Slichter to receive National Medal of Science

By James E. Kloeppel
News Bureau Staff Writer

Charles P. Slichter, Research Professor of Physics and Center for Advanced Study Emeritus Professor of Physics and Chemistry at the UI, has been selected as a recipient of the 2007 National Medal of Science. President George W. Bush will present the medal at a White House ceremony on Sept. 29. During the ceremony, he also will award the National Medals of Technology and Innovation. The medals are the nation’s highest honor for work in science and technology.

The science medal recognizes Slichter for “establishing nuclear magnetic resonance as a powerful tool to reveal the fundamental properties of molecules and solids, enabling a host of modern technologies in condensed matter physics, chemistry and medicine.”

“The leadership of Illinois in defining the American research university over the course of the last century is well known,” said Chancellor Richard Herman. “That story, of course, is one that is a tale of individual and team accomplishments. Professor Slichter’s work and the students he mentored is a truly significant element of that story. We continue to benefit from his presence at Illinois.”

Established by Congress in 1959, the National Medal of Science recognizes men and women who have made outstanding contributions to knowledge in the physical, biological, mathematical, social, behavioral, and engineering sciences. Of the dozen UI faculty members who have received the National Medal of Science, Slichter worked actively with John Bardeen, Harry Drickmiller, Herbert Gutowsky and Frederick Seitz. Other faculty recipients include Nick Holonyak Jr. and Carl Woese.

An internationally recognized leader in condensed matter physics, Slichter is one of the world’s top research scientists in the area of magnetic resonance, and has been a leading innovator in applications of resonance techniques for understanding the structure of matter. His physical insight and experimental mastery have allowed him to make seminal contributions to an extraordinarily broad range of problems of practical and theoretical interest and technological importance in physics and chemistry.

Slichter earned his bachelor’s degree in 1946, and his doctorate in 1949, all in physics from Harvard University. He joined the UI faculty in 1949. Also connected with teaching in 1996, Slichter maintains an active research program and remains a vital presence in the physics department.

Among his many awards are the American Physical Society’s Oliver E. BuckleyCondensed Matter Physics Prize (1993), the Department of Energy’s Prize for Outstanding Scientific Accomplishments in Solid State Physics (1993), the National Academy of Sciences’ Comstock Prize (1993), and the National Medal of Science (2007). See SLEICHTER, PAGE 7

I Hotel offers luxury, close to campus

By Shalita Forrest
Assistant Editor

Football fans and other campus visitors have a new place to stay this fall that is close to the action at Memorial Stadium. The I Hotel and Conference Center at the corner of St. Mary’s Road and First Street opened Aug. 11. Prior to official opening day it had already hosted two large weddings, an anniversary party and a luncheon for the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame.

The center is part of a joint development of the UI and Fox/Atkins Development. The names of the 12 meeting rooms in the 38,000-square-foot conference center have campus references – the Illinois room, the Chancellor’s Ballroom, the Quad Room and the Alma Mater, for example – and can provide banquet-style seating for 30 to 500 people or theater-style seating for up to 700 people.

Rich Millar, catering and event planner for University Catering, arranges catering for events, from box lunches and barbecue to elegant fare such as rack of lamb. Anna Dunham Simon, conference center marketing director, books events.

“Business center, staffed during events, provides support and assistance to guests, such as making photocopies or troubleshooting equipment problems. The conference center offers the latest audiovisual technology and provides on-site support. Guests have complimentary high-speed Internet access, and UI employees’ wireless network can support at least 500 simultaneous users.

“The hotel’s 124 guest rooms and two luxury suites are smoke-free and furnished according to AAA’s four-diamond standard. Rooms feature granite countertops, 32-inch high-definition plasma televisions, walk-in showers in the rooms with king-size beds and in-room safes that can accommodate 17-inch laptop computers. Luxury suites have two full baths, and doors in the sitting rooms can open into adjoining rooms, a feature often requested by performers who travel with their assistants, said Andrea Ruedi, chief executive officer of 1 Operations LLC, the management company operating the hotel and conference center.

Guests can get massages, hair styling and manicures at the hotel’s spa or work out in the hotel’s fitness center, which offers free weights as well as treadmills, elliptical trainers and other equipment. The hotel lobby features a large stone fireplace, Conceptual furniture groupings and LCD TVs. See I HOTEL, PAGE 19

Scientists learn business of research

By Shalita Forrest
Assistant Editor

A new certificate program being offered on campus intends to help undergraduate students protect and commercialize their ideas.

The Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Organizing for Life Sciences, which begins in October, covers topics such as regulatory policy, intellectual property and ethics, managerial account-

ON THE WEB

■ Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Management www.entrepreneurship.illinois.edu

The courses are offered on Friday afternoons and Saturdays. Students can take individual modules or the entire certificate program and complete it in one year. The certificate requires four required modules that total 60 hours and two elective modules, for a total of 12 elective hours. Students enrolled in doctoral programs in the life sciences, veterinary medicine, M.D. programs, post-doctorate students and working professionals with graduate education are eligible for the certificate program.

Though not intended to replace a master’s in business administration degree, the certificate program can give people with degrees in life sciences a competitive edge in the workplace and the marketplace through classroom learning, internships and networking with people in their fields. Instructors for the program are nationally recognized leaders in their fields, including law, business and the life sciences, in addition to guest speakers in various biotechnology ventures. The in- tstructors include Jay Kesan, a professor of law and of agricultural and consumer economics who has written extensively on intellectual property; and Lawrence Schook, a Gutgsell Endowed Professor of animal sciences who has created two biotechnology startup companies and Rajshree Agarwal, the John Georges Chair of Technology Management in the College of Business.

The intensive exposure to business concepts and the networking and internships that are particularly focused on student needs and areas of expertise are among the best features of the program, Agarwal said. “While not coming close to either the time or cost commitment of an MBA, the CEM offers an attractive alternative to get a bird’s-eye view of business issues salient in life sciences.”

The program is an expanded, life-science-focused version of a 10-week certificate program offered each spring through the Executive Development Program. See ENTREPRENEURSHIP, PAGE 3

K-9 officer

K-9 officer Doug Bengtson’s new partner – Quinty, a canine officer – has already taken a bite out of crime.

Alternative fuels

Using the grass Miscanthus giganteus as a feedstock for ethanol production would significantly reduce the amount of feedstock needed for biofuels.

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PAGE 10

The Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Organiz-
Business course seeks to instill professional responsibility

By Melissa Mitchell

Business 101, which will become a required course for all new UI business students, is unique because it will go beyond the classroom and educate students through internships.

The course, developed through four years of study and pilot efforts, also seeks to help students develop skills, such as leadership, communication, team-building and ethics.

“The course also seeks to give students an ethical compass,” Curtis said. “Let’s encourage them to explore their own values and lock in principles that will steer them toward the right choices — in good times and bad.”

Curtis says the course includes basics that are easy for area residents to use but will ultimately help shape students’ professional identity — handshakes, how to dress and how to interact with others.

“The day we went live and were visible in the Lincoln Trails catalog, we found 25 hold requests,” she said.

The course also seeks to give students an ethical compass, Curtis said, encouraging them to explore their own values and lock in principles that will steer them toward the right choices — in good times and bad.

“Those lessons will be laced with real-life experience, such as reviewing company codes of conduct and talking to business professionals who have the experience to give them work and home life or blown the whistle on illegal or unethical practices,” Curtis said.

“This is really going to open up the conversation about responsibility in business,” Curtis said. “That’s what’s so exciting. To have professional responsibility as the foundation of education in students’ formative years will serve them very well both in school and beyond.”

Graduates of the course will be better equipped to recognize and respond to challenges in the workplace,” said Gretchen Winter, the executive director of the 2-year-old Center. “Critical thinking skills and sound judgment, coupled with the willingness to act, are complex and multi-dimensional attributes that must be nurtured in order to be obtained, and Business 101 is the beginning of that journey for our students.”

Asian Educational Media Service expands its outreach

By Melissa Mitchell

The article “Chronic exposure to estrogens impairs some cognitive functions,” that appeared in the Aug. 7, 2008, issue of Inside Illinois, stated that a Woman’s Health Initiative study of hormone replacement therapy tested the efficacy of estrogen and progestrone on post-menopausal women. In fact, the hormones used in the study were conjugated estradiol (CE, common trade name is Premarin) and medroxyprogesterone acetate (MPA) a synthetic progestin (such as Provera). These drugs have very different biological activities in women’s bodies.

