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Where's Bob?

Where did university photographer Bob Elbert find this spalted wood crafted into furniture?

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Small hotel, grocery, drugstore among Campustown ideas

A Kansas City development group proposes a number of ideas for rejuvenating Campustown, including adding a small hotel, grocery and drugstore and creating open areas for pedestrians.

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Landscape history on display

A collection of rare books donated by professor emeritus Bob Harvey will be on display during an Oct. 12 open house in the Special Collections reading room. The collection includes volumes on landscape architecture and related subjects; the oldest dates back to 1724.



Harvey collection

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Help for employees with disabilities

An employee may not appear to have a physical disability, but he or she may suffer from a condition that makes it difficult to perform work tasks. Learn how human resource services can help accommodate employees in this situation.

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Students test campus buildings for accessibility

Students in an architecture elective course are focusing on universal building design that works for all ability levels of people. Their work this month includes an assessment of some campus buildings.

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ISU researcher returns to athletics spotlight

ISU scientist Doug Wood, an All-American gymnast in the 1970s, is one of 10 former Cyclone student-athletes who will be honored during halftime of the Oct. 9 Iowa State-Utah football

**Announcements**

- Vote for best art-on-campus photo
- Sorority hosts "rent-a-dog" awareness event Oct. 15-16
- Campus book club announces fall selections; new members welcome
- Researchers seek human subjects
- October wellness events
- New name: It's Engineering Online Learning now
- Bookstore wants to know your thoughts on how it's doing
- Enjoy fine dining, courtesy of ISU students
- Oct. 13 info session: Approval process for research involving human subjects
- RISE annual lecture, poster day set for Oct. 14
- All 18 holes open for play at Veenker golf course
- Nominations open for 2011 university faculty and staff awards
- Ames moves Halloween observance around Homecoming game
- EHS fall lab safety event is Oct. 8

Receptions & open houses

Reception

- Celebrating the Barbara Forker legacy, Oct. 11

Retirement

- Dave Arkovich, Oct. 15

Open house

- Special Collections, Oct. 12

Arts & events

David Sedaris

game.

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Hach Hall dedication is Friday

The new Hach chemistry building, which opened in August, will be formally dedicated during a 2 p.m. ceremony Oct. 8. The university community is invited; tours will be offered following the ceremony.



Doug Wood

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Double-check your 2011 calendars

The Big 12 Conference shake-up forced administrators to adjust future football schedules. ISU's 2011 home schedule was changed to accommodate the new 10-team league.

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Painfully funny

Humorist David Sedaris will take the Stephens stage Oct. 14 for a night of laughter, biting wit and audience participation.

Around campus

- **Reminder: Flu/H1N1 vaccine clinic begins Monday**
- **ISU senior presents research findings in China**
- **Vilsack to headline town hall meeting on campus Oct. 12**

Inside tools

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Where's Bob?

University photographer Bob Elbert gets a final shot of the **student-designed, employee-crafted media table** in the first floor conference room of the Biorenewables Research Laboratory. The design was selected about a year ago; construction began in mid-spring and continued through the dedication of the new building on Sept. 17.

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Lane4 developers' preliminary ideas for rejuvenating Campustown are illustrated in this map. They include a small grocery and drugstore (yellow), hotel and small shops (purple), a movie theater that can be used for classrooms (orange), and open green space/parking (blue). The red block represents the future **intermodal transportation facility**. Future development areas are in green. [Full-size map](#). Image courtesy of Lane4 Property Group.

Small hotel, grocery, drugstore among Campustown ideas

by Diana Pounds

A Kansas City development group offered a number of proposals for rejuvenating Campustown during community meetings last week. Among ideas floated by Lane4 Property Group were:

- A hotel, small shops and restaurants in a new facility (SW corner of Lincoln Way and Welch Avenue)
- A neighborhood drug and grocery store (SE corner of Lincoln Way and Welch)
- A classroom-by-day, movie-theater-by-night structure (SW corner of Chamberlain Street and Welch)
- More open spaces for pedestrians and easier parking for drivers

Lane4, under an agreement with the city of Ames to create a development concept for Campustown, held a series of meetings in early summer to gather information from the Ames and campus community.

Two Lane4 officials, president Owen Buckley and director of development Hunter Harris, made a second visit last week to summarize what they'd heard in the summer and present some preliminary ideas for Campustown development. Here are a few ideas discussed during the Sept. 29 public session:

Drawing more people

There's opportunity to bring more people from Ames and beyond to Campustown, the developers said. They propose broadening Campustown's appeal by populating it with small shops and restaurants and making it easier to park. One parking option under consideration is angled parking along Welch.

