Holford named interim director of Northern Virginia Center

By Carolyn Fry

Elizabeth Holford, director of Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action and associate professor, has been selected to serve as interim director of the Virginia Tech Northern Virginia Center (NVC) in Falls Church effective August 1.

In her new position, Holford will oversee operations at the Northern Virginia Center including facilities and fiscal management, information systems, marketing and recruitment activities, community outreach, information systems, and student services.

"Elizabeth brings to the position strong leadership skills and in-depth knowledge of Virginia Tech," said Provost Peggy Meszaros. "At a time when we are growing by leaps and bounds in Northern Virginia, her skills and knowledge will be put to good use."

Before serving as director of Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action, Holford was assistant dean of the former College of Education. In that position, she served as chief financial and personnel officer of the college, advising the dean on financial, personnel, and legal issues.

She also participated in a full programmatic review of the college, which resulted in a major restructuring.

In her career, she has also served as an attorney in private practice and as a managing attorney at the State of Ohio Department of Taxation.

Holford received a B.A. from Indiana University, an M.A. from Ohio State University, and a J.D. from the University of Dayton School of Law.

The Northern Virginia Center, located adjacent to the West Falls Church Metro station, is a 105,000-square-foot facility shared with the University of Virginia. At the site, Virginia Tech offers 38 graduate programs for working professionals as well as short courses and seminars through the Office of Continuing Education.

Approximately 1,700 students attend classes at the NVC each semester.

Patent issued for enzyme-production process

By Susan Teelove

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has issued patent 5,929,304 for "Production of Lysosomal Enzymes in Plant-based Expression Systems" to Carole Cramer, Virginia Tech professor of plant pathology, physiology, and weed science.

Collaborating with Dr. Karen Osugi, vice president of research at CropTech, Dr. David Radin, president of CropTech, and Deborah Wrisemond, director of commercialization and cooperation at CropTech, researchers are using tobacco plants to produce human lysosomal enzymes.

These enzymes are deficient in individuals with rare lysosomal storage diseases, such as Gaucher’s disease. Replacement therapy with recombinant enzymes holds tremendous promise for correcting the severe abnormalities associated with these diseases, Cramer said.

One enzyme, glucocerebrosidase (GCase), is currently produced using a mammalian-cell culture system. Patients usually receive the treatment every two weeks for life. Treatment costs currently average $160,000 a year, making this one of the most expensive drugs in the world, in large part due to manufacturing costs.

CropTech researchers have put the gene for glucocerebrosidase into tobacco and shown that an enzymatically active enzyme is produced in tobacco leaves. In the plants making glucocerebrosidase at the highest levels, leaves from a single tobacco plant could make enough enzyme for one dose.

Many human proteins, like glucocerebrosidase, also contain sugars called glycans as well as amino acids. Tobacco puts glycans on the right spot on the human protein but the exact composition of the sugars may be different.

(See PATENT on 8)

Opportunities abound for minority-group interns

By Stewart MacInnis

Thirty-three minority and women students from colleges and universities across the Eastern U.S. spent their summer at Virginia Tech in research internships as part of the university’s Minority Academic Opportunities Program.

The program ends today, with a recognition banquet in Owens Hall.

The university-wide program is directed by Randy Grayson and Larry Moore, faculty members based in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

"This is the largest group of interns we’ve ever had," Grayson said. "The caliber of the students continues to increase. I am very pleased with the young people participating this year. The interest and involvement of the faculty members participating in this program makes this an exciting experience for these students."

During the summer program the interns spend 10 weeks on the Virginia Tech campus, working 40 hours a week on original research projects supervised by faculty advisers. The research is on a subject of the students’ choice within one of the university’s six colleges that are part of the program.

The basic requirements are that students should be in the first generation of their families who will graduate from college, or they must be studying in fields under-represented by minorities or women, and they must demonstrate financial need.

The program works to increase the academic competitiveness of the students, resulting in their scores on the Graduate Record Exam rising an average of 200 points. The program pays for the student to take the GRE test. Additional benefits include free room and board, stipend, possible credit hours at their home colleges for their research work at Virginia Tech, as well as other benefits.

Grayson started the program in an attempt to provide the tools minority students

(See OPPORTUNITIES on 8)
Earl Kline from the Department of Wood Science and Forest Resources has coordinated one of the United States Forest Service’s National Forest Research Centers, which are designed to provide research assistance to the forest products industry. Developments in this research have resulted in two patents and a commercial license to a forest-products industry. Developments in this research have led to the development of a new harvesting method for Appalachian hardwood forests as an alternative to traditional clearcutting. As a result of this research, Kline was invited to make a presentation concerning his work to the International Union at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, held in April 1999.

Kay Castagnoli, senior research associate in the Harper W. Perry Research Center in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Philip Aramani, senior research scientist in wood products under the USDA Forest Service, and Thomas Drayer, a former PhD student in electrical and computer engineering, have been awarded the National Hardwood Lumber Association’s 1999 Hardwood Research Award. This award recognizes Virginia Tech’s pioneering research in the development of Machine Vision Technology for the forest-products industry. Developments in this research have resulted in two patents and a commercial license to a forest-products equipment manufacturer.

