CITES offers new arsenal for virus protection and spam management

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

If the title of a current Broadway musical – “Spamalot” – describes your incoming e-mail, but the daily onslaught of lurid advertisements and virus-laden hoaxes brings you little mirth, a new service from Campus Information Technologies and Educational Services may be your ticket to a cleaner inbox.

CITES Spam Control, a new component of the e-mail architecture at the Urbana campus, comprises two modules that will enhance virus protection for many e-mail users and offer several options for managing spam.

The centralized virus-detection module, which was activated March 2, scans messages sent to all recipients with @uiuc.edu e-mail addresses and automatically deletes messages that contain viruses.

The system’s anti-spam module examines various attributes and structural components of incoming messages – such as sender IP addresses, URLs and headers – and assigns each message a score ranging from 0 to 100 indicating the likelihood that the message is spam. A score of 0 signifies an unquestionably valid message while a score of 100 indicates that the message is undoubtedly spam. The spam score is displayed in a header that the software adds to the message before routing it to the user’s e-mail accounts.

“The default practice will be to add the headers and not do anything else to the messages,” said Mike Corn, director of security services and information privacy at CITES. “We don’t want to force spam handling on people. We want to enable them to decide how they want it done.”

Beginning April 15, about every week or so, CITES will send e-mails notifying different segments of the campus community – faculty members, academic professionals, undergraduates – that it is not enjoyable – for their mothers kept the interactions around homework aside and focus on what is enjoyable about the work is key to promoting children’s motivation in school. When the work itself is not enjoyable – for example, there is a lot of boring repetition – parents might focus on the positives of working together.”

Pomerantz and psychology doctoral students Qian Wang and Fiorrte Fei-Yin Ng studied 109 mothers, who ranged in age from 24 to 53, and their 8- to 12-year-old children. The participants were mostly Staying positive when helping with homework stimulates motivation

By Jim Barlow
News Bureau Staff Writer

Your child has a homework assignment, doesn’t understand it and is acting helpless. So what’s a parent to do? Help, but stay loving and make the process fun, say UI researchers.

Reducing the negative from this commonly occurring stress-filled evening ritual can pay off, says Eva M. Pomerantz, a professor of psychology. In the March issue of Developmental Psychology, Pomerantz and colleagues reported that a mother’s positive approach during home-work help sessions has benefits for children.

Although helping children with homework was often frustrating for mothers, their staying positive appeared to promote persistence in the children. There was a carryover as well: Over time, the children in the study were more motivated in school. They valued the learning process and saw it as enjoyable, Pomerantz said. The children also experienced emotional benefits when their parents kept the interactions around homework positive.

“Homework is often frustrating for both children and parents,” Pomerantz said. “It is important for parents to let children know that they are there to support them. Being able to put frustration aside and focus on what is enjoyable about the work is key to promoting children’s motivation in school. When the work itself is not enjoyable – for example, there is a lot of boring repetition – parents might focus on the positives of working together.”

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Trustees approve student health insurance fees

By Shantia Forrest

The UI Board of Trustees approved health insurance fees for FY06 at its March 10 meeting in Urbana, but some graduate students were less than pleased with the proposed coverage.

The proposal approved by the board, in FY06 the per-semester rates for health insurance at Urbana will be $167 for undergraduate students, $230 for those attending graduate college.

Rates for all students at UIUC will be $363 and at Springfield, $291. There was a 1 percent increase for undergraduates and a 1 percent decrease for graduate students at Urbana, no rate increase for UIUC students and an 8 percent increase for UIS students.

Urbana graduate students can purchase additional coverage for spouses at $327 per semester and dependent coverage at $653 per semester, premiums that reflect the population's greater age and higher inflation, particularly services, costly maternity care.

Note: Board members commented that the coverage is infeasible, the team is revising functionality created by Banner, Mendola said.

In the University Office of Business and Financial Services, said that the rates reflected the escalating costs of health care nationwide and that the loss ratio for providing the coverage is more than 100 percent, the team also made some efforts do more for them, but somebody's got to pay for it,” Beckmann said.

Mike Buss, executive assistant vice president and operations and external relations in the University Office of Business and Financial Services said that choosing Mega as the health insurance provider for the students' coverage will allow the university to handle its own claims processing but the carrier assumes the risk.

Although Urbana-based United Healthcare Medical Plan had submitted a lower bid, the limited geographic area for covered services was incompatible with students' needs.

Trustee Niranjan Shah commented that the rates were “not really out of line” compared to those charged at other universities.

Chairman Lawrence Eppley requested that staff members provide more information about the selection process in the future.

At the Graduate Employees Organization picketed outside the Illini Union, where the trustees met, and graduate student Rachel Shulman urged the trustees to consider the graduate student's financial needs. The public comment segment of the meeting, saying the coverage was inferior to that offered by peer institutions and that “an alarming number of graduate students and their families go without coverage or don't seek care at all” because the costs are prohibitive.

Trustee Frances Carroll expressed concern that the student's interests had not been taken into account and asked if the board could do anything to make the plans more amenable.

Gene Barton, assistant vice chancellor for student and community affairs, said the board was not able to cover the health plans.

“GEO members who worked with the team said the public comment session was the most helpful part of the meeting, saying the trustees go through the comments and the information, said Mendola. The students need to be involved in the process.

