

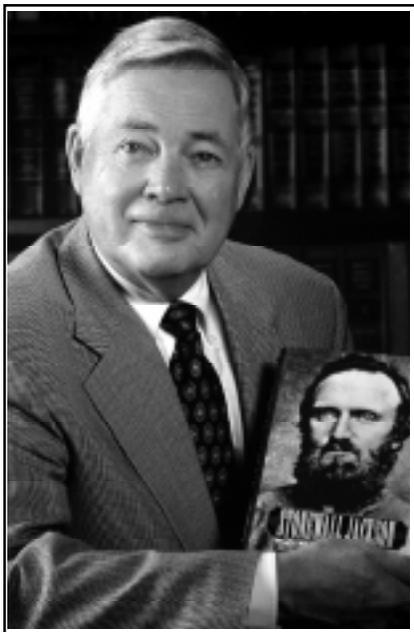
# SPECTRUM

Virginia Tech  
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 24 THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1999

TODAY'S EDITION  
See page 8  
for article on  
diversity seminar.

## University begins campaign to establish Civil War center



ROBERTSON

By Clara B. Cox

Building on the reputation of nationally renowned Civil War historian James I. Robertson Jr. and a massive collection of Civil War books, Virginia Tech has announced that it has initiated a \$3-million fund drive to establish the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies.

The announcement was made last Friday by Charles W. Steger Jr., vice president for Development and University Relations, on the first day of Civil War Weekend, an annual event that draws 350 people to the campus.

The center will be headed by Robertson, Tech's alumni distinguished professor of history and author of the critically acclaimed biography *Stonewall Jackson: The Man, The Soldier, The Legend*. It will operate in partnership with the history department in the university's College of Arts and Sciences.

"Under Professor Robertson's dynamic yet congenial leadership, the center will provide an ideal setting for top scholars to interact with students and the public in a common effort to shed new light on the war—new light on not

merely the political and military aspects but also the more subtle social, cultural, and human implications of this pivotal episode in United States history," said history Department Head Albert E. Moyer.

According to Steger, the center will offer several programs. A scholars-in-residence program will attract nationally recognized Civil War scholars to spend a semester or academic year on the Virginia Tech campus, while scholarships will be used to entice the nation's best graduate students in Civil War history. The center will sponsor annual symposia, lecture series, exhibitions, and additional radio and television shows and will publish a scholarly Civil War journal. It will expand Virginia Tech's collection of Civil War books, manuscripts, and memorabilia and hire an archivist to organize, maintain, and protect the collection.

It will also extend educational opportunities through digital and distance-learning programs.

Robertson, tapped by President Kennedy

in 1961 as the executive director of the United States Civil War Centennial Commission, has written numerous books on the Civil War, including such works as *Soldiers Blue and Gray*, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, and *America Becomes One Nation*, which received critical acclaim as one of the best children's books about the Civil War. He appears frequently on public television and the Arts & Entertainment Network and produces a weekly Civil War program for public radio. His annual weeklong June seminar, Campaigning with Lee, draws more than 130 participants from over 30 states. And his heavily enrolled Civil War classes have informed and entranced a generation of Virginia Tech undergraduates.

Thim Corvin, senior director of development for capital support, will direct the fund-raising effort, which Steger said will last for two years.

## Hatzios to head Virginia Ag Spring Experiment Station

By Netta Smith-Benton

Kriton Hatzios has been named the new director of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station (VAES) and associate dean for research in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, according to Andy Swiger, dean of the college.

The Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station (VAES) performs research on food and fiber systems, their impact on the environment, and natural and human resource issues relating to the future needs of Virginia, the nation, and the world. VAES has faculty members at 12 agricultural research and Extension centers, and throughout the colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Human Resources and Education, Forestry and Wildlife Resources, and Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech.

Hatzios, who currently is head of the Department of Plant Pathology, Physiology and Weed Science, will begin his new duties November 1 following the retirement of Robert Cannell.

"I am most pleased to have such an able replacement coming on board to follow the very strong leadership Bob Cannell has provided the Experiment Station. Dr. Hatzios brings the qualities of intelligence, fairness, flexibility, and creativity that I consider essential in this important leadership role," Swiger said.

According to Hatzios, "The Experiment Station, with its programs in four affiliated

(See HATZIOS on 2)



**Oh What a Night** In front of more than 9,800 raucous partisans Monday night, the Virginia Tech women's basketball team defeated Auburn 76-61 to earn a berth in the NCAA regional semifinals, the Sweet 16. The women cut down the nets after winning the sub-regional tournament, a first in Tech history. Saturday's game was also a first for the program, the first sell-out as 10,052 jammed their way into Cassell to cheer on the Hokies. (J. McCormick)

## Tickets Available to Powell Talk

Tickets are still available for the Colin Powell talk on March 30 at 7:30 p.m. in Cassell Coliseum.

Powell, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the U.S. Department of Defense and a strong proponent of volunteerism, will discuss "Challenges of a Changing World" as part of "Ut Prosim: That I May Serve," a student volunteer program sponsored by the Department of Uni-

versity Unions and Student Activities (UUSA).

Tickets for the event are \$8 for faculty and staff members, \$10 for the general public, and free for Virginia Tech students. Tickets are available at the Squires Student Center ticket office or by calling 1-5615.

Powell's address will highlight Virginia Tech's year-long celebration of community service and volunteerism that included a vol-

(See TICKETS on 7)

## Mack to lead CALS distance-learning unit

By Stewart MacInnis

Timothy Mack, head of Virginia Tech's Department of Entomology, has taken on leadership of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' distance-education effort, according to Andy Swiger, dean of the college.

Mack will retain his position as department head. In this new leadership role, he heads up the CALS and 229 Distance Education Unit of approximately 20 people.

In addition to the on-campus faculty and staff members of the agriculture college, the unit supports faculty and staff members associated with the Virginia Agriculture Experiment Station and Virginia Cooperative Extension in the College of Forestry and Wildlife Resources, the College of Human Resources and Education, the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, and in more than 130 Extension field offices and research and Extension centers across the state.

"We have already moved forward dramatically using technology for distance education in Extension, and we have made a modest start with the instructional program," Swiger said. "Dr. Mack has the knowledge and leadership ability to move us quickly into this exciting future."

Mack said two assistant directors will manage the two areas on a day-to-day basis. Jerry Spittle has been named to head up the computer-services division. William Murphy

(See MACK on 7)

# ACHIEVERS

**William Ley**, a professor in the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine's department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, was recently honored by the Virginia Horse Council with the Outstanding Educator Award during its annual meeting in Richmond.

Ley also presented a series of papers at the combined annual meetings of the Society for Theriogenology, American College of Theriogenologists and the 44th meeting of the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) in Baltimore. The papers were "A Modified Technique to Determine Uterine Tubal Patency in the Mare," "How We Induce the Normal Mare to Foal," and "Internet Resources for the Equine Practitioner."

Ley also attended a meeting of the AAEP's Reproduction Committee as a committee member. He taught two separate eight-hour "Wet Lab" sessions on the "Breeding Soundness Examination of the Stallion" at the Stallion Reproduction Symposium. Forty veterinarians attended these labs from the United States and foreign countries such as Israel, Brazil, Chile and Germany.

**Sandy Perkins**, a laboratory specialist in the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, has successfully passed the Good Laboratory Practice Quality Assurance Professional Registry Examination.

The examination is administered by the Society of Quality Assurance, a non-profit international organization which represents professionals in the pharmaceutical, agricultural, industrial, chemical and contract testing and research organizations, as well as academia and regulatory agencies.

Since 1992, Perkins has been the quality assurance officer for the college's Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) program, which enables the college to conduct contract research in compliance with government regulations. The VMRCVM began conducting studies under the federal GLP regulations in 1989.

**John M. Carroll**, professor of computer science, education, and psychology, and director of the Center for Human-Computer Interaction, has been appointed to serve on the National Research Council's Committee on Human Factors. The committee provides new perspectives on theoretical and methodological issues concerning the relationship of individuals and organizations to technology and the environment. It also identifies critical issues in the design, test, evaluation, and use of new human-centered technologies and advises sponsors on research needed to expand the scientific and technical bases for designing technology to support the needs of its users.

**Gerard Toal**, associate professor of geography, has been awarded a grant from the National Council on Geographic Information Analysis's Varenus project for a proposal on "The Vietnam war and the origins of the geographic information society." Toal also recently received a three-month visiting fellowship from the Copenhagen Peace Research Institute (COPRI) beginning in August of this year.

**Neal Castagnoli Jr.**, Peters professor of chemistry and co-director of the Harvey W. Peters Research Center in the Department of Chemistry has recently been elected chair-elect for the newly formed American Chemical Society, Division of Chemical Toxicology. He is serving the division as program

chair and will assume the position of division chair in 2000.

