



News2 Note

December 2014

Biko Agozino, Sociology, published "Indigenous European Justice and Other Indigenous Justices," in special issue on Indigenous Perspectives and Counter-Colonial Criminology, *African Journal of Criminology and Justice Studies* 8.1 (2014): 1-19. This [special issue](#) was inspired by Agozino's monograph *Counter-Colonial Criminology: A Critique of Imperialist Reason* (London: Pluto Press, 2003) and serves to acknowledge his contribution to the development of a critical Counter-Colonial Criminology.

Elisabeth Austin, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish, published "Reading Transgression in Ricardo Palma's *Tradiciones en salsa verde*," *Revista Hispánica Moderna* 67.2 (2014): 127-42.

Michael Bliss, English, published *Invasions USA: The Essential Science Fiction Films of the 1950s* (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2014).

ASPECT Director **François Debrix** gave a keynote presentation and served as a faculty mentor at the "Methods Workshop" of the 2014 annual International Studies Association-North East Region, which was held November 8 in Baltimore. The title of his presentation was "How Do You Do the Kind of Research You Do in International Relations Scholarship?"

Alexander Dickow, Foreign Languages and Literatures/French, published "La modernité de *Black-Label*, entre soupçon et résistance" [The Modernity of *Black-Label*, between suspicion and resistance], in *Léon-Gontran Damas: poète, écrivain patrimonial et postcolonial*, ed. Monique Blérald, Marc Lony, and Kathleen Gyssels (Matoury: Ibis Rouge Editions, 2014), pp. 219-31; and "Une rencontre manquée: Apollinaire et Fargue" [A missed encounter: Apollinaire and Fargue], *Ludions* 14 (2014): 64-67.

The [final broadcast](#) of **Paul A. "Tony" Distler**, Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Director of the School of the Arts Emeritus, as "The Voice" took place at the Marching Virginians' halftime show on November 28. Distler has performed in this role since 1974, and although he retired in 2004, he has remained active in numerous capacities, continuing to provide voiceovers and offering advice to the marching band. An ardent advocate for the arts at Virginia Tech as well as the College

of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Distler is a recipient of the university's W.E. Wine Award for Teaching Excellence.

The film *Finding Traction*, co-produced and co-directed by **Charles Dye**, School of Performing Arts/Cinema, had its world premiere at the Banff Mountain Film Festival, held November 1-9 in Alberta, Canada. The film was a finalist in the 2014 Banff Mountain Film Competition.

The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors recently conferred the emeritus title on the following faculty members in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences:

Ann La Berge, Associate Professor of Science and Technology Studies, made significant contributions to the understanding of the French history of medicine, in particular 19th-century French public health; she published a monograph, two co-edited volumes, and many articles and book chapters on the subject. Since 2006 she has worked on a project on obesity in the United States, with a focus on diet, authoring an award-winning article on the ideology of low fat in 2008. La Berge joined the Virginia Tech community in 1981; she earned her bachelor's degree from Middlebury College, two master's degrees from Vanderbilt University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee.

Sam G. Riley III, Professor of Communication, who died on March 19 of this year, made significant contributions to the study and teaching of American journalism and was regarded as a leading authority on Southern newspapers and magazines. Author of 19 books, numerous professional articles and conference papers, and more than 1,000 reference book entries, he also was a founding member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Magazine and New Media Research*. Riley joined the Virginia Tech community in 1981; he earned his bachelor's degree from Davidson College, and an M.B.A. and Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina.

Jon Felt, History, published "Emotional Regime of the *Shishuo xinyu*," *Early Medieval China Journal* 20 (2014): 60-82.

The article "An Exploration of the Range and Frequency of Occurrence of Forms in Potentially Variable Structures in Second-Language Spanish" by **Aarnes Gudmestad**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish, and Kimberly Geeslin was reprinted in *Language variation and change*, ed. Robert Baley and Richard Cameron (New York: Routledge, 2014), pp. 433-63. The article originally appeared in *Studies in Second Language Acquisition* 32.3 (2010): 433-63.

Heather Gumbert, History, and her book titled *Envisioning Socialism: Television & Cold War in the German Democratic Republic* (University of Michigan Press, 2014) were featured as the [November Visible Scholarship Initiative](#), a monthly celebration of research and creative scholarship in the liberal arts and human sciences, sponsored jointly by the College and the University Libraries. Remarks by Gumbert about her research were featured at a reception on November 6.

The Department of History hosted its fourth annual teaching workshop on November 4. More than 40 local secondary school teachers attended the event, which was held at the Hahn Horticultural Garden Pavilion and had as its theme "New Perspectives on World War I." Participating were History faculty members **Mark Barrow**, **Beverly Bunch-Lyons**, **David Cline**, who served as host of the

workshop and chair of the organizing committee, **Tom Ewing, Carmen Gitre, Amy Nelson, Brett Shadle, Peter Wallenstein, Dale Winling**, as well as master's student **Laura Keith**.

