

***The following items appeared in the Faculty/Staff Notables section of Campus News between November 2003 and November 2006***

**NOVEMBER 2003**

**[Posted between Nov. 1 and 13]**

Three gift officers have joined the staff of the UIS Office of Development. **Stacey Robisch Willenborg**, director of development, corporate/foundation gifts, was previously director of legislative affairs in the Illinois State Treasurer's office, working closely with trade associations representing the banking industry and with legislators and their staffs. She holds a master of arts degree in Political Studies from UIS and a bachelor of arts in Political Science from UIUC. **Jill Bohn**, director of development, major gifts, was development manager at Decatur Memorial Foundation. She holds a bachelor's degree in Education from Eastern Illinois University and a certification in Fund Raising Management from Indiana University, Center on Philanthropy. **Michael Mullally**, director of development, student affairs/athletics, has been director of athletics at the University of Miami, Boise State, California State (Fullerton), and Eastern Illinois University. He then became a full-time fundraiser in Florida, serving as vice president of development at Doctors' Hospital and the American Red Cross. Mullally holds a bachelor's degree in Government and a master's degree in History from the University of South Dakota.

**Annette Van Dyke**, associate professor of Individual Option, Liberal Studies, and Women's Studies, presented the paper "Encounters with Deer Woman: Sexual Relations in Susan Power's *The Grass Dancer* and Louise Erdrich's *The Antelope Wife*" at the American Literature Association Conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Ken Oldfield**, emeritus professor of Public Administration, published "Social Class and Public Administration" in the September 2003 issue of *Administration and Society*. The article shows how texts, journals, and teaching efforts in the field largely ignore the role of social class in understanding the how and why of bureaucratic operations and suggests recommendations for addressing this omission, such as incorporating social class considerations into affirmative action plans for recruiting public administration faculty and students.

Oldfield also published a letter in the most recent issue of the *Journal of the Society for Psychical Research*. He wrote in defense of his earlier article published in *Skeptical Inquirer*, the bimonthly journal of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal. Oldfield's letter and article both refute claims for a supposed case of extrasensory perception.

**Hei-Chi Chan**, assistant professor of Mathematics, gave presentations on his latest work on Chaos Theory at the 4th International Conference on Dynamic Systems and Applications, held in May in Atlanta, Georgia, and at the Ergodic Theory Conference held in Corvallis, Oregon, in July. These presentations were based on his paper "The Asymptotic Growth Rate of Random Fibonacci-Type Sequences," which was recently accepted by the *Fibonacci Quarterly*.

**Marcellus Leonard**, associate professor of English, was among those who took part in reading selections from the late Gwendolyn Brooks' final collection of poetry, *In Montgomery and Other Poems*, on Monday, October 20, at the Illinois State Library. The program was part of a series of readings around the United States celebrating the book's October release. Leonard performed dramatic readings from the book. Until her death, Brooks was Poet Laureate of Illinois.

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**Jim Grubbs**, assistant professor of Communication, is the author of five chapters in the upcoming *Encyclopedia of Radio*, published by Routledge and available in December 2003. His chapters cover TOP 40 radio legend Dick Biondi, CB radio, ham (or amateur) radio, radio jamming, and cable radio.

The 1,920-page book was produced in association with the Museum of Broadcast Communications in Chicago and covers specific programs and people, networks and organizations, regulation and policies, audience research, and radio technology. More information on the publication is available at [www.routledge-ny.com/books.cfm?isbn=1579582494&CFID=60647&CFTOKEN=228](http://www.routledge-ny.com/books.cfm?isbn=1579582494&CFID=60647&CFTOKEN=228)

[Posted Nov. 14]

**Kenneth Oldfield**, emeritus professor of Public Administration, published "Genetics and the Future of Government Budgeting Policies: A Call for Research and Debate" in the September issue of *Public Performance and Management Review*. Commentary from three leading figures in public administration, and his response, follow Oldfield's article.

**Jonathan GoldbergBelle**, director of the Office of International Affairs, attended the Region V NAFSA: Association of International Educators annual meeting, held in Milwaukee November 9-12. Jonathan is chair-elect for the region (Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan) and served as chair for the conference.

**Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor of English, conducted a creative writing workshop October 11 at the Janice Mason Art Museum in Cadiz, Kentucky. The program, titled "Remembering and Recording for the Seventh Generation," was only the second invited workshop in creative nonfiction that the museum has held and it coincided with an exhibit from the Wier Collection including pieces by Jasper Johns and Robert Rauschenberg. A book signing of the first two poetry volumes in Perkins' *NYX* trilogy followed the workshop.

**Karin Cotterman**, program coordinator for student volunteers and service learning, was a discussant during the Southern Campus-Community Partners Summit of the Illinois Campus Compact, held November 17 on the SIU Edwardsville campus. The ICC is a coalition of 34 colleges and universities committed to increasing campuswide participation in community and public service. The summit was designed to bring community partners together with university faculty and staff to explore ways to build sustainable partnerships.

## **DECEMBER 2003**

[Posted Dec. 3]

On November 14 **Carolyn A. Peck**, assistant professor of Human Services-Gerontology, presented a workshop titled "To Be Old and Poor" at the annual conference of the gerontology organization Partnerships for Aging held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Over 500 people attended the meeting. Partnerships for Aging is a regional organization of 17 states, including Illinois, that provides educational service to professionals, educators, and students in the field of aging.

**[Posted Dec. 8]**

**Peter Boltuc**, associate professor of Philosophy, has been appointed to a three-year term on the American Philosophy Association's Committee of Philosophy and Computers. The committee examines such topics as computer ethics; Internet research; recent publications on logic, language, and computing; and innovations in online instruction and also reviews relevant websites and publishes their findings. Boltuc's term begins July 1, 2004, and continues until June 30, 2007. The American Philosophical Association is the main professional organization for philosophers in the United States. Founded in 1900, its mission is to promote the exchange of ideas among philosophers, to encourage creative and scholarly activity in philosophy, to facilitate the professional work and teaching of philosophers, and to represent philosophy as a discipline. For more information, visit the APA website.

**Sharron Schmidt**, staff secretary in the College of Education and Human Services, was recently recognized by the YMCA for 20 years of "outstanding, dedicated service" to the Springfield YMCA Youth Soccer Program.

**Keenan Dungey**, assistant professor of Chemistry, and undergraduate student **Anthony Kilburn** recently attended the annual meeting of the American Chemical Society, Great Lakes Region, in Chicago. Dungey gave a paper titled "Improving Writing In an Online Chemistry Course for Non-science Majors." Kilburn presented a poster on "Cobalt Oxides from Organic Hybrids of Alpha-Cobalt Hydroxide." Kilburn was co-author of the poster with fellow undergraduate students **Scott Ehrhardt** and **Amber Lewis**.

**[Posted Dec. 17]**

**Mark Franklin**, who received his doctorate in spring 2002, presented his peer-reviewed dissertation-based paper titled "A Case Study of the Illinois General Assembly's Tobacco Settlement Dispersal and Reasoned Action" at the Annual American Public Health Association Conference held in November in San Francisco. APHA is the oldest and largest organization of public health professionals in the world, representing more than 50,000 members from over 50 occupations in the field of public health. Currently a visiting professor at Indiana State University teaching both in the classroom and online, Franklin previously served as an adjunct faculty member at UIS for several years, teaching in the Health Services Administration and Master of Public Administration programs. The 2003 fall semester concluded a three-year run of his PAC "Health Policy: The Tobacco Settlement."

