Students, governor rally to restore MAP funding

By Sharita Forrest
Assistant Editor

The key: University of Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn led a student rally on the plaza behind the Illini Union on Oct. 7 to demonstrate support for restoring state funding for the Monetary Award Program, or MAP. The rally was the sixth so far this year, organized by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, which administers the MAP and other financial aid and student-loan programs.

The rally and subsequent public hearing were a part of a statewide effort to persuade the Illinois General Assembly to reinstate MAP funding for the spring 2010 semester. The rally and hearing were scheduled for Oct. 14-16 and Oct. 28-30 in Springfield.

Faced with a $10 billion gap in the state budget for fiscal year 2010, which began July 1, Illinois lawmakers cut MAP funding in half, from $400 to $200 million, and disbursed all of the money during the fall 2009 semester, leaving students with nothing for the spring 2010 semester.

About 138,000 Illinois students — including about 5,700 students at the UI Urbana-Champaign campus — receive MAP grants, according to Daniel Mann, director of the Office of Student Financial Aid.

The commission sponsored the rally and public hearing as part of its “Save Illinois MAP Grants” campaign, aimed at mobilizing students, parents and educators to lobby their state legislators.

Several students from the UI and Parkland College spoke to the crowd about how vital the grants are to helping low-income students get college educations. According to the commission, 47 percent of MAP recipients come from households with annual incomes of less than $20,000, and 30 percent are from households that make less than $40,000 annually.

The student speakers included Edward Washington, 19, a UI freshman in political science, who grew up in Bellwood, Ill., and is pursuing a degree at Parkland College; and Brian Schmidt, 22, of Lemont, Ill., a senior at the UI who is majoring in aerospace engineering. The grants are crucial because their families have limited means to help with the costs associated with college — not only tuition and fees, but books, living expenses, health care and even child care for some.

“For many students, the MAP grant is the deciding factor on whether or not they can attend college,” Washington said. “We need to reinstate the MAP grant because taking it away will violate one of the most sacred principles of this country — equal opportunity. It is the principle that no matter where you come from or what your background is, if you work hard you can achieve your dreams. Education should not be restricted to the wealthy.”

Quinn urged people to “use the power of democracy” and sign petitions that were circulating in the crowd as well as an online petition.

Lost without a MAP
Edward Washington, a freshman in political science, talks about the importance of Illinois MAP grants to low-income students at a rally on the Quad on Oct. 7. Gov. Pat Quinn, left, led rallies at several college campuses to build support for reinstating funding for the grants, which was cut in half by the Illinois General Assembly. If legislators don’t agree to a new funding plan, MAP recipients won’t receive any aid for the spring semester.

For more on the rally, see MAP FUNDING, Page 3.

Employees discipline
Managers who date out discipline by taking away privileges need to consider the implications of restoring those privileges later.

PAGE 4

Early hominids
New research is debunking some previous hypotheses about the hominid, believed to be an early ancestor of human lineage.

PAGE 10
Senate discusses search for new UI president, MAP funding

T he Urbana-Champaign Faculty Senate met Oct. 5 and discussed the process that will lead to the recommendation of three Urbana faculty members to serve on the search committee for selecting a new university president to succeed Presi dent Richard Herman, who resigned effective Dec. 31.

In an Oct. 6 e-mail message to deans, directors and department heads, Ken Gra ber, chair of the Urbana-Champaign Sen ate’s Committee on Committees, asked that searches for new provost suspended

A fter consultation with the Council of Deans, the UI Board of Trustees, UI President B. Joseph White and Interim President Design ate Stanley Kenbery, Chancellor Richard Herman announced through a campus massmail that he will sus pend the search for a provost “as we deal with the issues before us.”

According to the e-mail, Bob Eas ter has agreed to extend his term as interim provost and “will continue to provide leadership and guidance regarding the significant budget challenges we and the state of Illinois are encountering.”

TRUSTEES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Trustee James Montgomery said he did so “with a lot of regret,” because White “has had an outstanding tenure as president.”

“President Kenbery credited White for his willingness to place the needs of the university above his own by taking a ‘substantial financial sacrifice.’”

In resigning, White agreed to forgo a retention bonus of $475,000 that would have been payable to him in January. White’s resignation came about seven weeks after the Admissions Review Commission appointed by Gov. Pat Quinn recommended the university conduct performance reviews of key administrators for the Ur bania campus.

The Urbana-Champaign Senate passed a resolution Sept. 14 recommending the trustees begin an orderly transition to new leadership for the university and the campus.

“Our admissions policies can always be improved, but that’s not where the problem was,” Kenbery said.

“The problem was interference with the job (the admissions) people are assigned to do. I don’t want that to go on and be an issue going forward.”

Kennedy said “thousands” of people had expressed support for White. “We appreciate his leadership and his spirit will live on at the UI,” the chair said.

After Kenbery’s appointment was unanimously approved, trustee Edward McMillan called it a “tremendous solution for what we need to do in the recommendation.”

“I think the university is fortunate and blessed to have someone of Stan Kenber ry’s stature willing to step in at this time,” McMillan said.

During Kenbery’s 16-year term as pres ident, the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology was founded, the Medical Center for Supercomputing Applica tions was created, and the National Center for Supercomputing Applications was created, and the Medical Center and Circle campuses were consolidated to create UIC.

After leaving the university, Kenbery was the president and chief executive officer of the American Council on Educa tion from 1996 to 2001, and he played an instrumental role in the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

In 2001 Kenbery returned to the UI, names for prospective search committee members be submitted by Oct. 14.

The field of candidates will be narrowed to six nominees through an online election Oct. 16, and those names will be forwarded to the University Senates Conference, which will recommend three of them to the UI Board of Trustees.

In addition to three faculty members from the Urbana and Chicago campuses, the 19-member search committee will comprise two faculty members from the Springfield campus, one student from each campus, a civil service staff member, an academic professional staff member, a university administrative officer, three members of the UI Board of Trustees, and one representa tive from each of the UI Alumni Association and the UI Foundation.

At the senate’s Oct. 5 meeting at Levis Faculty Center, Joyce Tolliver, chair of the Senate Executive Committee, said that numerous senators had nominated former president Stanley O. Ikenberry to serve as interim president, and she had forwarded a list of nominees that she had received to board chair Christopher Kennedy. On Oct. 3, the trustees announced Ikenberry’s appointment as interim president designate, a position created to allow him to work with White until White’s resignation takes effect at the end of December, at which time Ken berry will become interim president.

Tolliver read portions of a letter written by Carie Hightman, chair of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, about the impact of the Illinois Legislature’s decision to fund Monetary Award Program financial aid grants only for the fall 2009 semester.

“College students in Illinois who can least afford it are bearing the brunt of a dev astating cut in the state budget,” Hightman wrote. “The Illinois MAP has been slashed in half, and nearly 138,000 students have been abandoned mid-year since their grants for the spring semester have been eliminated. … MAP helps reduce the educational attainment gap by encouraging more low income Illinois residents to apply and stay in Illinois colleges and universities.”

The funding cut affects about 5,700 stu dents at the Urbana campus, many of whom will be unable to enroll for spring if the grants are not reinstated, Tolliver said.

Chancellor Richard Herman said that the senate’s UI Founders Council “would be of us,” and encouraged senators to attend a rally at noon on Oct. 7 to show support for reinstating the grants. Gov. Pat Quinn led the rally behind the Illini Union.

“The cut amounts to about $30 million across the entire university, so it would be impossible for us to simply make up the funds,” Herman said. “It would be egregious at any time, but coming as it has on the heels of many years of poor budgets, it’s actually impossible. The best-case scenario that I can imagine is that many students will seriously consider taking on loans, but if this is the case for the future, many more students will not return in the fall. And the idea that this be comes a place for just the ‘well off’ is some thing we can ill afford to do.”

A resolution sponsored by the SEC that called upon Quinn and the Illinois General Assembly to reinstate MAP grants for the spring semester was added to the senate agenda under “new business” and was passed unanimously.

Senators held a first reading of a proposed amendment to the senate constitution that would support the inclusion of non-faculty academic professional staff members in the senate electorate. Seven academic professionals would be elected to a new, third electorate by academic professionals in academic units, UI Extension and the Institute of Natural Resource Sustainability, similar to the manner in which faculty senators are elected by their colleagues. One additional staff senator at-large also would be elected. The numbers of faculty senators and student senators in their electorates would remain the same, at 200 and 50, respectively.

