Fund-raising campaign begins for Alumni and Conference Center

By Terry McGuire

The university today marked the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association by announcing a $16.2-million fund-raising campaign that will help meet the construction costs of an Alumni and Conference Center.

The complex, which will also include a 150-room hotel, will serve as an on-campus home and meeting place for returning alumni as well as provide the necessary accommodations to host national and international conferences and symposia.

“This is one of the university’s most important capital projects,” said President Charles Steger. “For the first time, Virginia Tech will have a proper venue for the many alumni events and activities that take place throughout the year. At the same time, the center will advance the university’s goal of becoming a top-30 research institution, allowing us to bring the world to Blacksburg for important gatherings inside and outside academia.”

To be constructed on Hokie stone, the Alumni and Conference Center will be situated on the Virginia Tech golf course at the intersection of Prices Fork Road and West Campus Drive. The site offers the advantage of having the complex serve as a major gateway to the university. It will also provide a panoramic view of the mountains to the west, the Duck Pond to the south, and the main campus to the east.

Among key features, the three-story alumni center will have a grand hall that will function as a lobby and reception area and an assembly hall with state-of-the-art equipment for presentations and long-distance conferences. It will also house a museum chronicling the university’s history, a large boardroom, and Virginia Tech’s Office of Alumni Relations.

According to Tom Tiller, vice president for alumni relations, “The center will have a total capacity, using both inside and outside program spaces, to collectively accommodate 5,000 alumni and guests for large gatherings. This will be especially important as we exceed 220,000 alumni by the end of the decade.”

The conference center, which will be directly connected to the alumni center’s second level, will include a ballroom capable of seating 800 people, eight conference rooms, a number of smaller breakout rooms, and outside terrace spaces for social events. The center will also have advanced teleconferencing capabilities, which will make it possible to considerably expand the number of participants at conferences and other large functions.

‘Quantum Leap’ author to lecture here November 9

By Sookhan Ho

Management consultant and author James Mapes will give the Catchins Distinguished Lecture at Virginia Tech on Thursday, Nov. 9. His talk, titled, “Quantum Leap Think: Going Beyond Your Limits,” is sponsored by the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Center for Leader Development in the Pamplin College of Business.

The talk begins at 7:30 p.m. at Burruss auditorium. It is free and open to the public, who are asked to bring paper and pencil to the event. Other materials will be distributed to the audience for use during the interactive presentation.

Mapes will also sign copies of his book, Quantum Leap Thinking: An Owner’s Guide to the Mind, after the talk.

Mapes seeks to educate and encourage his audiences to be open-minded about new options. His goal is to help people make the “quantum leap” toward more creative, productive, and confident lives. He challenges his audiences to redefine commonly held assumptions and misconceptions about “positive thinking,” “motivation,” “fear,” “imagination,” and “teams.” His message to business promotes thinking “outside the box,” and mastering perception so that, in his words, “the invisible becomes visible and the impossible, possible.”

Mapes founded the Quantum Leap Thinking Organization in 1983, to bring the human potential movement to the business community. In addition to writing and speaking, Mapes creates training videos, some of which have been among the year’s best by Successful Meetings magazine. He has worked with hundreds of public and private companies in more than a dozen countries. Organizations that have quoted him in their training manuals and publications include IBM, Lockheed, and Boeing.

“Quantum Leap” is sponsored by the Virginia Tech Alumni Association by announcement. More news coverage.

Excellence in Education Conference set

By Jean Elliott

As part of a continuing tradition of promoting education quality, the College of Human Resources and Education will sponsor the 17th annual Excellence in Education Awards Conference on November 2-3.

Rita Pierson will be the keynote speaker for the event. Pierson’s address, “A Framework for Understanding Poverty,” will be at 10 a.m. on November 2 in Squires Brush Mountain Room.

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Terrell selected as Gates Millenium scholar

Roxene Thompson Terrell, a Ph.D. candidate in construction engineering and management, has been selected as a Gates Millennium Scholar for this academic year.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation funds this scholarship program, and the United Negro College Fund administers it. Terrell’s latest accomplishment is just one of many over the years.

At 17, she entered undergraduate school at the University of California-Davis, and was financially responsible for her own education. After attending a job fair, she secured a part-time job at the California Department of Transportation. She graduated in 1992 and Caltrans hired her immediately.

After three years at Caltrans and one year with URS Consultants, Inc., Thompson decided she wanted to pursue a graduate degree. She visited Virginia Tech, where she introduced herself to civil engineering faculty members and was accepted as a master’s candidate in 1997.

