

SPECTRUM

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VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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Housing-research center gets HUD research contract

By Sarah Newbill

The Virginia Tech Center for Housing Research has just been awarded a second five-year indefinite-quantity contract with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) with an umbrella value of up to \$50 million.

The center was one of a select few contractors chosen nation-wide, and will serve as lead contractor, working with a team of other universities known nationally for their work in residential building technology and affordable housing research.

The team, also known as the Building Technology Research Consortium, includes Virginia Tech (lead), Arizona State University, Michigan State University, and URS, one of the world's largest engineering-and-design firms.

In the first indefinite-quantity contract, the center was awarded eight task orders which were headed and executed by faculty members and students across the College of Architecture and Urban Studies, including the departments of architecture, building construction, urban affairs and planning, as well as the Department of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management in the College of Human Sciences and Education.

Ron Wakefield, the William E. Jamerson professor of building construction and director of technology research at the center, said the current award has a lot to do with the relationship and good reputation they've built with HUD. "We've proven ourselves and are now seen as national leaders in this field of research. With the

(See HUD on 4)

Quisenberry named new CALS dean

By Clara B. Cox

Sharron S. Quisenberry, dean of the College of Agriculture at Montana State University and director of the Montana Agriculture Experiment Station, will become the first woman to serve as dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) at Virginia Tech when she begins her new duties on August 1. She replaces Gregory L. Brown, dean of the College of Natural Resources, who has also been interim dean of CALS since the retirement of Andy Swiger on January 1.

"Dean Quisenberry has quite an impressive record in

administration and in scholarly pursuits, including significant national and international contributions to agricultural research. She is strongly committed to serving the needs of her constituencies and is in a position to provide leadership to food and agriculture development at the international level. I look forward to working with her," said Mark McNamee, provost and vice president for academic affairs, in announcing the appointment.

Brown also praised the new dean. "Sharron

(See QUISENBERY on 4)



QUISENBERY

A Big East Conference Update from President Steger

Dear friends and alumni of Virginia Tech,

It is very likely you have read or heard of the proposed Atlantic Coast Conference expansion plans and the threat to the Big East Conference. Without a doubt, if the ACC enacts its plan to take three schools from the Big East, our league and our university will be impacted financially and otherwise. While this issue has important implications to our future, life will go on and the university will continue making opportunities through the empowerment of education as it has for more than 130 years.

Let me recount for you where we stand with the athletics-conference situation. Since this story went public, we have made clear our desire for the Big East to remain intact. Our affiliation with the Big East has afforded us and its member schools numerous benefits. It provides excellent intercollegiate competition, good revenue sharing, access to the BCS, and significant exposure along the Atlantic seaboard.

We believe that the Big East is the place for Virginia Tech and are working diligently on multiple fronts not only to preserve it but to improve it, too. It is not an understatement to say that this has been my number-one priority for the last month. I have been in frequent contact with the governor, sports-management executives, conference officials, and my fellow university presidents in both conferences. As you can imagine, Athletics Department leadership has been working overtime.

Along with our quest for academic and research excellence, this institution is committed to participating at the highest levels of intercollegiate athletics. It is in our best interests to keep an open mind and work diligently to assure access to the circles which afford us those competitive opportunities.

Regardless of what happens, the university continues to move forward on many fronts. Applications for admission remain at historically high levels. The academic records and intellectual capabilities of new matriculants is better than ever. Our quest to be among the nation's leading universities is on track. We remain ranked among the nation's best public universities.

I am confident that we will achieve a positive outcome. Where there is challenge, there is opportunity. Both are still abundant.

Charles W. Steger, president
May 23

Virtual Jamestown anticipates 400th anniversary observance

By Jean Elliott

Virginia Tech is expanding the scope and use of rare historical materials through the award-winning World Wide Web site *Virtual Jamestown*. Here, on line, rarely seen documents, images, maps, and physical materials are integrated, historical context provided, and technology applied as an analytical tool. Already thousands visit the site each day to learn more about the history and legacies of Jamestown.

