The University celebrated Earth Month in April by introducing a bold, new system that promises to drive waste out of campus energy usage, improve efficiency, and reduce the University’s carbon footprint.

The center features a massive flat-screen television monitor mounted side by side on a wall above a large, U-shaped desk with another dozen smaller monitors. The screens offer colorful, live displays of information, including schematics of boilers and water chillers with their current operating capacities and a satellite image of the United States showing a looped weather radar.

With the Energy Control Center, "we’re taking energy management to a whole new level," says Liz Christiansen, director of the University Office of Sustainability. "Here’s how it works: real-time data is collected from more than 100,000 measurement and control points across campus and presented via the Energy Control Center to UI Facilities Management employees. Using software developed for the University by Rockwell Automation, UI engineers then review the data and incorporate the weather forecasts to decide which chillers, boilers, and turbines to use to power campus 24 hours in advance. They also use the information to guide the University’s energy purchases and detect problems before they occur.

The center is part of an ambitious University goal to significantly reduce energy use overall and increase the percentage of energy derived from renewable energy sources. Currently, the University operates power and water plants along the Iowa River and three chilled water plants to provide steam, water, high-purity water, chilled water, electricity, and sewer services to the entire campus, including the UI Hospitals and Clinics. It also maintains satellite facilities at the Oakdale campus.

Operational since January, the center already has demonstrated its value, says Glen Mower, director of Utilities & Energy Management. By identifying problems in the University’s steam distribution system, it saved the University months of troubleshooting and countless staff hours.

“We were able to pick the problem right off the screen," Mower says. "Historically, we have relied on our customers to call us and tell us of a problem, like ‘Oh, it’s too hot’ or ‘The air handler is not working.’ Then we’d notify Work Control, generate a job ticket, and send out a mechanic. Depending on priorities, there may have been a delay. Now, we see the problem before the customer is aware of it.

Establishing the center also enables Iowa to lead in energy education and economic development by providing a learning laboratory, says Barry Butler, dean of the College of Engineering. "We’ve positioned ourselves as a leader in business energy education; now we’ve got to deploy the talent," Butler says. "Students will be able to gain experience in the design and external management here at The University of Iowa.

To learn more about campus energy management and sustainability, visit www.facilities.uiowa.edu/terrain/energy-management

—SARA ERNSTEN MEMBERGER
Christopher Squier, professor of three years.”

The idea that simply being more popular in college would have major implications for future success. Firms that aggressively manage earnings to firms who just miss their forecasts by thoroughly thinking about the numbers and the product that it’s sending the message, which can actually backfire (Times of India, Feb. 12, 2010).

Paul Hribar, associate professor of geoscience in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has approved in February a UI proposal for Stock Market Success Quality May Edge Quantity for the Big Ten Network. You can also connect with the University on Twitter at @uiowawolverines and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/universityofiowa/university

In a study led by a UI professor, patients with respect and dignity go to the center for Alzheimer’s Care at the University of Iowa. About 10 minutes after the clips ended, they did, however, indicate that they still felt the associated emotions long after they forgot the film itself. Happy faces from family members, too. However, it is unknown if they do, indeed, have a lasting effect on patients. The study reaffirmed the importance of attending to the emotional needs of people with Alzheimer’s, which is expected to affect as many as 20 million people worldwide by 2050: it also challenged the popular notion that wearing a happy mask can abolish psychological suffering.

“Here is clear evidence showing that these movies make the recipients think, ‘If my partner

Staying in Touch with The University of Iowa

Wish to catch up on University news, see what’s happening on campus, or get a glimpse of UI history? Check out the University’s official YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/iowawolverines. You’ll find a variety of new and archival videos, including UI-related events such as Grand Ball, and for the Big Net. You can also connect with the University on Twitter at @uiowawolverines and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/universityofiowa/university

Iowa Writers’ Workshop Grad


Iowa Taps McCaffery to Coach Men’s Basketball

Fram McCaffery was introduced as Iowa’s head coach in March as part of the university’s plan to rebuild area, visit http://tinyurl.com/uischoolofmusic.

