



Feb. 10

Climate control

The skywalk over Bissel Road has been much-appreciated during this week of sub-zero windchills.

Feb. 10

Dean Whiteford to retire June 30

Michael Whiteford, a faculty member of 39 years who has served as dean of the Liberal Arts and Sciences college since September 2003, shared his plans this week to retire from Iowa State June 30 and move to Oregon to be near family members.

Feb. 10

Geoffroy: Continued cuts would jeopardize progress

President Gregory Geoffroy reaffirmed Iowa State's commitment to its land-grant mission and the people of Iowa, but told legislators that continued budget cuts are jeopardizing the university's progress. Geoffroy testified before the Iowa Legislature's education appropriations subcommittee at the State Capitol Feb. 9.

Feb. 10

Revised sports complex plan topic of public meeting

At a Feb. 15 public meeting, ISU officials will discuss the latest plan for a new outdoor sports complex in the vicinity of the Towers residence halls. Planners revised the site plan in response to concerns expressed by neighbors in the area.

Feb. 10

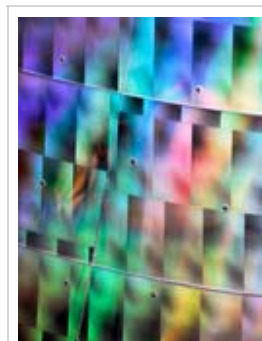
Where's Bob?

Do you know where university photographer Bob Elbert spotted this colorful array?

Feb. 10

Faculty policies stall in senate

Discussion of proposed changes to the faculty conduct and post-tenure review policies continued at the Feb. 8 Faculty Senate meeting, but decisions on both measures were tabled until next month. An early promotion and tenure review policy also will be considered in March.



Where's Bob?

Announcements

- Registration open for science/tech career conferences in April for girls
- Feb. 11 entrepreneur forum features Ames' GlobalVetLink founder
- Town and Gown Musicale is Feb. 19
- Take a peek at Extension's new website
- Registration is open for 12th annual ISCORE, March 4
- Free wellness assessment opportunities begin Feb. 16
- Free informational lunch on MBA program is Feb. 22
- Michael Cho to give Feb. 14 Osborn Club lecture
- Outdoor Rec: Sea kayaking in Alaska this June
- Nominations sought for gender equity award, student scholarships

Search forums

VP for extension and outreach

- Gerald Miller, Feb. 15
- A. Scott Reed, Feb. 17
- Michael Schmitt, Feb. 22
- Michael Gray, Feb. 24
- Cathann Kress, March 1

LAS dean search discussion

- Feb. 17 (8-9 a.m., 302 Catt)
- Feb. 23 (4-5 p.m., 302 Catt)

Arts & events

Sweet Honey in the Rock

Smooth sounds of Sweet Honey
Hear the inspirational harmonies of Sweet Honey in the Rock live at Stephens Auditorium Feb. 17.

Around campus

Feb. 10

Public forum part of athletics NCAA certification process

Groups engaged in a six-month study of the athletics program will discuss their findings and seek input during a Feb. 28 public forum. The self-study and forum are part of the NCAA Division I certification process currently under way at Iowa State.

Feb. 10

Regents take first look at proposed 2011-12 tuition rates

During the Feb. 3 state Board of Regents meeting, Iowa State officials proposed a tuition increase next year of 5 percent for resident students and 3.5 percent for nonresidents. The regents are expected to make a decision on the tuition request at their March 23 meeting.

Feb. 10

Smells like spring

Exotic orchids varieties will be available for viewing and purchasing at Reiman Gardens' annual Orchid Fest this weekend.



Orchid Fest

Feb. 10

Estimate on flood, wind damage drops

The estimated costs of recovery from summer floods and windstorms on campus is lower than \$40 million and perhaps closer to \$30 million. Vice president for business and finance Warren Madden recently updated the state Board of Regents on the new estimate, down from the original \$50 million.

Feb. 10

Extension VP candidates named

Five finalists for Iowa State's Vice President for Extension and Outreach post include interim VP Gerald Miller and alumni Michael Gray and Cathann Kress. Campus interviews for the five begin next week.

