



News2Note

August 2017

Biko Agozino, Sociology, published “Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Innovations in Malaria Control in Nigeria,” *Juniper Online Journal of Immuno Virology* 2.2 (June 2017); and [“The View Beyond Looking: Isaac Julien’s *Frantz Fanon: Black Skin, White Mask*,”](#) *Karib – Nordic Journal for Caribbean Studies* 3.1 (2017): 2.

Barbara Allen, Science and Technology in Society, received a second grant from the Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l’alimentation, de l’environnement et du travail (Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health) for the project titled “Etude participative en santé environnement ancrée localement (EPSEAL) comparant deux villes du golfe de Fos et une ville hors de ce front industriel” (Locality-based Participatory Environmental Health Survey Comparing Two Towns in the Gulf of Fos with a Non-industrial Town). The grant, which is in the amount of 200,000 Euros (approximately \$225,000), begins in the spring of 2018.

ASPECT doctoral student **Caroline Alphin** presented “Cyborg Neoliberalism: The Necropolitics of Bodies in Cities” at the 15th Annual Conference of the Cultural Studies Association, which was held May 25–27 at Georgetown University, in Washington, D.C.

The film *Poem to a Nameless Slave* by **C. N. Bean**, English, and Xavier Bean, was an official selection of the 12th annual Hoboken International Film Festival, where it was screened in May.

Shannon Bell, Sociology, published [“Environmental Injustice and the Pursuit of a Post-Carbon World: The Unintended Consequences of the Clean Air Act as a Cautionary Tale for Solar Energy Development,”](#) *Brooklyn Law Review* 82.2 (2017): 529–57.

Faculty members **Jennifer Bondy**, School of Education, and **Anthony Peguero**, Sociology, published “The Children of Immigrants’ Academic Self-Efficacy: The Significance of Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Segmented Assimilation,” *Education and Urban Society* 49.5 (2017): 486–517, with Brent Johnson.

Kaitlin Boyle, Sociology, published “The Effects of Feminist Mobilization and Women’s Status on Universities’ Reporting of Rape,” *Journal of School Violence* 16.3 (2017): 317–30, with Ashley Barr and Jody Clay Warner.

Science and Technology Studies doctoral student **Joshua Brinkman** and History faculty member **Richard Hirsh** published “[Welcoming Wind Turbines and the PIMBY \(‘Please in My Backyard’\) Phenomenon: The Culture of the Machine in the Rural American Midwest](#),” *Technology and Culture* 58.2 (2017): 335–67.

The College is delighted to welcome the following tenure-track and tenured professors. Joining us as Assistant Professors are: **Aaron Brantly**, Political Science; **Cara Daggett**, Political Science; **Matthew Fullen**, School of Education; **Edward Gitre**, History; **Katherine Haenschen**, Communication; **Benjamin Katz**, Human Development; **Karin Kitchens**, Political Science; **Ashley Landers**, Human Development; **Evan Lavender-Smith**, English; **Christopher Lindgren**, English; **Gonzalo Montero**, Foreign Languages and Literatures; **Shaily Patel**, Religion and Culture; **Ashley Reichelmann**, Sociology; **Patrick Ridge**, Foreign Languages and Literatures; **Micah Roos**, Sociology; **Donna Sedgwick**, Sociology; **Eonyou Shin**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Lee Vinsel**, Science and Technology in Society; and **Chelsea Woods**, Communication. Hired as tenured faculty at the rank of Associate Professor are: **Shannon Bell**, Sociology; **Su Fang Ng**, Cutchins Chair in the Department of English, and **Bonnie Zare**, Sociology; and at the rank of Professor are: **Kenneth Hodges**, English; **Sylvester Johnson**, Religion and Culture and Director of the Center for the Humanities and Assistant Vice Provost; **Carmen Giménez Smith**, English; and **Paul Steger**, Director of the School of Performing Arts.

The College is pleased to announce the following tenure and promotion decisions by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors at its June 6 meeting. Promoted to Associate Professor with tenure were: **Catalina Andrango-Walker**, Foreign Languages and Literatures; **Aaron Ansell**, Religion and Culture; **Alexander Dickow**, Foreign Languages and Literatures; **Priya Dixit**, Political Science; **Zhange (Nicole) Ni**, Religion and Culture; **Sarah Ovink**, Sociology; and **Natasha Staley**, School of Performing Arts. Promoted to Advanced Instructor was **Alexa Gardner**, Human Development. Promoted to Senior Instructor was **Ellington Graves**, Sociology.

