# INSIDE IOWA State for faculty and staff

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#### Aug. 27

#### Capturing the wind

ISU and Ames may partner to purchase wind power generated from a Story County wind farm. The proposed contract would supply an estimated 10 percent of the campus electricity needs.

#### Aug. 27

# So long (for now), State Gym

The 96-year-old building will receive extensive remodeling and an addition as part of the \$52.8 million recreation facilities expansion and renovation project approved by students last year. The project should be completed in two years.

# Aug. 27

#### School daze

Monday marked the opening day of the fall semester. Projected numbers show that this year's enrollment could surpass ISU's record (27,898), set in 2002.

#### Aug. 27

# Summer redux

Cool temperatures weren't the only news this summer. From new dean posts to building completions, ISU had plenty of activity since the end of the spring semester. Find out what you missed.

#### Aug. 27

# **Classroom mechanic**

A career change sent Danny Johnson from the garage to the classroom. Johnson is an associate professor of operations and supply chain management in the College of Business.

#### Aug. 27

#### Looking to 2050

Using President Geoffroy's four guiding goals, groups have begun work on ISU's next strategic plan. Campus forums to gather input on the plan are set for Sept. 3 and Sept. 10.

Aug. 27 Sunny side up



Design's King Pavilion welcomed its first classes on Monday.



Danny Johnson

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#### Retirements

- Karen Bryan, Aug. 28
- Lynette Seymour, Aug. 28

# Arts & events



Comedian Wyatt Cenac

# Lectures lineup

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 Facilities planning and management is testing a new solar ISU's BigBelly solar trash compactor.

 powered trash compactor -- the BigBelly -- on the west side of
 ISU's BigBelly solar trash compactor.

 Curtiss Hall. It can handle five times the trash of an average garbage can.
 ISU's BigBelly solar trash compactor.

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## Honors & awards

- John Rose
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# \$7.7 million in ARRA grants

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ISU experts reflect on heated national debate over health care reform.

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**Inside headlines** 

#### Aug. 27, 2009

# Ames, ISU consider contracting for wind energy

by Diana Pounds

A wind farm in central Iowa may soon help power lights, appliances and other equipment at Ames and Iowa State University. City and university officials propose buying wind energy from NextEra Energy Resources, the top generator of wind power in North America.

The Ames City Council will consider a motion to approve a contract to purchase wind-generated electricity on behalf of the city and Iowa State at its Sept. 8 meeting. If the council and State Board of Regents approve, Ames and ISU could be using wind power by January 2010.

Under the proposed contract, the city and university each would buy enough wind power to supply approximately 10 percent of their electricity needs.



Ames and ISU officials are considering buying wind-generated energy from NextEra Energy Resources, which is building a second wind farm in the area. *Photo by Bob Elbert*.

## 100-turbine farm under construction

The power would come from a 100-turbine wind farm under construction north of Zearing. It's the second such farm that NextEra has built in the area and the firm's eighth wind farm in Iowa.

Ames and Iowa State propose to purchase a portion of the 150-megawatt output of the new farm. Ames would buy 30 megawatts of the output and Iowa State, six megawatts.

"As the City of Ames continues to explore alternative energy, we are excited by this partnership opportunity with NextEra to purchase wind-generated power," said Donald Kom, director of Ames Electric Services. "In the 1970s, the City of Ames constructed the first municipally operated waste-to-energy facility in the nation and began using garbage for fuel. Wind power continues this community's commitment to expanding our use of renewable energies."

ISU assistant director of utilities Jeff Witt said adding wind power to Iowa State's energy lineup is an important step toward making the university a model of energy efficiency.

"While Iowa State's power plant is a very efficient coal-burning plant, our power generation is still based on a nonrenewable resource," Witt said. "We are very committed to greater sustainability at Iowa State and are looking forward to using wind power to help meet our energy needs."

What makes the ISU power plant special.

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# Arts & events

# Taking advantage of windy days

Ames and university officials said wind-generated energy will present some new challenges to utility staff, who must constantly balance wind conditions with electricity needs. On windy days, they'll need to back off other sources of energy and take advantage of the wind-powered energy coming in. On still days, staff must increase energy output from nonrenewable sources.

The city and university have been partnering to buy electricity since the early 1990s. The partners began looking for a renewable energy source in 2007 and subsequently reviewed proposals from companies that generate energy from wind, biomass and the sun. Officials chose to pursue the NextEra proposal. The contract, as currently proposed, would be for 20 years.

