

SPECTRUM



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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VOLUME 24 NUMBER 9 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2001

TODAY'S EDITION
See page 4 for
governor's Q&A
letter.

University leads global agricultural-biotechnology effort

By Stewart MacInnis

Agricultural biotechnology holds the promise of hardier, healthier, and more abundant sources of food for people around the world as well as new sources for pharmaceuticals.

Biotechnology is also likely to produce winners and losers as a result of social and economic impacts, said George Norton, professor of agricultural and applied economics. According to Norton, sorting out these social and economic effects may be critical to public acceptance of biotechnology. Without that acceptance, he said, many potential benefits may be lost.

Norton is heading an effort centered at Virginia Tech and including scientists worldwide that will investigate the social and economic effects of biotechnologies. The project is funded by a \$1.1-million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The scientific achievements of biotechnology have been occurring at such an astounding pace that social and economic assessments have lagged behind, Norton said.

"There are major benefits that can be expected from agricultural biotechnology, but we expect to see distributional effects as well," Norton said. "For example, early adopters of the technology may be in a stronger position than those who adopt it later."

The four-year project will investigate the impacts of biotechnology from a social-science perspective. The faculty members involved will be able to draw on the expertise of Virginia Tech researchers who have pioneered key biotechnology procedures, especially in the area of generating human pharmaceuticals from plants and animals.

"We can't look into economics or social issues in a vacuum," Norton said. "We'll have to inform ourselves [about the scientific aspects

of biotechnology] as we go ahead, but we also want to keep our perspective. We don't want to be an advocate for any side of this."

Other faculty members involved in the project at Virginia Tech include Brad Mills, Dixie Reaves, and Mike Ellerbrock in agricultural and applied economics; Laura Parisi in the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; and Colette Harris in the Office of International Research and Development. Scientists at Virginia State University, North Carolina State University, the University of Tennessee, and at the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines are also participating.

"The complexity of the issues requires a team approach," Norton said. "Our group brings expertise in environmental mediation, the economics of tobacco and rice production, evaluation of agricultural research, gender issues, international political economy, and the

(See *UNIVERSITY* on 3)

NSF funds research on women in IT

By Jean Elliott

Three Virginia Tech researchers have been awarded a \$655,849 grant from the National Science Foundation to study "Women in Information Technology: Pivotal Transitions from School to Careers."

The interdisciplinary team of principal investigators are Peggy Meszaros, director of the Center for Information Technology Impacts on Children, Youth and Families; Carol Burger, coordinator of the VT Science and Gender Equity Program; and Elizabeth Creamer, associate professor in Women's Studies and in Higher Education and Student Affairs.

The ultimate goal of the project is to increase the numbers of women who choose to enter and remain in information technology (IT) careers. The researchers will study the factors that influence and support IT career choices, including the impact of family, peers, school, and community on girls' perceptions of IT careers.

The three-year study will provide primary research data for educators, policy makers, and administrators about key pivotal points in girls' lives that result in their positive or negative view of information technology as a viable career choice.

Careers in IT encompass occupations that require designing and developing software and hardware systems; providing technical support for computer and peripheral systems; and creating and managing network systems and databases. While women make up 46 percent of the workforce, they comprise only 25 percent of the professional IT workforce and only 10 percent of the top IT jobs.

"At the end of the three years, we hope to be able to identify barriers, find ways to circumvent them, and begin to provide a pipeline of career women to the IT industry," Meszaros said.

Girls and women across the state of Virginia at rural and urban high schools (Pulaski, Wytheville, Giles, Fairfax and Hampton), and a variety of community colleges and universities (New River CC, Wytheville CC, George Mason University, Norfolk State, Old Dominion, and Virginia Tech) will be interviewed and surveyed. Group activities with computer programs will be used to stimulate interest in and understanding of IT careers. The project will also produce a videotape documentary, the development of a web site, and case studies of the longitudinal development of girls' career transitions and choices. There will also be career-planning workshops for students, parents, counselors, teachers, and administrators to talk with women who are successful IT professionals.

"So many of the software programs

(See *NSF* on 4)



Governor James Gilmore was on campus this month to announce the release of funds to construct the new chemistry/physics building. (R. Griffiths)

Tech post office, emergency services take extra precautions

By Jeffrey S. Douglas

The Virginia Tech Mail Service has taken steps to ensure the safety of the university community following reports of anthrax-contaminated mail sent to national media and government officials and "copy-cat" hoaxes.

