Online network provides connectivity to Illinois community

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

Cultivating a sense of community at a campus that has tens of thousands of students can be a formidable task, but an online networking community has been created to help Illinois students and alumni – as well as faculty and staff members – stay connected.

Always Illinois is a private online community for members of the “Illinois family” to maintain lifelong friendships. Registered members can catch up with classmates or co-workers; connect with people who share their professions, geographic locations or leisure interests; work collaboratively with other teams on projects; browse job listings or network with prospective co-workers; share photos, or blog about campus life, their travels or other topics.

“The outermost of the global community of the 21st century,” said Dimit, “defines the Illinois family closer together by creating and enhancing friendships,” said Chancellor R. Edward Carver. “By e-mail invitations to more than 85,800 campus wide during the week of Aug. 6 first 24 hours, Dimit said. At times, there were 300 simultaneous hits on the server, Dimit said.

Current students and faculty and staff members were welcomed to the community through e-mail in late August and early September.

The feedback from students and alumni has been overwhelmingly positive, Dimit said. For more information on Always Illinois, see page 2.

**Online network provides connectivity to Illinois community**

State approves new budget; support for UI increases

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

The UI will receive more state support during fiscal year 2008 under the state budget signed by Gov. Rod Blagojevich on Aug. 23, nearly two months after the fiscal year began on July 1.

The new budget increased General Fund appropriations for Illinois public universities by $23.5 million over their FY07 levels, including a $13.3 million – or 1.9 percent – increase in the UI’s base operating appropriation.

The UI’s total general revenue fund appropriation to $722.3 million for FY08, and marks the second consecutive year that the UI has received an increase in state funding after five lean years of flat budgets and rescissions. The state is the university’s single largest funding source, providing more than $1.16 billion of the UI’s $3.9 billion annual operating budget.

In an Aug. 28 e-mail message to the campus community, President B. Joseph White wrote: “Having our state appropriation finalized after an historic budget legislative session provides the university with certainty now about state funding for fiscal 2008 and allows us to move forward with a salary program, which I have authorized. It is a relief to have this vital piece of the university’s total resources equation in place as we begin the new academic year on our three campuses.”

Combined with tuition revenue, the increase in the UI’s state appropriations will enable the university to allocate funds for high-priority projects such as a $36.8 million initiative to enhance academic quality that includes $22.9 million – or 2.5 percent – for salary increases for employees and $8 million for facility recruitment and retention.

After a two-year “pension holiday” during which the state reduced contributions to its employee pension programs by more than 1.9 percent – increase in the UI’s state appropriation, Illinois students and alumni – as well as faculty and staff members – stay connected.

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chancellor for student affairs, wrote in a re- cent e-mail message to the campus commu- nity. “Let’s all keep our eyes and ears open and get our students the help they need, when they need it. The emergency dean is an excellent resource when someone be- comes concerned about a student’s safety and mental health.”

The emergency dean program, spon- sored by the Office of the Dean of Students, is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to help assess problematic situations affect- ing students and arrange appropriate assist- ance for them when they need it.

The emergency dean program can assist students in a variety of ways, whether it’s helping a student find housing in a pinch; attempt- ing to locate students in the event of family emergencies such as death, illness or acci- dent; or helping arrange appropriate inter- vention for a student who may be a poten- tial risk – but not in immediate danger – of harming himself or others.

Professional staff in the Office of the Dean of Students are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to provide information and follow-up services to students and their families in emergency and non-emergency situations and serve as a resource for UI and commu- nity law enforcement agencies, hospitals and crisis centers.

The emergency dean program has been operating at Illinois for more than 30 years. The people staffing the program have been trained to determine the appropriate resources to call upon, and they are backed by an extensive network of university coun- selors, health care professionals, academic advisers, police officers and other profes- sionals who can directly assist students.

In non-emergency situations, faculty and staff members can contact the emergency dean at 333-0500 any time with their con- cerns. If the student is in an immediate dan- ger to himself or others, faculty and staff members should call 911 as they would in any crisis situation.

The emergency dean program has been operating at Illinois for more than 30 years.

Deaths


George Clayton, 90, died Aug. 28 at Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana. He was a professor of architecture at the UI from 1950 to 1985. Memorials: Wesley United Methodist Church, Champaign, and the Trustee’s Memorial Garden at the University of Illinois. He worked at the UI for 27 years. Memorials: to the family at First State Bank, 801 S. Main St., Tuscola. Wishes can be in the UI Foundation at 922 S. Sixth St., Tuscola. Hanson retired in 1974 after more than 31 years as a storekeeper for the UI.

BUDGET, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

$1 billion because of budgetary deficits, the state will fund the State University Retire- ment System and its other four pension sys- tems at the levels mandated by a 1996 law. The UI established an aggressive $900 million payment schedule to bring the plans up to 90 percent full funding by 2025. The state’s unfunded liability to liius is estimated to be about $37.4 billion as of June 30, 2007, according to Dan Slack, SURS executive director.

The UI will pay about $441 million for employee health care and pension programs during FY08. However, the UI and other public universities have requested a total of $454 million from their appropriations to cover employee health insurance costs, with the UI’s share being nearly $24.9 million.

The state budget also provided a 7.6 per- cent – or $26.8 million – increase in funding for the Monetary Award Program. The need- based Aid Program for Illinois Resi- dent students, but did not extend funding for the MAP Plus grant program into a sec- ond year. The UI requested another $2 million in need-based MAP grants for FY09.

The university is increasing its financial aid support for students by $4.5 million dur- ing FY08. Several programs have been funded, including Illinois Veteran Grants and the College Savings Bond Bonus Incentives – received no increases or had their funding reduced in the state budget. UI officials estimate that the university will receive more than $4 mil- lion in new, non-renewable funds for FY08, as state universities in Illinois are required to do when the grant program funding is insuf- ficient to meet demand.

Blagojevich vetoed funding for Illinois- VENTURES, the UI’s technology com- mercialization program, which received $750,000 in FY07, and for the State Match- ing Grant Program for research, which brought the UI $1.2 million in research grants during FY07.

Although the UI’s operating budget is in place, its capital appropriation is still unde- termined. The legislature has yet to decide on capital spending for the fiscal year. The UI requested an FY08 capital appropriation of $262 million that included $55.1 million for renovating Lincoln Hall and $42 mil- lion in matching funds for construction of the Electrical and Computer Engineering building at Urbana as well as funds for other capital projects at the three UI campuses. The UI has not received appropriations for new capital projects for the past three fiscal years.

Planning funds for the Lincoln Hall ren- ovations and for completion of other capital projects from prior years were reappropriated from the FY07 budget.

Always Illinois. Contiuned from page 1. “A lot of people have said, ‘Thank you for doing this and giving me access to easily to stay connected,’” Dimit said. “We want to find ways to help students and alumni stay connected in ways that are most-meaning- ful to them,” whether that’s with student organizations, their degree-granting units, faculty members or friends and acquain- tances.

