Director’s letter

We have a busy spring calendar ahead of us. Our CAS/MillerComm series of public events includes a discussion about criminal trafficking and slavery, two plays performed by a theatre troupe from Japan and a first-person account of the Black Panther Movement. In addition, The Age of Networks initiative continues with a series of workshops in partnership with NCSA and two related conferences. Our Globalization initiative continues with a talk on the prospects for peace between India and Pakistan.

Looking ahead, CAS Professor of Geology Susan Kieffer is in the process of convening a series of working groups as part of an ambitious year-long initiative for academic year 2006-07, Megacatastrophes: Science, Policy and Human Behavior. This project has in fact already begun. In September, in the wake of the disaster in New Orleans, the CAS Forum on Critical Issues provided the venue for Professor Kieffer and a panel of experts to look at the scientific, political and social ramifications of Katrina and other natural disasters. This spring, other groups will turn to Earthquakes (February 15) and Floods (to be scheduled.)

Last fall I called together a group of faculty from the sciences, social sciences and humanities to form a discussion group around the theme of The Educational Consequences of Teaching Religious Belief as Science, in order to address the most recent challenges to how the biological sciences are being taught in our public schools. The recent decisions in Pennsylvania and Ohio dealt clear blows to proponents of Intelligent Design, but the challenges are far from over. As my contribution to what I hope will become a sustained campus-wide conversation about the very natures of science and religion, and how to foster critical thinking in the classroom, I invite you to join this discussion group. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Many of you attended the very successful inaugural Chancellor’s CAS Special Lecture delivered by Gene Robinson, Professor of Entomology. The purpose of these lectures is to provide an opportunity for our on- and off-campus communities to learn about the most recent research by some of our very best scholars. I hope you will take this opportunity to attend the second lecture in this series which will be given on March 16 by Dave Baker, Professor Emeritus of Nutrition and recently elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

Other projects in the works include the Science and Technology in the Pacific Century initiative for 2007-08 and the Immigration initiative for 2008-09. Our CAS Community continues to grow, and I am happy to introduce you to our newest CAS Associates and Fellows. This year we appointed 20 faculty from 15 campus units. I am gratified to see how many of our current and previous Associates and Fellows participate in our programs, as well as those across campus and beyond. If you would like to learn more about our faculty and our events, please consult our website.

Finally, it is with great sadness that I report the passing of CAS Professor of Physics Vijay Pandharipande. I will miss his brilliance and charm.

William T. Greenough
ASSOCIATES 2006-2007

Narendra Ahuja (Electrical & Computer Engineering and Beckman Institute)
Integration of Spatial and Frequency Representations for Periodic Motions

Antonia Darder (Education Policy Studies and Latina/o Studies)
Forging a Puerto Rican Feminism: The Power and Poetics of Embodied History

Laura H Greene (Physics)
Particle Conversion in Unconventional Superconductors

Paul Kwiat (Physics)
State-of-the-Art Detectors for Quantum Information Processing

Ralph W. Mathisen (History and Classics)
Citizenship and Identity in the Late Roman and Early Medieval Worlds

Harriet Murav (Slavic Languages & Literatures and Comparative & World Literature)
Music from a Speeding Train: Russian-Jewish and Soviet Yiddish Literature

Robert G. Ousterhout (Architecture)
From Center to Border: Repositioning Architectural History in the Evros/Meric River Valley

David Roediger (History and African-American Studies & Research)
Race Making Nation: A U.S. History

Daniel Schneider (Urban & Regional Planning and Illinois Natural History Survey)
Treating Sewage: Coupling History and Ecology in the Study of an Industrial Ecosystem

Daniel Simons (Psychology and Beckman Institute)
A Book on the Consequences of Perceptual and Cognitive Illusions

