

atlantis

a newsletter for alumni and friends of the college of liberal arts and sciences

UIC COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

CNN'S BERNARD SHAW

Retired CNN Anchor a Benefactor to Struggling Students

by Gary Wisby



Retired CNN anchor and UIC benefactor and alumnus Bernard Shaw with the three most current Shaw Prize winners, John Antia (2006), Kristine Ostil (2007), and Deborah Fadowole (2005). Photo: Michelle Maddox

Bernard Shaw was still a student at Navy Pier — UIC's original site — when he started dreaming of one day helping impoverished scholars. "I always thought about my fellow students who, like me, had to support themselves," the retired CNN anchor said. "It was very grinding to work a 50-hour week while going to class. I longed to be a pure student, attending classes and then going home. That wasn't my existence."

Shaw's work has taken him to 46 countries spanning five continents. He has reported or anchored some of the biggest stories in recent history, including the 1995 bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, Princess Diana's funeral, the Bush-Gorbachev/Yeltsin summits and the student demonstrations at Tiananmen Square in Beijing, China.

His desire to help struggling students was finally satisfied after Shaw returned from covering the Gulf War. He and fellow reporters Peter Arnett and John Holliman had stuck it out in Baghdad after bombs prompted other Western reporters to flee the city. Receiving heroes' welcomes back in this country, the three were showered with honors. For Shaw, those included the Eduard Rhein Prize. "I was the first non-German ever to receive it," he said. The prize brought with it 100,000 Deutsch Marks, too large an amount for

Shaw to accept for his own use under the ethics guidelines for CNN journalists. So he got permission from CNN President Tom Johnson to use the money to found a UIC scholarship fund instead.

The resulting Bernard Shaw Prize, established in 1991, started at \$2,500, but has since grown to \$10,000. To date he has contributed more than \$300,000 to the endowment fund supporting the Shaw Prize. Preference goes to working students who are persons of color or women. They must have a 3.0 grade average and be active in the community. "I always thought that if a student could get money with no strings attached, it would really help them," Shaw said. "And once that person gets out into the world of adulthood, he or she would want to give back, and it would radiate like a pebble in a pool."

The Shaw Prize came at an opportune time for Kristine Ostil, who won the award for 2007. "We were having money troubles, and my mother didn't know where we were going to get the money for my tuition," she said. A UIC junior majoring in communication, she studies journalism and serves as editor-in-chief of the *Chicago Flame*, the student newspaper. The prize was particularly meaningful to Ostil, she said, because Shaw "has been my role model ever since high school."

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Except where otherwise indicated, all photographs are by Julie M. Jaidinger.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES AT UIC BY VISITING
OUR WEB SITE: www.uic.edu/las/college

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN:

Red, Blue, and ...Green?



Within the next few months, the renovation of Grant Hall should be complete, and next fall it will open and be dedicated as the Sandi Port Errant Language and Culture Center. It will provide much-needed, enhanced space for the UIC Writing Center, the LAS Language Laboratory, and some “smart” classrooms. As described in the 2006 magazine issue of *ATLAS*, this renovation was made possible largely through the generosity of Sid Port and his family (thanks again, Sid).

Perhaps if you have stopped by the campus recently you noticed that the area just north of Grant Hall was fenced off during most of the winter, and there was drilling equipment behind those fences. The purpose was to install numerous deep, underground thermal exchange systems so that the new Sandi Port Errant Center can be heated and cooled in part by geothermal energy. This is a new approach for UIC and it speaks well of our willingness to consider green technology for the campus now and in the future.

The College of LAS was thinking along similar lines when it finished its strategic plan last year. The plan included an endorsement of the Talloires Declaration and it urged other UIC colleges to consider endorsing it as well. The Talloires Declaration is a document first composed in 1990 and since signed by many college and university presidents. It commits academic institutions to creating a culture of sustainability with as many concrete steps as they can manage. By endorsing Talloires, the college was affirming, in effect, that it sees sustainability as a value consistent with UIC’s stated vision of working to “create a more egalitarian society.”

