

Agricultural and Biological Engineering

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



Agricultural Safety, Bioenvironmental Engineering, Food and Bioprocess Engineering, Grain Quality and Properties, Off-Road Equipment Engineering, Precision Agriculture, Soil and Water Resource Engineering, and Technical Systems Management

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Dr. K.C. Ting --Department Head and Professor

Fall 2007

Illini Head to the Rose Bowl -- First Time Since '84

FightingIllini.com

The University of Illinois has been selected to the Rose Bowl Game presented by Citi, the Tournament of Roses announced, and will face the University of Southern California on Jan. 1 at 3:30 p.m. (CT) on ABC national television. It is Illinois' fifth Rose Bowl appearance of all time and first since facing UCLA in the 1984 Rose Bowl.

The Fighting Illini have been one of the best feel-good stories of the season, engineering the biggest turnaround in the country. Illinois' nine wins this season are seven more than the two games it won in 2006, marking the biggest recovery in school history and just the eighth time an Illini team has won nine games in a season.

Rose Bowl Game Watch

Join fellow ABE/Illini fans to enjoy the Rose Bowl Tuesday, January 1 from 1:30 to 7 p.m. at Jillian's, 1201 South Neil, Champaign. Kick-off is at 4:10 p.m. Hot and cold appetizers will be provided along with soda and water. Cash bar will be available for your other drink purchases. Door prizes and a good time to be had!

Please RSVP by 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 26th to ag-bioeng@uiuc.edu.

Department Strategic Goals

Dr. K.C. Ting, Department Head

The departmental strategic planning process conducted since December 2004 has identified the following strategic goals for the five-year period of 2006-2011:

- Goal 1:** Enhance Student Recruitment and Retention
- Goal 2:** Integrate and Enhance Curricula
- Goal 3:** Increase Resources
- Goal 4:** Design Organization to Advance Strategic Thrusts
- Goal 5:** Strengthen Faculty Capacity

Prestigious Award Winners

Dr. Alan Hansen was presented with a North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) **Teacher Fellow Award** at the 53rd annual NACTA conference held June 22 in Champaign-Urbana. Phil Burriak and Dr. Prasanta Kalita have also won this award.

David W. Smith, PhD '74, an ASABE Fellow, was named the **McCormick-Case Gold Medal Winner** at the ASABE meeting on June 20 in Minneapolis, MN. This award is given for exceptional and meritorious engineering achievement in agriculture.

Dr. Vijay Singh was selected as the American Association of Cereal Chemists International (AACCI) **Young Scientist for 2007**. He is the first person to ever receive this award. T

Zhongli Pan has been named the **2007 Scientist of the Year Award** for the Pacific West Area "for innovative, high impact engineering solutions to value-added processing of agricultural commodities." He will be recognized at the Agricultural Research Service Annual Recognition Program which will be held on February 12, 2008 in Washington, DC.

Homecoming Events Successful

The Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering once again hosted the Illini Alumni/Friends Butterfly Pork Chop breakfast the morning of Homecoming, Saturday, October 27th in the AESB courtyard. After enjoying breakfast and socializing, the group watched Illini win against Ball State. If you missed it this year, consider attending next Homecoming.

Also at Homecoming, the Illini Pullers 1/4 Scale Tracto Design Team held their first sponsor field day. Alumni, sponsors and parents had the opportunity to pull previous years' tractors. The team then thanked attendees for their support with a barbeque dinner.



ABE alumni and faculty enjoyed the refreshments at the Ag Engineering Sciences Building before the game.

New 'Always Illinois' Web site

In August, "Always Illinois" virtual community for University of Illinois alumni, students, faculty and staff was launched. You can log in and register at <https://www.alwaysillinois.org> to keep in touch with friends and alumni from around the world. Events are also announced and jobs are posted for Illinois alumni.

Illini Team Takes First

Congratulations to the University of Illinois Solar Decathlon Team for winning the Market Viability Contest at the Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon competition held at the National Mall in Washington, D.C. this October. The Market Viability Contest demonstrates that the highly efficient houses showcased can compete in the global marketplace and can be built efficiently at a cost-competitive price.

Show Your Spirit With a Department Shirt

The Department of Agricultural & Biological Engineering (ABE) is selling orange and blue T-shirts. The price is \$10 per shirt. They are available in the Main Office-Room 338 AESB. Sizes available include medium, large, XL and 2XL. Checks should be made payable to the Department of Agricultural & Biological Engineering.

Odds and Ends

To the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, Thank you so much for the retirement party and gifts on June 9, 2007. The camera was a wonderful surprise. I have used it this summer to track my mare, Indy's training progress. She will appreciate the blanket this winter, and I want to thank you for the blanket too. I've enjoyed working with everyone in the department and will miss seeing all of you on a daily basis. Thanks again!

--Mary Beth Munhall

Ramon Marcelo Sandez, from the Rural College of Agriculture and Mechanics of Santiago del Estero, extends his deep appreciation for all of the books our department donated for the library he is compiling. Santiago del Estero is a city in Northern Argentina.

Illini Pullers would like to have every sponsor's and alumni's e-mail address to keep everyone updated on the new tractor's progress and other team news. Please send your e-mail address to Keith Webster, VP of Business, at illini.pullers@gmail.com.

Please send comments and news items to Robin Fonner at ag-bioeng@uiuc.edu.