At the annual Southern Region Extension Forest Resources Specialist meeting held at the Southern Forestry Conference in Nashville, two departments of Forestry faculty members received awards for excellence in Extension programming. Extension Associate Dylan Jenkins received the award for outstanding forestry newsletter for the Virginia Forest Landowner Update, a quarterly newsletter and calendar of educational events that is mailed to about 18,000 forest landowners and resource professionals each quarter. The publication is also produced in electronic form and maintained on the World Wide Web. Extension Forestry Specialist James Johnson received an award for excellence in technology-transfer programs. During 1996 Johnson worked on a U.S. Forest Service-funded project to evaluate new harvesting methods for Appalachian hardwood forests as an alternative to traditional clearcutting. As a result of this research, Johnson, and the Forest Service initiated an aggressive technology-transfer program through a series of publications, presentations at workshops and conferences, training programs, and inclusion of the new technology and management recommendations in a three-week contract short course for U.S. Forest Service foresters from throughout the eastern United States.

Clarissa Morton, associate director of University Unions and Student Activities (UUSA), presented papers in March at the Association of College Unions Annual Conference in Dallas. Topics of the presentations were “Administration of the College Union at Historically Black Colleges and Universities” and “An Educational Approach to Designing Student Employment Programs.” Morton served as an invited presenter at Educating Leadership through Student Employment in June at Marquette University. She presented the session, “Using Computer Technology to Enhance Student Employee Training Programs.” Morton has also been selected to serve as a member of the Conference Planning Committee for the Association of College Unions National Annual Conference, 2001.

Virginia Tech faculty and staff members and students are often the subject of significant national and state-wide news coverage. To better inform the university community about these accomplishments, the Office of University Relations has compiled this monthly report. This report includes coverage in the Roanoke news-media market. For more information about the articles mentioned, call Julie Kane, university public relations-specialist, at 1-9934, or contact your college public relations officer.

Graduating Engineer and Computer Courses (April 1999): This month included highest-earning Becky Watts/Willard, associate dean for academic affairs and director of minority engineering programs for the College of Engineering. Watford wrote about solutions to the problem of declining minority enrollments in graduate engineering.

Techniques (May 1999): Teacher educators Curtis Finch, Betty Heath-Camp and Daley Stewart were featured on the cover and throughout an article entitled “Solving the Teacher Shortage.”

Richmond Times-Dispatch (May 5): Fisheries and Wildlife Science Professor Jim Fraser is quoted in a story on removing the bald eagle from the endangered species list.

Sacramento Bee (May 31): Matthew McAllister, professor in communication studies, was quoted in a story about the proliferation of ads.

Virginia Public Radio “Evening Edition” (June 1): Center for Interdisciplinary Studies adjunct Associate Professor Anna Farliello discussed cultural tourism and its impact on rural communities and non-profit cultural organisations with Paul Tyler, deputy director of the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

National Geographic (June 1999): Lyna Sharp of the Virginia Tech Museums of Natural History in Blacksburg was quoted on the age of the New River in the article “New River’s Deep Soul” by Reiff Smith.

Richmond Times-Dispatch (June 5): An article ran from the Associated Press about the Virginia Tech Hybrid Electric Vehicle Team (BEVT), which converted a Chevrolet Lumina into a fuel-cell-powered vehicle for the 1999 FutureCar Challenge in Detroit. The article quoted HEVT leader Mike Ogburn, a graduate student in mechanical engineering, who was quoted in an article about the use of magnetic bearings to replace ball bearings in industrial machinery.

Fox TV News (June 22): Scott Geller, psychology professor, was interviewed extensively about road rage.

Campsus with Women (published by the American Association of Colleges and Universities) (Spring 1999): Carol Burger of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies was quoted in a feature story about the Virginia Tech/Virginia Space Grant Consortium professional-development programs that assist counselors in developing and implementing gender-equality activities in their school systems. Burger is co-director of the project.

(United) WCWB-TV (June 23): Carol Burger and Ruth Alscher of plant pathology were featured in a segment about the summer science campus they held for middle-school science teachers and girls at Clinic Valley College, Wise, and at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon.

(Canada) National Post (June 24): Thomas Ollendorf, professor of medicinal chemistry, and his program for difficult children were featured prominently in a story about “Making unlikeable children likeable—drug-free alternatives.”

CNN Headline News, AP Radio, CBS Radio (June 25): CNN has been awarded a Residential Fellowship at the Pew Institute for Human Settlements as part of CNN’s “Voices of the Millennium” series.

ABC TV Affiliates (July 27): Center for Transportation Research Director Tom Dingus and University Transportation Fellow Ray Perlht described Virginia Tech’s SmartRoad research in a feature distributed by the network to affiliates throughout the country.