This underscores the point I wish to make: LAS can and should move toward becoming a model of sustainability, both in its operations and in green thinking in its scholarship. (See this issue’s interview with Professor Peter Doran for a fine example.) As an urban university, we have an opportunity to become the premier green urban academic institution! LAS is going that way, others will follow.

Christopher Comer
Dean

LAS STUDENTS EXCEL NATIONALLY, INTERNATIONALLY

by Bruce Pecho



FULBRIGHT FELLOWSHIP

Julia Geynisman, a graduating senior from Naperville majoring in biological sciences with a minor in Jewish studies, received a Fulbright Fellowship. Julia will use her Fulbright Fellowship to spend next year in Israel researching the methods and extent of success of the absorption of Russian physician émigrés during three periods of heavy immigration. She will attend medical school when she returns the following fall.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF) GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

Christine Toh, an undergraduate chemistry major, was awarded a three-year graduate fellowship by the NSF. This highly prestigious award is usually given to students who have already started their graduate studies. For Toh to win this award while still an undergraduate is a significant achievement. Toh's proposal, a project she hopes to continue to pursue in graduate school, deals with the development of a new strategy for the treatment of bacterial infections that are resistant to conventional antibiotics.

BARRY M. GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP

Two LAS undergraduate Honors College science students have been named Goldwater Scholars for the 2007-08 academic year by the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation. **Ying (Amy) Ye**, a sophomore from Lincolnshire majoring in biological sciences, plans a medical research career in molecular genetics and neuroscience, focusing on the

connections between genetic and biochemical events in the brain. She is presently assisting Andre Kajdacsy-Balla, director of transdisciplinary pathology, in the study of chromatin structure changes in cancer cells. **Daniel Lee**, a sophomore from Naperville majoring in biological sciences, plans a medical research career in immunology, investigating therapies to combat inflammatory responses. He is presently a lab assistant to Jerrold Levine, visiting associate professor of nephrology.

PUBLIC POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FELLOWSHIP

Rommel Calderwood, a junior pursuing a political science major and Asian studies minor, was awarded a Public Policy and International Affairs Fellowship (for a summer institute at Princeton University.) From Chicago, Rommel plans to attend graduate school and obtain a masters in public policy with a concentration in international policy.

ROSENTHAL FELLOWSHIP AND WASHINGTON INSTITUTE FELLOWSHIP

Liat Shetret was awarded a Rosenthal Fellowship (summer Congressional internship for the U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security) and Washington Institute Fellowship. She is a graduating senior in political science and psychology with an international studies minor. From Modi'in, Israel, Liat will start graduate school this fall at the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University, working toward a masters of international affairs.

YOUNG PEOPLE FOR (YP4) FELLOWSHIP

Two LAS students, **Kathryn Lerman**, a sophomore from LaGrange majoring in gender and women's studies and minoring in earth and environmental sciences, and **Rommel Calderwood**, a junior majoring in political science and minoring in Asian studies, have been awarded Young People For (YP4) Fellowships. Lerman has become an active member of the Campus Advocacy Network and hopes to develop into a strong anti-domestic violence youth advocate, both at UIC and in the surrounding communities. Calderwood hopes to attend graduate school in international policy.

FMC AWARD OF EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

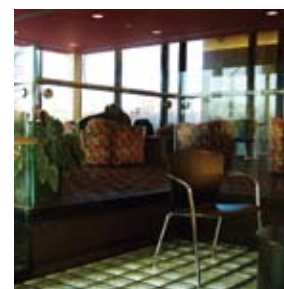
Five freshmen in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences received the FMC Award of Excellence Scholarship, a one-year, \$1,000 merit award funded by U of I alumnus Bert Gayman: anthropology major **Kyla Doetch**, biology major **Zainab Hussain**, English major **Magdalena Kmiecik**, political science major **Philip Musolf** and mathematics major **Joseph Saiki**.

INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION (IIE) GILMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDY ABROAD

Jennifer Valtierra, a junior political science major and French minor, was the recipient of an IIE Gilman Scholarship for Study Abroad (in Egypt). From Libertyville, Jennifer plans to pursue graduate study in international relations and security studies and would like to work for the federal government as an intelligence officer.

A LEGACY OF OPPORTUNITY LASTS FOREVER

You can donate a gift to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences that will benefit our students or faculty for generations to come.



Rebecca Port
Faculty-Student Center

Add a bequest to your estate plan to create an LAS endowment fund.

An LAS endowment fund offers opportunities....

So students can receive scholarships while earning their degrees....

So faculty can teach, conduct research and serve their communities...

So programs can be started or expanded....

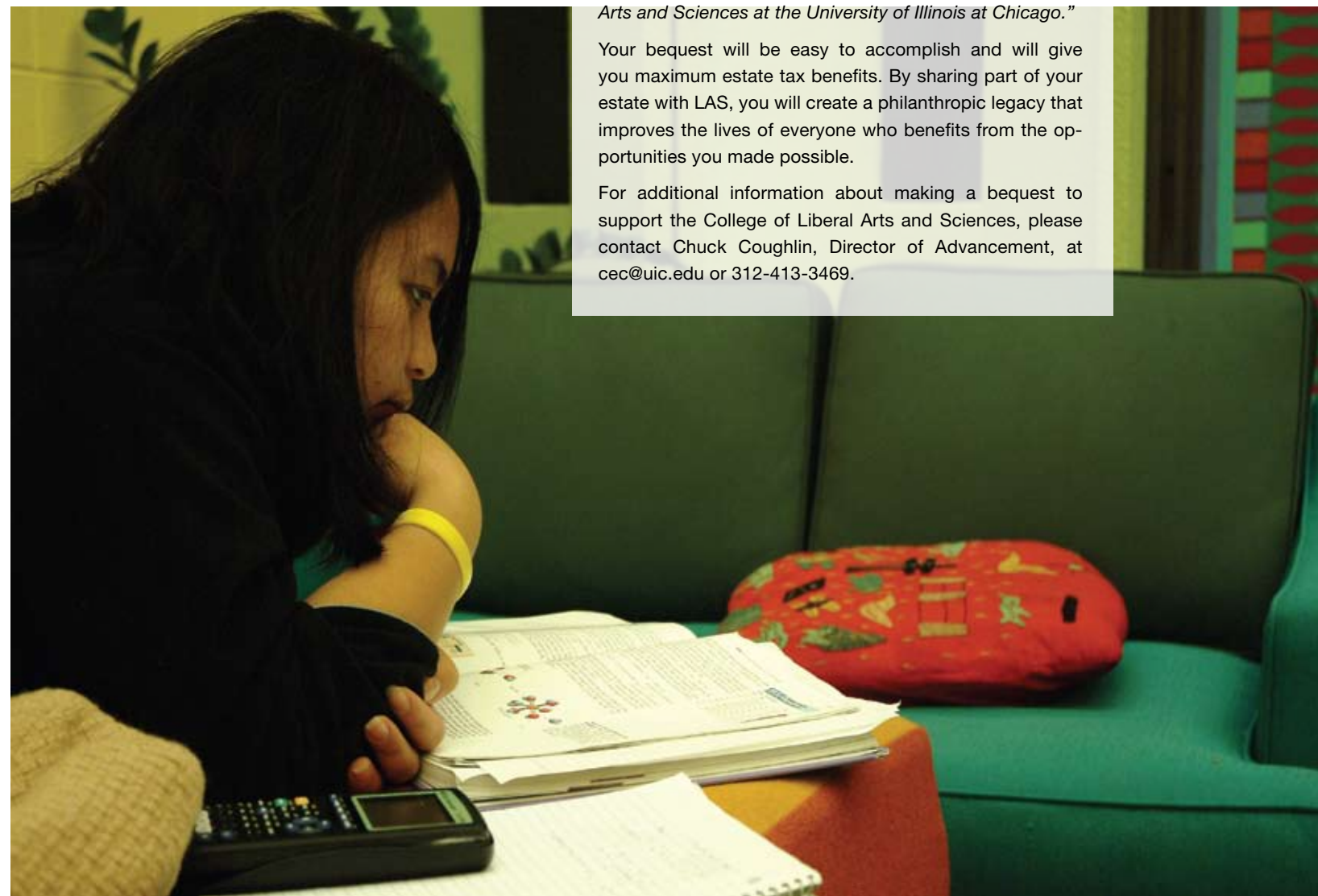
So knowledge can be gained, problems can be solved, people can be helped...

