



# News2 Note

November 2009

**Biko Agozino**, Sociology and Director of Africana Studies, published “Health Inequalities in Correctional Institutions: Implications for Health Inequalities in the Community” in the *Journal of Correctional Health Care* 15.4 (2009): 251-67, with co-author Stella Lucia Volpe. An abstract of the article is available [here](#).

CLAHS faculty members **C. Vernon Burnsed**, Music, **Michael A. Evans**, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies, and **Betti Kreye**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning, along with Heather Moorefield-Lang, Education and Applied Social Sciences Librarian, were awarded \$5000 by the Educational Enhancement Collaboration Grant for “Hathor: A Participatory Platform for Creative Expression in Mathematics and Music.” The project attempts to merge the arts (music, rhythm, movement), creative technologies (mobile, wireless devices, web-based services), and education (mathematics) to deliver a standalone educational application for the iPod Touch that encourages learners in grades 4-8 to explore creatively the world in collaborative ways.

**Tracy Cowden**, Music, gave a concert with VT alumnus Branch Fields on September 17 in Squires Recital Salon. Fields, a bass with the New York City Opera, performed works by Mascagni, Tchaikovsky, Finzi, Barber, Debussy, and Rodgers and Hammerstein, with Cowden accompanying at the piano.

The Master of Fine Arts program in Creative Writing in the Department of English reached a “top 50” [ranking](#) according to Poets & Writers Magazine. It is unusual for a program as young as the Creative Writing MFA - launched in 2005 - to achieve this ranking. Given the more than 400 MFA programs in the country, Virginia Tech’s is in the top 12%.

Department of English faculty members **Kelly Belanger** and **Diana George**, along with Marie Paretti and Lisa McNair, published “Reformist Possibilities? Exploring Writing Program Cross-Campus Partnerships” in *WPA: Journal of the Council of Writing Program Administrators* 33.1-2 (2009): 74-113.

**Michael A. Evans**, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies, published “Promoting Mediated Collaborative Inquiry in Primary and Secondary Science Settings: Sociotechnical Prescriptions for and Challenges to Curricular Reform” in *Handbook of Research on New Media Literacy at the K-12 Level: Issues and Challenges*, ed. R. Subramaniam (Hershey, PA: Information Science Reference, 2009), Volume I, 128-43. Information about the handbook can be found [here](#). In addition, Evans was selected to participate in the National Research Council’s Board on Science Education’s Committee on Learning

Science: Gaming, Simulation, and Education workshop at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., on October 6 and 7. The workshop explored connections between what is known about science learning and computer gaming and simulations, the role computer gaming and simulations could play in assessing learning, and the pathways by which they could be used on a large scale.

**Ed Falco**, English, talked about writing and read from his just-published novel, *Saint John of the Five Boroughs* at Volume II Bookstore on October 20.

**Ted Fuller**, Sociology, has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the journal *Teaching Sociology*. The quarterly publication of the American Sociological Association publishes a broad range of articles, notes, and reviews intended to be helpful to teachers of sociology.

**Matthew Gabriele**, Religion and Culture, was awarded a Humanities Summer Stipend for Summer 2010 for "Prophecy, Apocalypse, and the Transformation of the Medieval West." He will work with medieval manuscripts at the British Library in London, England. He also was nominated to apply for an NEH Summer Stipend for the project. In addition, Gabriele was the invited Distinguished Lecturer at Kenyon College in Gambier, OH, on October 29-30, where he presented a paper titled "The Empire of Charlemagne" and met with students.

**Jim Garrison**, School of Education/Teaching and Learning, was an invited participant of the Department of Philosophy at the University of Toledo for the fourth annual Research Conference. The title of his paper was "Individuality, Equality, and Creative Democracy—The Task Before Us."

**Diana George**, English, published "It's Not About Me: Public Writing and the Place of Principled Dissent" in *Reflections: A Journal of Writing, Service- Learning, and Community Literacy* (October 2009). With Paula Mathieu she also published "Not Going it Alone — Small Press Papers and the Circulation of Homeless Advocacy" in *College Composition and Communication* 61.1 (September 2009): 156-75. As an ACC Teaching Scholar, George was the featured presenter of "Beyond the Modes: Teaching Writing for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" at Boston College on October 14. The presentation was sponsored by the Boston College First-Year Writing Program, the Connors Family Learning Center, and the ACC Inter-Institutional Academic Collaborative. The ACC Academy of Teaching Scholars is a collaborative initiative of universities of the Atlantic Coast Conference to share expertise about excellent teaching practices that promote undergraduate student learning. Faculty and faculty development specialists productively share their teaching experiences, strategies, and philosophies by traveling to other ACC institutions to talk and work with faculty, students, and/or graduate teaching assistants through workshops, presentations, and informal discussion.

