



VIRGINIA
TECH

Global University

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Perspectives

From the desk of
Dr. S. K. De Datta,
Associate Provost
for International
Affairs and
Director of OIRE



The Office of International Research, Education, and Development (OIRE) and the Office of International Affairs continue to seek new opportunities to expand Virginia Tech's programs internationally. The success of these new opportunities depends on the energy and commitment of all faculty and staff throughout the university community.

As we implement the International Strategic Plan, we are finding that some areas can be implemented with the limited resources already on hand. Others will require new resources. One priority area is the development and implementation of specific strategies in different regions of the world.

At the Center for European Studies and Architecture in Switzerland (CESA), we have recruited an assistant director for Student Support Services. This full-time person replaces a part-time graduate assistant, enhancing continuity and stability at the center. Our long-term plan ensures that the right infrastructure is in place at CESA to make it a true European educational hub for faculty and students.

The East Asia regional strategy in China is moving forward with an academic collaboration with Zhejiang and *see Perspectives, page 4*

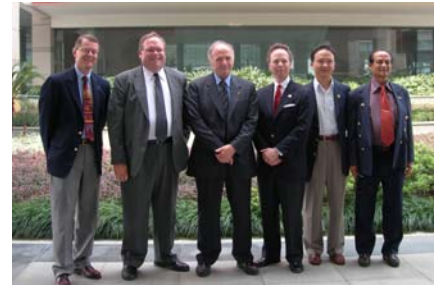
Tech Administrators Seek Opportunities in China

Kirk Neal

A Virginia Tech group, including Executive Vice President Jim Hyatt, College of Natural Resources Dean Michael Kelly, Associate Provost for International Affairs S. K. De Datta, and Vice Provost for Outreach and International Affairs John Dooley visited China in late summer as a step toward expanded collaboration with Chinese universities, businesses, and government.

According to Dooley, there were three objectives for the trip. "First, we wanted to explore the potential of student-faculty exchanges with academic institutions, including working on agreements with Zhejiang University and Zhejiang Gongshang University," he said. "We met with leaders of educational institutions to explore future collaborations."

"Secondly," Dooley said, "we wanted to pursue outreach, research, and teaching interventions that would better connect



Virginia Tech's delegation to China meets with Wen Zhang, former president of Apollo Holdings, a major research center in China. Pictured (L-R) are Michael Kelly, dean, College of Natural Resources; John Dooley, vice provost for Outreach and International Affairs; James Hyatt, Virginia Tech executive vice president and COO and leader of the delegation; Hampton Carver III, President, Carver & Co., developer of the Apollo Research Center; Wen Zhang; S.K. De Datta, Associate Provost for International Affairs.

Virginia Tech and China. We met with government representatives and leaders in *see China, page 2*

International Study a Priority for Natural Resources Dean Kelly

Miriam Rich

When Michael Kelly was a department chair at Iowa State, he conducted an exit interview with every graduating senior. One question he asked students was why they had or had not done education abroad. What he learned from these interviews was that, as a general rule, students who had not studied abroad thought that it was too expensive, or that it would delay their graduation. "This is why we



College of Natural Resources
Dean Michael Kelly

now make a good faith effort to address these concerns very early in the recruiting process," Kelly said.

Kelly, now dean of the College of Natural Resources at Virginia Tech, is a strong advocate of education abroad. He has a personal reason for believing in its value—both of his sons studied at the University of Otago in southern New Zealand. "I was truly impressed

see Kelly, page 8

Faculty Building On Administrators' China Accomplishments

Kirk Neal

Several Virginia Tech faculty members are building on the trip to China made by administrators this summer. Jim McKenna of crop and soil environmental sciences and Joe Marcy of food science and technology, together with Michael Jahncke of the Virginia Seafood Agriculture Research and Extension Center, worked together with China's Zhejiang Gongshang University College of Food Science to produce the International Conference of Food Safety Supervision and Legal System Construction held in China in early November.

