



News2 Note

May 2008

Ananda Abeysekara, Interdisciplinary Studies, Religious Studies, published *The Politics of Postsecular Religion: Mourning Secular Futures*. The book is part of the series "Insurrections: Critical Studies in Religion, Politics, and Culture" by Columbia University Press.

Congratulations to the Adult Day Services, which is celebrating its fifteenth anniversary this year. Part of the Adult Development and Aging area of the Department of Human Development, the center opened in November 1992 and has developed into a fully operational community-based long-term care facility and multidisciplinary teaching and research laboratory in Gerontology Studies. Adult Day Services has a unique position as a university-based center and the oldest shared site intergenerational care program. Working with up to 36 students each semester from various programs at VT and other area schools, the center was recognized by the Virginia Tech Service Learning Center as an outstanding service learning site in 2003. The intergenerational study group Neighbors Growing Together, of which the center is a member, received the Virginia Tech Alumni Award for Excellence in Team Outreach for 2005-2006.

Alison Galway, Human Development, has been director of the center since July 1, 2000; she served as a graduate assistant at the center in 1993-94. **Shannon Jarrott**, Human Development, has been research director since 1999 and has generated numerous grants, publications, and presentations involving students and faculty from multiple departments and colleges. The center looks forward to many more years supporting the mission of Virginia Tech and of the larger community.

Additional recognition was accorded to Adult Day Services in a *Virginia Tech News* article on April 17 that drew attention to the Caring Hands organization established last year by activity director **Ila Schepisi**. In a conversation with Adult Day Services participants, she discovered that they had many good ideas and intentions but didn't quite know where to start. She helped them channel the ideas into a series of activities that developed community connections and allowed them to give back to the community in meaningful ways. Since April 2007 they have provided breakfast for the VT Police Department and flowers to nurses at Montgomery Regional Hospital, baked cupcakes for various College of Engineering departments, and made blankets for the national organization Project Linus, which assists children in need. Pictures documenting the group's activities were on display in the Wallace Hall Gallery in early April.

Emrah Aktunc, graduate student in Philosophy, presented "Ruthless Reductionism: What Are They Reducing?" at the *University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society Fourth Annual Graduate Student Conference* in March.

The American Indian Studies Program and Humanities Program of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, the Virginia Tech Office of the Provost, the University of Virginia Office of the Provost, and the Virginia Council on Indians were the sponsors of the eighth annual Virginia Indian Nations Summit on Higher Education, which took place April 25-27 at the Skelton Conference Center. Since its inception the gathering of representatives from Virginia's Indian nations, Virginia Tech faculty, students, and administrators has evolved to include delegates from other state institutions in forging a common vision of the relationship between Indian nations and the academy. This year's meeting, which included a delegate from the State Council on Higher Education in Virginia, focused on developing a more definite partnership between Virginia Tech, the University of Virginia, and Virginia Indian nations through the possible development of an American Indian Studies Institute. The summit opened with a public keynote presentation on Indigenous Perceptions of Democracy by Joseph Brings Plenty, Chairman of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

ArtsFusion 2008, "A Celebration of the Arts as Human Spirit," took place from April 12-19. Sponsored by the Virginia Tech School of the Arts, the aim of ArtsFusion is to provide an opportunity for the campus, the town of Blacksburg, and the New River Valley community to come together through a celebration of the arts. A performance of Johannes Brahms's *Deutsches Requiem* by the New River Valley Symphony, the Blacksburg Master Chorale, and the combined University Choirs under the direction of **Brian Gendron**, Music, served as the kick-off event. The closing event was the Department of Theatre Arts multi-media, main stage production *Lightning at Our Feet* directed by **Bob McGrath**, Theatre Arts. This year's celebration included more than 50 events, with participants from throughout the New River Valley, and for the first time, ArtsFusion enjoyed the benefits of media sponsorship, that of WSLC Channel 10; the NBC affiliate has indicated that it would like to help next year as well. The dates for ArtsFusion 2009 are April 19-25; if you are thinking about putting together an arts event, please contact **Louise Adams**, Publicist and Marketing Manager, School of the Arts, at louise@vt.edu for more information.

Mary Alice Barksdale, School of Education, Teaching and Learning, has been awarded a Fulbright to the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, for Spring 2009. Her proposal, the Write to Read project, is a design for a collaborative research project in a South African primary school.

Rebecca Brittain was named the winner of the College's Outstanding Recent Alumna Award, presented annually to recognize leadership, community service, and occupational achievement by alumni who have completed their degree within the last ten years. Brittain graduated with honors from Virginia Tech in 1997 as a double major in Communication and Political Science. She currently is one of CNN's White House Producers and has been covering the daily movements and events of the White House and its administration since August 2005. She began her career at CNN as an intern with "Crossfire." Brittain received her award at the college's Faculty and Student Recognition Reception.

Professor Emeritus **Clifford D. Bryant**, Sociology, was the recipient of two professional awards at the annual convention of the Southern Sociological Society in early April. He received the society's Martin L. Levin Distinguished Service Award "For Outstanding Service to the Southern Sociology Society." In addition, he was selected for the society's "Roll of Honor." According to the SSS, "[t]he greatest recognition given by the Southern Sociological Society is an appointment to the Roll of Honor. This award recognizes a career of distinguished intellectual contribution to Sociology. Awardees must be members of the Southern Sociological Society (or made significant contributions to Sociology while a member of SSS) and have made stellar contributions to the discipline across their career." In the 73-year history of the association only 16 individuals have been honored with such recognition. In 2002 Bryant received the SSS Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award. He is the only member of the SSS to have garnered all three of their highest awards. Congratulations to Professor Bryant for this professional recognition.