**Bernice Hausman**, English, was recognized by the Office of the Vice President for Research as the October 5 Scholar of the Week. She received the recognition for investigating the influence of medicine and culture on each other. Hausman's interdisciplinary scholarship uses insights from feminist and literary theory to explore the meaning of sex in 20th-century debates about hermaphroditism and transsexuality and to expose ideological trends in controversies about infant feeding, as evident in her monographs *Changing Sex: Transsexualism, Technology, and the Idea of Gender* (1995) and *Mother's Milk: Breastfeeding Controversies in American Culture* (2003). Her forthcoming book, *Viral Mothers: Breastfeeding in the Age of HIV/AIDS*, due in 2010, addresses social anxieties about mothers' bodies in the context of modern fears of contamination and contagion. Since 2005 Hausman has collaborated

with a group of scholars and practitioners at the University of North Carolina exploring feminist and public health approaches to breastfeeding and motherhood. In summer 2009 she served as lead investigator of a collaborative research group in English to explore the cultural and linguistic contexts of environmentalist practices.

**Bob Hicok**, English, published “A History of Origami” in the October 19 issue of *The New Yorker*, his third poem in the magazine in 18 months. The poem can be found [here](#).

Instructional Design and Technology faculty member **Michael Evans** (School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies) was the guest editor for a special online issue of the *Teacher Educator's Journal*, a publication of the Association of Teacher Educators of Virginia. Dedicated to video gaming and virtual worlds for education, the issue contains articles by five students in the Instructional Design and Technology program: doctoral students **Aimee Brenner** and **Dave Dannenberg** and master's students **Christa Guilbaud**, **Rachel Harmon**, and **David Marshall**. This was the first issue of the journal to be comprised solely of work either authored or co-authored entirely by students, setting a precedent for future special issues. “Fall 2009 – Special Online Issue: Video Gaming and Virtual Worlds in Education” can be found [here](#).

**Brett Jones**, School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies, and colleagues Knot, Matusovich, Paretti, Terpenney, and Williams in the Department of Engineering Education received a \$492,637 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to study how the curriculum in freshman engineering courses affects engineering students' motivation to remain in the field of engineering.

**Robert Magee**, Communication, along with Sriram Kalyanaraman, published “Effects of worldview and mortality salience in persuasion processes” in *Media Psychology* 12 (April 2009): 171-94. The [article](#) examines the relationship between people's worldviews and persuasion processes.

**Deborah Mayo**, Philosophy, edited *Error and Inference: Recent Exchanges on Experimental Reasoning, Reliability, and the Objectivity and Rationality of Science*, along with Aris Spanos (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010). The papers derive from a 2006 conference held at Virginia Tech.

**Lydia Patton**, Philosophy, published “Signs, Toy Models, and the a priori: from Helmholtz to Wittgenstein” in *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science* 40.3 (September 2009): 281-89; the article can be found [here](#).

The Gamma Omega Chapter of Phi Beta Delta, the International Honor Society, welcomed the following new members at its fall induction ceremony on October 14: faculty members **James Dubinsky** (English; Director of Student Engagement and Community Partnerships), **Michael Evans** (School of Education/Learning Sciences and Technologies), **Shannon Jarrott** (Human Development), and **Kirsten Jensen** (Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures); graduate students **Maria Bocanegra** (Political Science) and **Gregory Nelson** (Science and Technology in Society); and undergraduate students **Kimberly Bien** (Foreign Languages and Literatures/Spanish), **Laura Bondel** (International Studies), **Timothy Cohen** (International Studies), **Kathleen Collins** (International Studies), **Elizabeth DeHart** (International Studies), **Kathleen Donnelly** (International Studies), **Matthew Faircloth** (International Studies), **Olivia Gilmore** (International Studies), **Laura Gooch** (Political Science), **Chan-Hyuk Kang** (Political Science), **Thomas King** (Political Science), **Dalena Klavin** (International Studies), **Jennifer Lamb** (Political Science), **Sara Lamb** (International Studies), **Annah Latané** (International Studies), **Stephanie**

**Lizza** (International Studies), **Philip Loving** (International Studies), **Fallon Matthews** (International Studies), **Laura Matthews** (International Studies), **Thomas Muscarella** (International Studies), **Rick Mustian** (History), **Natalie Naab-Levy** (Human Development), **Megan Nunn** (Communication), **Cristina Palmer** (International Studies), **Maria Pasquarell** (International Studies), **Lauren Patrizio** (Political Science), **Danielle Pelton** (International Studies), **Anthony Radoiu** (International Studies), **Ashley Shepherd** (Political Science), **Jacqueline Simon** (International Studies), **Lauren Steckler** (International Studies), **Caitlin Thomas** (International Studies), **John Trent** (International Studies), **Lauren Tyler** (International Studies), **Erica Vambell** (International Studies), **Milda Vielaviciute** (International Studies), **Hilary Webster** (Political Science), **Katherine White** (Political Science), **Katerine Williams** (International Studies), and **Jade Worobec** (International Studies).

