SPECTRUM

By Kelly Corace and Courtney O’Hara, University Relations interns

Kraft selected 2002 Ruffner Medal recipient

When Christopher C. Kraft Jr. won the 1999 National Space Trophy from Rotary International, the group described him as “a driving force in the U.S. human space flight program from its beginnings to the Space Shuttle era, a man whose accomplishments have become legendary.”

In honor of his distinguished service to science and the nation, the Board of Visitors has awarded him the 2002 William H. Ruffner Medal, the university’s highest honor.

“Virginia Tech is truly honored to count among its esteemed alumni Dr. Christopher C. Kraft,” President Charles Steger said. “He has provided vision and leadership in his service to the university on the Board of Visitors in addition to his support for Alumni Center Campaign, the Class of ’45 Campaign and the College of Engineering Committee of 100.”

Kraft was instrumental in the decision to land an astronaut on the moon. He led the planning and operational control of programs from the two sub-orbital Mercury missions through Gemini, Apollo, Skylab, and the Apollo Soyuz test project. He was deeply involved in the development of the Space Shuttle. During its definition and design studies, he played a vital role in the decision-making process that created the Space Shuttle program, and he determined the initial configuration of the Space Shuttle (See KRAFT on 3).

Restructuring may lead to college consortia

By Clara B. Cox

The grouping of several colleges into “consortia of colleges,” defined by Provost Mark McNamee as “a group of colleges that share common approaches to accomplishing goals in one or more of the university’s missions,” is among the proposals that have emerged during the university’s examination of restructuring.

In a letter to faculty and staff members on Monday, McNamee provided a progress report that summarizes the “current state” of the restructuring discussions. The report, available online at http://www.provost.vt.edu/restructuring.html, outlines six broad areas of recommendations designed to “maximize our effectiveness in recruiting and retaining outstanding faculty members, students, and staff members as part of the effort to expand the scholarly environment appropriate for a top-30 university.”

One recommendation would expand the Pamplin College of Business to include the Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management. In another recommendation, the College of Architecture and Urban Studies could add part or all of the School of the Arts, the interior-design component of Near Environments, and, for administrative purposes, the School for Public and International Affairs.

(See RESTRUCTURING on 4)

Giacco, Grado receive Alumni Distinguished Service Awards today

By Kelly Corace and Courtney O’Hara, University Relations interns

The growth and development of Virginia Tech as a major research university is due in large measure to the active support of the university’s alumni. In honor of the numerous contributions that Alexander F. Giacco and John Grado have made to the betterment of the nation and Virginia Tech, the Alumni Association has recognized them with the 2002 Alumni Distinguished Service Award.

The awards will be presented to Giacco and Grado today at the Founders Day Convocation, which begins at 3 p.m. in Burruss auditorium.


Since leaving Hercules, he has served as president and CEO of Rheometric Scientific Inc., and chairman and CEO of HIMONT Inc. He is currently managing director of Axess Corp.

Giacco’s achievements have earned several honorary doctorates from universities throughout the U.S. He also has been honored by the nation of his birth—in 1985, the Italian government conferred a title of honor, Commendatore, the country’s highest civilian commendation. In 1987 he was elected to membership in the prestigious National Academy of Engineering.

In addition to his corporate career, Giacco served as a member of the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors from 1979 to 1987 and was rector of the board for the last three years of his term. During the university’s national “Campaign for Excellence,” which generated more than $108 million dollars in less than three years, he chaired the Corporate and Foundatio Gifts Committee. He was inducted into the College of Engineering’s Academy of Engineering Excellence in 2000 and is a member of the college’s Committee of 100.

After Giacco retired from Hercules, the company established the Alexander F. Giacco Presidential Chair at Virginia Tech with a $1-million endowment. The Alexander F. Giacco Engineering Scholarship Fund was subsequently established through his support. In 1989, he received the University Distinguished Achievement Award for “significant achievement of enduring significance in society.”

“Just as Al Giacco has played a vital role in the chemical industry, he has also devoted himself to service and support for Virginia Tech,” President Charles Steger said. “His commitment to the university on the Board of Visitors in addition to his support for Alumni Center Campaign, the Class of ’45 Campaign and the College of Engineering Committee of 100”.

