



News2 Note

January 2011

The AFROTC Department held its Fall 2010 commissioning ceremony on December 17 in War Memorial Chapel. Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force was **William J. Mahoney** (Computer Science). He has reported to Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, for qualification training as a Cyber Space Officer.

The eighth edition of *American Public School Law* by **M. David Alexander**, School of Education/Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, and Kern Alexander (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2011), was released on January 1. The volume was used at 170 major universities in 2010 and is acknowledged as the leading textbook in the field.

Jacqueline Bixler, Alumni Distinguished Professor of Spanish in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, was one of two Virginia Tech teacher/scholars to deliver a keynote address at the 2010 Fall University and Graduate School Commencement ceremonies on December 17. Bixler addressed undergraduate students at the University Ceremony. Approximately 2,500 students were honored for completing their academic degrees.

On December 17 **Mike Butera** earned the first ASPECT Ph.D. degree awarded at Virginia Tech.

Toni Calasanti, Sociology, published "Gender Relations and Applied Research on Aging," *The Gerontologist* 50,6 (2010): 720-34. The article was the 50th anniversary feature article in the journal.

Volume 3 of *Collaborative Anthropologies*, edited by **Samuel R. Cook**, Sociology, and Luke Eric Lassiter (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2011) was published.

Travis J. Cross, Music, published a chapter in *Teaching Music through Performance in Band*, Volume 8, edited by Richard Miles, Volume 8 (Chicago: GIA Publications, 2011), 913-28; the chapter is a teacher resource guide for *Morning Star* by David Maslanka. The series provides accompanying reference recordings covering the standard repertory for symphonic band and wind ensemble.

Department of English graduate student **Molly Scanlon**, undergraduate majors **Orlando Dos Reis** and **Erika Duerksen**, and Writing Center Assistant Director **Jennifer Lawrence** presented “Making the Leap: The Role of the Writing Center in Transitioning from High School to College Writing” at the National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing & International Writing Centers Association (Joined Conference) in Baltimore, Maryland, November 4-6, 2010. Dos Reis and Duerksen work as undergraduate tutors in the Writing Center.

Charlene M. Eska, English, published “Problematic pigs: swine values in Bodleian MS Rawlinson B 506,” *Celtica* 26 (2010): 23-30.

The following students were awarded a CLAHS Education Abroad scholarship for Spring or Summer 2011: **Mark Dewyea**, English, **Jarrid Dulaney**, Classical Studies and History, **Sarah Edwards**, Classical Studies and Music Education, **Casey Gresham**, History, **Sara Johnson**, Music, **Brein Jones**, International Studies, **Megan Ledoux**, Human Development and Psychology, **Sarah Rhee**, English and Sociology, **Anne Tomastik**, International Relations, and **Brittany Usiak**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management.

Jim Garrison, School of Education/Teaching and Learning, was invited by the Center for Dewey Studies at the University of Köln (Cologne), Germany, to serve as a visiting scholar there from November 30 to December 11. Garrison consulted with faculty members and students and taught a 20-hour workshop.

Aarnes Gudmestad, Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish, published “Moving beyond a sentence-level analysis in the study of variable mood use in Spanish,” *Southwest Journal of Linguistics* 29,1 (2010): 25-51. She also was awarded an Instructional Enhancement, Innovation and Exploration Grant by CIDER for her proposal titled “Development of an Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics Course.”

Bernice L. Hausman, English, published *Viral Mothers: Breastfeeding in the Age of HIV/AIDS* (Ann Arbor, Michigan: University of Michigan Press, 2011).

The tenth edition of *Sociology: The Core* by **Michael Hughes**, Sociology, and Carolyn J. Kroehler was published (New York: McGraw Hill, 2011).

Human Development head **Shannon Jarrott** and former Human Development doctoral student Christina Gigliotti published “Comparing responses to horticultural-based and traditional activities in dementia care programs,” *American Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease and Other Dementias* 25 (2010): 657-65.

