Engineering could give reconstructive surgery a face-lift

By Liz Ahlberg

Physical Sciences Editor

Facial reconstruction patients may soon have the option of custom-made bone replacements optimized for both form and function, thanks to researchers at the UI and the Ohio State University Medical Centers.

Neither resulting from illness nor injury, loss of facial bones poses problems for reconstructive surgeons beyond cosmetic implications: The patient’s churning, swallowing, speaking or even breathing abilities may be impeded.

“The mid-face is perhaps the most complicated part of the human skeleton,” said Glaucio Paulino, the Donald Biggar Willett Professor of Engineering at UI.

“What makes mid-face reconstruction more complicated is its unusual unique shape (bones are small and delicate) and functions, and its location in an area susceptible to high contamination with bacteria.”

To fashion bone replacements, surgeons will often harvest bone from elsewhere in the patient’s body — the shoulder blade or hip, for example — and manually fashion it into something resembling the missing skull portion. However, since other bones are very different from facial bone structure, patients may still suffer impaired function or cosmetic distortion.

The interdisciplinary research team, whose research results were published in the July 12 edition of the proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, applied an engineering design technique called topology optimization.

The approach uses extensive 3-D modeling to design structures that need to support specific loads confined space, and is often used to engineer high-rise buildings, car parts and other structures.

“It tells you where to put material and where to create holes,” said Paulino, a professor of civil and environmental engineering. “Essentially, the technique allows engineers to find the best solution that satisfies design requirements and constraints.

Facial reconstruction seemed a natural fit for the technique, Paulino said. “We looked at the clinical problem from a different perspective. Topology optimization offers an interdisciplinary framework to integrate concepts from medicine, biology, numerical methods, mechanics and computations.”

Topology optimization would create patient-specific, case-by-case designs for tissue-engineered bone replacements. First, the researchers construct a detailed 3-D computer model of the patient in Setx RECONSTRUCTION. Page 4

New skimmer removes oil more efficiently

A researcher at the UI is developing a floating oil skimmer that removes oil from the surface of water more efficiently than existing skimmers and, when becognizable, could help clean up oil spills such as the disaster in the Gulf of Mexico caused by the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig.

Tim Lindsey, associate director of the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center, is developing the technology, called a floating telescoping weir skimmer. Using a telescoping weir cup attached to a floating vessel, such as a pontoon boat, the device creates laminar flow to draw oil from the water’s surface into a separator unit. Within the separator, the oil accumulates on polypropylene balls, or other oil-coalescing surfaces, and is diverted to a reservoir, where it is stored for refining.

“Conventional skimming devices operate like vacuum cleaners — you have to move them around to collect the oil,” Lindsey said. “With this skimmer, you only have to get it near the oil because it can draw the oil in.”

Slick solution

Lindsey is seeking funding to build a full-scale prototype and put it to the test.

“It wouldn’t take long to build,” Lindsey said. “The skimmer could be fabricated in a week in a manufacturing shop, and I’d just need to find a pontoon boat that’s about the right size to install it on.”

Before joining the staff at Illinois, Lindsey worked for Exxon on at least the nation’s largest energy processing facilities. In 1989, the company asked him to travel to Alaska to help clean up the spill from the Exxon Valdez tanker, in which more than 10 million gallons of crude oil was released into Prince William Sound. The Valdez disaster was the largest spill to occur in U.S. waters until the Deepwater Horizon disaster. However, the impending birth of Lindsey’s second son kept him from accepting that assignment.

Lindsey joined the ISTC in 1991 and has published widely on pollution prevenion technologies and promoting innovative sustainability practices.
New program evaluating campus paths for ‘walkability’

By Jan Dennis Business & Law Editor

Walking. It’s safe, simple, doesn’t require special equipment and it’s good for you, too.

Staff members at the UI Wellness Center hope a new program will help faculty and staff members and students take advantage of the paths, sidewalks and walkways and walk their way to better health.

