Inside Illinois
For Faculty and Staff, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Jan. 18, 2007
Vol. 26, No. 12

Double duty

Protein that kills cells also important for memory

By Diana Yates
News Bureau Staff Writer

A protein known primarily for its role in killing cells also plays a part in memory formation, UI researchers report. Their work exploring how zebra finches learn songs could have implications for treatment of neurodegenerative conditions such as dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

When activated, the enzyme caspase-3 triggers a synaptic process essential for memory storage, according to Graham R. Huesmann and David F. Clayton of the department of cell and developmental biology and of the UI Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology. Their article, which appeared in the Dec. 21 issue of the journal Neuron, describes their findings, which provide “the first direct evidence of a change in the availability of activated caspase-3 protein in the brain during the process of memory formation.”

Caspase-3 is best known for its role in a biochemical cascade that leads to apoptotic cell death. These new findings demonstrate that the enzyme acts differently under different conditions, and suggest that its regulation in the brain is more complex than previously thought.

Huesmann and Clayton examined the brains of zebra finches after exposing the birds to tape recordings of the songs of other birds. They found an increase in the concentration of activated caspase-3 in post-synaptic sites of the auditory forebrain shortly after the birds were exposed to unfamiliar bird songs. Exposure to familiar songs caused no significant increase in the enzyme.

The researchers demonstrated that the activated form of caspase-3 is short-lived and highly localized, which may explain why the enzyme does not trigger apoptosis. They also showed that activated caspase-3 is always present in brain cells, but that it is usually bound by an inhibitor, BIRC4. For a short time after the birds are exposed to novel songs, the inhibitor releases the activated caspase-3. The concentration of unbound, activated caspase-3 peaks about 10 minutes after the birds hear the new songs.

Other research has added to the evidence that caspase-3 is essential to memory formation. Caspase-3 inhibitors injected into rat brains interfere with the animals’ spatial memory and active avoidance learning. Caspase-3’s dual role as a cell killer and memory builder has long intrigued Huesmann, the lead author of the study. “Is it Memory or Is It Death? Caspase-3 and Memory Formation” was the title of his dissertation. Huesmann has a doctorate in neuroscience and is completing a medical degree at Illinois. “Graham had this intuition that growth and memory is really a kind of remodeling,” said Clayton, who is a professor of cell and structural biology. “You can’t have growth without death.”

Chancellor’s Diversity Initiatives Committee releases five-year plan

By Shailita Forrest
Assistant Editor

The Chancellor’s Diversity Initiatives Committee recently released a preliminary five-year plan for building an inclusive community on the Urbana campus.

The 28-member committee, appointed by Chancellor Richard Herman and Provost Linda Katehi in August, proposed four broad strategic initiatives: increasing representation of students and faculty and staff members from underrepresented groups through more aggressive recruitment and retention efforts, creating an environment of respect in the workplace and in education, enhancing diversity scholarship, and promoting diversity in the community and through civic engagement.

The committee suggested benchmarks of increasing the enrollment of undergraduate students from underrepresented groups by 16 percent to 25 percent, and increasing their graduation rate from 56 percent to 85 percent by 2012. To do that, the campus could initiate scholarships and merit fellowships for undergraduates and graduate students and for out-of-state students with severe physical disabilities; provide additional funding for evaluating students for undiagnosed cognitive disabilities; and establish a provost-level unit responsible for benchmarking and tracking progress toward recruitment, retention and graduation rates.

Several of the 50 activities proposed by the report would target American Indian students. Specific initiatives include increasing the enrollment of American Indian freshmen to at least 100 students and American Indian transfer students and graduate students to 50 each by 2012. The committee suggested providing free in-state tuition to students descended from tribes that were indigenous to Illinois through a new program called the Illinois First Nation, and implementing Project 200 for American Indian students, a student-based recruitment program similar to the UI’s Special Educational Opportunities Program—known as Project 500—that increased enrollment of African-American and Latino students during the late 1960s and 1970s. Other recommendations included establishing a permanent Native Elder-in-Residence in the American Indian Studies Program and cultivating relationships with Native nations, organizations that serve and universities with historically high percentages of American Indian students.

In order to enhance workplace diversity, the committee suggested offering academic professionals and staff members professional-development and training opportunities, such as fellowships, sabbaticals for research, and ex-SITE DIVERSITY, Page 2

Making memories

By Feniosky Pena-Mora

The graphic standards manual provides guidelines for using Illinois’ logos, typefaces, trademarks and colors in print, online and in video.

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Surveys on research-doctorate programs due Feb. 15

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

With the Spring 2007 National Research Council’s Research-Doctorate Programs survey, the UI is one of 230 institutions participating in the assessment, which the Chronicle of Higher Education called the “gold standard for rating American graduate programs.”

The assessment is used by granting agencies to determine funding and as a reference tool for faculty members and graduate students. The Graduate College is leading the effort with support from the Division of Management Information and the University Office of Planning and Budgeting.

The NRC conducted assessments in 1982 and 1995, and has refined the methodology based upon concerns raised by the 1995 survey. For 2007, the number of fields to be assessed has expanded from 41 to 60 and will include nearly all of the UI’s agricultural programs as well as programs in communication, American studies, theater and kinesthetic studies, said Richard Wheeler, dean of the Graduate College and institutional coordinator for the survey.

“The survey started out basically as an arts and sciences plus engineering survey,” Wheeler said. “It was expanded in 1995 to include national surveys, and in large part because of pressure by universities such as the UI who have strong science and agriculture programs that weren’t included in the 1995 surveys.”

The 2007 assessment will emphasize quantitative measures of doctoral education rather than qualitative reputational rankings, and will rely upon peer assessments of programs’ scholarly quality, and will present program rankings as ranges rather than clear cut numbers.

“For statistics, the rankings (of the 1995 and 1982 surveys) were basically meaningless because in some cases the differences between programs were so minute that we couldn’t tell the difference,” Wheeler said.

The assessment comprises multiple questionnaires: an institutional questionnaire, which requests data on health care, collective bargaining and new programs as well as completion rates for five racial/ethnic groups; a questionnaire for faculty members; a program questionnaire; a questionnaire for students; and a questionnaire for the Office of Student Conflict Resolution. The deadline for completion of the faculty questionnaires is Feb. 15.