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) graduate program in the School of Education was ranked fifth among vocational and technical specialties in this year's *U.S. News and World Report* survey, moving up a position from last year. The program has placed among the top five programs numerous times and has been a Top 10 selection the past 14 years. The program currently has approximately 100 master's students and 25 doctoral students in fields such as business and marketing education, family and consumer sciences education, agricultural education, and health occupations education.

Megan Carney, a 3rd-year M.F.A. candidate in Directing & Public Dialogue (Theatre Arts), received the Advancing Women Award in the fall through the Women's Center at Virginia Tech. In March 2008 she was an invited panelist at the Oral History of the Mid-Atlantic Region Conference at Columbia University, where she also presented a paper titled "Presenting Self and Other with Space for Public Dialogue." In addition, Carney co-wrote "[classified]: Stories That Catalyze Dialogue About Diversity," which was accepted last month for presentation and publication at the Community Arts Convening and Research Project at the Maryland Institute College of Arts in Baltimore.

Phillip Chong, a senior majoring in Political Science as well as Agriculture and Applied Economics, has been awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to teach English in South Korea. Established in 1946 by the U.S. Congress and sponsored by the U.S. State Department, it is the nation's largest international exchange program; the grant pays for Chong's travel, all living expenses, and provides a stipend for the year abroad. Chong will teach conversational English to middle to high school students in a secondary school for one year beginning in July 2008. During his stay, he also hopes to volunteer at a tutoring center for under privileged and low-income families and volunteer his time as a baseball or basketball coach. In addition, he plans to chronicle his experience as a Korean-American living in Korea. Chong said: "As Sen. J. William Fulbright stated, the hope of this program is to foster 'leadership, learning, and empathy between cultures.' If I can live up to that spirit and legacy, I am positive that I will grow, learn, and mature as a student, leader, and a human being in ways that I have never experienced before."

The CLAHS Faculty and Student Recognition Reception and Program took place on April 18 in Owens Banquet Hall. Following words of welcome by Dean **Sue Ott Rowlands**, Associate Dean **Mary Ann Lewis** recognized student award winners, Debbie Day, Associate Vice President of the Alumni Association,

presented the outstanding alumna award, and Interim Associate Dean and Faculty Award Committee Chair **Fred Piercy** did the honors for the faculty recipients.

Recognized as the CLAHS Outstanding Graduate Student was **Melissa W. Lisanti**, Curriculum and Instruction. The CLAHS Outstanding Senior was **Carolyn Barnes**, Political Science. **Catherine Jansen**, Communication and Psychology, received the Phi Kappa Phi Award. Faculty Campaign Scholarships were awarded to **Amanda Edwards**, Curriculum and Instruction - Science Education, and **Julie Leventhal**, Human Development - Child/Adolescent Development. **Brandy McCann**, Human Development - Family Studies, and **Aaron Weintraub**, Human Development - Adult Development, were recipients of the James D. Moran Memorial Scholarship. The Dean's Roundtable Scholarship went to **David Grant**, Interdisciplinary Studies and Political Science. The Dean's Rising Senior Scholarship was awarded to **Dylan Greenwood**, Political Science and Economics; the Dean's Rising Junior Scholarship to **Jessica Earl**, International Studies and Spanish; and the Dean's Rising Sophomore Scholarship to **Michael Walsh**, Communication. **Morgan Cain**, Interdisciplinary Studies, garnered the Hulick Scholarship for Leadership, Friendship, and Service. Mildred Crawford Weidemann Scholarships went to **Krystal Laviena**, Human Development and Psychology, and **Thérese Sell**, English. A Moody, Pratt, Minor Scholarship was awarded to the following students: **Anisa Ali**, Spanish and International Studies; **Alex Chapple**, English; **Stephanie Connelly**, Sociology and Political Science; **Holly Cuneo**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Kara James**, English; **Elizabeth Lyon**, History; **SaraJane Nicholas**, International Studies; **Alexandra Shourds**, Spanish; **Candace Sipos**, Communication and Political Science; **Matthew Ward**, Interdisciplinary Studies; and **Joseph Weatherman**, History. The Nelson-Lehmann-Gold Family Scholarship was given to **Bryce Jorgensen**, Human Development - Family Studies, and **Stephanie Lang**, Human Development. **Kelli Erk**, History, garnered the John Rathbone Scholarship. Ora Goodwin Roop Scholarships went to: **John L. Butler, VI**, Human Development - Marriage and Family Therapy; **Oluwateniola Ladipo**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Nahed Najmyar**, Political Science and Finance; and **Krista Patrick**, Communication and Human Development. Recipients of the Robichaud Family Scholarship were: **Emily Barry**, International Studies and Spanish; **Gabrielle Brown**, Political Science; **Kate Burch**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Tyler Garaffa**, Political Science and Economics; **Kirsten Gravely**, Communication; **Gina Hale**, Communication; **Danielle Harris**, International Studies; **Whitley Johnson**, Communication; **Ashley Landers**, History and Art History; **Heather Parsons**, English and Spanish; **Alessandra Rivera**, International Studies and Economics; **Marc Schlosser**, Political Science; and **Elizabeth Yang**, English. Honors Program Scholarships were awarded to: **Anna Furry**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **David Grant**, Interdisciplinary Studies and Political Science; **Kerry Kaleba**, Theatre Arts; and **Phillip Murillas**, Communication. CLAHS Staff Association Scholarships went to: **Amanda Edwards**, Curriculum and Instruction; **Ashley Myers**, Interdisciplinary Studies; and **Catherine Shelor**, Communication. In the past year several scholarships were established in honor and in memory of those lost or wounded on April 16, 2007. The four recipients of the Hokie Memorial Marathon Scholarship were: **Alyssa Haak**, English; **Sarah Elaine Hoffman**, Theatre Arts; **Matthew Stimpson**, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies; and **Racheal Stimpson**, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Receiving Mary Karen Read Memorial Scholarships were: **Jamie Bradley**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **Ashley Myers**, Interdisciplinary Studies; and **Megan Shifflett**, Interdisciplinary Studies. Jamie Bishop Memorial Scholarships were awarded to **Audrey Froelich**, German and International Studies, and **Elizabeth Potter**, German and International Studies. **Rebecca LaCreta**, French and English, received the Jocelyne Couture-Nowak Memorial Scholarship.

