



# News2 Note

*February 2012*

**Biko Agozino**, Sociology and Director of Africana Studies, published “Executions, Imprisonment and Crime in Trinidad and Tobago,” *British Journal of Criminology* 52 (2011): 113–40, with David Greenberg.

**Michael Alexander**, History, was recognized as the January 3 Virginia Tech Teacher of the Week by the Center for Instructional Development and Educational Research (CIDER). Alexander was honored for his highly successful approach to teaching introductory classes and his commitment to using a variety of techniques to engage his students. Winner of the 2011 Sporn Award for Excellence in Teaching Introductory Subjects, Alexander is a student-friendly professor who also is willing to share successful teaching approaches with others, as exemplified by his presentations at CIDER’s Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy.

**Barbara Allen**, Science and Technology in Society, was awarded a three-year NSF grant (\$138,000) for a research project titled “Chemical Communities: Shaping Policy-Relevant Science and Industrial Transformation in an International Comparative Perspective.”

Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management faculty members **Patti Fisher** and **Grace Hsu** published “Differences in household saving between non-Hispanic white and Hispanic households,” *Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences* 34.1 (2012): 137-59.

ASPECT students **Heba El-Shazli** and **Marc Thomas** were selected to participate in the Spring 2012 Diversity Scholars Program; the program was organized by the Office of Recruitment and Diversity Initiatives and the Graduate School at Virginia Tech.

Several individuals in the College were recent recipients of an Assessment Dissemination Grant from the Office of Assessment and Evaluation. Political Science faculty member **Craig Brians** and students **Logan Vidal** and **Victoria Dounoucos** were awarded \$700 each to present “Teaching with Clickers: A Learning Outcome Assessment” at the American Political Science Association *Teaching and Learning Conference*, February 17-19, in Washington, D.C.

ASPECT student **Seth Barte** published "[What Happened to the American Scholar?](#)" in *SPECTRA: The ASPECT Journal* 1.2 (December 2011): 21-27. Barte also published "Interdisciplinarity and the Perils of Historiography," *Public Knowledge Journal* 3.2 (December 2011): 3.2.7a (online); the article is part of a series in response to ASPECT Director Francois Debrix's lead article "Against Interdisciplinarity as a Panacea."

The Center for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Studies has announced members of the inaugural Nomadic Studies cohort traveling to Morocco, Turkey, and Sri Lanka this summer. Participating are: **Zoe Belyavsky**, International Studies and French; **Kathryn Berlin**, Human Development; **Grace Dunbar**, Biological Sciences; **James Flanagan**, International Studies; **Lani Fu**, Theatre Arts and Humanities, Science, and Environment; **Christine Kayanan**, History; **Felicia Kiefer**, Sociology, and Public and Urban Affairs; **Michelle McGuire**, Psychology; **Catherine O'Donnell**, International Studies; **Gina Reistrup**, International Studies; **Virginia Roach**, Engineering; **Noah Rogers**, International Studies; **Jessica Smyth**, Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences; **Mirab SomuahSampong**, International Studies; **Emily Tyson**, English; **Shelby Ward**, English; **Tempest West**, Communication; and **Samantha Zaboli**, International Studies. Sixteen of the students will receive substantial support from the College for their experience abroad; University Honors is providing comparable support for two students. All participants are enrolled in Introduction to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Studies (C21S 2984) this semester and are pursuing a minor in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Studies.

**Travis J. Cross**, Music, was the guest conductor for the Stafford County All-County High School Band on January 6–7, the Prince William County All-County High School Band on January 12–14, and the Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association District VI Middle Level Band on January 27–28.

**Francois Debrix**, Political Science and Director of ASPECT, published "Against Interdisciplinarity as a Panacea," *Public Knowledge* 3.2 (December 2011): 3.2.7 (online). *Public Knowledge* is a student-led electronic journal published by graduate students in ASPECT, Center for Public Administration and Policy (CPAP), Government and International Affairs (GIA), and Planning, Governance and Globalization (PGG) at Virginia Tech, with the support of the Center for the Study of Rhetoric in Society, the Graduate School, and the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA).

**Alexander Dickow**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/French, composed the lyrics to "Yardwork in Moscow, Idaho circa 1988," which was performed last fall by the University of Idaho Vandaleers Concert Choir. The music is by Robert Dickow. The composition can be found [here](#).

