

SPECTRUM



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

<http://www.unirel.vt.edu/spectrum/>

VOLUME 22 NUMBER 10 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1999

TODAY'S EDITION
See retirement-
reception
information below.

Provost's Office announces 1999-2000 diversity-grant recipients

Each fall, the Office of the Provost issues a call for proposals for the Women and Minority Artists and Scholars Series. The fund, as in past years, provides up to \$500 to supplement departmental or college funds in support of guest lecturers and performances from women and minorities.

The purpose of the program is to increase the diversity of perspectives and creative expression available on campus and to increase the number of women and minority role models for our students. Award recipients for the 1999-2000 year are listed below.

Recipient: Anita Puckett, coordinator, Appalachian Studies Program. Program: Angelyn DeBord, Virginia Commission for the Arts touring artist. Oral History

Workshops—"Telling Your Own Story. Proposed dates: September 27, September 28.

Recipient: Patricia Lavender, assistant professor, Theatre Arts. Program: Ping Chong, artistic director. Ping Chong and Company Theatre Forum Series: "What Constitutes the 'Theatrical Event': Understanding and Exploring a Changing View As We Approach the Next Century." Proposed date: October 1. Recipient: Dianne L. Zahm, assistant professor, Urban Affairs and Planning. Program: Keith Fulton, director, Technology Programs and Urban Policy, National Urban League, "Connectivity and Community Dialogue". Proposed date: November.

Recipient: Michael Saffle, professor, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies,

Humanities. Program: T.J. Anderson & Co. Present's Scott Joplin's Black Opera "Treenomonisha." Proposed date: November 8.

Recipient: Jeff Cornassel, assistant professor, Political Science. Program: Woodrow Kipp, assistant professor, Sinte Gleska University (Rosebud Indian Reservation) "The Eagles I Fed Who Did Not Love Me: An American Indian Veteran reflects on the Siege of Wounded Knee." Proposed date: November 9, 7 p.m.

Recipient: Nikki Giovanni, distinguished professor, English. Program: Johnella Edmonds leading a performance of the Virginia State University Choir. Proposed date: November 11. Recipient: Trudy Harrington Becker, instructor, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies. Program: Judith deLuce, professor, Department of

Classics, Miami University, Ohio. "Helpful Women and Ungrateful Heroes in Greek and Roman Folktales." Proposed date: December 3.

Recipient: The Design Consortium, colleges of Architecture and Urban Studies and Human Resources and Education. Program: Galen Cranz, University of California at Berkeley, "The Chair: Rethinking Culture, Body, and Design." Proposed date: February 22-23.

Recipient: April Payne, intern/volunteer coordinator, Women's Center. Program: Ubaka Hill Performer, "Drumming." Proposed date: March (Contact department for exact date).

Recipient: College of Human Resources and Education Diversity Committee. Program: Janet Wong, author, poetry readings. Proposed date: March (Contact department for exact date).

Recipient: Anna Fariello, associate professor, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies. Program: Chair, Southeast Region African-American Preservation Alliance "Preservation of Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Historically Black Institutions. Proposed date: April (Contact department for exact date).

Recipient: Muriel Lederman, associate professor, biology and women's studies. Program: Catherine Middlecamp, director, Chemistry Learning Center University of Wisconsin, Madison, "Feminist Pedagogy for the Sciences." Proposed date: April 27.

Recipient: Ingrid Banks, assistant professor, Black Studies Program. Program: Maria Franklin, assistant professor, University of Texas at Austin. Proposed date: March/April (Contact department for exact date).

Recipient: Amy Bell, assistant professor, electrical and computer engineering. Program: Anita Jones, professor of computer science and university professor, University of Virginia, former director of defense research and engineering at U. S. Department of Defense. Proposed date: (Contact department for exact date).

Recipient: Frank Weiner, Architecture, department head. Program: Bradford Grant, chair, Hampton University, "Architecture, Ethnicity, and Community." Proposed date: Spring (Contact department for exact date)

President assesses state of the university

By John Ashby

President Paul Torgersen presented his last state-of-the-university message Tuesday.

In his remarks, Torgersen noted areas in which the university is doing well, such as improving national rankings, funding and research. On the negative side of the assessment, Torgersen said, was the relative inability over the past five or six years to enhance the university's minority population.

