

SPECTRUM



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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TODAY'S EDITION
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faculty-development
workshop information;
Vet. School symposium on
page 4.

Flanagan to lead Development, University Relations

By Larry Hincker

Virginia Tech President Charles W. Steger has announced the appointment of Elizabeth "Betsy" Flanagan as vice president for Development and University Relations.

"I am very, very pleased that Betsy will be part of our executive leadership. She has an exemplary track record in fund raising, a broad background in higher education, and the energy to manage a very large campaign," Steger said.

Flanagan is currently assistant vice president for development and director of individual, major, and planned gifts at the University of Virginia. She played a key role in Virginia's \$1-billion capital campaign.

Flanagan said, "I am delighted to be asked to join Virginia Tech and to lead its advancement effort. It could not come at a better time. President Steger has an exciting vision for Tech and ambitious goals, the university has a wealth of resources in its faculty and staff, and its alumni and friends recognize its potential and are eager to participate in its future. With that level of commitment on all levels, I am confident that Tech is positioned to take its place among the top 30 research universities in the country."

Flanagan joined UVVA's fund-raising department in 1991 as director of planned giving before her promotion to assistant vice president in 1997. Before her tenure in Charlottesville, she worked in banking for 10 years at Richmond's

Crestar Bank, rising to a vice president in the trust department before returning to academe.

Flanagan began her career in higher education at Ferrum College in 1976 holding various academic and administrative positions. Before her departure, she was executive assistant to the president with responsibilities for institutional planning, policy implementation, and fund raising. Throughout her career she has taught on gerontology, aging, adult learning, and social problems related to aging.

Flanagan holds a B.A. from Bethany College, M.S.W. from West Virginia University, and Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. She also is a certified financial planner.

Flanagan will begin work on July 10.

Biomedical institute to be located in Roanoke centre

The Carilion Biomedical Institute will become the first tenant in Roanoke's recently announced Riverside Centre for Research and Technology. The new \$10-million facility will be built over the next three years.

The institute provides funding and entrepreneurial business support for medically oriented research and development at Virginia Tech, the University of Virginia, and Carilion Health System. The institute will focus on three principal goals: sponsor focused biomedical research at major universities to create a knowledge base leading to better healthcare; accelerate the conversion of basic research into practical products through an integrated environment for prototype development, clinical evaluation and production partnerships, and create economic-development opportunities to stimulate growth and enhance the quality of life in southwest and central Virginia.

"The institute is creating an environment in which Virginia Tech can access medical expertise at the University of Virginia and Carilion Health System to leverage Virginia Tech's research program in biomedical technology," said Leonard Peters, vice provost for research and dean of the Graduate School at Virginia Tech.

"The institute provides an important vehicle to enhance the commercial application of our medical technologies, building on commercialization experience at Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia, and clinical trials at Carilion Health System," said Gene Block, vice president for research and public service at the University of Virginia.

The first building will contain the administrative center for the institute, research and testing space, and a biomedical business incubator, occupying 50,000 square feet on five acres. Other biomedical enterprises, including Carilion Health System, will also build several facilities in the Riverside Centre, totaling at least \$20 million in the next seven to nine years.

To accomplish these goals, the institute's total budget over the next seven years exceeds \$75 million. Funding will come from foundations, industry, federal, state and local agency grants, as well as patent licensing fees and royalties from the institute's technology-transfer projects. Carilion Health System has already committed the first \$20 million to this total.

For more information, call (540) 985-8452 or e-mail www.carilion.com/biomedinstitute/index.html

CEUT restructuring this summer

By Catherine Doss

The Center for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (CEUT) will restructure this summer to more fully merge the University Writing Program (UWP) with the center's operations and resources. The reorganization follows the CEUT's first five-year review, which was completed last year.

Starting August 1, the UWP will be integrated entirely within CEUT.

"In the past, although the Writing Program was supported by CEUT funds, the two programs really operated as separate entities," said CEUT Director Terry Wildman. "I think now we'll see the more flexible arrangement of people and resources that was originally intended when CEUT was established in 1993."

