



# News2 Note

November 2012

Three ASPECT students gave presentations at the 34th Association of Integrative Studies (AIS) conference at Oakland University in Oakland, Michigan. **Jordan Hill** presented “Ritual, Site, Memory: The Obscured Relationship Between Memory Studies and Ritual Studies”; **Elizabeth Jamison** gave a presentation titled “Strengthening Objectivity: Accessing ‘Cultural Knowledge’ in Feminist Epistemology”; and **Holly Jordan** spoke on “Foucault’s Interdisciplinarity: Foucaultian Archaeology as a Methodology for Interdisciplinary Studies.” The conference was held on October 11-14.

**Amy Azano**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning, published “The CLEAR curriculum model,” in *Fundamentals of Gifted Education: Considering Multiple Perspectives*, ed. Carolyn M. Callahan and Holly L. Hertberg-Davis (New York: Routledge, 2012), pp. 301-14.

ASPECT student **Seth Bartee** had his solicited article titled [“Intercollegiate Studies Institute”](#) posted on the blog of the Society for U.S. Intellectual History (USIH) on October 9.

**Rosemary Blieszner**, Alumni Distinguished Professor of Human Development, published two books: the second edition of her edited volume *Handbook of Families and Aging* (Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger, 2012), with Victoria H. Bedford; and *Spiritual Resiliency and Aging: Hope, Relationality, and the Creative Self*, Society and Aging Series (Amityville, NY: Baywood Publishing, 2012), with Janet L. Ramsey.

Pianist **Tracy Cowden**, Music, presented a guest artist recital at the University of North Carolina Greensboro with Abigail Pack, horn professor at UNC-Greensboro, and Carmen Eby, principal clarinet in the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra, on October 18. She also gave two guest artist concerts with soprano **Ariana Wyatt**, Music, and cellist Benjamin Wyatt at West Virginia University on October 20 and Bowling Green State University on October 21; these included the song cycle *Spirits of the Dead*, commissioned by Cowden with funds from a Jerome Niles Faculty Research Award.

**Travis J. Cross**, Music, guest conducted the Winds of Blue Ridge in Roanoke, Virginia, on October 14. The community-based ensemble is comprised of professional musicians, music educators, and other interested wind and percussion players from the Blacksburg, Roanoke, and Lynchburg areas. The program included the Virginia premiere of Cross's *Let the Amen Sound*, commissioned and premiered in

April 2012 by the Northshore Concert Band in Evanston, Illinois, and published this fall by Boosey & Hawkes.

Congratulations to **Gary Downey**, Alumni Distinguished Professor of Science and Technology in Society, was elected [20<sup>th</sup> president of the Society for Social Studies of Science \(4S\)](#). International in scope and with a membership of approximately 1,500, the society brings together individuals interested in understanding science, technology, and medicine, including the way they develop and interact with their social contexts. Downey has been a member of 4S for 29 years; he will serve in 2012-2013 as President-Elect, then begin his two-year term as President. Downey is recognized internationally as the founder of the interdisciplinary field called Engineering Studies and has served as an advocate for the study of engineering in society.

School of Education/Teaching and Learning faculty member **Katie Dredger** along with doctoral students **Paige Horst** and **Jenny Martin** presented "Using Wikis, Poetry, Choice and Collaboration to Foster a Writing Community through Differentiated Instruction" at the Virginia Association of Teachers of English (VATE) conference in Richmond on October 26.

**Skip Fuhrman**, Head of the Department of Society and Technology in Society, won Virginia Tech's [Work-Life Supervisor Spotlight Award](#). The award showcases supervisors who support their faculty and staff through family-friendly and flexible policies and positive workplace environments. Fuhrman was recognized at a ceremony in October.

**Bernice L. Hausman**, English, edited *Beyond Health, Beyond Choice: Breastfeeding Constraints and Realities* with Paige Hall Smith and Miriam Labbok (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2012). The multidisciplinary collection of essays examines the role of feminist theory in the promotion of breastfeeding by public health authorities.

**Doris H. Kincade**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published "The relationship between temperature and sales: Sales data analysis of a retailer of branded women's business wear," *International Journal of Retail and Distribution Management* 40.6 (2012): 410–26, with alumna **Youngjin Bahng**.

ASPECT student **Lyusyena Kirakosyan** published "Disability policies and politics: A new perspective for Brazilian disability citizenship?" in *Critical Disability Discourse* 4 (2012). The online peer-reviewed journal is published by York University, Canada.

**Andrea Ledesma**, a junior majoring in History, was selected as the CLAHS Undergraduate Research Scholar of the Month for September. Ledesma's research focuses on the Federal Writers' Project and Women's History in the 1930's. She describes her work in a [video on the URI website](#); the site provides information about the URI Scholars Program as well as the nomination process for UR Scholar of the Month.

**Elizabeth Mazzolini**, English, published the edited volume *Histories of the Dustheap* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2012), with Stephanie Foote.

