MATT MOTYL STUDIES PSYCHOLOGY BEHIND PLACE, POLITICS

A PLACE TO HAVE FUN IN THE HOSPITAL

CAST BALLOTS EARLY ON CAMPUS

SOFTBALL EXTENDS WINNING STREAK

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For the community of the University of Illinois at Chicago

— Photo: Mark Mershon
MATTHEW MOTYL

Psychology behind place, politics

By Gary Wisby — gwisby@uic.edu

Forget red and blue states, says Matt Motyl. Think red and blue neighborhoods instead.

“People are disproportionately likely to move to another neighborhood to find people who share their values,” said Motyl, an assistant professor of psychology. “So you find red and blue communities.”

He reported that finding for a Salon piece and a book chapter titled “Liberals and conservatives are geographically dividing” in the forthcoming Bridging Ideological Divides.

Speaking of red and blue, Motyl, who is in the psychology department’s social and personality area, wondered which political type more frequently gets the blues.

His answer is in a Science article he co-wrote, “Conservatives report, but liberals display, greater happiness.”

There’s a long research history of conservatives claiming they’re happier than liberals, Motyl said.

But his study of photos in the Congressional Record shows that more right-leaning congressmen flash apparently fake smiles, while liberal congressmen are more likely to display evidently genuine grins.

Also, conservatives more often use sad or negative words when speaking or writing for Twitter.

Motyl’s research was done during the Barack Obama presidency; he opines that conservatives “may be angrier or sadder because they’re not in power.”

One often hears someone say of a particular candidate, “If he wins, I’m moving to Canada.”

It’s hard to find data indicating that anyone follows through on this declaration, Motyl said. “Most people don’t move, but a lot threaten to,” he said.

Some take the threat seriously, though. He noted that Cape Breton Island in British Columbia is advertising to American tourists, “If Trump wins, we welcome you here,” Fox News dubbed it “the land of the flee.”

Research by Motyl and five colleagues showed that underlining climate change gives a boost to support for peace-making.

In Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology, they argued that it’s possible “to get people to set aside their differences to work against something that affects everybody,” Motyl said.

In the case of global climate change, “that’s exactly what we found” when looking at right-wing Israelis and Palestinians living alongside them, he said.

On the other hand, he added, climate change might result in scarcer resources, with countries competing for them.

Examining such claims as “Virginia is for lovers,” Motyl and a colleague questioned whether “geographical or regional characteristics affect basic psychological processes.”

“Based on your attachment style, some places are going to be better than others,” he said.

“If everyone around you has different beliefs, why would you want to have close relationships with them?”

He made no judgment about the specific case of Virginia. “It was just a cute title,” he said of the article written for Social and Personality Psychological Science.

Pieces Motyl penned for Psychology Today and Slate had the same title: “Is Obama the Antichrist?”

The question brought to mind the period Motyl spent supervising the undergraduate honors program when he was pursuing a master’s degree at the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs.

“It’s an especially conservative area with lots of military bases, and the family of one student was military going back many generations,” he said.

Email from one of the student’s relatives cautioned her that Obama was from zip code 60606, “606” being the sign of the devil, and that Scripture warns that the Antichrist will be a person with darker skin.

Motyl is a native of St. Augustine, Florida. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania, a master’s from the University of Colorado and a Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. He came to UIC in 2014, and lives three blocks from campus.

He is a co-founder of CivilPolitics.org, which he describes as “a nonprofit that tries to bring together academic research and interventions to improve political discourse.”

Reproducibility is the holy grail of research, and a piece Motyl co-authored is highly rated.

It was named No. 8 of the Top 100 Stories of 2015 by Discover magazine; No. 5 by Science News; No. 5 in “Altmetric 100,” Nature magazine’s top science stories of 2015; and runner-up for “Breakthrough of the Year” by Science magazine.

“One aspect of Matt Motyl’s research is whether conservatives or liberals are happier. “Conservatives report, but liberals display, greater happiness,” says Motyl, assistant professor of psychology. — Photo: Jenny Fontaine

“People need to imagine what it’s like being in the position of a police officer today. They’re kind of damned if they do and damned if they don’t.”

Dennis Rosenbaum, UIC professor of criminology, law and justice, on morale among police officers in Chicago and around the country. Feb. 26 Chicago Tribune

“The good thing is there’s been a lot more help for patients.”

