



Sept. 30

Where's Bob?

What would cast such a shadow? Do you know where university photographer Bob Elbert shot this image?

Sept. 30

Osborn Research Club enjoys a long, quiet existence

The 102-member Osborn Research Club has kept ISU researchers in touch with the latest scientific breakthroughs on campus for the past 90 years.



Herbert Osborn

Sept. 30

Legislation supports Veterans Day requests

Iowa State employees who are veterans may ask for time away from work on Veterans Day, Thursday, Nov. 11.

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Report calls for post-tenure review policy modifications

A Faculty Senate task force charged with reviewing ISU's post-tenure review policy recently submitted its report, which included recommendations for policy modifications.

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Miller will lead FPM

Dave Miller, director of facilities planning and management operations, will become associate vice president for FPM on Oct. 1.

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Art, larger than life

Ten William King pieces were added to the Anderson Sculpture Garden. A tour and discussion of the whimsical pieces is Oct. 3.



Anderson Sculpture Garden

Announcements

- Eat pizza, help support United Way
- Make an appointment for Oct. 10 dog wash
- RSVP for MBA informational lunch on Oct. 8
- Highway 30 drivers: Lane closures continue through October
- Pre-proposals due to Iowa Energy Center by Oct. 29
- Physical therapy unit returns to Lied Center offices

Candidate open forums

ISURF/OIPTT executive director

- James Petell, Sept. 30
- Todd Headley, Oct. 4
- Jacob Maczuga, Oct. 7

Vet Med dean

- Robert Holland, Sept. 30

Arts & events



Orpheus Descending

Orpheus Descending

A 1957 Tennessee Williams play is ISU Theatre's season-opening production. *Orpheus Descending* will run the next two weekends at Fisher Theater.

Honors & awards

- Don Beitz

Around campus

Sept. 30

Groups gear up for NCAA certification study


Teams of ISU faculty, staff, students and community leaders are a few weeks into a lengthy study of the athletics program. It's part of NCAA certification, a process that aims to ensure athletics programs are run with integrity.

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- [Residence reports third highest occupancy ever](#)
- [TIAA-CREF tax expert on campus Oct. 19](#)
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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

INSIDE **Iowa State** *for faculty and staff*

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Where's Bob?

University photographer Bob Elbert went to the end zone in Jack Trice Stadium to capture this long shadow of a goalpost. The 2-2 Cyclone football squad plays at home the next two Saturday evenings, hosting Texas Tech Oct. 2 (Family Weekend), and the University of Utah of the Mountain West Conference Oct. 9. Single-game [ticket information](#) is online.

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Osborn Research Club enjoys a long, quiet existence

by Paula Van Brocklin

For the past 90 years, Iowa State researchers in the natural and physical sciences have had a unique venue in which to share their latest findings.

The Osborn Research Club, founded in 1920 as the Natural Science Research Club, provides a place for ISU faculty and staff to hear about the latest scientific breakthroughs taking place across campus. The 102-member club meets the second Monday of the month, September through April, for a social hour and dinner, followed by a public lecture at 7 p.m. Lectures usually are held in the Molecular Biology auditorium.

Purpose

The club's purpose is to get scientists together, in the same room, to exchange ideas.

"This is especially timely [now] because of the push for multi-investigator projects from a broad range of disciplines," said Philip Dixon, statistics professor and chair of the Osborn Research Club.

From clinical uses of stem cells, to the need for solar energy, to salmonella in eggs, the Osborn Club's public lecture topics often are current and relevant. A list of topics covered from January 2004 to the present is available [online](#).

How to become a member

Existing members nominate individuals for membership in the club. Nominees also must be:

- In the natural or physical sciences
- ISU faculty or staff members, personally conducting research
- On campus for at least one year, or transfers from other organizations where they conducted their own research
- Producing substantial and high-quality research

More information on the nomination and election processes is [online](#).

So, who is Osborn?

The Osborn Research Club was named in honor of ISU alum Herbert Osborn, who earned a bachelor's degree (1879), ISU's first master's of science degree (1880) and the university's first honorary



The Osborn Research Club is named for Herbert Osborn, a prominent ISU alum and scientist. He taught at Iowa State from 1879 to 1898, and chaired the department of zoology and entomology from 1882 to 1897. *Iowa State University Library/Special Collections Department.*

Doctorate of Science (1916). He taught at ISU from 1879 to 1898, and chaired the department of zoology and entomology from 1882 to 1897.

