

SPECTRUM

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TODAY'S EDITION

See page 2 for
information on
campus activities.

Farm and Family Showcase set for September 5-7

By Netta Benton

The Second Annual Farm and Family Showcase at Virginia Tech's Kentland Farm is scheduled for Thursday through Saturday, September 5 through 7. The family-oriented showcase will highlight agricultural, natural, and human-resources education and research.

The showcase will feature activities and exhibits of interest to those in the agriculture and forest industries as well as to homeowners and landowners. Activities over the three days will include displays, demonstrations, seminars, and family programs for all ages. The showcase will provide technical information for agricultural and natural-resource workers, as well as practical information and fun activities for landowners, homeowners, and families.

General farm tours will take place throughout the three-day event. The showcase will feature information on a wide variety of topics, including agricultural production, business, and technology; poultry, environmental stewardship and natural resources, livestock, pasture management, food quality, safety, chemistry, and preparation; pesticides, insects, plant diseases, home landscaping, horticulture and vegetable gardening; lawn care, value-added food products, birds, and bats.

Special events include a cornfield maze, an aquaculture exhibit, a display of award-winning 4-H projects, sheep shearing and sheep dog demonstrations, archery and air-rifle ranges, egg incubation, butterfly gardens, an interactive fishing simulator, a live-bird display, oxen demonstrations, pony rides, and saddlebred, Arabian, drill team,

(See FARM on 3)

CALS Dean Swiger announces January retirement

By Stewart MacInnis

Andy Swiger, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the longest-serving agriculture dean in the Southern region of the United States, has announced he will retire January 1.

Swiger, who has served as agriculture dean since 1992, was praised by President Charles Steger for helping position Virginia Tech as a leader in research and the teaching of emerging biological sciences while also preserving the university's traditional support to production agriculture.

"Dr. Swiger's quiet and effective leadership has helped Virginia Tech evolve into an institution that truly has the potential to reach the top ranks of research universities in this country," Steger said. "His influence has been felt throughout the university."

Swiger joined the faculty of Virginia Tech in 1980 as head of the Department of Animal Science. He served as director of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station before being

named agriculture dean in 1992.

Soon after assuming the deanship, Swiger was faced with managing major budget reductions that have never been fully recouped. This year, he has guided planning to help the college weather another set of major state budget cuts.

"The spirit and future of our college is strong because we have an abundance of outstanding faculty and staff members and because the industry of agriculture has never had a time when the capability to produce new and better foods more efficiently was more promising nor more needed," Swiger said. "We must capture that promise."

During his tenure as dean, the college's biotechnology effort has matured into a program that has won national respect, and the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute was established, with many of its faculty members also holding positions in the agriculture college. Important new facilities have been planned and are nearing funding, and the efforts of agricultural

researchers and of Virginia Cooperative Extension have been focused to serve emerging as well as traditional clients.

In addition, Virginia Tech has risen to number seven nationally in agricultural research, as reported by the National Science Foundation. Agricultural research and development accounts for one-third of the research spending at Virginia Tech.

Two years ago, Swiger was named to the Animal Science Hall of Fame at Ohio State University. He earned his bachelor's degree in animal husbandry from that university in 1954. He earned his master's and doctoral degrees from Iowa State University.

Swiger has received a number of awards during his career, including the Rockerfeller Prentice Memorial Award, one of the highest awards available to animal scientists. He is also credited with having an impact on the field of animal breeding and quantitative genetics through his teaching activities.

New network to test advanced IT technologies

By Jean Elliott

The Mid-Atlantic Crossroads (MAX) consortium and the Naval Research Laboratory have launched the next-generation Advanced Technology Demonstration Network (ATDnet), an unclassified Department of Defense (DoD) research network.

MAX, which was founded in 1999 by Virginia Tech, the University of Maryland, Georgetown University, and George Washington University, will be responsible for the day-to-day operational aspects of the core ATDnet infrastructure. Partnering with Qwest Communications, Verizon, and Fibergate, this next generation ATDnet is a regional fiber test bed that will support research in emerging and experimental telecommunications technologies and

applications.