A 19-member search committee will assist in recruiting and selecting the next president. After hearing presentations from three executive search firms, the trustees awarded a contract to the Boston-based firm of Isaacson-Miller to assist with the search.

On the Web

www.uiuillinois.edu/trustees/

Editor

Doris K. Dahl

333-2885, dkdahl@illinois.edu

Assistant Editor

L. Brian Stauffer

Student Intern

Melissa Silverberg

News Bureau contributors: Craig Chalmers, communications, international programs, social sciences Paul Gruen, majors, REUS, library Jan Dennis, business, law James E. Kloepfi, physical sciences Melissa Mitchell, applied health sciences, arts, humanities Diana Yates, life sciences

Inside Illinois is an employee publication of the Urbana-Champaign campus of the University of Illinois. All rights reserved. Published on the last Thursday of each month by the News Bureau of the campus Office of Public Affairs, administered by the associate chancellor for public affairs, distribution is by campus mail.

News is solicited from all areas of the campus and should be sent to the editor at least 10 days before publication. Entries for the calendar are due 15 days before publication. All items may be sent to insideillinois@uiuc.edu. The campus mail address is inside Illinois, 507 E Green St., Room 345, Champaign, IL 61820. The fax number is 244-0811.
On the Job Karen Erdman-Reitmeier

Karen Erdman-Reitmeier is office manager for the department of accountancy in the College of Business.

Erdman-Reitmeier started at the UI as a clerk typist II in the French department in June 1981. In 1983, she moved to the economics department and was promoted to clerk typist III. She moved to the department of accountancy in May 1988 and has been there since.

Erdman-Reitmeier grew up 3 miles south of Flahive, Ill., 20 miles northeast of campus. She graduated from St. Joseph-Ogden High School and earned an associate’s degree in child development from Parkland College. She and her husband, J.C., will be celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary in November. They have two children — Anna, 19, a second-year nursing student at Parkland, and Austin, 14, an eighth-grader at Prairieview-Ogden Grade School.

What are you working on now?

Right now, I’m assisting the director of administration with registration for our tax symposium in Chicago. I’m processing registration forms and entering all the information into a spreadsheet so that we have all the registrants’ information in one file. That includes names for name tags, if they are attending the reception and Friday night dinner, how many nights they’re staying at the hotel, and a lot of other pertinent information. Since there are people coming from all over the United States and Canada, I’ve also been fielding questions from people about travel arrangements.

Next year we’ll have an audit symposium that will probably be held in Champaign. We switch it off every year — one year a tax symposium, the next an audit symposium.

It’s work that requires me to be very detail-oriented.

Sounds like it. What else do you do?

When I’m not working on anything symposium-related, I assist the faculty members, grad students and teaching assistants with course work. We do a lot of copying for them. Most of the copying we do in the office. Occasionally, I still type a few exams for professors.

In the spring semester, I assist the director of administration and the faculty coordinator with Accountancy 398, commonly referred to as the CPA review course. We have between 250 and 300 students taking that class, and it meets five days a week for two hours daily, so it’s an intense class and there is a lot of material that gets covered. We reproduce between eight to 10 packs for the students to pick up at our office and there are six exams they take through Illinois Compass.

What do you like best about your job?

The people I work with are the best. I’m also the department volunteer leader for the Campus Charitable Fund Drive that started in September. Last year was the first year I was involved, and I also was the College of Business volunteer leader.

What do you like to do off the job?

My husband farms, so I like to help him during the busier times of the year, usually the spring and fall. During the fall, for example, I drive the grain trucks to the elevator. I also enjoy vegetable and flower gardening.

We’re also involved in our church — I’m on the altar guild and treasurer of our women’s group.

This year, my husband and I have been getting up 20 minutes earlier in the morning to read the Bible. Our goal is to read the entire Bible this year. We’re still in the Old Testament; we’ll read the New Testament beginning in October. It’s also our quiet time together when we can see the sun coming up and just appreciate the beauty of nature.

Do you like to travel?

We like to travel when we get the chance. Last year we took a Christian Heritage tour of Washington, D.C. This summer we went to Minnesota and Wisconsin, where we visited relatives, the Mall of America and an International Harvester tractor show.

We also went to Starved Rock State Park for the night in August. I highly recommend it.

— Interview by Phil Ciciora, News Editor

MAP FUNDING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 petition. He also encouraged supporters to contact their legislators.

Quinn vowed not to let the General Assembly leave Springfield until it appropriated funds for the spring semester grants — and earmarked appropriations permanently for the program so that students wouldn’t be left in the lurch again.

“You are the future,” Quinn told the students. “Illinois needs smart people who can move the economy forward. “Jobs follow brainpower. And we’ve got to have people who can invent new products, start new businesses and go in and do complex jobs and carry them out with distinction — and thousands and thousands of Illinois graduates have done just that.”

Members of the Illinois Student Senate presented Quinn with a resolution — which was passed unanimously by the Urbana-Champaign faculty-student senate at its Oct. 5 meeting — that called upon Quinn and the General Assembly to restore the MAP funding so that students could be assured they could continue their educations in the spring.

At a Sept. 29 rally at the Chicago campus, Quinn was presented with a similar resolution passed by the UIC Senate. At UIC, more than 6,650 students received MAP grants for the fall semester.

Rallies also were held or were scheduled at Carl Sandburg College, Loyola University and Northwestern University and at Southern Illinois University’s Carbondale and Edwardsville campuses. Quinn also encouraged students to attend a rally scheduled for Oct. 15 at the state capitol.

Quinn has suggested funding the grants by raising the tobacco tax by $1.

On the Web
www.saveillinoismapgrants.org

Faculty fellows announced for teaching academies

Seven new Teaching Academies Faculty Fellows were recently announced. The Faculty Fellows Program, now this fall, supports the teaching academies, which seek to enhance the campus’ teaching and learning environment. The teaching academies are focal points of faculty members’ collaborative investigations of pedagogical changes and innovations. In some areas, the teaching academies are even advancing the state of research on higher education concerns.

“As a public, land-grant university that is rich in the quality and number of its research faculty, Illinois has a unique responsibility to drive these higher education conversations forward, and our teaching academies are leading the way,” said Mary-Ann Winkelmes, campus coordinator for programs on teaching and learning. The faculty fellows were announced at a campuswide faculty forum on innovative teaching. At that event, the contributions of the campus’ 14 teaching academies were recognized.

The faculty fellows:

Steven Ashby, clinical professor, School of Labor and Employment Relations

Stephanie Ceman, professor, College of Medicine

John Colombo, Albert E. Jenner Jr. Professor, College of Law

Eve Harwood, professor emeritus, College of Fine and Applied Arts

Steven Helle, professor, College of Media

Santiago Gutiérrez Nibeysro, visiting clinical professor, College of Veterinary Medicine

Rosa (Amy) Milagros Santos, professor, College of Education

On the Web
www.saveillinoismapgrants.org

Ad removed for online version

Ad removed for online version
Managers who dole out discipline by taking away privileges — without considering the implications of restoring them — are missing a key in their bid to improve performance and behavior, a new UI study says.

Denying privileges is a widely used disciplinary tool, from workplaces to churches and other member-based organizations, but the consequences of giving them back have been largely ignored, according to research by Matthew McCarter and Arran Caza, of the UI College of Business.

"It’s not just how you punish the person. The way privileges are reinstated can make or break how effective the punishment was," said McCarter, who earned his doctoral degree this summer and will teach business at Chapman University in the fall.

McCarter and Caza, a former UI business administration professor now on the faculty at Wake Forest University, found that restoring lost privileges is more common than most people suspect, based on information gathered through interviews and accounts in the media and academic journals.

Along with the workplace, lifting sanctions also extends into areas ranging from sports, where athletes are benched for rules violations, to religion, where parishioners can be denied communion or other sacraments for breaches of church doctrine, the research said.

"Colleagues thought reinstatement would be very rare, and that even if it did occur the privileges being restored would be very extreme, such as a person getting their job back after termination," McCarter said. "However we found that is not the case at all. It happens all the time through all stages of life and involves a wide range of privileges, from kids getting back the keys to the car to lawyers who are re-admitted to the bar."

Because restoring privileges was considered uncommon, McCarter says past research has focused largely on the motivational impact of punishment alone. But the way bosses handle giving them back can have just as much influence, he said.

"Organizations can use reinstatement to their benefit, offering it as a reward to make a more committed worker," he said. "The old adage that we tend to love what we’ve suffered for applies very much here."

McCarter says the findings offer hope to workers and others who lose privileges.