The graduate school questionnaire is an experimental initiative, which marks the first time that students have been asked to participate in the assessment. Admitted to candidacy doctoral students (that is, students who have passed qualifying exams but have yet to write their dissertations) in five fields—neuroscience, chemical engineering, English, physics and economics—will be asked to complete the online questionnaire by April 1. Also for the first time, the assessment will collect information on quality of life factors for graduate students, such as compensation, health care and living conditions.

The Graduate College, with assistance from contacts in the participating units, provided the NRC with a list of about 500 UI faculty members who were chatted or served on dissertation committees. Mathematica Policy Research Inc., which is administering the questionnaires, is responsible for gathering those faculty members’ email addresses and by e-mail requesting that they complete the questionnaires. Faculty members by the executive for search firms such as program affiliation, committee service, employment and educational background and their scholarly activity during the past five years, depending upon their field. Faculty members who submit their questionnaires by the Feb. 15 deadline will be eligible to participate in the student questionnaire, which will be administered to a random sample of faculty members from participating fields. Those participating questionnaires of 15-20 graduate programs on a five-point scale based upon data such as the racial/ethnic/gender diversity of the faculty, the number of PhDs conferred annually over the last five years, students’ time to degree and the percentage of students placed in academic positions.

The committee members, who respond to the faculty questionnaire, consist of members who respond to the faculty questionnaire after Feb. 15 will have their data included in the assessment but will not be eligible to participate in the rating process.

Programs such as library and information science, nuclear engineering and urban and regional planning are identified as “emerging fields” for the 2007 assessment, and are not eligible to participate in the faculty questionnaire, but will not receive staff.

Staff members in the Graduate College, who completed the institutional questionnaire and are entering data into most of the fields on the online interface, are hopeful for a high level of participation by faculty members.

“It’s very important that faculty members fill out their surveys and return them. It will affect the way their data is gathered and make sure that the data is available for the study,” Wheeler said.

The UI expects to collect data from more than 50,000 faculty members nationwide, will report the results through a website by the time of its Jan. 18, 2007 meeting, the board of trustees approved the search for a permanent vice president.

The UI’s vice president and chief financial officer will be asked to complete the online questionnaire by April 1.

UI President B. Joseph White has recommended that the search be served by the university’s vice president and chief financial officer. Pending approval by the UI Board of Trustees at its March 18, 2007 meeting, White will begin his duties Feb. 1. At that time, Steve Rugg will shift back to his duties as vice president for planning and administration.

An experienced public finance expert currently serving as comptroller of Cook County, Illinois, previously served as comptroller and chief financial officer of the city of Chicago, reporter to Mayor Richard M. Daley. “Well-known and well-regarded in the public finance sector as an innovator and a straight shooter, Walter emerged from the competition to serve as the creative, student-oriented leader the UI needs,” White wrote in an e-mail message to the campus community. “We are the lucky to have a person as accomplished as Walter emerge for this position at the UI.”

Walter has spent the last six years of his 26-year UI career involved in all aspects of the university’s worldwide technology and economic development operations. As a living document. We want to build upon some of the successes that have occurred because it’s imperative for the campus to achieve this and the strategic plan.

In accordance with Herman’s strategic plans for the Urbana campus, the committee hopes to establish Illinois as a pre-eminent institution. It will be asked to participate in the assessment, which will be administered to a random sample of faculty members from participating fields. Those participating questionnaires, which will be administered to a random sample of faculty members from participating fields. Those participating questionnaires, will consider White’s recommendation of the chief financial officer selected.

New chief financial officer selected

As we look to the transition to new leadership in this area, White initiated a review of the university’s accomplishments and future challenges in technology and economic development. Leading the review will be the interim report to the work. We want to build upon some of the successes that have occurred because it’s imperative for the campus to achieve this and the strategic plan.

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The committee’s members strongly feel that the UI is well-placed with the right tools and technologies to be a world leader in higher education research.

The committee also suggested that equity facul- ties and resources be provided to the educational and research units that serve the underrepresented communities, and that a capital development office be created with the goal of increasing the endowments for diversity. Such an office, said Wheeler, will consider White’s recommendation of the chief financial officer selected.

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On the Job  
Cassie Yoder

A recent book advised, “Do what you love and the money will follow,” and that philosophy has held true for Cassie Yoder, the wedding coordinator at Allerton Park and Retreat Center, Monticello. “I started out by helping a couple of friends coordinate their weddings, then they started telling people, and it turned into a full-time position,” said Yoder, who began working at Allerton in June but has been planning weddings since May 2002. A native of Sullivan, Yoder earned degrees in radio/television broadcasting at Lake Land College and in corporate communications at Eastern Illinois University and worked for a Decatur radio station for about five years. Yoder also is a new bride, having married in September. Yoder and her husband live near Sullivan, where they grew up, and are parents to three kittens and a beagle.

Do you have training in the field of wedding planning?

I am working toward becoming a certified wedding coordinator through the Association of Bridal Consultants. I complete portfolios of the weddings that I coordinate instead of doing an internship.

How many weddings does Allerton host every year?

For 2006, we had about 20 weddings in the mansion alone. We’re bookin...
Quality of Illinois dance program growing by leaps and bounds

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

The path that leads from the UI campus to the hub of the dance world – New York City – might just be a little shorter in the future for students and alumni of the UI dance department.

That’s because the department – with assistance from the Office of the Provost – has engineered the construction of a human bridge. That connection link is Tere O’Connor.

Arguably one of the most innovative dance makers working today, the award-winning O’Connor is known for his formidable presence on the New York and international dance scenes, where his signature works, with their edgy and provocative, non-narrative spins, are often embraced by audiences and critics alike.

The choreographer’s many honors include a 1993 Guggenheim fellowship and three New York Dance and Performance “Bessie” Awards. In April, O’Connor is curating the Festival Dance 2007 at Colwell Playhouse.

Festival Dance 2007
7:30 p.m. Feb. 1-3
Colwell Playhouse
Kraannert Center for the Performing Arts

Highlights of this annual sampler of recent faculty work include a new work by Sara Hook and New York choreographer David Parker; the premiere of a collaboration by Cynthia Oliver, Ollie Watts Davis and the UI Black Chorus; and dances by Erika Randall, Linda Leheovec and Rebecca Nettler.

