



April 22

Historic house gets new look

Iowa State's Sloss House, built in 1883 and currently home to the women's center, will be refurbished over the summer months.

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Beyond borders

Elisa Rizo, assistant professor of world languages and cultures, is one of the first researchers to study the theatrical literature of Equatorial Guinea, the only Spanish-speaking nation in sub-Saharan Africa.



Elisa Rizo

April 22

Elimination policies still on the table

Policy changes dealing with the elimination of academic programs and faculty positions remain on the Faculty Senate docket. May 4 is the senate's final meeting of the academic year.

April 22

Distinguished and University Professors named

Seven faculty members have been awarded the title of Distinguished or University Professor.

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Back by popular demand: Flower beds

Facilities planning and management is testing an Adopt a Flower Bed program this spring, hoping to broaden the campaign in the fall. This bed of cardinal and gold tulips is the handiwork of students from the ISU Horticulture Club.



Tulips at the Osborn and Wallace intersection

April 22

Iowa State proposes two new retirement incentive plans

If approved by the state Board of Regents at its April 29 meeting, Iowa State will have two new retirement incentive options for qualified

Announcements

- Campus memorials for students Jon Lacina and T.J. Good are April 22
- New EAP services are topic of April 28 P&S Council open forum
- CESMEE invites all to collaborate over coffee April 26
- Cherry trees take root outside MacKay April 22
- Every vote counts for electric-assist bikes
- Renew your parking permit online beginning April 26

Receptions & open houses

Reception

- Opening for "Fashion Show 2010 Exhibit," April 26

Retirements

- Beverly Allen, Ramona Wierson and William Woodman, April 28
- Hamilton Cravens, April 29
- Jeffrey Prater and Sue Proescholdt, April 29
- Lonnie Gaumer, April 30
- Robert Gregorac, Howard Levine and James Murdock, April 30

Open house

- Sloss House, April 29

Arts & events

Season's final ISU Theatre show
ISU Theatre's final four performances of the 2009-10 season are this weekend. ISU senior Don Watts directs the 2003 play *The Pillowman* April 22-25 in the Memorial Union M-Shop.

Honors & awards

- Timothy Borich
- Scott Graham
- Nicola Pohl
- Catherine Strohbehn
- Guang Song and Ting Zhang

Around campus

- Endowed dean's chair established

employees to consider.

April 22

Recycling pilot at the MU runs through April 30

Students are leading a 12-day bottle and can recycling effort at the Memorial Union to gauge interest in a permanent plan.

April 22

Campus on display

A photographic recap of this year's Veishea activities. Thousands of visitors visited campus for the annual event.

April 22

Forum on strategic plan is April 26

Now's a good time to offer comments on the 2010-15 Strategic Plan. A public forum on the second draft of the plan is scheduled for April 26. You also can e-mail your comments and ideas.



Veishea parade

for Vet Med college

- ISU's tornado research hits the Windy City

Inside tools

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April 22, 2010



Nestled between Curtiss Hall and Gerdin Business Building, the historic Sloss House will be refurbished over the summer months. *Photo by Bob Elbert.*

Historic house gets new look

by Erin Rosacker

The Margaret Sloss women's center will relocate for the summer while Sloss House gets a much-needed facelift. An April 29 reception (2-4 p.m.), including building tours, is planned prior to the closure. The project will cost an estimated \$156,000.

The exterior work has begun, and crews will move inside soon. Water damage, particularly in the northeast corner of the house, will be fixed. New windows, gutters, paint and refinished floors also are among the items on the list of things to do. The Government of the Student Body earmarked nearly \$30,000 to buy new furnishings, and the Graduate and Professional Student Senate is funding three new student computer workstations.

Sloss House reception

April 29, 2-4 p.m.

The women's center staff will be relocated to Room 0355 in the Memorial Union on May 10, and director Penny Rice said she hopes to be back in Sloss House when students return in the fall. The center's phone numbers will be forwarded to the temporary location, but a fax number will not be available.

"I hope it preserves the space," Rice said. "It's a home. So many people say, 'It's like going to my grandma's house.' It's the warmth and the comfort."

History of the house

Only two other campus buildings are older than Sloss House -- Farm House (1860) and Laboratory of

Mechanics (1882). Built in 1883, it served primarily as a faculty and staff residence until 1969, but also housed the Delta Zeta sorority for one year (1937-38) and was used as a home management house by home economics seniors from 1938-47. The house is named for long-time buildings and grounds superintendent Thomas Sloss, whose family lived there for 11 years.