Key to longevity

The 90-year-old Osborn Research Club is one of the longest-running organizations on campus. The key to its longevity is three-fold, Dixon said.

"Ongoing enthusiasm for science among the ISU faculty, a solid core of dedicated members, and interesting and timely discussions," he said.

For a more in-depth look at the Osborn Research Club, check out its [website](#).

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Sept. 30, 2010

Legislation supports Veterans Day requests

by Diana Pounds

Iowa State employees who are veterans may ask for time away from work on Veterans Day on Thursday, Nov. 11.

Under state legislation passed last session, employers cannot deny a veteran's request for time off on Veterans Day unless doing so would endanger public health or safety or cause significant economic or operational disruptions to the business.

Iowa State employees who take the day off *will* need to use a vacation day to stay in paid status. The legislation requires that veterans:

- Request the time off at least a month in advance
- Verify their veteran status if asked

Officials in human resource services said the legislation applies to all veterans who work at Iowa State, including student employees. An e-mail explaining the Veterans Day legislation will be sent to all faculty and staff this week. Faculty and staff are asked to forward the e-mail to student employees in their areas.

The legislation does not address student veterans and class attendance on Veterans Day. Iowa State will remain open on Nov. 11, as usual, and classes will be in session.

For more information, contact human resource services at 4-3753.

Gold Star Ceremony

ISU's **annual event** to



honor fallen Iowa Staters will be held Nov. 11 in the MU Great Hall (3:15 p.m.) World War I casualty John Woodward will be added to Gold Star Hall.

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Sept. 30, 2010

Report calls for post-tenure review policy modifications

by Erin Rosacker

A Faculty Senate task force assigned to review Iowa State's post-tenure review policy issued its findings and recommendations in a Sept. 8 report. The group was assembled last year by then-senate president Arnold van der Valk.

ISU's policy was adopted in 1999, in response to a request by the state Board of Regents for its development. The task force report pointed out that the policy's wording was deliberately general to give departments flexibility in enforcement. However, it said "the vagueness of [the policy] has resulted in the policy being largely ignored, ineffective and without consequences, whether positive or negative."

The documents

- [Current policy \(*Faculty Handbook* section 5.3.5\)](#)
- [Task force report \(PDF\)](#)

Recommendations

As part of the study, the task force examined post-tenure review policies and procedures at other schools. It also considered the position of published opinions and select governing bodies -- such as the American Association of University Professors and the Association of American Universities.

In addition to a pair of senior tenure-track faculty members, the task force also included representatives from the Faculty Senate, department chair's council, dean's council and office of the executive vice president and provost. The group made six recommendations for modification of the current policy, including:

- Establish a consistent assessment of post-tenure achievement
- Develop an effective formative and evaluative review process of faculty performance
- Shorten review intervals from seven to five years
- Include external peer review in the process
- Tie salary step increases to "superior" reviews
- Link annual departmental reviews of the PRS (personal responsibility statement) to the frequency of post-tenure reviews

Senate president Micheal Owen told senators at last week's meeting that the report was accepted by the executive council and forwarded to another senate task force working on promotion and tenure procedures.

"They will report to us in the future if they feel that our current post-tenure review policy needs to be modified," he said. "We may be dealing with that in the near future."

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Miller will lead facilities planning and management

by Diana Pounds

Dave Miller, director of facilities planning and management operations, will become associate vice president for FPM on Oct. 1. He succeeds Chris Ahoy, who is retiring from that post this month.

Vice president for business and finance Warren Madden said Miller is the "ideal choice" to lead the 450-member operation that takes care of all Iowa State facilities, utilities and grounds.

"He's been a leader in dealing with flood challenges, initiated an energy conservation program that saved at least \$5 million over five years, and worked closely with state agencies, Board of Regents staff and other state universities to coordinate and efficiently maintain facility operations," Madden said.

Madden added that the new appointment will be accompanied by restructuring that removes Miller's current position and, thus, yields budget savings.

Miller has 27 years of experience at Iowa State, starting with his first FPM assignment as head of utilities engineering. He is a licensed professional engineer, and before coming to Iowa State, was employed with Burns and McDonnell Engineering, Kansas City, Mo.

