



News2 Note

May 2020

Two graduate students in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences were inducted into the [Academy for Graduate Teaching Assistant Excellence](#) this semester: **Natali Huggins**, Higher Education, as a Member, and **Shawnice Johnson**, Human Development and Family Science, as an Associate. The purpose of the Academy is to enhance the knowledge and skills in teaching through the provision of opportunities for graduate students to receive advanced education and training in innovative teaching and learning strategies and to recognize excellence in teaching by graduate students. The three categories of membership are described [here](#).

Danna Agmon, History, [was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship](#) for 2020-2021 to support the writing of her book, *A World at Court: Nested Legality and French Empire across the Indian Ocean*. During her yearlong research leave as a National Endowment for the Humanities fellow, she will travel to archives in France and India to work with primary sources, including French court documents from the 18th and 19th centuries. Through a competitive application process, the endowment's Division of Research Programs awards funding to individual scholars pursuing projects involving research, thorough analysis, and clear writing, and these must have value to humanities scholars or general audiences.

ASPECT doctoral students **Sarah Plummer** and **Sara Wenger** were selected in April as 2020 Roothbert Fellows. The [Roothbert Fund](#), based in New York City, was founded in 1958 by Albert and Toni Roothbert; its Scholarships Program provides grants for undergraduate or graduate study and fosters fellowship among past and present recipients.

In the spring of 2020 the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences honored the following faculty and staff members with [awards in research and creative scholarship, diversity, advising, teaching, and employee excellence](#). Certificate of Teaching Excellence recipients were: **Andrea Baldwin**, Sociology; **Matthew Goodrum**, Science, Technology, and Society; **Heather Gumbert**, History; **Richard Masters**, Performing Arts; **Ashley Reed**, English; and **Younos Yumiko**, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures. Excellence in Advising Award winners were: **Aarnes Gudmestad**, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, and **Laura Welfare**, Education.

Excellence in Research and Creative Scholarship Award recipients were: **Alexander Dickow**, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures; **Charlene Eska**, English; and **Richard Masters**, Performing Arts. Diversity Award winners were: **Karl Precoda**, Performing Arts, and **Carolyn Shivers**, Human Development and Family Science. This year's Staff Employee of the Year Award went to **Kathy Tickle**, Enrollment Services Specialist in the School of Education.

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences created [supplemental pages for each of its departments and schools](#) for [Commencement 2020](#). 970 bachelor's degrees were awarded to students in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. Among the 275 graduates of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets, 162 will enter military service as commissioned officers – 73 in the U.S. Army, 44 in the U.S. Air Force, 35 in the U.S. Navy, and 10 in the U.S. Marine Corps.

The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors Executive Committee approved [a resolution to establish a School of Communication and Digital Media](#). Pending approval from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the school will be hosted in the College beginning in the fall. The school will enhance the university's ability to create, convey, and apply knowledge that expands personal growth and understanding of human communication, improves media practice, and broadens media literacy among voters and other media consumers. It will supersede the Department of Communication, with the expectation that new majors will be developed to complement the current majors in Public Relations, Multimedia Journalism, Sports Media and Analytics, and Communication Science and Social Inquiry.

Christina Conrad, a Criminology and Sociology double major, received the Phi Kappa Phi medallion for the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences this year. She also completed minors in Peace Studies and Violence Prevention as well as National Security and Foreign Affairs. Conrad has held leadership positions with the Daughters of Isabella service organization and the Girl Scouts of America. In the spring of 2019 she served as an intern with the Virginia Tech Police Department, and she has interned since May 2019 with the Montgomery County Victim/Witness Assistance Program. Working with the Commonwealth Attorney, she gained knowledge of the court process and counseled individuals as they navigated through the system. Phi Kappa Phi recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education and engages the community of scholars in service to others. Each year Virginia Tech's chapter of the society awards a medallion to one graduating senior from each college selected from among those students with the highest academic standing in the college. Beginning in the fall, Conrad will pursue a master's degree in social work at George Mason University.

