



March 3

Mane attraction

A stable full of friendly foals is one of the highlights of having horse barns on campus. This year, ISU adds 16 foals to its herd, with due dates ranging from January to April.

March 3

Keeping Hilton and Scheman dry

Flood mitigation strategies selected for various water-vulnerable locations on Hilton and Scheman should be installed by mid-May. They include more concrete walls where now there is metal or glass and a series of quick-install barricades in front of doors.

March 3

Where's Bob?

Do you know where university photographer Bob Elbert noticed this banner suggesting a successful joint effort of some kind?

March 3

Change expert will start discussion on preparing for higher ed's next era

A one-hour March 9 presentation will kick off a university-wide effort to prepare for dramatic changes coming in higher education. Donald Norris, a national expert on change, will help start the discussion with a presentation on "The Future of Learning, Research and Collaboration: Implications for Facilities."



Where's Bob?

March 3

Oliver will fill interim LAS dean post

David Oliver, associate dean for research in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, will serve as interim dean beginning July 1 when dean Michael Whiteford retires from the university.

Announcements

- Info session on Laboratory Animal Resources is March 9
- Registration still open for ISCORE events this Friday
- Agenda, presenters set for March 25 student success summit at ISU
- Apply by March 31 for 2011-12 undergrad research funding

Arts & events

Big 12 Conference Championships

Big 12 grapplers return to Hilton
Hilton Coliseum is home to the 2011 Big 12 Conference wrestling championships on Saturday, March 5.

Smiley returns to campus to discuss Atanasoff biography

Pulitzer Prize-winning author and former ISU Distinguished Professor of English Jane Smiley will return to campus March 3 to talk about her most recent nonfiction book, *The Man Who Invented the Computer: The Biography of John Atanasoff*.

Around campus

- View the VP for extension candidate forums online
- New radio program podcast examines 'science' of parenting

Inside tools

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March 3, 2011



Mane attraction

They're probably the youngest, friendliest and most popular members of the campus community. Who can walk by the horse barns and resist them? Iowa State will add an expected 16 foals to its herd this year, an even split of quarter horses and thoroughbreds. Eight foals have been born so far, beginning with the first on Jan. 14. Another foal is expected this week, and two more are due around March 11. The final mare is due to deliver April 8. Since horses have an 11-month gestation period, ISU's four stallions already are busy working on next year's additions. *Photo by Bob Elbert.*

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A series of interlocking, aircraft-grade aluminum planks will provide floodwater barricades at 16 door openings at Hilton and Scheman. Poured concrete walls that replace former metal or glass wall panels is another strategy the university will use. *Photo provided.*

Flood mitigation work at Hilton, Scheman will get done this spring

by Anne Krapfl

Hilton Coliseum and the Scheman Building stand a good chance of staying dry the next time a Squaw Creek flood overtakes the Iowa State Center. Mitigation strategies selected for the various water-vulnerable locations on the buildings should be installed by mid-May, according to associate vice president for facilities planning and management David Miller.

The flood-proofing efforts come on the heels of restoration and some reconfiguration in both facilities following last Aug. 11's flooding in the east part of campus. University leaders have worked since then, with guidance from Federal Emergency Management Agency representatives, to develop plans for both buildings -- and many others on campus.

Flood proofing

Two key strategies for keeping floodwater out of Hilton and Scheman are to replace exterior glass or metal wall panels with poured concrete walls, and install the framework for an interlocking plank barricade system in front of building doors. The planks are aircraft-grade, rustproof aluminum that stack in 6-inch increments and don't require tools for installation at flood time (see photo above).

Iowa State will purchase planking systems ranging from 4 to 28 feet wide and 2 to 7 feet high. Miller said a planking system wide enough to protect a double door can be installed in 10 minutes.

University officials typically have 10 to 12 hours' notice that flooding will occur, he said.

Iowa State proposes to flood-proof the buildings to an elevation of 901 feet -- or 2 feet above the peak flood level of July 1993, when waters were a half-foot from the 500-year flood mark. (The peak water level last summer was about five inches below the 1993 peak.) In the case of Scheman, which features exterior glass walls, some ground floor glass panels will be replaced with concrete, and some will be replaced with a combination of concrete up to 901 feet, with glass above that mark to still allow in daylight.

Scheman also has a mechanical room in a partial basement that sits about 13 feet below ground level. The basement's 8-inch concrete walls will be thickened to 16 inches to withstand the additional pressure put on the walls when the other strategies succeed at keeping floodwater out of the building.

At Hilton, metal wall panels on the lower level of several of the "pods" at the building's corners collapsed during last summer's flood. Those will be replaced with concrete walls and doors. The aluminum planking system will protect the door areas during a flood.

The concrete walls on either side of the east lower ramp to Hilton will be raised 18 to 24 inches, Miller said. A 28-foot wide planking system will protect the entrance to the ramp during a flood.

In the past, the university relied on a wall of sandbags for protection at such locations, he said.