**Michael Saffle**, Religion and Culture, published *Franz Liszt: A Research and Information Guide*, Third Edition (New York: Routledge, 2009).

**Barbara Ellen Smith**, Sociology, published "Market Rivals or Class Allies? Relations between African American and Latino Immigrant Workers in Memphis" in *Global Connections, Local Receptions: New Latino Immigration to the Southeastern United States*, eds. Fran Ansley and Jon Shefner (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2009), 299-317.

Sociology faculty members **K. Jill Kiecolt** and **Michael Hughes**, along with Verna Keith, published "Can a High Sense of Control and John Henryism Be Bad for Mental Health?" in *The Sociological Quarterly* 50 (2009): 693-714.

The College is pleased to announce the first recipients of the South Atlantic Studies Initiative Awards, along with their proposal topics: **Mark Barrow**, History, "Charismatic Carnivore: The Cultural and Environmental History of the American Alligator"; **Samuel R. Cook**, Sociology, and **Karl Precoda**, Theatre & Cinema, enhancement of Virginia Tech's American Indian Studies program through course development; **Clare Dannenberg**, English, "Who Is Appalachia Again? Identity, Language and Practice in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century"; **Thomas Ewing**, History, "The Christiansburg Industrial Institute in the Tuskegee Era: Technical and Vocational Education for African-American Students, 1890s-1950s"; **Doris Kincade**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, "Documentation of Architectural Artifacts from Textile, Apparel, and Home Furnishings"; **Jim Kuypers**, Communication, "The January 1832 Debate on Slavery in the Virginia State Legislature: The Framing of Freedom"; **Kathleen Parrott**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, "Study of Basketry as a Three-Dimensional Design Form"; **Katrina Powell**, English, "Oral History Project and Documentary Film: 'They always grieved over it': Representations of the Displaced"; **Emily Satterwhite**, Religion and Culture, *Selling Appalachia: Popular Fictions, Imagined Geographies, and Imperial Projects, 1878-2003*; **Paula Seniors**, Sociology, "For Freedom Now": *African American Female Radical Activists*; and **Peter Wallenstein**, History, "The Black Freedom Struggle in Eastern Virginia: Three Tales."

**Elizabeth Struthers Malbon**, Religion and Culture, published *Mark's Jesus: Characterization as Narrative Christology* (Waco, Texas: Baylor University Press, 2009). The book will be the subject of a review panel at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in New Orleans in November.

Three CLAHS faculty members were recipients of a 2009 Albert L. Sturm Award from the Virginia Tech chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. The Sturm Award for Research was presented to **Peter W. Graham**, English, for *Jane Austen and Charles Darwin: Naturalists and Novelists* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2008). The Sturm

Award for Creative Arts were presented to **Bob Hicok**, English, for *This Clumsy Living* (Pitt Poetry Series, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2007), and **James R. Sochinski**, Music, for *Fantasia-Variations on a Dowland Ayre*. The awards honor the memory of Albert Lee Sturm (1911-1998), a founding member of the Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Virginia Tech and University Research Professor in Political Science. They recognize scholarship that contributes significantly to the advancement of liberal learning, honoring excellent work that is recognized as significant by a wider scholarly audience, not just a narrow group of specialists. Graham, Hicok, and Sochinski were honored at a reception held by Phi Beta Kappa at the University Club on October 21.

The first round of grants from the Undergraduate Research Institute (URI) for 2009-2010 were awarded to the following CLAHS students: **Orlando Dos Reis**, English and Communication, for the presentation of a paper at the 2009 Midwest Popular Culture Association/Midwest American Culture Association Conference, faculty advisor **Kathryn V. Graham**, English; **Paul Hinson**, a senior in Communication, received support for post-production and distribution of his 20-minute short film *November*, faculty advisor **Paul Harrill**, Theatre and Cinema; **Cody Miller**, History, for his research project titled "Walter Plecker and the Monacan Indian Nation," faculty advisor **Samuel R. Cook**, Sociology; and **Ryan Mowery**, Political Science/Interdisciplinary Studies, for her presentation at the APSA Teaching and Learning Conference, faculty advisor **Craig Brians**, Political Science. The URI also awarded funding for **Nancy Metz**, English, and **Yannis Stivachtis**, International Studies, for a Department Research Day in their respective departments.