Kale said that the enhancements to the FY06 plan included reducing the annual out-of-pocket costs from $2,500 to $1,800, adding a prescription drug discount card and better coverage for ambulance and inpatient services.

“People to use it every day without the heart heavy on them,” Beckmann said.

The board approved a budgeting increase of $12 million for the South Campus Mixed Use Development at Urbana because in recent price increases, and other construction materials since the project's approval in July. The board also authorized further issuance of up to $363 million in auxiliary facilities retirement bonds and the 2006 floor, including the South Campus project and a smaller floor at UIUC. The recommendation was presented as part of a recommendation expansion plan at Urbana.

Sam Elkin, representing a team of Mackey-Mitchell Associates, a St. Louis architectural firm presented preliminary plans for renovations and expansion at the Peabody Drive residence halls and dining facilities at Urbana. The six residence halls, which were built in the late 1950s, have outdated building standards and need overhauled within a few years, and many of the rooms are smaller than market standards. Rebuilding the buildings to meet current standards is necessary. A priority in the project is reflecting students with severe physical disabilities, who currently live off campus in Beckwith Hall, and their personal assistants into the student community. The first phase of construction, which could begin in 2005 and be completed in 2008, would include construction of two residence halls to house 840 residents, including the Beckwith students, and demolition of existing dining facilities and Georgian Court, to create a New Quad space.

Thomas Bearowns, university counsel and chief compliance officer for administration and comptroller, presented recommendations to strengthen internal controls and reporting, in compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, a federal law enacted to enhance corporate reporting and accountability.

Although the law applies only to publicly traded companies, the university already complies with many provisions, including the use of independent internal auditors and a committee of trustees to audit the financial statements.

Trustee Devon Bruce agreed to review the recommendations with the board's budget and audit committee.

The board authorized a proposal to establish an investment contract and allocate $500,000 to the Illinois Emerging Technology Fund, which invests in companies commercializing UI technology. Privately funded, Illinois Emerging Technology Fund is controlled by IllinoisVENTURES, a company by the Illinois Board of Trustees.

“Protestors chanting anti-Chief Illiniwek means that the mascot's future is in jeopardy for a few minutes after Nadine Israel, a representative of the anti-chief group Progressive Racism and Social Responsibility, said, "You cannot fight the fact that Chief Illiniwek is a racist symbol that discriminates between people," said a representative of the group.

The four-month-long proposal represents the third time the university has received the proposal for the chief since November.

The proposal for the chief was established in 1950 to 1952. Memorials: American Diabetes Association, 2509 S. Neil St., Champaign, IL 61820.

James Curtis Steele, Jr., 80, died March 7 at Washington and Jane Smith Village, Chicago. Steele was a business and technical writing instructor at the UI. Memorials were to American Heart Association, 2509 S. Neil St., Champaign, IL 61820.

Elizabeth Taylor, 77, died March 5 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Taylor was an accountant in Contracts and Grants at the UI for 17 years, retiring in 1993. Memorials: Champaign County Humane Society.

Robert Ruben McIntyre Jr., 65, died March 6 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana.

McIntyre was a transportation operator at the UI for 30 years.

Barbara Le March, 69, died March 6 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana.

Rapley was a supervisor in the UI campus mail address is insideil@uiuc.edu. The campus mail address is 15 days before publication. All items may be sent to insideil@uiuc.edu.
Joe Schoonover loves to learn, so perhaps it should come as no surprise that one of the things he enjoys most about his job as security guard at Beckman Institute is brainstorming with the supervising scientist at Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology is talking to faculty members and students about their research. "It's like a free education," Schoonover said. Before joining the staff at Beckman more than 15 years ago, Schoonover studied criminal justice, firefighting and real estate; he's worked as an EMT and a volunteer firefighter, owned a body shop for a while and taught martial arts in addition to coaching various youth sports teams.

Tell me what a typical work day is like for you.

I start the day checking my e-mail to make sure there isn't anything that went on during the night that I need to know about. I walk through the entire building, and then I review the events for the next week or two and see if there's anything that I need to let my guards know about or whether I need extra guards. I do another walk-through an hour or so later when people are starting to come in, so they can see me and know I'm around if they have any questions.

I'm the emergency call person 24 hours a day for the fire department and police department, if they have a problem. If there's a problem while I'm here, I have a direct radio to the police department.

I also control the keys and key cards for everyone that comes through the building. I have about 2,800 people with access to the building and about 12,000 keys out.

How many guards do you have on staff?

Basically, I've got three full-time guards. We also have cameras inside and outside the building that we monitor, and we monitor the fire alarms. I also have my guards do inspections on fire extinguishers and first aid kits. We're the first responders if somebody gets hurt.

What kinds of situations do you typically deal with?

We've had a few thefts here and there. We have caught a few people stealing stuff. A year ago I caught somebody trying to take out a fire extinguisher and first aid kit. We're the first responders if somebody gets hurt.

What's your favorite part of what you do?

I enjoy talking to the people. I enjoy working with the students, the professors. They're all unique. I've become like a father figure to some of them. I get to see an average of 300 to 400 new people each year.

What's the most challenging aspect of your job?

Just trying to make sure that a building with over 300,000 square feet doesn't miss anything. I like trying to keep people out of trouble.