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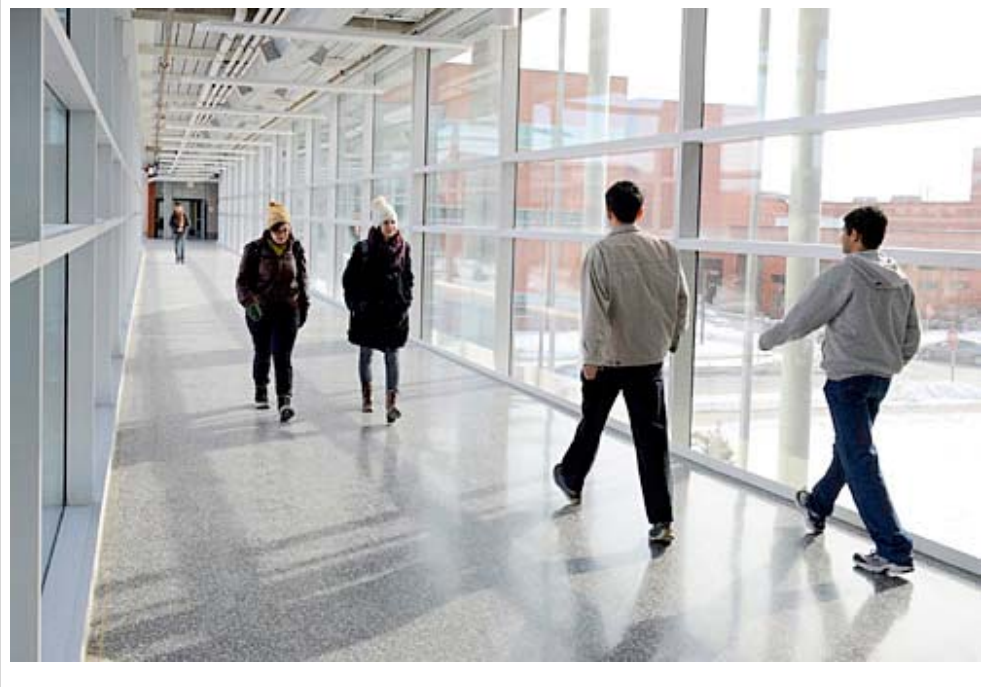
- Global comprehensive health organization locates to ISU

Inside tools

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Can I get one of those?

With sub-zero windchills nearly round the clock, it's a good week for skywalks and tunnels and any other option that keeps us indoors. Here, students stroll over Bissel Road between Howe and Hoover halls. Take heart; spring break is four weeks away. *Photo by Bob Elbert.*

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LAS' dean Whiteford announces his June 30 retirement

by Anne Krapfl

Liberal Arts and Sciences dean Michael Whiteford announced to members of his college community this week that he will retire on June 30 and move to Oregon to be closer to family members. Whiteford has been a faculty member in the anthropology department for 39 years and LAS dean since September 2003, including seven months as interim dean.

"I've had an absolutely terrific career at this institution," Whiteford said. "I will leave with decidedly mixed feelings. I will always be a Cyclone."

Whiteford was named dean about the same time the university launched the quiet phase of its seven-year capital campaign. Donors responded to his leadership with more than \$70 million in gifts to the LAS college. Among other things, this created nearly 100 student scholarships and 14 endowed professorships and chairs, and provided the private component needed to construct Hach Hall, a state-of-the-art classroom and laboratory facility for the chemistry department.

Whiteford gave students new, active roles in the LAS college. The student ambassadors assist with student recruitment and represent the college at events such as Veishea. His Dean's Student Leadership Council serves in an advisory capacity to Whiteford; members also learn about leadership during twice-monthly sessions with the dean and his staff.

During the last several tough budget years, Whiteford's leadership also has been apparent in his ability to compel productive discussions about efficiencies and change in a college with wide diversity of academic disciplines and departments.

Executive vice president and provost Elizabeth Hoffman said she will appoint an interim dean later this spring. Nominations for the interim post should be submitted by Feb. 18 directly to [Hoffman](#).

