

# SPECTRUM



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 3 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2000

TODAY'S EDITION

See page 4 for  
additional news  
coverage.

## Fall Convocation Begins New Semester

Virginia Tech will celebrate its first Fall Convocation on Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 4 p.m., in Burruss auditorium. The convocation will include an academic procession, recognition ceremony for faculty and staff awards recipients, and an address by President Charles Steger.

The Fall Convocation and Awards Banquet is designed to improve the quality of recognition for award recipients and to streamline the functions traditionally held during the Founders Day Week celebration in April.

"We hope that this re-organization of events will provide the university community, as well as the larger community, a more fitting and enjoyable opportunity to

come together and celebrate our achievements and look to the future. The president will share his thoughts on major issues facing the university. At the same time, we will give proper recognition to those outstanding students, faculty and staff members who make this university one of the best in the world," said Larry Hincker, associate vice president for University Relations.

The entire university community is invited to participate. Those members of the community who choose not to march in the procession are urged to attend the convocation and be seated in the audience. Those attending in the audience need not wear academic regalia. Doors to the auditorium will open at 3:30 p.m. The procession line-up begins at 3:45 p.m.

The convocation will begin with an academic procession, headed by the president of the Faculty Senate, followed by students from each of the eight colleges and the Graduate School, bearing their college's banners. Anyone in the university community is invited to participate in the procession; those doing so will need to wear academic regalia. Caps and gowns can be rented (Ph.D. and master's) or purchased (undergraduate) from the University Bookstore. For more information concerning regalia, please call Teresa Jones at 1-5991 (ext. 153).

For more information concerning the Fall Convocation visit the web site at <http://www.unirel.vt.edu/vt/fall2000convocation/>.

## New department leaders named in CALS

By Stewart MacInnis

Two newly recruited faculty members with extensive international experience have taken up duties as department heads in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and a long-time Virginia Tech faculty member is heading another department on an interim basis.

"These are changes in very important positions within the college, but they are occurring with a minimum of fuss and bother," said Andy Swiger, dean of the college. "These leaders are bringing notable strengths to their jobs that will allow their departments to continue providing outstanding service to students and to industry across Virginia."

Craig L. Nessler assumed duties as head of the Department of Plant Pathology, Physiology, and Weed Science July 15.

He succeeds Kriton Hatzios, who became director of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station last year. Hatzios also served as department head since his appointment to the Experiment Station.

Nessler was professor and associate head of the Department of Biology at Texas A&M University. A major focus of his research program there was directed toward understanding the regulation of plant-cell differentiation.

He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in biology from the College of William and Mary in the early '70s, and a doctorate from Indiana University in 1976. After post-doctoral work at North Carolina

(See NEW DEPARTMENT on 4)

## Advising initiatives begin with Advising Week

By Kimberly Richards-Thomas

Advising Week, a university-wide program designed to enhance the visibility and importance of advising at Virginia Tech, will be held September 17-23. The program is one of several initiatives developed over the 99-00 academic year in response to recommendations made by a university task force appointed by former Provost Peggy Meszaros to review academic advising.

University-wide activities on the Advising Week schedule begin with an overview session, "Under the Tent: Advising Week Kickoff Celebration," to be held on the Drillfield on Monday, Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Individual colleges, departments, and units are also sponsoring a range of activities throughout the week. For example, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is

(See ADVISING on 3)



**HUD SECRETARY ON CAMPUS** Andrew Cuomo, right, secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, talks with President Charles Steger Wednesday following a luncheon meeting on campus. Cuomo praised the university for its leadership with the Blacksburg Electronic Village project, and other projects designed to extend advanced communications technology throughout the region. (B. Veltre)

## Alpine region featured in Regional Focus Project

The University Office of International Programs will feature Switzerland and the European Alpine in this fall's Regional Focus Project.

The focus project, initiated last year by former Provost Peggy Meszaros, spotlights a different area of the world each fall semester, always concentrating on the dynamics of an increasingly interdependent world. Contemporary education demands an appreciation of global realities that are evolving at an astonishing rate.

