Board adopts American history academic requirement

By Larry Hincker

The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors has unanimously approved a requirement that all Virginia Tech graduates have a "significant level of competency in American history." The requirement begins for students entering in fall of 2001.

"Critical concepts of American history are necessary for responsible citizenship and participation in a democratic society," said Heywood Fralin, chair of the board’s Subcommittee on Academic Affairs.

Students will be able to satisfy the requirement in many ways. Some may demonstrate college-level proficiency through pre-college coursework and others will take classes at Virginia Tech. "The objective is to ensure that Virginia Tech graduates have a significant level of competency in American history. If they already have these proficiencies, as many of our students do, they can test out," said Peggy Mesaros, university provost and senior vice president.

Students can demonstrate knowledge of the American history material by achieving a high score on the Virginia Standards of Learning achievement test (exact score to be determined), through equivalent reporting from other states, through U.S. History advanced placement or History SAT II through testing developed and administered by Virginia Tech, or through a program of instruction at Virginia Tech. If students cannot demonstrate the expected achievement level, they must take the university’s existing two-semester American history sequence, or take the university’s on-line American history course (currently under development), or transfer an acceptable course from another college or university, or complete other Virginia Tech courses that are deemed to satisfy the requirement for U.S. history.

“Our History Department faculty members are currently developing a self-paced on-line American history course and a university proficiency test that could serve in lieu of other types of tests,” said Ron Daniel, associate provost for undergraduate programs. The on-line course currently is envisaged as a one-semester-long exploration of American history that students could take without impacting other requirements of the core curriculum.

Proficiency tests conducted are expected to be conducted this fall to reveal the extent to which new programs might be needed. Then several more presidential search conducted and evaluated during Fall 2000 semester to accommodate the Fall 2001 implementation date.

BOV honors Chichester, Hickam

By Larry Hincker

The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors has granted the 1999 University Distinguished Achievement award to Virginia Senator John H. Chichester of Fredericksburg.

Chichester, the Virginia Republican Party’s senior senator, represents Virginia’s 26th Senatorial District. He currently co-chairs the Senate Finance Committee and serves on three other committees: Appropriations, Conservation and Natural Resources, Commerce and Labor, and Education and Health.

Chichester attended Virginia Tech in the 1950s. Through his alumni status he has remained close to the university and higher education. He currently serves as treasurer of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and he chaired the Commission on the Future of Higher Education in Virginia, which completed its work in 1996.

Forestry name changed; now Natural Resources

By Lynn Davis

The Board of Visitors has unanimously approved a name change for the College of Forestry and Wildlife Resources to reflect more accurately its mission amid the changing times. Effective May 24, the college will be called the College of Natural Resources.

College Dean Greg Brown said, “Our name has served us well for many years. Times and public perceptions, however, change, and I am confident that as we enter the 21st century, our new name will provide the college with more visibility while not diminishing any of our respective programs.”

The name change went through the college’s Search Committee office at 1-5695 or e-mail madigan@vt.edu. Speakers will be limited to five minutes.

Mitchell to speak at Graduate Commencement

By Julie Kane

University Distinguished Professor James K. Mitchell of the Via Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering has been chosen to speak at the 1999 Graduate Commencement ceremony on May 14. The event will be held at 4:30 p.m. in Cassell Coliseum.

Mitchell, who was elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering in 1976, joined the Virginia Tech faculty in 1994 as the first Charles E. Via Jr. professor of civil engineering. He came to Tech from the University of California at Berkeley, where he held an endowed chair and conducted research in both the Institute of Transportation Studies and the Earthquake Engineering Research Center.

Mitchell, who has been on the Berkeley faculty since 1958, after receiving his doctor of science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1956 and serving on active duty in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Presidential Search Forum Scheduled for Saturday

The Virginia Tech Presidential Search Committee will hold a public forum Saturday, May 1, to hear comments from faculty and staff members, students, alumni, and the general public on factors to be considered in conducting the search, and the criteria by which presidential candidates should be evaluated.