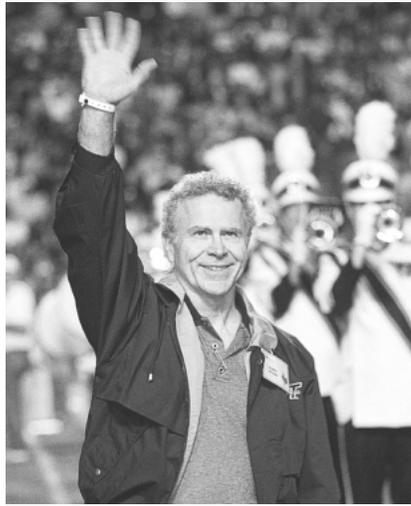
Torgersen said he was pleased with Tech's latest public-university ranking in *US News and World Report*. The university, ranked 40th last year in the magazine, is ranked 28th this year. This places Virginia Tech ahead of three ACC and three Big 10 schools, Torgersen said, and "these are groupings of school which take great pride in their academic achievement. This is a remarkable achievement. I am very pleased with this."

Torgersen said another measure of achievement was the increase in the number of highly qualified high-school students applying for admission to the university. "These numbers are really quite remarkable, and the slope is positive. One can anticipate further improvements in the years to come."

Improved national research rankings, continued state funding support, and the successful completion of the capital campaign were other positive signs for the state of the university, Torgersen said.

Regarding the failure to achieve greater diversity at Tech, Torgersen said the university would continue its commitment to affirmative action. He said the university needs to actively recruit African-American faculty members and establish scholarships designated for African-American students. "We are not typical of the population base outside of Blacksburg, and we need to make some effort...to achieve that goal."

BACK HOME
Homer Hickam,
Tech alum and
author of *Rocket*
Boys: A Memoir, on
the field at
halftime of the
Syracuse game. He
was inducted into
the Industrial and
Systems
Engineering
department's
Academy of
Distinguished
Alumni.
(R. Griffiths)



Excellence in Education Conference scheduled

By Jean Elliott

Philip Bigler, the 1998 National Teacher of the Year, will be the keynote speaker for the 16th Annual Excellence in Education Conference November 4 and 5 at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 4, in the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center (DBHCC) auditorium.

Bigler's address is titled "Thoughts on Teaching and Learning" The public is invited to attend, free of charge. Presentation of the award-winning programs will take place from 9 a.m. to noon on Friday, Nov. 5, in the DBHCC. Reservations for the awards luncheon can be made through the DBHCC.

For 20 years, Bigler has awakened his students to the excitement of learning through history. After being recognized by President Bill Clinton in a White House ceremony, Bigler spent last year as a spokesman for education to

the nation and the world. He is now back at his teaching position at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria.

"My greatest satisfaction as a teacher has been helping young people learn to love history and instilling in them a personal desire to seek knowledge," Bigler said. "My students soon appreciate that civilization rests upon the foundations of the past and realize they are inheritors of a rich, intellectual legacy."

Teaching represents for Bigler the facilitation of student learning toward a life-long quest for knowledge, igniting in young people the spark of enlightenment, motivation, and the cultivation of their minds. He is an author of four historical books and has received other teaching honors, including the Washington *Post* Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award and the

(See EXCELLENCE on 4)

RETIREMENT RECEPTION

The vice presidents and deans will host a retirement reception for President Paul E. Torgersen on Thursday, Nov. 4 in Squires Commonwealth Ballroom from 4 to 6:30 p.m. The university community is invited. All employees were sent a formal invitation to attend. To RSVP, contact the Special Events Office at 1-2190.

ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

Friday, 29

CPAP Roundtable, 3-4 p.m., Thomas Conner House; Pamela Teaster.

Saturday, 30

University Open House.
Cancer Walk, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Johnson Miller Track Complex.
African Student Association Speaker, 5 p.m., DBHCC auditorium; Ali Mazrui.
Football, 7 p.m.: At Pittsburgh.
New River Valley Symphony Concert, 8 p.m., Burruss Auditorium.

Sunday, 31

University Open House.
YMCA Hike, 1:30 p.m., 403 Washington St.; Mountain Lake.

NOVEMBER

Monday, 1

Salary and Wage Paydate.
University Council, 3-5 p.m., 1045 Pamplin.

