Hilton to manage Tech hotels, conference centers

By Susan B. Felker

Virginia Tech has expanded its relationship with Hilton Hotels Corporation to manage the university's new hotel, The Inn at Virginia Tech, and the Skelton Conference Center in preparation for its opening in May, 2005.

Vice Provost for Outreach and International Affairs John E. Dooley announced the new accord, which will complement the agreement under which Hilton has managed the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center for the Virginia Tech Foundation under the Doubletree brand. This agreement, which went go into effect October 1, will also provide for Hilton's management of the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center on the Virginia Tech campus.

"Virginia Tech is instituting this new working relationship with Hilton two years ahead of the new hotel and conference center's grand opening to allow ample time to perfect coordinated operations with the Donaldson Brown staff, which will move to the new facility, and to plan administration of a second large operation with first-class facilities. We are looking for benefits to both operations, particularly in day-to-day operations and marketing, and to the university as a whole," Dooley said. "We are confident that Gary Walton, who has demonstrated his mettle as general manager of the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center for Hilton, will also excel as the managing director for both facilities under the new umbrella arrangement."

According to Virginia Tech Provost Mark McNamee, the university is "very happy to

have this management team on board that will assist us in strengthening our historic work in outreach, continuing education, and other programs that are carried out through our hotels and conference centers. Our current Hilton relationship with the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center has been very successful in helping us to develop the outreach programs that take knowledge from the university off campus to the public."

The Inn at Virginia Tech and the Skelton Conference Center will be part of the university's new $46-million alumni and conference center on campus. The hotel will feature 147 elegantly appointed guest rooms and suites. More than 20,000 square feet of technologically advanced meeting space at the conference center will include a ballroom

Ridenour to step down next year

By Larry Hincker

Minnis Ridenour, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Virginia Tech, will step down from his position during summer 2004.

"It is hard to convey the tremendous impact Minnis has had on Virginia Tech and all of Virginia higher education. With very good reason, he is highly respected by state officials and his colleagues throughout the country. We are very sorry to see Minnis begin his trek toward retirement, but our students can access his wealth of knowledge from within the classroom for some time in the future," President Charles Steger said.

Ridenour plans to continue teaching at the graduate and undergraduate levels in financial management for governmental and non-profit organizations during the academic year 2004-05. He will also handle resource development and special projects as requested by the administration.

"Minnis is well known throughout the nation's higher-education community and within the halls of Virginia state government. His financial acumen and understanding of public finance have earned plaudits from a generation of state leaders. He has been the university point person in Richmond for several decades," said Paul Torgersen, former university president.

Ridenour was an architect of the maintenance-reserve fund that ensures a consistent revenue stream to maintain campus buildings. He was also instrumental in establishing the Higher Education Equipment Trust Fund, which provides scientific and computing equipment for institutions across the state.

"Minnis Ridenour has been a key player in the development of state-wide higher education funding policies for nearly three decades," said Leonard Sandridge, executive vice president and chief operating officer for the University of Virginia. "Funding guidelines in the 1980s, the unified amendment for higher education in the 1990s, and now base-adequacy funding guidelines that provide an objective assessment of the needs of higher education—Minnis has been in the middle of all of these activities, and higher education in Virginia would be poorer if it were not for his efforts."

Among Ridenour's accomplishments are the renovation of the Hotel Roanoke and the development of its conference center in cooperation with the City of Roanoke. Long an advocate of closer ties between Virginia Tech and Roanoke, Ridenour was also instrumental in the creation of the Carilion Biomedical Institute.

"Minnis was one of the first to see the connection between an old hotel and the university's continuing education function. He was the driving force behind the Hotel Roanoke Conference Center project and with Ray Smoot,

Two Commencement ceremonies set for December 19

By Larry Hincker

The university will hold both undergraduate and graduate Fall Commencement ceremonies on Friday, Dec. 19. The undergraduate ceremony will take place at 11 a.m. and will be followed by the graduate ceremony at 3 p.m. Both ceremonies will be held in Cassell Coliseum.