**Robert Denton**, professor of communication studies and head of the Leader Center, was a participant at a conference on The Presidency and Rhetorical Leadership at the George Bush School of Government and Public Service. Denton's panel, The President as Leader, was covered by CSPAN. In his presentation, Denton described the transition or transformation of the American Presidency in the last 25 years, identified the four ways presidents lead, and identified the four rhetorical challenges for presidents in the 21st century.

**Michael Leib**, professor, department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, participated in a roundtable discussion on "Giardia" sponsored by Fort Dodge Animal Health in Kansas City, Missouri. The meeting was designed to generate current information for a veterinary continuing education publication on giardia, a protozoal parasite which causes diarrhea and other gastrointestinal problems in people and animals. Leib also presented over eight hours of lectures on various topics in veterinary gastroenterology at the North American Veterinary Conference in Orlando, Florida and over five hours of lectures at the Western Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas, Nev.

**Julie Martin**, a Ph.D. candidate in materials science and engineering (MSE), won first place in the regional graduate paper presentation competition held by the Society for the Advancement of Material and Process Engineering at the University of Maryland in February. Martin presented "Mechanical Alloying High Performance Polymer Blends." This marks the third year in a row that a Virginia Tech student has received top honors in the graduate division. MSE student **Jeffrey Schultz** placed first in the undergraduate poster division for his senior design project, "Polymer and Polymer-Based Composites for Selective Laser Sintering."

**J. Daniel Dolan**, associate professor in the Department of Wood Sciences and Forest Products, attended the March initiation workshop for a large research project on the seismic response of wood buildings in California. He advised the project coordinators on the direction and needs for improving the design and building codes for seismic loading. Dolan will be attending in Costa Mesa, Calif., the International Building Code and International Residential Code's final technical hearing for code changes for engineered and prescriptively built structures in the United States.

**Devin Alfred Byrd**, a doctoral student in clinical psychology at Virginia Tech, has won the Dr. Francine Kee Peterson Memorial Scholarship from the Virginia Association of Black Psychologists.

Byrd expects to complete his doctoral studies in May 2000. He holds an M.S. in psychology from Virginia Tech, with a specialty in clinical psychology and clinical-child/adolescent psychology, and a B.S. in psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was active in numerous organizations and received several awards.

Byrd has had clinical experience at the Child Study Center and Psychological Services Center at Virginia Tech and at Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute.

Byrd has done extensive research into topics such as the impact of ethnicity on the manifestation of depression and anxiety, anxiety and depression in children and adolescents,

and the effects of residential fires on children and their families. He also has done research on culturally sensitive treatment for anxiety disorders in African Americans, the effects of social support and loss on African-American families after a flood, depression and anxiety in college students, and the decision-making processes and preferences of college students.

Byrd has served as a course instructor in an Abnormal Psychology course and served as guest student editor of the *Journal of Clinical Child Psychology* and the *Journal of Gender, Culture, and Health*. He is a student panel member for the Graduate Honor System at Virginia Tech, was a coordinator and assistant for the Student Transition Program and group co-facilitator for the Office of Academic Enrichment Programs' Project Success. He also served a graduate assistantship and as academic advisor in the Office of Academic Enrichment Programs.

The scholarship's namesake, Francine Kee Peterson was a clinical psychologist who "engaged in a wide range of volunteer activities including serving as a psychologist for Operation Smile (making trips to Kenya and Liberia).

**Ting-Chung Poon**, professor of electrical and computer engineering (ECpE), has been elected a fellow of SPIE, the International Society for Optical Engineering. Poon, who joined the Virginia Tech faculty in 1983, is the director of the Optical Image Processing Laboratory and a fellow of the Optical Society of America.

The 1999 Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District III Awards were announced earlier this year. In the department of university relations, winners were:

Award of Excellence—*Forestry Field Notebook*—**Michele Moldenhauer**, creative director/art director; **Lynn Davis**, editor; **Gary Colbert**, photographer, et. al.; **Richard Lovegrove**, assistant editor; **Catherine Barker**, production assistant.

Award of Excellence—*You Made a World of Difference Campaign Closing Celebration*—**Laurie Zuckerman**, art director; **Terry McGuire**, editor; **Mary Grace Theodore**, director of special events.

Award of Excellence—*Engineering Now 1998-99*—**Barbara Corbett**, art director; **Lynn Nystrom**, editor; **Elizabeth Crumbley**; contributing writer; **Gina Beasley**, contributing editor; **Bob Veltri**, **Rick Griffiths**, UPI/Corbis—Bettman, Texas Instruments, Inc., photographers

Special Merit Award—*Foundation Report 97-98*—**Glen Duncan**, art director; **David Lotts**, writer; Richard Lovegrove, editor; Rick Griffiths, photographer.

The department also won 1999 ADDY awards from the American Advertising Awards of Western Virginia for *Forestry Field Notebook*—Michele Moldenhauer, creative director/art director; Lynn Davis, editor; Gary Colbert, photographer, et. al.; Richard Lovegrove, assistant editor; Catherine Barker, production assistant; and a Citation of Excellence—*Pamplin College of Business Recruiting Folder*—Barbara Corbett, art director; **Sookhan Ho**, editor; Richard Lovegrove, assistant editor; Rick Griffiths and Virginia Tech Photography, photographers.

## HATZIOS

*Continued from 1*

colleges, departments on campus, and Agricultural Research and Extension Centers off campus, will continue to address the challenges of the 21st century."

He identified those challenges as providing an abundant and stable supply of nutritious, safe, and low-priced food, fiber and forest products to meet the needs of an expanding world population; enhancing the quality of life for individuals and families and the economic and social vigor of communities; protecting and enhancing the natural resources of the state and the nation; applying cutting-edge science to problems related to food, fiber and forest, and improving the health and care of household, farm and wild animals.

Hatzios joined the Virginia Tech faculty in 1979 after earning his doctorate at Michigan State University. He also holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture from the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki, Greece. He is recognized as a leading researcher in the area of chemical manipulation of crop tolerance to herbicides as well as in herbicide action and metabolism. During his 19 years at Virginia Tech, he has generated \$1.1 million for the support of his research and scholarly programs and activities.

He has authored or co-authored more than 300 publications, including four books, 87 refereed journal articles, seven refereed reviews, 16 book chapters, 10 reviewed proceeding papers, two monographs and 168 abstracts. He also has presented 58 invited talks, half of which were made in international conferences or

institutions.

His numerous awards include the Southern Weed Science Society's 1997 Scientist of the Year Award, the Weed Science Society's 1995 Fellow Award, 1994 Outstanding Research Award, and 1986 Young Weed Scientist Award. He also received the 1985 Outstanding Faculty Research Award from the Virginia Tech chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, the agriculture honor society.

Cannell, who announced his retirement last year, has served as director of VAES and associate dean since 1995. He came to Virginia Tech in 1987 from the Welsh Plant Breeding Station and the University College of Wales. He was professor and head of the Department of Crop and Soil Environmental Science from 1987 until being selected as VAES director.

**PARKING UPDATE****Parking Services Announces Changes**

Last year the Motorist Assist Program (MAP) was created to assist motorists in small repairs such as jump-starting vehicles and tire inflation. It can also assist motorists who have been locked out of their vehicle or run out of gas. This service is provided for vehicles on campus and is available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–9 p.m., by calling 1-3200.

There have been two new gravel lots created that are reserved for faculty and staff members 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Tennis Court Lot off of Washington Street is located between the Cassell Coliseum and the tennis courts. The Shultz Lot is located off the main paved Shultz lot.

Customers are now able to purchase a parking permit using Visa or Master Card. Permits may also be purchased with cash or by check. Make checks payable to Treasurer, Virginia Tech. The 1999-2000 permits go on sale July 6.

**PERMIT FEES**

Permit Type	Cost for Faculty/Staff	Cost of Student
Two-Year	\$ 110	—
One-Year	55	\$44
Fall Semester	28	25
Spring Sem.	28	25
Summer Sem.	13	11
Replacement	6	6
Daily	1	1

The regular parking-citation fees have increased to \$20. Meter and bicycle citations are still \$10. Parking at a fire lane, bus lane, or air-intake area is a \$50 fine. Parking in a handicap space, handicap-access area, or unauthorized use of a permit is still \$100. Fines must be paid at Burruss Hall, second floor, window 8. If the fine is not received at the Office of the University Bursar within 10 days from the date of citation issuance, a \$10 late fine will be added.

Vehicles may be ticketed, immobilized with a boot, and/or towed at the owner's expense whenever a vehicle is illegally parked or when there is an outstanding balance of \$200 or more in unpaid citations and late fees in Accounts Receivable. Any individual who accumulates 10 or more citations within a semester is considered to be abusing the parking privileges and these privileges will be revoked for 120 days. At the end of the suspension period, the privilege to park will be restored if the account has been paid in full. If your vehicle is towed or booted, contact the Parking Services Office or the Police Department to make arrangements for vehicle recovery. If the vehicle is booted instead of towed, there will be a \$25 fee for the removal of the boot.

