

SPECTRUM



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TODAY'S EDITION

See page 2 for
information on Civil War
artist's appearance.
Spectrum will resume
publication March 14.

General Assembly Adjourns after Adopting Budget to Address Revenue Shortfall

By Ralph Byers,
director of government relations

The 2003 General Assembly adjourned February 22, after adopting a budget to address the largest revenue shortfall in the state's history.

For higher education, the major issue was the amount of tuition flexibility the institutions would be granted to recover a portion of the \$305 million cut in General Fund support being imposed.

Although the institutions argued strongly that tuition decisions should be left to the individual boards of visitors, in the end the General Assembly opted against flexibility, mandating a 5-percent cap on tuition increases above the annualized 2003-03 tuition rates for in-state stu-

dents. The budget language also allows the institutions to increase tuition sufficiently to cover increases in health-care costs and the institutions' share of salary increases.

The budget also imposes an additional fee on out-of-state students to help pay debt service

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

on the new facilities authorized by the voters in the recent general-obligation-bond referendum. This fee, based on a \$1.67-per-credit fee on out-of-state students at four-year institutions and a \$1.50-per-credit fee on out-of-state students at

two-year institutions, will produce \$2 million to defray debt-service costs.

The inconsistency of the state's policies over the last 10 years with respect to tuition—which included increases, freezes, rollbacks, and then increases—prompted the budget writers to instruct the Joint Subcommittee Studying Higher Education Funding Policies to recommend to the next General Assembly a tuition policy as part of higher education's base-adequacy guidelines. The budget also provides an increase of \$4.5 million in student financial aid to be allocated to the institutions.

The General Assembly provisionally approved 2.25-percent salary increases for faculty and staff members, to be effective
(See *GENERAL ASSEMBLY* on 3)

Internal search announced for vice provost

By Clara B. Cox

A Search Committee has been formed and an internal search has begun for a vice provost for outreach and international affairs to replace C. Clark Jones, who is retiring at the end of the fiscal year, Provost Mark McNamee announced today.

"We decided to look inside the university community to fill this position for several reasons," McNamee said. "Certainly, we have a number of highly talented faculty members and administrators who are dedicated to outreach, recognize the value of an international approach in all three parts of our mission, and understand the importance of sharing our knowledge throughout the world. With the university undergoing so much change and with the budget a continuing concern, we also felt that an internal search could provide us with candidates who would have the institutional knowledge to carry us through these critical times."

The vice provost for outreach and international affairs is responsible for the planning, marketing, delivery, and oversight of the university's outreach, economic development, and international activities and provides executive leadership and vision to a range of programs, services, and activities.

Among its units are Outreach Program Development in continuing education and public services; Economic Initiatives and Marketing Research; the Virginia Tech Southside Initiative; Commonwealth Campus Centers in Abingdon, Richmond, Roanoke, and Virginia Beach; Office of International Research, Education, and Development; and the Center for European Studies and Architecture in Switzerland.

The vice provost provides leadership to the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center; is leading the program planning for its successor, The Virginia Tech Center, which is scheduled to open in 2005; serves as the spokesperson for outreach and international programming; and represents the university at various functions and on such boards as the Hotel Roanoke Conference Center Commission, Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, and the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research in Danville. The position is also

(See *INTERNAL* on 4)

Four CALS dean candidates to interview in March

The Provost's Office has announced that four candidates for the position of dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences will be on campus for interviews in March.

The candidates are Colin Guy Scanes, interim director of the Center for Designing Food for Human Nutrition and former associate dean of the College of Agriculture, Iowa State University; Sharron Quisenberry, dean of the College of Agriculture and director of the Montana Agriculture Experiment Station; Cameron Ray Hackney, dean of the Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry and Consumer Sciences and director of the West Virginia Experiment Station at West Virginia University; and Mike Weiss, acting dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Idaho.