Last year, 987 students received undergraduate degrees and 513 students received graduate degrees during Fall Commencement Ceremonies. Spring Commencement Ceremonies will be held Friday, May 14, 2004.

In previous years, graduate and undergraduate Fall Commencement ceremonies have been held on Friday evening and Saturday morning, respectively. The University Commencement Committee will review the new Commencement schedule after the event to determine if this schedule will continue in the future.

Virginia Tech is committed to continuing and improving the tradition of Fall Commencement, said Ed Henneke, chair of the University Commencement Committee and associate dean for research and graduate studies in the College of Engineering. According to Henneke, the new schedule has several benefits, including added convenience to families who plan to travel to and from Blacksburg on Friday, as well as a more efficient use of university resources and facilities. Henneke noted the University Commencement Committee found scheduling last spring's university-wide Spring Commencement on one day was successful, and reinforced its decision to hold both graduate and undergraduate ceremonies on one day this fall.

Deadlines for exams (December 18) and grade sheets (December 20) will continue as scheduled.

An Update on Review of Race-Conscious Programs

By Provost Mark McNamee

Many of you have expressed interest in the status of the Board of Visitor's review of race-conscious programs. Ultimately, we found that five of the 71 identified activities required further review in relation to the attorney general's guidance on narrow tailoring of race-conscious programs. For 16 programs we were able to make immediate changes to bring them into compliance. In some cases, these programs are no longer active. Recommendations for changes in eligibility or selection processes were developed by those involved with the five identified programs, and we are working with the Office of the Attorney General and the Board of Visitors to confirm and implement those recommendations. The Supreme Court decision in the Michigan cases has provided us with a helpful framework for continuation of our efforts in increasing diversity at Virginia Tech. The university will continue to use race/ethnicity in a narrowly tailored fashion for those activities critical to achieving a diverse environment, including undergraduate admissions and the Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program.

All of the materials gathered as part of the review have been shared with the Office of the Attorney General in Richmond. I greatly appreciate the full cooperation we have received from the campus community. Our open, straightforward, and comprehensive approach has been well received by the AG's office. Their review of our materials is on-going. We are also awaiting clarification from the U.S. Department of Education on the use of race/ethnicity in awarding privately funded scholarships. Until further guidance is received, awards of privately funded scholarships will be made in a manner that best meets the intentions of the donor without using race or ethnicity in the selection criteria. Programs funded by federal grants or contracts that are targeted for under-represented groups are presumed to be in compliance with the law and the university will continue to pursue and conduct these types of programs unless advised otherwise. While all questions have not yet been resolved, please be reassured that our commitment to diversity remains strong, and our programs are still in place to serve the basic purposes for which they were established.

The board committee met in June and again in August and has been briefed on the review process and the outcomes to date. The chair of that committee, Ben Davenport, has expressed an interest in having the campus community come together to discuss the details and outcome of this review and address questions. The forum has been scheduled for Monday, Nov. 10, from 3 to 5 p.m. in Owens Banquet Hall. We hope that you will take the time to join us for this important update. Faculty and staff members and students are all invited to attend.

Krause named vp for business affairs

By Larry Hincker

Kurt J. Krause of Clifton has been named vice president for business affairs for the university. In making the announcement, Minnis Ridenour, chief operating officer, said, "We are very pleased to hire an executive with broad-based knowledge like Kurt. He has extensive management and operations experience in complex organizations."

Krause will be responsible for providing leadership and management to all planning, construction and operations of facilities,

University Architect, police, real estate, and Environmental Health and Safety Services. He will also oversee university Personnel Services.

Krause is currently executive director of the Office of Consumer Advocacy and Initiatives for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He replaces Raymond D. Smoot, who earlier this year became chief operating officer for the Virginia Tech Foundation (VTF) and assumed responsibility

ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

Friday, 3
Last Day to Drop.

Saturday, 4
Football, noon: At Rutgers.
VT Open House.
Music Event, 8 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Chamber Music.

Sunday, 5
Yom Kippur Begins (Sundown).
Music Event, 3 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Chamber Music.
VT Open House.

Monday, 6
Clothesline Project Workshop, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Women's Center.
University Council, 3 to 5 p.m., Pamplin 1045.
Yom Kippur.