The Focus Project provides unique opportunities for students, faculty members, and interested members of the local community to learn about other world cultures. The project showcases the enormous breadth of global experience and knowledge represented by the faculty

members and students at Virginia Tech and in the local region of Southwest Virginia. Several outside lecturers and performers are also on the program series.

The European Alpine region was selected this fall for intrinsic and extrinsic reasons. Virginia Tech owns an educational facility in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland. For many Virginia Tech students, this Alpine locale provides the first experience in international living. The larger Alpine region—Germany, Austria, Italy, and France—has long served as a touchstone for Western civilization. Attention turns next year to the developing world of the Caribbean basin.

While the academic study-abroad experience provides a unique educational opportunity unlike any other for students, the goal of Virginia Tech's annual Regional Focus Project is to provide yet another dimension of

cultural learning without leaving the U.S. A common geographical focus provides a thematic link for this series of co-curricular programs designed to stimulate and deepen the campus community's knowledge about and interests in a particular region of the world.

The program events began September 7 and continue weekly through the middle of November. For specific information on the Alpine Project programs, check *Spectrum* bulletin and calendar listings, as well as the UIOP web site, <http://fbox.vt.edu:10021/international/>.

For more information, call Sarah Speir at 1-5888.

Remaining Alpine Project Events are as follows: Tuesday, Sept. 12 "The European Alpine: Beyond The Sound of Music," by

(See ALPINE on 4)

## VTPD's Jones sets retirement

By David Nutter

Mike Jones, chief of the Virginia Tech Police Department since 1989, has announced his retirement. Jones has been employed at the university for 30 years.

Raymond Smoot, Virginia Tech's vice president for administration and treasurer, said that during Jones' service, the Police Department has grown significantly in its professionalism and service to the university community.

"The achievement of national accreditation is a significant accomplishment and reflects the high level of service provided to the university community by the Police Department," Smoot said.

Lt. John Brotherton, a long-time veteran of the department, will continue to serve as acting chief until a successor is named. A search for Jones' replacement will begin this fall, and will involve members of the university and local community.

# ACTIVITIES

## EVENTS

### Saturday, 9

**IAWA Event**, 6 p.m., Cowgill lobby: Tony Wrenn, American Institute of Architecture.

**University Chamber Music**, 8 p.m., Squires Recital Salon.

**TA-UT Production**, 8 p.m., Squires Studio Theatre: *Sabbath Night in the Church of the Piranha*.

### Sunday, 10

**University Chamber Music**, 3 p.m., Squires Recital Salon.

### Monday, 11

**PFLAG Speaker**, 12:15 p.m., 116 Squires: "Helping Families Deal with Issues of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity."

