



# News2 Note

March 2009

Two of the six Virginia Tech undergraduates selected to participate in the Fourth Annual ACC Meeting of the Minds Conference will be representing disciplines in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. **Jon Crain**, an International Studies major, will give an oral presentation titled “Transnational Civil Society and Governance in Weak and Failed African States: Empirical Incongruence of U.S. Policy”; his faculty mentor is **Yannis Stivachtis**, Political Science and director of International Studies. **Michelle Klassen**, a major in Economics and Urban Affairs and Planning whose paper was submitted through the Department of History, will speak on “Hillbilly Heroin: OxyContin in Appalachia”; her faculty mentor is **Peter Wallenstein**, History. The ACC Meeting of the Minds is an opportunity for students from ACC schools to present their research projects – as oral or poster presentations - and for faculty and administrators from across the ACC to share information about conducting undergraduate research. This is the fourth year that CLAHS students have been selected to participate; students compete at the college level and then at the university level for a spot on the team. The conference will take place April 2-4 at North Carolina State University.

**Katherine Allen**, Human Development, was the 2009 International Visiting Scholar at Tokyo’s Ochanomizu University, the most renowned women's university in Japan. She was invited to teach a course on Feminist Pedagogy and Research Methods to faculty and students in the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences. Allen also provided the keynote address to the Japan Society of Family Sociology during her two-week visit in January.

In December, 22 students in the Housing Option in the Department of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management participated in a Design Charette Scholarship competition, sponsored by GE and the National Kitchen and Bath Association. The term “charette” evolved from a pre-1900 exercise at the École des Beaux Arts in France, where students were given a design problem to solve within an allotted time. For this scholarship competition students had to design a kitchen in three hours. Nationally, 28 schools and 480 students participated in the competition. **Catherine Edwards, Traci Leonard**, and **Trevor Sakry** were the three semi-finalist winners selected from Virginia Tech; each received a \$50 scholarship. **Edwards** subsequently was named one of ten national winners; she will receive a \$1000 scholarship at the National Kitchen and Bath Association annual K/BIS (Kitchen and Bath Industry Show) conference in Atlanta in April.

Virginia Tech became a registered CASTLE Worldwide test site for the Associate Kitchen and Bath Designer certification exam; this allows students in the Housing Option in the Department of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management to take the three-hour exam before graduation and use their college education to meet work experience requirements. **Trevor Sakry**, who graduated in December 2008, and **Matt Pittman** were the first AHRM students to take and pass the certification exam given on campus.

**Toni Calasanti**, Sociology, has been invited to make the keynote address at the annual conference of the British Sociological Association (BSA) "Ageing, Body and Society study group" at the British Library in London in July 2009. In addition, the grant titled "Contemporary Issues in Critical Gerontology: An International Initiative," with A. Grenier as principal investigator and on which Calasanti serves as a co-principal investigator, was funded by the International Opportunities Fund of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).

The Center for Peace Studies and Violence Prevention has launched an affiliated club, Students for Non-Violence, which met twice in February. The club will fulfill the center's goal of working with undergraduate and graduate students to organize the student research symposium on violence prevention, planned for October 2010 at Virginia Tech. Founding Director **Jerzy Nowak** worked with **Kristina Heeger Anderson**, a senior majoring in International Studies, and **John Welch**, a senior majoring in French and International Studies; both were students of Nowak's wife, **Jocelyne Couture-Nowak**, a victim of the April 16 tragedy. Anderson, who was wounded on April 16, created the Koshka Foundation after her recovery; the organization serves to promote safety in school systems. Welch founded the outreach program called "Teach for Madame" in honor of Couture-Nowak; he is also a member of the VT-ENGAGE steering committee.

**Jessie Chen-Yu**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published "Effects of household fabric softeners on flammability of cotton and polyester fabrics" in the *AATCC Review* 9,3 (2008): 43-47, along with J. Guo and B. Gatterson.

