

The Ampersand

UIC Honors College

April 2004

Important Upcoming Dates

April 30:	HCAB 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament
May 3-7:	Finals
May 5:	Honors College Convocation
May 7:	Last Day to turn in Completion forms!
June 1:	Summer Session begins

Focus on a Fellow:

Richard L. Nelson, Jr., M.D.

by Judy Liu

“Enjoy life,” say the greatest minds, in one form or another. An enjoyable life seems to belong only to those who travel frequently and do not conform to a “normal” job. The life of a typical doctor today is generally thought to be only his/her work, after years of a life of only school. But my fellow says that shouldn’t be so.

Dr. Richard Nelson is the Chief of Gastrointestinal Surgery at the University of Illinois Hospital. As a surgeon, he enjoys taking care of people and specifically treats “patients with sore bottoms.” In addition to surgery, Dr. Nelson also researches as an active member of the Cochrane Collaboration, an international non-profit organization, which he introduced to his students last semester in an Honors College class.

Focus on a Fellow cont.. on page 3

So we’ve graduated...now what?

by Ada Moadsiri

Spring is in the air and senioritis* has taken hold of many Honors College students. With graduation comes a wonderful feeling of accomplishment and the desire to stop studying and run freely throughout our beautiful city. As our undergraduate careers come to an end, many of us have a wide range of plans for the future.

Many students choose to continue their schooling in a variety of fields. A few of our classmates will be going on to professional school including Hemant Mehta who will be entering the UIC College of Medicine this fall and Asad Jaleel who will be attending UIUC’s College of Medicine. Therese Moussa and Bethlynn Saberbein will be classmates at the UIC College of Dentistry.

Some Honors College graduates will be continuing their educational career in graduate school. Anna Sachdeva will be studying professional writing in graduate school. Sophia Kowalczyk has aspirations to become a Certified Public

So we’ve graduated...cont. on page 2



“Above the City Lights” A Sparkling Success!

by Kunjali Padhya

On March 13, 2004, over 300 UIC students, faculty and staff enjoyed an elegant evening on the 80th floor of Chicago’s landmark Aon Center. The 11th Annual Honors College Ball dinner dance event was once again a great success, thanks in no small part to all of those who attended. The entire evening was student-planned and student-run, with the Honors College Advisory Board overseeing every detail.

Above the City Lights cont. on page 2

The event was held at the historic Mid-America Club, an exclusive and unique location with 360 degree views of Lake Michigan and the Chicago skyline. The evening began in the Club's Grill Room, where guests enjoyed cocktails and bid on items at the silent auction. The Grill Room provided views of the Chicago river, dyed green that day for the city's St. Patrick's Day celebrations! A string quartet provided wonderful accompaniment to the conversation of the mingling guests. The festivities then moved to the aptly named Burnham Ballroom, where the string quartet continued to entertain with such favorites as the tango from the film "Scent of a Woman". The three-course gourmet meal included salad, Chicken Florentine wrapped in a puff pastry, and a unique three part dessert sampler: a fruit tart, chocolate



Jennifer Kosco, Daniela Witkowski, & Ball Chair Kunjali Padhya are all smiles at the successful event

Be on the lookout!
The Honors College Advisory Board (HCAB) is in the process of setting up a brand new scholarship, available to Honors College students! Applications will be available early Fall semester for the scholarship to be awarded during that semester!

mousse tower, and cheesecake "beehive." DJs H&H Entertainment then provided an eclectic mix of classic rock, 80s and recent favorites for dancing. Both students and faculty reported having an excellent time, and commented on the unique location and excellent view. The silent auction was also a great success, raising more than \$3,000 for an upcoming HCAB scholarship and student organization Project Esteem. Pictures from the event can be viewed by following the link from the Honors College webpage at www.hc.uic.edu. For more information on Project Esteem, please visit www.projectesteem.org. Thanks to all those who attended and helped plan the ball for making it a rousing success!

Things I've Learned in Three Years

by Cynthia Kay

From my arrival at UIC as a clueless freshman, to my imminent departure next week, I feel that I have learned a lot in my three years here. I've learned things about myself, UIC, people, and life. Some are amusing, others humbling, but all priceless. Here are some of the things I have learned during my time here at UIC:

- Chicago has an extensive Public Transportation System, might as well use it. (The #8, 37, and 60 are useful)
- Cars only yield to pedestrians when the people are bigger than the car.
- BSB has a computer lab in its basement! I know—it has a basement?!
- Do your laundry when you still have clothes to wear should anything happen to the washer or dryer.