“We want to help employees and students on campus to be more active and focus more on lifestyle activity,” said Michele Guerra, director of the Wellness Center, which is part of Campus Recreation.

“We also have a lot of resources for structured exercise (through Campus Recreation programs) but we want to help people move more in daily life.”

Getting people on campus to increase their activity without making any big lifestyle changes is a key part of the center’s strategic plan.

Guerra said the decision was made to start with walking not only because it’s one of the most popular forms of exercise, but also because so many people would be walking around campus anyway.

“It’s something that most people could do easily,” she said. “You don’t need special equipment. You just need some good shoes and socks and maybe some sunscreen and a hat.”

The center hopes to have a study of the campus’s ‘walkability’ completed by fall. The campus was divided into 12 quadrants.

Volunteers are being sought to evaluate each area to determine the best walking routes on campus.

The volunteers should live, work or study in the quadrants they evaluate.

Volunteers will be trained to use a tool developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, that evaluates nine areas to determine the ease in which pedestrians can walk in the quadrants. The CDC tool has been enhanced with more observations of specific factors that are specific to a college campus setting.

Criteria to be rated include: walking surfaces; hazards; sidewalks; pedestrian conflicts; (such as motor-vehicle traffic); foot-traffic congestion; the amount of shade or sunlight; the width of the path; the space separating walkways and sidewalks; accessibility; aesthetics (which ranks the surroundings as well as things such as the amount of shade on a path).

Information on hazardous areas will be shared with Facilities and Services, Public Safety, or other offices that could fix the problems, Guerra said.

Guerra said volunteers will not evaluate areas such as streets, parking lots or trails in each quadrant, but will focus on walking ways near the most popular areas.

Guerra said, “It’s something that most people could do easily,” she said. “Unless they happen to be right next to them.”

Path to better health The UI Wellness Center wants to help students get out and walk more with a new program that will chart the best walking paths on campus. Eventually the program could result in walking programs and Web-based tools that help walkers select the best paths for them.

UI expert: Financial reform a mixed bag for consumers

Robert Lawless, an economist and bankruptcy expert at the University of Illinois, said the potential problem, Lawless says, is that the bureau also could respond more quickly than Congress if the financial industry develops new products or strategies that shortcut consumers, reacting in weeks or months rather than years.

"The bureau is a great idea, in theory," he said. "The question is whether the practice will live up to the theory."

The potential problem, Lawless says, is that the bureau could become subject to the same political influences as other government agencies and its focus could shift away from the whim of new presidential administrations or the clutch of industry lobbyists.

"The lesson from history is that federal agencies have to fight to keep their autonomy and special equipment, and it’s good for you, too.

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On the Job

John Welch, who works at Illini Flash Drive in the Illini Union, takes pride in helping UI employees and students find the technology they’re looking for.

Tell me what the Illini Flash Drive is and what you do.

I’m the coordinator for Illini Flash Drive, which is the computer store for the University of Illinois. We’re part of Central Stores (a unit within Facilities and Services), but we’re set up more for doing sales. Faculty, staff and students buy their computers and other accessories through us.

So what do you sell?

We sell four brands of computers – Apple, Dell, Hewlett-Packard and Lenovo. We also sell accessories such as toner, printers, keyboards.

What do customers usually ask when shopping for a computer?

Most of them – probably 50 percent of people looking at computers – already know what they want. The other 50 percent are kind of on the edge of whether they want a PC or a Mac. Some are looking for specific things such as a larger graphics card or something like that.

How many computers do you sell a day?

It’s pretty hard to say because right now we are selling a bunch because (freshman) orientation is going on. It’s the busiest time of year for us. Right now it’s nothing for us to sell 10, 15 or 20 computers a day. On average we sell three a day.

What’s something about the Illini Flash Drive that you think makes it stand out from other places people would buy computers?