Tuesday, 7
Art Gallery Exhibit Opening (Through 11-7).
Clothesline Project Display, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Drillfield.
Theatre Arts, 8 p.m., Squires Studio Theatre: "The Swan." (Through 10-11).

Wednesday, 8
Clothesline Project Display, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Drillfield.

Clothesline Project Workshop, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Women's Center.
"With Good Reason," 7:30 p.m., WVTF.

Thursday, 9
Clothesline Project Workshop, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Women's Center.

Friday, 10
Clothesline Project Workshop, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Women's Center

Saturday, 11
Football, noon, Lane Stadium: Syracuse.
Homecoming.

Sunday, 12
Native American Heritage Celebration (Through 11-21).
Theatre Arts, 2 p.m., Squires Studio Theatre: "The Swan."

Monday, 13
Columbus Day Holiday for Staff Members.

Wednesday, 15
"With Good Reason," 7:30 p.m., WVTF.

Thursday, 16
Pay Date for Faculty and Staff Members.
Staff Senate, noon, 1810 Litton Reaves.

Friday, 17
Last Day to Resign.

SEMINARS

Friday, 3
MCBB, 12:20 to 1:10 p.m., Fralin auditorium: Katherine Osteryoung, Michigan State.
MSE, 3:30 p.m., 100 Hancock: Michael Kelley, Jefferson Lab, William & Mary.

Monday, 6
Biochemistry, 4 p.m., 223 Engel: Jenny Yang, Georgia State University.

Wednesday, 8
Center for Adhesive/Sealant Science, 3 p.m., 223 McBryde: Jeffery White, NCSU.

Friday, 10
MCBB, 12:20 to 1:10 p.m., Fralin auditorium, Svi Kelman, University of Maryland.
MSE, 3:30 p.m., 100 Hancock: Fred Kamke.

Monday, 13,
Biochemistry, 4 p.m., 223 Engel: Stephen Wikel, University of Connecticut Health Center.

Friday, 17
MCBB, 12:20 to 1:10 p.m., Fralin auditorium, Robert Blankenship, Arizona State.
MSE, 3:30 p.m., 100 Hancock: Lourdes Salamanca-Riba, University of Maryland.
Philosophy, 4 p.m., 225 Major Williams: Mark Goodwin.

BULLETINS

Vecellio Distinguished Lecture scheduled

"Transportation crisis in Virginia: Will we be able to get there from here?" will be the topic of the Vecellio Distinguished Lecture to be delivered by Transportation Commissioner Philip A. Shucet Friday, Oct. 10 at 4 p.m. in 2150 Torgersen Hall.

Shucet is responsible for the nation's third largest state-maintained highway network. A 1972 graduate of Virginia Tech, Shucet came to VDOT with 30 years of experience in transportation planning and management.

The Vecellio lecture is sponsored by an endowment established by the Vecellio Family Foundation and individual family members in support of the Construction Engineering and Management Program The late Leo Vecellio Sr., a 1938 graduate of Virginia Tech, was president and CEO of Vecellio & Grogan.

Photo exhibit features 'lost communities'

The Community Design Assistance Center (CDAC) is sponsoring the "Lost Communities" photographic exhibit. The project was started in 2000 to search, study, and document regional history of "lost" Virginia communities

The photo exhibit will be Wallace Hall Gallery through October 17. The project findings will culminate in a photographic book. For more information, contact CDAC at 1-5644, or e-mail CDAC Director Elizabeth Gilboy at *egilboy@vt.edu.*

GSA Travel Fund Program money available

The GSA's Travel Fund Program (TFP) provides graduate students with funding for travel, accommodation, and meal expenses when presenting their research (poster or paper) at professional conferences, symposiums, and other similar events. Funding for TFP is distributed during two cycles per year: Cycle I (July 1 to December 31) and Cycle II (January 1 to June 30). Conference attendance or travel has to take place during this time period. Applcations can be made for past conferences.