By hooking up with Lincoln Trails, the media library has suddenly become much easier for area residents to use.

The day we went live and were visible in the (Lincoln Trails) catalog, we found 25 hold requests,” she said.

Circulation of media materials to local and regional clients is actually just a small part of the service provided by the unit.

“Many of our collections are unique, and Business 101 is the beginning of that journey for our students.”

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On the Job

Linda Kemplin

Linda Kemplin started as the Extra Help receptionist in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences in April 2000 and was hired permanently in October 2000. In July 2001, Kemplin moved to the NRES Human Resources Office and was the human resource manager there until a few weeks ago, when she accepted a similar position in the department of crop sciences.

What do you do? What is your job entail?

As the HR manager, I process visas, coordinate (employee) searches, payroll, process new hires, anything to do with appointments. I'm doing a 50/50 split between NRES and crop sciences while I train a new person for my old job.

What do you like most about your job?

I enjoy the variety. You never know when you come in in the morning what that day is going to be like. It's such a variety of duties that it's not too monotonous. I talk to a lot of people. I've met quite a few characters over the years.

What is your work environment like?

It can be very complex working with the university and state regulations and rules and keeping up with all the changes. It keeps my brain muscles strong. It's a continual learning process.

I've been participating in the testing for the new HR module that is going to be implemented with the Banner human resources system.

What do you do when you're not working?

I'm going to decorate my new office here in old UI photos and memorabilia. I have some postcards from the 1920s and 1930s, and some other things we've picked up.

I'm going to be like Barack Obama in the polls, given that issues and circumstances are said to dramatically favor the Democrats this year. Do they have a point or are they missing something?

Do you expect a close election in November?

Yes. I've never been the argument that this year should be an easy win for the Democrat. The country remains pretty evenly divided, and unpopular incumbents don't always cast long shadows.

John McCain is widely regarded as an independent-minded maverick, so he might be the ideal Republican candidate to withstand a slump in his party's popularity. Also, retrospective unhappiness with the situation in Iraq doesn't make neatly any more sense to the Obama vote. A lot of voters who wish the U.S. had never invaded still haven't decided whether Obama or McCain is better qualified to make decisions about Iraq policy in the future.

After every convention, there's talk about whether the candidate got the expected post-convention “bounce” in the polls. Does this have any significance?

The bounces are usually about the same size as they’re irrelevant by mid-September. Political scientists are not even sure why they occur. It could be that the undeclared are swept up in the enthusiasm over well-scripted love-fests. But it might also be the case that strong Republicans tune out the news (and refuse to talk to pollsters) while the headlines are full of Democratic convention news, and vice versa.

The news coverage of campaigns focuses constant and heavy attention on polls, and most often national polls. How and in what way is this misleading? How could we understand about polls and don’t?

I don’t think the margin of error is well understood. If a poll finds 47 percent say they plan to vote for Obama, and it is described as accurate plus or minus 3 percent, that is suggesting a level of support among the respondents in the range of 44 to 50 percent. And while it is probably true that the actual value (known only by God, not by any pollsters) is in that interval, that calculation will fail, just by bad luck, about five out of every 100 times. Moreover, most pollsters do not calculate these intervals quite right. Polls usually need to be weighted to reflect demographic differences—such as in age, gender, or race—between the respondents and the target population.

Such weighting makes the margins of error larger, and so many polls report incorrect margins. There’s even more bad news: Response rates to polls have fallen over the years, and it seems likely that people who are willing to talk to pollsters, or even computers doing “robo-calls,” are different from those who won’t talk, and in ways much harder to measure than age, gender, or race. The reported margins of error are wrong.

The extremely tight 2000 election, and respecting dispute over the Florida recount, raised some uncomfortable questions. Have we adequately addressed those concerns? Are there other potential issues or controversies waiting in the wings in the event of another close contest?

Unfortunately, there’s no such thing as a fool-proof electoral system. Blunders and fraud can creep in many different stages, from ballot design, to eligibility screening, to tabulating. recounts often reveal serious problems. New Mexico’s handling of the 2000 presidential election was a shambles, but the state’s recount system was better. All eyes were on Florida. Washington state had an orderly, uncompromising recount in its U.S. Senate race that year. The secret of state crowed that his state managed recounts properly, so watching them was “like watching grass grow.” Four years later, a recount of the total national vote would be decided by a third recount in which, now, previously overlooked ballots emerged late in the process, reversing the outcome. I’ll hope for a controversy-free election, but if it is as close as I expect, there will probably be serious problems somewhere. Personally, I worry about the huge growth of absentee voting. Evenly divided, and unpopular incumbents don’t always cast long shadows. I am one person who looks at the data and votes Democrat.

Editor’s note: Brian Gaines has appointment in the department of political science and the Institute of Government and Public Affairs at Illinois. He also is a research fellow at the Center for American Democracy.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Center in the College of Business

A joint initiative of Business and the Institute for Genome Biology, the CEM provides an overview of business concepts but also explores topics of special interest to life scientists, such as managing the Food and Drug Administration approval process.

Corporate sponsors Peter Fox, founder of the Champaign real estate firm Fox Development Corp., and G. Steven Burrill, chief executive officer of Burrill and Co., a San Francisco-based life sciences merchant bank, have provided support for the program’s orientation on Oct. 24.

More information about the program is available online.

A Minute With...™ is provided by the UI News Bureau as a service to the UI community to comment on current topics in the News. To view archived interviews, go to www.uiuc.edu/goto/ajobsearch

- Interview by Sharrin Forrest
Assistant Editor

 job market

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STAFF HUMAN RESOURCES

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Sept. 4, 2008
UI expert: Confidence a key to recent economic initiatives

By Jan Dennis
News Bureau Staff Writer

Raising confidence in the sputtering U.S. economy is at the heart of recent moves to shore up the nation's lagging financial and housing markets, a UI economist says.

Anne Villamil says propping up faith in an economy teetering on the brink of recession is as important as more tangible initiatives such as financial lifelines for cash-strapped mortgage lending giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

"Savers must be confident that they will have access to their funds," she said. "Borrowers must be confident they can obtain credit. Maintaining the confidence of foreign lenders is especially important."

China and Japan are the two top stakeholders in the growing U.S. foreign debt, and jitters could affect future loans, Villamil said.

Japan also has a reported $56 billion stake in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, which own or insure 40 percent of U.S. residential mortgages and would qualify for unlimited amounts of government credit under legislation approved this summer.

"When you are a debtor, as the U.S. now is and will be for some time, it is important to have a good relationship with your lenders," she said. "Were the U.S. to face difficulty finding lenders abroad, interest rates would rise and the U.S. economy would be under even more pressure."

The legislation also includes $300 billion to provide affordable mortgages for struggling homeowners and a $7,500 tax credit for first-time home buyers. Senate approval is expected within days, and President Bush earlier dropped a threat to veto the legislation.

Villamil says the housing market and U.S. economy continue to struggle despite aggressive moves by the Federal Reserve, Treasury Department and Congress. Overall, home prices continue to fall and default rates continue to rise.

"Surging energy prices add to the strain, as do the rising levels of U.S. government debt and consumer debt," she said. "This, unfortunately, there is no quick fix for this adjustment problem. These problems will continue to be challenges for the new administration."

Villamil is a co-editor of the Annals of Finance and an associate editor of Economic Theory, the European Economic Review, and the Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance. Her research has examined financial contracts and the impact of inflation on public finance.

Confidence is key
Economist Anne Villamil says propping up faith in an economy teetering on the brink of recession is as important as more tangible initiatives such as financial lifelines for cash-strapped mortgage lending giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Newest canine officer off to great start in K-9 career

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

Quinty, the UI police department’s newest canine officer, is only 1 1/2 years old – in human years, that is – but he’s already taking a bite out of crime.

During the four weeks that Quinty, also known as "Q," has been on duty, he’s gone on about 20-30 calls with his handler, Officer Doug Beckman. While on a call about a suspicious package last week, Quinty sniffed out a 58-pound box of marijuana.