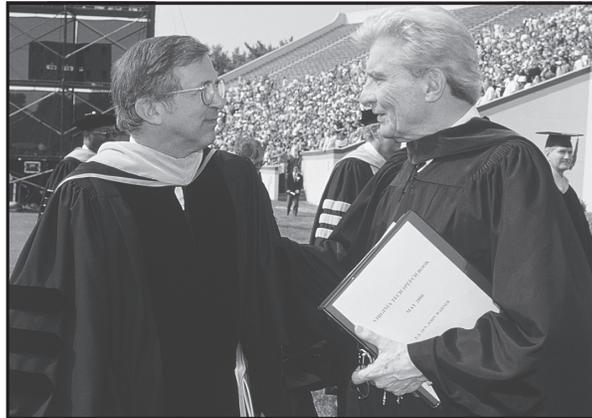
Wildman said that merging the two units would more completely result in expanded growth and visibility for the Writing Program.

"We need to continue strengthening this program. What all of us are seeing very clearly is the vital importance of communication capabilities in our professional and personal lives," Wildman said. "Our teaching and our curriculum-development activities should reflect that reality in a very deliberate way."

Plans are to expand the types of communication skills that CEUT helps faculty members build into their courses, including oral and digital communication in addition to writing.

"The restructuring will not diminish our Core Curriculum emphasis on writing skills in any way," said Ron Daniel, associate provost for undergraduate programs. "New programs relating to a wide spectrum of general-education issues can be developed by CEUT, and thus assist in further development of the core."

(See CEUT on 3)



POSTGRADS President Charles Steger, left, converses with U.S. Senator John Warner following the university's Commencement exercises on May 13. Warner was the Commencement speaker. (J. McCormick)

Provost to provide *Einstein's Dreams*

By Sally Harris

This fall, some 4,500 first-year Virginia Tech students will find a gift in their dorm rooms—a copy of *Einstein's Dreams*, a book that has proven highly successful as the first choice for the Common Book Initiative that stemmed from the Learning Communities Cross-Cutting Initiative.

This fall, professors teaching first-year courses will have an opportunity to incorporate *Einstein's Dreams* into their first-year courses. "Part of our goal in having a common book is to help students understand how seemingly different courses and disciplines can be interconnected," said Annette Markham, coordinator of the Common Book Initiative. Another purpose is to create communities in which students have the common bond of reading and discussing the book, in class and out.

The Provost's Office will offer workshops

this summer for faculty members interested in using the book in their first-year courses. At these sessions, faculty members and students who have used the book before will discuss ways to incorporate the ideas of *Einstein's Dreams* into the structure or content of first-year courses. The books' author, Alan Lightman, will visit the campus in September to discuss the book and give a public lecture.

"Guiding the intellectual development of students at Virginia Tech is of utmost priority for me as provost," said Provost Peggy Meszaros. "We know that freshmen are in transition in many dimensions as they arrive on our campus. We also believe that setting expectations for high academic performance and providing a supportive environment where ideas can be freely exchanged between students and between students and faculty members are im-

(See PROVOST on 4)

ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

Friday 26

Summer Arts Festival Program, 6 p.m., Henderson Lawn.

Monday 29

Memorial Day Holiday for Faculty and Staff.

Wednesday, 31

"With Good Reason," 7 p.m., WVTF: Topic TBA.
Faculty Development Workshop, Newman New Media Center: Call 1-8029 for information.
Faculty Development Workshop, Newman classroom B: Call 1-8029 for information.

Thursday, 1

Salary and Wage Paydate.

Friday, 2

Summer Arts Festival Program, 6 p.m., Henderson Lawn.

Saturday, 3

YMCA Hike, 9 a.m., 403 Washington St.: Dragon's Tooth.

Monday, 5

Last Day to Drop.
Faculty Development Workshop, Newman New Media Center: Call 1-8029 for information.
Faculty Development Workshop, 217 Cheatham: Call 1-8029 for information.

Faculty Development Workshop, DBHCC conference room A: Call 1-8029 for information.

Tuesday, 6

Family/Work/Life Resources Program, noon-1 p.m., DBHCC conference room G.

Wednesday, 7

"With Good Reason," 7 p.m., WVTF: Topic TBA.

Thursday, 8

Faculty Development Workshop, Newman New Media Center: Call 1-8029 for information.

Friday, 9

Last Day to Resign.

BULLETINS

Program highlights economic development

Virginia Tech's Public Service Programs, a unit of the university's Outreach Division, will co-sponsor an advanced training program on practical applications of finance in economic development on Thursday, June 22, at the Chesapeake Conference Center in Chesapeake. The one-day interactive course will feature presentations by some of the state's leading investment and financial strategists.

