Africana Studies Director Biko Agozino was appointed visiting professor in sociology at the Federal College of Education in Enugu, the capital of Enugu State of Nigeria. The honorary appointment involves mentoring of junior faculty and the delivery of an occasional lecture.

Apparel, Housing and Resource Management professor and chair Julia Beamish and AHRM doctoral student Hyunjoo Kwon presented “Multifamily Housing for Baby Boomers: The Appeal of Universal Design” at the Universal Design 4 Summit in St. Louis, Missouri, October 10-12.


Seth Bartee, a doctoral student in ASPECT, presented “The Reactionary Historians: The Rejection of Disciplinary Professionalism and the Problems of Historical Scholarship in Democracy” at the U.S. Intellectual History Conference in New York City on October 21-22. Bartee is also the winner of a Richard M. and Helen DeVos Freedom Center Award for Student Leadership. Presented by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, the annual award recognizes undergraduate and graduate students whose work inspires others to learn more about the economic, political, and spiritual underpinnings of American freedom. Bartee will receive the award at the ISI Fifth Annual Dinner for Western Civilization in Wilmington, Delaware, on November 11.


ASPECT doctoral student Mike Butera published “A Gatekeeper, Moderator, and Synthesizer: Controlling Access to the Self on Facebook” in Facebook and Philosophy, edited by D. E. Wittkower (Peterborough, NH: Open Court Press, 2010), 201-12. In addition, he presented “Acoustic Ecology and Everyday Life” at the Association for Integrative Studies annual conference “Interdisciplinary Approaches to Integrating Ethics and Sustainability” at San Diego State University on October 7-10.

Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management doctoral student RayeCarol Cavendar, with co-author Frank Bryant, received a third-place prize of $500 for the case report presentation titled “Walk and Roll: A Case on the Illinois Division of the American Cancer Society” at the Direct Marketing Educational Foundation, the educators’ portion of the Direct Marketing Association Conference, in San Francisco on October 8-9.


Tracy Cowden, Music, gave a piano concert in the Arts@Averett series at Averett University in Danville, Virginia, on September 30 with soprano Ariana Wyatt and cellist Benjamin Wyatt.

The Office of the Vice President for Research recognized Elizabeth Creamer, School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, as the Virginia Tech October 18 Scholar of the Week for her research promoting women’s interest and success in fields in science, engineering, and information technology. Creamer has worked with a team of researchers at Virginia Tech conducting research designed to identify elements of the collegiate culture that promote women’s interest in engineering as both a major and career. Currently she is working with Peggy S. Meszaros, William E. Lavery Professor of Human Development and Director of the Center for Information Technology Impacts on Children, Youth, and Families, to develop community networks in 10 counties in five states in rural Appalachia with the goal of promoting women’s interest in jobs involving information technology. Their work, which is supported by the National Science Foundation, garnered them the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences 2007-2008 Excellence in Outreach Award. A member of the AdvanceVT leadership team, Creamer is principal or co-principal investigator on three grants funded by the National Science Foundation involving issues related to undergraduate women in information technology and engineering majors and careers.

On October 6 the Dean’s Advisory Committee on International Initiatives (DACII) sponsored the inaugural presentation of it 2010-2011 CLAHS Lecture and Symposium Series on International Understanding and Global Culture on October 6; the focus of the series is Islamic Worlds. William Ochsenwald, Professor Emeritus of History, presented “The Center and the Peripheries: Islam in the Modern World.” Robert Stephens, History, introduced Ochsenwald and served as moderator for the question and answer session. Dean Sue Ott Rowlands provided opening remarks.
The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors recently conferred the emeritus title on six faculty members. **Patrick O’Reilly**, Associate Professor of Teaching and Learning, has been a member of the Virginia Tech community since 1975. He earned his bachelor’s degree and master’s degree from Kansas State University and the Ph.D. from the Pennsylvania State University. The author of more than 80 publications and director of numerous sponsored research and development projects, he made significant contributions to research on career and technical education, trade and industrial teacher education, and educational evaluations. O’Reilly held leadership positions in a number of professional societies, including the National Association of Industrial and Technical Teacher Educators and as editor of the *Journal of Industrial Teacher Education*. He also served as director of the Center for Assessment, Evaluation, and Educational Programming in the School of Education.

**David Parks**, Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, holds a bachelor’s degree from the State University of New York College at Potsdam, a master’s degree from the State University of New York at Plattsburg, and a Ph.D. from Syracuse University. A member of the Virginia Tech community since 1971, he authored or co-authored numerous journal articles and book chapters. Parks’ commitment to the development of management and leadership skills of aspiring and practicing school administrators is well known: he developed the preparation program for school principals and supervisors and published a handbook for principal interns and mentors. Parks successfully directed the doctoral studies of 137 students, several of whom have won national awards for excellence in research.