While many Web-savvy Illini are famil- iar with popular social networking com- munities such as Facebook and Myspace, Always Illinois has added levels of security and privacy that those communities – and the communities of other universities – don’t have. Users get unique, one-time identification numbers for reg- istration and create their own passwords, rather than using their surnames and birth- dates to identify themselves on the network. Additionally, Always Illinois users control their own privacy settings, determining how much of their personal information is avail- able to other members of the community. Users must agree to the Terms of Use set forth by the university as well as the Terms of Service required by Affinity Circles.

Always Illinois is provided as a free, life- long service by the Office of the Chancellor in partnership with the UI Alumni Associa- tion and Campus Information Technologies and Educational Services. Visit the Always Illinois online community at www.always- illinois.org.

Interpretive dance Jennifer Monson, environmental activist and choreographer, performs an interpretive dance at the public art dedication ceremony at the Institute for Genomic Biology on Sept. 3. Monson, who began her faculty appointment at the UI in January, is known for her innovative projects that integrate the sciences and the arts.

alwaysillinois.org
Restless legs syndrome affects nearly 2 percent of U.S./U.K. children

By Diana Yates
News Bureau Staff Writer

Restless legs syndrome (RLS) is a common problem in children 8 years of age and older in the United States and the United Kingdom, according to a new report from an international team of researchers.

Nearly 2 percent of children aged 8 to 17 are affected, and a significant proportion of those experience moderate to severe symptoms, including sleep disturbance and academic difficulties.

The report appears in the August issue of the journal Pediatrics.

"This study suggests that restless legs syndrome is common and troublesome in children and adolescents, occurring more frequently than diabetes and epilepsy," said principal investigator Daniel Picchietti, a professor of pediatrics in the UI College of Medicine and a pediatrician and sleep medicine specialist with the Carle Clinic Association and Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana.

"RLS is a neurological sleep disorder characterized by sensations in the legs that create an urge to move. Symptoms are typically worse at night and during rest. RLS is closely associated with another condition, periodic limb movement disorder, in which a person's legs jerk during sleep. Some people with periodic limb movement disorder also have RLS. Others lack the sensations in the legs than RLS.

"Most of what is known about restless legs syndrome comes from research on adults. The new analysis is the first population-based prevalence study of RLS in children, and it is the first to use specific pediatric diagnostic criteria. The research team collected detailed data from 10,523 families in the U.S. and U.K.

The news study found that there is a strong genetic component to RLS. Picchietti said more than 70 percent of the children with RLS had at least one parent with the condition. In 16 percent of the affected children, both parents had RLS symptoms.

"Two recent studies -- appearing in July in the New England Journal of Medicine and in the journal Sleep -- both found that children with RLS have abnormal brain activity during sleep compared to children without RLS. The findings support a growing body of evidence that suggests RLS is a neurological sleep disorder characterized by sensations in the legs that create an urge to move.

"In children, RLS symptoms tend to be milder than in adults, and the condition is more likely to be triggered by stress or fatigue. However, children with RLS may experience more severe symptoms than adults, including sleep disturbance and academic difficulties.

"Currently, there is no cure for RLS, but several medications are available to help manage symptoms. These include dopamine agonists and gabapentin. Children with severe symptoms may also benefit from lifestyle changes, such as maintaining a healthy weight, avoiding caffeine and sleeping in a cool, dark room.

"This study highlights the importance of early diagnosis and treatment of RLS in children. Early intervention can help prevent long-term complications, such as sleep disturbance and reduced academic performance. As this condition affects more children, it is important to increase awareness and encourage parents and caregivers to seek help for their children who may be experiencing symptoms.

"It is also important to note that RLS is not just a problem for adults. Children and adolescents can experience symptoms, and it is crucial to recognize and address these symptoms in order to support their overall health and well-being. By identifying and treating RLS in children, we can help improve their quality of life and reduce the impact of this condition on their daily lives.

"In conclusion, restless legs syndrome in children is a serious condition that requires attention and intervention. With continued research and improved understanding of this condition, we can work towards better outcomes for children and their families. By increasing awareness of RLS in children, we can make a positive impact on their lives and reduce the burden of this condition.
New model shows Enceladus is an unlikely harbor for life

By James E. Kloeppel
News Bureau Staff Writer

A new model of Saturn’s icy moon Enceladus may quell hopes of finding life there. Developed by researchers at the UI, the model explains the most salient observations on Enceladus without requiring the presence of liquid water.

Orbiting Saturn since June 30, 2004, the Cassini spacecraft has revealed a south polar region of Enceladus with an elaborate arrangement of fractures and ridges, intense heat radiation and geyser-like plumes consisting of ice crystals and gases such as methane, nitrogen and carbon dioxide. The plumes erupt from vents located in large fractures called “tiger strips” that cut across the south pole.

The plumes monitored by Cassini had a rate of discharge similar to Old Faithful geyser in Yellowstone National Park. Dubbed “Cold Faithful,” the first model that was proposed to explain the plumes suggested the plumes tap into shallow pockets of liquid water in a water-ice shell.

Last year, UI geology professor Pinaki Chakraborty and colleagues proposed an alternate model, which they called “Frigid Faithful.” In this model, the plumes originate in the dissociation of certain stiff compounds of ice, called clathrates, which may cover Enceladus to a depth of tens of kilometers. The researchers published their model in the Dec. 15, 2006, issue of the journal Science.

“Frigid Faithful gives a straightforward account of the measured composition, including the gases left unaccounted by Cold Faithful,” said Kieffer, who holds a Charles R. Walgreen Jr. Chair at Illinois and is also a professor in the university’s Center for Advanced Study, one of the highest forms of campus recognition.

Perhaps more important, the plumes of Frigid Faithful could remain active far below the freezing point of water, under the frigid conditions that might be surmised inside a tiny, icy moon,” Kieffer said.

Now, Kieffer, mechanical science and engineering professor Gustavo Gioia, geology research associate Pinaki Chakraborty and geology professor and department head Stephen Marshak have expanded the model to account for both the tectonic features and the heat transport in the southern hemisphere. They describe the model in a paper accepted for publication in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences and posted on the journal’s Web site that describes a new model of Saturn’s icy moon Enceladus.

The researchers estimate the location of a clathrate-rich shell containing a mildly warm heat source buried under the south pole, the researchers show it is possible for a frigid, stiff Enceladus without a shifting interior (such as plate tectonics on Earth) to develop fractures and ridges, and convey heat at the observed rate. “As the heat source warmed at depth, it expanded and stretched the clathrate-rich shell above, giving rise to tensile stresses in the south polar cap,” said Gioia, lead author of the paper. “As a result, the shell cracked, forming the four 130 kilometer-long fractures known as tiger stripes.”

