



News2 Note

August 2013

Biko Agozino, Sociology, published "Africana Studies: The Founding Father and Founding Mother of All Disciplines" in *The State of Africana Studies Today: Essays on Scholarship and Pedagogy*, ed. Victor Okafor (Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen, 2013), pp. 45-67.

Catalina Andrango-Walker, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish, was awarded a fellowship by the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Trustees for Harvard University. She spent the month of July at their archives in Washington, D.C., studying methods of conversion to Catholicism that Europeans used in the Andean region during the late seventeenth century.

The following CLAHS faculty were awarded grants from the Office of Assessment for 2013: **Craig Brians**, Political Science, "Teaching with Clickers: A Learning Outcome Assessment"; **Sheila Carter-Tod**, English, "Assessing First Year Composition Outcomes"; and **Kelly Parkes**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning, "Advancing Outcomes Assessment of Established High-Impact Educational Practices through Collaborative Research and Capstone Experiences and Assessment Tools in Teacher Education."

Seth Bartee, ASPECT student and GTA, was accepted to the Acton Institute Annual Summer Conference called "Acton University." Bartee received a student fellowship to attend the four-day conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in June.

Andrew Becker, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Classical Studies, was one of two Virginia Tech faculty members selected for an [Outstanding Advising Award](#) from the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA). Becker will receive his award at the 2013 NACADA Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, to be held October 6-9. NACADA has more than 10,000 members - professional advisors, counselors, faculty, administrators, and students - in the United States and abroad.

Department of Religion and Culture Professor and Chair **Brian Britt** published "The Futures of Biblical Prophecy" [Die Zukünfte der biblischen Prophetie] in *Prophetie und Prognostik*, ed. Daniel Weidner and Stefan Willer (Munich: Wilhelm Fink, 2013), pp. 23-35.

Robert Chafin, Music, served as Artist-In-Residence and member of the Young Artist Faculty for the Pittsburgh Summerfest 2013, organized by the Opera Theater of Pittsburgh. As such, he conducted master classes in opera and seminars in international business and provided private lessons to young artists from throughout the United States as well as abroad. In addition, he sang the title role in *The Tales of Hoffmann – Retold*, created for the festival and featuring new music by Jacques Offenbach, composer of the original opera; the work had its premiere at the festival, which was held July 6-21.

The College is pleased to announce the following tenure and promotion decisions by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors at its June 3 meeting. Promoted to associate professor with tenure among the collegiate faculty were: **Patricia Fisher**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Robert McGrath**, Theatre and Cinema; **Corinne Noiro**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/French; **Jyoti (Tina) Savla**, Human Development; **Laura Welfare**, School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies; and **Matthew Wisnioski**, Science and Technology in Society. Promoted to the rank of professor were: **Barbara Allen**, Science and Technology in Society; **William Jay Crone**, Music; **Laura Gillman**, Sociology; **John Tedesco**, Communication; and **Janell Watson**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/French. Promoted to advanced instructor among the collegiate faculty were: **Brandi Quesenberry**, Communication; **Vanessa Ruccolo**, English; **Joseph Scallorns**, English; and **Ila Schepisi**, Human Development.

The College is delighted to welcome the following new tenure-track, assistant professors: **Jennifer Bondy**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning; **María del Carmen Caña Jiménez**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish; **Nick Copeland**, Sociology; **Nneka Logan**, Communication; **Elizabeth Mazzolini**, English; **Amanda Nelson**, Theatre & Cinema; **Charles Nichols**, Music; **Claire Robbins**, School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies; **Jennifer Sano-Franchini**, English; **Andrew Scerri**, Political Science; **Nadine Sinno**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Arabic; and **Kelly Trogdon**, Philosophy. In addition, joining the College ranks are: **Captain Robert James** as Commander of the Navy ROTC; **Eric Lyon**, Associate Professor of Practice, Music; **Carol Mullen**, Professor of Educational Leadership with tenure, Director of the School of Education, and Associate Dean for Professional Education; **Paul Quigley**, Associate Professor of History with tenure; and **Takumi Sato**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning, as a clinical faculty member.

The Certification in Education for Public Relations curriculum in the Department of Communication was approved by the Public Relations Society of America Board last month. The Virginia Tech Public Relations program is one of only 38 programs in the country with this distinction.

Jennifer Cook, a doctoral student in the School of Education/Counselor Education, was awarded a NBCC Minority Fellowship from the National Board for Certified Counselors.