Paul Hribar, associate professor of geoscience in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has approved in February a UI proposal

Hybrid cells have the advantage of combining the beneficial traits of bone marrow cells and the liver cells. The hybrid cells—the liver cells from the transplant recipient’s body, offering similar but healthier than the organ’s own cells, may improve treatments for cancer, related degenerative diseases. Researchers found that transplanted bone marrow cells not only produce new cells of their own kind, but they can also interact with existing cells in other organs as well. The hybrid cells—similar but healthier than the patient’s original cells—do not cause rejection in the transplant recipient’s body, offering new methods of transplant practice.

Nicholas Zavara, director of transplant research at the UI Carver College of Medicine, says the findings may improve treatments for cancer, autoimmune diseases, and non-blood related degenerative diseases. “Hybrid cells have the advantage of being functionally normal but not expressing the transplant recipient’s immune system,” he says. The hybrid cells would likely, however, have limitations when transplanted, non-bone marrow conditions.

Business School Offers Investment Lessons

The UI Tippie College of Business in offering a new online course aimed at educating and guiding those who are less-than-organized financially or new to investing. The Iowa Center for Wealth Management, at www.iowawiu.edu/wealth, is a free, public service offering advice for novice investors, a retirement calculator, and a “Basic Investment Lessons” online course.

Kathleen Staley, people here, it still is a problem.”

Squier suggests that investors should consider not only a company’s earnings in buying stock, but also the quality of those earnings.

Paul Hribar, associate professor of geoscience in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has approved in February a UI proposal for rebuilding plans for the Hancher Auditorium. Under the proposal, Hancher and the adjacent basketball arena would be located in the south campus area, immediately south of downtown, to replace the School of Music facilities.

For the Record

For the Record

Quality May Edge Quantity for Stock Market Success

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Spriestersbach reflects on a lifetime in academics

D. Bruce Spriestersbach, 83, will step down at the end of the semester as dean of the Graduate College, a post he has held since 1972. A native of Winona, Minnesota, Spriestersbach earned a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1940 and returned to the University of Iowa for his master’s and doctoral degrees in chemical engineering. After serving in World War II, Spriestersbach joined the faculty in 1946. "It’s subtle, but you just learn to take charge. There were many occasions when I was told, ‘Here’s a problem, go figure out what to do about it.’”

During the past three years, the University-Rotary partnership has built on the needs analyses, local resources, and cultural and political knowledge provided by the Mexican community to course learning objectives. The disciplinary sections also meet separately to research and plan the projects that will help carry out their vision for Xicotepec.

"Students and faculty members do a tremendous amount of work in Xicotepec," says Peterson, who co-teaches the course. "And the logistical support of the local Rotarians makes it all come together. They carry out all the preliminary preparations and provide transportation, lodging, and food for the entire U.S. project team—which in addition to the U.S. contingent also includes Iowa Rotarians and high school students. So when we arrive, we can hit the ground running.”

Furash, a pharmacy student from Dubuque, Iowa, traveled to Xicotepec in March and participated in a deworming project in the local schools. She says the experience was inspiring. "It strengthened my interest in international phar- macy service and showed me how a program can be successfully implemented and sustained for the benefit of a community," she says. "I am eager for more opportunities to participate in service efforts and to even plan service-learning opportunities for future students and health care professionals.”

---CHARLES S. DREW
The UniversiTy of iowa

Early Humans as Crocodile Snack?

Two million years ago, hominids shared the Omo-Gorge in Tanzania feasting on early humans, according to UI researcher Chris Brochu. Brochu, an associate professor of geosciences at the University of Iowa, has found evidence that early humans were prey to predators like the African crocodile population was much more diverse than scientists had originally thought. As bigger than the star itself, stretching—creating a radio image of the atmosphere of a star 100 times more massive than the sun—researchers predict potentially harmful effects of Earth’s own sun have been captured in the atmosphere of the star Algol, which can trap charged particles. The high magnetic field structure, according to Peterson) in order to develop baseball dishes’ geographic information (plus a high prevalence of stellar model-making within the astrophysics field, putting these new images, the scientific community can gain a better understanding of what the far side of the moon is like,” he says, “but until the first lunar orbiting spacecraft took pictures 50 years ago, no one knew which ones were right.”