"That’s a pretty good start to his career," said Beckman, who handled Quinty’s predecessor, Roxey, as well. Like Roxey, Quinty is a Belgian Malinois (pronounced Mal-in-WAH) and came to the U.S. from Holland. Belgian Malinois are working dogs known for being energetic, quick learners that excel at tracking and agility. Although their tan-and-black coats and body size resemble some German shepherds, Malinois generally are considered to be more alert, more agile and more responsive than German shepherds.

During her nine-year career, Roxey helped police find more than 400 pounds of narcotics and 17 handguns, and her work resulted in hundreds of arrests and the seizure of tens of thousands of dollars and numerous vehicles. The proceeds from Roxey’s work were enough to pay for the specially equipped squad car for the canine unit and for her successor, Quinty, who now accompanies Beckman to calls in the car during the evening shift.

Roxey, who was the department’s inaugural canine officer, retired from duty in August, and Beckman selected her replacement from a kennel in Indiana and underwent three weeks of training with him. Like Roxey, Quinty is trained to detect narcotics and to track human scent to help collar criminals.

Two years ago, while investigating a home invasion, Roxey fused two vertebrae and later broke the fuse. Despite medication, the "dog days" of summer with their high humidity levels exacerbated Roxey’s pain from the injury and made it difficult for her to work.

"Roxey would work through it as long as I would allow her to do so," Beckman said. "It is now time for her to stay home and be pampered by my 2 1/2 –year-old daughter." Beckman bought Roxey from the department so that she could continue living with him and his family, and now, with Quinty.

The UI police also have an explosives-detecting dog, Nala, that joined the department in September 2004. Nala, also a Belgian Malinois, is handled by Officer Troy Chew.

New officer
Quinty, shown with his handler Officer Doug Beckman, is the newest canine officer with the UI police. A 1-year-old Belgian Malinois, Quinty, also known as "Q," is trained to detect narcotics and to track human scent. Quinty began duty Aug. 3 after he and Beckman underwent three weeks of training and testing at Vohne Liche Kennels in Denver, Ind., which imported Quinty from a breeder in Holland.
Hurricane season has arrived, and with it the possibility of significant impacts on human and global security. As Jürgen Scheffran, a research scientist in the Program in Arms Control, Disarmament, and Non-Proliferation at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has noted, climate change could be impetus for wars and other conflicts.

Scheffran's work, which began in the late 1990s, has focused on the intersection of climate change and security. His research has shown that climate change can increase the risk of conflict by altering the availability of resources, such as water and food, and by changing the distribution of wealth and power. Scheffran's work has been influential in policy circles, and he has served as a consultant to the United Nations and other international organizations.

Scheffran's research has also highlighted the importance of international cooperation in addressing climate change. He has argued that the world must work together to address the challenges posed by climate change, and that this effort is necessary for the security of all nations.

Scheffran's work has been well-received, and he has been awarded numerous grants and fellowships for his research. He has also served as a consultant to the United Nations and other international organizations.

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NEW faces 2008

Among the newcomers to the Urbana campus are faculty members whose appointments began this summer or fall. Inside Illinois continues its tradition of introducing some of the new faculty members on campus and will feature at least two new colleagues in each fall issue.

Robert T. O’Brien, professor of veterinary clinical medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine

Education: D.V.M., Ohio State University; M.S., University of Cincinnati; B.S., University of Maine.

At Illinois: He is course coordinator for VCM 603 “Imaging Therapy/Radiology” (a fourth-year clinical rotation that is ongoing on a 12-month basis) and VCM 667 “Radiology and Radiobiology” (a lecture/lab course for third-year students fall semester). He likely will guest lecture in other courses on the topic of radiology.

Research interests: His clinical and research areas include contrast ultrasound, feline cardiopulmonary imaging; and advanced CT imaging of emergency and critical care patients.

“Dr. O’Brien is technically skilled in the fields of veterinary radiology, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging and diagnostic ultrasonography,” said David Williams, head of the department of veterinary clinical medicine. “He is particularly gifted in ultrasonography and has unique expertise in the veterinary world in contrast agent enhanced abdominal ultrasonography. He has a reputation as an excellent teacher and is frequently invited to present continuing education lectures to veterinarians both nationally and internationally. He received recognition for his teaching skills while a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.”

Suja A. Thomas, professor of law, College of Law

Education: J.D., New York University School of Law; B.A., Northwestern University (mathematics).

At Illinois: She teaches a variety of courses, from evidence to employment discrimination to sports law.

Research: Thomas’ research interests include the Seventh Amendment right to a jury trial and theories of constitutional interpretation. Other areas of interest include civil procedure, employment discrimination, evidence, legal history, and sports and the law.

“Professor Suja Thomas is yet another phenomenal scholar and teacher in a long line of more than 20 outstanding faculty members who have joined the College of Law in the last six years,” said Interim Dean Ralph Brubaker. “She is one of the nation’s leading authorities on the Seventh Amendment right to jury trial, and her scholarly work is frequently cited by judges and quoted in the national media. Her scholarship is quite impressive, but equally important are her remarkable teaching talents and her ability to connect with the students. She received multiple Outstanding Teaching Awards from her peers and students at the University of Cincinnati. Our students and her peers will richly benefit from her intellectual talents and energies.”
Limits on futures trading could boost gas prices, expert says

By Jan Dennis
News Bureau Staff Writer

Proposals to rein in wallet-draining gasoline prices by curbing speculation in oil markets would likely increase costs at the pump instead of trimming them, a UI economist says.

Scott Irwin argues congressional efforts to curtail trading by speculators is a “mis-guided witch hunt” that ignores the root of America’s energy problem — a finite global oil supply that has been stretched thin by surging demand in China, India and other developing countries.

“We need to have a real national debate about issues related to both the demand side and the supply side of our energy use. That’s what we need to be focusing on, not speculators,” said Irwin, an agricultural and consumer economics professor who testified in July before a House committee considering limits on speculation in futures markets.

Shortly after his testimony, the Senate voted unanimously to move ahead on legislation to curtail speculation in oil futures markets, which Irwin contends would be a step backward in the battle against $4-a-gallon gasoline prices.

“If the markets become overregulated, they become less efficient mechanisms for transferring risk from parties who don’t want to bear it to those that do, creating added costs that ultimately get passed back to consumers,” Irwin said.

Dozens of proposals have surfaced to scale back speculation that has exploded in oil markets over the last few years. Billions of dollars have been pumped into oil futures and related over-the-counter derivative contracts, which supporters of trading limits contend has artificially inflated oil prices by 20 to 50 percent.

Irwin maintains that speculation accounts, at most, for a small part of the recent spike in oil prices, based on a recent study of commodity futures markets he conducted with Southern Illinois University agribusiness economist Dwight Sanders.

The study shows that a surge in trading by commodity firms has offset the dramatic rise in speculation, maintaining a market balance of buyers and sellers. “The bottom line is that the balance between hedgers and speculators in our commodity markets today is very much within historical norms for these markets going back to the 1940s,” he said. “We argue that when there’s a buyer and a seller, the market will balance itself.”

Another key, Irwin says, is that investments by speculators largely amount to “side bets” on the price of oil and other commodities. “They rarely buy and hold physical tanks of crude oil. That’s where the price is set,” he said.

He says history is dotted with misguided attacks on speculators, including a 50-year-old ban on onion futures trading that producers are seeking to repeal even as limits are being mulled for oil markets.

“We have been here before and we have made now well-documented mistakes in trying to over-regulate markets, so let’s not make the same mistake again,” said Irwin, who has studied the impact on speculation on commodity futures for nearly 25 years.

Ironically, Irwin says his earlier research dealt with cases where speculators were blamed for driving down farm commodity prices.

“That says something all by itself,” he said. “In all big market cycles, when prices are very low, the natural sellers such as farmers will start screaming that speculators are the problem. And when prices are really high, the natural buyers in the market — consumers and processors — are the ones screaming.”

“There’s a tendency to look for a scapegoat, and speculators are the convenient scapegoat,” he said. “But, really, it’s a supply and demand issue.”

In the meantime, the federal government is preparing to regulate futures markets, which include crude oil contracts, by the end of the year under the Commodity Futures Modernization Act. The act will give the CFTC broader authority to regulate the futures industry.