Recent Virginia Tech publications featured faculty and programs in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. The 2012-2013 issue of Virginia Tech's *Outreach Now* annual magazine includes a piece by College Communications Manager **Jean Elliott** on the [Global Health Fellows program for individuals from Zambia and Malawi](#), organized and run by **Patricia Kelly**, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies, and Kerry Redican, College of Veterinary Medicine. [The study in Sri Lanka of displacement narratives](#) by **Katy Powell**, English and Director, Women's and Gender Studies, is part of this same issue. The article ["17 Hokies. 300 kilometers. 15 days"](#) in the Summer 2012 *Global University* newsletter, 6-7, by Elliott, portrays the experiences of participants in the faculty-led study abroad program along the Camino de Santiago, run by **Annie Hesp**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish, during May and June; Elliott herself was a participant in the trek. [The teaching of creative dance](#) by **Billie Lepczyk**, Theatre and Cinema, was highlighted in an article by Elliott in *vt mag*, 16-17 and 45.

**Anthony Peguero**, Sociology, published "The Children of Immigrants' Diminishing Perceptions of Just and Fair Punishment," *Punishment & Society* 14.4 (2012): 429-51.

The following students were recipients of support from the CLAHS Undergraduate Research Institute (URI) in its Fall 2012 round of awards. Political Science major **Ausan Al-Eryani** received support for a presentation at the International Conference on Food Studies. His faculty adviser is **Courtney Thomas**, History. **Michael Perry**, a Theatre and Cinema major, garnered support for the production of a short film titled "The End"; his faculty advisor is **David Mallin**, Theatre and Cinema. In addition, the URI provided funding to the following departments in support of a Department Research Day: Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management (**Ji-Hyun Kim**), English (**Joe Eska**), History (**Mark Barrow**), Political Science (**Craig Brians**), and Religion and Culture (**Peter Schmitthenner**).

"Sheer Good Fortune: Celebrating Toni Morrison" took place on October 16 in Burruss Hall. Hosted by Maya Angelou, Joanne Gabbin, and Virginia Tech University Distinguished Professor of English **Nikki Giovanni**, the event was sponsored and presented by the VT Center for the Arts, the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, the Office of the President, University Development, Women in Leadership and Philanthropy, and Furious Flowers Poetry Center. It provided the opportunity to honor Morrison, an American novelist, editor, and professor. More about Giovanni's involvement in this celebration as well as other initiatives she has spearheaded were the subject of a recent [Virginia Tech Spotlight on Achievement](#).

**Alan Weinstein**, Music, performed three concerts of chamber music with the Kandinsky Trio: on the Kandinsky Trio Series at Roanoke College on September 15; on September 16 as part of the University Chamber Music Series at Virginia Tech; and "Music for Autumn Evenings" on October 6 at the Jacksonville Center for the Arts in Floyd, Virginia. The program included trios by Beethoven and Brahms, "Booya Brahms" by **Kent Holliday**, Music, and pieces by two department alumni: "Devolution" by **Tim Mauthe** and "Shalai Valai" by **Vladimir Smirnov**. Mauthe currently is a Visiting Professor of Music at The College of William and Mary, and Smirnov is in the Ph.D. program in music at Duke University.

**Ashley Williams**, a senior majoring in History and Classical Studies, was recognized as the CLAHS Ambassador of the Month for September. Williams is in her second year as a CLAHS Ambassador; currently she is volunteering with the Undergraduate Research Institute.

**Matthew H. Wisnioski**, Science and Technology in Society, published [\*Engineers for Change: Competing Visions of Technology in 1960s America\*](#) (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2012). The book is the inaugural volume in a new Engineering Studies series with the press. Wisnioski also serves as a Co-PI on “Assessment of Product Archaeology as a Platform for Contextualizing Engineering Design,” a National Science Foundation TUES Type 2 Award received this summer. The proposal involves five institutions; the Virginia Tech team consists of PI Christopher Williams and Co-PIs Lisa McNair and Marie Paretti, all from the College of Engineering, along with Wisnioski. Funding for the 2012-2014 project is \$64,933.

### *Alumni Highlights*

This month’s highlight features Political Science graduates.

**David Ardit**, who earned his M.A. in Political Science in 2007, published *Criminalizing Independent Music: The Recording Industry Association of America’s Advancement of Dominant Ideology* (Saarbrücken: AV AkademikerVerlag, 2012). Ardit currently is Assistant Professor in Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Texas, Arlington.

**Susan T. Gooden**, who earned her M.A. in Political Science in 1992, published the edited volume *Cultural Competency for Public Administrators* (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 2012) with Kristen A. Norman-Major. Gooden is a professor and director of graduate programs in the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs and executive director of the Grace E. Harris Leadership Institute at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Please submit items for inclusion in upcoming **News2Note** newsletters to Associate Dean Debra Stoudt at [dstoudt@vt.edu](mailto:dstoudt@vt.edu).