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Harry M. Kricla, head of the Interlibrary Loan Department in the University Libraries, gave a featured presentation titled “Interlibrary Loan: A Valued Library Service Strategic” at the NELYLINK conference in Syracuse, N.Y., in May.

Shirley Luckhart, assistant professor of biochemistry, was invited to make a presentation concerning her work to the Third Gordon Research Conference on Nitric Oxide in Biochemistry and Biology in Ventura, Calif., in February. Her presentation was entitled, “Inducible nitric oxide synthase: mosquito and man share a defense against malaria parasites.”

Peter J. Kennedy, professor of biochemistry, and Robert H. White, associate professor of biochemistry, attended a Keystone Symposium on “Archaea: Bridging the Gap Between Bacteria and Eukarya” in Taos, N.M. in January.


The fourth edition of Empirical Political Analysis by co-authors Jared Manheim of George Washington University and Richard Rich, chair of Virginia Tech’s Department of Political Science, has been translated into Chinese by the Wu-Nan Book Company under agreement with Longman Publishers USA. This is the fifth translation for this book, which was the first social-science research-methods textbook to be translated into Russian and Arabic.
Travel in China affords wide variety of experiences

By Susan Trudove

The opportunity for several Virginia Tech staff members and students to visit China came at a time that the university is emphasizing the study of that country. The University Office of International Programs’ “Focus on Greater China” began last year and will continue through next year. In July, Virginia Tech staff and students visited the People’s Republic of China to recruit students, meet alumni, establish research opportunities, and learn of opportunities for intellectual exchange.

Martha Johnson, assistant dean of graduate education, visited the campus of Tsinghua University in Beijing, “which is thought by many to be the number-one technical university in all of China,” she said. Tech enrolls a number of graduate students from Tsinghua, particularly in aerospace engineering. “We would like to recruit more students from Tsinghua University,” Johnson said.

The Tech contingent also visited Xi’an High School, where Lee Downey, assistant director of undergraduate admissions, plans to recruit students for Tech’s undergraduate program. “We already have a connection to Xi’an High School,” Johnson said. “Wang Guangjian, deputy principal, is the father-in-law of Yiliu Liu, Tech faculty member in electrical and computer engineering.

Xi’an High School proclaims itself to be the “number-one high school for development for high-tech industries.” Johnson said. “Xi’an is a rapidly developing city that may be for China what our Silicon Valley is for us. It is a progressive city with a great deal of construction of businesses and homes for professional people. And Xi’an stadium is being built on the outskirts of town.”

One of the highlights of the trip was the opportunity to participate in a discussion with the vice minister of education, Zhang Baoping. Jianliang Wang, associate professor of education at Western Kentucky University, arranged the discussion with the vice minister and a group of public-school superintendents and administrators, which included the Virginia Tech group.

Johnson said the vice minister outlined the nation’s plans for education in China in the next three to five years. “They want to move more in

(See TRAVEL, page 4)

Changes Upcoming in Recycling

By Larry Bechtle, Virginia Tech Recycling

As a result of the April 1, 1999 discontinuation of mixed-paper collection, campus recycling totals dropped off dramatically and due to confusion over what was and not recyclable, contamination increased significantly.

However, support for recycling among faculty and staff members remained strong. Sustained by this, and based upon a waste-stream audit performed by Environmental Systems of America in late April, VT Recycling (VTR) worked with the Town of Blacksburg and the Mid-County Recycling Center through the spring and early summer to get recycling back on track.

Beginning Monday, Aug. 16, VTR will collect the following grades of paper for recycling: sorted office paper, glossy magazines and catalogs, and newspapers. These are exactly the same grades currently collected through Blacksburg’s curbside program.

Guidelines for these grades of paper are as follows:

Sorted office paper: computer printout, copier/copying paper, pastel colored sheets, manila folders, envelopes (with and without envelopes), carbon-less paper, pamphet/brochures, and fax paper.

Unacceptable items: ream wrappers, dark colored folders, neon/bright sheets, cereal type boxes, paperback/book/directories, carbonpa, pv, and Tyvek envelopes.

Glossymagazines and catalogs: any magazine or catalog with all glossy pages.

Unacceptable items: magazines or catalogs with glossy covers only and newspaper-type pages.

Newspapers: all papers that come with daily or Sunday newspaper—comics, glossy inserts, and news pages.

Please note that any papers once recycled as white paper are considered sorted office paper. Sorted office paper includes most, but not all, of what used to be recycled as mixed paper.

Transparencies continue to be a problem. They must be sorted out of paper recycling boxes.

Carbon paper is perhaps the single most damaging contaminant. The Recycling Center will immediately reject all loads of VT paper if workers detect any carbon paper.

The VTR office will be working with the custodial staff to re-label all stackable paper recycling bins on Friday, Aug. 13. If stackables in your office area have not been re-labeled by August 16, contact VTR. For those with the desk-side Hokie Cyclers, VTR will have new guideline labels available for the front of these boxes. Contact VTR for delivery.

