Online interactions have positive effects for real communities

By Phil Ciciora
News Editor

I f you think Facebook, Twitter and other Web sites that foster online communication and interaction are merely vapid echo chambers of self-promotion, think again, say two UI professors who study computer-mediated communication and the Internet.

According to Caroline Haythornthwaite and Lori Kendall, professors in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Illinois, online interactions not only have positive outcomes for real-life, place-based communities, but the intersection between online communication and the offline world also forms two halves of a support mechanism for communities.

Previously, most attention was paid to highly virtual, online-only experiences. But as information and communication technologies have become increasingly intertwined with everyday life, the Internet and social media have combined to create a vibrant and indispensable communication and information platform and infrastructure for today’s world.

“In its earliest incarnation, the online world was considered a separate realm, and it was not viewed as a serious venue for work or business,” Haythornthwaite said. “But as more people have come online, the more online communication has become the norm. So it isn’t thought of as a separate realm anymore, but as one that merges and overlaps with our daily activities.”

From social networking, to civic participation, to providing on-the-ground information in disaster areas, the professors say that the rapid development and widespread use of online technologies – for communicating and networking, for contributing and distributing content, and for storing, sharing and retrieving files – are creating ties that bind for offline communities.

“Research on who people communicate with online shows a lot of local activity,” Haythornthwaite said. “So online communication always reinforces local relationships and local identities that build networks of interacting individuals who are mutually aware of each other. Together, this demonstrates a continuous change in how we maintain local community, while also emphasizing the importance and significance of our attachments to local places and spaces.” Although there are still a considerable number of people who go online to build new, non-local friendships, there are also people who go online for a specific purpose – to research information about breast cancer, for example – and, incidentally, form relationships as a result.

“While people can go to a site for information and personal support, they have also formed some long-term relationships with others they’ve met there and communicated with,” Kendall said. “So both things are happening, but I would say there’s probably more contact online with locals, and more searches for local information.”

“What has been growing over the Six COMMUNITIES, Part 2

Fans eager for next round of overlooked films, April 21-25

By Anna K. Herkamp
Assistant Editor

Fans say they’re eager for the reels to begin spinning at the Virginia Theatre in Champaign during the 12th annual Roger Ebert’s Film Festival, April 21-25.

“It has to be the best cultural event in Champaign-Urbana each year,” said Tom Bassett, a professor of geography.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning film critic for the Chicago Sun-Times picks underappreciated or lesser-known films for his hometown festival.

“What is distinctive about Ebertfest is that it is like a curated museum show,” said Richard Mohr, a professor of philosophy and of classics. “If you go to a Van Gogh show at the Art Institute, you will already be familiar with many of the paintings. The show puts them in context and digs into their meaning. That’s what Ebertfest does.”

“The state-of-the-art and original projection techniques and post-screening panel discussions frame the individual films into a united festival edifice. It is amazing how many of the film directors are willing to come to the middle of corn and soybean fields to discuss their films. And we owe that all to Roger.”

“I can’t think of another event with so many prominent people who come to town. ... It’s an intense experience.” Bassett said. At Ebertfest, patrons have the chance to gain additional insight into the film through the panel discussions with filmmakers and in some cases, the person the film is about, such as Dow Mossman, who was the subject of “Stone Reader” several years ago.

In addition, actors, including John Malkovich and Billy Crudup, have attended.

“It’s not for the movies at all,” said Martha Woodbury, a computer science lecturer. “You can go anywhere and watch a movie.”

During the Mossman panel discussion, Woodbury said she was completely caught up in his story.

“It’s a very emotional experience,” she said. “I’ve come to the end of the festival often very drained of energy.”

Each year, the festival features a unique viewing experience – a 70mm showing of a film, which is projected larger than films are typically shown today.

“If you don’t get a chance anywhere else to see that effect,” Mohr said, “certainly not at Six Ebertfest.”
Six additional review teams announced
By Anna K. Herkamp

SIX more areas are under review through the Stewarding Excellence process.

The new areas: Biology Education and Research, and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access, Library, social work, and library, social science.

The new areas are added to the six that were announced on March 21. Last month’s review areas included: Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, and College of Veterinary Medicine.

The team will look at how the office to the UI Law Library and the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access, will work together to determine the final list.

The final decisions will be announced May 3. Written separation agreements will be distributed to approved employees before May 4 and 7. Employees will have until June 22 to finalize their agreements.

Civil service and professional employees will have until Aug. 15, to separate from the university, with faculty members having until Aug. 15, 2011.

The team for the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement is being led by Bruce Smith, dean of the College of Law.

The team will examine the structure of the OVCIA, especially its fundraising function.

The team will look at how the office makes the university accessible to Illinois citizens and whether it does it in a way that enhances the mission of the UI. Members also are charged with examining possible means to replace declining state funds.

ON THE WEB

http://news.illinois.edu/budget/
April 15, 2010
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PAGE 3

Office support specialist Jason Mierek takes care of a lot of duties that change over the course of the academic year in the College of Fine and Applied Arts, Originally from Decatur, Mierek has a variety of interests and hobbies he pursues after work.

Tell me what you do as an office support specialist:

I arrange events, track progress of course and curricular revisions, and act as a kind of go-between for the university and students, parents and faculty members. I maintain the records for 2,000 students. I file things. Basically I’m the glue that keeps the office together. I update the Web site, and I am the office proofreader.

What is a typical day like for you? It depends on the time of year. A lot of what we do is based on the annual cycle. There are days when there’s not a lot going on and not much to be filed. At other times there’s no way to keep up and there are stacks of paperwork. At the beginning of the semester, we’re deciding which students get put on probation and which students get dropped. I’m in charge of crafting all those letters, keeping track of those students and even where students are on probation who have to return academic contracts – so we track the section of the James List, the James Scholar program, as well as who has returned in paperwork and who hasn’t.

We have monthly meetings, including those committees that review courses and curricula and I’m the chief adviser of different schools and colleges – so it definitely depends on the day and what time of the year it is.

What is fine and applied arts?

Fine arts includes all the things we normally come to associate with fine arts, like opera, music, theater and dance. Applied arts includes environmental design – like landscape architecture and some other things like graphic design and industrial design.

What’s a little-known fact about FAA?

(Doctor-winner director) Ang Lee was a teenager, but my parents wouldn’t let me go," he said. Seeing the film, he felt as though some of the experience was regained.

"I went to Woodstock, finally," he said.

Woodbury said watching the year’s discussion is another benefit of the festival.

This year, she’s enthused about it as engaging, she said.

"I stayed until the whole thing was over. The discussion are almost as good as the movies," she said.

She is going to say it’s here – I’ve been here longer than at any other job. My dream is to work out some kind of future career trajectory within this college.

– Interview by Anna K. Herkamp, Assistant Editor

JASON MIEREK FAST FACTS: Little-known, but very important parts of his job: Finding visitors parking spaces and giving campus tours to prospective students and parents.

Important people in his life: Jason and his wife, Joanne, have an 8-year-old daughter, Veronica. The family lives in Urbana.

A family of bookworms? The Miereks worked for several years in bookstores. “It’s no surprise my daughter, who’s 8, has just finished her first ‘Harry Potter’ book.”


