

# SPECTRUM

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Tech  
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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**TODAY'S EDITION**  
See page 2 for  
information on today's  
Diggs Roundtable.

## Virginia Cooperative Extension names Riddell assistant director

By Charlie Stott

James E. Riddell, who has been with Virginia Cooperative Extension for 27 years, has been selected as assistant director for Agriculture and Natural Resource programs.

"Jim has been an outstanding Extension Agent and administrator at both the unit level and, for the past two years, an outstanding district director," said Patricia Sobrero, Extension director and associate dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. "He knows what it takes to build strong educational programs as well as collaborative partnerships at the local and regional level. Jim is highly respected by clientele, agri-businesses, legislators, and Extension colleagues.

"His programs have had significant and long-term impacts in increasing agricultural profitability and protecting Virginia's environment," Sobrero said. "We are looking to Jim's leadership to help us

build even stronger educational programs that meet the changing needs of our clients so they can improve their lives and communities."

Riddell said: "Our programs have to be based on the needs of local people and their communities. We want to listen to and identify the needs expressed by our clients, making sure we understand what they are.

"Virginia is a diverse state and we face a number of challenges in agriculture and natural resources. It is important that Virginia Cooperative Extension be a catalyst for positive change."

Riddell began his career in 1977 as Extension Agent in Orange County and also served as 4-H youth agent in Madison County. In 1978, he was named unit director for Extension activities in Greene County. He was Extension unit coordinator and agricultural agent in Louisa County from 1987 until 2003 when he became Northern District director

(See VIRGINIA on 4)



RIDDELL

## Administrative changes announced in Student Affairs

By Susan B. Felker

Landrum L. Cross, vice president for Student Affairs, has announced several changes in administrative positions in the division.

Cynthia P. Bonner, associate vice president for Faculty and Staff Resources for the University of North Carolina (UNC) system and a visiting professor at North Carolina State University (NC State), will become the first chief of staff and director of administration in the division.

Cross also announced the promotion of Edward Spencer, assistant vice president for Student Programs, to associate vice president for Student Affairs.

Of Bonner's appointment, Cross said: "Dr. Bonner will be a real asset to Virginia Tech with her leadership skills and extensive background in university administration. I am pleased that she will be the first person in this new position, which has been created as part of a plan to centralize and streamline our operations."

Bonner will oversee administrative functions in the vice president's office, which include personnel and budgeting, and will negotiate and plan a two-year transition of other organizational functions to centralized management, giving her broad administrative responsibilities across all aspects of Student Affairs programs and services. She will work closely with Cross and the division's associate and assistant vice presidents and will serve as administrative liaison to executive officers throughout the university.

She joined the UNC Office of the President in 1990 as associate vice president for Student Services and Special Programs, responsible for implementing policies in the

(See ADMINISTRATIVE on 4)

## Veterinary Medicine to launch Community Veterinary College

By Jeffrey S. Douglas

The Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (VMRCVM) at Virginia Tech will present its first Community Veterinary College as part of a series of special events designed to celebrate the college's 25th anniversary.

Interested community members are invited to register for the program, which is designed to provide them with an understanding of 21st century veterinary education and research through a six-event series that will include three presentations during fall and winter 2004 and three presentations during winter and spring 2005.

The year-long series will feature faculty instructors from the VMRCVM as well as guest speakers, said program organizer Peter Eyre, professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology, and

former dean of the college.

"This is something I have been interested in doing for a very long time," said Eyre, who added that registrants will learn about the range of medical and surgical procedures open to their animals and the role modern veterinary medicine plays in public health and homeland security.

"Veterinary medicine has become such a mainstream part of our lives, from animal health to food safety, and I think people are very interested in learning more about it," he said.

Each of the six class meetings will feature approximately three different lectures. The sequence of topics covered will roughly track the way doctor-of-veterinary-medicine (DVM) students learn veterinary medicine during their four years of study.

The Community Veterinary College will

open on September 28 with an evening that kicks off with tours of the college, a buffet dinner, and opening presentations by Virginia Tech Provost Mark McNamee, Vice President for Research Brad Fenwick, VMRCVM Dean Gerhardt Schurig and Eyre.