For more information, contact the VTR Office at 1-9915 or bechtle@vt.edu.

New specialist tackles urban pest problems

By Stewart MacMinn

Today’s methods of controlling urban pests are safer and more effective than ever before, but homeowners need to know more about the many new products available to decide which are best for them, according to Virginia Cooperative Extension’s urban-pest-management specialist.

Don Miller was recently appointed urban-pest-management specialist for Extension. She joined the Virginia Tech faculty this spring as an assistant professor of entomology.

“Dr. Miller has expertise in an area that is of major importance to many urban residents and homeowners everywhere,” said Timothy Mack, head of the university’s department of entomology. “This is a very important capability for Virginia Tech and for Extension. Many of these pests are not only nuisances, the damage they cause is a definite economic and health concern for families and for the commonwealth.”

Miller is planning an energetic Extension program to help homeowners deal with pests, to work with school divisions to reduce the amount of pesticides children are exposed to in schools, and to revive an annual conference to update pest-control professionals on developments in the field.

In addition, she will teach at Virginia Tech, and she will conduct several research projects concerned with urban pests.

Virginia Cooperative Extension, a part of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, provides scientific information that citizens can use to improve their lives at work and home.

Extension is a cooperative effort of local governments, state government, the land-grant universities, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Vet Med announces new faculty members

By Jeffrey S. Douglas

The Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine has hired two new faculty members in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences.

H. Marie Suthers-McCabe will serve as a companion-animal Extension specialist and focus on human-companion-animal interaction. Suthers-McCabe earned her B.S. in zoology and her DVM at Ohio State University. She previously served as the program director at the Veterinary Technology Department at Columbus State Community College. Suthers-McCabe has been active nationally in veterinary technology training and has had additional training in animal-assisted therapy, pet partners and veterinary homeopathy.

Zorana Ristic has joined the VMRCVM as an assistant professor in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences. Ristic, a veterinary dermatologist, earned her DVM at the University of Gissens in Germany and completed a two-year residency in dermatology at the University of Gissens, where she also served as a clinical instructor. She has been in private practice in Germany for the past several years.
### ACTIVITIES

#### EVENTS

**Thursday, 5**
- Classes End.

**Friday, 6**
- Exams Begin.

**Saturday, 7**
- Exams End.

#### BULLETINS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 11</td>
<td>With Good Reason, 7 p.m., WVTB: “Daiville and the Unrest of 1963.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 16</td>
<td>Salary and Wage Paydate. GAU Fall Workshop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 17</td>
<td>GAU Fall Workshop.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Aug. 28</td>
<td>Current clients who have been assigned to consultants should check with their availability during this break.</td>
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**Traffic delays expected**

Be prepared for traffic slow-downs and some delays on West Campus Drive the weekend of August 7-8. The road will narrow to one lane at selected work sites on between the Drillfield and Washington Street from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on both days. A police office will assist in directing traffic. Campus employees are encouraged to take an alternative route and avoid the traffic delays. This project is weather dependent and may be delayed by rain. For more information, call 4-5488.

**Y2K Employee Awareness Campaign set**

The Commonwealth’s Century Date Change Initiative (CDCI) Office has established a campaign to ensure the state’s employees are aware of the Y2K issue. A video developed by the CDCI Office will be broadcast on campus cable August 9-13 and August 16-20. The video, which runs approximately 12 minutes, will be available for viewing during these periods in the morning from 8-9 a.m. and in the afternoon from 2-3 p.m. on channel 9. If viewing the video during these scheduled times is not possible, a copy can be checked out by contacting Job Stewart at 1-2134 or e-mail jebs@vt.edu. Additionally, a Y2K-awareness brochure is available on Tech’s Y2K web page located at http://www.ais.vt.edu/ais/Y2K/y2k/00.html.

**Nominations sought for grant of $500,000**

The Alan T. Waterman Award committee invites nominations of candidates for the 25th Waterman Award, which will be presented in May 2000. The awards are presented annually by the National Science Foundation and National Science Board to an outstanding young researcher in any field of science or engineering funded by the National Science Foundation. It consists of a citation, a bronze medal, and a non-restrictive grant of $500,000 over a three-year period for scientific research or advanced study in the biological, mathematical, medical, engineering, physical, social or other sciences at the institution of the recipient’s choice.

Questions concerning the procedures, requests for additional information, or nomination reference forms should be directed to the Committee’s Executive Secretary, Susan Fanonney, by e-mail at sfanonney @nsf.gov or by telephone at (703) 306-1096. Nominations and references must be postmarked by October 31.

### TRAVEL

**From**
- the direction students mention that is to, to encourage creativity and individual thinking. The vice minister admits that this will require better travel teachers.