"I've enjoyed working with Mike in two different capacities: from 1993 to 1997, when he was chair of anthropology and I was LAS dean, and since 2007, when I returned to Iowa State to serve as provost," Hoffman said. "I will miss him greatly, but wish him well as he enjoys his grandchildren in retirement."

Hoffman has appointed Engineering dean Jonathan Wickert and Graduate College dean and associate provost for academic programs David Holger to co-chair the search committee for Whiteford's successor. Hoffman welcomes suggestions to fill other spots on the search committee; send suggestions by Feb. 25 to [Hoffman](#), [Wickert](#) or [Holger](#).

In addition, Hoffman, Wickert and Holger will host two open forums to discuss search committee

membership, the search process and attributes to be sought in the new dean. The forums will be:

- Feb. 17, 8-9 a.m., 302 Catt
- Feb. 23, 4-5 p.m., 302 Catt

Hoffman said her intent is to have a new dean in place no later than summer 2012.

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Geoffroy: Continued cuts would jeopardize progress

by John McCarroll

Iowa State president Gregory Geoffroy reaffirmed Iowa State's commitment to its land-grant mission and the people of Iowa, but told legislators that continued budget cuts are jeopardizing the university's progress. Geoffroy testified before the Iowa Legislature's education appropriations subcommittee at the State Capitol Feb. 9.

Geoffroy said appropriations to Iowa State during the past two years were reduced \$62 million, and Gov. Terry Branstad's recommended 6 percent cut in fiscal year 2012 would lower support to ISU by an additional \$10 million.

He told legislators that Iowa State's graduation rate is up and its nationally recognized learning communities program is enhancing students' academic success.

"But all of this is put in jeopardy by these budget cuts," he testified. "Overall, we've worked very hard to maintain high quality."

Geoffroy outlined administrative consolidations and efficiency changes over the past two years and noted that faculty and staff members have made sacrifices, including furloughs, no general salary increases and reductions in university retirement contributions.

State Board of Regents president David Miles (see Miles' [presentation to the Regents](#)) told the subcommittee that a more prosperous future for the state of Iowa requires an investment in education.



Geoffroy testified to the Legislature's education appropriations subcommittee.

Feb. 9, 2011



Revised sports complex plan ready for Feb. 15 public meeting

by Diana Pounds

Responding to concerns expressed by neighbors, Iowa State officials recently revised plans for a new outdoor sports complex in the vicinity of the Towers residence halls.

Both the original and current plans call for situating the complex for Cyclone softball, soccer and track and field in the green space east of Wallace and Wilson residence halls. Facilities on the new site will include a track, soccer field, softball stadium and locker rooms.

The latest plan moves those facilities farther south on the green space, putting more distance between the complex and the Storm Street neighborhood to the north. In comparison to the original plan, it also preserves more open space for use by ISU students and local residents.

Public forum

Tuesday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m.

Knapp Storms dining complex

Neighborhood issues

In a recent meeting with neighborhood representatives, ISU officials said the new plan addresses some of the neighbors' concerns about proper management of storm water, directing site traffic in a way that is less intrusive to neighborhoods and preserving green space.

Vice president for business and finance Warren Madden also told the neighborhood representatives that officials had explored and, ultimately, ruled out a third option of locating the new sports complex in the existing Southwest Athletics Complex, which currently includes softball, baseball and track facilities.



View [preliminary site plan](#) schematic.

"Developing the new sports complex at that site is substantially more expensive, results in fewer playing fields and requires the relocation of other university activities," Madden said.

Public meeting Feb. 15

ISU officials will discuss the current plan and answer questions during a public forum Tuesday, Feb. 15, at 7 p.m. in the Knapp Storms dining complex. It's the second such meeting on the sports complex. In early December, ISU officials held a forum on the original plan. Neighbors and any other interested community and university members are welcome to attend.

Fields for intramural, club sports

The site of the proposed complex currently is used by ISU recreation services for intramural and club activities such as rugby, soccer, flag football and lacrosse. While green space in the complex will

accommodate some of those activities, most will be transferred to the:

- Existing Southwest Athletics Complex, which is northwest of the Wallace-Wilson residence halls
- Current soccer complex east of the Lied Center.

