



# News2 Note

April 2013

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences is pleased to announce that two students nominated for the ACC Meeting of the Minds Conference in the first round of competition at the College level were chosen in the second round at the University level to represent Virginia Tech. CLAHS participants are: **Katlyn Griffin**, a senior English major, who will present “Restoration House Restored: Dickens’ *Great Expectations* and the Creation of Miss Havisham’s Haunted Mansion” and whose faculty mentor is **Nancy Metz**, English; and **Andrea Ledesma**, a junior History major, whose research is titled “The Recommended Dose: Diagnosing Social Anxiety in the 1960s” and whose faculty mentor is **Marian Mollin**, History. The Eighth Annual ACC Meeting of the Minds undergraduate research symposium will be held at Wake Forest University April 4-6.

**Barbara L. Allen**, *Science and Technology in Society*, published “Justice as Measure of Nongovernmental Organization Success in Postdisaster Community Assistance,” *Science Technology Human Values* 38.2 (2013): 224-49.

The following ASPECT students gave presentations at the 2013 ASPECT Graduate Student Conference: **Katie Cross**, “Power and Nonviolence: Discourses of Resistance in Foucault and Gandhi”; **Richard Curtis**, “This Would Look Better Framed: Graffiti Appropriation and the Loss of Meaning and Control of Urban Landscape and Local Expression”; **Francine de Paula**, “Revisiting Power: Brazil between the Globe and the South in the Media”; **Komal Dhillon**, “The Fairest of Them All: Whiteness in Bollywood and Indian Culture”; **Sascha Engel**, “Spaces of Eternal Darkness: On the Geo-economy of War Zones”; **Jordan Hill**, “The ‘Ribbon’ as a Symbol in the United States: A Critical Historiography”; **Michele James-Deramo**, “Synergistic Subjectivities: An Autoethnographic Reflection on Diaspora, Memory, and Identity”; **Elizabeth Jamison**, “The Citizen-Worker: The Intersection of Self-Deportation, Policy, and the Alabama Workplace”; **Holly Jordan**, “Marriage, Religious law, and Identity in Israel”; **Lyusyena Kirakosyan**, “Accounts of Personal and Collective Responsibility for Justice Concerning Disabled Citizens in Brazil”; **Jennifer Lawrence**, “Modernity as a Form of Violence on the Environment: Ecogovernmentality and the Politics of Diffusion in the Deepwater Horizon Disaster”; **Christian Matheis**, “Border Reality, Border Truth, and Border Ignorance”; **Kent Morris**, “American Exception, American Exceptionalism: Exploring the Erosion of Authority and Legitimacy in the United States’ Public Culture”; **Pamela Mullins**, “The Good Sheppard: Assembling Turn of the 19th Century African American Identity”; **Martin Saavedra**, “Learning to Work in the Borderlands of Disciplines”; **Nina Salmon**, “Paved With Good Intentions: A

Dance along the Path to Racial Unity in the Episcopal Church”; **Melissa Schwartz**, “Joni Adamson's `Local Pedagogy’: A Modern Model of Foucaultian `Insurrection of Subjugated Knowledges’”; **Marc Thomas**, “Assessing the Boundaries of Participatory Democracy within an Emancipatory Political Framework: The Case of Parish Development Committees in Jamaica”; and **Alfonso Vergaray**, “Imagining New Forms of Collective Devotion: Spinoza on Secular Superstitions.” The conference was held March 22-23 on the Virginia Tech campus.

It is with sadness that the College notes the death of **Bryan D. Baugh**, a sophomore majoring in German and International Studies. Baugh was a resident of Newman Hall dormitory this year. In accordance with the wishes of the family, a memorial service will be planned for a later date. On March 19 a candlelight vigil was held on campus.

Two CLAHS students were selected by the Board of Visitors as its [2013-2014 student representatives](#). **Erica Wood**, a junior International Studies major, was named the undergraduate student representative. **Nick Warrington**, a master's degree student in the School of Education/Higher Education Administration program, will be the graduate student representative. Both will serve a one-year term, which begins on July 1.

**Chris Bonelli**, a junior Communication major, was selected as the CLAHS Ambassador of the Month for February 2013. This is Bonelli's second year as a CLAHS ambassador, who volunteers time each week with **Jean Elliott**, CLAHS Communications Manager, to manage the College's social media accounts.