Every great achievement in our world begins with an opportunity. You can leave a legacy to LAS through an endowment fund that gives opportunities to many deserving students and faculty. All it takes is a paragraph added to your estate plans:

"I leave (e.g., % of my estate, \$ amount, or residue) to the University of Illinois Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation located in Urbana, Illinois, to create a permanent endowment fund in my name to support the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago."

Your bequest will be easy to accomplish and will give you maximum estate tax benefits. By sharing part of your estate with LAS, you will create a philanthropic legacy that improves the lives of everyone who benefits from the opportunities you made possible.

For additional information about making a bequest to support the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, please contact Chuck Coughlin, Director of Advancement, at cec@uic.edu or 312-413-3469.





Q & A:

POLAR RESEARCHER PETER DORAN

By Virginia Tunnicliff

As a scientist who's spent months at a time in the Antarctic, associate professor of earth and environmental sciences Peter Doran is the kind of guy who studies things like paleolimnology and sedimentology of perennially ice-covered Antarctic lakes; problems in Quaternary dating in the Antarctic dry valleys; and the significance of paleolake deposits to the search for evidence of past life on Mars. His work is published in places like the *International Journal of Astrobiology*, *Geophysical Research Letters*, and the *Annals of Glaciology*. **So how does someone who uses words most of us don't understand and writes for journals we haven't heard of find himself caught up in a controversy in the popular press surrounding global warming?**

I want to get to the global warming controversy but first, what exactly are you researching right now?

Among other things, since 1992 I've been involved in a long-term research project with eight other primary investigators and many other collaborators -- including graduate and undergraduate students from UIC -- studying the ecosystem of the McMurdo Dry Valleys of Antarctica. The PIs [primary investigators] in the group come from different backgrounds and study the climate, soil, glaciers, streams, and lakes. I study the local climate and its effect on the permanently ice covered lakes and ephemeral streams. I also study the lake history and how to get information from the sediments on the bottom about past climate.

So, are you studying global warming?

No. Scientists don't study global warming; they study climate and climate trends. My group has studied the climate of the McMurdo Dry Valleys and we found that between 1986 and 2000 there was a net cooling of the region. We wanted to compare these findings to the rest of the continent and discovered that there was a general cooling trend for Antarctica between 1966 and 2000, outside of the peninsula.

How did this research pull you into the whole global warming controversy?

In January of 2002, we published these results in the journal *Nature*. I was the lead author. The paper included a few sentences about the general cooling trend we'd found for the continent. The story was picked up by the mainstream media, linked with another paper that came out about the same time in *Science* about thickening in Antarctica's ice sheet, and used as evidence that global warming was a myth. Conservative commentators like Rush Limbaugh picked up on this idea. An editorial with the headline "Scientific Findings Run Counter to Theory of Global Warming," ran in the *San Diego Union-Tribune* and another in the *Rocky Mountain News* read "Is Another Ice-age on the Way?"

So this was not a fair interpretation?