The 31 employees of Tech's University Mail Services handle about 20,000 pieces of incoming and inter-departmental mail daily and post up to \$6,000 in outgoing parcels, according to Mail Services Manager Maynard Quesenberry.

But the risk of tainted mail reaching the university is diminished by the fact that inbound VT mail has successfully passed through heightened security measures recently instituted by the United States Postal Service.

The USPS, which moved an estimated 208 billion pieces of mail last year and has delivered over 20 billion units since September 11, has pledged that terrorist acts will not stop the mail.

University postal service employees are

being trained to recognize suspicious packages and the procedures to follow in the event something unusual is detected, Quesenberry said.

Postal workers have the option of using latex gloves, masks are on hand for those who want them, and zippered plastic baggies are available to immediately contain suspicious packages. Postal-delivery vehicles are now locked during every stop on campus in which delivery personnel even momentarily leave their vehicles.

So far, there have been no problems detected with the university mail systems, Quesenberry said, though several packages arriving from overseas have been investigated by authorities.

The United States Postal Investigative Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have announced a \$1-million award for information leading to the conviction of anyone who sends anthrax through the mail. Stiff

(See *POST OFFICE* on 3)

Women, minority artists, scholars grants announced

The Office of the Provost has announced the recipients of the Women and Minority Artists and Scholars Lecture Series Grants for 2001-2002. 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 minority members.

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.

(See *WOMEN* on 4)

Steger selected to receive highest VSAIA honor

President Charles W. Steger has been selected to receive the highest honor bestowed by the Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects (VSAIA). Next month, he will be presented the 2001 William C. Noland Medal in recognition of his body of accomplishments, which span a broad spectrum of the profession and transcend the scope of normal professional activities.

Steger holds the highest elected or appointed position held by any architect in Virginia, and with this award, will follow Charles Burchard as the second former dean of the College of Architecture and Urban Studies to

receive this honor, along with Leonard Currie, former head of the architecture program. More than an award to acknowledge distinguished professional achievement, the Noland Medal aspires to designate the one Virginia architect who most successfully exemplifies the values and abilities of the architecture profession to society at large.

John Braymer, executive vice president and CEO of the VSAIA, citing Steger's professional path from dean, to vice president for Development, to president, commented on the ability Steger had to bring communications

(See *STEGER* on 4)

ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

Friday, 26

YMCA Open University Registration, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., YMCA Office.
International Club, details TBA.
New River Valley Symphony, 8 p.m., Burruss auditorium.

Saturday, 27

Natural History Museum Program, 11 a.m. to noon, VMNH.
Football, noon, Lane Stadium: Syracuse.

Sunday, 28

YMCA Hike, 1:30 p.m., YMCA Parking Lot.
Ensemble Concert, 3 p.m., Squires Recital Salon.

Monday, 29

Family, Work/Life Resources Program, noon to 1 p.m., DBHCC room G.

Tuesday, 30

VTU Event, 7:30 p.m., Burruss auditorium: “Footloose.
Bloodmobile, 8 a.m. to noon, Squires Commonwealth.
Faculty Development Workshop, 10 a.m. to noon, 1120 Torgersen.

Wednesday, 31

Bloodmobile, 8 a.m. to noon, Squires Commonwealth.
Leadership Development Workshop, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., DBHCC rooms D, E.
Faculty Development Workshop, 10 a.m. to noon, 3060 Torgersen.
CommonHealth Program, 12:10 to 12:55 p.m., DBHCC room G.
Faculty Development Workshop, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., 3060 Torgersen.
CEUT Program, 2 to 4 p.m., Hillcrest dining room.
“With Good Reason,” 7 p.m., WVTF.

Thursday, 1

Pay Date for Faculty and Staff Members.
Native American Heritage Month Begins.
Bloodmobile, 8 a.m. to noon, Squires Commonwealth.
Excellence in Education Conference (Through 11-2).
Faculty Development Workshop, 10 a.m. to noon, 3060 Torgersen.
YMCA Slide Show, noon, Cranwell Center.
CommonHealth Program, 12:05 to 12:55 p.m., 336 Wallace.
CEUT Program, 12:30 to 2 p.m., Hillcrest large conference room.