Financing the complex

The athletics department proposes to pay for the approximately \$13 million sports complex with private gifts and debt financing that uses discretionary and other gift revenues. Neither general university support nor new student fees will be sought.

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Where's Bob?

University photographer Bob Elbert shot an exterior surface of the C6 virtual reality facility in Howe Hall. This part of the wall is made of a very thin micro-embossed film resembling holographic material, sandwiched between clear acrylic for stability and to let it "float" off C6's primary wall. Direct light on the film reflects in a prismatic way and creates rainbow-like effects in the Howe Hall spaces surrounding C6.

Feb. 10, 2011

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Faculty policy changes stall in senate

by Erin Rosacker

Discussion continued on a pair of *Faculty Handbook* items at the Feb. 8 Faculty Senate meeting. In January, senators postponed a decision on proposed changes to the faculty conduct policy and introduced revisions to the post-tenure review policy. Both were carried over again for an expected vote at the senate's March 8 meeting.

Conduct policy

The conduct policy changes would add "unacceptable performance of duties" to the list of misconduct items, and outline procedures for dealing with faculty who are not fulfilling the expectations of their position responsibility statement (PRS).

The document has been revised extensively since it was introduced in December. Another amendment was approved Tuesday, and the senate voted to table the discussion of an additional change. The most updated version of the proposed policy should be available on the [Faculty Senate website](#) next week.

Post-tenure review

The senate's continued focus on the conduct policy cut short discussion of proposed changes to the post-tenure review policy. The new language would add several items, including the:

- Post-tenure review timeline
- Post-tenure review outcomes
- Role of the department chair
- Role of the dean
- Role of the provost

The short discussion did address why salary considerations were part of the language added to the current review process.

"The concept of adding a salary bump in here was brought up as a way of potentially enticing faculty to take the post-tenure review process more seriously," said president-elect Steve Freeman.

Other business

- Senators unanimously approved plant pathology's name change to the department of plant pathology and microbiology.
- Changes to the promotion and tenure policy (Faculty Handbook section [5.2.1.3](#)) were introduced, which would allow faculty to request an "early" review for promotion and tenure, especially when previously approved extensions no longer are needed.

Feb. 10, 2011

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Feb. 28 forum set for comments on athletics NCAA certification process

by Diana Pounds

A six-month study of Iowa State's athletics program is nearing completion, and the study teams are nearly ready to release and seek public input on their findings. The self-study, undertaken by several teams of ISU faculty, staff, students and community leaders, is part of the NCAA Division I certification process.

Public forum on Feb. 28

The public is invited to attend a Feb. 28 forum on the self-study (5:30-7:30 p.m., Campanile Room, Memorial Union). Participants will get an overview of the study results -- focused on academic progress, NCAA rules compliance, gender/diversity issues and student-athlete wellness -- and have opportunities to ask questions and offer comments.

"Our study teams have taken an in-depth look at our athletics program and our institution's commitment to the principles of the NCAA," said Tahira Hira, executive assistant to the president and chair of the steering committee overseeing the certification process. "With the forum, we welcome even broader public input on the study teams' report. Voices of the public are invaluable to the certification process."

Written report available soon

The complete report on the self-study will be available about a week prior to the forum on the [NCAA Certification](#) website. Those who cannot attend the forum are welcome to send their comments to ncaacert@iastate.edu through March 1.

[ISU's plan for conducting the study](#) also is available on the certification site.

Iowa State's last certification was in 2002. Division I programs must re-certify every 10 years in a process that resembles an accreditation review for academic programs. Athletics certification is designed to ensure the NCAA's fundamental commitment to integrity in intercollegiate athletics.

18-month process

The self-study is the first part of the 18-month process. Iowa State's self-study report is due to the NCAA by April 29. A peer review team then will visit campus in the fall of 2011, and the NCAA likely will make a decision on certification early in 2012.

