Assets of recent Mexican immigrants to Chicago detailed in study

By Andrea Lynn
News Bureau Staff Writer

A new study finds that recent Mexican immigrants to Chicago are likely to be knowledgeable of social, cultural, and economic assets in the city.

The research team’s findings, released Nov. 14, are online at www.fieldmuseum.org/creativeworks.

“Mexican immigrants help to build up the rich, vibrant life and character of our city,” said Alaka Wali, director of the CCUC and one of the study’s primary investigators. “They make significant contributions that lead to growth, both economic and cultural.”

Noshir Contractor, the other primary investigator and director of the SONIC group at the UI, noted that the immigrants’ arts and cultural associations “play important ‘broker’ roles – especially to social service organizations – in resource-exchange networks, including exchange of clients, information, and materials.”

“In particular, these associations often act as liaisons, linking different types of organizations together, creating pathways among social services, community centers, arts institutions, businesses, mass media and other organizations important to facilitating access to the social, political, cultural and historical life of the city for the Mexican immigrant community,” said Contractor, a professor of speech communication at Illinois.

The research team’s findings, released Nov. 14, are online at www.fieldmuseum.org/creativeworks.

Study seeks to improve campus transportation

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

How would you improve the campus bike path system? If you need to bring your car to campus occasionally, but not often enough to justify buying an annual permit, would you consider buying a voucher that allowed you to park on campus sporadically?

These were a couple of the issues that were presented for feedback at a public input session about campus transportation that was held Nov. 1 at the Illini Union. More than 200 people participated in the open house, which was led by the consulting firm Martin/Alexis/Bryan and is part of the Multi-modal Transportation Study being conducted by the Office of the Chancellor and the Multi-modal Transportation Steering Committee. The committee – which comprises UI faculty and staff members, UI police, students and representatives from the cities of Urbana and Champaign – is examining strategic issues such as transportation needs on campus and ways to reduce congestion.

Participants were invited to give their feedback about nine topics that were displayed on concept boards in the Pune Lounge. Participants were given sticky notes and pens to use for comments and suggestions, with students using pink notes, faculty members green notes, staff members yellow notes and people who didn’t belong to any of those groups using purple notes.

The barrage of notes flaming over some of the boards drew attention to a few hot-button issues, such as problems with the current bike-path system and impediments to pedestrian safety.

Notes complained about pedestrians who walk in the street, about bicyclists who ride on the sidewalks (“You can get killed by a speeding cyclist!”), about drivers who don’t stop. “From the rear yet!” one purple note said, and about motorists who don’t yield to bicyclists or pedestrians.

A staff member wrote that the bike path on Wright Street conflicts with people who walk in the street, causing them to be torn and disoriented.

A faculty member wrote that drivers’ compliance with the crosswalk markings on Lincoln Avenue is “minimal, so crossing there becomes a scary negotiation every time.”

“Drivers on phones are annoying,” a student commented. “I have almost been run over multiple times at the crosswalk between the Digital Computing Lab and Grainger Engineering Library.”

Participants offered suggestions such as closing Green Street and other streets in the campus core to vehicular traffic, installing more crosswalks on Lincoln Avenue and providing a streetcar for travel along Green Street.

“It was a steady stream of people all afternoon,” said Pam Votik, director of campus services and a member of the Multi-modal Transportation Steering Committee. “We got lots of good input. People who couldn’t attend, but wanted to, e-mailed their input. Some people came in with input already written up or brought comments from coworkers. There were so many notes posted that there were multiple pages for each of the boards: When one page filled up with notes, another page was put up.”

Participants learned about programs that aim to reduce the demand for parking and congestion through alternatives such as ride-matching services, selling parking vouchers for people who drive only occasionally, and incentives, such as paying people not to drive to campus.

One board presented information about the costs of providing parking and alternatives that are used at other universities to reduce the demand for parking, such as pay-by-the-hour rates instead of annual fees, offering reserved spaces for students at higher rates than regular permits, and requiring residents students to park in secure, off-campus lots and ride to campus on shuttles.

Other options included creating transit/parking hubs on the campus periphery where commuters could park, and where resident students could store cars, and catch shuttles to the campus core, and offering Zipcars, a short-term, car-rental program, that is available at 19 universities, including Harvard, Columbia and the University of North Carolina. Members reserve cars over the phone or online. According to the company’s Web site, each Zipcar easing congestion by taking just 10 to 15 private vehicles off the streets.

One board asked participants how long they were willing to walk – less than 10 minutes or more than 10 minutes – from bus stops to their destinations, feedback that will be helpful if the committee and the MTD decide to reduce the number of bus stops on campus. Votik said.

Martin/Alexis/Bryan is consolidating the feedback received at the open house into their report, a draft of which will be provided to the steering committee in December. Their final report is expected in January.

Within the next few weeks, the committee also will release the results of a pedestrian crosswalk study that was recently completed by Rahim Benekohal, a professor of civil and environmental engineering. Benekohal analyzed about 25 crosswalks on campus and recommended safety measures.

On the Web

www.news.uiuc.edu/illinois

Dancin’ in the streets

A new study of recent immigrants’ cultural and artistic practices, which include traditional singing and dancing, concludes that they help to build up the rich, vibrant life and character of Chicago.
The trustees approved resolutions relating to UI facilities and the Illinois Department of Transportation while offering mobility choices that increase access to the arts and support local artists in Chicago’s Mexican Mixtecan neighborhood.

The researchers concluded that at a time when citizens and elected officials across the U.S. are wrestling with immigration issues, their findings have "important implications for policy reform." They recommend that immigration policy include:

- Increased access to the arts and support for local artists in Chicago’s Mexican Mixtecan neighborhood.
- Support institutions such as churches, social service organizations, public parks, libraries and small businesses that serve as "critical networking sites" for Mexican American and cultural groups.
- Support school-based efforts to use arts and cultural education, and increase arts education and museum opportunities for teachers.
- Create mechanisms to improve information sharing, improve services to immigrants and strengthen support networks.

MEXICAN IMMIGRANTS, FROM PAGE 1.