On October 2-3 the Virginia Tech Africa Coalition (VTAC) hosted the Southeast Regional Seminar for African Studies (SERSAS) in its first meeting at Virginia Tech since 1976. The coalition is comprised of more than 70 faculty, staff and students with research, teaching, and/or activist interests in Africa. The seminar opened with a lecture by keynote speaker Karim Abdul Bangura of Howard University. Sessions on October 3 explored economic opportunities and social advancement in contemporary Africa, transnational and national challenges, and constructing narratives in African history. College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences presenters included **Sophia Anong**, Apparel, Housing and Resource Management, "Mobile Banking and the Unbanked in Africa"; **Kenly Greer Fenio**, a Visiting Assistant Professor in Political Science, "Human Trafficking in Southern Africa: The Role of Neoliberal Policy, Kinship Networks, and the Impending 2010 World Cup"; **Matthew Heaton**, History, "History and Politics of Nigerian Psychiatry: The Case Brain Fog Syndrome"; and Political Science seniors **Brittany Anderson** and **Caroline McCabe-Marcell**, "HIV/AIDS Organizations in Voi, Kenya." **P.S. Polanah**, Sociology, and **Brett Shadle**, History, chaired conference sessions. The meeting of SERSAS was sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences and the following departments and programs in the College: Africana Studies, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, the ASPECT program, History, Political Science, and Sociology; the Institute for Policy and Governance in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies; the NIH-Post Baccalaureate Research and Education Programs; and the Initiative to Maximize Student Diversity.

### *Alumni Highlights*

Featured this month are alumni from the School of Education:

**Anna-Maria Fall**, a December 2008 School of Education/Teaching and Learning Ph.D. recipient, was honored with the 2009 Dissertation Award from the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children. Her dissertation is titled "Early career special education teachers in high- and low-

poverty districts: A comparison of their qualifications, work conditions, and career commitments.” She will be presented with a plaque and \$1,000 at the national meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, in November. Fall currently is employed at the University of Texas-Austin.

**Mark Ingerson**, a 2001 M.A. Ed. Curriculum and Instruction graduate and currently a ninth-grade history teacher at Salem High School, was selected as Teacher of the Year for Region VI by the Virginia Department of Education. More information about Virginia’s Teachers of the Year is available [here](#). Ingerson was the 2005 winner of the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award and the 2007 Outstanding Recent Alumni Award from the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

**James L. Moore III**, who graduated from Virginia Tech in 1997 with an M.A. Ed. and in 2000 with a Ph.D. from the Counselor Education Program in Educational Leadership & Policy Studies was awarded (with Dr. Morris Clarke of Winston-Salem State University and Dr. Lamont A. Flowers of Clemson University) a three-year National Science Foundation research grant (\$499,981) to examine the similarities and differences between female and male science, technology, engineering, and mathematics students in terms of their levels of academic motivations, academic and social integration in the university environment, perceptions of the campus environment, student involvement on campus, academic self-concepts, educational aspirations, and vocational commitment. This year marks the second year in a row that Moore was featured in *Who’s Who in Black Columbus*. In addition, Moore is the third American to receive the Outstanding Contribution to School-Based Family Counseling Award from the Institute for School-Based Family Counseling. The international award recognizes his professional work with ethnic minorities, particularly African American males, in public schools and higher education institutions throughout the United States. The institute presented the award to Dr. Moore at the prestigious 2009 Oxford Symposium in School-Based Family Counseling at the Universitat de Barcelona, Spain, on July 16. Moore has been a member of the think-tank for two years.

**Hercules Pinkney**, who earned his Ed.D. Education Administration from the School of Education program in Northern Virginia in 1975, was named provost of Montgomery College’s Germantown Campus. Prior to assuming the post on August 7, Pinkney, who has 27 years of administrative experience in higher education, served as vice president for Continuing Education and Evening Programs at Prince George’s Community College in Largo. Between 1983 and 1989 he directed the Continuing Education Office of the Maryland State Board of Community Colleges. Pinkney, who has 27 years of administrative experience in higher education, has been an administrator and faculty member at three community colleges and two four-year colleges. He began his education career as an elementary school science teacher in Sumter, South Carolina.

**Gary L. Seevers, Jr.**, who was awarded his Ph.D. in Educational Research and Evaluation in 1973, was elected as the next President of Global University, where he has served as Provost (originally VP of Academics) for almost nine years. Global University is a worldwide distance education provider that offers tools for evangelism, discipleship, and training to 180 countries around the world in 124 languages, with more than 5,000 enrolled in undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

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