An impressive number of students received a 2008 Education Abroad Scholarship: **Parisa Ahmadi**, Classical Studies and Architecture; **Lindsey Aitcheson**, Political Science and History; **Jennifer Barkley**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **Emily Barry**, International Studies and Spanish; **Jon Crain**, International Studies; **Lindsay Davidson**, Human Development; **Lauren Dunlevy**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Jessica Earl**, International Studies and Spanish; **Ashley Estes**, Communication and French; **Kerry Friedman**, Classical Studies and Theatre Arts; **Alexandra Holla**, Communication; **Kathrine Holt**, Political Science; **Kerry Kaleba**, Theatre Arts; **Emily Kirby**, English; **Cameron Lewis**, Philosophy and Political Science; **Brandy McCann**, Human Development; **Brittany Meade**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **Hayley Miller**, Communication; **Ryan Mowery**, Political Science and Interdisciplinary Studies; **Phillip Murillas**, Communication and Political Science; **Sharon Pritz**, English; **Kim Sorensen**, Political Science and Marketing; **Elena Stanton**, International Studies; **Erin Taylor**, Political Science; **Jacob Vuiller**, Spanish and Economics; **Matthew Ward**, Interdisciplinary Studies; and **Erin Weiss**, History.

CLAHS students selected for Who's Who Among Colleges and Universities were: **Jennifer Banner**, International Studies; **Kendra Briggs**, Communication; **Melissa Burgess**, History and Political Science; **John Cassara**, History; **Jonathan Clifton**, Communication; **Katherine College**, International Studies and Sociology; **Megan Dixon**, English; **Bonnie Evangelista**, Political Science and Spanish; **Jenny Lyn Geiger**, History and Political Science; **Jennifer Henszey**, English; **Matthew Jones**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Rommy Karam**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Crystal Lacey**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **Cameron Lewis**, Philosophy and Political Science; **Michelle Masters**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **John McBrien**, Political Science and Spanish; **Kaitlyn Moore**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **Whitney Moore**, Theatre Arts; **Brian Peters**, History; **Valerie Samson**, History; **Ashley Shanks**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Kelly Shannon**, Communication; **Prachi Sharma**, International Studies; **Hunter Simmons**, History; **Melissa Trotman**, Communication and English; **Stephen Waldron**, History; **Ryan Winegan**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Jenna Wolfe**, English and Spanish; and **Bassil Zahr**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management.

The Fall 2007 Undergraduate Research Institute Grant Recipients and Faculty Mentors were: **John Cassara**, History, and faculty mentor **Peter Wallenstein**, History; **Mariah Clarke**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, and faculty mentor **Jihyun Kim**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Jon Crain**, International Studies, and faculty mentor **Yannis Stivachtis**, International Studies; **Marc Thomas**, History and Political Science, and faculty mentor **Peter Wallenstein**, History; **Shannon Porter**, Human Development, **Shauna Horrell**, Communication, **Anthony Ciafardini**, Human Development, and **Kristen Duda**, Psychology, and their faculty mentor **Mark Benson**, Human Development. The 2008 ACC Undergraduate Conference Participant was **Elizabeth Carraway**, English, and faculty mentor **Fritz Oehlschlaeger**, English. Spring 2008 Undergraduate Research Institute Grant Recipients and Faculty Mentors were: **Emma Archer**, Communication and Marketing, **Allyson Klein**, Communication, and **Lauren Dennis**, Communication, and their faculty mentor **Brandi Quesenberry**, Communication; **Morgan Cain**, Interdisciplinary Studies, and faculty mentor **Joan Watson**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **Hannah Carlson**, English, and faculty mentor **Katie Fallon**, English; **Mariah Clarke**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, and faculty mentor **Jihyun Kim**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Margaret Clifford**, English, and faculty mentor **Peter Graham**, English; **Kathleen Cooperstein**, English, and faculty mentor **Jennifer Mooney**, English; **Britney Pardue**, Spanish and Finance, and faculty mentor **Sophia Anong**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; and **Marc Thomas**, History and Political Science, faculty mentor **Peter Wallenstein**, History.