For more information, call Parking Services at 1-3200, or visit the web site at <http://www.vt.edu:10021/admin/parking/parking.htm>.

**Web site features diversity forum**

By Catherine Doss

Does Virginia Tech have a favorable climate for racial, gender, and ethnic diversity? What are some of the diversity issues experienced by faculty and staff members and students? What can be done to help integrate students and faculty members from diverse cultures and backgrounds into the greater campus community? Will graduates with

(See WEB on 8)

**Black alumni reunion scheduled for March**

By Clara B. Cox

Virginia Tech's black alumni will gather on the Blacksburg campus March 26-28 to celebrate the achievements of black students and alumni at the university in the 46 years since African Americans first enrolled.

Focusing on the theme "Come See What We Started: Recapturing Our History at Virginia Tech," the Black Alumni Reunion Weekend will feature a community summit on life at Tech in the 90s, an alumni and student networking luncheon, a recognition ceremony, a reunion of black organizations and update on their activities, and a dinner with entertainment by a jazz band.

The event will get under way at 7 p.m. on March 26 with a welcome reception in Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center and conclude with closing comments at 10 a.m. on March 28 in the hotel auditorium. Registration/check-in will be held 4-9 p.m. on March 26 and continues 8:30-11 a.m. on March 27.

In the 46 years since Irving Peddrew was permitted to enroll, the number of African-American students at Tech has grown to over 800. Peddrew, who began his studies in 1953, was the first black man to attend the previously all-white school. The first black women joined the student body in 1966.

Initially, black students had to enroll in engineering, a curriculum not available at Virginia State, Virginia's black land-grant school, and they were not allowed to live on campus or to participate in such extracurricular activities as sports. When the first black women enrolled, only one studied engineering, and the women lived in residence halls. But sports remained off-limits until Jerry Gaines, who graduated in 1971,

(See BLACK on 8)

**YMCA's roots reach deep into university's history**

By Stacey Coleman

As the YMCA at Virginia Tech wraps up its 125th-anniversary year, it is a time to celebrate an organization that has greatly affected the university and local communities.

The YMCA has long been a familiar name in the vocabulary of most students, faculty and staff members. Almost everyone has heard of it or attended an event sponsored by the Y, but few know just how big a role it plays.

The YMCA at Virginia Tech was chartered in 1873; just one year after the university was founded. Of the 800 campus Y's in existence at the turn of the century, only 16 remain.

The mission of the YMCA at Virginia Tech as expressed by Paul Derring as General Secretary is "a simple consistent response—a life of reflection and service to humanity."

Derring openly "expressed a deep concern for students and for the need to guide them in addressing the issues of the day."

According to Barbara Holcomb, executive director of the YMCA at Virginia Tech, "The Y has always been somewhat of a conscience to the university."

During the Civil Rights Movement, it was the YMCA that brought the first Afro-American ministers as guest lecturers on campus to speak to students.

The YMCA still brings speakers of all persuasions to promote dialogue and discourse in attempts to educate and promote awareness in an ever-changing society.

During WWI and WWII, it was the YMCA that provided a home away from home for our soldiers. During the Depression, the YMCA ran a Student Employment Agency and provided rooms for only 25 cents.

The YMCA is credited with many of the services now taken for granted by students. The Y was responsible for providing the first *Student Handbook*. The Y also ran new-student orientations. Other Y contributions include student lounges and gyms.

Currently, the YMCA Student Program is responsible for over 600 student volunteers per year contributing over 6,700 volunteer hours to the community.

The YMCA Open University provides

continuing-education classes for about 4,000 area residents per year in over 350 courses.

Holcomb said that the YMCA tries hard to "create bridges between the local and university communities, bringing the resources of campus to the community, but also the richness of the community to the university."

Among other programs provided by the YMCA are International Programs, the Y Thrift Shop, and the Annual Crafts Fair.

The International Program was designed to reach out and support families of international students who often feel lost and isolated in our community.

The International Programs sponsor activities such as "Mornings," Slide Shows, "English as a Second Language" classes, and an International Gift Festival.

The Y Thrift Shop provides low-cost goods for members of the community. They also offer donated medical supplies to social services and assist the Red Cross in its Disaster Relief Program.

The Annual Crafts Fair, one of the YMCA's most well-known events of the year, takes place the second full weekend in November. This community event spans most of three days and consists of arts and crafts, music, and festivities.

Holcomb sees many other opportunities for the YMCA in the future. She said, "I can see us moving into new areas of need in our community, particularly around proving programming for youth and their families."

Rachel Holloway, chair of the Board of Directors expressed her reflections on the Y in a letter to the YMCA Board of Directors, December 1998. She said, "I am pleased to report that nothing, and everything, has changed at the YMCA at Virginia Tech over the last 125 years. Of course, the staff, budget and facilities have expanded as the community has grown. The mission of the YMCA is unchanged, linking Derring's time to our own: commitment to education, service and community."

To participate in the YMCA at Virginia Tech, call 1-6860 or visit the web site at [www.vtymca.org](http://www.vtymca.org) for more information.

**Tech research to be featured on Science Coalition Web Site**

By Susan Trulove

Research at Virginia Tech will be featured the week of March 22 on the "On-Campus" section of The Science Coalition web site, a comprehensive resource for information on federally funded science research.

Each week, the coalition highlights scientific advances and on-going research at member universities. As a premiere research institution, Virginia Tech has been noted for scientific achievement and education in the areas of human-computer interaction, biotechnology, materials, and other areas that cross disciplines.

The Science Coalition web site will feature research by faculty members and students at Virginia Tech to determine the impact of pesticides on the immune system, reduce the use of pesticides, find a genetic solution to malaria, and increase childhood immunizations. The site also connects to Virginia Tech research regarding auto-immune disease and other instances when our own immune cells are attack us, micro-organisms that can live in

extreme environments, long-haul drivers' sleep quality and performance, and bio-engineered materials for health applications. The site also tells people about the work Virginia Tech undergraduates are doing in designing, building, and operating research satellites.

The Science Coalition web site can be found on the World Wide Web at [www.sciencecoalition.org](http://www.sciencecoalition.org). Visitors to the site can find the latest legislative news, chat with science enthusiasts in the "Science Café," browse through the "On-Campus" archives, or read science and technology documents in the web site's library.

The Science Coalition comprises more than 60 major public and private research universities, together with more than 350 businesses, voluntary health organizations, medical groups, health-care providers, scientific societies and individuals, dedicated to sustaining the federal government's historic commitment to federally funded university science research.



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

*Spectrum*, a faculty-staff tabloid, is published each Thursday during the academic year, with the exception of certain holidays, exam weeks, and the summer. Copy deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday. No advertising is accepted.

*Spectrum* is a non-profit publication of the Office of University Relations: Lawrence G. Hincker, associate vice president for University Relations; David Nutter, associate director for Public Affairs.

Editor

John Ashby, 1-6961

Assistant Editor

Christian Moody, 1-8538

Production Manager

Melinda Shaver, 1-8524

Business Manager

Sherri Box, 1-8819

Letters to the editor and questions for "Ask *Spectrum*" should be addressed to the editor, 105 Media Building, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061.

Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran status, national origin, religion, or political affiliation. Anyone having questions concerning discrimination or accessibility regarding the programs described in this newspaper should contact the Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Office: 540-231-7500 (v), 540-231-9460 (TTY).

# ACTIVITIES

## EVENTS

### Thursday, 18

**Science and Technology Studies Discussion**, 12:30 p.m., 132 Lane: "Urbanization of the Brazilian Amazon," by John Browder.

**Multicultural Program**, 3 p.m., Squires Multicultural Center: "Feminism and Black Women," Open discussion.

**Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar Lecture**, 4 p.m., Hillcrest dining room: "Cultural Studies: The Political Peril and Promise of the Popular; Or, 'Yo Quiero Taco Bell?'" by Jose Limon, Texas.

**Staff Senate Meeting**, 5:30 p.m., 1810 Litton Reaves.

**Book Reading and Signing**, 7 p.m., Volume Two Bookstore: Author Charlotte Morgan.

**Guest Recital**, 8 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: John Metz and Barbara Bailey.

### Friday, 19

**Last Day to Resign.**

**International Club Coffee Hour**, 5 p.m., Cranwell Center: "Fighting Locusts in Africa With Killer Fungi," by Larry Vaughn.

**Faculty/Guest Artist Recital**, 8 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Craig Fields and Althea Waites.

**TAUT Workshop Production**, 8 p.m., Burruss auditorium: Original Piece Adapted From "The Man With a Flower In His Mouth," by Luigi Pirandello.