What kinds of things do you like to do when you're not working?

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CELEBRATING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Men’s basketball coach Bruce Weber urged responsible celebration in public-service announcements that are being broadcast on radio, television and in the Illini Union, university residence halls and McKinley Health Center. In some cases he conveyed the “celebrate responsibly” message during Weber’s news conference on March 14.

In advertisements in local newspapers, student leaders are urging fans to show respect for rival fans, the campus and the community through responsible celebration. Table tents in front of dormitory lounges, basketball courts and all other places where games are displayed encourage fans to sobriety and behavior in line. The appearance of CITES Spam Control by visiting a Web page.

The anti-spam module is being activated in phases because “turning on spam control on for 70,000 users at once would inundate the help desk with questions,” Corn said. “We want to make sure we’re positioned to support people appropriately.”

Users will be able to customize the system, and the system is “certain” are spam and messages “likely” to be spam according to the scores are quarantined but not deleted.

Cautious – messages the system is “certain” are spam and messages “likely” to be spam according to the scores are quarantined but not deleted.

Aggressive – messages the system is “certain” are spam and messages “likely” to be spam according to the scores are quarantined but not deleted.

No quarantine – messages the system is “certain” are spam and messages “likely” to be spam according to the scores are quarantined but not deleted.

Users can either click “release” to redi-

CITES Spam Control Service

Computer Security Day 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 28

Short, walk-up, hands-on training will be available as well as information about computer security in general. A new Security Tools CD will be available.

Training classes

May 3, 7 a.m.
May 5, 9 a.m.
May 10, 9 a.m.
May 23, 1 p.m.
May 25, 1 p.m.
Registration is required, register online for these 45-minute classes. Enroll online at


You’ve got less mail

The primary complaint of campus computer users is the daily barrage of spam, said Mike Corn, director of security services and information privacy for Campus Information Technologies and Educational Services. To help users take control of their inboxes, CITES is launching a new software system, CITES Spam Control, that detects and eliminates e-mail viruses and spam.

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vating without alcohol. Housing Division staff members are planning alcohol-free activities to keep students at home.

And if we go all the way? Plans are un-

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known about what will happen on the night of the big game. The home game is March 15, and the team is set to play Iowa the next day in the final game of the Big Ten tournament.

As Changampqua police found during the recent St. Patrick’s Day festivities in Campus, alcohol is everywhere in the university’s community. The police are working to prevent the majority of people arrested for causing personal injury or property damage were people from outside the immediate community, not students.

People who use quarantining will receive daily e-mail digests of the messages quarantined since the prior day, and they can opt to re-

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Chemists synthesize molecule that helps body battle cancers, malaria

By James E. Kloeppel
News Bureau Staff Writer

The first synthesis of QS-21A, a medicinally important molecule that helps the body battle disease, has been achieved by UI chemists.

In clinical trials, QS-21A has been shown to significantly improve the body’s immune response in vaccine therapies against aggressive diseases such as melanoma, breast cancer, small-cell lung cancer, prostate cancer, HIV-1 and malaria. An extract from the bark of the South American tree Quillaja saponaria Molina, QS-21A is available only in small quantities.

“Now that we have synthesized this remarkable molecule and confirmed its structure, we are in a position to examine how it works and investigate ways to improve its performance,” said David Y. Gin, a professor of chemistry at Illinois. Gin and his collaborators 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.

An extremely powerful adjuvant, QS-21A enhances the potency of antigens introduced in the body to elicit an immune response, allowing for lower vaccine doses with greater effectiveness. The molecule could therefore save patients money on expensive drugs and stretch limited supplies of antigens and vaccines.

Gin and his collaborators are now exploring ways to improve the molecule. By investigating structure activity relationships, they want to strip away nonessential structures, leaving a simpler and more potent core.

“One frequent problem encountered with vaccines is ensuring that the vaccine is potent enough to elicit a strong immune response,” Gin said. “We will continue looking for ways to produce new molecules similar to QS-21A that will enhance the body’s natural immune response to eradi-cate diseases.”

The research team included postdoctoral research associates Pengfei Wang, Mauricio Navarro-Villalobos and Bridget D. Rohde, and graduate student Yong-Jae Kim. The work was funded by the National Institutes of Health.
Unique weather factor in record 2004 Midwest crop yields

By Jim Barlow

News Bureau Staff Writer

If farmers talk about 2004 crops as they get ready to head out into the fields this spring, let them talk. Believe them. Last year’s crop season saw record yields in every major crop crop the closest-to-perfect weather conditions of the last century, scientists say.

“Never before have corn, soybeans, sorghum, and alfalfa all achieved record yields in the same year,” said Stanley A. Changnon, chief scientist of the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) and an adjunct professor of geography at the UI. 

In Illinois, the average corn yield in 2004 was 160 bushels per acre, an acre higher than the record set in 2003. Soybean yields was 50.5 bushels per acre, beating a record set in 1994 by five bushels per acre. Record high corn yields also were reported in Iowa, Indiana, Missouri, Nebraska and Ohio. Nationally, the corn yield was 160 bushels per acre – 18 bushels an acre above the 2003 record.