History Professor and Project Director of *Virtual Jamestown* Crandall Shifflett is applying advanced technology to historical research, scholarship, and teaching to provide robust exploitation of historical resources, including extraordinary first-hand source material.

"Under Shifflett's guidance, Virtual Jamestown is a pioneer project in the application of advanced technology to the humanities," William Thomas III, director of the Virginia Center for Digital History said.

(See JAMESTOWN on 4)

VBI has world's largest academic accelerated bioinformatics system

Heather Norton of VBI, Hannah Kamenetsky of *The Scientist*, and Kevin Miller of the *Roanoke Times* prepare samples for RNA expression profiling in the VBI Core Laboratory Facility during a two-day CASE Media Fellowship program presented by VBI and Virginia Tech University Relations.

Representatives of *Genetic Engineering News*, *Black Issues in Higher Education*, *Bio-IT World*, the *Associated Press*, and WHRO-Norfolk also attended.
(M. Kiernan)



(Editor's note: In early May, the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute hosted a Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Media Fellowship Program for area journalists. CASE fellows spent two days at the institute learning about bioinformatics. The following article details one of the areas of research being pursued at the institute.)

By Neysa Call

Researchers at Virginia Bioinformatics Institute (VBI) at Virginia Tech now do genome-to-genome comparisons at a much faster rate with the institute's newly installed TimeLogic™ DeCypher® system, a configurable system which speeds up computational tasks.

VBI's new system is the world's largest academic installation and speeds over 30 types of bioinformatics searches. The system, composed of six hardware accelerators, quickens the analysis of DNA sequences allowing scientists to understand the actual biological function of DNA much faster and more economically. This technology will be used at VBI to study the evolutionary genetics of

(See SYSTEM on 2)

Board to Meet

By Larry Hincker

The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors convenes for its quarterly meeting June 1 and 2 on campus. Among its topics are consideration of new degree programs in natural resources, interior design, and apparel, housing, and resource management; the FY 04 budget, university restructuring, and the long-term capital-projects plan.

All meetings are at the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center except as noted. Meetings are as follows:

June 1: Ad Hoc Committee on Resolution and Bylaw Revisions, noon to 2 p.m., Board Room; Ad Hoc Committee on the Narrow-Tailoring Concept, 2 to 5 p.m., Executive Conference Room.

June 2: Academic Affairs Committee, 8:30 a.m., conference room F; Building and Grounds Committee, 9:15 a.m. in closed session and open session thereafter, conference room A; Finance and Audit Committee, 7:30 a.m. closed session, 8:30 a.m. open session in the Executive Conference Room; Student Affairs Committee, 9 a.m., conference room C.

The full board will meet at 1 p.m. in room 2100, Torgersen Hall.

ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

Friday, 30

Friday Night Out Concert Series, 6 p.m., Henderson Lawn: Dixie Power Trio.

Monday, 2

Last Day to Drop.

Wednesday, 4

"With Good Reason," 7:30 p.m., WVTF: "Virginia Wines," with Tech Food Science and Technology Professor Bruce Zoecklein.

Friday, 6

Friday Night Out Concert Series, 6 p.m., Henderson Lawn: Crossties.

Monday, 9

Last Day to Resign.
On-campus Bloodmobile.

Friday, 13

Friday Night Out Concert Series, 6 p.m., Henderson Lawn: G.T. Swing.

ISO 9000 training lectures to be offered

By Susan B. Felker

Businesses interested in selling to the international market have an opportunity to acquire essential information on ISO 9000 international standards for goods and services via a series of lectures in Roanoke and the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center.

Sponsored by Virginia Tech's Public Service Programs, which is part of University Outreach and International Affairs; American Electric Power, the Virginia Department of Business Assistance, the Roanoke Economic Development Partnership, and the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center (CRC), the lectures will begin in June and end in September.

