Program helps transfer students transition to UI

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

About 25 students are participating in a pilot program this academic year that the UI is conducting in conjunction with Parkland College to help transfer students make the transition from community college to the university.

The students are participating in the Parkland Pathways to Illinois program, a dual-enrollment pilot program being developed by the UI and Parkland that the UI plans to adapt and offer at partnering community colleges throughout Illinois within the next two years. Through Pathways, qualified students take one class per semester on the UI campus as non-degree students while earning their associate's degrees at Parkland. During their final semester at Parkland, students apply for admission to the UI as transfer students. If they have maintained a cumulative grade-point average for their intended major at Illinois, they are guaranteed admission to Illinois in that program.

While earning their associate's degrees, students are required to maintain full-time status of at least 12 credit hours, including their course at the UI. Each of the students must meet once a semester with academic counselors from Parkland and the UI.

For the courses that the students take at Illinois, “we tried to stipulate courses that aren’t available at Parkland to add value to their educational experience,” said Keith Marshall, associate provost for enrollment management at Illinois. “Students also have the opportunity to live in the UI’s residence halls, and have access to student resources such as libraries and computer labs. They can pay to use its recreational facilities and McKinley Health Center, and ride fan buses to sporting events. Our goals are to create a seamless and successful transition to the UI to help them get comfortable at the Urbana campus and build strong connections with them.”

Another unique aspect of the Parkland Pathways to Illinois program is that while students are earning their associate’s degrees the tuition rate for their courses at the UI is comparable to the per-credit tuition rate they pay at Parkland.

“We’ve presented Parkland Pathways at two conferences – the annual conference of the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students and the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers Transfer Institute – and that got the biggest gasp from the audience,” Marshall said. “They’re surprised that we’re able to do that because it’s a significant commitment of resources on our part.”

This academic year, the Pathways program is being offered to qualified students interested in transferring into the College of Engineering and the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. Beginning with the fall semester, the list of available majors will expand to include selected majors in the College of Applied Health Sciences, the College of Education, the College of Fine and Applied Arts, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the College of Media.

In the fall, Pathways enrollment will be expanded to about 100 students for Academic Year 2009-2010, and it may be expanded to a total of 200 students in the future. During AY 10-11, the UI plans to adapt Pathways so it can be offered to other community colleges in the state, perhaps offering the UI courses online or at Chicago to students at partnering community colleges that aren’t in close proximity to Urbana and for whom on-campus courses aren’t an option. As enrollment in Pathways grows, UI officials hope to broaden the racial, ethnic and socioeconomic diversity among its student body.

Pathfinder Holly Herrera (left), admissions and records coordinator in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, reviews materials about the Parkland Pathways to Illinois program with Heather Mankert, one of 25 students enrolled in the pilot program this year. Pathways helps students successfully make the transition from community college to the university while earning their associate’s degrees. The UI plans to adapt and expand the program to community college partners throughout Illinois.

Emergency-messaging system ready to go

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

Members of the campus community are urged to verify their contact information online for a new campus emergency text and e-mail messaging system called Illini-Alert.

Although the Urbana campus began a mass text and e-mail alert system in October 2007, campus officials recently chose a new service provider, MyStateUSA, to provide better service to the campus community. They began preparing to change over to the new system during the winter holiday break, and after a few weeks of testing with small groups of users, the new system was activated at 4:30 a.m. Feb. 8.

The system will be used to broadcast information to the campus community in the event of a potentially life-threatening emergency. Students and faculty and staff members are asked to log on to http://emergency.illinois.edu to register or verify their current contact information if they enrolled in the previous system.

Users now can add two additional contacts to their accounts, such as spouse, significant other or parent or guardian. The new system also allows users to send test messages to their cell phone and e-mail accounts for verification.

Accountability sought for campus energy use

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

The UI is in the process of acquiring a software system that will enable it to decentralize its budgeting and expenditures for energy when the new fiscal year begins July 1. The software system, which the University of Michigan has used for about five years, is expected to help the UI gain control over its soaring utilities costs by promoting cost-management and individual accountability for energy consumption at the college and departmental levels.

The university, which spends about $100 million annually on energy, has had a shadow billing system in place for about a year and has been issuing energy-usage statements – but not bills – to the units that are its largest energy consumers.