“The series-opening film will be “Golden Venture: A Journey Into America’s Immigration Nightmare.” The presentation will include a discussion led by Poshek Fu, a UI professor of history, of cinema studies, and director of EAPS.

Among the series highlights, Lee said, will be the Oct. 21 screening of “The Flute Player,” a documentary on the life and work of Arn Chorn-Pond, a Cambodian musician and human rights leader who survived the killing fields of the Khmer Rouge and today works to preserve his country’s musical heritage and economic survival.

Am Chorn-Pond will deliver a MillerrComm lecture at 7 p.m. Oct. 23 in the Knight Auditorium.

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Killer pulses help characterize special surfaces

By James E. Kloeppel
News Bureau Staff Writer

Detecting deadly fumes in subways, toxic gases in chemical spills, and hidden explosives in baggage is becoming easier and more efficient with a measurement technique called surface-enhanced Raman scattering. To further improve the technique’s sensitivity, scientists must design better scattering surfaces, and more effective ways of evaluating them.

Researchers at the UI, led by chemistry professor Dana Dlott, have devised a method to evaluate substrate surfaces by using a series of killer laser pulses. They describe the method and report measurements for a commonly used substrate in the July 18 issue of the journal Science.

Surface-enhanced Raman scattering, which functions by adsorbing molecules of interest onto rough metal surfaces, typically enhances the Raman spectrum a million times. Hot spots can occur, however, where the electric field enhancement can be a billion or more.

Current surface characterization techniques cannot tell hot spots from cold spots, and create an average value across the entire substrate surface.

“Looking at a spectrum, you can’t tell if it’s the result of a small number of molecules in hot spots or a large number of molecules in cold spots,” Dlott said. “Two materials could have the same average spectrum, but behave quite differently.”

Dlott, graduate student Ying Fang and postdoctoral research associate Nak-Hyun Seong came up with a way to measure the distribution of site enhancements on the substrate surface. Using killer laser pulses, their technique can count how many molecules are sitting in the hottest spots, how many are sitting in the coldest spots, and how many are sitting between the two extremes.

The killer pulse is a short duration laser pulse with a variable electric field. When the electric field is strong enough, it rips a molecule apart, “killing” it.

“If a molecule is in a very hot spot on the substrate, where the electric field enhancement is really big, it takes only a weak pulse to kill it,” Dlott said. “If the molecule is in a very cold spot, then it takes a really big laser pulse to kill it.”

Dlott, Fang and Seong demonstrated their technique by measuring the distribution of local enhancements for benzenethiolate molecules on a substrate of silver-coated nanospheres 330 nanometers in diameter.

To characterize the surface, the researchers first measured the initial Raman intensity. Then they put in a weak killer pulse, which destroyed the molecules in the hottest spots. After measuring the new Raman intensity, they put in a bigger pulse and destroyed the molecules in slightly colder spots. The researchers continued with bigger and bigger pulses until all the benzenethiolate molecules were destroyed.

“We found the hottest spots comprised just 63 molecules per million, but contributed 24 percent of the overall Raman intensity,” Dlott said. “We also found the coldest spots contained 61 percent of the molecules, but contributed only 4 percent of the overall intensity.”

Measurements like these, of the distribution of local site enhancements, will help researchers design better scattering surfaces for sensor applications. Prior to this work, no one knew if the Raman intensity was dominated by a small number of hot molecules or a large number of cold ones. Dlott, Fang and Seong have answered that important scientific question, not just with a yes or no, but with a full determination of exactly how many molecules there are in each level of hot or cold.

“Now, when evaluating a new surface-enhanced Raman material, instead of knowing just the average intensity, we know the highest, the lowest, and everything in between,” Dlott said.

Funding was provided by the National Science Foundation, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, and the Army Research Office. Electron microscopy was carried out in the university’s Center for Microanalysis of Materials, which is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Ad removed for online version
A new study of the ribosome, the cell’s protein-building machinery, sheds light on the oldest branches of the evolutionary tree of life and suggests that differences in ribosomal structure among the three main branches of that tree are “molecular fossils” of the early evolution of protein synthesis.

The new analysis, from researchers at the UI, reveals that key regions of the ribosome differ between bacteria and archaea, microbes that the researchers say are genetically closer to eukarya, the domain of life that includes humans. The study appears this week in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The findings confirm and extend the early work of Illinois microbiology professor Carl Woese, an author on the study. Woese was the first to look for signs of evolution in the ribosome, where genetic information is translated into proteins. In the mid-1970s, he and his colleagues found consistent differences in the sequence of nucleotides that spell out the RNA of the ribosome in bacteria and archaea. These “molecular signatures” were so pronounced that Woese concluded that the archaea comprised a separate domain of life, distinct from bacteria and eukarya (animals, plants, fungi and protists). His classification system was now widely accepted.

Carl Woese and his colleagues years ago established that protein translation had to be well developed when the evolution of modern cells started,” said Illinois chemistry professor Zaida Luthey-Schulten, an author on the new study. “So the evolution of cells and the evolution of translation are really linked to one another.”

The ribosome has two sub-units, each made up of RNA and proteins. It interacts with a host of other molecules to guide the assembly of new proteins.

The researchers analyzed the sequence of nucleotides (the building blocks of RNA) and amino acids (the building blocks of proteins) that make up the ribosome.

They also looked at the three-dimensional structures of the ribosomal RNA and proteins and their proximity to each other.

Graduate student Elijah Roberts, lead author on the study, developed computer programs to analyze the ribosomal sequences of different organisms. Whenever he found a ribosomal RNA or protein sequence that differed between bacteria and archaea, he screened the database to determine whether a sequence was unique to a given domain.

“To be a molecular signature a sequence has to be common to all members of a single domain of life, but not another,” Luthey-Schulten said.

Using the three-dimensional structures available for some bacterial and archael ribosomes, the researchers were also able to determine where in the ribosome these molecular signatures occurred.

“Until the 2000s, when these structures became available, you weren’t able to correlate where these signatures were with what was touching them in 3-D space,” Roberts said. “So nobody had ever done this sort of analysis before.”

The researchers found that 50 percent of the signatures distinguishing the archael and bacterial ribosomes is located in 5 percent of the ribosomal RNA sequence. Most of these molecular signatures occur in regions that are critical to ribosomal function.

They also found correlations between some ribosomal protein and RNA signatures, which they say is evidence that the ribosomal RNA and proteins co-evolved.

“The ramifications of this work are it gives you a much better way to probe how this universal machinery changes from one organism to another,” Luthey-Schulten said.

“In that the ribosome constitutes the core of the cellular translation mechanism, which is the sine qua non of gene expression, which is the essence of life as we know it, these findings constitute a major step in understanding the evolution of life, which is still a journey of a thousand miles,” Woese said.

The new findings also have implications for human health, Luthey-Schulten said. Because the signatures that differentiate bacteria from other organisms often occur in regions that are essential to ribosomal functioning, they will likely be targets for the development of new antibiotic drugs, she said.

Woese and Luthey-Schulten are affiliates of the Institute for Genomic Biology. Luthey-Schulten is also an affiliate of the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology and of the Center for Biophysics and Computational Biology.
Miscanthus can meet U.S. biofuels goal using less land

By Diana Yates
News Bureau Staff Writer

In the largest field trial of its kind in the United States, researchers have determined that the giant perennial grass Miscanthus x giganteus outperforms current biofuels sources – by a lot. Using Miscanthus as a feedstock for ethanol production in the U.S. could significantly reduce the acreage dedicated to biofuels while meeting government biofuels production goals, the researchers report.

The new findings, from researchers at the UI, appeared in the September issue of the journal Global Change Biology.

Using corn or switchgrass to produce enough ethanol to offset 20 percent of gasoline use – a current White House goal – would take 25 percent of current U.S. cropland out of food production, the researchers report. Getting the same amount of ethanol from Miscanthus would require only 9.3 percent of current agricultural acreage.

“What we’ve found with Miscanthus is that the amount of biomass generated each year would allow us to produce about 2 1/2 times the amount of ethanol we can produce per acre of corn,” said crop sciences professor Stephen P. Long, who led the study. Long is the deputy director of the BP-sponsored Energy Biosciences Institute, a multi-year, multi-institutional initiative aimed at finding low-carbon or carbon-neutral alternatives to petroleum-based fuels. Long is an affiliate of the UI’s Institute for Genomic Biology. He also is the editor of Global Change Biology.

