

Noon News



Today
High: 42 Low: 35
Cloudy, light rain



Tomorrow
High: 40 Low: 32
Cloudy

Thursday, October 15, 2009

More faculty and staff news:
thepoint.healthcare.uiowa.edu

Regents mull \$60 million in budget cuts

Temporary salary reductions, layoffs, and a tuition surcharge are among the options Iowa's three regent universities and two special schools must consider in order to trim \$60 million this year, Board of Regents President David Miles said during a special meeting yesterday. The University of Iowa must cut almost \$25 million. Leaders of the institutions will bring their plans to the regents Oct. 29.

Branstad expected to step down at DMU

Former Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, president of Des Moines University, is expected to announce his retirement from the medical school tomorrow, a university board member told the *Des Moines Register*. Branstad, who has served as president at DMU for six years, had earlier set a mid-October deadline to decide whether to run for governor again. Last week, he formed a candidate committee.

Obama heads to New Orleans

President Barack Obama today makes his first trip to New Orleans since taking office. The city continues to rebuild from Hurricane Katrina. Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, a Republican, has credited Obama's team with streamlining federal help in the reconstruction, the Associated Press (AP) reports.

No Social Security cost-of-living increase in 2010

There will be no cost-of-living increase for more than 50 million Social Security recipients next year—the first year without a raise since automatic adjustments were adopted in 1975, the government announced today. By law, cost of living adjustments are pegged to inflation, which is negative this year because of lower energy costs. Social Security payments, however, cannot go down, the AP reports.

Mother says badly burned son will recover

The mother of a boy doused with rubbing alcohol and set on fire said today her son will pull through despite serious burns. Michael Brewer, 15, was attacked at a Deerfield Beach, Fla., apartment complex on Monday after turning in another teen for trying to steal his father's bicycle, authorities said.

39 dead in Pakistan attacks

Gunmen launched coordinated attacks on three law enforcement facilities in Pakistan's eastern city of Lahore, and car bombs hit two other cities today, killing a total of 39 people. The attacks are attempts to thwart a planned army offensive against Taliban strongholds near the Afghan border, the AP reports.

Britain's Brown considers more troops

British prime minister Gordon Brown said yesterday that he will likely send 500 more soldiers to Afghanistan. Britain has been America's most reliable ally during the eight years of the Afghan war, with the 9,000 British troops there second only to the U.S. contingent of about 65,000, the AP reports.

American father released from Japanese jail

Japanese authorities have released an American man who was jailed for allegedly trying to snatch back his children from his estranged wife last month, CNN reports. Police in the rural southern town of Yanagawa let Christopher Savoie go today without indicting him on charges of child kidnapping.

Auschwitz museum on Facebook

The memorial museum at Auschwitz launched a Facebook page this week, hoping the site will engage young people worldwide in discussions about the Holocaust. The site already has over 1,800 "friends." Many have left messages in English, Polish, and Hebrew expressing the sentiment "Never Again."

Garth Brooks announces comeback

Country singer Garth Brooks said today that he's coming out of retirement. Brooks' last studio album was "Scarecrow" in 2001. His three-disc compilation "The Ultimate Hits" finished 10th on the *Billboard* 2008 list of albums—showing he still has much of the fan support he garnered in the 1990s.

Limbaugh dropped in Rams deal

Radio host Rush Limbaugh is gone from a group looking to buy the NFL's St. Louis Rams. Limbaugh was to be a limited partner in a bid led by Dave Checketts, chairman of the NHL's St. Louis Blues.

Today in history

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On this day in 1860, 11-year-old Grace Bedell of Westfield, N.Y., wrote a letter to presidential candidate Abraham Lincoln, suggesting he could improve his appearance by growing a beard.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON BACK