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Aug. 27, 2009

# So long (for now), State Gym

by Erin Rosacker

Say goodbye to State Gym, which will close next month for a major, two-year facelift. The remodeling overhaul is part of the \$52.8 million recreation facilities expansion and renovation project, which also includes a 92,278 gross-square-foot addition on the west side of State Gvm.

The initial phase of the project got under way in June, when work began on installation of air conditioning and ventilation improvements at the Lied Center. That portion of the project is expected to wrap up by October. Areas of Beyer Hall also are being remodeled, but both facilities will remain open during renovations.

## **Rec relocation**

The closure of State Gym sent several offices to temporary locations for the duration of the project, which is scheduled to wrap up in August 2011. The recreation services administrative offices are housed in a mobile trailer in parking lot 59F, between Helser and Martin halls. The intramurals program is operating out of 112 Beyer and the outdoor recreation program is slated to move to 112 Beyer in early September.

The State Gym pool closed earlier this month, and locker rooms were shuttered Aug. 13. The gym floor and running track still are open, but will close if demolition and abatement work become too disruptive before the Sept. 22, when contractors are scheduled to take complete control of State Gym.

#### Programming changes

Interim rec services director Scott White said group fitness agua activities will move to the Forker Building pool, which should reopen by September. The Swim America program and some Ames Park and Recreation classes that were held at State Gym also will shift to Forker. Deep water fitness and lap swim activities remain at the Beyer pool.

Somerville and interim rec services director Scott White will give an update on the renovation and expansion project at the Sept. 3 P&S Council open forum (noon-1 p.m., Gallery, MU).

Dean of students Dione

#### Parking

West-side parking also will be impacted by renovation

and construction work. Lot 1, located on the west side of State Gym, will close until the new addition is completed in 2011. Lots 3 (north of Thielen Student Center and Beyer Hall), 59B (east of State Gym) and 59E (east of Friley Hall) now only are available for reserved parking permit holders. Lot 59F (between Helser and Martin halls) is available for general parking permit use. More information on the west-side parking adjustments and suggested alternative locations are included in a related story.

#### Keeping in touch

Phone numbers and the mailing address (2220 State Gym) for rec services administrative staff will not change despite the temporary relocation of the offices. News and updates are available on the rec services web site, or call 4-4980.

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Aug. 27, 2009



# Cruisin' to class

The sidewalks are full again, as students returned for the start of fall semester Monday. Aug. 24 also marked the first day of use for the pavilion addition to the north side of College of Design. First-year students show a little uncertainty as they approach their new classroom space. Photos by Bob Elbert.



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# Aug. 27, 2009



King Pavilion's green roof. Photos by Bob Elbert.

# Summer, in short

by Paula Van Brocklin

Summer passed by quickly, but there was plenty of activity on campus. If you've been out of touch with Iowa State happenings since mid-May, here's a brief recap.

#### Leaders of the pack

On July 1, Luis Rico-Gutierrez and Jonathan Wickert started their new positions as deans of the colleges of Design and Engineering, respectively. Earlier this spring, Pam White was named dean of the College of Human Sciences. After serving as the college's interim dean, she took over the position permanently April 16.

Rico-Gutierrez came to Iowa State from Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, where he served as associate dean of the College of Fine Arts and directed the Remaking Cities Institute. Wickert joined the ISU Engineering faculty in 2007 as chair of the mechanical engineering department and the Larry and Pam Pithan Professor of Mechanical Engineering. Previously, he was a faculty member at Carnegie Mellon.

#### **Building completions**

#### Snedecor

After a 16-month renovation, Snedecor Hall welcomed back the statistics department in early May. The building's dark, dated interior was replaced with modern computer labs, classrooms, conference rooms and restrooms. The building also has a new roof, elevator, windows and utility systems. Snedecor was rededicated June 3 during a three-day event celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Statistical Laboratory.

#### • King Pavilion

College of Design students started classes Aug. 24 with nearly 24,000 gross square feet of new studio design space. The King Pavilion, completed in June, features a central, two-story "forum" surrounded by instructional studios. Crews used numerous green and energy-saving features in its construction, including a living roof seeded with 20 varieties of plants. ISU will seek top LEED certification for the building through the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

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# Seasons Marketplace

The newly remodeled Maple-Willow-Larch dining center -- Seasons Marketplace -- opened Aug. 18. Unlike college cafeterias of yesteryear, this facility features six unique food stations, and a trayless approach to reduce waste. Anything that is leftover, including paper products and packaging, is sent to a pulper and then composted.