The paper "Knowledge Sharing at NASA: Extending Social Constructivism to Space Exploration" by **Tina Chindgren**, a doctoral candidate in Adult Learning and Human Resource Development, was selected by the Academy of Human Resource Development Cutting Edge Award Committee as one of the ten best papers at the 2008 conference of the academy. The award was presented at the 2009 AHRD Conference, February 18-21, in Washington, D.C. **Linda Morris**, Human Development, and **Gabriella Belli**, School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, are her dissertation advisors.

**Siwon Cho**, a December 2008 Ph.D. graduate in Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, received the second place award in the national research paper competition of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) for her presentation "Influence of Salesperson's Clothing on Consumer Satisfaction with the Salesperson's Performance: A Comparison Between the Elderly and Adolescents" at the association's June 2008 conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Cho gave the presentation with **Jessie Chen-Yu**, her major professor in AHRM.

**Tracy Cowden**, Music, and guest artist Tabatha Easley, flute, a faculty member at Virginia Commonwealth University, presented a Faculty/Guest Artist recital at Virginia Tech on February 8. The program was repeated on February 17 at the Singleton Center for the Performing Arts at VCU.

The Fourth Annual School of Education Student Association Research Conference took place on February 24 in the Graduate Life Center. This year's conference was titled "Education is the GATEWAY: Unlocking the Doors to the Future through Equity, Access, and Inclusion" and was sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, the Graduate School, the Office of Equity and Inclusion, and the School of Education. CLAHS participants are listed below; all are from the School of Education/Teaching and Learning unless otherwise noted. Paper presentations were by: **Judith Shrum**, Foreign Languages and Literatures, and graduate students **Eric-Gene Shrewsbury**, **Amanda Rohm Daquila** (History), **Lisa Swain**, **Jiewon Baek** (Foreign Languages and Literatures), and **Laura Altstaedter**; graduate student **Denis Khasu**; graduate student **Robert Michael Baldwin**; graduate student **Marilyn Lanier** and faculty member **George Glasson**; faculty members **Heidi Anne E. Mesmer** and **Mary Alice Barksdale** and graduate student **Katie Dredger**; graduate student **Yolanda Avent**; graduate student **Randa Abdelmagid**; graduate student **Feihong Wang**; graduate student **Marina Falasca** (History); and graduate student **David T. Marshall**. Poster presentations were by: graduate student **Alexis Johnston**; graduate student **Karl W. Kosko** and faculty members **Jesse L. M. Wilkins** and **Vanessa Pitts Bannister**; Educational Leadership and Policy Studies graduate student **John P. McNamara** and faculty member **Elizabeth Creamer**; graduate students **Aprille Noe Black**, **Thomas Jeffrey**, **Yeonjeong Park**, **Feihong Wang**, and **Barbara Shutt** (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies); graduate student **Simeon M. Gwayi**; and graduate student **Feihong Wang**.

Faculty Authors Day was held on February 24 in Newman Library. This year's event, the fourth annual, acknowledged and honored Virginia Tech authors for their academic contributions to the university. The occasion included introductory remarks, an introduction of the authors present, and a book talk titled "The Perils of Field Research: Lessons from Cuba" by **Ilja Luciak**, chair of Political Science. Many representative books were on display. A current list of the faculty who authored, co-authored, and edited books – among whom are 40 different CLAHS faculty, including three individuals with two submissions and one with four - can be found at: <http://www.lib.vt.edu/find/vtauthors/2009list.html>.

The French/Francophone Festival 2009 marked another successful year. On five successive Saturdays from January 31 to February 28 the festival featured *Molière, L'intouchable* (The Untouchable), a program of short films titled "L'Origine de la tendresse" and *Other Tales, Lili et le baobab* (Lili and the Baobab), and *Une vieille maitresse* (The Last Mistress) at the Lyric Theatre; each was introduced by **Janell Watson**, Foreign Languages and Literatures. This year's festival, the fourth annual event, was made possible with the support of the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the French Ministry of Culture (CNC); its sponsors included the Florence Gould Foundation, the Grand Marnier Foundation, highbrow entertainment, agnès b., and the Franco-American Cultural Fund. Virginia Tech sponsors were the Le Cercle Francophone, the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, and a provost's Women & Minority Artists and Scholars Lecture Series grant.