Our research has shown that the community is ready to support these efforts, and we are excited to continue working with the community to make these changes happen. We look forward to working with you on this important initiative.

By Mark Reutter

Two UI faculty members have received a three-year, $700,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for their program on ethics in engineering and science.

Michael C. Lou, a professor of electrical and computer engineering, and C.K. Gunsalus, an adjunct professor of law and a principal investigator, received the NSF grant to help graduate students conducting research in biology, engineering, environmental sciences, psychology and other fields.

The program builds on interdisciplinary work done at the Illinois College of Law, College of Medicine, department of theatre and other disciplines in using simulations in professional education.

"We believe that by engaging students through role-play scenarios, we will teach graduate students to handle ethical problems effectively," the two researchers wrote in their grant proposal.

Role-play exercises will include issues of plagiarism, conflict of interest, reporting research misconduct, computer software copyright and research on human participants in research and the handling of animals and hazardous substances.

Lou was an associate dean of the UI Graduate College from 1996 to 2000 and the campus research integrity officer from 1998 to 2000. Gunsalus is the author of the recently published "The College Administrator’s Survival Guide," which addresses how to handle conflict situations and ethical dilemmas in university departments. In addition to teaching her duties teaching, she is a special university

 NSF grant to fund ethics education program

TRANSPORTATION STUDY, FROM PAGE 1.

As a member of the MTD’s Mobility Im- mersion Program (IMIP), the UI is helping develop a multiplan, a long-range transportation plan intended to boost economic development while offering mobility choices that fit the community’s needs. The concept incorporates officials from the municipalities of Champaign, Urbana and Savoy as well as University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Other studies in progress include Champaign Moving Forward, a study of multimodal transportation issues by the city of Champaign as part of updating its Transportation System Plan and the Illinois Community Transportation Study.

To provide input on the new plan, a public meeting is scheduled for Nov. 16, 6-8 p.m. at Urbana High School’s auditorium. The meeting is by campus mail.

Want more?

Information about the various transportation studies and upcoming public sessions is available on the Web.

The UI Multi-modal Transportation Study

A portfolio of the informational brochures from their newest book, "bikes and all dimensions," can be downloaded at the Illinois Union.

www.mabtrans.com/tp/UICOpen_House_Broadsheets

bigsmall.al.org/Champaign County

Champaign Moving Forward

www.champagnemovingforward.com

miPLAN

www.invehemiplan.com

Editor

Doris K. Dahl

333-2895, ddahl@uiuc.edu

Assistant Editor

L. Brian Stauffer

333-6747, stauffer@uiuc.edu

Photographer

Volunteer

Calendrier

Student Intern

Nose Rumors contributors:

Craig Chalmers, communications, education, social work

James L. Kroll

The assumption is that if the UI were to open a store on the Web, as many as 5,000 students would visit the site each day. The store would be open 24 hours a day, every day of the year. The store would only be open 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

Insiders Illinois is an employee publication of the Urbana-Champaign campus of the University of Illinois. It is published biweekly on Wednesdays and Thursday of each month by the News Bureau of the campus Office of Public Affairs, assisted by the associate chancellor for public affairs, Distribution is by campus mail.

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On the Job Melissa Marriott

Melissa Marriott is one of two designing women – interior designers, that is who work in the Housing Facilities Planning Group in University Housing. Marriott, who graduated from Indiana State University with a bachelor’s degree in interior design, gained broad industry experience in residential and commercial design and sales for several companies in Illinois, Kansas and North Carolina before she joined the university’s staff in 2005.

What got you interested in the field? It was something I always wanted to do. After a Career Day in high school, I called the owner of Village Interiors in Bloomington and asked if I could look around for a day and see what it was all about. Gail, the owner, hosted me and another student. She gave us a project to work on and told us what skills we needed – such as sewing, knowledge of fabrics – and told us what directions we could go in the field. In college, I did my internship at her firm. My focus in college was on facilities management, mostly working in corporate or educational settings where you’re doing a lot of office space planning.

In residential design, the customers have a vested interest in how their house turns out, so it’s very much a psychology thing as much as it is putting colors and fabrics together.

Working here, I have a lot of variety in my projects. And you never know what’s going to come up on any given day. I’ve worked on offices, lounges, libraries and conference rooms. We just finished the remodel of Evans Hall’s main lounge. I’m working with Linda Bauer, the other designer, on remodeling the administrative offices and life-safety upgrades at Clark Hall. Florida Avenue Residence Hall just got new furniture; I helped Linda with narrowing down the furniture options, checking the orders, and getting it here and installed. What projects are you working on right now? We’re submitting bids for new furniture in the Goodwin and Green apartments. We’re doing a lot of planning for the upcoming Champaign Redevelopment Project. We’re making sure that the students at Gregory and Peabody have laundry and other facilities that they will lose when their dining buildings come down. We also have to relocate the groups that meet in the Illini Orange before that building is demolished. There’s been a lot of moving of staff people. It’s a massive project. Most of the work right now is happening on the Urbana side of campus, getting the Florida Avenue lounge and main lounges upgraded, remodeling Penn Station and renovating Pennsylvania Avenue Residence Hall’s dining hall. New furniture is going in at Illinois Street Residence Halls this summer, as well.

What are some of the challenges in doing your job? Constant change. Sometimes it’s hard to concentrate on a particular project because you’re juggling six, eight or 30 projects at a time. You’re also dealing with everyone who uses a particular space – such as administrative and building service staff members and students. You have to get to know everybody and what their job functions are and who does what. We get a great deal of support from everyone, including the furniture and mill shops on campus, which reupholster/refinish existing pieces. People think that interior design is mainly about picking out colors and fabrics, but that’s a minimal part of the job. We also keep track of furniture that gets damaged or lost, fill out replacement cost sheets, write bids and purchase and work orders. Then there are meetings to coordinate projects: arrange for the painters to paint, the building service workers to move furniture, and decide when to open spaces down for remodel.

Most of our work occurs over the summer when the students are gone, but we have some buildings that are open year-round, as different groups come and go. An extensive amount of research and planning goes into each project.