No. 1, we’re very friendly. No. 2, they’re going to get a better deal through us because we’re an educational store, and we can sell computers at a bigger discount than other retailers. Our service and friendliness is probably a big part of it.

How do you go about helping people find the right computer?

We find out what they want to do with it. If it’s just searching the Internet, answering e-mails and doing a little Facebook, they don’t need a lot of computer for that. However, if they’re creating videos, they would need more power.

Has the store changed since you’ve been there?

When I started here, we remodeled the store. We never used to stock anything. People used to come in and we’d order for you. Now people can come in here and buy all kinds of computer stuff (off the shelf).

How many years have you worked at Illini?

I’m on my 10th year – I started at Stores in the late ’60s.

Do you like working at the UI?

Yes. I like the benefits, but I’m also happy to be here. Now people can come in here and buy a computer?

Do you have any tips of the trade for other salespeople?

You want to be friendly with customers and be helpful – that’s the big thing. If you’re helpful that goes a long way.

What do you like to do for fun?

Year work, although I don’t do it a lot. I also like to do woodworking. I love to spend time with my two grandchildren, who are 4 and 10 years old. I also have some “adopted” grandkids that live nearby and don’t have grandparents around. We’re going to have our grandchildren for a week this summer. We’re looking forward to that.

What kind of books do you like to make with wood?

I’ve made shelves and wooden Christmas decorations in the past. I’d like to do more of that again.

What other activities are you involved in?

I’m the moderator of our church, the First Baptist Church of Mahomet. I’m responsible for running board meetings at the church, among other things. We’re very involved in that.

Interview by Anna K. Herkamp, assistant editor

David Inge

host of “Focus” on WILL-AM (580)
Illinois Public Media

Working for a lot of nonfiction, mostly books about politics and history. When I read for pleasure, I am looking for pure escapism and so I turn to science fiction and mystery.

My interest in science fiction is not so much in stories of people battling alien monsters as in stories of people trying to cope with radically changed circumstances, and changing radically in the process. I have particularly enjoyed Ian McDonald’s books “River of Gods” and “Cyberabad Days,” both set in a future India. There are now four in the series that revolves around a young Thai police detective named Sonchai Jitpleecheep, a man who struggles with the challenges of being both a good cop and a good Buddhist.

I am on the edge of being the last person to read “The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo,” by Stieg Larsson. I also read regularly with my son, Quinn, who is almost 9. One of our favorite series has been “Guardians of Ga’Hoole,” by Kathryn Lasky. The 15-book series blends Arthurian-style fantasy with learning from the natural sciences. This beast fairy focuses on a band of owls that strive to preserve nobility, community, learning and creativity in a post-human world.

Spending of the Kind, we love ours. We like to watch lectures and discussions on the Kindle. We find out what they want to do with it.

For pure pleasure, I’ve been reading Ian Ranken’s “Dresden Files” with my husband, Duan. The longest book I’ve read in a year.

Do you have any advice for how to make with wood?

That’s a hot spot for supernatural activity of nearly every kind, from vampires to fairies. The pleasures of the series are many, including its rejuvenation of fantasy clichés and off-the-wall sense of humor.

Speaking of the Kind, we love ours. We like to watch lectures and discussions on C-Span and their related books instantly. We did that recently when we saw a rerun of Steven Pinker’s lecture on “The Stuff of Thought” and again when we saw Dan Ariely’s lecture on “Predatorly Irrational.” Writing from the perspective of cognitive science, Pinker focuses on how language constructs and reveals certain aspects of cognition. In this book, he’s especially astute at inferring what informal language structures reveal about our cultures and how we think within them.

Ariely also is interested in researching how we think, but from the perspective of behavioral economics. He focuses on how we fool ourselves into thinking we are making rational decisions when it’s often quite the opposite.

He argues that if we can identify our patterns of irrational choice, then we can begin to make more self-consciously rational decisions and so improve our lot.