"They don’t necessarily have to be at the mercy of the organization," he said. "This shows they have some control over their destiny."

The study, under review for publication in an academic journal, found four general reasons why businesses and organizations reinstate privileges:

- External forces, such as court orders ordering that privileges be restored or negative publicity stemming from the discipline that taints the organization’s image.
- Financial pressures if denied privileges create additional costs, such as overtime for other workers because a colleague has been barred from certain tasks.
- Established rules or norms that spell out procedures for reinstatement and encourage it.
- A determination that the violation leading to lost privileges stemmed from something beyond the worker’s control. For example, a worker disciplined for harassing a client could have privileges restored if manager later learned a medical condition such as bipolar disorder or alcoholism was a factor.

McCarter says follow-up research is under way to get a clearer picture of how managers can use reinstatement most effectively and how workers best respond to regaining privileges.

"There are still a lot of unanswered questions, but two things are for sure," he said. "One, reinstatement happens and it happens very commonly. Two, reinstatement can make or break how effective the punishment was. How people are treated when getting privileges back really affects their performance and how they view the organization."
Brilliant Futures campaign moves closer to $2.25 billion goal

As of Aug. 31, 2009, the UI's Brilliant Futures campaign, the largest in the school's 142-year history, had passed the $3.707 billion mark toward its $2.25 billion goal.

The campaign, which began on July 1, 2003, and will conclude Dec. 31, 2011, counts outright gifts, grants and pledges to the university as well as deferred commitments. Of the money raised to date, $1.182 billion was designated by donors for the Urbana campus, $432 million for UIUC, $21.5 million for UIS and $41.9 million for foundation and university administration purposes. The funds are used in many areas, including student scholarships and fellowships, faculty support, academic programs, facilities and nearly $5 million for the university libraries. The gifts:

- Alumni: $607.9 (31 percent)
- Corporations: $28.9 (13 percent)
- Associations: $30.0 (14 percent)
- Friends: $28.5 (13 percent)
- Foundations: $37.6 (17 percent)
- Current gifts: $156.8 million
- Pledged gifts: $680.6 million
- Deferred gifts: $156.8 million

Nearly $665 million of the total raised has come from alumni of the university, with another $214 million from non-alumni. Corporations and businesses have contributed $338 million and $319 million from foundations.

Of the $2.25 billion Brilliant Futures campaign goal, $1.5 billion is for the Urbana campus. The goal for the Chicago campus is $650 million; the Springfield campus mark is $28 million. The combined goal for university administration and the foundation is $72 million.

For more information about the Brilliant Futures campaign, visit www.uif.uillinois.edu.
Initiative to focus on genocide, racism, memory and trauma

By Sharita Forrest
News Editor

A new initiative at the UI will bring together scholars from many disciplines to explore the Holocaust and other genocides as well as racism, memory and trauma. Shimon Attie, a Brooklyn artist famous for his work on Holocaust-related themes, and James E. Young, a leading scholar of Holocaust memorials, will stay at the UI campus as the Krouse Family Visiting Scholars to help kick off the new Initiative in Holocaust, Genocide and Memory Studies.

The initiative, based in the Program in Jewish Culture and Society in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, opened with the start of the fall semester. The initiative will be marked formally by a series of lectures and workshops in October and an inaugural conference in November. Besides Attie and Young, these events will feature renowned scholars on the genocide in Rwanda, American Indian history and related work.

The founder and inaugural director of the initiative is Michael Rothberg, a professor of English and Conrad Humanities Scholar. A scholar in the field of Holocaust, genocide and postcolonial studies, Rothberg is the author of "Multidirectional Memory: Remembering the Holocaust in the Age of Decolonization" (Stanford University Press, 2009), as well as "Traumatic Realism: The Demands of Holocaust Representation" (University of Minnesota Press, 2000).

Rothberg said that the conference, like the initiative itself, will serve as a catalyst for rigorous, interdisciplinary scholarship and conversations "open to different kinds of thinking about the issues."

"...It’s really a way of bringing people together to approach similar kinds of questions from different angles," Rothberg said.

Matti Bunzl, the director of the Program in Jewish Culture and Society and a professor of anthropology, said: "With the initiative, we are cementing our reputation as one of the most innovative programs in the country, noted for its interdisciplinary, comparative and theoretical approach to Jewish studies."

The initiative will host a series of lectures Oct. 19-23 featuring Attie, and Young, who is a professor of English, Judaic Studies and Near Eastern Studies at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Attie is best known for his installations that fuse projected photography with architectural sites, including his exhibition, "Writing On the Wall (1992-1993)," in which photographs of pre-World War II Jewish life were projected on the walls of the old Jewish ghetto in Berlin. Young, an expert on Holocaust memorials, is the author of "The Texture of Memory: Holocaust Memorials and Meaning" (Yale University Press, 1994), among other works.

The theme for the conference, to be Nov. 5-6 at Levis Faculty Center, is "Genocide, Memory, Justice: The Holocaust in Comparative Contexts." Dagmar Herzog, a professor of history at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, and Carolyn Dean, the John Hay Professor of International Studies at Brown University, will be the keynote speakers.

Herzog’s work focuses on gender and sexual politics. Dean’s work focuses on the concept of victimization developed in various European cultures after World War II and the concept of “good” versus “bad” victims.

Rothberg is co-organizing the inaugural conference with faculty members Peter Fritzche, history, and Harriet Murav, comparative literature and Slavic languages and literatures.

---

On the Web
www.jewishculture.illinois.edu/programs/holocaust/
www.jewishculture.illinois.edu

PUBLIC EVENTS INCLUDE:

- 5:30 p.m., Oct. 19, Shimon Attie, lecture. 62 Krannert Art Museum.
- 7:30 p.m., Oct. 20, Attie and James E. Young, Krouse Family Visiting Scholars Lecture. Third floor, Levis Faculty Center.
- 4 p.m., Oct. 22, Young, lecture: “The History of the Monument.” Third floor, Levis Faculty Center.
- Noon, Oct. 23, Young, seminar: “Memory and Memorialization From the Holocaust to 9/11.” 109 English Building.
- Nov. 5-6, conference: “Genocide, Memory, Justice: The Holocaust in Comparative Contexts.” Music Room, Levis Faculty Center.
- 7:30 p.m., Nov. 17, Irit Linur, author, lecture: “Making TV Drama in Israel.” Music Room, Levis Faculty Center.

---

New initiative Michael Rothberg, a professor of English and Conrad Humanities Scholar, is the founder and inaugural director of the Initiative in Holocaust, Genocide and Memory Studies.
Synthetic catalyst mimics nature’s ‘hydrogen economy’

By James E. Kloeppel
Physical Sciences Editor

By creating a model of the active site found in a naturally occurring enzyme, chemists at the UI have described a catalyst that acts like nature’s most pervasive hydrogen processor.

The researchers describe their work in a paper accepted for publication in the Journal of the American Chemical Society, and posted on the journal’s Web site.

Scientists have long been puzzled by nature’s ability to use cheap and plentiful building blocks — iron, nickel and sulfur — to achieve the catalytic performance seen in rare and expensive metals. In particular, two enzymes — iron-iron hydrogenase and nickel-iron hydrogenase — function as hydrogen processors, much like platinum.

“Nature relies on a very elaborate architecture to support its own ‘hydrogen economy,’” said Thomas B. Rauchfuss, a professor of chemistry and corresponding author of the paper. “We cracked that design by generating mock-ups of the catalytic site to include the substrate hydrogen atom.”

The researchers’ model of the nickel-iron complex is the first to include a bridging hydride ligand, an essential component of the catalyst.

“By better understanding the mechanism in the nickel-iron hydrogenase active site, we are learning how to develop new kinds of synthetic catalysts that may be useful in other applications,” said graduate student Bryan E. Barton, lead author of the paper.

“The study of hydrogenases offers plenty of potential glamour — such as the hydrogen economy, green energy and bio-fuel cells — but the lasting breakthroughs result from manipulable mechanistic models like ours,” said graduate student and co-author Matthew Whaley.

UI crystallographer Danielle L. Gray also is a co-author of the paper.

The work was supported by the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

Breakthrough Chemistry professor Thomas B. Rauchfuss, center, and graduate students Bryan E. Barton, left, and Matthew Whaley have co-written a paper that describes their work in creating a synthetic catalyst that acts like nature’s hydrogen processor.

deaths

Edward Dow Boose, 90, died Oct. 7 in Olney, Ill. Boose worked at the UI for 33 years, retiring in 1980 as a chemical and electrical engineering technician. Memorials: St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital.

