Strategic silicon camera next step to artificial retina

By James E. Kloeppel
News Bureau Staff Writer

B
y combining stretchable optoelectronics and biologically inspired design, scientists have created a remarkable imaging device, with a layout based on the human eye.

As reported in the Aug. 7 issue of the journal Nature, researchers at the UI and Northwestern University have developed a high-performance, hemispherical “eye” camera using an array of single-crystalline silicon detectors and electronics, configured in a stretchable, interconnected mesh.

The work opens new possibilities for advanced camera design. It also foreshadows artificial retinas for bionic eyes similar in concept to those in the movie “Terminator” and other advanced camera design. The camera integrates such a detector with a hemispherical cap and imaging lens, to yield a system with the overall size, shape and layout of the human eye.

The camera’s design is based on that of the human eye, which has a simple, single-element lens and a hemispherical detector. The camera integrates a detector with a hemispherical cap and imaging lens, to yield a system with the overall size, shape and layout of the human eye.

To make the camera, the researchers begin by molding a thin rubber membrane in the shape of a hemisphere. The rubber membrane is then stretched with a specialized mechanical stage to form a flat drumhead.

The camera’s design is based on that of the human eye, which has a simple, single-element lens and a hemispherical detector. The camera integrates such a detector with a hemispherical cap and imaging lens, to yield a system with the overall size, shape and layout of the human eye.

The camera is designed by John Rogers (back left), the Flory-Founder Chair Professor of Materials Science and Engineering, and his research group: (clockwise from back right) Joe Golden, Mark Stokey, Hoang Cho Ko and Viktor Malyarchuk, all postdoctoral researchers.

The selection of Italian specialties at the Abbondante ("Abundance") station will include made-to-order brick-oven-baked pizzas and fresh pasta. Another station, Arugulas, will offer vegetarian and vegan selections, salads and homemade soups, along with raw vegetables, cooked meats and hot broth that diners can use to create their own soups. An extension of Arugula’s called Provolve’s will offer fresh deli ingredients and Panini grills for diners to make and grill their own sandwiches.

Gourmet coffee drinks and exotic teas will be available at a station called Mela ("May-la") that will provide cold coffee drinks, chai tea and bubble teas. Cereals, breads, make-your-own waffles, juices, fruits and other continental breakfast items will be available all day. There will also be a dessert bar.

The array of ethnic and vegetarian selections and the ability to customize dishes reflect the preferences expressed by students during open forums and in customer satisfaction surveys that Dining Services conducted. Dining Services is now offering a new service called Dinin
Trustees appoint new chancellor for Chicago campus

By Christy Levy
UIC News Bureau

T he UI Board of Trustees unanimously approved the appointment of a new chancellor for the UIC campus when the Trustees met July 24 at UIC.

The board approved Paula Allen-Meares’ appointment as chancellor at the UIC campus. Allen-Meares, who currently is dean of the School of Social Work at the University of Michigan, received her master’s and Ph.D. at the School of Social Work at Urbana-Champaign campus and was dean of the School of Social Work at Urbana from 1994 to 1999.

“We’re so very grateful to welcome her back into the University of Illinois family,” said board chair Lawrence Eppley before the board vote. “It will be great when she gets here.”

Three new Global Campus programs are scheduled to begin early next year after receiving approval from the board.

In her James Scholar honors projects, Schug said “Julie lined up faculty to participate and led competitively selected undergraduates to Croatia to study micro-finance initiatives in rural areas during winter break. Her venture likely will become a regular partner between Illinois students, philanthropic associations, and Croatian students and entrepreneurs.”

Chami, who currently is the manager of policy and research at the UI Board of Trustees, has served on the board as an ex-officio member for 1,000 nominations submitted by colleges and universities across the country. Each institution is able to nominate up to two students.

The graduate scholarships cover tuition for two years, with $5,500 annually — for a maximum of six years. Selection of scholarship recipients is based on academic achievement, financial need, to succeed, leadership, public service, critical thinking ability and an appreciation of art and the humanities.

Table 1, which dates to the early 1950s and was designed by Jack Kent Cooke to help young people of exceptional promise reach their full potential through education — selected Chami from among nearly 1,000

USER STUDENT NEWS BUREAU

The new dining hall is scheduled to open fall 2010.

