



# News2Note

March 2021

**Biko Agozino**, Sociology, was appointed Professor Extraordinarius in the Department of Criminology and Security Science at the University of South Africa. The appointment ends in 2024.

**Mark Armstrong**, a Senior Instructor in the Department of English, and his family's Armstrong Family Foundation [established the Armstrong Endowed English Scholarship](#). The fund will provide scholarship support for undergraduate students majoring in any academic discipline in the Department of English. Armstrong, who joined the Virginia Tech community in 1995, is part of the Professional and Technical Writing Program. He is the recipient of a Department of English teaching award, a university service award for teaching medical writing in Tanzania, and a university technology award for helping to create the online technical writing course.

**Sweta Baniya**, English, was recognized with the 2021 Conference on College Composition and Communication Outstanding Dissertation Award in Technical Communication – Honorable Mention for her dissertation titled "Comparative Study of Networked Communities, Crisis Communication, and Technology: Rhetoric of Disaster in Nepal Earthquake and Hurricane Maria." In addition, she published "[Valuing Expertise during the Pandemic](#)," *Journal of Business and Technical Communication* 35.1 (2020): 28–34, with Liza Potts. Baniya also was awarded a [Career Advancement Research Grant](#) from the Special Interest Group on Design of Communication for her project titled "Exploring Risk and Crisis Communication Practices of Transnational Feminists in Ensuring Equity and Justice during COVID-19."

**Katharine Cleland**, English, published [Irregular Unions: Clandestine Marriage in Early Modern English Literature](#) (Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 2021).

ASPECT doctoral student **Linea Cutter** presented "International Relations and *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*" at the symposium titled "From Vulcan to Coruscant: A Roundtable Discussion on the Politics of Adventures in the Space Realm." The symposium, organized by the Department

of Politics and International Relations at Florida International University, was held virtually January 28.

**Alexander Dickow**, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, published [Déblais](#) (Dredgings) (Mugron, France: Louise Bottu, 2021).

ASPECT doctoral student **Jordan Fallon** was awarded the Peacock-Harper Culinary History Scholarship for Virginia Tech graduate students working on research projects related to the [Peacock-Harper Culinary History Collection](#). The collection is housed in the University Libraries Special Collections and University Archives' Rare Book Room.

ASPECT doctoral student **Rob Flahive** [was awarded one of four 2020 Junior Fellowships](#) from the [Research Center for Material Culture](#) (RCMC) in the Netherlands. The RCMC is a research institute within four museums – Tropenmuseum, Museum Volkenkunde, the Afrika Museum, and the Wereldmuseum – that serves as a focal point for research on ethnographic collections throughout the country. Flahive's project reframes the history of the Van Nelle Factory, a UNESCO World Heritage List site in Rotterdam designed to improve labor conditions for processing tea, coffee, and tobacco from the Dutch colonies in 1929. His project culminates in a workshop discussing the relationship of Dutch colonialism, modernist architecture, and architectural preservation with preservationists, scholars, and curators.

**Matthew Fullen**, Education, [was awarded a \\$1.3 million grant](#) by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living, for a research project to develop and evaluate an innovate phone-based training program to address social isolation, loneliness, and elevated suicide risk among older adults. The program, titled Belonging and Empathy, With Intentional Targeting Helping, or BE WITH, will study the effectiveness of the training for nutrition service volunteers working with older adults in six counties in the metropolitan Atlanta area. Fullen serves as Co-principal Investigator with Laura Shannonhouse and Mary Chase Mize, both from Georgia State University.

The College notes with sadness the death of **William "Bill" Glenn**, Associate Professor of Education in the National Capital Region. Glenn served as an education finance consultant and taught educational leadership courses; his work and research focused on the effects of legal, economic, political, and school level variables on student achievement, with an emphasis on narrowing the achievement gaps related to race, poverty status, and gender. Additional information can be found in the [VT News In memoriam](#) as well as the online [obituary](#).

**Aarnes Gudmestad**, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, published "[Collocational Development during a Stay Abroad](#)," *Languages* 6.1 (2021), 12, with Amanda Edmonds.