The TFP is a highly competitive program. The TFP Committee will award as many people as possible as much money as possible (maximum of $300), with the idea that most students can do very little with a travel award of less than $200. The current cycle's deadline is October 6. Applications and more information are available on line at *http://gsa.uusa.vt.edu/travelfund/travelfund-index.html*. Applications may be dropped off in 309 Squires Student Center (mail code 0546). Contact Jan van Aardt at jaardt@vt.edu for more information

Vet College presents dogwash, adoptathon

The Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (VMRCVM) will present a dogwash and adoptathon Saturday, Oct. 4. on the lawn from noon to 4 p.m. in front of the VMRCVM.

The community dogwash will be held at the rear of the veterinary college complex from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dogs can be bathed and towel-dried for $10. Nail-trimming and ear cleaning is $5 extra. Animals will be washed on a first-come, first-served basis and no appointments are necessary. Dogs will be washed while owners wait. Dogs must be on a leash, and be at least five months old with current vaccinations. No dogs participating in the dogwash event should be allowed in the vicinity of the adoptathon event because of infection control concerns.

More information about the adoptathon is available at Lynnchipkin@hotmail.com or vapaws@onemain.com. Information is also available at 651-4530. More information about the dogwash is available at *leti@vt.edu* or at *mekenne1@vt.edu.*

Faculty Women's Club luncheon October 7

The Virginia Tech Faculty Women's Club Fall Luncheon will be October 7 at noon at Mountain Lake Hotel. The program, "Virginia Tech Women's Basketball" will be presented by Coach Bonnie Hendrickson

For more information contact Carol Sorensen at 951-1247.

Voter registration encouraged

The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County offers area residents the opportunity to register to vote.

For those not already registered, a Virginia voter-registration application can be obtained by contacting Phyllis Olinger, *phylo@vt.edu* or by calling 1-6867. Absentee ballot applications are also available.

RIDENOUR

made a very difficult project become reality. To some extent, even our current athletic success stems from his management oversight. He led the integration of athletics into the university system and added significant financial stability," Steger said.

Important Virginia Tech initiatives in which Ridenour played a key role, both in the financial planning and securing funding, include the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine and the Corporate Research Center.

In recognition of his many contributions to Virginia Tech and higher education, in 2001 Ridenour was presented the most prestigious award of the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO), the Distinguished Business Officer Award.

"I have enjoyed a very special relationship with Minnis operating as a team to advance the university. His wonderful work for the university has positioned us to move forward with confidence and great expectation," said Mark McNamee, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Ridenour said, "This has been a most satisfying career. I hope and feel that I've made a contribution to advancing Virginia Tech and to helping people experience the power of education. Those of us with careers in education know the satisfaction that comes from working with students and I am very pleased that I can now devote some time to the classroom."

Ridenour's career at Virginia Tech spans three decades, beginning in 1974 as the university's budget director and chief business officer, later serving as vice president for finance until his promotion in 1987 as executive vice president. In 2001, he was promoted to executive vice president and chief operating officer. He serves as executive vice president of the Virginia Tech Foundation and serves on the boards of other university-related corporations.

The university has begun the search for a replacement.

CAMPUS UPDATE

VTeP Enables Students to Use Web-accessed Portfolios

Provided by Sheila Carter-Tod, John Moore, Eddie Watson and Terry Wildman

VTeP, the new Virginia Tech Electronic Portfolio system, enables students to easily create, manage and share web-accessed electronic portfolios that document their knowledge, skills and achievements from both course and extracurricular activities. Over 275 students and 12 faculty members are exploring uses of ePortfolios in a pilot test facilitated by Educational Technologies and the Center for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (CEUT).

ePortfolios help document the education and development of the whole person, by illustrating linkages in over 50 categories such as course work, work experience, internships, service learning experiences, and professional goals and standards. A variety of evidence can be attached to every category, such as writing samples, presentations, research data, rÈsumÈs, and photographs. The software enables students to reflect on their growth over time. Custom views of these ePortfolios can be created and shared with faculty members, research partners, and potential employers.