Wednesday, 3

Family Support Program, noon-1 p.m., 404 Clay St.; Linda Davis.
"With Good Reason," 7 p.m., WVTF; Topic TBA

Thursday, 4

CEUT, 12:30-2 p.m., Hillcrest dining room; Preparation for Teaching.
CSTS Lunch Discussion: 12:30-1:30 p.m., 132 Lane.
Excellence in Education Workshops, 2 p.m., DBHCC.
Book Reading, Signing, 7 p.m., Volume Two Bookstore; Mary Jo Bang.
Women's Basketball, 7 p.m., Cassell Coliseum; Hungarian National Team.
Excellence in Education Speaker, 7:30 p.m., DBHCC auditorium; Philip Bigler, National Teacher of the Year.

Friday, 5

Excellence in Education Workshops, 9 a.m., DBHCC.
Men's Basketball, 7 p.m., Cassell Coliseum; Court Authority.

SEMINARS

Friday, 29

Highlands in Chemistry, 11 a.m., 3 Davidson; Debra Mohler, Emory.
MCBB, noon, 102 Fralin; Mike Bittner, Human Genome Research Institute.
Communication Studies, 3:30 p.m., Hillcrest Honors Conference Room; David Toomey.
Botany, 4 p.m., 1076 Derring; Tracey Slotta.
Electrical/Computer Engineering, 4 p.m., 457 Whittemore; W. Baumann.

NOVEMBER

Monday, 1

Horticulture, 4-5 p.m., 409 Saunders; Rikki Sterrett.

Tuesday, 2

Electrical/Computer Engineering, 3:30 p.m., 300 Whittemore; R. Marchany.

Wednesday, 3

PPWS, 4 p.m., 102 Fralin; Debbie Glenn.
Electrical/Computer Engineering, 5:15 p.m., 300 Whittemore; P. Xu.

Thursday, 4

Statistics, 3:45 p.m., 409 Hutcheson; Peter McCullagh, Chicago.
Entomology, 4 p.m., 220 Price; Steve Morris, MLB Co.

Friday, 5

Highlands in Chemistry, 11 a.m., 3 Davidson; Dennis Everhart, Kimberly-Clarke.
MCBB, noon, 102 Fralin; Ina Hoeschele.
Electrical/Computer Engineering, 3 p.m., 110 Holden; A Schrott.
Materials Science/Engineering, 3 p.m., 114 Holden; Alex Schrott, IBM.
Statistics, 3 p.m., 409 Hutcheson; Eugene Seneta, UVA.
Botany, 4 p.m., 1076 Derring; Jon Cawley.
Electrical/Computer Engineering, 4 p.m., 457 Whittemore; M. Vaudrey.

BULLETINS

Henrickson to promote leadership

Virginia Tech Women's Basketball Coach Bonnie Henrickson will give a talk, "Leading Individuals to Achieve Team Success" on Saturday, Nov. 6, at 1:15 p.m. in 150 Squires. The talk is free and open to the public. It will be the keynote speech at the first annual Pamplin Student Leadership Conference, organized by students of the Pamplin College of Business, and sponsored by the Business Leadership Center of the Department of Management.

Henrickson was selected 1999 Atlantic 10 Conference women's basketball coach of the year.

Internet consultant will speak at NOVA forum

Michael M. Roberts, interim president and CEO of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), will be the featured speaker at the first Virginia Tech Executive Forum in Information Technology Luncheon on Wednesday, Nov. 17, beginning at 1:45 p.m. at the McLean Hilton. The topic of Roberts' remarks will be "What's Next for Internet Domain Names."

Roberts, a policy consultant in the field of Internet technology, services and product development, recently retired as vice president of EDUCOM, a consortium of 600 universities and colleges with interests in information technology. In addition, he has served as an organizer and the first director of Internet2.

The general public can reserve a seat by calling 1-5182 or visiting www.comted.vt.edu/itexecforum-reg.htm. A \$50 registration fee, which includes lunch, will be charged.

African political scientist here Saturday

Ali Mazrui, a leading social and political scientist in Africa, will discuss "The Trials and Triumphs of Africa," on Saturday, Oct. 30, at 5 p.m. in the Donaldson Brown auditorium. The author of more than 20 books and host of the

television show *The Africans*, Mazrui is widely consulted by African nations on issues of constitutional changes and educational reform. He has served as a special advisor to the United Nations and the Organization for African Unity.

CISO plans international dance night

The CISO (Council of International Students Organization) is sponsoring an international dance night Friday, Nov. 5, in Squires Commonwealth Ballroom. Supported and funded by the Alcohol Free Fund of Virginia Tech, this event, *Dances Of Nations*, will present five groups of dancers and musicians from all over the world including Latin and Armenian music, Celtic dancers, an African drummer, Brazilian dancers, and Moroccan pop music.