"MAX was created by the four founding institutions to support our research and educational needs," said Hud Croasdale, who directs Virginia Tech's Information Technology Strategic Partnerships from the Internet2Studio in Richmond. "In addition, Virginia Tech has been actively engaged in the development and deployment of advanced-networking technologies (that are not currently commercially available) to enable a larger advanced-networking infrastructure test bed and support the development and deployment of new applications within this infrastructure."

ATDnet is a partnership of multiple federal institutions that include the Naval Research Laboratory, the Defense Intelligence Agency,

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, the Laboratory for Telecommunications Sciences, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, and the Defense Information Systems Agency.

"The addition of ATDnet to the MAX community will help support these efforts and the earlier deployment of these technologies in the MAX network," Croasdale said.

The new infrastructure will enable investigations in very high-speed optical transport, ultra-dense-wavelength division multiplexing, non-homogeneous fiber performance, optical-burst switching, and interactive high-resolution visualization. According to Erv Blythe, vice president for information

(See NETWORK on 4)

Sutphin to direct academic programs for ag college

By Stewart MacInnis

It's been 30 years since H. Dean Sutphin earned his bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech. He's returning this winter to take charge of the direction of the academic programs for the university's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

"The opportunity to work with the excellent faculty, staff and students at Virginia Tech is a dream come true at both a personal and professional level," Sutphin said. "This completes a journey that started with a one-year appointment as a lecturer at Virginia Tech, took me to Ohio State for my Ph.D., led to a professionally satisfying career at Cornell, and now to return to my roots. It's always been my goal to return to Virginia Tech, but I didn't know how it would be achieved."

Sutphin is currently associate dean and

(See SUTPHIN on 4)

Paper recycling in-building pick-up to end July 1

By Sarah Newbill

Due to budget cuts, Virginia Tech Recycling (VTR) will suspend all in-building collection of sorted office paper, magazines, and newspapers next month.

The paper pick-up started in the early 90s when English Instructor Larry Bechtel had an interest in starting a paper-recycling program. Every Friday he would ride his bike from Williams Hall to the Physical Plant, borrow a truck, and make his recycling rounds on campus. "It just grew and grew," Bechtel said. "I had to get more volunteers and even printed out a pick-up schedule."

The English department was getting so many calls about the recycling, Bechtel asked if he could be hired part-time to manage the growth of this program. In 1991, he was hired, and it eventually grew into a full time position. He is now director of VTR, and is also responsible for solid waste on campus.

Bechtel has spent his time striving to keep

the recycling program reliable and routine. He said "once it becomes routine, you forget about it, until it's not routine anymore. That's the sort of thing we're dealing with now."

Three of 11 positions, or 25 percent of the VTR staff was cut, which means an estimated 34 tons of recyclable paper/newspaper/magazines per month will not be collected by the recycling crew, and instead will be transported off campus as waste unless volunteers take on the task. "Recycling is a good thing to do and the university supports it. We're eliminating the paper pick-up because we have to eliminate something," said Spencer Hall, assistant vice president for facilities, whose division eliminated a total of 39 positions.

As of Monday, June 17, over 20 offices have accepted the challenge of taking their recycling materials to the new consolidated site located in the Overflow Lot just west of the Duck Pond, but Bechtel says he doesn't see how it's going to be possible for employees to

do as much as the recycling staff has in the past. "In my opinion, this university has had a flagship recycling program," he said, but admits these are hard times. "Nobody who has invested their time in the program wants to see it cut. I don't suppose this was pleasurable for anyone." Bechtel recently hosted a recycling workshop where 15 colleges and universities across the state were represented.