U student wins national grad scholarship

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

R ecent UI graduate Goylette (Julie) Schug has been selected as one of 35 students nationally to receive a Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship to fund graduate school.

Chami, a James Scholar and Research Center.

•

Flash Index slips to four-year low

The unemployment rate is up both nationally and in Illinois. The 6.8 percent rate in Illinois for June is the highest since October 2003 and employment growth has slowed.

If there is any good news here, it is that the unemployment rate is a lagging indicator. It reflects what has happened, worse than is happening, economist J. Fred Giertz, the director of the Illinois Institute of Business Process Management and Information Technology at the University of Illinois, said.

Overall, the Illinois economy has clearly slowed, but it has the advantage of strong export industries including agriculture and real estate, Giertz said. “The slowdown from the level it had held for two consecutive months dropped the index to its lowest reading since August 2004. Despite the drop, the overall implications of the index are that the continued sluggishness of the Illinois economy, but no recession yet, said economist J. Fred Giertz, who produces the Flash Index for the university from economic data and surveys that recently became part of the University of Illinois.”

In the second quarter with a growth rate of 1.9 percent in real terms, more than double the 0.9 percent rate of the first quarter, Giertz said. This may be an indication that the slowdown is over, but it may also be a reflection of the federal stimulus pack- age coming into play during this past quarter,” he said. Exports continue to be a strong positive for the economy. The real estate sector remains a problem, but does not appear to be getting worse.”

UIC’s new dining hall opened Aug. 7. The $47 million expansion of the existing Illinois Dining Services building brought EatSmart, an online menu that lists the nutritional data for the food on offer at every Eatery Dining Services operates on campus.

To learn how to prepare the new menu selections and rehearse the new operating procedures, food service staff members at PAR got a unique training opportunity. Dining Services brought celebrity chefs Dave Martins and Jet Tila to PAR to teach them for several days in July. Martin, who specializes in South American and Spanish cuisine, was a contestant on the first season of the TV show “Top Chef.” Tila, a na- tionally renowned chef who specializes in Asian cuisine, has appeared on numerous cooking shows. Together, the two gave a live cook-off of World Records in 2005 when he prepared a record-breaking 1,805-pound stir-fry.

During the training, staff set up, oper- ated and sampled food from stations including the dessert bar, which offered build-your-own banana splits.

The ability to customize their food will benefit diners on prescribed diets in par- ticular, who might be reluctant to ask chefs for specially prepared items in traditional serving arrangements, Aubrey said. “Often times, those students really don’t want to stand out, and this is a nice way for them to be able to blend in.”

For the convenience of students inter- ested in international programs, the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (formerly Illinois Waste Management and Research Center).

In the article “The State scientific surve- yors are now part of U.I. that appeared in the July 17, 2008, issue of “Inside Illinois,” the name of the new institute that comprises the four state scientific surveyors’ history that recently ceased to exist and the Urbana campus was incorrect. The correct name is the Institute of Natural Resources and Policy. The name of the Illinois Natural History Survey, Illinois State Geological Survey, Illinois State Water Survey and the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (formerly Illinois Waste Management and Research Center).

Inside Illinois

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Tuition for the program is $5,940 for Illinois residents and $5,748 for nonresidents. University alumni who are nonresidents but are contributing members of the Alumni Association also receive the in-state tuition rate.

Two new graduate certificate programs – Business Process Management and Infor- mation Technology Management – will be administered by the College of Business and Management at the Springfield campus.

For full text of the global campus program, click here.

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Inside Illinois is a bi-weekly newsletter published by the News Bureau of the University of Illinois Foundation, a private, non-profit charitable organization. It is the official news source of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The newsletter is distributed to faculty, staff, students, alumni, friends and others interested in the news and events of the University of Illinois. It is not affiliated with the University of Illinois at Chicago. It is published by the Department of Athletics. It is distributed by Ueno press. The text number is 24.01-01.

Two new graduate certificate programs – Business Process Management and Informa- tion Technology Management will be administered by the College of Business and Management at the Springfield campus.

Tuition for each certificate program is $5,172 for Illinois residents and alumni, and $5,748 for nonresidents.

Among the reasons for the board app- proved an additional $3.4 million in funding for Global Campus.