**CEUT Program**, 8-11 a.m., 12:30-3:30 p.m., Hillcrest dining hall: Call 1-6995 for information.

**PFLAG Speaker**, 7:30 p.m., 150 Squires: "Promoting Healthy Communities."

### Tuesday, 12

**CEUT Program**, 12:30-2 p.m., Hillcrest large conference room: Call 1-6995 for information.

**Alpine Project Event**, 4 p.m., Squires Old Dominion Ballroom: Call 1-9594 for information.

### Wednesday, 13

**"With Good Reason,"** 7 p.m., WVTF: "The History of Screen Violence." Stephen Prince.

**Alpine Project Event**, 7 p.m., 409 Saunders: Call 1-9594 for information.

### Thursday, 14

**Family/Work/Life Resources Program**, noon-1 p.m., DBHCC, conference room G.

**Alpine Project Event**, 7 p.m., Squires Colonial Hall: Call 1-9594 for information.

### Friday, 15

**Salary and Wage Paydate.**

**Hispanic Heritage Month Begins** (Through 10-15).

**Hispanic Heritage Program**, 8 p.m., Squires Commonwealth Ballroom.

## SEMINARS

### Friday, 8

**Highlands in Chemistry**, 11 a.m., 3 Davidson: William A. Ducker.

**MCBB**, 12:20-1:10 p.m., 102 Fralin: Michael Boyle, Medical College of Ohio.

**Geological Sciences**, 1 p.m., 4052 Derring: Allan Ludman, CUNY.

**Economics**, 3:30-5 p.m., 3008 Pamplin, Thomas Gehrig, University of Freiburg and Rice University.

### Monday, 11

**Horticulture**, 4-5 p.m., 409 Saunders: Robert McDuffie.

**Biochemistry**, 4 p.m., 223 Engel: Gina MacDonald, JMU.

**Economics**, 4-5:30 p.m., 3008 Pamplin, Carol Scotese-Lehr, VCU.

### Thursday, 14

**MCBB**, 12:20-1:10 p.m., 102 Fralin: Bruno Sobral.

**Geological Sciences**, 4 p.m., 4069 Derring: Larry McKay, Tennessee.

### Friday, 15

**Highlands in Chemistry**, 11 a.m., 3 Davidson: John D. Henion, Cornell.

**MCBB**, 12:20-1:10 p.m., 102 Fralin: John D. York, Duke.

**Geological Sciences**, 2:30 p.m., 210 Robeson: Mike Hochella.

## BULLETINS

### Women's Center to register voters

The Women's Center is sponsoring a voter-registration drive throughout September. Registration and change-of-address forms and absentee requests are available at the center, located in Price House. Center hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, call 1-7806.

### Heritage Month begins with concert

Hispanic Heritage Month begins September 15 with a performance by SOLAZO at 8 p.m. in Squires Commonwealth Ballroom. Admission is free. There will also be an informal reception at 4 p.m. in 126 Squires. For more information, contact the Dean of Students Office at 1-3787/TDD 1-8718, or visit the Multicultural Programs web site at <http://www.mcp.vt.edu/>.

### Planning for Black History Month begins

Multicultural Programs extends an open invitation to all

students, faculty, and staff members to participate in planning the upcoming Black History Month. The first meeting of the Black History Month 2001 Steering Committee will be Thursday, Sept. 21 at 4 p.m. in 126 Squires. For more information, contact Alan Bagby at 1-8584, or the Dean of Students Office at 1-3787/TDD 1-8718.

### PFLAG director to speak

Kirsten Kingdon, national executive director of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) will speak on September 11. Kingdon will give two talks: "Helping Families Deal with Issues of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity" at 12:15 p.m. in 116 Squires, and "Promoting Healthy Communities" at 7:30 p.m. in 150 Squires.

Sponsors of Kingdon's visit include the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Alliance, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Dean of Students Office, and the Thomas E. Cook Counseling Center. Her visit is also sponsored by several church

groups and community organizations.

### IAWA holds exhibit/reception

The International Archive of Women in Architecture (IAWA) is holding an exhibit/reception on Saturday, Sept. 9 at 6 p.m. in Cowgill Lobby. Tony Wrenn, former archivist with the American Institute of Architecture, will give remarks. For information, contact Donna Dunay at [ddunay@vt.edu](mailto:ddunay@vt.edu).

IAWA was established in 1985 to preserve the history of women's involvement in architecture. It is a joint program of the College of Architecture and Urban Studies and University Libraries.

### DBHCC dinner-concert tickets available

The annual dinner-concert series at DBHCC will include two upcoming events, one on Saturday, Oct. 28, and one on Saturday, May 19. Violinist Sabrina Berger will perform on October 28, and tickets are now available at \$40 per person. Call 1-6795 for reservations.

## Lunn to address campus VIED session

By Clara B. Cox

Maxine Lunn, vice president of technology programs for Virginia's Center for Innovative Technology (CIT), will deliver the keynote address at the 18th annual Virginia Institute for Economic Development (VIED) on September 25 at Virginia Tech. Lunn will discuss the impact of technology on Virginia's economic-development initiatives of the future.

"Technology has changed the shape and future of how states, communities, and organizations conduct economic-development processes, and advancing in technological understandings is critical to our future competitive success," she said.

VIED, a professional-development program, provides training that focuses on the state economic-development process and its benefits to sustainable growth and development for communities. The Virginia Department of Business Assistance, Virginia Economic Development Partnership, and Virginia Tech's Public Service Programs coordinate the institute.