Friday, 2

International Club, details TBA.
CEUT Program, 3:30 to 5 p.m., Hillcrest large conference room.

SEMINARS

Friday, 26

Highlands in Chemistry, 11:15 a.m., 3 Davidson: Hyuk Yu, Wisconsin-Madison.
MCBB, 12:30 p.m., 102 Fralin: Jim Maller, Colorado.
Geological Sciences, 3 p.m., 4069 Derring: Roger Slatt, Oklahoma.

Monday, 29

Biochemistry, 4 p.m., 223 Engel: Ed Park, Tennessee-Memphis.
History, 4 to 5 p.m., 434 Major Williams: Allison Blakely, Boston U.

Wednesday, 31

Global History, 12:15 to 1:15 p.m., 427 Major Williams: Laura Parisi, Douglas Borer, Jeff Corntassel.

Thursday, 1

Geological Sciences, 4 p.m., 4069 Derring: Paul Geissler, Arizona.

Friday, 2

Highlands in Chemistry, 11:15 a.m., 3 Davidson: Fred Nenger, Emory.
MCBB, 12:30 p.m., 102 Fralin: David Dyer, Colorado.
Philosophy, 3 p.m., 225 Major Williams: James Mahon, Washington and Lee.

BULLETINS

Will to present Cutchins Lecture

Nationally syndicated *Washington Post* columnist and TV news analyst George F. Will will present “Public Affairs, Public Policy, and American Society,” Thursday, Nov. 8, at 7:30 p.m., in Burruss auditorium. The presentation is the Cutchins Distinguished Lecture, sponsored by the Corps of Cadets Center for Leader Development and the Pamplin College of Business. The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, call 1-7136.

History-conference papers invited

The History Graduate Program invites submissions to present current research at the Brian Bertoti “Innovative Perspectives in History” Conference April 5-6. Graduate and undergraduate students from all disciplines are invited to submit proposals that address historical topics. Chairs and discussants will be selected from among the faculty at Virginia Tech and other regional universities. In addition to the panels, the conference will feature Joel Williamson from the University of North Carolina as keynote speaker. Mail a one-page abstract including the paper’s thesis, sources, and conclusions to Graduate History Conference, Department of History, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0117 or e-mail it as an attachment to Jonathan Hoganson at jhoganso@vt.edu. Include with a brief biographical statement indicating academic status along with a return address and current e-mail address. Deadline for submissions is January 1. For more information, contact Hoganson, or refer to the history graduate student web site,

accessible Nov. 1, at <http://www.majbill.vt.edu/history/graduatestudent/index.html>.

Sign-language activity offered

Faculty and staff members interested in learning sign language can attend a weekly social signing activity in the War Memorial Chapel Meditation Room from noon to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays. For more information, call 1-6240.

Food drive scheduled tomorrow

The Marching Virginians will sponsor a canned-food drive at the Syracuse football game on Saturday. The goal of the drive is to collect 50,000 cans of food.
Drop-off points will be outside Lane Stadium, at the Marching Virginians’ practice field, and across campus where Tailgate Pep Bands will be stationed before the noon kick-off. Contributions will be distributed through the Montgomery County Christmas Store.

Annual mineral, gift sale set

The Geological Science’s Museum Mineral and Fossil Sale is Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in 2062 Derring. Gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry and gifts pertaining to the geological sciences will be available to view and purchase. All proceeds support the educational programs of the Museum of Geological Sciences.
The American Association of University Women Educational Foundation will also sell pecans, maple syrup, and 2002 calendars

from 9 a.m. to noon. Proceeds go for AAUW fellowships and grants to advance educational and career opportunities for women. For more information, call Jennifer Stempien at 1-1840.

Watershed Stakeholder Summit scheduled

The Water Center is sponsoring the Stroubles Creek Watershed Stakeholder Summit November 2 in DBHC room A. The morning workshop will discuss the status of the watershed and the role of university and stakeholders. The afternoon session will present the watershed-survey results and watershed-restoration priorities. For more information, e-mail water@vt.edu or call 1-5624.