### Saturday, 20

**Community-wide Day of Service**

**Children's Event**, 11 a.m., Volume two Bookstore: Meet Arthur.

**Women's Basketball**, 11:30 a.m., Greensboro Coliseum: Tennessee; NCAA regional semi-final.

**Student Recital**, 8 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Robin Abernathy.

**TAUT Workshop Production**, 8 p.m., Burruss auditorium: Original Piece Adapted From "The Man With a Flower In His Mouth," by Luigi Pirandello.

### Sunday, 21

**YMCA Hike**, 1:30 p.m., meet in parking lot 403 Washington. St.: Dragon's Tooth.

**Student Recital**, 3 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Carey Garrard and Maureen Fish.

**Student Recital**, 8 p.m., Squires Recital Salon: Michael Posch.

**TAUT Workshop Production**, 8 p.m., Burruss auditorium: Original Piece Adapted From "The Man With a Flower In His Mouth," by Luigi Pirandello.

### Monday, 22

**CEUT Workshop**, 3-5:30 p.m., Hillcrest dining room: Maximizing Student Motivation.

### Tuesday, 23

**Diversity Roundtable**, noon-1:30 p.m., Squires Multicultural Center.

**CEUT Meal and Mini Workshop**, 11:15 a.m. North Lounge Johnson Student Center: Classroom Climate and Environment.

### Wednesday, 24

**CEUT Workshop**, 3-5:50 p.m., Hillcrest dining room: Assessment and Evaluation, by Peter Doolittle.

**Book Reading and Signing**, 7 p.m., Volume Two Bookstore: Author Ira Sudoff.

**"With Good Reason,"** 7 p.m., WVTF.

**VTU Program**, 7:30 p.m., Burruss Auditorium: Kevin Smith, speaker.

### Thursday, 25

**Choices and Challenges Forum**, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m., DBHCC: "Choices and Changes, Reinventing the Human: Designer Children."

## SEMINARS

### Thursday, 18

**Economics**, 3:30-5 p.m., 3001 Pamplin: "A Multi-country Study on the Impact of Unwantedness and Family Size on Child Health," by Eric Jensen, William & Mary.

**Electrical/Computer Engineering**, 4 p.m., 654 Whittemore: "Pulse Scattering by Foliage on a Rough Surface," by Brad Davis.

**Entomology**, 4 p.m., 220 Price: TBA

**Women and Minority Artists and Scholars**, 4 p.m., Fralin auditorium: "Fostering Young Women Scientists and Engineers With a Residential Learning Community," by Caitilyn Allen, Wisconsin.

### Friday, 19

**Highlands in Chemistry**, 11 a.m., 3 Davidson: "ESR Matrix-Isolated Radicals and Recent Mass Selection Results," by Lon Knight, Furman.

**MCBB**, noon, 102 Fralin: "Small Peptides as Potent Mimetics of the Protein Hormone, Erythropoietin," by Francis Farrell, Johnson & Johnson.

**Electrical/Computer Engineering**, 4 p.m., 457 Whittemore: "Symbolic Analysis of Harmonic Balance for CMOS Circular Oscillator," by A. Henkel.

**Physics**, 4 p.m., 304 Robeson: "Optical Probes of Excitons and Polarons and their Interaction in Highly Emissive Para-phenylene-based Materials and Devices," by Willi Graupner.

**PPWS/Biology**, 4 p.m., Fralin auditorium, "Developing Bacterial Wilt-Resistant Potatoes from *Solanum Tuberosum* and *Solanum Commersonii* Somatic Hybrids," by Caitilyn Allen, Wisconsin.

### Monday, 22

**Economics**, 3:30-5 p.m., 3001 Pamplin: "Business Cycles and the Failure of Marginal Firms," by Michael Horvath, Stanford.

**CSES**, 4 p.m., 232 Smyth: Performance of Dairy Heifers on Warm-season Grasses," by Steve Hutton.

**Horticulture**, 4 p.m., 409 Saunders: "Strawberry Culture Systems for Off-season Fruit Production," by Fumi Takeda, USDA.

### Tuesday, 23

**Electrical/Computer Engineering**, 3:30 p.m., 300 Whittemore: "Simulation of Semiconductor Devices," by Alex Huang.

### Wednesday, 24

**Electrical/Computer Engineering**, 4 p.m., 654 Whittemore: "Piezoelectric Stack Actuation as a Wing/Stove Flutter Suppressor," by J. Cattarius.

### Thursday, 25

**Statistics**, 3:45 p.m., 409 Hutcheson: "A Practical Application of Time Series and SPC Methods," by David Williamson, DCD.

**Entomology**, 4 p.m., 220 Price: "Differential Alterations in Nicotinic Autoreceptor-Mediated Acetylcholine Release Following Parathion or Chlorpyrifos," by Paul Harp.

**Geological Sciences**, 4 p.m., 2044 Derring: "Assessing Marine-Terrestrial Links: the ODP Record of Panamanian Uplift, Caribbean Tectonics and Andean Orogeny," by Rick Murray, Boston U.

## Talk centers on pop culture

José E. Limón will deliver a free public lecture today as part of the Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar program. Limón's talk on "Cultural Studies: The Political Peril and Promise of the Popular; Or, 'Yo Quiero Taco Bell?'" will begin at 4 p.m. in the Hillcrest dining room. A public reception will follow.

Limón is professor of English and anthropology at the University of Texas at Austin. His broad-ranging academic interests include cultural studies, anthropology and literature, Mexicans in the United States, U.S.-Mexico cultural relations, Chicano literature, critical theory, and folklore and popular culture. Limón has published numerous articles and several prize-winning books, including *Mexican Ballads and Chicano Poems: History and Influence in Mexican-American Social Poetry* and *Dancing with the Devil: Society and Cultural Poetics in Mexican American South*. He is also author of the soon-to-be-published book *American Encounters: Greater Mexico and the United States*.

Limón has earned a number of honors during his career, including several major book awards, an appointment as fellow at the Stanford University Research Center, and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies. He has lectured at Stanford, Michigan, Bryn Mawr, Berkeley, the University of Virginia, and Chicago, among others, and has been a member of the National Faculty since 1989 working with public school teachers in economically disadvantaged areas of the country.

The lecture is sponsored by the Mu of Virginia Chapter

## BULLETINS

of Phi Beta Kappa, the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, and the University Honors Program.

For more information call Mark Barrow, vice-president, Mu of Virginia Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, Department of History, at 1-4099 or e-mail him at [barrow@vt.edu](mailto:barrow@vt.edu).

### Performance based on Appalachian folktales

Bringing Appalachian music and stories to life, Angelyn DeBord and Robin Mullins will perform *Lessons On Becoming A Woman: Appalachian Folktales for Growing Girls and Other Human Beings* Friday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m. in the Donaldson Brown auditorium.

*Lessons on Becoming A Woman* is a theatrical performance based on folktales found in the Appalachian mountains. Ballads and original songs blend with guitar and percussion to add to the dramatic elements inherent in these ancient tales. This play premiered in 1998 as part of the Harlan County Performing Arts Series.

Born and raised in an isolated area of the Smoky Mountains, DeBord is a storyteller, playwright, visual artist, director, and workshop leader. An original member of the Roadside Theater, DeBord has spent the past 20 years performing and leading workshops in America and Europe. Robin Mullins, actress, musician and vocalist, is most widely recognized for her role as the sheriff's wife in the acclaimed film *Nell*. She is a native of Wise, has appeared in several films, and has worked for four years at the Lime Kiln Theater in Lexington.

*Lessons on Becoming A Woman* is co-sponsored by the Appalachian Way Student Organization, the Appalachian Studies Program, Humanities Programs, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, the Department of English, the Women's Studies Program, and the Women's Center of Virginia Tech. It is part of the university's Women's Month events. The program is free and open to the public. For more information call 1-9593.

### 'Voice for Native Americans' to speak

Leslie Marmon Silko, a Native American member of the Laguna Pueblo, will give a talk and read from her new novel, *Gardens in the Dunes*, April 1, 7:30 p.m., in the Donaldson Brown auditorium.

The author of seven books, Silko has received several writing awards, including a prestigious five-year MacArthur Foundation Grant and a National Endowment for the Arts Writing Fellowship. In addition to widely anthologized poems and stories, her works include the book of poetry titled *Laguna Woman*, the novel *Ceremony*, a book of prose and poetry titled *Storyteller*, the novel *Almanac of the Dead*, a book of essays titled *Yellow Woman and a Beauty of the Spirit*, and her new novel, *Gardens in the Dunes*.

*The New York Times* wrote, "Without question, Leslie {Marmon} Silko is the most accomplished Native American writer of her generation." *Lonesome Dove* author Larry McMurtry said of Silko's latest book, "*Gardens in the Dunes* is absolutely brilliant. In fact, I think it's a little masterpiece." *Publisher's Weekly* said her new work "is a triumph of the storyteller's art."