Recognized during Graduate Education Week with a 2012-2013 Citizen Scholar award certificate from the Graduate School were: **Samantha Blevins**, School of Education/Curriculum and Instruction; **Jon Catherwood-Ginn**, Theatre Arts; **Elizabeth Jamison**, ASPECT; and **Lyusyena Kirakosyan**, ASPECT. A total of eight projects and 15 students from six colleges and one interdisciplinary program were recognized.

**Eileen Crist**, Science, Technology, and Society, published the edited volume *Life on the Brink: Environmentalists Confront Overpopulation* (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2012), with Philip Cafaro.

**Travis J. Cross**, Music, conducted the Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association District VII Symphonic Band in Bristol, Virginia, on February 1-2, the Louisa County Public Schools day of music celebration on February 12, and the New Jersey All-Shore Symphonic Band in Manalapan, New Jersey, on March 15-17. He also served as guest adjudicator for “The President's Own” United States Marine Band national concerto competition in Washington, D.C., on February 23.

Production of a film based on *The Battle of New Market* by **William Davis**, History, begins next month. The book was published in 1975 and was optioned several years ago. The screenplay is by Oscar-winner Ron Bass, and the film is tentatively titled *Field of Lost Shoes*. Davis will serve as technical consultant and adviser on the set. Release of the film is scheduled for early 2014 to coincide with the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle.

The College expresses its sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of **Sarah Dugas**, a Political Science major and qualified sophomore in her freshman year at Virginia Tech, who died on March 16 at

her home in Virginia Beach. A candlelight vigil took place on the Drillfield on March 19 and a memorial service was held on March 22 in Virginia Beach.

Two doctoral students in the Department of English/Rhetoric and Writing program gave presentations at the annual Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC). **Tana Schiewer** presented "Food for Thought: One Researcher's Experience Applying Theory for the Public Good." In addition, Schiewer and **Amanda Wright Cron** presented "Identifying and Theorizing Best Practices in Graduate Writing Instruction" at the CCCC Research Network Forum. The convention was held March 13-16 in Las Vegas.

**Charlene M. Eska**, English, published "Celtic and Germanic Light on Hittite Divorce Law," *The Journal of Indo-European Studies* 40 (2012): 300-14.

**Joseph F. Eska**, Professor and Chair, English, published "In defense of Celtic /φ/," in *Multi nominis grammaticus. Studies in Classical and Indo-European linguistics in honor of Alan J. Nussbaum on the occasion of his sixty-fifth birthday*, ed. Adam I. Cooper, Jeremy Rau, and Michael Weiss (Ann Arbor: Beech Stave Press, 2012), pp. 32-43.

**Chelsea Gillenwater**, a senior majoring in English and Communication, was selected as the CLAHS Undergraduate Research Scholar of the Month for February. The [website](#) includes a video, in which Gillenwater describes her research project that focuses on the uses of music in cartoons. Gillenwater's research mentor is **Michael Saffle**, Religion and Culture.

The following CLAHS students and faculty were recognized at the 13th Annual Graduate Education Week Awards Banquet. Honored as Who's Who Among Students in American University and Colleges were **Tara Frank** and **Robyn Jones**, both from the School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. **Steve Matuszak**, Communication, was recognized with the Graduate Teaching Assistant Excellence Merit Certificate. **Laura Gambrel**, Human Development, was recognized with the 2013 Outstanding Dissertation Award in the Social Sciences, Business, Education and Humanities category. **Fred Piercy**, Human Development, received the 2013 Outstanding Dissertation Advisor Award in the Social Sciences, Business, Education, and Humanities category; Piercy served as Gambrel's advisor. The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Outstanding Graduate Student Awards went to: Theatre Arts master's student **Raymond Ginn**, and ASPECT doctoral student **Christian Matheis**. The banquet took place on March 28.

**Aarnes Gudmestad**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish, published "Tense-aspect distinctions within the subjunctive mood in the Spanish of native speakers and second-language learners," *Studies in Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics* 6.1 (2013): 3-36.

**Brian Hess**, a junior majoring in Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, was one of seven Virginia Tech undergraduates awarded a [2012-2013 Atlantic Coast Conference Creativity and Innovation grant](#). Awardees received up to \$2,000 to be used as a stipend and/or direct support of research expenses. Hess's project title is "The Effects of Music in Retail Environments." **Irene Leech**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, serves as his faculty mentor.