Fenwick's keynote presentation is entitled "The Value of Veterinary Medicine to Society."

The October 19 class is structured around the theme "A Day in the Life of First Year Veterinary Medical Students" and includes presentations on "Anatomy, Physiology, Immunology" by Eyre; "The Brain: A Universe Inside Your Head," by Brad Klein, associate professor, Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology; and "Meat, Milk and Mad Cow Disease," by Will Eyestone, research associate professor, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences.

(See VETERINARY on 4)

## Town Hall Meeting Provides Overview of Chartered University Initiative Impact

Following the "town-hall" meeting held Sept. 1 in Burruss auditorium, Virginia Tech officials continue their work to complete the documentation necessary to carry forward Chartered University legislation to the Virginia General Assembly in January and provide further information to university community members on the impact of this proposal.

The Chartered University initiative, brought forth by Virginia Tech, the University of Virginia and the College of William and Mary, will help address Virginia's budget difficulties and improve Virginia higher education. Through this proposal, the universities seek

increased management flexibility, greater efficiencies, a more stable funding environment and improved performance of the academic enterprise.

At the town hall meeting, President Charles W. Steger and Minnis Ridenour, senior fellow for resource development, provided an overview of the of the Chartered University initiative and its impact on the Virginia Tech community, and answered questions.

In addition to the broadcast of the town-hall meeting, new information has been added to the Chartered University web site. An easy-to-read reference guide summarizing the Chartered University initiative has been added, as has an expanded list of FAQ's addressing

(See TOWN HALL on 4)



STEGER

## HUD to award university \$90,000

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Alphonso Jackson announced recently that HUD will award \$90,000 to Virginia Tech to help graduate students prepare for careers in community planning and development.

The grant to Virginia Tech is part of some \$2,880,000 in grants HUD announced to 28 universities, colleges and other organizations around the country to benefit low-income and minority graduate students as they work toward their degrees and gain practical experience in their career field. HUD's Community Development Work Study Program grants will provide \$15,000 per student per year for students' tuition, travel, and books during the next two years.

"Today's students will become

(See HUD on 3)

# ACTIVITIES

## EVENTS

(Editor's note: For timely and expanded events information, go to the Virginia Tech Events Calendar at <http://www.calendar.vt.edu/main.php>.)

### Saturday, 11

Football, 1 p.m., Lane Stadium: Western Michigan.

### Tuesday, 14

Faculty Senate, 7 p.m., 129 McBryde.

### Wednesday, 15

Rosh Hashanah Begins (Sundown).

Hispanic Heritage Month Begins (Through 10-15).

"With Good Reason," 7:30 p.m., WVTF: Tech Entomologist Rick Fell on honeybees.

### Thursday, 16

Pay Date for Faculty and Staff Members.

Staff Senate, noon, 1810 Litton Reaves.

Rosh Hashanah.

### Saturday, 18

Football, noon, Lane Stadium: Duke

### Sunday, 19

Deaf Awareness Week Begins.

### Monday, 20

University Council, 3 to 5 p.m., 1045 Pamplin.

### Tuesday, 21

Engineering Expo, Owens Banquet/Squires Student Center: Call 1-6036 for more information.

### Wednesday, 22

Engineering Expo, Owens Banquet/Squires Student Center: Call 1-6036 for more information.

"With Good Reason," 7:30 p.m., WVTF.

### Thursday, 23

Business Horizons Career Fair, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Squires Student Center.

### Friday, 24

Yom Kippur Begins (Sundown).

## SEMINARS

### Friday, 10

MCBB, 12:20 to 1:10 p.m., 102 Fralin: Bob Skibbens,

Lehigh University.

Geosciences, 3:30 p.m., 4069 Derring: Susan W. Kieffer, University of Illinois-Urbana.

### Thursday, 16

Statistics, 3:45 p.m., 409 Hutcheson: Layne Watson.