What do you like to do when you’re not working? I have two rambunctious toddlers – a son, Colin, almost 4, and a daughter, Jami, 2 1/2 - so there’s no ‘off the job.’ I do a lot of crocheting, mostly baby blankets for friends and family. My parents and I are very active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. I crochet helmet liners for the troops overseas. We’ve sent about 30 over there with supplies the VFW sends. My kids even occasionally help pack boxes.

“Interview by Shartta Forrest, Assistant Editor

Ad removed for online version
Novelist Richard Powers, the Swanlund Professor of English and UI writer-in-residence, learned the night of Nov. 15 during a dinner in New York City who won the 2006 National Book Award for fiction. (To find out who won, go to www.nationalbook.org.)

Powers, the author of eight previous novels, and a MacArthur Fellowship recipient, was a finalist for his just-published ninth novel, “The Echo Maker.”

Five authors were in contention in the fiction category. It was Powers’ second nomination for the award; he was a finalist in 1993 for “Operation Wandering Soul.”

Powers responded last week to questions about his writing, his university and his philosophy about literary awards. The questions were posed by News Bureau staff writer Andrea Lynn in an e-mail interview.

What inspired you to write your new book, “The Echo Maker”?

Some years ago, in the early spring, I was driving across country to visit my mother, who lives out in Arizona. I had been on the road for many hours when dusk started to fall, around central Nebraska. Off the side of Interstate 80, in a harvested cornfield alongside the Platte River, I suddenly saw this group of 3-foot-tall birds, and then another. Before I knew it, I was seeing a whole carpet of these creatures, as far as I could see.

For a brief moment, I thought I was experiencing highway hypnosis. In my excitement, I almost drove off the road. I pulled off and found a motel for the night, where I asked about the birds. I learned that this was the annual spring staging of the Sandhill cranes, an amazing ritual gathering involving half a million birds that included almost 90 percent of every migrating Sandhill crane on Earth.

Before that event, I probably couldn’t have told a Sandhill crane from a wood stork. But having seen this spectacle, I became obsessed with the bird, and with bird intelligence. You have to imagine these large bipeds, gathering in these huge communities, literally singing and dancing with each other. There is just something so uncanny and recognizable about them. When I later learned that they mate for life and that thousands of miles of migration by landmarks, they actually teach their young how to navigate the way south in the fall. It’s a wonderful experience, and that’s where my story got started.

Where did you study cranes and how did you study Capgras Syndrome?

I read continuously in both, during the four years it took me to write the book. Everyone knows about Oliver Sacks, the extraordinary writer who describes the case histories of various kinds of neurological deficits. But his work is just a small sample of what’s out there. Other remarkable writers in this field include, Todd Feinberg, Antonio Damasio, Paul Broks, Michael Gazzaniga and John Skoyles.

The writing specifically on cranes is more limited, but intensely beautiful. Modern accounts all start with Aldo Leopold, of course. Peter Matthiessen’s “Birds Of Heaven” is a beautiful book. My obsession with cranes has the additional advantage of actually getting me out of the house on a couple of occasions. In addition to trips to Nebraska, I also made the trip to Jasper-Pulaski Refuge in Indiana, not far away, where tens of thousands of Greater Sandhills stop for a while on their way south in the fall. It’s a wonderful experience, and it’s taking place right now; I highly recommend it.

How unusual is it for a book to be nominated for a National Book Award before it’s been published?

It’s unusual, but not unheard of. Because the prize runs from November to November, a small fraction of books published each year must be considered in galleys, if they’re to be in the running. I will say that this is the first time I’ve ever received a major nomination before the book was in the bookstores, and it’s a wild feeling!

How would you characterize the role of memory in your fiction?

In some very basic way, all stories are about the shaping and selection of memory. More specifically, the topic has been extremely important to me in terms of writing about how we shape the self against...

See POWERS INTERVIEW, Page 5.
POWERS INTERVIEW, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4
the backdrop of remembered history. Whether I am writing about photography or game theory or genetics or artificial intelligence, I am always writing about the intersection of cultural and personal memory.

Were you a bookish child? What were the first books that captured your imagination?

When I was young, books were like time machines and matter transporters. I couldn’t get enough of them, and I sincerely believed that they could take me anywhere. Growing up, I probably read more non-fiction than fiction. Darwin’s “Voyage of the Beagle” had a powerful effect on me when I was in grade school. It made me want to be a scientist, which I was certain I would be, all the way up to the age of 20. But the very first book I can remember that cast an unforgettable spell on me was the child’s picture book “Harold and the Purple Crayon.” Everything Harold draws with his magic crayon actually comes into existence. How great is that? That book has remained with me throughout my life as a strange, first metaphor for the power of art and representation.

Do you imagine you will ever jump genres and write, say, a biography or a monograph? If you plan to stick with fiction, what compels that decision?

I’ve been amazingly lucky with public recognition for my books, both here and abroad. Of course, a prize doesn’t make a book itself any better or worse. But it can bring the work to the attention of people who might otherwise never have come across it. Awards can be a very powerful encouragement to continue immersing in the work. Writing is an extremely slow, solitary, qualified, and uncertain activity, and you’re almost guaranteed to fall considerably short of realizing what you were hoping to create. The response to writing is so incredibly subjective that you simply never can be certain about what you’ve made. A prize can’t give you that certainty either, but it can supply tremendous encouragement. I really am grateful for having had more than my fair share.

What happens to a writer (such as yourself) when the writer wins – or doesn’t win – a huge literary prize?

I’ve been amazingly lucky with public recognition for the books, both here and abroad. Of course, a prize

I’m intrigued about your affiliation with the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology on campus. What role does it play in your life and your writing?