Walter Allen Carlson, 81, died Oct. 6 at Country Health Nursing Home in Gifford, Ill. Carlson worked at the UI for 32 years, retiring in 1989 as an electron technician with the department of theoretical and applied mechanics. Memorials: Parkinson’s Foundation, Country Health Nursing Home or Gifford Methodist Church.

the Joe and the John


Louise Mary Jones, 76, died Sept. 26 at her home in Champaign. Jones worked in the Office of Admissions for 35 years, retiring in 1997 as an admissions and records officer III. Memorials: Fortman-Jones Fund in the UI Foundation, or the Champaign-Urbana Kiwanis Club’s Challenger Baseball League, 109 Karadan Drive, Mahomet, IL 61853.

Robert E. Thomas, 87, died Aug. 20 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Thomas joined the School of Music faculty in 1962. He established the Lincoln-Thornburn Demonstration Center, a research/demonstration/observation center for the training of music teachers. Thomas retired in 1989 as a professor emeritus of music education. Memorials: Robert E. Thomas Endowment Fund, UI Foundation. (Online at www.uif.illinois.edu/gifts/startgiving.asp.)

Bennie D. Williamson, 76, died Oct. 9, at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. Williamson retired in 1997 as a housing maintenance inspector with the Housing Division. He worked at the UI for 37 years.
Exhibition explores origins, motivations of power

By Melissa Mitchell

Oct. 15, 2009

Historically sanctioned corporate malfeasance, pre-emptive wars, torture, misinformation, government-sponsored spying and other routine assaults on civil liberties. None paint a pretty picture of life in the 21st century. And yet, Judith Hoos Fox and Ginger Gregg Duggan, the curators of the exhibition “Under Control,” which opens Oct. 23 at the Krannert Art Museum, believe these activities and practices have inspired and spawned some provocative art-making over the course of the past decade.

“In general, artists are the ones out there being prescient and reflective,” Fox said.

And Duggan, who works together as a team called c (curatorsquarrelled) and have curated past exhibitions for the UI museum, are presenting some 30 works by 16 of the world’s most perceptive and compelling contemporary artists. Through the work assembled – which includes paintings and drawings, video, animation, sculpture, installation and multimedia work – the curators hope to engage gallery-goers in a visual and intellectual exercise focused on questioning the origins and motivations of power and control in our culture.

“The artists whose work is represented in ‘Under Control’ slip into the proverbial smoke-filled back room to question or re-examine where control lies,” Fox and Duggan write in the introduction to the exhibition’s companion catalog, designed by Studio Blue, Chicago.

While artists ranging from Hans Haacke to David Keeler have visited these topics of control in the past, the curators noted that these earlier generations of artists tended to be more concerned with power and control from a formalist perspective and institutional control for many decades. Yet another piece in the exhibition that questions the origins and motivations of power and control is the work of Jenny Holzer.

Her installation “Crowd.” It features a black-and-white abstract painting.

“Instead of studying the brushstrokes that are most recognizable to us,” Fox said. “We willingly zig-zag like sheep through countless numbers of these things.”

Yet another piece in the exhibition that evokes the experience/ordal that airport travel in a post-9/11 world has become is Hito Steyerl’s “Red Alert,” a series of three identical, pulsating video projections on plasma monitors representing the U.S. government’s color-coded terror alert system.

Steyerl intentionally pays homage to the 1921 monochromatic work of artist Alexander Rodchenko, Fox said, and equates the intensity of the red on the screens with “the color of contemporary fear itself.”

Sharply, the artists exhibiting in “Under Control” communicate a point of view, Fox emphasized that the exhibition itself does not editorialize nor project prescribed perspectives such as right vs. wrong, or right vs. left.

“We are simply presenting the dynamism that if someone is in charge, there is a victim and a perpetrator,” she said. “This (body of) work makes it unclear if you are the prisoner or the guard.”

An opening reception for “Under Control,” with music by Kilroy, et al. and Liesel Steyerl, is planned for 6-8 p.m. Oct. 22. The reception is free and open to the public.

More information about the exhibition, including a schedule of gallery talks planned in conjunction with it, is available on the museum’s Web site: kam.illinois.edu
NEW faces 2009

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.

Soon-Jo Chung

Assistant Professor of Aerospace Engineering, College of Engineering

Education: Sc.D Doctor of Science (control and estimation) and M.A (aeronautics and astronautics), Massachusetts Institute of Technology; B.A. (aerospace engineering), Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology.

Research Interests: Chung’s research efforts are centered on aerospace systems, autonomous systems and robotics, including nonlinear control theory.

“Dr. Chung comes to us from Iowa State University where he won several faculty awards for his teaching and research contributions,” said Craig Dutton, the head of the department of aerospace engineering at Illinois. “He is an extremely talented researcher who is skillful in the theoretical aspects of multi-disciplinary control systems research, and he is equally effective in the laboratory when it comes to implementing his algorithms on experimental hardware.

“He has an impressive record of scholarship for his career stage, which we expect to flourish even further in the rich Illinois environment of dynamics and controls researchers. Dr. Chung has broad aerospace systems experience in both aircraft and spacecraft applications, which makes him a wonderful fit in our department.”

Why Illinois? “The aerospace engineering department and the College of Engineering of Illinois are internationally top-ranked programs, so I was intrigued by excellent opportunities here with top-notch faculty and students,” Chung said. “Another strong point is the academic atmosphere that encourages multi-disciplinary and interdepartmental collaborations. The nature of my work is highly multi-disciplinary that spans controls, nonlinear dynamics, robotics, neuroscience and biology. While at the UI, I found that lots of people want to work with you. There is much prestige attached to being at Illinois.”

On the Web: www.ae.illinois.edu/people/faculty/chung.html

Douglas Mitchell

Assistant Professor of Chemistry, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Education: Postdoctoral fellowship (pharmacology), University of California at San Diego; Ph.D (chemistry), University of California at Berkeley; B.A. (chemistry), Carnegie Mellon University.

Research Interests: Mitchell’s research focuses on molecular underpinnings of bacterial virulence and natural product biosynthesis.

“Doug has just started his independent career here at Illinois, but is clearly headed toward a program that will have a major impact in biomedicine,” said Steven Zimmerman, professor and head of the department of chemistry. “Indeed, Doug has an extraordinary research vision, which grew out of a seminal discovery he made as a post-doc. Given his astounding record of accomplishment at each stage of his young career, I am confident that Doug will emerge as a leader who opens new fields, in this case by showing how pathogenic microbes can be treated by directly attacking the mechanism of pathogenesis.”

Why Illinois? “The world-renowned chemistry department and chemical/biological infrastructure as well as the collegial and collaborative (friendly and supportive, too) environment,” Mitchell said. “(Also) the lack of traffic, but close proximity to several urban centers. I lived in California long enough to despise traffic jams.”

On the Web: www.chemistry.illinois.edu/faculty/Douglas_Mitchell.html
Early hominid first walked on two legs in the woods

By Diana Yates

Among the many surprises associated with the discovery of the oldest known, nearly complete skeleton of a hominid is the finding that this species took its first steps toward bipedalism not on the open, grassy savanna, as generations of scientists—going back to Charles Darwin—hypothesized, but in a wooded landscape.

“This species was not a savanna species like Darwin proposed,” said UI anthropology professor Stanley Ambrose, a co-author of two of 11 studies published last week in Science on the hominid, Ardipithecus ramidus. This creature, believed to be an early ancestor of the human lineage, lived in Ethiopia some 4.4 million years ago.

One of the crucial pieces of evidence to show that Darwin didn’t get it right, Ambrose said, was the analysis of carbon isotopes in the soil and the teeth of Ardipithecus and other animals that lived at roughly the same time and in the same location.

The mass of carbon atoms in the atmosphere varies, and during photosynthesis, trees and tropical grasses absorb different proportions of carbon-12, the most common carbon isotope, and carbon-13, which is rare. These isotopes pass into the soil and into the bodies of animals that eat the plants, making it possible to accurately reconstruct the proportions of grass to trees on the landscape and in the diets of the animals that lived there.

Ambrose analyzed stable carbon isotope ratios in the soil in which the bones of 36 Ardipithecus individuals were found. He also analyzed the teeth of five Ardipithecus individuals and 172 teeth of two-dozen mammal species found in the same ancient soil layer.

The fossil-bearing layer, in the Afar Rift region of northeastern Ethiopia, spans a broad arc about 9 kilometers long. Sandwiched between two layers of volcanic ash that both date to about the same age, it provides a well-focused snapshot of an ancient African ecosystem.