### Friday, 17

MCBB, 12:20 to 1:10 p.m., 102 Fralin: Ed Swords, Wake Forest University.

Geosciences, 3:30 p.m., 4069 Derring: Chester Watts, Radford University.

### Thursday, 23

Statistics, 3:45 p.m., 409 Hutcheson: Wendy Novicoff.

### Friday, 24

MCBB, 12:20 to 1:10 p.m., 102 Fralin: Dave Lampe, Duquesne University.

Geography, 3:30 to 5 p.m., 136 McBryde: Peter J. Hugill, Texas A&M University.

Geosciences, 3:30 p.m., 4069 Derring: Lawrence Taylor, University of Tennessee.

Statistics, 3:45 p.m., 409 Hutcheson: Blan Godfrey.

## BULLETINS

### CEUT to hold Diggs Roundtable

The Center for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (CEUT) and the Diggs Teaching Scholar Program present the 11th annual Diggs Roundtable on Friday, Sept. 10, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Hillcrest Dining Room. Recipients of the award are recognized for their outstanding teaching and exceptional contributions to the teaching program and learning environment at Virginia Tech.

One obligation of the award is that new recipients discuss and share some aspect of their teaching life at the annual Diggs Roundtable. The 2004-2005 Diggs Scholars are Sheryl Ball and Catherine Eckel, economics; Sharon Johnson, foreign languages and literatures; and Robert Siegle, English. All members of the university community are invited to attend.

For more information, contact Kim Hale at [ceut@vt.edu](mailto:ceut@vt.edu).

### Football parking information noted

This is parking information for the home football game on Saturday, Sept. 11.

There will be no new parking in the following areas after 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 10. All cars must be removed from these lots by 10 p.m. on Friday: Stadium Lot, Track/Field House Lot, Coliseum Lot, gravel lot behind Jamerson Center, Litton Reaves Lot, Engel Lot, Tennis Court Lot, Shultz Lot, Derring Lot, Davidson Lot, Wright House Lot, Duck Pond Lot (formerly called the Overflow Lot), Price Hall Lot, and Washington Street (both sides of the road from West Campus Drive to Kent Street).

Additionally, vehicles that are parked along the outside perimeter of the Duck Pond Road Resident Lot (the Cage) next to the fence must be moved by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 10. Vehicles that are not removed from these areas will be towed.

All resident students must vacate Stadium Lot and should park in one of the following areas: resident section of Duck Pond Road Lot (the Cage); Prices Fork Lots (large commuter lots next to Prices Fork Road); Perry Street Lots (large lots next to Perry Street).

For clarification see the Football Parking Map at [www.parking.vt.edu](http://www.parking.vt.edu), call Parking Services at 1-3200, or go to [www.parking.vt.edu](http://www.parking.vt.edu).

### Performance-evaluation workshops scheduled

Personnel Services will hold workshops to address the process of evaluating employees using the performance plans established at the beginning of the performance cycle. Classes will be held Tuesday, Sept. 14; Tuesday, Sept 21; Tuesday, Sept 28; Tuesday, Oct. 5; and Tuesday, Oct. 12. All classes will be held at Southgate Center in room 142 from 8:30 until 11:45 a.m.

To reserve a seat in one of the classes, call Vicki Price at 1-1411 or e-mail [pricevs@vt.edu](mailto:pricevs@vt.edu).

### Funding, grant-writing workshops offered

Workshops on successful grant writing and finding funding are being offered this fall as part of the Faculty Development Institute (FDI) and again in separate programs sponsored by the research division.

The FDI grant-writing program is offered in two parts, with part two going into detail on the review process and offering review panel reactions to proposal abstracts. Part 1 of the FDI program as well as the later Research Division program on grant writing cover why proposals succeed and a 12-step program on avoiding common proposal pitfalls.

The FDI programs will be in 3060 Torgersen. Writing Successful Grants part 1 will be Tuesday, Sept. 14, 10 a.m. to noon, and Monday, Sept. 20, 3 to 5 p.m. Writing Successful Grants part 2 will be Tuesday, Sept 28, and Monday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m. to noon. Register on line at [www.fdi.vt.edu](http://www.fdi.vt.edu), "Fall Short Courses."