Interests and hobbies: Reading; playing Wii with Veronica; going to the driving range; hanging out with members of a large social circle of friends playing Dungeons and Dragons; being involved with several churches in town, including the Unitarian Universalist Church and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Urbana-Champaign: “I’m into mythology, the way most people are into (shows) like ‘Lost.’ I can read about them and be endlessly captivated.”

A favorite pop culture experience: In the late 90s at the original Blind Pig (now Cowboy Monkey), Mierek met and drank a beer with Wayne Coyne, the singer for Flaming Lips before the band had picked up a few years later.

Some favorite books: “Moby-Dick,” “Catch 22,” “the Illuminatus trilogy,” by Robert Shea; currently reading “Don Quixote.”

EBERTFEST, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The festival always brings out some modern classic films – this year, “Pink Flamingos,” “The Pollack,” and “Apocalypse Now.”

A recent year’s showing of “Woodstock” made Bassett feel as if he got to be there when he was younger.

“I wanted to go to Woodstock when I was a teenager, but my parents wouldn’t let me go,” he said. Seeing the film, he felt as though some of the experience was regained.

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“Praise, New York.”

Those who have met Ebert say they’re overwhelmed with the graciousness of Ebert and his wife, Chaz. Judy Tolliver, a coordinator for in-film discussions announced.

Additional events have been announced in connection with EbertFest. The schedule of 13 film screenings was previously announced and can be found online, along with festival updates and information about panelists and special guests. The schedule of added events, all free and open to the public, also will be streamed live from the EbertFest Web site.

Thursday, April 22
9:30-10:45 a.m. – Panel discussion: “Getting the Damned Thing Made,” in the Pine Lounge.

Friday, April 23
9:10-15 a.m. – Panel discussion: “Do Film Students Really Need to Know Much About Classic Films?” in the Pine Lounge.

10:30-11:45 a.m. – Panel discussion: “The Global Web of Film Lovers,” in the Pine Lounge.

Saturday, April 24

Sunday, April 25
4:30 p.m. – A post-festival screening of “The Soloist,” sponsored by the Champaign County Anti-Sigma Alliance, which will be followed by a panel of guest speakers.

If you go…

Advice for first-time Ebertfest goers from some veteran patrons:

“Get there early – you’ve got to get in line to get into the UI. I worked at Pages for All Ages and taught at Parkland about a decade ago. I lived in San Francisco and worked at a place called A Clean, Well-Lighted Place for Books, where I met my wife, Joanne. We were both book sellers. After that, I worked at Lonely Planet Publications.

Best job ever:

“Best job ever: ‘Synecdoche, New York.’”

One of this year’s discussions, “Departures,” will be presented.

It’s exhausting. I enjoy being a volunteer here. I don’t know what they’re in the same cohort as painters, opera performance majors or jazz musicians.

How long have you worked here?

I started working here in April (April). Five years as of Easter (April 4).

What is the best and worst thing about your job?

The best is that I’ve never dreaded coming to work once, and the worst thing is the (confusing) job title.

How did you get your job here?

I signed up for a (civil service) test on a dark, basically, I was hired and tested for secretary II. I got 99 out of 100 so I got called in for interviews and I got the job two weeks on in one day. I was hired here after I met the counseling center, and here I am.

What other jobs do you have?

I’m currently also I am an instructor of comparative religion at Parkland College. From probably the fall of ’04 until fall of ’09, I was doing three classes a semester, so I was doing two sections of an online class during one of his cam-pus visits. She asked him if he would attend Cyberfest, a celebration she had organized in 1997. He was working at the computer at the UI, which was held on the anniversary of the birth of HAL, the computer in “2001: A Space Odyssey.” Ebert agreed eagerly and hosted the Cy-bertest gala.

Being able to say “hi” to Ebert over the years at the festival has been fun, but being a patron of the arts is equally engaging, she said.

“It’s like taking a vacation but stay- ing in town,” Tolliver said. “Seeing most of the movies is like being trans- ported to some other place, as an entire experience as well as a film. It’s exhausting. I enjoy being a volun-teer host because it makes me feel even more connected to the festival, espe-cially since it has gotten so large com pared to the early days.”

– Ann Benefiel

– Tom Bassett

– Judy Tolliver

– James Scholar program, as well as those who have to give. Now I just teach two sections of online comparative religion.

What else have you worked?

I’ve worked in prominent areas of books and print before coming to the UI. I worked at Pages for All Ages and taught at Parkland about a decade ago. I lived in San Francisco and worked at a place called A Clean, Well-Lighted Place for Books, where I met my wife, Joanne. We were both book sellers. After that, I worked at Lonely Planet Publications.

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– Ann Benefiel
Eight honored with Chancellor’s Distinguished Staff Award

Eight staff employees were honored with the Chancellor’s Distinguished Staff Award at a banquet April 13. The award recognizes exceptional performance; each recipient receives $2,000 and a plaque. Recipients’ names also are posted on a plaque displayed in the Staff Human Resources Office. Past winners are listed on the Web at www.shr.illinois.edu/ cdts/cdsaward.html.

Permanent staff employees with at least two years of service or retirees whose leaves of absence in status appointments during the calendar year may be nominated for the award. A committee recommends finalists, who are then approved by the chancellor.

Keenan Detrick Anderson

Keenan Detrick Anderson, a main desk attendant at the Illini Union’s Quad Shop for nearly seven years, was honored at the Illini Union for more than 15 years. According to his supervisor, retail service coordinator James Trail, Anderson is “the heart of making the store a great place for fellow employees and guests.”

“Keenan has set a high standard for himself and the people that he works with but is always able to enforce this standard in an open, caring and professional manner,” Trail wrote in nominating Anderson. “I know that when I assign Keenan a task it will be completed quickly and competently and that it will not have to be repeatedly explained. In a retail environment, this is critical and Keenan is a key to our success.”

Trail believes that Anderson’s positive morale and high customer service standards make a difference. When he is not at the counter, regular customers always ask, “Where’s Keenan?”

“He cares about what he does and that caring shows in the work that he does every day.”

Kevin A. Booky

Kevin A. Booky, a parking service technician in the Division of Facilities and Services, has worked on campus for more than 16 years. “Kevin is highly skilled at his trade and is a valuable asset to F&S and the university,” wrote Trace Quin, a staff clerk in F&S who nominated Booky on behalf of the Facilities and Services Employee Recognition Committee.

As part of his job, Booky issues citations, assists motorists, collects and reports data, supports parking regulation revisions and trains personnel.

F&S has received calls of thanks from customers that Kevin has helped through difficult situations. He takes it upon himself to double-check with management when there is an event scheduled to make sure that the public is informed where they are allowed to park so they won’t get ticketed.

“Kevin has without a doubt demonstrated excellence in his overall work performance, exhibited initiative and creativity resulting in improved operating efficiency of the department and university,” Quin wrote. “He has promoted positive morale by providing services to others. He is held in high regard by his supervisors and co-workers. His abilities and friendly attitude have earned their respect.”

Cinda Robbins-Cornstubble

In her nomination letter, Cinda Robbins-Cornstubble, a program administrative assistant in the department of advertising in the College of Media, has been crucial to the success of the department.