School of Education faculty members **Matthew Fullen** and **Gerard Lawson** as well as alumna **Jyotsana Sharma** published "Analyzing the Impact of the Medicare Coverage Gap on Counseling Professionals: Results of a National Study," *Journal of Counseling and Development* 98.2 (2020): 207–19, and "Medicare Reimbursement for Counselors: The Role of Counselor Education in Promoting Advocacy Engagement," *Counselor Education and Supervision* 59.1 (2020): 16–31.

Joseph Eska, Professor and Interim Chair of the Department of English, published “Interarticulatory Timing and Celtic Mutations,” *Journal of Celtic Linguistics* 21 (2020): 235–56.

Students in HIST 2624 Topics in the History of Data in Social Context, taught by **Tom Ewing**, Professor of History and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research, [collaborated with the National Library of Medicine on a virtual symposium](#) based on the research they conducted this semester. The symposium, “[Reporting, Recording, and Remembering the 1918 Influenza Epidemic](#),” which took place April 29, was made possible through the National Library of Medicine’s formal partnership with the National Endowment for the Humanities to collaborate on research, education, and career initiatives. The course focused on three main themes that directly connect the historical lessons of 1918 to the current challenges of COVID-19: how newspapers reported on the epidemic during the most severe weeks; the effect of social distancing policies implemented in cities and states; and how communities recovered from the worst effects of the epidemic. Each student also studied news reports from individual communities in addition to broader statistics from 1918. Participating students were: **Miguel Alvarez**, History; **Jacob Beachley**, History; Ian Gardiner, Chemical Engineering; **Louisa Glazunov**, Communication Science and Social Inquiry; Yash Joshi, Computational Modeling and Data Analytics; Katie Kromer, Computational Modeling and Data Analytics; Matt Mirabella, University Studies; Connor O’Hanlon, Aerospace Engineering; Alessia Scotto di Luzio, Electrical Engineering; Emily Swanson, Computational Modeling and Data Analytics; and Fiona Tran, Computational Modeling and Data Analytics.

ASPECT doctoral student **Robert Flahive** published “[Curating the Spectacle of a ‘Decolonized Vision’ at the Royal Museum of Central Africa: Rethinking the Inheritance of Colonial Museums](#)” on the Virginia Tech graduate student blog, *RE: Reflections and Explorations* blog published by the Institute for Policy and Governance, on March 5.

Three CLAHS students were among seven Virginia Tech students awarded a [Fulbright](#) for 2020-2021. **Sarah Hansen**, a Master of Fine Arts student in Creative Writing, was selected for the English Teaching Assistant Program and will teach in Latvia. **André Morana**, International Relations, received a research award for his project titled “Rainbow Street: The Voices of Jordanian Identity in Street Art”; Virginia Tech’s first veteran to be awarded a Fulbright, he will pursue his independent research in Amman, Jordan. **Andrés Orjales**, a master’s student in Political Science, received an English Teaching Assistant Award and will teach in Madrid, Spain, as part of the Model UN program. Originally scheduled to begin in the fall, the programs currently are slated to start in January 2021.

Reiss Gidner, a Theatre and Animal and Poultry Sciences major, was named the [2020 Outstanding Senior in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences](#). Gidner has successfully balanced her two majors throughout her undergraduate career and pursued various research projects that integrate them: her animal science capstone project focused on helping scientists enhance their communication skills, and a term paper examined how veterinary schools and animal outreach programs can use theatre training when interacting with clients or the public. Gidner is the co-president of the campus improvisational theatre troupe, Deep Fried Improv,

and played the role of Darlene in the School of Performing Arts' production of *Balm in Gilead*. In addition, she has participated in study abroad experiences in Thailand and Ecuador. These experiences have prepared her well for her postgraduate plans: attending veterinary school and continuing her efforts to use theatre to help scientists communicate more effectively.