The dance begins at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Nadia Oubechou, at 951-7267 or e-mail ciso@vt.edu.

Annual mineral, fossil sale set

The Museum of Geological Sciences is holding its annual Mineral, Fossil, and Gift Sale Saturday, Nov. 6 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in 2062 Derring. Minerals and fossils range from beginning and study specimens to fine minerals for the seasoned collector. This year, alumni and friends will provide two exhibits of minerals for sale with proceeds going to support the museum.

Proceeds from this sale provide funds for educational programming and museum operations. For more information, call 1-6029.

Holocaust Museum official to speak

Joan Ringelheim, director of the Oral History Department of the Research Institute of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, will speak on "Gender and the Holocaust," Thursday, Nov. 4, at 7:30 p.m., in Squires Haymarket Theatre. On

Friday, Nov. 5, from 9:30-11:30 a.m., she will lead a discussion of the Oral History Project of the Holocaust Museum, in Squires Brush Mountain B Room. This discussion will include videotapes from the archives of the museum, as well as a discussion of the oral history guidelines developed by Ringelheim and her staff. Campus sponsors include the Women and Minority Artists and Scholars Lecture Series, the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, the Judaic Studies Program, the English Department, the English Graduate Student Organization, and the Women's Center. For more information, contact Bernice Hausman, bhausman@vt.edu.

Edwards to speak

Michael Edwards, for the Ford Foundation and formerly director of governance and civil society senior civil society specialist at the World Bank, will speak on "International Cooperation in the 21st Century," Thursday, Nov. 4, at 7 p.m. in Hillcrest dining room. A reception will follow Edwards' presentation, which is sponsored by the College of Architecture and Urban Studies and the department of Urban Affairs and Planning Speaker Series.

Taiwanese dignitary to visit

Representative Stephen Chen from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Washington, D.C., will visit Virginia Tech on Monday, Nov. 1. His visit coincides with the university's Focus on Greater China series.

Chen will tour the campus and visit with Senior Vice President and Provost Peggy S. Meszaros and others involved in international activities and programming. He will also address the campus community on the relations between Taiwan, China, and the United States at 1:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall. The public is invited to attend.

For more information, contact Britt at 1-6459 or by e-mail at dbritt@vt.edu.

Free seminar focuses on industry, product development

By Susan Trulove

"Research and Technology Transfer: Moving from Research to Business" is the title of a free day-long seminar, including lunch, sponsored by Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties, Inc. on Tuesday, Nov. 16, at the Donaldson Brown Center beginning at 9 a.m. The seminar will explain how the university and industry can work together and how technologies developed at universities can help drive the product-development process.

"Industry is actively seeking university technology and its assistance in developing new businesses," said Mike Martin, executive

vice president at VTIP, Inc., which sponsors the annual program.

There will be separate sessions on engineering and physical science, life science, and software and electronic media, each with a panel of industry and university representatives to discuss choices and opportunities created by intellectual properties.

Industry representatives will include Randolph Guschl of DuPont Company, Michael Whitham and Marshall Curtis of Whitham, Curtis and Whitham, Ron Blum of The Egg Factory, Jeff Lloyd of Saliwanchik, Lloyd and

Saliwanchik, Charles Linn Haslam of U.S. Transgenics, Lee Kump, French Slaughter, and J. Michael Martinez of McGuire, Woods, Battle and Boothe, and Steve Buchanan of Kitty Hawk Capital. Kent Murphy of Luna Innovations will be the guest speaker during a luncheon provided by VTIP and their sponsors.

Virginia Tech faculty members will also share information about how to succeed. Leonard Peters, vice provost for research and dean of the Graduate School, will open the morning session. University Attorney Kay

Heidbreder will discuss conflict of interest and participate in an open panel discussion along with Tom Hurd, director of Sponsored Programs. Rick Claus, and Willis Worcester professor of engineering, will discuss working with industry.

Co-sponsors of the event are Dupont Company, Kitty Hawk Capital, McGuire, Woods, Battle and Boothe, Saliwanchik, Lloyd and Saliwanchik, and Whitham, Curtis and Whitham. For more information, call Debbi Lucas at VTIP, Inc., 951-9374, or register at www.vtip.org.

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. Individuals with disabilities desiring assistance or accommodation in the application process should call by the application deadline.

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

Full Time

Animal Care Technician C, 2281T, Grade 7, Biology.

Boiler Operator Assistant, 332P, Grade 4, Power Plant.