“Planting during the 2004 growing season was not easy,” Changnon said. “Summer temperatures were below normal with no hot days. Rainfall was adequate. Crop-yield predictions issued during the growing season and up until August 2004 did not anticipate the high magnitude of the corn and soybean yields that actually occurred.”

A sophisticated crop-weather model relying on daily temperature and rainfall values of 2004 also did not calculate yields as high as the actual yields. Predictions and model-generated yields were 7 percent to 15 percent lower than final corn yields for the 11 Corn Belt states, and 15 percent to 33 percent lower than final soybean yields of the Midwest. 

Those outcomes, Changnon said, help to reveal that weather conditions critical to high yields of all Midwest crops were not detected. He and his son David Changnon, a geography professor at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, had cooperated in taking a closer look at the weather conditions during 2004.

“A climatological evaluation revealed that summer 2004 conditions were not described by any experienced during the past 117 years,” Stanley Changnon said. They found that an unusually high number of sunny days had occurred, aiding photosynthesis. The frequency of summer days with clear skies was a critical, beneficial factor for all the crops grown in the Midwest.

“When a large number of clear days occurred in most previous summers, conditions were hot and dry with much above average temperatures and below average rainfall. Temperatures in 18 of the 33 summers between 1888 and 2003 with frequent clear skies averaged between 1.2 degrees Fahrenheit and 4.5 degrees Fahrenheit above the long-term average,” Stanley Changnon said.

Summers with frequent clear skies, well below average temperatures, and above average rainfall occurred in just two years in the past 117 years: 1927 and 2004. Skies were clear on many more days in 2004 than in 1927, and June and August rainfall in both years had different magnitudes. Thus, the 2004 weather conditions were anomalous.

Summers with below average temperatures in all three month (July and August), as in 2004, occurred in 18 previous summers between 1888 and 1935. Sky conditions during those cool summers were mostly cloudy, quite different than in 2004.

Sunny, cool conditions in 2004 were a result of 20 cold Canadian fronts that crossed the Midwest, followed by strong high pressure systems for several days. Each such intrusion dropped temperatures 5-15 degrees, followed by sunny skies. Each high pressure center dominated the atmospheric circulation and kept warm, stationary fronts with their attendant penetrations of warm, moist air masses away from the Midwest.

“The atmospheric circulation pattern during summer 2004 was unusual, but these conditions and their crop impacts are not considered indicative of those expected with a change in climate due to global warming,” Stanley Changnon said.

The report detailing the study is available from the ISWS Web site (www.isws. uiuc.edu). The research was conducted as part of the weather-climate impacts program of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center (http://isysphus.sws.uiuc.edu) and the ISWS climate program. The high center is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the state of Illinois.

“Bin busters” The Midwest’s record-setting harvest in 2004 was the result of unusual weather conditions, unlike any the region had experienced in more than a century, and even surpassed the predictions of sophisticated weather models, said Stanley Changnon, chief enureus of the Illinois State Water Survey and an adjunct professor of geography.

Homework, Controverted from Page 1

European American (83 percent); 28 percent of the mothers had advanced college degrees; 29 percent had completed college; and 42 percent had high school diplomas. Participants were interviewed briefly each day, and the children’s motivational and emotional functioning was assessed at six-month intervals.

The study covered 677 instances of homework. Mothers reported on several measures: whether they helped with homework, or just checked it for mistakes; their level of actual rainfall or anger; the level of fun, love and affection that occurred in their interactions with their children; and their perceptions of their children’s behaviors (frustration and desire to give up) and persistence (working hard when things got difficult).

The researchers reported that mothers’ negative affect (frustration or anger) in their interactions with their children increased on days when they had homework, and was even further intensified on days when they provided heightened assistance to the children. However, the researchers reported that when mothers maintained positive interactions (with children’s positive affect), they were less likely to offset the negative affect that occurs on days children had homework.

Pomerantz and colleagues suggest it will be important for future research to examine how mothers manage their negative and positive affect in interactions with children around homework. “What we need to know,” Pomerantz said, “is how it is that parents balance their frustration with more positive feelings.”

The study sample did not include fathers, and most of the mothers were European-American. Additional research is needed, Pomerantz said, to understand the influence of father-child interactions around homework, and if the same results occur in other cultural groups, especially in those where children may not be achieving at their potential.

The Office of Research on Women’s Health and the National Institute of Mental Health, both part of the National Institutes of Health, funded the research.

The Biotechnology Center is now evaluating a range of software and computer systems needed to move forward with this initiative. The specialists will work with those new systems to meet the data-interpretation needs of the diverse research on campus.

The magnet, software system and new specialists will be administered by the Biotechnology Center and housed in the Institute for Genomic Biology, now under construction on Gregory Drive between Bevier Hall and the Moreau Flows in Urbana.

“The Carver Trust is truly an important contributor to this university’s success in many areas,” Sweedler said. “The combined resources will significantly increase the competitiveness of literally hundreds of research groups at Illinois. These new resources also will ensure that the breakthroughs in cell biology and molecular-based medicine come from talented investigators in Champaign Urbana.”

The Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust is located in Muscatine, Iowa. Its program in medical and scientific research provides support for innovative investigation that holds the promise for advancement of knowledge and improving human health.

Roy J. Carver graduated from Illinois in 1934 with a bachelor’s degree in engineering. Since 1992, the Carver Trust has awarded some $12 million to support scientific initiatives at Illinois.