Pianist **Tracy Cowden**, Music, gave several performances at the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival, appearing as a soloist, as a member of the Wintergreen Festival Orchestra, and in chamber music performances with members of the orchestra. She also served as the pianist/vocal coach for the festival's Lotte Lehmann Vocal Masterclasses, working with master teacher Faith Esham and several young artist singers. The festival runs from July 8 to August 4 in Wintergreen, VA.

François Debrix, Political Science and Director of ASPECT, was interviewed about his research during the past 15 years by editors Kris Coffield and Midori Hirai for "[International Intersections: An Interview with François Debrix](#)" in the new, online cultural and political theory journal, *Interstitial: A Journal of Modern Culture and Events* 1.1 (May 2013).

The launch of [The Digital Index of Middle English Verse](#) was announced at the Thirteenth Biennial Early Book Society Conference in St Andrews in July. The project, begun in 1995 under the auspices of funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, is the work of Department of English faculty members **Dan Mosser** and **David Radcliffe**, along with Linne Mooney and Elizabeth Solopova. Additional support was provided by College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences as well as the University of Maine, the Leverhulme Trust, University of York Department of English and Related Literature, the Association for Manuscripts and Archives in Research Collections, and the Modern Humanities Research Association.

The following CLAHS students were awarded Virginia Tech Education Abroad Scholarships to participate in programs occurring during the summer, Fall 2013 or academic year 2013-2014: **Lydia Jamil**, International Studies, Switzerland and Rome, Summer 2013; **Marilyn Labadie**, International Studies, Senegal, Summer 2013; **Allison Laclede**, International Studies, Kenya, Summer 2013; **Taylor Lively**, Sociology, Switzerland and Sub-Saharan Africa, Fall 2013; **Elizabeth Richardson**, History, Switzerland and Sub-Saharan Africa, Fall 2013; and **Everett Wyers**, International Studies, Senegal, Summer 2013.

School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies faculty member **William J. Glenn** and 2012 ELPS Ed.D. alumna **Joanne Jones** published "Using Professional Learning Communities to Turn Around a Low Performing High School: A Case Study" in *Critical Social Justice Issues for School Practitioners*, ed. Sandra Harris and Stacey Edmonson (Ypsilanti, MI: NCPEA Publications, 2013), pp. 180-91.

The following School of Education faculty members were awarded grants in the summer months. PI **David Alexander** and **Beverly Crouse**, both from Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, obtained a total award of \$100,979 from the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services for the "Early Intervention (Part C) Technical Assistance Project," which is being conducted from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. PI **John Burton**, Learning Sciences and Technologies, was awarded \$1.1 million in a subcontract to Indiana University's "South Sudan Higher Education Initiative for Equality and Leadership Development," funded by Higher Education for Development. Also participating in the project from the School of Education are: **David Alexander**, **Mary Alice Barksdale**, **Brenda Brand**, **Penny Burge**, **George Glasson**, **Patricia Kelly**, **Betty Kreye**, and **Susan Magliaro**. The project will be carried out between July 2013 and June 2015. PI **John Wells**, Teaching and Learning, garnered a total award of \$3.3 million in a subcontract from George Mason University in support of the "Virginia Initiative for Science Teaching and Achievement (VISTA) Project." Work began in July 2013 and ends in September 2015.

Roger Ekirch, History, published "Segmented Sleep" as part of a forum titled "Are You Sleeping: In Search of a Good Night's Rest," *Harper's Magazine* (August 2013): 33-35.

ASPECT student **Sascha Engel** presented "Persistent Crisis: On the Infinite Economy of Financial Flows" at the London Conference in Critical Thought, held on June 6 and 7.

Professor of History and Associate Dean for Graduate Study and Research **Tow Ewing** published "Eye Opening and Actually Enjoyable: Using Online Newspapers to Teach Modern Middle Eastern History," *Review of Middle Eastern Studies* 46.2 (Winter 2012): 155-64; and "Gaining Insights into Epidemics by Mining Historical Newspapers," *Computer IEEE* 46.6 (June 2013): 68-73, with Naren Ramakrishnan and Samah Gad.