Since 1970, the Sloss House has been home to the lectures program and the applied arts, agricultural education and sociology departments. The women's center, which has been housed in the building since 1980 and the sole occupant since 1986, was named for Thomas Sloss' daughter -- ISU's first female vet med graduate and staff member.

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April 22, 2010



Elisa Rizo is one of the first researchers to study the theatrical literature of Equatorial Guinea. In a March trip to the country, she attended three live performances. *Photo by Bob Elbert.*

Beyond borders

by Laura Engelson, LAS Communications

Elisa Rizo doesn't limit herself to any geographic boundaries. The assistant professor of world languages and cultures studies situations in which cultures and identities overlap, often transcending established borders and creating new cultural spaces.

One of those little known spaces is the literature of Equatorial Guinea, the only Spanish-speaking nation in sub-Saharan Africa. A very small country surrounded by French-speaking nations, its Hispanic identity has grown in relative isolation from the rest of the Hispanic world, Rizo said.

Equatorial Guinea gained its independence from Spain in 1968, and its national literature still is developing. Despite the fact that there is little government support for literary pursuits and virtually no libraries open to the public, Rizo said Equatorial Guinea is developing a vibrant literary culture.

Literature as drama

One of the most accessible forms of this expanding literary culture is theater, a focal point of Rizo's research.

"Theater is an accessible venue in Equatorial Guinea for sharing ideas

"It's important to look at local, specific cases. Sometimes the bigger picture can be

and dialoguing," Rizo said.

She has studied videos and scripts from Equatorial Guinean dramas, which are developed with few resources besides the local writers' and theater companies' creativity.

seen in the smaller details."

-- Elisa Rizo

The theatrical literature in Equatorial Guinea is not well known around the world except by a handful of specialists, Rizo said. She is one of the first to fully engage in research of Equatorial Guinean theater.

Rizo traveled to Equatorial Guinea last month, in part to attend three live drama performances by the Bocamandja theater company.

"It was important to see the reaction of the audience and how the live performance opens the doors for other possible meanings of the dramas in print," she said.

The performances focused on a range of issues -- such as equality, women's rights, corruption and the future of the country -- geared to instill civic participation, Rizo said. She observes the ways in which writers describe their local experiences, and how those experiences reflect global issues.

Black Seminole research

Rizo's research involves another little-known edge of the world: the diaspora of Black Seminoles into Mexico. Black Seminoles, as they became known, are descendents of African-American slaves in the Gullah region of South Carolina and Georgia who escaped slavery in the late 1600s and formed an alliance with the Seminole Indians in the Florida wilderness.

Rizo studies the transformation of their cultural identity and their connections with their "base" culture: the Gullah Geechee Nation, which extends from Jacksonville, N.C., to Jacksonville, Fla.

The Black Seminoles eventually split and some migrated to the U.S./Mexico border. Rizo studies how this group of dispersed people is represented in Mexican literature and media versus how they represent themselves in literature or at cultural events and celebrations.

Rizo has traveled to the U.S./Mexico border with Queen Quet, the chieftess of the Gullah Geechee Nation, and has met with the chief of the Black Seminoles. On these visits, she learned about how they track their own history.

"In my research, I highlight the way in which Black Seminoles and the Gullah-Geechee present their oral tradition," she said.

Back in class

Rizo's students also are learning about the literatures and cultures of Equatorial Guinea and the Black Seminoles, especially when she teaches a seminar on Afro-Hispanic civilization.

In her Latin America Today class, she delves into contemporary popular culture, film and art that responds to political movements, free trade agreements and social justice issues.

Another class she enjoys teaching is Spanish for the Professions, in which students learn about professional practices in the fields of business, engineering and agriculture within the Hispanic world. Students also are encouraged to analyze the potential social impacts that professional decisions may

have.

Through these classes, Rizo hopes her students will understand that cultures are dynamic and flexible.

"It's important to look at local, specific cases," she said. "Sometimes the bigger picture can be seen in the smaller details."

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April 22, 2010

Elimination policies still on the table

by Erin Rosacker

The Faculty Senate has just one meeting left this academic year to make a decision about *Faculty Handbook* changes to policies governing the termination of academic programs and faculty positions. Senators again postponed a vote at their April 20 meeting.