ASPECT student **Eli Jamison** facilitated five full-day leadership development sessions on behalf of the VT-Roanoke Center this fall in support of two of its certificate programs: diversity simulation and debrief of "BaFá" on September 26; two sessions of "Adaptive Leadership" on October 3 and 10; and two sessions of "Emotional Intelligence" on October 31 and November 7. All were delivered at the VT-Roanoke Center.

Bettina Koch, Political Science, published "Liberation Theologies, Periphery Existence, and Global Challenges: Towards a Transcultural Ideology of Liberation," *Athens Journal of Social Sciences* 1.3 (2014): 173-84.

Timothy Luke, University Distinguished. Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science, presented the invited opening keynote at the conference "Leaders in Conservation: Botanical Gardens and Biodiversity in the 21st Century," which was held at Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec, on October 23-25. The title of his presentations was "Stunted Growths: Collaborative Conservation, Sponsored Survival, and the Neoliberal Pretenses of Preservation in Botanical Gardens."

Congratulations to the following CLAHS faculty and staff who were selected to be part of the 2014-2015 Management Academy cohort: **Ivica Ico Bukvic**, School of Performing Arts/Music; **Karen Gallagher**, Director of the Child Development Center for Learning and Research; **Angela Mills**, Director of Alumni Relations; and **Kelly Parkes**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning. The [Management Academy](#) is a cohort-based learning experience designed to assist with the development of skills necessary to effectively lead, manage, and support their respective teams, processes, and projects.

Angela Mills, the College's Director of Alumni Relations, was awarded a \$1,500 Professional Development Scholarship from the National Educational Alumni Trust (NEAT), a not-for-profit organization that provides insurance and financial services to constituents of its 140 member associations. Mills was one of 16 2014-2015 award winners.

ASPECT student **Kent Morris** presented "Politics of Order: Crisis in International Relations" at the International Studies Association – Northeast Annual Conference, which was held November 7-8 in Baltimore.

Charles Nichols, School of Performing Arts/Music, premiered his composition *Il Prete Rosso*, written for amplified violin, motion sensor, and interactive computer effects, with violinist Sarah Plum, at the Third Practice Festival, held on November 8 at the University of Richmond, and at the Present~Continuous New Music Ensemble concert on November 11 at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

Corinne Noirot, Foreign Languages and Literatures/French, was recognized as the Virginia Tech [November 11 Scholar of the Week](#) by the Office of the Vice President for Research. An expert in the French Literature across the centuries, much of her research has focused on Renaissance Studies. She is currently working on a book that examines the connection between poetry and politics, ethical and political action in the works of Jean de la Taille, a late 16th-century French soldier-poet and humanist aristocrat. More broadly, the project investigates the negotiation of historical turmoil and its impact on thought and language. Noirot already has received library fellowships from the Folger Shakespeare Library and the Harvard Houghton library to pursue her work.

Joseph Pitt, Professor of Philosophy and Interim Head, was one of three Virginia Tech faculty members named as a 2014 Fellow of the [American Association for the Advancement of Science](#), the world's largest scientific society. He was recognized for contributions to the history and philosophy of science, particularly for his work on pragmatism, Galileo, and the impact of technology on scientific change. Pitt is the founding editor of the journal *Perspectives on Science: Historical, Philosophical, Social* and the former editor-in-chief of *Techné: Research in Philosophy and Technology*. Pitt and the other new Fellows will receive an official certificate and a rosette pin on February 14, 2015, at the American Association for the Advancement of Science annual meeting in San Jose, California. Elected this year were 401 scholars; Virginia Tech's total of three new Fellows leads all Virginia universities.

Katrina Powell, English and Director of Women's and Gender Studies, was one of 17 Virginia Tech employees selected for the 2014-2015 Executive Development Institute. [The Executive Development institute](#), is a cohort-based program designed for experienced faculty and staff leaders who are preparing to expand their careers or their effectiveness in their current roles. In addition, she published the following: "How Can I Prove that I am Not Who I am?": Layered Identities and Genres in the Work of Shirley Geok-Lin Lim," *Asiatic: IIUM Journal of English Language and Literature* 8.1 (2014): 25-39; "Converging Crises: Rhetorical Constructions of Eugenics and the Public Child," *JAC: Journal of Rhetoric, Culture & Politics* 33.3 (2014): 455-85; and "Representing Human Rights Violations in Multi-Media Contexts," in *"We Shall Bear Witness": Critical Conversations in Life Writing, Testimony and Human Rights*, ed. Meg Jensen and Margaretta Jolly (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2014), pp. 196-213.