Business

● Trustees approved the appointment of Ravishankar Iyer as interim vice chancellor for research at Urbana, effective Aug. 4. Iyer, a professor of mechanical engineering and an affiliate in the computer science department, succeeds Charles Zukoski, who will remain at a full-time faculty member.

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Insidelllinois

On the Job Talisa Webber

Talisa Webber, an office manager at the Law Library, started her career with the university in the clerical learner program working as a secretary at David Kinley Hall in 1997. Weber then worked at Beckman Institute and then at Continuing Education as a secretary for the Elderhostel Program before starting her current job in 2002. Weber earned a bachelor’s degree in liberal arts from Eastern Illinois University in 2006 and a master’s degree in human resource education in May 2007 from the UI.

Tell me about your job.

I provide the administrative support for the entire Law Library. I work closely with the director, and with the other reference librarians and the rest of the staff members. I do everything from ordering supplies, to making travel arrangements and making copies. A big part of my job is also dealing with maintenance service orders for things such as leaking tiles, temperature control, light bulbs that need to be replaced, and one time, a dead bird that was in a light fixture in the entranceway.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Helping the director and the faculty.

I’m a service-oriented person. There are eight librarians in the Law Library, not including the director, all of whom are faculty members. The faculty members here teach a legal research class to the first-year law students, and I also work a little with the students sometimes. They may need passwords for the research tool that they use or may need a professor for something. I enjoy seeing the students in the library and getting to know a few of them.

What’s the most challenging part of your job?

Being the only secretary here can be challenging when it gets really busy and everybody comes to me. I’ve learned to multitask and that’s when my organizational skills kick in.

When I was going to college and graduate school, I was a full-time student and was working full time too. I never realized how busy I was until I got done with school.

What do you enjoy doing when you’re not working?

Spending time with my family. My husband and I have a grown son who graduated from Eastern Illinois University two years ago. Our son and I were both in college at the same time, but I got done first. My husband and I also have two younger kids, Kianna, who’s 14; she’ll be a freshman at the polls. There were some European immigrants trying to define themselves against African Americans. And then, too, Springfield in fact was one of the few places that had a reputation for lawlessness, whether rightly or wrongly. In many urban communities, African Americans often became the target of white anxieties about crime and vice. Springfield was no exception.

What happened and what were the consequences for Springfield?

Police arrested two black men in separate incidents involving attacks on white residents, including an alleged rape of a white woman. A large group of whites gathered at the jail and demanded that the sheriff hand the suspects over, but the sheriff discovered that the two men had been moved to another city. Basically, the crowd, eventually numbering in the thousands, then linked hands and confronted the black community. They burned entire blocks of homes, destroyed businesses, and hanged black people theoretically in the South, they were migrating to Springfield especially ripe for this kind of incident? Springfield was a commercial hub that attracted plenty of migrants, including a sizable black population for that time. Many of the residents, both black and white, were southerners figuring out a way to live in a northern community. They burned entire blocks of homes, destroyed businesses, and hanged black people theoretically in the streets with blackshott, nooses and torches.

What was there anything that made Springfield especially ripe for this kind of incident?

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What was the state of racial relations in 1908?

Black political gains made during Reconstruction, following the Civil War, had been eroded and replaced by racial segregation, or “Jim Crow.” This was particularly true in the South, where the most African Americans lived, but anti-black sentiments were widespread throughout the U.S. in every area of public life. With the end of slavery, black people theoretically were able to compete with whites, economically and otherwise, in a way that hadn’t been possible before. And because of the Jim Crow in the South, they were migrating to northern communities, though not on the same scale as they did later. Probably notherners, as well as southerners, were asking, “What do we do with the Negro?” The question was often asked in the streets with blackshott, nooses and torches.

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How common were these kinds of occurrences at this time and later?

The lynching of blacks, and mob violence against their communities, was a common occurrence during this period. In Springfield, the riot was particularly bad, and some of the black men who were caught and killed in the aftermath of the riot. The conference was held on the day of the Lincoln centennial – and in Springfield – and from that the NAACP was born.

How do you think this particular incident had the effect of bringing this about?