Three more amendments were addressed, but none of them made it into the proposed revisions to section 3.4 of the handbook, which would outline the procedures for nonrenewal and termination of faculty appointments. One amendment was defeated, one was ruled out of order and the last was sent back to the senate's governance council for more work. It should be reintroduced at the May 4 meeting. An [updated version \(PDF\)](#) of the proposed changes, including all of the approved amendments, is available on the Faculty Senate website.

A vote on changes to section 10.8 of the handbook also was postponed. The proposed revisions better define the voting requirements for adding or discontinuing academic programs.

Promotion and tenure report

Executive vice president and provost Elizabeth Hoffman presented her annual report on promotion and tenure recommendations that will be put before the state Board of Regents next week. This year, 65 cases were considered with the following outcomes:

- 26 tenured faculty promoted to professor; one denied
- 33 faculty promoted to associate professor with tenure; two denied
- 2 associate professors granted tenure

Four cases were withdrawn from consideration and one was given an extension to his tenure clock. The breakdown by gender and ethnicity showed:

- 16 of 17 female and 45 of 48 male applicants were approved
- Two Caucasian males and one Caucasian female were denied
- One Native American (male) was approved
- One Hispanic American (female) was approved and one (male) was denied
- All 13 Asian American applicants (12 male, one female) were approved
- There were no African-American applicants

Student-athletes in the classroom

Faculty Spring Conference

"Refocusing the Academy in Light of the Current Budget Constraints"

April 30, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Great Hall, Memorial Union

All faculty are invited to attend. Register by e-mail:

sangstro@iastate.edu

In her annual presentation, faculty athletics representative Paula Morrow reported on the academic status of Iowa State's student-athletes. After narrowly trailing the overall student body in cumulative grade-point average in the fall 2008 and spring 2009 semesters, the Cyclone student-athletes (2.88) out-performed the general student body (2.86) in the fall of 2009. The gymnastics and tennis squads each posted a 3.28 GPA to top the team list last fall, while the football (2.32) and men's basketball (2.30) squads posted the lowest averages.

At least 25 percent of ISU's student-athletes made the dean's list in each of the last two semesters, while 46 and 48 percent achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in the spring and fall, respectively. The 15 special-admit student-athletes had a combined 1.90 GPA last fall, continuing an upward trend over the last six years. (Select students and student-athletes who do not meet ISU's normal enrollment standards are accepted with special-admit status.)

Student-athletes topped the overall student body on graduation day as well. Given six years, 78 percent of the student-athletes who arrived in 2002-03 graduated, while 67 percent of ISU students received a diploma in the same time period. Additionally, 71 percent of minority student-athletes graduated.

The NCAA academic progress rate, which measures academic eligibility and retention, sets a minimum benchmark of 925 for teams to avoid penalties. Because the men's basketball team showed continued improvement, climbing 30 points to 907, no additional penalties will be levied. The rest of ISU's teams rank above the minimum.

Other business

Senators approved three new degrees, including:

- A master of science in architecture
- A master of science in landscape architecture (a new name for the current MLA academic degree)
- A master of landscape architecture (a new accredited professional degree)

A proposed bachelor of industrial design degree was introduced. The interdisciplinary program would involve the College of Business and the departments of art and design, and mechanical engineering. Senators will vote on the proposal May 4.

April 22, 2010

Distinguished, University Professors named

by Diana Pounds

Seven Iowa State faculty members have been awarded the title of Distinguished or University Professor. They will be honored at the April 29 promotion and tenure reception and the Sept. 20 university convocation and awards ceremony.

Through their research or creative activities, Distinguished Professors have significantly impacted or improved the quality of their disciplines. They also have demonstrated outstanding performance in at least one of the following: teaching and advising; extension/professional practice; or institutional service. Recipients receive a \$6,000 addition to their base salaries.

Acting as change agents, University Professors have made significant contributions that improved the university. In addition, University Professors have demonstrated outstanding performance in at least one of the following: research and/or creative activities; teaching and advising; or extension/professional practice. Recipients receive a \$4,850 addition to their base salaries.