The Research Division Writing Successful Grants program will be in the Fralin Biotechnology Center auditorium on Friday, Oct. 8, from 3 to 5 p.m. Contact Debbie Nester at [debbiell@vt.edu](mailto:debbiell@vt.edu) or 1-5410 to register.

The Finding Funding workshops cover locating suitable sponsors, using on-line databases, and how to receive funding alerts. The FDI program is Tuesday Sept. 21 and Monday Sept. 27 from 10 a.m. to noon in 3060 Torgersen. The research division program is Friday, Oct. 15, from 3 to 5 p.m. Either register on line at [www.fdi.vt.edu](http://www.fdi.vt.edu), "Fall Short Courses," for the FDI program or contact Nester at [debbiell@vt.edu](mailto:debbiell@vt.edu) or 1-5410 to register for the Research Division course.

For more information about the workshops or to arrange for a more focused approach for your department, contact Research Program Development Manager Bob Porter at 1-6747 or [reporter@vt.edu](mailto:reporter@vt.edu).

### Wireless technologies workshop scheduled

The Center for Wireless Telecommunications (CWT) at Virginia Tech will hold its 2004 Wireless Opportunities Workshop (WOW) on Sunday and Monday, Sept. 26 and 27, in Owens Banquet Hall on campus.

The workshop features a variety of speakers who will showcase the latest technological developments, business opportunities, and trends in the field of wireless telecommunications. Presentations will highlight cognitive radio, broadband wireless, interference temperatures, and public-safety technologies.

The event begins on Sunday afternoon with a tutorial on low-power technologies; RFID, and ZigBee™. The Wireless

Entrepreneur of the Year for Virginia (WEYV) award is announced at the conference.

The deadline to register on line is Tuesday, Sept. 14. For more information about the workshop, go to <http://www.cwt.vt.edu/news/wow/wow2004.htm>.

### Graduate, Professional School Day set

The Graduate Student Assembly is sponsoring Graduate and Professional School Day 2004 on Tuesday, Sept. 28, in Squires Commonwealth Ballroom from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Approximately 50 universities will provide students with information about their advanced-degree programs. Traditionally, graduate schools, law schools, medical-health related schools, business schools, and engineering schools have attended. A few of the institutions already registered include Wake Forest University, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, University of Virginia Law School, University of Miami, and College of William and Mary.

This event is free to all students and professional dress is not required. For more information, contact Paula Williams at 1-7919.

### Deer hunts scheduled for Kentland Farm

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences will hold a series of controlled deer hunts on its Kentland Farm to manage the deer herd.

The herd management will help reduce deer damage to crops and research projects and maintain a healthy deer herd. The hunts will take place from Oct. 9 through Nov. 27 and will include bow, muzzleloader, and shotgun.

Hunters must file a Virginia Tech hunting application to qualify for a random drawing to determine who shall be permitted to hunt. A hunt packet, including rules, dates, procedures, and application form may be picked up at the Virginia Tech Police Department located on campus in the Sterrett Complex, Southgate Drive, at the Kentland Farm office, or downloaded from the farm web site at <http://www.vaes.vt.edu/colleges/kentland/2004deerhunt.html>.

Completed applications must be filed by 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, with the Virginia Tech Kentland Farm, 5250 Whitethorne Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060. For further information, call 731-9353.

### Event Planning notes policy changes

Each semester, Event Planning notifies university departments of updates, changes or additions to current policy, procedure, guidelines and timelines. Following are changes now in effect:

Event Planning Office Hours are now 9:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. (previously 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.).

(See BULLETINS on 3)

## BULLETINS

## BULLETINS

Continued from 2

Rental Rates (per day) for equipment with no previous charge (genie lift, pianos, rope for rope standards, scaffolding, etc.) will be implemented, effective immediately pending approval from the University Controller's Office.

There are projected increases in equipment rental and service rates effective for the 2005-2006 school year; pending approval.