Giacco’s engineering achievements have earned several honorary doctorates from universities throughout the U.S. He also has been honored by the nation of his birth—in 1985, the Italian government conferred a title of honor, Commendatore, the country’s highest civilian commendation. In 1987 he was elected to membership in the prestigious National Academy of Engineering.

(See SERVICE AWARDS on 3)

Roy Graduate Commencement speaker

By Julie Kane

Lucinda Roy will be the keynote speaker for Graduate Commencement on May 10, beginning at 4:30 p.m. in Cassell Coliseum.

Roy is alumni distinguished professor in English and director of creative writing at Virginia Tech. In May, she will assume the position of chair of the English Department.

She served as an associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences from 1993-1996, and was the Gloria D. Smith professor in black studies from 1997-1999. In 1992, she was the Margaret Bundy Scott professor of English at Williams College in Massachusetts. Roy has taught in Africa, England, and the United States, and frequently gives presentations throughout the country on creative writing, higher education, and diversity.

A recipient of several teaching awards, including the university-wide Alumni Award for Teaching Excellence, Roy was co-founder of the Service-Learning program at Virginia Tech and has authored a number of successful programs within the K-12 districts and the university-wide Alumni Award.

She has published two novels, Lady Moses and The Hotel Alleluia, and two collections of poetry. Her poetry collection, The Humming Birds, won the 1994 Eighth Mountain Poetry Prize. She received her B.A. (honors) in English from King’s College, London, and her M.F.A. in creative writing from the University of Arkansas. In May 2000, she was awarded an honorary doctorate of letters from the University of Richmond.

Currently, she is at work on her third poetry collection, her third novel, and a series of oil paintings in which she reinterprets the trials of the “middle passage.”

Alexander’s Fulbright to fund teaching materials on China

By Jean Elliott

M. David Alexander, chair of the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, has been awarded funding from the Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program. The grant will fund 15 educators and administrators from Virginia Tech, Western Kentucky University and three Virginia public-school systems, for a four-week study tour in the People’s Republic of China.

“Our goal is to develop curriculum materials about China that will enhance current programs within the K-12 districts and the offerings within the universities,” Alexander said.

Consisting of a series of seminars, field trips, and cultural exchanges, the study tour is designed to combine knowledge of the Chinese language with a cultural immersion experience.

(See FULBRIGHT on 4)
**Events**

**Friday, 26**
Founders Day, 3 p.m., Burruss auditorium, TA Event, 8 p.m., Squires Studio Theater: “Radon!” (Through 4-27).

**Saturday, 27**
New River Valley Symphony, 8 p.m., Burruss auditorium, YMCA Hike, 10 a.m., YMCA Parking Lot.
Virginia Museum of Natural History Event, 11 a.m. to noon, Saturday Science: Flowers and Plants.
SOTA Event, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., PAB: open auditions for Blacksburg Summer Arts Festival.

**Sunday, 28**
SOTA Event, 3 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Faculty Recital.

**BULLETINS**

SCC announces last assistance day
The last day to request assistance from the Statistical Consulting Center is April 26. The center will begin accepting new clients for the summer on May 16.

Shiva program set for April 29
Vandana Shiva, scientist, ecofeminist, and activist, will present a program in the Donaldson Brown auditorium Monday April 29, at 8 p.m.
She is the director of the Research Foundation for Science, Technology, and Natural Resource Policy in New Delhi, India. She is known for her scholarship in—and work to protect—biological and cultural diversity, traditional agro-ecosystems, and the knowledge and rights of women, indigenous peoples, and peoples of the Third World.

Shiva’s visit is sponsored by the Campus Greens at Virginia Tech. Co-sponsors include the departments of Biological Systems Engineering and Political Science, International Club at Virginia Tech, Multidisciplinary Studies, Science and Technology Studies, womanspace, and the Women’s Studies Program.