Things I've Learned, cont. on page 4

Accountant and will be attending graduate school at Notre Dame University through Ernst and Young's YMP program.

After years of studying, Cherrie Ortiz has chosen to travel to the Philippines this summer with her son before continuing with school or work. Gaining work experience is a very important aspect to fully understanding any particular field in which a student may choose to enter. Erin E Wiggins will be continuing her work as a Physical Therapist Aide before moving on to the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at UIC. December 2003 graduate Nina Patel is working as a microbiologist for Silliker Laboratories before continuing onto graduate school.

A few members of the Honors College Advisory Board are graduating this year, many of whom are not planning to stray too far away from UIC. Biology/Psychology major Marika Wrzosek will be part of the UIC medical school's class of 2008 after a summer trip to Poland. HCAB Vice President and Ball chair Kunjali Padhya, will also be a class of 2008 medical student. Secretary Ada Moadsiri will be a few steps away at the UIC School of Public Health.

Whatever path any of us may choose, our experiences through the Honors College have helped shape our futures. Congratulations to all of our graduates and good luck in all that you do!

*Senioritis (n): inflammation of the desire to be lazy due to upcoming graduation



The Experience of a Lifetime: ASB 2003-2004

By Jennifer Liu

(5 different trips + 5 different cities + 45 participants) + (Cirque du ASB + Bake Sale) + (8 board members + advisor Jennifer Kosco) = A GREAT VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE.

Alternative Spring Break (ASB) is a student run organization that seeks to educate student volunteers about specific social issues by immersing them in diverse cultures and environments across the country to engage in service-oriented learning. ASB not only seeks to involve, educate and heighten students' social awareness, but to encourage lifelong social action. This year we were able to send out five different service trips all over the country from Louisiana, to Iowa, to Pennsylvania. Participants and their site leaders dealt with issues that included AIDS/HIV, poverty, children, emotional and behavioral problems, and the environment.

But before the service trips could be sent out, money needed to be raised to subsidize some of the costs for sending out trips. Our annual live and silent auction with this year's Cirque du ASB theme was a really fun event with a real live clown (our advisor!), balloon animals, and freshly popped popcorn. People were able to bid on items that ranged from a Sony system to pieces of artwork to books written by UIC faculty. In addition to preparing for the financial aspect of the trips, we needed to make sure that the participants had at least some prior experience with volunteering. This included opportunities for ASB members to participate in various local projects that included community outreaches helping with a literacy fun fair at Christopher House and building a playground in Lawndale Gardens.

This year's accomplishments could not have been achieved without the help of a great board and a wonderful advisor. Whether it was researching the sites for each of the breaks, coming up for a design for the participant t-shirts, or putting together a calendar for the participants, the members of the executive board have risen to the occasion and made this year a successful year. In order to continue to provide an outlet for those who do not have the time to plan extensive volunteer trips but want to give their time to serve the world, we need dedicated board members! We still have some positions available, and if you are interested, please do not hesitate to contact us at uicarb@yahoo.com.

Focus on a Fellow, cont. from page 1

Richard L. Nelson, Jr. graduated from Stanford University with a B.A. in Classical Literature and Languages, specializing in Ancient Greek. He received his M.D. at the University of Chicago, where he met Elizabeth Kübler Ross, M.D., psychiatrist and author of the bestseller On Death and Dying, as his psychology professor and mentor. Later he trained in general surgery at the University of Illinois College of Medicine and also as a Colon and Rectal surgeon at Cook County Hospital, where he met another inspirational teacher, for whom he still works for today and who is the godfather of his fifth child.

Surgeon by day, Dr. Nelson is an alto horn player by night. He has been a member of several bands and symphonies, including one of his own for ten years until last year. With a tour of his office, Dr. Nelson showed me pictures of himself with jazz musicians Dizzy Gillespie, Clark Terry, James Moody, Red Holloway, Arturo Sandoval, and with Arnold Jacobs, author of Arnold Jacobs: Song and Wind. Before and after work, Dr. Nelson is a cyclist, riding his bicycle to and from work every day—from Evanston. An owner of five bikes, he is also fascinated by them, hoping to one day own a bicycle shop, since he loves working on them. After work, he is also a husband and father of five children, ages 29 to 15.