This is my second stay at the Beckman. My first was back in 1992, when I’d just come back to the States after living in the Netherlands for many years. I spent a year there, just listening to and watching the whole culture of interdisciplinary science all around me. That’s when I came up with the idea for my fifth novel, “Galatea 2.2.” The fictional Center in that book is a thinly disguised Beckman. I’m lucky to have a second chance to spend some time there. I’d been working to help start the new Masters in Fine Arts degree that the English department now issues. After some years of teaching with them, I began writing a novel dominated by neuroscience. I realized that I needed to come back and learn whatever I could from the actual research that was happening in that remarkable place. I benefited enormously from the affiliation. I now had access to informal conversations with scientists, and that’s proved deeply useful. Many times, Beckman researchers in neuroscience have pointed me to journal articles or to new research. I’ve had several chances to sit down with distinguished researchers like Neal Cohen and William Greenough, people who were working in the precise areas my story wanted to explore. I sat in seminars with them and picked their brains. I also attended some regular research discussions here, for instance the Advances in Sensory and Developmental Neuroscience seminar. In these, a great variety of researchers bring stuff fresh out of the lab and put it up for public discussion. They even talk about work that is still in the planning stages. I benefited from that in a couple of ways: First, I was able to learn about research even before it was published, and that gave me a great sense of where the field is headed right now. But I also got the chance to sit in the same room and observe the actual culture of science – the way that scientists interacted with, challenged and supported each other. Being at the Beckman gives me a unique way to relate the scientific discoveries with the real human beings doing the work.

What are you working on now?

I just started a new novel, which concerns some of the issues surrounding new reproductive technologies. How far are we willing to go in writing our future?
Polarized particles join toolbox for building unique structures

By James E. Kloeppel
News Bureau Staff Writer

UI researchers have created polarized, spherical particles that spontaneously self-assemble into clusters with specific shapes and distributions of electric charge. The polarized particles can be used in the directional self-assembly of intricate shapes and unique structures.

“The world abounds with particles that have traditionally been treated as geometrically symmetric, chemically isotropic and electrically uniform,” said Steve Granick, a professor of materials science and engineering, chemistry and physics. “We have muddied the waters a bit by asking: ‘What happens when we build clusters from particles that have an uneven distribution of electric charge?’”

The polarized spheres are called Janus particles; Janus was the Roman god of change, often portrayed with two faces gazing in opposite directions. The spheres offer new opportunities in particle engineering for building particular structures. The clusters may also prove useful as simple systems in which to explore the role of charge interactions in determining how proteins aggregate.

Granick and his collaborators describe their work in a paper accepted for publication in the journal Nano Letters, and posted on its Web site.

To make their Janus particles, the researchers begin with negatively charged beads one micron in diameter. Using electron beam deposition, they coat one hemisphere of the beads with a gold film, which is then made positively charged.

When placed in solution, the particles spontaneously self-assemble into specific geometrical shapes depending on the number of particles. For example, clusters of seven particles resemble a flywheel, which can revolve around a polar axle.

The compact shapes differ fundamentally from the strings and rings formed by magnetic particles, said Granick, who also is a researcher at the Frederick Seitz Materials Research Laboratory and at the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology.

“The observed shapes are in excellent agreement with computer simulations,” said Erik Luijten, a professor of materials science and engineering, and a corresponding author of the paper. “The simulations not only show you the shapes, they also show you how the particles are oriented in the cluster.”

Surprisingly, the charge distribution of the initial Janus particles is preserved in the clusters. One half of each cluster tends to be positively charged; the other half negatively charged. This uneven distribution of surface charge could be utilized, perhaps, in the directional self-assembly of particles into more elaborate and intricate shapes.

“Future work could consider particles whose shape is not just spherical, but also rod-like or oblate,” Granick said. “This is just the beginning of something that will catch a lot of people’s imaginations.”

Lead authors of the paper were graduate student Liang Hong and postdoctoral research associate Angelo Cacciuto. The work was funded by the National Science Foundation and the Petroleum Research Fund.
Scientists design simple ‘dipstick’ test for cocaine, other drugs

By James E. Kloeppel
News Bureau Staff Writer
UI researchers have developed a simple “dipstick” test for detecting cocaine and other drugs in saliva, urine or blood serum. The test is based upon DNA-gold nanoparticle technology, and can be packaged in user-friendly kits similar to those used for home pregnancy tests.

“Building upon our earlier work with lead (Pb) sensors, we constructed colorimetric sensors that are based on the lateral flow separation of aptamer-linked nanostructures,” said Yi Lu, a UI chemistry professor and a researcher at the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology.

“The new sensors offer a quick and convenient test that can be utilized by first responders or emergency room staff to quickly screen individuals for a variety of drugs and other chemicals,” Lu said.

Aptamers are single-stranded nucleic acids that can bind to specific molecules in three-dimensions. For each molecular target, such as cocaine, a corresponding aptamer can be selected from a large DNA library.

By using lateral flow devices as platforms to separate aptamer-linked nanoparticle aggregates, Lu, postdoctoral researcher Juewen Liu and graduate student Debapriya Mazumdar created highly sensitive and selective colorimetric sensors that mimic litmus paper tests. The researchers describe their work in a paper accepted for publication in the journal Angewandte Chemie International Edition, and posted on its Web site.

“Our lateral flow devices take advantage of the difference in size between dispersed and aggregated gold nanostructures,” Lu said. “This provides critical control for the performance of the devices.”

The lateral flow device consists of four overlapping pads – wicking, conjugation, membrane and absorption. The appropriate aptamer-linked nanoparticle aggregates are placed on the conjugation pad, streptavidin is applied as a thin line to the membrane pad, and the device is then dried.

When dipped into a solution, or swabbed with a sample, the wicking pad carries the fluid to the nanoparticle aggregates on the conjugation pad. The rehydrated aggregates then migrate to the edge of the membrane, which they cannot penetrate because of their large size. The aptamers quickly bind to any targeted molecules that are present, freeing some of the gold nanoparticles. The red-colored nanoparticles then migrate along the membrane, where they are captured by the streptavidin and form a red line. The intensity of the line is an indicator of how much of the targeted molecule was in the sample solution.

So far, the researchers have successfully demonstrated their dipstick technology on both adenosine (a nucleotide consisting of adenine and ribose) and cocaine, in human blood serum.

“Our results show that the aptamer-based dipstick is compatible with biological samples, making applications in medicinal diagnostics possible,” Lu said.