It is with sadness that the College notes the death of **Haywood "Woody" Farrar, Jr.**, the Gloria D. Smith Professor of Africana Studies and Associate Professor of History, on May 31. He joined the Virginia Tech community in 1992, after helping to establish the Afro-American Studies Program and the University of Maryland and teaching for several years at historically black colleges and universities. The author of two books as well as book chapters and journal articles, Farrar was known for his counseling, mentoring, and advocating for underrepresented students, student athletes, and students in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. He was recognized for his efforts with various awards, including the 2005 Overton Johnson Presidential Award, the 1999 and 2000 Black Caucus Leadership Award, and the 1998 Black Caucus Faculty Member of the Year Award. The VT News *In memoriam* can be found [here](#).

Laura Gillman, Sociology, published "[Narrative as a Resource for Feminist Practices of Socially Engaged Inquiry: Mayra Montero's In the Palm of Darkness](#)," *Hypatia* 28.3 (2013): 646-62.

ASPECT student **Jordan Hill** joined 25 other Ph.D. candidates and new faculty members in June at the American Geographer's Association's (AGA) week-long "Geography Faculty Development" workshop at the University of Colorado at Boulder in June. Scholars from the AGA presented on a range of topics aimed at better preparing the participants to successfully apply for, negotiate, and work in a tenure-track position.

Nine of the ten participants in the Spring 2013 Hokies on the Hill Internship Program were CLAHS students. **Chuck Carlin**, a Political Science and Economics major, worked for U.S. Representative Rob Wittman. English and Political Science major **D'Elia Chandler** worked for U.S. Representative Jim Moran. **Brett Fulcer**, a Political Science major, worked at the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress. **Greg Quinta**, a Political Science and Philosophy major, served in the office of Senator Mark Warner. Political Science major **Travis Joyce** worked for Holland and Knight, an international law firm in Washington, D.C. Political Science major **Liz Mylin** worked at Vela Environmental (formerly The Clark Group), an environmental consulting firm specializing in government relations. **Claire Osborn**, a Political Science and Economics major, worked for U.S. Representative Robert Hurt. **Beejal Ved**, an International Studies major, worked for U.S. Representative Gerry Connolly. **Rebecca Wescott**, a Political Science major, interned in the office of U.S. Representative Frank Wolf. Students earned 12 credit hours for their participation in the program, which will be offered again in Spring 2014. Details can be found [here](#).

The College extends its sympathy to the family and friends of **John Howell**, Associate Professor of Music, who died on May 3. Howell joined the Virginia Tech community in 1979. He founded the Virginia Tech Early Music Ensemble, which he directed until 2012. He was active in the Blacksburg arts community as well and served as the director of "The New Virginians" from 1979 to 1993. The VT News *In memoriam* can be found [here](#).

Human Development faculty members **Jyoti "Tina" Savla** and **Karen Roberto**, who also serves as Director of the Center for Gerontology and Director of the Institute for Society, Culture, and Environment, doctoral students **Laura Butner**, **Ana Jaramillo**, and **Hassan Karimi**, and alumna **Laura Gambrel** published "Childhood Abuse Affects Emotional Closeness with Family in Mid and Later Life," *Child Abuse & Neglect* 37 (2013): 388-99.

Doris Kincade, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published "College students' apparel shopping orientation and brand/product preferences," *Journal of Fashion Marketing and Management* 17.3 (2013): 367-84, with AHRM Ph.D. alumnae **Youngjin Bahng** and **Jennifer Yang**.

ASPECT student **Jennifer Lawrence** was among 20 Ph.D. students and postdoctoral researchers working in the field of environmental politics invited to participate in the [Environmental Politics and Policy Summer School](#) at Keele University in Keele, Staffordshire, UK, in June. Delegates from the U.S., Canada, and Europe spent 10 days giving papers on their research, attending lectures by top environmental scholars, and exchanging teaching and research ideas. Lawrence's paper was titled "Technological Rationality and the Normal Accident: A Critical Analysis of the Deepwater Horizon Disaster."

Andrea Ledesma, a senior History major with minors in American Studies and Political Science, was awarded the Patricia Ann Gallagher Scholarship by the Department of History. In addition to her contributions as graphic designer for both *Philologia* and the *Virginia Tech Undergraduate Historical Review* as well as her engagement in undergraduate research at Virginia Tech, Ledesma has completed an internship at the National Archives and served as student archivist in Special Collections at Virginia Tech; this summer she worked as a research assistant at the Newseum in Washington, D.C. The Patricia Ann Gallagher Scholarship recognizes an undergraduate History major who demonstrates a passion for, a devotion to, and a record of excellence in History.