Program sponsors include the Virginia Economic Developers Association, American Electric Power, Virginia's CIT, Columbia Gas Services, GTE, and Virginia Power.

VIED is a non-credit program in economic development leading to a certificate of completion. The program includes five days of seminars and five weeks of home study. Seminars are divided into two sessions, one at the beginning and one at the conclusion of the home-study segment.

This year, the first session will be held at Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center September 25-27. The second session is scheduled for October 23-25 at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center. Students must attend both sessions.

Registration is limited to 50 participants. For information on registering or for additional information, call Ellen Agee at 1-6638 or send an e-mail message to [eaagee@vt.edu](mailto:eaagee@vt.edu).

## Roanoke to host virtual-learning conference

By Sally Harris

In late September, Roanoke, the former railway center and manufacturing town, will host hundreds of people looking toward building new "virtual universities" or creating virtual programs within an already-existing college or university.

The new interactive possibilities of Internet-based communications are making these innovations very real, and the conference will discuss the pluses and minuses of building such new educational institutions.

Learning 2000: Reassessing the Virtual University, a Virginia Tech conference to be held at Hotel Roanoke September 28 through October 1, features presenters from around the world, including Europe, South America, Australia, Asia, and North America, and throughout Virginia. Keynote speakers include Mark Poster, University of California, Irvine; Kathleen Hayles, UCLA; Michael Joyce, Vassar College; Stuart Moulthrop, University of Baltimore; Carole Barone from Educause; and Keith Fulton from AOL.

Virginia Tech has been a leader in laying the foundations for on-line learning environments since 1993, making it uniquely positioned as a site to assess the benefits and costs of virtual university instruction. The Learning 2000 conference also will continue the debate about the merits of on-line teaching and distance education that began with Virginia Tech's Learning Online '98 conference.

Topics to be covered include Social Issues and the Virtual University, Learning System Vendors and the Virtual University, Philosophical Approaches to the Virtual University, The Library and the Virtual University, Supporting Distance Learning, Legal Issues for the Virtual University, a variety of Best Practices sessions describing current work in the field, and many others.

For information about the conference, speakers, schedule, and registration, go to the web site <http://www.cddc.vt.edu/learning>. Information is also available by calling the Office of Continuing Education at 1-7887.



# 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. For information on all job listings, call 1-5300. 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

**(Surgical Ward Technician) Medical Technologist**, 2637J, Grade 9, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