He said that the present emphasis on content benders economic development—an does the practice in some rural areas of not educating girls, Johnson said. “China wants to improve and expand public education, including building community colleges and schools for part-time students, updating teaching mate-
- rial and curriculum, and increasing teacher training. They are seeking private business in
- vestment to speed the process.” Johnson said

The Virginia Tech group also met with the Hong Kong alumni chapter, headed by Kang-Chuen Kong an electrical-engineering alumnus. In Hong Kong, the tour group met with Eliza Chang-Tick Tse, associate professor of hospitality and tourism management at Tech, who is on leave doing research at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. “Dr. Tse will also serve as our local contact for the recruitment of graduate students from Hong Kong,” Johnson said. “And she suggested several areas where there are opportunities in Hong Kong for our faculty members to offer graduate education through distance learning, an area where other nations already have a strong presence.”

The year-long “Focus on Greater China” has been the pilot program of Virginia Tech’s effort to inform U.S. students and the commu-
- nity about developments in the world by focusing upon a different region of the world each year for an entire academic term. The Focus on Greater China, which includes the People’s Republic of China and Taiwan, is being contin-
- ued a second year, until Spring 2000. There were lectures throughout the spring term and an essay contest. There will be additional presen-
- tations highlighting Chinese history, culture, philosophy, art, music, and current events. Ac-
- tivities in connection with the Chinese New Year celebration and the annual International Work are planned.

For more information, contact David Britt, 1-6459 or visit http://www.ais.vt.edu/ais/CHINA/index.html.

### VIED provides development training

**By Catherine Doss**

Community leaders interested in learning how to develop their local economies can get the information they need at the Virginia Institute for Economic Development (VIED). Now in its seventeenth year, this institute will be held this fall at Virginia Tech on Sept-
- ember 20-22 and at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center on October 18-20. Participants must attend both sessions.

“The institute provides training to community leaders in the economic development process to help further economic growth in Virginia’s cities, counties, and towns,” said Ellen Agee, economic-development specialist with Virginia Tech’s Public Service Programs. The institute is coordinated jointly by Public Service Programs, a unit of the university’s Outreach Division; the Virginia Department of Business Assistance; and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership. Program sponsors include Virginia Economic Development Association, AmericanElectric Power, the Cen-
- ter for Innovative Technology, Columbus Gas of Virginia, GTE, and Virginia Power.

Institute participants learn about specific programs for community economic development, learn about successful local and regional economic-development initiatives, expand their network of economic-development leaders, and apply their knowledge to their community’s development.

In addition to the two classroom sessions, the institute provides a tour of a local manufact-
- uring plant, use of a computer lab, and weekly reading assignments for home study. Individuals who finish the program receive a certificate of completion.

Recent graduates of the institute include members of boards of supervisors, county ad-
- ministrators, and county staff members interested in economic-development activities.

For more information, contact Ellen Agee, economic-development specialist with Public Service Programs, by telephone at 1-6638 or by e-mail at eagee@vt.edu.

By Jeffrey S. Douglas

The Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine will host the fourth annual fall full meeting of the Geraldine Rockefeller Dodge Foundation’s “Frontiers for Veterinary Medicine” October 28-31.

During the meeting, over 40 veterinary student fellows from around the nation, Canada and Mexico will present the results of their summer research projects conducted on topics including research on companion animals, veterinary ethics, livestock and agriculture, wildlife, ecology, laboratory- and human-wildlife interactions.

The purpose of the Frontiers for Veterinary Medicine Summer Grants for Veterinary Students initiative is to provide talented and motivated veterinary students with the opportunity to step outside the traditional boundaries of veterinary education and develop new perspectives on animal-related issues, according to Brett Anderson, program assistant for the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.

As a part of the program in 1997, VMRCVM veterinary student Michelle Weisbarth was funded to conduct preliminary work on the development of a genetically modified immuno-contraceptive vaccine for feral cats. That work served as the foundation for a major research fellowship now under way in the college. Other VMRCVM veterinary students funded through Frontiers for Veterinary Medicine include Virginia Clarke who participated in 1998, and Leela Nonomura and Rachel Weiss who both participated in 1999.

The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation responds to proposals in the areas of welfare of animals, secondary and elementary education, community environment and population and the arts in New Jersey. The foundation, which was created in 1974, also develops initiatives that are likely to improve the quality of life in these areas.
ACHIEVERS

Continued from 2

for “both achieving sustainable use of the planet and making conditions attractive for increased longevity.”

Cairns, also learned that his classic book, Restoring Aquatic Ecosystems: Science, Technology, and Public Policy, published by the National Academy Press in 1992, is being reprinted again because it is one of the National Academy Press’s bestsellers. Cairns is now approaching 1,400 publications, having published 56 books and monographs, 26 bulletins, 275 chapters in books, 551 scientific articles, 308 abstracts, and 115 editorial, book reviews, and congressional testimonies, for a total of 1,363 publications.

Melinda V. Crowder, assistant director for assessment for University Science Research Activities, received a grant from the Division of Student Affairs to conduct an assessment project. The project will be conducted during the 1999-2000 academic year with former students of Virginia Tech who have been out between one to three years. The project will involve alumni and the applicability of their student leader skills to their current employment/life.