The work was funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, and the U.S. Army Research Laboratory.
New theory explains enhanced superconductivity in nanowires

By Kristan Aramthanapon
Chemistry Department

Superconducting wires are used in magnetic levitation trains, cryogenic machines, and in sensitive devices that detect variations in the magnetic field of a brain. Eventually, ultra-narrow superconducting wires might be used to power lines designed to carry electrical energy long distances with little loss.

Now, UI researchers not only have discovered an unusual phenomenon in which ultra-narrow wires show enhanced superconductivity when exposed to strong magnetic fields, they also have developed a theory to explain it. "We were the first to observe that a material's ability to exhibit superconductivity— the ability of materials to carry electrical current without any resistance at low enough temperatures—deviations from this convention have been observed, but there is no commonly accepted explanation for these exceptions, although several ideas have been proposed," said physics professor Paul Goldbart.

As reported in the Sept. 29 issue of Physical Review Letters, UI researchers not only have discovered an unusual phenomenon in which ultra-narrow wires show enhanced superconductivity when exposed to strong magnetic fields, they also have developed a theory to explain it. "We were the first to observe that a material's ability to exhibit superconductivity— the ability of materials to carry electrical current without any resistance at low enough temperatures—

As for the origin of these magnetic moments, the collaborating groups proposed that exposure of the wires to oxygen in the atmosphere causes magnetic energy to form on the wire surfaces. On their own, the moments weaken the superconductivity, but the magnetic field inhibits their ability to do this. This effect shows up in ultra-narrow wires because so many of their atoms lie near the surface, where the magnetic moments form. With postdoctoral research associate Andrey Rogachev (now a physics professor at the University of Utah) and graduate student Anthony Bollinger, Bezyadin deposited either niobium or an alloy of molybdenum and germanium onto carbon nanotubes to fabricate wires that were less than 10 nanometers wide. The superconductivity of these wires under a range of applied magnetic fields was examined, and the experimental results were compared with the proposed theory, revealing an excellent correlation between the two.

The results of this work may provide a key to explaining our previous findings that nanowires undergo an abrupt transition from superconductor to insulator as they get smaller," said Bezyadin, referring to work published in the Sept. 27 issue of Europhysics Letters.

The work was funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation.

Aggravated assaults, batteries down; robberies up

By Shurita Forrest
Assistant Editor

Aggravated assaults and batteries in the UI reporting district declined during the 2005-2006 academic year to the lowest numbers since the 1999-2000 academic year, according to the annual crime report released by the Division of Public Safety.

During the period Sept. 1, 2005—Aug. 31, 2006, aggravated assaults and batteries decreased 35 percent to 93 incidents from 142 during the same period the previous year.

During prior years, the numbers of aggravated assaults and batteries were 111 (AY03-04), 116 (AY02-03), 112 (AY01-02), 113 (AY00-01) and 81 (AY99-00).

Of the 128 victims of assaults and batteries, the majority (106) were males age 29 or younger. Usage of drugs and/or alcohol by the victim and or the suspect was a factor in 69 percent of the crimes.

Police increased patrols and women were advised to take extra precautions after two women were attacked on Feb. 27 and March 1 in the Orchard Downs housing complex in Urbana. On March 3, UI police arrested a suspect, Jermaine D. Dixon of Champaign, who was convicted and sentenced to four years in prison on May 31.

Additionally, reported criminal sexual assaults during AY05-06 declined to the lowest number in several years, decreasing by 24 percent, from 25 to 19. That was a significant decrease from AY03-04, when 30 criminal sexual assaults were reported. During prior years, the numbers of criminal sexual assaults were 21 (AY02-03), 22 (AY01-02) and 18 (AY00-01).

Consistent with prior years, during AY05-06 the majority (39) of robbery victims were UI students, followed by community residents (19).

Reports of peeping toms and public indecency also increased slightly during AY05-06, to 14 from 12 during AY04-05, but that was less than AY03-04, when 18 crimes were reported.

In addition, one attempted homicide occurred in the reporting district during the Sept. 1, 2005—Aug. 31, 2006, period, when, on Jan. 22, a man was stabbed outside a Champaign restaurant.

The most recent prior homicide in the campus area occurred in October 1998, when a man who was shot and killed at a fraternity party in Champaign.

Consistent with prior years, crimes were concentrated in areas adjacent to the university campus, rather than on UI grounds, particularly in the northwest quadrant, an area roughly bounded by University Avenue on the north, Gregory Drive on the south, and Wright Street on the east and the railroad tracks just east of Neil Street on the west.

"Our annual statistics demonstrate that we must recognize that the campus environment is not a safe haven from criminal activity," said Jeff Christensen, assistant chief of police. "The support from the community as a whole in understanding and utilizing crime-prevention-based practices in their day-to-day routines and reporting suspicious behavior helps immensely. Additionally, the healthy and long established cooperative relationship we hold with neighboring law-enforcement agencies is an asset for our community."

As always, police urge people to exercise good safety practices, particularly drinking responsibly, as over-consumption of alcohol increases the likelihood of becoming involved in a crime.

Pedestrians are encouraged to walk with other people, to be alert to their surroundings, and to exercise good safety practices.
develop good safety habits. While I am pleased to see that our aggravated assaults and battery numbers have declined, we realize keeping the numbers low is a challenge. Our community-based policing efforts have helped establish strong partnerships and enable us to work with our citizens.”

The UI crime report includes incidents that occurred in an area extending from University Avenue on the north to Windsor Road on the south, Race Street on the east and the railroad tracks just east of Neil Street on the west. ♦

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**Deaths**

James A. Danner, 45, died Nov. 2 at home in Bement. Danner was a food service supervisor in the UI Housing Division and worked at the university for more than 27 years. Memorials: Bement Ballpark Association or Bement Emergency Medical Technicians.

Dorit E. Gill Dunn, 71, died Nov. 7 at Provena Covenant Medical Center, Urbana. She worked in food service at Illinois Street Residence Hall for 33 years and retired in 1999.

Ethel Nadine Fergusson, 86, died Nov. 10 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Fergusson was a cook at the Illini Union for 25 years. She retired in 1987. Memorials: St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1893, Memphis, TN 38101-9950; or Shriners’ Hospitals for Children, Office of Development, 2900 Rocky Point Drive, Tampa, FL 33607-1460.