The researchers estimate the heat source could have been only 40 degrees warmer than the surrounding shell. “In this model, the tiger stripes are analogous to the cracks that form in the glazing of a porcelain vessel when the vessel is filled with hot tea,” Gioia said.

The researchers also show that, northwards of the south polar cap (in which the stresses were tensile), the stresses turned first from tensile to compressive — forming the ring of ridges that circles the tiger stripes — and then back to tensile — forming the set of “starfish” fractures that radiates northward from the ring of ridges. Thus the model explains the formation of the entire arrangement of fractures and ridges observed by Cassini on the southern hemisphere of Enceladus.

The Illinois researchers estimate the tiger stripes cut through the shell of Enceladus to a depth of about 35 kilometers. After the tiger stripes formed, the clathrates exposed on the cracked surfaces of the tiger stripes were decompressed. Upon decompression, the exposed clathrates absorbed heat from the source at depth and dissociated explosively, exposing more clathrates to decompression, in a process that continues today.

The gaseous products of clathrate dissociation rush up the tiger stripes, transporting heat to the surface where they may occasionally leak in the form of plumes.

See MOON, Page 5
By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

Don’t be surprised if some of your colleagues and acquaintances aren’t exactly forthcoming about how they spent their summer vacations.

They won’t appear to have a don’t-ask, don’t-tell policy when it comes to discussing details of their travels to certain locations in Asia, Canada, the Caribbean, Europe, South America and elsewhere abroad may be among a subset of travelers engaging in so-called “deviance” tourism.

According to Carla Santos, a professor of recreation, sport and tourism management at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, with Urely, a professor of hotel and tourism management at Ben-Gurion University, “deviance tourism” refers to a phenomenon in which travelers engage in behaviors that would be considered illicit, illegal or counter-normative in their countries of origin.

One particular brand of such tourism may be that of cannabis use in light of this.

Cannabis tourism

The current study is part of a larger body of research funded by the Israeli Anti-Drug Authority, where it was considered morally acceptable and legal. Where it was considered morally unacceptable and illegal. And I think that the word ‘deviance’ refers to use when they return home.

The study focuses on the relationship between cannabis use in tourism and everyday life,” said Belhassen, who completed his doctoral requirements this summer and has accepted a faculty position at Ben-Gurion.

“Cannabis tourists” includes tourists who wished to purchase cannabis on vacation, while tourists already asso-ociated with cannabis in the coffee shops of Amsterdam (where cannabis can be purchased and consumed legally) — or elsewhere on vacation — continued to use the drug when they return home.

Besides Amsterdam and Morocco, Santos and Belhassen said popular cannabis-tourism destinations include the beaches of Sinai, in Egypt; the small village of Melana, in northern India; Jaisa-ca: Copenhagen, Denmark; and Vancouver, Canada. Belhassen said the research was undertaken as an attempt to “map out the motives of those who consume cannabis on vacation, while taking into consideration the role of cannabis in their daily life.” The study also considered social forces that affect individuals’ behavior on vacation and back at home.

Belhassen said, “the ritual of travel to Amsterdam in order to buy cannabis fulfills the need to acquire, to achieve this.” He noted that the research did not allow for statistical generalizations for all tourists and/or destinations. However, they believed the study provides a framework for further study of this topic, which, to date, has been “under-explored” in the tourism literature.

Cannabis tourism overall, the researchers, including Yinnie Belhassen and Carla Santos, discovered a broad, highly individualized set of motivations for cannabis use at home and abroad. However, they were able to identify four main motives shared by the travelers interviewed: experimentation, pleasure and diversion-seeking, quest for “cannabis authenticity” and purchasing.

The first category of cannabis users were motivated mainly by the novelty of trying the drug in a “safe” environment, where it was considered morally acceptable and legal. Members of the first category of cannabis users were motivated mainly by the novelty of trying the drug in a “safe” environment, where it was considered morally acceptable and legal. Belhassen said, “one may argue that the tourist’s experimentation group, in particular, has functional means to maintain the social order in the tourist’s country of origin since it enables the individual to try the forbidden drug away from home without breaking the norms that govern his/her society.”

“Those tourists already associated with cannabis as a recreational product, before going on vacation, since they perceive cannabis usage as a ‘fun activity.’ Such tourists, he said, regard cannabis as a ‘complementary product of fun-seeking’ in the vacation environment.

We found that those who already consume cannabis in their home without breaking the norms of their colleagues and acquaintances are inclined to continue smoking in their daily life,” he said. On the other hand, “we found that in the case of long-term travelers, such as backpackers, who start consuming cannabis while traveling, there is a tendency to continue to do it in their leisure time after coming back home.”

For those tourists with purely recreational or pleasure-seeking motives, the researchers found what they call a “leisure behavioral continuum.”

The study identified four categories of cannabis users: (1) tourists who wished to purchase cannabis; (2) tourists who already consume cannabis; (3) tourists who experiment with cannabis for the first time in a coffee shop in Amsterdam, for example; and (4) tourists who do not consume cannabis for the first time anywhere else.

“Those tourist’s ‘ritual’ of smoking cannabis only in terms of deviance tourism,” he said. On the other hand, “we found that in the case of long-term travelers, such as backpackers, who start consuming cannabis while traveling, there is a tendency to continue to do it in their leisure time after coming back home.”

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Library school to lead team that will preserve virtual worlds

By Andrea Lynn
News Bureau Staff Writer

We will rescue digital interaction from the graveyards of digital imagery, such as "Pac-Man" and "Mario," and hundreds of other digital game superheroes from oblivion, who ultimately will save the creative and popular virtual worlds from (self-) destruction.

A team of experts from the UI, as it happens.

With help from the Library of Congress and in partnership with three other institutions of higher education and one commercial game lab, a team from Illinois' Graduate School of Library and Information Science will lead a two-year project to preserve virtual worlds – early video games, electronic literature and "Second Life," an interactive multiplayer game.

The project, titled "Preserving Virtual Worlds," is thought to be the first effort to explore methods for preserving digital games and interactive fiction, and it comes because "interactive media are 'at high risk for loss as technologies rapidly become obsolete,'" said Jerome McDonough, a GSLIS member who will serve as lead investigator of the project. Janet Eke, also of GSLIS, is the project coordinator.

Illinois will coordinate the partners’ work on the project. Partners are the Rochester Institute of Technology, Stanford University and the University of Maryland, and Linden Lab, creator of "Second Life." The Illinois team’s focus primarily will be technical.

The goal of the project, McDonough said, is to develop "mechanisms and methods" for preserving digital games and interactive fiction. In particular, we will be looking at the metadata and knowledge management problems involved in preserving digital worlds.

"The cultural profile of these worlds has developed to edification, artistic expression, social networking and political commentary," Eke said. "Such interactive media have become an important part of contemporary cultural expression and creativity in the United States, and that importance is only about the economic growth of computer games as an entertainment industry, which has equaled or surpassed movies, television and other media. At least as important is their impact on society and culture."

