

Monday, August 4, 2014 -- Volume 11, Number 3

Three new members on Virginia Tech Board of Visitors

Three new members joined the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors effective this month, having recently been appointed by Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe.

The new members on the board are Wayne Robinson, of Greensboro, North Carolina, the chief diversity practice leader at Wyndham Mills International; Mehul Sanghani, of Vienna, the founder and president of Octo Consulting Group; and Horacio Valeiras, of La Jolla, California, a principal of HAV Capital LLC.

McAuliffe also reappointed Michael Quillen, of Bristol, the founder and retired chairman of Alpha Natural Resources, who served two years as rector during his first term on the Board of Visitors.

Quillen, Robinson, Sanghani, and Valeiras all are graduates of Virginia Tech. Their terms on the Board of Visitors run from July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2018.

Falling Branch Park and Ride moving to new location

Effective August 4, the Park and Ride lot located off exit 118A, near Falling Branch Elementary School will be relocated to a new location off exit 118B. The new lot will be located near the Route 460 bypass interchange with Lee Highway (Roanoke Street). Visit www.blacksburg.gov to see a map and for more information.

Blacksburg Transit, Megabus, Radford Transit and the Smart Way bus will service the new Park and Ride lot beginning August 4.

For more information on commuting options, contact the Alternate Transportation Office at 540-231-2701.

Theme park, travel discounts available to employees

Virginia Tech employees are eligible for dozens of theme park and travel discounts. Discounts to popular theme park destinations include SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, Carowinds, Kings Dominion, and Disney World.

A complete listing of discounts and perks, is available at www.hr.vt.edu/benefits/discount/index.html.

For more information, contact the Human Resources Service Center at 540-231-9331.

Community service leave available to salaried staff

To allow employees to participate in community service projects, and as part of the university's total compensation program, salaried Virginia Tech employees receive up to 16 hours of community service leave each year.

Full-time staff receive 16 hours each of community service leave each year to provide volunteer services through non-profit organizations within or outside of their communities. Part-time salaried staff receive an amount

proportionate to the percentage of hours they work in a full 40-hour workweek.

Staff who are members of a volunteer fire or rescue squad departments are granted an additional eight hours of paid leave to be used exclusively for the purpose of providing firefighting and rescue services.

More information is available in the Virginia Tech Leave Manual (www.hr.vt.edu/benefits/leave/manual/chptr20/).

For more information, contact the Human Resources Service Center at 540-231-9331.

New leadership announced for Facilities Services

Facilities Services at Virginia Tech now has a full leadership team with the arrival of Chris Kiwus, associate vice president and chief facilities officer, and the appointment of Heidi McCoy as deputy chief facilities officer.

Kiwus, appointed in April, began his role on June 30 after retiring from the U.S. Navy as the commanding officer of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southeast.

McCoy, former chief of staff to the vice president for administration, has been filling the deputy chief facilities officer position on an interim basis since October 2013.

In addition to overseeing the efforts of the division, Kiwus will provide leadership for all campus facilities and ensure a coordinated construction, maintenance, and renovation program. McCoy will be responsible for the division's administrative, operational, and financial affairs.

Facilities Services has more than 400 employees in the offices of Energy and Sustainability, Facilities Operations, Finance and Customer Service, University Building Official, University Planning, University Design and Construction, and Utilities and Strategic Initiatives.

Kiwus, who retired as a captain, has 30 years of experience in facilities planning, engineering, maintenance, construction contracting, and support service contracts.

McCoy has held a variety of positions since she began her career at Virginia Tech in 2000. She has significant experience in managing administrative operations including budgeting, planning and personnel management.

Legislation requires all faculty, staff to report suspected child abuse, neglect

While everyone should be concerned about child abuse and neglect, certain individuals are required by law to report suspected instances.

As an employee of Virginia Tech, you are a mandated reporter as set out in §63.2-1509 of the Code of Virginia and in Policy 4815, Minors on Campus or Participating in University-Related Programs.

Mandated reporters, including all Virginia Tech faculty and staff, are those people who, in their professional or official capacity, are required to report instances of

suspected child abuse and neglect to the local Social Services Department or to the Department of Social Services toll-free child abuse and neglect hotline (1-800-552-7096).