Each quarter will feature a different speaker, all private consultants on ISO 9000 implementation and compliance. Speakers will present their program twice, once in Roanoke and once in Blacksburg. Roy D'Ardenne of D'Ardenne Associates, Ltd. will discuss "ISO 9000:2001 Performance Measurement and Added Value to the Bottom Line" on June 20 in Roanoke and June 27 in Blacksburg. Ron Gibbs of Out of the Box Consulting will give a talk on "Transition to ISO 9000:2000—How to Do It" in Roanoke on September 19 and Blacksburg on September 26. The final speaker in the series will be Roger Beeker of Wiley & Wilson who will speak in Roanoke on December 5 and Blacksburg on December 19.

The presentations will start at 8 a.m. and end around 9:15 a.m. Following the lectures, speakers will answer individual questions from attendees. Roanoke programs will be at the Roanoke Valley Economic Development Partnership Offices and Blacksburg programs will be in the CRC conference room.

ISO 9000 is a quality-management-certification program on international standards. The International Organization for Standard-

(See ISO on 3)

Sign Up for Virginia Tech Event Calendar

All departments and officially registered organizations on campus are encouraged to use the electronic calendar located at <http://calendar.vt.edu/>. Events that are open to the university community should be posted to encourage attendance and to ensure widespread knowledge of the event.

Authorization may be obtained by contacting the calendar coordinator in the Office of University Relations at calendar@vt.edu. Event submissions will be reviewed for appropriateness and edited for clarity and conciseness. The interface is simple and information can be cut and pasted into the on-line calendar.

Events sponsored by commercial entities are prohibited.

ALE Outstanding Leader Award nominations sought

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

The purpose of this award is to recognize those 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; other areas of service to the university, and supplemental activities outside the university. While outside activities that enhance the nominee's overall profile of service to the university and community may be considered, they will be given less weight than university activities.

Any university employee, on or off campus, may nominate individuals for the award. Nominations will consist of a one-page typed,

signed letter outlining the leadership qualities of the nominee. Endorsements of the nomination by supervisors or others are not required. Employee may nominate as many individuals as they wish; however, each nomination must be made separately, and the nominator must sign each.

Eligibility will be limited to employees in classified-staff positions or in administrative/professional (A/P) faculty positions. Tenured and tenure-track faculty members are not eligible, since other awards are available to these groups. This restriction is intended to apply to all tenure and tenure-track faculty members, including those who presently are engaged in administrative functions. Self-nominations are ineligible. This award should not be viewed as competing with the President's Award for Excellence.

The ALE Leadership Awards Committee is the reviewing and decision-making body. The committee will consider all eligible letters of nomination and will select three finalists for in-depth review, and will then make a final selection.

The person selected for the award will be honored at the academy's year-end awards luncheon held on July 24, where a framed certificate of award will be presented.

Letters of nomination should be sent in a sealed envelope to University Leadership Development, Southgate Center, campus-mail code 0538.

For more information, call University Leadership Development at 1-6727 or e-mail uld@vt.edu. The deadline for nominations is Friday, June 27.

Veterinary College to present research symposium

By Jeffrey S. Douglas

More than 30 research programs probing topics ranging from hepatitis E virus to the health effects of depleted uranium artillery shells will be showcased during the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine's fifteenth-annual Research Symposium June 5-6, 2003.

The two-day symposium gets under way with a keynote address on "Immune Changes with Advanced Age: Does Immunity Grow Older and Wiser?" by Kevin High of the Bowman Grey School of Medicine at Wake Forest

University. On the second day, Charles Kuntz, a former resident in the VMRCVM and current Washington D.C.-based veterinary oncologist, will be the featured guest speaker.

"Our annual research days symposium has become an important college tradition," Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies Gerhardt Schurig said. "This program inspires and rewards superior performance, it helps as all learn more about what is under way in our laboratories, and it encourages more collaboration between our faculty and other areas of the university."