“Becky is the ‘front line’ for employers and their recruiting needs,” wrote Kimberly Surles, associate director for employer relations and recruitment. “The office hosts more than 400 companies on campus each year and maintains a database of more than 4,000 companies and 10,000 contacts.Burkland schedules on-campus interviews and presentations, assists with job postings, and generally assists employers in reaching the students. Additionally, she enters extensive data from student and employer placement surveys, runs reports from the database, assists with publications and is always willing to assist with any project that comes across her desk.

“For some corporate recruiters, we are the only contact they have with the UI and Becky strongly believes in serving our clients with the best customer service possible,” Surles wrote. “She is an extremely valuable member of the Business Career Services team. She started with us 3½ years ago after working for a small bank for 20 years. She has quickly excelled in customer service and is the definition of teamwork. Her positive attitude impacts the entire office.”

Nancy M. Breningmeyer

Nancy Breningmeyer, an office support person, is the first person people see when they visit the Coles County Extension office.

“As the sole office-support person in a busy Extension office serving Mattoon, Charleston and surrounding communities, Nancy has had to develop skills in many areas,” wrote Kathy Reiser, associate regional director for UI Extension, in her nomination letter. “This includes roles as bookkeeper, desktop publisher, editor, master organizer, marketer and reference specialist, among others.”

Breningmeyer has worked for UI Extension for 27 years. “Her colleagues say they are ‘spoiled’ because Nancy just knows what to do and goes about doing it,” Reiser wrote.

Breningmeyer developed an Excel-based system that streamlined recordkeeping for Master Gardeners. Now the volunteers are able to spend more time doing what they enjoy and the office has better documentation on the Master Gardeners’ considerable contributions to their communities. She also assists with the hundreds of calls from local residents with questions on topics ranging from livestock production to food safety to consumer credit to garden pests.

In addition, she continues to embrace new technologies. She was one of the first to sign up for an online social media seminar and is actively thinking about how Coles County Extension might use these new tools to reach new and existing audiences.

Becky Sue Burkland

Becky Sue Burkland is a recruiting assistant for Business Career Services in the College of Business. The office serves undergraduate and graduate students in the college, providing career counseling for students seeking internships and full-time positions and assisting employers with recruiting those students.

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Photos by L. Brian Stauffer
Robert Keith Parrish, a research laboratory shop supervisor in the department of mechanical science and engineering, provides general and technical supervision to personnel that perform work in the machine shop. He also is responsible for the department's instructural machinist and manufacturing laborato-
ries.

Among his responsibilities: plans, distributes and directs the shop's daily work flow; supervises three machinists; meets with clients; prepares invoices of project charges; and cares and maintains all shop tools and equipment.

In addition to his supervisory role, Parrish is a "very compe-
tent machinist with more than 35 years of experience," wrote Robert E. Coven ideally, a senior research engineer and the direc-
tor of engineering and technical services, in his letter nominating Parrish. "He routinely works with computerized drawings and computer numerically controlled milling machines and electrical discharge machining systems. He also works with other shops and off-campus vendors to provide customers with other processes, such as water-jet cutting and rap-
turing parts manufacturing."

"It is a testament to his skills that he has been able to manage the workload of the shop with a down-sized staff, while maintain-
ing his unflagging good humor, at-
titude and spirit of cooperation. In my nearly 23 years of managing technical services in this depart-
ment, morale within the shop has never been higher, which is hard to imagine given the extremely stressful financial conditions that the university is currently facing."

Richard Powers elected to American Academy of Arts and Letters

By Sharita Forrest

A cclaimed novelist Richard
Powers, the Swan
land Chair and Center
Professor of English at Illinois,
has been elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Composed of 250 architects, artists, composers and writers, the group that awards annual prizes to members for excellence, currently supervises the Accent machinist for a good outcome," wrote Mara

"Kathy is always flexible, insightful and willing to work through issues so our clients re-
ceive the needed output from our office," said Chris Migotsky, head of the division. "She has a posi-
tive outlook and a desire to please faculty from across campus. She provides a wealth of information and is an anchor for our office." 

Duvall has worked at the UI for about 60 years, with more than 50 years spent at CTE. Her group processes about 14,000 instructor/ course evaluation forms each year and 2,800 classroom exams (370,000 test sheets) each year.

With this volume of data, not every report runs smoothly the first time. "Duvall will intercede (with the angry client), determine what went wrong (often an incor-
crect exam key provided by the in-
structor) and explain how we will rectify the situation and get them what they need within the hour," Migotsky wrote.

"She has a can-do attitude that she brings to the office in her work with both clients and co-workers. She doesn't just talk about quality service, she leads by example."

Robert Keith Parrish, a research laboratory shop supervisor in the department of mechanical science and engineering, provides general and technical supervision to personnel that perform work in the machine shop. He also is responsible for the department's instructural machinist and manufacturing laborato-
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titude and spirit of cooperation. In my nearly 23 years of managing technical services in this depart-
ment, morale within the shop has never been higher, which is hard to imagine given the extremely stressful financial conditions that the university is currently facing."
Faculty/staff seminar teaches how to ‘live intentionally’

By Anna K. Herkamp
Assistant Editor

Elyne Cole’s father worked in a paper mill and made extra money as a mill and fixing roofs. His main goal in life was to support his family the best he could.

This was one of her first lessons of living a life of intention, said Cole, the associate provost for human resources.

Cole, who is the keynote speaker for the 13th faculty/staff seminar on “Living an Intentional Life,” grew up in East St. Louis in the 1950s. According to Cole it was a period of racial turmoil in an area known for its social problems, but one that has a long history of people who wouldn’t be influenced by the stress they faced.

The daylong program April 8, sponsored by the Faculty/Staff Assistance Program, was designed to help participants tools to reduce stress and anxiety in their lives—and help them live with purpose.

Cole’s parents not only served as inspirational figures in her life, but also were heroes to her because of their examples of intentional living.

Every year, Cole’s family would drive to Canton, Miss., to visit family, but they always traveled at night. One night, Cole found out by discarding paper from the mail and fixing roofs. His main goal in life was to support his family the best he could.

Cole’s parents not only served as inspirational figures in her life, but also were heroes to her because of their examples of intentional living.

Cole discussed her decision to live an intentional life at work means looking at the essence of what it means to be intentional, and described individuals—including her parents—who have inspired her to live with purpose.

"Everything I need to live an intentional life is within me. If I look hard enough and long enough, I know I’ll find what I need."

The message hit home with audience members.

Kamiliyah Abdullah-Span, an assistant dean of students, said she came to the program to gain insight on how to reign in her busy life but live with purpose.

"One of the reasons I came is because I tend to over-commit," she said.

Abdullah-Span is a busy professional who leads several initiatives at the UI—including a dialogue facilitation class and the investigation of possible hate crimes or bias on campus. She also volunteers in the community through her sorority chapter and the Junior League.

Although Abdullah-Span loves the work she does, she’d like to cut back so that she has time for herself.

Following Cole’s speech and the other sessions, Abdullah-Span said she felt inspired and thought Cole’s speech captured the essence of the seminar’s theme.