Also being recognized for their contribution to the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences were the College Ambassadors. Ambassadors graduating this year are: **Ashley Abbruzzese, Erin Braganza, Juanisha Brooks, Sabrina Capen, Cory Casey, Rachel Crump, Amanda Davis, Caroline Epley, Ashley Ferguson, Amy Graham, Elana Hassett, Lindsey Jarrett, Kyle Johnson, Crystal Lacey, Michelle Masters, Whitney Moore, Michael Perdue, Andre Sparks, and Melissa Trotman.** Continuing as ambassadors are: **Sofiat Abdulrazaaq, Mary Boyle, Lindsey Bryant, Arlane Gordon-Bray, Dylan Greenwood, Kerry Kaleba, Michelle Kim, Stephanie Lang, Heather Meekins, Chris Midgley, Sara Musick, Nikki Najmyar, Jennifer Noble, Megan Petrine, Sara Taylor, and Bassil Zahr.** New ambassadors for 2008-2009 are: **Jessica Battle, Marcy Crevonis, Daniel Faith, Aimee Fausser, Rachel Harris, Michael Hippchen, Ashley Hurst, Denise Kee, Chris Lautenschlager, Caitlin Laverdiere, Jessica Long, Jillian Lyttle, Ellen Mendyk, Heidi Miller, Phillip Murillas, Katherine Olson, Krista Patrick, Nicholas Romanies, Isabel Smith, John Steger, Clinton Stevenson, Anika Swartz, Daniel Tinsley, and Morganne Tinsley.**

The Outstanding Recent Alumna award went to **Rebecca Brittain**, who graduated with a B.A. in Communication Studies and Political Science in 1997.

The following CLAHS faculty were recognized. Winners of the Excellence in Research and Creative Scholarships were: **Carol J. Burger**, Interdisciplinary Studies, **Jihyun Kim**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, and **Edward W. Wolfe**, Educational Research and Evaluation. Honored with an Excellence in Outreach Award were: the team of **Carol J. Burger**, Interdisciplinary Studies, **Elizabeth Creamer**, Education, and **Peggy Meszaros**, Center for Information Technology Impacts on Children, Youth, and Families; **E. Thomas Ewing**, History; and **Irene Leech**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management. **April Few**, Human Development, and **Anthony Kwame Harrison**, Sociology, won the Diversity Award as a team for projects they collaborated on. **Nancy Metz**, English, garnered the Excellence in Administration Award. **Linda (Cathy) Skinner**, English, was the recipient of the Excellence in Undergraduate Advising Award. **Paul Heilker**, English, and **Shannon E. Jarrott**, Human Development, received the Excellence in Graduate Student Advising Awards. Certificate of Teaching Excellence (CTE) Award winners were: **Carol A. Bailey**, Sociology, **Toni Calasanti**, Sociology, **Sheila Carter-Tod**, English, **Megan Dolbin-MacNab**, Human Development, **Grace Kao**, Interdisciplinary Studies, and **Ed Weathers**, English. Two posthumous Certificates of Teaching Excellence were awarded: **Jamie Bishop**, Foreign Languages and Literatures, and **Jocelyne Couture-Nowak**, Foreign Languages and Literatures.

The event program is posted at http://www.clahs.vt.edu/pdf/2008_awardsProgram.pdf on the college website. Additional information about faculty winners is available at http://www.clahs.vt.edu/awards/faculty_awards_clahs.html.

On April 24 the students in COMM 1016 Communication Skills class of **Britta Long**, Communication, participated in the Engagement Expo through Service Learning in Squires Colonial Ballroom. The students, all first-year students, designed and created a poster which featured the service learning projects they participated in this semester. Students volunteered their time tutoring underprivileged elementary school students, participated in conversation pairing with international students, worked at the Blacksburg Clothing Shoppe, and worked with mentally challenged adults in a local Blacksburg facility. This experience provided the students with rich and meaningful content to use during informative group presentations in the class.

Josh Crabill, graduate student in Philosophy, will present "Duties and Desires: A Critique of Michael Smith's Argument for Motivational Judgment Internalism" at the *Ohio State University Philosophy Graduate Conference*, in Columbus, Ohio, on May 2-3.

JoAnn Emmel, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, has been elected to the Consumer Advocate position on the United States National Committee (USNC) of the International Electrotechnical Council (IEC). She will serve in that position for the 2008-2010 term.

Two colleagues in the Department of English, **Bob Hicok** (poetry) and **Paul Sorrentino** (American literature), were recipients of Guggenheim Fellowship Awards for 2008. In its 84th annual competition the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation presented 190 fellowships to artists, scientists, and scholars, with awards totaling \$8,200,000; successful candidates were chosen from among more than 2,600 applicants. Guggenheim Fellows are appointed on the basis of stellar achievement and exceptional promise for continued accomplishment. Hicok, awarded the Guggenheim for poetry, has been called one of the best poets of his generation. His books of poetry include *Insomnia Diary*, *Animal Soul* (a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award), *Plus Shipping*, and *The Legend of Light* (winner of the 1995 Felix Pollak Prize in Poetry and an ALA Booklist Notable Book of the Year). He is the recipient of two Pushcart Prizes and an NEA Fellowship, and his poems have been included in four volumes of the *Best American Poetry* series. Sorrentino was awarded a Guggenheim for his work on the life of Stephen Crane; his was the only award in American literature. In 1984 he unearthed some lost Crane papers in Hawaii, giving the scholarly world additional information on the writer and earning the Stephen Crane Literary Award for his extensive research. He has co-edited *The Correspondence of Stephen Crane*, co-written *The Crane Log: A Documentary Life of Stephen Crane 1871-1900*, and is working on Crane's biography. Additional details about the awards can be found on the Guggenheim website at <http://www.gf.org/April022008.html>.

