Journalists share words of advice with graduates

Two respected members of the media addressed more than 2,000 graduates who participated in Old Dominion’s commencement ceremonies May 10 at the Ted Constant Convocation Center.

Chris Matthews, the host of MSNBC’s “Hardball with Chris Matthews,” delivered the afternoon address to graduates from the colleges of Arts and Letters, Engineering and Technology and Health Sciences. In a speech punctuated with jokes and anecdotes, Matthews touched briefly on the current political climate and the upcoming elections. “This is an interesting country with an interesting choice,” he noted. He went on to say that this country is great because its citizens continue to have hope, optimism and the belief in the possibility for change.

Matthews closed his message to the students by encouraging them not to be afraid to ask for what they want in life. “In dealing with ambitious people, I’ve learned that they do one thing different than everybody else: they ask for it. If you want something, ask,” Matthews said. “There’s a false assumption out there that talent will always be recognized. Don’t believe it. The world is not checking in with us to see what skills we’ve picked up. ... When a job opens up, it goes to the person standing there.”

Leonard Pitts, a nationally syndicated columnist with the Miami Herald, spoke at the morning ceremony for graduates of the colleges of Business and Public Administration, Education and Sciences.

He talked about “evergreen truths,” those things that are fundamental and by which one’s reputation is made. He also stressed the importance of being able to defend one’s beliefs. “That right (to hold an opinion) ... comes complete with a moral obligation to be able to defend it. Because ... what you think and believe is not just a matter between you and your conscience. ... What we think and believe determines how we vote, which causes we support, how we shape the world,” he said.

“Class of 2008, we need you to think, to question authority, to question the status quo, to question your own assumptions. Earn the right to your own beliefs. Because into your hands comes the unfinished business of the generations that came before.”

Board appoints John Broderick acting president

John R. Broderick, vice president for institutional advancement and admissions and chief of staff, was appointed by the Board of Visitors to serve as acting president of Old Dominion University between the time President Roseann Runte leaves and a new president arrives.

The appointment was announced at the board’s April 11 meeting. Runte, Old Dominion’s seventh president, will become the president of Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada, effective July 1.

“While the Old Dominion University community is saddened by the departure of President Roseann Runte, the Board of Visitors is very pleased that the current vice president for institutional advancement and chief of staff, John R. Broderick, has been elected to serve as acting president,” said Rector Marc Jacobson. “With his significant institutional knowledge and considerable experience and abilities, Mr. Broderick will ensure that the leadership and momentum provided by President Runte continues.”

Broderick joined ODU in 1993 as director of public information and has served as a vice president since 1996. His areas of responsibility include admissions, athletics, community relations, governmental relations, licensing, marketing, media relations, military affairs, photography, publications, special events, student financial aid and the campus Visitor Center.

In addition, he serves as executive editor of both the alumni magazine and Quest, the faculty research magazine. Broderick recently chaired the committee to select ODU’s provost, and he currently heads university-wide initiatives for branding, enrollment and development.

State bond package would provide funding for three major buildings

A statewide bond bill approved by the General Assembly – and awaiting the expected signature of Gov. Tim Kaine – would provide funding for three Old Dominion buildings.

The capital bonds package would support a new $19.2 million consolidated arts complex, a new $11.1 million student success facility and allow the purchase, for $13.3 million, of the new headquarters of the Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center in Suffolk.

“The consolidated arts complex will combine several existing art buildings and open up additional classroom space along Kaufman Mall,” President Roseann Runte said in a letter to the campus community. “The renovation, along with new construction on Monarch Way across from the Stables Theatre and renovations to buildings to the east, will create a centralized home for the art department.

Work on the facility would likely begin in spring 2009. Once the complex is built, the Visual Arts Building would be renovated.

The Student Success Center will be the future home of the University College, the Honors College and the Office of Admissions, “centralizing all services needed to help all students succeed at ODU,” Runte noted. “It will support academic skills, writing, testing, tutoring/mentoring, advising and career management.”

Constructors on the center, to be located on 49th Street just north of the Roseann Runte Quad, would begin in late spring or early summer of next year.

As part of the proposed bond package, ODU also would receive $726,000 in planning funds for a systems research and academic building to be located between Perry Library and Kaufman Hall. Completion of the planning will place this new facility in line for future state capital funding.

The previously funded Hughes Hall renovation is scheduled to begin next month.

on the inside

• Dream Fund winners • Top scholars • Harold Wilson’s long ODU history • Faculty awards • Emeriti ranks grow • Commentary: Global climate change
A fond farewell

President Roseann Runte and her mother, Anna O’Reilly, react to comments from Board of Visitors Rector Marc Jacobson at the faculty farewell ceremony May 5 for Old Dominion’s seventh president. The program included a video tribute as well as personal remarks delivered by state Delegate John Cosgrove, Norfolk Mayor Paul Fraim, and faculty, staff and student representatives. Jacobson, who made a last-ditch effort to persuade Runte to reconsider her decision to step down from the presidency, nevertheless came prepared with parting gifts, which included a deerer and knit cap to help her deal with the colder climes in Ottawa, where she will be going on July 1.

Chopra to give address at CLT Summer Institute

Aneesh P. Chopra, state secretary of technology, will deliver the keynote address for the Old Dominion University Center for Learning Technologies’ 10th Summer Institute. His talk will begin at 9 a.m. Tuesday, May 20, in the Hampton/Newport News Room of Webb Center.

The summer institute, which runs from Monday, May 19, through Wednesday, May 21, opens with a technology fair that will include demonstrations of various available technologies. From Tuesday morning through Wednesday afternoon, guests are invited to participate in seminars with ODU faculty members who have used those and other technologies to facilitate their students’ learning and success.

The institute also features a series of panel discussions on the inclusion of portable online delivery (POD), which uses the Internet and portable devices (such as hand-held audio or video players) to increase class interaction and to ensure better student retention. This technology is heavily used by multitasking students, and has been employed successfully by several ODU professors to broaden the delivery of their course materials.

Lunches will be provided. For more information write clt@odu.edu; to register, visit http://clt.odu.edu/facedev.

SOBO Pizza Kitchen opens; Starbucks coming soon

SOBO Pizza Kitchen & Ale House opened last month on Monarch Way in the University Village. It is the second restaurant in the Village for owner Don Rockwell, who became one of the first tenants with the opening of Boar’s Nest. SOBO offers hearth-roasted Neapolitan pizzas using fresh local produce. The smoke-free restaurant offers 36 craft beers on draft from around the world and a wine list of more than 100 bottles.

Another new tenant, Starbucks, will open in the University Village Bookstore this summer. It will be operated by Aramark, the company that manages on-campus dining operations.

Located at the south end of the bookstore on the first floor, the coffeehouse will have outdoor patio seating. Patrons will be able to enter from the street or from inside the bookstore.

Runte donates sculpture to Gordon Art Galleries

President Roseann Runte recently donated a cast and carved glass sculpture by Canadian artist Markian Olynyk to the university’s Baron and Ellin Gordon Art Galleries.

A self-taught artist who lives in Vancouver, Olynyk employs a wide variety of leading-edge techniques, many of which have been developed in his studio. The piece given by Runte is an untitled work from his Arc Series.

“The sculpture is a most generous gift,” said Ramona Austin, curator of the Gordon Galleries. “Dr. Runte’s sensitivity to the architectural statement of the facility is evident in that her gift creates a dialogue with the strong linear statement of the undulating glass atrium wall uniting the galleries.”