**SEMINARS**

**Friday, 26**
Highlands in Chemistry, 11:15 a.m., 3 Davidson: Chris Walsh, Harvard Medical School.
MCBB, 12:20 to 1:10 p.m., Pralin auditorium: George Bloom, UVA.
STS, 4 p.m., 132 Lane: Michael Klein.

**Monday, 29**
Horticulture, 4 p.m., 409 Saunders: Lisa Kelk.

**Wednesday, 1**
ESM, 4 p.m., 136 Norris: Andrew Hood, U.S. State Department.

**Wednesday, 8**
Human Development, 7 p.m., Wallace atrium: Shirley S. Travis, UNC—Charlotte.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Staff and Faculty Annual Fund offers donation options**

By Kathleen Pantaleo

Last year, the Staff and Faculty Annual Fund experienced a 45 percent increase in the number of participants from earlier years. Input from staff and faculty members and retired employees resulted in many positive changes, such as the Employees’ Spouse and Dependent employees resulted in many positive changes, from staff and faculty members and retired employees.

The Staff and Faculty Annual Fund experienced a 45-percent increase in the number of participants from earlier years. Input from staff and faculty members and retired employees resulted in many positive changes, such as the Employees’ Spouse and Dependent employees.

In addition to the scholarships already mentioned, current and retired Virginia Tech employees can make a gift to any area of the university. Current and retired Virginia Tech employees can look for a pledge card in the mail on or around May 1.

**Campus beautification competition winners announced**

By Sherri Box

Jon Phillips, a business-information-technology major, and Lauren Fisher, a landscape-architecture major, were honored April 20 at the Student Recognition Banquet for winning first place for their submissions to the “Ornament the Cement” competition. The winners will each receive $500 and a certificate.

The beautification competition began six months ago, and on March 4 a selection jury made up of visiting and university faculty members, administration, and past graduates chose the winners. In October, students were charged with the task of beautifying what has become one of Virginia Tech’s main entrances: the area between Prices Fork Road, West Campus Drive, Perry Street, and Stanger Street.

The competition was designed by the Campus Beautification sub-committee of the Commission on University Support as part of an effort to improve the aesthetics of the campus. Any student organization or full-time student in the fall 2001 semester was eligible to submit an entry and the submissions were accepted from Oct. 1, 2001 through Feb. 1, 2002.

“Banners on a Campus Lot,” Phillips’ entry, was described as a simple, yet effective solution to the expanse of the commuter-lot entrance to the university. Phillips designed high-durability, weatherproof banners in orange and maroon, complete with the Virginia Tech emblem, which could be attached to the lighting structures throughout the lot. The banners can be changed for various events, as well as portray the parking designations of each lot. The design provides color, versatility, ease of upkeep, and is cost effective.

“Unity in Design,” Fisher’s entry, proposed building several university-themed structures surrounding a new road entranceway. The road will create a more direct entrance from Prices Fork Road to West Campus Drive and will have a Burruss Hall abstract design made of pylons on the corner of the turn. Drivers approaching campus along Route 460 will see eight pylons surrounded by Hokie stone, each with a college seal cast in bronze. As a final design element, Fisher included a screening wall along Prices Fork Road with trees to hide the commuter lot. Her design combines campus landmarks and insignia into an aesthetically pleasing landmark entrance.

The entries were judged upon their innovative and creative use of construction, landscape, and design elements; successful integration of the design into the existing environment and architectural style; comprehensiveness and thoroughness of submitted design; feasibility and practical implementation. Submissions also had to include a visual representation of the idea and a design essay.

Honorarium was awarded to Michelle Mc lease for “Ornament in the Cement Project,” and special mentions were awarded to Jeremy Richa for “VT West Campus Design Competition,” and Alison Thorne for “A Vision in Motion.”

**Music department sponsoring Alumni Weekend**

The Department of Music is sponsoring the first annual Music Education Alumni Weekend April 26-27.

More than 20 alumni are returning to campus to lead seminars, classes, and conduct ensembles for Tech’s undergraduate music-education majors. Music-education faculty, alumni, and undergraduates will participate in a series of seminars and ensemble performances that will bring the real world of public school music education to Tech’s undergraduate music-education program. Alumni will experience the latest in music-education theory and technique while undergraduates experience the “real world” of music-education alumni.

