**News2Note**

**October 2017**


The 2017 recipients of an Outstanding ASPECT Faculty Award for contributions to the ASPECT doctoral program are: **Katrina Powell,** English; **Peter Schmitthenner,** Religion and Culture; and **Edward Weisband,** Political Science. The awardees will be recognized at the annual ASPECT Award Ceremony, which will take place October 3.

The film *Poem to a Nameless Slave* by **C. N. Bean,** English, and Xavier Bean, was an official selection of the 9th Annual Louisville’s International Festival of Film and was awarded a screening at the Muhammad Ali Center on September 15.

ASPECT doctoral student **Claudio D’Amato** received the ASPECT Outstanding Dissertation Award for 2017 for his dissertation titled “Human Capabilities and Collectivist Justice.”

**Charles Dye,** School of Performing Arts, and Jaime Jacobsen received $3,000 in funding from MontanaPBS to support the production of a 360 documentary titled *The Lentil Underground 360 (LU360).* The LU360 is a participatory web experience that encourages dialogue across Montana’s sometimes polarized agro-economic aisle and deals with an unheralded group of Montana farmers who launched a uniquely sustainable food movement.

ASPECT doctoral student **Robert Flahive** posted “*After Cairo 2050: The Spatial Politics of Regime Security in Umm Al-Dunya*” on the Virginia Tech graduate student commentary blog *RE: Reflections and Explorations* on September 14.

**Ed Gitre,** History, published “‘This is Our Story’: The Early Historiography of the Azusa Street Revival and the Spiritual Politics of Pentecostal Memory,” *A Light to the Nations: Explorations*


Sociology doctoral student **Megan Nanney** was selected as the co-chair of the Sociologists for Trans Justice Committee on Advancing Trans and Intersex Studies in Academia.


**Bradley Nichols**, History, received the Fritz Stern Prize for his dissertation titled “The Hunt for Lost Blood: Nazi Germanization Policy in Occupied Europe.” The Stern Prize, awarded by the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., honors the best dissertation on German history at a North American university.

*Underlying Space*, for recorded processed electric violin, a composition and performance by **Charles Nichols**, School of Performing Arts, that accompanies the 30x30 art installation by Paola Zellner Bassett, School of Architecture and Design, premiered September 14 to December 20 at the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Women in Leadership Summit, which was held at the AIA National Headquarters in Washington, D.C., and September 11 to December 20 at the Kibel Gallery in the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation of the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland.

**Patricia Raun**, School of Performing Arts, delivered the keynote address for the national conference of the Educational Theatre Association, which was held September 14–17 in Nashville, Tennessee. The conference theme was The Rise of STEAM: Real World Theatre Education for the 21st Century, and Raun’s talk was titled “Where Our Great Joy Meets the World’s Great Needs.” The Educational Theatre Association is a national nonprofit organization with approximately 120,000 members.
**Dustin Read**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, and co-presenter Andrew Sanderford were recognized with the award for the Best Paper in the Mixed-use Properties category. They presented the paper, “Innovation Districts at the Crossroads of the Entrepreneurial City and the Sustainable City,” at the American Real Estate Society conference in San Diego, California, in April.


The solo art show “Splinters” by ASPECT doctoral student **Katy Shepard** was featured in the Wallace Hall Gallery at Virginia Tech during the month of September.


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