Two campus events in October will focus on electronic portfolios. Kathleen Blake Yancey, a national expert on portfolios and assessment, will speak on "Digital Portfolios and Higher Education: Definitions, Models, and Promising Directions." Her presentation is October 17, 1:30 to 3 p.m. in 3100 Torgersen. Faculty members using VTeP in their courses will present a panel discussion October 22 from 3 to 5 p.m. in 1100 Torgersen. Both events are co-sponsored by CEUT and Educational Technologies. Registration information is at *www.ceut.vt.edu.*

Tech faculty members are using VTeP this semester to facilitate integrated learning through reflection in a variety of academic settings. John Muffo, director of Academic Assessment, is coordinating assessment of the pilot project.

Corey Hickerson, communication studies, is replacing the paper portfolio that his course traditionally used with electronic portfolios. For Hickerson's course, students will create a portfolio of all of their work with views for the instructor, their classmates, and their advisors.

By replacing the paper portfolio with the electronic form, Hickerson hopes that his students will see their progress as communicators and see integration with their other classes.

Sheila Carter-Tod, English, is also replacing the traditional use of paper portfolios for student evaluation in her Freshmen English course. Carter-Tod sees the VTeP as an opportunity for students to not only create a presence and identity for themselves as students and as writers, but also to ultimately, through reflection, get a clearer sense of the ways in which the skills they are learning in her course equip them for many other courses they will take.

Dixie Reaves, agricultural economics, is using VTeP to help her AgEcon freshmen see "how their core courses, their major courses, and their out of class experiences all work together to become the person that they want to be when they graduate." Reaves is using the VTeP as an advising tool to help students with course selection, internship pursuits, and undergraduate research opportunities. Sally Johnston is piloting VTeP as part of her Residential Leadership Community program's two semester course. Her goal is to facilitate her students' ability to reflect and learn in both cross-curricular as well as co-curricular contexts.

Several engineering faculty members are using VTeP with a select group of students involved in an NSF grant-based special project. Hayden Griffin, Jean Kampe, Tamara Knott and Vinod Lohani (engineering fundamentals), G.V. Loganathan (civil and environmental engineering) and Greg Adel (mining and minerals engineering) are investigating ways in which VTeP can complement student design projects to enhance student reflection, faculty feedback, and interaction with students.

Jim Dubinsky, English, and Shelli Fowler, director of the Graduate Education Development Institute (GEDI), are piloting projects with upper-level and graduate students. Both Dubinsky and Fowler are exploring the ways in which VTeP could also serve as a professional-development tool. Dubinsky is using VTeP in Introduction to Professional Writing course to offer students an opportunity to collect, display and reflect on their work over a semester. To move students to discover the possible professional uses of VTeP, Dubinsky is also requiring students to create a final electronic portfolio in which they demonstrate their overall learning in the course, show a view that they might create for at least

CORRECTIONS

In the September 5 issue of *Spectrum* in the Achievers section, Tom Gatewood was incorrectly reported to have received the E. Burton Mercier Alumni Service Award from Virginia Tech. Gatewood received the award from Illinois State University.

In the September 19 special awards section, an incorrect photo of Elaine Scott was published. The correct photo is published below:

SCOTT

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.
Administrative Associate, 007693G, PB 3, Alumni Relations.
Administrative Support Specialist, 008203B, PB 3, Engineering.
Anesthesia Technician, 008097C, PB 4, VTH.
Associate Director of Facilities Management, 008175H, PB 5, Student Programs.
Buyer Specialist, 004498F, PB 4, Purchasing.
Capital Budget Manager, 007995S, PB 5, BFP.
Catv Technician, 008200A, PB 3, CNS.
Chief Engineer, 002251Y, PB 4, DBHCC.
Director of Internal Audit, CCCCCC, PB 0.
Executive Chef, 007008H, PB 4, Dining Services.
Executive Secretary, 002837M, PB 3, CVM.
Facilities Equipment Manager, 000961S, PB 3, UUSA.
Facilities Safety Inspector, 001874F, PB 4, Physical Plant.
Fire Protection Technician, 000192G, PB 4, Physical Plant.
Food Service Salary Pool, P03000H, PB 1, Student Programs.
Furnishings Manager, 007291H, PB 3, Student Programs.
Grounds Worker, 000842G, PB 1, PPG.
Grounds Worker Senior, 001983G, PB 1, PPG.
Housekeeping Leader Senior, 000102H, PB 1, Student Programs.