"Because of China's huge population, food safety is a big issue for them, so it was a logical place for us to start partnering," McKenna said, "especially given the expertise we have in our food safety program." According to McKenna, there are many projects in the beginning stages between China and Virginia Tech, but the conference was instrumental to continued cooperation since it provides initial visibility and recognition for both institutions as they begin working together.

"The Chinese economy is exploding, but they also have incredible environmental problems, including problems with water and waste disposal. While moving toward a manufacturing and technology

economy, China is still primarily an agrarian society. So the agriculture side is the critical lynchpin for any future cooperation between universities," McKenna said. The conference built on the MOU that Virginia Tech has with Zhejiang Gongshang University and helped solidify educational linkages.

On their trip, these three faculty members worked to identify areas of mutual interest with Chinese counterparts, and developed strategies to solidify those contacts. This meant finding faculty interested in collaborating in research and in faculty and student exchanges, but perhaps most important, putting interested Chinese faculty in touch with Virginia Tech faculty.

"In addition, we will look for other opportunities for short-term training programs in food security and safety and in the soil and environmental areas,"

McKenna said. He expects further announcements concerning partnering in China in the near future.

"It is important to have a research entity like Virginia Tech to lend credibility as we work with China," he said.

Hangzhou province, where the university is located, has the third largest economy in China. It is about the geographic size of Virginia but contains 50 million people versus the commonwealth's 7.5 million. "Hangzhou province has about the same climate we do here," McKenna said, "so our agricultural research is easily applicable, as is our research on fisheries."

McKenna believes this is truly a reciprocal arrangement. "They are among the top research universities in China and have ongoing research worth \$180 million. That is the same level Virginia Tech aspires to, so it is definitely at least a peer institution," he said.

Purdue President Speaks at Outreach NOW Conference



Purdue President Martin C. Jischke, center, visited the Virginia Tech campus in September to speak at "Outreach NOW: A Forum on the Scholarship of Outreach." The seminar was cosponsored by Outreach and International Affairs and the Commission on Outreach and International Affairs. Following Jischke's speech, a faculty panel discussed their outreach

programs. Exhibits on faculty outreach projects were on display throughout the day and during a late afternoon reception in honor of this year's winners of university and college outreach awards. **Welcoming Jischke are the commission's chair, Judith Shrum, left, and John Dooley, vice provost for Outreach and International Affairs.**

China, *continued from page 1*

different disciplines, including the sciences, to determine their needs and interests, which were high. We also wanted to explore developing a China/Asia center as part of our broad international strategy to have regional research centers across the globe," Dooley added.

Dooley said the group returned with a much better understanding of the opportunities for collaboration in China. "Going to China was a true educational experience," he said. "Their country is undergoing unique transformations. They are in tune and aware of what is going on in the rest of the world related to science,

technology, and research. We saw several opportunities for multiple interactions between the university and China, and they have a continuing desire for educational collaborations."

"It is imperative we seek meaningful exchanges with China as they become more open to the world," Dooley concluded. "Students at Virginia Tech today and in the future will have multiple interactions with Chinese interests throughout their careers. We have a responsibility to prepare them for future opportunities."

Global University

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The Office of International Research, Education, and Development would like to thank all those individuals who submitted information to *Global University*. Regrettably, some submissions could not be included due to space constraints.

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ACC Schools Working Together on International Programs

Susan Felker

On November 3-4, the Atlantic Coast Conference colleges and universities held their first International Academic Collaborative (IAC) conference—and everyone was a winner.

The event, held on the Virginia Tech campus, brought together representatives from each participating ACC institution for round table discussions, seminars, and panel sessions to share best practices and explore opportunities for meaningful collaborations on international programs.

The meeting resulted from the desire of ACC members to work together on initiatives that will strengthen the member institutions academically, not just in the sports arena. David Brown, provost emeritus of Wake Forest University, was instrumental in advancing the international education agenda.

Virginia Tech President Charles W. Steger opened the conference by welcoming the ACC academic representatives. He underlined the significance of the initiative. “This will establish a framework for a broad range of collaborations across all of our international programs,” Steger said. He also hosted an evening reception and dinner for the group.