Effective July 1, the 81 academic facilities that use 90 percent of the energy at the Urbana campus will be allocated their own funds to budget and pay for their energy consumption directly. Auxiliary systems buildings such as Assembly Hall, the Illini Union and Housing Division already pay their own energy costs.

To activate a unit-based billing system, the UI is procuring a software package called Energy Billing System that will work with the Banner financial software system and with the Enterprise Distributive Network Architecture system that is used to monitor and control utilities production at Abbott Power Plant.

EBS is a Web-based program that allows departmental users to view historical and current costs and consumption data. The software is designed for the needs of large users with hundreds or thousands of buildings spread across multiple campuses and is capable of operating autonomously or of integrating with existing business systems and automated meter reading/data collection devices.

“There’s a tremendous amount of work that’s required to install...
Providing efficient heating, cooling is a changing game

by Sharilyn Everett
Assistant editor

Even in a time as mild as this one in

which that means that if we can

the heart of a campus electricity study,

the steam plant shows promise. “We

It seems that it’s not just the energy

issues that are in the news these days,

and it’s the same for the steam power

that it’s not just about what you do

on a campus but what you don’t do

on a campus. That’s where we enter the

picture,” said James Krapel, physical

science faculty member who chairs the

Department of Physical Sciences.

The university has an air permit from

the Environmental Protection Agency

that requires it to monitor the campus.

some时候?” Larson said.

fact, no building on campus is ever

It’s a fact of life that the Illini-Alert

messaging system has been a
disaster in the past, said Mike Larson,
director of utility plant operations.

The system was in place for only a

The system was also used to

at the Krannert Center for the

Performing Arts, the Library, in the

Animal Sciences building, and

the University of Illinois at

Champaign. The University of

Illinois School of Library and

Information Science, which posts

messages on participating campus

Web sites; National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration,

(National Weather Service) and

the university Elisys for M-E-C-H in

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Chinatown project unrealistic image of China, study shows

By Melissa Mitchell

While a doctoral student at City University of Hong Kong, I was asked to collect data for a study on community and ethnicity issues related to the neighborhood they were studying. What I found was quite interesting.

I'm Chinese, but I consider myself a stranger to that urban expanse with ancient, ornate architecture, colorful lanterns hanging everywhere and restaurants, mines offering mineral delicacies and ducks, and chickens.

That's because when they visit Chinatown — either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — they're peeking into a China that Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled — Chinatown, either the one in Chicago or any others located in several other urban centers around the world where Chinese immigrants have settled.

In large part, according to Yan was born and raised in Chicago. These facilities provide an ideal environment for scientists to study materials with unique properties that cannot be adequately characterized in a laboratory setting.

For instance, carbon nanotubes are one-dimensional structures with unique electronic and mechanical properties. By controlling the synthesis conditions of a carbon nanotube, one can tailor the properties of the nanotube to suit specific applications. These applications include, but are not limited to, electronic devices, sensors, and composite materials.

Carbon nanotube avalanche process nearly doubles current carrying capacity

By James E. Kloeppel

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

By inducing very high electric fields in the nanotubes, the researchers observed that the nanotubes can carry significantly more current than what is expected from classical Ohm's law. This is because the current in nanotubes is determined by the tunneling phenomenon, which is highly dependent on the potential barrier height, and not by the classical resistance.

The researchers also observed that the current in nanotubes can increase dramatically when the electric field is increased. This is due to the avalanche effect, where the carriers become highly excited and start to create more carriers, leading to an exponential increase in current. This effect is known as the carbon nanotube avalanche process.

The researchers demonstrated the avalanche effect in carbon nanotubes using a compact and portable device that can be used to inject high electric fields into the nanotubes. They showed that the current in the nanotubes can be increased by more than a factor of 20 under high electric fields.

This discovery has important implications for the development of new electronic devices and sensors. The high current carrying capacity of carbon nanotubes makes them an ideal candidate for future electronics devices, such as high-speed transistors and memory devices. Additionally, the carbon nanotube avalanche effect can be used to develop new sensors, such as gas sensors and biosensors, that can detect very small concentrations of substances.
Ending stimulus as important as launching it, economist says

By Phil Ciciora

Feb. 19, 2009

A

Rote memorization of history adds to collective cluelessness

By Jim Densche

Feb. 19, 2009

InsideIllinois

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Election to the academy is among the highest possible standards for them-

University recognized for its community-engagement efforts

By By Rote Ciciora

Feb. 19, 2009

InsideIllinois

End of stimulus as important as launching it, economist says

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For all the talk of forward-thinking.