Sara Hook and Tere O’Connor will perform the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company evening-length dance “Blind Date” at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 27 at Krannert Center.

The hiring of O’Connor and Erkert, who also joined the UI faculty, from Chicago’s Columbia College last fall. The new, more fluid appointments enable artists to remain active in their fields while also feeding their creative spirits in resource-rich environments and serving as models for developing, younger artists.

“Great art isn’t created if artists are only asked to produce, produce, produce … art needs open spaces to research and explore ideas, and experience with the performing arts. The arts have the opportunity to be a human bridge. That’s why we’re here,” O’Connor said.

In addition to creating works for his own company, O’Connor has received commissions by dancers and companies from around the world, including Mikhail Baryshnikov.

Although his appointment officially began last fall, O’Connor arrived on campus this semester. That’s because the position allows the choreographer to keep one foot positioned in the academic realm, the other in the professional dance world.

Such appointments are fast becoming part of a growing trend nationwide, according to dance department head Jan Erkert, a choreographer, teacher and author who also joined the UI faculty, from Chicago’s Columbia College last fall. The new, more fluid appointments enable artists to remain active in their fields while also feeding their creative spirits in resource-rich environments and serving as models for developing, younger artists.

In addition to landing O’Connor at Illinois, Hook reeled in another big catch while working in thedance legend Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company will perform its evening-length dance “Blind Date” at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 27 at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. The dance is a provocative rumination on the state of our society within a highly troubled global context. Illinois’ dance department has received a $10,000 grant to reconstruct Jones’ 1989 masterwork “O Man in the Waters.” The grant also will support master classes and lecture-demonstrations at area schools.

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“Mike is building a tradition of process-based art, bringing artists in to workshop for long periods of time … fostering new work. “Great art isn’t created if artists are only asked to produce, produce, produce … artists need open spaces to research and explore new ideas,” said Erkert, who knows more than a little about the process, through years of experience with her own dance company.

The hiring of O’Connor and Erkert, who had been a frequent guest artist at the UI, was part of a continuing campaign to boost the quality of Illinois’ dance program.

Erkert credits former interim department head Sara Hook with negotiating the somewhat unusual terms of O’Connor’s contract.

“O’Connor’s said Hook’s broad vision for the department, and his potential role in contributing to it, “hooked” him from the get-go. “Sara was asking the right questions about what the department should be … ‘What’s next?” he said. “She seemed to have a world view that was not dated … something more progressive.”

And in that world view, he said, there was plenty of room for him to continue to explore his own brand of “research,” which in dance parlance, translates as the back-ground work leading to the creation of dance.

“My own research interest is to say, ‘What can dance do?’” O’Connor noted that for him, “research and teaching are entwined.” But if the teaching side were to be unraveled and dissected from the research, what drives his teaching style, he said, is his interest in “getting inside the students’ heads.”

From there, he functions much the same way a director interacts with actors. “I feel a responsibility to students … to guide them along their own paths … not necessarily toward my own area of expertise.”

In addition to landing O’Connor at Illinois, Hook reeled in another big catch while interim head: a $10,000 grant to reconstruct dance legend Bill T. Jones’ 1989 masterwork “O Man in the Waters.” The grant, which also will support master classes and lecture-demonstrations at area schools, is from the American Masterpieces: Dance-College Component, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts, administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts with Dance/USA. The piece will be reconstructed and taught to UI dancers this fall by Catherine Cabeen, and performed at Krannert Center in 2008.

In the meantime, campus audiences will have the chance to see the famed choreographer and dancer perform its evening-length dance “Blind Date” at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 27 at Krannert Center.

Erkert said Hook’s groundwork in securing the grant to reconstruct the earlier piece by Jones, along with O’Connor’s hiring, set the stage for other possibilities, including the presence of Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company performing its evening-length dance “Blind Date” at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 27 at the Krannert Center.

“Tere is also interested in curating avant-garde, grassroots artists, and we might develop a web-broadcast performance series, so students could share work from around the world,” Erkert said.

Other ideas for tapping O’Connor’s talent and experience include the launch of an “MFA Semester in New York” program, which also will support master classes and lecture-demonstrations at area schools.

“Now that Tere’s on board, we’ll work collaboratively with faculty members within the department and the College of Fine and Applied Arts, as well as with others from a range of disciplines. This spring, he’s teaching a composition course with landscape architecture professor David Hays in which students will explore questions about space and time. "Tere is also interested in curating avant-garde, grassroots artists, and we might develop a web-broadcast performance series, so students could share work from around the world," Erkert said.

Still other potential projects could include the development of a community engagement program in the Champaign-Urbana area similar to the New York-based “Theater Development Fund’s “Open Doors” program in which O’Connor participates.

The mentorship program links top theater and dance professionals with small groups of high school students who have no prior experience with the performing arts. "Now that Tere’s on board, we’ll work together to see what to tackle first," Erkert said.

Whatever it turns out to be, it’s bound to move Illinois just a little closer to the center of the dance universe.
Scientists propose alternate model for plume on Enceladus

By James E. Kloeppel
News Bureau Staff Writer

What’s causing all the commotion on Enceladus?

Last year, when the Cassini spacecraft discovered an enormous plume erupting on Enceladus, one of Saturn’s moons, scientists speculated that liquid water lay at shallow depths beneath the icy surface.

Now, as reported in the Dec. 15 issue of the journal Science, researchers have proposed an alternate model to account for this spectacular plume.

“With a diameter of only 300 miles, Enceladus is a tiny moon; it would fit easily between Los Angeles and San Francisco,” said Susan Kieffer, a geology professor and planetary scientist at the UI, and lead author of the Science paper. “This tiny satellite should be cold and inactive, like our own moon. But it isn’t.”

The surface of Enceladus is composed of water ice with traces of carbon dioxide. Part of this surface does appear old and cratered like Earth’s moon, Kieffer said. “The south polar region, however, is geologically active, with many surface features, indicating current activity.”

Kieffer, who holds a Charles R. Walgreen Jr. Chair at the UI, has studied geysers and volcanoes on Earth; on Io, a satellite of Jupiter; and on Triton, a satellite of Neptune.