The following students were recognized as the [2020 Giovanni-Steger Poetry Prize winners](#). Junior Creative Writing major **Elia Chaves** won first prize, \$1,100, for her poem, "Death: A Vacation." The second-place prize of \$500 was presented to **Kathleen Walker**, a sophomore Creative Writing major, for "And & And & And." First-year Biology major **Anna Tan** was the recipient of the third-place prize, \$300, for "I Don't Need Friends, Just You." Earning honorable mention recognition were: **Brandon Alimanestiano**, a junior Multimedia Journalism major, for "Atlantis"; Tessa Batterton, a junior Animal and Poultry Science major, for "Birdwatching"; Creative Writing senior **Nick Hughes** for "Aren't Old Men a Lot Like Old Dogs?"; Mathematics senior Nat Nasr for "Piety"; **Molly Sayles**, a Classical Studies and Civil Engineering major, for "Low Tide in Pearisburg"; first-year English major **Stephanie Sheets** for "Little Bird of the Sea"; and sophomore Public Relations major **Mia Toser** for "Just Sixteen." The prize was renamed this year to honor University Distinguished Professor of English **Nikki Giovanni**, who established the competition in 2005 and continues to administer it. English faculty members **Aileen Murphy** and **Joe Scallorns** serve as co-directors. This year the announcement was made in a [video by Giovanni](#), who read the three winning poems.

The following faculty in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences were awarded Global Partnership Project Grants during the 2019–2020 academic year: **Andrea Baldwin**, Sociology, "Love Power Migration: Alienation or Agency (or Empowerment)" with Natasha Mortley, University of the West Indies, Jamaica; **Gregory Galford**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, "Infrastructure in Indonesia: Lessons for American Housing" with Paramita Atmodiwirjo, Universitas Indonesia; **Scotty Hardwig**, School of Performing Arts, international exchange and residency with Mexican movement and media artist Renato González; **Audrey Reeves**, Political Science, "Holocaust Exhibitions as Sites of Genocide Prevention: Affective Knowledge and Liberal Militarism in the United States and the United Kingdom," with Victoria Basham, Cardiff University, Wales; and **Andrew Scerri**, Political Science, "Beyond Populism: On the Pitfalls of Mainstream 'Crisis Studies,'" with Dirk Jörke and Veith Selk, Technical University Darmstadt, Germany.

The Graduate School recognized the following faculty and students with [awards of excellence](#) for their work this academic year. School of Education faculty member **Laura Welfare** was the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Outstanding Mentor Award winner. The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Outstanding Graduate Student Awards went to doctoral student **Amy Morgan**, Human Development and Family Science, and master's student **John Legg**, History. **Karen Zwanch**, Education, was recognized with the Social Sciences, Business, Education, and Humanities Outstanding Dissertation Award. **Benjamin Garrett**, History, received the William Preston Society Outstanding Thesis Award for Social Sciences, Business, Education, and Humanities.

Jennifer Hanratty, International Studies Program Advisor in the Department of Political Science, was recognized as the April 2020 [Advisor of the Month](#) by the Office of Undergraduate Advising. The Advisor of the Month program recognizes outstanding academic advisors based on evidence of qualities and practices such as quality of information and advice, strong interpersonal communication skills, implementation of a “support and challenge” environment, and accessibility.

Erin Hopkins, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published “Building Lifecycle Sustainability Analysis,” *Sustainable Cities and Communities. Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development Goals*, ed. Walter Leal Filho, Anabela Marisa Azul, Luciana Brandli, Pinar Gökcin Özuyar, and Tony Wall (Cham, Switzerland: Springer, 2020), pp. 13–21.

The following College faculty members were recipients of a Virginia Tech Center for Humanities Faculty Summer Stipend: **Chris Lindgren**, English, “Proximities of White Supremacy Online: Towards Measuring Racist Discourse to Engage Problems with Content Moderation”; **Nneka Logan**, “Communication Corporations, Race and Responsibility: Exploring How Business Organizations Engage Social Change”; **Shaily Patel**, Religion and Culture, “Inanimate Souls: Object Agency in the Early Christian Imagination”; and **Paul Quigley**, History, “Preston Brooks, the Man behind the Cane: Words, Violence, and the Coming of the American Civil War.”