Not at all. Our findings dealt with part of Antarctica. We were not looking at global trends. In fact, right at the start of the article we say that the average air temperature of the Earth increased by .06 degrees Celsius per decade in the 20th century.

Did you have any idea that the article would cause controversy?

We expected some controversy because the poles were always predicted to warm more than anywhere else. Parts of Antarctica, especially the peninsula, are warming dramati-

cally, which may have lead to a misconception about the continent as a whole. Previous studies which had looked at the whole continent saw a bit of a warming, but our results showed that this was biased by the warming in the peninsula region and the large number of observations made there compared to elsewhere on the continent. Modeling has now attributed the warming to the human-caused ozone hole that is over the continent. As the ozone hole heals itself this is likely to reverse and the continent will warm, just as the Arctic is warming.

How have you handled the misconceptions about your work?

Ian Joughin, the lead author of the *Science* article and I wrote a response to a particularly irresponsible editorial in the *Providence Journal*. I thought that over time the misuse of our findings would fade, but our results continue to be improperly used by those who doubt global warming. This includes Senate Republican policy documents as well as Michael Crichton's novel *State of Fear* and Ann Coulter's latest book *Godless: The Church of Liberalism*. Finally, last summer, in an effort to set the record straight, I wrote an op-ed piece for the *New York Times* asking that my name be removed from the list of global warming skeptics.

What has been the response? Any retractions from Michael Crichton or Ann Coulter?

There have been no retractions, but the public seemed to appreciate the article. I got emails from people thanking me for taking the time to clear this up.

Have you learned any lessons from the experience?

The whole experience opened my eyes to the process of how science is relayed to the public. The *New York Times*, National Public Radio, and the *Christian Science Monitor* did a good job, but many others reported inaccurately. People didn't bother to go back to the original source to make sure the facts are right. Scientific articles are peer reviewed and each word is carefully scrutinized. I'm not sure people understand the risk of loss of accuracy by the time the paper reaches their breakfast table. The scientific community is in almost complete agreement that there is global warming and it is caused by human activity. I think it's amazing that those who doubt global warming distrust 99% of the scientific community, but they trusted me because I wrote a paper they believed supported their argument. Now the only people arguing against the theory of global warming are those who don't want to make changes for economic reasons. It's not based on scientific fact.



photo: Michelle Maddox

LAS UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, September 19, 2007

Grant Hall Grand Re-Opening

Dedication of Sandi Port Errant Language & Cultural Center

703 South Morgan Street

5 pm – 7 pm

Event includes rededication ceremony, reception and tours of the building. For more information, contact Jennifer Herlein at jherlein@uic.edu

Friday, October 12, 2007

UIC 2007 Alumni Awards Gala

*University of Illinois at Chicago
Illinois Room, Student Center East
750 S. Halsted, Chicago, IL
5:30 pm*

For more information, please contact Michelle Beastall at 312-413-2382 or visit www.uiaa.org/chicago

Friday, October 19, 2007

Student Alumni League (SAL) Fall Ball

Spirit of Chicago Cruise Line

7 pm – 11 pm

Three-hour cruise and dinner buffet

For more information, please call 312-413-0419 or visit www.uiaa.org/chicago/sal.

Co-sponsored by the LASAA

LAS Recognition Dinner

It is a night of celebration. A night of achievement. A night of donors and scholarship recipients alike.

And a night that lives forever in the memories of donors and scholarship recipients alike.

The LAS Recognition Dinner is the college's premier event, presenting some of the recipients of LAS scholarships with the opportunity to be honored and the opportunity to personally meet the donors who have generously supported them.

Sharda Thakral, an LAS Scholarship recipient from last year said "I really enjoyed the LAS Recognition Dinner. The atmosphere was very uplifting and filled me with great pride."

The evening includes cocktails, dinner and the LAS scholarship awards ceremony.

