

Nursing College receives two grants

The National Institute of Nursing Research has awarded a two-year grant to the College of Nursing & Healthcare Innovation to study health empowerment intervention with homebound older adults.

Knowledge about the potential role for health promotion efforts to manage chronic illness and promote well-being among this older population is limited. Often, the needs of this group are not being met because they lack the skills to identify and obtain key resources.

Additionally, the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases has awarded a two-year grant to the college to study a new primary care intervention program for the treatment of overweight pre-school children. A recent report from the Institute of Medicine revealed that rates of obesity in the pre-school child population have doubled, and that 3-to-5-year-olds whose body mass index is greater than the 85th percentile of all children in their age group have more than a 40% change of later-life obesity.

Biodesign Institute goes platinum

ASU's Biodesign Institute has garnered the highest designation for environmentally friendly design and construction from the U. S. Green Building Council (USGBC).

The platinum certification for "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) was issued for Building B, which opened in 2006. This marks the first time a building in Arizona has received the platinum award.

"Our research attempts to imitate nature's design," says George Poste, director of the Biodesign Institute. "So in constructing our facilities, we strove for minimal impact on the natural environment that inspires us."

Two honored by IEEE Societies

Richard Farmer, research professor in the Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering's Electrical Engineering department has received the 2007 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE) Power Engineering Society's Charles Concordia Power System Engineering Award, citing Farmer's work specifically for "innovation in the development of analysis, measurement and mitigation techniques for subsynchronous resonance and leadership in

the area of power system dynamic analysis."

The IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology presented its first Distinguished Service Award to Joseph R. Herkert, ASU Lincoln associate professor in the humanities and arts in the School of Applied Arts and Sciences at the Polytechnic campus. Herkert is the editor of SSIT's award-winning journal, *Technology & Society Magazine*, and has served the society as president, conference organizer and presenter, speaker and mentor.

Design workshop builds bright futures

Thanks to generous financial support from architects, design professionals and other sponsors, 27 under-represented students received an all-expense paid summer workshop that took them on field trips known for innovative architecture, offered hands-on design projects and introduced them to many experts in different design fields.

"This workshop is about opening students' eyes and exposing them to things they've never been exposed to," says Mark Ryan, co-director of the workshop and a visiting ASU professor in the College of Design.

To accomplish this, the students were led on tours of Burton Barr Library, Taliesin West and the Phoenix Art Museum to examine the architecture. Students were struck by how the structures affect visitors physically and mentally.

"I learned a lot about how you can influence emotion through space," says Gustavo Chaydez, a student from Caesar Chavez High School. "So now when I walk into a building, it's not just another building, it's a project to observe."

Strengthening the ASU-China partnership

ASU President Michael Crow recently led a delegation of ASU faculty and staff to China to deepen and solidify ASU's sister-institution relationship with Sichuan University, officially launch the Confucius Institute and expand relationships with the Ministries of Education and Science & Technology to support ongoing ASU research, teaching and learning programs in China.

An additional goal of the trip was to expand ASU's support network of donors

based in Asia and build linkages with ASU's expanding China-based alumni network.

The delegation also met with a cohort of five ASU master's students from the Piper Center for Creative Writing, who are building a program in creative writing with faculty and students at Sichuan University with the goal of creating a "national model" creative writing curriculum in China.

Further additional collaborations include inviting visiting scholars from the Baosteel Group Corp., Shanghai, to engage with the ASU School of Materials, and collaboration with the Sichuan University Medical School on evidence-based research collaboration and translational genomics.

Members of the delegation met with the deputy party secretary of Chengdu, to discuss the Arizona-Sichuan Business Development Portal program agreement which would advance the connection between businesses in Chengdu and Phoenix through SkySong, the ASU and Scottsdale Innovation Center.

Bryan receives Pioneer Award

Harvey Bryan, professor in the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, received the 2007 Passive Solar Pioneer Award from the American Solar Energy Society. The award recognizes individuals who have opened doors to new ideas with their foresight, innovative thinking and creativity within the passive solar field.

Robotics team inspired by competition

A robotics team of eight members, organized through the Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering Women in Applied Sciences and Engineering (WISE) Program took part in the sixth annual International Marine Advanced Technology Education Center's Remote Operated Vehicle Competition in Newfoundland, Canada.

They competed against more than 40 robotics teams with their robot – named Aurora – that was put to the test in three underwater missions. While real-world elements made the missions more difficult than expected, the team will use the experience to prepare for next year.

The team's trip was sponsored by the Phoenix chapter of Soroptimist International.