Xiaodong Song (Geology)
Seismic Imaging of the Earth’s Inner Core

Douglas B. West (Math)
Research and Scholarship in Combinatorial Mathematics

Fellows 2006-2007

Lisa Rosenthal (Art History)
For Pleasure, Profit, and Persuasion: Constructions of Art’s Many Virtues in the Netherlands of the Seventeenth Century

BECKMAN FELLOWS 2006-2007

Brian DeMarco (Physics)
Quantum Simulation Using Ultra-cold Atoms

Christian Sandvig (Speech Communication)
Visualizations of the Electromagnetic Spectrum in Policy Debates About Wireless

Eileen Diaz McConnell (Sociology and Latina/o Studies)

Clarence Lang (African-American Studies & Research and History)
Black Working-Class Formation and Social Movements in St. Louis, Missouri, 1936-1969

M. Christina White (Chemistry)
Hydrocarbon Functionalization Methods for Synthesis

Minh N. Do (Electrical & Computer Engineering and Coordinated Science Lab)
Sampling Signals from a Union of Subspaces

INTERDISCIPLINARY INITIATIVES

The Center’s annual interdisciplinary initiative provides an opportunity for faculty and students to engage in a prolonged study on a topic of interest to a wide range of disciplines and methodologies across campus. In the past, we have offered a weekly seminar and year-long speaker series organized around topics including networks across the sciences, arts and humanities; memory, health and social welfare policy; and the ethnography of the University of Illinois.

CHANCELLOR’S CAS SPECIAL LECTURE SERIES

David H. Baker
Professor Emeritus of Nutrition
Department of Animal Sciences and Division of Nutritional Sciences
Elected to the National Academy of Sciences in May 2005

Serendipity in Practice: Breakthroughs in Nutrition of Animals and Humans
Thursday, March 16
7:00pm, Siebel Center Auditorium
201 N. Goodwin Ave., Urbana

Many great discoveries in science have been made by carefully pursuing unintended and ancillary findings. Examples will be given from UIUC comparative nutrition research to illustrate how serendipity can (and does) work. Research on copper, niacin, and vitamin D-3 will be covered in the lecture.

THE CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDY SPRING RECEPTION

Each spring, the Chancellor’s Office and the Center for Advanced Study Professors honor faculty members on our campus who received prestigious awards during the course of the academic year.

Honorees include faculty members who received an award on the basis of comparative evaluation in national or international competitions including awards for outstanding achievement by national professional organizations. Editorship of important journals will be considered. Local, statewide or regional awards, election to offices in statewide or regional professional societies are not considered.

UIUC deans, department heads and faculty members are encouraged to submit any awards received since last April meeting these criteria to the Center. Please also include awards that were bestowed too late to be recognized at last year’s reception.

Please submit the following information by Monday, March 13, 2006 to jrjenkin@uiuc.edu or fax 244-3396:
• Complete name of award recipient and UIUC academic title
• Complete name/title of the award (do not abbreviate)
• Complete name of the sponsoring organization and/or institution (do not abbreviate)
• Year of the award
• If this is an international award, provide the country
FUTURE INITIATIVES
Science and Technology in the Pacific Century (2007-08) will address a series of issues concerning the development in science and technology in East Asia, as well as developments in the East Asian market, and how these are already transforming American science technology and industry.

Immigration (2008-09) will bring together scholars in the social sciences, law, computer science, engineering and humanities to explore new approaches to immigration and its controversies. The CAS Forum on Critical Issues: Immigration held on January 27 offered a preview of some of the many issues that will become the focus of this year-long project.

NEW INITIATIVE FOR 2006-07
MEGACATASTROPHES: SCIENCE, POLICY AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR
Destructive hurricanes, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, floods and tsunamis have occurred throughout human history and often cause vastly more loss of life and disruption of human activities than events orchestrated by terrorists. “Creeping megacatastrophes” are new phenomena that affect the future of civilization itself: water is becoming globally scarce and contaminated; our atmosphere is changing; losses of soil threaten the global capacity of agriculture to feed us; and critical terrestrial and oceanic ecosystems are disappearing. These natural and creeping megacatastrophes will become increasingly devastating socially and economically because the population of the planet is rapidly increasing and because of human actions and policies.