Black History Month call for participation

The theme for 2002 is “The Color Line Revisited: Is Racism Dead?” Programs and events are sought which explore the existence or non-existence of racism in today’s society. Program participation forms may be obtained from the Black Cultural Center or Multicultural Center (126/140 Squires Student Center), or downloaded from the Multicultural Programs web site at <http://www.mcp.vt.edu/> ><http://www.mcp.vt.edu/>. The deadline is Friday, Nov. 30, at 5 p.m. in the Black Cultural Center (126 Squires). For more information, contact Alan Bagby at 1-6023, or the Dean of Students Office at 1-3787. Black History Month is coordinated by the Dean of Students Office.

Excellence in Education Conference honors innovation

By Jean Elliott

As part of a continuing tradition of promoting quality in teaching, the College of Human Resources and Education will sponsor the 18th-annual Excellence in Education Awards Conference on November 1 and 2.
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 conference has become a forum in which public-school educators gather to present ideas and exchange information with peers, colleagues and Virginia Tech professors in teaching and learning. Excellence in education

requires innovation, enthusiasm, creativity, and dedication, and this conference honors some of Virginia’s most-exemplary educational programs and the dedicated individuals who created them.
Richard DuFour will be the keynote speaker for this event. DuFour’s address, “Professional Learning Communities at Work: Best Practices for Enhancing Student Achievement,” will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, in the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center auditorium. The public is invited to attend, free of charge.
Named as one of the “top-100” school administrators in the nation by *Executive* (See *EXCELLENCE* on 3)

Women in Mathematics Career Day set

Virginia Tech faculty members, students, and alumnae will join approximately 250 sixth graders from 20 area schools on Wednesday, Nov. 14, for an intergenerational, multi-media mathematical celebration.
The seventh annual Women in Mathematics: Career Day at Virginia Tech will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a welcome session at the Math Emporium on University City Boulevard in Blacksburg. The session features Beville Watford, associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Engineering, and John Rossi, head of the Department of Mathematics in the College of Arts and Sciences. From 10 a.m. to

(See *CAREER* on 3)

Regan to lecture

Dean Thomas Regan of the College of Architecture at Texas A&M will present a lecture entitled “Leadership in the New Era of Architectural Education: The Large College Emerges,” today at 5 p.m. in 2150 Torgersen.
Regan held administrative appointments here as director of Foundation Studies and assistant dean for the Division of Architecture and Environmental Design. He was instrumental in creating an off-campus unit of the college, the Washington-Alexandria Center, and became its first director. While at Virginia Tech, he was selected twice for the Excellence in Teaching Award by his colleagues, won the Wine Award for Outstanding Teaching, which is awarded to three university faculty members annually. He also chaired the Academy of Teaching

(See *REGAN* on 3)

EMPLOYMENT

CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

FULL TIME

Administrative Staff Assistant, 007867R, PB 3, VBI.

Alternative Transportation Manager, 007223F, PB 4, OT.

Assistant Director for Capital/Reserve Projects, 007870H, PB 5, RDP.

Business Officer, 007865R, PB 4, IDDL.

Computer Network Support Technician, 007863R, PB 4, Provost's Office.

Computer Systems Engineer, 007861R, PB 5, VBI.

Database Administrator, 007777R, PB 5, VBI.

Faculty Data/Procedure Technician, 006286G, PB 3, Personnel Services.

Financial Planning Manager, 007567F, PB 5, BFP.

Fiscal Assistant, 006239F, PB 2, Controller's Office.

Fiscal Technician Senior, 004190R, PB 3, OSP.

Five full-time food-service positions available.

Food Production Supervisor, 000405H, PB 1, RDP.

Housekeeping—Night Crew, 007814H, PB 1, RDP.

Housekeeping Manager, 006926H, PB 3, RDP.

Housekeeping Supervisor, 000269H, PB 2, RDP.

Housekeeping Worker, 000096H, PB 1, RDP.

Housekeeping Worker, P002005C, PB 1, Physical Plant.

Laboratory Specialist, 007707B, PB 3, CE.

Laboratory Specialist, 007866R, PB 3, VBI.

Laboratory Specialist, 007860M, PB 3, CVM—BSP.

Medical Technologist, 002596M, PB 4, Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Multimedia Systems/Applications Specialist, 002054A, PB 4, VBS.

Project Coordinator/Technical Writer, 007869M, PB 3, Entomology.

Secretary Senior, 002403M, PB 2, CSES.

Server, 000986H, PB 1, RDP.

Sous Chef, 000940H, PB 3, RDP.

Telecomm Database Technician, 006818A, PB 3, CNS.

Transportation Planner, 007498F, PB 4, OT.