A project designed by Principal Investigators **Tom Ewing**, History and Office of the Dean, **Bernice L. Hausman**, English, as well as Bruce Pencek, Universities Libraries, Naren Ramakrishnan, Engineering, and Gunther Eysenbach, University of Toronto, was a winner of the Digging into Data Challenge, an international funding competition designed to promote innovative humanities and social science research using techniques of large scale data analysis.

The team's proposal, titled "An Epidemiology of Information: Data Mining the 1918 Influenza Pandemic," is one of 14 selected for funding by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The two-year project will be conducted by faculty and graduate assistants associated with the Institute for Society, Culture, and Environment and the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science at Virginia Tech and the Centre for Global Health Innovation at the University of Toronto. Virginia Tech will receive \$123,778 in external funding, the University of Toronto \$125,000. Details can be found [here](#).

**Jim Dubinsky**, English, was accepted to the Office of Professional Development Management Academy program. The program is designed to support the professional development of associate chairs and program directors.

**Roger Ekirch**, History, published "[Nineteenth-Century Sleep Violence Cases: A Historical View](#)," and "[The Clinical Features of Sleep Violence in Arousal Disorders: A Historical Review](#)" both with John M. Shneerson, in *Sleep Medicine Clinics* 6.4 (2011): 483-91 and 493-98 respectively. In November 2011 he participated in a History Channel special, "The Epic History of Everyday Things," and his research appeared prominently in an article about insomnia by Marine Corniou, *Québec Science* 50.4 (December 2011-January 2012): 38-43. Ekirch's op-ed column, "[Return to a Darker Age](#)," was featured in the *New York Times* on January 8. He gave the keynote address, "Is Insomnia History: The Modernization of Sleep," at the conference titled "Nature, Nurture, Economy: The History of Sleep in Modern Times" at the University of Göttingen January 26-28. In addition, his book *At Day's Close: Night in Times Past* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2005) was ranked #1 in Ian Marchant's "[Top Ten Books of the Night](#)," published in *The Guardian* on January 25.

**Jessica Folkart**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish, published "The Ethics of Spanish Identity and In-difference," *Philosophy and Literature* 35.2 (2011): 216-32. In addition, she was elected and inducted as Vice President of the International Association of Hispanic Women's Literature and Culture (*Asociación Internacional de Literatura y Cultura Femenina Hispánica*) in Barcelona in Fall 2011.

RPM Advisory Board Professor **Rosemary Carucci Goss**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, was selected by the editorial staff of Multi-Housing News as one of 11 "Ones to Watch" for 2012 for her three decades of work with students in the residential property management program. As such, she was featured on the [cover](#) of the November 2011 issue of the trade association's journal, along with AHRM/Residential Property Management juniors **Neil Werner**, **Taya Burns**, and **Brooke Marbardy**.

**James Hawdon**, Sociology, is the senior collaborator on the funded (\$314,000 over 3 years) NSF REU "Research Experience for Undergraduates" proposal, funded for \$314,000 over three years. The summer program engages undergraduates from a number of disciplines who will spend a month working together on several research projects involving water-issues using the Stream Lab at Strouble's Creek. Hawdon will teach student how to design and field a community

survey about water use, attitudes toward environmental conservation, and support for various water policies.

Department of History M.A. students **Stephan O'Hara** and **Laura West** were the winners of this year's Virginia Center for Civil War Studies Research Scholarships. O'Hara received a scholarship for his work on the memorialization of American presidents who died during the immediate post-Civil War era. West was recognized with a scholarship for her work on African American education in the post-bellum South. The scholarships are intended to aid the work of graduate students in the Department of History M.A. program whose research promises to make a significant contribution to an understanding of the place of the Civil War in American history and the causes and consequences of that grave conflict; they are made possible by endowments to the Center for Civil War Studies from the J. Ambler Johnston Scholarship, the Homer E. Davis Scholarship, the Frank S. Roop Scholarship, and the Old Dominion Chapter #69 United Daughters of the Confederacy Scholarship.

