



# News2 Note

October 2012

**Biko Agozino**, Sociology, published “Free Space and Inner Space: On a Place for Restructuring Self and Other,” *The Journal of Pan African Studies* 5.6 (September 2012): 56-74, with April Bernard.

The Appalachian Studies Program in the Department of Religion and Culture was the recent recipient of a research award. Principal Investigator **Mary Hufford**, currently a research scientist in Religion and Culture/Appalachian Studies and also on the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania, was awarded a three-year grant from ARIES, the Appalachian Research Initiative for Environmental Science, a research initiative within the Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research at Virginia Tech. The proposal is to assess the social and cultural impacts of mountaintop mining and valley fill. Working with PI Hufford are Co-PIs **Anita Puckett**, Religion and Culture/Appalachian Studies, and **Betsy Taylor**, also a research scientist in Religion and Culture/Appalachian Studies and former director of the Appalachian Studies Center at the University of Kentucky. The first-year project of the grant, titled “Foundations for Public Ecology in the Appalachian Region,” examines existing materials and scholarship to identify key theoretical frameworks, evaluative methods, and concepts operating across disciplines that will lead to new models to promote community sustainability within a public ecology theoretical framework. The amount of the grant for the first year is \$75,000.

**Joyce Arditti**, Human Development, has been awarded the status of Fellow by the National Council on Family Relations. She was recognized for her outstanding and enduring contributions to family science in the areas of scholarship, teaching, outreach, and professional service. Known nationally and internationally for her study of marginalized groups, Arditti most recently published *Parental Incarceration and the Family: Psychological and Social Effects of Imprisonment on Children, Parents, and Caregivers* (New York: NYU Press, 2012). Details about her research can be found [here](#).

On September 7 the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences recognized the achievements of its students at “Celebrating Our Success.” This year’s program, now an annual tradition, opened with remarks by Dean **Sue Ott Rowlands**, donor remarks by alumnus **Jerry Hulick** (B.A. Political Science, 1973), and student remarks by **Tempest West**, a senior in Communication. Associate Dean **Rachel Holloway** recognized the following students, who were the recipients of College scholarships. The Dean’s Roundtable Scholarship went to **Victoria Bunting**, Human Development. The Dean’s Rising

Senior Scholarship was awarded to **Jarrid Dulaney**, Classical Studies and History; the Dean's Rising Junior Scholarship to **Ashleigh Lanza**, Sociology; and the Dean's Rising Sophomore Scholarship to **Kelly Anderson**, Spanish. **D'Elia Chandler**, English, garnered the Hulick Endowed Scholarship for Leadership, Friendship, and Service. A Moody, Pratt, Minor Scholarship was awarded to the following students: **Andrea Dodson**, Human Development; **Victoria Dounoucos**, Political Science; **Sarah Pelham**, Philosophy; **Jason Schnitker**, History; **Jessica Smyth**, Humanities, Science, and Environment; **Hailey Watkins**, English. Mildred Crawford Weidemann Scholarships went to **Sanji Lee**, International Studies, and **Kathryn Shepard**, Political Science. The Jerry Niles Alumni Scholarship was awarded to **Hailey Watkins**, English. Ora Goodwin Roop Scholarships went to **Kelly McEvoy**, Communication, and **Ashleigh Lanza**, Sociology. Hokie Memorial Marathon Scholarships were: **Jarrid Dulaney**, Classical Studies and History; **Sarah Pelham**, Philosophy; and **Katherine Spicknall**, English. A Nelson-Lehmann-Gold Family Scholarship was presented to **Victoria Bunting**, Human Development. **Zoe Belyavsky**, International Studies, was honored with a Megan E. Christenson Memorial Scholarship. **Jarrid Dulaney**, Classical Studies and History, garnered a John Rathbone Scholarship. The following students received a Mary Karen Read Memorial Scholarship: **Lindsey Floyd**, Human Development; **Allison Grondine**, English; and **Ashley Underwood**, Curriculum and Instruction. College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Staff Association Scholarships were presented to: **Rebecca Duke**, Sociology; **Ashleigh Lanza**, Sociology; and **Taylor Lively**, Sociology. Each of the following students was recognized with a Centracchio-DaDamio Family Global Leadership Scholarship: **Joshua Entsminger**, International Studies; **Felicia Kiefer**, Sociology; **Michelle McGuire**, International Studies; **Catherine O'Donnell**, Spanish; **Gina Reistrup**, International Studies; **Emily Tyson**, English; **Shelby Ward**, English; and **Tempest West**, Communication. Recipients of the Margaret Rawlinson Svoboda Scholarship were: **Taylor Lively**, Sociology; and **William Weaver**, History. Garnering a Margaret Groseclose Skelton Scholarship were **Albert Smith**, History, and **Dusty Wix**, English. The following students received a University Honors Scholarship: **Hilary Andreas**, English, **Emily Blair**, English; **Lauren Copan**, English; **Chelsea Gillenwater**, English; **Mason Gottschalk**, Music; **Julia Katz**, Theatre Arts; **Erika Lower**, Humanities, Science, and Environment; **Abbey O'Farrell**, Communication; **Travis Whaley**, Music; and **Jeremiah Witte**, Music. Receiving a Robichaud Family Scholarship were: **Hilary Andreas**, English; **Mary Childress**, History; **Andrea Dodson**, Human Development; **Ashleigh Lanza**, Sociology; **Erika Lower**, Humanities, Science & Environment; **Charlotte Kimmel**, English; **Elizabeth Richardson**, History; **Jessica Smyth**, Geography; **Nadia Tuck**, Human Development; and **Katlin Wohlford**, Human Development. The following students received a 2011-2012 Education Abroad Scholarship: **Jennifer Burns**, Sociology; **D'Elia Chandler**, English; **Jarrid Dulaney**, Classical Studies & History; **James Flanagan**, International Studies; **Chelsea Gillenwater**, English; **Lanxing Fu**, Theatre Arts; **Michelle McGuire**, International Studies; **Lyn Moore**, Human Development; **Daniel Morillo**, International Studies; **Megan Murray**, International Studies; **Catherine O'Donnell**, Spanish; **Brittan Orr**, Communication; **Miriam Piilonen**, Human Development; **Jeremy Rommel**, Humanities, Science and Environment; **Kathryn Shepard**, Political Science; **Katherine Smith**, English; **Joshua Thompson**, English; **Shelby Ward**, English; **Hailey Watkins**, English; and **Tempest West**, Communication.