Team leaders

ISU faculty, staff and students as well as community leaders are involved in the NCAA certification effort. Following are leaders of the key teams:

- Steering committee: Tahira Hira, executive assistant to the president and professor of consumer economics and personal finance
- NCAA Rules, Governance Subcommittee: Tim Day, associate professor of biomedical sciences
- Academic Integrity: Frank Montabon, associate professor of operations and supply chain management
- Gender/Diversity Issues and Student-Athlete Well-Being: Tonia McCarley, administrative director, NSF Engineering Research Center for Biorenewable Chemicals

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Five percent tuition hike request goes to regents; decision expected in March

by Anne Krapfl

The state Board of Regents expressed little reaction to a proposal that would increase Iowa State tuition for Iowa residents (undergraduates and graduates) 5 percent and nonresident students 3.5 percent next year. That translates to a tuition increase of \$306 and \$356 for resident undergraduates and graduates, respectively, and \$612 and \$644 for nonresident undergraduates and graduate students. The board met Feb. 3 in Iowa City; a tuition decision is expected at the March 23 meeting in Ames.

A proposed \$183 increase in mandatory student fees -- approximately 20 percent -- largely reflects the opening of the new recreation facility this fall and the beginning of debt payments on \$52 million in bonds. The student recreation fee would rise from \$133.30 per year to \$321.60 per year. As proposed, total mandatory fees would increase to \$1,078 annually for most students.

Combined, proposed tuition and fees would rise about 7 percent for resident students and 4.3 percent for nonresident students. A resident undergraduate would pay \$7,485 for the year; a resident graduate student would pay \$8,507.

During his comments to board members, president Gregory Geoffroy said that if approved, the new tuition rates could generate about \$11 million in new revenue to help cover negotiated cost increases for union contract-covered employees; incremental annual increases in utilities, insurance and employee health care; and faculty positions so class sizes can stay smaller and more courses can be offered. But he noted that cuts to Iowa State in Gov. Terry Branstad's proposed budget would total about \$16.7 million.

Pointing to record enrollment levels the past few falls, Geoffroy said that tuition increases -- 6 percent for this year and 4.2 percent last year -- didn't deter students from attending Iowa State.

Geoffroy also said his office staff asked universities in neighboring states -- Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Wisconsin -- about their tuition plans for 2011-12. The range they provided, he said, is 4 to 7 percent, with an average of "about 6 percent."

"The 5 percent we're asking for is not out of line with what's happening in our neighboring states," he said.

Government of the Student Body president Luke Roling told board members he's sympathetic to the state funding cuts Iowa State has absorbed in the last three years, but he couldn't support a 5 percent tuition increase.

More regents coverage

Estimates on summer flood, wind damage are coming down

"If you approve it, I ask you to reconsider the allocation of financial aid so that those who need it most, get it," he said.

The board uses the projected Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) as a guideline in reviewing proposed tuition increases -- but it is not required to approve increases within the range. The HEPI forecast for FY12 is 2.2 percent to 4.0 percent, with a median of 3.1 percent.

Board president David Miles said that state appropriations to the three public universities is down 24 percent since 2001, and that less than a quarter of those cuts were made up through tuition increases.

"The magnitude of these cuts made it impossible to hold students harmless," he said. "You can only do 'more with less' for so long before quality is compromised.

"Even if we approve this [tuition increase], we are asking the regent universities to do more with less," Miles said.

Differential tuition

Regent Michael Gartner noted that a growing request list for differential tuition from all three regent universities bumps the proposed increase much higher for some students.

"I'm not saying it's good or bad; I just want to point that out," he said.

Differential tuition channels additional dollars into specific programs to boost quality through considerations such as smaller class sizes, cutting-edge research opportunities or additional leadership opportunities for students.

Iowa State has three differential tuition requests for next year:

- Juniors and seniors in both the agricultural systems technology and industrial technology majors, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, would pay a proposed \$584 extra next fall, the first of three annual increments.
- In the third and final year of a request, juniors and seniors in the College of Business would pay an additional \$500 above their peers in other colleges.
- Business graduate students would pay an additional \$1,600 next year to make up the difference between undergraduate and graduate tuitions in the college as a result of the undergraduate differential tuition.

Following four years of differential increases (2006-07 through 2009-10), juniors and seniors in the College of Engineering continue to pay about \$2,000 more annually in differential tuition.