The Department of History and the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society hosted the 3rd Annual History Undergraduate Research Showcase on March 20. The following undergraduates participated in the roundtable: **Michelle Cohen**, History and Psychology; **Andrea Ledesma**, History; **Aaron Rider**, History; and **Camryn Sorg**, International Studies and Architecture; they shared their experiences working on majoring research projects and answered audience questions. Also featured was the formal release of the second volume of the *Virginia Tech Undergraduate Historical Review*. Founding Editor **Robert Stephens**, History, introduced the students involved: History graduate students **Erica Aiken** and **Heather Lennon**, who served as Managing Editors; the undergraduate Associate Editors, who reviewed submissions and recommended revisions for the papers selected for publication: **Tyler Abt** (History), **Bilig Bayarmagnai** (History), **Katie Dunsmore** (History), **Victoria Heath** (History and Political Science), and **Waheed Sheriff** (History); and Design Editor Andrea Ledesma. [Volume 2](#) of *VTUHR* includes the following undergraduate articles: **Carmen Bolt**, “Help on the Homefront: The Women of the USO”; **Emily Bolton**, “A Propelling Purpose: A Look at the Motives Behind Group Supplying Aid to RENAMO”; **Luke Burton**, “Executive Exploitation: Richard Nixon, Administrative Policy, and the Vietnam War”; **Grace Cardwell**, “Solidarity Remembered: A Look at the Literature of a Social Movement, 1980-1989”; and **Kelly Drews**, “A Brief History of Quarantine.”

The following CLAHS students participated in the conference “Human Rights Locally and Globally,” held at Virginia Tech on March 1. Presenting papers were: **Tea Ivanovic**, a junior Honors student majoring in International Studies, “External Pressures and Domestic Changes: The Council of Europe, the European Union, and the National Minorities in Vojvodina”; ASPECT student **Michele James-Deramo**, “The Dangerous Memories of Refugees: Memoirs as Subversive Texts”; ASPECT student **Lyusyena Kirakosyan**, “Considering Theatre’s Role in Promoting Peace and Human Rights: Exploring the Case of Bond Street Theatre”; **Sara McDonough**, “Ravished or Resistance: Indigenous Peoples, Traditional Knowledges, and the Relevance of Human Rights Discourse in the post-2007 UNDRIP Era”; and **Jose Torres**, a doctoral student in Sociology, “Public Housing: Examining the Enforcement of a No Trespass Policy.” **April Strupp**, a master’s student in Sociology, served as a session presider. The conference was organized by **David Brunsma**, Sociology.

The Institute for Society, Culture, and Environment (ISCE) presented a Summer Scholars award for Summer 2013 to the following CLAHS faculty: PI **Erika Grafsky**, Human Development, for “Figuring it Out: A community-based, participatory approach to develop an intervention to assist sexual minority youth in making disclosure decisions to family “ with Co-PIs Catherine Cotrupi and Troy Abel; PI **James Ivory**, Communication, “Virtual Environment-Based Field Research on Economic and Consumer Behavior, Decision-Making, and Social Interaction,” with Co-PIs Paul Herr, **Adrienne Holz Ivory** (Communication), and **Robert Magee** (Communication); Co-PI **Catherine Ulrich**, School of Education/ Teaching and Learning, “Validating Mathematical Ways of Operating with Neural Correlates (MATH WONC),” with PI Anthony Cate and Co-PIs Anderson Norton and Martha Ann Bell; and PI **Anisa Zvonkovic**, Human Development, “Identity and Place: Analyzing Qualitative Narratives and Interviews of Women Navigating Spatial and Identity Transitions,” with Co-PI **Katrina Powell**, English and Women’s and Gender Studies.

The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors recently conferred the emeritus title on **Christine Kiebuszinska**, Professor of English. Kiebuszinska earned her bachelor’s degree from Goddard College and a master’s degree and Ph.D. from the University of Maryland; she joined the Virginia Tech faculty in 1986. Her

comparative literature training and background in European literature have been key influences on her teaching of both undergraduate and graduate courses as well as on her research. Her scholarly focus has been reception studies, the genre of drama, and the history of theatre and of film. During her career Kiebuszinska authored a book and more than 50 peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, encyclopedia articles, and reviews.

**Chad Lavin**, Political Science, published [\*Eating Anxiety: The Perils of Food Politics\*](#) (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2013). In addition, he presented the Dean's Advisory Council Interdisciplinary Lecture, titled "Diet and American Ideology," at Appalachian State University on March 4.

**Jeff Mann**, Associate Professor in the Department of English, and his book, *Purgatory*, were featured in the March [Visible Scholarship Initiative](#), a monthly celebration of research and creative scholarship in the liberal arts and human sciences sponsored jointly by the College and the University Libraries. A reception on March 28 featured remarks by Mann.