For more information, call 1-5005, e-mail [eventplanning@vt.edu](mailto:eventplanning@vt.edu), or visit the Event Planning Office in 221 Squires.

**457 plan sessions scheduled**

A representative of Great West (457 deferred-compensation plan) will be on campus Thursday, Sept. 23, in Donaldson Brown conference room C. General sessions (no appointment necessary) will be held at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

To schedule an individual appointment, send an e-mail to [nancy.roth@gwl.com](mailto:nancy.roth@gwl.com) and request a time. For more information, regarding the 457 or 430(b) plans, contact Gloria Smith at [gsmith@vt.edu](mailto:gsmith@vt.edu).

**Bees topic of WVTF program**

Virginia's honeybees are making a remarkable comeback after their 20-year battle with a pair of parasitic mites that nearly wiped out the population in Virginia. Tech Entomologist Rick Fell will talk about the victory of those honeybees and assesses their current health status on "With Good Reason," Wednesday, Sept. 15, at 7:30 p.m. on radio station WVTF.

Call 1-8900 for more information.

**WMASLS applications due**

Applications are due Friday, Sept. 17, for the Women and Minority Artist and Scholars Lecture Series (WMASLS).

The primary purpose of the Women and Minority Artists and Scholars Lecture Series (WMASLS) is to increase the number and diversity of scholarly voices and artistic expressions at Virginia Tech. To encourage departments or similar units to identify and invite scholars from diverse backgrounds to campus, the WMASLS will award up to \$500 to supplement college/departmental support for the speaker's expenses.

Detailed information and application materials can be found at: [http://www.provost.vt.edu/web\\_pages/WMASLS.html](http://www.provost.vt.edu/web_pages/WMASLS.html).

**Center director shares secrets**

Dan Inman, the George R. Goodson professor of mechanical engineering and director of the Center for Intelligent Material Systems and Structures, will speak on "The Secrets of My Big Fat Research Career" during the New Faculty Workshop offered by the research division.

"Your Research Career at Virginia Tech—Getting Started," will be Friday, Sept. 24, from 3 until 5 p.m. in the Fralin Biotechnology Center auditorium. The workshop will cover sponsored research at Virginia Tech, funding opportunities for young investigators, developing and submitting a proposal, and managing a research career.

To register, e-mail Debbie Nester at [debbiell@vt.edu](mailto:debbiell@vt.edu) or call 1-5410. For more information, e-mail [reporter@vt.edu](mailto:reporter@vt.edu) or call 1-6747.

**Women's Studies Program starts book group**

The Women's Studies Program is starting a book group to meet monthly and discuss literature and general-interest books written by or about women. Interested members of the campus community are invited to participate. Contact Director of Women's Studies Bernice Hausman, at [bhausman@vt.edu](mailto:bhausman@vt.edu) for more information.

**New Career Services Building Grand Opening Celebration, Open House scheduled for Sept. 22**

By Sally Harris

The new Career Services Building on the corner of Washington Street and West Campus Drive on the Virginia Tech campus will be open to the university and area community for tours Sept. 22, from 10 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. during its Grand Opening Celebration and Open House.

The new 22,000-square-foot building offers several advantages over the old quarters—convenience to students with more parking, 32 interview rooms, conference rooms and seminar space for workshops, meetings, classes, and employer receptions and

information sessions, high-tech computer lab, a career-resource center, and air conditioning.

In the facility, hundreds of employers will conduct interviews, and students can receive advice about their career decisions and job searches, resume critiques and mock interviews—nearly anything pertaining to their career pursuits. The open house will provide Virginia Tech employees and the community the opportunity to be come acquainted with the facility and the help Career Services offers.

Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 1-6241.

**Research Division provides oversight for limited-submission programs**

By Susan Trulove

Many funding agencies place limits on the number of proposals or applications that a university may submit in response to a particular funding opportunity. To prevent any potential disqualification of submissions coming from Virginia Tech, the Research Division has established the following guidelines.