The carbon isotope ratios of the soils indicated that in the time of Ardipithecus the landscape varied from woodland in the western part of the study zone to wooded grassland in the east. None of the Ardipithecus specimens were found in the grassy eastern part of the arc.

“The distribution of the fossil browsers and grazers echoed that of the habitat, he said.

“On the west we find lots of Ardipithecus fossils and they’re associated with a lot of woodland and forest animals,” he said. “And then there’s a break; Ardipithecus and most of the monkeys that live in trees disappear, and grass-eating animals become more abundant.”

“The carbon isotope ratios of the Ardipithecus teeth also tell the story of a woodland creature, he said.

“The diet of the Ardipithecus is much more on the woodland and forest side,” he said. “It’s got a little bit more of the grassland ecosystem carbon in its diet than that of a chimpanzee but much less than its fully bipedal savanna-dwelling descendants, the australopithecines.”

This evidence, along with the anatomical studies indicating that Ardipithecus could walk upright but also grasped tree limbs with its feet, suggests that this early hominid took its first steps on two legs in the forest long before it ventured very far into the open grassland, Ambrose said.

“Multiple lines of evidence now suggest that they were beginning to leave the trees before they left the forest,” he said.

Teeth test Ambrose analyzed the teeth of two-dozen mammal species found in the same ancient soil layer as Ardipithecus in order to help reconstruct its environment. A modern hippopotamus tooth is pictured.

Distant relative Carbon isotope analyses conducted by anthropology professor Stanley Ambrose indicated that Ardipithecus ramidus was a woodland creature whose diet resembled those of modern baboons and chimpanzees. This creature, believed to be an early ancestor of the human lineage, lived in Ethiopia some 4.4 million years ago.
Faculty members’ book output is something to blog about

By Melissa Mitchell

It’s harvest time in Illinois. But at the UI, members of the English faculty have been hard at work in their own field—cultivating words and growing the department’s reputation—all year long.

At first blush, it may appear that the department’s own seasonal harvest of new faculty books is resulting in a bumper crop of titles. Four professors—2006 National Book Award winner Richard Powers, linguistics and grammar guru Dennis Baron, fiction writer and essayist Philip Graham, and medieval literary scholar Renée Trilling—have new books just out.

In the coming weeks, literary scholar Jim Hansen will bump up the count to five. More than half a dozen books written or edited by English professors have been published in the past year.

While department head Curtis Perry is understandably proud of his publishing professors, he says it’s really just business as usual for the English faculty at UI.

“We are a large and very productive department, so this number actually doesn’t seem all that unusual to me,” Perry said. “In fact, we are also publishing articles, poems, edited special editions, and journals about the time, too.

“What is unusual, maybe, is having a blog as a site where these things get recorded and which makes visible the scale on which things get recorded and which is generating this new book output,” Perry said.

Perry is pleased to know that the Illinois English faculty members—tenured professors and more recent hires alike—are grabbing the attention of such a diverse and global audience.

“The department brings together terrific, energetic scholars working with cultures and texts from all over the English-speaking world and for the entirety of the language’s history,” he said. That includes “scholars who work on language, rhetoric and writing in its social and pedagogical settings, and creative writers who contribute poems, stories, essays and novels for the enrichment of our own literary moment.”

“Because of this extraordinary range, a strong English department like ours also is an important hub for strong, interdisciplinary humanities scholarship on campus.”

The recently published and soon-to-be released works by Illinois English professors:

- **“Generosity: An Enhancement”** (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), by Powers, is his first novel since winning the National Book Award 2010 for “The Echo Maker.” In his latest work, about a mysterious and inexplicably blissful Algerian student/refugee at a fictitious Chicago art school and the intrigue that swirls around her, Powers again takes readers deep into familiar territory, mining the often parallel yet sometimes interconnected universes of science and the humanities and plumbing a flood of questions that arise from the possibility of a genetic determinant for happiness.

- **“A Better Pencil: Readers, Writers and the Digital Revolution”** (Oxford University Press), by Baron, provides insights and perspectives on the act of writing as well as the cultural fears and anxieties associated with the ever-evolving tools used by writers to communicate.

- Clay tablets to pencils, from the printing press to Facebook, Baron reports that nearly all emerging communications methods and tools have a detractor with surprisingly similar convictions: that the new-fangled instrument or medium would bring on the downfall of the English language. He begins to differ.

- **“The Aesthetics of Nostalgia: Historical Representations in Old English Verse”** (University of Toronto Press), by Trilling, explores culture and its expression known as heroic poetry, from the age of the biblical scholar Bede to just after the Norman Conquest.

- **“The Moon, Come to Earth: Journeys From Lisbon”** (University of Chicago Press), by Graham, is an expanded edition of reports that appeared on the Web site of the popular literary journal McSweeney’s. The book chronicles the author’s day-to-day musings, observations and explorations on a sabbatical trip to Portugal. Graham will give a reading from the book at 4:30 p.m. Nov. 9 in the Authors Corner of the Illini Union.

- **“The Gothic Tradition From Burke to Beckett”** (State University of New York Press), by Hansen, is part of the SUNY series “Studies in the Long Nineteenth Century.” In the book, Hansen surveys two centuries of literary works and offers new perspectives on canonical works by such authors as William Wordsworth, Samuel Beckett, and Samuel Beckett.

- **“Historical Representation in Old Anglo-Saxon Literary and Cultural Memory in the Present”** series, by Rothberg and Peter Garrett, features a collection of essays by cultural studies scholars who explore how Nelson, a long-time UI English professor, has merged his passion for scholarship and activism.

Another book, published in the final days of 2008, “just barely missed the 2009 cut,” Perry said. “In the Anteroom of Divinity: The Reformation of the Angels From Colet to Milton” (University of Toronto Press), was written by Feisal Mohamed.
Like the rest of the economy, higher education is suffering the effects of the recession. How will the ever-increasing ambiguity of state budgets affect funding? Lately, it seems that the only constant in state funding for higher education is change. Predictability of funding matters for institutions, especially public institutions that are dependent on state support. This volatility in state spending is difficult for institutions since it limits long-range planning and causes uncertainty. Institutions often make up for cuts in state funding through tuition increases. By extension, since tuition increases can be sudden, unpredictable and sometimes large, volatility in state budgeting for higher education is also hard on students and families. Unfortunately, sometimes even those families who have done everything right in saving for college can’t cope with unexpected tuition increases.

How are universities the “balance wheel” for state budgets, and why isn’t that money seen as untouchable?

The term itself was first proposed by Harold Hovey, a long-time state budget analyst. This idea is, in good budget times, higher education is a very attractive area for states to spend. States invest in higher education hoping to gain economic and social benefits by increasing their educational capital and creating a well-educated citizenry. The public typically views colleges and universities in a favorable light, which makes higher education a politically desirable area to allocate funds. In bad budget times, however, higher education is one of the first state spending categories on the chopping block. This is because higher education can raise outside revenues through tuition increases – an ability that most other state budget categories lack – making it an attractive target during an economic downturn. The state can cut in this area, but understands that institutions will be able to survive the cut because they can tap into alternative revenue sources.

Higher education also enjoys more flexibility than other state budget areas in changing its spending patterns. Of course, this often means passing along a cut in state funding to students and families.

What can policymakers do to help states and institutions make better plans for the future?

One step is for institutions and state legislatures to explicitly discuss volatility when they evaluate state appropriations for higher education. Discussions that only consider the level of funding are inadequate to address predictability in funding over the long term.

Institutions need to engage the legislature in multi-year discussions now volatility can be smoothed over to make for more predictable funding. The best institutional policies would reflect the unfortunate reality that the good times will not last forever. Volatility should now be considered the “new normal” in state funding for higher education. New funds added to budgets should not be considered a return to normal, but a means to prepare for the inevitable bad times to come. This may entail smaller increases in funding in good budget years so that cuts in bad budget years will not be as deep. In states where carry-forwards are permitted, the establishment of rainy-day funds would also give institutions more control over resources and an increased ability to weather state-funding volatility.

When the recession ends, what can be expected in terms of state spending?

Many states face structural budget deficits, which makes it likely that higher education will face more “bad budget years” in the future. However, state spending for higher education has been volatile long enough now that it can no longer be considered extraordinary. If this trend persists, the funding environment for higher education is likely to become increasingly unpredictable in the years to come.

The costs of an increasingly volatile system, with unpredictable finances for institutions and unexpected tuition increases for students and families, are too great to continue to ignore.