John Wernich has been elected to serve as the fourteenth president of the Virginia Society for Technology in Education. VSTE was founded in 1986 as the Virginia Educational Computing Association and is Virginia’s affiliate of the International Society for Technology in Education (SITE). Membership is comprised of more than 1,500 teachers, principals, technology specialists, superintendents, subject area specialists, department heads, university faculty members, Department of Education staff members, and others who are interested in promoting technology’s role in education and participation in SITE’s activities. The society gives grants that are learning clinical skills alongside faculty members, residents and interns in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Kimberly Anne May, a resident in clinical services/surgery in the department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences and Catherine E. Thorn, a clinical instructor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine’s most prestigious academic honor, the National Society of Phi Zeta during recent ceremonies. Over $5,000 in scholarship support was presented during the event.

Fourth year veterinary students participate in three-week off-campus elective clerkships that sometimes involve national and international travel. The scholarship support is designed to assist students in meeting some of the expenses incurred during these opportunities.

Class of 1999 members inducted were Beverly Ann Revan, Matthew D. Hamlett, Julie M. Meadows, Matthew F. Nicholson, Jeffrey C. Norton, Kathryn E. O’Connor, Shannon Lynn Patrick, Dana Susan Reeder, Jacque Schnuder, Eva Ann Steele, Phillip A. Washington, and Matthew Wright.

Class of 2000 members inducted were Douglas J. Aumaug, Matthew Bachelet, Roy F. Barnes II, Matthew Harold Biedler, Michael J. Fry, Diane Lorraine Heina, Julie Dinwiddie McGee, Christiana Lynn Ober, and Jeremy V. Smodyler.

Virginia Tech’s student chapter of the Forest Products Society has won second place in the seventh national timber bridge design competition. In addition to the $1,500 award for their quality efforts.


Andy Dickoll, professor of fisheries and wildlife and graduate students Martin Underwood, Kevin Loftswich, Mel Warren, and Wendell Hagg received two awards from the USDA-USGS. They were “Chief’s Award for Technology Transfer.” (June 1999), and “Rise to the Future Award for Collaborative Aquatic Resource Stewardship” (May 1999).

John Sciler, professor of forestry, was a co-author of the cover story for Journal of Forestry, titled “Elevated Carbon Dioxide in the Atmosphere: What Might It Mean for Loblolly Pine Plantation Forest?”

Lynn Branner has been awarded the Veterinary Teaching Hospital’s Annual Staff Award For the second time. She was also recognized for her exemplary service in 1989. Branner began working at the VMICVM in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital in 1983 and has risen through the ranks as an animal-care technician. As an animal-care technician, Branner works closely with fourth-year veterinary students learning clinical skills alongside faculty members, residents and interns in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Ronnie J. Smith, an associate professor in the department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, has recently authored a book titled Canine Anatomy. The 619-page book was designed to provide an overview of canine anatomy for those in the veterinary medical field.

The publisher, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, invited Smith to write the book. It is one of eight in their National Veterinal Medical Series, which is a concise, dependable reference for the veterinary board exams. Each title focuses on the most current and clinically relevant information for diagnosing and treating a wide variety of problems.

The text is presented in a brief outline format that makes specific points easy to find and reference. Each of the 62 chapters includes a set of questions within the National Board Exam format and provides expanded answers that highlight critical points.

Virginia Tech communicators received several national awards from the National Federation of Press Women during its recent conference in Nashville.

Clara B. Cox, manager of public service communications in University Relations and managing editor of Virginia Issues & Answers, won first place for non-profit one-to-three color magazine or brochure with four-color cover and team entry with Meg Nugent for Virginia Issues & Answers and first place for books entered by entrant for A Special Place for 200 Years: A History of Blacksburg, Virginia. Nugent, graphic designer in University Relations/ Publications, won first for an ad campaign or series in a newspaper for Northern Virginia Center campaign and first for Virginia Issues and Answers (with Cox). She won second for a single newspaper ad for the Northern Virginia Center ad and second for page layout in publications for general or specialized circulation for the MBA program in Northern Virginia, the dust jacket for Blackburg—A Special Place for 200 Years: A History of Blacksburg.

Ivan Nystrom, director of news and external relations for the College of Engineering, won first place for news releases on science and health. She wrote articles on the work of three engineering professors, Rick Cluss, Bill Veland, and Kent Murphy, and a student project on magnetic propulsion. She also won a second place for caption writing for the College of Engineering’s annual report and honorable mentions for a single press release and for advising the Collegiate Times.

Susan Tredoux, public relations coordinator for Research and Graduate Studies, won a third in special articles on the environment and ecology for articles about research by chemistry professor David Kangston, biology graduate student Matthew Metcalf, the Mobil and Portable Radio Research Group.