Areej Khan, Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, was elected Administrative Captain of the [2020-2021 Virginia Tech Rescue Squad](#). The rescue squad, which is entirely student-run, has approximately 40-45 members and responds to some 1,200 emergency calls each year on the Virginia Tech Blacksburg campus.

Matthew Komelski, Human Development and Family Science, received the [2020 Excellence in Teaching Award](#) from the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. The award, presented to approximately nine Virginia Tech faculty members each academic year, recognizes a faculty member’s effective, engaged, and dynamic approaches and achievements as an educator. Komelski was honored for his innovation as a teacher, especially in the creation of experiential learning and service-learning opportunities for his students. His students’ success and personal growth have been his most meaningful experiences as an instructor.

Evan Lavender-Smith, English, published a short story, “[A Vicious Cycle](#),” in *The White Review*, Issue 11.

Sociology graduate student **Devon Lee** was selected for [induction into the Edward Alexander Bouchet Graduate Honor Society](#) in 2020. The society was established in 2005 and named for the first African-American to earn a doctoral degree in the United States; it “seeks to develop a network of scholars who exemplify academic and personal excellence, foster environments of support, and serve as examples of scholarship, leadership, character, service, and advocacy for students who have been traditionally underrepresented in the academy – exemplifying the spirit and example of Dr. Bouchet.” Virginia Tech is one of 16 Bouchet Society chapter institutions.

Hyojung Lee, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published "[The Role of Parental Financial Assistance in the Transition to Homeownership by Young Adults](#)" with Dowell Myers, Gary Painter, Johanna Thunell, and Julie Zissimopoulos; and "[Cohort Insights into Recovery of Millennial Homeownership after the Great Recession](#)" with Dowell Myers and Patrick Simmons. Both articles appeared in the *Journal of Housing Economics* 47 (March 2020), 101597 and 101619 respectively.

Barbara Lockee, Education, published "[The Difference between Emergency Remote Teaching and Online Learning](#)," *EDUCAUSE Review*, on March 20 with Charles B. Hodges, Stephanie Moore, Torrey Trust, and Aaron Bond. The [article](#) helps faculty confronted with the shift to online instruction better understand similarities and differences in the design of effective emergency remote teaching and online learning.

Timothy Luke, University Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science, published "Las Vegas as the Anthropocene: The Neoliberal City as Desertification All the Way Down," *The Challenge of Progress: Theory Between Critique and Ideology*, ed. Harry F. Dahms, *Current Perspectives in Social Theory*, Volume 36 (Bingley, United Kingdom: Emerald Publishing, 2020), pp. 159–78; and "[The Gun Sanctuary Movement: Pistol-Packing Preppers or Passionate Peaceful Populists?](#)" in *Telos: Critical Theory of the Contemporary* 190 (Spring 2020): 185–91.

ASPECT doctoral candidate **Leigh McKagen** published "The End of Everything: Survival Narratives and Everyday Heroism in *Battlestar Galactica*," *Apocalypse TV: Essays on Society and Self at the End of the World*, ed. Sherry Ginn and Michael Cornelius (Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland Publishing, 2020), pp. 102–12.

Elizabeth McLain, Performing Arts, received the 2020 [Sally Bohland Award for Exceptional Leadership in Access and Inclusion](#). The award is presented annually to a faculty member who serves as a model for others in the areas of access, accessibility, and/or inclusion of students with disabilities, and whose leadership fosters a culture of access and inclusion.

Carol Mullen, Education, received the [2020 Theodore "Ted" Creighton Publication Innovation Award](#) from the International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership. The award, named for Theodore Creighton, a Virginia Tech professor emeritus and former executive director of the organization who now serves on the council's executive board, recognizes Mullen's record of publications and presentations, as well as her innovative ideas, projects, and approaches to improving practice, communication, and scholarship in the educational leadership field. The annual award also acknowledges her commitment to helping graduate students publish their early research and scholarship. Mullen also was the recipient of the 2020 University of Toronto Ontario Institute for Studies in Education Leaders and Legends: Excellence Award. The award recognizes outstanding alumni who are committed to making an impact on the lives of others while pursuing excellence in education.