Joe Jackson to discuss book at FOL event May 21

Joe Jackson, five-time Pulitzer Prize nominee and the author of five nonfiction books and one novel, will discuss his most recent work, “The Thief at the End of the World,” at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 21, in room 151 of the Perry Library.

The book tells how a 19th-century would-be explorer, Henry Wickham, absconded, literally, with the seeds of Brazil’s most valuable natural product. Jackson writes, “Henry’s theft was no different than that by scores of others before him – and yet, in a fundamental way, it was... Thirty-four years after Henry’s theft, the British rubber grown in the Far East from Henry’s seeds would flood the world market, collapsing the Amazon economy.”

Jackson, who lives in Virginia Beach, was an investigative reporter with The Virginian-Pilot for 12 years. His talk, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by Friends of the Old Dominion University Libraries.

Faculty Wives and Friends group elects officers

The ODU Faculty Wives and Friends organization recently elected officers for 2008-10. Tamara Haines, the wife of Russell Haines, assistant professor of information technology/decision sciences, will serve as president. Gisela Schoenbach, the wife of Karl Schoenbach, emeritus scholar of electrical and computer engineering, is the new vice president.

The purpose of the group, which was established in 1950 by President Lewis Webb’s wife, Virginia Racz Webb, is to bring together university people and others to promote ODU interests, to acquaint them with the university and to fund a scholarship for a female student.

The organization sponsors social activities, on and off campus, and includes special-interest groups. For more information contact outgoing president Joan Griffey at jgriffe113@msn.com or 440-9508.

Publications win awards

The Office of University Publications won five Certificate of Excellence awards in the 2008 American Inhouse Design Awards competition.

The awards program is the original and premier showcase for first-rate work being done by corporate, nonprofit and institutional inhouse departments. Of the more than 5,000 entries from across the country in this year’s program, approximately 500 departments were honored with a Certificate of Excellence. Victoria Burke is ODU’s director of university publications.

The winning publications and their designers are:

- College of Arts and Letters’ Fine and Performing Arts Series booklet (Shara Weber);
- Energy for Tomorrow booklet (Karen Smallets);
- Foundations Annual Report - 2006 (Sharone Lomax);
- Quest, ODU faculty research magazine (Sharon Lomax); and
- Year in Review (Karen Smallets).

Blaine Taylor’s contract extended to 2014-15

Men’s basketball coach Blaine Taylor has accepted an extension of his contract through the 2014-15 season. He will enter his eighth season at Old Dominion with a 136-84 record.

“What has become obvious in the last few years is that, when you compare this place and this program across the board with others, we are now in a position that I never dreamed of when I first arrived on campus,” said Taylor, the 2003 Colonial Athletic Association Coach of the Year.

The Monarch program has won a school-record 94 games the last four years.

Top athletes are honored

Women’s basketball senior T.J. Jordan of Portsmouth and senior men’s golfer Stan Guerrero of Tijuana, Mexico, were named Athletes of the Year by the ODU Alumni Association at the Athletic Honors Banquet April 29.

Senior women’s golfer Bailey Mosier of Las Vegas and senior baseball pitcher Ryan Bergh of Reddick, Fla., were named the 2008 recipients of the Jack Wilkins/James Howard Scholar Athlete of the Year awards.

Jordon is ODU’s and the Colonial Athletic Association’s all-time three-point scorer with 323. She is a two-time CAA Tournament MVP.

Guerrero helped lead the Monarchs to a second-place finish in this year’s CAA championships. He compiled a 71.9 stroke average in the fall and finished with an overall 73.2 average.

Mosier, a finalist for the Kaufman Prize, had an 83.2 stroke average. She carried a 3.83 GPA in communication.

Bergh, who has a 5-4 record and 3.07 earned run average, had a 3.51 GPA in sport management.

3.83 GPA in communications.

The Courier is published monthly for the faculty, staff, students and friends of Old Dominion University by the Office of Institutional Advancement. John R. Broderick, vice president for institutional advancement and admissions.

Letters to the editor and articles for The Courrier should be sent to: ODU Alumni Association, 530 High Street, Norfolk, VA 23529. Telephone: 757-683-3093. E-mail: jgriffey113@msn.com or 440-9508.

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First “Dream Fund” winners announced

BY SCOTT LOWE

The first winners in the Staff Dream Fund program, which President Roseann Runte established to provide time off and money for deserving employees to pursue a long-held dream, were announced recently. They are Tracey Bowry, acquisitions coordinator at Perry Library and an 18-year employee, and Elizabeth Newberry, customer service supervisor in the Department of Human Resources, a 12-year university employee.

Newberry, originally from England, plans to take a trip to Edenbridge in time for her father’s 90th birthday party next January. This will be her first trip back to her home country in more than six years.

“I could not believe it. I put in for it the last day, and thought, ‘What the heck,’” Newberry said. “I definitely did not think I would win. I am very thankful for the chance, which I would not have been able to afford otherwise.”

Bowry will be taking a fun vacation to Pigeon Forge, Tenn., this August with her four adopted children, ages 11-16.

“My dream was to take a family vacation without the financial stress,” she said. “This will give all of us a time to bond.”

She added that the family will stay in a cabin deep in the Smoky Mountains, and see Dollywood, the Ripley Museum and other attractions in the area.

“All three of us are very excited.”

The Dream Fund program will provide monetary awards of $2,000 to $4,000 and up to five days’ paid time off each year for one or more staff members to fulfill a long-held dream. Privately funded through an endowment, the program is open to full-time classified staff and full-time administrative and professional faculty who have worked at the university a minimum of five years. Winners are chosen by a committee that is reflective of the university workforce.

Board sets tuition rates for 2008-09

The Board of Visitors approved the tuition and fee schedule for 2008-09 at its April 11 meeting. Tuition for in-state undergraduate and graduate students will increase 4 percent, to $1,110 per credit hour. It will rise 4 percent for both out-of-state undergraduate and graduate students. ODU will increase its campus-based student financial aid by $1.4 million and provide $400,000 more funding for off-campus student employment. This adjustment of in-state undergraduate tuition will qualify the university to receive Tuition Moderation Incentive Funding.

Combined with the comprehensive fee, full-time, in-state undergraduates will pay $6,918 for 30 credit hours, a $390, or 6 percent, increase over this year’s rate. In-state graduate students will pay $7,902 for 24 credits, a 5.4 percent increase in tuition and fees.

Room and board rates will go up an average of 6.7 percent, or $449.

Out-of-state undergraduate students will see a 4.7 percent increase in yearly tuition and fees, to $18,588 for 30 credit hours; out-of-state graduate students will pay $19,818 for 24 credits, or 4.5 percent more than in 2007-08.

The board voted unanimously to name the area adjoining Ireland House, Virginia House and Scotland House the Roseann Runte Quad in honor of ODU’s seventh president, in recognition of her “extraordinary leadership, vision and service.”

In other action, the board voted to sell a parcel of land on 49th Street to the Malcolm Community of Tidewater to be used to expand its Islamic Center and establish 27 parking places.

The board voted to appoint Meredith Brier Lee as student representative to the Board of Visitors. A senior English major from Chesapeake, she carries a 3.9 GPA. She is a member of the Honors College and has a minor in dance.