The LAS Recognition Dinner will take place in November in the Illinois Room, Student Center East, 750 S. Halsted, Chicago, IL.

For more information regarding this event, call the LAS Office of Advancement at 312-413-1898.



photo: Michelle Maddox

Faculty & Department News

Reports from around the College

James Pellegrino, University of Illinois at Chicago distinguished professor of psychology and education, has been elected to the National Academy of Education. The academy consists of a maximum of 200 U.S. members and up to 25 foreign associates who are elected on the basis of outstanding scholarship or contributions to education.

Eric Arnesen, professor of history and African American studies, was elected to a two-year term as president of the Historical Society, a national professional historian association based at Boston University.

Barry Chiswick, distinguished professor of economics and Jewish studies and head of economics, has been selected to receive the 2007 Marshall Sklare Award for significant contributions to the social scientific study of Jewry. Chiswick will deliver the annual Marshall Sklare Memorial Lecture at the Association for Jewish Studies conference in Toronto in December. Fifteen scholars have won the award since 1992. Chiswick is the first economist to receive the award.

Robert Remini, professor emeritus of history and UIC historian, has won the 2007 George Pendleton Prize for his book, *The House: The History of the U.S. House of Representatives*. Official historian for the U.S. House of Representatives since 2005, Remini received the award as recognition for "an outstanding major publication on the federal government's history, produced by or for a federal history program."

The Hummingbird's Daughter, the critically acclaimed novel by prize-winning author and English professor **Luis Urrea**, was chosen for the 2006 One City, One Book: San Francisco Reads initiative.

Anthony Laden, associate professor of philosophy, received an Alexander von

Humboldt Foundation Research Fellowship for the 2007-08 academic year. With Berlin serving as his base, Laden's work will concentrate on a current book project that examines practical reasoning — reasoning about actions — from a group perspective.

Three professors from the English department have been awarded Fulbright Scholar grants. Associate professor **Nicholas Brown** spent spring semester of 2007 researching contemporary Brazilian literary and cultural criticism. He also taught a graduate course on contemporary Brazilian and US cultural theory at the University of São Paulo. Professor **Joseph Tabbi** will be spending fall semester at the University of Munich expanding his research on literary, artistic, and cultural networks formed in and by new media. And associate professor **Ralph Cintron** will continue his field work in humanitarian interventionism and international state-building in Kosovo next year.

The departments of African American studies and criminal justice are both under new leadership from senior scholars recently hired by UIC. **Paul Zeleza**, a top economic and social historian of Africa and former professor of African studies and history at Pennsylvania State University, was named head of African American studies. **Edna Erez**, former chair of justice studies at Kent State University, was named head of Criminal Justice. Erez studies the experiences of victims in the criminal justice system, particularly victims of domestic violence or terrorism.

The department of communication will be offering a new doctoral program next fall exploring the social consequences of new technology, such as cell phones, iPods and the internet. **Andrew Rojecki**, associate professor and director of graduate studies, will oversee the new program.



ROBERT REMINI



LUIS URREA



NICHOLAS BROWN



PAUL ZELEZA



EDNA EREZ

Thanks to the UIC News Bureau and Brian Flood for many of the details in this story. Faculty photos by: Julie Jaidinger, Roberta Dupuis-Devlin, Al DiFranco

MEDIA NEWSBITES

Notable quotes by LAS faculty on current and headline-making issues



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Those companies that have very low levels of racial and ethnic minorities have the lowest profits and the lowest market share and the lowest numbers of customers. Those that have medium levels do better, and those that have the highest levels do the best.

Cedric Herring, professor of sociology, on the results of a study of diversity levels and business performance in over 250 companies, quoted in Shankar Vedantam, “In Boardroom and in Courtrooms, Diversity Makes a Difference,” *The Washington Post*, Jan. 15, 2007.

His biggest problem seems to be maintaining his focus... That’s the first thing I would address with him.