An article by **Erin Hopkins**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, and co-authors Andrew T. Carswell and Kim R. Love, was recognized as Best Paper in Housing and Interior Design for 2020 in the *Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal*. The article is titled

[“Impacts of ENERGY STAR Appliances on U.S. Multifamily Rents,”](#) Volume 49, Issue 1 (September 2020): 37–51.

**Farida Jalalzai**, Professor of Political Science and Associate Dean for Global Initiatives and Engagement, published [Women’s Empowerment and Disempowerment in Brazil: The Rise and Fall of President Dilma Rousseff](#) (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Temple University Press, 2021), with Pedro dos Santos.

**Leslie King**, CLAHS Marketing and Communications Manager, was awarded a Phi Kappa Phi graduate research grant for her thesis project, “Postcards from the Pandemic: A Pulaski Memoir.” King is a master’s student in Photography at Radford University.

**Evan Lavender-Smith**, English, published a work of fiction, “Letters from Her Piano Teacher,” *South Carolina Review* 53.1 (2020): 39–62.

**Paul Quigley**, James I. Robertson Jr. Associate Professor of Civil War Studies, [received a National Endowment for the Humanities planning grant](#) as the Principal Investigator for the project “Experiencing Civil War History through Augmented Reality: Soldiers, Civilians, and the Environment at Pamplin Historical Park.” Located in Petersburg, Virginia, the park houses Civil War-era fortifications, earthworks, a battlefield, and a historic plantation. The project seeks to find alternative ways to think about military history and help audiences understand history within its physical context. Two teams of researchers, one focused on the humanities and the other on digital media, will address research questions and develop technologies in order to engage a broad audience. Team members include **David Hicks**, Education; Virginia Tech faculty and staff from the Department of Computer Science, the School of Visual Arts, and University Libraries; as well as colleagues from Virginia Commonwealth University, Pamplin Historical Park, and the park’s National Museum of the Civil War Soldier.

Department of Sociology Professor and Interim Chair **James Hawdon**, faculty member **Donna Sedgwick**, and alumnus **Jason Callahan** published “Institutionalizing Partnerships: A Mixed Methods Approach to Identifying Trends and Perceptions of Community Policing and Multi-agency Task Forces,” *Police Practice and Research* 22.1 (2021): 727–44.

The Virginia Tech String Project was recognized with the 2021 Outstanding String Project of the Year Award from the American String Teachers Association. **Molly Wilkins-Reed**, Performing Arts, will receive the award at the American String Teachers Association National Conference, which will be held online March 3–7.

During its most recent meeting the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors conferred the emerita title on **Beth Waggenpack**, Associate Professor of Communication. Waggenpack contributed to scholarship in the discipline of American public address, authoring more than 50 articles, books, and book chapters and garnering recognition as a leading authority on the rhetoric of First Ladies. She served as associate department head and directed both the undergraduate and graduate programs in the department; she was active in many college and university

committees as well as professional organizations. For her accomplishments as teacher and adviser, she received the Alumni Teaching Award and the College's Excellence in Undergraduate Advising Award. Waggenpack earned her bachelor's degree from Muskingum College, a master's degree from Teas Tech University, and a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University.

**John Wells**, Education, published "Design-Based Biotechnological Learning: Distinct Knowledge Forms Supporting Technology and Science Conceptual Understanding," *Design-based Concept Learning in Science and Technology Education*, ed. Ineke Henze and Marc J. de Vries, International Technology Education Studies 17 (Leiden, Netherlands: Sense/Brill, 2021), pp. 223–47.

**Jesse "Jay" Wilkins**, Education, published "Releasing the Conceptual Spring to Construct Multiplicative Reasoning," *Educational Studies in Mathematics* 106.1 (2021): 151–70, with Curriculum and Instruction alumna **Karen Zwanch** (2019).

The College expresses its sorrow at the death of **Donald Yates**, Instructor in the Department of Sociology. Yates came to Virginia Tech in 2018 and taught courses in deviant behavior, systems of justice, criminology, and mental illness. More information can be found in the [VT News In memoriam](#) and in the online [obituary](#).

ASPECT doctoral student **Şengül Yıldız-Alanbay** published "[The Matter of Affect in the Quantum Universe](#)," *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 49.1 (September 2020): 151–61.

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