Chemical Safety Trainer (Health Ed. Sr), 7491T, Grade 10, Environmental Health/Safety Services.

Computer Systems Chief Engineer, 7104D, Grade 17, CNS.

Enrollment Services Assistant (Academic Adviser), 7485T, Grade 7, Computer Science.

Fire Safety Engineer, 7488T, Grade 12, Environmental Health/Safety Services.

Fiscal Assistant, 2224H, Grade 5, Residential and Dining Programs/Business Services.

Fiscal Assistant, 6580P, Grade 5, Student Accounts.

Nine full-time food-operations positions available; three part time.

Graphic Designer, 2076D, Grade 9, Publications/University Relations.

Highway Equipment Operator B, 202P, Grade 5, Physical Plant.

Housekeeping Worker Senior, 0269H, Grade 3, Residential/Dining Programs.

Housekeeping Worker, 7261G, Grade 1, Recreational Sports.

Housekeeping Worker, 1021H, Grade 1, Residential/Dining Programs.

Laboratory Specialist, 4478M, Grade 8, Animal/Poultry Sciences.

Laboratory Specialist, 7245M, Grade 8, Biochemistry.

Laboratory Specialist, 7474M, Grade 8, Biochemistry.

Laboratory Specialist, 3428M, Grade 8, Veterinary Medicine.

Mason Plasterer, 6790P, Grade 7, Physical Plant.

Mason Plasterer, 833P, Grade 7, Physical Plant.

Occupational Safety Trainer (Health Ed. Sr), 7489T, Grade 10, Environmental Health/Safety

Services.

Office Services Specialist, 3508J, Grade 5, Chemical Engineering.

Oracle Dba, 7433D, Grade 14, AIS.

Pharmacy Supervisor, 6516M, Grade 15, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Police Dispatcher, 364T, Grade 6, Police.

Program Support Technician, 4443T, Grade 6, Interdisciplinary Center for Applied Mathematics.

Program Support Technician, 6624S, Grade 6, University Libraries.

Programmer/Analyst, 2917D, Grade 12, Computing Center.

Programmer/Analyst, 7426D, Grade 12, Educational Technologies.

Public Relations Asst Specialist, 6996C, Grade 8, University Relations/WVTF Public Radio.

Television/Video Producer Director Senior, 2324D, Grade 12, University Relations.

Television/Video Producer/Director, 5362D, Grade 10, University Relations.

Venture Out Manager, 7470G, Grade 8, University Unions/Student Activities.

Part Time

Animal Care Technician B, W022218M, Grade 5, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Banquet/Setup (Foa-b), W022143G, Grade 2, DBHCC.

Fiscal Technician Senior, 1880H, Grade 8, Residential/Dining Programs/Business Services.

Fiscal Technician, W022887P, Grade 6, Bursar's Office.

Housekeeping Lead Worker (Trades Helper), W022081H, Grade 2, Residential and Dining Programs/Culinary Services Maintenance Crew.

Housekeeping Worker, W020574G, Grade 1, DBHCC.

Housekeeping Worker, W022490H, Grade 1, Residential/Dining Programs.

Instructional Technologist, W022888D, Grade 8, Instructional Services.

Laboratory Mechanic A, W022889T, Grade 4, University Registrar.

Office Service Assistant, W022850S, Grade 4, University Library.

Office Services Assistant, 6895T, Grade 4, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies.

Office Services Assistant, W022287M, Grade 4, CVM.

Office Services Assistant, W022886C, Grade 4, Computing Center.

Office Services Assistant, W022103T, Grade 4, Motor Pool.

Office Services Assistant, W022875T, Grade 4, Undergraduate Admissions.

Office Services Specialist, W022276P, Grade 5, Bursar.

Office Services Specialist, 1084G, Grade 5, Counseling Center.

Office Services Specialist, W022322T, Grade 5, Undergraduate Admissions.

Pharmacy Assistant A, W020839M, Grade 4, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Program Support Technician, W022538M, Grade 6, Animal/Poultry Sciences.

Program Support Technician, W022648G, Grade 6, DBHCC.

Public Relations Assistant Spec/Radio News Announcer/Reporter, W020344C, Grade 8, University Relations/WVTF Public Radio.

Radiologic Technologist, W022412M, Grade 7, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Research Specialist, W022865M, Grade 8, Fisheries/Wildlife Sciences.

Security Guard (Dorm Watch), W020470T, Grade 2, Police.