The forum will be held in Squares Brush Mountain Room from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Individuals interested in speaking at the forum must sign up to speak by April 30. To register, contact the search-committee office at 1-5605 or e-mail madigan@vt.edu. Speakers will be limited to five minutes.
Promotion with Tenure to Associate Professor

Gregory Amacher, forestry; Sheryl B. Ball, economics; Jan H. Bohin, mechanical engineering; Terry L. Clements, landscape architecture; Eileen J. Couphey, marketing; John J. Daciano, large-animal clinical sciences; Hayward Farrar, history; Richard M. Goff, engineering fundamentals; Carla A. Haas, fisheries and wildlife sciences; James Roger Harris, horticulture; Donald E. Hatfield, management; Brian J. Love, materials science and engineering; Lissiane E. Lyons, music; Eva Marand, chemical engineering; Steven L. McMullen, fisheries and wildlife sciences; Thomas H. Mills III, building construction; Christopher P. F. Neck, management; Rachel Parker-Gwin, sociology; James A. Parkhurst, fisheries and wildlife sciences; F. William Peterson, large-animal clinical sciences; Anita M. Puckett, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; Dixie Watts Reeves, agricultural and applied economics; Scott M. Salom, entomology; Peter L. Schmitthenner, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; Robert L. Smith, wood science and forest products; Bonnie J. Smith, biomedical sciences and pathology; Carroll C. Stephens, management; Brian M. Tissue, chemistry; Eric Watkins, philosophy; Bruce W. Zoetlein, food science and technology.

Tenure, Collegiate Faculty, 1998-99

Kathryn C. Albright, architecture; Flynn L. Auyech, building construction; Thomas E. Cousins, civil and environmental engineering; Sarane Persaud.

Promotion with Tenure to Professor, Collegiate Faculty

Mitza Nagarkar, biomedical sciences and Pathology.

Promotion to Professor, Collegiate Faculty

Susan B. Asellin, teaching and learning; Osman Bali, computer science; Christopher Beattie, mathematics; Jeffrey B. Buch, statistics; Dusan Borojevic, electrical and computer engineering; Darrell J. Bosch, agricultural and applied economics; Edward F. Detelich, interdisciplinary arts; Lawrence H. Cross, educational leadership and policy studies; Jesus M. de la Garza, civil and environmental engineering; Jeffrey P. Duke, Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Extension Center; William J. Devorentz, aerospace and ocean engineering; Theo A. Dillaha III, biological systems engineering; Gary L. Downey, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; Klaus D. Elgert, biology; Edward F. Fen, marketing; Lawrence S. Giffin, geography; Ramon Kumar, finance, insurance, and business law; Joseph Loferski, wood science and forest products; Harold W. Mick, mathematics; Lamine M. Mili, electrical and computer engineering; Douglas J. Nelson, mechanical engineering; Efstratios Nikolaidis, aerospace and astronautics; David H. Rackliffe, English; Frederick M. Richardson, accounting and information systems; Kausum Singh, educational leadership and policy studies; Mark M. Smith, small-animal clinical sciences; Sandra M. Stith, human development; Anshu Wang, electrical and computer engineering; Jeffrey R. Wolcke, biomedical sciences and pathology; Tony K. W. Walford, H. Smith H. Agricultural Research and Extension Center.

Continued Appointment, Extra-Collegiate Faculty

Susan A. Atnye, User Services/University Libraries; Barbara A. Board, Extension Educational Programming/Virginia Cooperative Extension; Dorothy McCurry Freeman, 4-H/Virginia Cooperative Extension; Mary Hansbrough, Technical Services/University Libraries; Ramadan A. Jackson, animal and natural sciences/Amelia County Extension Office; Randy W. Jackson, agriculture and natural resources/Virginia Beach City Extension Office; Christina A. Kastan, family and consumer sciences/Northern District Extension; Betty K. Munyon, 4-H/Blacksburg Extension Office; Nancy U. Pfafflin, family and consumer sciences/Arlington County Extension Office.

Promotion, Tenure, Continued Appointment, and Administrative Promotion, Listing, 1998-99

Recognized at this year’s program were, from left, Peggy H. Brown, Alvin L. Harmon, Virgil Cook, Joe A. Adams, Catherine L. Allen, Linda L. Schmitthenner, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; Anita Marand, chemical engineering; Steve L. McMullen, fisheries and wildlife sciences; Thomas H. Mills III, building construction; Christopher P. F. Neck, management; Rachel Parker-Gwin, sociology; James A. Parkhurst, fisheries and wildlife sciences; F. William Peterson, large-animal clinical sciences; Anita M. Puckett, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; Dixie Watts Reeves, agricultural and applied economics; Scott M. Salom, entomology; Peter L. Schmitthenner, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; Robert L. Smith, wood science and forest products; Bonnie J. Smith, biomedical sciences and pathology; Carroll C. Stephens, management; Brian M. Tissue, chemistry; Eric Watkins, philosophy; Bruce W. Zoetlein, food science and technology.