**Engineering freshmen will need laptops this fall**

By Karen Gilbert

The computer requirement for engineering freshmen has been changed from a desktop to a laptop to reflect the increased technology needs of students.

“College is a strong believer in providing useful technologies that will serve our students well while learning at Virginia Tech and prepare them for the next stage in life, entering the workforce,” said Glenda Scales, assistant dean for distance learning and computers in the College of Engineering.

About 30 percent of engineering students surveyed by the college’s laptop taskforce, which was established to seek broad-based input before deciding on the requirement, reported that they have already switched to a laptop computer out of preference. Students responded that laptops are more convenient and provide quick access to the Internet, e-mail and homework files.

“One of the key things that came out of the survey that interested me was the number of times engineering students return to their dorms or apartments to use the computer,” said Tom Walker, associate professor of engineering fundamentals. About two-thirds of students live off campus and these students spend an estimated seven hours a week in wasted travel time going back and forth from classrooms to home for computer use. The need to return home increases the pressure on students to own a car, which compounds the parking problem on campus.

Network plug-in or wireless network access is currently available in certain classrooms and study areas, such as Randolph Hall and Torgersten Hall. “CNS wants the laptop initiative to be successful and understands that ex- (See ENGINEERING on 4)
EMPLOYMENT

CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

The following classified positions are currently available. Position details, specific application procedures, position-closing dates may be found on Personnel Services web site http://www.ps.vt.edu. Positions are listed also on the Job Line, a 24-hour recorded message service. For information on all job listings, call 1-5300. Some positions include state benefits. Positions with numbers beginning with “W” are hourly and do not include state benefits. Individuals with disabilities desiring assistance or accommodation in the application process should call the application deadline.

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

FULL TIME
One full-time food-service position available.
Assistant Manager, 000561H, PB 3, DPD.

Electrical, 001050F, PB 3, Physical Plant.
Graduate Enrollment Specialist, 0018463, PB 3, ESM.
Graduate Program Coordinator, 001092G, PB 3, Math.

Housekeeping Worker, 007324C, PB 1, Physical Plant.
Human Resources Specialist, 007570D, PB 4, Personnel Services.
Laboratory Specialist, 007944M, PB 3, Biochemistry.

LABORATORY TECHNICIAN, 007945G, PB 2, CVM.
Large Animal Veterinary Technician, 001066M, PB 4, VTH.

Office Services Specialist, 001286S, PB 2, Purchasing.
Office Services Specialist, 007283G, PB 2, ECE.
Phytoplankton Specialist, 000601A, PB 3, Printing Services.

Practical Nurse, 001776J, PB 3, SHC.
Radiologic Technologist, 002394M, PB 3, VTH.

Technical Operations Assistant, 007940J, PB 2, VTTI.

TM/VEDA Systems Engineer, 000196A, PB 4, VBS.

Web Designer, 007510A, PB 4, BEV.
Webmaster, 007940Y, PB 4, VBI.

PART TIME

Laboratory Technician Senior, W02172M, PB 2, VTH.

Large Animal Husbandry, W022155M, PB 1, VTH.
Program Coordinator, W023168J, PB 3, CDAC.
Program Support Technician, 004570M, PB 3, CSES.
Radiologic Technologist, W022412M, PB 3, VTH.
Security Guard, W020470Y, PB 1, Police.

Switchboard Operator, W020821M, PB 2, VTH.
Veterinary Technician, W023340M, PB 4, VTH.

OFF CAMPUS
Nursing Supervisor, 000606M, PB 3, CVM—EMC.
Office Manager, 007796Y, PB 3, IALR.
Radio Communications Supervisor, 007737M, PB 3, CVM—EMC.
Research Specialist, 007942J, PB 3, VTI.
Secretary Senior, 002089R, PB 2, NVC.
Wildlife Worker, 006638G, PB 2, Biology.

CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

Virginia Public Service Week set

Later this month, Governor Mark Warner will announce the observation of Virginia Public Service Week (VPSW) for May 6-12. This year’s theme is “Proudly Serving Virginians.”