Uchechukwu Okonkwo, a Master of Fine Arts student in Creative Writing, was awarded the [George Bennett Fellowship](#) at Phillips Exeter Academy in Exeter, New Hampshire, for 2020-2021. This prestigious post-MFA fellowship is awarded to an author of outstanding promise who has not yet published a book. As Writer in Residence, the Fellow lives at Exeter; is provided with an office in the Class of 1945 Library; is invited to give a reading of her work during the spring; and receives a stipend, housing, meals, and benefits.

Lydia Patton, Philosophy, published "[Expanding Theory Testing in General Relativity: LIGO and Parametrized Theories](#)," *Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics* 69 (February 2020): 142–53.

The launch of Volume XII of *Philologia*, the undergraduate research venue of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, took place in May. All articles and creative scholarship are available [online](#). This year's staff consisted of: co-editors-in-chief **Jessica Calvert**, Professional and Technical Writing and Literature and Language, and **Rachel Kiser**, Fashion Merchandising and Design; associate editors: **Sarah Bauer**, Sociology and Criminology; **Harlee Fuhrman**, Literature and Language and Business Management Consulting and Analysis; **Emily Gurganus**, Professional and Technical Writing and Literature and Language; **Haley Hurst**, English (Literature Option), Creative Writing, and Professional and Technical Writing; **Grace Robinson**, Philosophy, Politics, and Economics; and marketing editor **Rose Johnson**, Professional and Technical Writing and Literature and Language. Volume XII comprises the following articles and creative scholarship: "Theories of Violence," by **Nicole Keenan**, Criminology, pp. 1–3; "From Philanthropy to Investment: Considering the New Role of the Private Sector in Global Development" by **Caitlin Lambert**, International Public Policy, pp. 4–10; "On Neoclassicism and the Numbing of the Negro Mind," **Joe Hughes**, Creative Writing, pp. 11–13; "The M16 in Vietnam: A History of the Weapon's Effectiveness in the Vietnam War and the Necessity of Its Creation," by **James O'Connell**, History, pp. 14–19; and "A Critique of Hobbes's State of Nature" by **Bailey Villarreal**, Philosophy and Psychology, pp. 20–24. Members of this year's College and Review Board were: **Monica Kimbrell**, Assistant Dean; **Daniel Thorp**, History and Associate Dean; **Debra Stoudt**, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures and Associate Dean; **Thomas Gardner**, English; **Rebecca Grogan**, graphic designer; **Nancy Metz**, English; **Michael Moehler**, Philosophy; **Joseph Pitt**, Philosophy; **Carolyn Shivers**, Human Development and Family Science; and **Robert Stephens**, History.

The following students in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences were awarded scholarships for the 2019–2020 academic year. The recipient of the [CLAHS Dean's Roundtable Scholarship](#) was **Meredith Beavers**, Political Science and Smart and Sustainable Cities. The Susan Pascoe Farrell Scholarship was awarded to **Donald Van Hook**, National Security and Foreign Affairs. **Jordan Collier**, Criminology and Sociology, and **Cory Van Dyke**, Multimedia Journalism, were recognized with a Hallie L. Hughes Memorial Scholarship. **Jenna Humphrey**, International Studies, was awarded the Hulick Scholarship for Leadership, Friendship, and Service. The following students received the Moody, Pratt, Minor Scholarship: **Alden Carter**, International Relations; **Peter Chamberlin**, International Studies; **Danielle Faust**, International Relations; **Kathrinna Hammon**, Public Relations; **Lauren Scarry**, National Security and Foreign