**Erika Meitner**, English, published the following poems: "Correspondence," "In/exhaustible," and "The Language of Happiness," *The Southern Review* 49:1 (Winter 2013): 4-9; "Let the future begin this way:" *jubilat* 22 (2013): 148-51; "Snowpocalypse," *River Styx* (Fall 2012): 48-49; "Staking a Claim," *Gulf Coast* 24.2 (Summer/Fall 2012): 227-29; "Come Home Late, Rise Up Sleepless, or Just Act Troubled," *Old Flame: From the First 10 Years of 32 Poems Magazine*, eds. Deborah Ager, Bill Beverly, and John Poch (Seattle, WA: WordFarm, 2013), 56; "[By Other Means](#)" and "[You Return the Torah to the Ark](#)," *The Ilanot Review*, posted February 2013; "[And After the Ark](#)," *Plume*, posted October 2012; and "[The Way It Is \(II\)](#)" and "[The Architecture of Memory](#)," *Waccamaw* 9 (Spring 2012), posted May 7, 2012. In addition, she published the following essays: "[The Art of Motherhood: Love, Anger, and Language Play in Brenda Shaughnessy's \*Our Andromeda\*](#)," The Poetry Foundation, with Joy Katz, posted October 23, 2012; and "[One of the Components is How Long You Are in the Air: On Poetry and Trampoline](#)," *Los Angeles Review of Books*, posted August 7, 2012.

Ten students enrolled in IS 4984 Regional International Organizations, taught by **Ioannis Stivachtis**, Political Science and Director of International Studies, participated in the [Southeast Regional Model Arab League Conference](#) at Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina, on March 15-17. The conference was sponsored by the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations. They were: **Susan Ahn**, International Studies; **Kathleen Baugh**, International Studies; **Carlos Bradshaw**, International Studies and Psychology; **Jackson Fuller**, Political Science; **Victoria Heath**, History and Political Science; **Andrew Lindsay**, Political Science; **Christina Nestor**, International Studies and Philosophy; **Meghan Oakes**, International Studies and Religion and Culture; **Matthew Riggins**, Political Science; and **Elizabeth "Jade" Womack**, International Studies. Baugh, Bradshaw, and Womack earned individual awards for their performance in committee, and Virginia Tech tied for fifth place out of twenty delegations in the Overall Honorable Mention Delegation Awards for its representation of Palestine. Accompanying the group was **Holly Jordan**, a doctoral student in ASPECT who serves as the graduate teaching assistant for the course.

Music majors **Jordan Hatchett**, a sophomore in Vocal Performance and Music Education, and **Paul Wolf**, a junior in Music Technology, competed in the vocal division competition at the Virginia National

Association of Teachers of Singing General Conference, held March 1-2 at James Madison University. Both are students of **Robert Chafin**, Music.

Four Music students participated in the Roanoke Opera Young Artist program this season. Performing in the March 8 concert at the Jacksonville Center for the Arts in Floyd were: **Jordan Hatchett**, **Rebecca Wiles**, and **Paul Wolf**. **Tori Salisbury** assisted in the recording of the concert, which was carried out by the VT Music Technology program, led by faculty member **Michael Dunston**, Music.

**Leisa Osborne**, office service specialist in the Department of Philosophy, was recognized as the March 7 [Human Resources Extraordinary Employee](#) for her work with Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley (LVNRV). Osborne first worked as a tutor, then as an organizer of the group's annual book sale. She also has served on the LVNRV board of directors. She has been affiliated with the LVNRV since 2001.

**Petra Rivera-Rideau**, Sociology, published "'Cocolos Modernos': Salsa, Reggaeton, and Puerto Rico's Cultural Politics of Blackness," *Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies* 8.1 (2013): 1-19.

**Manisha Sharma**, Sociology, was awarded a grant from the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology (ICAT) for her proposal titled "Gendered Arrangements: Understanding Female Feticide."

**Charles Taylor**, Political Science, published "[Empirical Data for Theory Development](#)," *Czech Sociological Review* 48.6 (2012): 1144-49.

**Blake Thompson**, a master's student in Philosophy, presented "Constructive Phenomenalism and the Hard Problem" in the Consciousness and Experiential Psychology Section of the British Psychological Society Annual Conference on September 15-16, 2012, at the University of Bristol, England; and "Extending the Leibnizian Framework: Toward a Theory of Functionally Unified Aggregates" at the 73<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Virginia Philosophical Association on October 19-20, 2012, at Virginia Tech.