Thomas R. Gamble, 64, died at home in Merritt Island, Fla. Gamble helped establish a medical school as the UI’s dean of student and administrative services. He was an associate professor in the College of Education. In 1975 he was appointed assistant chancellor of the UI Medical Center Campus in Chicago and assistant professor of health professions education in the College of Medicine. Memorials: Brevard Community College Foundation on behalf of the Dr. Thomas E. Gamble Performing Arts Scholarship, 1519 Clearlake Road, Cocoa, FL 32922.

Frederick Douglas Malone, 64, died Nov. 2 at home in Indianapolis. Malone was an offensive line coach for the UI football team in 1980. Memorials: Melrose High School Community Development Telecommunications Center, 2485 Union Ave., Memphis, TN 38112.

Linda L. Nichols, 61, died Nov. 6 at Provena Covenant Medical Center, Urbana. She was a secretary in Staff Human Resources for 17 years. Memorials: Education fund for her grandchildren at Philo Exchange Bank, 102 W. Washington, Philo, IL 61864.

Warren Lee Royer, 81, died Oct. 14 at Rose Arbor Hospice Residence in Kalamazoo, Mich. Royer was a faculty member and principal at University Laboratory High School for 25 years, retiring in 1986. Memorials: University Laboratory High School, Urbana; First Christian Church Disciples of Christ, Kalamazoo; or Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan.

LeRoy Weisman, 78, died Nov. 3 at Naples Community Hospital in Florida. Weisman was a foreman for Facilities and Services at the UI for 35 years. He retired in 1985. ♦

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**Crime Data, Continued From Page 8**

ings and, if they have cell phones, to keep them out and call 911 if they notice a suspicious person or suspicious activity.

People also are encouraged to take buses or call SafeRides (265-7433) between the hours of 5 p.m. and 6:15 a.m.

“Addressing crime issues involves not only the police but the citizens of the community,” said Krystal Fitzpatrick, interim chief of police. “Our officers spend a great deal of time educating students and campus community members about crime issues in the Campustown area and helping them
Karen Chapman-Novakofski, professor of nutrition, received both the Distinguished Service Award and the Outstanding Research Paper Award at the annual September meeting of the American Dietetic Association for her work with diabetes education.

The Distinguished Service Award, given by the association’s gerontological nutritionist practice group, recognized Chapman-Novakofski’s leadership and service in working toward the promotion of dietitians in nutrition work among the elderly.

The Outstanding Research Paper Award, given by the association’s diabetes care and education practice group, recognizes a member who has published an outstanding research article demonstrating the effectiveness of diabetes medical nutrition therapy. “Dr. Chapman-Novakofski’s work is vital in the fight against diabetes,” said Faye Dong, head of the department of food science and human nutrition. “We’re extremely pleased that her work was honored in this way, and we know that Illinois residents will benefit from her continuing efforts,” Dong said.

The UI Women’s Club was honored at the Illinois Centennial and Distinguished Service Awards Banquet in Chicago on Oct. 13. The club was honored with the Illinois Centennial Award. Carl Larson, professor emeritus of mechanical science and engineering, and his wife, Vivian, attended the banquet and Vivian accepted the award on behalf of the Women’s Club. The award was presented during a slide show illustrating the club’s 100-year history.

John A. Lynn, who specializes in French and military history, will receive the Moroccan Order, the Ouissam Al Alaoui, the highest order granted by the Moroccan monarchy, at the rank of commander. The Order was established in 1913 and is given for “exceptional civil and military accomplishments.” The ceremony with King Mohammed VI takes place Nov. 27 at the Royal Palace in Rabat. A French admiral and Portuguese general also will receive the Ouissam.

Lynn is the president of the U.S. Commission on Military History and the vice president of the Society for Military History. He has worked extensively with the Moroccan Commission on Military History, including joint history projects through the State Partnership Program of the National Guard and the history section of the U.S.-Morocco Defense Coordination Committee.

During World War II, the Ouissam Al Alaoui frequently was awarded to U.S. military personnel involved in “Operation Torch,” the allied invasion of French Morocco.

The UI photo

Raymond K. Cunningham Jr., retired UI purchasing manager, will be awarded the Studs Terkel Humanities Service Award, sponsored by the Illinois Humanities Council. Cunningham is the manager of records services at the UI Foundation. Shoaf is a retired UI purchasing manager.

They will be awarded the medal at the UI Foundation/purchasing foundation/purchasing foundation/purchasing foundation/purchasing.

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See ACHIEVEMENTS, PAGE 11.
ACHIEVEMENTS. CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

dedication of the new Homer Village Hall in December. Mayors nominate individuals, primarily volunteers who have championed the humanities in their communities.

Among their activities earning them this honor, Cunningham and Shoaf are the authors of a history of the village of Homer. Volume I, “From the Timbers to the Prairie,” covers the period from 1820s to 1920. The book also was awarded the Illinois State Historical Society’s Award of Superior Achievement this year.

Volume II is to be released in December.

In addition to their work on this project, both were cited for other contributions. Village President David Lucas said, Cunningham and Shoaf “have a love of history and work tirelessly to preserve and make available local history to the community.”

William D. O’Brien Jr., a Donald Biggar Willett Professor of Engineering, received an eight-year MERIT Award (Method to Extend Research in Time) from the National Institutes of Health for his project “Ultrasound-Induced Tissue Damage Assessment.” The program provides long-term, stable support to investigators whose research competence and productivity is distinctly superior and who are likely to continue to perform in an outstanding manner.

Co-principal investigator on the project is James F. Zachary, professor of pathobiology, bioengineering and a Beckman Institute affiliate; and co-investigators are John W. Erdman Jr., professor of food science and human nutrition and of internal medicine; Douglas G. Simpson, professor and chair of statistics; Michael L. Oelze, professor of electrical and computer engineering and in the Beckman Institute; and Leon A. Frizzell, professor emeritus of electrical and computer engineering.

Tyehimba Jess, professor of poetry in the department of English, was one of 10 U.S. writers to win the 2006 Whiting Writers’ Award. The award, given annually to “emerging writers of exceptional talent and promise,” includes a cash prize of $40,000 to each winner.