"Yet, until now, despite all the reasons for taking virtual worlds seriously, 'relatively little work has been done on the preservation of them, which present particular challenges because of their interactivity, their frequent software modification and revision, network collaboration, and use of 3-D graphics and sound. Each of these adds new complexity to the problems of preserving digital content.'"

According to McDonough, the aim of the first phase of the project, which begins in January, is to "identify the information needed to make any preservation strategy for games and interactive fiction successful."

"In the second phase, the team will be taking the lead on trying to develop XML standards for encoding this type of information so that it can be included in digital repositories to ensure that these types of work will remain accessible."

"We’re hoping to do this in a way that will ensure that whatever we develop is widely compatible with the pre-existing standards and software systems that the library and archival world are employing for preservation of more static works, like digital photographs and texts." The last phase of the project for Illinois will focus on testing the technologies the project team developed in the earlier phases by attempting to "ingest several games, and perhaps of interactive fiction into the institutional repository systems here at Illinois and at Stanford."

"We’re using the DSpace repository system here, and Stanford is using a system they developed around Artesia’s TEAMs software, so that will give us the opportunity to see if the approaches and tools we develop can be easily adapted to different preservation environments."

According to McDonough, "Second Life" content participants include "Life to the Second Power," "Democracy Island" and the "International Spaceflight Museum."

Silicon nanoparticles enhance performance of solar cells

By James E. Kroopel
News Bureau Staff Writer

Placing a film of silicon nanoparticles onto a silicon solar cell can boost power, reduce heat and prolong the cell’s life, researchers now report.

"Integrating a high-quality film of silicon nanoparticles 1-nanometer in size directly onto silicon solar cells improves power performance by 60 percent in the ultraviolet range of the spectrum," said Munir Nayfeh, a physicist at the UI and corresponding author of a paper accepted for publication in Applied Physics Letters.

A 10 percent improvement in the visible range of the spectrum can be achieved by using nanoparticles 2.85 nanometers in size, said Nayfeh, who also is a researcher at the university’s Beckman Institute.

In conventional solar cells, ultraviolet light is either filtered out or absorbed by the silicon and converted into potentially damaging heat, not electricity. In previous work, however, Nayfeh showed that ultraviolet light could efficiently couple to correctly sized nanoparticles and produce electricity. That work was reported in the August 2004 issue of the journal Photonics Technology Letters. To make their improved solar cells, the researchers began by first converting bulk silicon into discrete, nano-sized particles using a patented process they developed. Depending on their size, the nanoparticles will fluoresce in distinct colors.

Nanoparticles of the desired size were then dispersed in isopropanol alcohol and the result was "packed" onto the surface of the solar cell. As the alcohol evaporated, a film of closely packed nanoparticles was left firmly fastened to the solar cell. Solar cells coated with a film of 1 nanometer, blue luminescent nanoparticles showed a power enhancement of about 60 percent in the ultraviolet range of the spectrum, but less than 3 percent in the visible range, the researchers report.

Solar cells coated with 2.85 nanometer, red particles showed an enhancement of about 67 percent in the ultraviolet range, and about 10 percent in the visible.

The improved performance is a result of enhanced voltage rather than current, Nayfeh said. "Our results point to a significant role for charge transport across the film and rectification at the nanoparticle interface."

The process of coating solar cells with silicon nanoparticles could be easily incorporated into the manufacturing process with little additional cost, Nayfeh said.

With Nayfeh, the paper’s co-authors are graduate student and lead author Matthew Stupka at Illinois and professor Mohamed Alsalhi at King Saud University in Saudi Arabia, and professors Turki Al Saud and Abdulrahman Almuhamma, both at the King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia.

The research was funded by the National Science Foundation, the state of Illinois, the Grainger Foundation and the UI. 

Silicon nanoparticles enhance performance of solar cells...

Preserving digital worlds

Jerome McDonough is leading a team from Illinois’ Graduate School of Library and Information Science in a two-year project that seeks to preserve virtual worlds – early video games, electronic literature and “Second Life,” an interactive multiplayer game.

The goal of the project, McDonough said, is to develop standards for preserving metadata and complex software, representation, content and interaction in computer games and electronic literature, as well as the interfaces that constitute the user’s experience of them.

She added that the new project recognizes that hypertext, on the one hand, and computer and video games on the other, “have assumed a prominent place among media for entertainment, communication and social interaction.”

For entertainment, communication and social interaction.

“On Aug. 3, the Library of Congress announced that it would fund the project with a two-year grant of $590,000 under its “Preserving Creative America Initiative,” the most recent initiative of its National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP), which was authorized by Congress in 2000. An interim project Web site for “Preserving Virtual Worlds” will go live later this month.

According to Eke, who is the project coordinator on an earlier and ongoing NDIIPP project at Illinois, the ECHO DEPository, the project developed in the earlier phases by attempting to “ingest several games, and perhaps of interactive fiction into the institutional repository systems here at Illinois and at Stanford.”


Silicon nanoparticles enhance performance of solar cells...
NEW faces 2007

NUNO GAROUPA, professor of law, College of Law

Education: LLM (specialization in criminology and criminal justice), University of London; Habilitation Microeconomics, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal; D.Phil (economics), University of York; M.Sc. Economics, Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London; B.Sc. Economics, Universidade Nova de Lisboa.

Teaching at Illinois: LAW 796, "Global Antitrust Law and Economics" and the JSD Legal Scholarship seminar, LAW 798.

Research: "Professor Garoupa’s research focuses on comparative law and economics," said Charles Tabb, interim dean and the Alice Curtis Campbell Professor of Law. "He uses this lens to explain and assess legal institution across the world." Garoupa has three substantive projects: including examining judicial performance around the world, examining prosecutors, and examining lawyers. Garoupa comes to Illinois with a 50 percent appointment, retaining the other 50 percent at IMDEA (Instituto Madrileño de Estudios Avanzados), a research center for social sciences in Madrid. "Professor Garoupa has published numerous articles in all of the leading law and economics journals of the world," Tabb said. "He may be the leading law and economics scholar in the world under the age of 40."

MAUREEN McMICHAEL, associate professor of veterinary clinical medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine

Education: D.V.M (veterinary medicine), Cornell University; B.S. (biology), Columbia University.

Teaching at Illinois: McMichael will be teaching small animal medicine courses in the area of emergency and critical care.

Research: Her primary research focus is oxidative stress in animals and humans. "After graduating from veterinary school, completing an internship in private practice and a residency training program, Dr. Maureen McDonald accepted a position at the veterinary school at Texas A&M University, where she established the first program in Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care medicine at that institution," said David A. Williams, head of veterinary clinical medicine. "A new clinical rotation in this discipline was established for the students, and formal collaboration with local veterinarians was set up to facilitate night and weekend veterinary emergency service to the local community."