"Today's economic development prospects can require very creative financial packages," said Patty Thorne with the Virginia Department of Business Assistance, a co-sponsor of the event. "This course will help state economic developers gain a comprehensive view of the variety of financial resources available and an understanding of the importance of partnering in making a deal happen."

A featured case study on the recently announced Harmony Products company expansion will illustrate several trends in financial packaging for successful state-wide economic development initiatives.

Registration is limited to 45 people. The course fee is \$80 per person, which includes all instructional materials, refreshment breaks, and lunch.

To register, call 1-5182 or register on-line at <http://www.conted.vt.edu/finance/index.htm>. For more information, contact Ellen Agee at 1-6638 or by e-mail at eaagee@vt.edu.

Orientation and Advising Preview set

Virginia Tech faculty and staff members are encouraged to attend this year's Orientation and Advising Preview on Wednesday, June 28 from 7:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. (breakfast and lunch provided). This year's preview is a combination of two past programs: orientation preview and orientation advisors workshop. Its aim is to provide information relevant to this summer's orientation program and give important updates to those whose primary role is to advise students. RSVP to tproco@vt.edu by June 19. For a schedule of events, visit <http://www.uaac.vt.edu/preview>.

CASSA blood drive scheduled

The CASSA (College of Arts and Sciences Staff Association) June Blood Drive will be held on June 6 from 8:30

a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Due to earthquakes, floods and other natural disasters, the Red Cross is in desperate need of blood. Contact Kathy Flint at 1-8454 or e-mail flintk@vt.edu to sign up, or visit the web site at <http://www.cas.vt.edu/cassa/blood/>. Food is also being collected for the Food Pantry during the blood drive. All persons who donate blood or food will be entered to win door prizes.

Natural History Museum programs offered

Saturday Science is scheduled for May 27 from 11 a.m. to noon. Children from kindergarten through third grade are eligible to participate. Creek Critters will focus on insects and other small creatures living in local streams. The program is free. Pre-register at 1-3001.

Outstanding Leader Award nominations sought

The Academy for Leadership Excellence announces a call for nominations for the Academy for Leadership Excellence Outstanding Leader Award.

The award recognizes university employees who have exhibited outstanding leadership qualities through superior job performance, job-related extracurricular activities, (such as participation in university governance) university, college, and departmental committee work, and other areas of service to the university. Supplemental activities outside the university, which enhance the nominee's overall profile of service to the university and community, may be considered, but will be considered secondary to university activities.

Any university employee, on or off campus, may nominate individuals for the award. Nominations should be a one-page typed, signed letter outlining the leadership qualities of the nominee. Endorsements of the nomination by supervisors or others are not required. An employee may nominate as many individuals as he/she wishes; however, each nomination must be made separately, and the nominator must sign each letter.

Eligibility is limited to employees in classified-staff positions or in administrative/professional faculty positions. Tenured and tenure-track faculty members are not eligible. Self-nominations are ineligible. This award should not be viewed as compet-

ing with the President's Award for Excellence.

The award recipient will be honored at the academy's year-end banquet July 7, where a framed certificate of award will be presented. The award will be announced in *Spectrum*.

Nomination letters should be sent in a sealed envelope to University Leadership Development, 459 Tech Center Drive, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0538 by June 12.

Telecommunications seminar offered

Virginia Tech will sponsor the third event in its Information Technology Executive Forum series on June 9 at the Omni Hotel in Richmond. The seminar, "The Last Mile to Virtual Communities," will focus on the challenges and potential solutions to linking high-bandwidth communications to homes and businesses in ways that consumers can afford.

"The rapid growth of the Internet, increased dependence on information or data in all sectors of society, and the tendency worldwide to deregulate telecommunications for global commerce have fueled the appetite for access to greater bandwidth in communities across the nation," said Anne Moore, director of information technology initiatives at Virginia Tech. "Despite the fact that much of the infrastructure that can deliver high-bandwidth telecommunications is in place, barriers still exist."

"The Last Mile to Virtual Communities" will bring together representatives from major telecommunications providers with local and state government officials, business owners and managers, and city and county officials. Issues to be explored include what communities need to compete in the new economy and how to assess telecommunications infrastructure needs for individual communities.

Representatives from cable, wireless, wire-line, and satellite industries will be presenting at the seminar. Guest moderator for the afternoon forum will be Robert C. Heterick Jr., past president of EDUCOM.

