
In addition, AHRM faculty gave the following presentations with graduate students at the Housing Education and Research Association (HERA) Annual Conference in Indianapolis in October: J. Lloyd, Cynthia Horkey (student), and Kathleen Parrott (faculty), a poster presentation titled “On the road again: A look at frequent relocation and family communication among college students”; Holly L. Cline (student) and Julia O. Beamish, “The effectiveness of universal design kitchen features for people in wheelchairs”; and Kathleen Parrott, Sung-jin Lee (student), Julia O. Beamish, and JoAnn Emmel, “Home remodeling; Learning from the “Dream Kitchen Projects.”

It is with sadness that the College notes the death of Nancy Ann Barclay, who served in the 1970s as head of the Department of Management, Housing and Family Development, a forerunner of the current Department of Apparel, Housing and Resource Management. She passed away on October 11. Barclay is remembered not only for her leadership of the department but also for her involvement with study abroad, in particular collaborations with institutions in Finland and Indonesia; in recognition for her efforts, the University of Helsinki awarded her an honorary doctoral degree.

This semester marks the beginning of Teach for Jamie, a German language and culture program called "German Club at Beeks Elementary School." The program is run by a group of Virginia Tech German students in memory of Jamie Bishop, instructor of German in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, who was killed on April 16, 2007. The students hope to share his passion for German language and culture with elementary school children who otherwise would not have access to a language program at such an early age.

The program currently has around 50 participants from kindergarten through fifth grade and meets once a week after school. In addition to learning basic German vocabulary and grammar with the aid
of the award-winning MUZZY language curriculum by the BBC and Early Advantage, the students enjoy German games, foods, and other activities that familiarize them with Germany, Austria, and Switzerland and the culture of those countries. The volunteers plan to expand the program to another local elementary school in the coming semester. German major Betsy Potter serves as the director of the program, and is assisted by Emily Bernhards, Kate Carney, Katherine Eckenfels, Paul Geiger, Melissa Lauer, Mark Meyer, Jonathan Murrow, Kathleen Newbould, Cecilia Rodriguez, and Cassie Sheehan. Any student interested in more information about the program may contact Potter at eapotter@vt.edu.

Craig Brians, Political Science, was a featured commentator on the presidential election campaign on WVTF, the local National Public Radio station, on October 28 – and will be offering commentary again on the station on election night. In recent months he has given media interviews to news outlets ranging from the Associated Press to the Roanoke Times to the Boston Globe to XM Radio. Brians has analyzed the Obama campaign’s youth strategy, applied his scholarly research on candidate gender and cross-over voting by women to John McCain’s choice of Sarah Palin as a running mate, given reporters a political geography tour of Virginia’s regions, and evaluated other campaign-related topics.

Tasteful Treasures, the new cookbook by the CLAHS Staff Association, was published last month. The book contains 300 recipes, most of which were submitted by faculty and staff in the College, as well as helpful hint pages and calorie counting pages. The proceeds go to the CLAHS Staff Association scholarship fund. Last year enough money was raised to award three $500 scholarships for CLAHS students, one each to an incoming first-year student, a continuing undergraduate, and a graduate student. Stephanie Snider, Administrative and Program Specialist in English and an officer in the CLAHS Staff Association, served as coordinator of the project; for information about purchasing the book, please contact her at sniders@vt.edu.

The Counselor Education Program in the School of Education was recognized as the 2008 Outstanding Master’s and Doctoral Counselor Education Program at the fall Southern Association of Counselor Education and Supervision conference. The Southern region is the largest of the national regions and includes 30 programs that offer both master’s and doctoral degrees in counselor education.

Megan Dolbin-MacNab, Human Development, delivered the keynote address at the New Hampshire Grandparents and Relatives as Parents Conference on October 16. Her presentation was titled “Thanks for Caring about Me: Perspectives on Children Being Raised by Grandparents and Other Relatives.”