**Vickie Fu**, Human Development, was selected to participate on an expert panel on science in early childhood in Washington, D.C., on February 11-12. The invitation came from the Department of

Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start; the purpose of the panel is to plan a series of webcasts on learning science in early childhood. In addition, Fu visited Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, from February 14-22 to assess early childhood education needs in the Dominican Republic and to attend the board meeting of the Council for Professional Recognition. The Council promotes improved performance in early childhood care and education, administers the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, and provides professional improvement activities such as a Military School-Age Credential and a CDA Professional Preparation Program (CDA P3).

**Matthew Gabriele**, Interdisciplinary Studies, was selected as a “Distinguished Lecturer in Medieval Studies” at the University of Virginia for Spring 2009. On March 23 he will give a talk titled “The Power of Apocalyptic Rhetoric in the Eleventh-Century West.”

**LuAnn R. Gaskill**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published “Katie’s Kloset in Cedar Spring Grove: Sales, smoke, and small town business” in *Concepts and Cases in Retail Merchandise Management*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, ed. N. Rabolt and J. Miller (New York: Fairchild Publications, 2009): 318-22.

**Diana George**, English, published "Holy Cards/Immaginette: The Extraordinary Literacy of Vernacular Religion" in *College Composition and Communication* 60:2 (December 2008): 250-84, with Mariolina Rizzi Salvatori; this was the lead article of the issue.

German faculty member **Jeremiah Lynn** and undergraduate major **Emily Bernhards** were awarded a National Education Association award for youth leaders in literacy for “Teach for Jamie,” the German language and culture program run by Virginia Tech German students in memory of Jamie Bishop, who was killed on April 16, 2007. The application was submitted last semester, and the VT program was one of 25 awards granted from among 200 applicants. The award monies will be used to further develop the program, which currently has approximately 50 participants at Beeks Elementary School from kindergarten through fifth grade and meets once a week after school.

University Distinguished Professor of English **Nikki Giovanni** published a new book of love poetry titled *Bicycles* (Harper Collins, 2009) and had a reading and book signing at The Volume Two Bookstore on February 10. The collection of 65 poems, which appeared in time for Valentine’s Day, serves as a companion to her 1997 volume *Love Poems*. More information can be found at: <http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/story.php?relyear=2009&itemno=66>. In addition, Giovanni received a 2009 NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work--Poetry for *Hip Hop Speaks to Children: A Celebration of Poetry with a Beat* (Source Books/Jabberwocky 2008). This is her fifth Image Award. Finally, as part of Black History Month and Women’s Month, Giovanni’s books – along with those of Maya Angelou, bell hooks, and Toni Morrison - were included in the 20<sup>th</sup> National African American Read-In, sponsored by the Women’s Center. The read-in took place on February 26 at the Women’s Center Library.

**William J. Glenn**, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies/School of Education and Interim Director of NVC Education Programs at the Northern Virginia Center in Falls Church, published “School finance adequacy litigation and student achievement: A longitudinal analysis” in *Journal of Education Finance* 34,3 (2009): 247-66.

**James E. Hawdon**, Sociology, along with Kevin O. Shropshire and James C. Witte, published "Web Survey Design: Balancing Measurement, Response, and Topical Interest" in *Sociological Methods & Research* 37 (2009): 344-70.

**Bob Hicok**, English, gave a reading of his poetry at the Folger Shakespeare Library on Capitol Hill on February 17. He presented with poet Marie Howe in the Elizabethan Theatre; a wine reception with a book sale and signing followed the reading. In addition, Hicok recently was selected for *The Best American Poetry 2009* - his fifth appearance in the *Best American Poetry* - and for his third appearance in the *Pushcart*. He also just received his second National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and in 2008 was awarded the Guggenheim for poetry and the Rebekah Johnson Bobbitt National Prize for Poetry for his most recent collection of poems, *This Clumsy Living*.