VPSW is an opportunity to reward and recognize employees for their hard work and dedication to the state and raise public awareness of the contributions state employees make every day. In addition to supporting VPSW, Virginia Tech provides many university employee award and recognition programs in the spring and fall, including Staff Appreciation Day, scheduled for the week following Virginia Public Service Week.

The state-wide program will recognize employees through Governor’s Awards. The Virginia Public Service Steering Committee, a state-level committee, will review all entries and the selected employees will be honored at a ceremony during that week. Because of the short time frame for VPSW, the university will submit the names of the fall 2001 winners of the President’s Award for Excellence for several Governor’s Awards. The five university nominees are Penny Cook, Jessie Eaves, Tom Head, Christopher Peters, and Sally Stafford.

Thirty-five employees from state agencies will be randomly selected by the state’s Department of Human Resource Management to participate in the Governor’s Award ceremony as employee ambassadors to thank award recipients on behalf of other employees.

KRAFT

Continued from 1

A system, a new concept in space transportation. Kraft was the director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration’s (NASA) Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, from January 1972 to August 1982.

Kraft was born in 1924, two years before American physicist Robert Goddard launched the first liquid-fueled rocket. Graduating in 1944 with a bachelor’s degree in aeronautical engineering, he immediately joined the Langley Aeronautical Laboratory of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), the precursor of NASA.

In 1958, Kraft was selected as one of the original members of the Space Task Group, the organization established to manage the Project Mercury. The group developed the basic concepts of the Mercury Project that launched the human space flight program for the United States. He personally served as the flight director for all of the Mercury missions and many of the Gemini missions.

Kraft retired from NASA in 1982. In a tribute to his career at the time, the Roanoke Times editorialized that he “epitomized the space age...he probably instilled more confidence in our space program than any slick campaign could have done, because of his knowledge and ability to impart it.”

Since his retirement, Kraft has consulted for Rockwell International, IBM, and a number of other companies. A brief listing of his many honors include membership in the prestigious National Academy of Engineering, the International Academy of Astronautics of the International Astronautical Association, and the Aerospace Medical Association.

Among his awards, he received the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal from the president of the United States in 1963, the Spirit of St. Louis Medal from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) in 1965, the Vigneron of the Year Award from the Virginia Press Association in 1967, the ASME Medal in 1973, and the Goddard Memorial Trophy from the National Space Club in 1979. He also received the NASA Distinguished Service Medal, the highest NASA award, four times.

SERVICE AWARDS

Continued from 1

role nationally in the chemical industry, he has also given Virginia Tech the benefit of his renowned executive talents,” said Malcolm McPherson, interim dean of the College of Engineering. “His leadership on the Board of Visitors during a time of growth and change was a major force in bolstering the university’s substance and status.”

Grado entered Virginia Tech at the age of 16 and a year later he interrupted his studies to enlist in the U.S. Navy for two-year stint during World War II. He then returned to the university and received his degree in industrial engineering in 1951.

His early work led to a career in the paper and printing business. In 1956 George Wallace, then president of Fitchburg (Massachusetts) Paper Co., offered Grado a job as chief industrial engineer. Grado soon became president of Fitchburg’s Decotone Division and eventually executive vice-president of the parent company.

When Litton Industries bought Fitchburg Paper in 1967, Grado—then only 35 years old—was made the corporate vice-president of Litton. In 1983 he bought the company from Litton, renamed it Technographics and moved the world headquarters to Fitchburg, Massachusetts. Grado’s entrepreneurial talents made Technographics a resounding success. In 1999 he sold the company and retired from corporate life.

His generosity to Virginia Tech includes endowment of the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE), which became the Grado Department in 2000. He also has endowed the John Grado Professorship and a scholarship fund that supports 19 students annually.

Grado is a member of the College of Engineering’s Committee of 100 and is an inductee of Virginia Tech’s Eta Sigma Tau Society.

He has served on ISE’s Advisory Board and is a member of its Academy of Distinguished Alumni. He also has served on the Virginia Tech Foundation Board and the board of the Corporate Research Center. He has been honored with the University Distinguished Alumni Award and election to the College of Engineering’s Academy of Engineering Excellence, and he has received ISE’s Age Distinguished Alumni Award.