PART TIME

Animal Care Technician, W020066M, PB 2, VTH.

Animal Care Technician/Small Animal, W022675M, PB 1, VTH.

Laboratory Specialist, W023305M, PB 3, APS.

Licensed Practical Nurse, W023318J, PB 3, Health Center.

Radiologic Technologist, W022238J, PB 3, Health Center.

UNIVERSITY ONLY

Windows/Linux Support Specialist, UU007864B, PB 4, Mathematics.

OFF CAMPUS

Program Support Technician, 005114M, PB 3, VCE—Bath County.

Radio Announcer, W020800S, PB 3, UR/WVTF Radio.

Underwriting Account Executive, 001963S, PB 4, UR/WVTF.

FACULTY POSITIONS

INSTRUCTIONAL

Educational Leadership/Policy Studies. Assistant/Associate Professors (2). Contact: Dianne Yardley, 101 War Memorial (0317). Review begins Dec.10.

view begins Dec.10.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Institute for Policy Outreach within Virginia Tech Institute for Metropolitan Research. Senior Project Associate/VDSS Training the Trainers Administrator. Contact: Joe Rees, 104 Draper Rd. (0520). Review begins immediately.

Institute for Policy Outreach within Virginia Tech Institute for Metropolitan Research. Project Director. Contact: Joe Rees, 104 Draper Rd. (0520). Review begins immediately.

Geological Sciences. Research Associate. Contact: Bob Tracy, 4044 Derring (0420). Review begins immediately.

Associate Director, Family/Consumer Sciences/Community Initiatives/Assistant Dean, College of Human Resources/Education (re-advertised). Contact: Judith Jones, 105B Hutcheson (0437). Review begins Dec. 1.

Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development. #FA699, Madison Co. Contact: Robert Ray Meadows, 121

Hutcheson (0437). Review begins Nov. 20.

Virginia Cooperative Extension. Extension Agent, Family/Consumer Sciences. #FA648, Bedford Co. Contact: Eleanor Schlenker, 121 Hutcheson (0437). Review begins Nov. 20.

Vecellio Construction Engineering/Management Program in Civil/Environmental Engineering. Research Associate/Senior Research Associate. Contact: Jesus de la Garza, 200 Patton (0105). Review begins immediately.

Residential/Dining Programs. Coordinator of Theme Housing Programs. Contact: James Penven, 109 E. Eggleston (0428). Application deadline: Nov. 1.

Residential/Dining Programs, Residence Director. Contact: Sharrika Davis, 109 E. Eggleston (0109). Application deadline: Nov. 1.

Controller's Office. Associate Controller for Financial Reporting/Cost Accounting (revised ad). Contact: Kenneth Miller, 201 Southgate (0312). Review: on-going.

POST OFFICE

Continued from 1

penalties will also be imposed upon people who use the federal mail system to perpetrate hoaxes associated with biological hazards such as anthrax.

Increased awareness of the anthrax-based biohazard has prompted more reports of suspicious looking-white powders to the Virginia Tech Police Department and Office of Environmental Health and Safety Services, according to Co-Director Bernadette Mondy.

"We're assessing these situations and making risk assessments," Mondy said. While her office has been investigating about two to four reports a day, none has been confirmed as a bio-hazard, she said.

Police officials continue to investigate the fake bomb placed in Newman Library on October 11. That hoax prompted a massive response by emergency services personnel from throughout western Virginia and resulted in the evacuation of several university buildings, according to Virginia Tech Police Chief Debra Duncan.

"Our nation is at war and the internal

security of the United States is being threatened," Duncan said. "We are taking prudent action in the face of these threats. We are going to do what we need to do to maintain the safety and security of our university," she said, adding that Virginia Tech has highly trained personnel and support infrastructure in both law enforcement and bio-safety.

"But we are dealing with an extremely serious situation," she said. "As such, we are taking a zero-tolerance approach to jokes and pranks. Everyone should be advised that the law provides extremely serious penalties for any kind of misconduct in this area."

UNIVERSITY

Continued from 1

study of the politics and economics of technology transfer and diffusion."

Much of agricultural biotechnology that has been marketed to date has been aimed at enhancing productivity. But increasingly, biotechnology is being applied to add to the value of crops, such as by increasing nutritional value, adding certain vitamins, or in coaxing plants to create substances that can be used in making pharmaceuticals.