Elizabeth Lantz Crone, School of Performing Arts, performed in a recital, adjudicated the Collegiate Soloist Competition, and taught daily lessons and masterclasses as an invited guest artist and clinician at the Festival y Concurso Internacional de Flauta Traversa, which took place July 9–15 in Sopó, Colombia.

Brianna Crowder, Administrative Assistant in the Department of History, was the recipient of the 2017 Region 2 Excellence in Advising – New Advisor Certificate of Merit from NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising.

François Debrix, Professor of Political Science and Director of ASPECT, published “Horror Beyond Death: Geopolitics and the Pulverisation of the Human,” *New Formations* 89–90 (2017): 85–100.

Peter Doolittle has been named [Director of the School of Education](#). He joined the School of Education in 1997 and attained the rank of Professor in 2012. At Virginia Tech he also has served in administrative capacities, including Executive Director of the Center for Instructional Development and Educational Research and as Assistant Provost for Teaching and Learning. Doolittle's research focus is on learning efficacy in multimedia environments, with specific emphasis on the role of working memory, and he is the founding editor of the *International Journal of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education*. He earned bachelor's degrees in Psychology and Education from Southern Methodist University, a master's degree in Education from Baylor University, and a doctoral degree in Educational Psychology from the Catholic University of America.

Gary Downey, Science and Technology in Society, was reappointed to his [second 10-year term as an Alumni Distinguished Professor](#). Downey's expertise in the field of engineering studies has resulted in numerous grants, including 17 from the National Science Foundation, and his teaching has been recognized with multiple awards, including the William E. Wine Award and the XCaliber Award.

The Virginia Tech Student Virginia Education Association (SVEA) chapter was awarded the association's 2017 "Excellence" Chapter Standards Award. The award program officially recognizes and rewards student leaders who have developed and maintained an effective program; it is based on a broad scope of activities, including campus participation, membership, student leadership development, community services, fundraising, and special projects. The SVEA advisor is **Dawn Knight-Withers**, Pre-Education Advising Program Coordinator in the School of Education.

Charlene Eska, English, published "An Early Irish Legal Commentary on Wakes and Funerals from *Anfuigell* 'Wrong Judgment,'" *North American Journal of Celtic Studies* 1 (2017): 27–44.

Four undergraduate majors in the College worked with **Tom Ewing**, History and Associate Dean, this summer on a project on the Russian influenza epidemic, 1889-1890; they were: **Ian Hargreaves**, German and International Studies; **Jessica King**, Communication and International Studies; **Andrew Pregnall**, History and Microbiology; and **Tyler Talnagi**, German and International Studies. The project is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities Office of Digital Humanities through a bilateral digital humanities grant. On June 16 the students presented their research-in-progress at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., to scholars associated with the [History of Knowledge project](#). On July 12 they presented "'La Grippe' is But a Newspaper Term: A Roundtable on the Study of Epidemic Disease through Historical Medical Journals and Newspapers: Similarities, Differences, and Lessons Learned" at the National Library of Medicine on the campus of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland; the event was organized by the History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine.

Patti Fisher, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published "[Mobile Financial Technology and Consumers' Financial Capability in the United States](#)," *Journal of Education and Social Policy* 4 (2017): 80–93, with Jeong Hee Yeo.

ASPECT doctoral student **Rob Flahive** received a grant through the Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest to attend the Architectural History Field School at Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest on May 14–28. The 11 Field School participants collaborated with interdisciplinary teams composed of urban planners, architects, interior designers, architectural historians, and preservationists for an exploration of the techniques, history, and wider questions of historic preservation and restoration. The session culminated in a building investigation, analysis, and report on a historic structure located in Virginia.

Matthew Gabriele, Religion and Culture, was featured in an [interview about exploring gender through *Games of Thrones*](#) that was broadcast on WVTF, the local National Public Radio affiliate, on July 28. Gabriele is teaching a course on the television series this semester.

Bernice Hausman, Professor and Chair of the Department of English, published "Immunity, Modernity, and the Biopolitics of Vaccination Resistance," *Configurations* 25.3 (Summer 2017): 279–300.