Engineering education expands with opening of VIPER in Alton, Va.

Old Dominion officially introduced a new era in engineering education with the recent opening of its high-tech Virginia Institute for Performance Engineering and Research (VIPER), located at Virginia International Raceway in Alton.

The 3,400-square-foot facility, which will be operated in conjunction with Virginia Tech, will have classroom, shop and office space, and a chassis dynamometer for measuring wheel horsepower, among other features. According to Oktay Baysal, dean of the Frank Batten College of Engineering and Technology, the institute will help to attract more economic investment to southwest Virginia. Students will use the facility on weekdays, and it will be rented out to race teams during the weekend.

Starting with the fall 2008 semester, VIPER will accept engineering motorsport students who have progressed from coursework at community colleges to the New College Institute in Martinsville, or who have studied at other state or regional higher education institutions.

VIPER also will be the site of testing and evaluation for alternative fuels, specifically algae-based biodiesel that is being produced by ODU and the Virginia Coastal Energy Research Consortium. The new lab’s instrumentation and testing capabilities will be used to validate fuel performance and develop engine technologies. The hope is that this will lead to the production of highly efficient engines that can run on biodiesel fuel consistently.

Having already successfully tested the fuel in remote-controlled cars, the next step for ODU researchers is to test their product in full-sized engines.
**Pioneers in electrogenetherapy to join Bioelectrics Center**

By JIM RAPER

Richard and Loree Heller, husband and wife pioneers in electrogenetherapy, are joining the Old Dominion faculty as researchers at the Frank Reidy Research Center for Bioelectrics. Their expertise promises to advance the center’s already groundbreaking research in cancer therapies that utilize ultrafast pulses of electricity.

The Hellers are moving from faculty positions at the University of South Florida College of Medicine. In addition to the Bioelectrics Center appointment, Richard Heller will assume a position as professor in the College of Health Science’s School of Medical Laboratory and Radiation Sciences.

“We are very fortunate to have Richard and Loree Heller joining us,” said Karl Schoenbach, the Bioelectrics Center director, eminent scholar and Batten Endowed Chair in Bioelectric Engineering. “They are known worldwide for their pioneering research in electrogenetherapy. Their research will allow us to greatly expand our efforts to develop new electrotherapies for cancer treatment.”

Karl Schoenbach
Director, Frank Reidy Research Center for Bioelectrics

Mozammad Karim, vice president for research, added, “This is a major coup for ODU and the Reidy Research Center.”

The Hellers are known in the field of bioelectrics for their success with the delivery of molecules into live, target cells by means of electroproporation. Pulses of electricity, in effect, open the membrane of live cells – tumor cells, for example – temporarily, allowing the delivery of molecules to the cells. The deliveries could be of genetic material or drugs, both of which can serve as pinpoint applications of therapies against cancer or other maladies. This procedure allows tumors to be targeted for treatment without the broad damage to healthy tissue caused by most chemotherapies today.

In gene therapy via electroproporation, the deliveries might be of anti-tumor agents such as the so-called “suicide” genes, or of genes encoding toxins. Still other deliveries might be of immune modulators that reduce the immunity of cancer cells to the body’s own defenses. The Hellers have reported significant tumor regression from their gene therapies.

Richard Heller currently is supported by $5 million in research funding, mostly from the National Institutes of Health. Previous support from the NIH, National Cancer Institute and many other public and private sources totaled another $5 million. In 2004 he received the Iwao Yasuda Award from the Society for Physical Regulation in Biology and Medicine, and the Fellow Award of the Society for In Vivo Biology. The next year he won the latter society’s Distinguished Service Award.

Most recently he has been professor of molecular medicine and chemical engineering and co-director of the Center for Molecular Delivery at USF. He received his Ph.D. in medical sciences with specialization in medical technology and immunology from the USF School of Medicine in 1989.

Loree Heller is currently supported by a $4,000,000 NIH grant, and has completed another $500,000 in supported research. She leaves positions as an assistant professor of molecular medicine at USF and a clinical scientist for Tampa General Hospital. Loree is scheduled to arrive in Norfolk in July, Richard in September.

Research by the couple complements the advances made by Schoenbach and other ODU researchers. Two years ago, a team at the Bioelectrics Center reported research showing that a millionth of a second pulses of electricity alone will destroy tumor cells and bring complete remission of melanomas on the skin of mice. The researchers also have reported the development of strategies using antennas to zap tumors inside the body.

Old Dominion honors Outstanding College Scholars

Six Old Dominion graduates were recognized as Outstanding College Scholars during commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 10, at the Ted Constant Convocation Center.

The awards, presented by the Alumni Association, are given to the student with the highest grade point average in each college. The top scholars and their inspirational faculty members (in parentheses) are:

- Arts and Letters – Kathryn Scanlan of Glen Allen, criminal justice major, 4.0 GPA (Kelly Cheeseman-Dial, a former adjunct instructor of criminal justice).
- Business and Public Administration – Sebastian Aiming of Norfolk, information technology major, 3.95 GPA (Jimmie Carraway, senior lecturer of MIS/decision science).
- Education – Kelly G. Moore of Portsmouth, physical education major, 3.98 GPA (Lynn Ridinger, associate professor of exercise science, sport, physical education and recreation).
- Engineering and Technology – Shivam J. Shah of Yorktown, electrical engineering technology major, 3.84 GPA (John Hackworth, associate professor of engineering technology).
- Health Sciences – Fatimah C. Hope of Wilmington, Del., nursing major, 4.0 GPA (Martha Nesselrode, senior lecturer of nursing).
- Sciences – Nicholas Rister of Norfolk, biology major, 4.0 GPA (Ralph W. Stevens, associate professor of biological sciences). Rister was also honored with the distinction of Outstanding University Scholar for the entire university.

Kaufman Prize goes to Asamoah-Caesar

Kojo Asamoah-Caesar, a communication major from Annandale, Va., was awarded the 2008 Kaufman Prize at the Student Awards Dinner on Thursday, May 1.

The $10,000 prize is awarded to a graduating senior “who has exerted an exceptional and constructive influence on the university, its students or the community by demonstrating the highest qualities of leadership and service.” Landmark Communications established the award in honor of Charles L. Kaufman, ODU’s student body president during his senior year, Asamoah-Caesar had a 3.51 GPA and minored in political science. He was the founder and president of TRUST and an intramural flag football and intramural basketball co-captain.

He received the Stihl Inc. hometown Hero-Award (January 2007) and Emerging Leader Award (April 2006). He plans to attend William and Mary Law School and study international human rights law.

Asamoah-Caesar, who chose to attend ODU because of its diversity, named Lesa Clark, director of multicultural student services, as his most inspiring mentor.

James R. Lin, a biology major with a 4.0 GPA from Virginia Beach, was named Runner-up for the Kaufman Prize and received a cash award of $2,454. Lin, who recently won a fellowship from the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi for the 2008-09 academic year, plans to pursue a degree in medicine at Eastern Virginia Medical School.

Lin named Nancy Wade, associate professor emeritus of biological sciences, as his most inspiring mentor.

Prof awarded Fulbright for research in Turkey

Can play choices in kindergarten lead to improved math skills? Do teaching methodologies of kindergarten teachers have a real impact on whether – or if – the age of a student affects the relationship between gender and choice? Alice Wakefield has just been awarded a second Fulbright to do research that considers these questions and has implications for how we support math thinking in young children, especially girls.