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For all the talk of forward-thinking.
Disruptions in daily routine can affect a couple’s conversation

By Craig Cheneskas

Social Sciences Editor

It may be the little things you’re not doing in daily routines that are playing a part, says researcher Laura Knobloch. Things like forgetting to walk the dog or fail the car can take out the trash.

Disruptions you cause in your partner’s routines can affect the quality of conversation, separate from your general satisfaction with the relationship, says Knobloch (pronounced law-NO-blok), a UI professor of communication.

In a study published in the December issue of the Journal of Communication Research, Knobloch studied 125 married couples, using both questionnaires and short, lab-based conversations captured on videotapes.

She found that those who reported more interference from their partners “were less those in their messages, their conversations were less coordinated, and they showed less liking,” she said. Those who reported more facilitation from their partners “were warmer and showed more affiliation in their conversations.”

“In general, couples who said that they were interfering with their partner’s activities actually did,” she said. “Our research suggests that the communication in your relationship a little bit and if you have more pleasant conversations, they’re going to happen.”

“I’m trying to get our recipes accurate and up to date so the proper nutrition can be displayed,” Allen said. “Before the University Housing and Dining Services Web site, students could e-mail Allen if they have questions concerning food allergies; special diets or general nutrition.

“Students will e-mail me and let me know if they think there isn’t anything nutritious for them to eat. When that happens, I do my best to work with them to make or identify nutritious choices,” Allen said. She receives about 10 e-mails per week with questions from students regarding weight loss, dining-hall menus and vegetarian alternatives.

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Six Urbana campus faculty members recognized as University Scholars

Ollie Watts Davis, a professor of music, has performed as the best group in the world in the area of network multimedia systems, including contributions that are now being used on a daily basis. She is the leader in the emerging field of environmental information technology. She and her students and colleagues have conducted research that has led to the development of computationally efficient methods based on genetic algorithms that have enabled solution of problems of great interest to environmental engineers. These developments have been an example of the potential of bio-inspired algorithms and their wide applicability. Davis has been a leader in this area since the 1990s. Nこちらでdefining the concept of media quality in distributed systems, she presented the concept as an active member of the College of Engineering advisory board for Women in Engineering, and is actively involved with the Women in Computer Science student organization.

Michaelene Ostrosky, a professor of education, has focused her research on interventions to change the learning environments of young children with disabilities in a way that supports their learning and development. In 2005, she and her colleagues initiated a longitudinal study of children with disabilities in preschool and early childhood settings, the Children's Study of Early Development. The study is designed to provide information to policy makers and practitioners about effective strategies for supporting the development of young children with disabilities. The study has been funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. Ostrosky has been influential in the development of new and innovative systems-analysis techniques. She is an expert in the development of computational models of social and emotional development, and the use of these models to predict the development of complex social and emotional behaviors in young children. She has published extensively on these topics and has been quoted in numerous professional journals and reports. She has also been a frequent invited speaker at conferences and workshops on the topic of early childhood development. Her research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Kelly A. Tappenden, a professor of computer science, has established herself as one of the world's leading experts in multimedia systems, including contributions that are now being used on a daily basis. She and her students and colleagues have conducted research that has led to the development of computationally efficient methods based on genetic algorithms that have enabled solution of problems of great interest to environmental engineers. These developments have been an example of the potential of bio-inspired algorithms and their wide applicability. Davis has been a leader in this area since the 1990s. Nこちらでdefining the concept of media quality in distributed systems, she presented the concept as an active member of the College of Engineering advisory board for Women in Engineering, and is actively involved with the Women in Computer Science student organization.

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High CO2 boosts plant respiration, potentially affecting climate and crops

By Elaine Yates

Life Sciences Editor

The leaf area of soybeans grown at the elevated carbon dioxide levels predicted for the year 2050 may be more than those grown under current atmospheric conditions, researchers report, a finding that will help fine-tune climate models and could point to increased crop yields as CO2 levels rise.

The study, from researchers at the UI and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, appeared in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Plants draw CO2 from the atmosphere and make sugars through the process of photosynthesis. But they also release some CO2 during respiration as they use the sugars to generate energy for self-maintenance and growth. How elevated CO2 affects plant respiration will therefore influence future food supplies and its extent to which plants can capture CO2 from the air and store it as carbon in their tissues.