Human Development faculty member **Andrea K. Wittenborn** and graduate students **Bonnie Culpepper**, **Maureen C. Smith**, **Deborah L. Styler**, **Lauren E. Swank**, **Kristin E. Wade**, and **Ashley P. Wise** presented “Depression and dyadic distress in couple relationships” at the annual conference of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy on September 23-26 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Melanie C. Kiernan, a senior Communication major, was one of 34 college students to receive North Carolina Campus Compact's Community Impact Student Award. Kiernan was recognized for her leadership nationally in service activities. She is chair of the executive board for the Campus Coalition of YMCAs, a program leader for the YMCA at Virginia Tech, and a Youth Service America Youth Council member. Details about Kiernan's award can be found [here](#).

Tim Luke, chair of the Department of Political Science and interim director of ASPECT, published the following: "The National D-Day Memorial: Art, Empire, and Nationalism at an American Military Monument," *New Political Science* 32,4 (December 2010): 547-59; "Symposium - The Rebels' Yell: Mr. Perestroika and the Causes of this Rebellion in Context," *PS: Political Science & Politics* 43,3 (October 2010): 729-31, co-authored with Patrick J. McGovern; "Gaming Space: Casinopolitan Globalism from Las Vegas to Macau," *Globalizations* 7,3 (October 2010): 395-405; "Geoengineering as Global Climate Change Policy," *Critical Policy Studies* 4,3 (July 2010): 111-26.

The Fall 2010 issue of *The New River*, a journal of digital writing and art, recently appeared. The managing editors are **Sean Conaway** and **Mark Derks**, both master's students in Creative Writing; the editor is **Edward Falco**, English. Featured in the fall issue is work by Megan Moriarty, a master's student in Creative Writing. The issue can be found [here](#).

Kim Ryan, an English major and undergraduate tutor in the Writing Center, published "From the Inside Out," *The Writing Lab Newsletter* 35,3 (2010): 14-15.

ASPECT student **Nina Salmon**, who is an Assistant Professor of English at Lynchburg College, received that institution's 2010 Elsie Ervin Bock Award for Excellence in Citizenship.

Religion and Culture chair **Peter Schmitthenner** published "Colonial Hydraulic Projects in South India: Environmental and Cultural Legacy," *The British Empire and the Natural World: Environmental Encounters in South Asia*, edited by Deepak Kumar, Vinita Damodaran, and Rohan D'Souza (New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2011), 181-201.

Debra Stoudt, Foreign Languages and Literatures/German and Associate Dean, published "Mysticism," *Handbook of Medieval Studies*, 3 volumes, edited by Albrecht Classen (Berlin and New York: De Gruyter, 2010), 933-65.

For Memories' Sake, a documentary directed by **Ashley Maynor**, Theatre and Cinema, and produced by **Paul Harrill**, Theatre and Cinema, won a Rosebud Award as one of the top five films screened at the 20th Rosebud Film and Video Festival in Arlington, VA.

Janell Watson, Foreign Languages and Literatures/French, published "Minoritarian + Revolution," "Psychoanalysis + Political Theory," and "Semiotics + New Media," *The Deleuze Dictionary*, edited by Adrian Parr, revised edition (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2010): 173-75, 221-23, and 245-47.

Andrea Wittenborn, Human Development, was quoted in the [December 2010](#) issue of *Prevention Magazine* on the impact of stress on couple relationships.

Denise Young, an instructor and New Student Coordinator in the Department of Communication, completed the 2010 Political Leaders Program through the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership at the University of Virginia. Young was competitively selected for the ten-month program, which involves classes one weekend a month at different locations across the Commonwealth. Participants participate in group problem-solving related to educational and political issues in Virginia.

Alumni Highlights

Lisa B. Taylor, who earned her B.S. in Human Development in 2003, was selected as 2010 Teacher of the Year for Montgomery County Public Schools. Taylor has been an elementary education teacher for five years and currently teaches second grade at Belview Elementary School. A resourceful educator, Taylor has secured more than \$7,500 in grants for projects at Belview, including the installation of SmartBoards in several classrooms. She was recognized as the MCPS Teacher of the Year at the opening of schools event on August 23, 2010.

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