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And, I read a great deal on my own, especially Victorian literature and scholarship, as well as poetry and short stories. I’m nearing the end of Linda Lear’s “Beatrix Potter: A Life in Nature,” a biography that reveals the Victorian-era female writer and illustrator of books for young children (the “Peter Rabbit” series) as a serious artist, dogged naturalist, astute businesswoman and committed farmer.

Kelly Searsmith
assistant director for planning and development, edreum (Emerging Digital Research and Education in Arts Media Institute)

Reading as toner, printers, headsets. We find out what they want to do with it.

Other people’s stories and ideas and word images flow through my mind like water; they’re a life-giving force.

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Kelly Searsmith
THE evolvement of a tornado and the inner workings of a living cell will be at the center of some of the challenging research UI professors will tackle using the world’s most powerful supercomputer next year.

The Blue Waters supercomputer, to be housed in the new National Petascale Computing Facility at Oak Street and St. Mary’s Road, will come online in 2011.

The National Center for Supercomputing Applications recently hosted an open house for Blue Waters’ future home. So far, the 8th supercomputer facility is housing infrastructure components that will support Blue Waters. The computer itself will arrive in 2011, but getting it on its feet will take place, including a room of power-distribution panels and other technology now being installed on the site.

"We want to access the unsurpassed computing power to take on some of the most difficult problems in their fields," said Trish Barker, senior public information specialist for the campus office. Brashers joined the UI faculty in 1998. He served as the associate director of the UI Office of Continuing Education as an assistant curator from the Office of Continuing Education as a

The National Petascale Computing Facility, 101 W. University Ave., Champaign, IL 61801; or Christie Clinic Breast Cancer Foundation, 1209 W. Oregon St., Urbana, IL 61801; or Christie Clinic Support Group, c/o Christie Clinic Foundation, 1209 W. Oregon St., Urbana, IL 61801.

Roger Lee Adams Sr., 50, died July 5 in his campus office. Brashers joined the UI faculty in 1998. He served as the associate director of the UI Office of Continuing Education as an assistant curator from the Office of Continuing Education as a

Severe weather atmospheric sciences researchers Brian Jewett (left) and Robert B. Wilhelmson will use Blue Waters, the world’s fastest supercomputer when it comes online in 2011, to study how tornadoes form. Their research eventually could lead to better predictions of the severe storms. Wilhelmson, principal investigator on the project, is affiliated with NCSA.

Jewett and Schulten say having the computer at the UI only enhances the already stellar achievements and reputation of the UI as a research institution.

"It means a world-class resource is going to be located right here for our use," Jewett said. "It’s a tremendous opportunity.

Although Jewett and Schulten are UI researchers, they didn’t have a home-field advantage to gain access to Blue Waters.

Both teams submitted lengthy proposals to get a time slot for using Blue Waters. Scientists from across the nation and around the world compete for a chance to use the supercomputer for their research.

The supercomputer will be used to support open scientific and engineering research – in other words, non-classified material that eventually will be published, said Trish Barker, senior public information specialist at NCSA.

"It’s reserved for only the most challenging problems you can’t do on other supercomputers," he said.

Blue Waters will be supported by a set of National Science Foundation grants that exceed $300 million until 2016. By then, newer hardware and software could be developed and another machine could replace Blue Waters as the world’s largest supercomputer.

Blue Waters, a joint effort of the UI, NCSA, IBM and the Great Lakes Consortium for Petascale Computing, is based on IBM’s POWER7 hardware.

Today’s leading scientists won’t be the only ones to benefit from use of the supercomputer. Time and resources will be set aside at the facility for K-12 educational programs. Graduate students also will be able to take advantage of training programs at the facility.

The National Petascale Computing Facility, a $72.5 million facility paid for by the state of Illinois, will achieve LEED Gold certification for energy efficiency. Blue Waters is water-cooled, which reduces energy requirements by 40 percent, according to IBM. On-site cooling towers will provide water chilled naturally about nine months of the year.