In sum, FEMA is expected to reimburse the university about \$1 million for mitigation costs at the two buildings -- about 75 percent of total costs.

Damage estimates coming down

As reported last month, a revised estimate of campus damage caused by the August flood and a July 18 windstorm doesn't exceed \$40 million. Associate vice president for business and finance Pam Elliott Cain said the university has spent about \$30 million so far on services and replacement purchases, including \$9 million in cleanup by large crews from ServiceMaster and Cotton USA.

The FEMA team completed its on-campus inspections in January. Cain said the university has a July 29 deadline to resubmit paperwork for 28 of 58 FEMA-approved projects. University leaders also are discussing possible applications for FEMA competitive grants that fund mitigation projects. This same program helped pay for the ring floodgate constructed east of Willow hall after the 1993 flood (which succeeded in keeping the Maple, Willow and Larch residence halls dry last summer).

The university is receiving insurance payments from various kinds of policies on multiple facilities, including flood and business interruption insurance. Eligible expenses not reimbursable by insurance will be shared by FEMA and the university in a 75/25 split. Cain said it may take a couple of years to complete the process, but estimated that last summer's damages will cost the university somewhere between \$4 million and \$8 million.

Other changes to Hilton, Scheman

During the restoration phases last fall in Hilton and Scheman, university officials made decisions that moved expensive or valuable items out of lower levels, when possible. At Hilton, scoreboard and video controls and telecommunications boards were moved upstairs from the basement. An emergency generator, formerly also in the basement, was moved to the concourse level of the northwest pod. Ice-making equipment was removed and water pipes in the floor were sealed off, so

Hilton no longer can be the site of ice skating events. Locker rooms and training areas at the east end of Hilton also were reconfigured, and now include locker rooms for the men's basketball, women's basketball and volleyball teams and a single visitors locker room. Teams have been using the new locker rooms since Jan. 1, Miller said.

The Hilton ticket office, formerly tucked under the exterior south stairs, was moved to the lower level of the southwest pod. Its doors will be protected by a planking system during a flood.

At Scheman, Iowa State Center staff offices on the ground floor have been moved up one level. The former office area is being converted to a large meeting room and a board-style meeting room that will become part of Scheman's room inventory sometime in May. Electrical, fire alarm and heating/cooling panels were relocated from the ground floor to higher levels. A new wall replaces the former projection screen in the building's Benton auditorium.

Published by University Relations, inside@iastate.edu, (515) 294-7958, Ames, Iowa 50011.
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It's an E flag

University photographer Bob Elbert spotted this noble flag on the second floor of Spedding Hall, protected behind a glass shield.

The Ames Project, a precursor to the formal establishment of the Ames Laboratory, received the Army/Navy E Flag "for excellence in production" on Oct. 12, 1945, signifying two-and-a-half years of industrial production of metallic uranium as a war material. Ames produced more than 2 million pounds of uranium for the [Manhattan Project](#).

Iowa State is unique among educational institutions for receiving this award, an honor normally awarded to industry performers between July 1942 and December 1945. It is estimated that about 5 percent of war plants in the nation received an E flag, granted only to facilities that were particularly outstanding in production for the war effort.

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Change expert will start the discussion on preparing for higher ed's next era

by Diana Pounds

It's just a one-hour presentation late in the afternoon. But university officials see "The Future of Learning, Research and Collaboration – Implications for Facilities" event on March 9 as an important first step in preparing Iowa State for dramatic changes in higher education in the coming decades.

"New technologies have changed universities in profound ways in only a few years and it appears we're just getting started," said Elizabeth Hoffman, executive vice president and provost. "If we're to keep pace, we must start anticipating the change that lies ahead and fashioning a campus environment that will be flexible enough to accommodate it."

The presentation

March 9, 4:30-5:30 p.m., 1148 Gerdin Business Building.

Donald Norris, a national expert on navigating change in universities, will help start the discussion with a presentation from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in 1148 Gerdin Business Building. Norris is president and chief scientist of Strategic Initiatives Inc., a Herndon, Va., consulting firm.

Planning a future -- physical and virtual

Norris said his presentation will set the stage for the university's ongoing conversation about planning for the university environments of the future, both physical and virtual. He'll touch on the:

- Rapid acceleration in the creation of new knowledge and the connectivity that gives scholars (both professionals and amateurs) easy access to it
- Ubiquitous networks that have blurred or erased campus boundaries and the increasingly pervasive mobile devices that are changing the way people learn and do research
- Student demands for open and free-ranging learning options, inside and outside of traditional universities
- Need for flexible campus structures with mixed-use, technology-rich facilities and new kinds of research space
- Emergence of global research universities focused on improving economies and preparing graduates for employment

These topics are more broadly covered in a report Norris developed for Iowa State. The paper is available on the ["Future of Learning, Research, Collaboration"](#) website.