Scanes is scheduled to be on campus March 11 through 14; Quisenberry, March

16 through 19; Hackney, March 23 through 26; and Weiss, March 30 through April 2.

Scanes was educated in the United Kingdom with degrees awarded from Hull University, and the University of Wales (U.K.). Scanes was an associate professor in the Department of Physiology at Rutgers and served as chairman of the Department of Animal Sciences from 1981 through 1995.

In 1995, Scanes became professor of animal/nutritional physiology in the Department of Animal Science at Iowa State University. His administrative assignments include executive associate dean/associate director of the College of Agriculture/Iowa Agricultural and Home Economics Experiment Station, Iowa State University; interim director of the Plant Science Institute and associate dean of the College of Agriculture, Iowa State University. He is currently interim director of the Center for Designing Food for Human Nutrition. Scanes is

a member of the faculty of the Center of Excellence in Equine Science at Rutgers.

Quisenberry is dean of the College of Agriculture and director of the Montana Agriculture Experiment Station. She was head of the Department of Entomology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln before going to Montana State University. She has served eight years in department-level administration and nearly four years as dean and director.

Quisenberry has planned and implemented entomological-research programs in several areas including wheat, rice, forage crop, and livestock systems. She is nationally and internationally recognized for her expertise in plant/insect interactions and plant resistance to insects. Currently, Quisenberry is serving on the National Academy of Sciences' Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources and on the Governor's Economic Policy Advisory

(See *FOUR* on 3)

University selected as partner in Carnegie initiative

By Anna Kirsch,
University relations intern

The university's Chemistry Department has been chosen to participate in a multi-year research-and-action project aimed at improving doctoral education at American universities. The Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate (CID) has selected 33 partner departments in chemistry, education, English, and mathematics to analyze aspects of their doctoral programs and link specific activities to desired outcomes.

Carnegie Senior Scholar Chris Golde said the project goals were to support and study experiments in doctoral education, to document and analyze the character of those initiatives and to help disciplinary communities create models and evidence of success to inform others in the field.

Tech Chemistry Professor Jim Tanko described the CID as an opportunity for universities to participate in a discussion evaluating their goals for graduate education. Tech's Chemistry Department will have a seat at the table to participate in the group dialogue examining and assessing ideas pertaining to graduate education in chemistry.

"In addition to sharing ideas and experiences with other universities, we may implement some ideas presented by others if they remain consistent with our goals and objectives and if we think that they would work in our environment," Tanko said.

Tanko said he hopes the environment and timing are right for substantive changes to occur in the Graduate School, which he believes will help advance the university's objective of becoming a top-30 research institution.

"One hope is that we may be able to streamline our graduate program, which would decrease the amount of time graduate students spend fulfilling requirements of dubious value and replace them with requirements that support the research mission," Tanko said.

In addition to the 33 Partner Departments, the CID has also selected 22 Allied Departments who will help form a network in each discipline to provide further information collection and dissemination about the study.

Funding for the project is provided by the Atlantic Philanthropies and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, which was founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1905 and chartered by an act of Congress in 1906. More information about the study and participants is available at www.carnegiefoundation.org.

BOV Meeting Scheduled

The Board of Visitors will hold its quarterly board meeting on campus Sunday, March 9, and Monday, March 10.

The full meeting of the board will be held on Monday, March 10 at 1 p.m. in the Board Room, 2100 Torgersen Hall.

ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

Friday, 28
Pay Date for Faculty and Staff Members.

Saturday, 1
Women’s Month Begins.
Spring Break Begins.
Men’s Basketball, noon, Cassell Coliseum: Villanova.
Women’s Basketball, 4 p.m., Cassell Coliseum: West Virginia.

Tuesday, 4
Women’s Basketball, 7:30 p.m.: At St. John’s.

Wednesday, 5
Men’s Basketball, 7 p.m., Cassell Coliseum: Miami.
“With Good Reason,” 7:30 p.m., WVTF.