The following CLAHS students presented papers as part of Human Rights: Witnessing and Responsibility, the Dean's Research Forum held on January 27 in East Ambler Johnston: **Margaret Fesenmaier**, a master's candidate in Communication, "Revolutionary Rhetoric: A Traditional Analysis of *Rais Lebled*, A Tunisian Anthem"; senior International Studies and Crop and Soil Environmental Science major **Jessie Gunter**, "Windows of Opportunity: Cocoa Industry Reform and the Efficacy of Child Labor Policies in Cote d'Ivoire"; **Michele James-Deramo**, ASPECT: "An Insurrection of Subjugated Information: The Role of the Kakuma News Reflector in Mediating Refugee Voice"; **Elizabeth Jamison**, ASPECT, "The Politics of Immigration: public Rhetoric in Albertville, Alabama"; Human Development doctoral candidate **Ana L. Jaramillo**, "Project ENGAGE: Sustainable Parent Education for Internally Displaced Families in Altos de Cazucá, Columbia"; **Lyusyena Kirakosyan**, ASPECT, "Promoting Disability Rights and Democracy: Insights from Brazil"; senior French and Political Science major **Rachel Kirk**, "Albert Camus, Algeria and Islam in France in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century"; **Tom Minogue**, a junior English major, "When the Levee Breaks: Zeitoun and the Illegitimate Discord of the State"; and Sociology doctoral candidate **Gary Wood**, "Spacing Islam – Enacting State: A Cross-National Comparison of Islam and the Spatialization of Human Rights."

**Jihyun Kim**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published "The Impact of Shopping Orientations on U.S. Consumer's Retail Channel Choice Behavior toward Luxury Goods Purchases," *Journal of Global Fashion Marketing* 2.4 (2011): 1-12, with Hyun-Hwa Lee. In addition, Kim, who has served as Associate Editor for the subject area of Apparel, Textiles, and Merchandising for *the Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal* since August 2010, edited a virtual issue on the theme "Appearance and Body Image in the Society"; it was published in December 2011.

*The Passion of the Christ* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011) by **Neal King**, Sociology, was featured in the January [Visible Scholarship Initiative](#), sponsored jointly by the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences and the University Libraries. A reception on January 26 in recognition of this scholarship featured remarks by King.

**Bettina Koch**, Political Science, published “Yesterday’s Tyrannicide, Today’s Terrorist? Historic Acts of ‘Terror’ in Islam and in the West in Light of the Contemporary Debates on Terrorism,” in *International Relations, Culture and Global Finance*, edited by Akis Kalaitzidis (Athens: ATINER, 2011), pp. 111-26; and “Church and State in Marsilius’s Writings,” in *Compendium to Marsilius of Padua*, edited by Cary J. Nederman and Gerson Moreno-Riaño (Leiden: Brill, 2012), pp. 139-79.

**Tristram McPherson**, Philosophy, published “Mark Schroeder's Hypotheticalism: agent-neutrality, moral epistemology, and methodology,” *Philosophical Studies* 157.3 (February 2012): 445-53.

The Department of Music hosted the Fifteenth Annual Virginia Tech Honor Band from January 20–22. The event drew some 500 students from 170 schools in seven states. Students auditioned upon arrival for placement into one of five bands. Guest conductors this year included Virginia Tech music faculty **Travis J. Cross** and **Polly Middleton** as well as Virginia Tech alumni **S. Daniel Galyen**, associate director of bands at the University of Northern Iowa, and **Scott Humphries**, director of instrumental studies and music education at Manchester College in Indiana. **David Widder**, Music, coordinated the event.

The following CLAHS students were chosen to assist with the New Student Orientation program in July 2012. **Terrence Austin**, Political Science, was chosen as one of six Orientation Assistants who will direct the 30 undergraduates serving as Orientation Leaders. Among the Orientation Leaders are: **Jonathan Ammirati**, Communication; **Katie Baird**, Human Development; **Caroline Blevins**, Communication; **Liesa Brauch**, Communication; **Wisam Fillo**, English; **Jenae Green**, Communication; **Will Miller**, History; **Matt Pangle**, Music; and **Sarah Pelham**, Philosophy. They will work with freshman from across the University during the three weeks of New Student Orientation.

**Corinne Noirot-Maguire**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/French, published “*Entre deux airs*”: *style simple et ethos poétique chez Clément Marot et Joachim Du Bellay (1515-1560)* [“In-Between Tones” Plain Style and Poetic Ethos in the Works of Clément Marot and Joachim Du Bellay], Québec: Presses Universitaires de Laval, 2011.

**Kami Patrizio**, School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, published “Developing as Teacher Educator-Researchers,” *Studying Teacher Education* 7.3 (2011): 263-79.