# **Opting for retirement**

The deadline for eligible employees to participate in the university's retirement

# incentive option (RIO) was June 30. A total

of 210 employees received approval, including 99 professional and scientific staff, 95 merit staff and 16 faculty. About 35 percent of the approved applications came from Extension employees.

# Stepping up

By the end of June, 401 ISU employees had volunteered to help the university offset a 1.5 percent (\$4.25 million) reversion in state funding for FY2009. Of that group, 297 chose voluntary leave without pay, including 28 high-level administrators and four athletics department leaders, for a savings of \$505,208. Another 104 employees donated \$97,333 toward the reversion through the ISU Foundation. Combined, employees helped ISU save \$602,541.

#### Plans for stimulus funds

The state Board of Regents approved Iowa State's FY2010 operating budget Aug. 6, which is \$16.3 million (3 percent) less than last year's budget. Decreases in state funding (\$38.3 million) and investment income (\$1.2 million) account for most of the loss, countered by increases in tuition and fees (\$22.5 million) and indirect cost recovery income on research funds (\$0.6 million). To help offset the reduction, Iowa State will use \$31.6 million in one-time federal stimulus funds to help bridge the gap between FY2010 and FY2011.

#### Last summer commencement

A total of 762 students earned degrees in a single ceremony Aug. 8 at Hilton Coliseum, marking Iowa State's final summer commencement. The event is being eliminated due to budget constraints and declining interest among students. Going forward, students will have the opportunity to attend the spring commencement prior to summer term, or attend the fall ceremony in December.

# To hire or not to hire

Criminal background checks are now part of Iowa State's hiring process. Since July 1, human resource services requires checks on criminal history, credit history (for certain positions involving cash and financial assets) and verification of academic credentials and references for most new positions. At this time, student employees, post-docs, temporary employees, and faculty and staff changing positions within the university do not require a criminal background check.

# Students get CyMail

lowa State rolled out a new e-mail service for students Aug. 4 called "CyMail," powered by Google. New students were the first to get the service, and current students are transitioning to the new system. Student e-mail addresses have not changed. CyMail is not available to faculty and staff, though IT officials will explore the possibility of offering it.

# Free pass

CyRide waived all fares for three months this summer to encourage residents to consider a "greener" mode of transportation, and to learn the benefits of public transportation. As a result, CyRide transported 113,320 more riders -- a 26.7 percent increase -- between May 15 and Aug. 15 compared to the same period last year. CyRide's board will meet in September to discuss the possibility of future programs.



# Comedian Wyatt Cenac

#### Lectures lineup

The Committee on Lectures has a stellar lineup planned for this fall, including comedians, dignitaries and storytellers.

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The colleges of Design and Liberal Arts and Sciences are collaborating to present a series of faculty lectures.

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Danny Johnson, a diesel mechanic turned university professor, is a firm believer in -- and poster child for -- lifelong learning. Photo by Bob Elbert.

# Johnson keeps his engine running in academe

by Mike Ferlazzo, News Service

Danny Johnson truly enjoys teaching students all about manufacturing. But the associate professor of operations and supply chain management says the greatest lesson he impresses upon students is to keep learning because of the turns life may take.

Johnson would know, as a John Deere mechanic turned professor.

"You know, 25 years ago, if anybody would have said that I'd be sitting here as a professor, they would have been laughed right out of the room," said Johnson, who is in his 12th year on the College of Business faculty. "That was the last thing on my mind."

#### Early career track

Johnson grew up on a farm in northwest North Dakota that also featured a repair shop, and he worked on tractors, trucks, lawn mowers, automobiles and a wide variety of things from the time he was 13. After high school, he took two years of diesel mechanic training, which landed him a job at a company-owned John Deere dealership in Fargo, N.D.

"I spent seven years as a diesel mechanic before a back injury put an end to that career and I went back to school to do something else," he said.

Academics were an acquired taste for Johnson. He initially enrolled in a program at Minnesota State University Moorhead, where he took classes at night and on weekends -- doing accounting work at the John Deere dealership during the day. He did that for about a year, until the farm crisis of the late 1980s hit and John Deere put all its company-owned stores up for sale.

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#### time to cut my losses, and I went back to school full time

-- Danny Johnson

#### Second career path

Johnson finished his business administration bachelor's

degree in about two-and-a-half years, and then received career advice that ultimately changed his life.