ON THE WEB

www.ncsa.illinois.edu/BlueWaters/

www.ncsa.illinois.edu/AboutUs/Facilities/npcf.html

www.ncsa.illinois.edu/BlueWaters/prac-teams.html

RECONSTRUCTION, FROM PAGE 1

question and specify a design domain based on the injury and missing bone parts. Then a series of algorithms creates a customized, optimized structure, accounting for variables including blood flow, sinus cavities, chewing forces and soft tissue support, among other considerations. The researchers can then model the process of inserting the replacement bone into the patient and how the patient would look. The process is illustrated in a video posted online (link on page 1).

Ideally, it would allow the physician to explore surgical alternatives and to design patient-specific bone replacement. Each patient’s bone replacement designs are tailored for their missing volume and functional requirements.

Now that they have demonstrated the concept successfully by modeling several different types of facial bone replacements, the researchers hope to work toward developing scaffolds for tissue engineering so that their designs could be translated to actual bones. They also hope to explore further surgical possibilities for their method.

“This technique has the potential to pave the way toward development of tissue engineering methods to create custom fabricated living bone replacements in optimum shapes and volumes," Pau- lin said. “The possibilities are immense and we feel that we are just in the beginning of the process.”

Also on the UI team is graduate student Tami Nguyen. The Ohio team, sponsored by the National Science Foundation, includes Alok Sutradhar, one of Paulino’s former students, and Dr. Michael Miller at the Ohio State University Medical Center Division of Plastic Surger.
New book offers at-a-glance overview of business world

By Jan Dennis
Business & Law Editor

Business touches virtually every line of work, from high-stakes dealing on Wall Street to managing payroll and supplies for local street-repair crews.

A new book co-written by a UI expert provides a wide-ranging overview of the business world, offering quick-read lessons to guide people looking for a crash course as well as those who just need to brush up. The reasons apply to all facets of business because the people most likely to succeed are the ones with the broadest understanding of the diverse challenges they may encounter. "I Learned in Business School," is a follow-up to the popular "I101 Things I Learned in Architecture School," Matthew Frederick, an architect who wrote the 2007 release, is a co-author of the new book, published by Hatchette Book Group, a division of Grand Central Publishing in New York.

Each lesson is presented in a two-page format with a brief summary and illustrations, covering topics in accounting, communications, economics, finance, management, marketing, operations, strategy and other disciplines.

For a mechanical engineering student, recent graduates and business professionals, the book is a handy, at-a-glance overview that puts key theories in perspective, whether they were learned weeks or years ago, said Preis, who earned an MBA from Harvard and a doctorate in marketing from George Washington University.

For people trained in other fields who land jobs that require business skills, he said, the book is a primer that provides a thumbnail summary of fundamental principles, the logic behind them and their real-world application.

"It's a brief introduction that will help those people in thinking about business and running businesses," Preis said. "It introduces the basics and provides a springboard for those who want to dig deeper." The book's 101 lessons include explanations of equity capital vs. debt capital, cash accounting vs. accrual accounting, and a synopsis of the various forms of business ownership, as well as tips on expanding sales, developing mission statements, motivating employees and running meetings. Other topics covered include:

- A marketing lesson explaining that consumer benefits sell products, not fancy features. A telephone-anwering machine might have features such as call forwarding and call waiting, but the benefit is that users will never miss another call.
- A lesson that teaches why companies cannibalize their own markets by introducing new products that compete with existing ones. "Why would a microwave oven manufacturer make a liquid soap that competes with its powdered product? So its competitors don't," Preis said.

The quick-read lessons are accompanied by illustrations that range from informative charts to light-hearted cartoons, said Preis, who worked as a mechanical engineer who worked in private business and owned his own industrial supply company before going into teaching. "Some of the illustrations are amusing, but it's not a funny book," he said. "The lessons are all serious, and something that both novices and business professionals can grasp and remember very quickly." 