**[Posted Dec. 19]**

**Royce Jones**, adjunct faculty in the Philosophy program, recently served as a consultant to Wadsworth Publishers. Jones' specific task was to evaluate the format and content of web-based exercises in preparation for the next edition of *A Concise Introduction to Logic* by Patrick Hurley. Jones' work on web-based exercises for his own text, *Foundations of Critical Thinking* (Wadsworth, 2001), enabled him to suggest improvements in the exercises for Hurley's text.

**[Posted Dec. 22]**

**Jeffrey Chesky**, professor of Human Services and Biology, has received the 2004 Mildred M. Selzer Distinguished Service Recognition award presented by the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. The award recognizes those individuals – nearing retirement or recently retired – who have records of commitment and service to AGHE and its mission. Chesky's award cites his efforts on the Faculty and Program Development committees as well as his work as institutional representative at UIS and as Brief Bibliography compiler. The award will be presented at the AGHE's Annual Meeting in Richmond, Virginia, in late February.

## **JANUARY 2004**

**[Posted Jan. 5]**

An interview with **Jim Grubbs**, assistant professor of Communication, appears in the November 1 issue of *Distance Education Report*, a bi-monthly newsletter for distance education administrators. The interview is a follow-up to Grubbs' recent paper titled "Promote Your Distance Learning Program Using Streaming Media," which was presented earlier at the Illinois Distance Learning Conference.

**[Posted Jan. 16]**

Jan Droegkamp, professor of Liberal Studies/Individual Option, recently returned from Botswana, in southern Africa, where she served as visiting professor in the Educational Foundations Program at the University of Botswana. This effort is part of Droegkamp's year-long sabbatical from UIS. While at UB, she conducted two faculty development workshops on "Scholarship Reconsidered: Boyer in Botswana" and "Making Your Case: Using Teaching Portfolios." She also continued her research on women over 50 and worked on a partnership agreement between UIS and UB.

**[Posted Jan. 28]**

**Lisa Saunders**, coordinator of the Master Teaching and Leadership concentration, has received an Outstanding Online Faculty Award presented by the University Center of Lake County. The awards, honoring Saunders and three other faculty members, were presented at the center's annual meeting in December. Materials nominating Saunders noted in part that she is "ever vigilant in her mother hen instincts in creating an online learning community for us...I am often amazed at how genuine her degree of concern is for all of us."

The University Center of Lake County is a consortium of 16 public and private colleges and universities around the state that offer coursework and degrees within Lake County.

## **FEBRUARY 2004**

**[Posted Feb. 5]**

**Rosina Neginsky**, assistant professor of Liberal Studies and Individual Option, will give a public reading from her book "Under the Light of the Moon" and other unpublished works at 4 p.m. Monday, February 16, in the Illini Union Bookstore, 809 S. Wright St. Champaign.

**[Posted Feb. 9]**

The recently released *Internet Encyclopedia* from John Wiley & Sons Publisher includes a peer-reviewed chapter written by **Jim Grubbs**, assistant professor of Communication, titled "E-mail and Instant Messaging." The chapter presents a history of e-mail along with an explanation of the technology that makes it possible and looks at the future of e-mail, instant messaging, and related communication modes.

More information is available at [www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/Section/id-101389.html](http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/Section/id-101389.html)

**[Posted Feb. 17]**

**Patricia Byrnes**, associate professor of Public Administration, and **Kenneth Oldfield**, emeritus professor of Public Administration, presented "Teaching Public Administration Students to Write for Publication" at the 27th Annual Teaching Public Administration Conference, held February 12-14 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

**[Posted Feb. 27]**

**Ray Schroeder**, director of the Office of Technology-Enhanced Learning and professor emeritus of Communication, presented a weeklong online workshop for the University of Wisconsin, Madison Distance Education Certificate Program titled "Web Logs and Distance Education." The session, which ran February 23-27, drew faculty members from colleges and universities across the nation, including the University of San Francisco and the National Defense University, Washington, D.C. More information is available at [www.wisc.edu/depd/series/february04.htm](http://www.wisc.edu/depd/series/february04.htm)

## **MARCH 2004**

**[Posted Mar. 10]**

**Terri Jackson**, coordinator of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, received the Springfield Branch of the NAACP Education Award for meritorious contribution to the community during the annual awards ceremony, held February 7. The award recognizes her years of service in the area of education. Jackson's work with students from all walks of life, as well as her contributions to ensuring access, retention, and graduation were noted.

**[Posted Mar. 15]**

**Nancy Scannell**, associate professor of Business Administration, has received a Fulbright Senior Specialist grant in Economics at the Ukrainian Academy of Banking. The Senior Specialists Program offers two- to six-week grants to leading U.S. academics and professionals to support curricular and faculty development and institutional planning at academic institutions in 140 countries around the world.

**[Posted Mar. 30]**

**Holly McCracken**, program coordinator, LIS Online, participated in two programs at the 2004 Illinois Council for Continuing Higher Education Annual Conference, held recently in Peoria. She took part in a panel discussion with Drs. Faye Lesht and Najmuddin Shaik, both of UIUC's Office of Academic Outreach, and Rae-Anne Montague, of the UIUC online Library Information Science Program. The group also presented a workshop titled "Services that Work for Retaining Students in Online Degree Programs."

McCracken's article "Extending virtual access: Promoting engagement and retention through integrated support systems," appears in the March 2004 edition of the *Online Journal for Distance Learning Administration*. The journal is available at [www.westga.edu/~distance/jmain11.html](http://www.westga.edu/~distance/jmain11.html).

## **APRIL 2004**

**[Posted Apr. 9]**

**Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor and chair, English, read excerpts from her poetry in the Burren, Ireland, and in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in March and was the featured poet for the Peoria Poetry Club in April. In July she will read at the Bestseller's Cafe, Medford, Massachusetts. At all of these venues Perkins read selections from the first two (published) books in her *NYX* trilogy -- *Mother of Night* and *Daughter of Chaos* -- as well as from the third (unpublished) volume, *Sister of Erebus*.

**Peter (Piotr) Boltuc**, associate professor and chair, Philosophy, published the article "Education without Distance" in issue 1/2003 of *E-Mentor*. Boltuc is the co-author of the article "Another Take on Game-Based Learning" which appears in issue 4/2004 of the same publication. Both articles are available in print and online at [www.e-mentor.edu.pl/english.php?numer=4](http://www.e-mentor.edu.pl/english.php?numer=4).

**[Posted Apr. 12]**

**Hei-Chi Chan**, assistant professor of Mathematics, gave a presentation at the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Illinois Section of the Mathematical Association of America, held at Schaumburg in April. His presentation, "Some Amazing Formulas for pi" was based on his paper "pi in terms of phi," which was recently accepted for publication by the *Fibonacci Quarterly*.

**[Posted Apr. 26]**

**Ray Schroeder**, professor emeritus and director of the Office of Technology-Enhanced Learning, presented a session on "Blogs in Higher Education: Pedagogy, Practice, and Really Simple Syndication (RSS)" at the second annual EDUCAUSE Midwest Regional Conference in Chicago on April 21.

**Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor and chair of the English program, presented a panel discussion with four graduate English students at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual English Articulation Conference, held at Allerton House, Monticello, on April 13. Perkins and the students -- **Joshua Doetsch**, **Donna Mullen**, **Penny Pennell**, and **Joanna Tweedy Willmore** -- discussed "Becoming Colleagues with Our Writing Muses." Each of the students chose to do a creative writing project for their master's closure and the panel focused on the personal processes involved in producing creative work and the changing relationships the students have with their personal muses.

**Margaret Noe**, interim associate chancellor for Access and Equal Opportunity and assistant professor of Educational Leadership, was among those chosen as a Woman of Distinction in Educational Leadership by the Illinois Women Administrators and honored at their annual Dare To Be Great Conference held April 17 in Bloomington.