Affairs; **Melanie Sutphin**, National Security and Foreign Affairs; and **Nick Uliano**, Russian and National Security and Foreign Affairs. Nelson–Lehmann–Gold–VanSant Family Scholarships were awarded to **Morgan Jenkins**, Human Development, and **Daniela Vandivier**, Political Science and Human Development. Recognized with the John Rathbone Scholarship were History majors **Jillian Doerr**, **Bryce Nolan**, and **Hannah Wiersberg**. The Mary Karen Read Memorial Scholarship was awarded to **Nyah August**, English. Receiving a Robichaud Family Scholarship were: **Eman Ayaz**, Human Development; **Jenna Bender**, Criminology; **Maddison Berlinghoff**, Political Science, Criminology, and Sociology; **Blythe Boyd**, Fashion Merchandising and Design; **Lucas Costa**, Philosophy and Finance; **Erin Slezak**, Creative Writing and Professional and Technical Writing; **Ryea Young**, Human Development and Sociology; and **Maggie-Jo Zeeman**, Fashion Merchandising and Design. **Hannah Richards**, Public Relations, and **Julia Villegas**, Music, were recipients of a Margaret Groseclose Skelton Scholarship. The Staff Association Scholarship was awarded to **Andrew Maloney**, National Security and Foreign Affairs. **Nyah August**, English; **Emily Hoover**, Human Development; and **Alexandra Pillion**, National Security and Foreign Affairs and Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, received a Margaret Rawlinson Svoboda Scholarship. Mildred Crawford Weidemann Scholarships were awarded to: **Bridget Morgan**, International Relations; **Rebecca Straley**, Human Development; and **Lauren Weaver**, Spanish. **Emily Beatty**, Human Development and Psychology, was the recipient of the Mildred E. Young Scholarship. The recipient of the James D. Moran Memorial Scholarship was **Justin Jordan**, Counselor Education. The Professor Joseph Pitt Scholarship was awarded to **Diana Harley**, Political Science and Philosophy; **Noah Lowe**, History; and **Dylan Sparks**, Political Science. Receiving a National Security Scholarship were: **Richard Cummings**, Political Science; **Rachel Fincher**, Public Relations and Political Science; and **Jillian Skahill**, Political Science. **Erin Slezak**, Creative Writing and Professional and Technical Writing, was awarded the Maryellen Spencer Scholarship.

Department of Sociology faculty members **Jennifer Bondy** and **Anthony Peguero** published “The Importance of Immigration with Future Research about School Safety,” *Race and Justice* 10.3 (2020): 247–68.

The following students in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences were awarded study abroad scholarships from the College during the 2019–2020 academic year: **Olamiposi Akinyemi**, Political Science and Spanish; **Tahreem Alam**, Multimedia Journalism and International Relations; **Gillian Barth**, History and English; **Courtland Blake**, International Relations; **Taylor Bush**, Fashion Merchandising and Design; **Sara Carter**, International Relations and Religion and Culture; **Alexandra Copeland**, Human Development; **Kenneth Davis**, Russian and Chemical Engineering; **Landon Epperson**, Political Science; **Katriona Felkel**, Spanish and Biology; **Laura Fortune**, Spanish and Biology; **Adiah Gholston**, Multimedia Journalism and Political Science; **Bethany Grocock**, Human Development; **Jennifer Hernandez**, Criminology, Sociology, and Spanish; **Alexis Jones**, History and Spanish; **Robert Juengling**, International Relations; **Emma Kaltner**, Public Relations; **Katelin Kerns**, Political Science; **Jessica Mukai**, National Security and Foreign Affairs; **Betsabeth Oropeza**, International Relations and French; **Lula Phicadu**, International Relations; **Tyler Pugh**, Spanish and Industrial Systems Engineering; **Ethan Richie**, Political Science; **Natalie Smith**, Creative Writing; **Alexander Stephens**, Political

Science; **Mia Toser**, Public Relations; **Caroline Umphlet**, International Studies; and **Lauren Weaver**, Spanish, Biology, and Neuroscience.