Saturday, 8
Men’s Basketball, 2 p.m.: At WVU.

Big East Women’s Basketball Championship, TBA, Piscataway, N.J.

Sunday, 9
Spring Break Ends.

Wednesday, 12
YMCA Noon Slide Show, noon, Cranwell Center.
Big East Men’s Basketball Championship, TBA, Madison Square Garden, N.Y.
“With Good Reason,” 7:30 p.m., WVTF.

Thursday, 13
Art Gallery Exhibit Opening, Armory Art Gallery (through 4-4).
Faculty Development Workshop, 10 a.m. to noon, 3060 Torgersen.
PBK Lecture, 4 p.m., 1100 Tprgrsem” John Brauman, Stanford.

Friday, 14
Pay Date for Faculty and Staff Members.
Last Day to Resign.

SEMINARS

Friday, 28
MCBB, 12:20 to 1:10 p.m., Fralin auditorium: Jonathan Dinman, University of Maryland.
MSE, 3:30 p.m., 100 Hancock: Michael Kelley, William and Mary.

Friday, 14
MCBB, 12:20 to 1:10 p.m., Fralin auditorium: Grant Cramer, University of Nevada, Reno.
Geological Sciences, 3:30 p.m., 4069 Derring: Gene Hunt, University of Chicago.
MSE, 3:30 p.m., 100 Hancock: Alexis Claire, Alfred University.

BULLETINS

PBK to sponsor Visiting Scholar’s Lecture
Virginia Tech’s Mu Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa will sponsor a Visiting Scholar’s Lecture on the topic “Impacts of Technology on Basic Science” in the Torgersen Hall Museum (1100 Torgersen) at 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 13.
The speaker will be John Brauman of Stanford University, a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the recipient of the American Chemical Society’s Award in Pure Chemistry. The public is invited.

Employees request leave donations
An employee in Information Systems and Computing has requested leave donations.
Salaried classified employees or 12-month regular faculty members may participate by donating annual leave in increments of eight hours.
There is no maximum donation limitation per year, nor is there a minimum balance that must be maintained. Donation forms can be downloaded from the Personnel Services web

site at <http://www.ps.vt.edu/forms/>.
Leave donations received after the employee’s eligibility status changes (such as, return to work, disability retirement, retirement, etc.) will be returned to the donor in accordance with established Personnel procedures.
Leave must be donated to either a specific individual or area. Return the completed form to Ella Mae Vaught, personnel analyst, Personnel Services, Southgate Center.

Children’s Literature and Natural History
Every fourth Friday of the month at 6:30 p.m., there will be a natural-history story-time activity at the Barnes and Noble bookstore in Christiansburg sponsored by the Museum of Natural History at Virginia Tech. Today’s topic is “Marvelous Moths.” The event is a mixture of children’s literature and natural-history activities. The activities are for children between eight and 12 years old, but other ages are welcome if accompanied by parents.
For more information, contact the museum at 1-3001.

CommonHealth starts weight-loss campaign
CommonHealth is launching its third state-wide campaign called “It All Adds Up, Virginia!” CommonHealth’s goal is to help state employees become healthier by losing a state-wide total of 30,000 pounds during the three-month campaign period. From February through April of this year CommonHealth will provide educational materials and an eight-week challenge that encourages participants to make small changes in their diet and exercise habits that can add up to big results. The campaign focuses on being realistic, adventurous, flexible, sensible, and active in food and activity choices.
All participants will receive a message pen and an *It All Adds Up!* booklet. Everyone completing the eight-week challenge and evaluation will receive a free FM scan radio and be entered into a drawing for Virginia Tech CommonHealth sweatshirts and Subway gift certificates.
More information is available by contacting the CommonHealth Office at 1-4806 or by e-mail at rconaway@vt.edu.