IWA, an organization for women in school administration, annually recognizes women who have made an impact in public and private K-12 schools, in policy-making or leadership on educational issues, or in higher education.

## **MAY 2004**

**[Posted May 6]**

A number of poems by **Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor and chair of the English program, recently appeared in various publications. "By Degrees," "Gristly Words," and "22 April 1999" can be found in the spring 2004 issue of *Prism Galliard Quarterly*, published by the Springfield-based Poets and Writers Literary Forum. Four other poems were published in the spring 2004 volume of *Fine Lines: A National, Quarterly, Creative Writing Journal* based in Omaha.

**[Posted May 10]**

**Ray Schroeder**, professor emeritus and director of the Office of Technology-Enhanced Learning, presented a session on Faculty Engagement in Blended Learning at the First Sloan-C Invitational Workshop on Blended Learning and Higher Education. The workshop brought together faculty members and administrators from around the country to examine the potential of blended learning to enhance and extend learning, particularly at metropolitan universities. For details, go to [www.online.uillinois.edu/uicsloanc/Index.htm](http://www.online.uillinois.edu/uicsloanc/Index.htm).

In May, Schroeder also began "Hot off the Blog," a column in the monthly publication *Sloan-C View*, located at [www.sloan-c.org/publications/view/v3n4/pubsv3n4.htm](http://www.sloan-c.org/publications/view/v3n4/pubsv3n4.htm). The column features news and research items from Ray's Online Learning Update blog.

## **AUGUST 2004**

**[Posted Aug. 9]**

**Loren R. Taylor**, president and CEO of the University of Illinois Alumni Association since 1998, was elected president of the Council of Alumni Association Executives at its annual meeting in July. Taylor has nearly 20 years experience in alumni relations at large public universities with self-governing alumni associations. Since taking the helm at UIAA, he has increased staff and the services offered at all three campuses and he is a key player in building the U of I's first alumni center (scheduled for completion in 2006). CAAE membership comprises approximately 85 chief executive officers of alumni organizations nationwide representing more than 11 million alumni.

**[Posted Aug. 23]**

On July 31 **Kenneth Oldfield**, emeritus professor of Public Administration, presented a paper titled "Suggestions for Mentoring University Professors from Poverty and Working Class Backgrounds" at the annual Working Class Academics National Conference, held at Washington University in St. Louis.

**[Posted Aug. 25]**

**Gary Trammell** and **Keenan Dungey**, professor and assistant professor of Chemistry, respectively, recently organized and presided over a day-long symposium on "Nanotechnology in Chemical Education" at the Biennial Conference on Chemical Education in Ames, Iowa. As part of the symposium, Dungey presented a paper titled "Preparation of Dppe-Stabilized Gold Nanoparticles" and Trammell presented another paper titled "Biology and Chemistry of the Environment: An Integrated Course for Non-Science Majors." Co-author of the latter paper was **Gary Butler**, associate professor of biology.

## **SEPTEMBER 2004**

**[Posted Sept. 1]**

**Hei-Chi Chan**, assistant professor of Mathematics, gave invited talks at the Fifth International Conference on Dynamical Systems and Differential Equations, held in Pomona, California, and at the Fourth World Congress of Nonlinear Analysts, held in Orlando, Florida. Both talks were based on his recent paper "A Gauss-Kuzmin-Levy

Theorem for a Certain Continued Fraction,” which was published in the *International Journal of Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences* in April 2004.

## **OCTOBER 2004**

**[Posted Oct. 12]**

**Judith Everson**, professor emerita of English, spoke about the book *Reading Lolita in Tehran* at a recent luncheon at the Sangamo Club.

**[Posted Oct. 25]**

**Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor of English and program chair, has been invited to review a memoir-writing textbook for publishers Pearson Longman. The text of contemporary personal essays by well-known writers also features original sidebars with additional writing ideas. Perkins teaches a memoir-writing course at UIS.

**[Posted Oct. 28]**

Four poems by **Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor of English and program chair, have been selected for inclusion in the upcoming textbook *Teaching in Middle School: Getting Started*. The poems – “The Pond,” “Evening Cicadas,” “Strawberries,” and “Candling” – are taken from the second volume of Perkins’ NYX trilogy, *NYX: Daughter of Chaos*. The textbook, written and edited by Anna J. Small Roseboro, is published by the National Council of Teachers of English with a tentative release date of winter 2004.

The first three poems illustrate metaphors and personification. “Candling” was chosen because it “reflects the thin line in the symbiotic relationship we have with nature and the way life leads to death in order to sustain life.”

## **NOVEMBER 2004**

**[Posted Nov. 11]**

**Anthony Sisneros**, associate professor of Public Administration, was recently presented with an Award of Recognition by the Illinois Association of Hispanic State Employees. The award recognizes Sisneros for outstanding Latino leadership in public service in 2004.

The article “The ASPA Journals: Who Is Publishing?” in the January 2005 issue of the *Journal of Public Affairs Education* includes **Meredith Newman**, associate professor and chair of the Department of Public Administration, in the list of “Most Productive Scholars, 1993-2002.”

**[Posted Nov. 16]**

Students and faculty members of the Chemistry Program participated in the Great Lakes Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society, held recently in Peoria. Undergraduates **Dawn Carl**, **Nicole France**, and **Carrie Moore** attended talks and **John Nelles** presented his research titled “Cobalt Vanadium Oxides for Lithium Ion Batteries.” Nelles’ co-author was assistant professor **Keenan Dungey**. Assistant professor **Harshavardhan Bapat**’s presentation was titled “An Activated Carbon Prepared from Milo (Sorghum vulgare) Grain for Use in Thermal Treatment of Hazardous Waste.” Dungey made a presentation on “Electronic Laboratory Notebooks in the Undergraduate Curriculum”; his co-author was Nelles. Assistant professor **Wayne Gade** presented “A Lab Exercise: Micropipetting, Precision, and Beer’s Law,” for which Bapat was co-author.

## **DECEMBER 2004**

**[Posted Dec. 9]**

**Wayne Gade**, assistant professor in the Clinical Laboratory Science and Chemistry programs, and former CLS student **Charis Hainaut** were presented with the Distinguished Author Award at the 2004 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, held recently in Los Angeles. Their article “The Emerging Roles of BNP and Accelerated Cardiac Protocols in Emergency Laboratory Medicine” was published in the ASCLS

Journal in summer 2003. A second article, "Accelerated Cardiac Protocols in Emergency Laboratory Medicine: Four Case Studies," by Gade, Hainaut, and **Jean Gade**, MS RN, was also published at the same time.

## **MARCH 2005**

**[Posted Mar. 3]**

Students and faculty in the Social Work program attended the National Association of Social Workers' 9th Annual Lobby Day, held February 17 in Springfield. The UIS delegation joined over 500 students, faculty, and NASW members from around the state. **Sandy Mills**, UIS associate professor of Social Work, was one of the coordinators and a presenter at the event. **Mareen Rasmussen**, an SWK student and UIS student liaison to NASW, recently had an article published in the NASW State Chapter newsletter.

## **APRIL 2005**

**[Posted Apr. 6]**

**Sharron LaFollette**, associate professor and chair of the Department of Environmental Studies and faculty in the Institute for Legal and Policy Studies, has been elected chair of the National Environmental Health Sciences and Protection Accreditation Council.

Since 1967, EHAC has developed and implemented a program for accrediting undergraduate and graduate programs in the field of environmental health. The council works to upgrade the quality of education and training delivered by the programs it accredits and has established specific criteria for accreditation. These criteria, which are regularly reviewed and updated, include standards for curriculum, faculty, program funding, enrollment, and management.