While there is broad agreement that higher atmospheric CO2 levels stimulate photosynthesis in C3 plants, such as soybeans, no such consensus exists on how rising CO2 levels will affect plant respiration.

“There’s been a good deal of controversy about how plant respiration responds to elevated CO2,” said UI plant biology professor Andrew Leakey, who led the study. “Some community studies suggest it will go down by 18 percent, some suggest it won’t change, and some suggest it will increase as much as 11 percent.”

Understanding how the respiratory pathway responds when plants are grown at elevated CO2 is key to reducing this uncertainty, Leakey said. His team used microarrays, a genomic tool that can detect changes in the activity of thousands of genes at once, to learn which genes in the high CO2 plants were being switched on or off at higher or lower levels than those of the soybeans grown at current CO2 levels.

The results were striking. At least 90 different genes coding for the majority of enzymes in the cascade of chemical reactions that govern respiration were switched on (expressed) at higher levels in the soybeans grown at high CO2 levels. This explained how the plants were able to increase the surplus of sugars from the plants’ photosynthesis under high CO2 conditions to produce energy.

The rate of respiration increased 17 percent at the elevated CO2 levels. The enhanced respiration is likely to support greater transport of sugars from leaves to other growing parts of the plant, including the seeds, Leakey said.

“The expression of over 400 genes was altered by elevated CO2 in total, which will help us to understand how the response is regulated and also hopefully produce crops that will perform better in the future,” he said.

Leakey is also an affiliate of the Institute for Genomic Biology at Illinois.

Scheme of the Soybean Free Air Concentration Enrichment (FACE) facility at Illinois. This open-air research lab can expose a soybean field to a variety of atmospheric CO2 levels without isolating the plants from other environmental influences, such as wind, sunlight and insects.

Outdoor lab: Andrew Leakey’s team made use of the Soybean Free Air Concentration Enrichment (FACE) facility at Illinois. This open-air research lab can expose a soybean field to a variety of atmospheric CO2 levels without isolating the plants from other environmental influences, such as wind, sunlight and insects.
Students developing creative ways to re-use electronic waste

By Melissa Witchel

On Feb. 19, 2009

That’s in your closet, basement or garage, right now. If you’re like many Americans, chances are you have at least one piece of electronic waste – an obsolete or malfunctioning computer, monitor, television, DVD player, cell phone or other electronic device – stashed somewhere.

“Each person stores their computers for an estimated two years before they give or throw them away,” estimates Willy Cade, the chief executive officer of PC Recyclables & Recyclers, based in Chicago. Cade’s comments appear in a draft report compiled by UI industrial design students who studied electronic waste, often called e-waste.

The reason for keeping e-waste around is simple: People don’t know what else to do with old electronic equipment. Although some communities have recycling sites, in many cases, e-waste goes canned off to the local dump or landfill. And even if it is “recycled,” the end result may not be as environmentally sound as one might expect.

Cade, who was scheduled to present testimony about e-waste before Congress on Feb. 11, serves as a fixture lecture and industry liaison for the new course, which began last fall.

“In the United States, we probably have upwards of 2.5 million tons of e-waste dumped on the waste hoop each year,” said industrial design department chair and professor William Bullock.

Bullock developed and taught a waste course with assistance from Cade and other guest lecturers from the Environmental Protection Agency and elsewhere. Bullock, who didn’t comment on sustainable design, is offering a follow-up waste course this semester that focuses on the potential for creating innovative solutions to the growing international problem.

According to Bullock, the curriculum is “developed, in part, with support from the university’s Environmental Council and the campus Facilities’ Services and Safety Office. My goal is to teach students here only one of its kind offered by an industrial design program.”

“Right now, unfortunately, there are no solutions in the United States,” Cade said. “Fortunately, it either ends up being incinerated, or more likely, is recycled. In many cases, it winds up being shipped to foreign countries where the toxic materials are burned, melted, degraded and other materials – are recovered with minimal money being paid by the individual. You’ve probably seen the pictures of trash heaps on foreign shores. That’s just one part of.

Better alternatives

Industrial design students who worked on the competition

To give this semester’s students the chance to develop, potentially viable solutions to the e-waste problem, Bullock decided on a hands-on, competitive approach that focuses on one issue: the ratios. The ratio is, as he says, “OK. Let’s harness our collective energy to illustrate what we can do with some waste.”