Sociology doctoral student **Devon Lee** was awarded a \$7,500 Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies grant to participate in a bilingual education program in the Nicaraguan Mosquitia (Central American Atlantic Coast). He will study Miskitu, an Afro-indigenous language, and Spanish, while pursuing field experience in anthropological ethnographic methods.

Taylor Lively, Sociology, was awarded a Summer 2013 Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to attend a faculty-led program in Lugano, Switzerland, and Sub-Saharan Africa during Fall 2013.

Barbara Locke, Educational Research and Outreach and Associate Director of the School of Education, published *Streamlined ID: A Practical Guide to Instructional Design* (New York: Routledge, 2014), with alumna **Miriam B. Larson**, who earned her Ph.D. from the Instructional Design and

Technology program in 2005; and edited the volume *Learning, Problem Solving, and Mindtools: Essays in Honor of David H. Jonassen* (New York: Routledge, 2013), with J. Michael Spector, Sharon Smaldino, and Mary Herring. In addition, she published the chapter "Teaching Visual Arts through Digital Media" in *Handbook of Research on Educational Communications and Technology*, ed. J. Michael Spector, M. David Merrill, Jan Elen and M. J. Bishop, 4th ed. (New York, NY: Springer, 2013), pp. 583-90, with **Feihong Wang**, who graduated with a Ph.D. from the Instructional Design and Technology program in 2010.

Marc Lucht, Philosophy and Interim Director of the CLAHS Undergraduate Research Institute, presented the keynote address, "Philosophy as a Way of Living," at the conference "Towards the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy: Philosophy as Inquiry and Way of Life," held at Kazan State Power Engineering University, in Kazan, Russia, in April. The address in English and Russian (trans. Zhanna Vavilova) was published in *НАВСТРЕЧУ XXIII ВСЕМИРНОМУ, ФИЛОСОФСКОМУ КОНГРЕССУ: ФИЛОСОФИЯ КАК ИССЛЕДОВАНИЕ, И ОБРАЗ ЖИЗНИ* [Proceedings for "Towards the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy: Philosophy as Inquiry and Way of Life"], April 2013, pp. 22-49.

Timothy W. Luke, University Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science, published "Reflections on 'Actually Existing Sustainability'" in *Justice, Sustainability, and Security: Global Ethics for the 21st Century*, ed. Eric Heinze (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013), pp. 85-107. Luke also was interviewed about his research by editors Kris Coffield and Midori Hirai for "[Nonnatural Politics: An Interview with Timothy Luke](#)" in the new, online cultural and political theory journal, *Interstitial: A Journal of Modern Culture and Events* 1.1 (May 2013). In addition, he presented the invited keynote paper titled "Mythographies of Might," at the Realism and Critical Theory Conference held June 1-3 at the Great North Museum, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK.

ASPECT student **Christian Matheis** presented "Hegel's Reproductive Issues: On the Consequences of Seeking Recognition" at the 20th annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World (SPCW) in Estes Park, Colorado, on July 23.

Carol A. Mullen, Director of the School of Education and Associate Dean for Professional Education, edited the volume *Becoming a Global Voice - The 2013 Yearbook of the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration* (Ypsilanti, MI: NCEA Publications, 2013) with Kenneth Lane. She served as guest editor for two issues, 43.3 and 43.4 (2013), of *Interchange: A Quarterly Review of Education*, titled "[Neoliberal Issues in Public Education](#)," with Fenwick English, Sue Brindley, Lisa Ehrich, and Eugenie Samier, and published "An Epistemic Frame Analysis of Neoliberal Culture and Politics in the US, UK, and the UAE" in 43.3, pp. 187-228, with Eugenie Samier, Sue Brindley, Fenwick English, and Nora Carr. She published the following articles as well: "Critical Race Theory in Action: The Freshman Educational Experience for Students of Color," *Education Leadership Review* 14.2 (2013): 41-57, with Jimmy Barnes and Sheryl Lieb; and "Humor in High School and the Role of Teacher Leaders in School Public Relations," *Journal of School Public Relations* 34.1 (2013): 6-39, with Bonnie Kosiczky. In addition, Mullen served as President of the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration (NCEA) for 2012-2013.