Keynote speaker for the event was The Honorable R. Nicholas Burns, U.S. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, who informed the audience that Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff are working together to facilitate the visa approval process for international students wishing to attend colleges and universities in the United States. One of the best ways to attain long-term international understanding is through educational exchanges between countries, Burns said. He indicated that the Department of State is fully aware of the negative impact of the strict post-9/11 visa regulations on recruiting the best international students for institutions in the United States, including the growing practice among such students of enrolling in universities in Britain, Canada, or Australia. He also noted that Secretary of State Rice wants to bring back

federal grant programs for the study of foreign languages.

Earlier this year, the ACC formed a Working Group on International Academic Collaborations (IAC) including chief representatives from each college or university with responsibility for international programs. This group developed a strategic plan that created a managing committee and that calls for biennial conferences to share best practices and information. Vice Provost for Outreach and International Affairs John E. Dooley represents Virginia Tech and chaired the first ACC/IAC conference.

The managing committee also reported to conference attendees about its other initiatives, including honoring outstanding international programs, faculty, and students; creating an ACC/IAC website linking international gateways at ACC member institutions; collaborating on existing education abroad opportunities and introducing new ACC multi-institutional initiatives; establishing an education abroad scholarship program; encouraging faculty collaboration through annual summer overseas missions; and initiating research to assess the effectiveness of international education programs.

IPM Awards \$7.2 Million in Sub-Awards

The Integrated Pest Management Collaborative Research Support Program (IPM CRSP) at Virginia Tech has announced that it will fund 12 sub-awards to researchers at seven universities for a total of more than \$7 million. Awards range in value from \$350,000 to \$825,000 for the four-year grants. Projects were selected by an independent evaluation review panel comprised of experts on developing country issues. IPM is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Programs are organized according to two schemes: regional IPM based on geographically delimited interventions, and global theme programs that deal with worldwide pest management challenges.

German University, Tech Collaborate on Architecture Research, Teaching

As part of a strategic collaborative research and teaching effort between Virginia Tech and the University of Stuttgart, Germany, 21 students from the College of Architecture and Urban Studies spent five days this past summer in Stuttgart studying contemporary urban design with architecture and urban planning students from the University of Stuttgart.

This cross-cultural learning opportunity was part of the College of Architecture and Urban Studies annual interdisciplinary education abroad program led by Terry Clements, associate professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture. The Stuttgart collaborative project is a component of a broader strategic research and teaching effort being developed by Heike Mayer, assistant professor in the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning, National Capital Region.

A major part of students’ learning experience was the study of an urban development project in the Stuttgart region as a member of one of nine mixed German-American student teams. The teams visited with urban planners, developers and architects who worked on the projects, gathered information, and prepared drawings for a case study presentation.

The group toured each of the nine projects which included the city’s cultural core, innovative housing, new development integrating large-scale storm water management, and the region’s largest construction project (a congress center/airport).

This cross-cultural learning opportunity not only gave Virginia Tech and Stuttgart University students the opportunity to study European architecture and urban design and planning, but also provided an opportunity for students to learn about a different culture.

De Datta Meets with Bangladesh President and First Lady



During a recent trip to Bangladesh to visit Integrated Pest Management sites, S.K. De Datta, Associate Provost for International Affairs and Director of OIRED, was invited to accompany the Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University, Dr. S.M.A. Faiz, on a visit with Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed, the President of Bangladesh.

At the presidential palace, President Ahmed, a soil scientist by training, was joined by Bangladesh First Lady Dr. Anwara Begam, who is Vice Chancellor of a private university in Dhaka. According to De Datta, the President and the First Lady were aware of the gender education projects being carried out by Virginia Tech as part of the Association Liaison Office project funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

President Ahmed expressed his thanks to De Datta for all that the USAID-funded IPMCRSP project and the gender education project are doing in Bangladesh. He also extended an invitation to Virginia Tech administrators, and President Charles W. Steger, to visit him in Bangladesh.