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Today is “Global Handwashing Day” sponsored by the World Health Organization and hosted at UI Hospitals and Clinics by the Hand Hygiene Task Force. Stop by the Fountain Entrance Lobby until 3 p.m. to learn more about hand hygiene and its critical role in infection control. From 11:30 to 1 p.m., meet hand hygiene experts and see how clean your hands really are (or are not!). Flu vaccine information also available. Prize drawing and giveaways while they last.
- An Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting for patients, families, visitors, and hospital staff is at 7:30 tonight, Conference Room G, (Elevator F, Level 7).
- Tune in to an interview about pediatric trauma with Charles Jennissen, MD, airing at 7:30 and 9:50 a.m. tomorrow on the AM-800 KXIC “University of Iowa Health Care Today” program.
- The Annual Staff Arts and Crafts Sale is tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Pappajohn Pavilion lobby (Elevator I, Level 1) sponsored by Rehab Therapies. A portion of the proceeds goes to the Adult Recreation Program.
- Join the UI and the international community in celebrating the successes of clubfoot research and treatment all over the world by participating in the Ponseti Races in Iowa City at 4:30 p.m. tomorrow. Register online at www.Ponseti.info/races.
- Help raise funds for kids with cancer at UI Children’s Hospital by participating in the Walk For A Cure event at City Park in Iowa City from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Proceeds from the 2.7-mile walk, which starts and ends at shelter #6 in Lower City Park, will benefit the Aiming For A Cure Foundation. To register, sign up at www.aimingforacure.com.
- Join the fight against blood cancers. The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s annual “Light the Night” walk is Saturday at Kinnick Stadium. Check-in at 5:30 p.m. For more information visit www.lightthenight.org/ia or contact Tom Walljasper at tom-walljasper@uiowa.edu or 384-1745.
- Help UI Children’s Hospital win a game room makeover from Xbox 360® and Children’s Miracle Network! Visit xbox.childrensmiracletnetwork.org and vote for UI Children’s Hospital. Voting ends tomorrow.
- Vice President for Medical Affairs Jean Robillard will be a panelist at a health care reform forum 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday at Shambaugh Auditorium, UI Main Library. Also on the panel will be Joe Bolkcom, MPA; Sheldon Kurtz, JD; and Renee Schulte, MA, Iowa representative and adjunct professor of psychology at Mt. Mercy College. The event is free and open to the public, visit www.uichr.org or contact Nick Stuber at 384-2208 for more information.
- Customer Appreciation Week at the Fourth Floor Salon is Oct. 19 to 23. Purchase select products at 25 percent off (while supplies last). Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Proceeds support programs that benefit patients and their families through Volunteer Services.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Front Line Supervisors: Are you looking for tools, strategies and resources to meet the daily challenges as a front-line supervisor? Applications are now being accepted for the Front-Line Supervisory Series. For more information, visit: <http://www.uiowa.edu/learn/series/index.html#flss> or call UI Learning and Development at 335-2687.
- UI staff and faculty members are not allowed to accept gifts from vendors. Staff receiving gifts can either return them to the vendor or donate them to Volunteer Services for distribution to the food bank or to a needy family.

RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS INVITED

More studies listed at www.uihealthcare.com/depts/clinicaltrials/volunteer.html.

- First degree relatives (siblings, children) of individuals with schizophrenia or a related disorder between the ages of 13 and 25 are invited to participate in a research study investigating cognitive skills and brain function conducted at the Department of Psychiatry. Compensation. For more information, call Lindsey at 384-6884 or e-mail lindsey-fuhrmeister@uiowa.edu.
- Volunteers are invited for a UI College of Dentistry research study to compare three different dental implants. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old, in good health, and need a tooth implant to replace a single tooth missing in their upper jaw. No tooth implants will be placed in molar sites. For more information or a screening appointment, call 335-7377.
- Adults 35 to 85 with no history of neurological disease are invited to participate in a UI Department of Neurology research study of cognitive function. Participants will be asked to undergo neurophysiological testing. Compensation. Contact Bradley at 384-6084 or bradley-thomas@uiowa.edu.
- Women 18 and older with bothersome bladder control problems (frequent urinary leakage and urgency) may participate in a research study evaluating the medication fesoterodine compared to placebo (inactive substance) for 12 weeks. After that, participants may choose to take the fesoterodine for up to an additional nine months as part of the study. Participation lasts up to one year and includes nine visits. Compensation. Interested? Call 384-8028 or e-mail regina-arthur@uiowa.edu.

Contact *Noon News* at noonnews@healthcare.uiowa.edu. Persons with a disability requiring reasonable accommodations in order to participate in programs at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics may discuss their needs with Concierge Services in advance at 356-1900.