The subject of much of Silko's work is the struggle of native peoples to keep alive the core of their culture, their way of seeing the world, their way of being, said Simone Poirier-Bures of the English Department. "In these days of growing ecological awareness," Poirier-Bures said, "more and more people are recognizing that the relationship of respect and reverence that native people traditionally had with the earth is one that we can learn from and emulate. Moreover, Silko is particularly sensitive to issues of race and the problems of identity and discrimination people of mixed-race ancestry often face."

For more information, call 1-7693.

### Microsoft to visit Tech

Office 2000 and Windows 2000 (OS) will be center stage as Microsoft visits Virginia Tech on March 26. This presentation is sponsored by the Virginia Tech Multimedia Users Group (VTMMUG) and will be held at 2:30 p.m., 1670 Litton Reaves.

### GSA presents Research Symposium

The Graduate Student Assembly is sponsoring the 15th Annual Research Symposium on Monday, March 29, in Squires Old Dominion Ballroom. The Research Symposium provides Virginia Tech graduate and undergraduate students an opportunity to showcase their research achievements.

Students may participate in the symposium by submitting an abstract, which describes their research in one of the five categories: life sciences, physical sciences and engineering, social sciences and humanities, undergraduate and virtual. A team of judges, representing the eight colleges, will evaluate the research posters. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top two presenters in each of the five categories.

In addition, the Graduate Student Assembly will award the top presenter in each category premier seating to attend a lecture given by General Colin Powell. General Powell's lecture on Tuesday, March 30, at 7:30 p.m. in Cassell Coliseum, is titled "Challenges of a Changing World." The Graduate Student Assembly is a contributing sponsor of General Powell's presentation.

Sponsors of the Research Symposium include the Graduate Student Assembly, Graduate School, Architecture and Urban Studies, Biological Sciences Initiative, Black Graduate Student Organization, Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, College of Engineering, Forestry and Dept. of Fisheries and Wildlife, Human Resources and Education, University Honors Program, VetMed, Virginia Tech Corporate Research Technologies, and Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties.

For more information, contact the Graduate Student Assembly at 1-7919. For registration visit <http://gsa.uva.vt.edu>.

### Poet from Zimbabwe on campus

Musaemura Zimunya, a poet and academic from the University of Zimbabwe, will present a colloquium on "Cultural and Musical Identity in Zimbabwe: The Dynamics of Social Change" Monday, March 22, at noon in 132 Lane. The program is open to the public.

### Save Our Streams meeting set

A meeting for Save Our Streams (SOS) monitors and anyone who is interested in the SOS program will be held on March 20, beginning at 11 a.m. at the Virginia Tech Museum of Natural History; 428 N. Main St. Lunch will be provided. After information sharing and lunch, QA/QC and monitor training opportunities will be available. No science background is required to get involved in Save Our Streams. Call 1-3001 for more information.

### Museum presents Saturday Science

*Saturday Science* for children in grades K-3 and their parents will be held March 27, from 11 a.m. to noon at the Virginia Tech Museum of Natural History, 428 N. Main Street. Call for information on the topic and activity. The activity is free, but pre-registration is requested at 1-3001.

### On-line class scheduling under way

VTOnline is preparing the list of classes for both the fall and spring sessions of the 1999-2000 school year. VTOnline is the first point of contact for students on-campus and around the world who are interested in taking Tech's on-line classes. It also provides services to the on-line students and instructors, such as on-line registration for distance learners, and advertising for the on-line classes. Anyone interested in teaching or who is scheduled to teach an on-line class in fall and spring sessions of the 1999-2000 school year, should contact the VTOnline office at [vto@vt.edu](mailto:vto@vt.edu) or 1-7614.

### IT 99 Conference next week

There is still time to register for the IT 99 Conference being held on March 22-23.

While there is no registration fee for faculty and staff members and graduate students from Virginia Tech, registration is necessary.

The on-line registration site is <https://www.conted.vt.edu/IT99.htm>

This event at the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center is a follow up to the highly successful IT 97 conference. It will feature more than 30 faculty members from Virginia Tech who have excelled in the application of instructional technology in their teaching. The keynote address will be given by Steve Ehrmann of the Teaching, Learning and Technology Affiliate of the American Association of Higher Education.

Lunch will be provided for all registered participants.

In addition, there is a pre-conference workshop on the Flashlight Student Inventory, and a post-conference workshop

on Distance Learning. Both of these special sessions do have a registration fee.

The schedule at-a-glance is: March 21-22—Flashlight Workshop; March 22—Keynote Address, 4 p.m.; March 22—Wine and Cheese Reception, 5:30 p.m.; March 23—Concurrent Sessions, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; March 24—Distance Learning Workshop.

Additional information is available at <http://www.IT99.vt.edu/>

### Diversity Roundtable Discussion rescheduled

Due to a potential conflict for several regular participants in Diversity Roundtable, the March 16 meeting has been moved to March 23 from noon-1:30 p.m. in the Squires Multicultural Center. This event is open to all faculty and staff members who want to be part of an on-going conversation on diversity.

### Volume Two host three literary figures

Author Charlotte Morgan will be reading from and signing her book *One August Day*, Thursday, March 18, at 7 p.m., at the Volume Two Bookstore.

On Saturday, March 20, the children's book character Arthur will be at the Volume Two Bookstore beginning at 11 a.m.

Ira Sadoff, author of *Grazing*, will be reading from and signing copies of his book on Wednesday, March 24, at 7 p.m.

### CEUT announces workshop

Peter Doolittle of Teaching and Learning will discuss practical guidelines to consider when constructing and assessing selection items such as multiple choice, matching, and true-false and supply items such as essay, short answer and performance assessment. The discussion will be from 3-5:30 p.m., in the Hillcrest dining room on Wednesday, March 24. He will discuss the relationship between objective/outcomes, instruction, and assessment; and constructing effective test items. He will also look at grading. Participants are encouraged to bring actual test items to the workshop. Pre-register by calling 1-6995, or by e-mail at [ceut@vt.edu](mailto:ceut@vt.edu).

### Lasana will portray Dunbar's mother

Oni Lasana will present a program Tuesday, March 23, in which she plays the mother of Paul Laurence Dunbar, a Black poet and the first Black superstar, said Nikki Giovanni. Lasana will perform Dunbar's poetry accompanied by music. The program will be at 6:30 p.m. in the Jamestown Room of the Donaldson Brown Center. Admission is free.

### YMCA Open University registration begins

YMCA Open University Spring Registration will begin Monday, March 22, and continue through Friday March 26, with most classes beginning the week of March 29. To view on-line information, the address is [www.vtymca.org](http://www.vtymca.org).

# Choices/Challenges forum examines designer children

Can humans redesign themselves? What are the qualities that define us as humans, and is it desirable—or acceptable—to change them? Are there limits to what should be attempted? How do we decide?

The Choices and Challenges Project will present a public forum titled "Reinventing the Human: Designer Children" Thursday, March 25, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center. The program will offer social, political, economic, and ethical perspectives to help the community make decisions now that will affect life in the future. All programs are open to public at no charge. Registration is recommended, although not required.

The recent media focus on cloning of animals has alerted the general public to the rapid pace of work now taking place in human genetic and reproductive technologies. New genetic-engineering procedures now permit human genes to be identified and transferred. Researchers are developing these procedures to cure disorders and correct serious childhood health problems. But the techniques could also be used, before birth or during infancy, to endow otherwise healthy children with traits they would not otherwise possess or to enhance the ones they do have. The possibilities go beyond changing physical appearance such as height and build and might include intelligence, athletic skills, personality, and behavior.

How do these recent advances in genetic engineering impact our ethical and social decisions concerning the reinventing of children? Is it ethical to create the perfect baby through genetic technology, and who decides what perfect means? The forum is divided into three parts: morning discussion sessions providing background information; a main panel session featuring eminent presenters from the fields of political science, medical ethics, philosophy, history, and child development; and afternoon sessions offering further discussion on issues of public policy. Sessions include such topics as "Cloning and Public Policy," "Genetic Explorations in Science Fiction," "Feminist Debates and Dilemmas," "Religious Perspectives," and "Patterns of Child Development."

The main session will include panelists Robert F. Murray Jr., author of *Genetic Variation and Disorders in Peoples of African Origin*; Diane B. Paul, author of *Controlling Human Heredity and The Politics of Heredity*; Gail S. Ross, chief psychologist for several children's programs at New York Hospital; Anita Silvers, author of *Disability, Difference, Discrimination*; and LeRoy B. Walters, author of *The Ethics of Human Gene Therapy*.

The PBS Adult Learning Satellite Service will broadcast an edited version of the main panel session nationally. An on-line

web-based discussion group will provide the opportunity for the community to debate the issues and submit questions in advance of the forum.