William J. FitzPatrick, Philosophy, published "Teleology" in the *International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*, ed. William A. Darity, Jr., Vol. 8, 2nd ed. (Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, 2008), and "Climate Change and the Rights of Future Generations: Social Justice Beyond Mutual Advantage" in *Environmental Ethics* 29.4 (Winter 2007): 369-88.

Coordinator of Medieval and Renaissance Studies **Matthew Gabriele**, Interdisciplinary Studies, has been selected to participate in an NEH Summer Institute in Oxford, England. The institute, titled "Holy Land & Holy City in Classical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam" will run from July 9 to August 12.

The Center of Gerontology recently announced this year's awards for its Ph.D. students. Recipients of the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology were: **Sharon Fenyk**, Health Promotion, **James Ford**, Human Development, and **Erica Husser**, Human Development. The certificate is awarded to Commonwealth Campus students and to master's and doctoral students who complete a set of gerontology courses, a practicum, and research in conjunction with their degree requirements. The AARP Memorial Fund Scholarship was awarded to **Matthew Komelski**, Human Development. In the wake of the April 16th tragedy, the Virginia chapter of AARP donated \$32,000 to the Center for Gerontology in honor of the 32 students and faculty lost; this was the first scholarship to be awarded from the fund. **Kristen Pujari**, Counselor Education, was the recipient of the Center for Gerontology Futures Board Scholarship. The

Futures Board is an external advisory board that provides guidance and input to the center and contributes to a scholarship fund. Dr. and Mrs. William E. Lavery, former president and first lady of Virginia Tech, are long-time supporters of the Center, and Peggy Lavery is a former Futures Board member; they have contributed funds for graduate training in gerontology over the years, the Peggy Lavery Gerontology Research and Professional Development Awards. This year's award winners were **Lauren Ermann**, Counselor Education, and **Brandy McCann**, Human Development. Dean Emeritus **S. J. Ritchey** was not only dean of the college, but also one of the founders of the Center for Gerontology. Upon his retirement, his family and friends designated a scholarship fund, endowed in his honor, for graduate students in gerontology. Recipients of S. J. Ritchey Scholarships this year were **Sung-jin Lee**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, and **Jessica Erin Mabry**, Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise. The awards were announced at the Center for Gerontology's 30th anniversary celebration, held on March 26 at The Inn.

The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* article titled "Poetry has power to unlock emotions," which appeared on April 13, focused on the poetry written by University Distinguished Professor **Nikki Giovanni** and on the impact of the poem on the university community on April 16, 2007. Extensive comments from Giovanni as well as from Virginia Poet Laureate Carolyn KreiterForonda were included as well. The article is available at <http://www.inrich.com/cva/ric/search.apx.-content-articles-RTD-2008-04-13-0105.html>.

Arlane Gordon-Bray, a junior in International Studies, has been named by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors as an undergraduate student representative to the board for the 2008-09 academic year. She has been actively involved all across campus, most recently serving as a resident assistant in MOSAIC (Multicultural Opportunities Social Awareness Interest Community), part of Virginia Tech's theme housing community. A native of Virginia Beach, Gordon-Bray also has been recognized with numerous honors and awards for her contributions to co-curricular and academic activities. Each year two student representatives are appointed to a one-year term; they sit on a committee of the governing board and serve as ex-officio members on the Commission on Student Affairs.

Ellington Graves and **Kevin Stainback**, both of Sociology, have been awarded a diversity grant, "Racial Diversity, Critical Mass, and Achievement in Post-Secondary Educational Institutions," from the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

"Quick Feet, Soft Hands," a half-hour film by **Paul Harrill**, Communication, has been selected to premiere at the Nashville Film Festival, which runs from April 17-24. The festival, one of the longest running in the South, also ranks among the most prestigious, continually garnering accolades and notice from a wide range of entertainment and trade publications. The festival screened approximately 160 features and short films, which were selected from more than 1600 entries. Harrill's film was produced in association with the Independent Television Service. More information is available at <http://www.lovellfilms.com/quickfeetsofthands.html>.

E. Jane Harrison, Office Manager and Administrative Assistant in the School of the Arts, will be a speaker in the Continuing and Professional Education program "Certificate Program in Meeting and Planning" at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center on May 17.

Bob Hicok, English, has been awarded the 2008 Rebekah Johnson Bobbitt National Prize for Poetry for *This Clumsy Living* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2007). Recognizing the most distinguished book of poetry written by an American and published during the preceding two years, the prize is donated by the family of the late Mrs. Bobbitt in her memory and established at the Library of Congress; Bobbitt was President Lyndon B. Johnson's sister. It is the only prize given by the nation for poetry. A description of the book can be found at <http://www.upress.pitt.edu/BookDetails.aspx?bookId=35850>; information about the prize is available at <http://www.loc.gov/poetry/bobbitt.html>.