Housekeeping Worker, P002005G, PB 1, Physical Plant.
HR Policy/Operations Coordinator, 002574D, PB 5, Personnel Services.
Lab Specialist Sr., 002465B, PB 4, MME.
Laboratory Specialist, 008192K, PB 3, VBI.
Laboratory Specialist, 007667M, PB 3, Biochemistry.
Laboratory Specialist, 007439M, PB 3, Biochemistry.
Laboratory Specialist Senior, 008015M, PB 4, PPWS.
Manager of Site/Infrastructure Development, 008199F, PB 5, SID.
Medical Technologist, 002651C, PB 4, VTH.
Network/System Administrator, 002327F, PB 4, Controller's Office.
Office Services Specialist, 001314G, PB 2, Counseling Center.
Painter Supervisor, 008160H, PB 3, Student Programs.
Police Dispatcher, 007319G, PB 3, Police.
Powerline Worker, 006524F, PB 3, Facilities.
Program Support Technician, 001166G, PB 3, Business.
Research Specialist, 008131C, PB 3, CSES.
Research Specialist, 008202M, PB 3, FWS.
Small Animal ICU Technician, 008095C, PB 4, VTH.
Sous Chef, 002946H, PB 3, Student Programs.
Staff Architect, 008079F, PB 5, University Architect.
Staff Internal Auditor, 007794S, PB 4, IAMS.
TV Producer/Director, 002357A, PB 4, VBS.
Unit Manager, 007961H, PB 5, Student Programs.

PART TIME

Administrative Assistant, W023527K, PB 2, VBI.
Aquaculture Technician, W023603M, PB 2, FWS.
Aquaculture Technician, W023601M, PB 2, FWS.
Conferences Specialist, W023123H, PB 3, Student Programs.
Educational Technologies Specialist, W023602M, PB 3, CVM.
Interpreter/Captionist for Deaf, W022842S, PB 3, SSD.

Laboratory Technician Senior, W022172M, PB 2, VTH.
Large Animal Husbandry, W022155M, PB 1, VTH.
Large Animal ICU Veterinary Technician-night, W022218M, PB 2, VTH.
Office Services Specialist, W020106M, PB 2, Entomology.
Personnel Assistant, W023596M, PB 3, CMI.
Pilot, Second in Command, 021102S, PB 5, ATS.
Quarry Mason, W023368F, PB 3, Physical Plant.
Radiologic Technologist, W022238M, PB 3, Schiffert Center.
Telecommunications Work Order Technician, 008201A, PB 2, CNS.

OFF CAMPUS

4-H Efnep Program Assistant, 005845M, PB 2, VCE—Newport News.
4-H Scnep Program Assistant, 007464M, PB 2, VCE—Fairfax County.
4-H Youth Program Assistant, 007233M, PB 2, VCE—Arlington County.
Adult Efnep Program Assistant, 005899M, PB 2, VCE—Hampton.
Director of Nursing, 002178M, PB 4, EMC.
Efnep Adult Program Assistant, 006101M, PB 2, VCE—Arlington County.
Efnep Adult Program Assistant, 005950M, PB 2, VCE—Arlington County.
Nursing Shift Supervisor, 002996M, PB 2, EMC.
Office Assistant, 004125M, PB 2, Eastern Shore AREC.
Program Support Technician, 006427M, PB 3, VCE—Southwest District.
Scnep Adult Program Assistant, 006598M, PB 2, VCE—Prince Edward County.
Scnep Program Assistant, 006806M, PB 2, VCE—Fauquier County.
Scnep Program Assistant, 006605M, PB 2, VCE—Orange.
Student Enrollment Assistant, 002089B, PB 3, NVC.
Unit Administrative Assistant, 006211M, PB 3, VCE—Hanover County.
Wildlife Worker, 006643B, PB 2, Biology.
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IN OTHER NEWS

University selects Rugaber as presidential fellow

By Sarah Newbill

Walter Rugaber, former president and publisher of the *Roanoke Times*, has been named a Virginia Tech presidential fellow. In this role, he will work with the College of Architecture and Urban Studies and the Center for Innovative Leadership on issues of education and economic development. His expertise in public policy and his wealth of experience is expected to be an invaluable resource as the university bolsters efforts to strengthen the region's educational and economic infrastructure.