A list of questions and answers specific to Virginia Tech employees related to the law is available at www.hr.vt.edu/employeescorner/policy/child_abuse_and_neglect_reporting.html.

For more information, contact the Human Resources Service Center at 540-231-9331.

Whit Babcock to discuss the future of Virginia Tech Athletics

On August 12, faculty and staff are invited to discuss the future of Virginia Tech intercollegiate athletics. With the 2014-15 football season quickly approaching, participants will have the opportunity to learn about the various challenges and opportunities each new athletic season presents.

As part of the brown bag webinar series "Our VT: Building community at Virginia Tech," Whit Babcock, director of athletics will host a discussion about his vision for the future of Virginia Tech athletics, as well as his personal leadership goals in his new position.

Employees participating in the webinar will be invited, and encouraged, to ask the speaker questions during the one-hour discussion. Registration is required at www.training.vt.edu. Participants will receive an email with a link to the session prior to the webinar.

For more information, contact the Human Resources Service Center at 540-231-9331.

New employee orientation website makes first year of employment easier

Beginning a new career can be an exciting yet overwhelming process, especially at an institution as large as Virginia Tech. To make the process as easy as possible, and give new employees a resource they can visit regularly during their first year of employment, the Department of Human Resources has launched a new employee orientation website at <http://hrapps.hr.vt.edu/orientation/index.html>.

The website is used during orientation to educate employees about the university, their benefits package, and the ins and outs of living, learning, and working at Virginia Tech.

The site includes a checklist that employees can visit before, during, and after orientation that details important items that need to be taken care of during an employee's first days, weeks, and months of employment. The site also includes several videos and provides easy access to university and community resources.

Individuals who are unable to attend a new employee orientation session on campus, and those who have not attended in many years and are interested in a refresher are welcome to visit the site.

Narrated audio files and transcripts will be added to the site for individuals who would like to listen to a speaker present the information.

For more information about new employee orientation, call 540-231-9331.

Riding in a vanpool can save money

The Virginia Tech Vanpool Program is available for full-time, permanent employees for commuting purposes.

Benefits:

- Share the cost
- Share the ride
- Monthly cost of vanpooling is payroll deducted using pre-tax dollars
- Reserved parking space for your van
- Fuel for less at Fleet Services' pump
- Van maintenance included in monthly cost
- Qualified vanpool drivers ride free

Visit www.tcs.vt.edu/alternative/van.asp for more information or contact the Office of Alternative Transportation at 540-231-0248.

Move-in to affect parking, traffic

From August 20-23 more than 9,000 students will be moving into the residence halls on campus. This will cause a significant change to parking and traffic patterns on campus. Be prepared for heavy congestion on Washington Street, Kent Street, South Drill Field Drive, and Old Turner Street. Driving through these areas will be extremely difficult and parking will be for student unloading only.

The following parking lots will be designated for 30-minute student spaces to assist unloading: Ag Quad Lot (behind Hutcheson Hall), Coliseum Lot, Dietrick, Engel/Harper.

In addition, parking and traffic on the following streets will be affected: Ag-Quad Lane, Drillfield (War Memorial Gym side), Kent, Old Turner, Washington.

Washington Street will become one-way from Duck Pond Drive toward Kent Street and downtown Blacksburg. Very slow moving traffic is expected and the university community is strongly urged to avoid Washington Street during move-in.

Faculty and staff should park in unaffected areas such as Litton-Reaves, Perry Street, and Prices Fork lots.

For more information call 540-231-3200.

2015 holiday, winter closing schedule announced

The 2015 holiday schedule was recently released by the governor's office and is now available online, along with the 2015 winter closing schedule. The combined document is available at

www.hr.vt.edu/benefits/leave/holiday_schedule/index.html

For more information, contact the Human Resources Service Center at 540-231-9331.

Virginia Tech News is published weekly during fall and spring semester and bimonthly during the summer sessions, by the Department of Human Resources and the Office of University Relations as a service to university employees who do not have computer access on campus. For more information, or to discuss submission of items call 540-231-7643.