This year's symposium will include presentations by graduate students from Wake Forest University, as well as graduate students and professors from Virginia Tech's College of Engineering who are working in the area of biomedical engineering, Schurig said.

Graduate students compete in basic and clinical-science categories, which are judged by teams of faculty members. Some faculty research presentations are also made during the event.

For more information, call Regina Viers at 1-3528.

Saltville Aquaculture Center hosts first workshop tomorrow

A day-long workshop covering the basics of freshwater-fish culture will be offered at the Southwest Virginia Aquaculture Research and Extension Center tomorrow. The workshop marks the first learning opportunity for the general public to be provided at the center, which was founded in 2001 with the mission of assisting economic development in the area of aquaculture.

The will begin at 8:30 a.m., and end at 4 p.m., and will feature eight sessions, each led by an expert in their field from Virginia Tech's faculty, and is open to anyone who is considering embarking on a new venture in aquaculture. The workshop is offered free of charge through the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission. Seating is limited—

interested persons should call 1-6805.

The Southwest Virginia Aquaculture Research and Extension Center functions as a demonstration and teaching facility for aquaculture, assisting farmers and entrepreneurs as they undertake fish farming. The center also operates as a commercial enterprise, helping to sustain itself through profits from the sale of fish raised at the center.

SYSTEM

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organisms and the genetic basis of human, animal, and plant diseases.

"Disentangling the genetic roots of complicated diseases—such as malaria, Alzheimer's, and tuberculosis—requires the examination of extremely large data sets," VBI Director Bruno Sobral said. "TimeLogic's DeCypher solution, implemented within the institute's Sun Microsystems supercomputer, delivers powerful bioinformatics-analysis capabilities that allow broad comparisons among numerous biological systems," he adds.

"Researchers are now able to do DNA-sequence comparison against databases and whole genome comparisons at a much faster rate with the system," said Allan Dickerman,

research faculty member at VBI. According to Dustin Machi, manager of the core computational facility at VBI, "the Decypher system uses a type of silicon chip that is re-configured to optimally speed each analysis compared to other chips. This increase in efficiency will result in dramatic time and cost savings for researchers."

Regardless of the increase in computing power over the past 30 years, this growth has been unable to surpass the rapid growth in genome data. Indicators show as much as an eight-fold increase in genome data within an 18-month time frame, surpassing the historical doubling of computer power within the same time frame. With the advances in bioinformatics technology, experiments now require more sophisticated systems and tools to manage and analyze data.

The DeCypher system will now be available to the research community via VBI.

The VBI research platform centers on understanding the "disease triangle" of host-pathogen-environment interactions. With bioinformatics, an interdisciplinary merger of information technology and biology, faculty researchers at VBI have been able to interpret and apply large amounts of biological data generated from basic research.

With over \$27 million in research funding, VBI researchers are working to find cures for many diseases of humans, crops, and animals; create high-yield, insect- and disease-resistant crops; and provide bioinformatics information and tools to support further discoveries. For more information, visit <https://www.vbi.vt.edu>.

CAMPUS UPDATE

WVTF moves into new facility

By Karen Dillon

After more than a year of construction, WVTF Public Radio has moved to its new 12,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art studio and office complex located off Franklin Road, at 3520 Kingsbury Lane, in South Roanoke.

"We are elated to be in this facility that will enable the station to offer our listeners more and better high-quality public-radio programming," says WVTF General Manager Glenn Gleixner.

For the past two decades, WVTF, licensed to the Virginia Tech Foundation, had leased 4,000 square feet in the Grand Pavilion Mall on Electric Road. Construction of the new broadcasting facility began in early 2002 as the station sought to accommodate an increased workload, a growing staff, and more volunteers, as well as upgrade its equipment for the rapidly changing media industry.

WVTF's studio space was designed by Texas-based Russ Berger Design Group (also designers of National Public Radio studios in Washington, D.C.) to provide the best quality on-air sound and eliminate excessive outside noise.