Instruments on the Cassini spacecraft revealed a gigantic plume of gas, water vapor and ice particles erupting from Enceladus’ surface. Some of the ice escapes the moon’s feeble grasp and replenishes a ring of ice particles around Saturn, called the “E-ring.”

Initial reports speculated that chambers of liquid water lay close to the moon’s surface and erupted in a giant geyser. The water would be near freezing, so scientists dubbed the model “Cold Faithful,” after the familiar, but hotter, Old Faithful geyser in Yellowstone National Park.

“A problem with this model,” Kieffer said, “is that 10 percent of the plume consists of the gases carbon dioxide, nitrogen and methane. You might get a carbon dioxide-driven liquid geyser there, but you can’t put this much nitrogen and methane into liquid water at the low pressures found inside Enceladus.”

Nitrogen and methane are nearly insoluble in liquid water, but highly soluble in frozen water — in an ice phase called clathrate. When clathrate is exposed to a vacuum, the gas molecules burst out, ripping the ice lattice to shreds and carrying the fragments away.

Kieffer and colleagues have proposed an alternate model to explain the plume on Enceladus. The gases in the plume, they propose, are dissolved in a reservoir of clathrate under the water ice cap at the south polar region. The clathrate model allows an environment conditions by fractures at the south pole, the clathrates decompose violently, spewing out nitrogen, methane and carbon dioxide gases, and ice particles; as well as leaving fracture walls coated with water ice,” said Kieffer, who is also a professor in the university’s Center for Advanced Study, one of the highest forms of campus recognition. “Some ice particles and ice coatings evaporate to produce the water vapor observed with the other gases,” she said.

Active tectonic processes at the south pole cause continuous formation of cracks in the ice, through which many separate vents create a plume. The total discharge is comparable to that of Old Faithful, but the plume is enormously bigger because it is erupting at very low gravity into the near vacuum of space.

“We propose that cracks in Enceladus’ ice cap may be opening and closing continuously, producing the spectacular plume we see reaching high above Enceladus’ surface,” Kieffer said. “Even if conditions are as cold as our model suggests, there is no problem launching ice particles into Saturn’s E-ring.”

The other authors of the paper besides Kieffer are postdoctoral researcher Xinli Lu and geologists Craig Bethke and Steve Marshak at the UI, planetary scientist John Spencer at the Southwest Research Institute, and chemist Alexandra Navrotsky at the University of California at Davis.

The work was funded by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Ad removed for online version
New instrumentation helps scientists better predict space weather

By James E. Kloeppel  
News Bureau Staff Writer

New instrumentation and observing techniques, being developed by UI researchers, are helping scientists better understand and predict space weather.

Space weather can be caused by giant solar flares and coronal mass ejections from the sun, and can adversely affect life on Earth. Tremendous blasts of radiation may threaten astronauts, disrupt satellite communication and navigation systems, and knock out power grids on Earth. Near Earth’s magnetic equator, however, space weather can have dramatic effects even during quiet solar conditions.

“These storms are among the most explosive events that occur in the ionosphere, and are an important component of ongoing space weather research,” said Jonathan Makela, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at Illinois.

“A better understanding of the physical processes responsible for these storms could improve our ability to forecast space weather,” Makela said, “and lead to better techniques to mitigate its effects.”

The ionosphere extends from approximately 100 kilometers to more than 1,000 kilometers above Earth’s surface. In this region of the atmosphere, solar radiation can strip the outer electrons from atoms and molecules of gas. After sunset, the electrons recombine and give off light, called airglow. Space weather events at the magnetic equator appear as depletions in the airglow. As signals at radio wavelengths pass through these turbulent regions, they scintillate—much like the twinkling of starlight at optical wavelengths.

Unlike aurora, which can be seen with the naked eye, airglow near the magnetic equator is visible only in photographs taken through narrow-band filters with exposure times of a minute or two.

In August 2006, Makela installed a narrow-field ionospheric airglow imager at Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory, located east of La Serena, Chile. The imager looks north, parallel to Earth’s magnetic field and toward the magnetic equator. Two GPS scintillation monitors were also installed at the site, and are used to study ionospheric instabilities at a smaller size scale.

“The GPS monitors allow us to perform simple interferometric calculations and derive drift velocities of the perturbations that cause the scintillations,” Makela said. “By measuring power fluctuations in the GPS signals, we can also correlate the scintillation patterns with the airglow images.”

Makela is also attempting to correlate his airglow images with radar backscatter observations made with the Jicamarca radar system near Lima, Peru.

“In this way, we can study the relative roles of the equatorial and local regions of the ionosphere in the production of scintillation-causing perturbations.”

Makela’s work in Chile is in collaboration with electrical and computer engineering professors Paul Kintner at Cornell University and Brent Ledvina at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Illinois graduate student Ethan Miller is also working on the project.

The National Science Foundation and the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory funded the research.

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**Inside Illinois**

**Spring 2007 Publication Schedule**

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www.news.uiuc.edu/II • dkdahl@uiuc.edu
Multi-artist exhibition explores culture of consumption

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

It’s no wonder Americans are heavily invested in a culture of consumption. As targets of ubiquitous corporate branding campaigns and marketing mania, we are bombarded 24/7 on all fronts - through every conceivable form of mass media and product packaging, at sporting and entertainment venues, and even lobbied by the apparel of friends and family.

The unified message conveyed by each of these delivery systems: Buy! Buy! Buy!

But not everyone is passively buying what’s being sold.

Among them are the 20-plus artists from around the world featured in “Branded and On Display,” a new exhibition organized by the UI’s Krannert Art Museum and on view there Jan. 26 through April 1.

Exhibiting artists include UI School of Art and Design faculty members Conrad Bakker and Laurie Hogin, and Amelia Moore, a UI senior from Downers Grove, Ill., majoring in photography. Other participating artists are Ai Weiwei, Amy Barlow, Ashley Bickerton, Michael Blum, Louis Cameron, Diller + Scofidio, Terence Gower, Pierre Huyghe, Clay Ketter, Ryan McGinness, Donna Nield, Haim Steinbach, Tempi & Wolf, Yuka Tensyu, Hank Wil- lis Thomas, Brian Ulrich, Siebren Versteeg and Zhao Bandi.