The group can be found at <http://www.cis.vt.edu/choices&challenges>.

The Choices and Challenges project is a public-outreach program that explores the social and ethical dimensions of science and technology. Topics covered range from genetic engineering to computer network technologies to the use of environmental resources. The project offers unique programming that encourages dialogue among professional and lay members of the university and regional communities. Videotapes, audiotapes, and transcripts of many previous forums are available.

Program brochures, which include a pre-registration form, can be obtained by calling the Donaldson Brown Center at 1-5182 or by contacting the Choices and Challenges project office at 254 Lane Hall, (0227); calling 1-6476; or sending e-mail to: [choices@vt.edu](mailto:choices@vt.edu).

This Choices and Challenges forum is presented by the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies at Virginia Tech. Support has been provided by the Outreach Division of Virginia Tech and by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy.

# EMPLOYMENT

## CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

The following classified positions are currently available. More details of these positions, specific application procedures and position-closing dates may be found on the Personnel Services web site at <http://www.ps.vt.edu>. Available positions are also listed on the Job Line, a 24-hour recorded message service: Office/Clerical: 1-6196; Technical/Research: 1-6160; Service/Trades: 1-6176; Professional and Managerial: 1-4649; Information Technology: 1-2233. Some of the following positions include state benefits. Positions with numbers beginning with a "W" are hourly and do not include state benefits. Comments about this shortened listing should be made to [perserv@vt.edu](mailto:perserv@vt.edu) or by calling 1-5301 or 1-6258 for persons with hearing impairments. Individuals with disabilities desiring assistance or accommodation in the application process should call by the application deadline.

To better serve applicants, the closing date for advertised positions has been changed to 1 p.m. Monday unless otherwise stated. An EO/AA employer committed to diversity.

### Full Time

- Administrative Liaison**, Communications Network Services, 2325D, Grade 8.
- Business Analyst (Accountant)**, Physical Plant, 2339P, Grade 11.
- Electronics Technician**, Electrical and Computing Engineering, 7435J, Grade 10.
- Executive Secretary**, University Development, 2226D, Grade 6.
- Fiscal Assistant**, University Development, 7437D, Grade 5.
- Food Operations Assistant B (3rd Baker)**, Residential and Dining Programs/ Southgate Bakeshop, 2986H, Grade 2.
- Food Operations Manager B/Executive Chef**, Residential and Dining Programs/Owens Dining Center, 0029H, Grade 10.
- Grounds Worker Senior**, Physical Plant, 2333P, Grade 3.
- Housekeeping Lead Worker/Special Projects**

- Crew**, Residential and Dining Programs, 300H, Grade 2.
- Housekeeping Worker**, Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center, 1138G, Grade 1.
- Housekeeping Worker**, Physical Plant, 887P, Grade 1.
- Housekeeping Worker**, Recreational Sports, 7261G, Grade 1.
- Housekeeping Worker**, Residential and Dining Programs, 1076H, Grade 1.
- Instructional Technology Systems Manager**, Educational Technologies, 2122D, Grade 16.
- Laboratory Specialist**, Biochemistry, 7375M, Grade 8.
- Locksmith**, Physical Plant, 218P, Grade 6.
- Program Support Technician Senior**, Materials Institute, 3979T, Grade 7.
- Programmer Analyst**, Budget and Financial Planning, 6990T, Grade 12.
- Programmer**, Administrative Information Systems, 6772D, Grade 10.
- Programmer**, Administrative Information Systems, 7405D, Grade 10.
- Programmer**, Administrative Information Systems, 7434D, Grade 10.
- Programmer**, Animal and Poultry Sciences, 7289M, Grade 10.
- Programmer/Analyst**, Administrative Information Systems—User Services, 7433D, Grade 12.
- Programmer/Analyst**, Administrative Information Systems, 6824D, Grade 12.
- Programmer/Analyst**, Information Systems, 7246D, Grade 12.
- Research Specialist**, Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences, 7412M, Grade 8.
- Research Specialist**, Dairy Science, 7432M, Grade 8.
- Senior Programmer/Analyst**, Administrative Information Systems, 7328D, Grade 14.
- Television/Video Production Technician**, Athletics, LC072, Grade 7.

### Part Time.

- Animal Care Technician A**, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, W022155M, Grade 3.
- Electronic Technician Senior**, Engineering Science and Mechanics, W022588J, Grade 10.
- Enrollment Svcs Assistant (Academic Adviser)**, Computer Science, W022613T, Grade 7.
- Fire Extinguisher Trainer (Security Officer Senior)**, Environmental Health and Safety Services, W022637T, Grade 7.
- Food Operations Assistant A**, Residential and Dining Programs, W022314H, Grade 1.
- Food Operations Assistant B**, Residential and Dining Programs, W022315H, Grade 2.
- Get Connected Technician**, Administrative Information Systems, W022615D, Grade 6.
- Grounds Worker**, Golf Course, W020798G, Grade 2.
- Housekeeping Worker**, Residential and Dining Programs, W022490H, Grade 1.
- Laboratory Aide**, College of Veterinary Medicine, W020811M, Grade 2.
- Office Services Specialist**, University Registrar, W022413T, Grade 5.
- Pharmacy Supervisor**, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, W022501M, Grade 15.
- Program Support Technician**, Research and Graduate Studies, 7413J, Grade 6.
- Programmer**, College of Veterinary Medicine/Bio-medical Sciences and Pathobiology, W022623M, Grade 10.
- Programmer**, Communications Network Services, W022504D, Grade 10.
- Research Specialist**, OIRD, W022635G, Grade 8.
- Off Campus.**
- Distance Learning Specialist**, Office of Distance Education, 7410D, Grade 12.
- Office Services Assistant**, HNFE, 7233J, Grade 4.
- Program Support Technician**, Virginia Cooperative Extension-Henrico County, 5473M, Grade 6.

## INSTRUCTIONAL

**Department of Economics. Associate/Full Professor.** The department invites applications for a senior-level position beginning fall 1999. The department has a specific need in the areas of empirical microeconomics and applied econometrics but will consider empirically oriented candidates in any field. Applicants must have exceptionally strong research and publication records. In addition, candidates should provide evidence of commitment to undergraduate and graduate teaching and a strong interest in advising graduate students. The department will review applications beginning April 15 until positions are filled. With your application please include curriculum vitae, samples of written work, evidence of teaching ability, and three letters of recommendation. Contact: Djavah Salehifshahani, Head; Dept. of Economics (0316); 3016 Pamplin Hall, Virginia Tech; Blacksburg VA 24061.

**Department of Economics. Visiting Positions.** One or two visiting positions for the academic year 1999-2000. One position may be at the senior level. For the junior level position there is a preference for someone with strong empirical interests. Review begins April 15, until continuous until the position is filled. With application, please include curriculum vitae, samples of written work, evidence of teaching ability, and three letters of recommendation. Contact: Djavah Salehifshahani, Head; Dept. of Economics (0316); 3016 Pamplin Hall, Virginia Tech; Blacksburg VA 24061.

**Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Assistant/Associate Professor.** Assistant/associate professor in educational research be-

## FACULTY POSITIONS

ginning Aug. 16, 1999 with an emphasis in qualitative methods located in Blacksburg, but assignments may require teaching at other locations in Virginia. Academic-year appointment with optional summer teaching. Qualifications: earned doctorate in educational research or related field with an emphasis on qualitative methodology. Preference will be given to applicants with the best combination of the following—demonstrated ability to teach introductory and advanced courses in qualitative methods, and a willingness to teach introductory level courses in general research methods and design; demonstrated ability to publish on qualitative methodology and a commitment to the scholarly study of qualitative methods themselves. Also, demonstrated ability to conduct and publish applied qualitative research studies; interest in developing and expanding qualitative research curriculum; ability to supervise doctoral dissertations and to advise students on qualitative research methods and designs, including policy studies. Review begins April 15, and continues until position is filled. Send letters of application, vita, transcripts (undergraduate and graduate), and three letters of reference to Dr. Dianne Yardley, College of Human Resources and Education (0317), 101 War Memorial Hall, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061. Phone: 1-5056; fax: 1-3717.

### NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

**Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources.** 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. Posi-

tion is forestry and natural resources Extension agent, central district: Requires an ability to assess educational needs, develop and deliver educational programs to forest landowners, loggers, forest industry workers, natural resource professionals, and extension agents; respond to requests for forestry and natural resources information; and work cooperatively with the forest-products industry and other state agencies. Responsibilities: Agents must determine educational program needs; design programs to meet needs of target audiences, specify program goals and objectives, and identify resources; 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; other duties as assigned. Qualifications: Master's degree required or imminent; degrees in forestry and natural resources or related field required. 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 required. To apply: Submit a letter of intent, a complete resume, official undergraduate and graduate transcripts (copies acceptable), and three letters of reference. Internal applicants may submit a letter of application, a copy of the most recent faculty report, and 3 letters of reference. Review begins April 2, and continues until position is filled. Send to: Carolyn Sowers, Virginia Cooperative Extension (0437), 105-D Hutcheson Hall, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061. Inquiries will be received at 1-7619; TDD user: 1-800-828-1120; fax: 1-5545; e-mail: [csowers@vt.edu](mailto:csowers@vt.edu).