Program costs is \$50, which includes materials and lunch. Registration is required by May 26. Individuals may register on line at <https://www.conted.vt.edu/ssl/mile-reg.htm> or by calling 1-5182.

Faculty development workshops set for summer

Weekly Faculty Development Institute, (FDI), workshops involving are scheduled for more than over 400 instructional faculty members from across the university through Thursday, July 27.

Summer workshops range from "Basic Computer Skills," using "Geographic Information Systems" for teaching and learning, to "Creating Digital Content," including exotic topics like vector-based graphic animation, Macromedia Director and video storyboarding.

Workshop presentations are designed for instructional faculty members. Participation is limited to faculty members nominated by their department and college, and includes receipt of a new state-of-the-art Dell or Macintosh computer. This is the seventh summer that FDI workshops have been held.

FDI summer workshops are classified under three main categories; campus resources, course enhancement and course transforma-

tion. Each category includes optional tracks with workshop topics drawn from five organizing themes: basic skills, web development, digital content, web-based instruction and emerging technologies. For more information, visit the FDI web site: at <http://www.fdi.vt.edu/fdi/summer.html>.

Faculty members attending FDI Web Development and Distance Learning workshops will get training on CourseInfo. They will preview some of the features and benefits of several "Learning Management Systems" being introduced by the university to simplify the administrative tasks of teaching on line.

FDI participants and faculty members attending the four-day track on applied instructional design can access a new instructional design resource site to help plan effective classroom and web-based teaching strategies. The site is <http://www.edtech.vt.edu/edtech/idi/>.

New computer programs Macromedia's

Dreamweaver 3, Flash, and FreeHand will be introduced throughout the summer workshops. Dreamweaver 3 is the latest version of Macromedia's cross-platform-web authoring tool. FreeHand is a vector-based graphics program designed to simplify the task of vector graphics for print media or the Internet. Flash is a vector-based program that can replace or enhance HTML for the creation of dynamic web sites, including simple animations.

Other workshops will feature updated versions of familiar computer software, such as Adobe PhotoShop, Adobe Premier, Real Media, and CourseInfo.

A series of follow-up workshops that complement the FDI summer tracks is planned for fall semester.

For more information, contact Ed McPherson at 1-8029; e-mail ejay@vt.edu or <http://www.edtech.vt.edu/idi/workshops/workshops.html>

MPRG symposium scheduled for June

The Tenth Anniversary Virginia Tech/Mobile and Portable Radio Research Group (MPRG) Symposium on Wireless Personal Communications, June 14-16, at Virginia Tech, will include a panel on entrepreneurial opportunities in Southwest Virginia.

Ted Rappaport, MPRG founder, will moderate the panel, "Entrepreneurial Activities and Perspectives for Southwest Virginia," on June 16. The panel will focus on the successes and growth potential of high-tech start-up companies as well as prospects offered by venture capitalism in this region.

Panelists include Southwest Virginia's entrepreneurs and venture capitalists Stephen Fredrick of Novak Biddle Venture Partners, Ronald Blum of The Egg Factory, LLC; Thomas Little of Southwest One Ventures, Greg Feldmann of Gryphon Capital Partners, LLC;

(See MPRG on 3)

EMPLOYMENT

CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

The following classified positions are currently available. More details of these positions, specific application procedures/position-closing dates may be found on the Personnel Services web site at <http://www.ps.vt.edu>. Available positions are also listed on the Job Line, a 24-hour recorded message service. For information on all job listings, call 1-5300. Some of the following positions include state benefits. Positions with numbers beginning with a "W" are hourly/do not include state benefits. Individuals with disabilities desiring assistance or accommodation in the application process should call by the application deadline.

Closing date for advertised positions is 1 p.m. Monday. An EO/AA employer committed to diversity.

Full Time

Animal Care Supervisor, 6998J, Grade 11, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.
Applications Analyst, 7328D, Grade 0, AIS.

Assistant Director of Annual Giving for Telemarketing, 1528L, Grade 12, University Development/Annual Giving Program.

Banquet Manager (Food Operations Manager Assistant), 1118G, Grade 6, DBHCC.
Banquet Supervisor (Fpw-a), 7424G, Grade 3, DBHCC.

Computer Center Lead Engineer, 7438T, Grade 16, CPES.

Computer Network Support Technician Senior, 3492G, Grade 10, MHS.
Editor, Virginia Tech Magazine, 0654L, Grade 12, University Relations/Outreach Communications.