Working in a broad range of media - from painting, sculpture and photography to video, sound and installation - the artists explore the motivations, methods and sometimes the underlying madness exhibited by both partners in the frenzied tango of consumption - product pushers and product purchasers.

“The exhibition is a reflection of the world in which we live, or is pointing to one in which we’ll be living in the future,” said Judith Hoos Fox, a visiting curator at the art museum. Fox is co-curator of the show with independent curator Ginger Gregg Duggan.

“Ours is a culture defined by marketing and acquiring,” Fox and Duggan observe in text from the catalog that accompanies the exhibition. “With one of our founding fathers - Thomas Jefferson - a compulsive shopper, this just may be part of being American. Virtually every activity in our lives is experienced through purchases, from bassinets to caskets. The landscape is studded with logos, brand names and billboards - inducements to participate in a culture defined by the acquisition of commodities.

“Branded” examines the work of artists who explore specific strategies of branding and presentation in their response to this pervasively commoditized environment.

In addition to images of art from the exhibition and essays by the curators, the accompanying catalog includes essays by three UI faculty members and by Dung Kai-cheung, a Hong Kong-based author of “The Catalog.” A collection of short stories with titles referencing brand names. UI contributors are advertising professors Daniel Cook, the author of “The Commodification of Childhood: The Children’s Clothing Industry and the Rise of the Child Consumer”; Cele Otnes, the author of “Cinderella Dreams: The Allure of the Lavish Wedding”; and Linda Scott, the author of “Fresh Lipstick: Redressing Fashion and Feminism.”

In conjunction with “Branded,” the museum also is mounting a smaller, companion exhibition, “Commodification and Consumption: Works From the Permanent Collection,” through May 13. The related show, which draws from the museum’s collection of works on paper, demonstrates that images relating to commerce, consumption and branding are nothing new in the annals of art history.

A public opening reception for both exhibitions will take place from 6-8 p.m. Jan. 25. The reception will feature a children’s project room as well as music by two Chicago-based ensembles: “Environmental Encroachment,” an interactive performance-art and marching band, and “The Dolphins,” which creates its unique sound mélange from a combination of collected field recordings, post-rock pop structures and dense beat progressions.

Also planned in conjunction with the exhibitions are a number of auxiliary events, including talks by Fox and some of the exhibiting artists, a workshop for teachers and an industrial design and advertising exhibition and competition open to UI art and design, business and advertising students.

The exhibition, co-sponsored by the College of Business and its marketing department, opens at the museum March 29. The show and competition will feature student product designs and corresponding advertising campaigns created in response to the “Branded” show.

In 2008, “Branded” will travel to the Tufts University Art Gallery, Medford, Mass., where it will be on view Jan. 17-March 30, from June 14-Sept. 14, it will be in Arizona at the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art.
**Campus graphic standards established for print and Web**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

The following Frequently Asked Questions give an overview of the graphic standards. A more detailed FAQ, along with the full Graphics Standards Manual, is online at www.uiuc.edu/goto/idstandards/iis.html.

**Why are we adopting graphic standards?**

Consistent use, by all campus community members, of these visual cues identifies the Illinois campus at a glance. It associates the campus with the tremendous variety of activities, work and resources this campus provides to the world. At the same time, these visual clues do not intrude on the expression of what is unique about individual parts of the campus community.

In short, what’s required?

Three things for Web sites:

- Unit home pages on the.uiuc.edu domain should use the Illinois mark (the column I and the box around it only) and the text “University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign” prominently. Use of the campus logo (the mark and adjacent campus name) accomplish both of these requirements.
- The campus favorites icon should be used exclusively.
- The campus name (U of I is acceptable) should appear after the unit’s name in the title field of the home page.

On printed publications:

- The Illinois mark must appear on the front of all print materials.
- The campus logo or an approved campus unit logo must appear elsewhere in the materials.

**How long do I have to comply?**

Print products developed after Jan. 2, 2007, must comply with the graphic standards for print. There is a grace period for print products currently in development that are scheduled to be printed by March 31, 2007. Products currently in development that are printed after that date must comply with these standards. All print communications must comply by Jan. 2, 2009.


Do I have to revise all of the existing pages on my Web site to meet the standards?

No. Only the home page needs to be changed now. Newly created lower level pages should include an Illinois mark and the campus name (U of I is acceptable) in the title field.

Do course materials need to comply with the graphic standards?

No.

Who’s going to enforce this?

The Chancellor and Provost will charge a committee to monitor compliance with the identity standards. The committee will review Web pages and print publications quarterly.

Units that produce communications that comply with standards will be publicly recognized. If communications do not follow the standards, the Chancellor will send a letter to the college or unit explaining how they can comply. The Chancellor will enforce stricter consequences if colleges and units fail to comply after initial consultation.

Should we still use our department logo?

The campus is developing specific guidelines for how unit logos will be handled in the future. Consult the guidelines for further information. A committee of representatives from units and colleges will be formed to develop these guidelines.

The campus logo or an approved campus unit logo must appear elsewhere in the materials.

Who can answer my questions about this?

Questions about the Illinois Identity Standards and all compliance issues can be posed to Shariola Soils in Public Affairs (333-5010, ssoils@uiuc.edu).

Questions about design issues related to the graphic standards will be addressed by Joel Steinfeldt in Creative Services (333-0420, jsteinfe@uiuc.edu).

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**ACHIEVEMENTS. CONTRIBUTED FROM PAGE 3**

In the department of urban and regional planning, was awarded the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program’s Project of the Year Award Nov. 28 at the 12th annual Partners in Environmental Technology Technical Symposium and Workshop in Washington, D.C. Deal received the Sustainable Infrastructure Project of the Year Award for his work on the project “The Evolving Urban Community and Military Installations: A Dynamic Spatial Decision Support System for Military Communities.” SERDP is the Department of Defense’s environmental science and technology program, planned and executed with the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, with participation by numerous other federal and non-federal agencies.

**John Hartwig and Wilfred van der Donk**, professors of chemistry, received the 2007 Tetrahedron Young Investigator Awards. Hartwig won the award in organic synthesis and van der Donk in bioorganic and medicinal chemistry.

