate technology into their teaching. The How and Why Series, lead by EdTech staff members, will feature several advanced workshops. On March 29 and April 5, “Using Your Web Design Skills in Illinois Colleges,” will be presented. On March 31 and April 8 there will be a workshop on “Making Grading Easier.” The final workshop in this series, “How to Create Your Own Custom Form in WebCT,” will take place on April 16 and 12. All workshops will take place in 21 Illini Hall.

The “Teaching and Learning With Technology” brown bag series will feature award-winning faculty members who will discuss how they have successfully used online and other digital technologies to improve their teaching. The talks are held every other Friday from noon to 1 p.m. in room 241 E. The schedule for the fall semester is as follows: The Center for Teaching Excellence will lead a discussion on an innovative polling tool called the Clicker. This tool is being tested by faculty members and students in large classes. Ann Bishop from the Graduate School of Library and Information Science will speak on March 31 about the Inquiry Labs project. This project uses online technology in the service of inquiry learning teaching methodology.

There also are other scheduled training sessions and extensive documentation on teaching and learning with technology at the CITES EdTech Web site. Visit www.cites.uiuc.edu/edtech for more information about these opportunities, or e-mail questions to edtech@uiuc.edu.

Second Sunday concert

Saxophone quartet performs March 13

The Brevé Mocha Saxophone Quartet will perform at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 29 in 21 Illini Hall. The quartet will perform live on WILL-FM 90.9 (101.1 in Champaign-Urbana) with host Michael Rothe.

Members of the quartet (all UI students) are Michael Holmes, soprano sax; Adrienne Honold, alt sax; Heidi Radke, tenor sax; and John O’Brien, baritone sax. Origini- nating as a Graduate Saxophone Quartet at the UI, the qua- rtet has expanded the scope of their performing interests and activities beyond the campus. The quartet’s members ex- plore the many musical styles and cultural contexts of the musical styles and cultural contexts of the many musical styles and cultural contexts of the musical styles and cultural contexts of the musical styles and cultural contexts of modern music.

The quartet, coached by UI professor Debra Richtmeyer, maintains an active schedule of performances throughout the region. For more information, visit the quartet’s Web site, www.brevemocha.com.

Celebrity doodles featured

Auction, dinner support wildlife clinic

The fourth annual “Doodle for Wildlife” will feature a sit-down dinner with celebrity guest Kevin Fitzgerald from Animal Planet’s “Emergency Vets.” The event will be from 6 to 10 p.m. April 8 at the Illinois Terminal Building.

Drawings signed by John Baez, Dave Barry, Barbara Walters, Robin Williams and the late Jerry Orbach will be auctioned at the event. Special adventure packages, including behind-the-scenes tours of animal attractions, also will be up for bid.

The College of Veterinary Medicine’s Wildlife Medical Clinic is a non-profit, volunteer-run organization that cares for nearly 2,000 sick or injured animals every year. In addi- tion, it helps to train veterinary students and to educate the public about Illinois wildlife.

For a list of auction items and other details, visit www.cvm.uiuc.edu/wmc.

To make reservations, call 333-2761 by March 31.

March 11 and 12

Regulation of police activities explored

The UI College of Law is sponsoring a conference on the regulation of police activities aimed at fighting terrorism and other forms of international crime. The two-day event will be held at the Max L. Rowe Auditorium of the Law Building on March 11 and 12.

The conference features law professors and sociologists from Europe and the United States, who will assess the dra- matic changes in criminal statutes, police powers and intel- ligence activities in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States. Among other issues, the panelists will explore the “difficulties of democratic oversight of more aggressive policing techniques, the implications of new powers for transnational collaboration in fighting crime, and the feedback effect that international cooperation has upon domestic law enforcement.”

Law enforcement initiatives that began in the 1980s and were significantly expanded after Sept. 11 “raise important questions about how the U.S. and Europe can respond to threats while retaining their democratic character and pre- serving civil liberties,” said Jacqueline E. Ross, the confer- ence organizer and UI law professor.

On March 11, Gary Marx, a sociologist at the Massa- chusetts Institute of Technology, will give the introductory lecture. Cyltte Fijnaut, a law professor at the University of Tilburg in the Netherlands, will speak at lunch. The speaker will address papers and discussions on undercover po- lice activities in France, Germany, Israel and Italy.

On March 12, Peter B. Maggs, a UI law professor, will lead the roundtable discussions on undercover policing in Ukraine with five scholars from Eastern Europe, and com- mentators from UI, the University of Chicago Law School, and other institutions.

In addition to the College of Law, the conference is spons- ored by the American Society of Comparative Law, and, at the UI College of Business, the Cross-Campus Initiative on Institutions in a Demographi- cally Changing World, department of sociology, European Studies, and other institutions.

A schedule and list of speakers can be found at www. law.uiuc.edu/conferences/policing/.

College of Law

Lecture to discuss moral responsibilities

The College of Law is holding the annual Paul M. Van Andel Jr. Memorial Lecture on Litigation and the Legal Profession. The lecture begins at 9 a.m. March 7 in the Max L. Rowe Auditorium of the Law Building. This year’s topic focuses on whether lawyers share the moral responsibility for torture at Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib.

The question of lawyer responsibility is posed in the nar- row context of the two wars, but it has far broader implica- tions for the work and responsibility of lawyers in general. Since a lawyer’s job is to give good legal advice, there is a conflict when lawyers are forced to make moral decisions. Doing their job may sometimes conflict with moral codes. This calls into question whether a lawyer can be separated from their actions and advice to clients, particularly when their actions may lead to morally wrongful conduct.

Stephen Gillers, the Emily Kempin Professor of Law at the New York University School of Law, is the featured speaker. Gillers is the author of “Regulation of Lawyers: Problems of Law and Ethics,” a widely used law school casebook. He is also a co-editor of Regulation of Lawyers: Statutes and Standards, and is the chair of the American Bar Association’s Joint Committee on Lawyer Regulation.
Planning Institute: “Com- munity Design for Healthy Lifestyles.” 7:30 a.m. Fourth Floor, Avana Faculty Center. For a complete program, register for the Spring schedule or call 244-7424. Continued March 4, 10, 17, 24. Coffee hour: Russian. 7:30 p.m. Cosmiclub, 307 E. Main St. Cosmiclub.

3rd Annual March Alley Meeting. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Student Support Services; Illinois Union. LGBT.


Dragon Auction. 6:30 p.m. Spurlock Museum. 2nd annual. More info: www.museumrec.uiuc.edu.

Saturday: Hike: Allerton Park Day Trip. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. Reservations required in advance of event; use code: 333-7440. Spurlock Museum.


Friday: “Operating Caution.” For information, call 244-9240. 7:30 a.m. www.allerton.uiuc.edu/openhouse.cfm. More info: www.allerton.uiuc.edu.


Italian Table Italian conversation meetings Monday evenings, Intermesso Café, XCP

Friday: “Delicious Barbecue.” On view April 3. From 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday. The Master and Margarita by Mikhail Bulgakov for April 8. More info: 355-1187 or www.uiuc.edu/eoh. PC User Group For schedule, call Mark Zitnay, 244-1289, or David Harley, 333-5656.

Scandinavian Coffee Hour 6:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. W. The Brood Camp- any, 706 S. Goodwin Ave., Urbana.


Japan House For a group tour. 244-9934. On view April 3. From 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday. The Master and Margarita by Mikhail Bulgakov for April 8. More info: 355-1187 or www.uiuc.edu/eoh. PC User Group For schedule, call Mark Zitnay, 244-1289, or David Harley, 333-5656.


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