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Plant biology, computer science team receives second NSF grant

By Susan Trulove

A team of university computer scientists and plant biologists has received a half-million-dollar grant under the National Science Foundation (NSF) Information Technology Research (ITR) program to do research to understand stress-resistance mechanisms in plants by developing multi-modal models that integrate experimental data, databases, and existing knowledge from scientific literature.

The award comes on the heels of a \$600,000 award from the NSF Next Generation Software program received last year. That award supports work by some of the same researchers to produce a software pack-

age called Espresso, which automates much of the methodology involved in conducting micro-array, or gene chip, experiments and analyzing subsequent data. The NGS award also supports further investigation of molecular/genomic responses in loblolly pine to the repeated cycles of drought stress.

The ITR grant supports new approaches to representation and manipulation of networks within a computer to provide entirely new ways to work with large data sets, visualize findings, and share knowledge. Using Arabidopsis as a model, the Virginia Tech scientists will elucidate the genetic sequence of events that enable plants to cope with drought by applying network representations and algorithms to help fill

gaps in what is known of biological pathways for specific functions or results.

Principal investigators on the ITR project are Lenwood S. Heath, Layne T. Watson, and Naren Ramakrishnan in computer science and Ruth Grene and Boris I. Chevone in plant pathology, physiology, and weed science. The team's proposal was one of only six small ITR's awarded out of 40 small ITR proposals submitted in the general field of computational biology.

"In the Espresso project, we study gene-expression patterns for plants responding to stress using the loblolly pine as a model," Heath said.

Grene, who has studied stress since 1980,

said she previously studied one protein and one gene at a time. "Now we study thousands at a time."

Her research started with air pollution as the stress. She brought that interest to Virginia Tech in 1988, where Chevone was also studying plant response to air pollution. "In 1995, I became aware of the technological breakthroughs that allow us to look at many genes at once by using micro-arrays or gene chips," she said.

Now, many projects world wide use micro-array technology. "But I don't know of anywhere there is the close interaction between the computational scientists and

(See PLANT on 2)

Herdman named research computing director

By Susan Trulove

Terry Herdman has been named director of research computing effective today. The announcement was made by Earving Blythe, vice president for information systems, and Leonard Peters, vice provost for research.

Research computing denotes any use of computing that is an integral part of the research process. Research computing includes the capability to do high-performance computing and to access fast, large, high-performance computers, such as are at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Herdman said. "What it means is that a faculty member or student should have easy access from their desktop to computers on and off campus through good networks, should have the necessary hardware and software to do their research, and should have access to systems administration to solve a problem and keep systems up and running."

Herdman, who has been a faculty member in mathematics since 1974, has been director of the Interdisciplinary Center for Applied Mathematics for 15 years and will continue those duties. "It's a good fit because the people involved with research computing also come from many disciplines," he said.

For the past year, he has been head of the task force created in cooperation with the Commission on Research and charged by Peters and Blythe to study research computing at Virginia Tech. The taskforce submitted their report and recommendations to the Commission on Research, Blythe, and Peters this past summer. "The report was shared with the university's administration and they are supportive," Blythe said.

"This position means someone is collecting information regarding the needs of faculty members and students who use computers in their research and addressing those needs," Peters said. "Terry is committed to

(See HERDMAN on 2)



KAINE ON CAMPUS President Charles Steger discusses bond-related issues with Lieutenant Governor Tim Kaine. Kaine met with local university officials to discuss the economic-development impact of the November 5 bond referenda. (R. Griffiths)

Mellon award aids professor in expanding Virtual Jamestown into world-studies site

By Sally Harris

If a teacher tells a classroom full of seventh graders that "x" number of people died of starvation and diseases in Colonial Jamestown, the students see a number. If the teacher takes the students on line to Virtual Jamestown, where they can read "The sixth of August there died John Asbie of the bloudie Flixie. The ninth day died George Flowre of the swelling," and on and on, they get a grim picture of people being wasted away by strange diseases. At Virtual Jamestown, the students also can almost stand in the middle of the reconstructed fort and turn 360 degrees to see what it looked like from all angles.