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Phi Kappa Phi Induction



On Monday, April 12, 2004, the UIC Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi held its annual induction ceremony. In addition to the new students initiated, the society welcomed new faculty inductees Michael Anderson (Associate Professor of Music, Chair of the Department of Performing Arts & Director of Choral and Vocal Studies), Rhonna Cohen (Associate Professor, Molecular Biology of Oral Diseases), Lon Kaufman (Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs & Dean of the Honors College), and Michael Perman (Professor, History).

At the ceremony, 2 students received grants to support scholarly projects. Honors College senior Biological Sciences major Ada Moadsiri received support for her project entitled: "The Effect of the Bone Marrow Microenvironment of Xenogenic Transplantation." Additionally, senior Sociology major Jemimah Noonoo received a grant for her project: "Somebody Better Say Amen: The Black Preaching Tradition and White Seminaries"

The keynote address was given by new faculty initiate History Professor Michael Perman. After his remarks, the grant winners, and the new faculty and student inductees and their guests enjoyed a reception and refreshments.

Phi Kappa Phi Induction, cont. on page 4

- There is always room for free food.
- There is no reason to pass up free food.
- 24 hour places are great.
- West Campus really isn't that far...when the weather's nice and you're on the shuttle.
- Catching the shuttle is always exciting.
- I should be happy if I only waited 20 minutes for the shuttle.
- Everything about communal bathrooms are true.
- Class before 11 is early.
- There are really nice people in the world—like the person who returned my cell phone! ☺ thanks!
- It's all the random moments and conversations that will never be forgotten.
- You don't know someone until you've lived with them.
- It's nice to go back home.
- My family does a lot for me.
- You only get what you give.
- Enjoy your time with friends, because you never know where you'll all end up in the future.
- Things get worse before they get better.
- You can't truly appreciate the good days when you haven't experienced the bad ones.
- There is always more to discover.
- College really is one of the best times of your life.
- This is only the beginning.

With that, I wish the graduating class of 2004 the best of luck. And I hope that you have learned things during your time at UIC that you have found to be equally important. ☺

The following Honors College students were inducted into Phi Kappa Phi: Milka Alyssa, Christopher-Jude Angderson, Eugene Aquino, Jr., Erica Aronson, Sebastian Bochenek, Rahman Chaudhry, Mary Cherullo, Nathaniel Chio, Ryan Dai, Megan Dragonuk, Peter Drahos, Faraaz Fakih, Damoon Forouzi, Erin Foster, Barbara Gacek, Kevin Gallardo, Renata Garcia, Nandita Gatla, Mellody Gomez, Andrew Gonzalez, Eva Henninger, Victoria Holmes, Stephanie Jensen, Jeanne Jesernik, Lucyna Jodlowska, Izabela Kaczorowska, Tamkeen Khan, Hwan Kim, Sandy Koo, Kevin Kylis, Jennifer Lee, Joanne Lerman, Mindy Li, Tina Mah, Marika Manolopoulou, Angelica Martinez, Catherine McCrystal, Allison Mecher, Shannon Medic, Heather Miller, Megan Minarich, Ayesha Mohammed, David Morris, Raghuvveer Muppavarapu, Iriere Ohiku, Olaoluwa Olaigbe, Cherrie Ortiz, Ashish Patel, Nina Patel, Dmitry Polyakov, Jean Quinn, Jarrod Ragusin, Jesse Rickelman, Bhavna Sachdeva, Avni Shah, Theodore Slowik, Ronen Stein, Mahmooda Syed, Julia Thompson, Rani Upadhyay, Victoria Wisniewski, Jennifer Yeh, and Saunder Yipp. Congratulations to all.

Undergraduate Research Symposium Winners

On Friday, April 16th, the sixth annual Undergraduate Research Symposium was held in the Illinois Room of CCC. The event was co-sponsored by the Honors College, LAS Dean Stanley Fish, Student Trustee Natalie Garcia, Midwest Conference Services, Sigma Xi, Undergraduate Student Government, and Kinko's.

The symposium featured the research efforts of 51 of UIC's most talented undergraduates. Students submitted abstracts of their proposed research topics, and were invited to set up poster presentations on the day of the symposium. A panel of judges from campus-wide disciplines evaluated each presentation and critiqued the various works from students.

The winners in each of the categories are listed below. Congratulations to all!