Together with Aysie Ivrendi of Pamukkale University in Denizli, Turkey, Wakefield will introduce Turkish educators to constructivist teaching and learning while the two continue their research investigating gender differences of freely chosen physical knowledge activities in preschool/kindergarten children both at Pamukkale and Old Dominion.

There aren't many Fulbright awards that involve university exchanges, and the application process was complex, but Wakefield, an associate professor of early childhood education and learning, who first met in 1997 when Ivrendi completed a master's degree in early childhood education at ODU, persevered together. The award funds will bring Ivrendi to ODU in the fall of 2008 and send Wakefield to Pamukkale next spring.

Wakefield has previously had a Fulbright-funded trip to Qatar in 2002-03. “In Qatar, as in Turkey, there is government interest in educational change toward constructivist learning. Constructivist teachers orchestrate opportunities for problem solving, invention and inference, and let their students do the talking,” she said.

– Lane Dare
Harold Wilson

Popular history prof retires following career that spanned more than four decades at ODU

B Y S T E V E D A N I E L

W ith his retirement at the end of the spring semester, history professor Harold S. Wilson has made a bit of history himself. Of the 20 faculty members with 30 or more years of university service who are stepping down this year, Wilson was the first to join the teaching ranks here—in 1966.

Consider the following: When he came on board that fall, with his Ph.D. fresh in hand from Emory University, Lewis Webb was the president, ODU was still three years away from being the school acronym and ODC was born in a four-year-old body only since 1962. In his first years on campus, the Folk Music Club hosted hootenannies and Kappa Alpha was still sponsoring its annual Sadie Hawkins Dance. Enrollment had not yet reached 10,000.

For one accustomed to attending and teaching at private schools—Wilson had taught four years at Wesleyan College in Macon, Ga., before coming to Norfolk—the look of the campus left something to be desired. “When I saw the architecture, I wondered what I had done,” Wilson said with a laugh. But he also saw great potential.

His first office was on the second floor of an old barracks building that the school had purchased—and moved—from the Naval Operating Base. The two-story building was located approximately between the current sites of Koch Hall and the Kornblau Alumni Center.

“That was the history building,” Wilson said. “The psychology people were on the first floor with their rat lab, and certainly I knew people rather well.”

Harold Wilson, who is well-known for his passion for Civil War history, never developed an overarching teaching philosophy. “I remember most was his enthusiasm, and that enthusiasm was evident both inside and outside the classroom,” relational. Castellanos, who earned her history degree in 2005 and is now pursuing a master’s, noted, “I would find it hard to believe that there was any other scholar out there with so much enthusiasm and knowledge about the American Civil War as Dr. Wilson. His energetic lectures drew us into another time, allowing for a full perspective of not only the battles, but the personalities and social contexts of the era. I thoroughly enjoyed having him as a professor and will always remember Dr. Wilson for his passion with respect to educating others about the War between the States.”

Annette Finley-Croswhite, chair of the history department, added, “Harold Wilson has had an amazing presence in the department. His institutional memory is a vital part of the history department, and his dedication to Civil War history is admirable. He has taught generations of students with his own particular enthusiasm and erudition. Students often comment on his impressive memory and story-like lectures that both entertain and enthral.”

Broderick appointed acting president

(Continued from Page 1)

 Brother was one of four finalists for the PP News’ 2006-07 Professional of the Year award for an academic institution. In addition to his administrative duties, he annually teaches the School, Community and Politics course to graduate students in the Darden College of Education and has written articles for the Chronicle of Higher Education, Hartford Courant, Baltimore Sun, Sporting News, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Richmond Times-Dispatch, Virginia-Pilot and Daily Press.

Prior to coming to ODU, Broderick was a faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh and an administrator at St. Bonaventure University. He also served as tourism director for The Island of Martha’s Vineyard and as a reporter for several news papers in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

ODU highlights and achievements

• Helped secure General Assembly funding in the last six years for 10 campus building projects totaling more than $150 million
• Since joining ODU as director of university relations in 1993, has led efforts resulting in an 80 percent boost in national media coverage
• Overseas admissions efforts that have increased enrollment by 40 percent for fresh men, 96 percent for graduate students and 29 percent for transfer students
• Established Quest, the faculty research magazine, and the alumni magazine, both award-winning publications
• Helped secure General Assembly funding in the last four years that increased ODU’s base budget from $67 million to $104 million
• Served as a regional coordinator for the successful 2002 state bond referendum
Faculty Awards and Retirement Dinner

A. Rufus Tonelson Faculty Award

Barbara Bartkus

Barbara R. Bartkus, associate professor of management, joined Old Dominion in 1997 upon completing her doctoral degree at Texas A&M University. During her time at ODU, she has established a reputation as one of the best teachers in the College of Business and Public Administration. She received the college’s Faculty Teaching Award in 2004 and won the prestigious recognition of University Professor in 2005.

Dean Nancy Bagranoff stated, “Professor Bartkus is that rare talented teacher who impacts both student learning and student lives. She has also served her academy and the larger community surrounding her as well.”

The Tonelson Award, which includes a $2,000 prize and free parking for a year, is named for one of ODU’s first students, the late Alan Rufus Tonelson ’33, who went on to serve as a professor and administrator of the university.

Provost’s Award for Leadership in International Education

Kent Carpenter

Kent E. Carpenter, professor of biological sciences, joined Old Dominion in 1996. He received a B.S. in marine biology from the Florida Institute of Technology and a Ph.D. in zoology from the University of Hawaii.

Carpenter has a long history of international activities, including work as a Peace Corps volunteer, employment with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations in Rome and ecological research in the Middle East. He was selected to oversee the marine animals’ portion of the prestigious International Union for the Conservation of Nature, the multinational organization which designates rare and endangered species.

He has received high-profile exposure in national and international media, including the Christian Science Monitor. This past year he received two National Science Foundation grants totaling more than $2 million for international work.

J. Worth Pickering Administrator of the Year Award

Leigh Butler

Leigh L. Butler, director of teacher education services and advising, holds degrees from North Carolina State University (B.A.), the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (M.S.Ed.) and Old Dominion (Ph.D.). She served as a public school teacher and coach, an alternative school principal and an adjunct faculty member at ODU prior to accepting her current full-time position in 2001.

As an adjunct faculty member in early childhood, speech-language pathology and special education, Butler was the 2000 TELETECHNET Teacher of the Year.

Instructional Technology Teaching Award

Lynn Johnson and Joyce Magnotto Neff

Lynn Johnson, lecturer of management, received a master’s degree in human resources management from Marymount University and has worked in human resources for more than 15 years. She began her career at Old Dominion four years ago and has taught several courses in business management.

She developed a Web-based course for MGMT 350 Employee Relations, which rolled out to nursing students in fall 2006. She attributes her success to her experience at Coastal Training Technologies where she performed research and served as project coordinator for several human resource-related videos and CD-ROMs, as well as her training and communications experience at Stihl Inc.

Joyce Magnotto Neff, professor of English and coordinator of professional writing, previously served as director of composition, associate chair and interim chair of the English department. She is a co-author of “Professional Writing in Context” and has published many articles and book chapters on writing across the curriculum, writing centers, grounded theory and workplace writing.