David Hicks, School of Education, co-edited [Teaching Difficult History through Film](#) (New York: Routledge, 2017), with Jeremy Stoddard and Alan Marcus. Hicks's own contributions to the book are: "Using Film to Teach Difficult Histories," pp. 3–16, with Stoddard and Marcus, and "Difficult History Means Difficult Questions: Using Film to Reveal the Perspective of 'The Other' in Difficult History Topics," pp. 17–36, with Ben Walsh and Stephanie van Hover. The volume also includes chapters by two other faculty in the College: **Brian Britt**, Professor and Chair of the Department of Religion and Culture, "From Seeing to Learn to Learning to See: Films on the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict," pp. 57–69, and **Robert Stephens**, History, "The Torturers Among Us: History, the Film Industry, and its Claims to Truth," pp. 70–86.

During its June meeting the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors conferred the emerita title on **Joan Hirt**, Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Hirt joined the Virginia Tech community in 1994 and served as Interim Director of the School of Education and as Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. She published widely on student affairs and higher education administration, held leadership positions in professional organizations, received a variety of national awards, and was co-editor of the *International Journal of Applied Education Studies*. She also served as chair and a member of the Free Clinic of the New River Valley Board of Directors. Hirt earned a bachelor's degree from Bucknell University, a master's degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a doctorate from the University of Arizona.

Erin Hopkins, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published "John Dewey and Progressive Education," *Journal of Educational Thought* 50.1 (2017): 59–68.

The following Human Development graduate students and faculty presented posters at the 21st International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics: doctoral student **Sujee Kim**, who graduated in May, and faculty member and Interim Dean **Rosemary Blieszner**, "Neighborhood Social Cohesion, Valued Activities, and

Quality of Life among Elders with and without Cognitive Impairment”; and doctoral student **Aaron Ogletree** and faculty members **Rosemary Blieszner** and **Laura Sands**, “The Interplay of Life Events, Religious Expression, and Social Support with Depression.” The congress was held July 23–27 in San Francisco, California.

Brenda Husser, office manager and chief academic advisor in the Department of Sociology, was the recipient of the first annual [Staff Employee of the Year Award in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences](#). Husser was recognized for her commitment to students, her diligence, and her understanding of the curriculum. She was honored at the College’s Staff Association awards reception, which was held June 12.

The composition *In the waiting room of America*, for baritone voice, trumpet, trombone, and bass clarinet, with music by **Charles Nichols**, School of Performing Arts, and lyrics by **Erika Meitner**, English, was performed by the ensemble loadbang on June 27 at the Charlotte New Music Festival at the University of North Carolina Charlotte, where Nichols served as a guest composer. Nichols’s composition *Pendulum*, for clarinet and computer, was performed by clarinetist Jessica Lindsey at the same venue.

Sylvester Johnson, Religion and Culture, has been named [founding Director of the Center for the Humanities](#) and Assistant Vice Provost for the Humanities at Virginia Tech. As Director, he will oversee programs that support individual faculty fellowships, departmental grants, and events in the humanities; he also will lead the College’s participation in several new digital publishing and digital humanities initiatives. Johnson previously served as Associate Professor of African American Studies and Religious Studies at Northwestern University. He earned his bachelor’s degree in Chemistry and Education at Florida A&M University and an M.Phil in Systematic Theology as well as an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Contemporary Religious Thought from Union Theological Seminary.

Melanie Kiechle, History, published [Smell Detectives: An Olfactory History of Nineteenth-Century Urban America](#) (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2017). Podcasts posted by [Science](#) on July 26 and by [The American Scholar](#) on July 28 feature interviews with Kiechle about her book. In addition, she published “Preserving the Unpleasant: Sources, Methods, and Conjectures for Odors at Historic Sites,” *Future Anterior* 13.2 (Winter 2016): 22–31.

The paper “Global Retailers and Localization: `Thinking Locally and Acting Globally’” by **Jung Eun Lee**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, Pielah Kim, and Leslie Stoel received the award as best paper submitted at the 19th Conference of the European Association for Education and Research in Commercial Distribution. The conference was held July 4–6 in Dublin, Ireland.

The interactive digital archive “[Mapping the Fourth of July: Exploring Independence Day in the Civil War Era](#)” was on display in Newman Library during the month of July. The project, directed by **Paul Quigley**, History and Director of the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, and developed with **David Hicks**, School of Education, and Kurt Luther includes some 4,000

documents; more than 3,000 visitors to the archive have created accounts and participated in the project by transcribing and tagging primary documents.