Programs will be put on the limited-submissions calendar under the month that the first internal (Virginia Tech) deadline occurs. Anyone wishing to submit a proposal for one of these programs should send a brief letter of intent to [ltsubs@vt.edu](mailto:ltsubs@vt.edu). To expedite the process of planning an internal competition, send this letter as soon as you know you have an interest in the funding program. The e-mail letter of intent needs to include only the name of the principal investigator, any co-PI's, and the subject or title of the proposed project. The deadline for the internal letter of intent is indicated in the limited-submissions calendar.

Participants will be notified on the day following the letter-of-intent deadline about the need for an internal competition to select the allowed number of applications to be sent forward to the funding agency. If the number of participants does not exceed the number of allowable submissions no internal competition will be necessary.

If an internal competition is necessary, a brief pre-proposal will be required. Detailed instructions for preparing the pre-proposal will be sent to those who have submitted a letter of intent. A committee will discuss the submissions. Those who have submitted a letter of intent will be notified in approximately ten days of the results.

Upcoming deadlines include:

Sept. 17: Centers For Learning and Teaching. National Science Foundation

Oct. 15: Extramural Research Facilities Improvement Program. National Institutes of Health

Nov. 11: Major Research Instrumentation Program. National Science Foundation (NSF 04-511)

Nov. 11: Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Awards. Oak Ridge Associated Universities. Go to <http://www.research.vt.edu/limitsubs/index.html> for a more extensive list.

For other information about selected research funding opportunities, post-doctoral fellowships, graduate fellowships and notices about events and programs of interest to the Virginia Tech research community see the weekly *Opportunity Update* newsletter at <http://www.research.vt.edu/funding/ou/update.html>.

## HUD

Continued from 1

tomorrow's greatest resource for revitalizing our nation's communities," Jackson said. "The Bush administration is committed to creating a new generation of leaders who will work to strengthen our neighborhoods and communities."

Colleges and universities will use the grants to offer financial aid and work experience to students enrolled in full-time graduate programs in community development or closely related fields such as urban planning, public policy, or public administration. Schools will select students who will benefit from work-study funding as well as secure work assignments and monitor student performance.

"This grant will help three economically disadvantaged graduate students pursue master's degrees in urban planning, policy, or public administration, and subsequent careers in community development," said Ted Koebel, professor in the College of Architecture and Urban studies and director of the Center for Housing Research. "Recent graduates aided by this grant are working at the federal mortgage program Ginnie Mae, and for county-planning and city housing-authority programs."

The awards are made by HUD's Office of University Partnerships, which reaches out to colleges and universities in a number of ways to help use public resources to engage institutions of higher education in programs of community planning and development. For more information about the work-study program, go to [www.oup.org/about/cdwsp.html](http://www.oup.org/about/cdwsp.html).

HUD is the nation's housing agency committed to increasing homeownership, particularly among minorities, creating affordable housing opportunities for low-income Americans, supporting the homeless, elderly, people with disabilities and people living with AIDS.



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE  
AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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## EMPLOYMENT

For more information on all faculty and classified-staff positions, see [www.jobs.vt.edu](http://www.jobs.vt.edu).

## INSTRUCTIONAL

Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences.  
Assistant Professor of Wildlife Sciences.

## NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Graduate School. Associate Dean (part-time).

University Development. Special Gifts Officer.

Virginia Bioinformatics Institute. Proteomics Data Coordinator.

Student Programs/Residence Life. Residence Life Complex Director.

Department of Human Nutrition. Foods/Exercise. Head of Department.

School of Public/International Affairs. Human Services Project Associate.

Biochemistry. Research Associate. Department of Chemistry. Research Scientist.

Virginia Bioinformatics Institute. Simulation Science Laboratory Program Development Coordinator.

Industrial and Systems Engineering. Research Assistant Professor.

Virginia Bioinformatics Institute. Simulation Scientists (three positions).

## Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine scholarship honors Eyre

By Jeffrey S. Douglas

Peter Eyre, who stepped down as the second dean in the history of the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (VMRCVM) in August, 2003, was recently honored by the alumni society he helped create.