Humanities:

1st place: Lesley Skousen-Chio*
Elizabeth I of England and Capital Punishment
2nd place: Joseph Cherry
Queen Elizabeth I and the origins of the Plymouth Colony

3rd place: Tiosha Goss & Anna Baccellieri

The significance of the Women's Movement reflected today by feminist ideologies

Life & Health Sciences:

1st place: Sonia Krishnan*
Regulation of growth hormone-releasing hormone (GHRH)-mediated pituitary cell hyperplasia and tumor formation

2nd place: Sushma Surapaneni*
The effect of Posture on Cerebral Venous Drainage in Healthy Subjects

3rd place: Betty Yang
Polyglycolic Acid Coatings to improve cortical electrode impantability

Physical Sciences:

1st place: Matthew Conley
Lewis Acid and Bronsted Base Acceleration of the Pd-catalyzed [4+2] cross benzannulation reaction
2nd place: Janet Cruz*, Nick Gierut*, & Derek Schulze*

Design and Fabrication of a multichannel neurotrophic electrode.

3rd place - Tie: Brian Appavu*
Crystallization of *S. cerevisiae* phosphomannose isomerase
Michael Johnson
Seasonal variability of atmospheric deposition in the Chicagoland area: causes and consequences

*Honors College student

The Honors College: A Year in Review

by Kamala Saha

Dear Honors College Students:

During the 2003-2004 Academic Year, the Honors College has undergone a number of changes and improvements. On behalf of the Honors College Advisory Board, I'd like to review some of these changes which are helping to improve our experiences at UIC as members of the Honors College!

At the start of the year, we welcomed Dr. Lon Kaufman as our new Honors College Dean. Dean Kaufman has already begun to propose new ideas for ways our College to strengthen itself and to expand into the greater UIC community. Simultaneously, he continues to encourage Honors College students to take charge of their college careers and to make positive contributions to the University. The Honors College Advisory Board has been able to benefit from Dean Kaufman's willingness to support the ideas and activities that we feel are important for students to participate in. In future years, we are confident that our visions will continue to influence a new generation of students here in the Honors College.

In addition to having a strong Honors College Staff serving students this year, we have also been fortunate to welcome a number of new Honors College Fellows to our community. Each new Fellow brings experience, creativity, and talent to the College. Most importantly, our Fellows continue to demonstrate a genuine interest in advising and interacting with the individuals who most benefit from their positive influences: us!

Some of the most noted advances, however, have come from the students who have been members of the Honors College this year. That's right, it's time to brag a bit about all of the amazing achievements of students in our College! This year, recognition has been given to countless individuals and groups for their high level of dedication and achievement. For example, the UIC Mock Trial Team overcame significant odds in order to eventually earn a bid to the American Mock Trial Association's National Championship Tournament. The motivation and extreme level of dedication of the team continues to inspire fellow Honors College students to both endure and succeed. At the same time, a number of Honors College students have won nationally-recognized scholarships, allowing them to pursue their passions and academic interests. Finally, right here in the Honors College, HCAB has found a new way to give back to the Honors College students that they represent. After successful fundraising at the 11th Annual Honors College Ball held this past March, HCAB has founded the Honors College Scholarship. The vision behind this scholarship is to support students who are members of the Honors College as they pursue their academic careers here at the University. These are just a few examples of the numerous contributions and advances that Honors College students have accomplished with the help of the College.

Phi Eta Sigma Induction



The 2004 Phi Eta Sigma Induction Ceremony took place on Monday, March 15th in the Illinois Room of CCC. 173 new freshmen were inducted this year. Guest speaker Honors College Dean Lon Kaufman addressed the audience, urging students to continue their success throughout their undergrad years and beyond. Scholarships were presented to sophomore psychology major **Tara Brennan** and senior economics major **Ivan Rasskazov**. Later, new Phi Eta Sigma members and their families enjoyed a reception in the adjoining room.

The following Honors College freshmen were inducted into Phi Eta Sigma:

Ayman Alsharbini, Abigail Angulo, Christine Battaglia, Kamaljit Battu, Robin Berk, Benjamin Bick, Angela Brozowski, Eugene Cho, Eric Cwik, Julie DeMoor, James Drachenberg, Anton Durbak, Sarah Economides, Kaori Ema, Kathryn Ernst, Elizabeth Forkan, Kevin Go, Karmish Goyal, Bruce Greinke, Jennifer Han, Nishit Jailwala, Michelle Jung, Alaine Kalder, Vivasvat Kaul, Sana Khan, Esther Kim, Lisa Konieczny, Vaibhav Kukreja, Rowsha LaBranche, Jalene Lanter, Jeanne Lee, Christine Leung, Kathryn Madeja, Melissa Malec, Nikhil Martis, Krista McClain, Alina Meile, Tzofit Moskovich, Harsha Mudrakola, Laura Narbutus, Auratip Paramadilok, Thomas Rhanor, Michael Richards, Torll Riperton, Jr., Gina Robinson, Heather Schleff, Sweta Shah, Liat Shetret, Stephen Soong, Mosmi Surati, Ann Tran, Bradley Trompeter, Brittany Voelke, Jennifer Wills, and Brian Zapanta.