Her 2008 book, “Writing Across Distances and Disciplines: Research and Pedagogy in Distributed Learning” (co-authored with Carl Whithaus), includes a longitudinal study of writing in TELETECHNET courses. She has a Faculty Innovator Grant from the Center for Learning Technologies to study collaboration and interactivity in distance education.
Faculty Awards and Retirement Dinner

University Professors

Dianne Cyr Carmody, associate professor of sociology and criminal justice, joined Old Dominion in 1976. He is a past recipient of the College of Arts and Letters' Robert L. Stein Award for Outstanding Teaching, the Charles O. and Elisabeth E. Burgess Award for Research and the Most Inspiring Faculty Award.

John Ford, professor of marketing, joined Old Dominion in 1985. One student stated, "He is the kind of academic that I aspire to be. He has been my role model in terms of having extremely high ethical standards of honesty and integrity in teaching and research and clear and honest communications with others. I aspire to be as thoughtful a mentor to my students as he has been to me, my fellow ODU alumni, current students and others in the field."

Stacey Plichta, professor of community and environmental health, came to Old Dominion in 1995. About her mentoring skills, one student said, "In many aspects, Dr. Plichta served as my role model. I aspire to emulate her professionalism, character and rapport she has with her students."

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Lepsha Vuscovic, professor of physics, joined Old Dominion in 1993. Former students’ praise was deeply felt and reflected in statements such as, "Because of her professional achievements and great care for her students, her research group has always been able to attract the top students to her Ph.D. program. I still remember how proud I was to be in her program."

Doctoral Mentoring Awards

David Burdige, professor of ocean, earth and atmospheric sciences, joined Old Dominion in 1985. He holds a joint appointment in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and is an internationally known expert in marine geochemistry. David Burdige, professor of oceanography, came to Old Dominion in 1992. At the Jefferson Lab, he has led collaborations of 150 physicists from 35 institutions in research focused on an experimental investigation of the structure of the protons and neutrons that comprise the atomic nucleus.

Jeffrey Richards, professor of English, joined Old Dominion in 1992. He is the graduate program director for the English M.A. and Ph.D. programs, and is best known for his groundbreaking work in early American drama and theater.

Eminent Scholars

David Burdige, Sebastian Kuhn, Jeffrey Richards

David Burdige, Sebastian Kuhn, and Jeffrey Richards are all smiles at the awards dinner.

Faculty Research Achievement Award

Sebastian Kuhn

Sebastian Kuhn, professor and eminent scholar of physics, came to Old Dominion in 1992. At the Jefferson Lab he has led collaborations of 150 physicists from 35 institutions in research focused on an experimental investigation of the structure of the protons and neutrons that comprise the atomic nucleus.

He has published more than 100 articles in the most respected refereed journals in his field and in published proceedings. These articles have been cited more than 6,000 times. Recently he was elected as a Fellow of the American Physical Society, "for his leadership on measurements of the nucleon structure functions, in particular in the non-perturbative and valence region."

At the Jefferson Lab he has served as a director on the Users Board, is now the chair of the Deep Processes Working Group for the CLAS collaboration and was instrumental in developing the scientific motivation for the proposed $310 million upgrade to the CEBAF accelerator.

Faculty Awards and Retirement Dinner

University Professors

Dianne Cyr Carmody, associate professor of sociology and criminal justice, joined Old Dominion in 1976. He is a past recipient of the College of Arts and Letters’ Robert L. Stein Award for Outstanding Teaching, the Charles O. and Elisabeth E. Burgess Award for Research and the Most Inspiring Faculty Award.

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The following 33 faculty members were awarded the rank of emeritus at the end of the 2007-08 academic year. Many of them taught 30 or more years at Old Dominion. They were honored at the Faculty Awards and Retirement Dinner on May 6.

Dwight W. Allen
Allen, a professor and eminent scholar of educational reform, joined the faculty in 1978. He has consulted in more than 50 countries. In Botswana, he served as technical adviser to the Molepolole College of Education (1986-89), and was a consultant for the U.N. Development Project in China, focusing on educational reform and teacher training (1991-2007). At ODU, he acted as principal investigator for projects such as Public Schools Restructuring Through Innovative Mainstream Education (PRIME) and Aligning Credentialing with Teacher Training Now (ACTTNOW), published many books and articles, and taught at the undergraduate and graduate levels in education, English and university studies.

Katherine T. Bucher
Bucher, professor of educational curriculum and instruction, joined the faculty in 1973. She served as assistant department chair and graduate program director for PreK-6 education, middle school education and K-12 school librarianship. She moved the school library program into a position of national prominence with recognition from the American Association of School Librarians. In 2005, she was awarded a three-year grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to address the critical shortage of school library media specialists in Virginia and to develop an online school library program for the state. She is the author or co-author of several books and has written for peer-reviewed journals.

Thomas F. Cash
Cash, professor of psychology, joined the faculty in 1973. He published nearly 200 articles and chapters and seven books, and received 30 research contracts (producing 21 technical reports). He is the founder and editor of Body Image: An International Journal of Research, and served as associate editor of the Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology from 1998-2003. Cash chaired 18 dissertations, 22 master’s theses and 16 honors theses. He played a critical role in the establishment and development of the Virginia Consortium for Clinical Psychology. A recipient of the Tonelson Award in 1990 and the Distinguished Research Career Award in 2004, he was named a University Professor in 1998.

Gary E. Copeland
Copeland, professor of physics, joined the faculty in 1971. He served as graduate program director from 1979-82 and chief departmental advisor and undergraduate program director from 1984-92. He was faculty adviser for the Society of Physics Students for several years. At the time of his retirement, Copeland was chair of the undergraduate program committee and represented the department on the Faculty Senate. He mentored and inspired many undergraduate and graduate students and served as dissertation adviser for four Ph.D. candidates. He received the Distinguished Faculty Teaching award from the College of Sciences in 2005 and the Tonelson Award in 2006.

James L. Cox Jr.
Cox, professor of physics, joined the faculty in 1969. He served as acting chair of the department in 1986-87, assistant dean of the College of Sciences from 1987-89 and department chair from 1989 to 2000. His research interests included the interaction between particle beams and plasmas. Cox was instrumental in expanding the department, and it was due to his initiative and foresight that an agreement was reached with the Jefferson Lab, which facilitated the development of ODU’s highly regarded nuclear physics program. He also played a pivotal role in growing the department’s graduate program and was the principal investigator of two Department of Education grants to support graduate fellowships.

Ernest J. “Jim” Cross Jr.
Cross, professor of aerospace engineering, joined the faculty in 1984 as dean of the College of Engineering and Technology, a position he held until 1997. He then served as manager of special projects, manager of the Langley Full-Scale Wind Tunnel and chair of aerospace engineering from 2002-05. Cross was awarded the NASA Distinguished Public Service Medal in 2000, the agency’s highest non-employee medal. He played a substantial role in the establishment of the university’s relationship with the Jefferson Lab and ODU’s Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center, while maintaining his research interests in experimental aerodynamics, wind tunnel and flight testing, applied aerodynamics and motor sports engineering.

Gary R. Crossman
Crossman, professor of engineering technology, received an M.E. in thermal engineering from ODU in 1970, the same year he joined the mechanical engineering technology department. He served as chair from 1979-88, as associate dean of the College of Engineering and Technology from 1988-94 and as chair of engineering technology from 2003-08. He was the first director of the Engineering Clinic (now the Virginia Applied Technology and Professional Development Center) in 1986-90. Crossman was recognized by students many times for his teaching and advising. He received two ASEE national awards for contributions to engineering technology education. He was served as University Marshal for the past 10 years.