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Art, larger than life

Whimsical sculptures of the human form are the latest additions to the Elizabeth and Byron Anderson Sculpture Garden, located north, south and east of Morrill Hall. "Realités: The Lyric Sculpture of William King," which runs through July 2012, showcases 10 of King's larger-than-life "heroic" sculptures, including "Solo" (pictured). The elongated forms depict the realities of human action and interaction, often with a romantic flair. Iowa Staters may already be familiar with King's work. "Stride" is outside the Lied Center, and "Forward," which used to reside outside the LeBaron Hall auditorium, has been reinstalled in the sculpture garden for this show. The Anderson Sculpture Garden is open all day, every day.

University Museums will lead a tour of the sculpture garden and discuss King's artwork at 2 p.m. on Oct. 3. Anyone interested in participating in this free event should meet on the south side of Morrill.

Photo by Bob Elbert.

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Groups gear up for NCAA certification study

by Diana Pounds

Teams of ISU faculty, staff, students and community leaders are a few weeks into a lengthy study of the athletics program. The study is part of the NCAA Division I certification process, an undertaking that resembles the accreditation review for academic programs.

The 18-month process begins with a self-study of the athletics program and is followed by a campus visit by an external review team. The ultimate goal is NCAA certification, an acknowledgment that Iowa State's athletics program is run with integrity and meets the standards and core values of the NCAA.

Iowa State's last certification was in 2002. Recertification is required every 10 years.

Tahira Hira, executive assistant to the president and professor of consumer economics and personal finance, is chairing the 21-member steering committee that oversees the certification process. She was appointed to that post by president Gregory Geoffroy, who also sits on the committee.

"The integrity of our athletics program and the welfare of our student-athletes are very important," Geoffroy said. "Over the next year and a half, we will take a close look at our program to ensure that we are meeting our own expectations and those of the NCAA. We will identify areas which can be improved. And we will seek public input on how we're doing, which is an important part of any self-review."

Hira said study teams will assess such things as student-athletes' academic progress, the support services available to athletes, equity among men's and women's programs and efforts to promote sportsmanship and ethical conduct among fans.

Iowa State's self-study report is due to the NCAA by April 29, 2011. A peer review team will visit campus in the fall of 2011, and the NCAA is expected to make a decision on certification early in 2012.

More information

Visit Iowa State's [NCAA Certification](#) website for more information and updates.

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***Orpheus Descending* is up first on ISU Theatre's stage**

ISU Theatre opens its 2010-11 season this weekend with a 1957 Tennessee Williams play identifiable for familiar Williams themes: loneliness, repression, sexuality and a longing for freedom.

Orpheus Descending tells the story of a young charismatic guitar player (Val Xavier), who descends on a small southern town in the late 1940s. He is hired by, and forms a relationship with, store owner Lady Torrence, a passionate woman trapped in a bad marriage and with a tragic family history.

The play takes its title from Greek mythology. Orpheus is the character who could charm anyone -- man or god -- with his music. Williams developed Val as a modern-day Orpheus.

But it's hardly moonlit love songs in *Orpheus Descending*.

There are allusions to the town's violent past, and by play's end, the violence is real.

Communal Loneliness

Director Brad Dell, assistant professor of music and theatre, said at times *Orpheus Descending* might feel like some of Williams' other plays, including *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

"What makes *Orpheus Descending* different is that his other plays were about families, whereas this one is about an entire town," Dell explained. "There are still themes of isolation, loneliness and rejection that are found in other Tennessee Williams works, but it's taking place in a whole town."

Dell said he also likes *Orpheus Descending* for its roles for women. "We have 10 female roles, and we see this town from the perspective of women," he said.

Orpheus Descending stars juniors Heather Smith as Lady Torrence and Scott Kettner as Val Xavier. Other students with lead roles are sophomore Kelsey Kovacevich as Carol Cutrere, senior Tamara White as Vee Talbott and senior Margaux Mireault as Dolly Hama. Clark Ford, associate professor of food science and human nutrition, plays Lady Torrence's husband, Jabe.

Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 1, 2, 8 and 9. Matinees begin at 1 p.m. Oct. 3 and 2 p.m. Oct.



Scott Kettner (as Val Xavier) and Heather Smith (as Lady Torrence) lead the cast of ISU Theatre's *Orpheus Descending*. Photo by Casey Gradischnig.

10. All performances are in Fisher Theater. Tickets are \$15 (seniors \$13, students \$8), and available through [Ticketmaster](#), the Iowa State Center ticket office or at the door.

Editor's note: The production contains offensive language.

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