This international award, sponsored by Tetrahedron Publications, recognizes exceptional creativity and dedication. Hartwig and van der Donk will present an award address at a symposium June 27-29 in Berlin.

Hartwig is an international leader in the discovery, development and understanding of new transition metal-catalyzed reactions. Van der Donk has answered a long-standing question relating to the action of a key enzyme (COX-2) involved in the body’s physiological response to injury and infection.

**George H. Miley**, professor of nuclear, plasma and radiological engineering, was awarded the “Integrity in Research” award at the International Conference on Future Energy in Washington, D.C. Miley was cited for his multiple achievements in the field of fusion, including dense plasma focus work. Miley also spoke on plasma fusion at the conference. Marianne Winslett, professor of computer science, was one of 41 fellows named by the Association for Computing Machinery as ACM Fellows for contributions to engineering practice and research on deep urban excavations, including state-of-the-art laser-scanning measuring techniques, numerical simulation tools to integrate field observations with modeling, field data analysis for bracing load calculation and seismic design.

**Brian Deal**, professor of architecture, was recognized for her contributions to information management and security. “The breadth and depth of the contributions these computing scientists and professionals have made to our world and the way we live are remarkable,” said association president Stuart Feldman.

The association is an educational and scientific society uniting the world’s computing educators, researchers and professionals to inspire dialogue, share resources and address the field’s challenges.

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**Suppose you sought the answer to this question**

**Who, or what is the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign?**

The answer would depend on whom you asked. The campus is a small animal clinic to a pet owner, a research center to an industrial partner, an entertainment complex to local residents who enjoy art, theater, sports or music. And, of course, Illinois is much, much more.

In the end, it is just as important to show the richness and broad reach of Illinois as it is to tell someone about it, and that is the goal of the graphic standards that went into effect Jan. 2.

The Graphic Standards Manual is the first of a three-part project to create Illinois Iden-

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**ACHIEVEMENTS. CONTRIBUTED FROM PAGE 3**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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**C H A N N E R’ S O R A N D R E S E A R C H F U N D**

**John Hartwig**

**Wilfred van der Donk**

**Marianne Winslett**

**George H. Miley**

**Brian Deal**

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**C O N T I N U E D**

**C H A N N E R’ S O R A N D R E S E A R C H F U N D**

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UI historian is guest-curateur at the Art Institute of Chicago

By Andrea Lynn
News Bureau Staff Writer

The Art Institute of Chicago and a UI historian have teamed up to create an unusual exhibition focusing on the idea of "otherness."

The exhibition, titled "Foreign Faces in Japanese Prints," is guest-curated by Ronald Toby, a historian of premodern and early modern Japan. The exhibit runs from Jan. 20 to April 8 in Gallery 107. All of the 35 prints are drawn from the Art Institute’s Clarence Buckingham Collection.

According to Toby, whose current research interests include the representations of "the foreign" in popular culture, the Japanese of the Edo Period (1600-1868), “like most people around the world, found foreigners fascinating, and woodblock print (ukiyo-e) artists and publishers were only too happy to accommodate the public’s hungry appetite.”

In fact, from the 17th century to the early 19th century, ukiyo-e masters – including Hishikawa Moronobu, Okumura Masanobu, Suzuki Harunobu, Kitagawa Utamaro and Katsushika – “found foreign faces an irresistible subject.”

Whether comic or dangerous, exotic or erotic, the representations always served “as mirrors to identity,” Toby said.

In the Edo period artists produced scenes of Chinese and Koreans, Portuguese and the Dutch, in the port of Nagasaki, on the streets of Kyoo and Edo and on the highways in between.

Since Nara times (710-784), artists portrayed foreigners in foreign settings – real or imagined – in conventions clearly differentiating “Chinese” figures from “Japanese.”

“Yet before the 16th century Japanese artists rarely showed foreigners in domestic Japanese settings,” Toby said.

The arrival of the “Nanban” – Iberian “Southern Barbarians” – changed everything, Toby said. Nanban art portrayed Japanese cityscapes “with foreigners of every stripe.”

“The Nanban craze and the invasion of Korea in the 1590s led Japanese artists to depict foreigners on the streets of Japanese cities and the highways connecting them, as well as invoking Chinese figures of both history and legend.”

Researchers have discovered a subtle new difference between men and women – this one occurring in the realm of everyday eating.

In the new study of observed eating behavior in a social setting, young men and women who perceived their bodies as being less than “ideal” are eating more calories, according to the researchers. The study was published in the September issue of Body Images and Text.

The participants who were to view slides were first asked to fill out a short questionnaire measuring various demographic variables and “cues,” or cues that people use to evaluate their bodies. The researchers then reviewed the participants’ consumption was unobtrusively measured.

For the experiment, 222 women and 151 men, who were average in body weight, were recruited from introductory communication courses at two large Midwestern universities. The study took place over 16 weekdays, with 45-minute afternoon group sessions at 4:30, 5:15, 6 and 6:45 p.m. – times when college students “are typically starting to feel hungry for their evening meal, but are unlikely to have already eaten,” the researchers wrote.

The students were told that they would be evaluating the appeal of rough page layouts for a magazine under development. The students were given a piece of food to consume – a display of pretzels – was present and where they were viewing “ideal-body media” regularly, their body-weight and health could be significantly affected, she said.

For example, “If a woman is a regular user of ideal-body media such as fashion and fitness magazines, not to mention television programming featuring advertisements for diet foods and products, she may be moved to abstain from eating several times a day – even when she is hungry – resulting in significant weight loss over time,” Harrison said.

The findings of the current study also show that this effect occurs regardless of body mass.

“Eating in response to external cues rather than internal hunger signals is one of the first steps involved in the development of disordered eating, be it anorexia, bulimia or compulsive eating. Our commercial mass media are filled with such external cues,” said Harrison.

“We hope that future studies will be devoted to furthering our understanding of how young people, especially those who are most vulnerable, can resist the pull of those cues.”

By Andrea Lynn
News Bureau Staff Writer

Study finds gender differences related to eating and body image

Mary Nancy Annis Adair, 88, died Dec. 19 at a home in New Lenox. She retired in 1985 from the home economics department at the UI. Memorials: Ellery Christian Church and Edwards County Senior Citizens Center.