Tenure, Collegiate Faculty, 1998-99

Kathryn C. Albright, architecture; Flynn L. Auyech, building construction; Thomas E. Cousins, civil and environmental engineering; Sarane Persaud.

Promotion with Tenure to Professor, Collegiate Faculty

Mitza Nagarkar, biomedical sciences and Pathology.

Promotion to Professor, Collegiate Faculty

Susan B. Asellin, teaching and learning; Osman Bali, computer science; Christopher Beattie, mathematics; Jeffrey B. Buch, statistics; Dusan Borojevic, electrical and computer engineering; Darrell J. Bosch, agricultural and applied economics; Edward F. Detelich, interdisciplinary arts; Lawrence H. Cross, educational leadership and policy studies; Jesus M. de la Garza, civil and environmental engineering; Jeffrey P. Duke, Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Extension Center; William J. Devorentz, aerospace and ocean engineering; Theo A. Dillaha III, biological systems engineering; Gary L. Downey, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; Klaus D. Elgert, biology; Edward F. Fen, marketing; Lawrence S. Giffin, geography; Ramon Kumar, finance, insurance, and business law; Joseph Loferski, wood science and forest products; Harold W. Mick, mathematics; Lamine M. Mili, electrical and computer engineering; Douglas J. Nelson, mechanical engineering; Efstratios Nikolaidis, aerospace and astronautics; David H. Rackliffe, English; Frederick M. Richardson, accounting and information systems; Kausum Singh, educational leadership and policy studies; Mark M. Smith, small-animal clinical sciences; Sandra M. Stith, human development; Anshu Wang, electrical and computer engineering; Jeffrey R. Wolcke, biomedical sciences and pathology; Tony K. W. Walford, H. Smith H. Agricultural Research and Extension Center.

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Promotion, Tenure, Continued Appointment, and Administrative Promotion, Listing, 1998-99

Recognized at this year’s program were, from left, Peggy H. Brown, Alvin L. Harmon, Virgil Cook, Joyce H. Bolt and John A. Barden. At right is President Paul Torgersen. (J. McCormick)
Tech researchers selected for recognition on WVTF

By Susan Trudene

The names of 25 Virginia Tech researchers have been submitted for WVTF, for the second half of the second year of the public-recognition program sponsored by Research and Graduate Studies.

Week-long recognition of a specific faculty member for his or her outstanding research takes place in one of 24 30-second announcements.

Researchers are nominated by department heads, with university and alumni distinguished professors and Len Peters, vice provost for research and dean of the Graduate School, making the final selections.

“We want to recognize individuals who have made a contribution to a body of knowledge,” Peters said. “Of course, it is a challenge to describe an individual’s research and its contribution in 20 or fewer words. Still, this is an opportunity to tell people what we are doing and to recognize the people who are doing it.”

The spots begin with the words: “Support for WVTF is provided by Research and Graduate Studies at Virginia Tech.”

Researchers receive a special commendation award.

“During each semester, I gave George responsibility for two class periods, both of which I went quite smoothly,” he said. “Having recently observed one of his classes, I can still see the same qualities that he showed as a new GTA four years ago. He is very well prepared and organized, he speaks clearly, he makes sure his students follow him. He knows his subject matter thoroughly, but he is not afraid to admit mistakes.”

Moss also earns praise from other teaching assistants in the department. Lisa Beverly and Nathan Smith describe a program Moss helped create within the department for teaching assistants. “Although our department had a well-developed training program for beginning teachers for some time,” they said, “there was no specific program designed for more experienced teachers. Not only was George instrumental in the creation of the new post-mentoring program, but he has also been one of its most active participants. In our opinion, George is indeed one of those people who is an asset to our department.”

TRIUMPH makes an early start on flower production with several research scientists world wide.

The spots conclude with the words: “TRIUMPH is recognized by statisticians and environmental scientists world wide.”

June 27: Agricultural and applied-economy Professor David Kenyon, whose research on swine and grain marketing helps producers manage price risk.

July 4: Computer-science Professor Edward Fox, whose research in digital libraries and multi-media makes information accessible through the internet.

By Julie Kane

Virginia Tech’s Graduate School has named three winners of its Graduate Teaching Assistant Commendation Award. The students are George Moss in mathematics; Patrick Van Metre in computer science; and Nancy Perry in English.

Mathematics Teaching Assistant Coordinator, Eileen Shugart, described the initial impression of Moss. “I selected George to be my GTA in my first term teaching assistant in the spring of 1995 because of his keen interest in teaching and obvious qualities of leadership,” she said. “He was in that position over the past few years, George has made a tremendous contribution to the teaching mission of our department.