(See EMPLOYMENT on 7)

# PE Central nets one million hits in just one month

By Jean Elliott

PE Central bills itself as the "ultimate web site for K-12 physical educators." And there is strong evidence to support this claim. For the first time ever, in February, 1999, PE Central had over one million page views (hits).

According to PE Central's Executive Editor Mark Manross, this was especially surprising because February only has 28 days and it was thought that this milestone would be attained in a month with 30 or 31 days. Before February, the highest one-month total was November, 1998 which topped out at slightly over 907,000 page views.

PE Central <http://pe.central.vt.edu/> was developed in the Health and Physical Education program. Flaghouse, Inc., the physical-education equipment-supply company headquartered in Hasbrouck, New Jersey, has been the founding sponsor for the web site since August, 1997. Manross, a doctoral student at Virginia Tech, serves as the executive editor while Eloise Elliott, Concord College, and Todd Pennington, Brigham Young University, are

the senior editors. George Graham, also of Virginia Tech, is the senior advisor for PE Central.

The most popular section to PE Central can be found adjacent to the front page and is called "Lesson Ideas." In February this section had over 26,000 hits. The lesson ideas for grades K-2, 3-5, and middle and high school, had over 7,500 hits each as did the Instant Activities, which features ideas for getting lessons started shortly after the students arrive

in class. The next most visited section was "Top Web Sites" which had 7,200 page views.

There were 47,074 hits on Feb. 23—the highest one-day total over. The average number of page views per day was 35,780 which translates into an average of 1,490 hits an hour for the entire month.

PE Central started at Virginia Tech but has quickly expanded into a web site that has contributors from throughout the world. The

site invites physical educators to share their original ideas with other physical educators with full credit given when these submissions are published on the web site.

PE Central wants to hear from physical educators at all levels, pre-school through college, who would be interested in serving as a reviewer, section editor, or beginning a new section on PE Central. The e-mail address for PE Central is: <[pec@vt.edu](mailto:pec@vt.edu)>.

## Study tour of European cities offers students three credit hours

By Sally Harris

If a growing human population is to live within the natural limits of the Earth, we must find ways to make our urban settlements environmentally sustainable. While the entire planet faces this challenge, European nations have experimented most aggressively and made the most progress toward creating sustainable cities.

A study tour has been established to visit Denmark, England, Germany, Sweden and The

Netherlands to observe sustainable technologies and practices. Participants will see innovative housing arrangements, auto-free communities, alternative energy systems, prototype "ecovillages," creative waste treatment and utilization, and other efforts to make urban settlements compatible with nature. Students will consider the social, economic, and political aspects of these efforts, as well as the technical issues. The program will be of value to students in civil engineering, environmental studies,

landscape architecture, public policy, social geography, and urban design and planning.

The group will depart for London June 18 and return from Sweden July 2. Travel will be primarily by train, and the students will stay in each of several cities a few days with side trips to other locations.

Students will earn three hours of pass/fail field-study credit that can be taken for geography, inter-disciplinary studies, political science, or urban affairs and planning credit.

Total cost for students will be  
(See *STUDY TOUR* on 8)

## MACK

Continued from 1

assumed the role of assistant director for distance education.

"I see my role as providing leadership and vision, and to serve as a spokesperson for the unit," he said. "We will have the experts on the equipment and software. Our mission is to help faculty members and others employ these resources. We don't want to stifle creativity by telling people how to use them; rather, we want to use our technical knowledge to help bring their vision to reality."

Nick Stone, professor of entomology, was director of the unit until late last year, when he

returned to teaching and research duties. Under his leadership the unit made great strides in developing the computer infrastructure and in training faculty and staff members to use the technology, Mack said.

"Now, we're ready to build on that," Mack said. "We certainly won't ignore that side of it—CALs and 229 Distance Education will still provide support. Now that that very important phase has been accomplished, we're at a point where we can re-direct the efforts of some of our people to help us reach a new level. It's a pleasure for me to assume this new role. I'm eager to help the faculty and staff move forward

in this area."

The Internet will have an important role to play in Mack's vision for increasing distance-education efforts. The Internet is an integral part of a class he teaches, Insects in Human Society. The on-campus session of the class has grown from 10 students in the fall of 1994 to 531 students last semester. A distance-education version of the class has grown from nine students in the fall of 1997 to 475 students this semester.

Mack said he will continue to teach the distance-education version of the class, though other faculty members in the Entomology Department will take over the classroom version.

## EMPLOYMENT

Continued from 6

**Virginia Cooperative Extension. Virginia Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources (re-advertisement).** 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. Position is #111090, animal science Extension agent, Albemarle County: 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 with bachelor's degree may be consid-

ered 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. Review begins March 26, and continues until position is filled. Send to: Carolyn Sowers, Virginia Cooperative Extension (0437), 105-D Hutcheson Hall, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061. Inquiries will be received at 1-7619; TDD user: 1-800-828-1120; fax: 1-5545; e-mail: [csowers@vt.edu](mailto:csowers@vt.edu).

**Fish and Wildlife Information Exchange. Research Associate.** A biologist position (research associate) is available with the Fish and Wildlife Information Exchange, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, to support the Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) program at Fort Pickett. Fort Pickett is a 41,674-acre Army National Guard Maneuver Training Center located in the lower piedmont of southeastern Virginia near the town of Blackstone. Qualifications: (1) A B.S. in biology, environmental science or closely related field with training in plant identification, map reading, aerial photo interpreta-

tion; (2) Skills in the use of personal computers, data analysis, data development statistics and computer spreadsheets. Preference for experience with Excel and Word software. Experience with global-positioning systems a plus. Responsibilities: Primary responsibility will be to assist in planning and conducting land-rehabilitation activities. Monitors the progress of land-rehabilitation projects. Assists in the management and monitoring of endangered and threatened species. Assists in controlled burning operations. Salary: \$18,000-\$32,000, dependent upon experience. To apply, submit a resume with cover letter responding to each of the qualifications. Include names, addresses and telephone numbers of three references. Applications must be received no later than March 26. Send to Robert Wheeler, Fort Pickett Natural Resources (VANG-FE), 9th and Rives St. BLDG. 320, Blackstone VA 23824. Phone: (804) 292-8501.

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Director of Virginia Cooperative Extension and Associate Dean for Extension.** The director reports to the dean and works closely with the directors of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, academic programs, International Research and Development, and the Virginia State University administrator as an administrative team. The director works with the provost and the deans of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Forestry and Wildlife Resources, Human Resources and Education, and Veterinary Medicine in the allocation of

resources, coordination of programs, and the formulation of new initiatives. The director works in conjunction with the vice provost of University Outreach in conducting the total outreach program of the university. The director is responsible for interactions with CREES/USDA and with Virginia State University, a partner in Virginia Cooperative Extension. The director is a member of the Southern Regional Extension Directors and will actively participate in multi-state planning and programs. The director is expected to provide leadership in an environment of progressive change at the state and federal levels. Experience with the development of external funding, a commitment to principles of affirmative action, and clear recognition of the breadth of Extension are desirable characteristics of candidates. Candidates should have the ability to administer and promote state-wide Extension programs, possess vision, and the ability to motivate employees. Preference will be given to candidates who have demonstrated strong extension leadership with outstanding professional accomplishments. The closing date for applying is June 15, 1999 or until the position is filled. An application will consist of a cover letter, a vita, and at least three letters of reference. Communication should be directed to Andy Swiger, Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (0402), 104 Hutcheson Hall, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061. Phone: 1-4152; fax: 1-4163; e-mail: [swiger@vt.edu](mailto:swiger@vt.edu).

## TICKETS

Continued from 1

unteer fair earlier this month. A university-wide Day of Service will be held on March 20. UUSA, which is coordinating the general's visit, has established a web site ([www.uusa.vt.edu/vsc](http://www.uusa.vt.edu/vsc)) to provide information on the event. Information is also available by calling UUSA at 1-5661.

Major sponsors of the event are the Virginia Tech Union and the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Center for Leader Development.

## Diversity seminar for faculty members

By Clara B. Cox

Members of the faculty can learn strategies and offer suggestions for diversifying the university community via an interactive seminar, "Improving the Status of Women and Minorities at Virginia Tech," which will be held 3:30-5 p.m. Monday, March 29, in Owens banquet room.