We invite you to participate in a series of informal public forums on these timely topics. We have convened experts from campus and the local community to address the scientific issues involved in predicting such events, how these events reveal preexisting social and economic disparities, and practical aspects of implementing policies to cope with them based on our experience with natural disasters.

CAS Professor of Geology Susan Kieffer is the faculty coordinator for this project. The CAS Forum on Critical Issues: Katrina (September 26, 2005) as well as the panel on Earthquakes (February 15) are related components of the initiative.

INTERDISCIPLINARY INITIATIVE 2005-06
THE AGE OF NETWORKS: SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL CONNECTIONS
Noshir Contractor (Speech Communication) and Dan Schiller (Library and Information Science) are the CAS Resident Associates coordinating this initiative.

Fall semester events included a faculty/graduate student seminar, invited speaker series and network modeling workshops. Spring semester features a series of invited speakers from on and off campus (cosponsored by NCSA and the Department of Speech Communication) as well as two conferences (see below.)

Organized by Dan Schiller (GSLIS)
Making Public-Service Telecommunications: Past And Present Challenges For Networked Information Infrastructures
Friday, April 14 and Saturday, April 15, 2006 Third Floor, Levis Faculty Center 919 W. Illinois, Urbana

Telecommunications networks have long constituted a core infrastructure, garnering a significant share of overall investment and supporting an ever-increasing array of social, cultural, and economic activities. Historically, how, why and to what extent have successive telecommunications systems been enabled to constitute such an essential public service? What are the lessons of this history for us, today, as a newly versatile and capacious telecommunications infrastructure becomes the foundation of an intensively informationalized social process?

The task of this conference is twofold: First, to extract what may be learned from the historical record about the uneven movement to define public service principles and to enact public service policies; second, to begin to bring this knowledge to bear on contemporary policy making, by attempting to distinguish key challenges and issues we face during our own momentous work of infrastructural development.

Sponsored by the Center for Advanced Study and the Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Organized by Jay Kesan (Law) and Katherine Strandburg (Law, DePaul University)
Law in the Age of Networks: Implications of Network Science for Legal Analysis
Friday, March 10, 2006 College of Law, Room D 504 E. Pennsylvania, Champaign

The importance of the network paradigm is increasingly recognized by scientists and social scientists in a wide variety of disciplines. This symposium explores the legal policy implications of the network structure of various types of social interactions and the ways in which the interdisciplinary study of networks might contribute to legal scholarship.

Sponsored by: the Center for Advanced Study, the College of Law Program in Intellectual Property and Technology Law and the National Center for Supercomputing Applications

PROGRAM DEADLINES
AND APPLICATION WEBSITE
http://www-applications.cas.uiuc.edu

George A. Miller Programs : CAS/MillerComm & Visiting Professors and Scholars
Fall Semester 2006 and beyond
DEADLINE Tuesday, April 4, 2005
Spring Semester 2007 and beyond
DEADLINE Tuesday, October 3, 2006
Arnold O. Beckman Lecture
Spring Semester 2007 and beyond
DEADLINE Tuesday, October 3, 2006
Release-Time Appointments : Associates & Fellows 2007-08
DEADLINE Tuesday, October 31, 2006

Please remember: applications and guidelines to all of our programs are available only at our website. You are encouraged to review the application forms well in advance of the deadline. If you have any questions, please call Jackie Jenkins at 333-6729 or email her at jjenkin@uiuc.edu. She will be happy to navigate you through our application website.
center : dates

2.15
Nan Lin
Duke University
The Job Search Chain in China
Age of Networks Initiative
2:00pm, 1030 NCSA

2.15
The Pakistan Earthquake: A Wake-up Call for Mid-America?
Megacatastrophes Initiative
4:00pm, Third Floor, Levis Faculty Center

