



June 9

Campus test drive

More than 800 first-year students visited campus during the first four orientation sessions. About 4,800 students, most of them accompanied by parents and family members, will take part in orientation activities this month.

June 9

Regents lay groundwork for presidential search

Meeting Wednesday in Iowa City, the state Board of Regents selected a search firm to assist with Iowa State's presidential search and outlined membership on the search committee. The board also approved designs and budgets for Harl Commons in Curtiss Hall and a new facility for the Cyclone football program.

June 9

Your thoughts on the budget model, please

With nearly three years of use complete, ISU budget leaders are conducting a formal review of the university's budget model, called the Resource Management Model. All members of the university community are invited to share their ideas on using it and improving it.

June 9

Give me an "I"

The horticulture club kept the cardinal and gold theme when members designed the summer look for the flower bed near Agronomy Hall.

June 9

Something different for summer school

Superheroes, tsunamis, bugs and brains top the list of unique courses offered at Iowa State this summer.



Flower bed near Agronomy Hall

Announcements

- Congressman Latham lauds Geoffroy for accomplishments
- Participants sought for product design research
- Chemistry Stores closed for inventory June 13-14
- June 16 session outlines volunteer opportunities at Reiman Gardens

Receptions & open houses

Reception

- Dione Somerville, June 17

Retirements

- David Hsu, June 10
- Loren Shiers, June 14

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- ISU Dairy Farm, June 17

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Espinoza will begin phased retirement

Associate vice president for human resource services Carla Espinoza has announced plans to begin a two-year phased retirement by Jan. 1, 2012. A 12-member search committee has begun the process of finding her successor.

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June 6, 2011



Campus test drive

Have you noticed a parade of matching red ISU sling sacks strapped to the backs of wandering visitors? Incoming first-year students and their parents are taking a look around campus during [orientation](#) activities this month. In the first four of 17 two-day sessions that include tours, meetings and other activities, 835 potential Iowa Staters already have participated in orientation. About 4,800 students will visit campus in June to plan their schedules with academic advisers, register for classes and get their email accounts and ISUCards. *Photo by Bob Elbert.*

June 6, 2011



Regents lay groundwork for presidential search

by Anne Krapfl

The search for Iowa State's next president took a big step forward Wednesday, with the state Board of Regents agreeing to hire a search firm and outlining membership on the search committee. The board will hire Parker Executive Search, Atlanta, which is the firm Iowa State hired in 2006 when it sought a provost to succeed Benjamin Allen, among other ISU searches. Regents viewed company president Daniel Parker's familiarity with Iowa State as a strength. The Parker firm is one of four that made a pitch during the board's April 28 meeting.

College of Business dean Labh Hira and ISU alumnus Roger Underwood of Ames will co-chair an 18-member search committee that will include first-year regents Katie Mulholland and Bruce Rastetter. The committee also will include a faculty representative from each college; the presidents of the Faculty Senate, P&S Council, Government of the Student Body and Graduate and Professional Student Senate; and two representatives each from the alumni association and ISU Foundation. Board of regents staff members Robert Donley and Diana Gonzalez will serve as non-voting committee members.

Board members agreed that the search committee's task will be to identify three to five finalists for the presidential post, all of whom must interview on campus. Following discussion about the possibility of keeping finalists' names private to assure the highest quality possible, board members agreed that the interviews must be on campus and the campus community must be involved. This procedure is consistent with the most recent presidential searches at the universities of Iowa and Northern Iowa.

President Gregory Geoffroy announced in March that he will leave his post by July 31, 2012.

Salary increases

Although FY12 budgets aren't set yet, the board approved several pay-related items in order to meet July payroll deadlines.

The statewide collective bargaining agreement with AFSCME (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees) provides for a 2 percent increase on July 1 and a 1 percent increase on January 1, 2012. Merit staff members not at the maximum of their pay scales will receive a step increase of 4.5 percent on their anniversary date at Iowa State. ISU officials estimate an average increase of 4.9 percent.

The board approved the two parameters developed for FY12 salaries to accompany the ISU salary policy:

- All faculty and P&S staff with satisfactory performance will receive a minimum salary adjustment of 0.5 percent; increases beyond that will be determined by individual units
- Proposed increases that exceed 5.0 percent require approval at the vice presidential level.