In trials across Illinois, switchgrass, a perennial grass which, like Miscanthus, requires fewer chemical and mechanical inputs than corn, produced only about as much ethanol feedstock per acre as corn, Long said.

“One of the criticisms of using any biofuels is that this type of crop may be very good for marginal land or land that is not even being used for crop production.”

“Keep in mind that when we consider the energy use, a few hours of solar energy falling on the earth are equal to all the energy that people use over a whole year, so you don’t really need that high an efficiency to be able to capture that in plant material and make use of it as a biofuel source,” he said.

Field trials also showed that Miscanthus is tolerant of poor soil quality, Long said.

“Our highest productivity is actually occurring in the south, on the poorest soils in the state,” he said. “So that also shows us that this type of crop may be very good for marginal land or land that is not even being used for crop production.”

Because Miscanthus is a perennial grass, it also accumulates much more carbon in the soil than an annual crop such as corn or soybeans, Long said.

“In the context of global change, that’s important because it means that by producing a biofuel on that land you’re taking carbon out of the atmosphere and putting it into the soil,” he said.

Researchers at Illinois are exploring all aspects of biofuels production, from the development of feedstocks such as Miscanthus, to planting, harvest, storage, transport, conversion to biofuels and carbon sequestration.

Using Miscanthus in an agricultural setting has not been without its challenges, said LONG.

ON THE WEB

MISCANTHUS Research at the UI
Narrated slideshow
http://illinois.edu/goto/miscanthus_slideshow
PDF of the article
http://illinois.edu/goto/miscanthus_article
Faculty art displayed through Oct. 5

The School of Art and Design’s annual Faculty Art Exhibition is on display at the Krannert Art Museum. Among the nation’s oldest, continuously running faculty exhibitions, the show gives art and design professors the opportunity to share their most recent creations with the campus and local communities. All manner of art is represented, from painting, photography and sculpture to installation art, glass and graphic design. The show runs through Oct. 5.

“Anas Invisitas,” by Tammie Rubin, ceramic, underglaze, glaze.

“Fabula: North Ave,” by Molly Briggs, (Eight panels – one section from 30-foot work), flashe, acrylic and tempera on paper vellum over canvas.

“Yahtzee Scorecard,” by Doug Burgett, vinyl.

“Yahtzee,” by Doug Burgett, vinyl.

“Cerat Bracelet,” by Billie Jean Theide, high-density polyethylene (HDPE) milk jugs, hard fiber washers.

“Untitled Project: Commodity Fetishism (B3 Club Armchair),” by Conrad Bakker with “Untitled Project: Commodity Fetishism” (Laccio table, small) and “Untitled Project: Catalog Object” (Vas/DWR).


Photography by L. Brian Stauffer
Diversity among parasitic wasps is greater than suspected

By Diana Yates
News Bureau Staff Writer

A tiny wasp that lays its eggs under the skin of unwitting caterpillars belongs to one of the most diverse groups of insects on Earth. Now researchers report that its diversity is even higher than previously thought.

By combining ecological and genetic data with the painstaking detective work of taxonomy, the researchers have dramatically increased – nearly doubling – the estimated number of species-rich genera of parasitoid wasps. The subfamily to which these wasps belong, Microgastrinae, gets its name from its tiny abdomen. The wasp itself is quite small, about the size of the lead at the tip of a pencil.

By looking at the physical characteristics (morphology) of more than 2,500 wasps, the taxonomists identified 171 provisional species of microgastrine braconid wasps. But a comparative sequence analysis of a piece of a specific gene, a technique called DNA barcoding, found that there were actually 313 provisional species. (A provisional species is one that has not yet been given a formal scientific name, or in some cases, has not yet been found to be the same as a named species.)

All of the wasps were reared from caterpillars collected in Área de Conservación Guanacaste (ACG), a biological reserve in northernwestern Costa Rica. A decades-long ecological inventory of the area conducted by University of Pennsylvania ecologists Daniel Janzen and Winnie Hallwachs revealed that the wasps are extraordinarily specific to the caterpillar hosts they attack. More than 90 percent of the wasp species were found to target only one or a very few species of caterpillar, out of more than 3,500 caterpillar species sampled in ACG.

More than 70 percent of the species first identified by the taxonomists were confirmed in the genetic analysis. But the DNA barcoding also revealed that some wasps that looked alike and were once thought to belong to a single species were actually several different species, each of which preyed on only one or two species of caterpillar hosts.

"The most extreme case of overlooked diversity is the morphospecies Apanteles leucostigmus," the authors wrote. Barcoding revealed that instead of being a single species that preys on 32 different species of related caterpillars, as was previously thought, the wasps formerly classified as A. leucostigmus could be grouped into 36 provisional species, "each attacking one or a very few closely related species of caterpillars."

"One of the messages of this paper is that you really need all of these different kinds of data in order to tell the species apart – that just using the morphology alone, or the genetic data or the ecological information alone isn’t enough," said UI entomology professor James Whitfield, who led the taxonomic study. "However, once the species are distinguished, anyone can use the DNA barcode to rapidly and accurately identify one of them."

"This represented microgastrine wasps reared from approximately 3,500 caterpillar species in ACG," said Josephine Rodríguez, a doctoral student and microgastrine expert in Whitfield’s lab. "Since there are an estimated 10,000 species of caterpillars there, including many unsampled ones that mine inside leaves or live in fungi, this is just the tip of the microgastrine iceberg."

Whitfield credits Rodríguez, an avowed microgastrine enthusiast, with pushing the research forward in a way that helped integrate the work of three very different laboratories. She and two assistants processed more than 5,000 specimens from the ACG ecological study and shipped them to the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario at the University of Guelph for barcoding. She also worked with Whitfield and fellow former graduate student Andy Deans, who is now on the faculty at North Carolina State University, to independently identify the species based on their morphological traits.

M. Alex Smith and Paul Hebert at the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario conducted the barcoding analysis, which compared the sequence of nucleotides that spell out the barcode region of the cytochrome c oxidase 1 gene in every species. Significant differences between the sequences indicated that the specimens belonged to different species if those differences correlated with other morphological and/or ecological traits. In cases where the genetic data were murky, the researchers also analyzed other genes and again compared their results to the ecological and morphological data.

The new analysis, which appeared online this month in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, sheds new light on a group of insects that are already astounding in their diversity. Whitfield said, "The family Braconidae, to which the microgastrines belong, has about 15,000 described species in the world, and it’s been estimated to have 50 to 60,000 species, about the same as all vertebrates – all fish, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds – which is a lot!"

Whitfield said, "And what we’re saying is that if anything we’re underestimating how many more there are."

**Diverse insects** UI entomology professor James Whitfield and doctoral student Josephine Rodríguez led the taxonomic part of a multi-disciplinary study of microgastrine wasps.

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**ON THE WEB**
- **Narrated slideshow** http://publicaffairs.illinois.edu/slideshows/Microgastrine/
- **Whitfield Lab** www.life.uiuc.edu/whitfield

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**Host rider** At left, a new study of a tiny wasp that lays its eggs inside caterpillars reveals that the extraordinary diversity of this family of wasps is even higher than reported. Above, the wasp Microplitis esponai (in cocoon) attacks the caterpillar Manduca barnesi (Sphingidae).
recognizing the need for more instruction in raising levels of knowledge about the dairy industry than Hutjens, the awards committee noted. The award recognizes Hutjens' role in "building a worldwide industry connecting people, technology, and commerce.

Schuyler S. Korban, professor of molecular ecology and biotechnology in the department of natural resources and environmental sciences and in the Division of Nutritional Sciences, received the 2008 Outstanding Graduate Educator Award from the American Society of Horticultural Science. Korban was recognized for his demonstrated excellence and outstanding achievements in graduate education and teaching during the society's annual conference held in Orlando, Fla., July 21-24.

Kevin L. Steffey, a professor of entomology in the department of crop sciences, has been honored as a fellow of the Entomological Society of America. The election as a fellow acknowledges outstanding contributions in entomological research, teaching, extension or administration. Steffey will be recognized at the society's annual meeting in Reno, Nev., in November. He has been recognized for his Extension entomology program at the UI which has in the past five years resulted in applied research and Extension activities focused on management of some of the most important insect pests of field crops in the Midwest, including corn rootworms, European corn borer, and soybean aphid.