"If Tech wants to remain a player in the national higher-education sweepstakes, it must address the diversity issue squarely and boldly. We must identify, recruit, nurture, and successfully graduate significantly greater numbers of minorities and women. And, to achieve this goal, we must also have greater diversity of our faculty, staff, and administration.

These are not options; nor are they goals we can put off for another 10 years. We must begin the dialogue now," said Benjamin Dixon, vice president for multicultural affairs.

Dixon said that the seminar is a step in achieving those goals. Topics for the event will include a report on the current status of diversity at the university, a session to share effective strategies, and a session for proposing new strategies.

Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Office of the Provost, the seminar is free, but registration is requested since space is limited. For additional information or to register, call 1-1820—TTV, 1-8718—or send an e-mail message to [atkinsrw@vt.edu](mailto:atkinsrw@vt.edu).

## RDP chefs share their skills

By Lori Greiner

Have you ever wondered how to create an ice sculpture, bake bread or decorate a cake? These are just a few of the skills shared by Residential and Dining Programs executive chefs during the Chef Series demonstrations held at the Depot at Dietrick and Shultz Dining Center.

RDP's Executive Chef Program gives Steve Everett, executive chef of Shultz Dining Center, and David Haaf, executive chef of the Depot at Dietrick, an opportunity to interact with their customers. The Chef Series allows them to share their talents and skills through a series of culinary demonstrations held in the dining rooms throughout each semester.

The Chef Series demonstrations provide students with a hands-on learning experience. "We wanted to let our students know that our dining centers are not typical. We have educated, well-trained personnel who are committed to providing a high-quality dining experience," said Deon Lategan, associate director for board operations. "The Chef Series provides us with an opportunity to showcase our chefs' talents and teach customers some culinary techniques."

Three to five Chef Series demonstrations are scheduled throughout the semester at the Depot at Dietrick and Shultz Dining Center. Demonstrations range from cake decorating to the basics of bread-making and ice-carving techniques to truffle making. Haaf and Everett bring their kitchens center stage in the dining rooms during dinner.

Although it is not necessary, students are encouraged to sign up ahead of time to guarantee an opportunity to participate. The demonstrations are hands-on, allowing participants to try what they have been taught. It is not uncommon to catch them kneading dough or frosting a cake. Participants often take samples of their creations home to share with their friends and roommates.

Through this program, students have the opportunity to learn from some of the best that RDP has to offer. RDP currently has five executive chefs on staff in the dining centers. Everett and

Haaf work in the board operations facilities.

Everett has been with RDP five years and is currently the executive chef at Shultz Dining Center. He attended culinary school in Washington, D.C. where he was elected sous chef and graduated at the top of his class. He went on to work at the House of Representatives Restaurant on Capitol Hill.

Haaf received his A.A.S. degree in culinary arts and ACF Certification from Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He went on to work for the Hyatt Corporation in Chicago, Ill.

For more information about upcoming Chef Series demonstrations or other dining center special events visit the RDP web site at <http://www.rdp.vt.edu/whatscooking/>.

## STUDY TOUR

Continued from 7

approximately \$2,500. This will cover in-state tuition, airfare, ground transportation, lodging, and tours. For those paying out-of-state tuition, the total cost will be approximately \$3,400. For those not receiving academic credit, the cost will be approximately \$2,100, excluding meals.

The program is open to all majors and is accepting students from other universities as well as Virginia Tech. Students must have 60 hours of credit and a GPA of at least 2.5 to be accepted.

To apply, pick up an application form from the Department of Political Science office in 531 Major Williams Hall on the Virginia Tech campus, complete the form, and return it to the International Studies Office in 119 Major Williams or the political science office by March 31. Final acceptance into the program will require a brief personal interview with the instructor.

For more information, call Richard Rich at 1-6571, e-mail him at [urban@vt.edu](mailto:urban@vt.edu) or visit him in 531 Major Williams Hall.

## CESA director to leave position

By Clara Cox

Arthur E. Hirsh, director of the university's Center for European Studies and Architecture (CESA) in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland, will resign his position, effective June 30, and will teach in the history department on the Blacksburg campus beginning fall semester.

"I am ready to return home to the United States," Hirsh said in announcing his resignation. He directed CESA operations for two years.

"Art served at CESA at an important time in the development of the center. We were going through a change from a period when it was not always full to the present situation where we cannot meet all the demand, even in the summer. During this period of transition, Art succeeded in upgrading the computer and communications capabilities and in establishing the budget. Students continue to praise the CESA experience as the most meaningful one of their college years," said Lyn Gray, director of international programs.

Hirsh said he is "especially proud" of his

accomplishments in the areas of budget, computer technology, and relations with the University of Ticino. He also pointed to the stabilization of the overall operations of the center and improvement in the planning processes for both semester-length and summer programs.

More than 250 Virginia Tech students participated in study-abroad programs at the center during his tenure.

Before joining the Virginia Tech faculty, Hirsh chaired the arts and sciences department at Newbury College. He holds a Ph.D. in history from SUNY at Binghamton and two master's degrees: one in history from SUNY at Binghamton and one in philosophy from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Hirsh said he will actually complete his duties at CESA at the end of the spring semester.

According to Gray, a search committee is being formed to seek a new director. "We hope to put someone in place by January, 2000. Meanwhile, we are working on an interim arrangement," she said.

## Students earn awards at TECA

By Jean Elliott

Imagine a complex engineering problem—programming a robot, or designing a mass-production manufacturing system and you have a taste of what Virginia Tech students experienced in the Technology Education Collegiate Association's (TECA) Eastern Regional Conference held in Virginia Beach, Feb. 25-27.

This annual event brings together technology-education students from 14 universities in the eastern U.S. to compete in events and meet with potential employers at a job fair. Twenty-two Virginia Tech technology-education students participated in the event, with about 200 other students from seven states. Tech students earned second place in manufacturing and third-place awards in transportation problem-solving as well as automated-systems design.

The manufacturing competition is a live contest that lasts about eight hours. It is sponsored by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers to encourage and reward the study of manufacturing technology. Each participating team designs, documents, fabricates, and implements a continuous manufacturing system to produce a product using only the tools on the official list of materials/tools provided. This year's product was a note holder. The team consisted of technology-education majors Ray Lanham, Bryan Smith, Bobby Davis, Matthew Short, Jason Buchanan and Joshua Masley.

The transportation problem-solving contest, sponsored by Kelvin Electronics, involves conceptualizing, designing, and constructing a transportation device or craft for optimal efficiency. This year's contest required students

to design and make a device that would launch foam rockets the furthest distance possible from a set point. The team consisted of Kimberly Biggs, Patty Watson and Vince Lowdermilk, all technology-education majors.

The automated-systems design contest challenges students to demonstrate their ability to analyze a typical automated system problem and then design and apply a solution to the problem. This year students designed an automated system which involved programming a robot to move a vehicle to a given location, simulate spot-welding on the vehicle, and move the vehicle to the next location. The team consisted of Joshua Thom, Matthew Oakley, Thomas Salvesen, and Charles Norwood, all technology-education majors.

Other students who participated in contests included Julie Ellis, Nick Cornwell, Andrea Harpine, Joe Taylor, Erin Claggett, Mike Piccione, Jon Barr, Pete Brown, and Henry Hurlburt.

## WEB

Continued from 3

intercultural skills have an advantage in the job market?

These are just some of the topics available for electronic discussion on a new web site developed by the Office of the Provost. The site contains a diversity forum along with links to a number of campus, community, and national resources.

"The diversity forum is one way that we are using technology to create a dialogue among members of the university community," said Ben Dixon, vice president for multicultural affairs. "We want to foster a sense of community and provide a place for productive and open exchange of ideas about issues pertaining to campus diversity."

In addition, the diversity web site contains links to a variety of resources, information on campus diversity organizations, minority recruitment and scholarship information, a diversity calendar, and a listing of academic programs focusing on diversity. Browsers will also find information on the university's equal opportunity and affirmative action policy, diversity initiatives by colleges, and various university reports on campus climate and diversity.

The web site, portions of which are still being designed, is located at [www.diversity.vt.edu](http://www.diversity.vt.edu). Comments and feedback about the web site may be sent to Eddie Nieves at [nieves@vt.edu](mailto:nieves@vt.edu).

## BLACK

Continued from 3

received an athletic scholarship in track and became the first African American member of a sports team at the university.

Charlie Yates, now a faculty member in Tech's Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering, was the first black graduate, completing his undergraduate program in 1958. Linda Adams, who received her degree in statistics in 1968, was the first black woman to graduate.

The Black Alumni Reunion Weekend is a collaborative venture between the Dean of Students Office and Alumni Relations. Local alumni have worked with a university planning committee for the past year to organize the event.

For more information, call 1-3794.

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Blacksburg, VA  
Permit No. 28

Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, VA 24061