Congratulations to all the new initiates. Keep up the good work!

After such an outstanding year, it's about time to take a well-deserved break. For our seniors, the Honors College Convocation on May 5th will recognize the years of hard work that our peers have done at the University and in the Honors College. We congratulate everyone and wish them the best in their future endeavors. For continuing students, this summer will be a time to find jobs, work on internships, study abroad, participate in research projects, and hopefully rest and spend time with our friends and families. Wherever you may be headed, be sure to enjoy your time off and we look forward to another great year to come!

Good Luck on Finals & Have a Wonderful Summer!

Sincerely,
Kamala Saha
President
Honors College Advisory Board



Jennifer Larson: Carpe Diem

by Kunjali Padhya

Honors College student Jennifer Larson has definitely seized the day during her time at UIC. In addition to receiving the Classics department's coveted Tracy prize for the third year in a row, she is also the recipient of the prestigious Riddle prize, which is the highest honor given to a graduating senior. Larson will also be the first UIC graduate ever to earn a double major in Greek and Latin.

With such a unique curriculum, Larson commented that many times, she was the only student in her classes. "It's a great way to build relationships with professors," she said, "but there's no curve to help you out!" Her most memorable one of these classes was reading *Media* in Greek for Greek 499.

Jennifer decided to join the Honors College because she wanted to get more out of her experience at UIC. "The Honors College staff has always been very supportive. Whenever I had a question, they were able to answer it."

Another unique aspect of Jennifer's college experience is that she is the mother of two teenagers. She says that juggling school and family life has been difficult at times, especially with taking her children to their various extracurricular activities. For this busy family, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches were often a staple food. "But," she says, "they've been awesome. I never would have made it through without them."

In addition to her coursework and family, Jennifer also works part-time at an architectural firm, sings backup in a band, and knits (often in math class!). She even ran a gardening business! After graduation, she plans to work for a year, and then pursue her ultimate goal: a career in law.

The Honors College is also proud to announce that Jennifer has been chosen as their student convocation speaker for this year's ceremony! So "seize the day" and attend to hear Jennifer speak, as well as support all Honors College graduates, which begins at 6 PM on Wednesday, May 5th in the Illinois Room of CCC.

A Reflection Still in Progress

by Charles Yohannan

Wow... I can't believe it's already May 2004. I remember writing "May 2004" as my expected graduation date on various forms I filled out freshman year, but at that time, I could never imagine how quickly that "expected" date would transform into an "actual" date. I have always classified college graduates as adults, people much older and maturer than myself; I haven't realized it yet, but in a week, I too will become one of those graduates.

Even though I may be unhappy because I don't want to leave UIC undergrad quite yet, I understand that I have a lot to be thankful for. Entering UIC as a freshman, I had nothing but negative thoughts about the university. However, I soon realized that it's not the school that makes the person; instead, what is important is what one does with the opportunities they are given. With this outlook in mind, my pessimistic feelings soon began to subside, and instead, a more positive mentality developed.

I became surrounded with a great circle of friends, and one of the main reasons I am where I am today is because of them. Friends are always important in one's life, but especially in college, where one may be independent for the first time in his or her life, friends can be such an influential force. My friends provided me with a family outside of my home in Skokie, and for this, I am forever grateful.

Reflection, cont. on page 7

Social a Success

by Aparna Vemuri

On April 15, 2004, the Honors College hosted its third social of the spring semester. This time, our guest speaker was Ambassador Ronald Godard, UIC's very own diplomat in residence. Twenty-five students were present to hear Ambassador Godard speak of his experiences in the US Foreign Service, and to learn about potential career opportunities. The Ambassador spoke for about 30 minutes on the various missions he has served, which included places such as Turkey, Russia, and Guyana. He also spoke about his own personal experiences balancing family life along with a hectic career in the US Foreign Service.