The College notes with sadness the death of **D.W. Murphree**, Adjunct Professor of History, on July 9, after battling cancer for eight months. Murphree earned her B.A. in History from Radford University and her M.A. in the same discipline from Virginia Tech; she was preparing to defend her dissertation in Science and Technology Studies in early August. Recognized as a teacher who connected with students, Murphree taught a variety of courses in the departments of History, Religion and Culture, and Science and Technology in Society. She served as co-chair of the LGBT Caucus and officiated the 2012 and 2013 Lavender Commencement Ceremonies. An informal gathering of remembrance took place July 11. The VT News *In memoriam* can be found [here](#).

Virginia Tech Music faculty members **Ico Bukvik** and **Kent Holliday** were featured on the public radio show "With Good Reason" on its program titled [The Opera Singer](#); the show aired on May 19. Bukvik was interviewed in his role as director of L2Ork, the first Linux-based orchestra in the world. Holliday was part of a discussion with pianist Louise Billaud on the give and take between composer and interpreter.

During June 2013 Music faculty **Jay Crone**, trombone, **Elizabeth Lantz Crone**, flute, and **John Walker**, oboe, engaged in concert performances and carried out an outreach project in three Ecuadorean cities. Funded in part by the Department of Music and the School of Performing Arts: Music, Theatre, Cinema (SOPA), the project also was made possible by a grant from the Cultural Section of the U. S. Embassy in Quito. During the two-week visit the three performed at conservatories and schools of music in Guayaquil, Cuenca, and Loja, as well as at the bi-national centers located in each city. In addition to performing and working with young Ecuadorean instrumentalists, the trio pursued possible collaborations with local partners.

Philip Olson, Science and Technology in Society, and **Laura Gillman**, Sociology, published "Combating Racialized and Gendered Ignorance: Theorizing a Transactional Pedagogy of Friendship," *Feminist Formations* 25.1 (2013): 59-83.

The School of Performing Arts and Cinema has been restructured and re-named the School of Performing Arts: Music, Theatre, Cinema (SOPA). The name change was approved by SCHEV on July 3. The Director is **Patty Raun** and Assistant Director is **Jay Crone**.

The following CLAHS students were initiated into Phi Beta Delta, the international honor society, at its ceremony on May 4: undergraduates **John "Jake" Collick, III**, Political Science; **James Flanagan**, International Studies; and **Peter Johnston**, Philosophy; as well as graduate student **Jennifer Lawrence**, ASPECT.

Fred Piercy, Human Development, was the winner of the 2013 National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) Kathleen Briggs Mentoring Award. The award recognizes an outstanding mentor of students and new professionals in the area of marriage and family therapy. The award is given every other year and is presented at the NCFR Annual Conference, which will be held this year November 6-9 in San Antonio, Texas.

Paul Quigley, Associate Professor of History joining the Department of History this semester, was named the first [James I. Robertson, Jr., Professor in Civil War Studies](#) by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. Quigley earned his bachelor's degree from Lancaster University (Great Britain) and his master's degree and Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; he served as a lecturer in American history at the University of Edinburgh since 2007. The James I. Robertson Jr. Professorship was established in 2005 with funding from the estate of Vicki Heilig, a resident of Salisbury, NC.

Claire Robbins, School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, published "Exploring the Possibilities and Limitations of Service-Learning: A Critical Analysis of College Student Narratives about HIV/AIDS," *Journal of Higher Education* 84 (2013): 213-38, with Susan Jones and Lucy LePeau. In addition, she was recognized as the runner-up for the NASPA (National Association of Student Personnel Administrators) Melvane E. Hardee Dissertation of the Year Award by the NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education at its 2013 annual conference; her dissertation was titled "Racial Consciousness, Identity, and Dissonance among White Women in Student Affairs Graduate Programs."

Karen Roberto, Director of the Center for Gerontology and Director of the Institute for Society, Culture, and Environment, delivered two keynote addresses: "Changes in Family Structure and Care of Older Persons," at the 20th International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics, World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, in Seoul, Korea, on June 26; and "Families, Communities, and the Care of Older Persons," Jeju International Seminar, Jeju Development Institute, in Jeju, Korea, on June 28.

ASPECT student **Francine Rossone de Paula** presented "What is Brazil emerging from and to where is it rising?" at the Doctoral Workshop in International Political Economy 4th National Meeting of the Brazilian International Relations Association, which took place July 23-26 in Belo Horizonte – Minas Gerais.