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences was well represented at the conference on Higher Education Pedagogy @ VT on February 18, organized by **Peter Doolittle**, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies and director of the Center for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. Presenting papers and workshops at this inaugural conference on education pedagogy at VT were the following, all of whom are faculty unless otherwise identified: **Rebecca Raab** and **Ling Li**, graduate students in the School of Education/Teaching and Learning; **Joan Monahan Watson** and **Jennifer Henderson**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **Elizabeth Struthers Malbon**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **Robert Stephens**, **Mark Barrow**, and **Kathleen Jones**, History; **Katherine Allen**, Human Development; **Terry Wildman**, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies, with Tom Walker; **Richard Shingles**, Political Science, with Ruth Grene; **Kelly Parkes**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning; **Quentin Alexander** and **Kristen Wallace Day**, graduate students in the School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, **Chelsea Elizabeth Koonce** and **Wei Wang**, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies, and graduate student **Young Yun Chung Baek** and faculty member **Penny Burge**, School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies; **Gregory Justice**, Theatre Arts; **Dale Jenkins**, **Nancy Jurek**, **Britta Long**, and **Marlene Preston**, Communication. Posters were presented by: **Michael Alexander**, History; **Tom Sherman** and **Jane Abraham**, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies; **Carol Bailey**, Sociology, with Gary Long; English faculty **Nancy Metz** and undergraduate students **Alex Orchard-Hays**, **Caitlin Laverdiere**, **Katie Stitt**, **Lizzie Hardwick**, **Alexandra Ford**, **Lorelle Stephanski**, **Brittney Davis**, **Patrick McCarthy**, **Lindsey Brookbank**, **Lyndsay George**, **Leigh Ann Benson**, and **Jared Rowan**, with Marc Zaldivar; **Laura Gambrel**, Human Development; **J.D. Stahl**, English; Political Science faculty member **Edward Weisband** and graduate student **Courtney Thomas**; **Mary Denson Moore**, English; **Esti Sheinberg**, Music; **Robert Leonard** and **Patricia Lavender**, Theatre Arts, with Max Stephenson, Jr.; faculty **Victoria Fu**, **Lynn Ann Wolf**, and **Ila Schepisi**, and graduate students **Julie Leventhal** and **Caitlin Faas**, Human Development; **Fred Piercy**, Human Development and associate dean, with Nancy Franz; Political Science faculty member **Craig Brians** and undergraduate student **Tyler Garaffa**; **Kelly Belanger**, **Aileen Murphy**, and **Megan Fisher**, English; **Peggy Quesenberry**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Charles Walter**, Sociology; faculty **Barbara Lockee** and graduate student **Matt Ames**, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies, with Ron Lewis and Gabi Betz; and **Dean Sutphin**, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies, with Sarah Zalud-Cerrato, Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM), and Jessica Muller, Food and Agricultural Education Information System and VCOM.

**Jim Dubinsky**, English and director of the Center for Student Engagement and Community Partnerships, was the one of the two recipients of the newly established Scholarship of Teaching and

Learning award from the CEUT. The award was presented by Professor Doolittle during the opening session.

The Highty-Tighties, under the direction of **Major George McNeill**, Music and VT Corps of Cadets, marched in the Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans on Saturday, February 21. Drum Major **Cadet Captain John DeLaura**, an undergraduate major in History, selected the music and led the band in the parade. This performance came just one month after the band played at the opening ceremonies for the presidential inauguration in Washington, D.C.