Other student fees

In a change to the timeline, the universities were required to present their proposals for changes to the former "miscellaneous" student fees (those not related to tuition) at the same time as tuition and mandatory fee proposals. Fees also have been recategorized as either academic or administrative. Board members requested this change last April so they have a complete picture of student fees as they set tuition rates. Previously, miscellaneous fees were discussed in the May-June timeframe.

Iowa State proposes to raise by 5 percent the per-credit-hour rate for extension/continuing education workshops and for summer courses at the Iowa Lakeside Lab field station near Spencer. It also

proposes to raise the enrollment fee 5 percent for graduate students who have completed their coursework but not their thesis work.

Proposed tuition and fees

	Tuition only 2011-12	Increase over 2010-11	Tuition and fees 2011-12	Increase over 2010-11
Iowa residents				
Undergraduate	\$6,408	5.0%	\$7,485	7.0%
Business upper division*	\$7,990	12.0%	\$9,107	12.9%
AST/IT upper division*	\$6,992	14.6%	\$8,285	14.9%
Engineering upper division	\$8,494	5.0%	\$9,787	6.4%
Graduate				
Graduate	\$7,476	5.0%	\$8,507	6.8%
Business graduate*	\$9,076	27.5%	\$10,147	26.7%
Engineering graduate	\$8,616	5.0%	\$9,909	6.4%
Vet Med, years 1-3	\$17,456	5.0%	\$18,533	5.8%
Vet Med, year 4	\$25,803	5.0%	\$26,880	5.5%
Non-resident students				
Undergraduate	\$18,280	3.5%	\$19,357	4.3%
Business upper division*	\$19,844	6.2%	\$20,961	6.8%
AST/IT upper division*	\$18,864	6.8%	\$20,157	7.3%
Engineering upper division	\$20,264	3.5%	\$21,557	4.2%
Graduate				
Graduate	\$19,192	3.5%	\$20,223	4.3%
Business graduate*	\$20,792	12.1%	\$21,863	12.5%
Engineering graduate	\$20,280	3.5%	\$21,573	4.2%
Vet Med, years 1-3	\$39,990	3.1%	\$41,067	3.5%
Vet Med, year 4	\$48,039	3.1%	\$49,116	3.4%

*If regents approve differential tuition requests

AST/IT: Agricultural Systems Technology and Industrial Technology majors

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Weekend festival at Reiman Gardens highlights the orchid

Take a break from winter to view exotic orchid varieties and purchase orchid plants and orchid-related items from Midwest vendors at Reiman Gardens' annual Orchid Fest Saturday, Feb. 12 (10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) and Sunday, Feb. 13 (11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.).

Members of the Central Iowa Orchid Society will staff a booth both days, providing novices and experienced growers an opportunity to get answers to their questions about growing orchids.

There will be a guest presentation each day at 1 p.m. Nile Dusdieker of Cedar Rapids, a member of the Quad Cities-area Iowa Orchid Society, will talk on Saturday; Carson Whitlow of Adel, president of the Central Iowa Orchid Society, will speak on Sunday.

A planned orchid repotting seminar scheduled for both mornings was canceled. Visitors to Orchid Fest pay the usual gardens admission (\$8 adults, \$4 ages 4-17 years); members and ISU students are admitted free.

Feb. 10, 2011



Estimates on summer flood, wind damage are coming down

by Anne Krapfl

Vice president for business and finance Warren Madden provided another update to the state Board of Regents Feb. 3 on reconstruction and mitigation efforts following flooding on campus in August and a damaging windstorm in July. Madden said FEMA officials have completed their on-campus assessment of damages and approved 58 project worksheets for reimbursable renovation work at 117 different sites. Mitigation strategies for a few buildings still are being investigated, he said. He anticipates that planning process to wrap up by early May.

Madden said university officials' estimate of total damages to buildings still isn't final, but will be lower than \$40 million -- and perhaps closer to \$30 million, not the initial \$50 million estimate. Iowa State will apply for, and hopes to secure some funding through, a FEMA competitive grant program that provides funds for long-term mitigation projects.