Her talk was a good reminder of what it means to be intention-al, Abdullah-Span said.

The seminar included sessions on money management, household organization, therapeutic laughing, stress relief through yoga and finding happiness.

Alex Weise, an environmental health and safety technician in the Division of Research Safety, came to the seminar because, he said, he is facing financial challenges.

He appreciated the talk on financial health, in which speaker Kathy Sweedler, a consumer and family economics educator with UI Extension, told audience members what they need to know about managing household expenses, credit and retirement investing.

"I’ve been treading water for a while now and I had (some trouble) a while back," Weise said.

In addition to his full-time position at the UI, Weise also works as a pyrotechnician for fireworks shows, repairs cars and volunteers at drives to properly dispose of household items.

"I’ve got four people living off my paycheck," he said.

(Weise said he found the sessions on stress relief and finding happiness beneficial.)

Life plan

Elyne Cole, associate provost for human resources, gave the keynote address at this year’s faculty/staff seminar, called “Living an Intentional Life,” which took place April 8 at the Activities and Recreation Center. During her talk, Cole discussed her decision to live an intentional life, and described individuals—including her parents—who have inspired her to live with purpose.

TAKE-HOME TIPS

FINANCIAL WELLNESS

http://web.extension.illinois.edu/champaigncenter/cfe3046.html

- Work toward having savings equal to three to six months of your necessary expenses
- Track household expenses
- Set up automatic savings deposits
- Involve all family members in financial plans
- Stay flexible
- Pay credit-card bills on time and more than the minimum amount due
- Check billing statements for accuracy as well as rate and fee changes

ORGANIZING YOUR HOME

Presented by Karen Pope, professional organizer

- Sort mail every day (throw it away, pass it on, act on it or file it temporarily or permanently)
- After payment confirmation is received for utility payments, throw away old statements
- Don’t be afraid to get rid of things. Items such as clothing and books and some furniture are easily donated
- Cancel catalogs (www.catalogchoice.org)
- Plan weekly menus to avoid going to the store several times each week
- Pack lunches the night before
- Set out kids’ backpacks and clothes the night before

12 HAPPINESS ACTIVITIES

Source: “The How of Happiness,” by Sonja Lyubomirsky, presented by Mary Ellen O’Shaughnessy, executive assistant dean in the College of Fine and Applied Arts

- Express gratitude
- Cultivate optimism
- Avoid over-thinking and social comparison
- Practice acts of kindness
- Nurture social relationships
- Develop strategies for coping
- Learn to forgive
- Increase flow experiences (activities so engaging you lose track of time)
- Savor life’s joys
- Commit to your goals
- Practice religion and/or spirituality
- Take care of your body and your soul
Older investors a springboard for dividends, study says

By Jan Dennis
Business & Law Editor

Ebate has simmered for a half-century over why firms pay out cash dividends, siphoning money away from business-building investments and often creating an added tax burden for the shareholders who collect them.

New research has uncovered a surprising springboard for thousands of smaller companies and banks that share profits with investors instead of sinking everything back into the business.

A key trigger, according to findings that appeared in the Journal of Finance, is simply whether those firms are based in communities with large populations of older people. If so, they are typically partial to the income-boosting benefits of dividends.

“Smaller firms are more reliant on local investors, who are more sensitive to the demands of those shareholders,” said UI finance professor Scott Weisbenner, who co-wrote the study. “Microsoft will be fine even if no one in Seattle buys its stock. But if local people don’t invest in smaller local companies, those firms could be in financial trouble.”

The study, which analyzed Census and financial data, found that smaller companies are increasingly more likely to pay dividends as their nearby 65-and-older population rises — about 10 percentage points more likely for every 10 percent increase in the share of senior residents in the local community.

Further, firms that relocate to communities with older populations are 5 percent more likely to initiate dividends within two years compared with staying put — and 10 percent more likely within five years, according to the study, co-written by Harvard Business School finance professor Bo Becker and Zoran Ivkovic, a finance professor at Michigan State University.

The study found that heavier concentrations of local seniors increase the likelihood of dividends for roughly the smaller half of the nation’s approximately 8,500 publicly traded firms, with no impact on large corporations with global investment bases.

But smaller companies typically rely heavily on local investors, Weisbenner said, and the study shows those firms cater to seniors’ preference for dividend-paying stocks when local demographics skew older.

“Older investors like dividends for a variety of reasons,” he said. “Many still remember the Great Depression, so they want stocks that pay some cash. Plus, they’re at an age where they like assets that return some money to live on without touching their principal.”

Smaller companies also benefit from offering dividends to attract older investors, Weisbenner said. Local seniors are loyal shareholders, which reduces share turnover and thus provides stability to the stock. The study also found that local seniors value dividends highly, and are often willing to pay slightly higher prices for stock with cash returns.

“But it’s not a complete win-win situation,” he said. “On the down side, the money spent on dividends could be used instead for investment, research and development or other projects that would grow the company. But it’s a tradeoff that many companies obviously think is worth making.”

Weisbenner says the study is unique, combining two different areas of research — corporate finance and behavioral finance.

Depressed? Fearful? It might help to worry, too

By Diana Yates
Life Sciences Editor

A new study of brain activity in depressed and anxious people indicates that some of the ill effects of depression are modified — for better or for worse — by anxiety.

The study, in the journal Cognitive, Affective, and Behavioral Neuroscience, looked at depression and two types of anxiety: anxious arousal, the fearful vigilance that sometimes turns into panic; and anxious apprehension, better known as worry.

The researchers used functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) at the Beckman Institute’s Biomedical Imaging Center to look at brain activity in subjects who were depressed and not anxious, anxious but not depressed, or who exhibited varying degrees of depression and one or both types of anxiety.

“Although we think of depression and anxiety as separate things, they often co-occur,” said UI psychology professor Gregory A. Miller, who led the research with Illinois psychology professor Wendy Heller. “In a national study of the prevalence of psychiatric disorders, three-quarters of those diagnosed with major depression had at least one other diagnosis. In many cases, those with depression also had anxiety, and vice versa.”

Previous studies have generally focused on people who were depressed or anxious, Miller said. Or they looked at both depression and anxiety, but lumped all types of anxiety together.

Miller and Heller have long argued that the anxiety of chronic worriers is distinct from the panic or fearful vigilance that characterizes anxious arousal.

In an earlier fMRI study, they found that the two types of anxiety produce very different patterns of activity in the brain. Anxious arousal lights up a region of the right inferior temporal lobe (just behind the ear). Worry, on the other hand, activates a region in the frontal lobe that is linked to speech production.

In the new study, brain scans were done while participants performed a task that involved naming the colors of words that had negative, positive, or neutral meanings. This allowed the researchers to observe which brain regions were activated in response to emotional words.

The researchers found that the fMRI signature of the brain of a worried and depressed person doing the emotional word task was very different from that of a vigilant or panicky depressed person.

“The combination of depression and anxiety, and which type of anxiety, give you different brain results,” Miller said.

Miller and Heller used an emotional word task to examine whether the anxiety of chronic worriers lessens some of the negative effects of both.