**John Raymond Howell**, Music, was awarded a commission by the Blacksburg Community Band, directed by Ed Schwartz, to compose an original work for the band's 20th anniversary season. The work, *Sinfonia for Band*, will be premiered at the band's Spring Concert on March 29 in the Blacksburg High School Auditorium; the three movements are subtitled "Introduction and Allegretto," "Ed's Blues," and "The Marys' Go-'Round Breakdown." Commissions were awarded to Howell and to Steve Brown, Associate Conductor of the Band and afternoon classical host on WVTF-FM, Virginia Tech's public radio station, both of whom have composed and arranged for the band over the past several years; additional compositions by both composers, including Howell's "Holiday for Horns," will be included in the concert.

With K. Hahn, **Jihyun Kim**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published "The effect of offline brand trust and perceived internet confidence on online shopping intention in the integrated multi-channel context" in *International Journal of Retail and Distribution Management* 37,2 (2009): 126-41.

**Kee Jeong Kim**, Human Development, was nominated for the Inspire Integrity Award from the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She was one of fifteen finalists in the country for the award, which is the only national student-nominated faculty award program. An article in the *Collegiate Times* about Professor Kim's nomination can be found at: [http://www.collegiatetimes.com/stories/2009/02/09/prof\\_nominated\\_for\\_nscs\\_inspire\\_award](http://www.collegiatetimes.com/stories/2009/02/09/prof_nominated_for_nscs_inspire_award).

**Minjeong Kim**, Interdisciplinary Studies/Women's Studies, co-edited *Global Gender Research: Transnational Perspectives* (New York and London: Routledge, 2009) with Christine E. Bose. Kim also co-authored the general introduction and three section introductions, including "Introduction to Gender Research in Asia and the Middle East," 67-72, for which she served as the lead author.

**Jim A. Kuypers**, Communication, published "The Rhetorical River," an exposé on the effects of the Ideological Turn on contemporary rhetorical criticism, in the *Southern Communication Journal* 73.4 (Fall 2008): 350-58.

**Simone Lambert**, School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, published the chapters "Family assessment" and "Guidelines in counseling families" in *The Professional Counselor's Desk Reference*, ed. I. Mirini and M.A. Stebnicki (New York: Springer, 2009): 553-61 and 563-71 respectively.

With guidance from **Ashley Maynor**, Communication, Kgomotso Creativity Camp was one of two Virginia Tech programs to receive funding from the Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter Foundation through the

Center for Student Engagement and Community Partnerships Social Entrepreneurship grant. At the edge of the Kalahari desert, 20 middle school students were taught basic storytelling and creative writing skills and on the last day presented their completed stories and poems to each other and the community. Sher Vogel, a graduate student in Public and International Affairs, co-directed the week-long camp in South Africa with **Katie Pepiot**, a 2006 Human Development alumna and South Africa Peace Corps volunteer who currently is working with **Mary Alice Barksdale**, School of Education and Fulbright scholar in South Africa this semester.

**Katie Munive**, a doctoral candidate in Adult Learning and Human Resource Development, recently received her National Board Certified Teacher credentials in the certificate area of English as a New Language. She is one of only fifteen teachers in the state of Virginia who have achieved this certification. Human Development faculty members **Paul Renard** and **Marcie Boucouvalas** are Munive's doctoral co-advisors.

**Amy Nelson**, History, published "The Music of Memory and Forgetting: Global Echoes of Sputnik 2" in *Remembering the Space Age*, NASA History Series, ed. Steven J. Dick and Roger D. Launius (Washington, DC: NASA History Division, 2008), 237-52, and "Der abwesende Freund. Laikas kulturelles Nachleben," in *Ich, das Tier. Tiere als Persönlichkeiten in der Kulturgeschichte*, ed. Jessica Ullrich, Friedrich Weltzien, and Heike Fuhlbrügge (Berlin: Reimer Verlag, 2008), 215-24. The latter article received special mention and praise in a review of the volume published in the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* on January 21.

