

THURSDAY

February 15
2007

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for clubs

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THE DAILY

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

UW technology to be widely available

IPMAC resolution to maximize worldwide use, societal benefit of UW research; advocates humanitarian need over profit



Larry Snyder
IPMAC chair

ANTHONY SHELLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The UW Intellectual Property Management Advisory Committee (IPMAC) recently passed a resolution that will make UW technologies and medicines widely available to developing nations around the world.

The IPMAC resolution states that the UW affirms, "its primary goal in technology

transfer to maximize worldwide use and societal benefit of its research and technology."

In other words, the revised licensing policy will focus more on the underprivileged and advocating humanitarian need than profit.

The decision avoids tying "the hands of the people who work at the [UW] TechTransfer office," said Larry Snyder, a professor of computer science and chair of

IPMAC.

It is a definite step toward a more socially responsible position, he said.

"Slowly but surely the international health community has been working in all different directions," Snyder said. "People have gotten around to finally realizing that there are so many things that affect healthcare in the Third World, and one of them is licensing practices of first world universities."

James Severson, vice provost for UW TechTransfer, agreed with IPMAC's resolution.

"[There is] a heightened sensitivity across the country," he said. "This makes a statement about where our intent should be."

UW TechTransfer is responsible for investing in intellectual property protection. It also issues both non-exclusive and
SEE IPMAC ON PAGE 8

Students address minority needs in Olympia

KIRK STRANDJORD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Fourteen UW students traveled to Olympia Monday to join more than 2,000 students, parents and teachers at Black Legislative Day, one of a series of events designed to promote the needs of minorities.

The annual event has been running for more than five years and has had better turnouts recently than in past years.

Rosalund Jenkins, executive director of the Washington State Commission on African American Affairs, was responsible for organizing the day.

Nearly every day starting two weeks prior to Black Legislative Day, similar activities were put on for varying ethnic groups across the state of Washington.

The ASUW Black Student Commission (BSC) organized the trip to the state capitol, where UW students contributed to workshops, chanted at rallies and listened to speakers, such as Sen. Ken Jacobsen, D-Seattle, talk about matters of legislation affecting minorities.

The day began with workshops designed to spark conversation about social, economic and other disadvantages facing African Americans today.

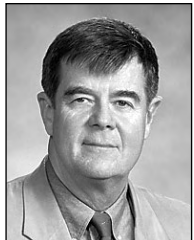
Students also discussed reasons and solutions for these problems by looking at aspects of education, welfare policy and HIV detection and prevention.

"The workshops were successful and empowering," said Jayme Ballard, director of the BSC. "The atmosphere was very positive and energetic. The opportunity to see each other and work together felt great."

BSC Senior Advisor Phil Hunt also attended the event and participated in a workshop focusing on the issue of educational disadvantages that African Americans experience.

He was surprised by how far behind African Americans are in particular academic areas.

SEE LEGISLATURE ON PAGE 8



Ken Jacobsen
Sen., D-Seattle

Recyclemania: putting UW students to the test



ETHAN WELTY | THE DAILY From left, Franklin Becker and Phong Pham separate white paper from mixed paper at the UW Recycling Center near University Village. The facility processes all campus paper and newsprint, which are compacted into bales and sold to Weyerhaeuser for distribution to paper mills around the world.

SHAYLA MILES
THE DAILY

The UW will be putting its recycling abilities to the test during the next couple months as part of a nationwide contest called Recyclemania. This is the UW's first time competing in the contest.

Schools compete during a 10-week period to see which institution, of the 200 competing, can collect the largest amount of recyclables per capita, the largest amount of total recyclables, have the least amount of trash per capita or have the highest recycling rate.

According to its Web site, Recyclemania

is a friendly competition aimed at promoting recycling on college campuses across the United States.

The contest began Jan. 28 and runs through April 7.

Other Washington schools participating in the competition are Washington State

SEE RECYCLEMANIA ON PAGE 7

Critical nitrogen process discovered in new location

SARAH GREENLEAF
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Nitrogen fixing, a process essential for life and commonly thought to take place mostly in the Atlantic Ocean, is also happening in the Pacific and Indian oceans, according to a recent article by a UW School of Oceanography researcher.

Nitrogen gas is unusable by life and must undergo fixation before it is able to form compounds. The important process supplies the ocean with nutrients.