**Administrative Associate**, 7161L, Grade 6, University Development.

**Animal Care Supervisor**, 6998J, Grade 11, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

**Animal Care Technician B**, 496J, Grade 5, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

**Applications Analyst**, 2145L, Grade 0, Web Application Research/Development.

**Applications Analyst**, 1226L, Grade 0, Web Application Research/Development.

**Assistant to Director of Annual Giving**, 2226L, Grade 6, University Development.

**Banquet Manager (Food Operations Manager Assistant)**, 1118G, Grade 6, DBHCC.

**Boiler Operator Assistant**, 332G, Grade 4, Power Plant.

**Budget Analyst**, 6927T, Grade 10, Budget/Financial Planning.

**Business Researcher**, 7616D, Grade 11, VTTI.

**Computer Systems Engineer**, 0180T, Grade 14, CS.

**Data Warehouse Architect**, 6701L, Grade 0, Information Systems/Computing.

**Development Assistant**, 1964L, Grade 6, University Development/Corporate/Foundation Relations.

**Electrician**, 7565G, Grade 7, Physical Plant.

**Electronic Information Coordinator**, 5502D, Grade 12, Publications/University Relations.

**Equipment Repair Supervisor**, 0253G, Grade 9, Motor Pool.

**Equipment Repair Supervisor**, 0253G, Grade 9, Motor Pool.

**Executive Secretary**, 7473T, Grade 6, Provost.

**Fiscal Technician**, 6676G, Grade 6, Continuing Education.

**Seven** full-time food-operations positions available; three part-time positions.

**Food Operations Manager A/Sous Chef**, 0940H, Grade 8, Residential/Dining Programs/Southgate Bake Shop.

**Food Operations Manager B/Executive Chef**, 0266H, Grade 10, Residential/Dining Programs/Shultz Dining Center.

**Housekeeping Lead Worker/Recycle Coordinator**, 6724H, Grade 2, Residential/Dining Programs.

**Housekeeping Lead Worker/Special Projects Crew**, 0216H, Grade 2, Residential/Dining Programs.

**Housekeeping Supervisor**, 0824H, Grade 4, Residential/Dining Programs.

**Housekeeping Worker**, 2846J, Grade 1, Recreational Sports.

**Housekeeping Worker**, 1631G, Grade 1, DBHCC.

**Housekeeping Worker**, 0278H, Grade 1, Residential/Dining Programs.

**Housekeeping Worker Senior**, 6926H, Grade 3, Residential/Dining Programs.

**Housekeeping Worker Senior**, 2745H, Grade 3, Residential/Dining Programs.

**Interpreter for Deaf**, 7472J, Grade 8, Dean of Students.

**Laboratory Specialist**, 7624T, Grade 8, Chemical Engineering.

**Laboratory Specialist**, 7662M, Grade 8, Biochemistry.

**Laboratory Specialist Advanced**, 3373M, Grade 11, BSE.

**Laboratory Specialist Advanced**, 3068M, Grade 11, BSE.

**Laboratory Specialist Senior**, 7645M, Grade 9, PPWS.

**Laboratory Specialist Senior**, 7302M, Grade 9, Biochemistry.

**Laboratory Technician**, 7519T, Grade 4, Chemistry.

**Medical Technologist**, 6774J, Grade 9, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

**Medical Technologist**, 2596J, Grade 9, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

**Office Services Specialist**, 2236H, Grade 5, Residential/Dining Programs/Facilities/Services.

**Office Services Specialist**, 1310T, Grade 5, University Registrar.

**Plumber Steamfitter**, 0709G, Grade 7, Physical Plant.

**Program Support Technician**, W022876T, Grade 6, Undergraduate Admissions.

**Program Support Technician**, 0637J, Grade 6, HTM.

**Program Support Technician**, 1522T, Grade 6, Political Science.

**Program Support Technician Senior**, 2061J, Grade 7, Architecture.

**Program Support Technician Sr**, 7666J, Grade 7, Human Development.

**Programmer Analyst**, 1643T, Grade 12, Budget/Financial Planning.

**Research Software Developer**, 7637T, Grade 14, Virginia Bioinformatics Institute.

**Secretary Senior**, 5577M, Grade 5, Animal/Poultry Sciences.

**Security Lead Guard (Parking Enforcement Off.)**, 7653G, Grade 3, Parking Services.

**Security Lead Guard (Parking Enforcement Off.)**, W020119G, Grade 3, Parking Services.

**Student Services Specialist**, 7648T, Grade 8, University Honors—Provost.

**Systems Administrator**, 7636T, Grade 16, Virginia Bioinformatics Institute.

**Telecommunications Analyst**, 00157A, Grade 8, CNS.

**Telecommunications Field Tech (Installation/Repair Tech)**, 00681A, Grade 8, CNS.

**Telecommunications Network Technician**, 7665A, Grade 8, CNS.

**Trades Utility Worker (Maintenance Engineer)**, 7569G, Grade 3, DBHCC.

**Trades/Utilities Lead Worker**, 0007H, Grade 7, Residential/Dining Programs/Culinary Services.

**Web Documentation Specialist (Public Relations Assist Spec)**, 07664A, Grade 8, CNS.

**Web-Site Technician (Prgm Support Tech. Senior)**, 6914T, Grade 7, Physics.

### PART TIME

**Agricultural Technician B**, W022203J, Grade 5, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

**Airport Line Service (Vehicle Svc Attendant)**, W022078G, Grade 3, Airport.

**Animal Care Tech B**, W022914J, Grade 5, Veterinary Medicine.

**Animal Care Technician A**, W022155J, Grade 3, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

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