Marlowe Djuric Kachlic, clinical assistant professor of pharmacy practice, on how the Affordable Care Act has prompted insurers to offer more health plans with lower premiums but higher deductibles. Feb. 26 CBS2

“There have been almost no police convicted of malfeasance or abuse, although there are plenty of cases that lead us to think there is police abuse.”

Dick Simpson, professor of political science, on the re-election bid of Cook County State’s Attorney Anita Alvarez and her handling of police brutality cases. March 1 The Nation
PATIENT PLAYROOM

Renovated space gives kids a place to have fun while in hospital

By Libby Goldrick — egoldr3@uic.edu

A newly renovated space in the University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System gives children a place to have fun while they are being treated as patients at the hospital.

The remodeled playroom in the pediatrics department features brightly colored walls, new lighting, state-of-the-art gaming system and plenty of fun toys.

UI Health hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday for the playroom, which was renovated with support from Starlight Children’s Foundation and a generous donation provided by Northwestern University Dance Marathon.

Lindsay Cousins, child life specialist at the hospital, helped coordinate design plans.

“I know the kids the best — I play with them on a daily basis — so I knew what their wants and needs were,” she said. “I tried to plan everything in that room thinking of the kids.”

Ben Van Voorhees, associate professor of pediatrics, said the playroom is a nice addition to a treatment room renovated in the fall by the Starlight Children’s Foundation.

“A playroom renovated to this degree is unusual, but more hospitals seem to be going this way,” he said.

Starlight and Dance Marathon representatives, patients and their families, physicians, nurses and hospital staff members attended the unveiling of the playroom.

The space has a built-in dollhouse, Lego wall, area specially designed for infants, and a dishwasher to sanitize toys, among other amenities. The upgraded space allows easier access for patients with physical disabilities so they can enjoy the room with their families and other patients.

“I think it’s going to help [patients’] overall well-being,” Cousins said. “I think it’s going to help make them feel better, make them come out of their rooms, and that’s a huge part of healing and it’s a part of being normal, not thinking about their pain.”

LARES looks back at past, ahead to future at 40th anniversary event

By Gary Wisby — gwisby@uic.edu

LARES (Latin American Recruitment and Educational Services) is marking its 40th anniversary year, and on Monday a panel took a look at where it’s been and where it’s going.

Moderator Jesus “Chuy” Garcia, a Cook County commissioner and former mayoral candidate, noted that one of the organization’s first actions was to mount a 1975 march by 500 people protesting the Chicago Public Schools’ initial delay in building Benito Juarez High School.

Panelists, speaking at Student Center East, were former LARES director Leonardi Ramirez; Ada Lopez, former University of Illinois trustee; and Jose Lopez, executive director of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center.

Ramirez, who had a staff of two when he took over LARES in 1980, said it does “behind-the-scenes” work on behalf of undocumented students and provides support for students who get no federal or state aid.

“UIC should be a truly institution of learning,” Ramirez said. “Universities are among the most segregated institutions.”

As a former university trustee, Ada Lopez said, “One of the things I learned was how disconnected the board was from those in the front lines. There was a gap between the trustees and the programs.”

She said that “programs like LARES are not only successful, but they add value that has never been acknowledged.”

LARES has been an ambassador for diversity.

“The principles that drive LARES are sound, more relevant than they have ever been. We have to protect what we have and build on it.”

During Q & A, Jose Lopez said that in Humboldt Park, “social capital of the community is brought together. You engage parents, teachers are intellectually challenged.”

The community has 11 schools, Lopez said. “We’re working to get our students into the best colleges,” he said.

An audience member asked, “What is the difference who the next president is?”

“IT has to be a Democrat,” replied Ada Lopez.

“Which one?” asked Garcia.

“We’ll let others answer that one,” Lopez said.
The UIC community can cast ballots early — and in about 10 minutes — this week as the campus hosts an early voting site.

Voting and voter registration for the March 15 primary election takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today through Friday in Room 613 Student Center East. Early voting participants at UIC must be City of Chicago residents.

Participation from faculty and staff is welcomed, but the event is student-focused.

“'Youth is traditionally the lowest voting group in America,'” said Dick Simpson, professor of political science. The U.S. Census Bureau's voting rates for 1964 through 2012 note that people age 18 to 24 have “consistently voted at lower rates than all other age groups” since 1964.

“That means that the decisions about who's going to govern are being made by other people who do not necessarily have the same interests as the students,” said Simpson, a former Chicago alderman.