Student leadership conference for high school students set

A Student Leadership Conference is being planned for March 14-16 in Roanoke at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center. The conference is designed to attract emerging young leaders of the future who are currently in the tenth and eleventh grades. There will be many training opportunities for the students as well as avenues for them to showcase their outstanding leadership skills. The theme of the conference is “Achieving the Vision through Yesterday’s Wisdom.”
The conference, sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Multicultural Affairs

and the Outreach Program Development Office, is being launched in the year in which Virginia Tech celebrates the Golden Anniversary of the first African American student to enroll at the university. During the year-long celebration of this event, the first African American to graduate will also be honored. The focus of the first Student Leadership Conference will be on the leadership lessons that can be gleaned from those “who have been there, done that.” Pioneers and path makers from all generations have much to share with today’s students. The

conference experience will be designed to give students an avenue to demonstrate that they are not “at risk,” but “at promise,” given the right opportunities.
The conference activities will include leadership workshops, alumni panels, campus tours, network sessions, and prizes for the participants. In addition, the conference will provide opportunities for some student participants to apply for scholarships and other support should they choose to pursue higher education. Participants may also be selected to serve as student

moderators for workshop sessions, and everyone will be able to volunteer to be a part of “Open Microphone Night.” The first night of the conference will afford the participants the opportunity to attend “Realizing the Dream,” a program hosted on the campus. The program will promote the ideals and ideas of such leaders as Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr.
For more information, contact Jane Todd, at the Outreach Program Development Office at 1-2014, janetodd@vt.edu, or visit web site <http://www.conted.vt.edu/vtleadership/>.

Gods and Generals artist to sign prints, books on campus

By Clara B. Cox
Historical painter Mort Künstler, the official artist for the movie *Gods and Generals*, will be on campus Saturday, March 1, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center main dining room to sign prints and books. Künstler will be joined by James I. Robertson Jr., alumni distinguished professor of history and executive director of the university’s Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, in signing copies of their newly released book *Gods and Generals*.
The two will also take orders for a Virginia Tech limited edition of their collaborative work, a leather-bound, gilt-edged edition of *Gods*

and *Generals*, and a print of a new Künstler painting of Stonewall Jackson, “Divine Guidance,” signed and numbered by the artist. Proceeds from the sale of this one-time, individualized set will support programs of the Civil War center.
“Virginia Tech’s Virginia Center for Civil War Studies is fortunate in having a friend and supporter in Mort Künstler, and we are honored by his visit,” Robertson said. Robertson was the principal historical consultant for the *Gods and Generals* movie.
In 2000, Künstler issued a Virginia Tech limited edition of his painting “The Winds of Winter: Jackson’s Romney Campaign January

1862” and donated proceeds to the Civil War center.
Since he began painting, Künstler has developed a reputation for historically accurate work. His painting “The High Water Mark,” unveiled at the Gettysburg National Military Park in 1988 on the 125th anniversary of the Civil War battle, is considered the most accurate painting ever done of the event. In 1992, the U.S. Postal Service commissioned him to do a painting of the Buffalo Soldiers and issued a stamp of the painting two years later.
In addition to prints of his Civil War paintings, he has issued several books in recent years about the period, collaborating with

Robertson on three. In addition to *Gods and Generals*, the two Civil War experts worked together on *The Confederate Spirit* and *Jackson & Lee: Legends in Gray*, with Künstler supplying the paintings and Robertson the text.
Ron Maxwell, director and screenwriter of *Gods and Generals*, based the role of Stonewall Jackson in the movie on Robertson’s biography *Stonewall Jackson: The Man, The Soldier, The Legend*.
For more information, call Robertson at 552-0760 or Paula McElvoy at Künstler Enterprises, Inc. at 516-922-6760.

CAMPUS UPDATE

Tech's Public Service Programs receive federal grant funds

By Susan B. Felker

Regional businesses interested in international marketing could get a boost, thanks to a grant awarded to the university's Public Service Programs by the U. S. Department of Commerce's Commercial Service Rural Export Initiative.