"Nitrogen fixation converts N₂, the most abundant gas in our atmosphere, to ammonium, which is used to make proteins and nucleic acids," said Paul Falkowski, an Institute of Marine & Coastal Sciences professor at Rutgers University and report contributor. "Nitrogen fixation is absolutely essential for all life. Without it, there would no life on Earth as we know it."

Denitrification is the opposite of nitrogen fixing.

This happens when fixed nitrogen is turned back into a gas. It was once thought that

these two processes happened on opposite sides of the world, but the research shows they are happening close to each other.

If these two processes happened on opposite sides of the world, as formerly thought, the nitrogen levels in the ocean would be difficult to balance if any changes occurred in either fixation or denitrification.

"As the Earth comes out of ice ages ... one of the consequences is that the rate of denitrification goes up dramatically," said Curtis Deutsch, a UW School of Oceanography

SEE NITROGEN ON PAGE 7

TODAY »



Blackpast.org
videocast

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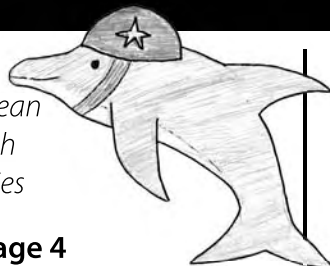
photo of the week



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UW needs to clean
up its research
animal facilities

OPINION » page 4



class days left

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CAMPUS WATCH

What's happening at schools around the nation

BY BLYTHE LAWRENCE
news@thedaily.washington.edu



Dr. Faust to preside over Harvard

Big news among the little schools in the East: After almost a year of searching and at least 1,000 speculative articles in its student newspaper *The Crimson*, Harvard University has chosen a new president.

Drew Gilpin Faust, dean of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, will replace Lawrence H. Summers, who made the taste-my-foot comment about women not being as capable as men in the fields of science and math back in 2005.

It should be noted that Faust is a woman, possesses a Ph.D. in American civilization from the University of Pennsylvania and will be the first female to lead the prestigious Ivy League institution in what any Harvard alum will tell you has been a glorious 371-year history. Eat that, Larry.

In other news, *The Crimson* reported that "a nap a day may just keep the doctor away." Midday siestas, popular in countries like Spain and Greece, may actually prevent heart disease.

Hmmm. Wonder if Dr. Faust will be implementing those in the curriculum vitae of Harvardites.

MIT professor still on hunger strike

It's been 10 days now, but MIT professor James Sherley, who began a hunger strike last week protesting MIT's refusal to grant him tenure, is hungry only for justice.

Sherley alleges that he was deliberately denied a tenured position in MIT's biological engineering department because of racial prejudice. A statement issued Feb. 5 by 20 members of the school's bioengineering department

insisted that race had nothing to do with his rejection, but Sherley, who is black, persists that he was refused because of the color of his skin.

Sherley told *The Boston Herald* that he isn't starving himself because he wants tenure as much as he wants MIT to acknowledge its racial biases. There are no tenured minority faculty in biological sciences, he said.

Furthermore, he is willing to starve to death if MIT doesn't back down.

"My family will be better off if something is done about this than just having dad around," he is quoted as saying in the *Brown Daily Herald*.

Sherley, whose research involves stem cells, is 5'8" and 254 pounds. He has stated he'll ingest nothing but water and electrolytes until MIT grants him tenure.

Love in Iowa

In celebration of the 2007 Valentine's Day that was, several students from the University of Iowa shared their rather refreshing descriptions of love for the *Daily Iowan* yesterday. In honor of the Valentine's Day that was, a couple of those quotes are worth reprinting here.

Love is "like a fresh kick in the crotch," one student proclaimed. "You can almost vomit from pure arousal."

Somehow I think that vomiting and arousal mix about as well as oil and water, but hey, different strokes for different folks, especially if you're in Iowa.

"The chaos is fantastic," another well-informed student said. "The steady adrenaline keeps the reflexes sharp and the veins clear of cholesterol."

I wonder if there's any scientific evidence to back that up. Between sex and an afternoon siesta, we may be well on our way to combating two of the world's larger health problems.

IPMAC » 'Non-exclusive licensing will increase access'

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

exclusive licensing for patented technologies and software-based innovations.

Non-exclusive licenses give UW TechTransfer more flexibility, because it allows multiple companies to use UW technologies, including industry partners in Third World countries.