William G. Cunningham
Cunningham, professor and eminent scholar of educational leadership and counseling, joined the faculty in 1974. During his tenure, he served as doctoral program director, department chair and graduate program director for the College of Education. Cunningham has written eight books, including his most recent, “A Handbook for Educational Leadership Interns: A Right of Passage,” which was adopted by the state of New Jersey for all its school principal education programs. He secured funds to support research and development in high school reform and was awarded three Danforth Foundation grants.

Stephen G. Cupschall
Cupschall, associate professor of mechanical engineering, joined the faculty in 1968. He taught about 18 different undergraduate and graduate lecture courses and labs. He directed one Ph.D. dissertation and several master’s theses. His principal research efforts were concerned with determining relationships between the macroscopic behavior of materials and their microscopic structure, especially those that result in the failure of materials. Several papers and presentations, most recently at the 2008 International Plasticity Symposium in Hawaii, are from this work. He occasionally served as an expert witness in litigation involving component failures.

Ram C. Dahiya
Dahiya, professor and eminent scholar of mathematics and statistics, joined the faculty in 1978. From 1991-98, he also served as an adjunct professor at Eastern Virginia Medical School. During that time he strengthened collaborative efforts between the medical school and the university and brought in significant funding for statistics graduate students. From 1978-99, Dahiya served as the department’s statistics program director and under his leadership the Ph.D. program was established in 1981. In 1990, the ODU statistics group was ranked as the best in Virginia based on total published pages in nine selective peer-reviewed journals.

Walter F. Deal III
Deal, associate professor of occupational and technical studies, earned a bachelor’s degree in industrial arts from Old Dominion in 1968 and joined the faculty the next year. He served as the program leader for the department’s technology programs. He was a sponsor for a number of interdisciplinary studies teams and a visiting fellow at the university’s graduate and doctoral students. Deal was actively engaged in research and publication in technology education and training and learning technology. He received the International Technology Education Association’s Special Achievement Award in 2003 and was named a Distinguished Technology Educator by ITEA in 2008. He edited the Resources in Technology section of The Technology Teacher.

Chris Drake
Drake, University Professor of geography, joined the faculty in 1979. She served as director of the geography program from 1980-83, in 1987 and 2006-08, and as director of the Model U.N. Program from 1988-93. She led many students on study abroad trips to Europe as well as Egypt, Peru, Morocco and Turkey. She was a founding member of the Honors College. In the 1990s, she was awarded four grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities to lead institutes for high school teachers on the literature and geography of the Francophone world. She has done field work in more than 30 countries and was awarded a Fulbright in 1996 to work in Indonesia. She received a SCHEV Award in 2007. (Continued on facing page)
ODU awards emeritus rank to 33 faculty members

(Continued from facing page) 1999. She has published two books and recently was designated a Fellow of the Explorers Club.

William A. Drewry
Drewry, professor of civil and environmental engineering, joined the faculty in 1976 and served as the first chair of the civil engineering department (1976-84). He was chair of civil and environmental engineering from 1993-97. From 1988-93 he served as associate dean. Drewry has been president of the Virginia section of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Virginia Society of Professional Engineers. He was named an ASCE Fellow and Engineer of the Year (1982-83) by the Virginia Society of Professional Engineers. He twice served as Faculty Senate chair. He received the 2006 Town-N-Gown Service Award for his work to improve living conditions on Virginia’s Eastern Shore. His research included 34 sponsored projects, and he guided the research of more than 50 master’s and Ph.D. students.

Perry M. Duncan
Duncan, professor of psychology, joined the faculty in 1971. He published 24 journal articles, prepared 54 presentations, invited addresses or published abstracts, participated in four funded research activities that totaled close to $500,000, and is currently completing a book for Cambridge University Press, “Understanding Drug Abuse and Dependence.” He mentored students in behavioral pharmacology research, and many of his publications were co-authored with students. His teaching focused in the areas of biopsychology, psychopharmacology and drug abuse. Duncan served as director for the master’s program, served several terms as a faculty senator and served as director for the master’s program, served several terms as a faculty senator and was a chair and secretary of the Psychology Section of the Virginia Academy of Sciences.

Anita C. Fellman
Fellman joined the faculty as an associate professor of history and director of women’s studies in 1988. With the program’s conversion to a department in 2002, she was appointed as chair. Her publications include “Rethinking Canada: The Promise of Women’s History” (co-editor, 1986), “Ourselves as Students: Multicultural Voices in the Classroom” (editor, 1996) and “Little House, Long Shadow: Laura Ingalls Wilder’s Impact on American Culture” (2008). Fellman was actively engaged in working with students at the graduate and undergraduate levels. She won the Laura Jameson Prize for her 1986 book as well as many university awards.

Ann E. Gargett
Gargett, professor of ocean, earth and atmospheric sciences, joined the faculty in 2001 and since then was associated with more than $2 million of funded research. At the national level, she was part of the successful development of the National Science Foundation’s Ocean Observatories Initiative, which is scheduled for full funding in 2009. She was a reviewer for national and international journals and federal funding agencies and serves on the board of editors for the Journal of Marine Research.

David R. Hager
Hager, who joined the faculty in 1969, held a joint appointment in the departments of Educational Leadership and Counseling and Political Science and Geography at the time of his retirement. He held several administrative appointments during his career, including assistant dean of the School of Arts and Letters, chair of the political science and geography department and dean of the School of Graduate Studies. He also was associate vice president for academic affairs for faculty and curriculum, deputy vice president for academic affairs, vice provost, and acting provost on five occasions for a total of six years as ODU’s chief academic officer. His responsibilities in academic affairs included new degree program development, outcomes assessment, academic and personnel policy, and strategic planning. He was an integral part of efforts that resulted in ODU’s reaffirmation of regional accreditation by SACS, leading the last two reviews, and certification of its Division I athletic programs. Hager’s many honors included the Provost’s Award for Leadership in International Education.

Louis H. Henry
Henry, professor of economics and dean of the Honors College, joined the faculty in 1970. In 1985 he received the National Award for the Teaching of Economics by the Joint Council on Economic Education. He also earned the College of Business and Public Administration’s Outstanding Teaching Award in 1987 and received ODU’s first Tonelson Award. Henry was appointed director of the Honors Program in 1987. He nurtured the program’s growth from 70 students to its current enrollment of 650 while developing it into a bone fide Honors College, and was named dean in 1997. Henry guided ODU’s first Rhodes Scholar, first Jack Kent Cooke Scholar and first Truman Scholar. In 1990 he initiated the Undergraduate Research Program and has served as its sole director. He directed the award-winning President’s Lecture Series from its inception.

Clare W. Houseman
Houseman, associate professor of community and environmental health, joined the nursing faculty in 1978. In 1987 she developed the health services concentration area of the Ph.D. program in urban services and later transformed it into a Ph.D. program. She served as graduate program director and chair of the School of Community and Environmental Health. Houseman served more than 30 completed dissertations and theses. She has published several review books for nurses seeking psychiatric certification. Her teaching honors include the 1989 Most Inspiring Teacher Award from the College of Health Sciences. In 2003 she received the Child Health Advocacy Award from Norfolk’s Consortium for Infant and Child Health.