Carl Brocksmith, 79, died Jan. 2. He was a UI photojournalist and was involved in shaping the quality of a life,” Harrison said.

Harrison said that abstinence from just a few pretzels a day – amounting to about 100 calories – can result in the loss of more than a pound of fat during the course of a year, and the addition of a few pretzels a day can do the opposite, which she conceded, doesn’t sound that significant. However, if people are viewing “ideal-body media” regularly, their body-weight and health could be significantly affected, she said.

For example, “If a woman is a regular user of ideal-body media such as fashion and fitness magazines, not to mention television programming featuring advertisements for diet foods and products, she may be moved to abstain from eating several times a day – even when she is hungry – resulting in significant weight loss over time,” Harrison said.

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James William Renshaw, 57, died Dec. 5 at home in Rantoul. He worked in Administrative Information Systems and Services until 1981.

Wilhelm R. Schmidt, 70, died Dec. 31 at Carle Foundation Hospital. He was a UI police officer for 16 years, retiring in 2006. Memorials: William and Hannah Hamlin fund at the Longview State Bank, in Longview, Ill.

Samuel Shozo Komorita, 79, died Dec. 11 at Hilda Health Care, Champaign. Komorita was a UI professor of psychology for 20 years, retiring in 1994 as professor emeritus. Memorials: Department of Psychology, UI Foundation, Harker Hall, MC-386.

Norman T. McFarland, 76, died Dec. 25 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. He was a professor of industrial design for 33 years, retiring in 1990 as professor emeritus. Michael E. Piotrowski, 62, died Jan. 7 in Rochester. Dr. Piotrowski died of cancer.

Ross Dean Scoggins, 71, died Dec. 29 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Scoggins was an equine and sheep extension veterinarian at the UI College of Veterinary Medicine for 27 years, retiring in 2004. Memorials: American Cancer Society or the Careside United Methodist Church.

Mildred “Millie” Stevens, 90, died Dec. 27 at home in Urbana. She was a secretary in the UI biology department for 20 years, retiring in 1982. Memorials: American Heart Association or First United Methodist Church of Urbana.

Edwards County Senior Citizens Center.

Memorials: Ellery Christian Church and Edwards County Senior Citizens Center.

Memorials: William and Hannah Hamlin fund at the Longview State Bank, in Longview, Ill.

Memorials: American Cancer Society or the Careside United Methodist Church.

Memorials: American Heart Association or First United Methodist Church of Urbana.

But the fact that this happens even to skinny women means that such weight loss could be unhealthy,” Harrison said.

“Similarly, a man who is vulnerable to ideal-male images due to the presence of an actual body vs. ideal body self-discrepancy may be moved to eat even when he is not hungry, just to reassure himself and other men that he is sufficiently masculine.”

The findings of the current study also show that this effect occurs regardless of body mass.

“Eating in response to external cues rather than internal hunger signals is one of the first steps involved in the development of disordered eating, be it anorexia, bulimia or compulsive eating. Our commercial mass media are filled with such external cues,” said Harrison.

“It is our hope that future studies will be devoted to furthering our understanding of how young people, especially those who are most vulnerable, can resist the pull of those cues.”

Ad removed for online version
book corner

Mozart’s piano music from the inside out
Two and a half centuries after Mozart’s birth, the versatile and prolific composer continues to attract new generations of listeners with his symphonies, operas, masses, sonatas, chamber music and concertos for piano and strings.

But it’s the keyboard music – especially the works written during the mature phases of the composer’s life, between 1775 and 1791 – that has most recently captured the attention of William Kinderman, a UI music professor.


Among the endorsements, the one from internationally renowned pianist Emanuel Ax may best sum up the contents. Ax notes it as “the only book of its kind that offers a comprehensive view of the piano music from the inside out.”

In more prosaic terms, Kinderman describes it as “one of the larger issues I wanted to address”: the “genius” factor.

“More than any other composer, Mozart is regarded as a kind of genius,” Kinderman said. That characterization was italicized and bold-faced in the popular 1986 film “Amadeus,” where Mozart was portrayed as what Kinderman describes as a “blasphemous, childish character – a vehicle of God.”

But, in fact, he said, “Mozart didn’t produce major compositions without effort.”

Careful study of autograph scores and other manuscripts in Salzburg, Krakow and Berlin by Kinderman and other scholars reveals a different reality.

While Kinderman’s intention was not to diminish Mozart’s reputation as a superbly creative and talented artist, the musicologist said he was instead motivated by the desire “to present him in a more human and pragmatic context.”

“I want to remind readers that the notion of Mozart as divine ‘genius’ is, at the very least, exaggerated.”

– Melissa Mitchell, News Bureau

For anyone who loves astronomy

An astronomy expert looking for in-depth research about stars can consult the same new reference book that an undergraduate with a limited knowledge of astronomy might use.


According to Kaler, this 324-page, hardcover book – his 14th – is for anyone who enjoys astronomy.

Undergraduates, graduates and professionals all can benefit from using it, he said.

Although not written in an encyclopedia-style, alphabetical format, the book does contain a myriad of information about stars that Kaler has been gathering throughout his entire career, and particularly during the past four years of researching for the book.

The book begins by telling the story of astronomy, from ancient constellations and star names to the modern coordinate system. Further chapters explain magnitudes, distances, star motions and the Galaxy at large. Double stars, clusters and variables are introduced and once the different kinds of stars are in place, later chapters examine stellar evolution, beginning with the interstellar medium and star formation, proceeding to our Sun and its characteristics and then the ageing process of solar-type and high mass stars.

The book ends by showing how this information can be combined into a grand synthesis. The book contains more than 230 images, including color photographs, graphs, tables and sidebars.

The photographs were gathered from observatories and private photographers around the world.

In addition to using research tools and the Web, Kaler also discussed the topics with his colleagues – from the UI and elsewhere – in the process of compiling information.

Each of the 14 chapters covers a different topic and stands alone. The book contains forward and backward referencing to connect information from different chapters. Kaler considers each chapter as important and interesting as the next.

“The one I was doing at the moment was always my favorite,” Kaler said.

The book, completed in 2006, is now in bookstores and also may be found in libraries.

“It struck me that putting everything together would make a great resource,” Kaler said.