Regarding the process of teaching, Moss said he enjoys the interaction with students and other teachers, and that it gives him great joy to watch students learn. “In my teaching, I want to emphasize connections between mathematics and students’ personal knowledge, experiences and beliefs, as well as to their other classes,” he wrote. Moss, who has an undergraduate degree, a bachelor of science in applied mathematics from Auburn University, will graduate with his Ph.D. in mathematics from Virginia Tech this May.

Ezra Brown served as Moss’s mentor.

I would like to ask the question: Why doesn’t the administration consider delaying the opening of Tech until emergency snow-removal crews have had a chance to do their job?

I noticed on two previous occasions when inclement weather occurred that community colleges within our area decided to close. This allowed them to remove snow, plow lots and streets to have a safe place for employees and students to return.

As we drove in from Floyd County on roads which were barely plowed, we heard on the radio that unless travel was an emergency to stay off the roads the city crews could do their job. I’m sure there were commuter students on the roads as well. Were their classes or my work an emergency?

On the first day of classes at Radford, when the weather conditions warranted warnings for everyone to stay off the roads unless it was an emergency, they opened at 11 a.m. What was the emergency in opening Virginia Tech?

We need to define emergency, use some common sense and admit that we don’t have everyone based on campus anymore. We have more faculty and staff members. You risking the safety of the employees and students.

Finally, after being the weather and snow-covered roads, we heard (on the same radio station that adviced us to stay off of the roads) that our vehicles must be moved to permit snow-removal crews to do their job. Move them where? Should I listen to that portion of the radio announcement telling me to move my vehicle, and ignore the part of the same announcement advising me to stay off the roads?

Exactly what did we accomplish by 11 a.m. and 11 a.m.?

Sincerely, Vickie C. Martin

CRHE/ELS

“Renovation is recognized by statisticians and environmental scientists world wide.”

By Stewart MacInnis

The Faculty of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences has elected officers for the college’s faculty association.

Elected were Dan Fenske, associate professor of animal and poultry sciences, president; Peter Kennedy, professor of biochemistry, president-elect; Dixie Reeves, associate professor of agricultural and applied economics, vice president; and Dan Mullins, professor of entomology, secretary-treasurer.

College commission positions filled in recent balloting include: academic programs commission, Dick Gregory, associate professor of biochemistry, and Elizabeth Graham, associate professor of plant pathology, physiology and weed science; Extension program policies commission, Scott Hagood, professor of plant pathology, physiology and weed science; and Erik Stomborg, professor of plant pathology, physiology and weed science.

Commission on Faculty Affairs, Jeff Bloomquist, associate professor of entomology; Merle Pierson, professor of food science and technology; Commission on Outreach, Susan Sumner, associate professor of food science and technology; Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies, Dixie Reeves, associate professor of agricultural and applied economics; Commission on Computing and Communications Resources, Dave Bevan, associate professor of biochemistry; and Zara Erskine, instructional designer in the Department of Plant Pathology, Physiology, and Weed Science; Graduate Curriculum Committee, David Vaughan, professor of biological systems engineering; Naitem Mostaghimi, professor of biological systems engineering; and Jim Westwood, research scientist, Department of Plant Pathology.
**EVENTS**

**Thursday, 29**

Presidential Forum, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Owens Banquet Hall: Presidential Forum on Campus Climate for Diversity. Faculty Recital, 8 p.m., Blackburn Presbyterian Church, Doris Lederer.

**Friday, 30**

Salary and Wage Paydate.

**Saturday, 1**

YMCA Hike, 1:30 p.m., meet in parking lot 403 Washington St.: Angel’s Rest.

Chamber Music Concert, 8 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Audubon Quartet.

**Sunday, 2**

Chamber Music Concert, 8 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Audubon Quartet.

**MAY**

**Saturday, 1**

YMCA Hike, 1:30 p.m., meet in parking lot 403 Washington St.: Angel’s Rest.

Chamber Music Concert, 8 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Audubon Quartet.

**Sunday, 2**

Chamber Music Concert, 8 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Audubon Quartet.

**Monday, 3**

University Council Meeting, 5-5:50 p.m., Pamplin.

**BULLETINS**

**Boise Cascade adds to General Scholarship Fund**

Virginia Tech will be receiving another contribution in the amount of $8,192.55 to the general scholarship fund from Boise Cascade Office Products. This arrangement is a negotiated provision of the contract for office supplies. The amount of the gift is based on the average order size for a given quarter; starting at 1 percent for an average order of $120 and increasing to 3 percent if the average order reaches $251. This particular gift represents three percent of the university purchases with Boise Cascade during the first quarter of 1999. Since the contract inception in May 1996, Boise Cascade Office Products has donated $30,176.81 to a general scholarship fund.