**Richard Salmon**, Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, joined the Virginia Tech community in 1972 after earning his bachelor’s, master’s, and Ed.D. degrees from the University of Florida. Widely recognized as a scholar and expert in fiscal equity, adequacy, and capacity, he often served as a consultant and witness in federal and state litigation over school funding reform. Salmon’s research and publications in the field of school finance has had and continues to have an impact on public PK-12 school funding in the United States. In the course of his career he taught thousands of master’s and doctoral students who now hold leadership positions in PK-12 school systems, professorships in universities, and positions in departments and ministries of education in Virginia, the United States, and other countries.

**Mark Sanders**, Professor of Teaching and Learning, was a pioneer in integrative science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education. He led the transition in training of teacher education professionals from industrial arts education through technology education to the current STEM model. Sanders received 18 national and state awards for his research, exemplary teaching, and service to his profession; he was recognized as a lead historian in the field of technology education, and his research was supported by the National Science Foundation and the Technical Foundation of America. A member of the Virginia Tech community since 1980, Sanders earned his bachelor’s degree from the State University of New York College at Oswego, a master’s degree from Illinois State University, and the Ph.D. from the University of Maryland.

**Thomas Sherman**, Professor of Teaching and Learning, earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Notre Dame and a master’s degree and the Ed.D. from the University of Tennessee; he came to Virginia Tech in 1971. Sherman gave more than 120 presentations and was the author of 100 publications, four books, and numerous grants. He made valuable contributions to the design and development of learning environments, including practice-based learning, study strategies for student success, full-scale instructional programs, and assessment models and strategies. Sherman served in leadership roles in university governance as president of the Virginia Tech Faculty Senate and of the Faculty Senate of Virginia. He strengthened faculty ties to the State Council of Higher
Education for Virginia, the Virginia General Assembly, and the Virginia Business Higher Education Council.

**J.D. Stahl**, Professor of English, received the title of professor emeritus posthumously; Stahl succumbed to cancer on July 15, 2010. He earned his bachelor’s degree from Goshen College, a master’s degree from the University of Pittsburgh, and the Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut. Joining the Virginia Tech community in 1982, Stahl made significant scholarly contributions to children’s literature and American literature, especially in their cross-cultural contexts. He transformed the children’s literature program at Virginia Tech and served as president of the Children’s Literature Association. His publications included the co-edited *Crosscurrents of Children’s Literature: An Anthology of Texts and Criticism* (Oxford 2006) and *Mark Twain, Culture and Gender: Envisioning America through Europe* (Georgia 1994), as well as numerous articles, book chapters, and translations. A dedicated and beloved teacher, Stahl’s excellence was recognized by the William E. Wine Award, the Alumni Teaching Award, and induction into the Virginia Tech Academy of Teaching Excellence.


A trio of seniors majoring in English participated recently in the 2010 Midwest Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference. **Orlando Dos Reis** served as Area Chair for Harry Potter Studies and session moderator. **Claire Holman** presented “Food in Children’s Literature: Harry Potter’s World,” and **Josh Thompson** gave a paper titled “Matrimony and Motherhood: The Effects of the Wife and Mother Roles in *Harry Potter*”; both are in the Honors program. The **conference** took place October 1-3 in Minneapolis.

**Mariana Falconier**, Human Development, published “Female anxiety and male depression: Links between economic strain and psychological aggression in Argentinean couples,” *Family Relations* 59 (2010): 424-38. The article was included in a special issue titled *Families, Finances, and Hard Times*.

**Diana George**, English, was a featured speaker at the University of Louisville Thomas R. Watson Conference, “Working English in Rhetoric and Composition: Global-Local Contexts, Commitments, Consequences,” on October 14. The title of her presentation was “When Words Are Not Enough: Visual Literacy and the Work of Composing.”

Director of the Center for Gerontology and Human Development professor **Karen A. Roberto** and Center for Gerontology certificate student and Human Development doctoral student **Brandy McCann** published “Challenges to older women’s sense of self in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina,” *Health Care for Women International* 31 (2010): 981–96, with Tammy Henderson and Yoshinori Kamo.
Supported by a Jerome Niles Faculty Research Award, **George Glasson**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning, investigated a place-based science education project in July in northern Thailand's Lampang Province. He collaborated with Rojiana Klecheya, a Thai science educator, and teachers in six elementary schools with students from the Hill Tribe People. The teachers were involved in developing and teaching inquiry-based science lessons that connected to the local knowledge and culture of the surrounding communities. Glasson presented his research on “Global Placed-based Science Education” to the Thai educators; his work is one of several initiatives in the School of Education seeking to explore collaborations in Thailand.