University Only

Fiscal Assistant, 7502S, Grade 5, Talent

Search/ Upward Bound-Service Learning .

Off Campus

Distance Learning Specialist, 7410D, Grade 12, Office of Distance Education.

Human Services Program Specialist, 6517I, Grade 11, Center for Public Administration and Policy.

Program Support Technician, 6652M, Grade 6, Virginia Cooperative Extension—Culpeper.

FACULTY POSITIONS

INSTRUCTIONAL

Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Counselor Education. Contact: Diane Yardley, College of Human Resources and Education, 101 War Memorial Hall (0317). Review begins fall semester, and continues until candidate appointed.

Department of Chemistry. Tenure-track Position. Contact: Richard Gandour, Department of Chemistry (0212). Applications required by November 22. Applications considered until position filled.

Department of Chemistry. Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Physical Chemistry. Contact: William Ducker, Department of Chemistry (0212). Applications required by November 22. Applications considered until position filled.

Department of Chemistry. Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Physical Chemistry. Contact: John Dooley, Virginia Cooperative Extension, 122 Hutcheson Hall (0437). Review begins November 15, and continues until position filled.

Department of Chemistry. Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Physical Chemistry. Contact: William Ducker, Department of Chemistry (0212). Applications required by November 22. Applications considered until position filled.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences (re-advertisement). Contact: John Dooley, Virginia Cooperative Extension, 122 Hutcheson Hall (0437). Review begins November 15, and continues until position filled.

Complete information regarding faculty positions is available at <http://www.vt.edu:10021/admin/eoaa/index.html>.

Researchers to be recognized on WVTF

Fifty Virginia Tech researchers will be highlighted on WVTF radio beginning November 1. This will be the beginning of the third year of a public-recognition program sponsored by Research and Graduate Studies.

Each faculty member will receive week-long recognition for his or her outstanding research. There will be 14 20-word announcements. Individuals are nominated by their department heads. The list is then voted on by university and alumni distinguished professors and Len Peters, vice provost for research and dean of the Graduate School.

Scholarship as well as applied research will be recognized. "Listeners should be able to relate that the scholarship has made a difference in our world," Peters said. "We also want to recognize researchers who have made a significant contribution to their field of study."

"Even though there are limitations to the 20-word format, this is an opportunity to learn what we are doing and credit those who are leaders in their fields," he says.

The spots begin with the words: "Support is

provided by Research and Graduate Studies at Virginia Tech recognizing...." Those to be first set of researchers to be recognized and their broadcast dates are:

October 31: Agricultural and applied economics Professor George Norton, whose research on investments in agricultural research helps governments establish research priorities.

November 7: Near environment's Professor Tom Garman for identifying how employers' bottom line is negatively impacted by workers' money problems.

November 14: Human development Professor Lydia Marek for research on sustaining quality-of-life programs for children, youth, and families.

November 21: Accounting and information systems assistant Professor David Tegarden who is studying information-visualization technologies in business decision making.

November 28: Communications studies Professor Robert E. Denton Jr. who has contributed to our understanding of the role of the mass media in the political process.

December 5: Biochemistry Professor David Bevan, whose computer modeling aims to understand the design and performance of pharmaceuticals.

December 12: Alumni Distinguished Professor of History James I. Robertson for his definitive biography of Stonewall Jackson.

December 19: Philosophy and science studies Professor Richard M. Burian for his studies on the development of genetics in early twentieth-century France.

December 26: English Professor Michael Squires, who has spent his career studying the life and work of famed British writer D.H. Lawrence.

January 2: Weed science Professor Henry Wilson, whose research has benefited the

(See RESEARCHERS on 4)

Horror movies may sabotage social life



When the leaves are swirling around the sidewalks and trick-or-treat costumes are lining aisles of department stores, many people are thinking about taking their dates to a horror movie Halloween night or renting horror movies for parties. Think about it first. It could change your social life or even your working world.

(If you and your date are both breathtakingly good looking, you don't have to worry much about this. You're pretty much immune to negative effects. However, the so-so among us should take note.)

James B. Weaver of Virginia Tech's Laboratory for the Study of Human Thought and Action and fellow researchers from other universities found some tantalizing tidbits of information in their previous studies of the social implication of watching horror movies. For example, if a great-looking guy and a so-so girl go to a horror movie and she cringes and hides her face in his shirt at the messy scenes, she rises a notch or two in his estimation. If, on the other hand, her responses to the gruesome movie are "Oh, get real!" or "That's so juvenile," she falls a couple of more rungs on his appeal ladder. (Of course, if she's a knockout, she can be as brave as she wants—it makes her even more attractive. Who said the world is fair?)