Steve Brown, senior program-support technician in the office of Sponsored Programs, adapted Anthony Hope’s novel, The Prisoner of Zenda, for the musical stage. The play will be produced by Squire’s Squirrely Musical Theatre. In addition to the story, Brown also composed the music, wrote the lyrics, completed the orchestration and will direct the musical.
The following classified positions are currently available. More detailed application procedures and position-closing dates are available at http://www.psuvirginia.edu/classified. Positions numbers beginning with a “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 unless otherwise stated. An EEO/AA employer committed to diversity.

Full Time

Agricultural Technician B, 3166M, Grade 5, Animal and Poultry Sciences.

Computer Network Support Technician Senior, 6510T, Grade 10, Philosophy.

Enrollment Services Coordinator, 1935T, Grade 10, Pamplin College of Business: MBA Program.

Fiscal Technician, 1105T, Grade 6, English.

Food Operations Assistant A/Potwash, 0750H, Grade 1, Residential and Dining Programs/Shultz Dining Center.

Food Operations Assistant A/Server, 0487H, Grade 1, Residential and Dining Programs/Dictrec Dining Hall.

Food Operations Assistant A/Server, 0753H, Grade 1, Residential and Dining Programs/Dictrec Dining Hall.

Food Operations Assistant A/Server, 0986H, Grade 1, Residential and Dining Programs/Dictrec Dining Hall.

Food Operations Assistant B (3rd Baker), 7008H, Grade 2, Residential and Dining Programs/Southgate BakeShop.

Food Operations Assistant B (3rd Cook), 0409H, Grade 2, Residential and Dining Programs/Dictrec Dining Hall.

Food Operations Assistant B/Prep Assistant, 2844H, Grade 2, Residential and Dining Programs/Southgate Cafe.

Food Operations Assistant B/Shopleader-cashier, 0029H, Grade 2, Residential and Dining Programs/Owens Food Court.

Food Operations Assistant B/Shopleader-cashier, 1150H, Grade 2, Residential and Dining Programs/Willard Cafeteria.

Food Operations Manager A (Sales and Marketing Manager), 0478H, Grade 8, Residential and Dining Programs/Personal Touch Catering.

Food Operations Manager A/Sous Chef, 2946H, Grade 8, Residential and Dining Programs/Owens Food Court.

Food Production Worker A (2nd Cook), 0774H, Grade 3, Residential and Dining Programs/Dictrec Dining Center.

Food Production Worker A (2nd Cook), 0775H, Grade 3, Residential and Dining Programs/Owens Food Court.

Food Production Worker A/Shopleader supervisor, 0978H, Grade 3, Residential and Dining Programs/West End Market.

Food Production Worker B (1st Cook), 0767H, Grade 5, Residential and Dining Programs/Owens Food Court.

Food Production Worker B (1st Cook), W022849H, Grade 5, Residential and Dining Programs/Personal Touch Catering.

Food Production Worker B (Pastry Chef Apprentice/Supervisor), 7129H, Grade 5, Residential and Dining Programs/Southgate Bake Shop.

Job Line: Office/Clerical: 1-6196; Technical/Research: 1-6100; Service/Trades: 1-6176; Professional and Managerial: 1-6464 Information Technology: 1-2233. Some positions include state benefits. Positions numbers beginning with a “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.

Non-Instructional

Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Research Scientist Lab Manager. Send letter of application, current resume, and names of three references who can be contacted to Sean G. Corcoran, 3166M, Grade 5, Animal and Poultry Sciences.

Faculty Positions

Search Committee Chair, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, 213 Holden Hall (037). Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development (re-advertisement). Position (See EMPLOYMENT on 7)
Career-related employment increasing

By Catherine Doss

More than 86 percent of Virginia Tech's class of 1997-98 who responded to a recent survey by the Office of Career Services and who reported they were employed said they were working in career-related positions. This was a 4.5 percent increase over last year's survey. In addition, 73 percent of the respondents reported engaging in experiential learning opportunities including summer jobs, internships, and part-time employment while in college. This was a 4.3 percent increase over last year's survey.

“Virginia Tech in hopes of finding a good job upon graduation,” said Jim Malone, director of the Career Services office. “There is a strong partnership on campus among our office and the faculty and administration who are committed to assisting students in their career efforts.”

According to a telephone interview with fall and spring/summer bachelor’s degree recipients before their graduation. Those who indicate they do not have definite plans upon graduation receive a follow-up phone call six months later. Ninety-two percent of the class of 1997-98 responded to the survey.

Seventy-nine percent of those surveyed reported full-time employment, full-time graduate and part-time employment or graduate-school status. Compared to 1996-97 graduates, the most recent survey respondents experienced a slight decrease in employment (2.2 percent) and a drop in graduate-school attendance (0.6 percent). The average salary for 1997-98 bachelor’s degree recipients from Virginia Tech was $31,523, representing a 9.8-percent increase from 1996-97.

“Increased opportunities including summer jobs, internships, and part-time employment while in college. This was a 4.3 percent increase over last year’s survey.