McMichael is a member of the editorial board for the Journal of Emergency and Veterinary Care and has acted as a reviewer for three scientific journals.
Traditional Chinese exercises may increase efficacy of flu vaccine

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

As this year’s flu season approaches, there’s also a hint of hope present in the pre-germ-season air. In a study published in the August issue of the American Journal of Chinese Medicine, a team of kinesiologists at the UI suggest that older adults who adopt an exercise regimen combining Taiji and Qigong may get an extra boost from their annual flu shot.

“We have found that 20 weeks of Taiji can increase the antibody response to influenza vaccine in older adults,” said the study’s lead author Yang Yang, an adjunct professor of kinesiology and community health, and a Taiji master with 30-plus years of experience as a practitioner and instructor.

In this study, we found that five months of an easily performed behavioral Taiji and Qigong intervention could improve the magnitude and duration of the HI anti-influenza antibody titer response in a small cohort of older adults,” write the authors, who also include Karl S. Rosengren, a UI professor of psychology and of kinesiology and community health, and Jeffrey A. Woods, a kinesiology and community health professor who researches the effects of exercise on immune function. Rosengren and Woods helped design the study. Other co-authors are former UI graduate students Rachel A. Mariani and Jay Verkuilen, and Scott A. Grubisich and Michael Reed of the Center for Taiji Studies, Champaign.

According to Yang, one problem with the flu vaccine is that older adults often do not reach what are considered to be “protective levels” after receiving the vaccination. On average, he said, the Taiji group had much higher antibody responses to the vaccination than the control group, and the percentage of persons who achieved protective levels also was higher in the Taiji group. However, because of the small sample size, the percentage of persons from the Taiji group that achieved protective levels was not statistically different from the control.

“Our results provide ‘proof-of-concept’ and suggest that there needs to be a larger dedicated intervention trial with Taiji to definitively determine whether this type of behavioral intervention can improve influenza vaccine efficacy in older adults.”

Qigong (chee-kung) and Taiji (tye-chee) – or Tai Chi, as it is more commonly known in the U.S. – combine simple, graceful movements and meditation. Qigong, which dates to the middle of the first millennium B.C., is a series of integrated exercises believed to have positive, relaxing effects on a person’s mind, body and spirit. Taiji is a holistic form of exercise, and a type of Qigong that melds Chinese philosophy with martial and healing arts.

Yang, who will discuss the work as a featured speaker at a Sept. 21 clinical conference hosted by Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., said this is the first study to examine the effects of traditional Taiji intervention on the response to influenza vaccine in older adults.

While the Chinese have long believed the exercises result in a range of physical, mental and spiritual benefits for practitioners, until recently, evidence has been largely anecdotal. Yang’s overarching research focus is to use Western scientific practices to validate centuries of anecdotal claims and reveal what he calls “the essence of the tradition.”

“We want to demystify it and make the average person go straight to the core of the secret,” he said. “Our overall goal is to let the essence of this tradition reach the general public. This is my dream.”

Recent research, including work by Yang and Rosengren, has demonstrated improvements in quality of life, flexibility, strength, cardiovascular function, pain, balance and kinesthetic strength. Yang said he decided to explore Taiji’s effects on immune function, and specifically, efficacy of the influenza vaccine, after learning that another study had indicated improvement in immune response to the virus that causes shingles, a disease that often afflicts older adults. The use of Taiji as a behavioral intervention in older adults is particularly attractive due to age-related loss of function and problems with even moderate intensity exercise interventions, the authors note in their report.

See FLU VACCINE, PAGE 13
Can higher corn prices lead to neglect of ecological principles?

By Diana Yates, News Bureau Staff Writer

Expectations of higher corn prices are leading some farmers to neglect or ignore integrated pest management strategies, and their behavior could undermine the very technologies that sustain them, UI researchers reported Aug. 21 at the American Chemical Society meeting in Boston.

Integrated pest management (IPM) is a set of principles developed to minimize the ecological impacts of pesticides, transgenic crops and other pest management technologies. A primary goal is to slow the emergence of “resistant” insects that have adapted or evolved to evade management strategies that work. Traditional approaches for slowing the development of insect resistance include crop rotation and scouting for pests to determine whether and when to use chemicals to limit damage. Newer strategies include planting non-transgenic corn “refuges” alongside crops of transgenic corn.

(Transgenic corn hybrids, such as Bt corn, are engineered to produce toxins that target specific insect pests. Planting refuges of non-Bt corn near Bt crops slows the development of Bt-resistance in insects.)

The use of corn for biofuels production has pushed corn prices higher this year than they have been for a long time, said Kevin Steffey, a UI Extension specialist in entomology and professor of crop sciences. Steffey is one of three researchers at Illinois to present at the ACS meeting.

The higher return on the corn crop is encouraging some growers to use multiple pest management techniques on their crops – without first determining whether they are needed, Steffey said.

“Some people are using chemical inputs when they’re not necessary,” he said. “If transgenic corn kills a percentage of corn rootworms, then some growers will put an insecticide with it to push the percentage higher.”

“They’re willing to spend money without challenging why they’re spending money, simply because they can afford it,” he said.

Other important strategies are also being neglected or abandoned. Because non-Bt corn hybrids sometimes yield less than Bt hybrids, some farmers are doing away with refuges altogether – a violation of federal law. These practices will increase the rate at which target insects become resistant, Steffey said.

“Some corn growers are looking at short-term gains and ignoring long-term consequences. This is a mistake repeating itself from the 1960s,” he said.

Steffey emphasized that most corn growers do follow IPM practices to control insect pests. But a few are abandoning these practices to boost profits, he said.

He noted that many growers are too young to remember the crop losses that occurred after insects became resistant to the powerful, and environmentally damaging, chlorinated hydrocarbons used in the mid-20th century. Some growers take the new technologies, such as transgenic corn, for granted, believing that the problems of resistance will not arise with these new products.

But resistance is a normal, ecological adaptation to any selective stress, Steffey said.

“We have an insect, the western corn rootworm, that became resistant to crop rotation,” Steffey said. “That made us aware of what we’re dealing with: This insect is plastic, genetically, and can adapt to a lot of things.”

Implementing IPM strategies is never a simple task. For example, the most productive hybrid corn varieties on the market include Bt genes that are effective against two different insects. Growers want higher yields and so will buy these “double-stack” varieties even though one of the insects the corn is designed to kill may not be a problem in their region, Steffey said.

And since non-Bt corn hybrids often yield less corn than the Bt hybrids, the growers must be prepared for lower yields from their refuge corn.

Other factors add to the complexity of the task. In some instances, a Bt corn that kills one pest can be used as a refuge plant for a Bt corn that kills another pest.

However, the use of “triple stack” hybrids (which contain traits for control of corn rootworms and corn borers plus herbicide resistance) complicates the planning of refuges.

Despite these difficulties, Steffey said, the potential rewards for corn growers are higher now than ever. And the consequences of ignoring the hard lessons learned over decades of trial and error could be dire, he said.