The studios are keystone-shaped, with no parallel walls, which reduces noise reflection. Decorative sound panels on the studios' interior walls are also designed to absorb and reflect sound. Additionally, the floors for the studios were constructed separately from the rest of the building in an effort to reduce noise pollution.

"Each studio is actually a room within a room," Gleixner said. "The interior walls of the studios are buffered from the outside walls with sound-proofing insulation."

In another effort to improve WVTF's quality of sound on the air, each of the studios is equipped with the latest digital audio equipment. The digital system allows producers to influence all production, editing, and broadcasting processes via remote access where studios are tied a central location. The new

(See WVTF on 4)

Administrative offices move to new wing of Southgate

By Linda Woodard,
assistant vice president, Personnel

During the past year, several administrative offices have moved to the new wing of Southgate, with Personnel Services on the first floor, and Purchasing and Internal Audit on the second floor of the new facility.

Virginia Reilly, the university's Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) coordinator, has transferred from the Office of Equal Opportunity, and is now located with Personnel Services in the new Southgate wing. Reilly will continue to serve as the university's ADA coordinator. The move will facilitate the more efficient use of resources by integrating the faculty and staff ADA support functions in one office. Personnel Services, Student Affairs, and the Office of Equal Opportunity will continue to work closely to coordinate the various ADA programs and services provided to employees, students, and

others in the university community. Reilly can be contacted at 1-9331 or 3589. Jerri Fylpa, who is working part-time as an ADA assistant, can be reached at 1-4638.

Several additional Southgate moves will be completed by the end of May. These offices will be occupying partially renovated space, so we ask for patience with the temporary inconvenience.

Family and Work Life Resources and CommonHealth will move from Clay Street to space previously occupied by Personnel Services on the first floor of Southgate. Their telephone numbers have not changed and are correctly listed in the campus directory.

University Leadership Development will move from the Environmental Health and Safety Services building to the space previously occupied by Personnel in Southgate. Terri Tishman (ULD@vt.edu, 1-6727) will provide

administrative support for these programs, and is now located in Southgate.

Renovation of the space previously occupied by Personnel Services and Purchasing is beginning this summer. In addition to the offices above, the renovated space will include two computer classrooms to be used for Banner training and desktop-technology training for university employees, and a multi-purpose room to be used for other employee and supervisory-development workshops and training programs. We will also have a resource library which will consolidate the materials for Family/Worklife Resources, CommonHealth, Leadership Development, and Americans with Disabilities Act programs. We anticipate that the renovation will be completed by early 2004, at which time the ADA coordinator's office will also move to the renovated Southgate space.

Upgrade licenses purchased for Microsoft Office, Windows, Mac operating systems

In an effort to improve computer security and support across the university, Information Systems and Computing (ISC) has purchased upgrade licenses for faculty and staff members for Microsoft Office and Windows and Mac operating systems on university-owned machines.

Windows-upgrade licenses will be provided at no cost to departments until June 30. Mac OSX licenses, BlackIce and Zone Alarm firewalls and Norton Antivirus 8 will continue to be offered after this date. Licenses and media are available in the Software Distribution Office in 3220 Torgersen Hall. All faculty and staff members are encouraged to take advantage of the Microsoft upgrade

for university-owned machines before it ends on June 30.

We would like to see all faculty and staff machines which are using Windows to be running Windows 2000 or above," said Pat Jackson, ISC associate vice president. Upgrade licenses are available at no cost to users who have previously purchased licenses for any version of a Windows or Mac operating system from Software Distribution. However, faculty and staff members can receive new licenses for security software at no cost without a prior purchase. ISC is offering firewall protection from Zone Alarm and BlackIce, and virus protection from Norton Antivirus 8.

ISO

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ization (ISO), which developed the standards, is a world-wide federation of national standards bodies from more than 140 countries. The mission of ISO, a non-governmental organization established in 1947, is to promote the development of standardization and related activities in the world to facilitate the international exchange of goods and services, and to develop cooperation in the spheres of intellectual, scientific, technological, and economic activity.