“Algol is unusual because it has a catastrophic stellar coronal loop. The rotation of planets and stars produces loop-shaped magnetic fields which can trap charged particles. Peterson was primed for a picture of the "loops of fire" that are sometimes visible on the sun. "Algol is unusual because it has a high magnetic field strength," Mutel said. "The rotation of the star produces a long magnetic loop that can trap charged particles, causing a "coronal loop" event on the sun." She said there can be up to 20 feet long. Early Humans as Crocodile Snack?

Fear on the Brain

The amygdala is thought to be the brain’s early warning system, and a University of Iowa study suggests that it also can detect fear-causing signals for itself. A UC Village College of Medicine research team—led by John Wagner, associate professor of psychiatry and neurosurgery—who found that carbon dioxide inhalation increases production of a protein called acid-sensing ion channel 4 (ASIC4) in the amygdala of mice. To contrast, the study also found that lowering the acidity of liver toxins reduced fear-like behavior. Carbon dioxide has long been known to incite panic attacks and anxiety in some people, but the new study provides the first biological explanation for that fact. If the human brain acts in a similar way to the mouse brain, the study might provide crucial information for panic and anxiety disorder research and medication.

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Fifty Years of Art and Beyond

Post-flood, Museum of Art forges ahead

Just hours before the National Guard closed the doors of the University of Iowa Museum of Art (UIMA) building, UIMA collections manager Jeff Martin watched water stream under the sidewalk to the lower galleries. After a week of working 12-hour days and pulling an all-nighter to evacuate the thousands of art objects in the collection, the UIMA staff left the museum for the last time.

But despite everything, the UIMA did not sink that summer. Forty years strong, the museum has moved forward with the spirit that has carried it throughout its history.

“We found ourselves on our feet, even without walls,” says UIMA interim director Pamela White.

To spite of this hardship, as soon as we knew the art was safe, we immediately focused on bringing art back to campus and resuming our educational purpose, the primary mission of the UIMA.”

The UIMA continued to reach people, even without walls. Within months of the flood, museum staff members were finding temporary solutions to bring the art back. Fifty miles east of Iowa City, the Figge Art Museum in Davenport offered the UIMA temporary safekeeping and display of the collection until a new museum is built.

UIMA exhibitions resumed in full force this spring—four opened this semester alone, including a landmark exhibition in New York City. Lil Picard and Counterculture New York, the first American museum retrospective of a pioneering feminist artist whose estate was gifted to the University in 1999, debuted at New York University’s Grey Art Gallery in April. Organized by chief curator Kathy Edwards, the exhibition will be presented by the UIMA in Iowa City in 2011.

“Opening the Lil Picard exhibition in New York, the place Lil called home, is a major achievement for the UIMA,” Edwards says. “It demonstrates the true caliber of this museum, even when it is faced with challenges.”

UI President Sally Mason’s committee’s report imagines a museum of the future, an “museum as a cultural hub in the heart of campus life.”

“There is an audience out there that agrees that an art museum makes our life much richer,” says committee member Joyce Summerwill. “I have great hope. It’s not going to be easy, but it will be accomplished.”

— CLARE LEWIS

Illustrated with works from the permanent collection, the story of the UIMA’s founding and its avante-garde history is told by author Abigail Foerstner in the museum’s 40th anniversary book, Building a Masterpiece: Legacy of the University of Iowa Museum of Art, available for $25 at the University Book Store web site, www.book.uiowa.edu. For more information on the UIMA, visit http://uima.uiowa.edu.
New, collaborative database project targets facial birth defects

For Jeff Murray, researching craniofacial birth defects is not just a profession, but a passion. Since coming to The University of Iowa 23 years ago, Murray, a professor of epidemiology, biology, and pediatrics with a particular interest in birth defects, has taken around 10 professional trips to the Philippines to work with surgical teams doing cleft lip repairs. During his first trip, he says he became overwhelmed by the impact a disruptive facial appearance has on a person’s life.