Virtual Jamestown is a web site created by Crandall Shifflett, professor of history and director of graduate studies for the Department of History. It is a digital research, teaching, and learning project that explores the legacies of the

Jamestown settlement and "the Virginia experiment." It allows researchers and students to see actual court and other public documents, first-hand accounts of people such as indentured servants, pictures of the stowage of a British slave ship with slaves chained head to toe and side by side, sketches of the wedding of John Rolfe and Pocahontas, histories and a timeline of the events in the New world, and many other documents that give a vivid picture of life in Colonial Jamestown. As a work in progress, Virtual Jamestown aims to shape the national dialogue during the 400-year anniversary observance in 2007 of the founding of the Jamestown colony.

An award-winning site, Virtual Jamestown has garnered another grant for Shifflett, a \$219,000 appropriation from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The award will allow

(See MELLON on 2)

Pet adoption day scheduled at Veterinary College

By Jeffrey S. Douglas

Several local animal-welfare organizations and the Community Foundation of the New River Valley will team with students in the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine to present the area's first Family Pet Adoption Day on Saturday, Nov. 9 from noon until 4 p.m. on the college's campus.

More than 40 animals currently in the custody and care of a variety of area shelter and adoption organizations will be on site. Participating organizations include Pound Pals of Radford, Giles Animal Rescue, Floyd County Humane Society, Virginia PAWS (Virginia Partnership for Animal Welfare and Support), Dalmation Rescue of Southwest Virginia, Pulaski County Humane Society and Vet Students with Fosters.

DVM students from the VMRCVM will evaluate the health and condition of participating animals, interview prospective owners in an effort to match family lifestyles with animal characteristics, and implant an identifying microchip in each adopted animal. If a micro-chipped animal is ever lost, local shelters and/or veterinary clinics can use a special scanner to help locate the animal's owner.

The Assisi Clinics of Virginia, Inc., a non-profit charitable organization that works to resolve the animal over-population crisis by offering free and low-cost animal spay and neutering services through mobile veterinary surgical clinics and conducting public-information campaigns, will also be on site during the day. The public will also have an opportunity to tour the Angels of Assisi Spay Shuttle and Adoption Trailer.

Presented in conjunction with the Humane Society of the United States' National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week, the "Family Pet Adoption Day" is designed to facilitate pet adoptions and raise

(See PET on 2)

ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

Friday, 1

Pay Date for Faculty and Staff Members.

Art Exhibit, noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday; Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Armory Gallery (through 11-15).

International Club Program, 5 to 6:30 p.m., Cranwell Center.

Music, 8 p.m., Burruss auditorium: New River Valley Symphony Fall Concert.

Saturday, 2

Football, 7:30 p.m., Lane Stadium: Pittsburgh. ESPN2

Theatre Arts Program, 8 p.m., Squires Studio Theatre: The Laramie Project.

Sunday, 3

YMCA Hike, 1:30 p.m., YMCA parking lot.

Music Program, 3 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Ensemble Concert.

Music Program, 8 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Faculty Recital.

Monday, 4

University Council, 3 to 5 p.m., 1045 Pamplin.

Wednesday, 6

YMCA Slide Show, noon, Cranwell Center.

Friday, 8

YMCA Crafts Fair, noon to 8 p.m., Squires ballrooms (through 11-10).

International Club Program, 5 to 6:30 p.m., Cranwell Center.

Geological Sciences, 3:30 p.m., 4069 Derring: Edward Stolper, Cal Tech.

MSE, 3:30 p.m., 100 Hancock: Zak Fathi, Lambda Technologies.

STS, 4 p.m., 132 Lane Hall: Lee Zwanziger. CANCELLED.

Monday, 4

Biomedical Sciences, Engineering, 3 p.m., 110 Holden: Shirley Luckhart.

Biochemistry, 4 p.m., 223 Engel: Squire Booker, Penn State.