The VMRCVM Alumni Society announced during reunion festivities held on the campus of Virginia Tech that they are renaming their student award The Peter Eyre Student Leadership Award, and broadened the sponsoring base to formally include the Virginia Veterinary Medical Association and the Maryland Veterinary Foundation.

"I was honored to have been the dean of this college for so many years," said Eyre, who termed the alumni recognition as one of the most meaningful of his career. He said he was

particularly touched that the award bearing his name would support student education, which was at the heart of what he worked to advance during his 45-year career.

VMRCVM Alumni Society President Bill Tyrrell, a board-certified veterinary cardiologist from Leesburg, announced the award during a formal reception held at the university. Tyrrell said that the annual award would go to a Virginia student and a Maryland student who best exemplified the "character of Peter Eyre."

Tyrrell said the students selected would go to students "who, over the four years of the DVM (doctor of veterinary medicine) curriculum, have most shown concern for the well-being of the profession, as well as the college and its members, who have had a vision of service and a history of involvement in organized veterinary medicine, and who are

demonstrated consensus builders possessed of tact, grace and a good sense of humor."

During the ceremony, Steven Escobar, president of the Virginia Veterinary Medical Association, praised Eyre for the role he played in building an excellent relationship between organized veterinary medicine in Virginia and the college. Mike Erskine, past-president of the Maryland Veterinary Medicine Association and current vice-president of the Maryland Veterinary Foundation, said Eyre's "patience and personal diplomacy" also exerted a transformative effect on the Maryland association.

This is the first time that the Virginia and Maryland Veterinary Medical Associations have teamed up with the college's alumni

society to fund a scholarship at the college.

During keynote remarks shared earlier in the evening with the assembled alumni, VMRCVM Dean Gerhardt Schurig congratulated the college's charter class on the occasion of their 20th reunion anniversary.

Schurig stressed the importance of alumni engagement with college affairs and broadly outlined plans for a goal-setting and planning process that will unfold over the next six months. Schurig said that alumni will be invited to participate in the process.

Eyre, named dean in 1985, served for 18 years before announcing his resignation from the top post as a result of health problems. He continues to serve as a faculty member in the college's Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology.

### ADMINISTRATIVE

Continued from 1

16 University of North Carolina institutions. In this position, she served as the university's affirmative-action officer for students and consulted with the UNC campuses on minority-student recruitment and retention. Bonner has held her position since 1999.

Bonner earned her bachelor's from Carnegie Mellon University, her M.Ed. and Ed. S. degrees in counselor education from the State University of West Georgia, and a

Ph.D. in educational leadership from Florida State University.

In Spencer's new position, he will oversee the Cranwell International Center, Student Life and Advocacy, University Unions, and Student Activities for the remainder of the year. He will continue to supervise Housing and Dining Services, Residence Life, Fraternity and Sorority Life, and Judicial Affairs.

A professional in student affairs for more than 30 years, Spencer began his career in 1970 at the University of Delaware, where he held three different positions. He came to Virginia

Tech in 1983 as director of Housing and Residence Life, became director of Residential and Dining Programs in 1989, and was named assistant vice president for Student Affairs in 1996. While working in student affairs at the University of Delaware, he taught several undergraduate courses and now teaches a graduate course at Virginia Tech.

Spencer received a bachelor's in psychology from the University of Rochester, a master's in student personnel administration in higher education from Syracuse University, and both a master's and a Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of Delaware. He also is a graduate of Harvard University's Management Development Program.

Two additional organizational changes will be in effect for the remainder of the year.

Recreational Sports has been added to the purview of Brian E. Warren, assistant vice president for Student Affairs. University Unions will be under the purview of Melinda Vann, director of Administrative and Business Services for University Unions and Student Activities (UUSA). Warren will continue to oversee Career Services, the College Alcohol Abuse Prevention Center, Cook Counseling Center, Schiffert Health Center, and Services for Students with Disabilities, and Vann will continue her responsibilities for UUSA administrative and business operations.