"When I was interviewing for jobs, once I told the recruiters what I'd like to do, they all said, 'You know, you really need to get your MBA," he said. "So I started looking at programs and I ended up going to the University of Wisconsin at Madison to do my MBA with a specialization in operations management."

While earning his MBA, Johnson became interested in a career in teaching and research. So with the support of his wife, Madonna, and their two children, he stayed in Madison to also earn his doctorate in 1998.

He joined Iowa State's College of Business faculty the same year.

"So ultimately the back injury -- even though it required a very long time period to go back to school -- was probably a good thing to happen because it forced me to do something different," Johnson said. "If that hadn't happened, I likely would have continued on another 10 years as I was. And then I really would have been in a tough situation trying to go back to school to do the things I ultimately did."

Johnson never saw himself becoming a college professor when he was growing up. Now he can't see himself doing anything else.

But he still finds some time to get dirty under the hoods of his own vehicles. Johnson is one professor who proudly does his own mechanical maintenance.

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Aug. 27, 2009

# Share your thoughts on next strategic plan at campus forums

Leaders of the effort to develop the university's next strategic plan have been selected and their planning work is set to begin. The team includes members of a steering committee and four task forces organized around four overarching goals for Iowa State in the year 2050. The strategic plan will be a guiding document for 2010-15.

The steering committee will host two campus forums in early September to collect ideas from the university community as it begins its work. The forum dates and locations are:

- Sept. 3, 8-9 a.m., MU Gold Room
- Sept. 10, Noon-1 p.m., MU Cardinal Room

"As we determine our focus for the next five years, it is important to have broad input into the plan," said Elizabeth Hoffman, executive vice president and provost and chair of the steering committee. "The steering committee and each of the task forces include faculty, staff and students representing all areas of the university."

She said other avenues to provide input to the planning process are through representative organizations for faculty, staff and students throughout the process, and by reviewing and commenting on the draft plan in the spring.

## Timeline

The task forces will meet regularly this fall and submit their reports to the steering committee by January. The oversight group will draft the next strategic plan, which will go to president Gregory Geoffroy by June 30, 2010. Finally, it will be submitted to the state Board of Regents for approval.

More information

A complete list of steering

committee and task force

members, a timeline and

strategic planning process

information about the

are online.

# Leadership

Geoffroy recently updated his guidance for developing the next strategic plan. He asked Hoffman and the steering committee to outline the first steps toward reaching four overarching goals for the university in 2050. The process of moving toward each of these goals will be addressed by a task force. The four are:

# Be a magnet for attracting truly outstanding students. Co-chairs: Kathy Jones, registrar; and Michael Whiteford, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

- · Be a magnet for attracting world-class faculty to teach, conduct research and advance their scholarly interests, with the support of staff who are among the best in their areas of expertise. Co-chairs: Kevin Kane, director of Iowa State's GIS facility; and Jonathan Wickert, dean of the College of Engineering.
- Be internationally known for addressing major problems of our planet, especially food, energy, infrastructure, water, health and sustainability. Co-chairs: Alex King, director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Ames Laboratory; and Sharron Quisenberry, vice president for research and economic development.
- Be a treasured resource for Iowa, the United States and the world. Co-chairs: Jack Payne, vice president for extension and outreach; and Wendy Wintersteen, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

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Aug. 27, 2009

# **High-tech trash**

by Paula Van Brocklin

A new receptacle along the west side of Curtiss Hall may give you pause. It looks similar to a post-office box or a book return, but don't drop your bills or books in there.

The contraption is a solar-powered trash compactor, called the BigBelly. Facilities planning and management employees are trying it out for the next several months to see if it can take a bite out of their operating expenses.

FP&M chose the Curtiss location because of heavy student traffic, especially at the beginning of fall semester. Plans are to move the BigBelly around campus every two to three weeks, including to Jack Trice Stadium during football games.

#### How it works

The BigBelly is 26 inches wide, 25 inches deep and 50 inches high. It is completely enclosed with a solar panel on top. A door on the front opens from the top, and trash goes into a basket below. An electronic

The BigBelly solar trash compactor currently sits west of Curtiss Hall. It will move around campus every two or three weeks. Photo by Bob Elbert.

"eye," activated by solar energy, monitors the trash depth. When the garbage reaches a certain level, compaction automatically occurs.