Open areas, safe crossings

To make Campustown more pedestrian friendly, Lane4 suggests adding open areas with sidewalk cafés and park benches. While a key goal is to ensure that walkers can safely cross Lincoln Way, developers say a raised pedestrian bridge over the busy street probably will not be among feasible options.

The hotel

The developers envision a small hotel located above a number of shops and restaurants. Harris said Lane4 officials are talking with national hotel groups, like Hilton and Marriott, about the possibilities. A Campustown hotel is expected to be popular with parents, alumni and other university visitors, Harris said. In response to a question about the future of Hotel Memorial Union, Harris said Lane4 officials would suggest that Iowa State consider eliminating the Union hotel service if a new hotel comes to Campustown.

Classrooms, movie theater

Lane4 developers propose building a six-screen movie theater, with auditorium seating ranging from 80 to 300. During the day, classes would be held in the facility. Government of the Student Body representatives attending the meeting said GSB was interested in the movie-classroom idea and has put on hold plans to lease and operate Varsity Theater, which closed in 2009. There's precedent for combination movie-classroom facilities. Ryerson University in Toronto, Canada, holds classes in 12 auditoriums in a commercial movie theater complex.

Grocery and drugstore

The Campustown of yesteryear provided more goods and services, Buckley said. People could even buy shoes and get watches fixed there. The proposed neighborhood grocery and drugstore would help bring more staples, things like Band-Aids, pens and aspirin, back to the area, he said.

Bars belong

In response to a question, Buckley acknowledged that bars are a big part of Campustown. "We understand that college students like to have beer and pizza and hang out," he said. He added Campustown bars are an attraction for alumni, as well as students.

ISU employees in Campustown

The developers suggest that ISU relocate some of its offices to the Campustown area, perhaps occupying space on upper levels of the proposed grocery/drugstore facilities. By bringing jobs to Campustown, Iowa State would assist in bringing more people to the area to patronize shops, Harris said.

Complementing the local look

In answer to a question, the developers said new facilities must complement Campustown's character. Campustown shouldn't look like South Duff, Buckley said. It mostly should be populated by local shops and boutiques. However, Buckley added, a large retail operation in Campustown could help bring customers to the smaller shops.

What's next?

Lane4 will:

- Encourage community feedback and participation
- Work with interested hotel and business operators on leasing and marketing agreements
- Develop, with the city and university, a master plan
- Discuss new ideas for Campustown with current businesses in the area
- Develop project costs

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Landscape history on display Oct. 12

Bob Harvey, an Iowa State alum and professor emeritus of landscape architecture, has donated a collection of unique and rare books to ISU Special Collections. A selection from the 91 books will be on display during an Oct. 12 open house (4-5:30 p.m., 403 Parks Library), and Harvey will be on hand to answer questions. Library conservator Melissa Tedone also will be available to talk about her work to restore the bindings.

The exhibit reflects Harvey's lifetime of collecting volumes on landscape architecture, plant taxonomy and related subjects. He combed through bookstores wherever he traveled, using the books for reference, research and practice. The oldest volume dates back to 1724, and many others were printed in the 18th and 19th centuries. *Photo by Bob Elbert.*

Oct. 7, 2010

Help for employees with disabilities

by Paula Van Brocklin

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month, and human resource services wants ISU faculty and staff to know that accommodating employees with disabilities goes beyond wheelchair accessibility.

An employee may not appear to have a physical disability, but he or she may suffer from a condition that makes it difficult to perform work tasks. Examples include eye impairments from diabetes, physical weakness from chemotherapy or a broken leg that temporarily requires crutches.

"We're not responsible for getting someone to work, but once they're here we need to accommodate their needs if we can," said Kristi Darr, associate director of HRS.

How to get help

Darr recommends that employees who need assistance first talk with their supervisors to see what steps the department can take to solve the problem. For example, an employee simply may need to change work spaces for easier access to office equipment.

Supervisors should then contact HRS, which has a [process in place \(PDF\)](#) to get employees the help they need. First, the employee needs to complete the [disability accommodation request form \(PDF\)](#) and submit it to the HRS employee relations office, 3210 Beardshear. From there, the employee will work with his or her physician to complete a [documentation of disability form \(PDF\)](#) to make sure the employee is medically eligible for workplace accommodation. Assuming accommodation is the appropriate action, HRS works with the employee and his or her supervisor to come up with a solution. Time to complete the process varies, depending on the complexity of the request.

Darr said, most of the time, solutions are fairly simple and inexpensive.

"Sometimes we help people know what options are already out there, like a better door for them to gain access to their building," she said.

Other simple fixes might include removing the number of bulbs from light fixtures for less screen glare for an employee suffering from an eye condition. No matter what the solution, the employee's department picks up the cost.

"We work with the supervisor to balance the cost with getting the right tool for the right situation," Darr said. She added that the process is very collaborative, with HRS working closely with the supervisor and employee.