"The universities most likely to succeed," Norris said, "are those that can prove they are success makers and prepare graduates for the serious work facing the U.S. -- innovating and creating real value, not the illusory value of real estate and financial booms."

Task forces to focus on ISU's future, needs

In the weeks following Norris' presentation, Hoffman said several ISU task forces will take an in-depth look at the changes that are likely to occur in learning and research and ways Iowa State can prepare for the transitions.

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March 3, 2011



Oliver will serve as interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

by Steve Jones, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Communications

David Oliver, professor and associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has been named interim dean, effective July 1.

He will succeed Michael Whiteford, who will retire on June 30 and move to Oregon to be closer to his family. Oliver will serve until a new dean is appointed and able to start.

Oliver joined the Iowa State faculty in 1996 as chair of botany (now part of the department of genetics, development and cell biology), when provost Elizabeth Hoffman was LAS dean. Oliver was appointed associate dean for research in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in 2003. Prior to coming to Iowa State, he served on the faculty of the University of Idaho, Moscow, from 1979 to 1996. He also has worked as an agricultural scientist at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven, Conn.; was a National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellow; and has been a visiting professor at CERN (Grenoble, France) and Flinders University (Adelaide, Australia).

"I am looking forward to working closely with David again," Hoffmansaid. "He has been an outstanding dean for research and an excellent department chair."

Oliver's research focuses on plant biochemistry -- specifically, metabolism -- and how plants adjust to environmental and developmental changes. In his role as associate dean, he has focused on start-up support for new faculty to ensure they have the resources and equipment to begin their research at Iowa State.

Oliver received his bachelor's (1971) and master's (1973) degrees from the State University of New York's College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry at Syracuse University, and a Ph.D. (1975) from Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.

Hoffman said work has begun on forming a committee to conduct a national search for a permanent dean. Engineering dean Jonathan Wickert and Graduate College dean and associate provost for academic programs David Holger will co-chair the search committee.

"I wish to thank all who nominated candidates for interim dean and for membership in the search committee," she added.



David Oliver

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Back on the mats

For the first time since 2006 (pictured), the Big 12 Conference wrestling championships return to Hilton Coliseum. Five of the nation's premier teams -- No. 3 Oklahoma State, No. 7 Oklahoma, No. 12 Missouri, No. 13 Nebraska and No. 16 Iowa State -- will compete for the title Saturday, March 5. The morning session begins at 9 a.m., which includes semifinal (11 a.m.) and consolation (1 p.m.) matches. The evening championship session begins at 7 p.m. Ticket options include all-session (\$20 adult, \$15 youth), morning session (\$10, \$5) and evening session (\$20, \$15) passes. Can't make the event? Follow the action virtually from the [championship website](#), which includes a live blog and real-time play-by-play. *Photo by Gary Clarke.*

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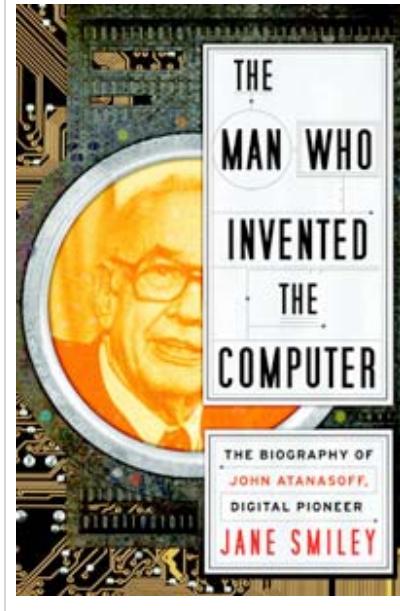


Jane Smiley to speak about her Atanasoff biography March 3

by Teddi Barron, News Service

Pulitzer prize-winning author Jane Smiley will speak at Iowa State about her most recent nonfiction book. Her talk, "The Man Who Invented the Computer: The Biography of John Atanasoff, Digital Pioneer," begins at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 3, in the Memorial Union Great Hall. Smiley's presentation is part of the university's National Affairs Series on Innovation. It is free and open to the public.

Smiley's book by the same title tells the story of Atanasoff, an Iowa State physics and mathematics professor who invented the first electronic digital computer in the basement of Physics Hall in the late 1930s before he was diverted into war work in 1941. The book, published in October 2010, is the first entry in Doubleday's Great Innovators series.



Smiley was a member of Iowa State's English department faculty from 1981 to 1996. She is the author of a dozen books of fiction, including *A Thousand Acres* (which won the Pulitzer in 1992), *The Age of Grief*, *The Greenlanders*, *Ordinary Love and Good Will*, *Moo*, *Ten Days in the Hills* and, most recently, *Private Life*. She also has written essays and short stories for *Harper's*, *The Nation*, *Vogue* and *The New Yorker*. Smiley was elected a member of The American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2001, and received the PEN USA Lifetime Achievement Award for Literature in 2006. She chaired the judges' panel for the prestigious Man Booker International Prize in 2009.