New CALS Dean Quisenberry plans to build on college's strengths

By Charlie Stott

Saying that America is poised on a second Golden Age of Agriculture, Sharron Quisenberry “comes to work excited every day” as the new dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Virginia Tech have an exciting future with tremendous opportunities for cutting-edge programs in Extension, instruction and research, said Quisenberry, who moved into her new position on August 1. “A major reason for me taking this position is because of the excellent quality of the faculty, staff and students in this college and the university.”

“The college also has a strong, broad-based support system across the state. We want to strengthen those connections and partnerships and build new ties and alliances. Those stakeholders are tremendously important to us. We cannot do it by ourselves, and we look forward to strengthening our partnerships, which will allow us to continue to grow.”

Quisenberry comes to Virginia Tech from Montana State University where she was dean of the College of Agriculture and director of the Montana Agriculture Experiment Station. She currently serves on the National Academy of Sciences’ Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources and was appointed by President George Bush to serve on the Board for International Food and Agriculture Development. In Montana, she also served on the Governor’s Economic Policy Advisory Committee.

She said much of the quality of life that is enjoyed in the U.S. today is because of the “Golden Age of Agriculture Production.” But, she said, “How we focus our future can have a more profound impact on society, even more than what we have accomplished in the past.”

“The college is going to build on our strengths here at Virginia Tech to assist citizens of the state to have a better quality of life. When we look at agriculture, we are not only going to look at the success of production but how our producers can add value to what they are already doing, whether that is through bio-based products, diversification into new crops or other avenues.”

“We are going to look at how agriculture can be tied to human health and nutrition, to the prevention of chronic diseases, and can assist communities with economic development. This would include areas such as families, youth at risk, our urban/rural interface, and rural economic development.”

“The college will expand but focus our vision of how we can best meet the needs of our constituents. We must bring our expertise in research, teaching and Extension together to address problems that face society.”

Well aware of the challenges ahead as a result of significant budget reductions and the loss of faculty members in recent years, Quisenberry said she is strongly optimistic about the future. “There are some missing pieces and we will do our best to address those critical needs while addressing...”

(See NEW on 8)
Women Faculty Research Series set

Women’s Center and the Organization of Women Faculty are sponsoring the Women Faculty Research Series during the fall semester. Four faculty women will present work from their research and teaching interests. Each presentation will take place in the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center’s Executive Conference Room from 4 until 5:30 p.m.

Grant writing workshops offered

The schedule of workshops for new faculty members for September and October is:

Your Research Career at Virginia Tech—Getting Started is offered Friday, Sept. 26, 3 to 4:30 p.m. in 3100 Torgersen. The workshop will cover the basics of sponsored research: funding opportunities, conducting a research search, developing and submitting a proposal, and managing a research career.

Writing Successful Grants Friday, Oct. 17, 3 to 4:30 p.m. in Fralin Center auditorium. This workshop will cover why proposals succeed—or don’t, getting ready to write, avoiding common proposal pitfalls, and additional tips.

Finding Funding workshops will be offered Oct. 24 and Oct. 31, 3 to 4:30 p.m. in 3060 Torgersen. These workshops will cover how to locate suitable sponsors, using online databases, government agencies and private foundations, and how to receive funding alerts.

To register, call Debbie Nester at 1-5410 or e-mail debbie10@vt.edu. Include name, department, mail code, and e-mail address.

Study Abroad Fair set

The Office of International Research, Education, and Development (OIRED) will hold its annual Study Abroad Fair September 24 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. on the Drillfield. Diverse, university-wide and college study-abroad programs will be represented. Departmental personnel and students can learn about the wide range of subjects and geographical locations available to meet students’ academic, financial, and personal needs.

For more information, contact Daniel O’Brien at 1-8205 or obrienid@vt.edu.

Graduate, Professional School Day set

The Graduate Student Assembly is sponsoring Graduate and Professional School Day 2003 on Friday, Sept. 26, in the Old Dominion Ballroom and 150 Squires. Approximately 50 universities will provide students with information about their advanced-degree programs. Traditionally, graduate schools, law schools, medical-health-related schools, business schools, and engineering schools have attended. Some institutions already registered include Penn State, MCV/VCU Medical School, Wake Forest School of Law, University of Miami.

This event is free to all students and professional dress is not required. For more information, contact Paula Williams, 1-7919.

E-mail access secured

Beginning October 1, all e-mail access and retrieval will be allowed through secure methods only. This will affect all users of the POP server (POP.VT.EDU; most students and faculty members), and any Exchange users who use the POP or IMAP protocols to access their e-mail.

The secure services are currently in place, but will become mandatory on the date above. This step is being taken to help prevent unauthorized access, identity theft, etc., and to conform to mandates from both federal and state agencies. For specific information on how to configure desktop e-mail client software to interface with the new system requirements, visit URL http://www.answers.vt.edu/askhelp/email/vtb1613.htm.

For questions or problems, contact 4HELP (4-4357 on campus/1-4357 off-campus).

Science Museum seeks nominations

The Science Museum of Virginia is now accepting nominations for Virginia’s Outstanding Scientist 2004, Virginia’s Outstanding Industrialist 2004, Life Achievement in Science, and Life Achievement in Industry. The deadline is October 1.

The Scientist of the Year award is made to a living person in any field of science, including mathematics, technology and the physical, biological or health sciences. Scientists whose work cannot be published for security reasons may also be nominated. The prime factor in selection is a recent contribution to the field. The contributions should be easily recognizable as a definite advance of knowledge or a significant technological development.

Although advancements are often a result of team effort, a single individual most responsible for the genesis of an important contribution should be selected. The Life Achievement award is based on nominee’s lifetime accomplishments. The achievement for which an award is granted should dramatize current progress in science in Virginia.

An individual may not receive more than one award in his or her lifetime. An individual may receive only one award in a given year. Recipients may be nominated in more than one category. Recipients of the Scientist of the Year award must be Virginia residents. Recipients of the Life Achievement in Science and Industry awards must be Virginia residents.

The Industrialist of the Year award is made to a living Virginia resident for recent accomplishments. The achievement for which an award is granted should be easily recognizable as a definite advance of knowledge or a significant technological development.

To nominate a scientist or industrialist for this award, send the nomination form to: Virginia’s Outstanding Scientist 2004 Nomination Committee, Science Museum of Virginia, 2000 Activities Road, Norfolk, VA 23504 by September 15.

Nomination forms are available at www.smv.org/SMV/NominationForm04.html.
2003 Faculty-Staff Award Winners

ALUMNI AWARD FOR OUTREACH EXCELLENCE

Laurence Carstensen
Laurence (Bill) Carstensen, professor of geography, has made valuable contributions to outreach in his field and is recognized for his efforts by receiving the Alumni Award for Outreach Excellence.

Carstensen has received grants from the National Geographic Society, the National Science Foundation, the Virginia Geographic Alliance, and the state of Virginia to fund his programs in computer-based instruction, Virginia Atlas production, and teacher workshops and summer institutes. Carstensen has led professional development programs for Virginia teachers for more than a decade, helping teachers to develop the geographic knowledge, skills and perspective essential to strengthening and restoring effective learning and teaching of geography in Virginia’s schools. His work contributes to the National Geographic Society’s nation-wide effort to enhance students’ geographic competence.

One of Carstensen’s most notable educational innovations was the development of a three-week summer institute by train that traverses North America and immerses teachers in diverse landscapes. Teachers met with local inhabitants and anthropologists, learned to analyze landscapes while using maps and applying GIS skills. Teachers later implemented the knowledge and experiences into the classroom.

“Bill loves geography and thoroughly enjoys sharing his knowledge, skills and perspectives,” said Robert W. Morrill, professor emeritus of geography. “He wants every person to learn and to grow. His work has made a substantial impact on teachers and students.”

ALUMNI AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Gwendolyn Lloyd
Since joining the mathematics faculty in 1996, Gwen Lloyd, associate professor of mathematics, has contributed innovation, high-quality classroom work and scholarship to her profession. Her teaching evaluations have been well above average over the last five years and she has received a $435,000 Early Career Development Grant by the National Science Foundation for her research in mathematics education. For these contributions, Lloyd has been awarded the Alumni Award for Teaching Excellence.

Her teaching has focused on two 1000-level classes designed for future elementary- and secondary-school teachers: Math 1614 (Number and Computing for Teachers) and Math 1624 (Geometry and Computing for Teachers). Lloyd’s students have cited her interactive teaching environment, which incorporates group work in a positive and encouraging setting, and her enthusiasm. She is known to challenge her students’ knowledge and views while teaching mathematics as a dynamic subject.

Lloyd has also played a major role in curriculum development at both the undergraduate and graduate levels in the Math Education Program (she has also taught EDCT 5324 and EDCT 5784). She was part of the effort that transformed many undergraduate math courses into on-line courses, and she has served as workshop director for Women’s Career Day in Mathematics at Virginia Tech, a workshop for middle-school girls, since 1997.

“Gwen Lloyd exemplifies mathematics teaching at its very best,” said Professor and mathematics Department Head John Rossi. “She is extraordinary.”

Dixie Watts Reaves
Dixie Watts Reaves, associate professor of agricultural and applied economics, is known for her informative classes and her willingness, patience and compassion in working with her students. Students have cited her as a trusted advisor, both inside the classroom and out. She is this year’s recipient of the Alumni Award for Teaching Excellence. Reaves has also been involved with service outside the classroom. She has served at the multi-day conference for the Virginia Council of Farmer Cooperatives and has played an active role in Governor’s School for Agriculture, serving as coordinator and faculty member for the ag-econ major. She is actively involved with several student organizations, such as the Ag Econ/NAMA Club, Sigma Alpha professional agricultural sorority, National Agri-marketing Association Team, and Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS).

Reaves has been instrumental in adding three courses to the agricultural-and-applied-economics curriculum. She has also been a mentor in the university mentoring program, has served on 13 master’s committees and two Ph.D. committees, and along with Charles Coale, created the departmental-internship program. She has taught a variety of courses in the department and has given many presentations at conferences nation-wide.

“Dixie Reaves lives to teach, encourage, support and help students in any way possible,” colleague David Kenyon said.

XCALIBER AWARDS FOR INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM EXCELLENCE

Lawrence Grossman
His innovative approaches to incorporating technology with teaching have earned Lawrence Grossman, professor and head of geography, the XCaliber Award for Excellence by an Individual Teaching with Technology. Grossman is recognized for developing an on-line course at Virginia Tech as well as an on-line workshop for agricultural scientists in Uganda.

He created extensive on-line tutorials accompanied by graphics for the computer applications in social-science research course (SPIA 2004). His tutorials taught students how to use software for research at a relatively early stage in their undergraduate education. These tutorials helped students to develop their analytical abilities, increase their research and communication skills, and better understand the complexities of the research process.

Grossman also developed on-line materials for a geographic-information-systems (GIS) workshop in Uganda to teach agricultural scientists how to use technology in their research on reducing pesticide use. His GIS tutorial, the first one used to enhance Uganda’s agricultural research, fostered independent learning of GIS technologies, and continues to be used by several agencies in Uganda.

“The tutorials present creative activities that empower people to learn independently, and his Uganda workshop has stimulated international interest,” said James Campbell, professor of geography.

SOLAR DECATHLON TEAM

A team of faculty and staff members and students working on the Solar Decathlon project, led by Robert Schubert, professor and associate dean of research and architecture, and Michael Ellis, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, has been awarded the XCaliber Award for Excellence by a Team of Faculty, Students, and Staff. The award recognizes the team’s innovative approach to teaching with technology.

The Solar Decathlon initiative arose out of a multi-disciplinary senior design project in which a team of architecture, mechanical engineering, building construction, and industrial design students worked together to design and build a grid-independent solar house. The solar house competed with 13

MULTIMEDIA TECHNOLOGY TEAM

From left: Robert Dunay, Mike Ellis, Robert Schubert and Mehdi Setareh.

A team of faculty and staff members and students working on the Solar Decathlon project, led by Robert Schubert, professor and associate dean of research and architecture, and Michael Ellis, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, has been awarded the XCaliber Award for Excellence by a Team of Faculty, Students, and Staff. The award recognizes the team’s innovative approach to teaching with technology.

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From left, front row: Jane Lehr, Brent Jesiek, Jonson Miller, Mark Harden, Thomas Bigley; second row: Lance Huff, Jeffrey Dalton, Douglas Whorley, Bryan Hey, Donna Whitmarsh, Chris Hays, Gary Downey.

The interdisciplinary team that created a CD/web course titled “Engineering Cultures Online: Building Global Engineers Through Multimedia Technology” has been awarded the XCaliber Award for Excellence By a Team Teaching with Technology.

Led by Gary Downey, professor of science and technology studies, and Mark Harden, manager of Video/Broadcast Services, this multimedia initiative’s main goal was to help engineering students learn to work with people who use different approaches to problem solving. Through the use of multimedia CD’s, streamed audio and video, and web-based course management,
**ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC ADVISING**

Dixie Watts Reaves, chair of the undergraduate program in the agricultural and applied economics department, has received the 2003 Alumni Award for Excellence in Academic Advising.

An academic advisor since 1994, Reaves has been the chair for the undergraduate program since January, 2003. Her interest and concern for the students begins even before they arrive at Virginia Tech. She personally calls each student who expresses an interest in agricultural economics upon application to the university. Many of these students already know her through her participation in 4-H and agricultural youth programs with the Virginia Council of Farmer Cooperatives. She conducts the student summer orientation and gets to know each one of them by name.

Reaves, along with a colleague, developed the internship program in her department, eventually turning an informal internship into a course to prepare students for an internship experience. She has also served on numerous curriculum committees at the department, college and university level.

David Kenyon, professor emeritus, said, “Reaves’ office is always open and students know that they are welcome. She works endlessly for them, helping them develop their program, encouraging them, befriending them, and on occasion, challenging them to perform better in their academic pursuits.”

**PROVOST’S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ADVISING**

Mark J. Benson

Providing high-quality advising to more than 200 students with an over 90-percent continuance rate for students progressing into graduate programs, as well as offering high-quality feedback on careers and serving as an advisor for various graduate organizations, has earned the Provost’s Award for Excellence in Advising for Mark J. Benson, associate professor in human development.

Benson has gone “beyond the norm” in advising his students. He has developed and implemented a “student-success-plan experience” for 150 students. He has managed student teaching arrangements; developed an internship handbook; and co-founded the departmental graduate-student association. He has developed the initial writing-across-the-human-development program for undergraduates to seek further training in human development.

Human-development student Emily Moyer said, “Benson is a supportive advisor, an admirable role model and mentor, and an exceptional teacher. His commitment to his students and respect for his fellow teachers are demonstrated through his daily actions and innovative teaching styles. I am fortunate that my interactions with him have not been limited to a one-time class, but instead, have included four years of excellent advising and continued support.”

**ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN GRADUATE ACADEMIC ADVISING**

E. Scott Geller

During his 34 years at Virginia Tech, E. Scott Geller has advised many graduate students, including serving as committee chair to 37 master’s and 2-doctoral students. His present and former students say that he is the epitome of excellence in graduate academic advising. His outstanding efforts are being recognized with the 2003 Alumni Award for Excellence in Graduate Academic Advising.

Geller’s graduate students have been afforded the opportunity to work alongside a world-renowned professional in the area of psychology and, more specifically, in the area of behavioral community intervention. He works to motivate people to go beyond the call of duty.

He uses this framework—going beyond the call of duty—for mentoring students. He not only advises them on their research and coursework, but he also advises them on more general practices that will improve their careers. He provides them with a wealth of opportunities and works very hard to ensure grant support to provide them with research experience and assistantships.

He regularly nominated his students for scholarship and awards. His graduate students have won the Outstanding Graduate Student for the College of Arts and Sciences for two of the last three years. His students say “Geller is more than our advisor; he is our mentor and our friend.”

**WINE AWARDS**

Arthur L. Buikema Jr.

Arthur L. Buikema, alumni distinguished professor of biology, has become locally, nationally and internationally known for his teaching innovations and recognized for excellence in many ways, including the W.E. Wine Achievement Award, given for excellence in teaching.

Buikema received a Senior Fulbright Scholarship to Zimbabwe, Africa and has developed courses for the new degree program in environmental and health sciences. He invites his students to engage in research abroad on the tropical ecology of Costa Rica and ecology and culture of South Africa.

Richard D. Fell, professor of entomology said, “Buikema wants students to view ecology and the environment from a broader context than just biology.”

The heart of Buikema’s teaching ethic is to encourage students to analyze, criticize and synthesize the information they seek through research to discover a better and deeper understanding of the issue.

“Students are responsible and capable for their own education,” Buikema said. “The teacher is merely a mentor helping the students arrange the parts of their education into a symphony of self discovery, belief in self and achievement of personal and career goals.”

Buikema has received national awards including the Outstanding Teaching Award and is a member of the National Association of Biology Teachers. He is also the recipient of Virginia Tech’s Alumni Teaching Award, Sporn Award, and XCaliber Award for Excellence by an Individual Teaching with Technology.

**The Awards Ceremony is today at 5 p.m. in the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center auditorium.**
D. Michael Denbow, professor of animal and poultry sciences, believes it is possible to stimulate, motivate and connect with each student in a given classroom. His goal is to develop a positive learning environment, not only in his classroom, but also with each student he advises. He fulfills this goal through his interaction with each student. Denbow developed four new courses for the Department of Animal and Poultry Sciences including Embryology; Diet, Brain and Behavior; Neurochemical Control; and Advanced Neurochemical Control. Denbow has influenced numerous students, faculty members and alumni through his teaching by creating a fun, educational and motivational classroom environment. He is a recipient of the W.E. Wine Achievement Award, given for excellence in teaching.

Denbow was a member of the initial steering committee that helped establish the Biological Sciences Initiative, a program that focuses on enhancing undergraduate education across the biological-and-life-sciences departments. His motivation was to create and provide opportunities that enhance student learning. Aside from student interaction and enhancing programs for students, Denbow engages in several areas of research including neuro-hemoral control of food and water intake, dietary influences and nutrient waste management.

"Dr. Denbow seems to have the most up-to-date scientific knowledge and encourages his students to do the same," said Elizabeth Werner, one of Denbow’s students. "He communicates his knowledge of complicated, scientific subjects with astounding clarity, efficiency and enthusiasm."

Richard Goff, associate professor of engineering fundamentals, has worked in a number of ways to enhance the curriculum for Virginia Tech engineering freshmen. His leadership, mentoring and enthusiasm are valued by students and faculty members, and Goff has been selected to received the W.E. Wine Achievement Award for excellence in teaching.

Goff’s contributions in the areas of collaborative learning and hands-on experience have helped update the ways in which freshmen at Virginia Tech learn the basics of engineering. He was a leader in establishing the Frith Freshmen Engineering Design Laboratory, one of the world’s first facilities devoted to hands-on projects for freshmen. Goff has also worked with Blevie Watford, the College of Engineering’s associate dean for academic affairs, on summer-camp laboratory programs for middle- and high-school students who have interests in engineering and technology.

Goff assisted in piloting an international experience for freshman engineering students in Blacksburg and at Riva San Vitale, Switzerland. He also worked with faculty members in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies to develop an annual program for the collaboration of students from engineering students and industrial design. This collaboration resulted in a studio design experience for freshman engineering students, similar to that in industrial design.

"These efforts, which Richard has led from inception to implementation, have resulted in the students being more engaged in the learning process than I have ever seen," said Hayden Griffin, head of the Division of Engineering Fundamentals.
Linda B. Fountaine

Linda Fountaine, executive secretary/office manager in the Department of History is known as an energetic professional who is a trusted member of the departmental team. Her colleagues say that they can trust her for “great attitude, her willingness to tackle any task, her action, intercession, fairness, follow-up and discretion.” These qualities have earned Fountaine the President’s Award for Excellence.

She has chaired the Staff Development Committee as the special appointee of the former dean of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, she has served as coordinator for the College of Arts and Sciences-led support luncheons and she was nominated to the Academic Leadership Academy.

Fountaine has provided expert leadership in the New River Valley Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals and has served for several years as the departmental representative to the College of Arts and Sciences Staff Association.

“...She is a treasure, a take-charge person, so skilled and confident that she could efficiently hold down the position of two executive secretaries and manage two departments at the same time,” history department Chair Glenn Bugh said. “As chair, I regularly turn to Linda for the voice of reason and honesty.”

Ana Moran

Ana Moran, Smart Choices Nutrition Education Program (SCHNEP) program assistant in Arlington has received the President’s Award for Excellence. She works with a grant-funded nutrition-education program for limited-resource families, implemented through Virginia Cooperative Extension. Moran is bi-lingual in English and Spanish and does an exceptionally good job in reaching low-income families in Northern Virginia. She is very effective in teaching her clients research-based food and nutrition information that is mixed with the right amount of empathy and rapport that brings about significant behavior change on their part.

She teaches nutrition classes to senior citizens, has organized health fairs to benefit her clients, provides educational resources to low-income families in the area and organized a monthly distribution of bulk commodity items, in cooperation with the Capital Area Food Bank, so financially disadvantaged families in the area would have enough to eat.

Moran works closely with her clients, teaches them good basic nutrition practices, how to stretch their food stamps and food dollars and how to prepare nutritious meals. Mary McFerren, area program coordinator for EFNEP/SCHNEP said, “Moran has far exceeded the expectations of her job in empowering her clients to get beyond the poverty that they experience. She has a true heart for her clients.”

Robert Snelling

Robert Snelling, enrollment services coordinator for the Center for Teacher Education, has received the President’s Award for Excellence which will be presented at the annual Faculty-Staff Awards Ceremony.

Snelling was an integral and critical part in the accreditation process of the professional-education programs at the state and national level for the center. Given the context of restructuring and budget reductions, it was of vital importance to the future of this program to have a successful review.

Snelling met every challenge, during this process, willingly and with a warm smile working many hours above and beyond the normal work day in an atmosphere of chaos. Snelling worked at an intensely high level of engagement and she was the “glue” that held the entire process together—both before, during and after the accreditation visit.

Jerry Niles, dean of the College of Human Sciences and Education, said of Snelling’s work, “We often comment about how committed staff members are so vital to the success of what we all do. Snelling’s contributions for the accreditation visit is a quintessential example of that premise as is the unsolicited affirmation from 12 professionals from across the country that she is ‘amazing.’”

Vicki T. Walter

Vicki Walter’s willingness to work and serve is fundamental to the functioning of the entire university as others see and hear of her unselfish giving and assistance. She serves at the front desk/medical records department of the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. These qualities have earned her the President’s Award for Excellence.

Walter unselfishly gave of her time to assist a colleague with two very young children during a serious illness which subsequently resulted in the colleague’s death.

Walter volunteered her time to be a caregiver during several extended hospitalizations, cared for her children and pets, organized fundraisers to help with seemingly insurmountable debts, and after the colleague’s death, Walter set up custodial accounts at a local bank for each of the two children. Over a period of several months, Walter helped raise more than $5,000 in additional to food, clothing and toys for the family.

Hospital Administrator Richard Hiller said, “I have searched my memory in an effort to find another example of such an act of caring and compassion from one human being to another, and I cannot. Walter has done this without fanfare, without expectation of recognition, and I have been humbled by her efforts.”

PRESIDENT’S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

President’s Award for Excellence recipients are recognized for “extraordinary contributions and sustained excellence . . . .”

Ana Moran

Robert Snelling

Vicki T. Walter
James F. Marchman III

James Marchman’s international aircraft-design program has become a uniquely valuable experience for students, both at Virginia Tech and abroad, and has served as a model for other engineering colleges to use in developing their own international programs. Because of his ongoing and innovative contributions to international collaborations, Marchman, professor of aerospace and ocean engineering, has been awarded the Alumni Award for Excellence in International Programs.

In 1993 Marchman initiated an aircraft-design collaboration between Virginia Tech students and engineering students at the ecole des Mines de Nantes in France. Since 1998, collaborations between Marchman’s students and engineering students at Loughborough University in England have resulted in three- first-place wins in national student aircraft-design competitions sponsored by NASA.

Supported by funding from the Virginia Tech College of Engineering, Boeing, and the National Science Foundation, Marchman’s program has served as a model for other engineering schools seeking to develop international curricula.

“Marchman’s program bridges significant differences in the processes of engineering education in the United States and certain other countries, and teaches students how to work effectively with their international peers,” said Joseph Schetz, chair of the aerospace-and-ocean-engineering department Awards Committee.

Samuel M. Johnson

Samuel M. Johnson, an agricultural-and-natural-resources Extension agent, has been awarded the Alumni Award for Excellence in Extension. In his 23 years as an agent, he has supported the farmers and community of Westmoreland County.

Johnson was instrumental in developing the Northern Neck Vegetable Growers Association, which helped to establish the Northern Neck Farmers’ Market. Thirty-nine farms participated in the wholesale market in 2001, selling millions of dollars worth of produce. He serves on a regional migrant council that has established educational programs for migrant workers and their families, and works with them on agriculture, health, nutrition and housing issues.

In his Extension work, Johnson has also worked to protect the Chesapeake Bay and improve water quality. He has helped reduce the amount of pesticides in the area by teaching integrated pest management (IPM) to farmers. Using this technique, farmers scout, trap, and identify threatening insects to eliminate the application of unnecessary pesticides.

Michael Lambur

Michael Lambur, professor of agriculture and Extension education and Extension project leader for the department, has almost 20 years of experience specializing in Extension programming. He has provided leadership for major projects such as the Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) Planning and Reporting System, the Extension Programming Institute (EPI), and the Higher Ground Project. Because of his efforts and dedication to VCE programming, he has been awarded the Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Extension.

Recognized as a national leader in his field, Lambur was instrumental in establishing the Higher Ground Project, initiated in 1991 at the request of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, which addressed budget deficiencies and overwhelmed staff in many Extension systems. In 1999, Lambur was appointed state leader for Extension educational programming, where he provided administrative and programmatic leadership for the unit and worked to enhance the programming skills and practices of both field and campus faculty members.

ALUMNI AWARDS FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Diana Farkas

Diana Farkas, professor of materials science and engineering, is a recipient of the Alumni Award for Excellence in Research. Farkas was co-principal investigator with Ronald Kriz, associate professor of engineering science and mechanics, on a major grant funded by the NSF to study the combined research and curriculum development of the mechanical behavior of materials. Their research yielded a hands-on approach to incorporating computational materials research into the graduate curriculum, including more than 25 educational modules on mechanical behavior. The new teaching approach enables students to use atomistic simulation codes as a homework tool.

Her work on fracture and deformation of nano-structured materials was featured in Materials Research Bulletin, the major general interest publication of the Materials Research Society.

David Lindsay

David Lindsay, professor of biomedical sciences and pathobiology in the center for molecular medicine and infectious diseases, has been named a recipient of the Alumni Award for Excellence in Research.

Lindsay’s research involves studying protozoan parasites of companion animals, livestock, horses and poultry. His research focuses on vaccine development for protozoan parasites, identification of pathogenic mechanisms of protozoal infections and developing treatment-and-control programs for protozoan parasites.

Lindsay has made significant contributions in protozoan diseases of livestock, including being the first to cultivate the parasite Neospora caninum. With this discovery he was able to develop tests for the diagnosis of neosporosis, a protozoan disease that affects livestock. He was also the first to develop an immunohistochemical test to recognize parasites in animal tissue.

Recognized as an international authority in human and veterinary parasitology, he has published more than 288 papers, 21 book chapters and one book. He is recognized as an authority on the treatment of protozoal diseases. He is associate editor of the Journal of Eukaryotic Microbiology and is on the editorial board of Veterinary Parasitology.

“I have known David for more than 20 years and in my 40 years of research experience [I have] not found anyone like him,” said J.P. Dubey, a microbiologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. “He is a thinker, a doer, and has a great talent for expressing scientific data.”
Maryland School of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Virginia.

“Infected diseases have become a harsh reality, and our ability to detect and counter this danger depends on having reliable, up-to-date knowledge.” President Charles Stegers said. “With the creation of this regional center, priority research will be expedited that important discoveries in this area can advance as quickly as possible.”

The mid-Atlantic RCE, one of eight regional centers of excellence for biodefense and emerging infectious-diseases research announced today, is a key element in its strategic plan for biodefense research. The regional centers will focus on developing new and improved comprehensive therapies, vaccines, and diagnostics, combat the threat of bioterrorism and other emerging and re-emerging diseases.

For more information about VBI, visit https://www.vbi.vt.edu.

THE FACULTY POSITIONS

Continued from 1

New faculty positions include an assistant professor in the School of Nursing, who will focus on the role of nurses in clinical research. The position is part of a renewed emphasis on interprofessional collaboration and evidence-based practice.

Maryland's School of Public Health is also seeking a full-time faculty member in the Department of Biostatistics. The position requires a PhD in statistics, biostatistics, or a related field, and a strong background in applied research and statistical methods.

For the full list of available positions and application information, please visit the university's employment website.

Continued from 5

The university offers a range of benefits, including health insurance, retirement plans, and professional development opportunities.

VBI CONTINUED FROM 1

The Virginia Biotechnology Institute and Research Park is seeking a full-time, tenure-track faculty position in the department of biostatistics. The position is available immediately and will be filled on a competitive basis.

The successful candidate will be expected to develop an active, externally funded research program in biostatistics, with a focus on genomics, proteomics, or other areas of molecular biology. The candidate must have a Ph.D. in biostatistics or a related field, and a strong background in statistical methods and computational biology.

Candidates should submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and a statement of research interests, along with three letters of recommendation, to the Search Committee. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

The Virginia Biotechnology Institute and Research Park is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to diversity and inclusion in its workforce.

Enomim

EMPLOYMENT

The following classified positions are currently available at Virginia Tech:

- Administrative Assistant, 008250M, PB 3, CSE.
- Administrative Assistant, 001879M, PB 3, BSE.
- Anesthesiology Technician, 008937C, PB 4, VTH.
- Associate Director of Facilities Management, 001179H, PB 5, Student Programs.
- Building Engineer, 002251Y, PB 4, DHCC.
- Business Manager, 000595H, PB 5, Student Programs.
- Capital Budget Manager, 007995S, PB 5, BPR.
- Computer Systems Engineer, 004353B, PB 5, CSE.
- Computer Systems Engineer, 009184M, PB 5, BIS.
- Director of Finance/Budgets, 001896B, PB 5, Engr.
- Executive Chef, 007006H, PB 4, Dining Services.
- Facilities Safety Inspector, 001747F, PB 4, Physical Plant.
- Financial Resources Utilization Policy Specialist, 001190S, PB 3, IPC.
- Food Production Manager, 00005623H, PB 4, Student Programs.
- Food Service, 0023201H, PB 4, Student Programs.
- Furnishings Manager, 002791H, PB 3, Student Programs.
- Housekeeping Supervisor, 000944H, PB 2, Student Programs.
- Housekeeping Worker, 000748H, PB 1, Student Programs.
- Housekeeping Worker, 001905S, PB 3, Student Programs.
- Laboratory Specialist, 007439M, PB 2, Engr.
- Laboratory Specialist, 001896M, PB 2, CSE.
- Material Expeditor, 004777F, PB 3, Physical Plant.
- News Bureau Manager, 001985S, PB 3, University Relations.
- Parking Enforcement Officer, 007653S, PB 2, Parking Services.
- Powerline Worker, 006254F, PB 3, Facilities.
- Pre Award Administrator, 003116B, PB 4, Sponsored Programs.
- Program Support Technician, 008188M, PB 3, FMS.
- Program Support Technician, 001743Y, PB 3, HTM.
- Research Specialist, 008131C, PB 3, CSE.
- Research Specialist, 009184M, PB 3, CSE.
- Secretary Senior, 002202M, PB 2, CVM.
- Small Animal ICU Technician, 006805C, PB 4, VTH.
- Sous Chef, 002946H, PB 3, Student Programs.
- Staff Internal Auditor, 007794S, PB 4, IAM.
- Telecommunications Network Technician, 009269F, PB 3, CSE.
- Unit Manager, 007961H, PB 5, Student Programs.

PART TIME

- Administrative Assistant, 002227K, PB 2, VBI.
- CNS Receptiptionist, 000187A, PB 2, CNS.
- Fiscal Technician, 0022228S, PB 3, Provost—Business and Finance.
- Health/Activity Assistant, 0022916B, PB 3, ADS.
- Interpreter/Coordinator for Deaf, 0022842S, PB 3, VBI.
- Marketing Assistant, 0023546H, PB 3, Student Programs.
- Nutrition Support Technician, 002355M, PB 3, CVM.
- Office Services Specialist, 0022498B, PB 2, Computer Science.
- Office Services Specialist, 0022322S, PB 2, Undergraduate Admissions.
- Quarry Mason, 002336B, PB 3, Physical Plant.
- Radiologic Technician, 0022238M, PB 3, Schiffert Center.
- Research Specialist, 0023594M, PB 4, CVM.

OFF CAMPUS

- 4-H Extension Program Assistant, 005845M, PB 2, VCE—Newport News.
- 4-H Scnep Program Assistant, 005889M, PB 2, VCE—Alexandria.
- 4-H Scnep Program Assistant, 005819M, PB 2, VCE—Prince William County.
- 4-H Youth Program Assistant, 006820M, PB 2, VCE—Foltz City.
- 4-H Scnep Program Assistant, 007446M, PB 2, VCE—Fairfax County.
- 4-H Youth Program Assistant, 007233M, PB 2, VCE—Arlington County.
- Adult 4-H Program Assistant, 000899M, PB 2, VCE—Hampton.
- Adult Scnep Program Assistant, 006942M, PB 2, VCE—West of Wight County.
- Director of Nursing, 002178M, PB 4, EMC.
- Extension Adult Program Assistant, 001193M, PB 2, VCE—Alamese County.
- Extension Adult Program Assistant, 006101M, PB 2, VCE—Arlington County.
- Extension Adult Program Assistant, 009590M, PB 2, VCE—Fairfax County.
- Extension Program Assistant, 008008M, PB 2, VCE—Fairfax County.
- Nursing Shift Supervisor, 002996M, PB 2, EMC.
- Office Assistant, 004125M, PB 2, ESSDC.
- Program Support Technician, 006427M, PB 3, VCE—Southwest District.
- Scnep Adult Program Assistant, 006586M, PB 2, VCE— Gillespie County.
- Scnep Adult Program Assistant, 006598M, PB 2, VCE—Prince Edward County.
- Scnep Program Assistant, 006605M, PB 2, VCE—Orange.
- Scnep Program Assistant, 006900M, PB 2, VCE—Floyd County.
- Student Support Assistant, 002059S, PB 3, NVC.
- Unit Support Assistant, 000211M, PB 3, VCE—Hanover County.
- Wildlife Worker, 006643B, PB 2, Biology.