This work was funded in part by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Smith-Lever and Hatch Funds. The research is also supported by the UI, and by several companies that develop and market agricultural products.
Archaeological exhibition showcases native life in Illinois

By Andrea Lyon
News Bureau Staff Writer

Spectacular items of material culture—some going back more than 10,000 years and all of them made by the Native Peoples who lived on the land that became Illinois—will be on display in an exhibition at the UI.

“The Archaeological Heritage of Illinois” runs through June 1, 2008, in the Krannert Art Museum. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

The exhibition consists of “spectacular objects that represent the richness and diversity of more than 10,000 years of native life in Illinois,” said exhibition co-curator Thomas Emerson. “There has never been an exhibition like this on our campus.”

According to Emerson, a senior cultural research archaeologist in Illinois’ department of anthropology and the director of ITARP, the campus-based Illinois Transportation Archaeological Research Program, more than 100 items will be on display, including clay figurines, bracelets and other ornaments, spear points and fish hooks, pipes, cooking jars, digging and weaving tools and ceremonial objects of exquisite quality and variety.

Most of the items were drawn from ITARP’s collections, but a few items were loaned from the Illinois State Museum and the director of ITARP, the campus-based Illinois Transportation Archaeological Research Program, more than 100 items will be on display, including clay figurines, bracelets and other ornaments, spear points and fish hooks, pipes, cooking jars, digging and weaving tools and ceremonial objects of exquisite quality and variety.

Most of the items were drawn from ITARP’s collections, but a few items were loaned from the Illinois State Museum and Western Illinois University. The items represent seven major archaeological time periods in the history of Native Peoples, as many American Indians increasingly choose to be called.

Sarah Wiseman, an archaeologist and the director of Illinois’ Program on Ancient Technologies and Archaeological Materials, a division of ITARP, is exhibition co-curator.

Sponsors of the exhibition are ITARP and the Program on Ancient Technologies. ITARP, a joint program of the UI and the Illinois Department of Transportation, is dedicated to the preservation and protection of Illinois’ historic and archaeological resources.

Some of the items in the exhibition previously traveled nationally as part of an Art Institute of Chicago show, “Hero, Hawk and Open Hand.” But they have never been exhibited before in Central Illinois or on the UI campus, Emerson said.

“We especially welcome area schoolchildren and the public in general,” Emerson said, noting that the aim of the exhibition is to educate Illinois citizens about their state’s deep past and heritage.

“Too few people realize that for about four centuries from around the time of Christ, the Illinois River Valley was the center of a florescence of art, monumental architecture and religion that influenced people across the eastern United States; that in the 11th century C.E. the Mississippi River floodplain to the east of St. Louis was the location of North America’s first city, Cahokia—a vital center of 20,000 inhabitants; or that, interestingly, the Illinois River Valley was, like the French who followed them a century and a half later, actually newcomers who migrated to Illinois from Ohio in the early 1500s."

The introduction to the exhibition states that the new exhibition “presents objects of material culture related to Native Peoples who lived in Illinois from approximately 9500 B.C.E. to C.E. 1800. While these objects display a richness and diversity of form and decoration, they cannot, on their own or with the limited text provided, speak for the people who created and used them.”

For that reason, organizers of the exhibition say that in the months ahead, the Krannert Art Museum will work with faculty members and students at American Indian Studies, with the campus’s Native American House and with other collaborators, including those whose ancestors are represented by these objects.

The goals of the collaborations are to “extend interpretations of Native Peoples’ histories beyond archaeological methodologies and concerns to include transnational, transcultural and transdisciplinary contexts and scholarship; to connect these histories to contemporary life and issues; and to explore issues of appropriation, intellectual property rights and the representation of indigenous peoples.”

The exhibition opens with a statement about the archaeological heritage of Illinois, saying that the first inhabitants appeared in the recently glacier-free valleys and uplands of what is now the state of Illinois approximately 12,000 years ago.

“From the outset, the region was a meeting ground for people with differing life-styles and beliefs whose presence we can trace through the objects that archaeologists recover. The first inhabitants brought a varied material tradition of weaving, carving and stone working skills and a wide array of social and spiritual beliefs. Their economic base involved a rich blend of fishing, hunting and plant collecting that continued until the first millennium C.E., when the large-scale adoption of maize agriculture changed the native world.

“Agriculture provided the stable resources to support population increases, the establishment of large sedentary villages and increasingly complex social and political systems with a flowering of architecture and art forms.”

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By Diana Yates

News Bureau Staff Writer

The mating ritual of the honey bee is a mysterious affair, occurring at dizzying heights in zones identifable only to a queen and the horde of drones that court her. Now a research team led by the UI has identified an odorant receptor that allows male drones to find a queen in flight. The receptor, on the male antennae, can detect an available queen up to 60 meters away.

This is the first time an odorant receptor has been linked to a specific pheromone in honey bees. The findings appear in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The “queen substance,” or “queen retinue pheromone” was first identified decades ago, but scientists have only recently begun to understand its structure and role in the hive. The pheromone is a primary source of the queen’s authority. It is made up of eight components, one of which, 9-oxo-2-decenoic acid (9-ODA), attracts the drones during mating flights. It also draws workers to the queen and retards their reproductive growth.

Principal investigator Hugh Robertson, a professor of entomology, said the research team pursued the receptor for the queen retinue pheromone because it was the “lowest hanging fruit” of the known honey bee odorant receptors. Robertson was among the research group that last year published the entire honey bee genome, a feat that allowed his lab to identify 170 odorant receptors. Robertson was among those expressing excitement about the genome, saying it was “very lucky,” Robertson said.

“Like so many biologists, we are wonderfully caught up in the genomic revolution,” he said. “We can sequence genomes. The tools make such research much more promising.”

Determining which of the four primary receptors in males was actually responding to 9-ODA was a formidable challenge.

“That’s where we were very, very lucky,” Robertson said. “By chance, at a conference on the science of olfaction, Wanner met Charles Luetje, a neuroscientist at the University of Miami who had expertise with precisely this type of problem. Luetje had perfected a technique for expressing mammalian odor-sensing receptors on the outer membranes of frog oocytes (eggs) and testing them to see which compounds activated them. When he heard of Wanner’s work in honey bees, Luetje offered to use this technique to test the four primary odor receptors of honey bee drones.

After refining and testing the technique in insects, Luetje’s graduate student Andrew Nichols exposed each of the drone odor receptors to 9-ODA. Only one of the four receptors responded. When it bound 9-ODA, the protein receptor’s conformation changed, setting off a measurable shift in the membrane potential.

None of the four primary male odorant receptors responded to the other components of the queen pheromone. Only the 9-ODA elicited a response in one of the four, said Robertson, a discovery he called, “thrilling.”

“We grabbed the lowest hanging fruit and we got it,” Robertson said. “Of course, ultimately, we’ve got another 169 receptors to go.”