Horticulture, 4 p.m., 409 Saunders: Zvezdana Pesic, NCSU.

Thursday, 7

Career Services, noon to 1 p.m., 217 Squires.

Friday, 8

Geological Sciences, 3:30 p.m., 4069 Derring: Susan Beck, University of Arizona.

MSE, 3:30 p.m., 100 Hancock: Sumitra Subrahmanyam.

SEMINARS

Friday, 1

MCBB, 12:20 to 1:10 p.m., Fralin auditorium: Brian P. Helmke, UVa.

BULLETINS

Employees request leave donations

Four Virginia Tech employees in Physical Plant, Purchasing, Recreational Sports, and Residential and Dining Programs, have requested leave donations.

Salaried classified employees or 12-month regular faculty members may participate by donating annual leave in increments of eight hours.

There is no maximum donation limitation per year, nor is there a minimum balance that must be maintained. Donation forms can be downloaded from the Personnel Services web site at <http://www.ps.vt.edu/forms/>.

Leave donations received after the employee's eligibility status changes (such as, return to work, disability retirement, retirement, etc.) will be returned to the donor in accordance with established Personnel procedures.

Leave must be donated to either a specific individual or area. Return the completed form to Ella Mae Vaught, personnel analyst, Personnel Services, Southgate Center.

Phi Beta Kappa information available

Members of Phi Beta Kappa who wish to become active in the Virginia Tech chapter or who would like to be informed about

events sponsored by Mu Chapter of Virginia, should contact Verna Schuetz at 1-6931 or send an e-mail to schuetzv@vt.edu.

Porter, Ziegler guests on public TV

Blue Ridge Public TV will host a monthly 30-minute "Technology Today" show. The first episode, which is to air November 10 at noon, will feature Bob Porter, program development manager with the Research Division, who will discuss nanotechnology with Gordie Ziegler, executive director of the New Century Technology Council (NCTC).

PET

Continued from 1

awareness of the animal over-population issue, according to Marie Suthers-McCabe, Extension specialist in animal-human interaction and director of the Center for Animal Human Relationships (CENTAUR).

"Millions of unwanted animals are euthanized every year in shelters around the country," Suthers-McCabe said. "But shelters and organizations around the country are beginning to make a difference by helping locate homes for unwanted animals and by encouraging

spay-neuter and responsible ownership."

All of the animals looking for new homes will be spayed or neutered, be current on immunizations against infectious diseases, and be free of obvious abnormalities at the time of examination. VMRCVM veterinary students will conduct complete physical examinations on all animals and a health record will be attached.

The students will also administer adoption questionnaires to prospective owners and make recommendations to the custodial sheltering organization about the suitability of prospective

matches. The humane organizations will then check references and conduct home visitations before placing the animal. No animals will be allowed to go home with their new families on the day of the event and there will be an adoption fee for all animals.

The event will be held in front of the VMRCVM, which is located on Duck Pond Drive. In the event of bad weather, the event will be held on November 16. For more information, contact Lynn Chipkin at Lynnchipkin@hotmail.com or Lila Borge Wills at vapaws@onemain.com or 651-4530.

PLANT

Continued from 1

plant biologists who we have built at Virginia Tech," Grene said. "That is where we are breaking new ground."

The Virginia Tech researchers are looking for the qualities or genetic mechanisms that allow a plant or species to cope with stress, particularly drought. "We are dealing with entire pathways, and interactions between genes and pathways, not single genes. Micro-arrays are a first step," Grene said.

"Biological pathways are the motivation," Heath said. "They are one of many kinds of networks that are important in biology. We want to formalize networks, represent them computationally, and make more powerful use of the resulting multi-modal networks."

"Computer networks are relatively homogeneous," Ramakrishnan said. "But the proposal is for multi-modal networks, where the connections are made between different types of entities and involve a variety of links. The end goal is to bring together sources of information and data—from the literature and our own experiments—and piece together a network that summarizes the biological sequence of events that enables a plant to cope with drought."