Campus partners that organized the event — including the Political Science Student Union, Faculty Union, Student Leadership Development and Volunteer Services, Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement and the Office of Public and Government Affairs — hope to inspire civic engagement.

“This is the first step towards empowering students to help shape their own democracy,” Simpson added. “The [upcoming] presidential election could well be decided in Illinois in this election.”

Students who want to learn more about candidates, campaigns and prominent issues are encouraged to check non-partisan websites like Ballot Ready at ballotready.org, League of Women voters at lwv.org or Vote Smart at votesmart.org

“We want students to be informed,” Simpson said.

Those interested in registering to vote are required to bring two forms of identification. For more information on acceptable or appropriate forms of ID, visit chicaoselections.com/en/early-voting.html

HULL-HOUSE HISTORY

Faculty members can apply for a year-long seminar that will allow them to use the Jane Addams' Hull-House Museum collection and resources in their teaching.

The “Securing the Common Good: Hull-House History at UIC” initiative stems from a National Endowment for the Humanities that the Hull-House Museum and Institute for the Humanities received to foster teaching and learning at UIC.

Applications are due by March 18 at bit.ly/1Rzhizv

WOMEN’S HERITAGE MONTH

The Women’s Heritage Month Celebration features activities and lectures that engage and inform campus about the diverse roles and unique contributions of women in the community.

A variety of departments and organizations are hosting a monthlong series of programs and events that have a common thread: celebrating the lives and impact of women from a diversity of communities and cultures. The event is sponsored by the Women's Leadership & Resource Center, which will focus its programming around the impact of the prison industrial complex on woman-identified people.

View a complete list of events at utc.uic.edu

FUN WAY TO HELP

Create button jewelry to help the local community March 30.

Participants can craft jewelry from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in 3050 Student Services Building and donate it to Deborah’s Place, which serves women experiencing homelessness.

The event is co-sponsored by CCSW Minority Concerns subcommittee, Donate by Design student organization and the UIC Office of Career Services/Student Employment Office.

RSVP at http://ccsw.uic.edu/crafting/

CELEBRATING ARMY ROTC

All ROTC alumni are invited to this first-ever alumni reception celebrating 100 years of Army ROTC.

The UIC ROTC Alumni Reception takes place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Cardinal Room, SCE.

RSVP at ljmeyers@uic.edu

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Big data for transportation infrastructure development can be managed effectively through the uGRIDD geo-referencing software platform, which saves time and money.

Learn more March 17 at a Spring 2016 Seminar Series event hosted by the Urban Transportation Center. The presentation, led by uGRIDD principal Zhong Chen, begins at noon in Room 110 CUPPA Hall.

For more information, visit utc.uic.edu

SENATE ELECTION

Nominations are due March 18 for eight seats on the campus Faculty Advisory Committee, which considers faculty grievances and serves as a communication channel between academic staff and administration. The committee is elected by tenured and tenure-track faculty through ballot election.

The committee is composed of nine tenured faculty members with a 75 percent or more appointment who do not hold an administrative position. Terms are for three years, with no more than two faculty members from a college serving at one time.

Apply online at senate.uic.edu or call the Office of the Senate, 312-996-2926.
A serious bicycle accident that resulted in multiple fractured teeth and severe lacerations to her face led Luisa DiPietro to become one of the country’s leading wound healing experts.

When she looked in the mirror after the accident, DiPietro — then a college sophomore — did not recognize the person staring back at her. At times, she thought she would be disfigured for the rest of her life. But with the help of modern dentistry and excellent surgeons, her face healed completely and her smile was restored.

More than 6 million Americans develop severe problems with wound healing each year. DiPietro and her colleagues are developing therapies that will allow humans to regenerate perfect tissue after an injury.

“Figuring out how to make skin on the rest of the body act more like the mouth could mean an end to disfiguring scars,” said DiPietro, director of the Center for Wound Repair and Regeneration in the UIC College of Dentistry and a 2015 University Scholar.

DiPietro majored in biology at the Urbana campus, with a doctoral degree her goal. During the long hours of treatment after her accident, she became fascinated with the dental profession and applied for a summer research fellowship at the Medical College of Georgia (now Augusta University) College of Dentistry.

After graduating from UIUC, she chose to study dentistry at UIC. But she remained involved with her first love — research — during dental school. After she began her practice, she eventually returned to UIC to earn a Ph.D. in immunology.