**Cashier/Hostess**, W022981G, Grade 2, DBHCC.

**Enrollment Services Assistant**, W022462T, Grade 7, Undergraduate Admissions.

**Fiscal Assistant**, W023107M, Grade 5, Entomology.

**Fiscal Assistant**, W022977M, Grade 5, Biochemistry.

**Fiscal Assistant**, W023088T, Grade 5, Women's Center.

**Highway Equipment Operator C**, W034114T, Grade 6, Chemistry.

**Housekeeping Worker**, W020190C, Grade 1, Physical Plant/Housekeeping Services.

**Housekeeping Worker**, W020574G, Grade 1, DBHCC.

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

**Laboratory Mechanic B**, W023115M, Grade 6, Fisheries/Wildlife Sciences.

**Laboratory Specialist**, W023103M, Grade 8, Horticulture.

**Laboratory Technician Senior**, W022934M, Grade 5, Fisheries/Wildlife Sciences.

**Laboratory Technician Senior**, W020627T, Grade 5, Chemistry.

**Laboratory Technician Senior**, W020117G, Grade 5, EHSS.

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

**Office Services Assistant**, W020838J, Grade 4, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

**Office Services Assistant**, W022390T, Grade 4, Registrar.

**Office Services Specialist**, W023044J, Grade 5, Dean of Students.

**Office Services Specialist**, W020467J, Grade 5, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

**Pharmacy Assistant A**, W020839J, Grade 4, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

**Postal Assistant**, W022844L, Grade 4, Alumni Relations.

**Radiologic Technologist**, W022238J, Grade 7, Health Center.

**Storekeeper**, W022291J, Grade 4, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

**Switchboard Operator**, W022101A, Grade 4, CNS.

**Trades/Utilities Worker**, W023023H, Grade 3, Residential/Dining Programs/Culinary Services

Maintenance Crew.

**Web Designer**, W022976H, Grade 8, Residential/Dining Programs/Marketing/Conference Services.

### UNIVERSITY ONLY

**Carrier**, U1768L, Grade 4, University Mail Services.

**Enrollment Services Specialist**, U6684T, Grade 8, Registrar.

### OFF CAMPUS

**4-h Program Assistant**, 5862M, Grade 4, VCE.

**4-h Program Assistant**, 6379M, Grade 4, VCE.

**Announcer**, W020800L, Grade 8, University Relations/WVTF.

**Development Associate**, 7663L, Grade 6, EMC/University Development.

**Office Services Assistant**, 7530J, Grade 4, Henrico.

**Program Support Technician**, 6211M, Grade 6, VCE.

**Receptionist**, W020297L, Grade 2, Computing Center.

**Scnep Youth Program Assistant/Office Services Assistant**, 7536, Grade 4, Danville City.

## FACULTY POSITIONS

### INSTRUCTIONAL

**Dept. of Urban Affairs/Planning. Assistant/Associate Professor.** Contact: John Browder, 201 Architecture Annex (0113). Review begins December 1.

**Dept. of Industrial/Systems Engineering. Tenure-track Faculty Positions.** Contact: Hanif Sherah, 250 New Engineering Building (0118). Review begins January 5.

**Dept. of Electrical/Computer Engineering. Assistant/Associate/Full Professors.** Contact: W.L. Stutzman, 340 Whittemore (0111). Review begins March 31.

**Dept. of Physics. Senior Research Associate.** Contact: Lay Nam Chang, 123 Robeson (0435). Review begins October 15.

### NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

**Software Technologies Laboratory. Software Engineer/Research Associate.** Contact: Bert Hubbard, 1900 Kraft Dr., Suite 105, Blacksburg, VA 24060.

**Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, 4-H.** #FA600, Warren Co. Contact: Robert Ray Meadows, 121 Hutcheson (0437). Review begins September 27.

**Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, Family/Consumer Sciences.** #FA614, Botetourt Co. Contact: John Dooley, 122 Hutcheson (0437). Review begins September 27.

**Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, Family/Consumer Sciences.** #FA628, Surry Co. Contact: John Dooley, 122 Hutcheson (0437). Review begins September 27.

**University Libraries. College Librarian, College of Arts/Sciences.** Contact: Cathy Pilow, Personnel Services, University Libraries, P.O. Box 90001, Blacksburg, VA 24062-9001. Review begins November 1.