Boise Cascade is now offering Internet ordering. The company now has 47 users processing orders on-line. For more information, please call Jamie Phillips at 800-772-6473.

**Surplus property on sale May 8**

There will be a special public sale of surplus furniture on Thursday, May 8 beginning at 8 a.m. Items are used and excess to the needs of the Residence Programs organization. Included will be office desks, student desks, chairs, sofas, wardrobes, tables and air conditioners. Each item will be pre-priced. This sale will take place at the Surplus Property warehouse located at 1411 South Main St.

**Leave donations needed**

There are Virginia Tech employees in the areas of agricultural and applied economics, the College of Veterinary Medicine, Communications Network Services, and Residential and Dining Programs who have requested leave donations.

A salaried classified employee or a 12-month regular faculty member, has an opportunity to 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.

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

**Leave donations needed**

To protect recipients, the names and details of the medical condition will remain confidential. However, participants must donate leave to either a specific individual or area.

To obtain a donor form, ask a department administrative office or Personnel Services department at 1-5931. Please return the completed form to Mary Chapman Gearheart, leave administrator, Personnel Services, 0318.

**President’s Forum addresses diversity**

The Office of Multicultural Affairs will sponsor the President’s Forum on Campus Climate for Diversity in the Owens Banquet Hall on Thursday, April 29 from 8:30-11:30 a.m.

The program will be a technology-based interactive discussion of issues related to improving the climate for teaching and learning at Virginia Tech. Space is limited, so an RSVP is requested to the OMA at 1-1820, or e-mail multicultural@vt.edu.
MITCHELL
Continued from 1

He has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences in recognition of his original research contributions to the field of geotechnical engineering.

Much of his research has focused on fundamental aspects of the engineering properties and behavior of soils and the development of understanding based on compositional and physical and chemical interactions of soil particles. This research, conducted several years ago, recently has found wide applications in the field of civil engineering problems with waste containment and contaminated site remediation.

During the 1980s and early 1990s, Mitchell conducted extensive research on biorational and soil properties during the Apollo Lunar Exploration Program and served as principal investigator for the Soil Mechanics Experiment, which was part of the Apollo 14-17 missions.

Mitchell also has worked extensively on soil stabilization and ground strength properties, and these studies have been used to mitigate foundation risk during earthquakes. He participated in post-earthquake reconnaissance and ground-motion studies following the major earthquakes in San Francisco in 1989 and Kobe, Japan in 1994.

In 1997, he and two other Virginia Tech engineering faculty members were named part of a national team, working through the National Center for Earthquake Engineering Research at the State University of New York at Buffalo, that received a five-year, $10-million grant from the National Science Foundation to find ways to minimize earthquake damage and losses in the United States. Mitchell, along with engineers at University of Hawaii and accompanying geophysical consultant, will study the use of new monitoring and early warning strategies and techniques to help prevent earthquake-induced liquefaction and lateral spreading of the ground.

Among the more than 500 publications resulting from Mitchell’s research, his two edited volumes are considered the institute’s graduate-level text and reference book, Fundamentals of Soil Behavior, which has become a standard geotechnical course reference worldwide.

Among the numerous honors Mitchell has received are the Norman Medal, the highest honor for a published paper accorded by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE); the Karl Terzaghi Lecture and Award from ASCE; the Western Electric Fund Award of the American Society for Engineering Education; the Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achieve- ment from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; the Berkeley Citation from the University of California, and appointment in 1996 as a university distinguished professor by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. He is a fellow and honorary member of ASCE and a former chairman of the Geotechnical Division of the U.S. National Research Council.

DOMENECH
Continued from 1

A native of Cuba who moved to the United States at the age of nine, Domenech earned a B.A. degree from Hunter College in New York City and a Ph.D. from Hofstra University in Uniondale, N.Y.

He began his teaching career in New York City, where he taught sixth grade in a predominately black and Hispanic community in South Jamaica, Queens. Domenech then became program director for the Nassau Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), which is the largest intermediate school district in the State of New York. Subsequently, he was selected as superintendent of schools for the ethnically diverse South Huntington School District in Long Island, district superintendent of the Second Supervisory District of Suffolk County and chief executive officer of the West- ern Suffolk BOCES.