Two professors were honored by the American Society of Agronomy and Biological Engineering at the society's international annual meeting in Providence, R.I. on July 2. K.C. Ting, professor and head of agricultural and biological engineering, was presented with the 2008 Kushida International Award. Yuanhui Zhang, professor of agricultural and biological engineering, was awarded the 2008 Henry Giese Structures and Environment Award.

The University of Illinois sent 25 faculty members to the International School on "Engineering Solutions for Biomass Feedstock Production." Zhang was recognized for his outstanding contributions as a teacher and researcher. The University of Illinois also recognized Zhang as one of the top international scientists in the biobased engineering field. His research and unique research programs have successfully attracted millions of dollars in external funding, along with competitive research grants. Zhu's work has received funding from the US Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, and other U.S. agencies.

Rob Jackson, professor of environmental sciences and in the Division of Nutritional Sciences, received the 2008 Environmental Sciences and Environmental Policy Award. He was selected for his creative interdisciplinary contributions to fundamental understanding of the physical world and its application for economic and social benefit; to promote interest and participation in physics across society as a whole; to support and involve physicists through their education and careers.

Ruth Nicole Brown, professor of educational policy studies and of the Women's Studies Program, and Julie Dowling, professor in the Latina/Latino Studies Program, and Julie Dowling, professor in the Latina/Latino Studies Program, and Julie Dowling, professor in the Latina/Latino Studies Program, and Julie Dowling, professor in the Latina/Latino Studies Program, were selected as one of the top 20 female≈male faculty fellows in the recent Faculty Fellows program at Indiana University.

An article co-written by Carol Tilley, professor of library and information science, was selected as one of the top 20 articles of 2008 by the Library Instruction Roundtable. "New Mentors for New Media: Harnessing the Instructional Potential of Cognitive Apprenticeships" appeared in Knowledge Quest (Vol. 35, Issue 5). The article championed the use of "cognitive apprenticeships" to enhance learning by guiding novices through real-world tasks with the goal of teaching skills and strategies. Tilley co-wrote the article with Daniel Cullison, dean of the School of Continuing Studies at Indiana University.
On the program:

• "Don’t Look for Me Anymore," a poem by Alicia Vasquez set to music in Richard Pearson Thomas’s composition "Race for Glory," performed by the 1991, featuring Redman, soprano, and Julie Jordan Gunn, piano.

UI Press

Winning books displayed through Sept. 19

The UI Press will host the 2008 Book Show of the Association of American University Presses, which highlights design excellence in university press books. Forty-four book designs and 31 winning covers will be on display from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays Sept. 8-19 at the press. A reception will be from 4 to 6 p.m. Sept. 10. For more information, call Copeland Cummington, 333-9227.

Center for Teaching Excellence

How to improve your teaching skills

The Center for Teaching Excellence has announced its fall schedule of workshops and programs for faculty members, academic professionals and graduate students who wish to explore new ways to enhance teaching and learning in their programs. The workshops connect with colleagues across campus with similar interests.

On the program:


In addition, for those interested in ways to continue their personal development in teaching and documenting their efforts, the center offers several options in its teaching certificate program: the Certificate in Foundations of Teaching, the Graduate Teacher Certificate, the Teacher Scholar Certificate, the Certificate in Technology-Enhanced Teaching. Additional funding was provided by the King Family Fund in memory of Fred L. King.

space art gallery

Japanese architecture featured

Two new exhibitions will be on view Sept. 5 through Oct. 4 at 1 space, the Chicago gallery of the UI's Urbana campus:


Among the material featured in the exhibition will be a selection of works by internationally renowned architect Kenzo Kuma, who was a Distinguished Flynn Professor at Illinois during the 2007-08 academic year. An exhibition of Kuma’s designs will be at 1 space Oct. 10 through Nov. 15.

• "Chicago Vermi" presents the work of a diverse group of artists representing multiple generations, and working in a variety of mediums. While the artists have highly individual styles and approaches, their visions coalesce in a show aimed to address issues related to human existence.

See BRIEFS, PAGE 15

** Athletic director Robert Zuppke, left, and football coach George Huaf usuggesting for the foundation of Memorial Stadium. Horuses did the building.

Viewers also hear what the stadium means to former players Dick Butkus and Jim Grabowski, along with athletic director Ron Guenther, sports reporter Loren Tate and others.

The documentary also looks at how George Huff and Robert Zuppke built the Illinois football program with innovative ideas, the big game that produced such a huge crowd that fans clambered for a new stadium, and the architecture that made a steel and concrete athletic facility also appropriate as a monument for fallen soldiers.

Designed by the same architects who planned Soldier Field, the celebration on a swampy southern campus site was a great human and engineering achievement.

The documentary by WILL-TV’s John Paul and Denise La Grassa, includes never-before seen footage of an interview with "call boy" Sam "Red" Adair made by Pepper Jack Productions for the CBS Sports Series "In Their Own Words.

Grange, named the greatest college football player of all time by ESPN earlier this year, describes in the 1982 interview how his fraternity brothers made him play football as well as track and baseball, and how he achieved the dedication day performance in which he ran the opening kickoff back for a 95-yard touchdown, and scored five more touchdowns as Illinois routed Michigan 39-14.

Dick Butkus is the only UI football player, other than Red Grange (#77), to have his jersey number (#50) retired.

After playing for Illinois from 1962-1964, he was an All-Pro linebacker for the Chicago Bears from 1965-1973.

The seminars, organized by the College of Veterinary Medicine, will be held on Mondays at noon in Room 2271C of the Veterinary Basic Sciences Building. Metered parking is available.

The series kicks off in September with talks on the role of canine cancer, and breast cancer research, including ovarian cancer and uterine tumors. Speakers will be Campbell campus faculty members Janice Bahr and Romona Nowak and Prema Narayn from the School of Medicine at Southern Illinois University.

Dearing is available.

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Dearing is available.
The Illini Program for Research in the Humanities has announced its Fall film series.

The film series is free and open to the public. The 10-part series will be screened on Fridays at 7:30 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium.

- **Sept. 9**, "A New Deal for the Nursery: Golden Books and the Democratization of American Children’s Books Publishing,” by Leonard S. Marcus, author, critic and children’s book historian. In his MillerComm talk, Marcus will discuss the forces, technologies and marketing innovations that came together in the creation in 1942 of the children’s book publisher Little Golden Books, and how it revolutionized the way families viewed books. 7:30 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium.
- **Sept. 14**, "Searching for Unconventional Superconductors: A Quantum Map-Quest.” Van Harlingen will discuss the quest to explain the extraordinary and puzzling properties of superconductors, especially those discovered in recent decades, and their potential for technological impact. 7:30 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium.
- **Oct. 7**, “What’s New About the New Immigrants?” by Nancy Foner, professor of sociology at the City University of New York. Foner will discuss the parallels and contrasts between the current large influx of immigrants and that of a century ago, as well as how the earlier influx helped shape the immigrant experience of today. 4 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium.
- **Oct. 8**, “The Old New Media of Comics Art: Comics and Graphic Novels in the 23rd Century,” by Damian Duffy, a doctoral candidate in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, and John Jennings, a professor of graphic design, both at Illinois. Duffy and Jennings, curators of a fall exhibition on comics at the Krannert Art Museum, will discuss the art found in comic books, comic strips, graphic novels and manga, as well as the history and future of these forms. 4 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium.
- **Nov. 22**, “Forum on Comparative Immigration Policy Issues,” featuring as panelists Illinois professors Mark Tessler, the Samuel H. and Mary S. Steinberg Professor of Political Science, and Dorothy Schneider, history. 4 p.m. on the third floor of the Levitus Faculty Center.

For more information, contact IPRH at 244-3344, or film series organizer Christine Catanzarite at catanzar@illinois.edu.

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**BRIEFS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14**

**Participants sought for Lincoln series**

Feb. 12, 2009, marks the 200-year anniversary of Abraham Lincoln’s birth. Beginning this fall, the UI is planning a campus-wide celebration commemorating this historic bicentennial.