– Laura Prusik, News Bureau
Researchers discover new species of fish in Antarctic

By Diana Yates
News Bureau Staff Writer

What’s 34 centimeters (13.39 inches) long, likes the cold and has an interorbital pit with two openings? The answer is Cryothenia amphitreta, a newly discovered Antarctic fish discovered by a member of a research team from the UI.

The new species of nototheniid fish, Cryothenia amphitreta, is detailed in the December issue of the quarterly journal Copeia. Paul A. Cziko, a research specialist who had graduated with bachelor’s degrees in animal biology and biochemistry from Illinois six months earlier, and research diver Kevin Hoefling, discovered it in McMurdo Sound in the Ross Sea region of Antarctica in November 2004.

They were diving in the area in search of eggs laid by naked drag-onfish (Gymnodraco acuticeps) for a study, published earlier this year, about levels of antifreeze proteins in newly hatched notothenioids in the salty icy waters where the temperature is rarely above the freezing point of seawater.

“We just came across this fish,” Cziko recalled. “It was just sitting on the bottom, like most other fish in the area. There are only about a dozen species that swim in the area, with four to five easily distinguishable species. This one jumped out at us. First of all it was pretty big, and it looked quite different than the others.”

Cziko and Hoefling guided the egg-laden fish into a mesh bag and surfaced.

“It was about twice as big as what you normally see swimming around,” said Arthur L. DeVries, a professor of animal biology who many years earlier had discovered antifreeze proteins in notothenioids. “Its profile was much different than other common local notothenioids. Its center part is much higher. Most of the other species in the area have big heads and have bodies that taper back narrowly.”

Cziko and co-author Chi-Hing (Christina) Cheng, professor of animal biology, studied the purple-gold-colored fish, comparing its measurements and perch-like appearance with all known species of fish that inhabit the icy waters of Antarctica. X-ray radiographs of bone structures were taken at the U. of I. College of Veterinary Medicine.

The new fish, which DeVries theorizes may have been looking for a place to lay its eggs in a flat, clear area near an intake pipe that feeds water into the McMurdo Station, was placed into the genus Cryothenia because of its overall similarity to the nototheniid Cryothenia peninsulae that has only been found near the Antarctica Peninsula.

Although bigger in pelvic-fin length and body size, as well as having more vertebrae, what sets C. amphitreta apart from C. peninsulae is head morphology, specifically in the area between the eyes.

The new fish has a “wide, well-defined, two-holed interorbital pit divided by a raised medial ridge, scales anterior to this depression in the interorbital region, and a dark pigmentation of the mouth, gill and body cavity linings,” Cziko and Cheng wrote.

The species name was chosen to help researchers easily distinguish the two species in the genus Cryothenia, which translates from Greek as “from the cold,” while amphitreta literally means “an orifice with two openings.”

“Even though we know a lot about Antarctica,” Cziko said, “we still don’t know everything about the ecosystems and the animals in them. There’s probably a lot more to be learned about how these fish evolved and survived.”

The area where C. amphitreta was found is the most-frequented location in McMurdo Sound explored by divers and fished with hand lines. DeVries has been going to the site for more than 40 years.

The new fish was located on a large flat rock in water that was minus 1.91 degrees Celsius and 20 meters deep.

“Art has been swimming there for more than 40 years,” Cziko said. “You’d think he would have caught everything.” DeVries does have an Antarctic fish named after him: Paraliparis devriesii.

National Science Foundation grants to Cheng and DeVries funded the research.
Students, and faculty and staff members at the UI now have free access to the online edition of the Chronicle of Higher Education.

Most campus computers will be able to directly access the Chronicle of Higher Education at www.library.uiuc.edu. educational and professional sections. Gordon claims that the Chronicle is a "highly read education daily in the country," said Karen Schmidt, acting university librarian.

He added that he thought the campus community has hundreds of subscriptions at a current individual cost of $82.50. This new campuswide subscription brings the Chronicle to everyone's desktop. The benefits in cost savings and ease of access.

In addition to reading the online editions of the Chronicle and accessing its archives, campus users can set up their own Chronicle RSS news feeds.

The forum, "College Access and Public Research Universities: Does 'Public' Still Apply?" will be from 2-4 p.m. in Room 26 of the Children's Research Center.

Applications due March 16

University Primary School

University Primary School will accept enrollment applications throughout the year. For more information, contact director Nancy B. Hertzog at damarsha@law.uiuc.edu.

Applications through March 16 for the 2007-2008 academic year.

University Primary School is an early childhood gifted education program that serves preschool, kindergarten and first-grade children in a project-based curriculum.

For more information, contact director Nancy B. Hertzog at damarsha@law.uiuc.edu.

For information about the live presentations in the College of Education, contact Norma Scagnoli, scagno@uiuc.edu. 

32 Wednesday "The Making of Heritage Actors City Centers: The Case of Puebla, Mexico," Nancy Chancellor, UI and Universidad de Puebla, Mexico. 4 p.m. 101 International Studies Building. Latin American Studies. "Abusive Caches in a Vornado," Nathaniel Yau- gaas, Georgetown University. 5:30 p.m. Lucy Ellis Lounge, 1080 Foreign Languages Building. Spanish, Italian and Portuguese.

33 Thursday "Geographically Dispersed Pathogens in Human and Animal Populations," Susan Converse, UI. 4 p.m. 101 International Studies Building. Regional and Inter-Industrial Research.


35 Saturday "Preparation of Inter-Re- gional and Inter-Industrial Wrap: Dinitrophenyl 2-A: Panel A Data Analysis," Ricardo Figueroa, University of San Diego. 4 p.m. 101 International Studies Building. Latin American Studies.

2 Monday "You Ever Too Old to Learn?" Video Games Problem and Virtual Reality," Grant Jensen, California Institute of Technology. 4 p.m. B102 Chemical and Life Sciences Lab. Microbiology.

26 Friday Are You Ever Too Old to Learn? From Video Games Problem and Virtual Reality," Grant Jensen, California Institute of Technology. 4 p.m. B102 Chemical and Life Sciences Lab. Microbiology.

27 Friday "Capacity to Sleep." Tony Oluoch, UI. 4 p.m. 112 Chemistry Annex. Organic Chemistry.

CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14


more calendar of events
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