Pianist **Tracy Cowden**, Music, performed in a guest artist recital at High Point University on September 20 with Brian Kiser, principal tuba in the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra. She also performed in the opening concert of the University Chamber Music series at Virginia Tech on September 2 with guest artist Megan Yanik, viola, as well as fellow Department of Music faculty **Ariana Wyatt**, soprano, and **Elizabeth Crone**, flute.

**Lt Col Jordan Davis**, Air Force ROTC, is the recipient of the 2012 Air Force Association Outstanding Educator of the Year Award. The award, based on classroom teaching excellence, is given by the Air Force Association to the outstanding AFROTC college educator in each of four regions in the U.S. Davis is the 2011-2012 academic year recipient for the Southeast region.

**Francine de Paula**, a first-year ASPECT student, presented “Measuring Success and Failure in Peacebuilding Operations” at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, which was held in San Diego on April 1-4.

**Alexander Dickow**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/French, published a poetry chapbook, *Trial Balloons*, with Corrupt Press (Paris, France: 2012), as well as “Les Contributions à la revue *Montjoie!*: portrait de Cendrars en franc-tireur” [“Contributions to the journal *Montjoie!*: portrait of Cendrars as sharpshooter”], *Feuille de routes: bulletin de l'Association Internationale Blaise Cendrars* 50 (Spring 2012): 57-80.

Associate Dean **Tom Ewing**, History, was one of two featured researchers to speak at the National Digital Newspaper Project Awards Meeting held in Washington, D.C., on 26 September. His presentation was titled “Influenza in the News: Using Newspapers to Understand a Public Health Crisis.” The organizers of the meeting were the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

**Karen Hult**, Political Science, received the Career Service Award from the American Political Science Association (APSA), which has more than 20,000 members nationally. The award would have been presented at the annual meeting of the association, but that meeting was cancelled because of hurricane Isaac. The award is bestowed on one individual every fourth year, in the year of the U.S. presidential election; it recognizes the body of significant research produced by a scholar of the Presidency and Executive Politics who has been active in promoting the field by contributing to the Presidency and Executive Politics section and to APSA.

**Kristina Kalkstein**, a senior majoring in German and International Studies, was selected as a [German Academic Exchange Service \(DAAD\) Young Ambassador for 2012-2013](#); she is one of 40 undergraduates selected nationally for this honor. Young Ambassadors have studied recently in Germany and are interested in promoting study in Germany at their home universities and colleges. Kalkstein is the second Virginia Tech student to be selected in as many years to participate in this program.

**Stephen King**, Music, received the American School Band Directors Association’s (ASBDA) highest award, the Edwin Franko Goldman Award, during the ASBDA 2012 national convention in Asheville, North Carolina, in June. The award is presented to a member or non-member of ASBDA as a symbol of high esteem and respect and as a measure of appreciation and gratitude for outstanding personal contributions to the school band movement. The primary goal of the ASBDA is to promote the concert band as the focus of an educational curriculum, which teaches music as artistic expression. King was elected to ASBDA membership in 1977; he has served as ASBDA national research chair for the past seven years.