Not surprisingly, DiPietro became interested in the role immune cells play in wound healing and regeneration. After receiving her Ph.D., she accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at Northwestern University and joined a group of scientists active in the field.

“Understanding the molecular and cellular aspects of wound healing has been my life’s work, and most days I still can’t believe I am being paid to engage in such an exciting area of research,” said DiPietro, professor of periodontics in the College of Dentistry and associate vice chancellor for research.

“Health disparities among sexual minorities have long been explained on the basis of excess stress resulting from being part of a marginalized and stigmatized population,” said Hughes. “However, our work on childhood victimization has begun to point to another potentially critical factor underlying these health disparities — mainly, the enduring impact of sexual and physical abuse into adulthood.”

Hughes’ research has provided opportunities for new investigators in the field. More than 25 graduate students and junior faculty members from nursing and other disciplines have used data from her studies to develop their own projects or programs of research. She has mentored numerous interdisciplinary scientists at universities throughout the U.S. and world.

Being selected as a University Scholar “is a tremendous honor for me personally, but I am also gratified by the recognition of the importance of research with sexual minority women, one of the most stigmatized groups throughout the world’s population,” said Hughes, professor and associate dean for global health in the College of Nursing.

“Tonda Hughes studies sexual minority health and substance abuse. — Photo: Mark Mershon

By Sam Hostettler — samhos@uic.edu

Making strides in understudied area in women’s mental health

Tonda Hughes

By Sam Hostettler — samhos@uic.edu

One name commonly comes up when discussing sexual minority health and substance abuse: Tonda Hughes. Hughes is an internationally renowned researcher, having amassed more than $20 million in federal funds over more than 25 years to conduct her research on women’s mental health and substance use, with a particular emphasis on sexual minority women, an area identified by the Institute of Medicine as greatly understudied.

Her study of risk and protective factors for heavy drinking and drinking-related problems was the first study funded by the National Institutes of Health on sexual minority women’s drinking behaviors and related risk factors.

Now in its 17th year, the study is the longest-running and one of few longitudinal studies on sexual minority women’s health.

“Health disparities among sexual minorities have long been explained on the basis of excess stress resulting from being part of a marginalized and stigmatized population group,” Hughes said. “However, our work on
Making better, faster, cheaper antibodies

Brian Kay

By Bill Burton — burton@uic.edu

Brian Kay calls himself a protein engineer. “I’m a technologist; an inventor,” says the professor and former head of biological sciences. He is focused on improving a decades-old mainstay of biotechnology that has already spawned billion-dollar blockbuster drugs and diagnostics, yet remains far from optimal.

The body’s immune system produces antibodies to fight invading bacteria and viruses. Scientists employ these protein molecules in a wide variety of uses to detect or fish out other biomolecules from a complex mixture, because an antibody binds to its target — usually also a protein — very selectively and very tightly.

Clinicians and researchers use antibodies as probes, Kay said, “a marker of where something is and how much.” In the clinical lab, antibodies have long been used to detect molecules produced in pregnancy or leaking from heart cells after a heart attack. Researchers use them to localize a molecule of interest to a particular tissue or organ.

Historically, the antibodies used as lab reagents were produced not by technicians, but by rabbits. An animal injected with the target molecule would contain in its serum the cognate antibody. Over 40 years ago, scientists learned to produce “monoclonal” antibodies in the lab by fusing an antibody-producing immune cell to a proliferating cancer cell.

But even today, Kay and some of his colleagues estimate, fewer than half of the several thousand commercially available antibodies recognize only their specified target molecules. In a commentary last year in the journal Nature, they contended that poorly characterized antibodies result in a waste of materials, time and money in biomedical research that amounts to $350 million annually in the U.S. alone.

Kay is “part of a growing global movement” to improve, characterize and standardize antibodies as reagents. “We need to be able to make them better, faster, cheaper,” he said, in order to create “a toolset, a platform technology, that will have broad application.”

Searching for energy superhighway superconductor

Dirk Morr

By Bill Burton — burton@uic.edu

Theoretical physicist Dirk Morr ponders unusual condensed matter materials which scientists hope will one day yield a high-temperature superconductor that could be used in an “energy superhighway” to transfer energy in the form of electricity over great distances without any losses.