Springfield drew so much national attention because it was the most jolting riot to occur in the North by that time, and it happened in the state capital of the “Land of Lincoln” – on the eve of his centennial, it happened in the state capital of the “Land of Lincoln” – on the eve of his centennial, and in Springfield, Ill., anticipated the centennial of Lincoln’s birth, the city became the scene of a race riot that shocked the nation – and launched the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People). Clarence Lang, a professor of history and of African American studies, teaches the history of civil rights. He was interviewed by News Bureau social sciences editor Craig Chamberlain.

Lloyd Curry Hodges, 71, died July 15 at the Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Hodges held research and faculty positions in the UI College of Business. He began at the UI as a lecturer in 1988 and retired in 1993 as assistant professor. He continued to serve as an adjunct professor after his retirement.

Memorials: Dunbar 54 Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 13, Madison, Ill. 62060 or to the Carle Cancer Center, 600 W. University Ave., Urbana, Ill. 61801.

Helen McCaI, 86, died July 21. McCaI retired from the UI, where she worked in the Bureau of Institutional Research and the Alumni Association. Memorials: Cunningham Childrens’ Home, 1301 N. Cunningham Ave., Urbana, Ill. 61802 or Champaign County Humane Society, 1911 E. Main, Urbana, Ill. 61802.

James Payne Jr., 89, died July 17 at the Shanghai Nursing Home, Urbana. Payne worked at the UI for more than 20 years, retiring as registrar in 1978. Memorials: Prairie Rivers Network, 1902 Fox Drive, Suite G, Champaign, Ill. 61820.

Henry Louis Wood, 61, died July 6. Wood worked at the UI for 26 years, retiring in 2005 as a tool and instrument mechanic.

RETI~ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

human eye.

Over the last 20 years, many research groups have pursued electronic eye systems of this general type, but none has achieved a working camera.

“Optics simulations and imaging studies show that these systems provide a much broader field of view, improved illumination uniformity and fewer aberrations than flat cameras with similar imager lenses,” said Rogers, who also is a researcher at the Beckman Institute and at the university’s Frederick Seitz Material Research Laboratory.

“Hemispherical detector arrays are also much better suited for use as retinal implants than flat detectors,” Rogers said. “The ability to wrap high quality silicon devices onto complex surfaces and biological tissues add very interesting and powerful capabilities to electronic and optoelectronic device design, with many new application possibilities.”

Funding was provided by the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Energy.

What was the statement of racial relations in the U.S. at the time of the riot in 1908?

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Chronic exposure to estradiol impairs cognitive functions

By Diana Yates
News Bureau Staff Writer

UI researchers report that chronic exposure to estradiol, the main estrogen in the body, diminishes some cognitive functions. Rats exposed to a steady dose of estradiol were impaired on tasks involving working memory and response inhibition, the researchers found.

Their report appeared in the journal Behavioral Neuroscience.

The researchers made the discovery when studying the effects of estradiol on activities mediated by the prefrontal cortex, a brain region that is vital to working memory and the ability to plan, respond to changing conditions and moderate or control one’s behavior.

“Working memory is the ability to briefly remember information needed for a particular task, said Susan Schantz, a UI professor of veterinary biosciences and principal investigator in the study. An example in humans is a phone number that is forgotten soon after the number is dialed.

“With working memory you’re just keeping it active until you use it,” she said.

In the new study, rats were trained to press one of two levers to obtain food reward. Those that alternated between the levers (which were withdrawn from the rat enclosure for a few seconds between trials) received a reward. Those that hit the same lever twice in a row got no reward. Rats exposed to estradiol performed worse than their counterparts on this task.

A second set of tests measured the rats’ ability to wait before responding to a stimulus. The rats had to wait 15 seconds before pressing a lever to get a reward. Those exposed to estradiol performed worse on this task than those that were not exposed.

“That’s the test where we really saw the most striking effects with estradiol,” Schantz said. The estradiol-treated rats “were not as good at waiting,” she said.

“Rats treated with estradiol are definitely a lot more active and make a lot more lever presses,” said neuroscience graduate student Victor Wang, the lead author on the study. “That’s not conducing toward being rewarded.”

The researchers had not expected to see such pronounced results. In fact, the study had been designed to give them baseline information for a separate inquiry into the effects of soybean estrogens on cognitive function. They planned to compare the effects of chronic estradiol exposure to genistein, a phytoestrogen found in soybeans. Genistein is believed to have similar effects in the body as natural or synthetic estrogens, although no study has definitively proven that it does.