**Possum Dreams**, a full-length play by **Ed Falco**, English, was read at Urban Stages in New York City on October 6. The play was directed by Connie Grappo, artistic director of the Working Theater, and the two principal roles were read by John Benjamin Hickey and Edie Falco. In addition, Falco has been awarded a Fellowship in Playwriting for 2009-2010 by the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures is pleased to announce that the Italian Club is now up and running. Meetings are held Thursdays at 6:30 in Squires Student Center. For information contact Nick Tarzia at nickt87@vt.edu.


On October 23 **Jim Garrison**, College of Education/Teaching and Learning, was the invited guest of Columbia University’s Teachers College. His address was titled “John Dewey's Theory of Experience.”

**Kathryn Graham**, English, was elected Secretary of the Children’s Literature Association for a two-year term, 2008-2010; the organization has almost 1000 members.

**Katherine Hertlein**, Ph.D. graduate in Human Development, and **Fred P. Piercy**, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research and Professor of Family Therapy, co-authored an article titled “Therapists' Assessment and Treatment of Internet Infidelity Cases” in Journal of Marital and Family Therapy 34,4 (October 2008): 481-97. The journal is the most prestigious in the field of family therapy.

Human Development faculty members **Megan Dolbin-McNab, April Few, Angela Huebner**, and **Kee Jeong Kim** participated in a cross-national summit sponsored by the Virginia Tech Institute for Society, Culture and Environment (ISCE) on September 28-29. Held at the Virginia Tech Center for European Studies and Architecture (CESA) in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland, the summit brought together 18 social and behavioral scientists from Virginia Tech and universities and the private sector in England, Ireland, and Canada to discuss antecedents, processes, and consequences of societal and individual change over the lifespan. The summit was led by ISCE Director **Karen A. Roberto**, Center for Gerontology, and ISCE Senior Research Fellow **Jay A. Mancini**, Human Development.


Divya Kumar, an undergraduate Spanish major, participated in the 2008 Institute on Philanthropy and Voluntary Service in Washington, D.C. The Institute is a summer academic internship program for outstanding undergraduate students interested in volunteerism and careers in the nonprofit sector; it is sponsored by the Fund for American Studies in partnership with Georgetown University.

Eric McCollum, Human Development at the National Capital Region campus, was selected for the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Training Award; it was presented at the AAMFT annual conference on November 1 in Memphis. The award honors AAMFT members and/or training programs for significant contributions to the advancement of the field of marriage and family therapy by encouraging and training the next generation of marriage and family therapy researchers and/or practitioners. In addition, McCollum presented a workshop titled "Mindfulness: Foundation for Brief Therapy" and was an invited plenary panelist at the annual conference of the European Brief Therapy Association, which was held in Lyon, France, in September.

On October 18 and 19 compositions by Department of Music faculty Ivica Ico Bukvic, Kent Holliday, and James Miley were performed as part of the University Chamber Music Series. Featured compositions by Holliday were his “Tango Exótico,” “Rhapsody Exotique” and “Seasonal Sketches.” The first piece featured guest soloist Emily Yap Chua, Associate Professor of Music at Randolph College in Lynchburg, VA. A virtuoso work for euphonium and piano, “Rhapsody Exotique” was composed in 1999 for Department of Music Head Jay Crone and pianist Mary Louise Hallauer. Holliday’s “Seasonal Sketches” is a set for baritone voice and piano that takes the four seasons as its subject and is based on the poetry of early twentieth century German poet Anne-Marie Deutsche. “The Desert Songs,” “LINT,” and “[this is] for trumpet and piano” were the selections composed by Miley that were performed. The first work developed out of Miley’s sketchbooks, texts gathered while he worked on his master’s thesis. “LINT” was originally scored for flute, viola, and harp as a project for the Los Angeles-based Debussy Trio; the harp part was re-written for piano in the late 1990s. The three-movement “[this is] for trumpet and piano” was composed for John Adler, a faculty member in the Department of Music, during the summer of 2007. Contributions by Bukvic to the program included “derelicts of time” for trombone, computer, and 3D visuals, as well as “with delicate risk,” an audio-visual work in collaboration with Dane Webster. “Derelicts of time” was commissioned by Jay Crone and sponsored in part by a College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Faculty Grant; it received its premiere in the spring of 2008.