“Power must be generated near where it’s used,” says Morr, professor of physics. But renewable sources are often remote. Wind power, for example, would be much more feasible if the electricity generated on huge “farms” could be transferred to cities without loss of energy.

Unfortunately, the highest-temperature superconductor yet known works only below a chilly -160 degrees Fahrenheit.

In 2014, Morr’s group of theoretical physicists teamed up with experimentalists at Cornell University and Brookhaven National Laboratory to identify the “quantum glue” that underlies a promising type of superconductivity found in the unconventional superconductor CeCoIn5 consisting of Cerium, Cobalt and Indium.

The collaboration was “a beautiful example of how physics should work,” Morr said. “Groundbreaking experimental data, combined with a new theory we developed in my group, gave us an unprecedented insight to predict the properties of superconductors,” he said. The finding established that the magnetic interaction present in this material is the quantum glue that pairs electrons and gives rise to superconductivity.

This magnetic interaction, he noted, is highly directional. The theoretical framework gives scientists a starting point to explore how superconductivity works in other complex materials.

“With a working theory, we can now investigate how we have to tweak the system to raise the critical temperature — ideally, all the way up to room temperature,” Morr said.

Understanding molecular basis of disease to design better drugs

Emad Tajkhorshid

By Christy Levy — christyb@uic.edu

Emad Tajkhorshid was nominated for his award by two campuses. — Photo: L. Brian Stauffer

Germany, then traveled to Urbana in 2000 to begin his postdoctoral research work.

“I fell in love with this place, so I never moved,” he said. Tajkhorshid uses computer modeling to study the molecular basis of disease and drug action. His work focuses on the structure function relationship of membrane proteins, such as membrane channels and transporters.

“We use computational methods and modeling to understand how biological systems work,” he said. “Understanding the molecular basis allows us to design much more specific drugs.”

He teaches a course on principles of pharmacology for second-year UIC College of Medicine students on the Urbana campus, as well as a computational course for biology, chemistry and engineering students.

Medical school classes require a lot of memorization, so Tajkhorshid tries to engage his students visually.

“When possible, I show them animations and other molecular visualization materials from my own research, even unpublished results,” he said. “It’s easier to distinguish if you’ve seen it.”

“I’m a technologist; an inventor,” says Brian Kay. — Photo: Roberta Dupuis-Devlin

Making better, faster, cheaper antibodies

Emad Tajkhorshid was nominated for his award by two campuses. — Photo: L. Brian Stauffer

Making better, faster, cheaper antibodies

Emad Tajkhorshid was nominated for his award by two campuses. — Photo: L. Brian Stauffer
How neoliberalism affects workforce development, workers’ rights

Nik Theodore

By Anne Brooks Ranallo

When Nik Theodore's colleagues praise his prolific and globally influential research, he can look to data to be assured that they’re not just flattering him.

Thomson Reuters’ 2014 ranking of the most highly cited scholars in the world listed Theodore among the top 1 percent, which included just 177 social scientists (only two of whom were urban planners) “who are on the cutting edge globally influential research, he can look to data to be as certain, which included just 177 social scientists (only two of whom were urban planners) “who are on the cutting edge of their fields.”

He also received an outstanding score of 35 on the h-index as calculated by Google Scholar, which is based on a researcher’s most cited papers and the number of citations in publications — 7,866 in Theodore’s case.

But the broader measure of Theodore’s work can be seen in its impact well beyond academia.

Right now, he’s on sabbatical in South Africa.

“I am a visiting researcher at the African Centre for Cities, which included just 177 social scientists (only two of whom were urban planners) “who are on the cutting edge of their fields.”

“His work over 10 years ago was influential in Illinois’ increase of the state minimum wage,” Charles Hoch, professor of urban planning and policy and a 2007 University Scholar, wrote in his nomination letter.

Theodore focuses on neoliberalism as it affects workforce development, workers’ rights and the informal economy. He was named editor of a leading international journal, Antipode: A Journal of Radical Geography, two years ago.

Pagano notes that Theodore is “the complete scholar,” giving time not only to research, but also to faculty governance, administrative responsibilities, and students.

Theodore serves as associate dean for faculty affairs and research in the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs. He also is a senior fellow of the Great Cities Institute and a faculty affiliate to the Latin American and Latino Studies program.

“His doctoral students have landed prestigious positions at institutions such as the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill,” Pagano said.

Last year, UIC named Theodore one of five faculty members to receive a Distinguished Researcher Award, honoring a record of outstanding achievement.