MELLON

Continued from 1

Shifflett to expand the Virtual Jamestown site into an Atlantic World Studies site with surveys of archaeological objects in the Jamestown area and all on-line digital collections in Atlantic World Studies. The project will allow researchers and teachers to compare Jamestown to the Spanish, French, and Dutch colonization efforts and examine the origins of American culture, Shifflett said.

The Mellon award is a two-year planning grant to develop new partnerships and collaborations with the hope of establishing at Virginia Tech an Institute for the Study of the Atlantic World. Shifflett will travel to Europe to talk with archivists, directors of centers in humanities computing, and scholars in Atlantic World Studies. He will form a new partnership with scholars at the University of East Anglia, near London, which has a Virtual Norfolk project of 17th-century immigration and official documents, and with Virtual St. Augustine, a site in Florida spawned by an NEH teacher's seminar Shifflett co-directed with William

Thomas, director of the Virginia Center for Digital History.

The Mellon Jamestown project involves collaborations with Colonial National Historical Park, Jamestown Rediscovery, and others involved in preparations for the 2007 observance of Jamestown's founding. "With the interest of the Mellon Foundation, the resources of the ongoing Virtual Jamestown project, and new partnerships with Atlantic World scholars and archivists in the Caribbean, Great Britain, and the United States, we have the opportunity to create a Virginia Tech center of national and international prominence in digital history and Atlantic World Studies," Shifflett said.

Virtual Jamestown has previously received a \$205,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and was selected as a top humanities site for inclusion in the NEH EDSITEment Project featuring "the best of the humanities on the web." It can be seen at <http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/vcdh/jamestown/>. Shifflett hopes to secure funds in addition to the Mellon award for the Institute for the Study of the Atlantic World.

HERDMAN

Continued from 1

meeting needs of the university's researchers. We are pleased he has agreed to head this critical effort."

The appointment continues until June 30, 2005.

"The first step is to see if we can implement the task force's recommendations regarding systems administration for research computing, create a more robust research computing infrastructure, provide services such as storage and networking," Herdman said.

"It is important to get the people here to think about what is best for Virginia Tech, not only within their own disciplines."

He plans to meet with groups and individuals and said he wants to hear from any researchers who use scientific computing. He will make a presentation to deans and center directors at the annual research retreat in mid-November.

"It's a tough assignment but I'm ready for it. I've done it in the past. If we are to increase the university's research ranking, we have to have first-rate research computing," Herdman said. "I'm not going to let budget cuts affect what I try to do. We have to look at where we want to be in three years and we can't wait two

CAMPUS UPDATE

Changes Made in Establishing Accrual Rates for Annual Leave

By Rosie Higdon, senior manager, employee administration and HRIS

Classified employees hired on or after March 16, 1998, have their annual leave-accrual rates based on all periods of salary state service. However, the state's rules have changed a number of times over the years creating inconsistencies, and the state's Department of Human Resource Management has simplified the annual leave accrual method. These changes are described below.

Effective Jan. 10, 2003, all employees' annual leave-accrual rates will be based on all salaried state service. All salaried classified

service, whether part-time or full-time, and any employment in salaried faculty positions will be counted in setting the annual leave-accrual rate. Examples of service that still will not be included are adjunct faculty appointments, hourly employment, and service in local, federal, or other non-state entities.

The first pay period to reflect the accrual rate change will be January 10 through 24, 2003. Any additional leave will be accrued during that pay period and available for use by employees on Jan. 25, 2003. No retroactive changes shall be made in any employee's ac-

crual rate, leave award, or any other record or benefit as a result of this change. No other leave balances or processes will be affected.

To qualify for re-calculation of leave-accrual rates, employees with non-consecutive service with Virginia Tech must notify the Personnel Services Office and request a review of their records. For any period of prior salaried state service not currently included in determining their annual leave-accrual rates, a signed statement by a Human Resource official of the relevant agency must be provided for verifying the dates of the employee's service there.