A Minute With ...™ is provided by the UI News Bureau as a venue for Illinois faculty experts to comment on current topics in the news. To view archived interviews, go to http://illinois.edu/goto/aminutewith.
**brief notes**

**Information on benefits, services**

UI All Employee Expo is Oct. 20

All employees of the UI are invited to attend the All Employee Expo on Oct. 20. The Expo features information about benefits, services, programs and other related topics.

The event is hosted by Academic Human Resources, the Staff Advisory Council and Staff Human Resources. Employees must bring their I-cards to be admitted to the free event, which will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Illini Union Rooms A, B and C.

This is an approved event for civil service employees, who may take up to one hour to attend, operations permitting and with prior supervisor approval.

For more information go to http://go.illinois.edu/Exp0

**Academic professionals**

CAPE awards now seeking nominations

The Office of the Chancellor is seeking nominations for the 2010 Chicago Academic Professional Excellence awards. The awards honor the contributions to the university of academic professionals.

The CAPE awards’ purpose, criteria, eligibility requirements and nomination procedures are explained online at wwwahr.illinois.edu/CAPE/index.htm.

The deadline for nominations is 5 p.m. Oct. 30.

**State Universities Civil Service Advisory Committee**

Election date set for Oct. 20

The SUCSA Advisory Committee will hold its annual election Oct. 20. Voters must present a current I-card to vote. Candidate information can be viewed at www.shr.illinois.edu/Labor/SUCC_Advisory_Committee.html.

**Chris Cringle Crafts Sale**

Holiday sale to be Nov. 6-7

Tickets are on sale now for the 30th annual Chris Cringle Crafts Sale to be at Assembly Hall from 3 to 9 p.m. Nov. 6 and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 7.

The sale is one of the Midwest’s largest craft shows, covering all three levels of Assembly Hall. It features more than 140 booths displaying a variety of handcrafted items by local and area artists.

Admission is $5 and includes parking and an entry for door prizes. Children under the age of 6 are free. Strollers and carts are welcome. Tickets are available at the Assembly Hall box office, Ticket Central at the Illini Union, or 333-5000.

**YMCA celebrates 125 years**

Olympian Jean Driscoll to speak Nov. 6

The YMCA is celebrating 125 years on the UI campus and will commemorate the milestone with a gala event Nov. 6 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Champaign. Paralympics athlete Jean Driscoll will be the keynote speaker.

Tickets for the event cost $55 per person and can be purchased by calling the YMCA at 344-0721. All proceeds will support women’s issues and racial justice programming at the YMCA.

Driscoll retired from her successful racing career following the 2000 Paralympic Games in Sydney. She works as the associate director of development for the College of Applied Health Sciences.

**UI Symphony Orchestra**

Krantz to host Halloween concert

If you’re haunting for a new Halloween witchcraft this year, UI music professor Elliot Chasanov has a suggestion: Attend the Illinois Brass Quintet’s sixth annual Halloween “Spooktacular.”

The evening lecture is free and open to the public and takes place the next day. The summit will serve as a “call to action” on key policies and issues facing early childhood educators and child-care providers in promoting healthy development during the preschool years.

The evening lecture is free and open to the public and will also include remarks by Doris Kelley Christopher, founder and chairman of The Pampered Chef Ltd.

**University of Illinois All Employee Expo**

Oct. 20

All employees of the UI are invited to attend the All Employee Expo on Oct. 20. The Expo features information about benefits, services, programs and other related topics.

The event is hosted by Academic Human Resources, the Staff Advisory Council and Staff Human Resources. Employees must bring their I-cards to be admitted to the free event, which will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Illini Union Rooms A, B and C.

This is an approved event for civil service employees, who may take up to one hour to attend, operations permitting and with prior supervisor approval.

For more information go to http://go.illinois.edu/Exp0

**Marching Illini to perform Oct. 18 at Assembly Hall**

The UI Marching Illini will present its annual Marching Illini in Concert at Assembly Hall at 3 p.m. Oct. 18.

The band is known nationally and internationally for its traditions and unique style. For more than 20 years the Marching Illini has entertained thousands in this concert. The group will perform halftime highlights, fan favorites and traditional music.

Tickets are $8 in advance and $10 the day of the concert. UI students, children under 12, groups and senior citizens will receive a discount of $2 per ticket. Tickets are available at the Assembly Hall box office. Ticket Central at the Illini Union or by phone, 333-5000.

**‘Brilliant Futures for America’s Children’**

President White to speak Oct. 15

UI President B. Joseph White will speak on “Brilliant Futures for America’s Children” at the Alice Campbell Alumni Center at 7 p.m. Oct. 15.

White’s speech is this fall’s Pumpernickel Chef Family Resilency Program Lecture and the lead-off event for the Illinois Summit on Early Childhood and Healthy Beginnings, which will take place the next day. The summit will serve as a “call to action” on key policies and issues facing early childhood educators and child-care providers in promoting healthy development during the preschool years.

The evening lecture is free and open to the public and will also include remarks by Doris Kelley Christopher, founder and chairman of The Pampered Chef Ltd.

**Roger Ebert’s Film Festival**

Festival passes on sale Nov. 1

Festival passes will go on sale Nov. 1 for the 12th annual Roger Ebert’s Film Festival April 21-25 at the Virginia Theater and the UI.

Also known as Ebertfest, the festival features films selected by Ebert that he believes have been overlooked by audiences, critics or distributors.

The passes, which cover all 12 screenings during the five-day event, are $125. Passes can be purchased starting Nov. 1 through TicketWeb, by way of the festival Web site, www.ebertfest.com, or starting Nov. 2 through the theater box office, 356-9063. Tickets for individual movies will be available April 5.

Ebert, a 1964 Illinois journalism graduate, adjunct professor and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, will again host the event.

The lineup of films, along with additional information

SEE BRIEFS, PAGE 14

---

**Ad removed for online version**
on film-associated guests and other festival events, will be announced several weeks before the festival.

Sponsors and volunteers for the festival are being sought. Those interested should contact Mary Susan Britt at 244-0552, or by e-mail at maruse@illinois.edu.

UI Veterinary Hospital

‘Horse Health’ event offered Oct. 24

Horse owners can take advantage of discounted horse health packages at the UI Veterinary Teaching Hospital with appointments scheduled for the morning of Oct. 24.

This one-day event, called “Horse Health at Halloween,” offers three package options with various vaccines and exams available. In addition, participating clients who schedule an equine dental treatment for a later date will receive a 20 percent discount on those dental services, and the examination fee for the date of dental service will be waived.

The examinations by experienced equine veterinarians will be at the Large Animal Clinic.

For more information about the packages available or to schedule an appointment, call 333-2000.

Mahomet Aquifer Project

Professor teaches through dance

UI dance professor Jennifer Monson’s multi-year, multi-layered “Mahomet Aquifer Project” will continue throughout the community until Oct. 18. The series of free dance performance and public-engagement activities is organized through Monson’s interdisciplinary Laboratory for Art, Nature and Dance.

The dancers, who include Kyli Kleven, Stephen May, Amy Swanson and Stephen West, will perform at 5 p.m. Oct. 16 on the northeast terrace of the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

The remaining performances in the series will take place in area parking lots. From 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 17, the group will dance at the Market at the Square, the farmer’s market at Lincoln Square Village. From 2 – 4 p.m. Oct. 18, they will perform near the railroad tracks on the east side of Neil Street, between Williams and Charles streets in Champaign.

A mobile gallery also will be at some locations. The gallery will exhibit new-media images of the geology of the Mahomet Aquifer as well as the molecular behavior of water, in an effort to enhance viewers’ understanding of society’s dependence on water and its local sources.

Monson, an internationally acclaimed artist with a commitment to environmental issues, creates what she calls “contexts for unexpected collaboration.” The Mahomet Aquifer Project, which had its first public performances in 2008, is designed to demonstrate the ways in which residents in East Central Illinois communities are dependent on the aquifer as a water source. The project, she said, is based on discussions with researchers from the Illinois Water Survey, Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, and the Advanced Visualization Laboratory at the UI’s National Center for Supercomputing Applications.

For more information about the program, go to http://mahometaquifer.wordpress.com/

Lemmann Institute inauguration

Brazil experts participate in discussion

Six internationally known experts on Brazil will take part in a discussion Oct. 15 on “Brazil’s Rising Status in the 21st Century” as part of the inauguration of the Lemann Institute for Brazilian Studies at the UI.