The [new M.A. in Material Culture and Public Humanities](#) was approved by the State Council of Higher Education of Virginia. The program begins in Spring 2013. The cross-disciplinary degree is jointly

administered between faculty in the CLAHS departments of Religion and Culture and History along with the Program in Art History in the School of Visual Arts/College of Architecture and Urban Studies. Material culture is the study of material or physical objects, as well as the placement of those objects in critical, theoretical and historical perspectives as the products of distinct cultures. Public humanities bridges the divide between academia and the public by encouraging dialogue between scholars and communities on cultural and social issues. The program's two emphases share common intellectual issues as well as education philosophies and employment goals. The purpose of the program is to produce graduates who are able to interpret material culture (e.g., physical objects; historical artifacts) within informed historical/cultural frameworks and thus are prepared for careers interfacing the public with art, the community with culture, the region with historical practice, and future needs with functional design. For more information, contact **Elizabeth Fine** ([bfine@vt.edu](mailto:bfine@vt.edu)), Department of Religion and Culture.

**Erika Meitner**, Associate Professor in the Department of English, and her book, *Ideal Cities*, were featured in the September [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. A reception on September 12 featured remarks by Meitner.

[Neighbors Growing Together](#), the intergenerational program in the Department of Human Development, is a finalist for the [2012 Eisner Prize](#) for Intergenerational Excellence. The program achieves lasting, positive change in communities by inspiring the beliefs and perspectives of multiple generations. Pre-school children, youth, college students, and older adults have opportunities to build relationships, enhance generational understanding, and develop acceptance of diverse individuals through frequent, regular interactions. Only seven organizations nationally were nominated this year.

**Corinne Noirot**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/French, published "L'envers de la 'douce rapine': Du Bellay et la résistance au ravissement," ("The Flip Side of 'Sweet Abduction': Du Bellay and the Resistance to Rapture"), *La douceur en littérature de l'Antiquité au XVIIème siècle*, ed. Josiane Rieu and Hélène Baby (Paris: Classiques Garnier, 2012), pp. 514-33.

**Patricia Raun**, Director of the School of Performing Arts and Cinema and Head of the Department of Theatre and Cinema, was awarded the Voice and Speech Trainers Association's Service and Leadership Award by the Board of Directors of the Voice and Speech Trainers Association (VASTA) in recognition of Raun's outstanding service to the organization. VASTA is an international organization whose mission is to advance the art, research, and visibility of the voice and speech profession. Raun is one of only eight individuals who have received this honor in the organization's 25-year history. The award was presented at the VASTA conference, which was held in Washington, D.C., on August 5-9.

**Darrell Shomaker**, a first-year ASPECT student, published a review of *When Mom and Dad Need Help: Help Your Family Achieve The Quality of Life You All Deserve* by Michael C. Campbell in *Activities, Adaptation and Aging* 36.1 (2012): 88-88. In addition, he presented "Identifying Ethical norms in Clinical Laboratory Science" at the Virginia Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Spring Education Day 2012 at Carilion Roanoke Community Hospital on April 20.

**Vinodh Venkatesh**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish, published "Perspectives, Problems, and Processes in Contemporary Spanish Adaptations," *Hipertexto* 16 (2012): 41-53.

**Leighton Vila**, a doctoral student in Sociology, was appointed as the Graduate Representative to the University Council by the Board of Visitors and President Charles Steger.

**Damion Waymer**, Communication, published "Each one, reach one: An autobiographic account of a Black PR professor's mentor-mentee relationships with Black graduate students," *Public Relations Inquiry* 1.3 (September 2012): 403-19.

**Laura Zanotti**, Political Science, published *Peacebuilding through Community-Based NGOs: Paradoxes and Possibilities* 2012, (Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press, 2012), with Max Stephenson, Jr. The book was realized with support from the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, the Institute for Society, Culture, and the Environment, the Virginia Tech Institute for Policy and Governance, and the Department of Political Science.

### *Alumni Highlight*

**Tiffany Trent**, who earned her B.A. in English in 1995 and her M.A. in English in 1997 and who was formerly an instructor of English, debuted her new young adult novel, *The Unnaturalists* (Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers), at the Museum of Unnatural History at the 826DC Foundation in Washington, D.C., on August 17. Founded by Dave Eggers, author of *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* and owner of McSweeney's, 826 was established throughout the US and London as a means of stimulating children's creativity and desire to tell stories. Each 826 address has a theme, and the Museum of Unnatural History, which happens to be the setting of Trent's book, is the theme of the [D.C. location](#). In addition, Trent had a reading and book signing on September 21 at the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute conference center.

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