**[Posted Apr. 20]**

**Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor of English and chair of the English Program, celebrated Poetry Month by being the Featured Poet at the Vachel Lindsay Home on April 9. She read Sara Teasdale's poems "There Will Come Soft Rains" and "Barter," Vachel Lindsay's "The Mouse That Gnawed the Oak Tree Down" and "My Fathers Came from Kentucky," as well as selections from her own poetry books *NYX: Mother of Light*, *NYX: Daughter of Chaos*, and unpublished poetry from the upcoming *NYX: Sister of Erebus*. The reading was followed by a reception.

**Jeffrey Chesky**, professor emeritus of Human Services and Biology, gave the keynote address at this year's State of Illinois Mental Health and Aging Conference in Schaumburg on April 22. His talk was titled "Why we age -- a backward look into the future."

Chesky also took part in a panel discussion on the future of gerontological education in Oklahoma City in February and was inducted into the Miami Beach High School Hall of Fame in November.

**[Posted Apr. 28]**

**Shahram Heshmat**, associate professor, Public Health and Economics, presented a paper titled "Effective Teaching of Economic Principles: Some insights from cognitive psychology" at the Midwest Economic Association Meeting held in March in Milwaukee.

**[Posted Apr. 29]**

**Holly McCracken**, director of LAS Online Programs, presented a paper at the annual online conference "Teaching, College, and Community" sponsored by Osaka Gukun University (Japan) and Kapi'olani Community College (Hawaii) in April. Her presentation, titled "Providing Student Support Services to Distant Students: Development, Scalability, and Lessons Learned" focused on sustainability and extensibility in web-based academic support programming.

## **MAY 2005**

**[Posted May 4]**

**Holly McCracken**, director of LAS Online Programs, is the author of a chapter titled "Community in Virtual Learning Environments" in the *Encyclopedia of Distance Learning* recently published by the Idea Group. With this chapter, McCracken joined 400 international contributors to discuss a range of current issues related to distance teaching and learning.

## **JUNE 2005**

**[Posted June 7]**

Professor Emeritus **John Knoepfle** was a guest on the nationally syndicated public radio program *New Letters on the Air* on June 8. Knoepfle read excerpts from his newest book, *Prayer Against Famine and Other Irish Poems*, and reflected on his long career in an interview with *New Letters* magazine editor Robert Stewart. An award-winning poet, Knoepfle has published 12 books of original poetry, translations, and prose. He taught in SSU/UIS' Literature program from 1972-1991. Excerpts from the interview are available on the web at [www.newletters.org](http://www.newletters.org).

## **AUGUST 2005**

**[Posted Aug. 22]**

On July 29, **Kenneth Oldfield**, emeritus professor of Public Administration, presented a paper titled "Gratz, Grutter and the Quest for Greater Social Class Diversity among University Professors" at the 10th Annual Working Class Academics Conference at Ithaca College in Ithaca, New York.

## **SEPTEMBER 2005**

**[Posted Sept. 8]**

**Larry Shiner**, professor emeritus of Philosophy, has been elected to the Board of Trustees of the American Society for Aesthetics for a term beginning in fall 2005.

**Debra Chandler Landis**, adviser for UIS student newspaper *The Journal* and student magazine *Beyond*, will present a workshop at the fall convention of College Media Advisers, to be held in Kansas City. She will speak on building leadership and enhancing collegiality through knowledge of communication styles and personality types.

*Zinaida Vengerova: In Search of Beauty. A Literary Ambassador between East and West*, a book by **Rosina Neginsky**, associate professor of Liberal Studies and Individual Option, is undergoing a second printing.

Neginsky was recently interviewed on WILL radio's "Afternoon Magazine" and on Springfield public television ACCESS 4's program "Work in Progress."

Her paper "Recapturing the works of art in Mallarmé Hérodiade" was accepted for presentation at the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities in January, and she was included in *Who's Who among American Teachers* and *Who's Who in International Poetry*.

**[Posted Sept. 9]**

This summer, **Bob Dixon**, UIS associate professor emeritus of Visual Arts, once again led a seminar on Chinese culture with an emphasis on ceramic arts and including a tour of China. The tour began in Shanghai and continued to Yixing for the 2nd International Teapot Conference, where Dixon received two awards from the vice-mayor. The first award was in recognition of his work, which became part of the permanent collection in the city's Museum of Ceramic Arts. The second award honored Dixon for his contributions to the ceramic arts in China. The tour also visited Jingdezhen, Xian, and Beijing, as well as the historic towns of Yaoli and Chenlu. Dixon later published an article titled "Thoughts on Yixing" in the Chinese Newsletter.

**[Posted Sept. 12]**

**Jonathan Hess**, professor emeritus of Psychology, is contracting with the Illinois Department on Aging as project manager of the Wise Elder (WE) program. The goal of the program is to help ensure that senior citizens receive state and federal benefits to which they are entitled.

**[Posted Sept. 16]**

**Jeff Blodgett**, associate professor of Business Administration, is spending a week in Biloxi, Mississippi, working in cleanup efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Blodgett lived in Mississippi for 13 years and taught at the University of Mississippi.

Professors **Robert Wright** and **Paul McDevitt** are covering Blodgett's classes while he is gone.

**[Posted Sept. 19]**

The fall edition of The Online Journal of Distance Education published by the University of West Georgia contains an article by **Holly McCracken**, UIS director of LAS Online Programs. "Web-based Academic Support Programs: Guidelines for Extensibility" can be viewed at [www.westga.edu/%7Edistance/ojdla/fall83/mccracken83.htm](http://www.westga.edu/%7Edistance/ojdla/fall83/mccracken83.htm).

**[Posted Sept. 21]**

**Kent Redfield**, interim director of the Institute for Legislative Studies and professor of Political Studies, was quoted in a recent *New York Times* article on the trial of former governor George Ryan. The article "Racketeering and Fraud Trial Begins for Illinois Ex-Governor," by reporter Jodi Wilgoren, appeared in the September 20 edition. In it, Wilgoren writes: " 'To have a former governor on trial is a big deal even for Illinois,' said Kent Redfield, a political scientist at the University of Illinois, noting that another former governor, Otto Kerner Jr., was on the federal bench when he was indicted - and convicted - in the 1970's of accepting bribes. 'It just reinforces what is a very cynical attitude among Illinois citizens about politics and politicians. Our expectations and our standards are pretty low. Our politicians try very hard to live up to those low standards.' "

The complete article is available at [www.nytimes.com/2005/09/20/national/20gov.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2005/09/20/national/20gov.html)

**[Posted Sept. 22]**

**Mohammed Shahidullah**, an adjunct faculty member, has been awarded a Fulbright grant to teach and research at the John P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh, for spring 2006.

**Paula Garrott**, associate professor emerita of Clinical Laboratory Science, was named Member of the Year at the 2005 American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Annual Meeting and Exposition in Orlando, Florida. This is the highest honor accorded by the Society. Garrott was also elected to a four-year term on the board of directors of the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences.

**Kathy Dehen**, financial aid adviser, is 2005-2006 president of the Junior League of Springfield, Inc. The League is an organization committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and civic improvement.

**Joanna Beth Tweedy**, adjunct professor for the English and Capital Scholars Honors programs, was recently named one of four finalists in the Southern Women Writers Contest and will be recognized at the biennial Southern Women Writers Conference at Berry College, Mt. Berry, Georgia.

## **OCTOBER 2005**

**[Posted Oct. 3]**

**Holly McCracken**, UIS' director of CLAS Online Programs, was a co-presenter -- with Najmuddin Shaik, UIUC Academic Outreach; and Brett Coup, Parkland College -- of the workshop "Student Retention in Online and Distance Learning Programs" at the annual regional conference of the University Continuing Education Association in Chicago. The conference presentation can be viewed at <http://people.uis.edu/hmccr1/UCEA/index.htm>.