Here at UIC, Ambassador Godard is part of the International Relations Department. This semester he is co-teaching an honors seminar called, "International Relations: A Diplomat's Perspective" along with Professor Alan Lerner, faculty member of the Political Science Department and Director of the Office of International Affairs. The seminar has been a wonderful opportunity for Honors College students. It meets every other Friday from 2:00-4:00 pm. Each week features a presentation by a guest Diplomat stationed in Chicago. Students have had the honor of meeting and listening to people such as Consul Rita Vargas of the Consulate General of Mexico, the Consul General of Uruguay and Dean of the Consular Corps of Chicago Graziella Reyes de Prieto, and Deputy Consul General Matthieu Peyraud from the Consulate General of France. The guest speaker highlights the topic to be discussed for the particular class session. The course has explored issues stemming from globalization such as free trade and global health. In addition, each student worked on an independent paper to be presented at the last class session. This al-

Social, cont. on page 7

lowed them to explore a topic of interest in greater depth. Needless to say, the honors seminar was a great success and the students greatly appreciated participating in it.

The Honors College greatly appreciates Ambassador Godard for offering such valuable experience and for being such a great resource to UIC students. Thank again!

However, I am even more thankful as some of my friends introduced me to Cornerstone Bible Study. Through these weekly Bible studies, I have grown spiritually in ways that words cannot describe, and this growth has given me the foundation upon which I can build all of my future decisions. Years from now, even if I forget some of the grades I received or some of the extracurriculars I participated in, I will always have this foundation in my heart.

College is a place where one should expand academic horizons and explore different areas of interest. However, equally as important, I believe, college is a turning point in one's life, and it is a time for self-searching. College is often stereotyped as a place mainly for partying and drinking; yet, if someone lives a life according to these principles, memories of partying or drinking will be the only stories one will be able to share in the future. Although I believe that having fun is important, the "joy" experienced from these types of situations is often temporary. However, lasting memories are created by the way in which one grows as a person and the way in which one can impact the lives of others.

The Ampersand Committee would like to sincerely thank our readers, HCAB, all contributing writers, and the Honors College Staff, notably Jennifer Kosco, for their help in making this newsletter possible.

Looking Ahead to the Future of UIC

by Jenna Kim

As we approach the last days of the semester, we cannot help but anticipate the future—the upcoming summer, the following school year, or the world beyond our college careers. With the rest of our adult lives before us, we work to create visions for ourselves—hoping to espy where we will be in the future as we set short-term and long-term goals we hope to attain. By creating a vision, we can shape a path to take to become the people we want to be.

Last fall, UIC embarked on a similar process in which it sought to create a vision for what it would like to be in the future. A committee consisting of twenty-five members including faculty and staff to represent different departments and units of the campus, an alumni representative, an undergraduate student representative, and a graduate/professional student representative was created by the UIC administration. The committee, known as the UIC 2010 Strategic Thinking Committee was charged by Provost R. Michael Tanner to “develop a vision for the campus to inform and to guide strategic development of all aspects of the campus over the next seven years.”

Having met weekly since the inception of the process, the committee has engaged the UIC community in conversations about the current state of things at UIC and where UIC ought to be by the year 2010. After listening to every college and representatives from the many groups at UIC, several prevailing issues have arisen for the committee to consider.

In my opinion, a paramount issue is raised when dealing with, who is UIC? Who is UIC to the students, faculty, and employees that study, teach, and work on campus? Who is UIC to the Chicagoland community? Who is UIC to the state of Illinois, the country, and the world? Starting over a century ago with the professional schools on the west side, UIC in its current state did not exist until 1981. Fittingly, UIC has been described as an adolescent in the arena of national universities. Adolescence is defined as the period of physical and psychological development from the onset of puberty to maturity. Similarly, UIC must develop all facets of its operation to form an identity what is in line with its vision.

Obviously, many other issues have arisen—from the micro to the macroscopic. Included in the discussion of the committee have been the state of the physical space of the university, transportation from campus to campus, issues on budget, student recruitment and retention, diversity in the student, faculty, and staff body, and the contributions of the university to the community and society as a whole. By November of 2004, the committee will address these and many other issues in a document that will be presented to the administration to guide the future of our university.

More information on the UIC 2010 Strategic Thinking Committee can be obtained at <http://tigger.uic.edu/depts/oa/2010/>. Also, as your undergraduate student representative on the committee, I would love for you to share your opinions about the future of UIC. Please feel free to contact me at jkim110@uic.edu.

Dr. Nelson, cont'd. from page 3

“Too many medical students are anal,” Dr. Nelson complains. He believes in the philosophy of Dorothy Day, co-founder of the Catholic Worker Movement, who says that every person has a “duty of delight.” “Enjoy yourself,” Dr. Nelson advises to his students. “Learning should be fun, especially in medical school, because life should be one continuous celebration.”