“NIK’S RESEARCH RESONATES WITH THE PUBLIC POLICY COMMUNITY AS IT GRAPPLES WITH LABOR ISSUES, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND PAY EQUITY.”

Seeing the future service needs of wireless networks

Daniela Tuninetti

By Christy Levy — christyb@uic.edu

What kind of service will future 5G wireless networks need to provide to users?
That’s one question Daniela Tuninetti aims to answer in her research.

“We’re working on what will happen in about 10 years from now,” said Tuninetti, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering. “We’re already thinking of what you might want from your phone, how much data you might need and how we should design better performing networks.”

Tuninetti studies the mathematics behind communications networks and how these networks can be improved for optimal performance.

“Information Theory, my main field of research, provides a benchmark against which any practical technology should be compared,” she said. “If you're far from that benchmark, then aspects of the design need to be improved.”

Another aspect of Tuninetti’s research applies electrical engineering principles to medical applications. She is collaborating with UIC College of Medicine professor Konstantin Slavin and UIC engineering professor Daniel Graupe to develop technology for on-demand deep brain stimulation to reduce tremor symptoms in patients with Parkinson’s disease or essential tremor.

“Once these devices are implanted, the brain stimulation is constant over time,” she said. “We’ve provided a proof of concept that it’s possible to switch off that stimulation for a certain period of time and patients are still having some of the good benefits of the stimulation. The kind of technology we develop figures out when the tremor is about to reappear and switches stimulation on again. It is envisioned to have applications well beyond tremor disorders.”

Turning off the constant stimulation has its benefits, she said.

“These devices have batteries so if you use the stimulation half of the time, you will maybe have less surgeries for battery replacements,” she said. “Some symptoms are also sometimes made worse by the stimulation, such as speech.”

Tuninetti is collaborating with UIC engineering professors Natasha Devroye and Danilo Errico as well as a professor at Purdue University to answer a critical problem addressed in the 2012 report of the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology. They received a grant from the National Science Foundation to study whether wireless data networks can share the spectrum with radar systems, which are used for airplane tracking, for example.

“If they coexist in the same bandwidth, how much interference would they cause one another?” she said. “You might have radar that misses some of the planes. We are trying to figure out how much performance will be degraded by having the two systems share the same spectrum, then put solutions in place.”

Tuninetti teaches a mix of undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students.

“I really strive to make sure students understand the basic concepts — that they see the impact of technology today but also see beyond them because they need to be able to see what’s coming,” she said.
Welcome to the next-generation graduate and professional programs that can help you reach the next level. At Elmhurst College you will acquire the cross-platform technical skills you need to succeed. Develop fresh solutions to real world challenges through project-based learning. Optimize your career goals by finding out more about our innovative and flexible programs.

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- Teacher Leadership Endorsement

**Undergraduate Certificate Programs**
- Cyber Security
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- Geographic Information Systems

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**Graduate Programs Information Session**
Saturday, March 19
9:00 a.m.
Frick Center, Founders Lounge

**Reserve your space**
Visit: elmhurst.edu/chooseElmhurst
Call: (630) 617-3300
Email: sps@elmhurst.edu

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CALENDAR

LECTURE

THE SECRET HISTORY OF WONDER WOMAN
Jill Lepore, history professor at Harvard University, Institute for the Humanities Visiting Fellows Lecture
4 p.m.
Conference Rooms, SSB

LECTURE

SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS FOR FEMALE DEVELOPMENT IN THE WOMB AND IN THE ACADEMY: A TALE OF TWO RESEARCH PROGRAMS
Julienne Rutherford, assistant professor in the College of Nursing, UIC’s Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health Program Seminar Series
2–3 p.m.
5175 CMRB

SPECIAL EVENT

TASTE OF UIC
Sample dishes that reflect culture, traditions of UIC student organizations
11 a.m.–2 p.m.
East Terrace, SCE

LIFE AS ARGUMENT
Jill Lepore, history professor at Harvard University. Sponsored by the Institute for the Humanities
3 p.m. / lower level, SH

LECTURE

GEO-REFERENCING IN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
Zhong Chen, uGRIDD principal, talks about the uGRIDD geo-referencing software platform. Spring 2016 Seminar Series event hosted by the Urban Transportation
Noon
110 CUPPA

SPECIAL EVENT

AN EVENING OF CHAMBER MUSIC: A LAST LOOK AT WINTER
UIC Orchestra and Choirs
Randall Thompson’s Frostiana: Seven Country Songs is at center eclectic program featuring the UIC Chamber Choir, University Choir, Women’s Chorus and Orchestra
7:30 p.m.
Notre Dame Church
1334 W. Flournoy St.