Schantz and her colleagues had focused on the prefrontal cortex because it is rich in estrogen receptor beta (ER-beta), a protein that spurs gene expression and other activities in the cell when it binds to estradiol. Genistein also activates ER-beta.

Some women take genistein supplements or eat soy-based foods to reduce hot flashes or other symptoms of menopause, Schantz said.

“Women take them thinking they’ll be a safe alternative to hormone replacement therapy and they might help hot flashes,” she said. Those who have heard that hormone replacement can improve cardiac or brain function also hope that eating soy or taking genistein supplements will have the same effects, she said.

The effects of hormone replacement therapy (HRT) are more complex – and problematic – than once thought. A recent large-scale study of HRT in post-menopausal women was stopped because of an increased risk of stroke and blood clots in women taking estrogen alone, and a higher than average incidence of breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, blood clots and stroke in women taking estrogen and progesterone.

Studies of estrogen’s effects on cognition have also had mixed results. In earlier studies, for example, psychology professor Donna Korol, a collaborator on the current project, found that estradiol enhances some abilities, such as place or spatial learning, while hindering others, such as learning that relies on stimulus-response associations, considered by some to be akin to “habit” and not fluid thought.

Performance in these tasks involves brain structures outside the prefrontal cortex.

The research indicates that multiple factors influence the effects of estradiol on the brain, Schantz said. The timing of the exposure, the types of brain functions or structures studied and the age of the test subjects can all generate different results, she said.

Photograph: Brian Sleeper

**Ad removed for online version**
Negative perception of blacks rises with more news watching

By Craig Chamberlain
News Bureau Staff Writer

Watching the news should make you more informed, but it also may be making you more likely to stereotype, says a UI researcher.

In a pair of recently published studies, communication professor Travis Dixon found that the more people watched either local or network news, the more likely they were to draw on negative stereotypes about blacks.

Significantly, the effect was independent of viewers’ existing racial attitudes, Dixon said. “We’ve shown that just watching the news – just news consumption alone – has an impact on one’s stereotypical conceptions,” even among those who may think of themselves as largely prejudice-free, he said. Those who watch more local or network news are more likely to think of blacks as intimidating, violent or poor, Dixon said.

The studies were published in successive March and June issues of the Journal of Communication. Each was based on data collected in a telephone survey of 506 Los Angeles County residents conducted from November 2002 through January 2003. The study on local news, published in the March issue, built on prior research in several cities – Chicago, Philadelphia and Los Angeles among them – showing local TV news, particularly crime news, as almost always “racialized” in its portrayal of blacks and often other groups, Dixon said. One of the Los Angeles studies, conducted in the mid- to late 1990s, was led by Dixon, and analyzed the news content of individual stations.

In all of the analyses, Dixon said, blacks are overrepresented as perpetrators, whites are overrepresented as victims, and black-on-white crime is overrepresented relative to crime within racial groups. The overrepresentation is relative to police department crime statistics, not population.

“All of these things are inconsistent with what’s really happening out there in the quote-unquote real world,” Dixon said. “Some news reporters will say they’re holding up this mirror (to the real world), but it’s a distorted mirror.”

Dixon is careful not to label either reporters or news consumers as inherently or overtly prejudiced or racist. Instead, he talks about how stereotypes get repeated and therefore reinforced in the mind, a process called “chronic activation.” Those stereotypes then come more readily to mind, consciously or unconsciously, when seeing or interacting with a member of that group.

Network news broadcasts, not heavy on crime coverage, had a similar effect on viewers. The findings, which he found “disconcerting,” contradicted his assumption that those who stayed well-informed through network news would be less prejudiced and hold fewer stereotypes of blacks. He believes part of it may be in the way network news often “frames” an issue or topic, such as poverty or welfare, by finding individuals to focus on, often falling back on stereotypes, he said.

Dixon collected information on a number of factors that could influence stereotypical beliefs other than news-watching – such as gender, age, race, education, political ideology, income, racism, overall television exposure, newspaper exposure, neighborhood diversity and the community’s crime rate.

“We found that more than a quarter of stereotypical beliefs can be explained just by how much news you watch,” he said. If anyone assumes that respondents may suppress their honest feelings, then the effect could be assumed to be even larger, he said.