Alicia Carriquiry Distinguished Professor

Carriquiry's research and professional practice have profoundly impacted the use of statistics in science and policy. She is internationally recognized for research on nutrition science and nutrition monitoring policy. She also is hailed for her statistical contributions to many other fields, including forensic science, transportation safety and animal breeding. She is a member of U.S. and international scientific academies. Carriquiry has been active in the development of statistical science in Latin America, through her work on research grants, conferences, short courses and advisory review boards. She also serves as a faculty member on graduate programs in statistics at universities in Chile and Uruguay.

Carriquiry is a professor in the department of statistics.

Carol Chapelle Distinguished Professor

A colleague calls Carol Chapelle the most important figure for technology in language assessment in the world. Her research, which explores issues at the intersection of computer technology and applied linguistics, has significant impact, nationally and internationally. She has authored or edited (sometimes collaboratively) 11 books on language learning and assessment. Her expertise on language testing led to her selection as one of the main developers of the major language test in the world, "TOEFL 2000," which later was developed into an internet-based TOEFL. She's an award-winning teacher, with a strong record in graduate education and a long history of exceptionally strong student evaluations.

Chapelle is a professor of English.

Rodney Fox**Anson Marston Distinguished Professor in the College of Engineering**

Fox has distinguished himself in computational fluid dynamics, which transcends the boundaries of chemical, mechanical and aerospace engineering. He is perhaps the world's leading figure in the special area of fluid mechanics of chemically reacting systems, and made groundbreaking contributions to that field. His world renown is demonstrated by his many invited professorships and lectureships in the United States and abroad. He has been on doctoral committees not only at Kansas State and Iowa State, but at Stanford University and in France, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Australia.

Fox is the Herbert Stiles Professor in Chemical Engineering in the department of chemical and biological engineering.

**Suzanne Hendrich
University Professor**

Hendrich has introduced new concepts about teaching and learning to Iowa State. She led development of outcomes assessment, co-created the first residential learning community and played a key role in starting the Academy for Leadership and Learning. She also created and led new interdisciplinary and multi-institutional graduate programs while building a strong research program of her own. She participated in national programs to define nutrient requirements that impact all U.S. citizens and served in key roles in professional organizations. A strong advocate for diversity, Hendrich has taught and mentored multicultural students at all levels and in all colleges.

Hendrich is a professor and Lura M. Lovell Fellow in the department of food science and human nutrition.

**Max Porter
University Professor**

Porter's contributions to shared governance at Iowa State are counted in decades of service. He routinely has maintained a high level of involvement in the ISU Faculty Senate, working on a variety of key campus issues. On a national level, he has served in top leadership positions in several different professional engineering societies. He was national president for the Structural Engineering Institute during the 9/11 period, and subsequently, was active in appointing investigative teams for the World Trade Center and Pentagon studies. He also has chaired committees that establish national codes and standards for structural design.

Porter is a professor in the department of civil, construction and environmental engineering.

**Richard Schultz
University Professor**

In research, Richard Schultz is best known for his work on riparian buffers to reduce erosion and nitrate runoff and improve wildlife habitat and aesthetics. The Bear Creek Watershed project in northern Story County that he helped create in 1990 received national and international recognition. Popular in the classroom, Schultz has mentored many new faculty in student-centered learning. His efforts to turn out broadly educated global citizens are many. He consistently recruits international students, believing that diversity broadens scholarship. In the past 10 years, he has developed very successful study abroad programs in South Korea and China and participated in a new Uganda-based center for sustainable rural development.

Schultz is a professor in the department of natural resource ecology and management.

Stephen Willson
University Professor

Stephen Willson is a visionary leader who helped create Iowa State's highly touted bioinformatics and computational biology programs. Iowa State has been at the forefront of the new interdisciplinary field of biological and mathematical sciences (in graduate and undergraduate education and research) for more than 10 years. Willson also has authored groundbreaking research in phylogenetics and holds leadership positions in national mathematical organizations. Students in his classrooms give him top marks, and his student teams have been outstanding performers in state and national mathematical contests.

Willson is a professor in the department of mathematics.

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April 22, 2010



Back by popular demand: flower beds

Cardinal and gold tulips greet passersby at the southwest corner of Osborn Drive and Wallace Road, near Agronomy Hall. This beautiful bed is the handiwork of students from the ISU Horticulture Club. Facilities planning and management is testing an Adopt a Flower Bed program this spring, hoping to broaden the campaign in the fall. Reiman Gardens staff adopted flowers beds at Vet Med and near the visitors information booth on University Boulevard. *Photo by Bob Elbert.*

April 22, 2010

A new round of retirement incentives

by Paula Van Brocklin

In an effort to better meet the needs of retiring employees and provide additional administrative flexibility, Iowa State will propose two new retirement incentive options to the state Board of Regents at its April 29 meeting in Iowa City.