Faculty who were promoted or awarded tenure this spring will receive an additional salary increment. Those amounts for FY12 are: Distinguished Professor, \$6,000; University Professor, \$5,500; full professor, \$4,900; associate professor, \$4,100. Promotion increases do not replace or nullify performance-based increases.

Overall, the faculty and P&S staff salary base is expected to increase by approximately 3.0 percent.

Iowa State did not seek any adjustments to the P&S pay matrix for FY12.

Football training facility

The athletics department received board approval of a schematic design and budget (\$20.6 million) for a new facility for the football program, adjacent and connected to the east side of the Bergstrom indoor practice facility. The proposed nearly 60,000-square-feet, two-story building will include coaches' offices, strength training area, player and coach locker rooms, team meeting rooms, athletic training area and a video operations area. When completed, the new facility is expected to help recruit and better train football student-athletes, a benefit to the department since football revenues support more than just the football program.

The football program will vacate all its spaces in the Jacobsen and Olson buildings, and athletics officials say the space would be reassigned to other units in the department. Several options for redistributing the space still are under consideration.

The athletics department hopes to bid the project in July and begin using the building in August 2012. Private gifts to the athletics department and debt financing (athletics revenues) would pay for the project.

Harl Commons in Curtiss Hall

The board also approved the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' schematic design for Harl Commons, which will open the ground and basement levels in the east wing of Curtiss Hall and create a new entrance on that side of the building. The commons will include student gathering spaces, conference room, coffee shop and restrooms. The college's Agricultural Entrepreneurship Initiative will be housed on a mezzanine level (the current ground level).

To gain efficiencies in design and funding, the college also received permission to merge the Harl Commons project with the student services mall project under way in the south ground floor of Curtiss and a previously approved plan to install a building-wide sprinkler system. The merged budget would be \$12 million, \$7 million of which is private gifts. Other funding sources include university funds, facilities overhead funds, deferred maintenance funding and academic building revenue bonds.

Harl Commons is scheduled to be bid next winter and completed in the fall of 2013.

Flood recovery

Vice president for business and finance Warren Madden said flood recovery projects from last August's flood on the east edge of campus are substantially complete; the lone exception is the indoor

track at the Lied center. He reported that the interlocking flood barricades installed during April and May in front of Hilton and Scheman doorways have been tested successfully, with just a paper towel needed to clean up the water that leaked in.

Madden said the total flood damage estimate remains somewhere between \$30 million and \$40 million, a "substantial portion" of which should be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Other ISU items

In other business, the board:

- Approved a new Bachelor of Design program in the College of Design. The distinctive feature of the program is its studio-based interdisciplinary focus. Its core is a series of forums and studios that require students to connect history, theory and practice to address different kinds of design challenges. Most of the courses in the program already are offered by Iowa State; the college will need to hire three FTE faculty to teach the additional courses and a 0.25 FTE academic adviser. Students could enroll in the program this fall, but the college primarily will promote it for fall 2012 enrollment. College officials expect new tuition revenue from the program to exceed the cost of offering the program.
- Received accreditation reports for several ISU programs: B.A. in advertising and B.S. in journalism and mass communications, maximum six-year period (through 2015); B.S. and master's program in accounting, maximum six-year period (through 2015); B.F.A. in interior design, accredited for six of the maximum eight years (interim visit scheduled for fall 2012). In the future, the board will receive accreditation reports at the time the universities receive their notices, not after the schools have responded to the accreditation notices and any shortcomings identified in them.
- Approved the sale of \$12.6 million of dormitory revenue bonds to refund in advance the 2002 bonds sold to finance the Union Drive Community Center. Lower interest rates will save the residence department an estimated \$859,000 in interest -- or about 6 percent of the total debt.

June 6, 2011



Ideas wanted: How has the budget model impacted your work experience?

by Anne Krapfl

We've had three years to either work with it or experience how it may have changed our work, our departments or possibly the university culture. Now ISU leaders want to assess how the budget model -- known as the Resource Management Model (RMM) -- has impacted the university. And they need the university community to participate in that [review](#). "The RMM has effectively changed how we manage our financial resources," said director of budgets Dave Biedenbach. "The purpose of the review is to give the campus an opportunity to provide their thoughts about the Resource Management Model."