Elizabeth Lipsmeyer
Lipsmeyer, associate professor of art, joined the faculty in 1984. A specialist in the art and architecture of the European Medieval era, she contributed a wide range of courses. Contact with original works of art was essential to her approach, and she scheduled visits to the Chrysler Museum and other regional venues as part of course requirements. She also initiated opportunities for students to study abroad. As art history program director, Lipsmeyer developed a museum studies seminar with the Chrysler and contributed to the board of the Norfolk Society for the Arts. She had an international reputation for publication in such journals as Costa, Volkskunst and Vox Benedictina.

Otto B. Martinson
Martinson, professor of accounting, joined the faculty in 1990. He served as department chair and graduate program director. He received the Institute of Management Accountants’ R. Lee Brummet Award as the organization’s outstanding educator for his promotion of management accounting, teaching, scholarship and community service. He revised the undergraduate managerial accounting courses, developed a master’s seminar in managerial accounting and developed a track in managerial accounting for the M.B.A. program. He is the author of “Cost Accounting in the Service Industry – A Critical Assessment.”

R. Bruce McAfee
McAfee, professor of business administration, joined the faculty in 1979. He is the co-author of “Application in Human Resource Management” (2008), a book now in its sixth edition that is used throughout the United States. He also co-authored other books including, “Effectively Managing Troublesome Employees,” “Organizational Behavioral: A Manager’s View” and “Productivity Strategies: Enhancing Employee Job Performance.” McAfee has taught management at both the undergraduate and graduate level and was one of the first to teach via TELETECH-NET.

Chuh Mei
Mei, eminent scholar of aerospace engineering, joined the faculty in 1979, serving in the departments of Mechanical Engineering and Mechanics and Aerospace Engineering. He is a recipient of the Tonelson Award and the Faculty Research Achievement Award. He advised 23 Ph.D. students and 22 master’s students. His expertise in the areas of panel flutter, sonic fatigue, nonlinear structural dynamics, composite structures, thermal stresses, finite element methods and smart structures is acknowledged throughout the aerospace research community. He has more than 200 formal publications and has numerous awards of recognition from NASA Langley Research Center to his credit.

Leonard I. Ruchelman

Joseph H. Rule
Rule, professor of ocean, earth and atmospheric sciences and associate dean of the College of Sciences, joined the faculty in 1976. He served as graduate program director of the geological sciences department from 1981-91 and department chair in 1994-95. He served as associate dean of the College of Sciences since 1995, twice serving as interim dean. Rule has advised many students in master’s thesis and research projects. His research focused on the behavior of toxic trace metals in the environment, especially the interaction of bacteria with microorganisms with soils and sediments. Rule held a Fulbright Lectureship at the Marie Curie Sklodowska University, Lublin, Poland.

(Continued on Page 10)
Old Dominion awards emeritus rank to 33 faculty members

(Continued from Page 9)

Stewart N.T. Shen

Shen, professor of computer science, joined the faculty in 1983 and played a key role in developing and guiding the undergraduate and graduate degree programs. His recent interests included the Semantic Web, Web technologies and digital libraries. He supervised seven Ph.D. students. Shen helped bring ODU expertise to the local community by serving as a consultant to businesses, as well as consulting at the state, federal and international levels. For several years, he served as director of the ODU Artificial Intelligence Center. He served as a panelist for the National Science Foundation Artificial Intelligence Center. He served as a member of the Virginia State Joint Advisory Committee.

J. Taylor Sims Jr.

Sims joined the faculty as professor of marketing and dean of the College of Business and Public Administration in 1994, a position he held until 2000 when he resumed full-time teaching. He has published four books and more than 50 articles and papers in leading journals and proceedings in marketing and business management. In 1998, during his tenure as dean, Sims supervised seven Ph.D. students. Shen helped bring ODU expertise to the local community by serving as a consultant to businesses, as well as consulting at the state, federal and international levels. For several years, he served as director of the ODU Artificial Intelligence Center. He served as a panelist for the National Science Foundation Artificial Intelligence Center. He served as a member of the Virginia State Joint Advisory Committee.

Ronald W. Snapp

Snapp joined the faculty in 1973. His service and stewardship provided an excellent and consistent undergraduate and graduate painting curriculum. He also served as M.F.A. graduate program director and as an adviser and thesis committee member. Snapp created a popular course in assemblage, an enduring category in contemporary art. Often working on weekends and after hours, he literally designed and built studios for students, following this with exhibitions that showcased their work. For over 13 years, he co-directed the original University Gallery. His assemblages, a vibrant expression of modernism’s “junk aesthetic,” have appeared in local galleries as well as at venues as far afield as Chile and Canada.

John J. Swetits

Swetits, professor of mathematics and statistics, joined the faculty in 1970. He served as the department’s graduate program director from 1990-99. Under his leadership the graduate program expanded and flourished, as evidenced by the 36 Ph.D. students who graduated during this decade. Swetits was a prolific researcher, particularly in the areas of optimization and approximation, and helped bring the department and the university international visibility. He published 72 papers in peer-reviewed journals and attracted more than $300,000 in research fellowships and grants.

Surendra N. Tiwari

Tiwari, eminent scholar of mechanical engineering, joined the faculty in 1971. He received both the Research Award and Tonelson Award. He supervised the research studies of 33 master’s and 41 Ph.D. students. He directed efforts to create the Institute for Computational and Applied Mechanics and established the Institute for Scientific and Educational Technology. He represented ODU to the National University Space Research Association and was a co-director of the NASA/ASEE Summer Faculty Fellowship Program. Tiwari received more than $14 million for his research and scholarly activities. He contributed works to more than 400 technical publications, including 16 book chapters, 55 journal articles and 49 proceedings. He was recognized as a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Larry W. Wilson

Wilson, associate professor of computer science, joined the mathematics faculty in 1968 and moved to the new computer science department in 1979. He served as assistant chair of the department for 20 years and played a major role in the selection and recruitment of faculty. He was awarded the Phi Kappa Phi Excellence in Teaching Award in 1993. He served as faculty sponsor of the student chapter of the ACM for decades and coached teams to success in yearly programming contests. He also served as director of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Programming Contest. Wilson was actively engaged in research in the areas of Mikusinski operator functions, software reliability, mesh architectures and wireless sensor networks.

James H. Yuan

Yuan, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, joined the faculty in 1974. During his career, he published many papers, books and monographs in the area of biomedical and biochemical sciences and is an internationally known expert. Yuan won many awards for his service to the scientific community and to the Hampton Roads area. He was appointed as a Norfolk City Ambassador in 1990 and 1994. He is a member of several professional societies both in the United States and abroad, and served as a member of the board for the Taipei Institute of Pathology. He was a faculty adviser for the ODU Chinese Student Association.

Editor’s note: History Professor Harold S. Wilson, who was the first emeritus faculty member from this year’s class to teach at Old Dominion, is profiled in a feature story on page 5.
ProFacts

Thomson
Bing
Ghee

ProFacts welcomes post-announcements from faculty and staff regarding professional achievements. Items may be submitted for: Appointments/Elections, Awards, Books, Certifications, Commissions, Conferences, Arrangements, Degrees, Exhibitions, Performances, Papers/Publications. Send your submissions to: subm@whoi.edu.