While some implementation details still are being worked out, both programs would require that employees be at least 55 years old and have 10 years of service at the time of retirement.

"Part of the reason for putting these programs into place is to give individuals a choice," said Mike Otis, associate director of human resource services. "The new programs are designed to help provide some flexibility for staffing, as well as potential budget savings."

Similar, yet different

The first program, dubbed RIO3, would be similar to Iowa State's previous two retirement incentive options (RIO and RIO2), but with one significant change. Employees who currently are enrolled in TIAA-CREF would have the choice of five years of health care coverage (as with the previous plans) or five years of employer-paid retirement contributions. The contribution would be based on the university's defined contribution percentage for an active employee's salary at the time of retirement.

Employees with IPERS would not qualify for the employer-paid retirement contributions because IPERS is a defined benefit retirement plan, which does not allow contributions other than those outlined through state legislation. IPERS employees would choose the health care coverage incentive.

As proposed, the application deadline for RIO3 would be Aug. 1, and individuals must retire by Dec. 31. And as with past programs, the employee's department and/or supervisor must approve the request.

Another option

A new program, called the phased plus program, would offer qualified employees a reduced appointment for a maximum of two years. At the end of that appointment, the employee also would have the option of medical coverage or employer-paid retirement contributions for the balance of five years once phased retirement has begun, with the same stipulations as the proposed RIO3 program.

As proposed, the application deadline for the phased plus program is April 30, 2011, and the phased retirement period must begin by Jan. 1, 2012. The employee's department must approve the request.

Otis said this program might be attractive to both employees and departments.

"There are a number of employees who aren't fully prepared to immediately retire," he said. "This [option] may provide them an opportunity to step back, work through some of the details and ease into retirement."

Attention RIO2 applicants

The university is considering allowing employees who have been approved for RIO2 (but have not yet retired) to apply for either the new RIO3 or phased plus programs, but that decision is not final. Employees who have applied for RIO2 or the **current phased retirement program**, but have not yet been approved, should review and discuss the new programs with their supervisors or department chairs, if they are interested.

Projected savings

About 1,500 employees are eligible for the RIO3 and phased plus programs. Savings from the programs would depend on the number of approved applicants, but administrative leaders expect more faculty and staff may consider participating in these programs, compared to the RIO and RIO2 options. The first RIO yielded 206 retirements, and RIO2 currently has 95 approved applications.

The deadline for RIO2 is June 1.

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April 22, 2010

Can, bottle recycling trial at MU runs through April 30

by Anne Krapfl

A two-week pilot effort April 19-30 will be used to assess campus interest in recycling beverage bottles and cans around the Memorial Union. Fifteen red-and-white containers are located at 14 locations, most of them near interior or exterior entrances, around the MU this week and next.

Provided by the Coca-Cola Company at no cost, any Iowa redeemable can or bottle may be recycled in them.

The recycling trial is coordinated by Iowa State's Green Umbrella Group, which, as its name states, includes liaisons from more than 30 campus groups -- about half of them student organizations -- with a focus on sustainability. Former Government of the Student Body vice president Chandra Peterson helped found the group this year and serves as its treasurer. She's also very involved in the trial project.

"We don't have a lot of time left in the school year, and with the budget cuts, we don't have a lot of money to start new initiatives," she said. "But we're going to try to draw attention to them, encourage people to use them, and keep track of what people are putting into those containers."

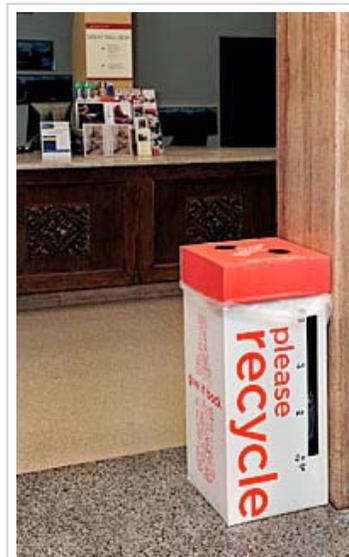
Why now?