Perhaps most surprisingly, anxious arousal (vigilance, fear, panic) enhanced activity in that part of the right frontal lobe that is also active in depression, but only when a person’s level of anxious apprehension, or worry, was low. Neural activity in a region of the left frontal lobe, an area known to be involved in speech production, was higher in the depressed and worried but not fearful subjects.

Despite their depression, the worriers also did better on the emotional word task than those depressives who were fearful or vigilant. The worriers were better able to ignore the meaning of negative words and thus provide stability to the stock. The study also found that local seniors value dividends highly, and often willing to pay slightly higher prices for stock with cash returns.

“But it’s not a complete win-win situation,” he said. “On the down side, the money spent on dividends could be used instead for investment, research and development or other projects that would grow the company. But it’s a tradeoff that many companies obviously think is worth making.”

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Death, injury benefits a casualty of new war strategy

By Jan Dennis
Business & Law Editor

A
hole in public policy is short-changing U.S. soldiers and civilian workers who become casualties of a new-age war strategy that leans heavily on private contractors, a new UI study says.

Law and labor professor Michael LeRoy says contractors employ workers who now perform risky duties such as transportation and security that were once handled by the military, and also routinely supervise troops on non-combat projects such as building roads and schools.

But while soldiers and civilians are killed or injured, contractors use the veil of government immunity and other war-related legal arguments to limit financial payouts, according to an analysis of lawsuits filed by the wounded and survivors.

“It’s not that no compensation is provided; it’s that a pittance is provided,” LeRoy said. “People deserve ample opportunities for compensation when they are under the supervision of for-profit companies doing business with taxpayer money.”

He says the findings show that policy makers need to close coverage gaps that have emerged through the growing outsourcing of war, which saw 242,000 civilian workers and 380,000 troops last year in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Court cases reflect a wide range of wartime perils, including civilians killed while transporting supplies, women raped by co-workers and soldiers suffering from exposure to deadly toxins while working for private contractors, LeRoy said.

“Distressing images emerge from the litigation,” he said. “There’s an overspill of jobs, with firms promising six-figure incomes and safety. People left good jobs only to find the pay wasn’t nearly what it was represented to be nor was their safety assured.”

Contractors typically raise war-related defenses in an effort to limit damages, LeRoy said, such as a long-held principle that bars tort recovery for injuries arising from military service and a contractor immunity doctrine that exempts firms from liability if they follow government-supplied specifications and directions.

LeRoy says his research shows judges are increasingly rejecting those arguments in cases involving deaths, including rulings by two traditionally conservative courts that have it’s emerging from two conservative courts makes it all the more a positive sign that courts are not rigidly enforcing the doctrine, he said.

But LeRoy says policy makers still need to build a system to better compensate soldiers and civilians who are injured while working for war-zone contractors. He recommends a federal workers’ compensation policy that would require American-based contractors to provide coverage for employees overseas, not just in the U.S.

“An employee or soldier who is injured while working for a U.S. contractor in a war zone should be treated no differently than a worker in Texas or California,” he said. “The fact that it happened in Iraq shouldn’t change the equation.”

LeRoy says workers’ compensation in war zones should cover soldiers as well as civilian employees. He says troops injured while working for contractors deserve the same compensation as their civilian counterparts, not just the government disability payments that are designed for combat-related injuries and account for the inherent risk of military service.

Extending workers’ compensation to foreign battlefields would provide fair compensation for injuries and also protect contractors from potentially costlier court judgments, LeRoy said.

“Workers’ compensation overseas would reflect the same compromise that was reached over 100 years ago in the U.S., when employers and unions had a rare moment of agreement and decided to shield employers from tort liability in exchange for an insurance system that adequately compensates injured workers,” he said.

LeRoy says the current system sharply favors firms that profit from aiding the war effort, at the expense of workers and soldiers who deserve better treatment.

“It’s an encouraging trend, and the fact that it’s emerging in an effort to build a system to better compensate soldiers and civilians and who are injured while working for war-zone contractors,” he said. “There’s an oversell -

DISTRESSING IMAGES EMERGE FROM THE LITIGATION

CONTRACTORS TYPICALLY RAISE WAR-RELATED DEFENSES IN AN EFFORT TO LIMIT DAMAGES, LeROY SAID, SUCH AS A LONG-HELD PRINCIPLE THAT BARS TORT RECOVERY FOR INJURIES ARISING FROM MILITARY SERVICE AND A CONTRACTOR IMMUNITY DOCTRINE THAT EXEMPTS FIRMS FROM LIABILITY IF THEY FOLLOW GOVERNMENT-SUPPLIED SPECIFICATIONS AND DIRECTIONS.

LeRoy says his research shows judges are increasingly rejecting those arguments in cases involving deaths, including rulings by two traditionally conservative courts that allowed lawsuits filed by survivors to proceed.

“The present system imposes disproportionate costs on severely injured workers and soldiers and their survivors,” he wrote. “The lack of accountability for negligence, recklessness, intentional injury and severe discrimination is at odds with military principles of discipline and order.”

Anxiety, continued from page 7

focus on the task, which was to identify the color — not the emotional content – of the words. These results suggest that fearful vigilance sometimes heightens the brain activity associated with depression, whereas worry may actually counter it, thus reducing some of the negative effects of depression and fear, Miller said.

“It could be that having a particular type of anxiety will help processing in one part of the brain while at the same time hurting processing in another part of the brain,” he said. “Sometimes worry is a good thing to do. Maybe it will get you to plan better. Maybe it will help you to focus better. There could be an up-side to these things.”

Researchers from the UI, Pennsylvania State University and the University of Colorado collaborated on the study. The National Institute of Mental Health and the National Institute of Drug Abuse at the National Institutes of Health; the Beckman Institute; and the Inter campus Research Initiative in Bionotechnology supported the research.

Miller is affiliated with the UI department of psychology, the Beckman Institute, the Neuroscience Program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the department of psychiatry in the College of Medicine.
Three at Illinois win Goldwater Scholarships

By Phil Ciciora

Three UI students have won prestigious Barry M. Goldwater scholarships for the 2010-2011 academic year. Kimberly M. Parker, of Westmont, Ill.; Maxie Dion Schmidt, of St. Louis, and Kamil Bartomej Stelmach, of Lombard, Ill., will receive scholarships to help them finish their undergraduate studies at Illinois before attending graduate school.

The program aims to provide a continuous source of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians and engineers by awarding scholarships to sophomores and juniors from the U.S. who intend to pursue careers in those fields.

Parker, a junior majoring in civil engineering, has been active in laboratory research on campus, and has worked on clean water projects in Guatemala and on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Her career goals include studying for a doctorate in environmental engineering and conducting research to develop systems to degrade pharmaceuticals present in water.

Schmidt, a sophomore majoring in environmental engineering and conduct-
Translator of Hebrew literature to lecture

Sufism and Shi-ism: and South African Muslim theologian and human rights activist will discuss Islamic views on salvation.

Another speaker, Bruce Lawrence, a faculty member at Duke University who studies religious movements and religious violence, also will be a guest on WILL-AM’s “Focus 580” at 11 a.m. on April 15.

Other events will be free and open to the public.