Estimates from a student survey done in 1999-2000 reflect the university was losing money by recycling, but Bechtel said it still costs money to throw it away. Although the cost for recycling still outweighs the costs to throw it away, the university's Budget Office has to pay the Solid Waste Authority \$49 per ton fee on waste paper, which will now add up to almost \$50,000 per year in fees just for paper, based on tonnage numbers for 2001. Paper hauled to the authority as a recyclable

(See PAPER on 4)

ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

Friday, 21

CommonHealth Program, 12:10 to 12:55 p.m., DBHCC conference room G.

SOTA Exhibit, Armory Art Gallery: "Fine Artists from Rockbridge."

SOTA Exhibit, Squires Perspective Gallery: "Diversity in White" (through 6-28).

SOTA Event, 6 p.m., Henderson Lawn: Gerry Timlin, Irish singer and guitarist.

Wednesday, 26

"With Good Reason," 7 p.m., WVTF.

TA Event, 7 p.m., Squires Studio Theater: "Fuddy Meers" (through 6-29).

Thursday, 27

Classes End.

Friday, 28

Exams Begin.

SOTA Event, 6 p.m., Henderson Lawn: Mitchell Oglesby, Country and Western music.

Saturday, 29

Exams End.

Monday, 1

Pay Date for Faculty and Staff Members.

Second Summer Classes Begin.

Summer Orientation Begins (Through 7-31).

Wednesday, 3

Early Spectrum Publication Date.

Last Day to Add.

BULLETINS

URC provides free storage space

The University Records Center provides free air-conditioned storage space for university employees with extra files. Records Management Services also has storage boxes (12x10x15) for sale at \$1.50 each or boxes (16x6x10) for \$1. The boxes may be picked up at the University Storage Facility any day between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Call Kathy Cantrell at 1-6188 or e-mail kantrell@vt.edu to place your order.

Hokie 5K Race and Fun Run set

The Virginia Tech Alumni Association, the Blacksburg

Striders and the New River Valley Alumni Chapter will hold the Inaugural Hokie 5K Race and 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, June 29, at the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center.

Proceeds from the event, which is open to the public, will benefit the New River Valley Alumni Chapter Scholarship Fund. The race is open to participants of all ages and there will be a 50-yard Diaper Dash for small children.

A pre-race tailgate party and buffet dinner will be held the evening of Friday, June 28, at the west end stands of Lane Stadium.

The schedule for the Saturday's events is as follows: 6:45 to 7:30 a.m., Race Day Registration and Packet Pick-Up; 8 a.m., 5K

Race Start; 8:30 a.m., 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk Start; 9 a.m., Diaper Dash; 9:30 a.m., Awards Ceremony and Post-Race Party.

Details of award categories, registration forms and more information can be found at <http://fbox.vt.edu/alumni/alum/5K.html>.

The race will start in the parking lot at 1715 Pratt Drive, Research Building 12, and will be routed through Corporate Research Center.

For more information, contact Heather Esteban at hesteban@vt.edu or 1-5753.

Online Wellness Resource Center launched for e-learners

By Cate Mowrey

The Institute for Distance and Distributed Learning (IDDL) has launched an innovative Online Wellness Resource Center (<http://www.iddl.vt.edu/owrc>) as part of its effort to provide a complete set of student support services to e-learners.

The dramatic 350-percent growth in the university's distance-learning offerings over the past two years has attracted a wide spectrum of learners with many diverse academic goals and needs. Recognizing the specific needs of distance learners, Virginia Tech's IDDL employs a holistic approach to e-learning where all aspects of a student's educational experience are considered, not just the ability to access and engage in course content or with faculty members and other students.

Virginia Tech's efforts to develop quality e-learner support services include establishing basic on-line administrative and aca-

demical support infrastructures such as a fully searchable catalog of the university's e-learning credit and non-credit courses, an e-commerce solution for registration and payment, a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week technical help desk; an on-line writing lab, and easily accessible library and learning resources with a dedicated distance-learning librarian. The university then focused on broadening its support offerings to include many resources not typically accessible to distance learners, offerings such as wellness resources.