Planners purposely picked Earth Week to launch the project, when attention to green efforts might be keener, but also want a second week for comparison purposes.

She said student volunteers will record what goes into the recycling bins -- redeemable containers, non-redeemable containers or simply trash -- to gauge the volume of recycling that might be possible at the MU.

If the redeemable volume is high and the cash potential is attractive, Peterson said the labor to maintain permanent containers could be handled by many student organizations as a fund-raiser. In short assignments, they could empty and maintain the bins and use the recycling proceeds to help fund their programs.

MU associate director Gail Ferlazzo said the lack of holding space at



These temporary bins at the Memorial Union are part of a 12-day pilot project led by ISU's Green Umbrella Group to test campus interest in can and bottle recycling there. *Photo by Bob Elbert.*

Mission of The Green Umbrella:

Bring together campus sustainability organizations to make students more aware of sustainable efforts around them. The group's goals are three-fold:

1. Create an open forum for discussion about green initiatives

the building's loading dock demands creative solutions to how a long-term bottle and can recycling program would be managed. But she said MU administrators are on board with the project and assisted with planning and developing signage, and are providing some custodial help during the pilot period. Ferlazzo said they're also interested in the volume of containers recycled during this trial and the level of interest in recycling.

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at ISU

2. Act as one voice to ISU administration about student sustainability issues

3. Brainstorm ways to teach students how they can make their lives more sustainable, participate in green efforts and voice their opinions on sustainable issues

April 22, 2010

Really??!

A veterinary medicine student gets a mixed reaction to the information he shares about a boa constrictor during Veishea open house events at the College of Veterinary Medicine. Other highlights of Saturday's campus events are captured below. *Photo by Erin Rosacker.*





Recently retired ISU parking division staff member Marcia Clendenen served as marshal of the Veishea parade. *Photos by Bob Elbert.*



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April 22, 2010

Still time for input on the strategic plan

by Diana Pounds

If you have ideas for Iowa State's next strategic plan, now's the time to provide input. A second draft of the 2010-15 Strategic Plan is available for public review at www.provost.iastate.edu/sp/draft/drafttwo.html.

"The next version of the plan likely will be close to the final one," executive vice president and provost Elizabeth Hoffman said. "We're going through another round of input over the next few weeks and then we hope to put the finishing touches on the plan."

Your input sought

Hoffman encouraged faculty, staff and students to share their comments on the plan by attending an open forum or sending an e-mail. The forum will be held Monday, April 26, from 2:10 to 3 p.m. in 0119 Gerdin. E-mail your comments to goodideas@iastate.edu.

Next, measures

Strategic plan committee members currently are developing key indicators that will be used to measure success in achieving plan goals. Measures to accompany various goals in the plan will be shared with those attending the April 26 forum and then posted online.

The ISU community also will be encouraged to provide feedback on the measures, Hoffman said.

April 22, 2010

The Pillowman is ISU Theatre's season finale

by Anne Krapfl

ISU Theatre will close out its 2009-10 season with four student-directed performances of *The Pillowman*. Irish playwright Martin McDonagh's 2003 script tells the story of Katurian, a fiction writer living in an unnamed police state who is interrogated by two detectives about the gruesome content of his short stories and the similarities to several child murders occurring in his town.

Woven into the plot are narrations of several of Katurian's stories, including the autobiographical "The Writer and the Writer's Brother," which explains how Katurian developed his disturbed imagination from listening to the sounds of his own brother, Michal, being tortured by their parents. ISU senior Brie Nickels created illustrations of the various stories that will be projected behind the stage as Katurian narrates them.

Don Watts, a senior in performing arts, is the student director of *The Pillowman*. The four-member cast features seniors Chris King as Katurian and Jacob Wittenauer as Michal. Senior Jake Coffman and sophomore Jeff White play the two detectives who interrogate Katurian and Michal.

The play, billed as a dark comedy, includes some explicit dialogue and graphic violence and isn't suitable for young children.

Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, April 22-24. A Sunday matinee begins at 2 p.m. All performances are in the Maintenance Shop at the Memorial Union.

Tickets, \$6 for adults and \$4 for students, may be purchased at the M-Shop ticket office (11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday and Friday), by phone at 4-8439, or at the door 30 minutes prior to showtime.

Showtimes

April 22, 23, 24: 7:30 p.m.

April 25: 2 p.m.

MU Maintenance Shop