The BigBelly holds the same amount of trash as five 55-gallon garbage cans before it needs to be emptied. A flashing light on the container indicates when it's full. Once the contents are fully compacted, FP&M staff dump the trash into a garbage truck and haul it to the Ames Resource Recovery Plant, where it's burned for energy.

#### **Few restrictions**

Les Lawson, campus services manager, says the BigBelly must be kept out in the open, away from building overhangs and trees. And, FP&M employees will need to keep snow off the solar panel. But besides that, it's typical trash can.

"Anything that goes in a normal trash can, or can fit through the door, will work [in the BigBelly]," Lawson said.

#### Cost versus advantages

FP&M used year-end money to purchase the \$4,000 BigBelly. Pricey? Yes. But Lawson sees many advantages to offset its cost.

"It's fully enclosed, so it keeps animals out and keeps trash from blowing around," Lawson said. "Plus, it saves fuel and time."

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# Announcements

Aug. 26

## Get motivated

Iowa State employees have the opportunity to attend a nationally recognized motivational seminar at no cost. The Office of the Vice President for Business and Finance has paid the registration fee for "Get Motivated," a day-long seminar Sept. 17 at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines. With their supervisor's approval, staff and faculty members who wish to attend should contact vpbfweb@iastate.edu with name, e-mail address and phone number by noon on Monday, Aug. 31. They will be notified at a future date where tickets will be distributed. Attendees will also have the option to purchase a workbook for \$5 if space is available for participation. The seminar features leading business, government and sports figures.

#### Aug. 26

# Changes proposed to building keys/cards policy

A DRAFT of the revised policy on Keys and Building Access Cards is in the Policy Library for public review and comment. The purpose of this policy is to clarify the issuance and accountability of all keys and access cards, which control access to university buildings and their contents. Submit comments by Sept. 16 to policy@iastate.edu (or use the feedback button on the draft site).

#### Aug. 26

# Submit entries for photography contest in September

Entries in University Museums' 2nd annual "I Love Campus Art" photography contest may be submitted beginning Sept. 1. Photos should be of one of the 600-plus pieces of public art on campus. The public will vote on the entries during October and the winner will be turned into a poster and sold at the Brunnier Art Museum store. Entries should be high-resolution (600 dpi) tiff or jpeg files. More info and the entry form are on the University Museums web site.

#### Aug. 26

# New members named to biotech council

Jack Dekkers, professor of animal science; Mark Hargrove, professor of biochemistry, biophysics and molecular biology; and Steven Whitham, associate professor of plant pathology, have been selected to serve three-year terms on ISU's Biotechnology Council. The group makes recommendations to the Office of Biotechnology on activities that support biotech research, education and outreach. More.

#### Aug. 26

## RISE and PERL open house is Sept. 3

The Research Institute for Studies in Education and Psychology in Education Research Laboratory will host an open house Sept. 3 (1-2:30 p.m.) in their remodeled facilities in the garden level of east Lagomarcino Hall (E005, E006, E012 and E016). RISE staff and students will give a presentation, "What is RISE and What are They Doing Down Under?" at 3 p.m. in N221 Lagomarcino.

## Aug. 26

# Honors seminar proposals sought

The University Honors Program seeks proposals for spring 2010 Honors seminars (limited to 15 Honors students, cover topics of current or special interest, one or two credits, graded on a S-F basis). Instructor(s) of each seminar receive \$500 for professional development. Learn more at an info session Sept. 4 (2:10 and 3:10 p.m., 1155 Jischke). Proposals due Sept. 15. For more info, contact faculty director Susan Yager, 4-4372.

# Aug. 26

# Update on Rec Services project is Sept. 3

Dean of students Dione Somerville and interim director of recreation services Scott White will provide an update on the State Gym renovation and addition project during an open forum hosted by the P&S Council Sept. 3 (Noon-1 p.m., MU Gallery). All are welcome.

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#### Arts & events



Comedian Wyatt Cenac

#### Lectures lineup

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- Douglas Jones
- Lei Ying

## Seeking faculty mentors for first-year Honors students

The University Honors program seeks mentors for spring 2010 among faculty and other researchers with active projects who are interested in having one or more first-year assistants. Graduate students may be mentors with approval from their major professors. Mentor and student agree to the match. Students work 3 or 6 hours per week, earning one S/F credit for each 3-hour commitment. Questions may be directed to assistant director for undergraduate research and scholarship Dana Schumacher, 4-0172, or faculty director Susan Yager, 4-4372. The mentor information form, available online, should be turned in by Sept. 18.