Scientists have spent decades exploring the mysteries of insect smell, but the newest tools make such research much more promising, Robertson said.

“Like so many biologists, we are wonderfully caught up in the genomic revolution,” he said. “We can sequence genomes. We can use functional genomics to narrow it down. We’ve got these assays, such as the frog oocyte, and other assays. And the genomic revolution has opened up this black box of the molecular biology of insect smell. Finally now we can peer inside.”

**Odor receptor**

Hugh Robertson, professor of entomology, led the research team that identified an odorant receptor that allows male drones to find a queen in flight.

**Odorant receptor for queen pheromone identified**

By Diana Yates

News Bureau Staff Writer
achievements

A report on honors, awards, appointments and other outstanding achievements of faculty and staff members

agricultural, consumer and environmental sciences

Stephen P. Long, Robert Emerson Professor in Plant Biology and Crop Sciences, was awarded a honorary doctor of science degree from Lancaster University, one of the UK’s top 20 universities. Long’s research focuses on the direct effects of atmospheric change on vegetation and ecosystems. He has served on committees for research on global climate change for the European Union Cooperation in Science and Technology initiatives, the United Nations Environment Program, the UK Natural Environment Research Council and the U.S. Department of Energy.

education

Liora Bresler, professor of curriculum and instruction, was awarded the Edwin Ziegfeld Award for distinguished international leadership in art education by the United States Society for Education Through Art. Bresler also was awarded the Lin Wright Special Recognition Award by the American Alliance for Theatre and Education in August.

Adrian Burgos, professor of history, was awarded the first Latino/a Book Award by the selection committee of the Latin American Studies Association for his book, “Playing America’s Game: Baseball, Latinos and the Color Line.”

O. Vernon Burton, professor of history, was awarded the Heartland Prize for Nonfiction for his book, “The Age of Lincoln.” The prize, given by the Chicago Tribune, will be awarded Nov. 4 during the Chicago Humanities Festival.

library


Although the study had certain limitations – including its small subject sample and the fact that it was not a purely randomized controlled trial – Yang is confident that further study will yield more substantive proof of a link between Taiji and Qigong and immune function. And he said he was not surprised that this preliminary examination indicated a link.

“This is not surprising that you can feel the immune part, the strength part, the psychological part. It’s what this art was designed for – to target all these different aspects of life, from a preventative and nurturing point of view.

And, he added, those benefits are borne out of a program that emphasizes balance.

“We don’t believe the slogan, ‘no pain, no gain.’ In Taiji, it’s ‘no pain, you get big gain.’”

FLU VACCINE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

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Illinois Project for Research in the Humanities
Fall film series announced

The Illinois Project for Research in the Humanities has released its fall film series schedule. All screenings begin at 5:30 p.m. in Room 62 of the Krannert Art Museum. The series is free and open to the public.

The movies:
Sept. 13: “Vertigo”
Oct. 1: “Dirty Dancing Deeply”
Nov. 8: “Pennies From Heaven”
Dec. 6: “Thirteen Conversations About One Thing”

For more information, go to www.iph.uiuc.edu or contact film series co-organizer Christine Catanzarite at catanzarit@uiuc.edu.

From hip-hop to yoga
KAM plans diverse events for fall

Art isn’t the only draw at the Krannert Art Museum. The museum’s 2007-08 season schedule overflows with cultural-arts events, from standard complementary programs such as lectures, films and gallery talks to activities that stray outside the lines of convention for an art museum.

Among the latter, a free rock concert, an avant-garde music reception, an exhibition of a “one health” talk, a Shakespearean “talking” heads and even a hip-hop/spoken-arts performance series and even yoga classes.

On Sept. 6, the museum events sampler includes a 5 p.m. gallery talk with Ryan Griggs and Deke Weaver, planned in conjunction with the annual School of Art and Design Faculty Art Exhibition. At 6 p.m., art and design professor Judi Ross kicks off the first in the lecture series: “A Taste of Art.” Each lecture in the series is followed by a wine-and-cheese reception. Rocking the museum from 8:11-10:30 p.m. will be local favorites Poster Children and Headlights, along with Normal, Ill.-based avant-pop band Oh Astro.

Once again this semester, the museum will offer free yoga classes Fridays at noon, beginning Sept. 7. Classes, taught by Deb Lister in the museum’s Collections Resource Laboratory, are limited to 20 participants, on a first-come, first-served basis.

A complete schedule of special events is available on the museum Web site, www.kam.uiuc.edu.

Biomedical Research Seminars
Health issues bridge human-animal gap

Stem cell therapy, cross-species infectious disease and ecosystem health are among the topics slated for the fall seminar series on translational biomedical research – interdisciplinary collaborations that “translate” fundamental research discoveries into practical biomedical applications to improve human and animal health and society.

The seminars, organized by the College of Veterinary Medicine, will be Mondays at noon in the Large Animal Clinic auditorium. Metered parking is available outside the Basic Sciences Building.

The series kicks off in this month with talks on wildlife conservation and managing endangered species through “metamodelling.”

In early October two talks will address stem cell research. Suzanne Berry, from the college’s department of veterinary biosciences, will report on her work with myogenic stem cells that have been shown to regenerate skeletal muscle and restore muscle protein expression in a mouse model for Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

Infectious disease, ranging from RNA viruses to vaccine immunization and immunity to the emergence of diseases transmitted from animals to humans, will serve as the topic for four talks.

Jakob Zinsstag, of the Swiss Tropical Institute in Basel, Switzerland, will discuss the implications of a “one health” approach for integrated human and animal health systems, the simultaneous study of zoonoses in humans and animals, and health economic assessments, using his studies in Africa and East Asia as a model.

Bob Brozman, pictured, and Led Kaapana perform Hawaiian slack key guitar at 5 p.m. Sept. 15 in the Krannert Center lobby. The return of the John Lennon Educational Tour Bus, Guitars in the Schools, will be Mondays at noon in the Large Animal Clinic. The bus will feature four students who have taken part in a month-long music camp in London. The students will play and sing, and will discuss their experiences.

For more information, contact Scott Walter, associate university librarian for services, at swalter@uiuc.edu or 333-0318.

KAM plans diverse events for fall

A new library fee is opening doors like never before for UI students.

The fee, passed by the UI Board of Trustees in March, means Illinois students will be able to spend much more time in the library. On Aug. 23, the Undergraduate and the Grainger Engineering libraries began offering significantly extended hours, 63 in total.

The library fee of $200 a semester for new full-time undergraduate and graduate/professional students supports several initiatives in addition to increasing library hours, including developing electronic media and digitization; improving information technology services; creating and enhancing tools for online learning and research; and increasing the positions focused on direct support of students’ learning and services.

The Undergraduate Library’s new hours: Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3 a.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 a.m. In the admittance’s “call center,” hours are from 3 a.m. to 8 a.m. Monday through Friday.

The new Grainger hours: Monday through Thursday, open 24 hours; Friday, 12 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to midnight.