To request a review of records, fill out the form titled, "Request for Review of State Employment Record." This must be returned to Personnel Services by December 6 (revised deadline). The second form, "Request for Employment Verification of State Employment," is the form to send to other state agencies for the agency to verify dates of employment. The other state agency will return the form to Tech Personnel Services. Make copies of the form if needed for more than one agency.

For more information, contact Donna Lafon at dlafon@vt.edu or 1-8407.

Thorp to provide expertise for national Lewis and Clark Bicentennial

By Sally Harris

It's been nearly 200 years since Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and more than 30 explorers set out on their Corps of Discovery across the United States, and President George W. Bush has designated the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial for 2003-2006. The bicentennial will include celebrations and re-enactments all along the Lewis and Clark Trail, beginning in Virginia January 18 and continuing to the Pacific Ocean.

Dan Thorp of the history department is an expert on the Lewis and Clark expedition, including Southwest Virginia and national connections, and can tell some stories probably not found many places. He is the author of *Lewis and Clark: An American Journey*; and, to write the book, he read all extant journals, including those of the captains and the enlisted men, plus all the correspondence from the journey.

Thorp's book covers the expedition from President Thomas Jefferson's first vision of the West as the future of the country to the celebration the president held on the group's arrival back home. Designed for the general reader, the book includes the plans and preparations for the trip, the journey up the Missouri, the winter spent in Mandan, N.D., the travel into unknown territory and across the Continental Divide, the stay at Fort Clatsop in Oregon, and the trip home. Thorp can also talk

about such things as Clark's missing Jefferson's formal celebration of the expedition's arrival home because Clark was courting his future wife, Judith "Julia" Hancock, at her home in Fincastle. Hancock's father also owned a house in Elliston, now a historical landmark, called Fotheringay.

Thorp has been invited to serve on a panel, "Supplied For Survival: Meriwether Lewis at Harpers Ferry," a Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, W. Va., March 28, 2003.

Jefferson had asked Lewis and Clark to find a transcontinental water route (not to map the Louisiana Purchase). While they did not find such a route (none exists), they succeeded in traveling over land from the Missouri to the Columbia River, essentially opening up the West to settlers. On their way, Lewis and Clark studied the flora and fauna, the cultures, and the weather and "established trading relationships

with tribes," according to the designation by Bush of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial 2003-2006.

Beginning Jan. 18, 2003, at Monticello, the national commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Expedition will include such events as the arrival in Saint Charles, Mo., of a replica of Lewis and Clark's keelboat, the group's celebration of the country's first Independence Day west of the Mississippi by "firing its swivel cannon and enjoying an extra ration of whiskey," a re-enactment of the First Council between the expedition and the Otoe and Missouri Tribes, a celebration of Clark's first view of the Pacific Ocean in Oregon; and events along their trip back to the East. On their journey, Lewis and Clark received great help from many people, including the American Indian Sacajawea, who helped guide the expedition through her homelands and helped translate among different groups.

Thorp can answer many questions: Why did Jefferson order the trip? Because the British had started looking for an all-water route across the country and Jefferson was afraid they would find it first. Why did Jefferson want a route across the country? He hoped to go by boat from the Missouri to the Columbia, on to the Pacific, and then to the Orient. Were the people in the expedition the first Europeans to cross the continent? No. Alexander McKenzie, a British fur trader in Canada, was. Besides translating, what other help did Sacajawea provide? She helped get horses, without which the expedition could not have crossed the Rocky Mountains, from her brother, chief of a Shoshone band.

The locations of official events during the bicentennial can be found on the web at www.lewisandclark200.org.

EMPLOYMENT

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.

CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

FULL TIME

One full-time food-service position available.
Biochemist/Molecular Biologist, 008028K, PB 4, VBI.
Data Analyst/Programmer, 008033J, PB 4, CMI.
Evening Dispatcher Supervisor/Data Operations Center Manager, 007834J, PB 3, VTTI.
Financial Analyst, 006676Y, PB 4, OPS.
Fiscal Technician, 007467S, PB 3, University Development.
Housekeeper, 001189J, PB 1, UUSA.
Housekeeping Manager, 001190J, PB 3, UUSA.
In-vehicle Experimenter, 007787J, PB 4, VTTI.
Laboratory Specialist, 007474M, PB 3,

Biochemistry.
Pre-prep Supervisor, 000394H, PB 2, RDP.
Program Support Technician, 007976J, PB 3, Interior Design.
Proteomics Laboratory Technician, 008026K, PB 4, VBI.
Research Specialist, 007788J, PB 3, VTTI.
Scientific Glassblower, 001267B, PB 5, Chemistry.
Security Guard, 007709G, PB 2, Police.
Technical Operations Assistant, 007789J, PB 2, VTTI.
Unit Manager, 007798H, PB 5, RDP.

PART TIME

Animal Care Technician, W022675M, PB 1, VTH.
Animal Care Technician Large Animal, W020066M, PB 2, VTH.
CNS Receptionist, 007540A, PB 2, CNS.
Customer Service Specialist, W022852S, PB 3, Bursar's Office.
Distance Learning Support Technician, W023494A, PB 4, VBS.
ICU Veterinary Technologist Large Animal, W022218M, PB 2, VTH.
Large Animal Husbandry, W022155M, PB 1, VTH.
Pmm Support Technician, W022979M, PB 2, VTH.
Research Specialist, 008012M, PB 4, Entomology.

OFF CAMPUS

Administrative Program Support, 007411B, PB 3, Engineering/NVC.
Nursing Supervisor, 006726M, PB 3, CVM.
Senior Program Administrator, 006436Y, PB 4, DCE.

FACULTY POSITIONS

INSTRUCTIONAL

F2871 Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, College of Arts/Sciences. Assistant Professor. Contact: Brian Britt, CIS, 207 Major Williams, 0135.
111383 University Development, Development/University Relations. Director of Development for University Libraries. Contact: Rhonda K. Arsenault, 201 Pack Building, 0336.
F0091, F0555, F2706, F0922 Grado Department of Industrial/Systems Engineering, College of Engineering. Assistant Professor. Contact: Search Committee Chair, Grado Department of Industrial/Systems Engineering (0118).
F6001 Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Science. Assistant Professor. Contact: Robin Cooper, Department of Psychology (0436).
112602, 112603 Department of Computer Science, Bioinformatics, College of Arts/Sciences. Associate/Assistant Professor. Contact: Bioinformatics Faculty Search, 660 McBryde Hall (0106).
112601 Department of Computer Science, College of Arts/Sciences. Postdoctoral Associate. Contact: Bioinformatics Faculty Search, 660 McBryde Hall (0106).

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

112600 Conservation Management Institute, Virginia Department of Military Affairs. Research Associate. Contact: Verl Emrick III, Conservation Management Institute, 203 West Roanoke Street, Blacksburg.



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
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Classroom guide for teaching Civil War released

By Susan B. Felker

Seven hundred middle schools and high schools in Virginia have just received copies of a new publication, *Bringing the Civil War to the Classroom: A Guide for Teachers*, published by the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies at Virginia Tech. Civil War historians James I. Robertson Jr. and William C. Davis wrote this new tool for educators, designed to assist them in making the Civil War come alive for their students.

Students in Virginia schools study the

Civil War in the eighth and eleventh grades.

The two scholars developed the 90-page classroom guide with the assistance of a board of educational consultants representing high schools in Wisconsin, Colorado, California, North Carolina, and Virginia. "The Civil War is the most defining moment in American history," said Robertson, executive director of the center, "yet it, more than any other event in our past, has fallen victim to myth, legend, political correctness, sectionalism, and romanticism. Our booklet is designed for the teacher who wishes

to bring the whole dramatic picture into a clear focus that will both educate and enlighten our children."

The publication was made possible by a grant from Nancy Baird of Harrisonburg, whose father was a faculty member at Virginia Tech.