Michael Saffle, Religion and Culture, was selected to serve as a Research Ambassador for study and research in Germany for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Emily Satterwhite, Religion and Culture, received the 2013 Albert L. Sturm Research Award, given by the Phi Beta Kappa Mu of Virginia chapter at Virginia Tech, for her book *Dear Appalachia: Readers, Identity, and Popular Fiction since 1878*. The award is named for Albert Lee Sturm (1911-1998), a founding member of the Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Virginia Tech and University Research Professor in Political Science. It honors excellent work recognized as significant by a wider, educated audience, not just a narrow group of specialists. Satterwhite received her award at the Phi Beta Kappa initiation ceremony on May 16. In addition, she published "Intro to Appalachian Studies: Navigating the Myths of Appalachian Exceptionalism" in *Appalachia in the Classroom: Teaching the Region*, ed. Theresa L. Burriss and Patricia M. Gantt, Series in Race, Ethnicity, and Gender in Appalachia (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2013), pp. 3-32.

Tana Schiewer, a doctoral student in the Department of English/Rhetoric and Writing, was one of two students awarded \$750 from the John E. Dooley student Engagement Grant program, which underwrites the work of students planning to implement a community-based civic engagement project. Schiewer is helping nonprofits in the New River Valley develop community support through consistent messaging and targeted social media; she is planning a communications workshop so the organizations can learn to better develop community support for their missions.

Margaret Selby, who graduated with a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies in May, was the winner of the Wilson Undergraduate Essay Contest for 2013. The contest, administered by the Mu of Virginia chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, recognizes excellence in undergraduate writing, and each year one prize of \$500 is given for the best analytical or interpretive essay. Selby won for “‘I am a Product of the System I was Born to Destroy’: The Search for Identity in British Muslim Rap Music,” written for and presented in ENGL 4984 : There and Back Again: Applying Study Abroad to Undergraduate Research, taught in Fall 2012 by **Jane Wemhoener**, English. Selby received her award at the Phi Beta Kappa initiation ceremony on May 16.

Anjelica Smith, a senior Communication major, was elected Vice President of the Student Government Association (SGA). 2013-2014 will be her second consecutive term in this office.

Sociology faculty member **Anthony Peguero** and doctoral student **Lindsay Kahle** published “Victimization, Urbanicity, and the Relevance of Context: School Routines, Race and Ethnicity, and Adolescent Violence,” in the *Special Issue on School Bullying and Victimization, Journal of Criminology* 13 (2013): 1-14, with Edwardo Portillos, Jun Sung Hong, Juan Carlos González, and Zahra Shekarkhar.

STEMABILITY 2013 was held June 14-15 on the Virginia Tech campus. The [program](#) enables high school students with disabilities to learn about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) opportunities along with rights, responsibilities, and strategies for success as students transition from high school to college. Organizers of this year’s program included the following from CLAHS: **Susan Asselin**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning faculty member; **Hal Brackett**, School of Education/Assistive Technologies Lab Manager; and **Andrea Sharpe**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning doctoral student; as well as colleagues from the College of Engineering. STEMABILITY 2013 was funded in part by the National Science Foundation.

STEMulate Your Imagination, a summer teacher professional development institute on the development of innovative design-based learning curriculum development sponsored by VT-STEM and the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology, was held from June 24-26 in Roanoke. School of Education faculty and staff **Amy Azano**, **Emily Fielder**, **Susan Magliaro**, **Michele Seibert**, and **Liesl Baum Walker**, along with colleagues from Roanoke County Public Schools and the Science Museum of Western Virginia, conducted the three-day institute.

Yannis A. Stivachtis, Political Science and Director of International Studies, published “The English School and the Study of Sub-global International Societies,” [System, Society & the World: Exploring the English School of International Relations](#), ed. Robert W. Murray, April 2013, pp. 43-50, on the e-International Relations website.

The following students received a CLAHS Study Abroad Scholarship for Summer or Fall 2013: **Kelly Anderson**, Spanish; **Jaclyn Basanes**, International Studies; **Chloe Beemer**, International Studies; **Katherine Eberwein**, Human Development; **Amy Fissmer**, Human Development; **Peter Francis Guevara**, History; **Peter Johnston**, Religion & Culture and Philosophy; **Marilyn Labadie**, International Studies and Environmental Policy & Planning; **Allison Laclede**, International Studies; **Alexa Marinello**, Communication and Geography; **Catherine O'Donnell**, Spanish and Agricultural & Applied Economics; **Lauren Radzevich**, Political Science; **Elizabeth Richardson**, History; **Hannah Saeger**, Communication and Human Development; **Eric Schneider**, Political Science; **Lyndsea Seril**, Human Development; **Julia Sherry**, International Studies; **Kristina Tandy**, Human Development; and **Rebecca Wiles**, Music.