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Robert Novak book signing is Sept. 13


Novak was born in Joliet. He attended the UI from 1948 to 1952, graduating with a bachelor of arts degree.

The book is the result of his 50-year journalism career in which he wrote for the Joliet Herald-News, the Daily Illini and The Champaign- Urbana.

The event will feature remarks by Chancellor Richard Herman and the artwork of Fred DeAulis, a Filipino- American artist from Chicago, who practices an ancient Philippine art style called Kut-Kut. Local Asian American community organizers also will present to show how students and the campus community can become involved in their missions.

The title is based on early century Oriental and European art forms: sgraffito, encaustic and layering. When these ancient techniques merge, it produces Kut-Kut, which is characterized by delicate swirling interwoven lines, multi- layered texture and an illusion of three-dimensional space.

The exhibit, “Kut-Kut – Lost Art of the Philippines,” will be on display until Nov. 7 at the center, which is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 333-9300.
The museum, based at the former Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul, features a long-term exhibit about the 99th Pursuit Squadron.

“The War” premieres on WILL-TV on Sept. 23. WILL-produced local stories about Central Illinois during World War II on the home front and the battle front will air on radio beginning Sept. 17 and WILL-TV beginning Sept. 26, with more stories featured on the WILL Web site at www.will.illinois.edu.

For more information about the Rantoul event, call Mark Hanson or Robyn York, Chanute Air Museum, at 893-1613.

School of Art and Design
Register now for Saturday art classes
Registration is under way for the fall semester of Saturday Art School, a community art school taught by art education undergraduate and graduate students and faculty members in the School of Art and Design.

Classes, held at the Art and Design Building beginning Sept. 8, will meet for 10 Saturdays culminating in an open house during the Krannert Art Museum Family Fest on Dec. 1 in the Link Gallery of the Art and Design Building.

The cost is $75 per student, ages 4 ½ through 18. Elementary classes meet for two sessions each Saturday 9-10:30 or 11-noon. Seventh- through ninth-grade students meet 9-noon each Saturday in a studio format. The full curriculum offers new media experiences as well as opportunities to improve traditional media skills.

For a brochure and application form, contact Carole Smith at 333-1652 or cssmith2@uiuc.edu. Registration will well as opportunities to improve traditional media skills.

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Register now for Saturday art classes
Registration is under way for the fall semester of Saturday Art School, a community art school taught by art education undergraduate and graduate students and faculty members in the School of Art and Design.

Classes, held at the Art and Design Building beginning Sept. 8, will meet for 10 Saturdays culminating in an open house during the Krannert Art Museum Family Fest on Dec. 1 in the Link Gallery of the Art and Design Building.

The cost is $75 per student, ages 4 ½ through 18. Elementary classes meet for two sessions each Saturday 9-10:30 or 11-noon. Seventh- through ninth-grade students meet 9-noon each Saturday in a studio format. The full curriculum offers new media experiences as well as opportunities to improve traditional media skills.

For a brochure and application form, contact Carole Smith at 333-1652 or cssmith2@uiuc.edu. Registration will end when classes are full.

Center for Advanced Study
Lectures covers immigration to nukes
Immigration, Islam, nukes, Plato, and Asian science and technology will be among the topics this fall in lectures and discussions sponsored by the Center for Advanced Study at the UI.

Most of the fall lectures are part of the CAS MillerComm series, began in 1973 and supported with funds from the George A. Miller Endowment and several co-sponsoring campus units.

Also part of the fall program will be lectures by two prominent Illinois faculty members: Susan W. Kieffer, a CAS professor of geology and of physics, who will give the CAS Annual Lecture on the subject of earth research, and Frederick Hoxie, a Swanlund professor of history and of law, who will give a Chancellor’s CAS Special Lecture on the birth of federal Indian law. All CAS talks are free and open to the public.

Upcoming lectures this month:
Sept. 10, “Building a Knowledge-Based Economy Pyramid” by Philip Yeo, special adviser for economic development for the prime minister of Singapore. (4 p.m. in rooms 612 and 614 in the Gatehouse Building at the Institute for Genomic Biology.

Sept. 13, “Love and Beauty in Plato’s ‘Symposium’: Only in the Contemplation of Beauty Is Human Life Worth Living,” by Alexander Nehamas, the Carpenter Professor of Humanities at Princeton University. (7:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Levis Faculty Center)

Sept. 18, “The University of Illinois in Asia,” a panel discussion with UI Chancellor Richard Herman and Vice Chancellor for Research Chip Zupanoksi. (7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Beckman Institute).

Sept. 25, “Researching the Earth: Living it, Loving it and Sharing it,” the CAS Annual Lecture, given by Kieffer, who also is a Charles R. Walgreen University Chair. (7:30 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium of the Spurlock Museum).

For a full schedule, go to www.cas.uiuc.edu. Those interested in attending CAS lectures should note that occasionally a lecture must be canceled or rescheduled, and lectures may be added later in the semester. For additional information, or to confirm details prior to a lecture, check the events link on the CAS Web site.

To receive notification on individual events, phone 333-6729 or e-mail cas@uiuc.edu; indicate your preference for postal mail or e-mail.

Also check the Web site for audio podcasts and streaming video of many CAS presentations, which are generally posted one to two weeks after the event.

The 16th annual Spurlock Museum Guild auction is Sept. 15 at the Alice Campbell Alumni Center hall- room. Proceeds of the event will support the educa- tional programs of the Spurlock Museum of World Cul- ture. To date, the auction has raised more than $300,000 for instructional activities that annually benefit more than 10,000 area school children and residents.

This year’s “Egyptian Auction” celebrates the ex- hibit “Ancient Egypt: the Origins,” co-sponsored by the Brooklyn Museum opening at Spurlock on Sept. 25. There will be both a silent and live auction. Preview of items begins at 6 p.m., followed at 6:30 by a Mediter- ranean buffet catered by the UI Catering Services. Live auction bidding starts at 7:30 p.m. Traditional and mod- ern interpretations of the ancient art of belly dancing will be performed by Tikkunika, a local dance group. Sarah Mangelsdorf, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and her husband, Professor Karl Rosengren, will be honorary hosts.

Artist Siti Marijah Jackson has donated her watercolor “Mare of Rockome Gardens” to be given to a lucky ticket holder at the end of the evening. Auction items include a Bakhtiari rug from the Eastern Rug Gallery, Egyptian papyrus paintings, Jim Thompson Thai silk elephant prints, Silver Oak cabernet, and choice pieces of antique Sèvres and Meissen porcelain. UI memorabilia also will be offered, as well as original designs from local jewel- ers, craftsmen and artists, movie and theater tickets, as well as donations and gift certificates from area restaurants and stores.

Tickets are $50 per person, sponsorships are $100, and a patron’s contribution is $250. For tickets or to donate items, call Vivian Larson at 367-0800 or Judy Hummel at 344-0606. •
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