Domenech is a member of the 16,000-member American Association of School Administrators. He has also served as the first president and co-founder of the New York State Association for Bilingual Education.

Virginia Tech offers 36 graduate programs for working professionals as well as continuing education seminars and short courses at the Virginia Tech/University of Virginia Northern Virginia Center in Falls Church. More than 200 students are scheduled to participate in the ceremony.
The following classified positions are currently available. More details of these positions, specific application procedures and position-closing dates may be found on the Personnel Services web site at http://www.ps.vt.edu. Available positions are also listed on the Job Line, a 24-hour recorded message service: Office/Clerical: 1-6196; Technical/Research: 1-6160; Service/Trades: 1-6176; Professional and Managerial: 1-6469; Information Technology: 1-2233. Some of the following positions include state benefits. Positions with numbers beginning with a “W” are hourly and do not include state benefits. Comments about this shortened listing should be made to person@vt.edu or by calling 1-5301 or 1-6258 for persons with hearing impairments. Individuals with disabilities desiring assistance or accommodation in the application process should call by the application deadline.

To better serve applicants, the closing date for advertised positions has been changed to 1 p.m. Monday unless otherwise stated. An EO/A employer committed to diversity.

Full Time

Agricultural Supervisor, 3126M, Grade 7, Animal and Poultry Sciences.

Business Manager A, 2065D, Grade 15, Communications Network Services.

Computer Systems Engineer, 7438J, Grade 14, Center For Power Electronics.

Computer Systems Engineer, 7440J, Grade 14, Center For Transportation Research.

Programmer, 7444J, Grade 14, Civil Engineering.

Control Desk Attendant/Office Services Asst., 7355G, Grade 4, University-wide.

Food Operations Assistant B (3rd Baker), 2986H, Grade 2, Residential and Dining Programs/ Southgate Bakehouse

INSTRUCTIONAL

Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research And Extension Center. Assistant/Associate Professor. This is a 10-month, tenure-track faculty position (75 percent research and 25 percent Extension) located at the Virginia Tech Southern Piedmont AREC, Blackstone, approximately 50 miles southwest of Richmond. The incumbent will have academic affiliation with either the Departments of Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences or Animal and Poultry Sciences on the Virginia Tech campus. The incumbent is expected to develop a nationally and internationally recognized research program focused on development of innovative livestock production systems with major emphasis on sustainable-agricultural practices. Extension responsibilities will involve the development, implementation, and leadership of inter-disciplinary educational programs focusing on integrated forage and animal-production systems primarily for the southern piedmont and coastal plain regions of the state. The successful candidate is expected to collaborate and interact effectively with appropriate university faculty members, field Extension staff members, industry representatives, producers, governmental agencies, and ag-business personnel. The incumbent is expected to compete for intramural and extramural funding and to advise and support graduate students and to publish in refereed journals. Qualifications: A Ph.D. in animal science or a closely related discipline with emphasis on forage use and management; demonstrated ability to communicate orally and in writing and use computer technology proficiently; and demonstrated ability to work cooperatively within a team approach with both colleagues and clientele. Experience in forage use/management research and knowledge of beef cattle management are essential. Experience in high- and warm-cool-season forage species is desirable. Salary is commensurate with training and experience. The closing date is July 1, 1999 or until the position is filled. An application will consist of a cover letter describing career goals, a curriculum vitae, copy of official transcripts, and at least three letters of reference. Applications should be mailed to James L. Jones, Virginia Tech, Southern Piedmont AREC, 2375 Danvills Road, Blackstone VA 23824.

Department of Animal and Poultry Sciences. Assistant/associate Professor, Equine Science Position. This is a 12-month, tenure-track position. The successful candidate is expected to develop a high-level Horse Production and Management, and the Equine Evaluation courses. In addition, he/she will be expected to coach the Intercollegiate Horse Judging Team and to be actively involved in the day-to-day operations of the Horse Center. Scholarly research accomplishments are expected in the candidate’s specialty area. Qualifications: Ph.D. in animal science. Preference will be given to individuals with experience in horse production and management and a keen knowledge of the horse industry. Candidates must possess strong speaking, writing, computing, and leadership skills to work effectively with students, peers, and industry leaders in the state. Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Date available is Aug. 10, 1999. Applications: Application deadline is June 10. Send a letter of application, transcripts (undergraduate and graduate), a vita, and the names and contact information for three references to Dianne Yordy, Educational Psychology Search Committee, 101 War Memorial Hall (0017), College of Human Resources and Education, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061. Phone: 1-5406; fax: 1-3277.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Career Services. Career Advisor. This person provides advice and workshops on campus major decision making, experimental learning, job search, and related topics. Each advisor serves as Cooperative Education coordinator for designated majors and works closely with students and employers for successful work assignments. Advisors teach credit classes on choosing an academic major and work on special projects. Successful candidates will possess a master’s degree in counseling or related major and demonstrate abilities such as counseling, knowledge of career development theory and practice; building rapport with students, faculty members, and employers; strong oral and written communication skills. Must demonstrate success with working in a team environment. Career services experience is preferred. Candidate must reside in the Blacksburg area.