"I am confident that the Virginia Tech community—and the communities we serve—will benefit greatly from Walter's sage input,"

said President Charles Steger, who appointed Rugaber to the post.

After earning his degree from Northwestern University, Rugaber started his career in journalism at the *Atlanta Journal* in 1961, then went the *Detroit Free Press* and the *New York Times* in their Detroit, Atlanta, and Washington bureaus.

In 1978 he became the executive editor of the *Greensboro Daily News & Record,* and in 1982 made the move to the *Roanoke Times* where he oversaw a staff of nearly 500, produced three Pulitzer Prize nominees, recorded three of the

best financial years in the newspaper's history, and helped establish the *Roanoke Times* as Western Virginia's major newspaper. From 1995 to 1998 her served as president of the Landmark Publishing Group, parent company of the *Roanoke Times*.

In 2001, the *Roanoker Magazine* selected Rugaber as one of the Roanoke Valley's 50 most influential people. In addition to his professional achievements, he was a trustee on the Hollins University Board, most recently serving as Hollins University's interim president from May, 2001 to June, 2002.

OBITUARY

George G. Green, 81

George G. Green, retired professor of animal and poultry sciences, died September 19 at his home in Fort Payne, Ala., at the age of 81.

Green taught sheep and animal production at Virginia Tech for 22 years before retiring in 1987. He was the major adviser for the Block and Bridle Club of Virginia Tech, and in 1989 he received the Block and Bridle Club honor award.

STUDENT DEATH

Daniel J. Martin, a student in the Pamplin College of Business.

KRAUSE

for all VTF operations. Smoot remains university treasurer for Virginia Tech.

Says Krause of his appointment, "As a very proud alumnus and service champion, I can imagine no other opportunity, which lends itself to a challenging work experience, attractive living environment, collegial atmosphere and genuine community. I look forward to this opportunity supporting the teaching, research and outreach missions as well as the business affairs of the university."

During his more than 20-year tenure in the Marriott organization, Krause held many marketing and operations positions. In the late 1990s, he was general manager for the Westfields Marriott, a luxury resort conference center in Chantilly. In his last position at Marriott International, he was vice president of brand strategy for Renaissance Hotels.

At the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Krause helped implement the agency's assimilation of airport security and screening resulting from the post-September 11 organizational changes in the federal government.

Krause received a bachelor's degree in marketing management from Virginia Tech in 1980 and advanced studies in hospitality and tourism management through Virginia Tech's Northern Virginia Center. He currently serves as the chair of the Virginia Tech Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management Advisory Board.

Krause will begin work by November 1.

Nickerson leader of Agricultural Technology program

By Stewart MacInnis

Stephen C. Nickerson, head of the department of dairy science, has taken over the leadership of the Agricultural Technology Program, following the retirement of John R. Crunkilton.

Crunkilton, an associate dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and associate director of the college's academic programs, established the 2two-year program in 1987 to fill a need in Virginia's agriculture industry for mid-level managers. More than 550 students have graduated from the program in its 15 years of existence. The program leads to an associate-of-agriculture degree, a practical option for students who desire an agricultural career but do not wish to complete a four-year program.

Crunkilton retired this summer after 34 years with Virginia Tech. In addition to developing the two-year program, Crunkilton also widened the college's international academic programs and completed two Fulbright Scholarship awards overseas.

Nickerson has been head of the department of dairy science since Aug. 1, 2001. He will continue as department head as he also takes on leadership of the Ag Tech program.

"This has been a learning experience for me," Nickerson said. "I certainly knew about the program before, but I really didn't have any dealings with it until now. I've found that it's a tremendous program that fills a niche for students who don't want a four-year degree but who need technical experience."