2.23
Susan Forbes Martin
Georgetown University
Criminal Trafficking and Slavery: A Global Problem
CAS/MillerComm2006
7:30pm, Third Floor, Levis Faculty Center

2.27
Bill Fletcher
TransAfrica Forum, Washington DC
The Challenge of Pan-Africanism
CAS/MillerComm2006
4:00pm, Third Floor, Levis Faculty Center

2.28
Michael Macy
Cornell University
Maybe It’s Not Such a Small World After All: Spatial Networks and Complex Contagions
Age of Networks Initiative
3:00pm, 1030 NCSA

3.1
William Logan
Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia
Closing Pandora’s Box: Human Rights
CAS/MillerComm2006
4:00pm, Plym Auditorium, Temple Hoyne Buell Hall

3.14
Keith Hampton
University of Pennsylvania
Neighborhood Networks in the Information City
Age of Networks Initiative
1:00pm, 1040 NCSA

3.14
Seinendan Theatre Troupe, Oriza Hirata, director
Tokyo, Japan
The Yalta Conference and Ronin Office Ladies
CAS/MillerComm2006
7:30pm, Theatre, Lincoln Hall

3.16
David H. Baker
Professor Emeritus of Nutrition, Department of Animal Sciences and Division of Nutritional Sciences
Serendipity in Practice: Breakthroughs in Nutrition of Animals and Humans
Chancellor’s CAS Special Lecture Series
7:30pm, Auditorium, Room 1404, Siebel Center

3.17
George Barnett
SUNY Buffalo
Internet Flows
Age of Networks Initiative
1:00pm, 1040 NCSA

3.27
Charles Bazerman
University of California at Santa Barbara
Trusting Edison: From Speculative Belief to Reliably Reconstitutable Phenomena
CAS/MillerComm2006
4:00 pm, Third Floor, Levis Faculty Center

3.28
Zachie Achmat
Treatment Action Campaign, South Africa
Realizing Human Rights: Access to HIV/AIDS-related Medication and the Role of Civil Society in S. Africa
CAS/MillerComm2006
4:00pm, Third Floor, Levis Faculty Center

3.31
Kathleen Cleaver
Emory University
The Black Power Movement: Self-Determination, Transformation and Sabotage
CAS/MillerComm2006
4:00, Room 112, Gregory Hall

4.4
Edward Penhoet
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
Realizing the Promise of Research: Translation of Technology into Product
Arnold O. Beckman Lecture in Science and Innovation
4:00pm, Auditorium, NCSA

4.6
Misha Glenny
Independent Journalist and Historian, Location?
The Spider Trap: Corruption, Organized Crime and Transition in the Balkans and Russia
CAS/MillerComm2006
7:30pm, Third Floor, Levis Faculty Center

4.13
Katy Borner
Indiana University
Maps and Networks
Age of Networks Initiative
Noon-4:00pm, 1040 NCSA

4.14-4.15
Making Public-Service Telecommunications Symposium
Age of Networks Initiative
9:00am-5:00pm, Third Floor, Levis Faculty Center

4.21
Jonathan Lear
The University of Chicago
Ethics and the Collapse of Civilization
CAS/MillerComm2006
4:00pm, Room 100, Gregory Hall

4.25
Leslie Loew
University of Chicago
Spatial Organization of Cellular Networks and Pathways
Age of Networks Initiative
1:00pm, 1040 NCSA

4.25
Pete Daniel
Smithsonian Nat’l Museum of American History
Toxic Drift: The Legacy of Post-World War II Pesticide Use
CAS/MillerComm2006
4:00pm, Knight Auditorium, Spurlock Museum

All public events are free and open to the public. PUBLIC EVENTS HOTLINE 217.333.1118 or www.cas.uiuc.edu

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