**Communications Network Services. Fiscal Director, Advanced Networking Infrastructure/Services.** Contact: Dan Joyce, 1700 Pratt Dr. (0506). Review begins October 1.



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE  
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## ADVISING

*Continued from 1*

sponsoring a Faculty Associates' Panel on "What Works And Doesn't Work In Advising," and the College of Natural Resources is encouraging faculty members to discuss advising for at least five to 10 minutes in each of their classes.

Other initiatives developed as a result of the

task-force report include a new logo and theme for all advising activities at Virginia Tech, *Advising Matters*, and a new web site at [www.provost.vt.edu/advising/advising.html](http://www.provost.vt.edu/advising/advising.html).

For more information about Advising Week 2000, visit the web site, or contact Kimberly LaBoone at 1-2241.

# Mostaghimi named to Alphin Professorship in CALS

By Stewart MacInnis

Saied Mostaghimi has been named the H.E. and Elizabeth F. Alphin professor in agriculture and life sciences.

A faculty member in the Department of Biological Systems Engineering since 1984, Mostaghimi was appointed to the named professorship by the university's Board of Visitors.

A major thrust of Mostaghimi's teaching and research programs have been aimed at conserving natural resources and to minimize non-point source pollution. His research deals with the development and evaluation of management alternatives to minimize the potential negative impact of agricultural practices on quality of water resources while maintaining sustainable crop production levels.

As an educator, he developed three new courses and substantially revised three existing courses, as well as updated all courses in the land-and-water-resources area. He is adviser to the student branch of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, and he has twice received that organization's outstanding faculty award, as well as numerous other teaching awards. Twenty of the 28 graduate students he has advised have completed their degrees, and their research results have been published.

His research is the basis for standards for agricultural and urban non-point source pollution-control programs in Virginia, and is being used by a number of Virginia state agencies, other states, and the federal government for a variety of applications to monitor and manage natural resources.

"Dr. Mostaghimi has demonstrated extraordinary abilities as a teacher and researcher," said Andy Swiger, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. "His work has had a tremendous impact both in Virginia and nationally."

In 1976, Mostaghimi earned a bachelor's degree in irrigation engineering from Pahlavi University in Shiraz, Iran. He earned a master's degree and a doctorate in agricultural engineering from the University of Illinois at

Urbana-Champaign in 1979 and 1982 respectively.

Before he joined the faculty at Virginia Tech, he was a research associate in the Department of Agricultural Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

He is a member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, the Soil Conservation Society of America, the American Water Resources Association, the Water Environment Federation, the National Water Well Association, the Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers, the International Water Resources Association, the American Society of Engineering Education, and the American Geophysical Union.

He has received many awards for his research contributions, including the commendation award from the Soil and Water Conservation Society of America and the Gamma Sigma Delta Research Award. In addition, the American Society of Agricultural Engineers selected him for the Engineering Achievement Young Researcher Award in 1993.

In 1992, the Department of Biological Systems Engineering's effort towards the cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay, in which Mostaghimi played a key role, was recognized by the Administrator's Pollution Prevention Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Virginia Tech was the only university selected for this national award. Mostaghimi has published over 250 technical publications on non-point source pollution and impact of land-use activities on the quality of surface and ground waters.

The professorship is endowed by a gift from the Alphins. Alphin is a 1934 dairy-sciences graduate of the university. He worked with the Extension service in North Carolina before wartime service in the Army led to a 26-year military career. In 1967 he retired from the military with the rank of colonel, and began work as personnel director for a Washington hospital, from which he retired in 1979. He then became a land developer in Northern Virginia.

Alphin's other gifts to the university helped

establish a radiology center in the College of Veterinary Medicine and named scholarships in the Department of Dairy Science and for the

Corps of Cadets. He was also a major contributor to a teaching livestock arena built on the Virginia Tech campus.



**HUSH HARBOR** Nikki Giovanni's Hush Harbor Choir performed recently at the Third Annual Celebration of Diversity Program. (R. Griffiths)

## Cohill named to state commission

As part of his recently announced "Digital Dominion," described as a model for governing in the Internet age, Governor Jim Gilmore has created the Virginia e-Communities Task Force, recognizing the power and potential of technology to provide similar opportunities for the state's communities.