**[Posted Oct. 10]**

**Dennis Rendleman**, assistant professor of Legal Studies and director of the UIS Pre-Law Center, attended the 2005 Meeting of the Midwest Association of Pre Law Advisors, September 22-24 in Chicago. Rendleman particularly appreciated programs on the inner workings of law school admission committees and on the affordability of law school.

On September 26, Rendleman and PLC graduate assistant Bukola Bello accompanied 10 UIS students to UIUC to visit representatives from over 90 law schools as part of MAPLA's Law School Caravan. This is the second time the UIS Pre-Law Center has accompanied students to the UIUC Law Fair, an event that offers students an informal opportunity to gather information on a variety of law schools and consult with representatives from admissions offices.

The UIS Pre-Law Center is available to all UIS students and alumni interested in taking the LSAT and attending law school. For further information contact the PLC at 206-4529.

**[Posted Oct.20]**

**Rachell Anderson**, professor and chair of Human Services, is presenting two workshops chronicling the use of writing as a tool for healing emotional problems. She will present "Promoting Community Change through Writing Family Stories" in October for the National Organization of Human Services in East Brunswick, New Jersey. In November she will present "Saving Ourselves: Using writing to heal" for the International Association of Workforce Professionals. Both workshops are didactic and interactive.

**[Posted Oct. ?]**

**Debra Chandler Landis**, UIS student publications adviser, presented a workshop on the effects of personality styles and communication on newsroom leadership and cohesiveness at the fall convention of the College Media Advisers Association held October 26-30 in Kansas City, Missouri. She was among 400 professional journalists and educators selected to speak at the convention, which was attended by print and broadcast journalism faculty, staff, and students from colleges and universities throughout the United States. In addition to UIS' student newspaper, *The Journal*, Landis advises *Beyond*, a news magazine affiliated with the paper.

Earlier in October, *Journal* editor-in-chief **Heather Shaffer**, assistant editor **Stephanie Orr**, and copy editor **Mallory Medved** represented the paper at the planning meeting for the 2006 Illinois College Press Association convention, jobs fair, and competition. *The Journal* is an at-large representative to the ICPA board. The ICPA convention and related activities will be held in February in Chicago.

## **NOVEMBER 2005**

**[Posted Nov. 7]**

**Valerie Scarbrough**, AOD prevention coordinator for the UIS Counseling Center, attended the National Meeting on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention in Higher Education held in Indianapolis in October. Scarbrough found the conference "very informative" and was able to bring back ideas that can be adapted for use on this campus.

**[Posted Nov. 8]**

**Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor of English, has recently given two poetry readings. The first, in August, was at Bestseller's Cafe for Bikers Poetry Month in Medford, Massachusetts. The second was in October at Eldora's Book Store in Cadiz, Kentucky. Eldora's is a new independent book store, and Perkins was the invited author for its first poetry reading and book signing event.

**[Posted Nov. 9]**

**Holly McCracken**, director of CLAS Online Programs, was a co-presenter -- with **Najmuddin Shaik** and **Faye Lescht**, UIUC Academic Outreach -- of the workshop "Student Retention in Online and Distance Learning Programs" at the annual conference of the American Association of Collegiate Independent Study. The conference presentation can be viewed at <http://people.uis.edu/hmccr1/AACIS/index.htm>.

**Jonathan GoldbergBelle**, director of the Office of International Affairs, hosted the annual conference of NAFSA: International Educators Association in Springfield November 6-8. This was GoldbergBelle's final commitment as past chair of Region V. Nearly 350 international educators from Wisconsin, Illinois, and Michigan attended the conference to learn about study abroad practices, cross-cultural advising and communication, and changes in U.S. immigration policy related to students and scholars.

[Posted Nov. 11]

**Ray Schroeder**, director of the Office of Technology-Enhanced Learning, delivered the keynote address, "Harvesting the Promise of Distance Learning: Emerging Trends and Practices," at the 13th Annual Conference of the American Association for Collegiate Independent Study.

During the conference Schroeder and **Shari McCurdy**, associate director of OTEL, also made a presentation titled "Reaping the Benefits of Technology" at the Inter-institutional Collaborations Online session.

Computer Science faculty members **Keith Miller** and **Svet Braynov** are taking active roles in the 21st Annual ACM Symposium on Applied Computing, to be held in April in Dijon, France. Miller will chair the Computer Ethics and Human Values track, and Braynov will co-chair the E-Commerce Technologies track.

The ACM Symposium has become the primary forum for applied computer scientists, computer and software engineers, and application developers around the world. Each year, the event is organized as a number of specialist tracks on various areas of computer applications. These tracks define that year's conference theme.

## **DECEMBER 2005**

[Posted Dec. 19]

**Shahram Heshmat**, associate professor of Public Health and Economics, made a presentation titled "Behavioral Economics of Dieting and Health" at the 133rd Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, held December 10-14 in Philadelphia. The purpose of the presentation was to provide insights from behavioral economics to the various aspects of overeating, dieting, and relapse as discussed in weight-loss literature: 1) to explain why people fail to stick to their goals for eating a healthy diet, and 2) to discuss the implications of behavioral economics to relapse prevention.

## **JANUARY 2006**

[Posted Jan. 10]

**Carolyn Peck**, assistant professor of Human Services-Gerontology, was the featured speaker at the January 10 meeting of the Springfield Chapter of the World Future Society. Peck's presentation was titled "Today's Decisions: Tomorrow's Consequences, Challenges and Opportunities for Aging Boomers and Their Communities."

[Posted Jan. 12]

"Pearl," an assemblage of found objects by **Adriel Ippolito**, assistant director of the Applied Study Program and coordinator of Credit for Prior Learning, has been accepted for inclusion in the "Layered, Stitched, Assembled" exhibition sponsored by Art Saint Louis. The exhibit runs January 23 through March 3 in the Art Saint Louis main gallery at 917 Locust Street in downtown St. Louis.

Jurors for the exhibit were Denise Ward-Brown, a multi-media artist and professor at Washington University School of Art, and Phil Robinson, a mixed-media sculptor and assistant professor at the University of Missouri, St. Louis. "Pearl" was one of 51 works by 47 artists selected for exhibition from among 183 submissions by 106 artists.

"I am thrilled all out of proportion," said Ippolito.

"Pearl" is a whimsical piece focusing on two-dimensional, jointed figure of a woman being led by a part-bird/part lion creature with a nested butterfly on its head. The woman, Pearl, has a feather, identical to the feathers on the bird/lion creature, in her hair. Ippolito noted that "the piece has a lot of personal symbolism and metaphor."

**[Posted Jan. 18]**

**Nancy Forth**, assistant professor of Human Development Counseling, recently received word that Sigma Sigma Upsilon, the UIS chapter of Chi Sigma Iota, has received the organization's Making Personal Excellence a Reality grant. HDC student **Courtney Bailey** was the principal writer for this project. The grant will help fund the Crisis Intervention Training Workshop at the 2006 ACA Conference.

Forth has also been informed that her reviewed book chapter "Using Creativity in Couples Counseling" has been accepted for publication in the upcoming book *The Therapist's Notebook II: Homework, Handouts, and Activities for Use in Psychotherapy*.

A paper by **Neil Headman**, assistant professor of Human Services, has been accepted for presentation at the Family Support 25th Anniversary Conference, to be held March 26-29, in Chicago.

**[Posted Jan. 19]**

**Rosina Neginsky**, associate professor of Liberal Studies, Individual Option, & English, organized the exhibit of paintings by Russian artist Alexandra Pregel on display in the Visual Arts Gallery in January and February. Neginsky also prepared the catalog for the exhibit and gave a gallery talk at the opening reception.