The 2006 Whiting Award recipients were announced in New York Oct. 25.

Émile Talbot, professor emeritus of French, recently received a Prix du Québec award jointly from the American Council for Quebec Studies and Québec’s Ministère des Relations Internationales. The award is given once every two years to recognize a U.S. citizen who has made outstanding contributions to Quebec studies. The citation was read by Monique Gagnon-Tremblay, the current international affairs minister, at a plenary session of the biennial conference of the ACQS, held Oct. 12-14 in Cambridge, Mass.

Talbot is editor of Québec Studies, a refereed academic journal published by ACQS and featuring articles on all aspects of Québec and Francophone Canadian society and culture. ♦
University YMCA

Communiversity instructors needed

The YMCA’s Communiversity Program is looking for new instructors and interesting classes for the spring 2007 semester. If you have a special skill or interest to share with others, you can get paid for your efforts by offering a course through Communiversity. For more information and an application, visit www.jsparkymca.org/communiversity or call Alicia at 337-1514.

Illini Union

Holiday baked goods available

Illini Union Catering once again will offer baked goods for Thanksgiving. The carry-out menu includes 9-inch pies (apple, pumpkin or Donald’s sweet potato pie for $7.50 and pecan for $10.50), carrot cake ($10.50), banana bread or pumpkin nut bread ($5), dinner rolls ($5 a dozen) and pecan rolls ($12 a dozen).

Orders must be placed by noon Nov. 20, and may be made by calling 244-1515, visiting www.housing.uic.edu, or placing orders online through Communiversity.

Orders will be available for pickup between 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Nov. 22 in the Colonial Room of the Illini Union. Free parking will be provided that day in lot D-10, just east of the Illini Union.

College of ACES

Pampered Chef lecture is Dec. 7

The Pampered Chef Family Resiliency Program fall lecture will feature Karen Pittman, executive director of the Forum for Youth Investment and president of Impact Strategies Inc. Pittman will talk about “Improving the Odds for Youth: A Call for Community Leadership” at 7 p.m. Dec. 7 in the Knight Auditorium of the Spurlock Museum. The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.fyifamilyresiliency.uic.edu.

The Pampered Chef Family Resiliency Program supports innovative research, education and public engagement activities that hold potential for strengthening families’ ability to be resilient in the face of life stressors and to successfully navigate the competing demands of work and family. The program will eventually become self-sustaining. The new home of the program is to be named in honor of the late D. Kelly Christopher Hall, who served as the director of the program from 2002 to 2006 and was dedicated in September.

I Space

New art exhibitions open in Chicago

Three new exhibitions will be on view Nov. 17 through Dec. 23 at I Space, the Chicago gallery of the UI. • “Hideous Beast: Mini Movie Fest” will feature continuous screenings of one-minute movies from around the world, made using digital still cameras, videophones and PDAs. The space screening is part of a multi-venue mini-movie festival taking place simultaneously throughout Chicago. The festival is organized by Hideous Beast, a two-person collaborative advocating participatory art – UI school of art and design alumna Josh Ippel and Charles Roderick.

I Space will feature archival movies from past festivals, along with photographic documentation of each event; a “user guide” for the Mini Movie Fest, which includes instructions for creating a “mini cine”; a device for displaying movies on a laptop computer or television; and a station where visitors may submit movies to any of the Chicago events.

A workshop, free and open to the public, will be held from noon-2 p.m. Dec. 23. It will be followed, from 3-5 p.m., by a screening of movies submitted at I Space during the festival.

For more information, or to submit a movie to the festival, visit www.hideousbeast.com.

• “Molly Briggs: Fabula” showcases eight paintings joined to form a single, 30-foot panoramic work representing a natural landscape. Working in flashe, acrylic and tempera paints applied to paper vellum laid over linen, the Chicago-based artist and UI art design alumna constructed her own condensed interdisciplinary interpretation of the city’s North Avenue, from Harlem to the lakefront.

The artist’s process involved selecting and photographing one tree, tree-like shrub or stand of trees from each block, then using the projected transparencies to paint the source images.

• “David Svensson: LightSpace” is a site-specific installation by the Swedish artist, known for his sculptural work using light and color. At I Space, Svensson is installing colored films on the gallery’s conference-room windows. The application of the films subtly alters and reshapes the character of the space by modulating the light that enters it. An opening reception is scheduled to take place from 5-8 p.m. on Nov. 17 at the gallery, 230 W. Superior St., Chicago. I Space gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Kranzlet Center for the Performing Arts

Performance celebrates composer-in-residence

John Corigliano, one of the world’s most widely celebrated contemporary composers, will be in residence at the UI Nov. 28 – Dec. 1. During his visit, a number of UI ensembles and performing artists will join to present “The Music of John Corigliano, featuring ‘Circus Maximus,’” at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 30 in the Foellinger Great Hall, Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. Ticket information is available online at www.krannertcenter.com or by calling 333-9716.

In Corigliano’s “Circus Maximus,” the forces of the wind symphony are augmented to encompass a concert band on stage, a “surround” band stationed around the audience, and a warbling band, which moves through the entire hall and off-stage areas. The work, named for the largest arena of the ancient world, depicts the parallels that exist between the excesses of our “channel-surfing/reality show” society and the high decadence of the Roman empire. This event promises to take the concert hall experience a step farther as the audience experiences multiple music wonders in an eight-sectioned, continuous piece.

Performing ensembles will be the UI Wind Symphony, James F. Keene, conductor; Illinois Brass Quintet; and UI Choral Union, Chet Ahnes, conductor. Featured soloists will be Dawn Harris, mezzo-soprano; Stefan Milenkovich, violin; Azi Azmaeian, cello, Jonathan Keeble, flute; Rochelle Senset, piano; and Ann Yeung, harp.

While on campus, Corigliano – who has won several Grammy Awards, a Pulitzer Prize for his Second Symphony, and an Academy award for his score to Francois Giraud’s 1997 film “The Red Violin” – will participate in rehearsals, give master classes and meet individually with students and faculty members. He also will present a composer’s forum, free and open to the public, at 4 p.m. Dec. 28 in Room 201 Music Building.