For more information, contact Chad Miller at 1-8324 or chadm@vt.edu.

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 food-service position available.
Accountant, 004522F, PB 4, Controller's Office.
Administrative/Financial Services Associate, 007981Y, PB 4, IRED.
Assistant Manager, 000750H, PB 3, RDP.
Assistant Manager Senior, 002712H, PB 3, RDP.
Assistant Manager Senior, 000514H, PB 3, RDP.
Associate Director of Culinary Services, 002947H, PB 5, RDP.
Audiovisual Technician Assistant, 002898S, PB 2, University Registrar.
Director of Construction Services, 008082F, PB 6, CDC.
Electrician, 001691F, PB 3, Physical Plant.
Fire Protection Technician, 000192F, PB

4, Physical Plant.
Housekeeping Leader Senior, 000102H, PB 1, RDP.
Laboratory Technician, 008105K, PB 4, VBI.
Media Support Technician, 008109S, PB 3, Multicultural Affairs.
Office Services Assistant, 0LC087G, PB 2, Hokie Passport.
Plumber Steamfitter, 001606F, PB 3, Physical Plant.
Powerline Worker, 006524F, PB 3, Facilities.
Pre-prep Supervisor, 000394H, PB 2, RDP.
Programming/Resource Staff Director, 008081F, PB 6, University Architect.
Project Systems Analyst, 008106F, PB 4, CDC.
Service Leader Senior, 000549H, PB 1, RDP.
Sous Chef, 002946H, PB 3, RDP.
Sous Chef, 007266H, PB 3, RDP.
Staff Architect, 008079F, PB 5, University Architect.
Trades Utilities Master Mechanic, 001320F, PB 4, Physical Plant.
Unit Manager, 007961H, PB 5, RDP.

PART TIME

Administrative Assistant, W023527K, PB 2, VBI.
Animal Care Technician, W022675M, PB 1, VTH.
Animal Care Technician Large Animal, W020066C, PB 2, VTH.
Field Technician Assistant (Telecommunications), W023203A, PB 2, CNS.
Night Auditor/Conference Tech, W023257G, PB 2, DBHCC.
Outreach Specialist, W023452F, PB 4,

Personnel Services.
Radiologic Technologist, W022238M, PB 3, Schiffert Center.
Security Guard, W020470G, PB 1, Police.
Starter Marshall/Shop Attendant, W022113J, PB 1, Golf Clubhouse.
Visual Resources Curator, W022616J, PB 3, AAH.

OFF CAMPUS

Area Information Technologist, 007207C, PB 3, CALS.
Controller, CCCCCC, PB 0, VTF.
Media/Public Relations Specialist, 007934S, PB 4, USI, IIIT.
Nursing Shift Supervisor, 002996M, PB 2, EMC.
Radiologist Technologist, 006575C, PB 3, CVM.
Research Specialist Sr, 004119M, PB 4, ESREC.
Wildlife Worker, 006643B, PB 2, Biology.

FACULTY POSITIONS

INSTRUCTIONAL

Department of Materials Science and Engineering (MSE). Assistant Professor (two positions). Contact: B.J. Love, (0286).

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Crop/Soil Environmental Sciences Department. Research Associate. Contact: Carl Griffey, (0404).
Office of Residential/Dining Programs. Assistant Coordinator of Resident Hall Federation/Hillcrest Community. Contact: Christopher MacDonald, (0428).
Department of Music. Choral Music Director. Contact: John Husser, Department of Music.



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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McAlister named to Governor's Outdoor Resources Advisory Panel

By Susan B. Felker

Virginia Tech became the only university represented on the Governor's Outdoor Resources Advisory Panel when Governor Mark Warner appointed J. Douglas McAlister, director of outreach program development, to serve on the committee.