Appointments
TAMI AL-HAZZA, assistant professor of education, was appointed director of the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness. She will begin her new role in August 2007.

MEGHAN MCGINN MANNRA, assistant professor of educational leadership and counseling, was appointed to the position of coordinator of the University's National Center for Educational Leadership and Counseling. She will begin her new role in August 2007.

Books
TAMI AL-HAZZA, assistant professor, and KATHERINE RUCHER, professor, educational curricula and instruction, "Books About the Middle East: Selecting and Using Them with Children and Adolescents" (Columbia, OH: Lindworth Publishing), 2008.


LARRY WERNSTEIN, University Professor of physics, and JOHN ADAM, University Professor of mathematics, "Commonsense: Solving the Trolley Problems on the Back of a Cocktail Napkin" (Princeton University Press), 2008. The book includes artwork by PATTY EDWARDS, lecturer of art education.

Papers/ Presentations
JOHN ADAM, University Professor of mathematics, "Mathematical Models for Wound Healing on a Hemispherical Calcium Scaffold," at the Spring South East Meeting of the American Mathematical Society at Louisiana State University, June 2008.

JOEY BALLENGER, graduate student, HANK LIEU, lab scientist, and CYNTHIA JONES, emeritus scholar, Center for Quantitative Fisheries Ecology, "Length-weight, Age and Growth of Sheepshead in Chesapeake Bay, Virginia" at the March 2008 meeting of the Tidewater chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

JANET BING, graduate student, and applied linguist, "Feminist Humor as ‘Thought Experiment’: Rendered Spaces and Improvable Worlds as an Intervention on Sexism in the Laboratory Society for Student Research in New York, RI.

FAVE COLEMAN and SCOTT SECHREST, associate professors, medical laboratory and radiation sciences, and TERRILL PERRY, instructor, Center for Learning Technologies, "Meeting Mandated Training Requirements of Medical Laboratory Students via an Online ToolBook Module," at the 24th annual Clinical Laboratory Educators’ Conference in Scranton, Pa., 2008.

BILLY CULVER, undergraduate student, JASON SCHEFFER, postdoctoral researcher, and CYNTHIA JONES, emeritus scholar, Center for Quantitative Fisheries Ecology, "Cost-Effectiveness of Age and Mortality Partners to Improve Mathematics Instruction" to the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics in Salt Lake City, UT.

CHRISTINA MORGAN, lab scientist, NUNO PRISTA, graduate student, CYNTHIA JONES, emeritus scholar, HANK LIEU, lab scientist, and JAMES DAVIES, undergraduate student, Center for Quantitative Fisheries Ecology, "Providing Quantitative Metrics for Marine and Estuarine Data Analysis to Validate Model Validation and Formation," at the 2008 meeting of the Tidewater chapter of the American Fisheries Society.


GARY EDGERTON, professor emeritus of education, "Our Present and Thoughts for Our Future Empowerment," at the 53rd annual International Conference on Organizational and Educational Leadership in Europe.

JOHN ADAM, University Professor of mathematics, "Mathematical Models for Wound Healing on a Hemispherical Calcium Scaffold," at the Spring South East Meeting of the American Mathematical Society at Louisiana State University, June 2008.


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commentary

Global climate change: Causes, consequences, solutions

BY THE STUDENTS IN IS 710/810

What is climate change? According to Michael Glantz, a senior scientist at the U.S. National Center for Atmospheric Research, “When scientists talk of climate change, they are referring to shifts in the global climate system that have not been witnessed for one or more centuries or millennia, changes the likes of which societies have no memory.” This does not refer to the normal fluctuations in climate that happen over time but involves a warming of the Earth’s atmosphere that is expected to range between 2.7 and 10.5 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the 21st century.

Causes

Although climate change has natural causes, human activities have resulted in the global temperature rise through increased emissions of greenhouse gases (e.g., carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, methane and fluorinated gases) due to the burning of fossil fuels (oil, coal, natural gas). Other factors resulting in the warming of the planet include industrial processes and alterations of the land’s surface including deforestation, desertification, cultivation, grazing and urbanization, among others. Automobile exhaust and the burning of coal in power plants are major factors in the production of harmful greenhouse gases. The United States, with only 5 percent of the world’s population, is the No. 1 producer of greenhouse gases in the world. However, modernizing countries, including China, India, Brazil and Mexico, are increasingly responsible for the production of greenhouse gases.

Government can be influential in protecting or endangering the environment. In the United States, for instance, political and economic actors lobby members of Congress for or against environmental policies. When environmental legislation is enacted, individuals and businesses are required to abide by the regulatory standards or face sanctions. The laws that are enacted, however, are only relevant to the nations where the laws have been passed. While international environmental agreements are in effect, there has been difficulty in achieving consensus in terms of stringency and improvements. For example, the Global Climate Change Convention agreed upon at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 succumbed to President George H.W. Bush’s preference for voluntary timetables and guidelines. In contrast, its successor, the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, required mandatory goals and timetables and went into effect when it was ratified by Russia in 2004. However, it failed to secure ratification by the U.S. Senate during the Clinton administration and the protocol was renounced in 2001 by President George W. Bush.

Consequences

The impact of global climate change is likely to affect the physical and human environment. Biodiversity, marine and terrestrial environments are susceptible to the negative consequences of global climate change. An increase in the mean annual temperatures coupled with decreased rainfall is likely to alter the location and composition of biological habitats worldwide. The warming effect of climate change may also increase marine biodiversity in high-latitude regions while extinction threatens cold-water species in low latitudes. Increased migration among various marine species is probable as water temperatures change. Increasing temperatures, glacial runoff and decreased precipitation are projected to have significant destructive impacts on agriculture. In short, devastating droughts and floods and decreased biodiversity will result.

Significant climate change will also impact the human environment. It is expected that there will be aggravated stress on human health, such as an increase in heart disease-related deaths, malaria, dengue fever and malnutrition. Agricultural development is likely to suffer as well. Many societal groups rely on this sector for economic reasons while the entire human population is dependent on this sector for food production.

Biodiversity will diminish, landscapes will shift and human societal groups will have to adapt. A tangible outcome of global warming is an increase in storm severity. Moreover, in addition to sea level rise and rivers drying up, Glantz warns us, “There is concern in scientific and policymaking circles about how global warming might affect the frequency, intensity, trajectory and location of landfall of tropical storms.” Hurricane Katrina is a prime example of a severe storm that resulted in changes as outlined above. The Gulf region suffered massive contamination of coastal waters which led to the closing of 16 wildlife refuges. Economically, gas prices reached record levels and the forest industry lost over $5 billion in revenue. Also, public officials including President Bush, Michael Brown of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin faced serious criticism as citizens blamed them for inaction or delayed action.

Conclusion

Historically, policymakers have generally ignored environmental issues. Over the last few decades, the global community has been confronted with new challenges of global change that includes both the scientific and political communities. Global climate change and its physical effects are increasingly being felt locally, nationally and internationally. Societal groups will continue to experience economic difficulties alongside an increase in the scarcity of resources, which may lead to conflict. Political actors will need to respond to these problems by focusing on solutions to environmental issues, including global climate change.

The EU has made tremendous progress within its geographical region. However, in the U.S. it is up to citizens to compel government officials that it is time for the country to move into a position of global leadership on this important issue.

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