Carol Mullen, School of Education, received the [2017 Living Legend Award](#) from the National Council of Professors of Education Administration, the country's premier national organization for educational leaders. The award recognizes significant contributions to the field, including exemplary ethics, professionalism in service, and dedication to research and teaching. Mullen has authored or edited 21 scholarly books and 225 refereed journal articles and book chapters. In 2016 she also was recognized with the Jay D. Scribner Mentoring Award from the University Council for Education Administration and earlier this year she received the 2017 Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award for Service from the Learning and Teaching in Educational Leadership Special Interest Group of the American Educational Research Association.

Su Fang Ng has been named the [Clifford A. Cutchins III Professor of English](#) by the Board of Visitors. The five-year professorship recognizes excellence in teaching and scholarship. Ng previously served as Associate Professor of English at the University of Oklahoma, where she was also affiliated with the Women's and Gender Studies program and the Asian Studies program. Her research expertise is in the early modern period, especially 17th-century literature, and she has been the recipient of numerous research fellowships. Ng earned a bachelor's degree from Whitman College, a master's degree from Emory University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.

Charles Nichols, School of Performing Arts, performed his compositions *Anselmo*, for electric violin, interactive computer music, electronics, and processed video, and *What Bends*, for electric violin, interactive computer music, and processed video, with fixed media by Jay Bruns and Zach Duer, in May at Moogfest, which was held May 18–21 in Durham, North Carolina.

Anthony Peguero, Sociology, published "Immigrant Generations and Delinquency: Assessing the Relative Effects of Family, School, and Delinquent Peers," *Race and Justice* 7.3 (2017): 199–225, with Xin Jiang.

School of Performing Arts graduate student **Tanner Uptegrove** and faculty members **Eric Lyon** and **Charles Nichols**, along with Michael Roan, presented a workshop and panel at Moogfest, which took place May 18–21 in Durham, North Carolina.

The Program in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) will [expand its scope as a result of more than \\$1 million in funding](#) over the next three years. The funding will support two postdoctoral fellows, two graduate teaching assistants, a speaker series, and an annual distinguished public lecture. The [program](#), directed by **Michael Moehler**, Philosophy, involves 12 departments in seven colleges across campus; its goal is to integrate research, teaching, and outreach so that faculty and students can work together to pursue solutions to complex problems.

Micah Roos, Sociology, published “Contested Knowledge and Spillover,” *Social Currents* 4.4 (2017): 360–79.

ASPECT doctoral student **Mary Ryan** received \$1,500 in funding from the Center for Peace Studies and Violence Prevention’s Graduate Research on Violence Program for research on her dissertation, which is tentatively titled “The Democratic Kaleidoscope in the U.S.: Vanquishing Structural Racism in the U.S. Federal Government.” In addition, Ryan presented “Theater as a Civic Space” at the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, which was held May 16–20 at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign.

Richard Shryock, Foreign Languages and Literatures, co-organized the workshop titled “Cultural Production in Nineteenth-Century France: Rencontres/Encounters” at Université Paris-Diderot with Gayle Zachmann and Sophie Lucet. The event, which took place June 19–20 and brought together specialists in 19th-century French studies from the United States and France, was funded by the Florence Gould Foundation and Paris 7 University.

Sociology graduate student **Lindsay Kahle** and faculty member **Anthony Peguero** published “Does Breaking Gender Stereotypes Contribute to Victimization at School?” in *Criminal Justice Studies* 30.3 (2017): 257–75, with alumna Laura Agnich, Jennifer Murphy, Olivia Foroughi, and Jennifer Nester.

Paul Steger has been named [Director of the School of Performing Arts](#). An actor, theatre director, fight choreographer, and arts administrator, he most recently held a faculty appointment at the Johnny Carson School of Theatre and Film at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, following an 11-year stint as the school’s inaugural Director. He has performed, directed, and consulted in various national and international venues; recent projects have focused on his expertise as a certified combat instructor. Steger earned a Master of Fine Arts in directing from Western Illinois University and a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre (Acting and Directing) from Saint Louis University.

ASPECT doctoral student **Shelby Ward** received the 2017 ASPECT Dissertation Research Fellowship in support of her research project “Stranger Maps: Poetic Mapping as Potential Playfulness in Sri Lankan Tourist Maps.” The ASPECT Dissertation Research Fellowship supports doctoral research activities of the awardee.

Alan Weinstein, School of Performing Arts, was an Artist/Teacher at the InterHarmony International Music Festival in Acqui Terme, Italy, in July, where he presented master classes, taught cello, and performed solo and chamber music repertoire.

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