C-U Bike to Work Day is May 4

C-U Bike to Work Day encourage Champaign-Urbana residents to give biking to work a try. Each year, C-U Bike to Work Day is sponsored by WILL-AM’s “Focus 580” and the Illinois State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. This year’s theme is “Women’s Writing in Israel” at 8 p.m. April 19 in the Music Room at the Levis Faculty Center.

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April 15, 2010

BRIEFS. CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

the spring series). The venues and times for events vary.

Events:

- The TEC TEN Symposium: “Grounded Practices – Three Interna-
tional Case Studies,” 2-5:30 p.m. April 19, Temple Hoyne Buell gallery in the Architecture Building.

- The TEC TEN Symposium: “Intangible Aspects of Women’s Creativity: Duyak Museums on Borneo,” by Christina Kreps, director of museum studies at the University of Denver, 5 p.m. April 23, 160 English Building.

- For more information, contact sjfinley@illinois.edu or visit http://champ.anthro.illinois.edu or contact Helaine Silverman at helaine@illinois.edu.

Center for Teaching Excellence

Presenters and facilitators needed

The Center for Teaching Excellence offers an oppor-
tunity for faculty members, academic professionals and
experienced teaching assistants to share their knowledge,
experience and enthusiasm for teaching at the 2010 Gradu-
ate Academy for College Teaching on August 16 and 17/and
or the 2010 Graduate Symposium on Grading and Office
Hours on Aug. 17.

The Graduate Academy for College Teaching is a re-
quired pre-conference for TAs with classroom responsi-
bilities (teaching, discussion, laboratory or studio sections). It includes large group presentations on teaching and
group sessions on group planning, less planning, concurrent sessions on di-
verse teaching topics and multiteaching sessions in which
TAs practice teaching and receive feedback (held Aug. 18-
20).

The Graduate Symposium on Grading and Office Hours
is a shorter program for those TAs who do not have class-
room responsibilities. Both programs include sessions about
cultural issues related to teaching that are required for international TAs.

Prospective presenters are invited to design engaging sessions about teaching, including sessions on culture and
diversity; to facilitate small-group sessions on foundational
teaching topics; and/or to facilitate multiteaching sessions.
Details about the sessions, times, and expectations can be found on the Web at http://ete.illinois.edu/programs/tatrain/

- Proposal deadline has been extended to May 15. For more information, contact Sandy Finley at sjfinley@illinois.edu.

Technology Entrepreneur Center

Symposium connects entrepreneurs

The Technology Entrepreneur Center at the UI will host its
TEC TEN Symposium, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. April 24, at the IHotel and Conference Center.

“The symposium brings together Illinois alumni and students and the technology community,” said TEC direc-
tor Andrew C. Singer. “Our goal is to connect innovative
leaders in their fields. The agenda includes topics such as
encourage the creation of unique and transformative ideas.”

The symposium presentations and discussions will be
led by Illinois alumni and friends who are entrepreneurs
leading in their fields. The agenda includes topics such as
opportunity recognition, finding a venture in various geo-
graphic regions, understanding how customers influence
products and services, and what the future holds for

New three-way stop at First Street, Stadium Drive

For more information, contact the Center for Children’s
Books at 217-244-9331 or ccb@illinois.edu.

Emergency Contact Database

Submit your emergency contacts online

The UI has joined with the Office of the Secretary of
State to promote the Emergency Contact Database. The da-
tabase allows Illinois driver’s license and ID cardholders
to enter emergency contact information into the state’s volun-
tary online database to help them reach the person’s designated contacts.

For more information or to register your contact infor-
mation, visit online at http://tec.illinois.edu/ecten.

State Universities Annuitants Association

President Ikenberry to talk April 25

President Stanley O. Ikenberry will speak at the spring meeting of the University chapter of the State Universities An-
nuities Association on April 25 at the I Hotel and Confer-
ence Center. Refreshments will be served starting at 1:30 p.m. and Ikenberry will talk at about 2:15 p.m. after a brief
business meeting at 2 p.m. The free event is open to the
public.

SUAA is a statewide organization whose members are
current employees and retirees of Illinois public universi-
ties. The SUAA's main pur-
pose is to advocate for a strong and secure retirement pension and health benefit system for all members of the SUAA sys-
tem’s health and retirement plans.

Ikenberry will share his thoughts about the historic oc-
currences that have taken place over the past year and his
views about the state of the university and the challenges ahead.
He also will be available to hear comments and answer
questions.

Center for Children’s Books and Spurlock Museum

Storytelling festival is April 17

The Center for Children’s Books at the Graduate School of
Library and Information Science along with the Spur-
lock Museum will host their annual Storytelling Festival at
7 p.m. April 17 in the Spurlock Museum auditorium.

The event is free and open to the public.

The event will include entertainment, games and door
prizes in addition to the opportunity to receive free blood-
pressure screening, cholesterol screening, spinal checks,
massages and manicures.

Participants include Carle Clinic, Champaign Urbana
Park District and the University of Illinois Hospitals.

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The event will feature a mix of stories from around the
world, from a child’s failed attempt to get a pet, to a Japa-

nese folktale about a judge with a creative approach to ad-

ministering justice. Stories will be performed by students,
alumni and faculty members, including new storytellers
and seasoned professionals.

The festival is a great opportunity for the community to
enjoy the art of storytelling, and it provides our emerging
student storytellers with a chance to shine,” said Kate Mc-
dowell, a professor of library and information science who

Teaches the storytelling courses at the school and also facili-
tates Story Coach, a monthly meeting at which students and
faculty members practice storytelling.

The cost for students is $5 with a student ID and $8 for

the public. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Some

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Printed origami offers technique for small, complex structures

Although it looks small and unassuming, the tiny origami crane sitting in a sample dish in UI professor Jennifer Lewis’ lab heralds a new method for creating complex three-dimensional structures for biocompatible devices, microscaffolding and other microsystems. The penny-sized titanium bird began as a printed sheet of titanium hydride ink.

The team’s article on their novel technique for small, complex structures that simply fold it into an assortment of particles, leaving a solid object. Even fold it into an assortment of paper, as it would first seem. There are different methods of fabricating such structures is by direct-write assembly, which the Lewis group helped pioneer. In this approach, a large printer deposits inks containing metallic, ceramic or plastic particles to assemble a structure layer by layer. Then, the structure is annealed at a high temperature to evaporate the wet-folding origami, in which paper is flattened, then roll it up into a spiral – or even fold it into an assortment of shapes.

Folding the printed sheets is not as easy as it would first seem. “Most of our inks are based on aqueous formulations, so they dry quickly. They become very stiff and can crack when folded,” said Lewis, the Thurman Professor of Materials Science and Engineering and the director of the university’s Frederick Seitz Materials Research Laboratory. “But restricting that sort of reporting can stifle competition and help prevent, it could severely limit getting zeroed in on ethics provisions that suggest that “as the ability to do harm has grown, so must the law’s ability to protect the innocent,” the study said.

Amy Gajda says long-standing boundaries for news coverage have narrowed in a recent spate of privacy rulings, which could ultimately have a chilling effect on mainstream journalists whose watchdog role helps safeguard against corruption and other misconduct.