Share your ideas

Any student or employee may provide input beginning this week to: budgetmodel@iastate.edu. An alternate [online submission form](#) also is available and assures anonymity for those who want it. Biedenbach suggested two questions that individuals could respond to:

- How has the RMM impacted my work, my job, my department and the overall culture of the university?
- What changes would improve the model?

Who's leading the review?

Executive vice president and provost Elizabeth Hoffman has appointed a [10-member committee](#) to lead the review process and provide a final report, with recommendations, to her by May 1, 2012. The committee is co-chaired by Business dean Labh Hira and Liberal Arts and Sciences associate dean Arne Hallam.

Much of the campus input will be gathered over the course of the fall semester. This summer, the review committee will decide on appropriate formats for that process. Details will be shared at a later date.

The committee will hire a consultant to serve throughout the review process. Biedenbach said he or she will advise the committee on the review process, assist this fall with information gathering, and compare ISU's experience with that of other universities that have implemented a similar type of budget model.

Why now?

Iowa State units first used the new budget model to build budgets for the 2009 fiscal year (July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009). Preceding that was about three years of studying alternative budget models and adapting the selected model for Iowa State's business processes. The committee that shouldered that enormous task recommended a thorough review of the model after three to five years of

implementation.

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June 6, 2011



Give me an "I"

The flower bed at the corner of Osborn Drive and Wallace Road looked spectacular this spring with red and yellow tulips. It was replanted about three weeks ago with marigolds, red vinca and purple flame grass. The horticulture club, which is responsible for the design, installation and maintenance of the bed, used at least 30 flats of flowers (about 30 plants per flat). Hort senior Winston Beck, project coordinator for the club, is heading up a small group of students who water, weed, fertilize and dead-head the flowers. Club adviser Barb Osborn said the plants will fill in this summer to provide solid color in the design. The bed will be replanted with spring bulbs in late fall. *Photo by Bob Elbert.*

June 6, 2011



Superheroes, tsunamis, bugs and brains top ISU's summer blockbuster classes

by Teddi Barron, News Service

Summer school used to be the time to take dreaded classes or play catch up. But these days, it comes in all shapes, sizes, locations, subjects and modes.

At Iowa State, the summer course offerings cover the gamut. From the impact of geologic disasters to the invention of the superhero ... from the why of motion sickness to the how of celestial navigation ... from the history of the kimono to the future of downtown Des Moines.

More than 6,300 undergraduates enrolled in Iowa State's 2010 summer classes, according to the Office of the Registrar (the 2011 enrollment isn't available until late June). And, while there is no typical summer school student, they tend to be juniors or seniors. More are male, although a slightly higher proportion of females are enrolled in summer than during the rest of the year. Nearly a third take classes on the Web.

And they're taking summer courses for a month, three months, online, on campus and in 46 countries. Some classes meet every day. Some are three hours per day; some three hours a week. Many started May 16, but others begin June 13 or as late as July 11.

Here's a sampling of what students are learning this summer at Iowa State.

Bugs and geologic disasters

What better time to study bugs than in the summer? Entomology professor Donald Lewis teaches a five-week online course, "Introduction to Insects." And it doesn't require that you touch a creepy crawlly, just learn about their differences, relatives and development.

Another summer hit, "Geologic Disasters," features Earth's most catastrophic and disruptive events -- earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis -- and their impact on human history. Barbara Hill, lecturer in geological and atmospheric sciences, takes students from the eruption of Mt. Toba 74,000 years ago to the New Madrid earthquakes of 1811-12 and the recent devastating earthquake in Japan. Students need only look at the Japanese disaster in March to understand geology's impact on human activity, Hill said.

"We will discuss how it affected the automobile industry in the U.S., the flash drive industry, the manufacturing of flat screen TVs, tourism in Hawaii and even the taping of NBA championship games," she said.