Development of the OWRC began with a needs assessment which used both quantitative and qualitative data-gathering instruments. Stephanie Scheer, distance-learner specialist with IDDL, led the project. "We first had to determine which specific resources would be viable for distance learners and a means for making them easily accessible," Scheer said.

The needs-assessment participant group

included over 200 working professionals enrolled in three on-line, masters-level programs at Virginia Tech. These e-learners could not physically access campus-based student services which are traditionally designed for a residential population. Wellness areas identified through the needs-assessment process resulted in a structure that would become the OWRC.

Key areas of the OWRC web site are emotional, intellectual, physical, social, and occupational wellness. A secure self-assessment area is available for e-learners to spot check their current level of wellness in these five key areas.

Survey participants indicated which specific resources would be most beneficial to them and these were priorities during development. All information is presented in the context of the e-learning environment, explaining

the specific relevance of a topic to the learner.

Hobby information, on-line lectures and newspapers are available to stimulate intellectual activity. Emotional wellbeing is addressed with relaxation techniques, stress-management tips, and ways to improve concentration. Quick and healthy meal recipes, exercise plans, nutritional and weight-loss information help e-learners stay physically fit despite their busy schedules. Professional fulfillment is encouraged through interview tips, salary information and links to job listings. The ability to communicate with fellow e-learners fosters a social environment and decreases feelings of isolation and psychological distance from the "virtual" classroom.

"Initial response to the OWRC has been very positive," Scheer said. "Students appreciate that Virginia Tech is concerned with the whole individual."

Fralin Center helps state students learn about biotechnology

By Stewart MacInnis

More than 10,000 middle- and high-school students in Virginia will have learned about biotechnology by the end of the current school year, thanks to equipment and assistance provided by the Fralin Biotechnology Center.

In addition to 56 middle and high schools across the state, the Fralin Center also loaned equipment to four community colleges. Many of the schools borrowed several of the four specialized kits.

"Biotechnology is about science, but it's also about economic-development opportunities for Virginia's communities and the potential for the creation of new cutting-edge companies that will need these very

students as employees in the future," said Tracy Wilkins, director of the Fralin Center.

"Our equipment-loan program is designed to familiarize our young people with the promise and limitations of biotechnology," he said. "At the same time we hope to interest a number of these bright young people to set their sights on an educational path that would prepare them for employment in this new industry."

To accomplish this, the center conducts training sessions for secondary-school teachers and college instructors on a variety of laboratory techniques used in biotechnology. With that training, those teachers are eligible to borrow four laboratory kits that allow them to introduce to their students certain concepts and advanced

laboratory techniques that are central to biotechnology.

By borrowing the kits, the teachers have access to laboratory equipment most schools cannot afford to purchase. They are also provided with most of the supplies they will use during experiments.

"The teachers who have borrowed our kits tell us their students really like the experiments because they are designed to get these concepts across in ways that are relevant to them and that are fun," said Kristi DeCourcy, the center's lab manager and manager of the equipment-loan program.

The four types of kits loaned by the Fralin

Center provide the equipment and supplies necessary to conduct experiments and teach concepts concerning DNA, column chromatography, immunology, and protein electrophoresis.

The experiments made possible with the kits teach students about DNA fingerprinting, the spread of diseases in a population, the relationship of different species through an examination of their proteins, and how and why scientists can separate individual components from a mixture.

The Fralin Center also loans other equipment when possible to help teachers with experiments they design themselves.

EMPLOYMENT

CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

The following classified positions are currently available. Position details, specific application procedures/position-closing dates may be found on Personnel Services web site <http://www.ps.vt.edu>. Positions are also listed on the Job Line, a 24-hour recorded message service. For information on all job listings, call 1-5300. Some positions include state benefits. Positions with numbers beginning with "W" are hourly and 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

Eleven full-time food-service positions available.

Assistant Director, Marketing/Promotions, 0LC090J, PB 3, Athletics.

Assistant Manager Senior, 000780H, PB 3, RDP.