The grant will fund two seminars on export procedures, one at the Southwest Higher Education Center in Abingdon on September 4 and the other in Charleston, W. Va. on September 5. J. Douglas McAlister, director of program development for University Outreach

and International Affairs (UOIA), announced the grant. Public Service Programs is part of UOIA Program Development.

The seminars will cover an overview of international product marketing; quotations; contract administration, export and banking documentation; presentation of documentation to customs and banks; and export logistics within and outside the United States.

The seminar in Abingdon will also feature a supplemental afternoon program on opportunities stemming from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the resultant

simplified procedures involved in exporting to Mexico.

Chad Miller, economic-development specialist with Public Service Programs, said that the grant resulted from the success of last year's seminars co-presented with the U.S. Dept. of Commerce Export Assistance Center, Charleston, W. Va. office.

Through the Rural Export Initiative (REI), the U.S. Dept. of Commerce Commercial Service provides companies in rural areas with better access to export assistance and global

market research by connecting them with international trade services and increasing the number of companies in rural areas engaged in exporting. The long-term goal of the program is to empower companies and communities to revolutionize the way global business is done. The Commercial Service currently has Export Assistance Centers in 18 rural areas

For more information on the seminars or on Virginia Tech's other training and consulting services for businesses, contact Miller at chadm@vt.edu or at 1-8324.

FOUR

Continued from 1

Committee. She was most recently appointed by President George Bush to serve on the Board for International Food and Agriculture Development and elected fellow of the Entomological Society of America.

Hackney is the dean of the Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry and Consumer Sciences and director of the West Virginia Experiment Station at West Virginia University. He also serves as the director of the university's Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station. He is on the board of the university's research corporation and is the chair of the dean's section of the Northeast Region and the Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors executive committee. He is chair-elect for the administrative heads section of NASULGC. Hackney held positions at Virginia Tech and Louisiana State University before his position at West Virginia University.

Hackney is chair of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Use of Scientific Criteria and Performance Standards for Safe Food and an elected fellow of the International Association of Food Protection. He has received several awards for his faculty work, including the Virginia State Council of

Higher Education's Outstanding Faculty Award.

Hackney hold degrees from North Carolina State University and West Virginia University.

Weiss was on the faculty at Montana State University as an assistant professor of entomology, and on the faculty at North Dakota State University as an assistant professor of entomology. In 1996, he was appointed to serve as assistant director of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station with specific responsibilities for Research and Extension Centers. He joined the University of Idaho in 1998 as a full professor and department head for plant, soil, and entomological Sciences. In 2002, he was appointed acting associate dean for the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Weiss is currently acting dean for the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

Weiss holds degrees from Purdue University, Ohio State University, and the University of Nebraska.

Additional information is available at the Provost's Office web site (<http://www.provost.vt.edu>).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Continued from 1

November 25. However, should the August revenue forecast result in a downward revision of the General Fund revenue estimate upon which the budget is based, the salary increase may be eliminated to cover the revenue shortfall.

In a session where almost no higher-education initiatives were approved, Virginia Tech was fortunate to recover \$1.1 million for Cooperative Extension to fund 21 Extension agents and four Extension specialists throughout the state. As previously reported, \$586,412 Governor Mark Warner sought to cut from the Corps of Cadets Unique Military Allowance was restored. For research and public-service centers, the Coal and Energy Research Center and the Water Resources Research Center received 10-percent cuts; the Center for Organizational and Technological Advancement, a 20-percent cut, or \$80,000; and the Reynolds Homestead received a \$30,000 cut. Overall, reductions in Virginia Tech's research and public-service centers were more modest than those at most

other universities.