Conferences and Institutes, a division of the Office of Continuing Education, is planning the WILL-AM-ITV on a community effort to commemorate the Bicentennial. The two units will collaborate on a series titled “By the People: A Lincoln Portrait.”

*By the People* will feature Champaign-Urbana community members each reading a portion of Lincoln’s speeches, letters and stories that have special meaning to them along with an explanation of the context of the reading or significance it has to the reader.

Community members who are interested in being featured should contact Jim Onderdonk, at 333-2880 or onderdon@illinois.edu by Sept. 26.

Participants will need to be present at the WILL studio in Urbana for the recording that will be done in October.

The 10-part series is scheduled to air in early 2009 on WILL-TV programs.

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**BRIEFS, PAGE 16**

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**InsideIllinois**

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**Fall lectures at Illinois to range from comics to economics to immigration**

**ON THE WEB**

The 14 events are sponsored by the Center for Advanced Study and the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities.

**Accessing a Library’s Impact**

Mark Tessler, the Samuel H. and Mary S. Steinberg Professor of Political Science and Religion Among Ordinary Citizens in the Arab World,” by Mark Tessler, the Samuel H. and Mary S. Steinberg Professor of Political Science at the University of Michigan. Tessler will discuss findings from opinion research in the Muslim world and how Dong Kibbe, French; Alejandro Lugo, anthropology; and Jennings, curators of a fall exhibition on comics at the Krannert Art Museum, will discuss the art found in comic books, comic strips, graphic novels and manga, as well as the history and future of these forms. 4 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium.

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**Annual Icko Iben lecture**

Space telescope astrophysicist to talk

Manto Livio, a senior astrophysicist at the Space Telescope Science Institute, will discuss the wonders of the universe observed by the Hubble Space Telescope during a talk Sept. 17 at the UI.

Livio, who also is the head of the Office of Public Outreach at the Space Telescope Science Institute, will present the 2008 talk in the UI department of astronomy’s Icko Iben Jr. Distinguished Lectureship. The lecture, “The World According to the Hubble Space Telescope,” begins at 7 p.m. in Foellinger Auditorium. The talk is free and open to the public.

Launched on April 24, 1990, the Hubble Space Telescope is one of the largest and most complex astronomical observatories placed in orbit. The Space Telescope Science Institute is responsible for the scientific operations of the Hubble Space Telescope.

“Few scientific experiments in history have had such a profound impact on research and on the public as the Hubble Space Telescope,” Livio said. “In addition to providing astronomers with unprecedented detail, Hubble has brought a glimpse of the wonders of the universe to home-worldwide.”

In his talk, Livio will present some of Hubble’s most riveting contributions to astronomy, from planets circling other stars to the Big Bang. He will discuss findings from opinion research in the Muslim world and how Dong Kibbe, French; Alejandro Lugo, anthropology; and Dorothy Schneider, history. 4 p.m. on the third floor of the Levitius Faculty Center.

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**Perspectives on Immigration Policy**

Four CAS professors to discuss findings from a recent survey. The lecture, “The World According to the Hubble Space Telescope,” begins at 7 p.m. in Foellinger Auditorium. The talk is open to the public.

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**BRIEFS, PAGE 16**

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**BRIEFS, PAGE 14**

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**Fall lectures at Illinois to range from comics to economics to immigration**

**onor-winning poets, journalist Naomi Klein, and a UI physics professor will be among the speakers this fall on a diverse schedule of lectures and discussions at the UI.

Five of the 14 events will focus on immigration as part of a CAS campuswide initiative. Among other topics on the schedule are children’s books, comic books, Arab attitudes, human rights, superconductors, Cambodia, Cuba, capitalism in Latin America, and Dante’s “The Divine Comedy.”

- **Sept. 9**, “A New Deal for the Nursery: Golden Books and the Democratization of American Children’s Book Publishing,” by Leonard S. Marcus, author, critic and children’s book historian. In his MillerComm talk, Marcus will discuss the forces, technologies and marketing innovations that came together in the creation in 1942 of the children’s book publisher Little Golden Books, and how it revolutionized the way families viewed books. 7:30 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium.
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- **Oct. 23**, “The Plate Player: Moving Beyond the Master of War,” by Arno Chorn-Pond, a human-rights activist and founder of Cambodian Living Arts. Chorn-Pond will discuss his life before and after the Khmer Rouge killing fields, and his work to revitalize his Cambodian Living Arts.

All CAS talks are free and open to the public.
BRIEFS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15
other stars, to galaxies and supermassive black holes, and on to the mysterious “dark energy” that permeates all of space and increases the rate of cosmic expansion. During his talk, Livio will show some of the most dramatic images taken by the Hubble Space Telescope.

Livio’s research interests span a broad range of topics in astrophysics, from cosmology to the emergence of intelligent life. He has performed fundamental work on such topics as the accretion of mass onto black holes and the possibility of extracting energy from them. His latest work has focused on the use of supernovae to determine the rate of expansion of the universe, and the nature of dark energy.


Livio is the 1997 and in honor of Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Astronomy Icko Iben Jr., the Iben lecturership brings a noted astronomer to campus each year to highlight some of the latest developments in astronomy. In addition to giving a public lecture, the invited speaker also will give a technical colloquium and meet informally with faculty members and students.

‘Picnics, Potlucks and Tailgates’
Favorite take-along foods featured
When all approaches, Denise and Mike Blackman of Blue Mound start their tailgate preparations. As each Illini football game approaches, the group confers on who’ll bring the meat, the side dishes, the snacks and the desserts. Sitting in lawn chairs in the Loyalty Section parking west of Memorial Stadium, they relish watching the people, having UI students stop by, and sharing their favorite tailgate fare.

For side dishes to accompany their grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, they rely largely on “grab and go” foods to feed the 20-25 people who stop in, says Sally Brown, one of the cooks of the group.

Brown has provided several recipes for a cookbook published in conjunction with WILL-TV’s all-new, local cooking special, ‘Picnics, Potlucks and Tailgates,’ to be broadcast at 7 p.m. Sept. 8. WILL-AM host David Inge and WILL chef-in-residence Doyle Moore host the live special, which focuses on food-on-the-go, for outdoor feasting and for shared meals away from home. Moore will prepare meat and egg pie, and he and Inge will help guest cooks demonstrate how to prepare food for picnics, potlucks and tailgates.

“We asked seasoned tailgaters and picnickers to share some of their secrets and recipes, and they didn’t disappoint us,” said Heather Miller, who is coordinating the project for some of their secrets and recipes, and they didn’t disappoint us,” said Heather Miller, who is coordinating the project for UI students.

Cooking featured on the program and the dishes they’ll be preparing will be UI volleyball coach Don Hardin, Champaign, corn salad; Larry Eastep, Springfield, quick-fix tailgate chili; Steve Trame, Champaign, Trame’s tailgate chili; Jerry Gaston, Springfield, chicken and wild rice soup; Anne Farrell, Champaign, the best brownies; Melissa and Grant Siegmund, St. Joseph, corn spoon bread; Cammy Seguin, Tuscola, picnic caserole; Doug Rocke, Rantoul, Swiss steak; Dorothy Williams, Urbana, Joe’s baked beans, and Dianna Oliveira, Champaign, apple pie cake.

CAS EVENTS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

bcdan’s homeland, its people, and their cultural heritage. His MillerComm talk begins at 7 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium.

Oct. 28, “Merwin, Pinkys and Powers,” a discussion of Dante’s “The Divine Comedy” featuring Pulitzer Prize-winning poet W.S. Merwin, former U.S. poet laureate Robert Pinsky, and author Richard Powers, a CAS Professor and the Swanson Chair in English, serving as moderator. The discussion, a CAS and Kranert Center for the Performing Arts CultureTalk event, is being held in conjunction with the Program in Medieval Studies conference “Translating the Middle Ages.” 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of Smith Memorial Hall.

Nov. 3, “In the Trails of the Historic Diaspora: Africa’s New Global Migrations and Diasporas,” by Paul Tiymbe Zizeka, a professor of history at UIC. 4 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium.