Electronic Technician, 7565G, Grade 7, Physical Plant.
Electronic Technician, 2738T, Grade 9, University Registrar.

Executive Secretary, 0594T, Grade 6, Philosophy.

Executive Secretary, 1854T, Grade 6, Budget/Financial Planning.

Seven full-time food-operations positions available; four part-time positions.

CORRECTION

Two names were misspelled in the May 5 *Spectrum* article "AA incentive grants support diversity projects throughout university." In the paragraph "Mentoring Program for Minority Classified Employees of Virginia Tech," the correct names should have been Vickie Carroll and Carolyne Dudding. We regret any confusion these errors may have caused.



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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Electronic *Spectrum*: <http://www.vt.edu:1002/1/admin/eoaq/index.html>

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Food Operations Manager A/Assistant Manager, 0509H, Grade 8, Residential/Dining Programs/Owens Food Court.

Food Operations Manager A/Sous Chef, 2820H, Grade 8, Residential/Dining Programs/Owens Food Court.

Food Operations Manager A/Sous Chef, 0940H, Grade 8, Residential/Dining Programs/Southgate Bake Shop.

Food Operations Manager Assistant/Assistant Manager, 0561H, Grade 6, Residential/Dining Programs/Shultz Express.

Food Operations Manager B/Executive Chef, 0837H, Grade 10, Residential/Dining Programs/West End Market.

Food Operations Manager B/Executive Chef, 1781H, Grade 10, Residential/Dining Programs/Dietrich Dining Hall.

Food Production Worker A/Shopleader Supervisor, 0381, Grade 3, Residential/Dining Programs/West End Market.

Geotechnical Engineering Technician (Lab Instr Supervisor), 7580J, Grade 11, Civil/Environmental Engineering.

Housekeeping Worker, 1631G, Grade 1, DBHCC.

Housekeeping Worker, 1216H, Grade 1, Residential/Dining Programs.

Housekeeping Worker, 0299J, Grade 1, Recreational Sports.

Housekeeping Worker, 2846J, Grade 1, Recreational Sports.

Housekeeping Worker Senior, 0269H, Grade 3, Residential/Dining Programs.

Hvac Installation/Repair Technician, 557G, Grade 8, Physical Plant.

Information Technology Analyst, 7388L, Grade 0, University Computing Support.

Laboratory Mechanic C, 7606T, Grade 8, CPES.

Laboratory Specialist, 2605J, Grade 8, Veterinary Medicine (VMES).

Laboratory Specialist Senior, 7603M, Grade 9, PPWS.

Laboratory Specialist Senior, 7599T, Grade 9, Biology.

Medical Technologist, 2637J, Grade 9, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

New Media Center Manager, 6918D, Grade 14, Instructional Services.

Office Services Assistant, 7219J, Grade 4, VTTI.

Office Services Specialist, 1233T, Grade 5, Mining/Minerals Engineering.

Office Services Specialist, 1310T, Grade 5, University Registrar.

Office Services Specialist, 0889H, Grade 5, Residential/Dining Programs/Residence Education.

Office Services Specialist, 1431T, Grade 5, University Registrar.

Office Services Specialist, 931T, Grade 5, University Registrar.

Office Services Specialist, 2712H, Grade 5, Residential/Dining Programs/Southgate Warehouse.

Operating Systems Analyst, 2836D, Grade 0, Computing Center.

Operating Systems Analyst, 2242D, Grade 0, AIS.

Police Captain, 7578T, Grade 11, Police.

Printing Press Operator B, 1342A, Grade 6, Printing Services.

Program Support Technician, 1176J, Grade 6, Career Services.

Program Support Technician, 2718T, Grade 6, Personnel Services.

Program Support Technician, 1928J, Grade 6, UUSA.

Program Support Technician, 6418M, Grade 6, CALS Extension (Personnel & Benefits Section).

Program Support Technician, 6763T, Grade 6, Engineering Development.

Program Support Technician Senior, 1441T, Grade 7, College of Engineering.

Public Relations Assistant Specialist, 7239J, Grade 8, Recreational Sports.

Public Relations Coordinator, LC083, Grade 12, University Relations.

Special Services Lab Manager, 7376T,

Grade 11, EOAA.

Storekeeper (Stock Clerk), 2192, Grade 4, Residential/Dining Programs/Owens Dining Center.