#### Aug. 24

#### Journal cancellation review under way at library

The ISU Library has begun a journal cancellation project this semester to address the constraints of the FY10 and FY11 budgets. An explanation from library dean Olivia Madison appears in the library's current newsletter. A list of journals being reviewed also is online. Members of the university community are invited to submit comments regarding specific titles.

# Aug. 24

## **RSVP** for Cardinal & Gold BBQ

Faculty and staff are asked to register by Sept. 4 for the Cardinal & Gold Kickoff, an appreciation BBQ sponsored by the athletics department Sept. 10 (5-7:30 p.m., east concourse of Jack Trice Stadium). Enjoy an evening of food and fun to kick off the academic year.

#### Aug. 12

#### Celebrate a new year

The music department faculty will hold a fanfare concert to celebrate the new academic year Aug. 30 (3 p.m., Tye Hall, Music, reception follows). Admission now is free; no RSVP needed.

#### Aug. 21

#### Update your contact info

Information in the faculty and staff listings section of the university campus directory will be taken from data supplied by faculty/staff through AccessPlus prior to Aug. 28. Please review and update your listing with current addresses and telephone numbers.

#### Aug. 20

# Nominations sought for Catt Center calendar

The Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics is accepting nominations for the 2010 "Women Impacting ISU" poster calendar, an annual tribute to current students, faculty and staff (retirees, alumni and donors not working or studying at ISU are not eligible for inclusion). A dozen women are selected based on their leadership and accomplishments, including contributions in the classroom, campus involvement and community relationships. The nomination form is online and must be submitted by 5 p.m. Sept. 18. A calendar unveiling will be held in December. For more information, contact the Catt center, 4-3181. Past calendars are online.

#### Aug. 18

#### Friday at the Center is Aug. 28

Live music, food and friends are part of the ISU Alumni Association's Friday at the Center (FAC) on Friday, Aug. 28 (5-8 p.m., Newlin Terrace, Alumni Center, 420 Beach Ave). The Soul Searchers will provide music. Admission is free with food (gyros and superdogs) and beverages (beer, wine and soda) for sale. Park in Iowa State Center Lots A2 and A3. The rain location is the Reiman Ballroom in the Alumni Center. For information, call Deanne Stuart, 4-9171.

## Aug. 18

# English class for adults begins Sept. 3

The Intensive English and Orientation Program will offer a course for international visiting scholars, faculty, staff and graduate students this fall. Session 1 (first half of semester) will focus on professional academic oral skills; session 2 (second half) on conversational skills, cross-cultural comparisons and current events. The course meets Sept. 3-Dec. 8 (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30-7 p.m.). An informational meeting will be held Aug. 27 (5:30 p.m., 212 Ross). For more info, including registration details, e-mail Joan Chamberlin.

#### Aug. 18

#### Fall advising summit is Sept. 17

The fall Advising Summit Sept. 17 (3-5 p.m., MU Cardinal Room) will feature a student/adviser scenarios intended to help advisers improve their advising techniques. A directed discussion will follow each vignette. The summit also will include discussion of student/parent issues and

#### **Around campus**

#### \$7.7 million in ARRA grants

lowa State researchers so far have won 19 grants worth a total of \$7.7 million from federal agencies awarding money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

## Top 40 ranking for ISU

lowa State tied for 39th place, finishing among the top one-fourth of all public national universities in *U.S. News & World Report*'s 2010 "America's Best Colleges" annual rankings.

# Opinions on health care

ISU experts reflect on heated national debate over health care reform.

## **Inside tools**



Aug. 27, 2009



Kick off fall semester with a laugh. Wyatt Cenac, a reporter on Comedy Central's The Daily Show, will perform at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, at Stephens. Admission is free. Cenac honed his comedic talents performing stand-up, improv and sketch comedy. He spent three seasons writing and doing voice-over work for Fox TV's King of the Hill, and also starred in the movie Medicine for Melancholy. Contributed photo.

# Low down on fall lectures

by Paula Van Brocklin

When planning your extracurricular activities this fall, be sure to put lectures on your list. The Committee on Lectures plans and coordinates about 150 lectures each year, and here are some you'll want to check out this fall. For a complete list of upcoming lectures, go to the lectures web site or visit the online calendar. Lectures are free and open to the public.