**Jordan Hill**, a doctoral student in ASPECT, gave a paper titled “Destined to Fail: Tracing the Discourse of the Long Civil Rights Movement” and was a panelist in the “Emerging Scholars Forum - The Sustainability of Interdisciplinarity” at the Association for Integrative Studies annual conference held at San Diego State University October 7-10.

**Matthew Howard**, a senior majoring in English, presented “Psychology Evident in Seamus Heaney’s Poetry: Re-Viewing the Effect of Culture on the Poet through Modern Psychological Theory” at the American Conference for Irish Studies at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, October 1-2. On October 9-10 Howard traveled to Amherst, Massachusetts, where he presented “Using an Outside Discipline to Better Understand Seamus Heaney and His Poetry” at the *Crossroads Conference for Comparative Literature*.

Human Development associate professor and chair **Shannon Jarrott** collaborated with The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee’s Center on Age and Community in partnership with the Metlife Mature Market Institute and the National Adult Day Services Association, in an Adult Day Services Think Tank on October 27-29 at Luther Manor in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The purpose of the meeting was to bring together researchers, providers, funders and public-policy makers to discuss the next steps for programming and research in adult day services. Jarrott served as a panelist on the “current state of knowledge” related to her experience supporting therapeutic and intergenerational programming at adult day services programs.


The Bronze Star Medal was presented to Major Michael A. Little, Navy ROTC, by Captain Daniel Forney on October 26. Major Little was recognized for his service as a Team Chief for an 18-man Military Transition Team assigned to an Iraqi Brigade during 2009. He personally mentored the Iraqi Brigade Commander and his staff in the complexities of counterinsurgency warfare and staff planning, while supporting the Brigade as they safeguarded more than 3000 pilgrims during the annual Hajj pilgrimage, secured five voting sites, and established 20 new security checkpoints along major lines of communication.

Barbara Lockee, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies and Associate Director for Research and Outreach in the School of Education, was inducted as President of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT) in October. AECT is the professional association for learning professionals whose activities are directed towards improving instruction through the systematic application of technology. It provides an international forum for the sharing of research and best practices related to the field of instructional design and technology, with over 24 affiliate organizations from around the world. During 2009-2010 Lockee served as President-Elect as well as Convention Chair for the 2010 conference, which will be held in Anaheim, California, from October 26-30.

Marc Lucht, Philosophy, edited Kafka's Creatures: Animals, Hybrids, and Other Fantastic Beings (Lanham: Lexington Books, 2010), with Donna Yarri.


The poetry of Erika Meitner, English, received special recognition recently. Her poem “To Whom it May Concern” was featured on VerseDaily on October 4, and “May the World to Come Be Neon, Be Water” was featured on the same venue on September 22 and 23. On September 18 “Ideal Cities” was featured on Poetry Daily. In addition, Meitner has given a number of invited readings and craft talks/lectures: a poetry reading as part of the RopeWalk Reading Series at the University of Southern Indiana (Evansville, Indiana) on September 23; a workshop titled “Poets in the World” with poet Ilya Kaminsky at the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities at Case Western
Reserve University on October 2; a poetry reading as part of “Poetry in the Garden” (Cleveland, Ohio), sponsored by the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities at Case Western Reserve University, on October 3; a craft talk titled “Poetry Taboos and You; Or, How to Break the Rules, and Why” at the University of Akron with poet Mary Biddinger on October 4; a poetry reading on October 7 at Sweet Briar College as part of their Visiting Writers Series; and a poetry reading on October 22 at New York University as part of its visiting writers series.

Pamela Mullins-Baker, a doctoral student in ASPECT, presented “Razors and Research: The Disfigurement of Africana Art” at the 2010 Association for Integrative Studies annual conference at San Diego State University on October 7-10. Mullins-Baker also served as a reader of two manuscripts for The Journal of Black Studies I, ed. Molefi Asante (Sage Publications) in July and September.

