

Submitted by: Ronald T. Brown, Provost and Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs

Informational Report

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

The Irvin D. Reid Honors College, along with Undergraduate Admissions, hosted the seventh annual Scholars Day program Feb. 5, 6, 12 and 13. The program allowed close to 1,200 high-achieving prospective students and their families to visit campus. More than 250 faculty, staff and alumni volunteered at the event, interviewing prospective students. At a minimum, each prospective student receives a Wayne State Scholarship valued at \$12,000. Many students receive Presidential Scholarships, valued at \$34,400 over four years.

The Law School ranked second in a top ten national evaluation of law school Web sites. The University of Illinois College of Law grabbed the top spot closely followed by Wayne State. The study, titled "Top 10 Law School Home Pages of 2010," was published in the Green Bag Almanac and Reader 2011.

The College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts String Project@Wayne was named 2011 String Project of the Year by the American String Teachers Association (ASTA). Wayne State will receive the award at ASTA's national conference in Kansas City in March. The String Project@Wayne is a laboratory school for string playing, where undergraduate string majors grow into excellent teachers and Detroit-area children receive high-quality, affordable instruction in violin, viola, cello, or bass.

The School of Business Administration will be receiving \$10,000 to award to students who participate in the Michigan Israel Business Bridge internship program. The William Schumer Scholarship provides funding for an MBA intern to work with the Michigan Israel Business Bridge. For the next two years, one outstanding student will be awarded \$2,500 each semester along with the option to earn up to six credits for the internship.

STUDENTS

Wayne State University redshirt junior **Catherine Leix** was named the Counsilman-Hunsaker National Collegiate Swimmer of the Week recently by Collegesswimming.com. Leix was selected as the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Women's Swimming and Diving Athlete of the Week, winning both awards for the first time.

FACULTY

Bill Harris, professor of English, has been named the 2011 Kresge Eminent Artist. The Kresge Foundation bestows the honor on “an exceptional artist in the visual, performing, or literary arts” who has contributed to Metro Detroit’s cultural community. Harris has had more than 70 productions nationally of his plays including "Stories About the Old Days," starring singer Abbey Lincoln, and "Every Goodbye Ain't Gone," featuring Denzel Washington and S. Epatha Merkerson. His book of poetry "Yardbird Suite: Side One" about jazz musician Charlie Parker, won the 1997 Naomi Long Madgett Poetry Award, and he has three books in the pipeline.

Ananda Prasad, distinguished professor of oncology, was one of five winners of this year’s Prince Mahidol Award. Prasad is pictured with other researchers who pioneered works on the importance of zinc in human health and zinc supplementation which drew the attention of scientific and public health communities to the issue, encouraging further study. The award is presented to individuals and institutions for outstanding contributions in the fields of public health and medicine.

Quicken Loans is using Detroit’s own pool of creative talent to launch a new round of national television commercials. **Marc Ruiz**, assistant professor of media arts and studies, directed the commercials and brought with him a team of students from the campus to assist with production. The new commercials began appearing on TV channels nationwide in mid-February.