Business at-a-glance

A new book co-written by Michael Preis, a professor of business administration, provides a broad overview of the business world. "101 Things I Learned in Business School" offers quick-read lessons to guide people looking for a crash course as well as those who just need to brush up.

Hunger atlas takes a new look at an old problem

By Diana Vadei
Life Sciences Editor

World hunger is often seen as the result of overpopulation, bad geography or a dearth of resources. But a new book, "The Atlas of World Hunger," reveals that the contours and causes of hunger are more complex – and in some ways more easily addressed – than those old assumptions suggest.

Its authors, UI geography professor Thomas Bassett (left) and Illinois agricultural and consumer economics professor Alex Winter-Nelson, developed a new method for assessing hunger. Their Hunger Vulnerability Index (HVI) locates the hungry as well as those at risk of falling into hunger.

The HVI is made up of three components that reflect the public and private dimensions of hunger: the availability of food at the national level, measured in calories available per capita per day; household access to that food, which is tied to household income; and the nutritional status of individuals – as reflected in specific health measures, such as growth failure in young children.

The authors developed the HVI because other assessments of world hunger, most notably the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization's Prevalence of Undernutrition (POU) index, overlooked some regions that were clearly suffering the effects of hunger. The FAO's index also fails to identify people who are hungry but not poor and those that were at high risk of hunger, the authors report.

"One of the things that was really striking to me early when we were doing this mapping was discovering that the POU was showing no problems in places where child malnutrition and child stunting were tremendous problems," Winter-Nelson said. "That is really what motivated us to come up with the HVI.

The HVI uses a higher threshold of poverty than most other assessments, allowing it to capture those at risk of becoming hungry, he said.

"The common idea is if you’re living on less than can be purchased in the U.S. for $1.25 in a day, you’re extremely poor," Winter-Nelson said. "People under that threshold are obviously suffering. Our index, which is a higher threshold of $2 a day to try to capture people who are at risk of falling into that kind of extreme poverty."

The authors looked at a host of factors side by side with the HVI map, to see which variables were most closely associated with hunger vulnerability. Their findings contra
Rituals that target customers not always good for business

By Jan Dennis
Business & Law Editor

Businesses make an impression when they sing “Happy Birthday” to customers or cook up entrees right at diners’ tables, but the impression is not always a good one, new research led by a UI marketing expert has found.

Cele Otnes says businesses create rituals that center on consumers to set themselves apart, but the push for a competitive edge can also backfire, leaving customers feeling put upon, trapped or embarrassed.

“Not all customers want to be entertained,” she said. “Some just want to escape and be left alone. So the bottom line here is that businesses really need to consider their target audience before creating rituals that are effectively on autopilot when they’re creating rituals,” she said. “They really need to understand the difference between optional and embedded, and the potential consequences of forcing customers to sit through certain rituals.”

Researchers analyzed how customers are swayed by the sights, sounds and other frills of those nearly inescapable business rituals, from at-the-table food preparations such as singing “Happy Birthday” to customers or elaborate ceremonies such as weddings to at-home holiday celebrations.

For some, the trappings make rituals memorable and provide an incentive to come back, according to findings Otnes presented last week during the European Association for Consumer Research Conference at Royal Holloway University of London.

Workers in costume, polished performances and glitzy accoutrements were among ritual aesthetics that made customers feel special and cemented a positive impression of the business, surveys of more than 150 college-aged consumers found.

For others, though, rituals can leave a bad enough taste to chase away return business, according to the study, co-written by doctoral students Elizabeth Crosby, Mina Kwon and Sydney Chinchanchokchai.

Some consumers surveyed said that being forced to participate in rituals violated their sense of privacy and left them feeling hemmed in, embarrassed or even resentful, the study found.

“These are really strong negatives,” said Otnes, a business administration professor who studies rituals ranging from weddings to at-home holiday celebrations. “While rituals can make some consumers embrace the business, there’s also a huge risk. People use words like ‘annoying’ or ‘irritating’ to describe the experience and some say it definitely makes them rethink whether they’ll come back.”