The panel, which has 18 members, including two cabinet secretaries, is charged with creating short- and long-range plans for development and promotion of Virginia's outdoor resources, including nature-based, recreational, rural, and cultural assets. It will also

submit executive, budgetary, and legislative recommendations to Warner by September.

McAlister, who has had a long career in developing industrial parks, economic-development programs, tourist attractions, and training for tourism professionals, believes that the development of outdoor recreation and tourism can boost the economy of the Roanoke Valley, the New River Valley, Southside, and Southwest Virginia. "The great natural beauty of this region is one of our greatest resources," McAlister said. "This approach to economic stimulus can bring

money to the area without compromising its agricultural and natural assets. We must move ahead carefully to make sure that our natural resources are not compromised by poorly planned development, and this panel is a step in the right direction."

Outdoor, rural, and ecotourism activities to be reviewed by the panel include wildlife watching, hunting, fishing, canoeing, rafting, mountain climbing, hiking, biking, and horseback riding. The panel will also focus on cultural activities related to history, heritage, and

industrial heritage; arts, crafts, artisans, and trades; agritourism, fairs and festivals, geographic tourism, and indigenous music.

The panel will take steps to establish an inventory of natural and rural cultural assets and make recommendations for supporting infrastructure and funding to assure their conservation, expansion, and promotion. Panelists will also provide counsel on the education and training of tourism professionals in rural and nature-based tourism so they will be prepared to address growing public interest.

JAMESTOWN

Continued from 1

In 2007, scholars anticipate a vigorous re-examination of the importance of Jamestown in the nation's history, as its "400th birthday" is commemorated. While anniversary plans focus upon on-site visitations where recreated versions of Jamestown's past are presented, the *Virtual Jamestown* site encourages exploration via the Internet.

With funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, a comprehensive survey is under way of 26 archaeological sites in the Jamestown area. *Virtual Jamestown* will create a database to document vital information on site contents and also provide identification of artifacts, many never before seen by the public. An annotated census of digital collections on Jamestown in the Atlantic World will be posted this summer.

Virtual Jamestown sheds new light on the experiences not only of the well-known historical figures, such as John Smith and Bartholomew Gosnold, but also of marginalized populations, such as indigenous peoples, African slaves, indentured servants, and colonial women. The final assembly of the virtual collections will provide a teaching and research archive of unparalleled scope and depth for colleges and universities both at home and abroad.

WVTF

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equipment prepares WVTF to progress into the world of high-definition radio.

One major component of the facility is a 900-square-foot Production Studio, which will be used for live and recorded programs featuring music entertainment, as well as news and public-affairs events. Moreover, additional editing suites offer the production staff the capability to produce local programs more efficiently.

In anticipation of building a new facility, WVTF, in the fall of 2000, launched its New Building Fund, asking listeners to help support the \$2.7-million project. WVTF will soon begin selling engraved donor bricks, to be installed along the sidewalk of the new facility as part of the fundraising effort.

WVTF Public Radio is a National Public Radio (NPR) member station, broadcasting news, classical and jazz music, public information and affairs, and other cultural programming. The station covers central and southwestern Virginia, plus parts of North Carolina and West Virginia at 89.1 FM (WVTF) in Roanoke, 88.5 FM (WVTW) and 89.3 FM (WVTU) in Charlottesville, 91.9 FM (WVTR) in Marion and on the World Wide Web at www.wvtf.org.

"The web site highlights the underestimated significance of Jamestown, established 13 years before the Mayflower, as a seedbed society. Jamestown sprouted from a global contest among competing commercial interests to become a locus for new forms of governance, evolving systems of labor and enterprise, and the diffusion of diseases, plants and animals, and diverse cultures," according to Shifflett.

A major, national project in digital history, *Virtual Jamestown* has a well-informed advisory board comprised of scholars who represent

various research and public institutions, including: Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (*or Jamestown Rediscovery*), Colonial National Historical Park (National Park Service), Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, the Library of Virginia, the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, the Virginia Historical Society, Virginia Tech, the University of East Anglia in Britain, and the University of Virginia's Center for Digital History. Carole Schmidt, formerly of

the Pew Partnership for Civic Change, serves as the project consultant.