The study is concentrating on tobacco and rice because those crops are the focus of much biotechnology research. Tobacco is a plant whose genetics are relatively easily manipulated, making it an ideal candidate for producing compounds for use in creating pharmaceuticals that treat human diseases. Rice is a staple food for much of the world's population, especially the poor. Biotechnology might be a boon to consumers around the globe, and it might help

maintain the viability of farms producing the crops.

"We say 'might' benefit because no one really has studied in detail who is likely to benefit and who is likely to lose," Norton said.

The public has been bombarded by hype from both proponents and opponents of biotechnology. "More informed public opinion may help smooth the way for adoption of socially beneficial biotechnologies, and hinder the spread of ones where the risks appear to be unacceptable compared to the potential benefits," Norton said.

REGAN

Continued from 2

Excellence.

He has served as dean of colleges of architecture in three major universities during his 32-year career as a professor and administrator. Regan was the dean of the College of Architecture, Design and Construction at his alma mater, Auburn University, from 1995 until joining Texas A&M.

CAREER

Continued from 2

11:30 a.m., students will participate in two 40-minute sessions. From noon to 12:40 p.m., students will interact with the Career Day panel. From 12:45 p.m. to 1:25 p.m., students will participate in the final session.

The four sessions include "Math and Computers Are Everywhere," led by Terri Bourdon, providing hands-on activities to investigate computer graphics in such varied fields as science, art, and electronics; "Explorations of Math and Art through Tessellations," facilitated by Gwen Lloyd and mathematics-education majors, enabling students to create their own tessellation designs on the computer; "A Process Approach to Problem Solving: Using Group Work and Presentations," led by Gail Hunger, enabling students to explore

solving problems in a group setting; and a panel discussion on educational and career opportunities in mathematics, facilitated by Margaret Murray, including three Virginia Tech alumnae:

Career Day activities are sponsored by the Department of Mathematics. Co-sponsors include the College of Arts and Sciences, the Women's Center at Virginia Tech, the Women's Network, the Math Club, Womanspace, Montgomery County NOW, the Office of the Provost and the Office of the Dean of Students.

For more information, contact Susan Anderson at 1-8041, e-mail anderson@math.vt.edu, or mail her at Math Department 0123.

Those with disabilities who need assistance, services, or other accommodations to participate in this activity may contact Anderson at least one week before the event.

The research will begin by collecting information concerning attitudes of producers and consumers through surveys and focus groups. Researchers will then develop a framework to assess economic and social impacts of agricultural biotechnologies. The group will then develop educational materials about the benefits, costs, and concerns associated with biotechnologies for students and the general public. Those educational materials will be distributed in K-12 educational programs, college courses, and to the general public through web-based materials.

EXCELLENCE

Continued from 2

Educator magazine, DuFour has served as superintendent of the Adlai Stevenson High School District in Illinois since 1991. The principal of Stevenson High School from 1983 to 1991, DuFour is the only school administrator in Illinois to receive the state's highest award as both principal and superintendent. The author of four books, numerous professional articles, and a featured column in the *Journal of Staff Development*, DuFour was lead consultant and author of the ASCD video series on the principalship. DuFour serves as a consultant for school systems across the United States, Canada, and Japan. He has also been instrumental in coordinating institutes for the National Association of Secondary Schools.

Out of 144 proposals received, there were 12 winners while 12 others earned certificates of recognition. Presentations from award-winning programs will take place from 9 a.m. to noon on Friday, Nov. 2, in Donaldson Brown with the awards luncheon beginning at 12:30 p.m.



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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Officials dedicate new Horseshoe Crab Research Center

By Lynn Davis

Virginia Tech has dedicated its new Horseshoe Crab Research Center (HCRC) on Thursday. The horseshoe crab facility, holding more than 200 adult crabs, is the largest captive system in the nation.

Participating in the dedication of the new facility were top officials from three federal agencies involved in horseshoe crab research and management, agencies responsible for

horseshoe-crab management in several states including Virginia, environmental groups involved in the issue including the Audubon Society, biomedical companies including the largest producer of LAL, BioWhittaker Inc.; representatives of Virginia politicians; and Virginia Tech President Charles Steger, other administrative, and HCRC researchers.