By Sally Harris

Appal Corps projects benefit town of Newport

By Sally Harris

Last semester, Persy Martin and fellow Appal Corps volunteers expanded a lot of oil flow grease in the Town of Newport.

Appal Corps is a group of students, mainly from Virginia Tech’s Appalachian Studies program, that does volunteer work in the Appalachian town of Newport. “Our projects last semester were very physically oriented,” Martin said. “Elbow grease.”

The group, since 1997, has done a variety of projects from building a Village Green and tending to an older resident’s garden, to maintaining one of the town’s three covered bridges to visiting and assisting the community’s elderly and raising money for the community recreation center. Last semester, the students, along with local citizens who have become involved, worked on seven projects as Martin darted around town to supervise them all.

Newport is the lucky recipient of the students’ efforts because Martin kept seeing potential for improvements as he drove the road of Giles County. A native of Newport who has decided not to leave, he knows how important it is for the town’s needs pop up in church and civic groups or between two neighbors talking. He decided to be part of the solution to the problems. Martin, who received a bachelor’s degree in communication studies and plans to pursue a graduate degree in public administration, began working with the Newport projects as part of his four-year Learning at Virginia Tech. He had done an independent study that involved researching his hometown with Elizabeth Fine, director of Appalachian Studies at Virginia Tech.

Martin hopes to get other colleges and students involved in the projects. “We’ve got the plans for a senior center with flower beds. They were built by students and community volunteers will complete by next fall,” Martin said.

In another project, the students visited 22 older residents to provide them company and assistance. “We gave them flowers and did work for them,” Martin said. They also built a bird feeder for a woman who can’t go outside. Some of the students still go visit the elders, Martin said.

According to Donna Long, a Newport resident who works in Virginia Tech’s horticulture department and has helped with three of the Newport projects, the students’ work has been “wonderful for our community.” Long said the students, along with residents, have built one half field and improved an existing one: “They picked up rocks, helped to do the hoe work and worked the new field,” Long said.

In Pearisburg, students worked to brighten up a landmark. Of eight covered bridges left in Giles County, Virginia, three are in Giles County, Martin said. The bridge once was the only access residents of Clover Hollow had to the outside world.

The students have cleared away trees from around the bridge, which still needs repairs and landscaping, which Martin hopes the group and community volunteers will tackle by next spring. Gifts built to community members and friends will replace the landscaping leading to the bridge. Bricks engraved with donors’ names cost $25, which will help with the bridge’s upkeep. On June 19, Martin was on hand at the bridge.

Martin hopes to get other colleges and universities involved in Appal Corps and apply for a grant for regional Appalachian community-oriented projects and programs.

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Fifteen new veterinarians have been hired as residents and interns in the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. 

Intenships and residencies are advanced clinical/educational programs pursued by DVM’s seeking advanced training and eventual board certification by organizations like the American College of Veterinary Surgeons, the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, the American College of Veterinary Radiology, or the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmology.

There are eight new residents and interns in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences.

Katja Disterdeck is a resident in large-animal surgery. She attended the Universität Bonn in West Germany and completed veterinary school at the Tierärztliche Hochschule in Hannover, Germany. She completed a year as a visiting research scholar at Michigan State University and has just completed an internship in large-animal medicine and surgery at the VMRCVM.

Jose Ramos is also a resident in large-animal surgery. He attended the Universidad de Chile where he then became a member of the instructoral faculty. She also completed an internship in large-animal medicine and surgery at the VMRCVM.

Lucia Vits received her DVM from the Tierärztliche Hochschule in Hannover, Germany. She completed a year as a visiting research scholar at Michigan State University and has just completed an internship in large-animal medicine and surgery at the VMRCVM.

Gulikers received his DVM at the Tierärztliche Hochschule in Hannover, Germany. She completed a year as a visiting research scholar at Michigan State University and has just completed an internship in large-animal medicine and surgery at the VMRCVM.

Jose Ramos is also a resident in large-animal surgery. He attended the Universidad de Chile where he then became a member of the instructoral faculty. She also completed an internship in large-animal medicine and surgery at the VMRCVM.

Keven Gulikers has also joined the VMRCVM as a resident in small-animal medicine. Gulikers received his DVM at Oklahoma State University and completed an internship at the Coastal Springs Animal Hospital.

Calfee has joined the VMRCVM as a resident in small-animal surgery.

Matthew Corse, who received his DVM at the University of California at Davis, Miryam Hofstetter, who received her DVM at the University of Florida; Scott Moon, who received his DVM from North Carolina State University; and Kristine Steams, who received her DVM from the University of Tennessee, have joined the VMRCVM as interns in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences.

PAMPLIN
Continued from 1
from scratch, is typically bought “off the shelf,” Sen said. This saves the company time. However, different systems do not always communicate with each other and need to be integrated, using other software and hardware, so that information can be exchanged across functions and provided to senior management in a coherent and efficient manner.

The program was developed from scratch and is still in development. It provides a common information system that can be used by all departments and allows for the exchange of information.

The other parts of the program consist of under-