Positive moms = less frazzled kids Helping children with homework can be frustrating for parents and children but a study led by Eva Pomerantz, professor of psychobiology, revealed that positive interactions between mothers and their 9- to 12-year-old children alleviated homework-related stress and helped children value learning more.

Carver Grant, Friday Page 3

Chemistry and director of the Biotechnology Center.

“Put simply, modern analytical instruments allow the accumulation of gigabytes of data from characterizing a biological sample, but sifting through the data and extracting the needed information is now the task of experts,” he said. “Researchers in most cases are left data rich but knowledge poor.”

The Biotechnology Center is now evaluating the unique challenges the scientific community faces in the development of software and computer systems to make sense of the vast amount of data being generated.

A novel biotechnology center to be located in Muscatine, Iowa, is designed to provide innovative, small scale research and training that will have a broad impact on the overall well-being of the region. The center will be a focal point for industry and education and an incubator for new companies.

The Carver Trust is an endowed fund dedicated to promoting the science and engineering of the future.

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Nanotechnologist plans to build things with bricklike corn molecules

By Phyllis Picklesimer

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research news

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UI nanotechnologist Graciela Wild Padua is intrigued by the bricklike shape of the corn zein molecule. She thinks it’s particularly suited as a building block for tiny structures small enough to be measured in nanometers, cag es, for example, that could carry biomolecules to targeted sites in the human body or scaffolds on which to grow neat sheets of skin cells instead of bulky clumps of tissue.

Nanotechnology is most often mentioned in connection with microelectronics, with tiny computer chips and wires that can be measured in nanometers. A nanometer is one-thousandth of a micron, and a micron is one-thousandth of a millimeter.

And zein is just a waste product in the corn-to-ethanol process. But this corn byproduct won’t be wasted much longer if Padua, a researcher in the department of food science and human nutrition, has her way.

“The corn zein molecule has a very special bricklike shape, and we think we can build with it in much the same way that children play with Lego bricks and make towers,” she said. Padua hopes that eventually scientists will be able to make “boxes, tubes or cages” from zein, and these structures will carry other molecules inside them.

“A physician may want a particular drug to attach itself to a particular part of the body or act upon only a certain kind of tissue,” she said. “A cancer treatment would be an example.”

“These chemical molecules will have to remain intact until they reach their intended site,” she said. “So they’ll need to be connected to something else. Otherwise, they could be degraded in the stomach or expand in other channels.” That “something else” could be a corn zein carrier.

Padua said there is also interest among scientists in finding materials suitable for frames to support the growth of cells in sheets for medical purposes. Again, a scaffold built of corn zein molecules could fill the bill.

And, when scientists need to channel cell growth, they require a structure that guides the cells in certain directions. “Some scientists are interested in growing single neurons, for instance, but you’d have to channel the dendrites to go to certain places. They couldn’t just grow wildly because they have to be connected to certain points. Zein molecules could provide that sort of structure,” she said.

The researcher said they’re not quite there yet. “Right now, we’re manipulating the environment in the lab, and we’re attempting to build lines and walls from molecules of corn zein.” The scientists are changing the solvent and adding or removing certain ions or materials that could alter zein’s reactivity, making it stickier and thus better “building” material.

“Right now, we’re concentrating on getting zein to perform predictably as a building material so we can recommend that it be used in these other ways,” she said.

Padua said it’s not easy building scaffolding or other structures at the molecular level because “molecules tend to go their own way. But preliminary research with corn zein has been promising. Because zein molecules are so bricklike, we should be able to line them up precisely one right after another and make things with them.”

It’s exacting work, done one molecule at a time. But Padua sees potential in these bricklike molecules. She believes they have a part to play in 21st century medicine.

Other researchers working on the project are Antony Crofts, professor of biochemistry and in the Beckman Institute; Phillip Geil, professor of materials science and engineering; Jin-Feng Wang, graduate research assistant; and Qin Wang, postdoctoral researcher. Preliminary research has been published in the Journal of Agricultural Food Chemistry and Biomacromolecules. Funding was provided by the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station and the Illinois Corn Marketing Board.

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UI hosts industrial design conference April 7-9

Avant-garde by the yard Cat Chow, Chicago-based artist/fashion designer who is making waves among the art world for dresses fashioned from unlikely materials such as tape measures, is among the guests at this year’s Industrial Design Society of America’s Midwest Conference.

Sponsors and volunteers for the festival are being sought. Those interested should contact Brit at 217-244-0552, or by e-mail at marus@uiuc.edu. Those seeking additional information and updates on films, guests and festival events should contact either Brit or festival director Nate Kohn at 706-542-4972 or nkohn@anches.uga.edu.

Mid-semester rates Campus Rec memberships for sale campus recreation spring mid-semester memberships are for sale at member services, room 140 impe. spring memberships are valid through may 15.

Outdoor Center, the UI Ice Arena and the Campus Recreation Center East, which is scheduled to re-open this spring. In addition, two playing fields also are open for use. A membership provides access to all of these facilities. There also is a variety of programs available to members, including intramural sports, group fitness classes, personal training, outdoor clinics and trips, swim lessons, skating activities and leadership development packages. Memberships are available to UI faculty and staff members and their spouses/partners, recent UI graduates, UI retirees, allied organization employees, adult dependents and children of UI students and faculty/staff members, UI Alumni Association

Civil Service Employees Employee, dependent scholarships

Applications are now available for civil service employees and dependent scholarships. Last year scholarships were awarded to three employees and four dependents of employees. The committee invites all employees to apply for scholarships this year. The deadline is April 5. Recipients typically are selected the second week in May with an award ceremony in mid-June.