**[Posted Jan. 27]**

**Holly McCracken**, director of LAS Online Programs, was recently notified that her article "Extending Virtual Access: Promoting Engagement and Retention through Integrated Support Systems," originally published in the *Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration*, will be reprinted in Croatian this spring in the e-journal *Edupoint*, an electronic journal produced by the Croatian Academic and Research Network, located in Zagreb, Croatia.

## **FEBRUARY 2006**

**[Posted Feb. 2]**

**Ray Schroeder**, director of the Office of Technology-Enhanced Learning, and Professor Margaret Maag, University of San Francisco, were keynote speakers on January 5 at the Seton Hall University Faculty Winter Institute. Their topic was "Online Learning: Hyper Linking Higher Education to the Future."

**[Posted Feb. 6]**

**Marcellus Leonard**, associate professor of English, was the featured poet for Steppin' Out Against AIDS!, a program hosted by Fifth Street Renaissance in observance of National HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on February 7. The program was held at Springfield's Union Baptist Church.

**[Posted Feb. 15]**

**John Snyder**, online coordinator/Math, **Barbara Selvaggio**, online coordinator/Computer Science, and **Holly McCracken**, director of online programs for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, co-presented a virtual workshop titled "Coordinating Chaos: Virtual Feathers in the Wind" at the Illinois Online Conference '06 (posted at the conference website at [www.ilonlineconf.org](http://www.ilonlineconf.org)).

**[Posted Feb. 23]**

McGraw-Hill has just published *Political Philosophies in Moral Conflict*, a textbook in political philosophy by **Peter Wenz**, professor emeritus of Philosophy. Noted scholar of women's studies Rosemarie Tong called the book "a pedagogical masterpiece in political philosophy."

"There is simply no other political philosophy book on the market as challenging and engaging as Wenz's," she said, adding that she plans to assign it in her courses in ethics and public policy as well as feminist thought.

## **MARCH 2006**

**[Posted Mar. 2]**

**Tom Ambrose**, senior training coordinator in the Institute for Legal and Policy Studies, will be a presenter at the Illinois Probation and Court Services Spring 2006 Training Conference, to be held at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield April 26 to 28. Ambrose will join representatives from Governors State University, Chicago State University, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, and Whiteside County Court Services in a workshop titled "Practicing What We Preach: Using Evidence-Based Practices to Assess the Link between Higher Education and Illinois Probation."

**[Posted Mar. 20]**

**Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor and past chair of the English program, is one of seven "contemporary female Midwestern poets of place" profiled in a collection of essays that appears in the recently released *Midwestern Miscellany XXXII*. The article is a formal review of her first two books of poetry. Perkins is currently on leave from UIS and will return in the fall.

**[Posted Mar. 24]**

**Ray Schroeder** and **Shari McCurdy**, director and associate director of the Office of Technology-Enhanced Learning, are co-authors of an article published in March in the prestigious, peer-reviewed *Journal of Asynchronous Learning Networks*. The article, "Achieving Diversity through Online Inter-Institutional Collaborations" is also the topic of an international online workshop Schroeder and McCurdy are conducting through Sloan-C in April.

In addition, they have been invited to present a workshop for Academic Impressions, which organizes conferences and seminars for administrators in all facets of higher education.

## **APRIL 2006**

**[Posted Apr. 4]**

**Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor of English, attended "A Tribute to Jane Kenyon" at the Concord Poetry Center in Concord, Massachusetts, in March. Kenyon's poems were read by Donald Hall, her husband and himself a poet, and by Joyce Peseroff, her friend, a poet, and editor of *Simply Lasting: Writers on Jane Kenyon*. Kenyon died of leukemia in 1995.

**[Posted Apr. 5]**

**Jan Droegkamp**, professor of Liberal Studies and Individual Option, has been selected Grand Marshall of the 2006 commencement ceremonies. Grand Marshall is an honorary title conferred by a vote of the faculty.

**Terri Jackson**, coordinator of Multicultural Student Affairs, has been appointed to the Illinois Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. The Commission will plan and carry out its own bicentennial tributes, as well as coordinate activities with the federal government's Lincoln bicentennial commission.

In March, **Rosina Neginsky**, associate professor of Liberal Studies, Individual Option, and English, gave a presentation titled "Recapturing the Works of Gustave Moreau in Stephane Mallarme's poem 'Herodiade'" at the American Comparative Literature Association at Princeton.

In April she will make a number of presentations including a paper on "The Works of Art in Flaubert's Short Story 'Herodias'" at the Illinois Philological Association at De Paul University in Chicago, lectures at the Sangamo Club and a Taste of UIS luncheon, and a third lecture on the "Works of Gustave Moreau and Nicolas Rerich" at the Springfield Art Association.

**[Posted Apr. 10]**

**Rassule Hadidi**, professor of MIS, has been invited to serve on the program committee of the inaugural Mid-West Association for Information Systems Conference, to be held May 5 and 6 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He has also developed and will chair a new mini-track session titled "Collaborative and Inter-organizational Applications

of Information Systems to Large-Scale Disruptive Events” at the annual meeting of the Americas Conference on Information Systems, to be held August 4-6 in Acapulco, Mexico.

**[Posted Apr. 12]**

**Lola L. Lucas**, adjunct professor in Human Development Counseling’s Career Development Specialist graduate certificate program, is the author of *At Home in the Park: Loving a Neighborhood Back to Life*. Lucas’ first book, *At Home* covers historic preservation, community building, and life in Springfield neighborhoods. The book has been reviewed by the *State Journal-Register* and the *Illinois Times* and is available at Barnes and Noble and on Amazon.com. Lucas has been teaching at UIS since 1996.

**[Posted Apr. 13]**

**Ken Oldfield**, professor emeritus of Public Administration, presented a paper titled “How Can We Democratize Higher Education If We Don’t Count the Votes?” at the American Society for Public Administration’s 67th National Conference in Denver. Oldfield’s research showed that while the field’s code of ethics claims its members are committed to various democratic ideals, none of 50 top-ranked Master of Public Administration schools use socioeconomic-based affirmative action criteria to attract more students of poverty and working class origins to their programs of study.

**[Posted Apr. 18]**

**Holly McCracken**, director of online programs for CLAS, is the author of “Virtual Learning Communities: Facilitating Connected Knowing,” a chapter in the peer-reviewed second edition of the *Encyclopedia of Distance Learning*, which will be published in this fall. This is also the focus of a chapter McCracken has been invited to complete in an upcoming book that will be titled *The Online Teachers Guide* (published by Allyn and Bacon) also due for release this fall.

**[Posted Apr. 19]**

**Annette Van Dyke**, professor of Individual Option/Liberal Studies/English, chaired a panel on “Land, Loss, Language, and Identity” at the Native American Literature Symposium held in Mount Pleasant, Michigan, in April. Her paper was titled “Linda Hogan: The Politics and Poetics of Place in a Writer of the Diaspora.”

Other panel members and their topics were **Jim Ottery**, UIS assistant professor of English (“Spirit and Sovereignty: Language and Land Connections”); and **Delores Robinson**, who earned the M.A. in English at UIS in 2005 (“Loss, Forgiveness, and Identity Formation: Erdrich’s Abandoning Mothers and Searching Children”).

**[Posted Apr. 21]**

**Joanna Beth Tweedy**, instructor in the English, Educational Leadership, and Capital Scholars Honors programs, has been invited to submit work to *The Alsop Review*, a literary journal which previously recognized her piece “Gumbo Munde” with a first-place award for fiction. She has also been invited to submit work to *The Ninth Letter*, UIUC’s literary journal.

The Southern Women Writers Conference recognized Tweedy’s work in 2005 by including her in the group’s biennial list of five “emerging voices” in fiction. Tweedy teaches creative writing at UIS and publishes her own poetry and short fiction.