Gresilda Tilley-Lubbs, Education, published “Fear and Silence Meet Ignorance,” *The Ethnographic Edge* 3.1 (2019): 17–28; and “Coming to Critical Pedagogy in Spain through Life and Literature: Jurjo Torres Santomé and Ramón Flecha,” *The SAGE Handbook of Critical Pedagogies*, Volume 1, ed. Shirley R. Steinberg and Barry Down (Walnut Creek, California: Sage, 2020), pp. 334–45.

ASPECT doctoral student **Molly Todd** presented “Border(scaping)/Art in the Americas: From Fandango to Favela” as a digital presentation at the Association of American Geographers 2020 annual conference on April 15.

Grant support for undergraduate research was provided by the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Undergraduate Academic Affairs Office to the following students in 2019–2020. Research grants were awarded to: **Sophia Textoris**, Human Development and Psychology, support for the project, “Preliminary Examination of Biofeedback for Siblings of Individuals with Mental Illness”; and **Skye Wood**, Philosophy, funds to facilitate the survey for the project, “Survey on Possessive Language, through Amazon Mechanical Turk Services.” Travel grants were awarded to: **Noel Boyle**, English and German, “Ethnic and Neighborhood-based Divides in New Orleans English” at the American Dialect Society annual meeting, which was held January 2–5 in New Orleans, Louisiana; **Montana Koslowski**, International Relations and History, “Shaping the Revolution: The Role Egyptian and Tunisian Women Played in the 2011 Arab Uprisings” at the Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference, which was held November 14–17 in New Orleans, Louisiana; and **Brittany Russell**, Human Development, “Ethnic and Neighborhood-based Divides in New Orleans English” at the American Dialect Society annual meeting, which was held January 2–5 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The following students received support to participate in the Diplomacy Lab team presentation, “Best Practices for Protecting Outlying Populations from Revolutionary and Militia Groups,” at the Roundtable Presentation of the U.S. Department of State Conflict and Stabilization Bureau, which was held December 13 in Washington, D.C.: **Danielle Beirman**, National Security and Foreign Affairs; **Austin Gray**, National Security and Foreign Affairs; **Zach Hall**, Sociology and Criminology; **Montana Koslowski**, International Relations and History; **Josh Oliver**, Political Science; **Luis Rodriguez**, National Security and Foreign Affairs; **Ben Sanders**, Political Science; **Lauren Scarry**, National Security and Foreign Affairs; and **Catherine Woodward**, National Security and Foreign Affairs. The following students were recipients of travel grant support for undergraduate research in 2019–2020; however, because of the COVID-19 crisis the conferences were cancelled. Awardees were: Lily Carroll, Cognitive Behavioral Neuroscience major and Language Sciences minor, “Exploring Sensitivity to Negative-lag Voicing in Southern U.S. English Listeners” at the 87th Southeastern Conference on Linguistics; **Sam Cosenza**, Political Science and Music Performance, “Virginia Tech Trumpet Ensemble National Trumpet Competition Performance” at the National Trumpet Competition; Nicole DeFoor, Experimental Neuroscience major and Language Sciences minor, “Soundin’ Southern: The Acoustics of a Fake Accent” at the 87th Southeastern Conference on Linguistics; **Corinne Gorda**, Public Relations,

“Row Together: Using Guided Reflection to Build Career Success” at the National Association of Communication Centers Annual Conference; and **Jessie Yu**, Psychology major and Language Sciences minor, “Exploring Sensitivity to Negative-lag Voicing in Southern U.S. English Listeners” at the 87th Southeastern Conference on Linguistics.

ASPECT doctoral student **Sara Wenger** published a review of *Science Fiction Cinema and 1950s Britain: Recontextualizing Cultural Anxiety* by Matthew Jones in *Foundation: The International Review of Science Fiction* 49.135 (2020): 101–03.

News2Note will be on hiatus until August. Please submit items for inclusion in the August newsletter to Associate Dean Debra Stoudt at dstoudt@vt.edu.