Applications are available on the Personnel Services Office home page at www.pso.uiuc.edu and at the Benefits Center, Facilities & Services and Personnel Services Office. They also may be obtained from Civil Service representatives Barney Bryson, Gary Fry, Bob Schweighart or Tim Wood.

The scholarship fund was established by Civil Service employees for Civil Service employees and their dependents to provide recipients with financial assistance in their pursuit of an undergraduate degree.

Rent movies for free

Library offers DVD service The Undergraduate Library’s Media and Reserve Center has begun a circulating DVD collection on a trial basis. Items in the collection include mostly popular culture titles, such as television series and movies, and are separate from the teaching and research collection.

The DVDs are available to all library patrons for three days at a time with a $5-per-day late fee per item. Media materials must be picked up and returned in person at the MRC desk. Patrons can view available titles by searching the MRC collection at www.library.uiuc.edu/search.php. To narrow searches to DVDs available for checkout, be sure to check the “limit search to openly circulating collections” box.

Overlooked Film Festival Ebertfest single tickets go on sale April 1 Tickets for individual films will go on sale April 1 for the seventh annual Roger Ebert’s Overlooked Film Festival April 20-24 at the Virginia Theater in Champaign and at the DV center.

The lineup of films and the schedule for “Ebertfest” will be announced within the next two weeks through the local media and the festival Web site (www.ertfest.com), according to Mary Susan Britt, the festival’s assistant director.

Tickets for individual movies will be $9 each and available through the theater box office (phone: 217-333-9003; fax: 217-336-5729). The 1,000 festival passes, covering all screenings during the five-day event, were sold out last month. This marked the first time passes have sold out before the films were announced. About 800 passes had been sold by this time last year, Britt said.

“About 800 passes had been sold last year, and the festival is an event of the UI’s College of Communication, and last year recorded about 18,000 admissions to provide recipients with financial assistance in their pursuit of an undergraduate degree.

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Robert P. Larsen Human Development award

Nominations due April 8

Nominations for this year’s Robert P. Larsen Human Development award are due by April 8 and are separate from awards given to individuals and to a group that made a significant contribution to the campus that enhanced student development.

Robert P. Larsen, who died in 1983, was a professor of psychology and economist.

To contact the Library by IM, go to http://web.library.uiuc.edu/chat/ or use the Ask a Librarian service. The collection that may call the Ethics Help Line at 1-866-758-2146 or contact the University Ethics Office at 333-2907.

The University Ethics Office is the tall greenhouse south of the main entrance to the UI campus.

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The University Ethics Office is the tall greenhouse south of the main entrance to the UI campus. **Continued**
achievements
A report on honors, awards, appointments and other outstanding achievements of faculty and staff members

education
The department of human resource education at the UI has received the Outstanding HRD Academic Program of the Year award from the Academy of Human Resource Development. The award was announced Feb. 26 in Colorado at the annual academy’s conference. The academy is the premier professional association that promotes the link between research and practice in the field of human resource development. The award is a tribute to the efforts of the faculty and staff members and students in the department.

engineering
Bill Hammack, a professor of chemical and of biomolecular engineering, has been named a Jefferson Science Fellow by the U.S. Department of State. Hammack is one of five tenured research scientists and engineers chosen to work alongside senior diplomats and policy makers for a year in Washington, D.C.

Candiates for Jefferson Fellowships are selected based on their scientific achievements, communication skills and their ability to describe scientific topics accurately for non-expert audiences. They also must be interested in issues at the intersection of science, diplomacy and foreign policy. Jefferson Science Fellows are asked to advise the faculty and staff members and students in the department.

Rod Blagojevich. Holonyak and five other Illinoisans will receive the Order of Lincoln Medal in April. The award names six Laureates of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois every year. It is the highest honor the state bestows on people of outstanding achievement who were born, or have lived, in Illinois. Holonyak is being honored for inventing the light-emitting diode, which is commonplace in digital displays. In addition, the semiconductor lasers used in CD and DVD players stem from Holonyak’s work.

Thomas Overbye, professor of electrical and computer engineering, has been awarded the first Alexander Schwezkoft Prize for Technological Innovation from the Industry/University Cooperative Research Center Association. The group is a voluntary, independent organization of past and present members of the National Science Foundation’s Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers Program. Overbye is being recognized for his creation and development of the power system visualization software known as PowerWorld Simulator. This software helps visualize the complex processes in which power flows in the nation’s electrical grid so engineers can better understand events associated with its operation and repair. The prize is awarded annually in the name of Alexander Schwarzkoft, who established the Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers Program at the National Science Foundation.

fine and applied arts
Kathleen Conlin, dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, will be named a fellow of the American Theatre during ceremonies at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on April 24. Membership in the College of Fellows of the American Theatre is one of the highest honors theater educators and professionals can bestow on their peers.