“It’s easy to condemn journalism as a whole, feeling that something needs to be done about tabloid reporting,” she said. “But restricting that sort of reporting can also restrict very legitimate news reporting about privacy battered by an explosion of tabloid reporting on the Internet and 24-hour news outlets hungry for fresh stories, a study by a UI legal expert warned.

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Will Krusblisk
College of Media

The bookshelves in Isabel Molina-Guzmán’s office on the 10th floor of Altgeld Hall are lined with DVDs, videotapes, magazines and tabloids — her research tools. For her new book, “Dangerous Curves” of Latinas in the media studied, she has been reading and analyzing everything from comedy to couture to the cultural, social and political status of Latinas in the new age of integrated mass media, Molina-Guzmán traces the visibility of the Latina body in both news and entertainment.

Her examinations include news coverage of the 2000 U.S.-Cuba controversy involving Elian González; the popular sexualized images of musician/actress Jennifer Lopez; the questioning but ethically homogenized character played by actress America Ferrera in the television show “Ugly Betty”; and the mixed reactions of U.S., Mexican and Mexican-American media to the film “Frida,” a biopic of celebrated Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, starring Mexican actress Salma Hayek.

Molina-Guzmán said her book has always been anchored in issues of social equity and the knowledge that would lead to developments in adoption, surrogacy or the choice to marry so that a person can have children with someone else, she said.

“Rather than portray those women as victims, Barro said his book tries to give an account of the life experiences of these women and show the extent to which, despite the lack of rewards, they are in fact able to take control of their lives and bring about positive social change.”

Emotional journey of infertility examined

By Phyllis Picclesheimer
ACES News Writer

I n infertility isolation are soul sisters, says Constance Hoenk Shapiro, a professor of family studies and of social work. Women and co-workers — effortlessly become pregnant and deliver babies that become the center of their lives and conversations, an infertile woman — and her partner — often feel defeated and alone.

Shapiro’s new book “When You’re Not Expecting” (John Wiley & Sons) has the perspective of infertility being “as fundamental a human right and the most important factor in improving other important aspects in women’s lives.” But she also argues that though infertility is an important part of that education, it is not literacy per se. The focus in teaching literacy that empowers these women “should not be on the mechanical transfer of literacy skills and knowledge, and learning how to read and write,” Barro said. “Literacy should be part of an overall empowering education process.”

“The role of literacy in enhancing Women’s Agency and Well-being: A Qualitative Inquiry of the Effects of the Tostan Educational Program on the Lives of Women in a Rural Communi ty in Senegal” (NYU Press, February 2010), Molina-Guzmán’s book, reveals how much the ethnic and racial institution of the defendant’s own colleagues.

There also is advice for men and for women with medical treatments; what to do when making decisions to have courses; how to cope with baby showers; family gatherings, and child-centered holidays; recovering emotionally from pregnancy loss; putting your life on hold while you’re waiting for expensive treatments to succeed.

“I’ve worked with hundreds of people who have been diagnosed with infertility,” Shapiro said, “and my book uses the well-disguised voices of my clients as they talk about their challenges and coping strategies,” she said. “I think readers will feel validated in their experiences of having and finding the women’s accounts of their experiences a lifeline to sanity and survival. It’s a hopeful book with compelling stories, humor and honesty,” she said.

At the end of each chapter, Shapiro offers tips that take up the issues her clients are coping with that would simultaneously teach literacy and

Court has said is necessary to ensure robust reporting, while also offering recourse to people who are truly wronged by news coverage.

“I think there is recognition at all levels that there should be some way to limit harmful reporting,” Gajda said. “My concern is that journalism not be dragged down by those who set out to do harm to others.”

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BRIEFS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

– to show that dividends are influenced not only by firm financial characteristics but by investor behavior as well.

“Local investment preferences are an important driver,” he said. “It’s not just a matter of firms setting whatever policy they want, with investors then scurrying to the one that matches their preferences.”

“Indeed, the study finds that the presence of seniors in the community is more important than the firm’s size, cash holdings and past stock returns in predicting which companies will decide to start paying dividends and which will not,” Weisbenner said.

The study examined county-by-county senior ratios within states, rather than potentially misleading comparisons such as Florida’s senior-leaning population vs. younger demographics in Alaska or Utah.

Weisbenner says the initial findings surprised even researchers, who suspected the results might have stemmed from factors other than an aging population.

A big question, he said, was whether a large older population also could mean that the community had a dying economy, dominated by old-guard firms that have limited growth potential and opt for dividends rather than investment.

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“Seniors typically like stocks that return some capital, but it remains to be seen whether the trend will continue,” Weisbenner said. “Today’s seniors remember the Great Depression. The seniors of 20 years from now won’t have that experience and may not have the same preferences.”

Kachru Lecture

Linguist to lecture April 22

Robert R. King, the Audre and Bernard Rapoport Regents Chair of Jewish Studies and Distinguished Teaching Professor at the University of Texas at Austin, will deliver the Braj and Yamuna Kachru Distinguished Lecture in the Linguistics Sciences at the UI on April 22.

The lecture, “Linguistics and World Englishes,” will take place from 7:30-9 p.m. in Room 407 of the Illini Union and is free and open to the public.

King’s current research and publication interests include the Yiddish language, the politics of language in general and the language of politics in India in particular. The connecting theme of his current work is the relationship among language, ethnicity, nationhood and politics.

The lecture is named for Yamuna Kachru, professor emerita of linguistics at the UI, and Braj B. Kachru, professor emeritus of linguistics in the UI’s Center for Advanced Study. A reception in the Colonial Room on the first floor of Illini Union will follow the lecture, which is sponsored by the UI School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics and the department of linguistics.

Dividends, continued from page 7

BRIEFS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

“Local investment preferences are an important driver,” he said. “It’s not just a matter of firms setting whatever policy they want, with investors then scurrying to the one that matches their preferences.”

Indeed, the study finds that the presence of seniors in the community is more important than the firm’s size, cash holdings and past stock returns in predicting which companies will decide to start paying dividends and which will not,” Weisbenner said.

The study examined county-by-county senior ratios within states, rather than potentially misleading comparisons such as Florida’s senior-leaning population vs. younger demographics in Alaska or Utah.

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Many of this much is drawn from the online Campus Calendars on the UI Web site at http://illinois.edu/calendar. Other documents may be sent 15 days before the desired publication date to insideil@uiuc.edu.