Besnik Pula, Political Science, published "Effects of the European Financial and Economic Crisis in Kosovo and the Balkans: Modes of Integration and Transmission Belts of Crisis in the 'Super-periphery,'" *East European Politics* 30.4 (2014): 507-25.

Scott Sanders, English, published his story "Shooting Creek" in *Thuglit* 14 (2014): 111-27.

Jennifer Sano-Franchini, English, published "Toward a Reflexive Approach to Remix, or, What Hawai'i Creole English and Corporate Tourism Can Teach Us about Copyright" in *Cultures of Copyright: Contemporary Intellectual Property*, ed. Dànielle Nicole DeVoss and Martine Courant Rife (New York: Peter Lang International Academic Publishers, 2014), pp. 226-42, with Robyn Tasaka and Lehua Ledbetter.

Andy Scerri, Political Science, was recognized as the November 10 Teacher of the Week by the Center for Instructional Development and Education Research (CIDER). He was honored for his commitment to fostering student learning through dynamic practices, such as formal panel debates, off-campus excursions and study tours, directed reading modules, VIP guest lectures, online forums, and interactions between students and practitioners such as policymakers and civil society actors. Scerri's research and teaching center on environmental political and social theory and urban sustainable development policies.

Four School of Performing Arts faculty members performed in the Imagining the Universe concert live streamed on November 21 from the Cube at Virginia Tech along with the University of Mexico, the University of California, Santa Barbara and Stanford University. "Fire of Spirit," composed by **Lee Heuermann**, Music, was performed by **Richard Masters**, Music, **Patricia Raun**, Theatre and Director of the School of Performing Arts, and **Alan Weinstein**, Music.

Yannis Stivachtis, Political Science and Director of International Studies, was named National Security Scholar by the U.S. Air Force and was an invited participant in the 6th Annual National Security Scholars Conference at Georgetown University on October 28. There are approximately 30 National Security Scholars in the country.

Four CLAHS faculty, students, and alumni were among the ten speakers at the third annual [TEDxVirginia Tech](#), held on November 20 in the Moss Arts Center. Faculty presenters were: [Wornie Reed](#), Sociology and Director of the Race and Social Policy Center, "A Framework for Civil Discourse about Race and Racism," and Joycelyn Wilson, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies, "Outkast'd and Claimin' True: Autoethnographing Hip Hop Scholarship." Student speakers included [Art Conroy](#), a Human Development doctoral student in the Adult Learning and Human Resources Development program in Northern Virginia, "Draw Aloud: The Power and Peril of Illuminative Thinking." Mohsin Kazmi, a 2012 Human Development alumnus, was the alumni speaker; his talk was titled "Photographers are Architects of Change."

Tenor **Brian Thorsett**, School of Performing Arts/Music, was the soloist with Cape Cod Symphony for "Opera's Greatest Moments" on November 9 and with the San Francisco Choral Society in the world premiere of Stacy Garrop's "Terra Nostra" on November 15-16. In addition, he recorded his first full-length solo album, "Give me one hour," which features parlor songs from 1910 to 1945; he was joined in the production by musicians from the San Francisco Opera and Ballet orchestras.

Gresilda "Kris" Tilley-Lubbs, School of Education/Teaching and Learning, published "La autoetnografía crítica y el Self vulnerable como investigadora" [Critical Autoethnography and the Vulnerable Self as Researcher], *REMIE: Multidisciplinary Journal of Educational Research*, 4.3 (2014): 268-85; and "Troublesome Knowledge, Troubling Experience: An Inquiry into Faculty Learning in Service-Learning," *Michigan Journal of Community Service-Learning* 21.2 (Spring 2014): 5-18, with Barbara Harrison and Patti Clayton.

Peter Wallenstein, History, published *Race, Sex, and the Freedom to Marry: Loving v. Virginia* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2014).

Alan Weinstein, School of Performing Arts/Music, performed with the Kandinsky Trio at the Virginia Military Institute on November 5. They repeated the program - piano trios by Haydn, Henry Cowell, and Ernst Chausson - at Bridgewater College on November 6.

John Wells, School of Education/Teaching and Learning, was the invited keynote speaker at the 2014 International Conference, "Issues and Prospects for Sustainable Integrative Education in the 21st Century," of Korea's Elementary Education Research Institute, which was held at the Seoul National University of Education September 26. The keynote was titled "Integrative STEM Education: U.S. Educational Reform, Pedagogical Commons, Design Based Biotechnology Literacy Exemplar" and was published in the conference proceedings.

The Master of Arts degree in Women's and Gender Studies was approved by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors at its November meeting. The program will provide students with critical thinking, research, and analytical skills that will prepare them for careers in which strategizing for gender equality, assessing gender stratification, and advocating for women and minorities are a concern. Pending SCHEV approval, the new degree program will begin in the fall of 2015.

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