Music faculty member Ivica Ico Bukvic and chair Jay Crone were invited to participate as guest artists at the Musicacoustica 2010 international festival of contemporary music, the largest festival of its kind in China; it takes place annually at the Beijing Conservatory. They performed “derelicts of time,” composed by Bukvic for Crone and in part funded by a CLAHS Faculty Grant. The piece had its premiere at Virginia Tech in 2008, followed by peer-reviewed performances in Kansas City, Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and New York City. This was its international premiere. In addition, both Bukvic and Crone were invited to hold a master class in his respective research/performance area, computer music/laptop orchestra and trombone respectively. As part of his master class, Bukvic performed his composition “FORGETFULNESS,” which premiered at Virginia Tech in 2009. The festival took place October 25-31.

Music faculty members Ivica Ico Bukvic and Kent Holliday were featured on “With Good Reason,” a half-hour show that airs on all of Virginia's public radio stations, on a program titled “Chamber Punk and Laptop Orchestra.” Bukvic is director of L2Ork, the first Linux-based orchestra in the world; it uses everything from salad bowls to video game remotes in the production of sonic music. Holliday, the composer of “Incantations,” talks about the give and take between the composer and the pianist who interprets the work. The program airs on Roanoke station WVTF (89.1) on November 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Students in the Opera Workshop course gave a “flash mob” performance of two choruses from Johann Strauss II's Die Fledermaus at the Blacksburg Farmer’s Market on October 16. The students were shopping among the patrons of the market when the accompaniment to “Sing to love, love we never knew before…” began. There were many looks of pleasant surprise as the students began singing, and the class has been invited to do an encore performance at this downtown venue. The Opera Workshop is directed by Music faculty members Tracy Cowden and Theodore Sipes.


Following a successful run in Blacksburg earlier in October, the cast of the Virginia Tech production of *Persephone*, directed by **Bob McGrath**, Theatre and Cinema, performed the show during the Next Wave Festival at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on October 26-30. Actress Julia Stiles played Persephone for the New York performances. The New York-based Ridge Theatre, of which McGrath is co-founder and artistic director, helped produce the show. Details about the production can be found in the Roanoke Times article from September 25.


*Technical Editing* by English professor and chair **Carolyn Rude** was published in its fifth edition, for the first time with a co-author, Angela Eaton (Boston: Longman, 2011). More information is available [here](#).


**Fabrice Teulon**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/French, received the Marshall Brannon Foreign Language Association of Virginia Excellence in Teaching Award, Post-Secondary. The award recognizes a foreign language educator who has demonstrated excellence in foreign language education. The announcement was made at the Foreign Language Association of Virginia (FLAVA) convention held October 8-9 in Richmond.
Daniel Thorp, History, was named director of the Curriculum for Liberal Education in the Division of Undergraduate Education at Virginia Tech, a newly created position designed to provide oversight for the Curriculum for Liberal Education. Thorp joined the Virginia Tech community in 1981; he served as chair of the Department of History from 2004 to 2010. Details about Thorp and his appointment can be found here.

ASPECT doctoral student Alfonso Vergaray presented “A Dreamy Idealist in Search of a More Perfect Republicanism: Rethinking Henry Adams’ Democracy” at the American Political Science Association conference in Washington, D.C., September 2-5. He also gave a paper titled “Between Disgust and Hope in American Public Life: Henry Adams on the Importance of Private Spaces in his Novel Democracy” at the Association for Integrative Studies annual conference “Interdisciplinary Approaches to Integrating Ethics and Sustainability” at San Diego State University on October 7-10.

Michael Anthony Williams, Theatre and Cinema, and Thomas Reed created the first professional theater company in the history of the Blacksburg: the Actors Theater of Blacksburg. The company will be producing its inaugural season at the historic Lyric Theatre. More information is available here.


**Alumni Highlights**

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences is pleased to recognize its alumni and alumnae who are serving on the College’s Advisory Board: Nadia Baker (M.A. Communication, 2007), Treva Carter (History, 1973), Jeanne DaDamo (French, 1975, and Education, 1976), Ron Epperly (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, 1997), Grayson Gosney (Sociology, 1996), Christina Jenkins (Communication, 1993), Dorothy Long (Communication, 1979, and M.A. Consumer Studies, 1983), Nancy Moga (Education, 1976), Nancy Munnikhuysen (Management, Housing, and Family Development, 1974), Jacqueline Nottingham (Family and Child Development, 1988), Kelly Obenauer (Communication, 2005), Andrew Rotherham (History and Political Science, 1994), Michael Schroder (Hospitality and Tourism Management, 1992, and Education, 1994), Howard Sholl (History and Political Science, 1966), Melissa Smarr (Consumer Studies and Family and Child Development, 1995), and Judy Springer (Communication and International Studies, 1995). The President is Jacqueline Nottingham; Past President Melissa Smarr; Vice President Dorothy Long; and Secretary Kelly Obenauer and Howard Sholl.

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