Researchers often are careful to note that survey results showing strong associations between two factors – in this case, news-watching and stereotypical belief – do not necessarily mean that one causes the other. Dixon suggests that there may be a causal connection here, however, because his survey work builds on previous experiment-based research with college students, in which different groups were tested after watching different versions of news broadcasts.

The prior research “makes us more confident that what’s happening here is causal and not just correlational,” Dixon said.

“News viewers need to be empowered to know that media effects are real and that they need to be more conscious of the potential effects,” Dixon said. “We still largely live in a segregated society, so our perceptions of other groups largely come through the media,” he said. “Viewers need to take a more active role in demanding better coverage and turning off the tube when it’s not good.”

Photo by L. Brian Stauffer
Region hit hard by 1993 floods showed economic resiliency

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

Crop-production costs will jump dramatically in 2009

By Jan Dennis
News Bureau Staff Writer

By Gary Schnitkey
Department of Soil, Water, and Climate

S
earing energy prices will yield sharp increases for corn and soybean production next year, cutting into farmers’ profits and stretching already high food costs, according to a new UI study.

Costs to get crops in the ground will jump by about a third in 2009, fueled by fertilizer prices expected to surge 82 percent for corn and 117 percent for soybeans, said Gary Schnitkey, an agricultural economist who conducts the annual survey of input costs. “Fertilizer — the biggest non-land expense for corn and soybean farmers — is tied to the same cost spiral that has driven steep gasoline and heating price increases over the last few years, said Schnitkey, a professor of agriculture and consumer economics.

“Roughly 80 percent of the cost of producing nitrogen fertilizer is natural gas, so as natural gas costs have gone up so have the costs of those inputs,” he said. “Phosphorus and potassium are mined, and as energy costs increase, mining costs increase.”

With commodity prices high, the increased production costs should merely trim farm profits rather than sinking balances into the red, said Schnitkey, who predicts farmers will likely post solid earnings again in 2009. “That's not one of those things,” he said. “When are the good times going to end? Could it be next year? And what happens if a drought or some other disaster cuts yields dramatically?”

While farmers will likely absorb some of the added costs, Schnitkey says consumers also should expect to pay more for products ranging from cereals and syrups to grain-fed beef.

“There’s not going to be a reduction back to lower food costs as long as we have these higher production costs,” he said. “Energy prices are driving a lot of what’s going on and ultimately that hits the consumer.”

Along with fertilizer, grain farmers also will see hefty cost increases next year for inputs ranging from seed to fuel for tractors and other machinery, according to the study.

The study projects non-land production costs for corn will total $529 an acre next year, with soybeans expected to cost $1,176 an acre. Based on futures markets, corn should sell for about $6 a bushel next year, with soybeans at the $13 to $14 range.

“Looking further ahead, though, a lot of things could happen to bring that down,” he said. “Demand could bring on more land in Argentina and Brazil, or the Ukraine might get its act together and increase production.”

Higher production costs will likely force farmers to try to hold down cash-rent payments, monitor commodity markets closely to sell at the best price and consider increasing crop-insurance levels, Schnitkey said. “Input prices will have doubled in just a few years and that’s a major investment for farmers,” he said. “If something bad happens that hurts yields, their downside risk is much higher now.”

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

achancements

agricultural, consumer and environmental sciences
Christopher Fennell, professor emeritus of agricultural and biological engineering, was named a fellow by the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers for his outstanding contributions to the education of agricultural and biological engineering students. Burialek recognized for his innovative leadership in curriculum development, technical editing and standards development.

Downs Intellectual Freedom Award
Nomination deadline is Oct. 15
The Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the UI seeks nominations for the Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award. The deadline for nominations is Oct. 15.

Given annually, the award acknowledges individuals or groups who have furthered the cause of intellectual freedom, particularly as it affects libraries and information centers and the dissemination of ideas. Granted to those who have resisted censorship or efforts to abridge the freedom of individuals to share their ideas, the award may be in recognition of a particular action or long-term interest in, and devotion to, the cause of intellectual freedom in any medium.

The award was established in 1969 by GSLS faculty members to honor Emeritus Downs on the occasion of his 25th anniversary as the director of the School of Library and Information Science. It is given to candidates under 38 years of age.