**[Posted Apr. 24]**

**Holly McCracken**, director of CLAS online programs, presented four workshops at the Annual 2006 Teaching, College, and Community Online Conference, sponsored by the University of Hawaii, Kapi’olani Community College, the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and Osaka Gakuin University (Japan). Among the workshops she delivered, McCracken was a co-presenter with Dr. Kim Spoor (Capella University, Minneapolis) for “Mentoring and Professional Development in the Online Environment,” and with Anita Crawley (Montgomery Community College, Georgetown, Maryland) for “It Takes a Virtual Village: Supporting Online Students.”

**Dennis Rendleman**, director of the Pre-Law Center at UIS, is a cast member in “Reunion: A Musical Epic in Miniature,” at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. The show presents songs from the Civil War era and re-enactments of historical events drawn from the words of real people who lived them. In “Reunion” Rendleman

portrays Harry Hawk, an actor in “Our American Cousin” who was onstage at Ford’s Theatre when John Wilkes Booth assassinated President Lincoln.

Rendleman is also a performer in the museum’s “Ghosts of the Library” program.

**[Posted Apr. 26]**

**Mary Addison-Lamb**, visiting instructor in Liberal Studies and founding director of Namasté Yoga Center in Springfield, has been invited to join the Council of Stewards for the Foundation for Timeless Being: Center for Nondual Studies, which has as its mission to ease suffering, promote peace, and support spiritual awakening. Founded and directed by author and teacher Richard Miller, the Foundation respects the rich perspective of nondualism found within all sacred spiritual traditions, as well as the traditions of psychology, sacred literature and music, philosophy, and science.

## **MAY 2006**

**[Posted May 2]**

Undergraduate Chemistry major **Patrick Redwood** recently presented a paper titled “Preparation of Lithium-Intercalated Cobalt Vanadates” at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in North Carolina. Co-authors of the paper were Assistant Professor of Chemistry **Keenan Dungey** and undergraduate student **John Nelles**.

**[Posted May 12]**

**Hilary Anne Frost-Kumpf**, assistant professor of Public Administration, has been awarded the Stanley Fellowship for Graduate Student Research Abroad from the International Studies program at the University of Iowa. Frost-Kumpf will travel to Tanzania this summer to study arts management training for theater practitioners there. She has also been invited by the Tanzania Cultural Trust Fund and Eastern Africa Theatre Institute to present a series of workshops on arts management for theater managers and theater artists. Frost-Kumpf is currently on educational leave from UIS pursuing an interdisciplinary M.A. with an emphasis in international studies at the University of Iowa.

**Harry Berman**, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, was the keynote speaker at the Golden Laurel Awards Banquet on May 10. The event, sponsored by the Springfield Inter-Civic Club, honors outstanding students from Springfield’s seven high schools and was attended by over 700 people.

**[Posted May 31]**

**Bob Dixon**, associate professor emeritus of visual art, was one of 38 American artists to be included in *Works by Ceramic Artists from Around the World*, by Shanghai Fine Arts Publishers. The two-volume set includes over 200 artists from Japan, China, Taiwan, Belgium, Canada, Estonia, Finland, Great Britain, Italy, Korea, Norway, Switzerland, and the U.S.

Dixon will also be included in the *World Encyclopedia of Ceramics*, to be released this year by London Press. He also recently received Honorable Mention in the International Competition “Da Yu Xiao Hu 2.”

## **JUNE 2006**

**[Posted June 7]**

**Carol Gustafson**, project manager in Business Information Services, recently passed the Project Manager Professional (PMP) certification exam.

**[Posted June 28]**

**Sandra Mills**, associate professor of Social Work, is profiled in the 5th edition of *Social Work an Empowering Profession* (Allyn & Bacon). Mills’ macro practice as a public policy consultant for the Illinois Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers brought her to the attention of authors Brenda DuBois and Karla Krogsrud Miley.

**Keith Miller**, professor of Computer Science, will give two invited talks in July at DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana. His audience will be students and faculty involved in an NSF-sponsored summer program for undergraduate research. Miller will talk about applied ethics in research and about computer ethics.

**Jennifer Herring**, assistant professor of Teacher Education, has received the 2006 China Faculty Teacher Exchange appointment. Herring is in Harbin PRC China this summer as lecturer at Heilongjiang University and Mu Dangjiang Normal University. She will be in China for six weeks.

**Brian Gillis**, assistant professor of Visual Arts, has received a Governor's Multi-Arts International Exchange Grant to attend ROJARAKU International Arts Laboratory, a juried residency in Roja, Latvia.

**Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor and past-chair of the English Program, read selections of poetry from several of her works at Gypsypashn's Traveling Poetry Caravan in Medford, Massachusetts, in June. Perkins also read three of her nature poems at Walden Pond, Concord, Massachusetts, on June 21. The occasion was to mark the longest day of the year, in the place immortalized by Henry David Thoreau.

## **JULY 2006**

[Posted July 12]

**Nancy Genevieve Perkins**, associate professor and past chair of the English program, read a selection of her new poems at Stone Soup in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in June. Other participants included **Donna Mullen**, **David Logan**, and **Joanna Beth Tweedy**, all of whom earned master's degree in English from UIS in 2004. Mullen and Tweedy are currently instructors in the English program and Logan is a member of the English faculty at Springfield College in Illinois. Logan and Tweedy also read selections of their original poetry.

Stone Soup Poetry is the longest-running poetry venue in Massachusetts. Founded by local poet Jack Powers, the event is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year.

All readers were filmed for local public television in Cambridge and Lowell.

[Posted July 31]

**Harshavardhan Bapat**, assistant professor of Chemistry, was a guest on WMAY 970's "Saturday Sessions with Bishop" program on July 22. Bapat was interviewed about Brigham Young University Professor Steven Jones' recent article contending that the World Trade Center collapse was due in part to incendiary devices placed inside the towers.

Bapat described the thermite/thermate reaction (which Jones believes was used) but disagreed with the idea that it played a major role in the attacks.

A podcast of the program is available at [http://podcast.loyalears.com/midwest.php?task=browse&file\\_id=543](http://podcast.loyalears.com/midwest.php?task=browse&file_id=543).

## **AUGUST 2006**

[Posted Aug. 16]

**Rosina Neginsky**, associate professor of Liberal Studies, Individual Option, and English, was invited to present a paper this summer at the International Conference on Turn of the Century Art and Literature in Lyon, France. She was the only representative of an American university. Neginsky's paper (given in French) was titled "Why does Zinaida Vengerova call the turn of the century art and literature movement of Symbolism the second Renaissance?" The paper will be published in France. While in Paris, Neginsky also conducted research for a new book at the Musee d'Orsay library and archives.

**Eric Thibodeaux-Thompson**, assistant professor and Director of Theater, is at work at The Illinois Shakespeare Festival in Bloomington/Normal again this summer. Thibodeaux-Thompson has appeared as the second Merchant in *The Comedy of Errors*, Leonine in *Pericles*, and Cicero in *Julius Caesar*. The festival opens in late June and continues in repertory through mid August. A performance schedule and additional information is available at [www.thefestival.org](http://www.thefestival.org).

[Posted Aug. 28]

**Jeffrey Chesky**, professor emeritus of Human Services, was recently interviewed on the subject of aging by public television at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. Chesky also presented a plenary session titled "Reflections on Why We Age: Biogerontology's relevance to Alzheimer's Disease" in May at the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine's 11th annual conference on Alzheimer's Diseases and Related Disorders conference.