### TOWN HALL

Continued from 1

issues and concerns raised by faculty and staff members at the town meeting and through the web site. The FAQ section of the web site will be continuously updated as additional questions are raised or new information is made available.

In the coming weeks and months, Personnel Services will conduct small-group meetings for faculty and staff members to further explain the impact of the Chartered University proposal and respond to questions. Meetings will be held in Blacksburg and at

other extended campus locations. Faculty and staff members will be encouraged to review the information which will be available on the Charter University Initiative web site. The meetings will be coordinated and scheduled through the offices of the college deans, vice provosts and vice presidents.

Virginia Tech's Chartered University web site will remain an important source for updates on the Chartered University initiative. The university community is encouraged to visit the web site and submit comments and questions as they arise.

As a result of this work, he was appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture to the Virginia Taskforce on Farmland Preservation.

During 2001 and 2002, as a result of his work with USDA, several Central Virginia counties were designated as disaster areas due to the drought. Through his field-demonstration efforts and one-on-one contacts with producers in the region, farmers received more than \$1 million in additional funds from two special USDA programs.

Riddell holds a bachelor's degree in animal science and a master's degree in career and technical education from Virginia Tech.

### VIRGINIA

Continued from 1

with administrative responsibilities for Extension programs of 56 agents in 19 counties. The district stretches from highly urban areas around Washington, D.C., to largely rural areas, such as Nelson County.

He has received numerous awards and honors, including the Distinguished Service Award and the Achievement Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. He has been recognized with special Commendations from both the Virginia State Senate and the Virginia House of Delegates for his work.

Virginia Farm Bureau awarded Riddell its Best In-State Educational Activity award for an environmental protection field day, and he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District.

Riddell is recognized across the state for his expertise in farm and forest-land preservation. As a direct result of his educational programs, Agricultural and Forestry Districts have been established by citizens and local governments and encompass more than 400 farms and 90,000 acres in Central Virginia. He also has provided educational programs on farmland protection in more than 15 Virginia counties.

### VETERINARY

Continued from 1

The November 30 class is structured around the theme "A Day in the Life of Second Year Veterinary Medical Students" and includes presentations entitled "Pathology, Microbiology, Pharmacology, Nutrition" by Eyre; "How Can We Beat Cancer?" by John Robertson, professor, Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology; and "Every Bite Counts: Nutrition in Health and Disease," by Korin Saker, associate professor, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences.

2005 classes get under way on January 25 and are structured around the theme "A Day in the Life of Third and Fourth Year Veterinary Medical Students: Medicine and Surgery." by Eyre; "Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. A Look into the Stomach and Intestines" by Michael Leib, professor, Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences; "Equine Surgery: We Don't Shoot

Horses Anymore," by Nat White, professor and director of the VMRCVM's Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center in Leesburg.

The February 22 class also focuses on "A Day in the Life of Third and Fourth Year Veterinary Medical Students" and includes "Responding to National Needs in Public Veterinary Medicine" by Bettye Walters, director of the college's Center for Public and Corporate Veterinary Practice at the University of Maryland at College Park; "Do Animals Really Matter to Human Health" by Glenn Morris, professor and chairman of the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine of the University of Maryland School of Medicine at Baltimore; and "Emerging Viruses: Biohazards for all Creatures," by Thomas Toth, professor, Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology.

The program concludes on March 29 and will focus on the theme "Understanding the Human-Animal Bond: Why People and Animals Need Each Other," by Marie Suthers-McCabe, associate professor, Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences and director of the college's Center for Animal-Human Relationships. The final presentation will be made by Schurig and is titled "The Past, Present and Future: Building on Our Strengths and Opportunities."

Classes will be held at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, located off Duck Pond Drive on the Virginia Tech campus. Enrollment is open to all interested members of the community, except VMRCVM faculty members and students. VMRCVM staff members are welcome. Registration is limited to 100 persons (no partial registration is available). Tuition for the course is \$25, which includes meals, refreshments and a "diploma" certificate. For more information, contact Kelly Stanley at 1-9286 or [kestanl2@vt.edu](mailto:kestanl2@vt.edu).

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