Telecommunications Network Technician, 06710A, Grade 8, CNS.

Trades Utility Worker (Maintenance Engineer), 7569G, Grade 3, DBHCC.

Part Time Animal Care Tech B, W022914J, Grade 5, CVM.

Animal Care Tech B, W023031J, Grade 5, CVM.

C-print Captionist, W023016, Grade 10, Sensory Loss Services.

Dispatcher, W023034J, Grade 6, VTTI.

Fiscal Technician, W023032J, Grade 6, CPAP.

Housekeeping Worker, W020574G, Grade 1, DBHCC.

Housekeeping Worker, W022490H, Grade 1, Residential/Dining Programs.

Industrial Hygiene Technician (Prgm Spt Tech), W022664G, Grade 6, EHSS.

Laboratory Mechanic B, W022869L, Grade 6, Information Technology Acquisitions/Seat Management.

Laboratory Technician, W022700T, Grade 4, Chemistry.

Laboratory Technician Senior, W020117T, Grade 5, EHSS.

Office Services Assistant, W022450J, Grade 4, Athletics.

Office Services Assistant (Acct Serv Asst), W022144G, Grade 4, DBHCC.

Program Support Technician, W023033J, Grade 6, CPAP.

Quality Assurance Agent, W023015D, Grade 0, AIS.

Trades/Utilities Worker, W023023, Grade 3, Residential/Dining Programs/Culinary Services Maintenance Crew.

University Only Administrative Assistant to the President, U0423T, Grade 9, President's Office.

Business Analyst (Accountant, Sr), U2339G, Grade 11, Physical Plant.

Office Services Assistant, U2803H, Grade 4, Residential/Dining Programs/Owens Food Center.

Off Campus Announcer, W020800L, Grade 8, University Relations/WVTF.

Enrollment Services Coordinator, 2094J, Grade 10, Northern Virginia Center.

FACULTY POSITIONS

INSTRUCTIONAL

Department of Computer Science. Instructor (2). Contact: Vickie Graham, 200 Patton (0105).

CEUT

Continued from 1

The overall mission for CEUT is to provide focus, direction, visibility, recognition, and active support for effective teaching at the university. The center offers approximately \$130,000 in grants each year to faculty members who wish to enhance their teaching skills and/or courses. Faculty-development events at CEUT now number as many as 100 each year, with many more collaborative connections being forged with various departments and units across campus.

The UWP's basic mission is to support the Core Curriculum's revised requirements in "Writing and Discourse." Under the revision, students are required to take at least one writing-intensive course in Area One, and students beginning in 1999 are required to take two writing-intensive courses. Thus, various departments now share the responsibility in helping students learn to communicate, which was once relegated exclusively to the Department of English. The University Writing Program was originally coordinated by Nancy Metz and most recently by Carol Bailey.

"I think we can continue to build on the foundation of support to departments established

Review begins immediately.

Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology. Assistant/Associate Professor of Physiology. Contact: Bradley Klein, Phase II, room 214, College of Veterinary Medicine (0442). Review begins September 1.

Department of Horticulture. Assistant/Associate Professor of Nursery Crops/Commercial Landscape Management. Contact: Robert Wright, 301 Saunders (0327). Review begins September 1.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

University Unions and Student Activities. Program Coordinator. Contact: Alan Glick, 325 Squires (0138). Review begins May 24.

Office of Undergraduate Admissions. Associate Director. Contact: Bonnie Lucas, 201 Burruss (0202). Review begins June 9.

Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences. #FA530, Arlington Co. Contact: John Dooley, 122 Hutcheson Hall (0437). Review begins May 29.

Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources (re-advertisement). #FA676, Southampton Co. Contact: Steve Umberger, 122 Hutcheson Hall (0437). Review begins May 30.

Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources. #111205, City of Danville. Contact: Steve Umberger, 122 Hutcheson (0437). Review begins May 30.

Alumni Relations. Alumni Chapter Coordinator. Contact: Thomas Tillar, Alumni Hall (0102). Review begins June 1.

University Relations. WVTF Radio Station General Manager. Contact: Larry Hincker, 315 Burruss (0229). Review begins May 1.

Department of Entomology. Postdoctoral Associate. Contact: Jeffrey Bloomquist, 216 Price (0319). Review begins June 1.

Departments of Large Animal Clinical Sciences and Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences. Associate or Full Research Professor. Contact: Craig Thatcher, Phase II, College of Veterinary Medicine (0442). Review begins June 1.

Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences. Assistant/Associate Research Professor of Reproductive Biology. Contact: Craig Thatcher, Phase II, College of Veterinary Medicine (0442). Review begins June 1.

Transportation Institute. Human Factors Research Associate/Engineer I. Contact: Tracey Schroeder, 3500 Transportation Research Plaza (0536). Review begins May 24.

Department of Biochemistry. Postdoctoral Associate. Contact: Peter Kennelly, 123 Engel (0308). Review begins immediately.

by the excellent work of Nancy and Carol and further develop the Core Curriculum so that students leave the university with a balanced set of communication skills," Daniel said.

Wildman said that a new coordinator of the University Writing Program would be identified soon and that this appointment would take effect in August. He said that other staff changes and additions at CEUT will result from the restructuring and normal turnover.

MPRG

Continued from 2

Jeff White of Columbia Capital, and Sam Lionberger Jr. of Lionberger Construction.

In addition, university researchers and business leaders from around the world will offer presentations during the symposium on the latest technological-breakthrough theories, techniques, and advances in wireless communications.

For more information contact Jenny Frank, MPRG conference coordinator, at mprg@vt.edu or (757) 686-3765. To register, call the Virginia Tech Division of Continuing Education at 1-5182.

IN OTHER NEWS



SCHOOL SPIRIT One of the university's most recent graduates shows her Tech spirit with a special mortarboard. (J. McCormick)

Vet College research symposium focuses on geriatric health

By Jeffrey S. Douglas

A special seminar on comparative geriatric medicine presented in conjunction with Virginia Tech's College of Human Services and Education will highlight the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine's 12th Annual Research Symposium June 7-9, 2000.

Presentations will be held in room 100 at 8:30 a.m. every day.

The keynote speaker will be President Charles Steger. Other highlights include an update on Iraq's biological warfare program from a United Nations official and several dozen presentations concerning faculty, staff and graduate student research under way in the college.

Sharon L. Campbell, with the Animal Health Group at Pfizer, Inc., will discuss cognitive dysfunction as part of the symposium's annual alumni presentation on June 7 at 10 a.m.

On Thursday, June 8, United Nations official David Kelly will present "Iraq's Biological Weapons Programme—Is it Over?" at 8:45 a.m.

On Friday there will be a special seminar on comparative geriatric medicine.

Sponsored by the VMRCVM, the College of Human Resources and Education, the Center for Gerontology, the Center for Animal Human Relationships, Pfizer, Inc., Novartis Animal Health and Hill's Pet Nutrition, the seminar will explore some of the social and physiological

implications of aging in people and animals.

Overviews of both the Center for Gerontology and the Center for Animal and Human Relationships will be presented. University experts and visiting professionals will then present a series of lectures concerning nutrition and aging in people and animals, social support of pets with the elderly, pet bereavement, Alzheimer's Disease and others. Presentations will also highlight the effects of aging on the immune system, renal function and arthritis.

The event will also include a student competition. Graduate students can compete for first and second prizes in both clinical research and basis science categories. For more information, call 1-7913.

Orth to head FWS department

By Lynn Davis

Donald J. Orth, fisheries professor and interim director of the fisheries and wildlife sciences department since last summer, has been named the new director for a five-year appointment.

Orth, who follows Brian Murphy as director, joined the Virginia Tech faculty in 1980. He specializes in research on stream-habitat analysis and fish-population dynamics. Orth spent one year as visiting scientist with Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

The fisheries professor was coordinator of graduate programs in fisheries and wildlife and served previously as fisheries-section coordinator. His research has attracted approximately \$2.5 million in research contracts and grants and produced 65 journal articles in collaboration with more than 20 graduate students and numerous

undergraduate students.

He was awarded the Certificate of Teaching Excellence at Virginia Tech last year for activities and innovations in teaching. In 1998, he received Virginia Tech's Outstanding Faculty Award.

Orth was elected president in 1992 of one of the most active and visible natural-resources education groups in North America, the Education Section of the American Fisheries Society. He is a fellow in the American Institute of Fisheries Research Biologists.

Since 1996, Orth has been a member of a faculty group, the Activants, which studies active learning techniques, peer coaching, and other teaching-related issues. During his tenure at Tech, he developed the capstone course in the fisheries-science option, a writing-intensive course that contains a class magazine project.