The guide may be ordered for \$10, including postage, from Robertson at the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, Department of History, 437 Major Williams Hall.

Jaguar researcher to be on live webcast from Belize

By Lynn Davis

On November 7 at 2 p.m. Marcella Kelly, assistant professor of fisheries and wildlife sciences in the College of Natural Resources, will be interviewed live from Belize about her project on jaguars.

Kelly is using infrared remotely triggered cameras to photograph jaguars. Because jaguars have distinct coat patterns, individuals can be

identified from photographs and a "capture" history established for each animal. This project will produce the first density estimates of jaguars in tropical rainforests.

The San Francisco Exploratorium is using satellite technology to conduct a series of live webcasts from the remote field site, Las Cuevas Research Station in Belize, Central America. There is a studio audience in San Francisco that

will ask questions of scientists who are currently in the field. Anyone can watch the webcast and ask questions over the internet as well.

On November 7 at 2 p.m. you may view the live link to Kelly at <http://www.exploratorium.edu/origins/belize-london/people/marc4.html> by clicking on the 'Live Link' button. These links can still be accessed after the initial live program runs.

Sue Lutz, 79

Sue Lutz, 79, who worked in the Purchasing Department from 1976 to 1999, died Wednesday, Oct. 23.

Tom Kaloupek, director of materials management said of Lutz, "She maintained a display of every athletic schedule, pamphlet and brochure that was available. In the days before information was readily available via the Internet, if you wanted to know who the baseball team was playing, all you had to do was visit Sue."

Jim Dunlap, associate director of Purchasing, said, "Sue was a great source of knowledge for Virginia Tech and Blacksburg history. I enjoyed hearing her tell of coming to campus as a young girl and watching the construction of Burruss Hall. Sue eventually worked in Burruss Hall, during the infancy of the Purchasing Department, and later returned to work in Purchasing after taking a break to raise her children."

Lutz's son Jacob is a member of the Board of Visitors.

STUDENT DEATH NOTICE

Ryan E. Evans, a freshman in the Pamplin College of Business.

ACHIEVERS

Ezra A. Brown, professor of mathematics, received the George Polya Award in August, 2001. Established in 1976, the George Polya Awards are presented by the Mathematical Association of America for articles of expository excellence published in the *College Mathematics Journal*. Brown received the award for his article, "Three Fermat Trails to Elliptic Curves," which gives a compelling invitation to the study of elliptic curves.

Dick P.H. Hasselman, emeritus professor of materials science and engineering, has been named a "highly cited researcher" in the field of materials science by the American Society of Information Science and Technology. Highly cited researchers are those whose total number of citations of their publications rank in the top one-half percent in the open technical literature surveyed by the Institute of Scientific Information. Hasselman's most cited papers deal with the thermo-mechanical and thermo-physical response of materials to conditions of high temperature and heat flux.

David P. Tegarden, associate professor of accounting and information systems in the Pamplin College of Business, has been appointed to the editorial review board for the *Journal of Database Management*. The journal, targeted at academic researchers and information-technology professionals, publishes original research on all aspects of data-base management, systems analysis and design, and software engineering. Along with peer-reviewed research manuscripts, the journal features practice-oriented articles, case studies, and editorial/opinion pieces.

John M. Carroll, professor in the Department of Computer Science and director of the Center for Human-Computer Interaction, has been elected to the CHI Academy, an honorary group of individuals who have made substantial contributions to the field of human-computer interaction. He was inducted at the closing plenary session of the ACM CHI Conference in Minneapolis, MN. The criteria for election to the CHI Academy are cumulative contributions to the field, influence on the work of others, and development of new research directions.

Bernice Hausman attended a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute on "Medicine, Literature, and Culture" at the Penn State Medical College in Hershey, Pa. She was one of 25 faculty members selected to be part of the institute. Hausman is working on her next project concerning representations of breastfeeding mothers who are HIV positive. That project is tentatively entitled "Viral Mothers" and will look at the biomedical and cultural issues around HIV transmission through

breastfeeding in both the developed and the developing worlds.