Office Services Specialist, W022513G, Grade 5, Program Development.

Pharmacy Supervisor, W022501H, Grade 15. (See Employment on 7)
Tech computing team places eighteenth in world competition

By Sally Harris
Virginia Tech's computer-programming team placed fifth in the United States and eighth in the world in international competition in Holland recently.

"This was the biggest international con-
test ever," said Sally Anne, head profes-
sor of computer science, director of the Mid-
Atlantic contest, and coach of the Virginia Tech team. "There were 62 teams. We came in in the top quartile of the world, and we think that was great." Members of the Virginia Tech team are David Mayhew, a graduate student majoring in electrical engineering, Tim Terniberry, a junior in computer science and mathematics, and Albert Lee, a junior in computer science, mathematics, and physics. Chad Wingrave, who served as alternate and assistant coach, is a graduating senior and computer-science major.

Competition starts on the regional level, and there are 30 regions spanning six continents and 59 countries. The regional that Henry directs is so large, with 150 teams, that its contest is run over the network from seven sites, includ-
ing Virginia Tech. Virginia Tech won the Mid-Atlantic regional competition, and a second Virginia Tech team placed third.

Winners of the regional go on to the inter-
national competition. Also, some regions, de-
pending on their size, get wild cards as addi-
tional teams can attend the international, which had 62 teams competing this year.

Virginia Tech placed behind only Harvard, Berkeley, California Polytechnic, and Duke and ahead of such teams as Cornell, the University of Pennsylvania, and "every other university in the U.S.," Henry said.

There were eight problems posed in inter-
national competition, and the Virginia Tech
team got four correct. "The winning team, the University of Waterloo, got only six right," Henry said. "The first four places went to teams outside the United States. The international competition was chal-
enging, Lee said. "I wouldn't say it was hard, exactly," he said. "The problems were defi-
nitely solvable." The issue was "It all came down, basically, to how fast you could finish the problems," he said.

Virginia Tech's programming team consistently won regional competitions and places high in international competition. Henry has managed the team for 15 years and has directed the Mid-Atlantic Regional contest for the past five years.

THREE

Continued from 3

computer science from Virginia Tech. Because of his excellent communication skills, the department selected him to teach two recitation sections of the CS 1706 (Introduction to Computer Science) class. Layne Watson sat in on Patrick's class to observe his teaching and was impressed with the excellent job he did organizing and presenting this complicated material in a clear and understandable manner. Students said Van Metre devoted considerable time to providing personal attention, diligently answering all of their questions. His efforts were rewarded with overall student ratings of 3.4 and 4.0 the first time he taught, and he has generally garnered a 3.5 and above in his teaching since then.

The Head of the Department of Computer Science, Dennis Kafura, was so confident in Van Metre's knowledge of the subject matter that he invested him with the responsibility of guiding most of the work in his own graduate course.

Sally Anne had the opportunity to supervise Patrick as he taught several sections of labs. She said, "He has a talent for conveying even the most complex topics in a way that students can readily understand. Students enjoy having him in the classroom, as he keeps them alert and focused on the information he is presenting. They also like and respect him as an individual, since in turn shows them the same respect. The students in CS 106 repeatedly told me how much they enjoyed Patrick's lab sections, evidenced by his student evaluations.

Perry's advisor, Cathy Skinner, describes the experience with Perry as "a wonderful teaching experience since he in turn shows them the

SERVICE AWARD

Continued from 2

Donna R. Gardner, Donna J. Gaudin, Robert K. Hughes, Katherine M. Hatten, Charles J. Haas, Mary G. Halverson, Karen L. Hunter, and Patricia L. Hunter. Eleaor J. Hayashi, Debra A. Heffernan, Mark L. Hepler, and John F. Hill have been awarded with the Outstanding Service Award.