Pictured above from left to right are: Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University S.M.A. Faiz; S. K. De Datta; His Excellency the President of Bangladesh Iajuddin Ahmed; and the First Lady of Bangladesh Anwara Begum.

Perspectives, *continued from page 1*

Zhejiang Gongshang Universities. Our Chinese colleagues in Hangzhou recently welcomed a Virginia Tech senior management team headed by university Executive Vice President and COO Jim Hyatt, and including Vice Provost John Dooley, Dean of the College of Natural Resources Michael Kelly, and me.

The Caribbean Center at Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic is moving ahead in a number of areas. Representatives from eight U.S. universities met at Punta Cana in August to discuss each university's international programs. Vice Provost Dooley represented Virginia Tech.

In addition, during October, a three-member team from Tech attended a planning meeting at Punta Cana of nine universities and representatives from Dominican organizations. Virginia Tech was represented by Lawrence Grossman, head of the geography department in the College of Natural Resources, Richard Purdue, head of the hospitality and tourism management department in the College of Business, and me.

At this meeting, Grossman proposed establishing a Geographical Information System (GIS) Lab at Punta Cana, and Purdue suggested a possible academic collaboration with INTEC, the leading private university in the Dominican Republic. It was agreed to hire a program associate, who, in addition to being a resource for the Biodiversity Center (our main collaborating institution in the Dominican Republic), would support our efforts at Punta Cana and throughout the Dominican Republic.

Plans are underway for a semester-long program at Punta Cana in the spring of 2006, to be led by Joseph Scarpaci of the geography department in the College of Natural Resources, supported by five other faculty members. OIRED's Education Abroad unit is developing a business plan which will include a group of hospitality and tourism management students traveling to the Caribbean, led by Brian Mihalik of the hospitality and tourism management department of the Pamplin College of Business.

A Dominican Republic research project is already underway in Verón, an unplanned settlement adjacent to the Punta Cana resort. Scarpaci and Bill Galloway (College of Architecture and Urban

Studies) have concluded a household survey on infrastructure, health, water, and sanitation there, and are developing a program to address issues discovered during the survey.

Our Latin American initiative is progressing quite rapidly. Virginia Tech teams have visited Monterrey Tech in Mexico several times, and teams from Monterrey Tech and CONACYT, the Mexican equivalent of the National Science Foundation, have visited Virginia Tech as well.

We envision that top Mexican students receiving full support from CONACYT will come to Blacksburg for our graduate degree programs. A faculty member from the mining engineering department, Antonio Nieto, is working with CONACYT to make Virginia Tech the premier destination for these students. The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs has been active in developing the collaboration with Monterrey Tech, as have the foreign language and mechanical engineering departments.

A South African initiative, led by the Department of Mathematics in the College of Science, is initially focusing on information technology, but will branch out into other disciplines and to other regions of Africa.

With all our regional strategies, the cornerstone of the process will be education abroad and new faculty initiatives to develop joint research, education, and outreach programs. Each regional strategy must be developed on a case-by-case basis, with viable business plans that take into account cultural differences, disciplines important to the region, and personalities. A "one size fits all" approach will not work. These regional strategies should complement our other international programs in order to empower Tech faculty to educate students so that they can become competitive in the global economy.

In early November, Vice Provost Dooley and I had the opportunity to update the Board of Visitors and the university's upper administration on the progress we have made in these areas. The board's positive response and continued vigorous interest in Tech's international efforts bodes well for the university.

Faculty/Students Stay with Japanese Families



The Japan and Hong Kong study abroad program led by Devi R. Gnyawali, associate professor of management, had some unique features this year. The students received a grand welcome by the “Hippo Family Club” of Niigata, Japan and stayed with host families during a weekend. All 17 students

spent two days with 17 Japanese families in their homes and got a tour of Niigata and surrounding areas. The program included visits to several world-class Japanese and U.S. businesses based in Japan and visits to places of historical and cultural significance. The group spent three weeks in Japan and five days in Hong Kong during May and June.