Of course, if a young woman goes to the horror movie with a guy, she's probably already playing a game. Weaver's studies showed that men enjoy graphic horror much more than women do and are less frightened by it and that

(See HORROR on 4)

Virginia Tech

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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

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Editor

John Ashby, 1-6961

Assistant Editor

Christian Moody, 1-8538

Production Manager

Melinda Shaver, 1-8524

Business Manager

Sheri 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.

Electronic *Spectrum*: <http://www.vt.edu:10021/admin/eoaa/index.html>.

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).

CORRECTION

The lead paragraph of the Ingersoll-Rand gift story on page one in last week's *Spectrum* was electronically garbled. The correct lead paragraph is reprinted below. We regret any confusion this error may have caused.

Ingersoll-Rand makes \$250,000 gift to College of Engineering

By Liz Crumbley

In an unusual corporate/employee match initiative, Ingersoll-Rand, the New Jersey-based manufacturer of industrial machinery and air-compression systems, has announced a gift of \$250,000 to the Virginia Tech College of Engineering to support graduate fellowships and programs in leadership and minority engineering.

CVC COACH



CALDWELL

This week's coach is Virginia Tech Police Lieutenant Palmer Caldwell. He was actually our coach versus JMU, but the CVC hadn't officially kicked off yet then, so we get to see him now. He did a great job, too...as does Virginia Tech versus JMU in CVC gifts. Last year, the JMU participation rate was less than 12 percent while ours was nearly 17 percent. Let's increase participation in CVC to our goal of at least 25 percent.

(J. McCormick)

IN OTHER NEWS

Landscape architecture students to aid project

By Sandy Broughton

For two and one half days this fall, 30 students from the Landscape Architecture programs at Virginia Tech and the University of Maryland will be in Warrenton for an intense educational design, studio-based project.

Their task is to provide site-planning and garden-design concepts and ideas for the just completed Fauquier County Family Shelter. The facility, located in Old Town Warrenton, provides emergency shelter to homeless families and individuals in Fauquier County. According to Bruce Jamieson, executive director of Fauquier Family Services, Inc., the non-profit corporation which owns and operates the Family Shelter, "the design effort by Virginia Tech and the University of Maryland will be a very meaningful contribution to future shelter residents and to the neighborhood."

Students and faculty members will arrive in Warrenton November 7. The project will begin with a site visit and interviews with representatives of Family Shelter staff early the next morning. Students will work on their proposals through the afternoon and evening. Proposals will be presented the afternoon of Tuesday, Nov. 9, to representatives of the Shelter Board and staff. Neighbors, community

gardening groups, and local officials will also participate in review of the landscape design proposals.

According to Associate Professor Ron Kagawa, a member of the Landscape Architecture faculty at Virginia Tech's Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center, the two-day intensive project—or "charrette"—serves a number of purposes. For the Family Shelter, the student proposals will provide several options for creating landscape plans that will compliment the shelter with gardens, recreation areas, and inviting places to sit and relax.

Students gain experience collaborating with colleagues of another institution and a client who has specific needs. They learn to work in groups. The 30 students, both graduate and undergraduate, will develop their design proposals in groups of five or six, each producing a proposal that may be adapted for use by the Family Shelter. It is expected that an independent contractor will ultimately construct the work, which will most likely be completed in phases over the coming years. "We are honored to be a part of the process and eager to work with the community on the Family Shelter," Kagawa said. "These types of endeavors give students a chance to provide outreach beyond our

institutions and provide public service. It is just a pleasure to participate in this type of project. At the same time, the students gain experience in working in a forum of critical inquiry seated in a real-world context."

For the landscape architecture programs of Virginia Tech and the University of Maryland the project also represents the beginning of an on-going partnership. "We are very excited about the opportunity to have our programs capitalize on opportunities such as this. We feel that it is very important for our institutions to provide resources, which can jointly assist organizations such as the Family Shelter and communities such as Warrenton. This is also a great opportunity to share projects while providing our students and faculty the chance to collaborate," Kagawa said.

Virginia Tech's Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center is located in Alexandria, Virginia, and is the urban extension of the College of Architecture and Urban Studies. Graduate degree programs at the Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center seek to explore and expand the design processes related to urban environments and include landscape architecture and architecture.