EXHIBIT

FEW WERE HAPPY WITH THEIR CONDITION
Gallery 400 exhibition of photography, short films, documentaries and moving image installations. The exhibition, curated by Olga Stefan, explores life in post-communist Romania. Free admission
Tues.–Fri. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat. noon–6 p.m.
Gallery 400, ADH

SPECIAL EVENT

ST. BALDRICK’S
College of Medicine students from the Chicago Cancer Society student organization host a St. Baldrick’s head-shaving fundraiser
7–10 p.m.
Hawkeye’s Bar & Grill
1458 W. Taylor St.
bit.ly/1ToWZVP

Send information about campus events to Christy Levy, christyb@uic.edu
FOR MORE UIC EVENTS, VISIT EVENTS.UIC.EDU
Summit aims to find ways to decrease targeted violence

By Sam Hostettler — samhos@uic.edu

Federal, state and local government officials, along with representatives from the academic, nonprofit and private sectors, developed a blueprint for reducing targeted violence during a recent summit in Chicago, hosted by the UIC College of Medicine’s department of psychiatry and the Rutgers Institute for Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security.

Over the past 15 years, targeted violence has increased in frequency and lethality, according to the report. It is often aimed at public places, such as schools and houses of worship, and is often perpetrated by individuals and groups whose beliefs they do not share with others. Threats posed by targeted violence affect the community as a whole.

Preventative measures and responses to violent attacks have frequently focused on enhanced surveillance or investigation of specific ethnic and religious communities. Although effective in some cases, this focused approach has also led to mistrust of law enforcement and reduced information-sharing between the police and the communities that may be able to identify threats and prevent attacks, the report said.

The report identified several ways to reduce targeted violence:

- Form a community-based multidisciplinary team of mental and public health experts, religious and education leaders to identify at-risk behaviors of individuals.
- Provide options other than criminal prosecution of individuals who have been identified by community leaders and law enforcement as being potentially dangerous.
- Develop an intervention program, diverting individuals from an apparent path of violence.
- Use the expertise of law enforcement, community members, religious leaders, health professionals and legal experts to develop a strategy to rehabilitate at-risk individuals and reintegrate them into society.
- Establish a partnership between the community and law enforcement founded on inclusiveness, trust and transparency and focused on shared goals, rather than impose a ready-made solution from outside the community.
- “Individuals within a community, friends, family, teachers and religious leaders may be in the best position to recognize changed or concerning behavior,” said Stevan Weine, professor and director of UIC’s Global Health Research Training.

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Mixing art, mentorship for high school students

By Pearl Shin — pshin3@uic.edu

UIC students spent time with high school students from the Garfield Park neighborhood on the city’s West Side, providing advice and hope that they can pursue higher education.

Throughout fall semester, the four UIC students visited with the high school students as part of the Local Attainable Mentors Program, started by Mo Bella Russo, a senior in studio arts.

The UIC students shared stories of their college experience during meetings at the Breakthrough FamilyPlex, where Russo and her family lead a weekly after-school program.

“The UIC students spoke the words that changed the hearts of the high school students,” Russo said. “They’re the heroes.”

The four undergraduate mentors were Ryan Blackmon, an industrial design student; Faheem Rollins, a studio arts major; Latil Willis, an entrepreneurship major, and Jamael "Isaiah Makarios" Clark, a student in communication.

Russo believes that the relatable experiences of the mentors resonated with the students, inspiring and motivating them.

“They shared about their background or where they grew up, their neighborhoods and what they’re studying now,” Russo said. “They talked about basic stuff like FAFSA, about being aggressive and an advocate for themselves.”

After interviewing the mentors, the students created portraits of the speakers using mixed media, such as paint, photography and collage. The portraits of the mentors reflected the thoughts and feelings the students had after their interaction.

Russo hopes the program will inspire the students to follow their dreams.

“They were lighting up,” she said. “I can see that the wheels were spinning in their heads.”
SPORTS

SOFTBALL EXTENDS WINNING STREAK

By Laura White — lwhite88@uic.edu

The softball team (11-8) won its fifth game in a row Saturday during the San Diego Classic.