Rodney Hill, graduate student in Philosophy, presented "Can Model Scoring Procedures Cure the Double Use Blues?" at the *Southwest Graduate Student Conference* at Arizona State University on March 13.

On April 11 the Department of History's Awards Reception honoring both undergraduate and graduate students was held and the 11th annual Brian Bertoti Innovative Perspectives in History Conference got underway. At the reception four undergraduates were recognized for their achievements: **Molly Mawyer** (Curtis Award), **John Cassara** (History Prize), **Brian Peters** (James W. and Martha N. Banks Award), and **Lauren Russell** (Patricia Ann Gallagher Scholarship). **Lindsey Newman** received the Graduate Student Exemplary Assistant Award, and **Xiaolan Qiu** was recognized with Honorable Mention. The graduate students presented an award to faculty for outstanding advising; winners were: **Amy Nelson** and **Crandall Shifflett**, both in History, and **Sue Farquhar**, Foreign Languages and Literatures. The conference, which ran through Saturday, April 12, featured 21 presentations by graduate students in History from 11 different institutions as well as an afternoon lecture and a keynote address. The conference was sponsored by the VT History Graduate Student Association, the Department of History, the Graduate Student Assembly, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Organization of American Historians Distinguished Lectureship Program and the Women and Minority Artists and Scholars Lecture Series.

Sarah Hoffman, a sophomore in Theatre Arts, was named as the 2008-09 recipient of the Henry Dekker Award. The University award is made to an individual who has excelled as a leader in one of the five following areas: scholarship; campus, government, local and religious affairs; publications; performing arts; and athletics.

Cynthia Horkey, a graduate student in Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, received the Jewell Taylor National Graduate Fellowship from American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Michael Hughes, Sociology, has been named as one of Thomson Scientific's "Highly Cited Researchers," listed on ISIHighlyCited.com. The website identifies and honors researchers whose collected publications have received the highest number of citations in the past two decades. "Highly Cited Researchers" are among the 250 most cited researchers for their published articles within a specific time-period. Thomson Scientific indexes scholarly literature in science and social science subjects.

The Department of Human Development recently announced its scholarship award winners. **Marla Belian**, an undergraduate Human Development major, received the Lena L. Giannotti Scholarship for Family and Child Development in recognition of her outstanding extracurricular leadership and

community service. **Ashlie Donaldson**, an undergraduate Human Development major, received a Sadie H. Williamson Scholarship for her commitment to a career working with children and their families. **Lauren Fenner**, an undergraduate Human Development major, was the recipient of a Harold A. Schlenker Scholarship in recognition of her service at Virginia Tech's Adult Day Services. **Christen Lanzara**, an undergraduate Human Development major, received the Kathleen Wampler Scholarship for her commitment to the Child Development Center for Learning and Research. **Krystal Laviena**, an undergraduate Psychology and Human Development major, was a recipient of a Sadie H. Williamson Scholarship in recognition of her commitment to a career working with children and their families. **Julie Leventhal**, a doctoral student in the Human Development Child and Adolescent Development program, received a Margaret Barnes Intergenerational Scholarship in recognition of her contributions to the *Neighbors Growing Together* intergenerational community at Virginia Tech's Adult Day Services and Child Development Center for Learning and Research; she also was awarded the Shang-Ling and Chen-Te Fu Scholarship for her commitment to research in child and adolescent development. **Aaron Weintraub**, a doctoral student in the Human Development Adult Development and Aging program, was awarded a Margaret Barnes Intergenerational Scholarship and a Harold A. Schlenker Scholarship; these scholarships recognize his contributions to the *Neighbors Growing Together* intergenerational community at Virginia Tech's Adult Day Services and Child Development Center for Learning and Research as well as his commitment to a career involving work with older adults.

Shannon Jarrott, Human Development, received Fellow status in the Gerontological Society of America. In addition, she and **Christina Gigliotti**, who earned her Ph.D. in Human Development at VT in 2006, received the Charles A. Lewis Research Award from the American Horticultural Therapy Association for their publication related to using horticultural therapy with cognitively impaired adults.

Christine Kaestle, Human Development, has been invited to serve on several panels addressing issues of school violence at a public affairs conference, "Seeking Solutions: Conflict, Violence, and the Courage to Change," hosted by Missouri State University. In addition to articles in *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, and *Prevention Science*, she recently published "Music videos, pro-wrestling, and acceptance of date rape among middle school males and females" in the *Journal of Adolescent Health* 40 (2007): 185-87.

Ann Kilkelly, Theatre Arts, will receive the 2008 Tap City Tap Preservation Award from the American Tap Dance Foundation. The award will be presented July 8 at Symphony Space in New York City.

Along with E. Ko, **Doris H. Kincade**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published "Do Quick Response (QR) technologies used by retailers affect consumer satisfaction?" in the *Journal of the Textile Institute*, 98.2 (2008): 1-25.

School of Education director **Susan Magliaro** received the Virginia Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (VACTE) Commitment to the Teacher Education Profession Award at the awards luncheon of the spring meeting of the Association of Teacher Educators in Virginia (ATE-VA) and the VACTE; the meeting was held at Sweet Briar College on April 3-4. Magliaro is past president of the ATE-VA and has been active in both organizations to promote teacher education in Virginia and nationally.

Eric McCollum, Human Development, has been named the winner of the 2008 Training Award. He will receive the award at the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (AAMFT) annual conference this fall. McCollum is being recognized in part for the impact he has had in training therapists at the Menninger Foundation, Kansas State University, Purdue, and Virginia Tech. Many current students, faculty, and alumni wrote letters of support for his award.