Andrew Cohill, director of the Blacksburg Electronic Village, and Robert Fields, the executive director of the Franklin-Southampton Economic Development Corporation, will serve as co-chairmen. The task force will bring together education, business, government, and philanthropic leaders to build five blueprints for communities of five different sizes across the

state.

The blueprints will contain a statement of principles and a description of infrastructure needs to build an e-community.

In addition, more than 20 members representing education, business, government, and the philanthropic community will comprise the Task Force.

"The Digital Dominion model will bring citizens and businesses closer to one another and closer to a more efficient and responsive government," Gilmore said. "Under this model, Virginia will stand as a new paradigm for governing in the Internet Age with unlimited opportunities to advance our role as a global technology leader."

## NEW DEPARTMENT

Continued from 1

State University, he joined the faculty of Texas A&M University in 1979. He was a visiting research officer at the Plant Biotechnology Institute in Canada during 1989-1990.

Jerzy Nowak is the new head of the Department of Horticulture. He took up his duties August 21.

He succeeds Robert Wright, who was named the Julian H. Gary and Margaret S. Gary professor of horticulture. Wright is returning to teaching and research duties.

Nowak was head of the Department of Plant Science at Nova Scotia Agricultural College. At that institution he co-chaired an interdisciplinary committee developing a curriculum for a bachelor's program in agricultural biotechnology. He also led efforts to revise the curriculum of options offered by the department.

He earned a master's degree in plant biochemistry from the Agricultural University in Olsztyn-Kortowo, Poland, and a doctorate in agricultural sciences from the same university. He held positions equivalent to assistant and associate professor there, was a visiting senior lecturer at the University of Lagos, and was a visiting research fellow at the University of Alberta before he joined the faculty at Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

Merle Pierson, professor of food science

and technology, is acting head of that department, serving on an interim basis until a replacement is found for Cameron Hackney. Hackney assumed duties of dean of agriculture at West Virginia University July 1.

Pierson, who joined the faculty at Virginia Tech in 1970, was head of the department from 1985 to 1994. He is internationally recognized for his work with Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points, and research on inhibition and control of food-borne pathogens, analytical food microbiology and food-preservation systems.

A national search is being conducted to select a permanent department head.

## ALPINE

Continued from 1

Athanasios Moulakis, 4 p.m., in Squires Old Dominion Ballroom. Moulakis is the university's new Center for European Studies and Architecture (CESA) director. Moulakis has lived, taught, and speaks the languages of the European Alpine region, and will provide an overview of this culturally diverse region.

Moulakis, a native of Greece, earned his Ph.D. at Ruhr University in Bochum, Germany. He has held teaching and research appointments, including a Fulbright professorship at the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena, Germany. He has also held positions at St. John's College, Harvard, UC-San Diego, Ruhr University, and the London School of Economics. His academic

interests include classics, history, philosophy, and political science.

Moulakis comes to Virginia Tech from the University of Colorado where, as the Herbst professor of humanities and professor of political science, he directed an endowed program in the humanities for engineers. There will be a reception following presentation. The event is free and open to the university community and general public.

On Wednesday, Sept. 13, the European Film Series will feature *Cinema Paradiso* at 7 p.m. in 409 Saunders. The uncut version of the 1989 Best Foreign Film Academy Award winner from Italy features 50 minutes of footage not included in the American release. Discussion following the movie will be with Klaus Phillips, professor of German and film from Hollins University. The event is free and open to the university community and general public.

On Thursday, Sept. 14, at 7 p.m. in Squires Colonial Hall, "Switzerland: An Alpine Republic between Procrustean Compulsion and Protean Inspiration," will be presented by Pierre Comberous, charge d'affaires at the Swiss Embassy, Washington, DC. The program will explore the conundrum of what makes this country "tick." Switzerland is a nation marked by fascinating contradictions and diversity—one that invented neutrality to escape world politics, yet also invented humanitarian solidarity to partake in its miseries.

There will be a reception following in the Williamsburg room. The event is free and open to the university community and general public.

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