**Peter Boltuc**, associate professor of Philosophy, and **Marie Lyle**, an online student in the Philosophy Program, recently gave separate presentations at the North American Computing and Philosophy Conference at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, New York, in the section on Distance Learning. Lyle spoke on the role of IA in teaching and learning and Boltuc's presentation focused on philosophy course offerings online.

In a different session at the same conference, Ron Barnette, a senior expert on distance learning, named UIS' Philosophy program as the country's best online degree in the subject in the. Videos from the conference can be viewed at [www.cogsci.rpi.edu/conferences/cap/schedule.php](http://www.cogsci.rpi.edu/conferences/cap/schedule.php)

**John Snyder**, online program coordinator for the Mathematical Sciences program, was awarded the Master Online Teacher certificate by Illinois Online Network in August. The certificate is a comprehensive faculty development program based on the Making the Virtual Classroom a Reality series, designed to help students and faculty members acquire the skills and knowledge needed to teach and learn online, to help staff and administration support online education, to improve the quality of online education across the globe, and to research the online teaching and learning context. Details are available at [www.mvcr.org/courses/about/index.asp](http://www.mvcr.org/courses/about/index.asp)

## **SEPTEMBER 2006**

[Posted Sept. 5]

**Rachell Anderson**, professor of Human Services, will present a program titled "Using Writing to Heal Emotional Pain" to the Central Illinois Psychological Society on September 20. CIPS is a group of central Illinois psychologists who meet to study trends in the field of psychology.

[Posted Sept. 8]

In July, **Pat Langley**, professor of Women's Studies and Legal Studies, conducted a one-day workshop on "Effective Faculty Governance" for approximately 40 faculty from around the country at the national summer institute of the American Association of University Professors in Portland, Oregon.

[Posted Sept. 11]

**Kenneth Oldfield**, emeritus professor of Public Administration, is the co-author of "Social Class, Sexual Orientation, and Toward Proactive Social Equity Scholarship," which appeared in the June 2006 issue of *The American Review of Public Administration*. The article shows that in the United States, Canada, Australia, and Brazil the premier academic public administration journals have been either no-shows or tardy in publishing papers on leading social equity issues, including social class, sexual orientation, race, and gender. Although some in the field claim public administration is a "cutting edge" discipline, Oldfield and his co-authors question this assertion.

[Posted Sept. 19]

**Michele Gribbins**, assistant professor of Management Information Systems, served as co-chair of the Mobile Commerce Behavioral and Strategy Issues mini-track for the 12th Annual Americas Conference on Information Systems. The mini-track was sponsored by the Association of Information Systems Special Interest Group on E-Business.

**Mohammed Shahidullah**, an adjunct faculty member for programs in the Colleges of Public Affairs and Administration and Liberal Arts and Sciences, recently returned from a six-month Fulbright Visiting Scholar grant at the James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh. While there, he taught biostatistics to MPH students from 11 countries, developed and taught a course on online learning to several

Bangladeshi faculty, gave guest lectures on introductory sociology, and led seminars and workshops on public health program evaluation and online learning.

**William Siles**, associate professor and chair of the History program, has been elected to the board of directors of the Museum of Funeral Customs in Springfield. Siles has an extensive academic and professional background in historic preservation and museums and has served as a consultant to numerous organizations including (in Springfield) the New Philadelphia Project, Springfield Children's Museum, and Illinois State Museum. He noted that the museum's multicultural exhibits document an important, but undertold, story of the everyday experience of death and burial. The museum also offers traveling exhibits, educational programming, and a library and archives, and facilitates research.

**[Posted Sept. 21]**

**Holly McCracken**, director of CLAS online programs, was co-presenter for a web-based training event in September titled "It Takes a Virtual Village: Practical Strategies for Improving Online Learning Retention Rates" for Innovative Educators, originating from Boulder, Colorado. The other co-presenters for this event included Dr. Vince Schreck from Portland State University, Portland, Oregon, and Anita Crawley from Montgomery College, Georgetown, Maryland.

**[Posted Sept. 28]**

**Patricia Byrnes**, associate professor of Economics and a research associate with the Center for State Policy and Leadership, was a panelist on the "Research on TIF Impact on School Revenues" session at the recent Illinois Tax Increment Association Conference.

## **OCTOBER 2006**

**[Posted Oct. 2]**

**Ethan Lewis**, associate professor of English, is giving pre-show presentations on T.S. Eliot before five performances of "CATS" at the Hoogland Center for the Arts.

Lewis, an Eliot scholar, will discuss Eliot's poetry, especially poems from *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*, which inspired the musical.

His remaining presentations will be Thursday, October 5, at 6:10 p.m.; Saturday, October 7, at 7:10 p.m.; and Sunday, October 8, at 1:10 p.m.

**[Posted Oct. 6]**

Professor Emeritus **Jan Droegkamp** and Peggy Cormeny, District 186 Parent Coordinator and SSU graduate, will be participating in a U.S. State Department Office of Citizen Exchanges program for educators, parents, trainers, and community leaders in Bangladesh from October 25 to November 8. Eleven Bangladeshi participants came to the U.S. in November 2005; this is a reciprocal visit for American participants to observe and give mini-workshops. The program is facilitated through World Learning, based in Washington D.C.

**[Posted Oct. 17]**

**Peter Boltuc**, associate professor of Philosophy, is now co-editor of the American Philosophical Association's *Newsletter on Philosophy and Computing*.

**Julie Chapman**, assistant professor of Library Instructional Services; **Karen Moranski**, interim associate vice chancellor for undergraduate education; **Debbie Parker**, composition coordinator for the Capital Scholars Honors Program; and **Pinky Wassenberg**, dean of the College of Public Affairs and Administration, presented two papers at the recent Association for Integrative Studies National Conference. Chapman, Moranski, and Wassenberg made a presentation on the use of librarians as teaching faculty in the course CAP 121 How Do You Know? Parker and Moranski also made a presentation on the CAP Honors writing courses. UIS will host the AIS conference in 2008.

**[Posted Oct. 24]**

A podcasting initiative by **Michele Gribbins**, assistant professor of Management Information Systems, was highlighted in an article titled "Who's On the Podcasting Pathway?" in the October 2006 issue of Educational Pathways. Initial findings from a trial study on the acceptance and fit of podcasting in higher education were discussed in the article.

**[Posted Oct. 27]**

**Rosina Neginsky**, chair of the Individual Option program and associate professor of English and Interdisciplinary Studies, presented the paper "The Occult in the novel of Gustave Meyrink" at the conference on Word, Image, and Ideology in Hapsburg Europe, which took place at the University of Colorado in Denver in October.

**NOVEMBER 2006**

**[Posted Nov. 6]**

A review of Zinaida Vengerova: In Search of Beauty. A Literary Ambassador between East and West, by UIS Associate Professor of Liberal Studies, Individual Option, & English **Rosina Neginsky** appeared in a recent English publication. The review was written by Avril Pymon, considered by many to be one of the most important specialists on Russian Symbolism and the author of History of Russian Symbolism, published by Oxford University Press.

**[Paragraph added Nov. 17]** Neginsky's poem "A Parisian" has been accepted for publication in the upcoming *Anthology of American Poetry*.

**[Posted Nov. 13]**

Building Service Worker **Gary Cole** was the subject of a recent article in the *Christian County Breeze Courier*. In an article titled "Bowling Notebook: Cole's 800s Become Routine," sports editor Ryan Mahan profiled Cole's three career 800 series: in December 2003, January 2005, and October 2006.

**[Posted Nov. 28]**

**Dennis Rendleman**, assistant professor of Legal Studies and director of the UIS Pre-Law Center, will direct a 1940s film noir adaptation of *Macbeth* at the Hoogland Center for the Arts in downtown Springfield in February. For more information, go to [dennisrendleman.com](http://dennisrendleman.com).