Shashi Nambisan was hired in January 2007 as the new Director of the Center for Transportation Research and Education (CTRE). Of the three finalists in this search, Dr. Nambisan was one of two internationals who were interviewed. He also holds a faculty appointment in the department of civil, construction & environmental engineering.

Joanne Altieri was hired in September 2006 as the new Director of the Office of Sponsored Programs Administration (OSPA). In the pool of 16 candidates, there were eight men and eight women. Of the five finalists, two were women (including Ms. Altieri) and three were men.

Balaji Narasimhan was appointed this past fall as Director of the Institute for Combinatorial Discovery (one of the President’s Academic Initiatives). He also holds a faculty appointment in the department of chemical and biological engineering.

Surya Mallapragada, professor of chemical and biological engineering, was named a Big 12 “Rising Star” Innovator at the Big 12 Innovation and Capital Formation Conference held in Kansas City on Feb. 28-March 1. The award is granted to one scientist from each of the Big 12 universities who are leading some of the most promising technologies under development.

The 2006 Bailey Research Career Development Award was given to Joanne Powell-Coffman, associate professor in genetics, development, and cell biology. Dr. Powell-Coffman was one of six finalists for this award. Four of the finalists were men and the other two were women. This annual award is provided to foster research that is innovative and, not only increases knowledge, but has practical applications.

The 2006 ISU Foundation Research Award nominees were as follows.

Career Achievement: 5 males; of these, 2 were international (1 of 2 recipients was female).
Mid-Career: 3 males and 4 females; of the females, 2 were international (recipient was international male).
Early Achievement: 2 males and 1 female; of the males, 1 was international.