The College of Fellows of the American Theatre was founded in 1965 to recognize life achievement and distinguish service to the American theater. Since its founding, 202 leaders have been invested, of whom 121 are still living.

Thomas H. Schleis, a lecturer in the School of Music, has been awarded one of three Outstanding Instructor awards by the Illinois Lifelong Learning and Service Coalition. The coalition is a statewide group that represents community colleges, universities and other senior organizations that provide education programming for older adults. Schleis received the award for his 10 years of dedicated teaching of opera and musical theater in the UI Elderhostel and Senior Scholars programs.

James Zagare, professor of theater, has won the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society’s Outstanding Professor of Freshmen Award. This award is determined by nominations and votes from incoming honors members in the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society.

Zagare will receive a plaque and stipend, and was invited to speak at the society’s spring banquet and initiation on March 7.

liberal arts and sciences
Paul J. Hergenrother, professor of chemistry, will receive a Sloan Research Fellowship from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Hergenrother’s grant of $40,000, to be used toward his research, is one of 20 Sloan awards given annually in chemistry. The fellowships recognize the very best young faculty members in science and are meant to enhance their careers.

Cindy Ingold, Women and Gender Resources librarian at the UI, has won the 2005 Women’s Studies Section Award for Significant Achievement in Women’s Studies Librarianship. The award is sponsored by Routledge and honors a significant or one-time contribution to women’s studies librarianship. Ingold worked with Linda Krikos, head of the Women’s Studies Library at Ohio State University and the other recipient of the award, to edit a volume titled “Women’s Studies: A Recommended Bibliography, 3rd ed.” A cash prize of $1,000 and a plaque will be presented to Ingold and Krikos during the 2005 American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago at the WSS Program on June 27.

law
Richard Painter, professor of law, has been appointed assistant to the president and associate White House counsel. Painter will have primary responsibility for handling ethics matters that arise in the White House and the Executive Office of the President. Painter will report to White House General Counsel Harriet Miers, the successor of Attorney General Alberto Gonzales.

ui press
A three-volume set designed and produced by the UI Press and written by William Kinderman, professor of music, was selected as a winner in the 2004 Chicago Book Clinic book show. The set, titled “Antonia 195,” was designed by Copenhaver Cumpston, Willis Regier, director of the UI Press, was the acquiring editor. The book is a special format, 12 inches by 10.5 inches, full color with facsimile and transcription of a Beethoven manuscript.

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March 17 to April 10

Wednesday, March 17


Friday, March 19


Saturday, March 20

**7 p.m.** Memorial Room, Smith Hall. “Beyond the Smiles: Apart (*theatre*).”

Monday, March 22


Tuesday, March 23


Thursday, March 25

**7 p.m.** Memorial Room, Smith Hall. “The Role of AhR in Circadian...”

Friday, March 26

**7:30 p.m.** Music Building auditorium. Master of Music Recital. Jenelle-Era Portraits of Black...”

Saturday, March 27

**7:30 p.m.** Music Building auditorium. Master of Music Recital. Jenelle-Era Portraits of Black...”

Monday, March 29

**7:30 p.m.** Music Building auditorium. Master of Music Recital. Jenelle-Era Portraits of Black...”

Tuesday, March 30

**7:30 p.m.** Music Building auditorium. Master of Music Recital. Jenelle-Era Portraits of Black...”

Wednesday, March 31

**7:30 p.m.** Music Building auditorium. Master of Music Recital. Jenelle-Era Portraits of Black...”

Thursday, April 1

**7:30 p.m.** Music Building auditorium. Master of Music Recital. Jenelle-Era Portraits of Black...”
**More Calendar of Events**

**CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM**

**South Hall**
Doctor of Musical Arts Recital. Timothy Phillips, clarinet. 7:30 p.m. Memorial Room, South Hall.

**Senior Recital. Nicole Braut. soprano. 7:30 p.m. Recital Hall, South Hall.**

**UH Chamber Singers. 7:30 p.m. Foellinger Great Hall, Krannert Center. Admission charge.**

**Afterglow: Kevin Turner Trio. 10 p.m. Lobby, Krannert Center.**

**10 Sunday**
Bach Society of Music Recital. Lisa Kennedy, jazz voice. 1:30-2 p.m. 525 Smith Hall.

**Second Sunday Concert.**
UH Concert Choir. Alexis adams, director. 2 p.m. Krannert Art Museum. Broadcast live on WILL-AM (90.9) Krannert Art Museum.

**UH Symphony Orchestra Concert.**
3:30 p.m. Recital Hall, Smith Hall.

**Illini Student Barbershop Chorus.** 3 p.m. Foellinger Great Hall, Krannert Center.

**Student Chamber Recital.**
4:30 p.m. Memorial Room, Smith Hall. Ensembles coached by: 

*Senior Recital. Lisa DeAngelis, soprano and Brandy Krueger, baritone. 7:30 p.m. Memorial Room.**

**dance**

**1 Friday**
Mark Morris Dance Group. 7:30 p.m. SIDEWALK THEATER, Krannert Center.***

**2 Saturday**
Mark Morris Dance Group. 7:30 p.m. Tyson Festival Theatre, Krannert Center.

**8 Friday**
Rennie Harris Puremovement. "Facing Mosika." 7:30 p.m. Tyson Festival Theatre, Krannert Center.

**9 Saturday**
Rennie Harris Puremovement. "Facing Mosika." 7:30 p.m. Tyson Festival Theatre, Krannert Center.

**films**

**4 Monday**
"Men With Guns." John Sayles, director. 6 p.m. Mt. Library. Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