The discussion, to begin at 3 p.m. in the auditorium (Room 1122) of the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, will be followed by an inauguration ceremony at 5 p.m. and a reception in the first-floor atrium of the NCSA Building. All events are free and open to the public.

The institute is under the auspices of the campus’s Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and International Programs and Studies.

Brazilian entrepreneur Jorge Paulo Lemann and his family pledged $14 million to the UI in February to establish the institute. The gift is the largest ever to Illinois from non-alumni. The institute will build on existing programs and initiatives related to Brazil to create one of the leading Brazilian studies programs in the nation.

For more information about the event, go to www.clacs.illinois.edu/brasilian/.

Public meeting

Mumford House uses to be discussed

A public planning meeting has been scheduled from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 20 to discuss the future uses of the Mumford House at 1403 W. Lorado Taft Drive. The meeting will be in the Monsanto Room of the ACES Library, Information and Alumni Center.

The meeting will begin with a formal presentation by the UI’s selected restoration architects/engineers from Vinci Hamp Architects Inc. of Chicago, describing the present condition of the building and its components.

Those who have prepared a presentation or want to make public comments will be allowed to do so, but will be limited.

See BRIEFS, Page 15
**BRIEFS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14**

**Readers' Forum**

For more information, contact contact Melvyn Skvarla, campus historic preservation officer, at 265-6133 or mskvarla@illinois.edu.

**One Book One Campus**

“Acts of Faith,” by UI alumnus Eboo Patel, has been selected as the One Book One Campus book selection for the 2009-2010 academic year.

The program, sponsored by the Illini Union, provides a shared experience for the UI campus community through reading the same book. Community members have the opportunity to engage in dialogue and explore various themes suggested by the reading. Through lectures, book discussions and other activities, students, staff, faculty and the campus community can learn about themselves through others.

Patel is the founder and executive director of the Interfaith Youth Core, an international nonprofit organization building the interfaith youth movement. More information is available at www.union.illinois.edu/involvement/oboc.

For additional program information, contact Frame Davis, 244-1522, or fadavis@illinois.edu, or Scott Baseler, 244-2118, or sbaseler@illinois.edu.

**‘Teaching Greek as a Second Language’**

Language workshop is Oct. 27-28

Those interested in less commonly taught languages may take advantage of a new two-day workshop, “Teaching Greek as a Second Language,” with a pre-workshop session on “Minority Languages in Greece.”

Guests from Ohio State University, University of Thessaloniki, University of California at San Diego and University of Cyprus, among others, will lead the workshop program, which takes place Oct. 27 and 28.

The pre-workshop will start at 6 p.m. on Oct. 27 in the Lucy Ellis Lounge of The Foreign Languages Building and the rest of the workshop will continue from 1 - 5 p.m. on Oct. 28. It is sponsored by the School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, the department of linguistics, the Program in Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education, and the European Union Center.

For more information, contact Marina Terkourafi, mt217@illinois.edu.

**UI Main Library**

Annual book sale is Oct. 29

The Library will hold its annual book sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 29 in the Marshall Gallery within the main Library (on the main floor, east entrance).

Materials will include books, audiovisual materials, prints and more. All proceeds help support the library’s collections. A $3 bag sale begins at 3 p.m.

For more information, go to www.library.illinois.edu/booksale.

**IAGS 2009 fall conference**

Graduate education and the economy

The Graduate College will host the 2009 fall conference, sponsored by the Illinois Association of Graduate Schools, Oct. 25-26 in Champaign.

Illinois’ Robert Resek and Walter McMahon will speak at the event to offer the economists’ views.

Guest speaker George E. Walker will join the conference as well. Walker is the senior vice president for research development and graduate education and the dean of the University Graduate School at Florida International University in Miami.

The conference will take place at the iHotel and Conferencenter Center in Champaign. Registration for graduate administrators and faculty members is $130; graduate students may register for $45. For registration and more information, visit http://go.illinois.edu/IAGS2009.

**Service Recognition Banquet**

Retirees, long-serving staff honored

Long-service and retiring staff members will be honored at the annual Service Recognition Banquet on Nov. 10. The banquet begins at 6 p.m. in Illini Union Rooms A, B and C.

To find out who is being honored and to make reservations, go to the Staff Human Resources Web site at www.shr.illinois.edu/service.

The online form should be used by anyone who wishes to attend the banquet who is not an honoree. Reservations should be made by Oct. 19. Honorees plus one guest may attend the banquet for free, and have received a separate invitation with an RSVP card.

For questions regarding this year’s program, call 333-3101.

---

**Fundraiser is pet-centered costume party**

Dress your pets in their spookiest Halloween costumes and let them strut their alter egos at the fourth annual Oskee “Boo” Wow masquerade from 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 27 at the UI College of Veterinary Medicine.

Judges will select the best-dressed pets. Among the panel of judges will be Kirby and Cindy Pringle, known for their humorous books filled with whimsical photographs of “dog people,” and WILL’S Mike Solis.

Hors d’oeuvres and wines will be served by Jim Gould, English Hedgegrow and Piccadilly Wines. Other goodies will be provided by Cousins Dog Biscuit Co.

Registration is $50 a person and $10 a pet. To register, call 333-2761 or online.

Proceeds from the event will support the college’s Companion Animal Memorial Fund, which encourages veterinary education and benefits companion animal health through non-invasive research to improve treatment options.

---

**Ad removed for online version**
Thursday, October 15, 2009

**Institute of Illinois**

---

**Lectures**

15 Thursday

"Brilliant Futures for America’s Children," by
White, UI. 7 p.m. Alice Campbell
Alumni Center.

16 Friday

"The Importance of Being Pakistani, and What Should the U.S. (and India) Do About It?" by
Stephen P. Cohen.

17 Saturday

"An Evening With Michael Spurlock.
And Information Famine Sti-
tum. Mel is the leading spokes-
person for the Papua New
Guinea.(?) in the State of Illinois.
"An Evening With Michael Spurlock.
and Information Famine Sti-
tum. Mel is the leading spokes-
person for the Papua New
Guinea.(?) in the State of Illinois.

---

**Jobs**

I N S T I T U T I O N O F I L L I N O I S

---

**Calendar**

---

**Ad removed for online version**
CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Oct. 15, 2009

Marisol V. Noon, Inter- national Studies Building. Ru-
shen, East European and Eur-
Asian Center.

"Chemically Templated Nano- fabrication for Nanoelec-
tronic Circuits." John N. Harb- ing, Brigham Young Univer-
sity. 11 a.m. 116 RAL. Chemical
& Biochemical Engineering.

"Imaging and Spectros-
copy With the James Webb Space Telescope." George Sonneman, NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center. 4 p.m. 145 Astronomy, Astronomy.

4 Wednesday

"Cloning Mammals and Re-
lated Technology." George Seidel, Colorado State Univer-

"The Impact of a Literacy In-
tervention for Free-Living Adults on Brain-Related Knowledge and Behavioral Indicators." Karen Piacek. UI. 4 p.m. 150 Animal Sciences Lab. Neuro-
science.

5 Tuesday

"Vietnamese Communica-
tions Policy in the Fifth Repub-
lis: Notes From the Ground." The Mahatma Gandhi Interna-
tional Studies Building. Chinese and African American Studies.

"Molecular Genetics of My-
cosporine-Like Pigments of
the Brown Alga Laminaria.
" Keith Derhyse, New York
State University. 4 p.m. 8102
Chemical Life Sciences Lab.

6 Wednesday

"Living and Measuring Mass Spectrom-
eters With Multiple Analyz-
ers and Their Applica-
tion In Will Transform Protein Science.
" John Coon, University of Wis-
sconsin. 4 p.m. 116 RAL. Rosen Lab. Analytical Chemistry.

"The Dead Mother Plot: The
Family Agency in Early Mod-
ern Texts." Mary Beth Rose. USC. 4 p.m. Humanities
Lectures Hall, PPRL. 805 W. Peabody Ave. Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities.

theater

15 Thursday

"The Hip-Hop Project: Insight
Into the Hip-Hop Generation."
Aaron Todd Douglas, director. 7:30 p.m. Marching Illini in Concert. Chicago Auditorium. A diverse evening of classics and new music. Works for choir and orchestra performed by a planetary jam session. Strains of the Flat Earth Ensemble and global talents with the folk music of Asia and the Americas.

17 Saturday

"Marching Illini in Concert.
Peter Griffin, conductor. 3 p.m.
Krannert Center. An evening of music for friends of the school.

20 Wednesday

"The Hip-Hop Project: Insight
Into the Hip-Hop Generation."
Aaron Todd Douglas, director. 7:30 p.m. 3 p.m. Krannert Center. Krannert Center.