Business Manager, 007865S, PB 4, IDDL.

Business Practices Specialist, 007952F, PB 5, Controller's Office.

Circulation/Reserve Night Supervisor, 006624G, PB 3, Newman Library, C/R.

Controller, CCCCC, PB 0, Virginia Tech

Foundation.

Customer Service Representative, 002039C, PB 2, University Bursar.

Data Integrity Coordinator, 007818S, PB 3, University Development.

Division Head, Construction Services, 007597F, PB 6, Capital Design/Construction.

Executive Secretary, 006787Y, PB 3, ISC.

General Counsel, CCCCC, PB 0, Virginia Tech Foundation.

Graphic Designer, 0LC071S, PB 4, University Relations.

Housekeeping Worker, 001027H, PB 1, RDP.

Laboratory Specialist, 007810M, PB 3, PPWS.

Large Animal Veterinary Technician, 001996M, PB 4, VTH.

Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant, 007652J, PB 5, Schiffert Center.

Plumber Steamfitter, 001606F, PB 3, Physical Plant.

Power Plant Mechanic, 002219F, PB 3, Power Plant.

Programmer/Analyst, 007795K, PB 5, VBI.

Radiologic Technologist, 002394M, PB 3, VTH.

Sous Chef, 007881H, PB 3, RDP.

Student Services Program Assistant, 001233B, PB 2, MME.

Systems Administrator, P002000K, PB 4, VBI.

PART TIME

Distance Learning Classroom Technician, W020967A, PB 3, VBS.

Large Animal Husbandry, W022155M, PB 1, VTH.

Office Services Specialist, W020230M, PB 2, VTH.

Radiologic Technologist, W022412M, PB 3, VTH.

Starter Marshall/Shop Attendant, W022113J, PB 1, Golf Clubhouse.

Veterinary Technician, W023340M, PB 4, VTH.

UNIVERSITY ONLY

Enrollment Services Assistant, U001957J, PB 3, CAUS.

Project Leader, Portal Team, U006824Y, PB 6, IAD.

OFF CAMPUS

Area Efnep/Scnep Program Support Technician, 006950M, PB 3, VCE—Northeast District.

Director of Nursing, 002178M, PB 4, CVM.

Nursing Supervisor, 006726M, PB 3, CVM.

Secretary Senior, 002089J, PB 2, NVC.

Senior Program Administrator, 006436Y, PB 4, DCE.

INSTRUCTIONAL

Department of Engineering Science and Mechanics. Research Scientist. Contact: David Dillard, Department of Engineering

Science and Mechanics, Mail Code 0219, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Athletics. Assistant Men's and Women's Swim Coach. Contact: Pam Linkous, Human Resources Manager, Virginia Tech Athletics, 395 Jamerson Athletic Center, Blacksburg, Virginia 24062-0502, e-mail: Pamela@vt.edu.

The Department of Engineering Science and Mechanics. Department Head. Contact: M.W. Hyer, Search Committee Chair, Department of Engineering Science and Mechanics (0219), Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061, e-mail: hyerm@vt.edu.

University Development. Assistant Director of Development in R.B. Pamplin College of Business. Contact: Rhonda K. Arsenault, Assistant Vice President for Advancement Services, Office of University Development, 201 Pack Building, 0336, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061.

Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Crop/Soil Science, King and Queen and King William Counties. Contact: Steve Umberger, Virginia Cooperative Extension, 121 Hutcheson Hall, Virginia Tech 0437, Blacksburg, VA.

FARM

Continued from 1

and draft-horse working demonstrations.

Walking tours will feature wildlife-habitat projects and protection of stream banks. A diagnostic center composed of service labs on the Virginia Tech campus will offer diagnoses, demonstrations, and general information on pesticide residue, insect identification, plant disease, and soil testing.

A children's activity center will provide activities ranging from role-playing important contributors to American agriculture and

interactive story presentations to a toddler playground, on-going games, and face painting. Children also will have an opportunity to make and use puppets and to learn about foods originating in the Americas.