College of Architecture and Urban Studies

Lang Co-edits Journal, *Opolis*

Robert E. Lang, associate professor in the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning and director of the Metropolitan Institute at Virginia Tech, is the co-editor of the journal, *Opolis: An International Journal of Suburban and Metropolitan Studies*. This semi-annual, peer-reviewed journal on suburban development is the first academic journal co-published by the Metropolitan Institute. The institute is co-publishing with the University of California, Riverside and the University of Sydney, Australia.

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

Faculty Collaborates on CESA Summer Humanities Program

Trudy Harrington Becker (classical studies, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies), Andrew Becker (classical studies, chair, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures), and Eva Vadi-longa (Center for European Studies and Architecture) together developed, organized, and taught the first summer humanities program at Virginia Tech’s Center for European Studies and Architecture in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland, “Cultures of Switzerland and Northern Italy, Ancient, Medieval, and Modern.”

Ulloa Leads Spain Tour

J. C. Ulloa, foreign languages and literatures, conducted the 30th Annual “Virginia Tech in Spain Summer Program,” May through July. As part of the program, the students enjoyed guided tours of more than 10 cities and places of interest, and visited the Spanish senate, where they learned more about the political changes taking place in Spain.

Mayorga at Spain Symposium

Rosa Mayorga, from the philosophy department, was invited to present a paper, “Peirce y la Metafisica” to the Pierce Study Group, a lecture series on the work of American pragmatist Charles S. Peirce, at the University of Navarre, Spain in May, where she was also a guest lecturer. She returned to Spain in July to present a paper, “Stimulating Student Discussion in an Online Course,” in Granada at the Twelfth International Conference on Learning, and another paper, “Peirce y el Individuo” to the philosophy department at the University of Granada.

Allen in Italy at Health Research Seminar

Barbara Allen, associate professor of science and technology studies at the National Capital Region (NCR) and director of the science and technology studies program at NCR presented a poster in September at the Ramazzini Foundation Conference in Bologna, Italy. The foundation is a leading supporter of independent environmental and occupational health research and holds this event once every ten years. Her poster and

paper were titled, “The Legal Debate Over Cancer Data and the Public Right-to-Know in a Petrochemical Region.”

Fuller Returns to Thailand Fulbright Site

Theodore Fuller, professor of sociology in the Department of Sociology, spent a week in July at Khon Kaen University in Thailand, where he had been a Senior Fulbright Scholar in 1982-1983. This summer, he spent a week working with doctoral students in the Ph.D. program in development sciences. On the last day of his visit, he presented a lecture on “Models of Evaluation Research” to about 100 graduate students and faculty members from Khon Kaen University.

Global Futures Program Held

Diana Ridgwell, director of student development; Karen Watson, director of academic support; and Tracey Drowne, enrollment services assistant, organized the first Global Futures program of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Undergraduate Academic Affairs Office in September. Six study abroad scholarship award winners talked about their educational and cultural experiences and answered questions from students. Students were also given an opportunity for consultations with education abroad faculty sponsors, representatives from the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid, and the Education Abroad Office.

Research on Therapy in Different Cultures

Faculty and doctoral students in the Department of Human Development, Marriage, and Family Therapy are conducting an Internet survey to understand how international practitioners of marriage and family therapy address issues of culture, gender, and power with therapy clients from their own cultures. The research team includes faculty members Margaret L. Keeling (PI) and Fred P. Piercy, and doctoral students Robyn Nunley, Jotika Jagasia, Valerie Glass, and Reece Nielson. Members of the research team presented study results at the International Family Therapy Conference in Washington, DC, in June where two of the student members were awarded diversity scholarships.