23 Friday

"The Hip-Hop Project: Insight
Into the Hip-Hop Generation."
Aaron Todd Douglas, director. 7:30 p.m. 3 p.m. Krannert Center. Krannert Center.

24 Saturday

"The Hip-Hop Project: Insight
Into the Hip-Hop Generation."
Aaron Todd Douglas, director. 7:30 p.m. 3 p.m. Krannert Center. Krannert Center.

27 Tuesday

"SHOES: some sour feet, and
a new pair of eyes."
Thomas A. T. Johnson, director. 8 p.m. 3 p.m. Krannert Center. Krannert Center.

more calendar of events
CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

“Letters to Vincent: Global Intimacy”
“Gestures in Space and Time”
“Efficacite: Huang Yan’s China in the 21st Century”
“Vivid Lines in Graphic Times”

Through Jan.

Gregory St., Urbana.
Noon-5 p.m.

Oct. 15, 2009
Sunday.

Wednesday-Friday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Tuesday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

First floor, Library.

Oct. 23 through Jan.

“Fire Safety: From the Fireground to Campusground”

Oct. 31.

“Homecoming Comeback Weekend”

Oct. 23.

“On-going

Altgeld Chime-Tower Tours
12:30-1 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Alpaca Fiber and Yarn Workshop
10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday.

Grocemaster’s Artisan Bakery
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday.

Opening:

Eugene Green Gallery
Sept. 16-Oct. 31.

“Fire Safety: From the Fireground to Campusground”

Oct. 31.

“Homecoming Comeback Weekend”

Oct. 23.

“On-going

Altgeld Chime-Tower Tours
12:30-1 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Alpaca Fiber and Yarn Workshop
10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday.

Grocemaster’s Artisan Bakery
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday.

Opening:

Eugene Green Gallery
Sept. 16-Oct. 31.

“Global Securities: Climate Change and the Arctic”

Klaas Dodde, Royal Holloway, University of London.
Monday.

“Perfecting the Perfect Hairline”


Women’s Wednesdays

“Learning Theories ... and Teaching”
Sandy Finley, UI.
Tuesday.

“Teaching in the Digital Age”

Sandy Finley, UI.
Wednesday.

Yoga at Krannert Art Museum
Fridays at noon.


The Glue Factory, a Broadside Project Regarding the Fear of Growing Old.

Through Oct.

“Perfecting the Perfect Hairline”


Women’s Wednesdays

“Learning Theories ... and Teaching”
Sandy Finley, UI.
Tuesday.

“Teaching in the Digital Age”

Sandy Finley, UI.
Wednesday.

Yoga at Krannert Art Museum
Fridays at noon.


The Glue Factory, a Broadside Project Regarding the Fear of Growing Old.

Through Oct.

“Perfecting the Perfect Hairline”


Women’s Wednesdays

“Learning Theories ... and Teaching”
Sandy Finley, UI.
Tuesday.

“Teaching in the Digital Age”

Sandy Finley, UI.
Wednesday.

Yoga at Krannert Art Museum
Fridays at noon.


The Glue Factory, a Broadside Project Regarding the Fear of Growing Old.

Through Oct.

“Perfecting the Perfect Hairline”


Women’s Wednesdays

“Learning Theories ... and Teaching”
Sandy Finley, UI.
Tuesday.

“Teaching in the Digital Age”

Sandy Finley, UI.
Wednesday.

Yoga at Krannert Art Museum
Fridays at noon.


The Glue Factory, a Broadside Project Regarding the Fear of Growing Old.

Through Oct.

“Perfecting the Perfect Hairline”


Women’s Wednesdays

“Learning Theories ... and Teaching”
Sandy Finley, UI.
Tuesday.

“Teaching in the Digital Age”

Sandy Finley, UI.
Wednesday.

Yoga at Krannert Art Museum
Fridays at noon.


The Glue Factory, a Broadside Project Regarding the Fear of Growing Old.

Through Oct.

“Perfecting the Perfect Hairline”


Women’s Wednesdays

“Learning Theories ... and Teaching”
Sandy Finley, UI.
Tuesday.

“Teaching in the Digital Age”

Sandy Finley, UI.
Wednesday.

Yoga at Krannert Art Museum
Fridays at noon.


The Glue Factory, a Broadside Project Regarding the Fear of Growing Old.

Through Oct.

“Perfecting the Perfect Hairline”


Women’s Wednesdays

“Learning Theories ... and Teaching”
Sandy Finley, UI.
Tuesday.

“Teaching in the Digital Age”

Sandy Finley, UI.
Wednesday.

Yoga at Krannert Art Museum
Fridays at noon.


The Glue Factory, a Broadside Project Regarding the Fear of Growing Old.

Through Oct.
Firms can manage their way through recessions, expert says

By Jan Dennis
Business & Law Editor

Recessions leave a gaping crater in the U.S. business landscape, sinking an average of more than a half-million firms during each of 10 economic slumps between World War II and the early 2000s.

But companies that plan as carefully for bad times as good not only can weather downturns, but also emerge ready to exploit recovery when the economy rebounds, a UI expert who studied recession-fueled business failures says.

“If there’s a message, it’s that recessions can be managed,” said Steve Michael, a professor of business administration. “Firms can survive if they make the possibility of recession part of their business strategy, just as they plan for growth when the economy is strong.”

Michael and Villanova University management professor John Pearce II developed a four-pronged plan to help businesses navigate recessions in a 2005 study that combined academic theory and successful real-world tactics.

The plan provides a road map that can help steer firms through even the deepest recessions, Michael said, including a still-lingerling downturn that sparked a 64 percent jump in business bankruptcies during the first half of 2009.

“When recessions hit and how deep they cut are obviously beyond a firm’s control, but there are things they can do to survive and prosper when recovery begins,” he said.

Michael says the strategy centers on making firms less prone to recession, developing contingency plans before crisis erupts and monitoring economic trends so those plans can be invoked sooner rather than later.

The components:

■ Positioning. In booms or busts, firms are best served by cultivating varied product lines, customer groups and geographic markets. During recessions, Michael said, that balance helps prop up cash flow because downturns typically hit some industries and regions harder than others.

For example, he says equipment-maker Deere & Company weathered a 2008 construction slowdown better than rival Caterpillar Inc. because Deere also sells a large line of farm equipment, which held steady amid growing demand for ethanol.

“Maintaining cash flow helps businesses weather any recession, but was especially important during this one because credit markets collapsed,” he said. “So firms with diversified cash flow had the advantage of internal financing when capital markets literally dried up.”

■ Planning ahead. Recessions often go unnoticed until they’re deep, leading to budget cuts driven by panic rather than reason that can leave businesses at long-term risk. As a result, Michael says firms should carefully map out contingency plans in advance, and then closely watch for sharp declines that may foreshadow a recession.

“Our current recession has been dated to the summer of 2007, yet it was not acknowledged as a recession for over a year, which proves that if you aren’t watching you don’t know you’re in trouble until you’re well into trouble,” he said.

Companies can get a jump on recessions by carefully analyzing sales declines to determine whether the cause is specific to their firm or rooted in a broader economic downturn, Michael said.

When contingency plans include layoffs, he says companies should consider cuts carefully, such as retaining managers or foremen at the expense of less-skilled workers who will be abundant in the recession-ballooned job pool once recovery begins.

“Don’t want to lose your institutional knowledge,” Michael said. “When recovery begins, you need someone in those positions and new people have to be trained. You’ll be losing an opportunity because a lot of money is made in the early stages of recovery.”

■ Promote the business. Firms should maintain spending on marketing and advertising because recession-strapped customers re-evaluate their buying choices during tough times, offering a rare opportunity to build business.

“Recessions are a time to be out there in front of customers, telling them why they should be looking at your firm as their new choice,” Michael said. “It’s wise to maintain marketing spending and if possible amplify it during recessions to attract new business.”

■ Prepare for recovery. Recessions soften the economy overall, yielding bargains that well-run businesses can use to grow during recovery if they manage their way through the downturn.

Failed or struggling companies are available at cut-rate prices, along with product lines, customer lists, intellectual property and highly skilled workers, Michael said.

“It’s a time to engage in bargain hunting,” he said. “My sense is that a lot of money is made in the early days of recovery, and the most prepared firms are going to get the lion’s share of the benefits.”

Success strategy Business administration professor

Steve Michael says that firms can survive a recession if they make that possibility part of their business strategy, just as they plan for growth when the economy is strong.