“We have perhaps the brightest students in the nation in industrial design and engineering, and in marketing and business, the arts and design, and other areas,” he said. “We’ve challenged our students to design and develop, in partnership with campus partners, a design competition that might be organized at Illinois next year. This was indeed a challenging year for everyone who participated in the COT. Yet you stepped up and met the challenge. I could not be prouder of our Illinois community.”

This was indeed a challenging year for everyone who participated in the COT. Yet you stepped up and met the challenge. I could not be prouder of our Illinois community.

On the Web: http://ewaste.illinois.edu

Thank you for caring.

Richard Herman

Chancellor

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to report that the 2008 Campus Charitable Fund Drive (CCFD) completed an impressive and successful campaign by surpassing its $1.4 million goal.

With many of our other neighbors experiencing the consequences of the current recession, the Illinois community came together and gave generously to those in need. The funds that you contributed are having a direct impact on those served by the eleven participating agencies and the hundreds of programs they support.

Please join me in thanking the CCFD volunteer leaders for their extraordinary efforts to raise awareness and to instill faith in all of us that even during difficult financial times our hearts can remain open. This campaign would not have been successful without them.

I also appreciate the guidance of the CCFD Advisory Board under the steadfast leadership of Dr. Bob Dodd, who served as our 2008 Chair.

This was a challenging year for everyone who participated in the COT. Yet you stepped up and met the challenge. I could not be prouder of our Illinois community.

Thank you for caring.

Richard Herman

Chancellor
Engineers have developed a method for cutting and depositing nanometer-size bits of graphene on atomically clean semiconductor surfaces like silicon. Then they used a scanning tunneling microscope to probe the electronic structure of the graphene with atomic-scale resolution.

From this emerged a clear picture that edges with zigzagged atomic orientation exhibited a strong edge state, whereas edges with amorphous atomic orientation did not," Lyding, who also is affiliated with the university’s Rockenhouse Institute and the Micro- and Nanotechnology Laboratory.

"We found that pieces of graphene smaller than about 10 nanometers with pre- dominantly zigzag edges exhibited metallic behavior rather than the semiconducting behavior expected from size alone," Lyding said. "This has major implications in that a nanometer-scale strip, a millimeter-long strip, a meter-long strip—" Lyding said.

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Krammert Center hosts "Day of the Drum" on Feb. 24

Krammert Center hosts "Day of the Drum" on Feb. 24, 2009. The event features four main performances, three of which are drumming shows.

The drummers of Koko (pictured) will anchor the event with a 7:30 p.m. performance in the Krannert Center's Krannert Auditorium. The drummers will astound rhythm and technique to inspire a dedicated audience to keep time and dance to their rhythms.

The freeobby鼓 will be a new "intergal" performance (敌人 Voo with Lott Creel and Linn Negue with Robert Chappell), at 5 p.m. "Drum Rall" with Dubai, and at 9:30 "Algorhythm" with the Rocky Mite Group.

In addition to drumming, the event will feature a discussion on multicultural music and the global history of the drum. The audience will be encouraged to drum along with the performers and experience the music.

For more information, call 333-2726.

University Primary School

Annual art exhibition opens Feb. 20

"Art in Context," the University Primary School Art Exhibition, opens Feb. 20 with a reception from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on the third floor of the College of Education building. A pre-romaíuna filmmaker also will take place in the rotunda and will last until 5 p.m. The exhibit will remain open until March 6.

Swing Our Lives Honoring Our Trauma

Exhibition on black girlhood on display

An exhibition of art, music, and poetry by students that celebrate black girlhood will be on display at Krammert Center Art Museum Feb. 24th. "Reflections of Black Girlhood: Necessary Truths" will feature works created by black women and girls involved in the Swing Our Lives Honoring Our Trauma outreach program.

"S.O.H.O.T." provides a space for black girls to explore their experiences and what it means to be young, black and female in today's society. S.O.H.O.T. encourages black girls to create spaces of their own. "Our physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually empowered," say the organizers, "who express who they are and desire to be through discussion, song, storytelling, dance, photography, poetry, video and other media."

To celebrate the exhibition and the publication of "Our Bodies," "Black Girlhood Celebration: Toward a Hip Hop Feminist Pedagogy" (Peter Lang Publishing, 2008), a reception will be held at the art museum from 5 to 7 p.m. on Feb. 19.