Talents Combined in World Premiere

A playwright, a composer, an actor and others from Virginia Tech collaborated for a world premiere event in Edinburgh, Scotland in August at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Patricia Raun, head of the Department of Theatre Arts, was the lone performer in “Eurydice,” a one-woman play by internationally-acclaimed Virginia Tech English professor Thomas Gardner. Alan Weinstein, Tech professor and noted cellist, composed the original score and was accompanist. Other Department of Theatre Arts faculty contributed, including David Johnson, acting coach, and Randy Ward, lighting consultant. “Eurydice” will have its American debut at the Department of Theatre Arts’s New Play Festival in February.

Pitt Presents in The Netherlands

Joseph Pitt, professor and head of the Department of Philosophy, presented “Design Criteria in Architecture” at the Biannual International Conference of the Society for Philosophy and Technology at Delft Technical University in Delft, The Netherlands in July.

Arnold Creates Catalog for Archive

This past summer, the Federal District Archive in Mexico City invited Linda Arnold, professor of history, to create an electronic catalog for its diverse collections. That catalog provides searchable PDF files for more than 80,000 maps and blueprints and more than 1,000,000 municipal and federal district documents, dating from 1528 to 2001. Additionally, the Mexican National Archive has incorporated into its internal electronic catalogs Arnold’s electronic catalogue for the 75 gigabyte imagebase of the Mexican Supreme Court Archive. Arnold also created a searchable PDF electronic catalog for the court’s immense collection.

Pamplin College of Business

Ukrainian Here for Fulbright

Ihor Oleksiv, associate professor of management and international entrepreneurship at Lviv National Polytechnic University in the Ukraine, is visiting the Department of Management as a Fulbright Research Scholar

this academic year. His Fulbright research project is “Making Managerial Decisions Based on Multilateral Review of Corporate Activity.” Ihor will also teach a class in strategic management.

Wokutch Presents in Spain, China

Richard E. Wokutch, Pamplin professor and head, Department of Management, made several presentations of papers around the world this summer, including: “The Influence of Uncertainty Reduction and Emotion on Relational Norms in Younger and Older Buyer-Supplier Relations” at the 5th International Workshop, Strategic Alliances: Governance and Contracts, in Barcelona, Spain; and, two papers discussing governance issues in China’s newly emerging economy at the Academy of Management meetings in Hawaii in August.

College of Engineering

Librescu Goes to Europe, Asia

Liviu Librescu presented a paper at the 2005 International Forum on Aeroelasticity and Structural Dynamics in Munich, Germany in June, presented two papers in August at the “Seventh International Conference on Sandwich Structures,” at Aalborg University in Denmark, and was appointed co-chairman of the International Organizing Committee of the Seventh International Congress on Thermal Stresses to be held in Taipei, Taiwan in 2007. In addition, in October his monograph “Thin-Walled Composite Beams: Theory and Application,” was published by Springer International.

McNair Lectures in Sweden

Lisa McNair, assistant professor in the Department of Engineering Education, delivered guest lectures this summer on Technical Communications and Rhetoric and New Media at the School of Literature, Culture, and Digital Media at the Blekinge Institute of Technology in Karlskrona, Sweden. While there, she also worked on laying the foundation for future multidisciplinary teamwork between Blekinge Institute and Virginia Tech.

DaSilva, Midkiff Featured in Russia

Luiz DaSilva and Scott Midkiff, professors of electrical and computer engineering, were the featured presenters at a Wireless Curriculum Development Workshop in August at Nizhni Novgorod University in Russia. At a “teach the teachers” workshop sponsored by the Intel Corporation, DaSilva and Midkiff discussed their class on “Wireless Networks and Mobile Systems.” DaSilva and Midkiff also visited Moscow University and the Moscow Aviation Technology University.

Bøhn Teaches Students Around the World

Jan Helge Bøhn, director, Computer Aided Design Laboratory and associate professor, mechanical engineering, team-taught a course this fall with colleagues and students at the Technische Universität Darmstadt (Germany), Howard University (Washington, DC), and ITESM Monterrey (Mexico). Thirty-four students were organized into three automotive divisions, each being responsible for redesigning the Opel Zafira for the German, U.S., and Mexican markets. The student teams collaborated using high-end video conference equipment. Bøhn is also team teaching a senior capstone design course with eight mechanical engineering and eight industrial design students from Virginia Tech, 40 students in Mexico, Canada, Sweden, China, South Korea, and Australia, and 11 students at Brigham Young University. This global student team is designing a new vehicle using state-of-the-art collaboration software and video conferencing equipment.