Center Director Jim Berkson said, "Over the past several years, management of the horse-

shoe-crab population has become increasingly controversial. Fishermen catch horseshoe crabs for use as bait in the lucrative eel and conch fishery. Biomedical companies catch and bleed horseshoe crabs to produce a chemical (LAL) used to detect the presence of bacteria in injectable drugs and implantable devices. Environmentalists are concerned because migratory shorebirds depend on horseshoe crab eggs to fuel their migration to their arctic breeding grounds each year. The battle over this ecologically, economically, and medically essential species has become one of the most heated environmental issues on the east coast in recent years."

In the midst of this controversy, resource agencies have been forced to make critical management decisions in the absence of needed data. The new Horseshoe Crab Research Center has been established to provide information necessary to improve the management of the species. The HCRC was founded on the belief that developing effective management strategies requires an understanding of all three dimensions of the horseshoe-crab issue: fisheries, shorebirds, and biomedical companies.

The HCRC combines faculty members, students, facilities and expertise from Virginia Tech's Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences in the College of Natural Resources, Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, Conservation Management Institute, and the new Virginia Bioinformatics Institute. Together the HCRC's partners have formed the only research center in the country with the knowledge, experience, and facilities needed to work on all three dimensions of the horseshoe-crab issue.

The HCRC's on-going research is funded by BioWhittaker, Inc; Virginia Sea Grant, the

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the states of New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. Research projects being conducted include designing coast-wide trawl surveys that could be used to track population changes over time. This research was considered the most important horseshoe crab research by the Horseshoe Crab Technical Committee of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC).

In another project, researchers are testing the feasibility of flying over spawning beaches using video cameras with nightscopes to index the number of spawning horseshoe crabs in the spring. If feasible this technique could supplement time-consuming, manpower-intensive beach surveys that have proven less than reliable over time.

Other studies currently being developed including studies on shorebird-horseshoe-crab interactions and horseshoe-crab telemetry. Genetic studies are also being developed by the HCRC's newest partner, the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute.

Berkson, an assistant professor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, is one of the nation's leading experts on the management of horseshoe crab fisheries, serving on the Stock Assessment Subcommittee of ASMFC's Horseshoe Crab Technical Committee. Stephen Smith, associate professor at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine and a co-founder of the HCRC, covers biomedical issues. His expertise is in aquatic medicine, immunology, histology, and aquaculture.

Jim Fraser, professor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, provides the expertise on shorebird issues.

Governor's CVC Letter

I want to take this opportunity to salute the great compassion and commitment you and your colleagues have shown over the last few weeks. Virginians joined with our fellow Americans in shock and grief when the Pentagon and World Trade Center towers were attacked and devastated. At the same time, our resolve as a nation and a Commonwealth has been strengthened and our actions prove it.

Volunteers across the Commonwealth have mobilized to help in the recovery effort, emptying piggy banks and holding bake sales to raise money. Local charities are sending donations directly to aid stations at ground zero in both New York and at the Pentagon. Our employees have given blood and are seeking ways to make a difference, all evidence of the compassion being felt for the victims and survivors.

The Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign (CVC) is another way to provide support during this time of crisis. In response to many requests from our employees, the CVC has developed a plan that allows our employees to earmark donations to go specifically and directly to the relief effort. Three CVC charities will be able to meet this need: American Red Cross, National Disaster Relief Fund (3901); September 11 Fund, United Way of America (3902); and Salvation Army Disaster Relief Effort (3903).

I know we will generously provide assistance for this national emergency. But as the Honorary Chairman of the Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign, I also want to stress that during our annual campaign we should not forget the continuing needs of our local communities. The CVC has begun and runs through November 30. Please consider this an opportunity to help both America and our neighbors here at home.

For more information, contact the CVC office at (804) 225-2159.

Thank you for your support of CVC at this critical time in our history.

Governor James Gilmore

WOMEN

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The following listing includes the award recipient, speaker/institution, presentation title, and date of presentation where applicable:

Juan M. Floyd-Thomas, assistant professor of history; Ibrahima Seck, history professor, *Lycee Blaise Diagne/Universite de Cheikh Anta Diop*; "African Culture and Slavery in the Lower Mississippi River Valley."

Joanne C. McNeal, director, Reynolds Homestead, and assistant professor, CIS; Viola Zimunya, Zimbabwean journalist and book editor, "The Contemporary Black Zimbabwean Woman: A Product of Victim of African Culture?"