Celestial studies

"North Star Astronomy" and "Evening Star" journey beyond the Earth to the sky. In the first course, students learn about the sky from the perspective of being on the earth -- where things are, how they move or appear to move and why. It's the sort of practical astronomical knowledge used for millennia to set up a calendar and navigate the globe. The companion course contemplates the solar system and what it takes to explore it. Lee Anne Willson, University Professor of physics and astronomy, teaches both.

The art and history of the comics

In the world of art history, comics are known as "sequential art." About 40 students are enrolled in the upper-level course, "Sequential Art: Comic Strips, Comic Books and Graphic Novels," taught by John Cunnally, associate professor of art history. When he was in school 30 years ago, Cunnally says, comics were not part of academic scholarship and critical analysis.

"Since then, more attention has been paid to this branch of popular art, often from a sociological and political perspective -- for example, is there a connection between the invention of the superhero and the rise of Fascism in the 1930s?"

Cunnally's students will learn to recognize the relationship between comics and the avant-garde, including high art movements such as cubism, surrealism and abstract expression. Cunnally points to the comic strip *Little Nemo in Slumberland*, considered "a wonderful example of surrealistic art 15 years before the word surrealism was invented."

New sensations

The psychology class, "Sensation and Perception" tackles the biology of the sensory system, the gateway to all other psychological phenomena. Students learn phenomena associated with each sense and the underlying physiological causes. For example, the experience of motion or seasickness has an interesting evolution, says associate professor Eric Cooper.

"Motion sickness occurs when there's a dissociation between what your eyes are telling you about the world and what the vestibular organs -- the organs of balance located in your inner ear -- are telling. On a boat, your visual system tells your brain that the visual world is stable, but your vestibular organs say that you are moving," Cooper explained.

"The human body has evolved to vomit whenever such a dissociation occurs because a side effect of food poisoning is the dissociation between visual and vestibular systems. In other words, you actually get sea sickness because your brain thinks you have food poisoning," Cooper said.

Envisioning downtown Des Moines

Eight architecture students are looking at urban design in general, and downtown Des Moines in particular in "The Next Big Thing: Re-inhabiting Des Moines at the Intersection of Culture and History." Taught by assistant professor Charles MacBride, the class is re-examining the city's 2008 downtown plan, considering its relevance and feasibility following the recession. They'll also come up with their own proposals with an eye toward what might be the "next big thing" to make downtown Des Moines a destination. Should there be an iconic building or buildings (like the Bilbao Guggenheim), an enhanced cultural/entertainment district, radically different transportation or landscaping, or a major push to add housing? Each student will propose and design an idea.

Civil rights and cultural perspectives

While this summer marks the 50th anniversary of the Freedom Rides by activists for black civil

rights, the struggle for rights has not been limited to African-Americans. In "Civil Rights and Ethnic Power," 45 Iowa State students are learning about the civil rights movements of the Mexican American, Puerto Rican and Native American communities, as well. The first-time course taught by Brian Behnken, assistant professor of history, examines each movement independently, and then compares their similarities, differences, leadership styles and organizations.

"Students are often surprised to learn that these groups borrow ideas, tactics and inspiration from one another, but that they don't always work together all that well," Behnken said.

The popular online course, "Cultural Perspectives of Dress and Textiles," considers clothing as it reflects and contributes to the culture of a society, including technology, aesthetics, identity and ritual. About 45 students learn about the Japanese kimono, the Islamic veil or Hijab, the Indian sari and Guatemalan Mayan hand-woven apparel, considering design, production and marketing. The class is taught by Janet Fitzpatrick, a lecturer in apparel, educational studies and hospitality management.

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Espinoza to begin phased retirement

Carla Espinoza has announced her plans to enter phased retirement by Jan. 1, 2012. Espinoza has served as ISU's associate vice president for human resource services and director of equal opportunity and compliance for the past 15 years.

Vice president for business and finance Warren Madden has appointed a 12-member search committee chaired by associate vice president for business and finance Pam Elliott Cain. He said he expects to name Espinoza's successor by the end of the calendar year.

Espinoza's focus during a two-year phased period will be on leading and coordinating Iowa State's participation in the development of the [Kuali People Management project](#), an open-source human resources/payroll software system being built by higher education partners specifically for higher education.

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