Kranzlet Center for the Performing Arts

Carol concert, tree lighting is Dec. 3

Gather at Kranzlet Center for the Performing Arts on Dec. 3 to celebrate the season with traditional holiday music and a tree lighting ceremony.

At 3 p.m., the annual Carol Concert features short groupings of seasonal pieces interspersed with traditional carols and holiday songs. This musical celebration is presented by the UI School of Music Choral Division.

Then at 4:30, the Kranzlet Center Student Association hosts the annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony, which includes music, a visit from Santa and an opportunity to make the holidays merry for others by selecting a gift recipient from the Giving Tree.

Both events are free and open to the public.
One fish, top dish

From left, guest judge Mari Anne Bruker, assistant director of certificated housing at the UI, and celebrity judge Miguel Morales, from Bravo TV’s “Top Chef” series, congratulate Jean Parsley on her team winning first place in the 2006 Chef’s Challenge hosted by University Housing Dining Services. Parsley, head cook; Chong Buxton, kitchen helper; and UI Chef Peter Testory, as the team coach, represented Gregory Drive Dining Hall. This was the third year for the cooking competition, which this year featured teams’ most innovative and tasty use of salmon. Teams had two hours to complete their culinary masterpieces. Other teams placing were: Illinois Street Residence Hall, second place; Illini Union, third place; and Pennsylvania Avenue Residence Hall, fourth place.

Pampered Chef Family Reunion

Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2006. Behind Greek Hall, second place; 4-H Building, third place; and Kedzie Residence Hall, fourth place. The cooking competition, which this year featured teams’ most innovative and tasty use of salmon, was the third year for the competition, which this year featured teams’ most innovative and tasty use of salmon.
more calendar of events

CALANDER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

*FREEZE! Body Police, any imag- age you project may be used against you.* 8 p.m. Lincoln’s Inn Social Issues Theatre.

**30 Thursday** 1 p.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center. **Friday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Theater, Krannert Center.

**5 Saturday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Theater, Krannert Center.

**6 Sunday** 11:30 a.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center. **Monday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**7 Monday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**8 Tuesday** 11:30 a.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center. **Wednesday** 11:30 a.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center. **Thursday** 11:30 a.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center.

**9 Thursday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**10 Friday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**11 Saturday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**12 Sunday** 1 p.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center. **Monday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**13 Tuesday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**14 Wednesday** 11:30 a.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center.

**15 Thursday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**16 Friday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**17 Saturday** 11:30 a.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center. **Sunday** 11:30 a.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center.

**18 Monday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**19 Tuesday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**20 Wednesday** 11:30 a.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center. **Thursday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**21 Thursday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**22 Friday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**23 Saturday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**24 Sunday** 11:30 a.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center.

**25 Monday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**26 Tuesday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**27 Wednesday** 11:30 a.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center.

**28 Thursday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**29 Friday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**30 Saturday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.

**31 Sunday** 7:30 p.m. Studio Recital.
CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

sputnik.uiuc.edu: Spurlock Museum.

28 Saturday

29 Wednesday
Winter Winter Break. Sale: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Visitor’s Center, Allerton Park and Conference Center.

27 Monday

26 Tuesday
“Test This! – Finals Preparation.” 7 p.m. 406 Illini Union. Consultation Center, Parent-Youth.

25 Wednesday

Proposal Writing Workshop

5 Tuesday
“Going Home and Coming Out.” 7 p.m. 406 Illini Union. Consultation Center, Parent-Youth.

2 Thursday
“Early Research.” Houlung Sun, UI, Noon. 140 Education Building. QUESTIONS Division/ Educational Psychology.

Coffee Hour: St. Nikolaus.
7:30 p.m. 2301 South University. Krannert Art Museum. For more, see above. Gaussian 351-2446.

Friday

Saturday

At the request of Krannert Art Museum.

exhibits

Conversations About Something Else.” An art exhibition by Andrew DuBro, 526 E. John St., Champaign.

“Friday Afternoon Jazz.” 5 p.m.1-2 p.m. Friday. University Galleries.

“Silt’s Diary” Watercolors by Sitit Mariah Jackson.
Asian American Cultural Center.

“Show and Tell.” 12 noon-1 p.m. Monday-Friday.

“How the Other Half Lives.”

Commonwealth Club.

“Where the Animals Are”
March 4. Five galleries featuring the cultures of the world.

Spurlock Museum, 600 S. Gregory St., Urbana. Noon-5 p.m. Saturday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday; Noon-4 p.m. Sunday.

“Decorative and Musical Art of the 17th Century: A Quartet of Ornamented String Instruments by An- tonio Stradivari”

through Nov. 26.

Surrealist Interventions: Se- lections From Krannert Art Museum and the Univer- sity of Illinois Library.

“When We Were Young; New Perspectives on the Art of the Child”

in the Coolidge Arts of Urban Senegal”

through Dec. 31.

Krannert Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion.

through Nov. 26.

Library

Ad removed for online version
Promoted and newly tenured faculty honored

Promoted and newly tenured faculty were honored Nov. 8 with a reception and book plating in the Grand Gallery of Grainger Engineering Library Information Center. Sponsored by Provost Linda Katehi and Acting University Librarian Karen Schmidt, this year’s program involved about 80 faculty members. They selected books – either extant volumes or new additions to the collection – which were particularly important to their personal and professional development and included a written explanation of their rationale. Selections ranged from works such as “Matrix Computing” to “The Harried Leisure Class.” This was the seventh year for the program. After the reception, the selected volumes were relocated for display in the central corridor of the Main Library.

Cynthia Oliver, professor of dance and of gender and women’s studies, and her son, Elias Finkelman, age 2 1/2, look over “Faces of Africa: 30 Years of Photography,” by Carole Beckwith and Angela Fisher.

Weil S. Hassan, professor of comparative and world literature, right, and Gary Gang Xu, professor of East Asian languages and cultures, look at the volume that was bookplated in Hassan’s honor, “Close Reading: The Reader,” an anthology of literary criticism edited by Frank Lentricchia and Andrew Delbanco.