UIC won its games Friday versus Utah Valley, 9-8, and San Diego, 5-2, then beat Portland State, 5-4, and San Diego State, 6-4, Saturday. The team’s game on Sunday versus Saint Joseph’s was canceled because of rain.

The team combined for 18 hits Friday while they limited their opponents to 14. Senior LaRi Mitchell and freshmen Lexi Watts and Skyl ee James each had three hits, while senior Dana Capocci and junior Kaleigh Nagle came up big for UIC with their two hits each that produced four and three RBI.

The Flames’ pitching staff of redshirt-junior Alice Fitzpatrick, redshirt-freshman Karissa Frazier and junior Elaine Heflin continued to dominate, shutting down the Wolverines and holding them to a .230 batting average.

Hef (Elaine Heflin) was solid on the mound a way to come and win so I’m proud of our team for that,” Venturella said. “We did a much better job against SDSU. Hef (Elaine Heflin) was solid on the mound and our offense did a great job of putting pressure on their defense. Regardless of the outcome, we need to continue to play the game at a high level and I was happy to see that.”

The Flames return to action at 5 p.m. Saturday at Nebraska-Omaha.

Elaine Heflin had a career-high 18 strikeouts Friday.

— Photo: Steve Woltmann

Flames end season in first round of tournament

By Dan Yopchick — yopchick@uic.edu

One year after UIC knocked Wright State out of the Horizon League men’s basketball championship, the Flames had a familiar setting for their first round. The Flames combined for 18 hits Friday while they limited their opponents to 14 hits, four walks and a .226 batting average while tallying six strikeouts.

“We did not play well in our first game, but we found a way to come and win so I’m proud of our team for that,” Venturella said. “We did a much better job against SDSU. Hef (Elaine Heflin) was solid on the mound and our offense did a great job of putting pressure on their defense. Regardless of the outcome, we need to continue to play the game at a high level and I was happy to see that.”

“JT Yoho came down on the other end and hit a three-pointer that sparked an 8-0 Raiders’ run to end the half,” Yopchick said.

Dikembe Dixson converted two free throws early in the second half, but it wasn’t until his jumper with 15:02 to go that the Flames hit from the field. By the time his bucket came, Wright State had expanded its lead to more than 20 points.

Dixson, the Horizon League Freshman of the Year and All-Horizon League selection, registered his team-high seventh double-double of the season with a game-high 18 points and 11 rebounds. The newcomer had 10 of his points come at the free-throw line and he helped defensively with a team-high three steals. Michael Kolawole finished with eight points.

Horizon League All-Defensive Team honoree Tai Odiase grabbed nine rebounds and added four blocked shots.

Men’s tennis captures win No. 5

By Citlali Cuevas — kcueva3@uic.edu

The men’s tennis team (5-6) hosted Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (3-14) Saturday and collected its fifth win of the season, 4-3.

“Sort of doubles we’ve played this spring,” head coach Hans Neufeld said.

In the No. 1 singles spot, Carl Hedstrom defeated Jac Newis, 7-6 (9), 6-2. Mitch Granger collected his second consecutive singles win of dual play at the No. 4 spot with a 6-2, 7-6 (6) victory over Marcus Nalley. Max Cedarick pushed his match to three sets, defeating his opponent, 6-4, 2-5, 6-3 at the No. 6 position.

Christo per Cole (6-3, 6-2), Andy Page (6-3, 6-1) and Marcelo Dib (6-2, 7-6) dropped their sets. Dib leads the squad with eight singles wins in dual play.

Granger and Cole put UIC ahead in doubles competition with a 6-1 win at the No. 1 spot. Nate Campanile and Hedstrom secured the doubles point for the Flames after downing David Beasley and Akshay Vem, 6-3. Dib and Page teamed up at the No. 3 spot with a decisive win over Patrick McCaulay and Matt Moe, 6-2.

The Flames return to action at 5 p.m. Saturday at Nebraska-Omaha.

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Friday, March 11
Baseball vs. Chicago State
3:05 p.m. Granderson Stadium

Sunday, March 13
Baseball vs. Chicago State
12:05 p.m. Granderson Stadium

Men’s gymnastics vs. Arizona State
2 p.m. UIC Pavilion

Women’s gymnastics vs. Utah State
2 p.m. UIC Pavilion

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