Novak Recognized as Fellow by IEEE

Tom Novak, C.T. Holland Professor and head of the mining and minerals engineering department, presented a technical paper at the Annual Meeting of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Industry Applications Society, held in Hong Kong in October. Novak was recognized by the society for his recent election as a Fellow of the IEEE for his contributions to electrical safety in mines. Following the meeting, Novak visited Asian American Coal in Beijing—the only joint venture between an American and a Chinese coal company—where he toured its new Daning Mine.

Roe-Hoan Yoon Attends Brazil Meeting

Roe-Hoan Yoon from the Department of Mining and Minerals Engineering was invited as a principal lecturer to the XXI National Meeting on Ore Dressing and Extractive Metallurgy in Natal City, Brazil held in November. As this year's plenary speaker, Yoon presented a paper, "Flotation Model Development from First Principles."

College of Science

Long Initiates Collaborative Research, Education Programs with IPF Dresden

Chemistry professor Timothy E. Long visited the Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry at the Leibniz Institute of Polymer Research in Dresden, Germany in June for an intensive two-week collaborative research session with the Institute's director and colleagues. Long was accompanied by Matthew Hunley, a graduate student in macromolecular science and engineering. Long gave two invited lectures on Tech's research in tailored macromolecular architecture and chemical functionality, and Hunley presented his graduate research. Collaborations are already underway in polymer research and professional outreach, and funding opportunities were identified for an international student exchange program.

Laubenbacher in Germany, Japan, Argentina

Reinhard Laubenbacher, professor of mathematics and research professor at the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute spoke at the following gatherings this year: the Center for NanoScience Summer School and the European Media Laboratories Conference, both in Germany; the 1st International Conference on Algebraic Biology in Japan; the School for BioMath in Argentina; and the Prospects of Mathematical Sciences conference at the Institute of Mathematics in Taiwan.

Rossi Initiates Germany Exchanges

As a result of attending the first international faculty development institute at the Center for European Study and Architecture in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland in May, John Rossi, professor and head of the Department of

Mathematics, met with officials at Germany's University of Trier to initiate faculty and student exchanges. He also gave a talk entitled "Applications of Potential Theory to Numerical Linear Algebra" in the university's mathematics department.

Burns Plenary Speaker in Argentina

John Burns, Hatcher Professor of Mathematics and director of the Center for Optimal Design and Control, gave a plenary lecture and was a member of the Organizing Committee for the International Conference on Approximation Methods for Design and Control in Buenos Aires, Argentina in March. In July, he gave an invited lecture at the University of Trier, Germany math department and served as the external referee of a dissertation there. Also in July, he gave a plenary lecture and was a member of the organizing committee for the International Conference on Distributed Parameter Control held in Waterloo, Canada.

Hilu Hosts Fulbright Scholar

Khidir Hilu, professor of biology, presented invited talks at the International Botanical Congress in Vienna, Austria in July and at a special conference on grasses sponsored by the Royal Botanical Garden in the U.K. Hilu also taught a study abroad class of 12 students in Germany, Switzerland, and Italy. In Hilu's lab, a visiting scholar from Senegal, Diaga Diouf, is doing research on cow pea genetics, an extension of a Fulbright-funded project he did at Tech last year. Another graduate student, Elke Döring, from Martin Luther University, Germany, is doing part of her doctoral thesis in Hilu's Lab.

Renardy Presents at Cambridge, UK

In July, Yuriko Renardy, professor of mathematics, gave a presentation in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics at the British Petroleum Institute at the University of Cambridge, U.K.