The potential hazards of rituals can go beyond the obvious examples such as singing, line dancing and chopping up meals in restaurants or elaborate ceremonies for new-car buyers and customers whose spending earns bonus awards in stores, she said.

Otnes cites a scene from the 2003 film “Love Actually,” in which a character played by Alan Rickman tries frantically and unsuccessfully to halt a scripted gift-wrapping ritual in a department store as he rushes to buy a gift for his girlfriend before his wife catches him.

She says the findings suggest that businesses need to carefully consider whether rituals are optional or embedded into the business model, making them a standard practice that customers have little chance to avoid.

“In truth, all rituals are optional, but customers may fear there’s a cost to them if they try to get out of embedded rituals,” Otnes said. “For example, opting out could be considered rude and jeopardize the service they receive.”

Optional rituals offer leeway to satisfy customers’ comfort zones, but could wither efforts to build a brand image that differentiates businesses from their competitors, she said.

“Which solution is best depends completely on the business,” Otnes said. “How much do you care about repeat business? Do you rely on a local market or are you in a tourist area where customers don’t necessarily come back regularly?”

Retailers and service providers also should seek feedback from customers to gauge response to rituals, including reaction to nuances such as whether musical serenades are too noisy or if cooking at tables is too smoky.

“Businesses should not just be on autopilot when they’re creating rituals,” she said. “They really need to understand the difference between optional and embedded, and the potential consequences of forcing customers to sit through certain rituals.”
**July 15, 2010**

**InSidelIngs**

**notes**

Tribal and Traditional Plan Members

Fall retirement seminars announced

The State Universities Retirement System will offer their Retirement Education Seminars this summer, which run from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 1901 Fox Drive, Champaign, for members enrolled in the traditional or portable plans. The seminars will be on Sept. 10, Oct. 20 and Nov. 17.

Among the topics:

- **Social Security:** A Social Security representative will be available to discuss eligibility requirements for Social Security and Medicare, how Social Security benefits are affected by SURS, and other general Social Security information. The event is not approved as excused time; vacation leave will need to be used in accordance with university policy.

- **Opie Retirement Center:** The event is not approved as excused time; vacation leave will need to be used in accordance with university policy.

- **Open House:** Anyone with questions or concerns about these changes or needing assistance should contact the CITES Help Desk at 217-244-7000 or consultillinois.edu.

**Operator-Assisted Teleconferencing Services:** This service was retired June 30, and replaced with the new, self-scheduling e-Conferencing service (see http://www.cites.illinois.edu/econfencing).

Work to coordinate replacement services has been extensive and enhancements will be ongoing.

Anyone with questions or concerns about these changes or needing assistance should contact the CITES Help Desk at 217-244-7000 or consultillinois.edu.

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**Focus on the UI in Transition With Host David Inge** will be repeated at 11 a.m. July 17 on WILL-AM (580) and at 1 p.m. July 18 on WILL-FM (90.9) and WFIU (89.9). University President Michael J. Hogan, most recently the president of the University of Connecticut, succeeds Stanley O. Ikenberry, who was serving as president on an interim basis.

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A Minute With ...™ historian Adrian Burgos Jr. on Arizona, immigration and baseball

Supporters of the Arizona legislation say that opponents have not carefully read the bill — that it will not lead to racial profiling, or cause problems for U.S. citizens or legal immigrants. Why do many Latinos believe otherwise?

History provides important examples about how enforcement of a law can become far more egregious than “what is in the bill.” The civil rights movement exposed the fallacy of the “separate but equal” doctrine made legal by the Supreme Court’s Plessy v. Ferguson decision. The reality was Jim Crow laws produced blantly unequal conditions between whites and African-Americans and other minority groups.

Latinos and numerous civil rights groups point to at least two significant issues with Arizona’s SB1070 legislation.