**Lydia Patton**, Philosophy, published “Experiment and Theory Building,” *Synthese* 184.3 (2012): 235-46.

It was a banner month for **Anthony A. Peguero**, Sociology, who published the following: “Reflections of a Latino Junior Scholar,” *Latino Studies* 9 (2011): 466–72; “Violence, Schools, and Dropping Out: Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Educational Consequence of Student Victimization,” *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 26.18 (2011): 3753–72; “Latina Exposure to Violence at School,” *Justice Policy Journal* 8.2 (2011): 2-26, with Zahra Shekarkhar; “Youth

Violence and the Intersection of Gender, Race, and Ethnicity,” *Journal of Criminal Justice* 40.1 (2012): 1–9, with Ann Marie Popp; and “Gender, Immigration, and School Victimization,” *Victims & Offenders* 7 (2012): 77-96, with Dixie J. Koo and Zahra Shekarkhar.

The following CLAHS faculty were accepted into the 2012 Proposal Development Institute, sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Research: **Craig Brians**, Political Science; **David Cline**, History; **William Glenn**, School of Education; **Benjamin Jantzen**, Philosophy; **Deborah Milly**, Political Science; **Zhange (Nicole) Ni**, Religion and Culture; **Kelly Parkes**, School of Education; **Susanna Rinehart**, Theatre and Cinema; **Gresilda (Kris) Tilley-Lubbs**, School of education; **Anastasia Vogt Yuan**, Sociology; and **Zac Zimmer**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish.

**Lucinda Roy**, Alumni Distinguished Professor in English, delivered the keynote address at Marquette University Law School’s forum on “Imminent Danger” in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on January 11. Co-sponsored by the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* (MJS), the forum was in response to a video documentary, “Imminent Danger: A Special Report,” and a series of articles about mental illness by MJS reporter Meg Kissinger. In addition, Roy published “Insights Gleaned from Virginia Tech,” an expanded version of a keynote she delivered at Washington and Lee University, in *Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice* 17.1 (2011): 93-123; and “The Teethman,” a short story set in Sierra Leone, in *River Styx* 86 (Nov 2011): 8-23. Invited editorial commentaries by Roy appeared in [USA Today](#) on December 9, 2011, and the [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) on January 7, 2012.

**Benjamin Sax**, Religion and Culture, published “Franz Rosenzweig als ‘Post-Goethekenner’” [“The Winged Word: Franz Rosenzweig as Post-Goethekenner”], *Naharaim: Zeitschrift für deutsche-jüdische Literatur und Kulturgeschichte* 5 (December 2011): 115-49.

**Larry Shumsky**, History, published *Homelessness: A Documentary and Reference Guide* (Greenwood, 2012). More information about the book can be found [here](#).

**Amy L. Shuster**, Political Science, published “The Problem of the *Partheniae* in Aristotle's Political Thought,” *Polis: The Journal for Ancient Greek Political Thought* 28.2 (2011): 279-308.

ASPECT student **Scott Tate** was selected to participate in the Virginia Tech 2012 Future Faculty Development Program, held January 9-12.

**Vinodh Venkatesh**, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish, published “Gender, Patriarchy, and the Pen(is) in Three Rewritings of Latin American History,” *Chasqui: Revista de Literatura Latinoamericana* 11.2 (2011): 95-107.

**Karen Watson**, Director of Academic Support for CLAHS, was selected as a 2012 Virginia Tech Multicultural Fellow. The Multicultural Fellows Program is a network of dedicated faculty, staff, and administrators who provide leadership and promote multiculturalism at Virginia Tech and

the larger community; Fellows are selected on the basis of their interest in multiculturalism and their potential to contribute to the mission of the program.

**Andrea K. Wittenborn**, Human Development, with colleague Hazhir Rahmandad, Industrial and Systems Engineering, was awarded funding from the Institute for Society, Culture and Environment for “A Mathematical Model of Adult Depression: Intervention and Policy Implications.” Funds will support the development of a proposal to be submitted to NIH in June 2012. In addition, Wittenborn was interviewed on how depression affects couple relationships for an article in *Women’s Health*; the article can be found [here](#).

**Doris Zallen**, Science and Technology in Society, was selected to serve on the Centers for Disease Control's EGAPP (Evaluation of Genomic Applications in Practice and Prevention) Working Group. The group is charged with advising the CDC on policies related to genetic testing and other applications of genetics in human health and medicine.

### *Alumni Highlights*

**Juan Carlos Sánchez Sierra**, a 2011 ASPECT alumnus, was awarded a competitive post-doctoral fellowship for the 2011-2012 academic year with the option for second year extension with Margarita Favela from the Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Science and Humanities at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM); the fellowship has the option for a second-year extension. Sánchez Sierra is working on a project titled “Liderazgo, cultura política y practicas de moralidad en Mexico 1960-1980” (Leadership, Political culture and practices of morality in Mexico 1960-1980).

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