Bob McGrath, Theatre Arts, has been nominated for the Lucille Lortel Award in New York City for his direction of the Off Broadway production *Slug Bearer's of Kayrol Island*.

Jaime Nester, graduate student in Philosophy, presented "Kant and Frege on the Nature of Mathematical Judgments" at a conference at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington, April 4-6.

The conference "Meaning and Modern Empiricism," organized by **Walter Ott**, Philosophy, took place on April 11-13 at Hawthorn Suites in Blacksburg. A number of historians of philosophy gave presentations focusing on the philosophy of language, including signification, reference, and representation, in the modern period. The conference was sponsored by the Department of Philosophy, with financial support from the departments of Interdisciplinary Studies, Mathematics, and Psychology, as well as the Franklin J. Matchette Foundation.

Comments by **Kathleen R. Parrott**, Apparel, Housing and Resource Management, regarding the use of ultraviolet light in home devices to kill bacteria were included in a *Wall Street Journal* article on April 15. The article is available online at <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB120821238363914281.html>.

Four CLAHS faculty were recipients of a 2008 Albert L. Sturm Award from the Virginia Tech chapter of Phi Beta Kappa: **Edward C. Falco**, English; **Kent A. Holliday**, Music; **Karen M. Hult**, Political Science; and **Charles E. Walcott**, Political Science. The awards honor the memory of Albert Lee Sturm, a founding member of Virginia Tech's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa and a University Research Professor in Political Science; through these awards, the Mu of Virginia chapter recognizes excellence in the creative arts and in research. Falco was recognized for *Sabbath Night in the Church of the Piranha: New and Selected Stories* (Unbridled Books, 2005), and Holliday received his award for *Sonata for Piano* (2003). The research award was given to Hult and Walcott for their co-authored work *Empowering the White House: Governance under Nixon, Ford, and Carter* (University Press of Kansas, 2003). This year's winners were honored at a reception in Major Williams Atrium on April 23.

The editorial board and faculty advisory board for *Philologia*, the new undergraduate research journal in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, were announced at the kick-off celebration for the journal on April 24, emceed by Director of Student Development **Diana Ridgwell**. **Dylan Greenwood**, Political Science and Economics, is editor-in-chief, and **David Grant**, Religious Studies and Political Science, is managing editor. Associate editors are: **Keri Butterfield**, International Studies, **Caitlin Laverdiere**, English and Economics, **Jessica Martin**, International Studies, HNF, and Geography, **Sara Musick**, English, **Lauren Ruiz**, Political Science, and **Audra Vasiliauskas**, Classics and English. The faculty advisory board members are: **Brian Britt**, Interdisciplinary Studies, **Eva Brumberger**, English, **Elizabeth Chancey**, Interdisciplinary Studies, **Kwame Harrison**, Sociology, **Karen Hult**, Political Science, **Nancy Metz**, English, **Terry Papillon**, Classics, **Joe Pitt**, Philosophy, and **Susanna Rinehart**, Theatre Arts.

The journal is now accepting submissions for the Spring 2009 issue; the submission deadline is September 12. Guidelines can be found at <http://www.philologia.clahs.vt.edu/submissions.htm>. Additional information about the journal is available at <http://www.philologia.clahs.vt.edu/index.htm>.

Department Head **Fred Piercy**, Human Development, has been appointed Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research and Director of College Diversity Initiatives. He had served part-time as Associate Dean for Outreach and External Affairs on an interim basis in the college since July 2007. In addition, Piercy recently received recognition for his scholarly research: a 2008 "articles cited" search of the top journal in the field of family therapy, *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, reflected the fact that two of the five most cited articles in the journal in the last three years were co-authored by him.

Paul Poenicke, graduate student in Philosophy, presented "Answering Needhams Problem: Kuhn and Longino, Social Modeling, and the Late Imperial Civil Service System" at the *Science, State, Technology, and Society* workshop at the University of Chicago on March 4. He also presented a paper on the philosophy of time at the *Villanova University Graduate Conference* on March 28-29.

Center for Gerontology director **Karen A. Roberto**, Human Development, received funding from MetLife Mature Market Institute for a study of financial elder abuse. She will partner with Dr. Pamela B. Teaster at the University of Kentucky and the Board of Directors of the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse to examine financial exploitation by institutions and family members.

Congratulations to **Colonel A. Christopher St. Jean**, Army ROTC, on his retirement from the United States Army after 25 years of service. Prior to coming to Virginia Tech, he was Commander and Professor of Military Science at Valley Forge Military Academy in Pennsylvania. The retirement ceremony took place in the War Memorial Chapel on April 25.

Emily Satterwhite, Interdisciplinary Studies, published "Imagining Home, Nation, World: Appalachia on the Mall" in the *Journal of American Folklore* 121.479 (Winter 2008): 10-34.

Matthew Sayball, graduate student in Philosophy, had his article "On the Meaning of 'If'" accepted for publication in the *Journal of Philosophy at the University of Toledo*. In addition, he presented "Visualization and Spatial Determination: Kant and Strawson on Space and Verification" at the *Joint Meeting of the North Carolina Philosophical Society and the South Carolina Society for Philosophy* in February, hosted by the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, and also at the *Midsouth Philosophy Conference* in February, hosted by the University of Memphis; in March he gave the paper "Nonconditional Conditionals?" at the *Australasian Postgraduate Philosophy Conference* in March, hosted by the University of Sydney.