On October 18 the Virginia Tech Naval ROTC held its annual United States Navy and United States Marine Corps Birthday Ball in celebration of the 233rd birthday of naval services. The Ball was held at the Virginia Tech Inn and Skelton Conference Center with 221 students in attendance.

Tenille Richardson, a first-year Ph.D. student in the Marriage and Family Therapy program in Human Development, recently received a one-year fellowship award through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Center for Mental Health Services. The award supports doctoral training of ethnic minority, culturally competent marriage and family therapists who will conduct research and provide mental health services and education to under-served minority populations.

The Choices and Challenges project, directed by Science and Technology in Society faculty Daniel Breslau, Eileen Crist, and Saul Halfron sponsored a public forum titled “Taking it to the Web: Political Participation in the Internet Age.” The day-long series of panels and discussions was held at the Lyric Theatre and in the Graduate Life Center on October 30 and focused on an examination of how political life is changing through the use of new information and communication technologies. Details of the event can be found at: http://www.choicesandchallenges.sts.vt.edu/2008/?q=schedule.


Yannis Stivachtis, Political Science, organized the Open Lecture titled “The European Union as a Rising Superpower,” which was delivered by the Ambassador of Denmark (former Foreign Minister of Denmark) on October 1.

The Department of Theatre Arts has partnered with Hollins University in the production of Doubt, which opened on October 30. Patricia Raun appears in the role of Sister Aloysius and Randy Ward did the scenic and lighting design. The production is part of the 2008 Roanoke Arts Festival and 40+40 fest in conjunction with the opening of the Taubman Art Museum in Roanoke; performances on October 30 and November 1-2 were at Hollins University; on November 4-5 they will be at the Virginia Tech Black Box Theatre; and November 7-9 on the Mill Mountain Theatre’s Waldron Stage as part of the Roanoke Arts Festival.

Wayne Tripp, School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, was honored with Roanoke College’s twelfth Charles Brown Award during a ceremony on the Salem campus on October 9. The annual award recognizes a citizen of Salem who has contributed significantly to the quality of life in the city. Among Tripp’s contributions was his service as superintendent of Salem schools for 17½ years.

Eileen Weigand, a doctoral student in Sociology, was featured as the Graduate Student of the Month for October. More information can be found on the Graduate School website at: http://www.grads.vt.edu/.

Executive Director of the Virginia Council for International Education (VaCIE) Jane Wemhoener, English, convened a meeting of the council as well as a session of Chief International Officers from among Virginia colleges and universities in Richmond on October 24. The CIOs were invited by VaCIE to explore collaboration on international education initiatives among Virginia institutions.


Recent research on genetic testing by Doris Zallen, Science and Technology in Society, is featured on the Spotlight on Impact page of the Virginia Tech website. The research focuses specifically on the
ethical and social concerns raised by genetic testing and has resulted in To Test or Not to Test: A Guide to Genetic Screening and Risk, just published by Rutgers University Press. Details about the book as well as Zallen’s role in the formulation of federal guidelines that protect human subjects in gene therapy experiments can be found at http://www.vt.edu/spotlight/impact/2008-10-20_zallen/2008-10-20_zallen.html.

With sponsorship and support of the Department of Political Science, the Virginia Tech Institute for Policy and Governance, the Center for Peace Studies and Violence Prevention, and the International Relations Organization of Virginia Tech, Laura Zanotti, Political Science, organized a talk by United Nations Senior Political Officer Scott Smith. It was given on October 16.

Alumni Highlight
School of Education alumnus Terrell L. Strayhorn has received a National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program Grant for his project titled “Investigating the Critical Junctures: Strategies that Broaden Minority Participation in STEM Fields.” Strayhorn, a professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies within the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences (CEHHS) at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, will receive approximately $500,000 over five years to support his research to understand barriers and success factors related to broadening participation of women and minorities, especially African American and Latino males, in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. His work is likely to inform not only educational practice and STEM fields, but public policy, diversity and equity dialogues, and international discussions about U.S. competition in a global economy.

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