One area will contain pregnant ewes and beef cows that are expected to give birth during the showcase. A display on black bears will highlight more than 20 years of research and fieldwork study. Racer Bunny Burkette will be on hand with her ethanol-fueled racecar to sign autographs and talk with visitors.

Bus tours of the Kentland Farm will provide a general overview of the farm and its use for teaching, research, and outreach.

Other programs will include tailgating with beef, honeybee management, home-site selection based on soil, tofu making, kitchen chemistry, ham curing, lawn-mower maintenance, healthful snacks, food-quality perception, food safety, water safety, and safe use of pesticides for homeowners.

Special programs for agricultural producers will include attracting beneficial insects, precision farming, woodland management, wildlife techniques, dairy goats, and commercial pumpkin production. A number of equipment representatives will mow and condition hay in the field and answer questions about the operations. Other forage demonstrations include baling conventional and high-moisture hay, harvesting corn silage, and handling hay.

A large trade show also will be tailored to a diverse audience.

The showcase will be at Kentland Farm, which is located along the New River a few miles west of the campus. The event is sponsored by the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station and the Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Human Resources and Education, Natural Resources, and the Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine.

For more information and a program schedule, visit web site <http://www.farmandfamily.vt.edu>.

TO THE EDITOR

I would like to express appreciation to the many faculty and staff members and students who have stepped up to volunteer their time and labor so that paper recycling in their offices could continue after July 1. These efforts clearly indicate the degree to which the principle and action of recycling is valued by the Virginia Tech community.

Please know that I and my staff at Virginia Tech Recycling will do our best to support these efforts. If other individuals or offices are thinking of continuing paper recycling, they can contact me at the VTR office (lbechtel@vt.edu, 1-9915) and we will add them to the "roster."

Thanks for recycling!

Sincerely,

Larry Bechtel, VTR coordinator and solid-waste manager

Shuler honored at VMRCVM Commencement

By Jeff Douglas

A noted veterinarian, businessman, community leader and member of the Virginia General Assembly was honored by the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine during the college's 19th annual Commencement ceremony held Friday, May 10 at Virginia Tech.

James M. Shuler, D.V.M., was inducted into the college's John N. Dalton Society during the ceremonies. Memorializing the late Virginia governor who signed its founding legislation, the Dalton Society honors those who have provided distinguished service for the college.

Shuler is a well-known Blacksburg veterinarian who served for six years as a member of the Blacksburg Town Council, eight years as a member of the Virginia State Board of Health, and nine years as a delegate in the Virginia General Assembly, where he has been a strong support of both agriculture and veterinary medicine.

Eighty-six DVM degrees, three Ph.D. degrees, 10 M.S. degrees and eight certificates of residency were awarded during the ceremony.

Of the DVM graduates, 17, or almost 20 percent have been awarded post-graduate internships at training institutions around the nation, an achievement that speaks of the

academic quality of the graduates and the strong trend towards specialization in veterinary medicine.

"Post-graduate internships are awarded on the basis of academic performance and other criteria," said VMRCVM Dean Peter Eyre. "Our students traditionally score higher than average on the national veterinary licensing examination. I think this is another example of the growing academic quality of the college."

Featuring dignitaries from both Virginia Tech and the University of Maryland, the pageant included the administration of the Veterinarian's Oath, the Hooding Ceremony, and the presentation of numerous awards and honors.

Kevin Pelzer, an associate professor in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, was invited by the class to present the Keynote Address.

Benjamin C. Haas, the Class of 2002 valedictorian, was presented with the Richard B. Talbot Award, and Rebecca Rice was honored as the College's Outstanding Young Alumna for 2002.

Earlier in the day, scholarship donors and student recipients were recognized during the college's annual Awards Luncheon.

Because of state holidays on July 4 and 5, *Spectrum* will be distributed on Wednesday, July 3.