Gloria Balague, clinical assistant professor of psychology, on Chicago Bears quarterback Rex Grossman, two weeks before the Super Bowl, quoted in Stacy St. Clair, “The Psychology of Rex” *The Daily Herald*, Jan. 14, 2007.



Search my name on the Web, and you will find pages of links to everything from climate discussion groups to Senate policy committee documents – all citing my 2002 study as reason to doubt that the earth is warming. One recent Web column even put words in my mouth. I have never said that “the unexpected colder climate in Antarctica may possibly be signaling a lessening of the current global warming cycle.” I have never thought such a thing either.

Peter Doran, associate professor of earth and environmental sciences, “Cold, Hard Facts,” op-ed essay, *The New York Times*, July 27, 2006.

If they pick hazelnuts with shells it means they’re looking more toward the future and not in need of food right now. [If they pick shelled hazelnuts,] it means they’re living paycheck to paycheck.

Joel Brown, professor of biological sciences, on interpreting the lifestyle of squirrels, quoted in “Study Aims to Unlock Secret Squirrels,” CNN.com, December 11, 2006.

The neoliberal model is the model in which the market is the essential agent of social as well as economic injustice.... Anti-racism makes markets function much more freely and efficiently. You don’t want people kept from running your corporation just because they’re black or because they’re women or because they’re gay or because they’re whatever they are. You want their ability to run your corporation to be the issue.

Walter Benn Michaels, professor of English, on the ways in which identity has overshadowed inequality in American politics, quoted in Jennifer Howard, “Ideology Instead of Identity – and a Lot More Extremism,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, September 22, 2006.



I use those kinds of pipettes all the time for teaching science. We don’t usually have cole-slaw in them.

Lee Marek, visiting lecturer in chemistry, on the technologies used in a meal at Moto, the Chicago restaurant of Homaro Cantu, executive chef, culinary innovator, and kitchen science wiz, quoted in Judy Hevrdejs, “Advance Gastronomy,” *The Chicago Tribune*, Oct. 26, 2005.

...[W]hether the city will allow further incursions by Godzilla and whether this particular store is the success it seems to be – one thing is forever certain: Chicago does things its own way. Wal-Mart is already finding this out in a vivid fashion. People in the ‘hood don’t have R.V.’s. But several who have cars have taken to parking them in the lot and living there, watching and waiting. It’s a safe haven, there’s good chicken, and it offers a small shot at catching a part of the American Dream.

Luis Urrea, professor of English and author most recently of *The Hummingbird’s Daughter* (Little, Brown and Company 2005), op-ed essay, *The New York Times*, October 29, 2006.

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Giving to LAS

Everyone has the opportunity to enhance the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences by making a gift to the Fund for LAS. When you make a gift to the fund, it is utilized by the dean to have an immediate impact on students and faculty of the college. Your generosity is put to good use toward scholarships, enhancing student related programs like the first-year experience program, and supporting faculty led programs by supplying honorariums for top speakers at LAS symposiums. The Fund for LAS connects with alumni and friends via email, U.S. mail, and telemarketing. You can help us continue to provide opportunities for excellence to our students.

To make your gift, go on line to: <http://www.uic.edu/las/oeefund/gift/> or call us at 312-413-1898. Every gift has an impact!

For more information about the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at UIC, visit our website at <http://www.uic.edu/las/college>.

If you would prefer to receive the next edition of Atlas electronically via e-mail, please contact us at lasnewsletter@uic.edu and give us your e-mail address.



The Liberal Arts and Sciences Alumni Association is looking for alumni & friends like you!



LASAA Board with Dean Christy at the 2006 LAS Scholarship Dinner

We are a diverse group of alumni volunteers donating our time to enhance the UIC experience in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.



LAS and LASAA are always looking for more LASAA members. www.lasaa.org

There's a place for you in the LASAA!

To get more information and to get connected: lasaa@uic.edu or call 312 413 3281 <http://connect.las.uic.edu>



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