In 1998, she was chosen the graduate-student representative to the university’s Board of Visitors (BOV). Her special assignment on the BOV was with the building committee.

Terrell is also a recipient of a three-year Southern Regional Education Board Doctoral Scholars Fellowship. Michael Vorster, professor of CEES, serves as her adviser.

The Gates Scholarship Fund supports graduate studies by minority students in engineering, mathematics, science, education and library science. Gates scholars must demonstrate academic achievement, leadership in community or extracurricular activities, and financial need.

BOV to meet

By David Nutter

The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors (BOV) will meet on campus Monday, Nov. 6, at 1 p.m. in Squires Brush Mountain Room.

The board will consider, among other business, a resolution to establish a master’s and doctoral degree in macromolecular science, establishment of a policy board for the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute, and the 2000-2001 capital budget for the Hotel Roanoke Conference Center Commission.
Nicole Poirier-Bures is also the author of "Simone Poirier-Bures bares a young girl in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in the 1950s, fiction in a chronicle of the coming of age of a human and her fiction is delicately tender." "She feels her way into the tang of chocolate. She is a connoisseur of the richly textured, and downtown streets smelling of fog and human and her fiction is delicately tender." "Stone Carving: Restoring the Lost Art." By Sally Harris

In her latest novel, Nicole Poirier-Bures blends memoir and autobiographical fiction in a chronicle of the coming of age of a young girl in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in the 1950s, when "the 'facts of life' were shrouded in mystery and the roles for young girls and women narrowly defined." "Being an Acadian in an English city added another layer of complexity that Nicole, the author's persona, navigates in her search for identity," according to the publisher, Potternfield Press. In Nicole, "the personal and historical connect in a heady mixture of truth and fiction." Poirier-Bures, who teaches in Virginia Tech's English Department, will read from Nicole at Volume Two Bookstore in the University Mall in Blacksburg Thursday, Nov. 9, at 7 p.m. "Simone Poirier-Bures bares a young woman's heart," wrote George Elliott Clarke about Nicole. "She feels her way into the tang and brine and sweetness of growing up female and Acadian in Halifax, a city of trolleys, sailors, and downtown streets smelling of fog and chocolate. She is a connoisseur of the richly human and her fiction is delicately tender."" Poirier-Bures is also the author of That Shining Place, a memoir of Crete that won the 1996 Evelyn Richardson Award. Her stories and essays have been published widely in Canada, the U.S., and Australia. Nicole is available at Volume Two and the University Bookstore and can be ordered through other bookstores.

Salary and Wage Paydate.

BLOODMOBILE, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Squires Student Center.

Assessments to Promote Community, Friday, Nov. 3, 2:30-4 p.m., Hillcrest dining hall. Hable will focus on developing, implementing, and assessing assignments to create a community in each class.

Assessment: Writing Multiple-Choice and Essay Items, Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2:30-5 p.m., Hillcrest dining hall. Presenter Peter Doostie's teaching and learning will offer suggestions on how to construct effective multiple-choice and essay test items. Designing Research Assignments, Monday, Nov. 13, 2:30-5 p.m., Newman Library: Room TBA Hable and the college librarians will offer tips on how to incorporate new research assignments or enhance existing assignments. Topics will include research project management, student proficiency, relevant library resources, and internet-research guidelines.

Designing for Community, Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2:30-4:30 p.m., DBHCC. Hable will explore community-building strategies to support student interest in the course material.

Designing Effective Group Projects, Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Hillcrest dining hall. Hable will review the decisions instructors must make as they design group activities and provide tips for planning projects that effectively engage students.

Spring Design Fair-CEUT/UWP, Wednesday, Nov. 29 and Thursday, Nov. 30, 12-4 p.m., Hillcrest dining hall. Participants are invited to join in any time during these two sessions to discuss teaching and planning issues with the CEUT staff.

Winter Workshop: Academic Integrity, Wednesday, Jan. 10 and Thursday, Jan. 11, 11, Time, Location TBA. This year’s focus will be academic integrity. More details to follow.
FULL TIME
Administrative/Research Assistant, 007674T, Pay Band 4, ECE.
Director, Gift Accounting/Constituent Relationship, W023050T, Pay Band 3, CNS.

PART TIME
Editor, Virginia Tech Magazine
Director, Gift Accounting/Constituent Relationship
Editor, Spectrum
Director, Gift Accounting/Constituent Relationship

EMPLOYMENT
Classified Positions
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.

Available positions are also listed on the Job Line, a 24-hour recorded message service. For information on all job listings, call 540-231-1000. Some of the following positions include state benefits. Positions with numbers beginning with a "W" are hourly and do not include state benefits. Positions with numbers beginning with a "D" are salaried and are eligible for state benefits. Some of the following positions include state benefits. Positions with numbers beginning with a "W" are hourly and do not include state benefits. Positions with numbers beginning with a "D" are salaried and are eligible for state benefits.