More regents coverage

Five percent tuition hike request goes to regents; decision expected in March

Entrepreneurial alumni

University professor of economics Peter Orazem presented the results of an ISU alumni career survey (approximately 25,000 alums from the classes of 1986 to 2006), conducted by a team from his department that focused on entrepreneurship, job creation and factors that increase the probability of each. The research team received more than 5,400 valid responses in the 2008 survey. Among the findings:

- 38 percent of alumni live in Iowa
- 69 percent graduated in four years or less; 92 percent graduated in five years or less
- Students with more specialized programs and fewer electives graduated in less time and found jobs as technicians and specialists
- Students with broad academic programs and more elective courses were more entrepreneurial as alumni
- Of the 19,442 businesses alumni started, 35 percent were in Iowa; another 25 percent were in Illinois or Minnesota
- On average, 9.5 percent of the businesses were internet-based (for graduates after 1996, the rates rose to between 13 and 15 percent)
- Nationally, two-thirds of new small businesses fold within six years; among ISU entrepreneurial alumni, 70 percent were still going after more than six years

More survey results are available online in two working papers ([February 2009](#) and [February 2010](#)) developed by the team.

Project approvals

In other business, the board:

- Gave final approval to replace the heating, ventilating and air conditioning system for the Laboratory Animal Resources central facility within the College of Veterinary Medicine building. It will be independent of the current system, which also serves offices and classrooms. The intent is to create high-quality lab animal space that can support more externally funded research. As proposed, 99 percent of the \$4.4 million price tag will be covered by ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) funds via a grant from the National Institutes of Health. The office of the vice president for research and economic development will provide the rest.
- Approved a revised budget (from \$2.85 million to \$3.63 million) for improvements to Willow residence hall that include a new fire suppression system, energy-efficient windows and repairs to exterior concrete panels. Residence improvement funds will cover this project.
- Approved a 41-year lease between the university and the city of Ames' transit agency to develop an intermodal transportation facility on university property on Hayward Avenue south of Lincoln Way. The lease requires no payments.

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Five finalists named in search for next VP for extension and outreach

Five candidates for the position of Vice President for Extension and Outreach will interview on campus during the time period Feb. 14-March 1. The candidates are:

- Michael Gray, professor and interim assistant dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- Cathann Kress, senior policy analyst and program lead for military community and family policy in the Office of Family Policy, Children and Youth, U.S. Department of Defense, Washington, D.C.
- Gerald Miller, interim vice president for extension and outreach and interim director of the Cooperative Extension Service at Iowa State University
- A. Scott Reed, vice provost for university outreach and engagement at Oregon State University, Corvallis
- Michael Schmitt, senior associate dean for University of Minnesota Extension and associate director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station

More information about the candidates is available from their vitas, which have been posted on the [search website](#).

As previously announced, their campus interviews will include meetings with a variety of stakeholders and an open forum with the university community. The open forums may be viewed live online via ISU Extension's [Adobe Connect](#) system and also will be archived for viewing after March 1.

All five open forums will be held in 1951 Food Sciences (an auditorium). Dates and times are as follows:

- Gerald Miller, Iowa State University, Feb. 15, 3-4:30 p.m.
- A. Scott Reed, Oregon State University, Feb. 17, 3-4:30 p.m.
- Michael Schmitt, University of Minnesota, Feb. 22, 3:30-5 p.m.
- Michael Gray, University of Illinois, Feb. 24, 3-4:30 p.m.
- Cathann Kress, U.S. Department of Defense, March 1, 3-4:30 p.m.

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Smooth sounds of Sweet Honey

Sweet Honey in the Rock uses song, dance and narrative in its performances to spread a message of justice, humanity and love. You can watch the group perform live at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 17 at Stephens Auditorium.

Together for 35 years, the six women of Sweet Honey in the Rock celebrate the sacred music of African-American churches, as well as jazz, reggae, blues and doo-wop. An American Sign Language interpreter is the centerpiece of each performance, conveying not only the words but also the emotional message of the music.

Tickets, \$37 and \$33 (youth \$25; students \$20), are available at the Iowa State Center ticket office and through **Ticketmaster**.