Congratulations to **Paula Seniors**, Sociology and postdoctoral fellow in the Center for Africana Studies and Race and Social Policy Research, on the publication of "Cole and Johnson's *The Red Moon* 1908-1910: Reimagining African American and Native American Female Education at Hampton Institute," 93.1 (2008): 21-35. Hers is the cover article of the journal's winter issue.

Philosophy graduate student **Ashley Shew** published "Nanotechnology's Future: Considerations for the Professional" in *Nanotechnology & Society: Current and Emerging Ethical Issues*, eds. Fritz Allhoff and Patrick Lin (Springer, 2008), 127-46.

Ryan C. Smith, a senior triple majoring in Political Science and Sociology in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences and Psychology in the College of Science as well as a University Honors program student, was named 2008 Undergraduate Man of the Year. Along with Undergraduate Woman of the Year Kaitlyn N. Hercik, Smith was recognized as exemplifying the university motto, *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve), through balanced achievement in scholarship, service, and commitment to the university community. Smith has been the undergraduate representative to the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. He also has served communities outside of Blacksburg: information he gathered in researching the efficiency of prom safety programs has helped eight different high schools in Virginia create safer prom environments for their students. In addition, he has worked as a researcher for the Center for Applied Behavior Systems where he co-authored 11 convention presentations and was the senior author for eight research documents. Smith's 3.88 grade point average has garnered him honors and awards for his academic achievements. Smith and Hercik were recognized at the annual Student Alumni Banquet.

The appreciation and best wishes of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences are extended to **William Snizek**, Sociology, who has served part-time as Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research since 2003. An Alumni Distinguished Professor of Sociology, Snizek will be stepping down from the position in July.

The Department of Sociology was well represented at the 71st Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society in Richmond, April 9-12, by Sociology/Africana Studies graduate students. The following students gave presentations: **Laura Agnich** (two presentations, one with **James Hawdon** and **John Ryan**, both professors in Sociology), **Laura Boutwell**, **Andrew Duncan**, **Margaret E. Gaines**, **Rammy Haija** (two presentations, one with **Dale Wimberley**, Sociology), **Jill Harrison-Rexrode**, **Meredith Katz** (two presentations), **J.P. Mason**, **Sara McDonough**, **Steve McGlamery**, **Michelle McLeese**, **Thomas Ratliff**, **Virginia Rothwell**, **Ellie Smith**, **Amy Sorensen**, **George Still**, **Eileen Weigand**, and **Gary Wood**. In addition, **Jen Wyse** presented a paper at the 19th Annual AYA Spring Conference for Graduate Students "African American Doctoral Studies: Building on a Legacy of Scholar-Activism" held at Temple University on April 11-12.

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences was exceedingly well represented at the Virginia Tech 6th Annual Undergraduate Research and Prospective Graduate Student Conference held on April 1 in Squires Student Center. CLAHS had eight presenters in 2005, 15 in 2006, and 37 in 2007, but this year there were 51 CLAHS majors representing the College and an additional 22 presenting on topics within CLAHS disciplines. Oral presentations were made by these CLAHS majors: **Erin Blauvelt**, English; **John Robert Cassara**, History; **Evan Alexander Chapple**, English; **Maggie Clifford**, English; **Matt Eldridge**, International Studies; **Mandy Ellis**, English; **Heather Fine**, English; **Alexandra Ford**, English; **Megan Gallivan**, Communication; **Alyssa Haak**, English; **Christian Hayes**, English; **Kelly Hower**, English; **Jessica Irwin**, Interdisciplinary Studies and French; **Patrick McCarthy**, English; **Katie McWilliam**, Communication; **Derek Miller**, Theatre Arts; **Margaret Lewis Miller**, English; **Emily Mook**, English; **Gregory Nelson**, International Studies; **Brian Peters**, History; **Wesley Purcell**, Communication; **Adam**

Ressa, Theatre Arts; **Tricia Sangalang**, Communication; **Graham Justin Sturm**, History; **Sara Sugrue**, English; **Whitney Svensson**, English; **Sarah Tavernaris**, English; **Kelsey Taylor**, Political Science; **Witney Thaxton**, Communication; **Molly Tucker**, English; and **Lauren Watkins**, History and Communication. The following CLAHS majors gave poster presentations: **Morgan Cain**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **Jessica Canedy**, Human Development; **Mariah Clarke**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Jon Crain**, International Studies; **Karla Delgado**, Sociology; **Kristen Duda**, Sociology; **Amy Graham**, Human Development; **Mara Hertz**, Human Development; **Marie Horn**, English; **Shauna Horrell**, Communication; **Mary Johnson**, English; **Angela Kasey**, Interdisciplinary Studies; **Michelle King**, International Studies; **Komal Makhdoom**, English; **Brandy McCann**, Human Development; **Roseanne Oder**, Sociology; **Britney Pardue**, Spanish; **Leah Passauer**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Shannon Porter**, Human Development; **Jennifer Read**, English; **Marc Thomas**, History; and **Nathan Walker**, English.

News2Note will be on hiatus until September. Please submit items for inclusion in the September newsletter to Associate Dean Debra Stoudt at dstoudt@vt.edu.