"People with facial differences will experience everything from persistent staring and questioning to being treated as if they are mentally retarded. It’s very sad to see," Murray says. "This area of medicine was a really tiny slice of between work that I was good at and interested in doing, and a clinical problem that seemed really important to me and one that affected me emotionally." To help make that work as simple and organized as possible, Murray will lead the University’s participations in FaceBase, a project designed to create an all-encompassing database of facial birth defect research, with the main focus on cleft lip and palate.

The University of Iowa and the University of Pittsburgh will share a $4.5 million grant over the course of five years. Iowa will serve as the manager and coordination hub and will focus on coordination and collecting samples for analysis; Mary Maruri will direct the effort in Pittsburgh to build the database and create an online presence. The database will be available to both the scientific community and the general public.

Craniofacial defects are not caused by one genetic abnormality or by one environmental trigger, he says. "They are caused by interactions of lots of different things. As a result, researchers need to look at how many different technologies; they need to have very large numbers of people to participate in studies to be able to tease out small differences between people. It can be difficult to cover all aspects of this complex disorder, and coordination can be a challenge." That’s one of the places he thinks FaceBase will help.

New information will be continually added to Facebase, creating a dynamic resource for scientists, clinicians, and families.

"The most rewarding thing, however, is working with the kids and families and demonstrating to them that people really care about what’s going on with them," he says. "We’re really trying to work to find ways to improve outcomes and prevent craniofacial birth defects from happening."
The man is Bill Sackter, who began brewing coffee in North Hall, home of The University of Iowa’s School of Social Work, in 1972. Before a friend and coworker brought him to campus, Sackter had been institutionalized for four decades due to intellectual limitations. He thrived in his role at the coffee shop, entertaining patrons with his harmonica and brightening their days with his cheerful nature.

Sackter operated the shop until his death in 1983, and The University of Iowa School of Social Work has continued his legacy by keeping Wild Bill’s open and staffing it with disabled individuals. UI students gain volunteer and practical experience by working with the staff as a support team. The School of Social Work and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recently completed a major renovation of the coffee shop—just in time for its 35th anniversary.

“Over the years, the University could have just said ‘We’re not in the coffee shop business,’ and turned the space into a lounge with pop machines,” says Jeff Palermo, who oversees the project as development coordinator for the School of Social Work. “But people recognized the value in Wild Bill’s, and that really says something about the University.”

The main objective of the eight-month renovation was to improve the kitchen, making it wheelchair accessible and installing hot water. “Bill also involved redoing the wood floor and small stage and replacing worn equipment. The removal of old blinds and a coat of battery yellow paint enhanced the room’s natural lighting, creating a bright, cozy gathering space,” Palermo says.

Relics from the past were discovered in the course of construction. Wild Bill’s location, in room 531, was a kindergarten classroom from 1931 to 1972, when North Hall was University Elementary School. During renovat- ions, workers discovered art created by the children and quantitative signs from the 1938 flu epidemic. A large, old Baathist loyalists would target him. Islamic fundamentalists and Saddam’s old Baathist loyalists would target him. Islamic fundamentalists and Saddam’s

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Debates Take Fourth National Title, Seventh District Title

Iowa Debaters Take Fourth National Title since 2000 by Winning the Freshman-Sophomore District Title in the Year’s Debate Tournament

Following a decision by the University of Iowa seven years ago to make affirmative debate the only stance given on the year’s topic, Iowa researchers have found that several infirmities could be caused by the source of some air pollution.

University to Tackle Superintendant Shortage

To combat an impending shortage of educational administrators in Iowa, the University of Iowa will begin offering a graduate-level program in summer of 2010. The program will train current and future education leaders in policy making with in-person instruction. Unlike similar x-state programs, the UI curriculum will require a course in legislative advocacy and a social advocacy seminar. Applicants must have a master’s degree in educational administration. The program comes on the heels of a January 2009 survey that found that 37 percent of Iowa superintendents plan to retire in the next five years.

Fatigue Symptoms Possibly Pollute

An emerging phenomenon called “fatigue syndrome” is an acknowledged problem among college students. The study—which tested 33 pigment samples from three commercial paint stores—found that green, blue, red, and yellow pigments are the most common used items. The same pigments are often used in inks, paper, food, and other common materials. Some PCB11 has been found in air samples outside.

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