"Virginia Tech, with its resources in technology, is uniquely positioned to become a center for applying technology to history," Shifflett said. A new track in Tech's graduate history program has recently been approved to explore Atlantic World Studies through the techniques of digital history.

To tour *Virtual Jamestown*, visit <http://www.virtualjamestown.org/>.

QUISENBERRY

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Quisenberry will bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the CALS dean's position at Virginia Tech. I have had the opportunity to discuss numerous issues with her, and have been impressed with her understanding and innovative approach to dealing with these issues. Virginia Tech is very fortunate to have Dr. Quisenberry join us, and I look forward to working with her as a colleague dean across instructional programs as well as the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station and Virginia Cooperative Extension," he said.

Quisenberry, who was recently appointed by President George Bush to serve on the Board for International Food and Agriculture Development, has been the dean of agriculture and director of the experiment station at Montana State since 1999 and before that headed the Department of Entomology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for four years. A professor of entomology and a fellow of the Entomological Society of America (ESA), she has taught at the University of Nebraska, University of Idaho, Louisiana State University, and Iowa State University.

"The college and Cooperative Extension/Agriculture Experiment Station division are not only critical to the land-grant mission but must also play a central role in the university's future. I look forward to working with university colleagues to achieve the goal of becoming a top-30 research institution by the end of the decade," Quisenberry said.

Quisenberry's own research focuses on plant/insect interactions and plant resistance to insects, and she is recognized both nationally and internationally as an expert in those areas. Her projects have concentrated on insects related to wheat, rice, bermudagrass, tall fescue alfalfa, and livestock. She has published more than 165 professional papers and lectured at more than 90 international, national, and regional professional meetings. Her grants have come from the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Murdock Trust, Ford Foundation, and industry. She has held a U.S. patent and insect resistant germplasm registrations with colleagues.

During the past three years of her leadership, the College of Agriculture at Montana State has

attracted over \$11 million in federal grant initiatives and \$4.7 million for scholarships and the general fund.

A past president of ESA, she currently serves on the National Academy of Sciences' Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Montana Governor's Economic Policy Advisory Committee, Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, Agriculture Experiment Station Directors Section of the National Association of State Universities and Land-grant Colleges, and several agriculture-related Montana state associations. She has served on the editorial boards for the *Journal of Entomological Science* and the *Journal of Economic Entomology* and as science advisor for *Dragonfly Magazine*.

Quisenberry holds four degrees, including two master's degrees. She received a Ph.D. and master of science, both in entomology, from the University of Missouri-Columbia; a master of arts in environmental biology from Hood College, and a B.S. Ed. in biology from Truman State University.

Peter Eyre, dean of Virginia Tech's Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine and chair of the search committee for the dean said he "could not have been more pleased about the outcome. Dr. Quisenberry was the overwhelming choice of the committee and the university community. She has an impeccable record in research, teaching, outreach, and shared university governance and has been recognized nationally for her leadership. Dr. Quisenberry possesses the vision and willingness to make changes. I am certain that she will lead our fine College of Agriculture and Life Sciences to even greater heights in the future. I look forward to working with her."

HUD

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capacity we have in the consortium, we hope to develop a multi-million-dollar research plan under this current contract."

Wakefield and the other key university team members, including center director and Urban Planning Professor Ted Koebel and Architecture Professor Mike O'Brien, met with HUD officials in Alexandria this month to be briefed on HUD's priorities, and to offer suggestions and recommendations to be implemented into the department's work plan. "There is a strong emphasis on developing small-business partners to do the work, so we're looking at a variety of different small businesses with expertise in building-technology research and technology and science," Koebel said.

The center is currently finishing up two contracts under the first indefinite-quantity contract, with reports due out later this year. These reports, along with the other research reports, can be found at <http://www.huduser.org>.