"The IPMAC resolution says that the University recognizes that non-exclusive licensing will increase access more than exclusive licensing," said Whitney Harrington, UW School of Medicine graduate student and coordinator for Universities Allied for Essential Medicines' (UAEM) UW chapter.

IPMAC's decision on licensing and distribution redefines the original goal of the 1980 Bayh-Dole Act, which required universities to promote intellectual properties through commercialization.

The UW chapter of UAEM,

an organization which works to improve global access to public health goods developed at universities, met with IPMAC to implement a new policy change.

"We were encouraged by this group to revise licensing policies," Snyder said.

UAEM is the national organization responsible for Yale University and drug company Bristol Myers-Squibb changing their license agreement on d4T, also known as stavudine: an antiretroviral drug which was used to combat the spread of AIDS in the United States.

UAEM's efforts paved the way for cheap d4T production in South Africa.

Harrington presented UAEM's proposal to IPMAC in the fall of 2005. She worked with Snyder and Severson to implement seminars and forums on campus in support of the resolution.

IPMAC's resolution will have a restricted scope on UW intellectual property distribution.

The resolution recommends a review in cases where UW TechTransfer is forced to weigh between societal benefit and commercial interest, which Snyder said is a "very limited thing."

The UW TechTransfer Web site lists nearly 200 companies started by UW students and faculty and about 250 new inventions are disclosed each year.

Some of the inventions developed at the UW include WebCrawler, an early search engine, and Hepatitis B vaccines.

The College of Engineering Web site reports the UW is ranked second nationally among public universities in federal research funding.

Reach reporter Anthony Shelley at news@thedaily.washington.edu.

LEGISLATURE » Bill would contribute to scholarships

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

"African American students are falling behind in areas of math and science, which are both important for a good education," he said.

Some facts presented in the workshops ignited debate, while others were intended for discussing possible solutions to these problems.

The rally that followed was full of spirit, said Ballard, giving students a chance to feel as if they were a part of something bigger.

Ballard's enthusiasm continued as she and others spoke directly to Jacobsen about matters of legislature.

The conversation between

Ballard and Jacobsen focused mostly on a grant bill for historically black colleges, which would be used by these colleges for scholarship programs.

This would give those who wish to attend historically black colleges, but lack the financial means, the opportunity to enroll.

"He was very energetic and interested in the proposed bill," Ballard said.

Though this year was the UW's highest turnout for the day, Ballard was dissatisfied with the interest of UW students in the event and is already making plans to make next year more successful.

"We'll get more students to attend by getting the word out earlier," she said.

Reach contributing writer Kirk Strandjord at development@thedaily.washington.edu.

Excerpt from Senate Bill 5365:

"(a) The racial and ethnic diversity of the population of Washington is increasing
(b) Employers' demand for well-educated and well-trained graduates of all ethnic backgrounds is increasing
(c) Special efforts should be made to increase the participation of people of color in higher education programs
(d) Some of Washington's students of color would benefit from an opportunity to study in specialized programs or institutions of higher education located in other states ..."

Women Volunteers Needed University of Washington Division of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

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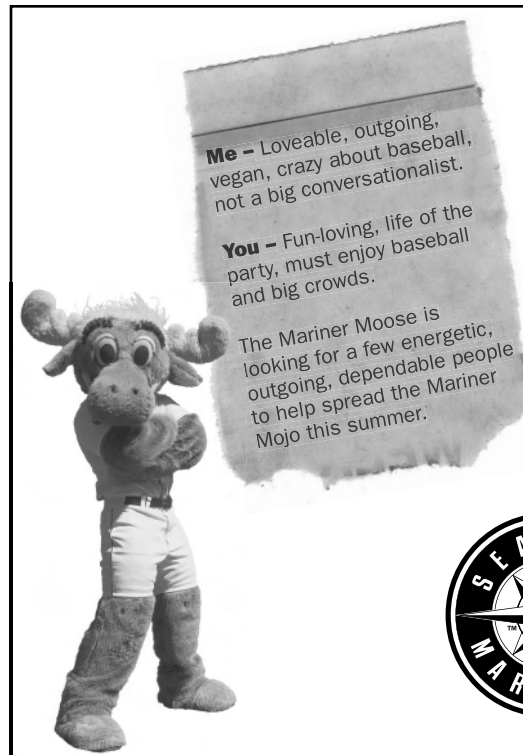
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