Ongoing process

Darr said it's important for employees and supervisors to understand that someone's first

accommodation request may not be the last. An employee may have a progressive disease, like multiple sclerosis, that requires different tools at different times. Or, an employee with an accommodation may transfer to a position in another building, where a new tool is needed.

"It's not necessarily a one-time visit," Darr said. "It can be an ongoing process."

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Students test campus buildings for accessibility

by Anne Krapfl

Mechanical engineering senior Amanda Owen and her team came to class ready to talk about elevators. Architecture senior Tomas Aguilar and his team made some points about wheelchair accessibility in science teaching labs. Their classmates studied restrooms, classroom seating and furniture, accessible building entrances, door-opening devices and drinking fountains on campus.

They're students in architecture professor Arvid Osterberg's "Design for All People" elective course this fall. And while they're not all architecture students, they do show an interest and respect for the topic: designing functional spaces that work for everyone, regardless of disability or special need. It's one of only a handful of architecture classes in the country devoted to inclusive design.

They're learning from one of the authorities on the subject. Osterberg recently completed the third edition of a 260-page manual, *Access for Everyone: A Guide to the Accessibility of Buildings and Sites*. The book, a required textbook for the class, unravels the original (1994), revised (1998) and new (2010) accessibility standards in the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines. Plus, it adds some common sense recommendations for inclusive design, based on what he learned from decades of consulting. ISU's facilities planning and management arm supported all three editions and [sells the manual](#) online.

Read more

The work behind Osterberg's accessibility guide

This week, Osterberg's students were reporting on their field research, in which teams were assigned to investigate campus buildings' compliance with federal accessibility guidelines.

With examples and photos from about a dozen buildings, Owen and her team delved into aspects of elevator riding that many of us take for granted: placement of buttons in the elevator box and the hallway, readability of floor indicators, floor and wall surfaces, presence of voice/audible signals, clarity of emergency functions, signage in a building directing would-be users to the elevator, among others.

"These are things we don't think about when we use them," she admitted.

Osterberg encouraged his students to not view the assignment as one of mere measurements and analysis. "We need to know more about how [visually impaired] users respond to these elevators," he reminded them. "What features work? Which ones don't?"

Ideas that could go somewhere

Sitting in on the class presentations was Kerry Dixon-Fox, an FPM project manager. Dixon-Fox, who has an interest in accessibility and worked extensively in this area in her previous job at Illinois State University, oversees a small fund -- currently about \$65,000 annually -- designated for retrofitting

and otherwise improving accessibility in campus buildings.

As she has done for several years, she sits near the student team presenting and, with Osterberg, asks questions, offers insights and sometimes has the answer to why things are done the way they are.

"We don't have anyone on staff who regularly surveys this kind of stuff, so I use this class as one way to find the most critical needs," Dixon-Fox said. "Unfortunately, the money doesn't go very far."

FPM also receives requests from the office of disability services on making specific improvements in specific buildings to accommodate a particular student.

Plan ahead, be ahead

Dixon-Fox said inclusive design too often is an afterthought with architects the university works with. To try to turn that around, university architect Dean Morton recently notified design firms that the university *expects* them to use Osterberg's manual in their work on campus projects. Use of the manual has been encouraged since the first edition.

Osterberg noted the difference between minimum standards and recommended standards in the manual -- for example a 32-inch door opening versus a 36-inch opening. Contrary to assumptions, typically it's not a difference of cost, he said.

"What was recommended in 1994 is the minimum standard now. So if we design to the recommendations, we'll be much better off in the future," he said.

Osterberg is heartened that 25 students elected to take the course this year.

"Our architecture students especially live and breathe their studio courses, so it's hard to get them to take this course," he observed. "But they learn from it."

The next question, he said, may be how to integrate inclusive design into the prescribed curriculum.

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ISU researcher returns to athletics spotlight

by Erin Rosacker

Doug Wood, an associate scientist in the civil, construction and environmental engineering department, is one of 10 former Cyclone student-athletes who will be honored during halftime of the Oct. 9 Iowa State-Utah football game. The group is the latest class to be inducted into the athletics hall of fame, an elite group of 129 honorees.

Wood, a two-time individual national champion on the rings, was a member of ISU's 1974 men's gymnastics national championship team. He earned All-America honors in 1976 and 1977, and a Big Eight Conference title in 1977.

Today, Wood manages ISU's structural engineering laboratories, running experiments to test the strength of beams and structures. He and his work were featured in a 2006 *Inside Iowa State* [profile story](#).



Photo courtesy of ISU Athletics Communications.