Elder Speaks on Number Theory

G. Griffith Elder, Department of Mathematics, gave a speech in July, "On ramification in wildly ramified quaternion extensions" at the Journées Arithmétiques conference in Marseilles, France.

College of Natural Resources

Delegation Goes to Forest Congress

Virginia Tech sent a delegation to the World Congress of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) held in August in Brisbane, Australia. The forestry department delegation consisted of Harold Burkhart, head; James Johnson, associate dean and professor; James Burger, professor; Harry Haney, professor emeritus; and Robert Smith, professor in the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products. Johnson presented a paper, "Evaluating Best Practices in Forestry Extension," moderated a technical session, and chaired a meeting of the Extension Working Party. Burger presented a paper, "Restoring Forests on Mined Land in the USA: Results and Outcomes of a 25-Year Research Program," while Smith presented a paper, "Evaluating Markets for Environmentally Certified Lumber in U.S. Home Centers."

Centers, Institutes, Labs and Other Units

McMillan Speaks on Theses, Dissertations

Gail McMillan, director of the Digital Library and Archives, represented Virginia Tech at the 8th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations in Sydney, Australia, and the University of New South Wales in September. She made two presentations: "Full Disclosure: How Authors and Readers Really Feel about ETDs" and "A Practical, Working, and Replicable Approach to ETD Preservation."

Porter Teaches Grantwriting in Australia

In June, Robert Porter, program development manager in Tech's research division, spent a week at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia, presenting a series of grant writing workshops to faculty. While there, Porter explored areas for potential collaborations with American universities. In addition to the group sessions, he met with individual researchers and research groups to explore avenues for funding.

Kelly, continued from page 1

with the level of confidence and independence that this experience engendered in both boys and that they quickly recognized their ability to go to a new environment and be successful.”

To publicize education abroad, Kelly has found that nothing is better than word of mouth. “Recruiting for international study is most effectively done by those students who have done it and by enthusiastic faculty. To this end, we encourage faculty to develop interesting offerings and to talk up their study abroad programs, and we provide information sessions where students who have been overseas can talk about their experiences.”

The departments of wood science and forest products, forestry, fisheries and wildlife, and geography all have at least one education abroad course, and some have several. “The geography department has a program that goes to Canada each summer, and while we don’t think of Canada as being that different, students benefit tremendously from this course,” Kelly noted. “Students travel by rail across much of Canada, which is an experience in itself for most students.”

Kelly’s efforts to continue the internationalization of the College of Natural Resources extend beyond education abroad. “We are focusing a number of research and outreach activities in South

America, Australia, and New Zealand,” Kelly said. “We are also exploring new relationships with China—academic partnerships where we will have the capability to exchange researchers and students, and programs that involve government agencies and private businesses.”

While Kelly is proud of the college’s accomplishments in the international arena, he said, “I would like to see us grow in our ability to provide more financial support for students interested in international activities. I would also like to see us make a stronger contribution to distance education—we have some international opportunities in this area.”

Kelly is serious about his commitment to internationalizing the College of Natural Resources—in September, he traveled to

China on behalf of the college, and after Thanksgiving, he traveled to Chile to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Austral in Valdivia.

Michael Kelly became the second dean of Virginia Tech’s College of Natural Resources in August, 2004. Kelly came to Tech from Iowa State University, where he was chair of the Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management. Under his leadership at Iowa State, the department gained prominence in restoration ecology, bio-based materials research, and undergraduate natural resource education. Kelly was at Iowa State for nine years and before that, served 20 years with the Tennessee Valley Authority, where he attained the level of senior environmental scientist/team leader. Prior to working at TVA, Kelly held posts at Purdue, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, NUS Corporation, and Ferrum College. Kelly received his B.S. from East Tennessee State University and his M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee.

To publicize education abroad, nothing is better than word of mouth

Large Crowd Attends Education Abroad Fair



An estimated 3,000-5,000 students attended the Education Abroad Fair, hosted September 28 by the Education Abroad office. The students were able to visit a large number of exhibits about education abroad programs.

Office of International Research, Education, and Development

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