Class instruction has evolved from an animal- and crop-production curriculum to a specialized program with four areas of study: landscape and turf management, animal agriculture, agricultural business and crop production.

Nickerson credited Crunkilton with building a strong program that meets the needs of students and the needs of Virginia's agriculture industry.

VTeP

one employer, and discuss the composition of the view.

Fowler's use of the VTeP at the graduate level will encourage students in her Teaching and Learning in Contemporary Contexts course to use VTeP as a tool in their professional development as teachers. Fowler is requiring that her students construct a Professional Development ePortfolio (PDeP) in which they begin building an electronic teaching portfolio that will include a sample syllabus, teaching philosophy, a case study they have developed for use in their own course, and reflections related to the construction and use of those items.

Campus discussions of electronic portfolios began in 2002 as part of a special study of Virginia Tech's Core Curriculum. Out of these discussions emerged a recommendation to use electronic portfolios to support student reflection and the thoughtful accumulation of academic work over time. Terry Wildman, director of CEUT, and John Moore, director of Educational Technologies, agreed to collaborate on a pilot

portfolio project. A study group of faculty members who would explore uses of electronic portfolios in their fall 2003 courses major step was recruited and organized. Educational Technologies investigated infrastructure, software, and operational requirements for a reliable, robust and easy-to-use portfolio system.

The software, developed by the University of Minnesota, is available through the Open Source Portfolio Initiative (OSPI). Virginia Tech is a charter participant in the OSPI project and is one of the first universities in the world to successfully implement the OSPI software.

CEUT and Educational Technologies will form a new faculty study group for those interested in pilot testing VTeP in their spring classes. VTeP is open this semester and next only to faculty members and students participating in the pilot test. To access the VTeP web site, go to *http://eportfolio.vt.edu.*

Graduate Research Development Program detailed

The Graduate Research Development Project (GRDP) is a program administered by the Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) that provides monetary support for degree-contingent research conducted by graduate students. The funding opportunity is available to graduate students twice a year in two cycles: Cycle I: July 1 through December 31, and Cycle II: January 1 through June 30.

The GRDP funding application consists of four parts and must be submitted to the GSA office when completed. Applications are judged in a blind review by a panel of faculty members representing each college. Up to $300 may be awarded for master's proposals and $500 for doctoral proposals. Research must be conducted at Virginia Tech by full-time graduate students.

Procedures and guidelines are as follows: The applicant or other relevant sources may be contacted for clarification of the research application; no project employing human subjects will be funded without the approval of the appropriate Human Subjects Review Committee of the University; all equipment purchased shall be the property of the grant-recipient's department.

Items that will not be considered for funding are as follows: Salaries for applicant or other personnel who perform routine student services or duties; office equipment not provided by the department or advisor; supplies and materials provided by the department on a regular basis (paper, stencils, copying, etc.); tuition, fees, or other personal costs; retroactive reimbursement for expense incurred before the granting period for which this research project application is submitted; and travel expenses for presenting the research at a professional meeting.

Students cannot receive GRDP funding for two consecutive funding cycles.

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with a seating capacity of 800, a dedicated auditorium and 15 additional conference rooms. When complete, the mixed-use facility will be the largest hotel and conference center in Virginia west of Roanoke.

The university's alumni association, an important partner in the agreement, supports the new umbrella management arrangement. According to Thomas C. Tillar, Tech's vice president for Alumni Relations, "All of us in the Virginia Tech Alumni Association are very pleased that the management organization for the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center will also be responsible for managing the new hotel and conference center on campus. Many alumni have been complimentary of the Roanoke property and will be delighted to have the same quality of service and comfort at the new hotel."

"Hilton is delighted to have the opportunity to expand its current relationship with Virginia Tech and apply that experience toward ensuring a successful conversion to the university's outstanding new hotel and conference center," said Gary Walton of Hilton Hotels Corporation.

Walton has been area vice president and general manager of the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center for nearly 10 years. A 26-year veteran of the hospitality industry, he has managed the day-to-day operations of numerous hotels throughout the country. Walton is a member of the Virginia Tech hospitality and tourism management program advisory board and a board member of both the Virginia Hospitality and Travel Association and the Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau.