

SPECTRUM

Virginia
Tech
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 16 THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1999

TODAY'S EDITION

See page 3 for
important benefits
information.

Tech attains improved national research rank for 1997

By Susan Trulove

Researchers at Virginia Tech address the most critical issues of our age—new materials to replace scarce resources and improve the performance of many products; biotechnology to improve health and reduce hunger; information technology to advance communication and the sharing of knowledge.

According to the National Science Foundation, research expenditures of \$169.8 million in fiscal year 1997 (year ending June 30, 1997) have placed Tech 44th in the nation in research expenditures among all colleges

and universities, and 12th among institutions without a human medical facility. The NSF's "early release tables" for 1997—the most recent year for the ranking—are now posted on the Internet at www.nsf.gov/sbe/srs/srs99404/.

In 1997, Tech received \$2 million from the National Science Foundation for research on high-performance polymers, millions of dollars from the U.S. Navy, Air Force, and Department of Energy for several projects devoted to information technology, almost \$2 million from the Virginia Department of Social Services to develop a food-stamp nutrition-education plan, and \$1.5 million from the U.S.

Agency for International Development to improve pest control in nations around the world. And those are only the projects where awards exceeded \$1 million. In addition, researchers have developed human pharmaceuticals in tobacco and the milk of farm animals, created plastics from agricultural wastes using pollution-free processes, created plastics that bio-degrade, and advanced wireless communication; and, Virginia Tech faculty, staff and students are working to discover medicines in tropical forests and preserve those forests, to develop a bait that will keep feral cats from reproducing, to make transportation safer,

and to put locators in cellular telephones.

Sponsored research at Virginia Tech increased 7 percent in 1997 and, in addition to funding research and scholarship activities, sponsors provided \$2.9 million for scholarships and almost \$3.9 million for equipment.

"Faculty members' research activities and success in finding sponsors are critical to this university," said Len Peters, vice provost for research and dean of the Graduate School. "Research funding, activities,

(See TECH on 5)

Photonics lab recipient of \$2 million

The U.S. Department of Energy has awarded a \$2-million research contract to the Photonics Laboratory in the Bradley Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECpE) to develop optical-fiber sensors for applications in oil exploration and recovery.

The goal of the three-and-a-half-year program is to design and develop pressure, temperature, acoustic, and fluid-flow sensors which will operate in the harsh environment used for oil exploration. The new research program is under the direction of Anbo Wang, an associate professor of ECpE.

According to Wang, as much as two-thirds of the oil in existing reservoirs cannot be recovered, due to difficulties in measuring downhole environmental conditions. "The drilling environment is unpredictable, with complex physical and chemical changes that may vary with time," Wang said.

"Temperatures may exceed 125 °C, and pressures may reach as high as several thousand pounds per square inch. Commercially available sensors have very short lifetimes under such conditions, and replacing them is time-consuming and costly. The sensors that we are developing are engineered specifically to survive these harsh environments for extended periods, hopefully up to two years."

Wang said that the U.S. Department of Energy hopes that the application of the new sensors will lead to more complete extraction of oil reservoirs at lower cost. The Photonics Laboratory will team with the University of Tulsa and oil companies to demonstrate the new sensors in laboratory tests and in an oil field.

The sensors under development are based on a new optical fiber sensor technology called the Self-Calibrating Interferometric/Intensity-Based (SCIIB) sensor, recently invented by Wang. This new approach to optical-fiber sensor design combines high sensitivity, simple signal processing, and ease of manufacturing. In addition, the sensor is

(See PHOTONICS on 8)



Frozen Action

The recent cold snap turned the Duck Pond into a suitable medium for the practice of hockey.

(J. McCormick)

Provost names Jones, Barrett to Outreach, Extension positions

By Catherine Doss and Stewart MacInnis

New leaders for Virginia Tech's Outreach Division and Virginia Cooperative Extension assumed office on January 1 following their appointments to the posts by Senior Vice President and Provost Peggy S. Meszaros.

C. Clark Jones, director of Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) and associate dean in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences since 1996, was named vice provost for outreach, and J. David Barrett, a 25-year veteran of VCE, has assumed the role of interim director of Extension.

Jones will oversee the university's Outreach Division, which includes Continuing Education, Public Service Programs, the Office of Economic Development, and the Office of International Research and Development. He will

continue as an active member of the university's Extension and Agricultural Research oversight body.

"We are delighted to have Clark accept these new responsibilities," Meszaros said. "He brings a wealth of experience, enthusiasm, and commitment to the role of vice provost."

She also recognized the work done by Dixon Hanna as interim vice provost for outreach since 1996. "Dixon has done has outstanding job overseeing the Outreach Division," Meszaros said. "He has worked tirelessly to coordinate the university's outreach efforts, define a mission for the division, communicate that mission to the academic community, and initiate a very successful outreach seed-grant program."

(See PROVOST on 8)

Heavener Property Vital to University Interests

By Raymond D. Smoot

For several years local media have carried reports of the university's continuing efforts to deal with the so-called "Tech Central" development (also dubbed the Heavener property) on Old Turner Street adjacent to Randolph Hall. We continue to believe this project to be severely detrimental to campus life, future campus development, and sound land-use planning. Because this property is so important to the orderly development of the campus, we want the campus community to know firsthand the history and current status.

For more than four decades the University Master Plan has shown this two-third acre of property to be part of the planned academic development of campus. It has been long surrounded by university property and buildings. We have regularly made the University Master Plan available to Town of Blacksburg planners. Town zoning ordinances over the years have recognized the planned university use of this property and prohibited commercial development contrary to the university's master plan.

(See HEAVENER on 8)

OIRD awarded \$12-million grant

By Catherine Doss

Virginia Tech's Office of International Research and Development (OIRD), a unit of the university's Outreach Division, has been awarded an \$11.9-million grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for phase two (1998-2003) of its Integrated Pest Management Collaborative Research Support Program (IPM CRSP). OIRD will continue to serve as the management entity for the project. Phase one (\$7.5 million) ended in September.

(See OIRD on 4)

ACHIEVERS

Fifteen faculty members have been awarded mini-grants by the University Office of International Programs and the Center for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. The grants provide assistance to faculty members for developing, implementing, and integrating their courses with international content. The winners are **Fred Carlisle**, Department of English/Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; **Kathleen M. Carico**, Department of Teaching and Learning; **John M. Carroll**, Department of Computer Science; **Michael P. Deisenroth**, Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering; **Robert G. Dyck**, Department of Urban Affairs and Planning; **Stacey Floyd-Thomas**, Department of Religious Studies/Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; **Philip Huang**, Department of Management Science and Information Technology; **Eluned Jones**, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics; **Brian J. Love**, Department of Materials Science and Engineering; **Suzanne K. Murrmann**, Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management; **Sharon Nickols-Richardson**, Department of Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise; **Jesse J. Richardson**, Department of Urban Affairs and Planning; **Donald J. Shoemaker**, Department of Sociology; **Jennifer Sughrue**, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies; and **Shepard M. Zedaker**, Department of Forestry.

Derita R. Ratcliffe, assistant athletic director, Academic Services; **Delores Scott**, associate provost for Retention and Academic Support; and **Norrine Bailey Spencer**, associate dean for Undergraduate Programs, Pamplin College of Business, presented a pre-conference workshop, "Athletics and Academics in Partnership: Building Bridges into the Future," at the 22nd National Conference on Advising in San Diego. The conference is sponsored by the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA). The half-day workshop focused on the athletic summit model used at Virginia Tech since 1997. The three presenters have served on the planning committee for the four summits.

Anne H. Moore, director of information technology initiatives, presented at several conferences recently. Her presentations were "Integrating Information Technology in an Organization" at the International Communications Corporation's *Technology 2000* conference; "A Perspective on Information Technology" to the Chancellor's Steering Committee on Information Technologies at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington; "Integrating Technology in Teaching and Learning," at a conference on information technology at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology of Lausanne; and "Mapping the Technology Terrain," at the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia conference on distance learning.

Ted Settle, director of the Division of Continuing Education, has begun a term as a commissioner for the Commission on Futures and Markets in the University Continuing Education Association. He also hosted the Region III meeting of the University Continuing Education Association and served as chair of a committee that hosted "The Hospitality Connection: Linking the Hospitality Industry and University-Based Conference Centers."

S.K. DeDatta, director of the Office of International Research and Development (OIRD) and associate dean in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, has received an Honorary Professor's Certificate from Dniepropetrovsk State Agrarian University in Ukraine for OIRD's contribution to collaboration in science with that university.

J. Thomas Brown, associate dean of students, has been selected to serve on the editorial review board for the *Orientation Executive*, a publication dedicated to providing the orientation profession with relevant information to help run a more efficient program.

Debra Jackson, housekeeping, was recently named 1998 Housekeeping Employee of the Year by the Central Virginia Chapter of the International Executive Housekeepers Association.

Peggy S. Meszaros, senior vice president and provost, has been invited to serve as senior executive representative to the Board of Directors of the Virginia Council for International Education.

Catherine Doss of University Relations has been elected president of the Blue Ridge Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.

Howard Feiertag of Continuing Education has been named to the Convention Liaison Council's Hall of Leaders, the highest honor in the meetings industry for "substantial contribution to shaping the meetings industry, including expositions, travel, and tourism."

Cathryn Turrentine and **David Ostroth** of the Division of Student Affairs, presented "The Parent Project; What Parents Expect of the College Experience" at the Southern Association for College Student Affairs annual conference.

Melinda Crowder, assistant director for assessment; **Alicia Cohen**, coordinator of leadership development; and **Nicki Cantrell**, associate director for student activities, presented "Student Leadership Outcomes: Connecting Experience to Learning through Assessment" at the annual Southern Association of College Student Affairs conference.

Steven C. Leist, coordinator of leadership and Greek life, participated in a panel discussion at the annual Virginia Association of Student Personnel Administrators conference recently.

Donna Cassell and **Pam Herrmann** from Career Services recently presented "Developing an All-Star Co-op Program" at the Southeastern Association of College and Employers annual conference.

Barbara Pendergrass, **Kim Philpott**, and **Jessica Ranero**, from the Office of the Dean of Students, recently gave a presentation titled "Cultural Centers: Keeping them Relevant" at the Southern Association of College Student Affairs. Also, **Barbara Pendergrass** and **Mitzi Frank** presented "Comfort Zones: Assessing Campus Climate" at the same conference.

Geza Ifju, head of the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products in the College of Forestry and Wildlife Resources, was the invited keynote speaker for the University of Minnesota Forest Products Council's meeting November 13. His trip was sponsored by the Visiting Scientist Program of the Society of Wood Science and Technology to help initiate the rebuilding of the Forest Products program at the University of Minnesota.

Robert J. Bush, an associate professor in the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products in the College of Forestry and Wildlife Resources, participated in a foreign agricultural service program sponsored by the USDA for South Africa from November 7-24. He gave presentations to industry groups in Johannesburg and other various cities. Bush held focus group meetings with officials at furniture manufacturing operations, with trade association officials, and with timber importers and distributors. The purpose of the project was to provide the information to South African wood importing and using industries needed to increase their use of US species.

Personal Touch Catering Chefs, **Jud Flynn** and **Chris Martin** won two medals each at the James Madison University/American Culinary Federation (ACF) Culinary Salon held in November.

Flynn earned two silver medals; Martin earned two bronze medals.

Flynn also received the highest number of points awarded to a National Association of College and University Food Services (NACUFS) chef on both days of the competition. NACUFS member schools competing in the salon included Rutgers, Bridgewater, Virginia Commonwealth and James Madison. During the two-day event, more than 40 chefs participated in the competition.

A culinary salon is an opportunity for chefs to test their culinary skills and disciplines.

The Virginia Tech Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society has recognized **William E. Snizek**, alumni distinguished professor of sociology, with the G. Burke Johnston Award for teaching excellence within the academic/university community.

Snizek lectures at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. His educational vita is grounded with thesis and dissertation advisory work as well as administrative and research experience. He has published numerous papers, books, research monographs, journal articles, and book chapters. Additionally, he has been involved in professional meetings, conventions, and conferences at the regional, national, and international levels.

Snizek serves on a number of student scholarship committees within the University Honors Program, including the Rhodes and Truman Student Scholarship Committees.

Edward F. D. Spencer, assistant vice president for Student Affairs and director of Residential and Dining Programs, has completed a six-year term of service, including the last two years as president, on the Board of Directors of the Free Clinic of the New River Valley and Program for Special Medical Care. The clinic provides primary medical and dental care to eligible residents who are uninsured or under-insured and who might otherwise be unable to afford such care.

Spencer has also been recently elected to the board of the United Way of Montgomery, Radford, and Floyd, effective January 1.

Lee Drowne, assistant director for undergraduate admissions, appeared on a panel at the 1998 NAFSA Region VIII Conference in Pittsburgh, on November 20. Members of the panel discussed the background of the Asian Economic Crisis and its impact on America's campuses as well as what can be expected in the future for our institutions. Perspectives were given on strategies for Intensive English programs, undergraduate and graduate admissions, recruitment, and scholarship opportunities.

Joseph A. Schetz, the J. Byron Maupin professor of aerospace and ocean engineering, will receive the 1999 Aerospace Contribution to Society Award from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). The award recognizes notable applications of aerospace technology to societal needs. AIAA is recognizing Schetz for his research on magnetic levitation trains, windmills, and thermal pollution in rivers. Schetz accepted the award during the 37th Aerospace Sciences Meeting and Exhibition in Reno, Nevada, on January 12.

Kenneth L. Reifsnider, professor of engineering science and mechanics (ESM) and head of the Materials Response Group, has been named editor-in-chief of the *International Journal of Fatigue*. Reifsnider, who also holds the Alexander Giacco Chair of Engineering and is associate provost for interdisciplinary studies at Virginia Tech, formerly served as North American editor of the journal. **Norman E. Dowling** and **Jack Lesko**, also members of the ESM faculty and the Materials Response Group, were appointed to the journal's editorial board. This is the only international scientific journal focused exclusively on the topic of fatigue, which pertains to the structural integrity, durability, and damage tolerance of materials.

Prentice Hall has published the second edition of a textbook by **Norman E. Dowling**, professor of engineering science and mechanics and materials science and engineering. *Mechanical Behavior of Materials: Engineering Methods for Deformation, Fracture, and Fatigue*, is written for junior and senior undergraduates and first-year graduate students.

Virginia Sickness/Disability Plan Update

All faculty and staff members participating in the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) retirement plan and all part time salaried staff who work at least 20 hours per week and earn sick leave should have recently received an enrollment packet that includes a handbook and enrollment form pertaining to the optional Virginia Sickness and Disability Plan. Anyone who hasn't received a packet should notify Muriel Flynn, Human Resources Manager, e-mail Mflynn@vt.edu or phone 1-3781.

The enrollment form indicating the decision to either **remain** in the current sick leave/disability program or to **enroll** in the new Virginia Sickness and Disability Plan must be returned to Personnel Services, mail code 0318, not later than 5 p.m., March 31.

For those employees who elect the new program, the following effective dates are applicable based on the date enrolled in the new program.

ENROLLMENT DATE	COVERAGE EFFECTIVE
January 1-January 9, 1999	January 25
January 10-January 24	February 10
January 25-February 9	February 25
February 10-March 9	March 25
March 10-March 24	April 10
March 25-March 31	April 25, 1999

Make any needed address corrections on your enrollment form. These forms will be read electronically by Virginia Retirement System personnel; therefore, blue or black ink or pencil is to be used to complete the form. Do not use a felt tip marker. Sign the enrollment form. To assist faculty and staff members in assessing their options, information sessions have been scheduled as indicated on the following page.

GENERAL SESSIONS

These general sessions will be a repeat of those sessions held in November and December to provide general information and comparisons of the existing sickness and disability programs and new options.

DATE	PLACE	TIME	ROOM NUMBER
January 29	Donaldson Brown	9-11 a.m.	Front Auditorium
February 4	Donaldson Brown	9-11 a.m.	Front Auditorium
February 12	Donaldson Brown	1:30-3:30 p.m.	Rear Auditorium

SPECIAL SESSIONS

(Faculty and staff sickness and disability programs differ, therefore, separate sessions are being held for faculty and staff members.)

(Registration is required—call 1-9331 or e-mail RMoore@vt.edu).

STAFF SESSIONS

(All sessions held in the Personnel Service Class Room, Southgate Center, first floor)

These special sessions will provide more detailed information and worksheet examples for those who may have specific questions or comments. The special sessions will last about one hour followed by opportunities to work directly with Personnel Services staff to address specific situations and/or to get assistance completing the enrollment form. Bring enrollment kits to these special sessions.

DATE	PLACE	TIME	ROOM NUMBER
January 21	Southgate Center	9:30-11:30 a.m.	Classroom
January 25	Southgate Center	1:30-3:30 p.m.	Classroom
February 4	Southgate Center	1:30-3:30 p.m.	Classroom
February 9	Southgate Center	1:30-3:30 p.m.	Classroom
February 19	Southgate Center	9:30-11:30 a.m.	Classroom
February 24	Southgate Center	1:30-3:30 p.m.	Classroom
March 4	Southgate Center	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Classroom
March 9	Southgate Center	1:30-3:30 p.m.	Classroom
March 16	Southgate Center	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Classroom
March 24	Southgate Center	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Classroom

FACULTY SESSIONS

(All sessions held in the Personnel Service Class Room, Southgate Center, first floor.)

DATE	PLACE	TIME	ROOM NUMBER
January 19	Southgate Center	1:30-3:30 p.m.	Classroom
January 26	Southgate Center	1:30-3:30 p.m.	Classroom
February 3	Southgate Center	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Classroom
February 11	Southgate Center	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Classroom
February 18	Southgate Center	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Classroom
February 22	Southgate Center	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Classroom
March 2	Southgate Center	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Classroom
March 10	Southgate Center	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Classroom
March 18	Southgate Center	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Classroom
March 26	Southgate Center	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Classroom

The Virginia Retirement System web site contains current and detailed information including frequently asked questions and worksheets pertaining to the Virginia Sickness and Disability Program. In addition, there is an explanatory video that can be downloaded to a PC. This site may be accessed at <http://www.state.va.us/vrs/vsdppage.htm>.

Senate meets

By John Ashby

Bill Claus and Ron Daniel of the Core Curriculum Committee discussed the Core Curriculum with senators at the Faculty Senate meeting in December.

Claus said the committee originally was only evaluating courses for inclusion in the Core Curriculum. He then created working groups, he said, to address the other six responsibilities of the committee, which include providing leadership for liberal education on behalf of the university and its students, and promoting the development of the Core Curriculum in new areas in conjunction with departments, colleges and the Honors Program.

CIL seeks tech-grant proposals

By Catherine Doss

The Center for Innovation and Learning (CIL) is seeking proposals for its next round of grants to be awarded to faculty members for integrating technology into their courses. Faculty members are invited to submit proposals in four curricular areas: distance-learning programs for graduate and professional students, core-curriculum courses with high student demand, upper-level undergraduate and professional courses with high student demand, and multiple-use courses that could be used for graduate and professional continuing education.

Proposals should aim to achieve the following outcomes: active learning; interactive communication; an emphasis on self-directed, self-paced learning; computer literacy integrated with content; and electronic access to course materials, supplemental resources, information, announcements, and news.

Successful proposals should include asynchronous, web-based course development, evidence of matching current operating support or cost-sharing, a plan for assessment, a report of activities if applying for support for continuation of a previously funded project, and a schedule of phased activities if applying for a potential multi-year project.

Now in its third year, the CIL, with support from the Office of the Provost, has awarded more \$800,000 to faculty members in a variety of colleges and disciplinary areas.

Proposals are due to college deans by February 5 and are due at the CIL by February 15. Winners will be notified by March 1.

For more information, contact Anne H. Moore, 1-7108, or e-mail ahmoore@vt.edu.

IAWA archive continues growth

By Laura Lewis, University Relations intern

After 13 years of acquiring, preserving and storing the papers of female architects, the International Archive of Women in Architecture (IAWA) has grown to over 160 collections from women all over the world.

Every year, 10 to 20 additional collections are donated to the archive, which is housed in the Special Collections Department of Virginia Tech's University Libraries.

With collections from the United States to Switzerland and India, the archive strives to preserve the work of women in architecture with its main focus on the few women that practiced before the 1950s.

"In the majority of cases, spouses, daughters and sons don't know the value of it [the

women's work] and often throw it away," said Donna Dunay, chair of the IAWA Board of Advisors. "Some women will take very good care of their husbands' work and have thrown their own away."

The collections vary from a complete office of the designer's work, which can include architectural drawings, sketches, photographs, and correspondence with her clients, to just a few of an architect's drawings. California architect Sigrid Lorenzen Rupp's complete office is preserved in the archive, while only the lecture notebook, a photograph and a postcard are saved from the work of Florence Kenyon Hayden, the first female architect in Ohio.

Being female and an architect are not the
(See IAWA on 5)

CommonHealth goes building to building

CommonHealth recently completed the medical screening offered to employees, retirees and their adult family members. Compared to two years ago, participation increased by 370 to a total of 2,016 screened for problems associated with cholesterol and blood pressure. One of the reasons the numbers were up was that the screening was more convenient this year. Most employees were able to complete the screening either in their own building or in one very close.

In an effort to expand and improve services including the medical screening, CommonHealth Committees were set up in 25 buildings on campus. Buildings selected had at least 75 employees. The committees were set up to include representatives from the major departments/areas in the building. These committees worked together to host the medical screening in their buildings in either the summer or fall of 1998.

One of the best features of holding the medical screening in the buildings was the ability to interest and accommodate walk-ins. Employees were able to share their experience and

interest co-workers in getting screened that day. In most buildings, 10-15 walk-ins were screened in addition to the regular appointments for the day.

This year CommonHealth plans to offer one to two programs in the 25 buildings already set up for this method. The CommonHealth Committees in each building have surveyed their employees about their wellness interests. Programs held will be based on employee interests. These activities will be promoted by the committees to their employees in the building.

CommonHealth plans on using the "building-to-building" concept to involve other service providers on campus. For example, as part of stress management, employees may benefit from participating in training on balancing work and home. This is an opportunity for the Office of Family Support to provide some of their services in the buildings. Environmental Health and Safety and CommonHealth are also planning to bring ergonomic services to the buildings including programs and one-on-one con-

(See COMMONHEALTH on 5)



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

Thursday, 14

CEUT Faculty Development Conference, 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m., Owens Banquet Hall.

Friday, 15

Salary and Wage Paydate.
Women's Basketball, 7 p.m.: At St. Bonaventure.

Saturday, 16

Men's Basketball, 2 p.m., Cassell Coliseum: St. Bonaventure.

Sunday, 17

Spring Semester Orientation.

Monday, 18

Lee-Jackson-King Holiday for Staff.
Classes Begin.
University Council Meeting, 3-5 p.m., 1045 Pamplin.

Tuesday, 19

Art Exhibit Opening, Armory Galley.
Toxicology Program, noon, 291 VMRCVM: "Health Effects and Risks of Electromagnetic Radiation," by Chris Portier.
Faculty Senate, 7 p.m., 32 Pamplin.

Wednesday, 20

"With Good Reason," 7 p.m., WVTF: "Here a Weapon, There a Weapon—Weapon Proliferation in the 90s."

Thursday, 21

Staff Senate, 5:30 p.m., 1810 Litton Reaves.
Men's Basketball, 7:30 p.m.: At Dayton.

SEMINARS

Thursday, 14

Geological Sciences, 4 p.m., 2044 Derring: "Role of Propagating Normal Faults in Controlling Sequence Variability and Sediment Dispersal in Rift Systems," by John Underhill, Edinburgh.

Wednesday, 20

CASS, 3 p.m., 303 Davidson: "The Adsorption of Water-Soluble Polymers on Metal Oxide Particles: Applications in Aqueous Adhesive Systems," by R.M. Davis.

Thursday, 21

Geological Sciences, 4 p.m., 2044 Derring: "Polarized Light Microscopy," by Don Bloss.

Official to present EMF/human health research

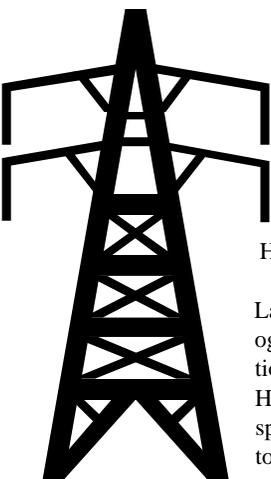
One of the nation's leading experts on the possible effects of electro-magnetic fields (EMF) on human health will present the results of new federal research during a lecture at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine on Tuesday, Jan. 12 at noon in the college's Heritage Room.

Christopher J. Portier, chief, Laboratory of Computational Biology and Risk Analysis in the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), will speak as part of the college's annual toxicology series.

Considerable debate and research in this area has occurred since a 1979 study was published which suggested that children exposed to EMF from power lines were at increased risk for cancer.

In 1992, the U.S. Congress directed NIEHS and the Department of Energy to combine resources on a comprehensive research and educational program designed to produce definitive results regarding the controversy.

Portier will present information regarding the process and the study which is currently being drafted for the United States Congress during his talk.



BULLETINS

Library creates center for alternative media

Need a horror movie for Friday night or a documentary for a History class? Then the Center for Alternative Media located in Newman Library can fill your needs, and more.

University Libraries has re-organized the center and extended its hours to fit the needs of the Virginia Tech Community. Earlier this year, the Applied Media Center and the Microform Department were combined to make video, audio, slide sets, and other unusual media more accessible to library patrons.

Nan Seamans, University Libraries' Media Service director, said the center not only provides academic support but entertainment video and audio, as well. For Halloween, the center developed a poster campaign to entice students to check out horror movies and other enjoyable videos.

For more information, call Seamans at 1-2708.

Student support offered to environmental research

The Waste Policy Institute (WPI), a university-affiliated nonprofit corporation that provides unbiased expertise in response to environmental challenges, invites students in disciplines related to the environment to apply by February 19 for scholarships, fellowships, or research experience support.

"WPI is committed to environmental stewardship and to promoting environmental policy analysis and scientific investigation at Virginia Tech and other universities," said Len Peters, vice provost for research and dean of the Graduate School.

Faculty members and graduate students are frequently involved in WPI projects. In addition, the institute provides funds, through the Virginia Tech Foundation, for WPI Undergraduate

Student Scholarships, WPI Graduate Summer Fellowships, and WPI Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU).

The scholarships are \$2,000 each and are awarded based on merit to juniors or seniors. Two references and a 300-word essay addressing an environmental issue or the applicants' career objectives are required.

An REU award is a \$1,500 summer stipend and \$500 for expenses such as travel and lab supplies. The applicant must be a sophomore or junior, and must provide a project description and progress report on research to date, as well as other documentation.

The fellowships are \$2,500 for students who have completed at least one year of study and are doing thesis or dissertation research. A 500-word summary and other documentation is required.

WPI makes four to six awards in each category. Applications and additional information are available in 301 Burruss.

Participants sought for fire study

Russell Jones needs participants for a study of the effects of fire on children and families.

Jones, along with Thomas H. Ollendick, received a \$1.2-million grant from the National Institutes of Mental Health to study the impact of residential fires on children and their families.

The researchers are looking for people in North Carolina, Virginia, or West Virginia who, within the past six months, have experienced a home fire along with a child between the ages of 8-18. Participants in the study can receive up to \$225 from the Virginia Tech Department of Psychology to tell about the experience, Jones said.

For more information, call the toll-free number 1-888-870-4596.

Tech NACUFS conference focuses on catering services

By Lori Greiner

Virginia Tech's Department of Residential and Dining Programs (RDP) will host the 1999 National Association of College and University Food Services (NACUFS) Sub-Region II Conference January 24-26. The conference titled *Catering into the Next Millennium* will feature a variety of professional-development sessions, a vendor show, an American Culinary Federation (ACF) Culinary Salon competition and presentations by innovative leaders in the food service industry.

"This conference has been planned and organized by catering professionals for catering management personnel at all levels," said Anthony M. Purcell, director of Personal Touch Catering. "We have numerous educational programs planned that will cover topics such as food presentation, human-resources management, sales and marketing, catering software, merchandising, and cost management. What will set this conference apart from others will be the Vendor Show and ACF Culinary Salon."

Featured speakers include Chef Victor Giellisse, dean of culinary arts, baking and pastry studies, at the Culinary Institute Of America; Michael Olsen, professor of strategic management in the hospitality industry in the Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management at Virginia Tech; Paul Fairbrook, founder of Paul Fairbrook and Associates, and author of *Managing for Profit in Difficult Times*; and personnel from the New England Culinary Institute.

OIRD

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"With this project, Virginia Tech is providing leadership in integrated-pest-management issues in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Eastern Europe," said S.K. DeDatta, director of OIRD and associate dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. DeDatta will serve as principal investi-

The Vendor Show, sponsored by US Foodservice, will feature food items, equipment and services for the catering industry. Everything from fine hors d'oeuvres to the best in silver platters will be on display.

The ACF Culinary Salon will feature gourmet entrées from chefs and students throughout the eastern seaboard. They will be competing for gold, silver and bronze medals in several cold-food categories.

This conference is open to everyone from

gator for the project. Brhane Gebrekidan and Greg Luther, with OIRD, will serve as program director and assistant program director respectively. George Norton, professor of agricultural and applied economics, will continue to serve as chair of the technical committee with primary responsibilities to oversee the program planning and results.

"With the next five-year commitment from

the seasoned catering professional to the catering newcomer. For more information or a registration packet, contact Personal Touch Catering at 1-5827 or e-mail ptc@vt.edu.

Residential and Dining Programs (RDP) provides comprehensive dining and housing services to approximately 8,800 students at Virginia Tech. RDP's mission is to provide facilities, services, staffing and programs, which support the educational program of Virginia Tech and enhance the quality of student life.

the USAID, Virginia Tech is poised to provide leadership and to engage the faculty and students here as well as at other U.S. land-grant universities," DeDatta said. "These collaborative projects also contribute to an enhanced image of Virginia Tech across the globe."

Engineering study could lower health costs

A pilot study for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) could help vaccine purchasers make some tough decisions and save millions of dollars in health-care costs, according to the lead article to be published in a health-care journal in January.

The study is part of an effort to maintain high childhood-immunization rates despite an increasingly demanding Childhood Immunization Schedule, with requirements that leave many children missing inoculations and facing health risks that multiply medical costs. The pilot weighs the economic value of combining vaccines to reduce the number of injections or clinical visits.

The article's author, Sheldon H. Jacobson of Virginia Tech, and his co-writers focus on a potentially costly part of the immunization system: purchasing vaccines. The pilot study looked at vaccines for five potentially serious children's diseases: Hepatitis B, *Haemophilus* Influenza Type b, diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis, known to parents as whooping cough. They created an "integer programming model"—a mathematical model—that more efficiently compares prices and manufacturers

of vaccines.

The authors developed an algorithm that would permit adding larger number of vaccines that are expected in the future.

The pilot is unique because it brings a practical set of operations-research (OR) tools to vaccine selection and procurement. It grew out of a chance encounter between Jacobson and a CDC representative at a national meeting of the Institute for Operations Research and Management Sciences (INFORMS) two years ago. Jacobson is a member of INFORMS.

Jacobson said with new vaccine brands and types rapidly being introduced, often with differing features and in combinations with overlapping but non-identical components, it becomes impossible for vaccine purchasers to select the most efficient inventory to minimize costs.

"State health departments, HMO's, and other large vaccine purchasers are facing daunting decisions," he said, "because of the surfeit of choices becoming available. I think the CDC realized that developing sophisticated but user-friendly tools for helping make such decisions would be a valuable service to its constituents in

the immunization community. OR offers the analytical tools to help them make their decisions, using cost minimization as the underlying objective."

The study, "An Integer Programming Model for Vaccine Procurement and Delivery for Childhood Immunization: A Pilot Study" was written by Jacobson of Virginia Tech, Edward C. Sewell of Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, and Robert Deuson and Bruce G. Weniger of the CDC. It will appear as the lead article in the January, 1999 edition of *Health Care Management Science*, published by Baltzer Science Publishers.

The Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS®) is an international scientific society with 12,000 members, including Nobel Prize laureates, dedicated to applying scientific methods to help improve decision-making, management, and operations. Members of INFORMS work in business, government, and academia. They are represented in fields as diverse as airlines, health care, law enforcement, the military, the stock market, and telecommunications.

TECH

Continued from 1

and publications support our programs, contribute to curriculum development, provide meaningful experiences for students, assure that we teach the most current information, and provide equipment used by all. Our scholarship is also the basis for texts used world wide."

The NSF data includes not only sponsored research, but expenditures on research from other sources, such as seed money from the university itself. "Institutional investment is critical to continuation and growth of research and scholarship—particularly after the large numbers of retirements of senior faculty members in the early '90s as a result of state buyouts," Peters said. "To help young faculty members develop new programs, Virginia Tech Research and Graduate Studies launched ASPIRES (A Support Program for Innovative Research Strategies) in 1997, providing \$1.5 million for equip-

ment, programs, laboratories, and other resources to enhance an individual's or a team's ability to compete for funds from outside the university.

ASPIRES has already paid for the first year's investment. A grant to Randy Wynne of forestry and wildlife and James Campbell of geography allowed them to win \$1.6 million grant from NASA to establish the Virginia Tech Center for Environmental Applications of Remote Sensing.

In 1997, 68 percent of Tech's research funding came from federal agencies, 7 percent from the state, and 14 percent from industry. Virginia Tech ranked 43rd in the nation in 1997 among all colleges and universities in terms of industry funding. "Since most industry research is applied, it is important to have the basic, or discovery, research in place," Peters said.

Virginia Tech is first in Virginia in terms of research expenditures, according to the NSF data. The University of Virginia is the only other

Virginia university in the top 100.

Virginia Tech's 1997 ranking is up from 51 in 1996, "Tech should probably never have been out of the top 50," said Tom Hurd, director of sponsored programs at Virginia Tech. "We looked at the NSF guidelines and checked with other universities and found that we have been conservative in what we have been reporting." Virginia Tech now includes indirect costs associated with state-funded research, as do other universities.

Peters said the rankings are always old news—18 months old by the time they are issued, and cautioned, "We can't let them lull them or distract us from the need to invest our human resources in addressing long-term critical issues. Research programs are about building and maintaining foundations, and having the resources to try new approaches. The rankings remind us that it is a competitive enterprise."

IAWA

Continued from 3

only characteristics the IAWA board considers when searching for new papers to add to the archive. Board members like collections that also describe the way the woman performed her craft.

"We focus on collections that give us a very good indicator on how she did her job—that she not only was an architect, but that she was an artist or a photographer," said IAWA Archivist Laura Katz Smith.

The board also considers who will benefit from the information placed in the archive and whether it will be pertinent to any research. The collection of Liane Zimble is one of great interest, according to Smith.

Zimble, the first registered woman architect in Austria, fled Europe before World War II because she was Jewish and settled in America, where she worked as an interior designer. Her collection consists of slides, original drawings,

magazine articles about her work, portfolios, photographs, biographical essays and catalogs from shows.

Judith Edelman is another important woman whose work is preserved in the archive. Edelman, partner of The Edelman Partnership/Architects in New York City and a founding member of the Alliance of Women in Architecture, promoted female architects during the 1960s and 1970s.

"I think her collection is interesting because it shows how someone championed women in architecture," Smith said. "For many years, the prevailing opinion was that a woman could never plan a city block or design a skyscraper. In the late sixties and early seventies, women strove to prove where they stood in the profession—that they could do a job equal to men."

The process of acquiring donations differs with every woman.

In 1988, Smith began contacting Alberta

employees through a program flyer. This will ensure that off-campus participants such as retirees or employees located in buildings with fewer than 75 employees will have opportunities to participate in the programs. This method is also preferable when guest speakers such as physicians are brought on campus and are not available to speak at multiple locations and times.

For more information on the employee wellness program, contact Bridgit Mitchell at 1-4806 or mitchebm@vt.edu.

COMMONHEALTH

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sulting.

In addition, 10-15 more buildings will be targeted and committees will be set up early this year. The goal is to eventually provide this opportunity in all buildings on campus with more than 75 employees.

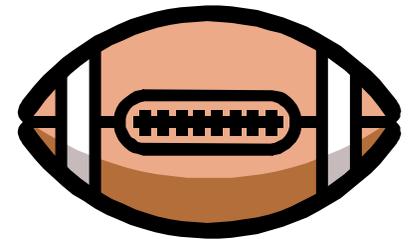
These new services will be in addition to the way the wellness program has been run in the past. A wide variety of wellness programs and activities will continue to be promoted to

Snow Route Info

As winter weather comes to the New River Valley, Virginia Tech faculty and staff members and students are reminded to keep the snow emergency route clear once snow removal begins. Any parked vehicle that obstructs or interferes with the process of snow removal is subject to towing.

The snow emergency route includes Washington Street from the resident-student parking lot to the four-way stop at the intersection with Kent Street by Miles Hall; Kent Street from Washington Street to the Drillfield; and Drillfield Drive.

Cars should not be left parked along these routes for extended periods of time during snowfall.



Hokies roll Tide in Nashville

By Christian Moody

The streak is over, let the new tradition begin. The Virginia Tech football team, which had never beaten the University of Alabama in 10 tries, turned that streak over with a dominating performance in the inaugural American General Music City Bowl September 29 in Nashville.

Tech scored 28 unanswered points to win the game 38-7. The game wasn't as close as the score indicated. Tech finished the season with a win for the first time since 1995, when the Hokies defeated Texas in the Sugar Bowl. With a final mark of 9-3, the Hokies take momentum into next season, where a pre-season top 20 ranking is likely.

Alabama, a 7-4 team out of the Southeastern Conference, sustained only one drive against Tech. The story of the game was Tech's swarming defense and nationally lauded special teams. Two defensive starters—Keion Carpenter and game MVP Corey Moore—blocked punts, setting up short field situations for the offense. While Alabama's offense produced stats which seemed to compare well with the Hokies, field position was the key factor. Tech's offense, led by senior quarterback Al Clark and senior tailback Lamont Pegues, worked with a short field the entire second half. By the time Anthony Midget picked off an Alabama pass and returned it for the Hokies' final touchdown, the matter was long-since decided.

Tech took more than 12,000 people to the bowl game, which was a sell-out in 41,000-seat Vanderbilt Stadium. As the third quarter wound down, Alabama fans were flocking to the exits. When it was over, the stadium was mostly deserted in those areas previously occupied by Bama partisans. The Hokie faithful stayed through the end, cheering as the clock ran off the final seconds, saluting the players for a 9-3 season after many projected Tech a fifth-place finisher in the Big East. Head Coach Frank Beamer thanked the fans for their support while addressing the crowd after the trophy presentation.

EMPLOYMENT

CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

The employment listing can be found in greater detail on the Personnel Services homepage at <http://www.ps.vt.edu>. For position-availability information, please call the following Job Line numbers: Office/Clerical: 1-6196; Technical/Research: 1-6160; Service/Trades: 1-6176; Professional/Managers: 1-4649; Information Technology: 1-2233. Persons with hearing impairments may call for TDD information at 1-6258.

Accountant (W022399) Electrical Engineering. Normal Starting Pay: \$11.96 (Grade 9). PT. Renewed yearly, contingent on funding. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Accountant (W022587P) Office of University Bursar. Normal Starting Pay: \$11.96 (Grade 9). PT. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Accountant Senior (2547P) Controller's. Normal Starting Pay: \$29,738 (Grade 11). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Animal Care Technician B (W022190M) Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Normal Starting Pay: \$8.38 (Grade 5). PT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Boiler Operator Assistant (338P) Power Plant. Normal Starting Pay: \$15,939 (Grade 4). FT. Midnight- 8 a.m. Work schedule: midnight-8 a.m. after training. Some overtime, call-in. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Computer Systems Engineer (1894T) Computer Science. Normal Starting Pay: \$38,851 (Grade 14). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Computer Systems Engineer (6917D) Administrative Information Systems. Normal Starting Pay: \$38,851 (Grade 14). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Computer Systems Engineer (7414D) Communications Network Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$38,851 (Grade 14). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Computer Systems Senior Engineer (241T) Mathematics. Normal Starting Pay: \$42,471 (Grade 15). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Electronic Technician Senior (2437T) Physics. Normal Starting Pay: \$27,204 (Grade 10). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Position Begins: ASAP Application deadline: OUF.

Electronic Technician Senior (W022588J) Engineering Science and Mechanics. Normal Starting Pay: \$13.08 (Grade 10). PT. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Position ends 6-30-99. May be extended. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Executive Secretary (2226D) University Development. Normal Starting Pay: \$19,048 (Grade 6). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Executive Secretary (1728P) Office of University Architect. Normal Starting Pay: \$19,048 (Grade 6). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Fiscal Assistant (2224H) Residential and Dining Programs/Business Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$17,424 (Grade 5). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Fiscal Technician (W022586P) Office of University Bursar's. Normal Starting Pay: \$9.16 (Grade 6). PT. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Food Operations Assistant A (W022314H) Residential and Dining Programs. Normal Starting Pay: \$6.41 (Grade 1). PT. Varied Application deadline: OUF.

Food Operations Assistant B (W022315H) Residential and Dining Programs. Normal Starting Pay: \$7.01 (Grade 2). PT. Varied. Application deadline: OUF.

Food Operations Assistant B (2986H) Residential and Dining Programs/ Southgate Bakeshop. Normal Starting Pay: \$13,338 (Grade 2). FT. Varied. Application deadline: OUF.

Food Operations Assistant B (392H) Residential and Dining Programs/Dietrick Dining Hall. Normal Starting Pay: \$10,003 (Grade 2). FT. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Varies. Application deadline: OUF.

Food Operations Assistant B (W022562H) Residential and Dining Programs/Personal Touch Catering. Normal Starting Pay: \$7.01 (Grade 2). PT. Varies. Application deadline: OUF.

Food Operations Assistant B (W022552H) Residential and Dining Programs/Cochrane Dining Center. Normal Starting Pay: \$7.01 (Grade 2). PT. Monday-Friday. Varied. Application deadline: OUF.

Food Operations Manager A (478H) Residential and Dining Programs/Personal Touch Catering. Normal Starting Pay: \$22,763 (Grade 8). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; occasional evening and weekends. Application deadline: OUF.

Food Operations Manager A (7266H) Residential and Dining Programs/Dietrick Dining Hall. Normal Starting Pay: \$22,763 (Grade 8). FT. Varied. Application deadline: OUF.

Food Production Worker A (W022480H) Residential and Dining Programs/Owens Dining Center. Normal Starting Pay: \$7.66 (Grade 3). FT. Varied. Application deadline: OUF.

Graphic Artist (W020567H) Residential and Dining Programs. Normal Starting Pay: \$9.79 (Grade 7). PT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., some nights, weekends. Application deadline: OUF.

Housekeeping Supervisor Senior (2702H) Residential and Dining Programs. Normal Starting Pay: \$19,048 (Grade 6). FT. Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Housekeeping Worker (W022490H) Residential and Dining Programs. Normal Starting Pay: \$5.87 (Grade 1). PT. Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Housekeeping Worker (7262M) Recreational Sports. Normal Starting Pay: \$12,201 (Grade 1). FT. 5 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Housekeeping Worker (721H) Residential and Dining Programs. Normal Starting Pay: \$12,201 (Grade 1). FT. Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Housekeeping Worker (1134P) Physical Plant. Normal Starting Pay: \$12,201 (Grade 1). FT. Monday-Friday 5 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Installation and Repair Tech Senior (7288D) Video/Broadcast Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$26,604 (Grade 10). FT. Varied Application deadline: OUF.

Laboratory Specialist Advanced (6375M) Food Science and Technology. Normal Starting Pay: \$29,083 (Grade 11). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Laboratory Specialist (W020041T) Environmental Health & Safety Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$10.94 (Grade 8). PT. TBD. End date: June 30, 1999. Application deadline: OUF.

Laboratory Specialist Senior (2756T) Environmental Health and Safety Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$24,885 (Grade 9). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Laboratory Technician (W021030J) Chemical Engineering. Normal Starting Pay: \$7.66 (Grade 4). PT. 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Mason/Plasterer (833P) Physical Plant. Normal Starting Pay: \$20,823 (Grade 7). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Occupational Safety Compliance Officer (6571T) Environmental Health and Safety Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$27,204 (Grade 10). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Office Services Aide (W022052T) Parking Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$6.41 (Grade 2). PT. Monday-Friday. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Office Services Aide/Office Assistant (W022561H) Residential and Dining Programs/Owens Dining Center. Normal Starting Pay: \$7.01 (Grade 2). PT. 3 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Varies. Application deadline: OUF.

Office Services Assistant (W022440H) Residential and Dining Programs. Normal Starting Pay: \$7.66 (Grade 4). PT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Nine-month/academic-year wage position. Application deadline: OUF.

Office Services Assistant (W022103T) Motor Pool. Normal Starting Pay: \$7.66 (Grade 4). PT. TBD. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Office Services Assistant (W022596H) Residential and Dining Programs/Facilities and Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$7.66 per hour (Grade 4). PT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Office Services Specialist (2237H) Residential and Dining Programs/Residence Education. Normal Starting Pay: \$17,041 (Grade 5). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Office Services Specialist (W022170M) Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Normal Starting Pay: \$8.49 (Grade 5). PT. Monday-Friday, some Saturdays. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Office Services Specialist (W022560M) College of Veterinary Medicine. Normal Starting Pay: \$8.49 (Grade 5). PT. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Office Services Specialist (W020038D) Alumni Relations. Normal Starting Pay: \$8.38 (Grade 5). PT. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Application deadline: January 22

Office Services Specialist (W022583G) Continuing Education. Normal Starting Pay: \$8.38 (Grade 5). PT. Varies. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Postal Assistant (W022594D) University Mail Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$7.66 (Grade 4). PT. Monday-Friday, will vary. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Program Support Technician (W022589T) Center for Leadership Development-Pamplin. Normal Starting Pay: \$9.16 (Grade 6). PT. TBD. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Program Support Technician (7413J) Research and Graduate Studies. Normal Starting Pay: \$14,286 (Grade 6). PT. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Program Support Technician Senior (W022294D) Administrative Information Systems. Normal Starting Pay: \$9.79 (Grade 7). PT. Monday-Friday, between 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; some evenings. Application deadline: OUF.

Program Support Technician Senior (W022069D) Administrative Information Systems. Normal Starting Pay: \$9.79 (Grade 7). PT. Application deadline: OUF.

Programmer (7405D) Administrative Information Systems. Normal Starting Pay: \$27,204 (Grade 10). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Programmer (W022504D) Communications Network Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$13.08 (Grade 10). PT. To be arranged. Application deadline: OUF.

Programmer (W022590) Communications Network Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$13.08 (Grade 10). PT. Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Programmer/Analyst (7246D) Information Systems. Normal Starting Pay: \$32,510 (Grade 12). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: OUF.

Secretary Senior (4557G) College of Forestry and Wildlife Resources. Normal Starting Pay: \$17,424 (Grade 5). PT. Flexible, between 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Restricted to University Employees Only

Plumber Steamfitter Lead Worker (U1693P) Physical Plant. Normal Starting Pay: \$22,763 (Grade 8). FT. Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Overtime. Subject to 24-hour call-in Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Training and Project Coordinator (6440H) Residential and Dining Programs/Culinary Services. Normal Starting Pay: \$27,204.00 (Grade 10). FT. Varied. Application deadline: Jan. 15. University Only

Off-Campus Positions

Agricultural Technician B (3121M) Eastern Virginia Agricultural Research and Extension Center. Normal Starting Pay: \$17,424 (Grade 5). FT. Monday-Friday; irregular Apply to: Bob Pitman Eastern Virginia Agricultural Research & Extension Center P.O. Box 338 Rt. 690 Warsaw, VA 22572 Application deadline: Jan. 29.

Animal Care Technician B (542M) College of Veterinary Medicine/Equine Medical Center. Normal Starting Pay: \$19,916 (Grade 5). FT. Monday-Friday Apply to Betty Tucker, Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center, P.O. Box 1938, Leesburg, VA 20177 Application deadline: Jan. 15.

Distance Learning Specialist (7410D) Office of Distance Education. Normal Starting Pay: \$35,539 (Grade 12). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Varies. Position at Northern Va. Center. 7054 Haycock Rd., Falls Church. Application deadline: OUF.

Fiscal Technician (7407M) Virginia Cooperative Extension-Smith Mountain Lake 4-H Educational Center. Normal Starting Pay: \$19,048 (Grade 6). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Apply To: Deanna Harris Smith Mountain Lake 4-H Educational Center 775 Hermitage Rd. Wirtz, VA 24184. Application deadline: Jan. 22.

Office Services Specialist (1895D) University Relations, WVTF Radio. Normal Starting Pay: \$17,424 (Grade 5). FT. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Send application to Donna Spitzer, Office Manager, WVTF Radio, 4235 Electric Rd. SW, Ste. 105, Roanoke, VA 24014. Application deadline: Jan. 29.

Secretary Senior (7411J) Northern Virginia Center. Normal Starting Pay: \$10,412 (Grade 5). PT. Send application and resume to: Aprile Belk, Northern Virginia Center, 7054 Haycock Rd, Falls Church, VA 22043 Application deadline: OUF.

Instructional

Bradley Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Professor. Applications are invited for a senior-level joint MSE/ECE appointment in the area of micro-electronic materials and/or devices. The position is assigned half time in each department with teaching and research responsibilities in both. A number of micro-electronics-related faculty members currently hold joint appointments in the two departments. The selected candidate must have the willingness and ability to assume a leadership role in expanding the micro-electronics program, hiring new faculty members, establishing new facilities, and upgrading existing facilities. The selected candidate must also assume a leadership role in the Virginia Microelectronics Consortium (VMEC), a state-wide industry/univer-

FACULTY POSITIONS

sity partnership for the development of micro-electronics educational and research programs. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to: emerging device technologies (SiC, GaN, etc.); ceramics, dielectrics, and ferroelectrics; magnetic materials; high-speed devices; optoelectronic devices; data-storage devices; micro-machining and MEMS; nano-technology; advanced lithography; plasma-aided processing; and biomimetics. Strong opportunities for synergy and collaboration exist in application areas such as: wireless communications; power electronics; fiber- and electro-optics; sensors and smart materials; mixed-signal VLSI; computer engineering; and bio-technology. Applicants must have an earned doctorate in electrical engineering, materials science and

engineering, solid-state physics, or a closely related field and be committed to undergraduate and graduate teaching and to the development or expansion of sponsored research. Faculty members will have outstanding opportunities to develop highly visible research programs. Candidates for the ranks of associate or full professor should have distinguished records in research and a strong interest in educational programs. There is the possibility for a chaired professorship for exceptional candidates. Interested candidates should submit a letter of application, a curriculum vita, and a list of at least three references to R.O. Claus, Chair, Joint MSE/ECE Search Committee, Bradley Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (0111), Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061. 1-7203. WWW: <http://www.ee.vt.edu> and <http://> (See EMPLOYMENT on 7)

EMPLOYMENT

Continued from 6

www.eng.vt.edu/eng/materials/mse.html. Applications will be accepted until March 31, or until suitable candidates are selected.

Department of Human Development. Department Head. Position to begin July 1, 2000. The ideal candidate is a dynamic individual possessing the leadership skills to guide an energetic and enthusiastic multi-disciplinary department. The department head promotes and supports diversity and collaborative endeavors among faculty members as well as among students. The department head should have strong commitments to undergraduate and graduate education, community outreach, and applied research. Required qualifications for the position include an earned doctorate and a scholarly, teaching, and outreach record that qualifies for tenure at the rank of professor in an area relevant to the department. Applications review begins April 16, 1999 and continues until the position is filled. A letter of application should specify the applicants: 1) administrative philosophy, 2) leadership abilities, and 3) teaching, research, and Extension/outreach experience. Send letters of application and curriculum vitae to Dianne Yardley, Search Committee-Head Department Head, College of Human Resources and Education, 103 War Memorial Hall (0317), Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061. Questions concerning position responsibilities and qualifications should be addressed to Karen Roberto, professor and director, Center for Gerontology; 1-7657; fax: 1-7157; e-mail kroberto@vt.edu. Internet: www.vt.edu; www.chre.vt.edu; <http://www.chre.vt.edu/~fcd/fcd.html>.

Alson H. Smith Agricultural Research and Extension Center. Horticultural Crops Entomologist. Rank is assistant or associate professor, tenure-track, depending on qualifications and experience. Responsibilities: The primary responsibility would be to develop a nationally recognized research and Extension program focusing on preventive pest-management strategies for managing arthropod populations on high-value horticultural crops grown commercially in northern Virginia including tree fruit (emphasis), small fruit, vegetable, greenhouse, and ornamental crops. Research should be applicable to grower needs and be publishable in refereed journals. Emphasis should involve a contemporary, integrated approach to pest management to include chemical and biologically based crop-management strategies to address pest problems. The scientist should recruit, advise, and fund graduate students in the research and Extension program. Extension activities should focus on presenting the latest research findings to growers and Extension personnel in a meaningful and useful manner by means of in-service training, production meetings, field-day tours, demonstration plots, electronic media, and written recommendations. It is expected that there will be close collaboration with on- and off-campus faculty members in entomology and related disciplines, including horticulture, plant pathology, weed science, crop and soil science, biological systems engineering, and agricultural and applied economics. The candidate would hold a concurrent appointment as assistant or associate professor in the Department of Entomology at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg VA. Qualifications: Ph.D. in entomology with emphasis on integrated pest management. Ability to work with Extension field staff, fruit producers, agribusiness, and research and Extension specialists in entomology and related disciplines. Demonstrated excellence in oral and written communications, and skilled in appropriate computer applications. Ability to obtain extra-mural funding. Demonstrated expertise in preventive pest management is highly desirable. Experience in development of multi-disciplinary IPM systems is preferred. Location: Alson H. Smith Jr., Agricultural Research and Extension Center, 595 Laurel Grove Rd., Winchester VA 22602. Phone: (540) 869-2560; fax: (540) 869-0862; e-mail: rossebye@vt.edu. Candidate should provide a letter of application, vita, and a list of four professional references. Application deadline is March 15, and will continue until the position is filled. Communication should be addressed to Keith S. Yoder, A. H. Smith, Jr. AREC, 595 Laurel Grove Rd., Winchester VA 22602.

Department of Teaching and Learning. Assistant Professor. Anticipated tenure-track appointment is at the assistant professor level in social-studies education. The position will include teaching assignments and curriculum development in a licensure program to prepare middle- and high-school level social-studies teachers. Date of appointment is Aug. 16, 1999. Requirement include a doctorate in social-studies education, teaching experience in secondary-school education, and a strong academic background in history and the social sciences (e.g., political science, geography, or economics). Experience supervising student teachers and expertise in instructional technology are highly desirable. Candidates must demonstrate potential and desire to do quality research, teaching, and service in an area related to social-studies education. Applications review begins February 15 and continues until a suitable candidate is appointed. Send a letter of application, transcripts (undergraduate and graduate), a vita, and three letters of reference to Dianne Yardley, Associate Dean, College of Human Resources and Education, 103 War Memorial Hall (0317), Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061.

College of Veterinary Medicine. Assistant Professor. Assistant professor in anesthesia at the Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center, Leesburg. Responsibilities include: providing primary anesthesia care and supervising anesthetic management of equine patients; participation in evening and weekend emergency call; instruction of veterinary students, technicians, residents, and interns via didactic lecture, laboratory, or clinical rotation; consultation with collegiate faculty members, referring veterinarians, and researchers on anesthetic problems and animal welfare; supervision of technical staff assigned anesthesia service; participation in graduate training of residents and graduate students; pursuing clinical and applied research in areas of interest. Minimum qualifications: DVM, VMD, or equivalent degree; advanced training in anesthesiology; board certification in anesthesiology; MS or Ph.D. desir-

able but not required. Qualified applicants should submit curriculum vitae stating career goals and interest, a description of clinical experience in large animal and/or equine anesthesia as well as teaching experience. All applications should include three persons who can be contacted to provide letters of reference. Applications should be sent to G. Frederick Fregin, Search Committee Chair, Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center, PO Box 1938, Leesburg VA 20177. Deadline for all applications is March 1.

Department of Accounting and Information Systems. Assistant Professor. One tenure-track position starting Aug. 16, 1999. Applicant's primary research and teaching interests should be in auditing and/or information systems. The successful candidate will instruct undergraduate and graduate students in auditing and information systems. Candidates should have completed doctoral requirements by summer 1999 and also be able to present demonstrable prospects for conducting scholarly research and excellence in teaching. Applications will be accepted until March 15, or until the position is filled. Applications and nominations should be sent to Wayne E. Leininger, Department of Accounting and Information Systems, 3007 Pamplin Hall (0101), Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061.

Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. The following faculty positions are available: **Educational Leadership (F3386):** This position is a senior-level, tenure-track, academic-year position, located at the Virginia Tech Northern Virginia Graduate Center, Falls Church, with some teaching assignments at Virginia Tech centers throughout the state. Applications review begins January 20, and continues until a suitable candidate is appointed. Rank and salary are dependent on qualifications. Faculty member will (1) advise and teach K-12 and higher-education masters and doctoral students; (2) possess qualifications and a research record; (3) have secondary qualifications which include administrative experience at both the school-building and central-office levels; (4) maintain professional, university, college, and department service activities; (5) direct doctoral dissertations that focus on governance and policy research topics. Qualifications include (1) doctorate in educational leadership, educational administration, or related field; (2) extensive experience in leadership positions in the public schools; (3) an established record of research, scholarship, and publications; (4) experience with the supervision of doctoral dissertations. **Educational Leadership (Clinical Professorship) (F1518):** This position will be offered as a two-year contract at either the assistant or associate professor level, located at the Virginia Tech Northern Virginia Graduate Center, Falls Church VA with some teaching/supervisory assignments at Virginia Tech centers throughout Virginia. Applications review begins January 20, and continues until a suitable candidate is appointed. Rank and salary are dependent on qualifications. Faculty member will advise post-baccalaureate students who are seeking initial certification as school-building-level principals; (2) supervise the clinical experiences of those students preparing for administrative careers in the public schools; (3) teach and/or collaboratively teach general administration graduate classes in the several principal preparation programs delivered throughout Virginia; (4) serve as a mentor to candidates enrolled in principal-preparation programs; (5) provide managerial support for the Northern Virginia principal-preparation program. Qualifications: (1) doctorate in educational administration, leadership, or supervision; (2) experience in leadership positions in public schools with the best combination of the following: successful school-building administrative and/or supervisory experience, ability to teach graduate-level courses related to building level leadership, willingness to participate in a collaborative teaching/learning environment; (3) ability to advise and supervise graduate students during their clinical experience; (4) willingness to serve diverse and special needs students through distance learning and extensive off-campus instruction. **Educational Leadership (F1968):** This position will be offered as a tenure-track position at either the assistant- or associate-professor level, located at the Virginia Tech Hampton Roads Center in Virginia Beach with some teaching/supervisory assignments at other Virginia Tech centers throughout Virginia. Review of applications will begin January 20 and continue until a suitable candidate is appointed. Rank and salary are dependent on qualifications. Faculty member will: (1) recruit and advise post-masters students who are interested in pursuing the Ed.D. on a part-time basis; (2) manage the off-campus graduate program for the Richmond/Hampton Roads Centers; (3) supervise the clinical experiences of those students preparing for administrative careers in the public schools; (4) teach and/or collaboratively teach general administration graduate classes in the several principal-preparation programs delivered throughout Virginia; (5) assume primary responsibility for teaching school-facility planning and management of human resources; (6) serve as a mentor to candidates enrolled in principal-preparation programs. Qualifications: (1) doctorate in educational administration, leadership, or supervision; (2) experience in leadership positions in public schools with the best combination of the following: successful school-building administrative and/or supervisory experience, ability to teach graduate-level courses related to building-level leadership, willingness to participate in a collaborative teaching/learning environment; (3) experience in managing capital-construction programs; (4) ability to advise and supervise graduate students during their clinical experience; (5) willingness to serve diverse and special needs students through distance learning and extensive off-campus instruction. For any of these positions, send letter of application, vita, transcripts (undergraduate and graduate), and three letters of reference to Dianne Yardley, College of Human Resources and Education, 101 War Memorial Hall (0317), Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061. Phone: 1-5056; fax: 1-3717.

Non-Instructional

Public Service Programs. Economic-Development Specialist, Economic Research and Design. Serves as coordinator of community-development projects with the Economic Development Assistance Center (EDAC), Public Service Programs. Will research, design, initiate, and implement applied economic research projects and programs assuring that projects and programs support state, regional, community, and university programs, goals, and missions. Will coordinate EDAC projects including research-report writing, budget develop-

ment, project presentation, and client-relationship management. Will provide research and technical assistance to localities and community groups to include industrial local fiscal-impact analyses, economic experimental design, statistical analyses, survey-instrument design, and grant writing. Will conduct applied-research projects focusing on industrial incentive packages, labor and workforce analyses, target-industry analyses, and feasibility analyses. Will collaborate with college-based and peer Public Service Programs faculty members on outreach projects and programs. Will market services of EDAC to prospective private, public, and non-profit clients including project development and proposal writing. Will supervise graduate assistants and undergraduate students. Minimum qualifications required: Master's degree in community or economic development, applied economics, business, or related field. Minimum of three years in economic-development-related programming. Applicants should send a complete resume including personal data, education, publications, research record, and professional experience together with the names of three references to J. Douglas McAlister, Executive Director, Public Service Programs (0162), Virginia Tech, 1080 S. Main St., Blacksburg VA 24061. Fax: 1-3896. Application deadline: January 15. Interviews begin immediately and continue until a suitable candidate is found.

Mobile and Portable Radio Research Group (MPRG). Director of Information Services. MPRG, a rapidly growing research laboratory of the Bradley Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering with efforts focused in the field of wireless communications, invites applications for the director of information services (research associate). Duties will include: (1) system administration for a network of 20 Sun workstations, networked printers, and a growing number (50+) of Windows NT workstations; (2) purchasing, installing, and maintaining computing equipment and software; (3) technical support of electronic publications database and website; (4) supervision of a team of students to provide user support for research and teaching activities of the laboratory; (5) long-term planning for growth of laboratories computing facilities. Expected qualifications include (1) a BS degree in computer science, computer engineering, or a related field; (2) strong knowledge of Unix and NT system administration; (3) knowledge of HTML, C, C++, Ethernet, Unix, Solaris 2.6, Windows 95/98, Windows NT Workstation, and Server 4.0; (4) excellent work habits and interpersonal communication skills. Position will remain open until suitable candidate is found. Qualified applicants should submit a resume and list of three references to B.D. Woerner, Director, MPRG, 432 NEB (0350), Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061.

Talent Search Program. Counselor. Duties include recruiting, counseling, and assisting middle- and/or high-school students to complete school and to enroll in post-secondary institutions. The counselor will assist students in selecting and applying to post-secondary schools and obtaining financial aid. The position requires travel in a 13-county area of Southwest Virginia. Candidates should possess a master's degree in counseling, education, social work, or a related field. Ability to work in teams and excellent oral and written communication skills must be demonstrated. Experience working with diverse and "at-risk" populations and a knowledge of Southwest Virginia are preferred. The position is a 12-month restricted appointment that is federally funded and renewable annually, pending funding. Applications screening begins January 4 and applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Salary range is \$27,500 to \$29,000 depending upon experience. Send resume and three current letters of reference to Donna Ferrandino, Ph.D., College of Arts and Sciences (0405), Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061.

Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent (re-advertisement). Virginia Cooperative Extension is seeking applications for the Extension-agent position listed below. The successful candidate will be lecturer rank, non-tenure track, professional faculty. Agriculture and Natural Resource agent positions have area responsibilities in their program specialty. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. **Extension agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 111090, Animal Science, Albemarle County:** The position requires basic knowledge of animal nutrition, health, animal care, and reproduction; production and financial management; marketing; biotechnology developments; waste management and utilization; and water quality. Responsibilities: Agents must determine program needs by monitoring trends and issues, involving Extension leadership councils and advisory committees; design programs to meet needs of target audiences, specify program goals and objectives, and identify resources; inform clientele of program activities; use appropriate technologies to plan and deliver programs through workshops, seminars, conferences, one-on-one visits, field trips and tours; maintain knowledge of current research information; develop computer applications; develop and implement evaluation plans; recruit and use volunteers; and report results to clientele, public, and administration. Qualifications: master's degree required or imminent; one or more degrees in related discipline preferred. Current Virginia Cooperative Extension faculty members with bachelor's degree may be considered based on specialty, expertise, and performance. Ability to communicate effectively, orally and in writing; ability to recruit, train, and manage volunteers; experience in relating with people. Experience in planning, implementing, marketing, and evaluating educational programs in a related area preferred. Computer/computer-software knowledge desired. To apply, submit a letter of intent, a complete resume, undergraduate and graduate transcripts, and three letters of reference. Internal applicants may submit a letter of application, a copy of the most recent faculty report, and three letters of reference. Applications review begins February 5 and continues until position is filled. Send to: Barbara Gillespie, Virginia Cooperative Extension (0437), 122 Hutcheson Hall, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061. Inquiries received at 1-7619; TDD user: 1-800-828-1120; fax: 1-5545; e-mail: barbarag@vt.edu.

Industrial-development professionals attend VIDA institute

More than 40 professionals representing 13 counties, cities, and towns across the state attended the fourth annual Virginia Industrial Development Authorities Institute. The course was sponsored by Virginia Tech's Economic Development Assistance Center and the Division of Continuing Education, both services of the university's Outreach Division.

The course featured presentations by leading professionals in the areas of engineering, planning, architecture, law, business assistance, and economic and international development.

"The institute provided a unique opportunity for Industrial Development Authority members, government officials and economic and community-development professionals to take

part in an intensive program that used application-based training," said Doug McAlister, executive director of Virginia Tech's Public Service Programs.

Participants learned about the legal role and powers of an Industrial Development Authority (IDA) in economic development, how to identify and market an industrial site, how to

measure economic impacts, various types of assistance programs, small-business incubators as an economic-development tool, and financing structures for IDA projects.

Sponsorship of the program was also provided by the United States Economic Development Administration.

PROVOST

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Jones began his career with Virginia Tech in 1971 as an instructor in its Center for Continuing Education. In 1977 he became a Cooperative Extension program leader in Community Resource Development. He later became district director of Extension's eastern central region, and in 1991 he was selected to head the formation of the Institute for Leadership Development. Later that same year, he was named assistant to the director of VCE, a position he held for five years before becoming director.

As VCE director, Jones streamlined the organization's administrative structure, increased the specialization of agents, and improved the effectiveness of the organization by

introducing a modern information-technology system.

"I look forward to new challenges and opportunities in this position," Jones said. "Virginia Tech is firmly committed to the outreach component of its three-part land-grant mission—the other two being education and research. With the exceptional depth and breadth of faculty and staff expertise in the Outreach Division, we will position Virginia Tech as the leading provider of outreach services in Virginia."

Barrett's appointment as interim director of VCE will include a continuation of his duties as associate director for VCE field operations.

"The new year, as we search for a permanent director, won't be an era of marking time," said Andy Swiger, dean of the College of

Agriculture and Life Sciences. "I know Dave will provide the active leadership needed for this organization that touches the lives of more than a million Virginians every year."

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 governments, the land-grant universities, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Anyone appointed to a leadership position on an interim basis faces much work to keep an organization on a successful trajectory," Meszaros said. "Dave's intimate knowledge of Extension and all of its programming areas, the respect the field staff has for him, and his recog-

nized leadership ability make him well suited for this demanding role."

"I appreciate and look forward to the opportunity to continue the valuable work that Extension is doing in our communities across the state," Barrett said. "We have a strong field staff, many outstanding specialists here and at Virginia State, and a dedicated group of administrators at both universities and in our district directors. With their help and guidance, we will maintain and build on our outstanding educational programs that serve Virginia and its people."

Meszaros said the purpose of the restructuring was to more closely link university outreach efforts with the strengths of Cooperative Extension.

HEAVENER

Continued from 1

For several decades we avoided the condemnation process to acquire the property out of sensitivity to the long-term residents living there. To my knowledge, the university has never resorted to forced eviction of long-term residents for campus development.

When the residents were ready to move on in 1990, we were contacted by a local attorney who said that the owners wished to develop the property and would like to construct a building for use by the university. The university again emphasized its desire to purchase the property and began the process of acquisition using required standard state procedures. Two certified real-estate appraisals placed the value around \$200,000 and \$300,000 respectively. The owners also were advised, through their attorney, to obtain their own appraisal of the property and we would negotiate with them. Despite assurances from the owners' attorney that would do so, they never contacted us and, to our knowledge, never obtained another appraisal.

In the meantime, out-of-town speculators acquired the portfolio of a failed local land developer. These new owners exercised an option in the portfolio on the Heavener properties paying \$500,000 for the three parcels. We later discovered this entity to be a group operating under the name of Brantner Land Trust or Great Eastern Management Co. of Charlottesville. This is the same group that has been attempting for several years to develop a commercial site they call Collegiate Square at North Main Street and Prices Fork Road.

We attempted to purchase the Heavener properties in 1996 from the Brantner Land Trust making several offers topping out at \$640,000. We believed that to be far in excess of its appropriate value based on the appraisals, but wanted to get the issue settled. Although these developers would have made a tidy profit on their acquisition cost, they refused to sell. Throughout the process, the developers have refused to disclose the identities of the principals in the Brantner Trust. Considering the ramifications of a previous land controversy, we considered this to essential information.

Because of long-standing town zoning restrictions limiting the land's use to "University

And College District" and because of the difficulty of getting complete utility service to the site, we believed the site to be essentially not developable.

Thus, we were quite surprised when the Town of Blacksburg planners approved Brantner's "Tech Central" mixed-use development concept. Indeed, in 1996 the town's planning and engineering department noted in correspondence to Great Eastern Management (Brantner Land Trust) that their then-"proposed use of the property as a parking lot would be considered an interim use of the property and is not consistent with the long-range plan of an academic building on this site."

Current zoning limits the parcel to "Educational Facilities/ College/University." The proposed development, "Tech Central," would be a six-story complex including a two-story underground parking garage, 5,000 square feet of retail space, and three stories of apartments. All this to be on two-thirds of an acre surrounded by heavy pedestrian traffic and university academic buildings!

If the facility were to become reality, we could see a huge increase in auto traffic, non-university students living in the academic center of campus, and, potentially, bars serving alcohol—all within the heart of the academic core of campus.

The town's own ordinance states "...the presence of the university is central to the

town's character. The purpose of the UNIV, university and college district, is to provide for the orderly growth and development of the university campus." Tech Central does just the opposite and is a gross violation of the intent, spirit, and letter of the ordinance.

The university still retains the right to appeal. Although town code calls for zoning appeals within 30 days, counsel advises that as an agency of state government, we are not bound by local code. We will file an appeal if necessary.

Clearly, for decades it has been the town's explicit intent to provide for orderly development of the campus within its boundaries. We believe the town erred in allowing the development to proceed. That is why the university Board of Visitors in early November asked the Town Council to rescind its administrative approval of the project. We believe that if town council created the zoning, if it has final dominion over the zoning, and if it can grant variances or special-use permits, then it can overrule erroneous administrative approval by its staff. As of this writing, we have yet to receive a response from town council to our November 11 request.

You may also have read that the university claims ownership of a portion of Barger Street, a short ribbon that connects Turner Street to the campus. The developer would have to run utilities down Barger Street. Barger Street not only abuts our coal and steam complex, but carries every major university utility line. It is, in es-

sence, the utility nerve center of campus. Even if allowed, we can't imagine a contractor laying utility lines without seriously affecting the campus infrastructure.

The university has always assumed ownership of Barger Street since we own all land around it and have exercised "dominion" over it at least since 1950. Various actions over the years on the part of the town and the university led us to believe we had agreement on university ownership. For example, a 1965 town map shows the street outside town corporate limits and the official 1973 town street map does not even show this portion of Barger Street. Various town correspondences and official town actions have disavowed legal interest. In 1984 the university, after notice to the town, formally placed the disputed portion of Barger Street into the State Highway System without town objection. (All university streets such as Southgate Drive, Drillfield Drive, West Campus Drive, Duck Pond Drive, etc. are considered State Route 314 and are part of the State Highway System.)

Our legal case against the town to clear the title to Barger Street cites other instances proving our ownership. Thus and irrespective of the zoning issue, we wonder how the town could have approved a high density, mixed-use development knowing that the parcel could not be serviced without new expanded utility lines.

We wanted you to know what we know. We intend to oppose this development and will continue our efforts to directly acquire the property.

PHOTONICS

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inherently immune to changes from undesired effects.

"For example," Wang said, "most pressure sensors based on optical fibers are unfortunately also sensitive to changes in temperature, so that they are only useful when you keep the temperature constant. We solved that problem by changing the way we process the optical signal, giving the sensors a low cross-sensitivity to undesired effects. Therefore, our pressure sensors are not affected by changes in temperature."

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