ELECTRONIC SPECTRUM

FORESTRY ROLE MODEL FOR CHINESE

By Lynn Davis

A delegation of forestry higher-education officials from the People's Republic of China visited the College of Natural Resources recently.

Invited by Paul Mou, ecologist and assistant forestry professor, the delegation was led by the director of the department of personnel and education at China's National Forestry Bureau (formerly the Ministry of Forestry) and consisted of the directors of graduate studies from the major Chinese forestry universities and forestry academy.

Read the complete story in the on-line edition of *Spectrum* at <http://www.umrel.vt.edu/spectrum/>.

HORROR

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women are, as a group, well aware of this fact. So she's probably watching the horror film for his sake, anyway. She just needs to know how to act.

But so does he, if he's the one who's not the knockout. If he's queasy at the bloody parts, she enjoys the movie even less. He becomes less desirable. But if he's seen so many of these gruesome movies that he has mastered his cringe factor, he's seen as stronger and protective. She not only sees him as more attractive, but she deems him to have more of other positive traits than he likely has in reality.

Not only that. No matter if either is appealing or a loser, if the man has been brave at the movie and he and the woman then work together, she'll more likely acquiesce to his statements, even if they are as blatantly erroneous as to say a five-year-old child is 11. "Playing macho while watching horror movies, then, appears to be most beneficial to the appeal, sexual and otherwise, of men not equipped with an irresistible physique," the researchers wrote.

With so much riding on one little viewing of *Nightmares on Friday, the 13th*, maybe you'd better take your date to dinner and dancing instead.

Life made little easier for transfer students

By Laura Sewell

Virginia Tech has made great strides toward easing the transition for potential transfer students. The tool? Tech's new web-based Transfer Equivalency Database (TED).

In the past, students wishing to transfer to Virginia Tech would write or phone the admissions office, a dean or a faculty member armed with a list of classes for which they needed to check transferability. The process was not only tedious for the student, but also it took the evaluators away from helping other students—for a potentially long time.

Now, transfer students can simply access TED on the transfer section of the admissions web site, click on the name of their current college, and look at a list of transferable classes. Or, they can enter a specific course abbreviation and number and see if there is an equivalent course at Tech.

Currently, TED contains transferability information only for Virginia community colleges. However, Tech soon plans to add Virginia's four-year institutions, and finally, two- and four-year schools in other states. Few other Virginia institutions provide this data-

base service to transfer students, although most do provide an on-line Transfer Guide for the Virginia Community College System, as does Tech.

For students who prefer paper versions, the Virginia Tech Office of Admissions still publishes a *Transfer Guide* complete with Virginia community college courses that will transfer to Tech.

TED can be viewed and used by selecting it on the transfer section of the admissions homepage at www.admiss.vt.edu.

RESEARCHERS

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farmers of Eastern Virginia and minimized chemical pollution of the Chesapeake Bay.

January 9: Electrical engineering Professor Arun Phadke, whose research has advanced digital techniques controlling power systems has helped scientists and engineers solve real-world problems.

January 16: Veterinary college Professor Thomas Inzana, whose research involve genetic-engineering technology to create powerful vaccines that protect livestock from infectious diseases.

January 23: Biochemistry Professor Robert White, who has discovered key pathways to

vitamin biosynthesis in organisms that live in extreme environments.

January 30: Communication studies Professor James B. Weaver III whose research on the effects of audience's exposure to pornography and horror films has been used to develop public policy.

During the two weeks of fundraising, a general announcement of support will be read: "Support for WVTF is provided by Research and Graduate Studies at Virginia Tech. Research is vital to Virginia Tech's mission to seek, teach, and share creative solutions to problems."

The remainder of the listing will be printed in January.

EXCELLENCE

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United States Capitol Historical Society Outstanding Teacher/Historian Award.

Since its inception in 1983, the Excellence in Education Awards Conference has recognized innovative approaches to teaching and learning in Virginia's public schools and community colleges. The awards conference, present annually by the College of Human Resources and Education, has become a forum in which public-school educators from throughout Virginia gather to present ideas and exchange information with Tech professors. Out of 93 proposals received, 12 award winners and 15 certificates-of-recognition recipients were chosen.

For the fifth year, the Excellence in Education conference will include the World of Work awards, presented by the Blue Ridge Training and Education Council. These awards recognize teachers throughout the region who are outstanding in the integration of academic, technical, and career education in preparing students for the work force and enhancing the educational and economic-development potential of the Blue Ridge Region. Seven Virginia public-school educators will be presented awards.

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