The event is free and open to the public.

calendar of events

Feb. 19 - March 8

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An exhibition of art, music, and poetry by students that celebrate black girlhood will be on display at Krammert Center Art Museum Feb. 24th. "Reflections of Black Girlhood: Necessary Truths" will feature works created by black women and girls involved in the Swing Our Lives Honoring Our Trauma outreach program.

"S.O.H.O.T." provides a space for black girls to explore their experiences and what it means to be young, black and female in today's society. S.O.H.O.T. encourages black girls to create spaces of their own. "Our physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually empowered," say the organizers, "who express who they are and desire to be through discussion, song, storytelling, dance, photography, poetry, video and other media."

To celebrate the exhibition and the publication of "Our Bodies," "Black Girlhood Celebration: Toward a Hip Hop Feminist Pedagogy" (Peter Lang Publishing, 2008), a reception will be held at the art museum from 5 to 7 p.m. on Feb. 19.

The event is free and open to the public.

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Handbook serves as guide to KAM’s vast collection

By Melissa Mitchell
Arts Editor

David Park’s oil painting “Standing Couple” is just one of more than 150 works highlighted in the Krannert Art Museum's just-published, first-ever collection handbook.

Flipping through “Krannert Art Museum: Selected Works,” the casual observer may be amazed to find some of the biggest names in art history represented in the 358-page handbook and in the museum’s collection. The 9,000-piece collection – which is still the second largest fine arts collection in Illinois – includes works by such art-historical stars as William Blake, Louise Bourgeois, John Singleton Copley, Gustave Courbet, Albrecht Dürer, Frans Hals, Winslow Homer, Gustave Courbet, Robert Rauschenberg, Mark Rothko, Max Weber, Andy Warhol and Edward Weston. And the list goes on … and on.

The small, but densely packed, full-color publication serves not only as a guide to the collection – which spans ancient to contemporary eras – but as a portal to the university’s arts history as well.

“What makes this different, but not unique, are the handbook’s four inserts,” said museum director Kathleen Harleman, referring to the narrative inserts that provide a timeline of KAM events and chronicle the history and legacy of the university’s celebrated 1948-1974 Contemporary American Arts Festivals. Text for two of the inserts originally was published in an essay by UI art history alumna Muriel (Mickey) Scheinman in “No Boundaries: University of Illinois Vignettes” (UI Press), edited by Lillian Hoddeson.

“It’s interesting to learn about what the university has done over time to show its commitment to the arts,” Harleman said.

“Kathleen was instrumental in resurrecting the project and making it a real priority,” said Harleman’s assistant, Diane Schumacher. “Also the museum staff put in countless hours to make this book a reality.”

Harleman said the project was initiated by former KAM director Josef Helfenstein. She also credits long-time museum volunteers Jim Sinclair, who provided significant funding for the project and served as chair as of the committee charged with working on the content, and Robert Smith, who also served on the handbook and research committees.

Designed by Chicago design firm Studio Blue, the handbook has what Harleman characterized as a “contemporary, zippy design.” Its somewhat compact, portable size makes it well-suited for museum visitors to carry along while touring the galleries.

Another notable feature of the handbook is its 60-plus essays by a diverse range of contributors – most of them from the campus and local communities.

“What I loved about the project is that it reflected what our community is – graduate students, faculty members, community members and docents,” Harleman said, adding that a handful of outside contributors were tapped for their expertise as well.

“My favorite part about it is this mix of voices that reflects who we are as an academic and community museum, and what we want to be.”

Residents


“The handbook, which cost $39.95, will be available in early March by contacting the museum, 333-1861, kam@illinois.edu. A copy also will be available for checkout soon in the museum’s Giertz Education Center. iPod audio guides also will be available for checkout.

This just in

Andy Warhol’s “Liza Minnelli, Bianca Jagger, and Unidentified Women and Men” is one of 152 photographs by the pop-art icon recently donated to Krannert Art Museum by the Warhol Foundation through its Legacy Program. The foundation distributed more than 28,500 original photographs to 183 college and university museums and galleries nationwide. A selection of images added to the UI museum’s collection is on view in the exhibition “Polaroids and Portraits: A Photographic Legacy of Andy Warhol” through May 24.

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