Finally, the General Assembly called for strategic planning in higher education, specifying that each institution prepare a plan every four years and submit reports on progress towards the following state-wide goals: a) enhancing instructional quality; b) accommodating projected enrollment growth through 2010; and c) increasing Virginia's national standing with regard to sponsored research. The language states "In implementing these state-wide goals and their institutional goals, Virginia public colleges and universities shall apply the following guiding principles: a) maximize student access to higher education and minimize the cost to students and the state; b) enhance administrative efficiency and productivity; and c) streamline operations as a means for improving managerial flexibility."

The General Assembly will reconvene on April 2 in the so-called "veto session" to consider any amendments to the budget or vetoes proposed by Warner. For more information on the legislative session, contact Ralph Byers (byers@vt.edu), or Laura Fornash, state legislative liaison (fornash@vt.edu).

EMPLOYMENT

The following classified positions are currently available. Position details, specific application procedures/position-closing dates may be found on Personnel Services web site <http://www.ps.vt.edu>. Positions are also listed on the Job Line, a 24-hour recorded message service. For information on all job listings, call 1-5300. Some positions include state benefits. Positions with numbers beginning with "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.

CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

FULL TIME

One full-time food-service position available.

Associate Director of Culinary Services, 002947H, PB 5, RDP.

Assistant Director of Budget Operations/E&G Budget Manager, 001951F, PB 5, BFP.

Buyer Specialist, 001982F, PB 4, Purchasing.

Database Administrator, 007433G, PB 6, IS&C/DBMS.

Electrician, 001691F, PB 3, Physical Plant.

Electrician Supervisor, 002038F, PB 4,

FES.

Facilities Budget Manager, 008064F, PB 5, Facilities.

Housekeeping Worker, 001022H, PB 1, RDP.

Housekeeping Worker, P002005C, PB 1, Physical Plant.

HVAC Technician, 008001H, PB 3, RDP.

Laboratory Specialist, 007491Y, PB 3, EHSS.

Medical Technologist, 002666M, PB 4, VTH.

Medical Technologist, 006771M, PB 4, VTH.

Office Services Specialist, 003080B, PB 2, ISE.

Office Services Specialist, 008065B, PB 2, Graduate School.

Powerline Assistant, 006523F, PB 3, FES.

Program Support Tech, 007511Y, PB 3, EIMR.

Program Support Technician, 001028B, PB 3, English.

Program Support Technician Senior, 000951B, PB 3, Foreign Languages.

Receptionist/Office Assistant, 006906J, PB 2, UUSA.

Telefund Coordinator, 007628S, PB 3, University Development.

Unit Manager, 007961H, PB 5, RDP.

PART TIME

ICU Veterinary Technologist Large Animal, W022218M, PB 2, VTH.

Programmer (Sas), W023511F, PB 4, University Controller.

Radiologic Technologist, W022238M, PB 3, Schiffert Center.

Receptionist/Office Assistant, W023523K, PB 2, VBI.

Small Animal ICU Technician, W020101M, PB 4, VTH.

Starter Marshall/Shop Attendant, W022113J, PB 1, Golf Clubhouse.

Web Designer/Programmer, W023516B, PB 4, CPES.

UNIVERSITY ONLY

Trades Utilities Master Mechanic, U008063F, PB 4, Physical Plant.

OFF CAMPUS

Nursing Shift Supervisor, 002996M, PB 2, EMC.

FACULTY POSITIONS

INSTRUCTIONAL

Department of English, Instructor positions (two full-time and two part-time). Contact: Nancy Metz, Department of English, College of Arts and Sciences, 0112.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Athletic Department, Assistant Women's Tennis Coach. Contact: Pam Linkous, Athletic Department, 359 Jamerson Athletic Center, 0502.

Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, Senior Research Associate, Transportation Systems and Operations (Traffic). Contact: Cindy Wilkinson, 3500 Transportation Research Plaza or cwilkins@vtti.vt.edu.



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
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OBITUARY

Kriton Hatzios, 53

By Stewart MacInnis

Kriton Hatzios, who, as director of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, oversaw Virginia Tech's rise to the top ranks of universities engaged in agricultural research, died February 20. He was 53.