# "The Battle for Whiteclay: A Documentary and Panel Discussion"

# Tuesday, Sept. 15, 7 p.m.

# **Pioneer Room, Memorial Union**

The state of Nebraska's role in allowing alcohol sales in the town of Whiteclay to residents of nearby Pine Ridge Indian Reservation -- a dry community -- is the focus of this presentation. The Battle for Whiteclay chronicles the efforts of three Indian activists as they work to end alcohol sales to the Oglala Sioux Tribe, in which alcohol abuse affects four out of five families. Following the film, attendees can participate in a panel discussion with Mark Vasina, the film's director-producer, and Frank LaMere, one of the activists.

# "Failure is Not an Option"

Saturday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.

**Stephens Auditorium** 

Astronaut Fred Haise knows a thing or two about adversity. He piloted the lunar module during

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the ill-fated Apollo 13 space mission in 1970, and a plane crash in 1973 during the filming of "Tora! Tora! Tora!" resulted in burns over 65 percent of his body. Haise recovered and became one of the first astronauts to pilot the space shuttle in test missions. He was inducted into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame in 1997. Haise's presentation will include footage from the Apollo 13 flight.

# "Taking Control of Your Financial Future"

## Tuesday, Sept. 22, 8 p.m. Sun Room, Memorial Union

Jeanne Hogarth, the 2009-10 Helen LeBaron Hilton Chair in Human Sciences, is a program manager for the Federal Reserve Board in consumer education and research. In her presentation, she will address how people can increase their financial literacy in today's markets, with a focus on the access and affordability of higher education as well as student debt

Hogarth also will speak Wednesday, Sept. 23 (3:30-5:30 p.m., 2019 Morrill), when she discusses her research on electronic banking, financial behaviors and consumer information disclosure. A short reception will follow in the Christian Petersen Art Museum.

# "Following the Money: From Enron to Hedge Fund" Thursday, Oct. 8, 8 p.m.

# Sun Room, Memorial Union

A contributing editor for Vanity Fair and a former Fortune editor-at-large, Bethany McLean was one of the first to raise questions about Enron's profitability in March 2001. Her article "Is Enron Overpriced?" was the first in a national publication to raise questions about the company's dealings. In 2003, she co-wrote the book The Smartest Guys in the Room: The Amazing Rise and Scandalous Fall of Enron, which was made into a documentary in 2005.

# "U.S. Leadership in the Global Fight Against Slavery"

# Thursday, Oct. 15, 8 p.m.

## Sun Room, Memorial Union

Ambassador Luis CdeBaca, an Iowa State alum, has worked to combat human trafficking and modern-day slavery under three presidential administrations. President Barack Obama recently appointed him to direct the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at the Department of State. This office asks foreign governments to free people forced to work for little or no pay. CdeBaca also served under presidents Bush and Clinton.

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Comedian Wyatt Cenac

#### Lectures lineup

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Aug. 27, 2009

# LAS, Design series gives faculty a practice venue

by Anne Krapfl

The "Works in Progress" lecture series brings together faculty from the colleges of Design and Liberal Arts and Sciences to talk informally about their work. Assistant professor of art history April Eisman launched the series spring semester to provide a supportive venue in which faculty can try out new ideas or do a trial run of a conference presentation.

Talks in the series begin at 5:45 p.m. Fridays in 130 Design. All are welcome. Talks range from 20 to 45 minutes and are followed by a collegial Q&A session.

Works in Progress series Fridays, 5:45 p.m. 130 Design

The fall semester lineup is as follows:

- Sept. 4: John Cunnally, art history, "Architectura Numismatica: Ancient Coins as Sources for Renaissance Architects"
- Sept. 18: John Monroe, history, "Developing Art Négre: 'Authenticity' and Photographs of Colonial Material Culture in Interwar France"
- Oct. 2: Ann Sobiech-Munson, architecture, "Lewis Mumford's Lever House: Writing a House of Glass"
- Oct. 30: Chad Gasta, Spanish, "Music in the Missions: Early Opera and Indigenous Musical Culture in the Jesuit Missions of South America"
- Nov. 13: Madeleine Henry, classical studies, "Venues for Prostitution in Ancient Greece"
- Dec. 4: Miriam Engler, landscape architecture, "Landscape Drawings in Perspective: The Work of Gordon Cullen, 1947-1961"

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#### Honors and awards

# Rose is certified engineer of the year

John Rose, a systems analyst in IT Services' systems and operations area, was named the 2009 Certified Engineer of the Year, North America, by Red Hat Inc., an international provider of open source computer software. He is one of five IT engineers worldwide to receive this honor. The certification recognizes "hard work, expertise, and innovation using Red Hat skills to solve technical problems and deliver value to their companies and institutions." More.