**calendar of events**

**April 15 - May 9**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td><strong>Cell Mobility in Inflammation: Implications to Human Disease.</strong> Anna Hüttermann, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Noon. 102 Chemical and Life Sciences Laboratory. Cell and Developmental Biology.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td><strong>The Enzymic Chemical and Quantum Measurement Techniques.</strong> Daniel Whelan, Los Alamos National Laboratory. 4 p.m. 404 Chemistry and Life Sciences Laboratory. Cell and Developmental Biology.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td><strong>Biological Invasions and Parasite Biodiversity.</strong> Eric Hobert, Yale University. 4 p.m. 1013 Science Library. Biological Sciences Building. Pathology.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td><strong>The Origin of Life and Quantum Measurements.</strong> David A. Steck, University of Oregon. Noon. 204 Research Laboratories. Physics.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td><strong>People Who Believe in Nothing: Ideologies in Late Renaissance Italy.</strong> Edwin Muir, Northwestern University. 5:30 p.m. Lucy Ellis Lounge, 1080 Foreign Languages Building. Medieval and Renaissance Studies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20</td>
<td><strong>Taxiing in Women: Legal Debates and Social Realities.</strong> Carle J. Peterman, University of Hawaii, Manoa. 7:30 p.m. 101 Alumni Center. Social Work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 22</td>
<td><strong>A Hindus Perspective on Religous Diversity and the Metaphysics of the Secular.</strong> Chakravarthi Ram-Prasad, University of California, Berkeley. 4 p.m. 208 Science Library. Mathematics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 24</td>
<td><strong>Business Bridges: Female proliferating energy lines.</strong> Touchable Education. Susan Lonski, University of Illinois. Noon. 102 Chemical and Life Sciences Laboratory. Microbiology.</td>
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| April 25   | **Second Annual Braj and Ya- \_
| April 26   | **Museum Practices.** Carl Gagliardi, Carleton University. 4 p.m. 114 Altgeld Hall. Music. |
| April 28   | **The Chemical Enrichment of the Early IGM by the First Supermassive.** Sean H. Adams, University of Michigan. 4 p.m. 114 Altgeld Hall. Chemistry. |
| April 29   | **Intangible Aspects of Women's Carus.** Dayak Museum. 4 p.m. 103 Biological Sciences Building. Center for Writing Studies. |
| April 30   | **Border Wars and the Approach to Human Dis- \_
April 15, 2010  more calendar of events

CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

Biology Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory.

“Vigilant Citizenship: Local Christianity and the Rep- eritories of Neotbolism.” Andrea Ott, U. S. Nunez-Lacap Ellis Lounge, 1080 Foreign Languages Building. 3:00-4:00.


Advances in Sensory and De- velopmental Neuroscience Seminar. 1:20 P.M. Beckman Institute. Biophysics.

Mueller-Thurn Lecture in Computer Science. Eric Breul, University of California, Berkeley. 4:15 P.M. Siefel Center. Computer Scien-

4 Tuesday

“The Interplay of Black Holes With Their Environment in Gas-Rich Mergers.” Mala Vidya of the University of Minne-

5 Wednesday

“Water Use In Ethanol Production.” Philip M. Foster, UI. Noon. Illinois Sustain-

6 Thursday

“Clinical and Molecular Analyses of Intestinal Gob- bic cells.” 4:00 P.M. 103 Muntz Hall. Nosebe.

7 Friday

“Issues of the Transition to College Mathematics.” David Brassard, Macalester College. 4:00 P.M. Altgeld Hall. Math.

Flygare Memorial Lecture. Kay Kiyono, University of Ila-

9 Sunday

Recital Hall, Smith Memorial Hall. 8:00 P.M. Assembly Hall. Orchestra: “Stabat Mater.”

10 Monday

Robert E. Brown Center for World Music Spring Concert. Music of China, China, China, China, China, Thailand, Japan, North Korea, and Australia. Performed by UI students and instructors. Selte children and guest artists from UI students and instructors. Around 4:00 P.M. 8:30 P.M. Krannert Center amphitheater.


Robert E. Brown Center for World Music Recital. Ancient Bells. Oberlin College. 5:00 P.M. Krannert Center amphitheater.

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Center's Debut Artist recital. Shawn Purcell, jazz guitar.

Sinfonia da Camera: "Sinfonia" by Guy de Maupassant. New Music Ensemble. Based on "Sinfonia" by Eric Crozier. Eduardo Diaz-Naval, soprano. 5 p.m. Memorial Room, Smith Memorial Hall.

UI Clarinet Choir. 7:30 p.m. 2100 Music Building. School of Music.

UI Latin Jazz Band. 7:30 p.m. Memorial Room, Smith Memorial Hall. School of Music.

Senior Recital. Daniel Hyler.
Although roughly 400,000 faculty members, according to a UI expert in historical issues of professionalization of the faculty, have thus far ignored the long, contentious history of faculty unionization, "Unions in higher education have played an important role in academic freedom," he said. "Most people who study and think about higher education don’t think about the union aspects of it. If they think about faculty, they think about teaching and research, not their role as workers. But with around 400,000 members — including at community colleges, which are largely unionized — those numbers are important." Cain, the author of "The First Attempts to Unionize the Faculty" in Teachers College Record, said the impetus for faculty unionization sprung from a belief among the professoriate that affiliating with labor would give them a greater voice in the institutional governance of their schools, an increase in professional status, and the possibility to make more money, along with achieving academic freedom and job security. "In the 1910s and 1920s, critics like Thorstein Veblen were saying that universities are controlled by corporations, and one of the things they argue is that a union is a response to that," he said. "We hear some of that same rhetoric today. It’s been a long-standing complaint." According to Cain’s research, beginning with the founding of the American Federation of Teachers Local 33 at Howard University in November 1918, college and school faculty organized 20 separate union locals for a variety of social, economic and institutional reasons before the end of 1920. "Popular sentiment eventually turned against union membership, and the AFT entered the 1920s in a precarious position, with membership plummeting from over 10,000 in 1919 to just over 3,000 two years later," Cain said. The Russian Revolution, the conclusion of World War I, the first Red Scare, and violent strikes in other industries also shifted national attitudes toward labor, and concern over leftist influence in schools grew, resulting in requirements that educators sign loyalty oaths and in investigations into pacifists, socialists, and others suspected of disloyalty. "Faculty members in postsecondary education and educators across institutional levels abandoned unionization, as they worried for their positions and questioned the effectiveness of organized labor," Cain said. In the face of institutional and external pressure, and with many faculty members either apathetic about or opposed to unionization, this first wave of faculty unionization concluded in the early 1920s with the closing of all but one of the campus locals. Cain said that unionization rebounded in the 1930s, in what he calls "the second wave of faculty unionization," and played an important role in academic freedom. Members also believed that joining the AFT could foster larger societal and educational change, including providing support for K-12 teachers who were engaged in similar struggles for status and improved working conditions. But an underlying tension between college and K-12 members in the AFT remained. "A lot of it really became intense around academic freedom issues," Cain said. "A lot of money was spent on big national efforts the AFT was trying to push on behalf of college faculty; a disproportionate amount of money went to college faculty cases. Then there were hurt feelings, arguments over who was in control of the funds, and questions about whether the K-12 teachers just supporting faculty members?" That sentiment only further exacerbated other divisions within the union. "You had all these competing factions who were eyeing each other suspiciously," Cain said. Still, Cain said, faculty unions could be quite influential, even without having the ability to collectively bargain and even though most faculty refused to join them. The disagreements about the appropriateness of labor affiliation still remain for union organizers hoping to spread unionization to new institutions or to garner tenure-line faculty’s support of the unionization of contingent and part-time educational workers. "Based on the historical record, faculty have, for the most part, been employees, we just don’t like to admit it," Cain said. "One place where there is real union is around graduate students, whether they should be able to unionize, whether they’re workers or students. For a long time, there’s been a reliance on poorly treated labor in higher education simply because teaching is labor-intensive, if you want to do it well."