Nov. 13, “The Cultural Politics of Identity and the Cuban Revolution,” by Louis Perez, the J. Carlyle Sitterson Professor of History at the University of North Carolina. In his MillerComm talk, Perez will discuss the “special relations” between Cubans and North Americans from the late 1800s forward and how they established the climate that greeted the Cuban revolution in 1959. 4 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium.

CAS events occasionally 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 calendar on the CAS Web site. 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.

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

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Sept 4 to Sept 21

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**Note:** Indicates Admission Charge

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**July 4 Thursday**

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**Today**
“De Aris Gladiatoria: Recovering Gladiatorial Tactic From Artistic Sources.” Stephen Tuck, Miami University. 3 p.m. 62 Krannert Art Museum. 4 p.m. 1404 Beckman Institute. 4 p.m. 100 Noyes Laboratory. 5:15 p.m. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory. 8 p.m. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory. 8 p.m. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory.

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**Saturday**
Sinfonia da Camera Silver Anniversary Ball. Ian Hobson, music director and conductor. With the Ricardos Flores Jazz Quartet. 6 p.m. Foellinger Great Hall, Krannert Center. Tickets $25-45. Call 244-4350 for more details.

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**Sunday**
Guest Artist Recital. Athanasia Zervas, saxophone. 7:30 p.m. Recital Hall, Smith Hall.

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**Sunday**
Pygmalion Music Festival. Murder By Death and Eclectic. 6 p.m. Link Gallery. Art and Design Building.

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**Monday**

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**Tuesday**
“Memorial Parks in Lucknow, India.” Anita Sinha, UI. Noon. Lucy Ellis Lounge, 1080 Foreign Languages Building. 3 p.m. CGU. 4 p.m. 112 Chemical and Life Sciences Lab. Cell and Developmental Biology.

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**Tuesday**
“Lessons From LPS: Why Gram-negative Bacteria Cause the Diseases They Do.” Robert Manfred, UT Southwestern Medical Center. 4 p.m. 102 Chemical and Life Sciences Lab. Microbiology.

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**Tuesday**
“The Complexity of Game and Market Equilibria.” Shang-Hua Teng, Boston University. 10 a.m. 2405 Siebel Computer Science.

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**Wednesday**
“Islamic and Muslim Scholars in Nineteenth Century Zanzibar.” Valerie Huffman, UI. Noon. Lucy Ellis Lounge, 1080 Foreign Languages Building.

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**Thursday**
“Rhythmicity in Complex Molecular Dialogue Between Host and Bacterial Symbionts.” Margaret McFall-Ngai, University of Virginia. 4 p.m. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory. 5:15 p.m. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory. 8 p.m. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory.

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**Thursday**

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**Friday**
“Biology of Cellular Protein and Lipid-Protein Interactions.” Wenhua Chu, UI. Noon. 102 Chemical and Life Sciences Lab. Molecular and Integrative Physiology.

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**Friday**
“Greek Today in Northeast Turkey. The Language and People That Time Forgot.” Maggie Bostone, UI. Noon. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory. 5:15 p.m. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory. 8 p.m. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory.

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**Friday**
“From Ribosome to Riboswitch: Gene Regulation by RNA Structural Rearrangements.” Tina M. Henkin, Ohio State University.

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**Saturday**
Theater
“Continuous City.” Ian Hobson, music director and conductor. With the Ricardos Flores Jazz Quartet. 6 p.m. Foellinger Great Hall, Krannert Center. Tickets $25-45. Call 244-4350 for more details.

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**Sunday**

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**Sunday**
“Chemical Approaches to Stem Cell Biology.” Peter Schultz, Scripps Research Institute. 8 p.m. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory. 9:30 p.m. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory. 11:30 p.m. 116 Roger Adams Laboratory.

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**Sunday**

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**Sunday**

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**Sunday**

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**Sunday**
“Chemical Approaches to Stem Cell Biology.” Peter Schultz, Scripps Research Institute.

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**Sunday**
more calendar of events

CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

UI Symphony Orchestra, Donald Schleicher, conductor. 7:30 p.m. Foellinger Great Hall, Krannert Center. $16

20 Saturday Music in Nature Concert. Motherecho and Enora. 5-9 p.m. Allerton Park Gate House Lawn, 515 Old Timber Road, Monticello. $10. Allerton Park and Retreat Center.

Doctor of Musical Arts Recital. Kelly Corbin, jazz saxophone. 5 p.m. Smith Hall. Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra: Russian Legends and Rachel Lee. Steven Larsen, music director and conductor, and Rachel Lee, violin. 7:30 p.m. Foellinger Great Hall, Krannert Center. This evening of masterworks will explore the legends of Russia through the works of Stravinsky, Prokofiev, and Rachmaninoff. "Secrets for Successful Dating." Two p.m. Studio Theater, Krannert Center. Original performance pieces address the Lincoln Biennial as it relates to black people throughout the United States. $25

Sunday "Black Women in the Age of Lincoln and Beyond." 2 p.m. Studio Theater, Krannert Center. Original performance pieces address the Lincoln Biennial as it relates to black people throughout the United States. $25

Monday CIS/CITES Security Orientation. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Enjoy a full day of canoeing and kayaking through a variety of birds, trees, and other wildlife. $25

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CALENDAR, PAGE 19

Inside Illinois

SEPT. 4, 2009
Bevier Café

menu, www.beckman.uiuc.p.m. Monday-Friday. Lunch Open to the public. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. 201 E. Peabody Drive, Champaign. 333-0913. 24-hour crisis line: 244-5565.

Illegible text: Artichoke Town Tours

Through Oct. 4.

Professional Tour Guides Thursday and Friday evenings.

Bevier Café Too

8 a.m.-3 p.m. weekdays in the IGB building. Offers gourmet coffee drinks, snacks, light food, wine, and beer.

Bevier Café

8-11 a.m. coffee, juice and baked goods; 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. lunch; 2-4 p.m. snacks and beverages

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8 a.m.-3 p.m. weekdays in the IGB building. Offers gourmet coffee drinks, snacks, light food, wine, and beer.

Campus Recreation ARC

201 E. Peabody Drive, Champaign. CRCE, 1102 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana. See www.campusrec.illinois.edu for complete schedule.

Cafe at Noon and 1 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, until 9 p.m. Sunday. The Bread Company, 706 S. Goodwin Ave., Urbana. Phone 244-5565.

Center for Teaching Excellence

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

English as a Second Language Course

7-8:30 p.m. LIDS Institute Building, 402 S. Lincoln Ave., Urbana. Weekly on Thursdays.

Faculty/Staff Assistance Program

8 a.m.-5 p.m. 1011 W. University Ave., Urbana. Phone 244-5122. 24-hour crisis line: 244-7779.

Illini Union Ballroom

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday. Colonial Room. For reservations, 333-6890; walk-ins welcome.

Japan House

For a group tour, 244-9934. Twr Ceremonies: 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. 35/person.

Knorr Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion

Tours: By appointment, call 244-0516.

Library Tours

Self-guided of main and underground libraries; go to Information Desk (second floor, main library) or Information Services Desk (undergrad library).

Museum

Most Salseroom

1:30 p.m. First Thursday of each month. Rare Book and Manuscript Library, 346 Main Library. More info: 333-3777 or www.library.illinois.edu/ rblibrary346.htm.

Council of Academic Professionals Meeting

1:30 p.m. First Thursday of each month. Rare Book and Manuscript Library, 346 Main Library. More info: 333-3777 or www.library.illinois.edu/ rblibrary346.htm.

Cultural Events

Exhibitions and Performances

For more information, visit www.authormandaged.com.

At your service

Rich Millar, catering and event planner with University Catering, performs those duties at the I Hotel and Conference Center. Andrea Ruedi is the chief executive officer of I Operations LLC, the management company that operates the hotel and conference center.

Languages Courses

The Archaeological Heritage of Illinois

Through May 31.

Knorr Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion

8 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; 2-5 p.m. Sunday. Free admission; $3 donation suggested.

Kinkead Pavilion

9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Free admission; $3 donation suggested.

Krannert Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion

9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. 1102 W. Gregory Drive, Champaign. Phone 244-0516. 24-hour crisis line: 244-7779.

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts

Palette Café: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Office hours: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Kraanert Center for the Performing Arts

Intermezzo Café: 8 a.m.-11 a.m. Monday-Friday. Office hours: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

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