"Dr. Hatzios was a most outstanding scientist, one of the best at Virginia Tech and recognized internationally for his research," said Andy Swiger, the university's former dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. "He showed great promise as an administrative leader with a brilliant career in his future. Losing Kriton in mid-career is heartbreaking to his family, to the Blacksburg community, and to the academic professionals at Virginia Tech."

Hatzios joined the faculty in 1979 after earning his doctorate at Michigan State University. In 1997 he became head of Virginia Tech's Department of Plant Pathology, Physiology and Weed Science. In 1999 he was named head of the Experiment Station and associate dean for research with the university's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

The Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station is part of a nation-wide research network allied to the system of land-grant institutions. As head of the Experiment Station, Hatzios oversaw the work of about 300 researchers associated with Virginia Tech. In addition to the facilities on the Blacksburg campus, he also supervised a system of 13 regional agricultural research and Extension centers state-wide.

Under his leadership, Virginia Tech was recognized as number seven among all universities nationally in agricultural and natural-resources research as reported by the National Science Foundation. The \$63.8 million spent on agricultural and natural-resources research and development accounted for one-third of the research expenditures at Virginia Tech.

Hatzios' professional reputation was as a leading researcher internationally in the area of chemical manipulation of crop tolerance to herbicides as well as in the areas of herbicide action and metabolism.

He received numerous awards, most recently being named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2001.

Researcher tackles recycling of chemically treated lumber

By Lynn Davis

The use of chromated-copper-arsenic (CCA) treated wood has garnered a great deal of media attention over the past few years due to possible environmental and public-safety concerns. "Another concern of this material has just recently gained attention from researchers, environmentalists, and government organizations," said Bob Smith, wood science and forest products associate professor in the College of Natural Resources. "That is the amount of CCA-treated wood being removed from people's homes and businesses and going to the nation's landfills."

Chromated copper arsenate, or CCA as it is commonly known, is the chemical compound used to pressure-treat wood to resist attack from insects and decay. Smith said CCA can typically extend the life of wood in an outdoor environment by 30 to 40 years, thus saving the forest resource. "Since the early 1970s, CCA-treated wood has been used in approximately 80 percent of residential decks built in the United States."

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the wood-preserving industry have voluntarily removed the use of CCA for the treatment of wood in residential applications starting in January 2004. "This will end much of the media hype in the possible adverse side effects that CCA may produce because of the arsenic in its formulation," predicted wood-science research assistant Dave Bailey. "However, another con-

cern is the amount of CCA-treated wood that could end up in landfills, especially from residential decks. Several researchers across the country have indicated that the amount of discarded CCA-treated wood reaching landfills is increasing and the tonnage is expected to rise substantially over the next several decades."

Research performed by the wood science and forest products department and the USDA Forest Service in Blacksburg estimated that one billion board feet of CCA-treated wood is removed from residential decks and disposed primarily in landfills each year. Researchers from other universities have examined the possible leaching of CCA chemicals from wood in to unlined landfills, to determine if the rate of CCA chemical leachate will contaminate groundwater supplies. "This research could cause tighter regulations on the disposal of CCA-treated wood, and force the cost of disposing old decks to increase over the next few years," Smith said.

To help reduce the burden on landfills and the demand of timber harvested for use by the wood industry, research is being conducted at the Brooks Forest Products Laboratory at Virginia Tech to extend the useful life of used CCA-treated material. This research has evaluated the amount of useful material that a deck contains, which instead of ending up in a

landfill could be re-used.

"The research has calculated the amount of CCA-treated wood in a residential deck before demolition, and then determined the amount of usable CCA-treated material capable of being recycled," Bailey said. "We have determined that over 80 percent of a discarded CCA-treated deck can be recovered into useable lumber."