The [CLAHS Undergraduate Research Symposium on Diversity](#) took place on May 3. The following students gave presentations; CLAHS majors are in bold: **Susan Ahn** (Spanish, International Relations, Economics), "The Korean Identity and Community in Urban Ecuador"; **Ausan Al Eryani** (Political Science), "Power in Starvation: Food Restriction and Political Violence"; **Emma Ali** (International Studies), "The Portrayal of Afro-Latinos in Television: Focusing on Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic"; Caitlin Bozick (Biological Science, Women and Gender Studies Minor), "Women and Science: A Multicultural Approach"; **John "Jake" Collick III** (Political Science), "Algerian Islamic Movement and Political Extremism"; **Tony Dellospidale** (Sociology), "Analyzing the Relationship between Group Membership and Arrest"; **Victoria Heath** (History and Political Science), "The Right To Drive: A Woman's Struggle" and "Cutting Deep: The Examination of Female Genital Mutilation Among Somali Communities in Kakuma, Kenya"; **Tea Ivanovic** (International Studies), "Human Rights of National Minorities in Vojvodina"; **Jordan Horton-Williams** (Sociology), "Education and Racial Trust"; Kelton Jones (Aerospace Engineering), "Diversity of Religion within Ecuador"; **Sabrina Nordon** (Political Science and Sociology), "Endogamy and Religion"; **Margaret Selby** (Religion and Culture/Interdisciplinary Studies), "Faithful Footsteps: Religious Pilgrimage and El Camino de Santiago"; **Kelsey Shaffer** (Sociology and Psychology), "Academic Self-Efficacy and Dropping Out: The Significance of the Intersection of Gender, Race, and Ethnicity"; **Anjelica Smith** (Communication) and **Allison Riggs** (International Studies and Spanish), "Latina/o College Students at a Southern Institution and Perceptions of Campus Diversity"; and **Tamia Spells** (Political Science), "Why Choose? Parental Perceptions of Public Education." In addition, two international students from the Ecole de Gouvernance et d'Economie in Morocco who spent the 2012-2013 academic year in Blacksburg presented their research: Mohamed Berrada, "The Conflict of Western Sahara: Is the Failure of the Moroccan Diplomacy a Threat for the Kingdom's Sovereignty?" and Nada Heddane, "Human Rights: From a Universal to a Cultural Understanding - Case Study: Women."

Raven Weaver, a doctoral student in Human Development and the Center for Gerontology, was selected as a student representative to the Virginia Rural Health Association Board of Directors.

Cellist **Alan Weinstein**, Music, participated in the Vocal Arts and Music Festival at Virginia Tech, performing the Brahms Clarinet Quintet, the Dvorak Sextet, and various other chamber music works. The festival, presented by the Center for the Arts in partnership with the International Vocal Arts Institute, took place June 6-22.

The title of Professor Emeritus has been conferred on **David Widder**, Professor of Music, by the Virginia Tech Board of Trustees. Widder joined the Virginia Tech community in 1973; he earned his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Arkansas and a Master of Music degree and a Doctor of Musical Arts from North Texas State University. Widder was the founding director of the University Symphonic Wind Ensemble and served as its conductor for 30 years. A clarinetist, Widder performed at conferences of the International Clarinet Society and Double Reed Society, as well as in the University Chamber Music series, Virginia Tech faculty chamber music concerts, and performances with the New River Valley Chamber Orchestra, the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra, and Opera Roanoke.

Andrea Wittenborn, Human Development, and **Hazhir Rahmandad**, College of Engineering, received a \$420,000 [Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Award](#) from the National Institutes of Health for a two-year project titled "Modeling the dynamics of adult depression." The two prepared the grant proposal with support from the Institute for Society, Culture, and the Environment. Wittenborn is serving as the Principal Investigator, with Rahmandad as co-PI; among the team members is Human Development master's student **Jenn Rick**.

Alumni Highlight

Joseph Aistrup, who earned his M.A. in Political Science in 1984, was named Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. Aistrup previously served as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Kansas State University. He earned a bachelor's degree from Fort Hays State University and a Ph.D. from Indiana University. Aistrup begins his appointment at Auburn on September 1.

Please submit items for inclusion in upcoming **News2Note** newsletters to Associate Dean Debra Stoudt at dstoudt@vt.edu.