Daniel W. Mosser of the English department has published "The Chronicles of Saints and Kings of England": Two Occurrences of the Middle English Prose *Brut*'s 'Peculiar Version' in *MSS of the Canterbury Tales* in *The Journal of the Early Book Society*.

Donald A. Drapeau, head of the Department of Theatre Arts, has been elected president of the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST). The U.S. Department of Education has designated NAST as the agency responsible for accreditation of all theatre curricula at independent schools, universities, and colleges that teach theatre. NAST is recognized by the Council of Higher Education Accreditation and is a member of the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors. The Department of Theatre Arts has been accredited since 1982 and was the first program in Virginia to gain membership in NAST.

Randy Ward, professor of theatre arts, designed scenography, lighting, and video projections for a production of *EDDA*, based on Viking Eddic Tales, which was presented as part of the Lincoln Center Festival and is now touring world wide. Ward also designed scenography, lighting, and projections for *Reason for the Harvard Learning from Performers Program* and was the lighting designer for *OBON, Tales of Rain and Moonlight* at the Seattle Repertory Theatre and the International Spoleto Festival in Charleston, S.C. All three productions were world premiers and directed by international theatre artist Ping Chong.

Robert H. Leonard of theatre arts has been elected to the national board of directors of the Theatre Communications Group (TCG). TCG is a national service organization that exists to strengthen, nurture, and promote the not-for-profit American theatre. TCG serves more than 425 theatres and 17,000 individual members. Programs and services include American Theatre magazine, the ArtSEARCH employment bulletin, plays, translations and theatre reference books; grants to theatres and theatre artists (\$4.4 million in 2001-2002); workshops, conferences, forums and publications for theatre professionals and trustees; research on not-for-profit theatre finances and practices; arts advocacy; and the U.S. Center of the International Theatre Institute.

Sally L. Harris, public-relations coordinator for the College of Arts and Sciences, has been selected for the fifth time to be included in a biographical directory published by Marquis Who's Who, the leading biographical reference publisher of the highest achievers and contributors from across the country and

around the world. Harris will be profiled in the 57th edition of *Who's Who in America*. She has been included in *Who's Who in America* for several years and was also profiled in *Who's Who in the South and Southwest*. In addition to her work with Virginia Tech, Harris is a fiction writer with short stories published in various regional literary journals.

Jerzy Nowak, professor and head of the Department of Horticulture, was invited by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the International Atomic Energy Agency (FAO/IAEA) to participate in an editorial meeting, held in Vienna, Austria, in August. Seven researchers and industrial leaders were invited to the meeting to share their expertise in the application of plant-tissue culture to commercial cloning of plants, and to write a book on low cost technology in plant tissue culture. The book is expected to be published next spring, and it will be distributed to start-up companies, universities, and FAO-linked agencies in the developing countries.

Kent Holliday, professor of music has been chosen as an ASCAP Award recipient. The awards, made by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, reflects ASCAP's "continuing commitment to assist and encourage ASCAP composers," according to Marilyn Bergman, president of ASCAP. An independent panel of renowned musicians grants the awards, which are based on "the unique prestige value of each writer's catalog of original compositions as well as recent performances in areas not surveyed by the society," Bergman wrote.

Jeff Mann, a poet in the Department of English, won second place in the 2002 *Now and Then* Appalachian Poetry Competition for his poem "Goldenrod Seeds." His poem "Bereft" received an honorable mention. *Now and Then* published "Goldenrod Seeds" and an interview with Mann in its Summer 2002 issue titled "First Person Appalachia."

Daniel Crawford of the chemistry department gave a lecture at the meeting of the World Association of Theoretically Oriented Chemists in Lugano, Switzerland. The talk was on "A Locally Correlated Equation-of-Motion Coupled Cluster Approach for Electronically Excited States of Large Molecules," co-written with Rollin King of Bethel College.