2010 Hall of Fame inductees

- [Maria Akraka](#), track and field, cross country
- [Obinna Eregbu](#), track and field
- [Reece "Pinky" Greene](#), basketball, track and field, football
- [Kirstin Hugdahl](#), volleyball
- [Tammy Rueckert](#), softball
- [Frank Santana](#), wrestling
- [Steve Spikes](#), swimming and diving
- [Eric Voelker](#), wrestling
- [Ray Wehde](#), basketball, track and field
- [Doug Wood](#), gymnastics



Photo by Bob Elbert.



This is one of two large organic chemistry teaching laboratories on the first floor of the new Hach Hall. The building will be officially dedicated Oct. 8. *Photo by Bob Elbert. (More photos below).*

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ISU's new Hach Hall chemistry building will be dedicated Oct. 8

AMES, Iowa- Dedication ceremonies for Hach (*pronounced "hock"*) Hall, Iowa State University's new chemistry facility, will be held Friday, Oct. 8, at 2 p.m. The building is located on the north side of campus.

The gleaming, three-story structure will enhance recruitment and retention of the very best faculty and students, while providing essential lab space and technology to perform cutting-edge research and improve the undergraduate chemistry learning experience, said Keith Woo, professor and associate chair of chemistry.

Plus, Woo said, the new building will advance the university's effort to demonstrate efficiency and sustainability.

Because the building was built with environmentally friendly practices and equipped with low-flow ventilation hoods, heat exchange systems, materials from local sources and many other features that boost efficiencies, the university will pursue LEED certification for Hach Hall from the Green Building Certification Institute.

"Hach Hall will support the continued excellence of chemistry at Iowa State University," ISU President Gregory Geoffroy said. "Its state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories and instrumentation will enhance Iowa State's competitive position as a leading research university and educational institution."

Funding for the \$78 million, 135,000-square-foot facility was provided by an appropriation from the state of Iowa and an additional \$15.6 million in private support.

The building is named after Iowa State alumna Kathryn Hach Darrow (2007 liberal studies) from Mukilteo, Wash.; her late husband, Iowa State alumnus Clifford Hach ('47 chemical technology), and the extended Hach family. The couple founded Hach Chemical Company in 1947 in Ames.

The Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust of Muscatine, Iowa, has also provided a lead gift for Hach Hall, as have many other Iowa State University alumni and friends.

These gifts are part of Campaign Iowa State: With Pride and Purpose, the university's \$800 million fundraising effort.



These panels in the lobby of Hach Hall feature the work of Seattle artist Norie Sato. Sato's large-scale environmental sculpture, titled "elemental," is made from glass, aluminum and LED lights. The pattern, structure and materials are inspired from elements and molecular models. The sculpture was funded through the Iowa Art in State Buildings Project, which designates one-half of one percent of the cost of construction projects to works of public art. The piece joins University Museums' art on campus collection, one of the largest public art programs in the nation.



One of two large conference rooms in Hach Hall.

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Oct. 7, 2010

Double-check your 2011 calendars

by Erin Rosacker

Event planners who thought they had worked around ISU home football games in 2011 should take another look at their calendars. When Nebraska and Colorado announced plans to leave the Big 12 Conference this summer, officials had to rework their schedules for a 10-team league.

To accommodate the conference changes, several home game weekends and opponents were altered. Perhaps the biggest switch is a Saturday Cyclone home opener, instead of a Thursday date on the calendar since 2005.

Instead of just eight conference opponents, each team now will face every league foe annually. Iowa State dropped one nonconference game (at Utah) from its preliminary 2011 schedule to make room for a full slate of Big 12 opponents.

2011 ISU football schedule

Sept. 3 Northern Iowa
Sept. 10 Iowa
Sept. 17 at Connecticut
Oct. 1 Texas (tentative Family Weekend date)
Oct. 8 at Baylor
Oct. 15 at Missouri
Oct. 22 Texas A&M (tentative Homecoming date)
Oct. 29 at Texas Tech
Nov. 5 Kansas
Nov. 12 at Oklahoma
Nov. 19 Oklahoma State
Nov. 26 at Kansas State

Oct. 7, 2010



Painfully funny

Humorist David Sedaris will spend an intimate evening with his audience Oct. 14 at Stephens Auditorium. An author, National Public Radio commentator and playwright, Sedaris will read excerpts from his work, followed by an informal Q&A with the audience. He also will be available after the show to sign copies of his books.

Tickets for the 7:30 p.m. show are \$35 and \$43 for adults, \$28 for youth and \$25 for ISU students. Purchase them [online](#), by phone (800-745-3000) or at the Stephens box office. Des Moines-based theater critic John Taylor Busbee will host a Celebrity Café presentation about Sedaris prior to the show (7 p.m., Stephens third floor), which is included in the price of admission. *Submitted photo.*