“Grado was a student who didn’t have anything and now he has given so much back to Virginia Tech students,” said ISE student Heather Rae Danforth, a recipient of a Grado Scholarship.

Staff Appreciation Day is May 15, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Rector Field house.
HTM educators among most influential

By Jean Elliott

Three Virginia Tech faculty members were ranked among the top five educators in a citation analysis, according to the most recent issue of the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Education.

Michael Olsen, Pam Weaver and Ken McCleary ranked third, fourth, and fifth, respectively, in an "HTM faculty: Hospitality Management Education’s Most Influential Scholars: A Citation Analysis 1989-1999."

A citation analysis is the time-consuming process of counting the number of times any publication or researcher has been cited in "main articles" in peer-reviewed journals. In this case, the five major hospitality-management journals were used: the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management, the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Education, and the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Research. Main articles are the major pieces of a journal and do not include reviews or reports on working papers. Each reference appearing in a main article is logged in a database.

No self-citations are counted and authors are counted only once on a main article, regardless of the number of times cited within that article.

The field was led by a retired scholar, Robert Lewis, with 142 citations, followed by a UNLV professor with 141 citations. The only other scholars with a minimum of 100 citations are all Virginia Tech faculty members: Olsen (122), Weaver (106), and McCleary (101). Besides having an impact on their field over time, the trio also ranked third, fourth and fifth in most recent citation activity (1997-99): Olsen (54), McCleary (52), and Weaver (47). Virginia Tech’s Muzaffer Uysal ranked 27th with 16 citations—despite his focus on tourism being featured more widely in other journals.

Virginia Tech’s overall impact on the hospitality industry is emphasized by the fact that eight VT HTM doctoral graduates ranked among the top-60 in the 1989-99 citation analysis.

"Overall, Virginia Tech ranked second among institutions for cumulative citations," said Brian Mihalk, head of the Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM). "I am very impressed with our faculty dedication and am confident that if the research was expanded to the entire tourism field, Dr. Uysal also would have joined Dr. Olsen, Dr. McCleary, and Dr. Weaver in the top-ranked faculty. This example of HTM faculty dedication to research further reinforces our departmental commitment to excellence in scholarly activities."

Virginia Tech, which posted 360 citations by six authors, trail only Cornell in total citations, which posted 455 but had 14 authors.

RESTSTRUCTURING

A new College of Biological, Mathematical, and Physical Sciences would be created and would join the College of Natural Resources, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine under an umbrella “colleges of natural science,” which might also include the departments of psychology, economics; and human nutrition, foods, and exercise.

The College of Engineering would be maintained as a separate college from the natural sciences because of its distinctive teaching and research programs, but a School of Computer Sciences and Information Technology would be created to reflect the growing importance of computer science, computer engineering, and other forms of information technology.

Discussions continue about the administrative home for the school.

Several college models have been proposed to address the arts, humanities, social sciences, education, and human-resources programs. A consortium of two colleges—one an outgrowth of the College of Arts and Sciences and one emerging from the College of Human Resources and Education—would be formed to attain nationally prominent educational and research objectives. A Graduate School of Education would be organized within the latter college to highlight the commitment to science and mathematics education.

The core curriculum could fall under the umbrella of a “university college.” Specific proposals are under development.

Another concept involves an ongoing effort to continue discussions among department heads across college lines based on shared interests. The report also describes several concepts underlying the restructuring plan “that should aid us in advancing all missions of the university without setting up hard, inflexible, competing administrative structures.” In addition to taking advantage of shared grant and other forms of instruction technology, the concept of colleges would allow colleges of the same phrase, and the concept of colleges would allow colleges to share certain administrators, such as the associate dean for undergraduate studies, associate dean for research, and dean for professional education.

Another concept involves an ongoing effort to continue discussions among department heads across college lines based on shared interests.

Two town hall meetings were held on Wednesday to provide a forum for discussion of the proposals.

A comprehensive set of recommendations for evaluation by the Board of Visitors will be presented to the university community by May