First, there is the matter of constitutional protections against unlawful search and seizure. Compliance with, much less enforcement of, SB1070 singles out U.S.-born Latinos, who will be required to carry proof of citizenship, in case they’re stopped for even the smallest infraction. Second, there is a flawed assumption to the “just show them your papers” position. The flawed assumption is that law enforcement would automatically accept the documentation of either legal immigrant status or U.S. citizenship as authentic. A case in point is that of Eduardo Carabello, a Puerto Rican and therefore a U.S. citizen, who was detained by federal immigration officials in Chicago for more than three days recently on suspicion of being an illegal immigrant. Officials kept him even after he provided his birth certificate.

This dynamic is evident in that Major League Baseball scrutinizes the documentation that Dominicans and other Latin Americans provide for proof of age or citizenship status. MLB just doesn’t accept the documentation on its face, but has its own investigative office in the Dominican Republic to investigate authenticity.

The issue is not whether MLB should or should not do this. Baseball does this to protect its economic interests, seeking to prevent prospects from receiving a large signing bonus through age manipulation (fraud). The point is that the documentation presented by Dominicans and other Latinos already are viewed as suspect upon reception.

What makes this issue, and its connection to Arizona, especially difficult for baseball?

Latinos are baseball’s largest racial minority. When one combines the foreign-born players with the U.S.-born Latinos, the number nears a third of all big leaguers and half of all minor leaguers.

Also, half of major league teams hold their spring training in Arizona, just about all send prospects to participate in the Arizona Fall League, and almost every Major League organization has an academy in the Dominican Republic or elsewhere in Latin America.

MLB has to figure out a balance between its reliance on Latino talent, its desire to ensure the profitability of its collective enterprise, and the impact of its policies on any one franchise. Whether or not MLB moves the 2011 All-Star game out of Arizona, the decision of Commissioner Bud Selig will be viewed as making a stand on SB1070.

Why does a “nation of immigrants” repeatedly return to battles over immigration?

 Immigration invariably means the incorporation of different people, and that raises questions about continuity, about the standing of those already here and of the newcomers, and about the stability of our institutions. As President Obama noted in his July 1 speech on immigration, this is not a recent phenomenon. At various moments the Irish, Italians and Chinese, among other immigrant groups, have been singled out as undesirable, as unassimilable, and the potential cause of the nation’s downfall. The “nation of immigrants” concept tends to glance over the historical reality that legal entry and naturalization have not been available equally to all. The 1790 Naturalization Law permitted only “free white persons” to naturalize, which meant Irish and several other European groups need not apply since they were not (yet) accepted as white.

Baseball was long hailed as an institution that transformed immigrants into Americans, yet it is as much a laboratory of social ideas and racial understandings as it is a mirror of U.S. society. MLB even celebrates its role in the civil rights movement through its pursuit of racial integration in 1947, years before the 1954 Brown v. Board decision and the signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Awareness of this history has resulted in Latino groups calling on Selig to move the 2011 All-Star game out of Arizona, and campaigns for the Chicago Cubs and other major league teams to relocate their spring training sites from the state. In those efforts, they’re arguing that MLB has a responsibility to its Latino players, and fans, not to place them in a setting where their civil rights might be infringed through the enforcement of SB1070.

Editor’s note: Arizona’s controversial immigration law goes into effect July 29. Major League Baseball’s All-Star Game took place July 13 in Anaheim, Calif., but next year’s game is slated for Arizona. Nearly a third of the league’s players are Latino. Some have threatened to boycott the Arizona game, and a move-the-game campaign has begun. UI history professor Adrian Burgos Jr. teaches courses on the history of Latino immigration and is the author of “Playing America’s Game: Baseball, Latinos, and the Color Line.” He was a consultant on the upcoming Ken Burns’ documentary “The Tenth Inning,” about baseball’s last two decades. Burgos was interviewed by News Bureau social sciences editor Craig Chamberlan.