The following students were recipients of support from the CLAHS Undergraduate Research Institute (URI) in its Spring 2013 round of awards. **Susan Ahn**, a senior International Studies major, received support for travel to the Symposium on Economic Development and Regional Relations in Northeast Asia to present her project, "The Korean Identity and Community in Urban Ecuador." **Carol Bailey**, Sociology, is Ahn's faculty mentor. **Bilig Bayarmagnai**, a senior History major, received support to travel to the Virginia Social Science Association Annual Conference to present his paper, "Flowers for Stonewall Jackson." **Peter Wallenstein** is the faculty mentor. **Mark Bowes**, a junior majoring in History, garnered an award for travel to the Virginia Social Science Association Annual Conference to present his paper titled "The Second Battle of Cedar Creek: Preserving History in the Shenandoah." Bowes' faculty mentor is Peter Wallenstein, History. Senior Communication and English major **Chelsea Gillenwater** was awarded support to travel to the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference to present her project, "Musical Trends in Television Animation." **Michael Saffle**, Religion and Culture, serves as her faculty mentor. **Victoria Dounoucos** and **Carley Frye**, both seniors majoring in Political Science, received support to travel to the APSA Teaching Conference to present their research on "Clickers in Large Classes: Evaluating How Technology can Foster a Seminar Experience." **Craig Brians**, Political Science, is the faculty mentor for their project. Junior History major **Andrea Ledesma** received an award for research expenses associated with her project titled "New Deal, New Perspectives: A Collective Biography of White Female Writers of the 1930s." Ledesma's faculty mentor

is **Marian Mollin**, History. Sophomore International Studies major **Elizabeth “Jade” Womack** garnered support for travel to the Virginia Social Science Association Annual Conference as well as the 4th Annual MadRush Undergraduate Research Conference to present “Breast is Best: A Case Study of Nestle's Advertising Techniques of Infant Formula in Low-Developing Countries Post-Nestle Boycott (1984- ).” Womack’s faculty mentor is Peter Wallenstein.

**Vinodh Venkatesh**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish, published “*La hermana perdida de Angélica María: Enrique Serna Writes the Lost Decade,*” *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos* 47.1 (2013): 103-25.

**Kayla Watson**, a second-year master’s student in Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish, presented “Symbolic/Linguistic Boundaries: Music and Musicality in Claudia Llosa’s *Madeinusa* and *La teta asustada*” at the Alabama Modern Language Conference, held March 1 at the University of Alabama.

Cellist **Alan Weinstein**, Music, performed a program of sonatas by Beethoven and Chopin at William Patterson University in Wayne, New Jersey, with pianist Frank Pavese on February 28. They repeated the program on March 1 at the Randolph Performing Arts Center in Randolph, New Jersey. Weinstein also gave a master class for string players at William Patterson University. He was in residence at Boise State University, Idaho, with the Kandinsky Trio, giving solo and chamber music master classes on March 8 and 9. The Trio performed music of Beethoven, Tann, and Franck on March 9 at the College of Idaho, Caldwell; they performed in McCall, Idaho, as part of the Second Sunday Series on March 10.

**Angela Williams**, a doctoral candidate in the School of Education/Teaching and Learning and a fourth grade teacher at Christiansburg Elementary School, received the 2013 International Reading Association's Steven A. Stahl Research Grant. Williams was recognized for her project titled "Motivation by Design." She will receive the award at the IRA's Annual Convention in San Antonio, Texas, on April 20. This dissertation project is an action research study centering on increasing reading motivation using an interactive design in which the students act as co-researchers. The plan for impacting reading motivation involves using contracts that give students choices in their selections of reading materials and tasks to demonstrate their comprehension.

**Laura Zanotti**, Political Science, published the edited volume titled *Building Walls and Dissolving Borders: The Challenges of Alterity, Community and Securitizing Space* (United Kingdom and Burlington, Vermont: Ashgate, 2013), with Max O. Stephenson, Jr.

### *Alumni Highlights*

**Jeffrey Consiglio**, who graduated in 1983 with a B.A. in Communication and a minor in English, won an Academy Award at the 2013 Oscars on February 24. Consiglio, who was a VT film student, was honored for *Inocente*, which won Best Documentary Short; he served as editor of the film. Consiglio appears on the [right](#) in this photo from the 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Academy Awards.

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