Elizabeth C. Fine, director, Humanities Program, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; Lois Hassell-Habtes, storyteller, writer, musician, coordinator, consultant, Bertha C. Boschulte Middle School, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands; "Virgin Islands/Caribbean Folkstory Performance" and "Reimaging Storytelling: From Islands to Mountain."

Ann-Marie Knoblauch, assistant professor of art history; Brunilde Sismondo Ridgway, Rhys Carpenter professor, emerita, Bryn Mawr College; "Laokoon: The Reading of an Ancient Masterpiece."

Linda Plaut, instructor, Humanities Programs, CIS; Laura Mann, associate professor of voice and opera, director, adjunct professor of women's studies, George Mason University; "In a Woman's Voice: Music for the New Millennium."

Marcia Feuerstein, assistant professor, architecture and chair, IAWA; Brinda Somaya, architect, IAWA advisor, Somaya & Kalappa Architects, Bombay; "IndiaVillage Earthquake Rehabilitation, Urban, and Architectural Issues in India: Architecture by Indian Women Architects."

Martha McCaughey, associate professor and director of Women's Studies; Beth Seigler

and Kathleen Hopwood, SafeSkills Self-Defense Training Workshop and Speakers; "Issues in Self-Defense for Women." October or March.

Donald A. Drapeau, head, Department of Theater Arts; Seret Scott, director of theatrical productions; "The Adventures of a Black Female Building a Career as a Professional Theater Director." November 11.

Michael K. Herndon, assistant director, IDST Advising Center; Charles Jones, department chair, African American Studies, Georgia State University; "The Black Panther Party: Leadership and Social Change in the '60s." November 12.

Jeff Corn tassel, assistant professor, political science, associate director, Race and Social Policy Research Center; Malinda Maynor, History Department, UNC Chapel Hill; "In Light of Reverence: Contemporary Challenges to American Indian Religious Reform." February 2.

Ann Kilkelly, professor of women's studies, and Penny Cook, Theater Arts Office manager (intern); S.T. Shimmi, Dianne Monroe, performer/playwrights, Jump Start Performance

Company; "Comfort and Southern Discomfort: An Evening of Performance and Conversation." March.

William J. Crone, music; Abbie Conant, professor of trombone, *Staatliche Hochschule fur Musik, Trossingen*, Germany; "The Wired Goddess and her Trombone"—recital and master class. March 11-12.

Stacey Floyd-Thomas, assistant professor of religious and interdisciplinary studies; Carol Duncan, assistant professor of religious culture, Wilfrid Laurier University; "The Cultural Imaginary of the North American African Diaspora." March 14.

Brian Britt, director, Religious Studies Program, CIS, Jessie Meltsner, Women's Center; Susan Martina Kahn, senior research director, Brandeis University; "Reproducing Jews: The Intersection of Gender, Technology and Religion." Spring.

Rosa Maria Mayorga, assistant professor of philosophy; Susan Haack, Cooper senior scholar in arts and sciences, University of Miami; "Clues to the Puzzle of Scientific Evidence" and "The Literature of Science and the Science of Literature." TBA.

NSF

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that we use are male-biased because of the shortage of women in the profession," Burger said. An AAUW report advanced the position that girls are resistant to using computers because they are critical of the computer culture and turned off by the monotonous, violent nature of many computer games and applications that they perceive as having little connection to other people or to meaningful, real-world problems.

The VT researchers will implement Marcia Baxter Magolda's theoretical framework of self-authorship, which is a style of decision making based on assimilation of information combined with a strong sense of self-confidence. This is the first time that Magolda's theory base has been extended beyond a college population.

"Girls with a sense of self-authorship are probably more willing than those who are dependent on others for self-definition to challenge stereotypical views about computers," Creamer said. "They recognize that they can shape computer applications to fit their needs and interests."

STEGER

Continued from 1

and problem-solving skills to lead an institution of exceptional character and value. "While [his] achievements have been realized well beyond the ordinary course of an architect's practice, [his] leadership serves as an inspiration to architects everywhere."

The VSAIA awards only one Noland Medal each year, and recipients must have a minimum of 20 years of AIA membership and 10 years of VSAIA membership. Steger will accept the award in Richmond on November 2 at the society's *Visions for Architecture* awards ceremony hosted by the Virginia Foundation for Architecture.

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