EMPLOYMENT

Continued from 6

Veterinary Teaching Hospital.
Program Support Technician, 7413J.
Research Grant and Graduate Studies.
Programmer, WO22504D, Grade 10.
Program Coordinator, WO22504D.
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Grade 4.
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Students respond well to new academic-eligibility policy

By Catherine Doss

Overall, Virginia Tech students have risen to the challenge of a higher academic-eligibility policy put in place in the fall of 1997, according to Delores Scott, associate provost for retention and academic support.

Under the new policy, students must maintain a cumulative QCA of 2.0 to remain in good standing. Academic performance is reviewed at the end of each semester.

According to a report on first- to second-year students in the college, the fall semester has increased from 2.55 to 2.78 for students who entered in 1997 and 2.69 for students who entered in 1997.

The percent of students completing their first fall semester with a QCA below 2.0 decreased from 23 percent for students who entered in 1996 to 16 percent for students who entered in 1997.

By Catherine Doss

Ketterer named public-service fellow in outreach

Peter Ketterer, former export coordinating manager for Virginia Kegelk Distillation in Blacksburg, has been named a public-service fellow for Virginia Tech’s Public Service Programs, a unit of the university’s Outreach Division.

Ketterer will assist in educational technology and outreach efforts for international trade.

Ketterer retired earlier this year after 30 years’ experience in the manufacturing sector. After leaving the U.S. Navy, he began working as an international coordinator for the technical-products international division of Mine Safety Appliances Company in Pittsburgh. Later he spent 12 years with United Technologies-Elliott Division, which manufactures power equipment.

He then moved to Henrico County where he spent 12 years with United Technologies-Elliott Division, which manufactures power equipment.

Sterrett began his career after graduating from Virginia Tech and then returned to Blacksburg to serve as its first town manager.

Sterrett also was director of the Blacksburg-Roanoke-Grounds and Renovations Divisions of the Physical Plant. He returned to Virginia Tech in 1965 when he accepted a position as associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences. Via recently accepted a position as associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The memory of long-time Virginia Tech employer and Blacksburg civic leader, the late William M. Sterrett Sr., was honored last week when Virginia Tech dedicated the Sterrett Facilities Complex.

A special naming ceremony was Thursday, April 22, at the Sterrett Facilities Complex located behind Lane Stadium.

The Sterrett Facilities Complex consists of two major buildings and associated outdoor workspace located at the south side of campus. Constructed in 1958, the main building has 75,000 square feet and houses the majority of the facility functions that support the university.

The second building was constructed in 1963, contains 20,000 square feet and houses the grounds and Renovations Divisions of the Physical Plant. The building was named the Sterrett Facilities Complex.

Sterrett began his career after graduating with honors in civil engineering from Virginia Tech in 1947. After graduation, he moved to Buena Vista as city engineer. Sterrett returned to Blacksburg to serve as its first town manager.

He then moved to Henrico County where he served as public utilities director for 10 years.

He returned to Virginia Tech in 1965 when he was named director of the Physical Plant Department. He was promoted to assistant vice president of administration in 1978. He retired in 1981.

Sterrett, who died Nov. 15, 1993, served as Blacksburg’s town manager from 1952 to 1955. Sterrett also was director of the Blacksburg-VPI Sanitation Authority and director of Blackburg-Christiansburg-VPI Water Authority. The Greater Blacksburg Chamber of Commerce named Sterrett its Citizen of the Year in 1985.

By David Nutter

The research on how to improve health by enhancing beneficial fatty acids in milk.

August 20: Music Professor Kevin Fenton for research on understanding music literature and the experiences of excellent performance.

September 6: Biochemistry Professor Malcolm Potts’ discovery of cyanobacterial polymers, which may be used to protect organs in very dry environments.

September 12: Professor John Carroll, whose computer-computing research helps develop and evaluate new ways for schools and neighborhoods to collaborate.

September 19: Dairy science professor Joe Herban for his research to improve human health by enhancing beneficial fatty acids in milk.

September 26: Education Professor Sue Maples for research on instruction programs that enable students to become successful learners and creative thinkers.

October 1: Professor Randy Ward for research into integrating video and computer technology with live performance to enhance audience perception.

October 10: Computer-science professor Cliff Shaffer, whose research on collaborative computing is helping people to work and learn together.

October 17: Professor Shirley Luckhart for investigating molecular aspects of the malaria life cycle to identify new strategies for disease control.

In its resolution the board said Chichester has been, “a strong advocate for higher education, as a respected authority within the legislature, and has played a pivotal role in higher-education issues.”

The university will formally confer the award at the Spring 1999 Commencement.

BOV

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The university will formally confer the award at the Spring 1999 Commencement.