The award consists of a bronze medal and $500. Nominees and documentation about the nominee should be sent by e-mail to unsworth@uiuc.edu. Applications are due by Aug. 15, 2008.

Stations and publications

activities

FLOODS. CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6
shifted, in part, to serve the needs of the tourist trade. While her research points to a va-

riedy of strategies that communities and government agencies might adopt to bet-
ter respond to and recover from natural disasters. “For businesses, the message is that they should think in terms of newly emerged situations instead of just going back to the same things that were. That will never happen.”

“The process for distributing govern-
ment loans needs to be improved – speed-
ing up the process and cutting through red
tape,” she said. “The quicker you can de-
tegrate the relocation process, the more likely the community will be more cohesive in the end.”

Xiao’s work is also notable for its con-

tribution to the field of disaster-recovery research.

“In my work, I try to understand how community and business recovery efforts are interrelated.”

“Instead of looking at a community alone, I try to look at ‘twins’ – communi-
ties with similar pre-flood economic cli-
teas, geographic structures and similar social dynamics, and controlling for those fac-
tors. “That way I can measure the flood ef-
fects better, instead of – for instance – ef-
fects of an economic recession, and use this better method to tease out the flood ef-
fect only, instead of – for instance – ef-
fects of regional political or social dynamics, and controlling for those fac-
tors as well.”

Fennell was recognized for his contribu-
tions to studies in African diaspora archae-
oLOGY, including his continued research at New Philadelphia, a biracial town founded

by a freed African American on the Illinois frontier. Fennell served as co-principal ar-
ing the American Library Association’s Midwinter Meeting in Denver.

The Centenary Fund celebrates the centennial of the Chemical Society and its influence by the Biomedical and Life Sciences Informa-
tion Center at U.S. Cellular Learning Center.

university librarians

Diane Schmidt, biology librarian, was awarded the William Sewell Prize for In-

novation by the Biomedical and Life Sci-
ciences Division of the Special Libraries Association. Schmidt was named in Aug. 2007 as the

Endowed Chair and professor of chemis-

try, is a frequent contributor to a number of dairy publications. Silverman will be presented

the American Chemical Society and the American Chemical Society’s Division of Bio-

chemistry. Silverman will be presented

the award (consisting of a bronze medal and £500.

The prize is awarded to a member who

received the 2008 Harry and Carol Mosher Award from the Santa Clara Valley Section of the American Chemical Society. The award is presented for excellence in any branch of organic chemistry and is given biennially on the occasion of the society’s Annual Congress.

John Hartwig, the Kenneth L. Rinnehart Endowed Chair, will deliver the society’s Joseph Chapt Lectureship, which was established in 1980 to rec-

ognize and encourage outstanding work in chemistry, to advance chemistry as a pro-
fession and to recognize service to the so-
ciety.

Scott Silverman, a professor of chemis-

ty, will receive the 2009 Eli Lilly Award in Plant Chemistry for his outstanding work in bio-

chemistry. Silverman will be presented

the award (consisting of a bronze medal and honorarium) during an awards symposium in his honor to be held during the society’s 236th annual meeting Aug. 17-21 in Wash-

ington, D.C.

The award was created in 1934 and is

given to candidates under 38 years of age by the American Chemical Society’s Division of Bio-

chemistry. Silverman will be presented

the award (consisting of a bronze medal and honorarium) during an awards symposium in his honor to be held during the society’s 236th annual meeting Aug. 17-21 in Wash-

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ington, D.C.
Dance moves

Ojibwi Camara demonstrates some new moves for students participating in dance classes offered as part of the Summer Cooperative African Language Institute’s extracurricular cultural activities. Highlights of the eight-week institute, which concluded last week, included a July 25 event at the Illini Union featuring skits and dance moves as part of the Summer Cooperative African Language Institute’s extracurricular cultural activities. Highlights of the eight-week institute, which concluded last week, included a July 25 event at the Illini Union featuring skits and dance moves as part of the Summer Cooperative African Language Institute’s extracurricular cultural activities. Highlights of the eight-week institute, which concluded last week, included a July 25 event at the Illini Union featuring skits and dance moves as part of the Summer Cooperative African Language Institute’s extracurricular cultural activities. Highlights of the eight-week institute, which concluded last week, included a July 25 event at the Illini Union featuring skits and dance moves as part of the Summer Cooperative African Language Institute’s extracurricular cultural activities.

Through Sept. 2

1 space, 230 W Superior St., Chicago. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

Arborium Tours
To arrange a tour, 333-7379.

Beckman Institute Café
Open to the public. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday. Lunch served 11 a.m.-2 p.m. For menu, visit www.beckman.uiuc.edu/cafes/coffee.php.

Bevler Café
8-11 a.m. coffee, juice and baked goods; and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. lunch.

Bevler Café Too
Summer hours: 8 a.m.-2 p.m. weekdays in the IGB building. Offers gourmet coffee drinks, snacks, light lunch items and more.

Campus Recreation
ARC, 201 E. Peabody Drive, Champaign. CRCE, 1102 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana. See www.campusrec.uiuc.edu for complete schedule.

Center for Teaching Excellence
Campuswide service unit responsible for assisting faculty, academic units and teaching assistants in improving instruction. The center consults and advises on a wide variety of instructional issues. For more information, visit www.ctee.uiuc.edu.

English as a Second Language Program
8-8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Japanese House
For a group tour, 244-9934. Tea ceremony: Second and fourth Thursday of the month. 5 p.m.

Knapp Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion
Tours. By appointment, call 244-0516. (through summer)

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts
Promenade gift shop: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday; one hour before until 30 minutes after performances.

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts
Ticket Office: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily, and 10 a.m. through first intermission on performance days.

Promenade Gift Shop
Tours: 3 p.m. daily; meet in main lobby.

Library Tours
Self-guided of main and undergraduate libraries: go to Information Desk (second floor, main library) or Information Services Desk (undergrad library).

Meet Salesroom
10 a.m. Meat Sciences Lab. 1-5:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday. For price list and specials, 333-3401.

Robert Altfor Park
Open 8 a.m. to dusk daily. "Allerton Legacy" exhibit at Visitor Center, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. daily. For garden tours and more information, call 333-3287 or visit www.continuedunui.edu/allerton/

Spurlock Museum
Zahn Learning Center. 1-4 p.m. Aug. 9. Hands-on activities for kids of all ages. For more info, call 265-4744 or e-mail taylorb@illinois.edu.

More information is available from Marty Yeakel at 333-1085 or visit www.uiuc.edu/uicalendar. Other calendar entries should be sent 15 days before the desired publication date to insid伊利iusd.edu.

Aug 7 to Aug 24

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organizations

Association of Academic Professionals
Events: see www.ieane.org/local.asp

Faculty Collectors’ Club - The No. 44 Society
3 p.m. first Wednesday of each month. Rare Book and Manuscript Library, 346 Main Library. More info: 333-3777 or visit www.library.illinois.edu/dbx/m44.htm.

Council of Academic Professionals Meeting
1:30 p.m. first Thursday monthly, location varies. More info: www.cap.uiuc.edu or 244-2571.

French Department: Pause Café
6 p.m. Thursdays, Espresso Royale, 1117 W. Gregory St., Urbana.

Illini Folk Dance Society
8-10 p.m. Tuesday and Saturday, Illini Union. Beginners welcome, no experience necessary.

Italian Table Italian conversation Mondays at noon, Intermezzo Café, KCPA.

Lifetimes Fitness Program
6:30 a.m. Monday-Friday. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 244-9934. W. Gregory Drive, Urbana. Kinesthesiology and Community Health, 333-2827.

Normal Person’s Book Discussion Group
7 p.m. 317 Illini Union. More info: 335-3167 or www.illinois.edu/beerly.

PC User Group Meeting
For schedule, www.uiuc.edu/~pcug.

PERFest
11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. third Thursday each month. For location and more info: www.library.illinois.edu/coercet.

The Deutsche Konversationsgruppe
1:30 p.m. Tuesday. The Bread Company, 1102 W. Gregory St., Urbana.

The Illinois Club
Open to male and female faculty and staff members and guests. For more info: www.TheIllinoisClub.org.

VOICE
Poetry and fiction reading, 7-45 p.m. Third Thursday of each month. The Bread Company, 100 S. Goodwin Ave., Urbana.

Illinois students have until noon today to register for summer classes.

Summer Classes
Registration will last through noon today. For more information, visit www.library.illinois.edu/PerfDelta.

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