Closing date for advertised positions is 1 p.m. Monday. An EOAA employer committed to diversity.

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Director, Gift Accounting/Constituent Relationship, W023050T, Pay Band 3, CNS.

PART TIME
Editor, Virginia Tech Magazine
Director, Gift Accounting/Constituent Relationship
Editor, Spectrum
Director, Gift Accounting/Constituent Relationship

INSTRUCTIONAL
Philosophy, Assistant/Associate/Full Professor. Contact: James Kluge, 229 Major Williams (0126). Review begins Dec. 1.
Philosophy, Assistant/Associate Professor. Contact: James Kluge, 229 Major Williams (0126). Review begins Dec. 1.
Personnel Services, Assistant/Associate Professor. Contact: Gail Kirby, 109 E. Eggleston (0326). Review begins Nov. 15.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
Continuing Education. Assistant Director for Program Development (Blacksburg). Contact Michael Schroder, 802 University City Blvd., Room 223 (0364). Review begins Nov. 15.

Continuing Education. Assistant Director for Program Development (Northern Virginia). Contact Michael Schroder, 820 University City Blvd., Room 223 (0364). Review begins Nov. 15.


RDP. Coordinator of Theme Housing Programs. Contact: Gail Kirby, 109 E. Eggleston (0326). Review begins Nov. 15.

RDP. Assistant Director of Residence Education. Contact: Gerard Kowalski, 109 E. Eggleston (0428). Review begins Nov. 15.


Virginia Tech is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2000 SPECTRUM 3
Chapter of the Year awarded to Tech's American Fisheries Society

By Lynn Davis

The Virginia Tech Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) recently received the Chapter of the Year award from the American Fisheries Society. The award was shared with the Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

The award ranks Virginia Tech at the top of more than 50 chapters that belong to the parent society. The chapter is composed primarily of students, is student-run and led, and is a bona fide, full-fledged chapter. To receive this award, they competed with chapters composed primarily of faculty members and professionals in their field.

The chapter participates in a variety of activities, including hosting a campus mudbash tournament every year, environmental education for children through local fish dissections and bio-diversity 4-H days, advocacy through resolutions to the parent society and letters to the House of Representatives, and member continuing education such as boater-safety courses and trips to aquaculture facilities around Virginia.

By Sally Harris

The Virginia Tech Mini-Conference on Nanoscience/Engineering will be November 13-14 at the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center.

Nanoscience is the attempt to understand very, very small particles or other structures (on the scale of a billionth of a meter) and their potential uses. The field could change human life in a variety of ways, from medicine to energy to information processing. The studies cross scientific disciplines such as chemistry, physics, and biology.

The conference is designed to raise the awareness of scientists and engineers in Virginia to the interests that exist worldwide in promoting synergism through collaboration among researchers in the field of nanoscience and engineering.

President Bill Clinton has announced a major new national nanotechnology initiative worth $500 million. Clinton said, “Imagine the possibilities: materials with 10 times the strength of steel and only a small fraction of the weight—shrinking all the information housed at the Library of Congress into a device the size of a sugar cube—detecting cancerous tumors when they are only a few cells in size.”

“Nanotechnology is the way of ingeniously controlling the building of small and large structures with intricate properties,” according to Roald Hoffman, Chemistry Nobel Prize winner from Cornell University. “It is the way of the future, a way of precise, controlled building with environmental benignness built in by design.”


Horst Stromer, Physics Nobel Prize winner from Columbia University, said, “Nanotechnology has given us the tools to play with the ultimate toy box of nature—atoms and molecules. The possibilities to create new things appear limitless.”

The Virginia Tech conference is sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Engineering, and the Office of Research and Graduate Studies.

Pre-registration (at no cost) of all attendees, including the media, is required so that space requirements can be met. To register, call Linda Sheppard in the Department of Chemistry at 1-5966.

Mini-conference on nanoscience/engineering set

More information and photos may be obtained from the web site at http://filebox.vt.edu/org/vtafs/index.htm.

EXCELLENCE

Continued from 1

Arthur Andersen, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Princeton Center for Leadership Training.

Maps has a degree in psychology and is a hypnotherapist certified by the National Guild of Hypnotists and the American Board of Hypnotherapy. He is a member of the Association to Advance Ethical Hypnosis. He also has a master’s degree in theater from California State University, Fullerton, and a master’s degree in theater from California State University, Fullerton.

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