The physical and mechanical properties of the spent CCA-treated wood were also evaluated, to verify if this used material can perform to needed standards. The chemical-retention levels (the amount of chemicals in the wood) of the used CCA-treated wood were similar to that of new CCA-treated wood found in many local home-improvement centers. The strength of the old wood was also tested for comparison to new CCA-treated wood. The mechanical tests concluded that the strength properties of the discarded CCA-treated wood, destined for the landfill, were similar as new CCA-treated wood.

Smith said, "We are currently evaluating what it would take for landfill managers to be willing to separate out the CCA-treated wood to sell or donate to parties that could recycle the materials into the useable products we have identified. Our research has helped to recognize the potential of discarded CCA-treated wood. It could certainly reduce the burden on landfills and lessen the demand of our forests by extending the life of current forest products."

Denton to analyze media, politics at presidential conference

By Annette Calhoun

Robert Denton, professor of communications studies and W. Thomas Rice chair and director of the Corps of Cadets Center for Leader Development, is an invited speaker at the ninth-annual Presidential Rhetoric Conference, being held through March 2 at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas.

Included in the program is a panel discussion with George H.W. Bush, 41st president of the United States, James Carville, political consultant to President William Clinton, and Mary

Matalin, political consultant to President George H.W. Bush.

Denton's paper "Political Television in the Internet Age," analyzes American politics and the Internet. He discusses concerns by some scholars that the merging of the Internet with television, and the increase in customizing information to specific interests, will result in more social fragmentation and group-centered politics with less opportunity for public debates.

"Just as was the case with television, the early literature of the 1980s and 1990s suggests

the Internet would democratize politics by encouraging even greater participation, fostering new political parties and interest groups as well as leveling the playing field among electoral participants. However, studies now show that few people access political or issue sites. Even more informational sites are becoming overly commercialized. Thus, as with television, the Internet has yet to transform American politics and democracy to the utopian notions of more informed and politically active citizenry."

INTERNAL

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responsible for developing both internal and external linkages to build program partnerships that span all missions of the university, and it supports the university's colleges, centers, and program activities. The vice provost also works in partnership with Virginia Cooperative Extension to provide leadership for state-wide programs.

Candidates must possess significant program experience in outreach, Extension, international programs, or economic development; significant administrative experience; and demonstrated ability to lead effectively. They must also have a terminal degree.

Preferred qualifications are the ability to work effectively with faculty members and administrators, organizational skills to promote collaboration and teamwork, demonstrated effectiveness in planning administration, personnel, and fiscal management; outstanding oral and written communication skills, proven ability to work with leaders in public and private sectors, a demonstrated commitment to diversity and equal opportunity, and entrepreneurial

vision.

Nominations for the position should be e-mailed to Earving Blythe, who chairs the search committee, at blithe@vt.edu. Applications should be sent as electronic attachments to Pat Hyer at hyerp@vt.edu. Included in the application packet should be a letter of interest that addresses the

responsibilities and qualifications of the office, current curriculum vitae, and the names and phone numbers of three references. Individuals with disabilities who desire accommodations in the application process or need application materials in an alternate format should contact Mel Gillespie, Office for Equal Oppor-

tunity, at 1-7500, TTY 1-9460, or Melving@vt.edu by March 13.

Applications are due at noon on March 14. The committee will begin reviewing them immediately after the due date and will continue until the position is filled.

Search committee members include Blythe, vice president for information technology; Jim Blair, associate provost for research and interdisciplinary programs; Karen DePauw, vice provost for graduate studies and dean of the Graduate School; Laura Fornash, director of the Virginia Tech Richmond Center; Valerie Giddings, associate dean of the College of Human Sciences and Education; William Greenberg, professor of mathematics; Judith Jones, associate director of administration for Extension; Doris Kincade, associate professor of apparel, housing, and resource management; Ed Nelson, assistant director of program development for Continuing Education; Jim Pease, associate professor of agriculture and applied economics; Judith Shrum, head of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures; and Richard Sorensen, dean of the Pamplin College of Business.

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