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
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Tech study shows strong hypertension association with obesity, alcohol

By Stewart MacInnis

Race and ethnicity, age, obesity, and heavy alcohol consumption are strongly associated with hypertension in both men and women over the age of 40, according to the results of a study by Virginia Tech researchers presented at the Experimental Biology 2002 conference in New Orleans in April.

"Our findings demonstrate the importance of maintaining proper weight to prevent and control hypertension," said Richard Forshee, research assistant professor for the Center for Food and Nutrition Policy. "If you are overweight or obese, losing weight will reduce your risk of hypertension and provide other health benefits."

Hypertension, or high blood pressure, is a serious medical condition affecting approximately 50 million adult Americans. Hypertension is associated with several severe health problems, including increased risk of stroke and coronary heart disease.

Forshee and Maureen Storey, acting director of the Center for Food and Nutrition Policy, analyzed data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey III, a nationally representative survey of the diet and health of Americans.

Storeys and Forshee found that for both men and women, the level of obesity is strongly related to hypertension. Men and women with a body-mass index of over 40 were five times

more likely to have hypertension than were men and women at the recommended index level of 25 or less. Even being slightly overweight, with an index level of 25 to 30, increased the risk of hypertension by 51 percent for men and 71 percent for women.

African-Americans are at a greater risk of hypertension than are whites. Controlling for other factors, including body-mass index, African-American men were found to be 50 percent more likely to suffer from hypertension than white men, and African-American women were 71 percent more likely to have hypertension than white women.

Age is strongly related to hypertension. Men and women age 65 were 4.3 and 6.9 percent more likely, respectively, to have hypertension than men and women age 40.

Heavy alcohol consumption increases the risk of hypertension for both men and women. Men who reported consuming more than four drinks the day before were twice as likely to have hypertension than men who did not con-

sume alcohol the previous day. Women who consumed more than three drinks the previous day were 2.3 times more likely to have hypertension than women who did not drink the previous day. Moderate or light alcohol consumption did not have any relationship with hypertension.

The researchers also reported that people can take steps to battle hypertension. "Losing weight is a difficult and often daunting challenge, but lowering your body-mass index will reduce many health risks, even if you never achieve your ideal weight," Forshee said.

The research was funded by the Center for Food Nutrition Policy at Virginia Tech, an independent, non-profit research and education center that studies food safety, biotechnology, and nutrition policy issues. Experimental Biology 2002 is a multi-society interdisciplinary biomedical scientific meeting. Attending were approximately 14,000 biomedical researchers from around the world.

NETWORK

Continued from 1

tion systems, that translates into "faster, more reliable delivery of information with greater clarity in more formats."

Understanding these experimental technologies across wide-area networks is a key to deploying the advanced services necessary to meet the DoD mission over the next 10 years. These efforts involve researchers at the ATDnet principal sites, regional MAX institutions, and their commercial partners.

Qwest will be the primary backbone provider for ATDnet, in partnership with Verizon and Fibergate, a fiber-optic communications

company. A key aspect of this effort is to provide ATDnet members direct access to a broadband fiber infrastructure, which will allow the MAX-ATDnet partnership to provide the network with new and experimental optical technologies as needed, without the risk of disrupting essential and production services on the available commercial networks. It is envisioned that some of the applications to be tested will use single-stream bandwidths as high as 40-80-160 Gbps—capacities not feasible across current commercial networks.

The core MAX network consists of a 50-mile ring of fiber-optic cable with extensions into the Baltimore and Northern Virginia area.

PAPER

Continued from 1

material does not incur a fee, a savings not reflected in VTR's budget. "If the program could draw from these 'cost-avoidance' savings, we'd be able to show more easily the value of recycling, but it doesn't work that way," Bechtel said.

Reducing the ease of paper recycling on campus may have several ripple effects if employees do not take it upon themselves to recycle. Custodians will spend a greater portion of their day handling trash. "They will touch every piece of paper now because we're not going to be there. It just means more work for them," Bechtel said.

The Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority (MRSWA) will also be affected. MRSWA Recycling Coordinator Tim Myers is concerned about the recent decrease in tonnage from Virginia Tech, and said it comes at a bad time since the Town of Blacksburg has also stopped curb-side recycling pickup. Myers said the operating budget for the authority's recycling center will be affected. "We built the facility anticipating growth, and hope this is only a short-term set back. We're optimistic that volunteer efforts will help, but we won't know until late July what kind of reduction we're looking at."

The MRSWA is a collaboration of Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Montgomery County, and Virginia Tech.

Additional Recycling Information

Stackable bins for paper will be left in offices that request this. Nylon carrying bags will be made available to these participating offices if requested as well. VTR will support these individuals and offices as effectively as possible, given the circumstances.

For Virginia Tech offices located in rental properties, and for offices located in the Corporate Research Center, collection of other

recyclables (commingled containers and corrugated cardboard) will also be suspended, in addition to paper, beginning July 1.

For the core campus, collection of corrugated cardboard and commingled containers will continue without change. Operations recycling of shredded paper from Records Management, scrap paper from University Printing Services, and ferrous/non-ferrous scrap metals from Facilities' shops, are also not affected.

Drop sites for commingled containers are located in the parking/service lots of Shultz, Owens, and Dietrick Dining Halls. A consolidated recycling station for deposit of paper (sorted office paper, glossy magazines, newspapers), is located in the Overflow Lot, just west of the Duck Pond. This station includes drop boxes for corrugated cardboard and will soon include one for commingled containers, as well.

For more information, contact the VTR office at 1-9915

SUTPHIN

Continued from 1

director of academic programs for the college's counterpart at Cornell University. He will begin his duties at Virginia Tech no later than January 1, 2003.

"Dr. Sutphin's innovative and imaginatively implemented programs have been a hallmark of his tenure at Cornell," said Andy Swiger, dean of agriculture. "His ideas, and especially the creative way in which he thinks, will help us build an already-solid academic program into one whose stature is equal to our research program."

The National Science Foundation earlier this year ranked Virginia Tech as the number-seven university nationally in agricultural research.

"I have great love for my alma mater, the state of Virginia and agriculture and the life sciences," Sutphin said. "The family farm (in Carroll County), which I continue to operate, subscription to the local newspaper, updates from friends and colleagues, and alumni news have provided points of contact."

Teaching has been at the heart of Sutphin's career from the beginning. He earned a bachelor's and master's degree in education from Virginia Tech in 1972 and 1975, and a

doctorate from Ohio State in 1981. He taught agricultural education in Carroll County for six years until 1978, when he joined the faculty at Virginia Tech as an instructor.

After earning his doctorate, he joined the faculty at Cornell as an assistant professor, and worked his way to his current position. Along the way he has undertaken a variety of leadership roles in education and agriculture organizations nationally.

Sutphin said he intends to invest the time to put those connections to use for Virginia Tech.

"I've sought to develop national and international linkages for academic programs, literally around the world," Sutphin said. "I believe students, faculty members and the college reap many benefits from these linkages. I have proven to myself that 'a good idea' will attract significant resources and attract partners who are willing to share their resources."

Sutphin succeeds John White, who will retire from Virginia Tech this summer after 35 years with the university, the last 16 years as associate dean and director of academic programs.

Swiger credited White with boosting enrollment in the college, strengthening student clubs and activities, and revitalizing the college's alumni organization. Enrollment in the college doubled during the first 10 years under White's supervision. The rate of students placed in jobs and graduate school after graduation also improved, making the college's graduates among the most employable from the university. In addition, he directed the renovation of the college's curriculum into a model for instruction in agriculture and the life sciences in the 21st century.

Until Sutphin arrives, John Crunkilton will serve as interim associate dean and director of Academic Programs. Swiger said, "I have worked closely with Dr. Crunkilton for many years and have every confidence that he will be superb in helping us through this transition." Crunkilton has been associate dean for agriculture technology programs since 1993.