#### Jones receives Bailey award

Douglas Jones, associate professor of veterinary pathology, is the recipient of Iowa State's 2009 Bailey Research Career Development Award. He'll receive \$150,000 over three years. Jones and his team propose to develop an immune-feedback vaccine delivery device to circumvent maternal antibody inhibition.

#### Ying receives Young Investigator Award

Lei Ying, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, was one of 15 researchers recently awarded the Defense Threat Reduction Agency's Young Investigator Award. DTRA is part of the U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Strategic Command. Ying will receive \$100,000 a year for two years to support his research. More.

#### Gordon elected to society's first group of fellows

Mark Gordon, Frances M. Craig Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, was elected to the first class of fellows of the American Chemical Society. The society's board created the fellows program to "recognize members of the [society] for outstanding achievements in and contributions to science, the profession and the society." More.

# Hagedorn elected ASHE president

Linda Serra Hagedorn, director of the Research Institute for Studies in Education (RISE) and professor in educational leadership and policy studies, has been elected president of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, an association of higher education researchers. Her one-year term as president-elect begins in November.

#### Lonergan named AMSA Distinguished Research Award winner

Elisabeth Lonergan, professor of animal science, was awarded the Agricultural Media Summit 2009 Distinguished Research Award, which recognizes research contributions to the meat industry.

# ABE faculty and students grab most awards

ISU agricultural and biosystems engineering faculty and students received the highest number of awards at the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers' 2009 annual meeting. Winners include senior Gayle Bishop; faculty Matt Darr, Matthew Helmers, Robert Burns, Charles Schwab, Hongwei Xin, Ramesh Kanwar, Jim Baker and Jeff Lorimor; and PhD alum Betsy Pappas.

#### Kanwar named John Deere gold medal winner

Ramesh Kanwar, professor of agricultural and biosystems engineering, has been

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named the 2009 winner of the John Deere Gold Medal Award. The award is given for distinguished achievement in the application of science and art to the soil. He is being honored for outstanding contributions as a researcher, educator and developer of water management programs.

#### Rothschild receives distinguished service award

**Max Rothschild**, Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor in Agriculture and Life Sciences and director of the Center for Integrated Animal Genomics, has been named the 2009 recipient of Distinguished Service Award by the American Agricultural Editors' Association.

# Babcock named to board

**Bruce Babcock**, professor of economics and director of the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development, has been elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association.

## Learning communities awards

The ISU Learning Communities Awards committee selected winners of four awards, recognizing extraordinary contributions by ISU faculty and staff. The recipients were: Gail Nonnecke (Corly Brooke Advocate Award), the Agricultural Business Learning Community (Outstanding Innovations Award), Tom Polito and Pat Walsh (Champion Award), and Jane Jacobson and Mack Shelley (Collaborator Award). More.

## Phye named fellow

**Gary Phye**, a professor of educational psychology in curriculum and instruction, has been honored for his outstanding, substantial and sustained research by the American Educational Research Association. Phye also was inducted into the association's inaugural class of research fellows in April.

# Political science's Cunninghams receive Fulbright Awards

Kathleen Gallagher Cunningham and David Cunningham, both assistant professors of political science, will leave for Norway in late June for a year of separate research projects. The Fulbright Awards complement postdoctoral fellowships that both Cunninghams received from the International Peace Research Institute in Oslo, Norway. More.

# Bugeja recognized for media ethics research

**Michael Bugeja**, professor and director of the Greenlee School of Journalism and Communication, won the Clifford G. Christians Award for Research in Media Ethics for his 2008 Oxford University Press book, "Living Ethics Across Media Platforms." The award recognizes scholarship about important theoretical issues in the areas of ethics, mass communication theory, and the relationship between media, technology and culture.

#### Anex appointed to EPA board

**Rob Anex**, associate professor of agricultural and biosystems engineering, received a one-year appointment on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's board of scientific counselors. He will provide expertise on such things as life-cycle analysis of biorenewable and biobased product systems, the conversion of biomass to energy and industrial ecology.

#### Gordon wins American Chemical Society award

**Mark Gordon**, Frances M. Craig Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, was selected by the American Chemical Society as the 2009 recipient of the Award for Computers in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Research. More.



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