**Wednesday**
"Jesus and Maude." Hal Ashby, director. 5:30 p.m. 62 Krannert Art Museum. "Illini Program for Research in the Humanities."**

**sports**

**To confirm times, go to www.fightingillini.com**

**23 Tuesday**
Baseball. UV vs. Indiana State

**11 Thursday**
University of Illinois. 3:05 p.m. Illinois Field.

**12 Friday**
Baseball. UH vs. Ohio State. 6:30 p.m. Illinois Field.

**15 Tuesday**
Baseball. UH vs. Western Michigan. 2:05 p.m. Illinois Field.

**18 Wednesday**
Baseball. UH vs. Loyola University (Chicago). 4 p.m. Eichelberger Field.

**22 Sunday**

**23 Sunday**
Softball. UH vs. Purdue University. Noon. Eichelberger Field. Noon. Bring your dog for free admission to the game.

et cetera

**17 Thursday**

**20 Sunday**

**23 Sunday**

**24 Thursday**
Workshop. "Knowing Your IPA Options." 7 p.m. UI Credit Union. Call 276-7768 to receive a spot. **UCELL.**

**25 Tuesday**

**27 Thursday**
"Hich and Loving." 7 p.m. 209 Illini Union. Counseling Center Paraprofessionals.

**28 Thursday**
First Annual Conference. "Differences." Keynote speaker: Steve Kaul, University of Pennsylvania. 7:30 p.m. Third floor, Lewis Faculty Center. Continues April 1 at 9 a.m.

**29 Thursday**
Softball. UV vs. Ohio State. 6:30 p.m. Illinois Field.

**30 Friday**
Coffee hour. 7:30 a.m. Cosmopolitan Club, 307 E. John St. Champaign. Cosmospolitan Club.

**31 Saturday**
Softball. UH vs. Purdue University (Northern). 11 a.m. Illini Union. Cosmospolitan Club.

**31 Saturday**
Dine and Film Series: "Exploring Costa Rica: Colors, Creatures, and Curiosities." Sandy Mortimer 6 p.m. Illini Room. Illini Union. Illini Union Faculty-Staff Social Committee.

**31 Saturday**
Intensive Clinic. 1 p.m. Outdoor Center. S1. Gregory, Champaign. More info: www.campusrec.uiuc.edu or 333-8474. **Campus Recreation.**

**31 Saturday**
Dinner and Film Series: "Exploring Costa Rica: Colors, Creatures, and Curiosities." Sandy Mortimer 6 p.m. Illini Room. Illini Union. Illini Union Faculty-Staff Social Committee.

**31 Saturday**

**31 Saturday**
"Pascal's Other Woman." Through March 19. **UH Composers.**

**31 Saturday**
Arborhouse Tours. To arrange a tour, 333-7579.

**31 Saturday**
Beckman Institute Cafe Opens to the public, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. M-F. Lunch served 11 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information visit http://www.beckman.uiuc.edu/cafe/.

**31 Saturday**
Beverly Cafe. 8:30-11 a.m. coffee, juice and baked goods; and 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

**31 Saturday**
Campus Recreation. For more information, check website (www.campusrec.uiuc.edu) for more information and schedules or call 333-3806. CRCE closed for renovations. Kenny Gym and pool will not be open to all faculty/staff at no charge during scheduled hours with valid ID card.

**31 Saturday**
English as a Second Language Course

**31 Saturday**
Latin American and Caribbean Library.

**40 Friday**
"The Master and Margarita," by Mikhail Bulgakov. 6:30 p.m. 317 Illini Union. Reading Room. 7-8:30 p.m. Pierre Benge, UI. 9-10 p.m. Richard F. Reilly, UI. 10-11 p.m. Jed Harris, UI. **UI vs. Ohio State.**

**40 Saturday**
"Allerton Legacy" exhibit at Robert Allerton Park. 8 a.m. to dusk daily. **UI vs. Ohio State.**

**40 Sunday**
Illini Museum Tours. 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. **UI vs. Loyola University.**

**40 Sunday**
"Diane Simpson: News Sculpture," through July 30. Children's Spring Festival. 7:30-8:30 a.m. M-F. East end of Law Bldg.

**41 Sunday**
Ice Arena

**41 Sunday**
"A Few of the African-American Artists Represented in the Federal Libraries and Museums: Government documents, main hall wall display cases. **Saturday**

**41 Sunday**
"Latin American Countries" **Saturday**

**41 Sunday**
"Popular Culture-Brazil." **Saturday**

**41 Sunday**
"The Master and Margarita," by Mikhail Bulgakov. 6:30 p.m. 317 Illini Union. Reading Room. 7-8:30 p.m. Pierre Benge, UI. 9-10 p.m. Richard F. Reilly, UI. 10-11 p.m. Jed Harris, UI. **UI vs. Ohio State.**

**41 Sunday**
"100 Years of Illini Basketball." **Saturday**

**41 Sunday**
"Diane Simpson: News Sculpture," through July 30. **UI vs. Ohio State.**

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