AFROTC Cadet **Kelsie Ostergaard**, a fifth year senior majoring in Civil and Environmental Engineering and minoring in Leadership, was selected to receive the Category 5 Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) ROTC Award of Merit from the Dean of the College of Engineering. The recipient is chosen by the college dean from nominations submitted by all ROTC units at Virginia Tech. Ostergaard has achieved an exemplary academic record, with a cumulative GPA of 3.96, and her leadership in the Corps of Cadets and in Air Force ROTC has been exceptional. The award will be presented in April during the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets annual award ceremony.

**Karen S. Palmer**, a graduate student in the School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, published "Point of Law: What Not to Wear" in *Virginia Educational Leadership* 6,1 (2008): 31-35.

Political Science faculty member **Craig Brians** and undergraduate major and Honors student **Tyler Garaffa** presented their research on students' research skills at the Teaching and Learning Conference of the American Political Science Association in Baltimore. The research was sponsored by the Office of Academic Assessment.

Nine of the fifteen 2009 Provost Summer Grant Awards were made to faculty in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. The award-winning faculty and courses are as follows: **Jessie Chen-Yu**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, Introduction to Interior Housing Textiles; **James Collier**, English, for Writing and Designing for the World Wide Web; **Tom Ewing**, History, for Age of Globalization; **Hayward Farrar**, History, Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare; **Barbara Reeves**, Interdisciplinary Studies, Enlightenment and Romanticism; **Richard Rich**, Political Science, Global Environmental Issues; **Michael Saffle**, Interdisciplinary Studies, Post Renaissance Humanities and the

Arts; **Laura Sjoberg**, Political Science, Introduction to Comparative Politics and International Law and Organizations; and **Sophia Tambudzai-Anong**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, Family Financial Management.

**Paul Renard**, Human Development/National Capitol Region Adult Learning and Human Resource Development, published "With the XXV Corps along the Rio Grande in 1865: Two U.S.C.T. Officers in Post War Texas" in *Military History of the West* 38 (2008): 28-50. The article served as the cover feature article of the issue.

Alumni Distinguished Professor of History **James Robertson** was featured on "With Good Reason," a half-hour program aired on Virginia's public radio stations. The program aired February 4; Robertson's discussion of everyday items that came out of the Civil War is available at <http://www.withgoodreasonradio.org/2009/01/civil-war-reconciliation-2/>.

**Gresilda Tilley-Lubbs**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning, was appointed by Governor Tim Kaine to the Latino Advisory Board.

The Undergraduate Research Institute will partner with the College of Science (COS) this summer to conduct an Interdisciplinary Summer Research Program for undergraduates. The pilot program has received funding from multiple sources, including a grant from Virginia Tech's Institute for Society, Culture, and Environment (ISCE) and contributions from participating departments and the Office of the Dean in both colleges. Utilizing a project from English (CLAHS) as well as a joint project between Human Development (CLAHS) and Psychology (COS), student participants will share research experiences and learn about the different methodologies being used in the studies. Students will get hands-on experience while participating in workshops to develop their research skills and knowledge of interdisciplinary approaches. **Clare Dannenberg**, English, **Cynthia Smith**, Human Development, and Julie Dunsmore, Psychology, will lead the research program, with **Diana Ridgwell**, CLAHS Director of Student Development, coordinating student development activities related to their research.

**Matthew Vollmer**, English, published *Future Missionaries of America* (San Francisco: MacAdam/Cage Publishing, 2009), a collection of short stories.

### *Alumni Highlight*

**Crystal Folger-Hawks**, a 1999 graduate in Family & Consumer Sciences Education, recently was certified as a Nationally Boards Certified Teacher in Family & Consumer Sciences Education. Folger-Hawks has been teaching for eight years at South Stokes High School in Walnut Cove, North Carolina. She also serves in the capacity of Vice President of the Stokes County Association of Educators.

Please submit items for inclusion in upcoming **News2Note** newsletters to Associate Dean Debra Stoudt at [dstoudt@vt.edu](mailto:dstoudt@vt.edu).