Ph.D. candidate to facilitate UN summit

By Jean Elliott

Over the last five months, life has changed greatly for Katherine Hall, a Ph.D. candidate who she created. In February, she received an e-mail from a United Nations official who was interested in the net-forum chat page that she developed.

An intense international e-mail correspondence followed. Now Hall, a Ph.D. candidate in educational curriculum and instruction, will be a facilitator in the opening ceremonies at the UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) Peace Summit in Cannes, France, from May 29-31.

"I didn't even remember much about that web site," Hall said. "I developed it for an English class four years ago and it was about the post-modern German writer Heidegger."

Gary Lebowitz, who works in the training and examination section of the U.N. office, was not as interested in the content of the site but, during the e-mail exchange, became intrigued with Hall's knowledge of distance learning. He and Hall continued the cyber exchange in a distance-learning environment.

Hall first "met" Lebowitz, as well as other members of the United Nations, via an interactive video conference with Geneva on March 17. Hall presented a seminar on "Instructional Design in the Distance Learning Environment,"

which was generated from the distance-learning classroom in War Memorial Hall. She was joined in the two-hour presentation by teaching and learning professors Greg Sherman and Barbara Locke, and Fabrice Teulon from foreign languages. Sherman and Locke discussed applications of web-based instruction while Fabrice presented web ideas for on-line language instruction. The U.N. participants included instructors who deal with cultural interactions and second-language teaching for the purpose of interacting with other countries.

Hall's knowledge and dedication have gained her an internship position in Geneva for the summer as well as the leadership role in the opening ceremony. She recently returned from her first visit to Paris where she worked with a computer interface called T3W and met with distance educators and instructional designers from France.

This year's summit is dedicated to improving water quality worldwide and is called "From the Earth to the Stars." Hall plans to bring a video of the conference back to Virginia Tech for study and use in science education classes this fall. She will also be conducting a workshop in Cannes on interactivity in web-based instruction that will be available for access via the T3W interface.

PROVOST

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portant factors in student success. The common-book experience is one way we hope to stimulate idea exchange and begin a true dialogue between students and faculty members. Putting a copy of *Einstein's Dreams* in the hands of every entering freshman is tangible evidence of our intention to support and guide the intellectual life of our students."

Einstein's Dreams is a series of short, two-to-four page dreams that Einstein might have had. They describe what life in a small village might be like if time were configured differently—as a circle repeating itself every 24 hours, for example—or if people lived only one day. What would people's lives be like? What would they value? The chapters "capture students' imaginations and help them think in different ways," Markham said.

Students in selected classes have read *Einstein's Dreams* the past two years in the pilot project. "The book *Einstein's Dreams* engages students quickly and facilitates discussions on such varied topics as time, dreams, culture, difference, the art of science, writing styles, and the power of nature," Markham said. "Students have performed, built models, written essays, and constructed web sites related to concepts in the book."

The project, created by Associate Provost Ron Daniel, began in 1998 with 800 students and continued in 1999 with more than 1,300 students. The project was one of several

efforts recommended by the Learning Communities committee to improve the first-year experience at Virginia Tech.

According to student comments on a survey after their participation in the common-book project, the pilot was a success: "It helps you appreciate what other people think." "It opens up the floor to a non-school related discussion where everyone is equal." "It made me think creatively, even daydream a little."

For more information about the Common Book Initiative, call or e-mail Markham at 1-9834 or einsteins.dreams@vt.edu.

OBITUARY

John B. Grantham, 89

John B. "Jack" Grantham, 89, Virginia Tech's first forestry faculty member, died April 13. He taught the first four-year forestry class, the Class of 1941.

The first students earned a degree in conservation and forestry under the biology depart-

ment. Today, that early program is now the College of Natural Resources, after growing into a School of Forestry in the College of Agriculture and then becoming its own college in 1995.

Grantham was assistant professor of forestry from 1937 to 1941. He earned his B.S. degree in forestry at the University of Washington in 1934 and an M.S. from the New York College of Forestry at Syracuse University in 1935. He used to say, "The eight members of that first class weathered without complaint my teaching them all 10 courses we offered then, even though on some occasions I was only two jumps ahead of them in class preparation."

After leaving the university, he worked as a research associate in forest products with the Texas Forest Service, then spent 15 years teaching and doing forest products research at Oregon State University. In 1959 he began a 20-year career with the research branch of the U.S. Forest Service. He was a charter member of the Forest Products Society.

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