Freshman class is largest in history of university

Old Dominion welcomed a record-setting freshman class of approximately 2,500 students this fall, the largest first-year class in university history. The class surpasses the previous high of 2,107 students in 2006 by nearly 400. The students represent 25 states and more than 20 countries.

"The excellence of Old Dominion’s faculty, along with new programs, fine facilities, dedicated staff and incredible school spirit are all factors in the increase in the number and quality of our applicants," said President Roseann Runte. "I am certainly proud of each new student and look forward to celebrating his or her success.

The university received more than 18,000 total applications for undergraduate and graduate admission, an increase of nearly 7,000 applications in the past three years. ODU also experienced a 16 percent increase in the number of applications from students with distinction – those with a minimum 3.4 high school grade point average and an SAT score of 1200 or higher.

In addition to first-year students, the university saw a 14 percent increase in transfer student enrollments and a 21 percent climb in enrollment and distinguished student enrollments.

"The university’s continued upward climb in enrollment and distinguished students is a testament to the exceptional efforts of the admissions staff under the direction of Alice McAlday," said John R. Broderick, vice president for institutional advancement and admissions. "At Old Dominion, students know they will find nationally recognized faculty, cutting-edge research and innovative teaching in a profoundly multicultural atmosphere where individuality is valued.

Official fall enrollment numbers will be released in late October.

Volunteers sought for Community Care Day

The importance of giving back to the community will be the emphasis during Old Dominion’s fifth annual Community Care Day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 12.

"More than 750 student, faculty and staff volunteered in the community during our event last year," said Cecelia Tucker, director of community relations, who is hoping for an even larger turnout this year.

The project will focus on outreach, with students, faculty and staff volunteering at several locations in the Norfolk community.

(See VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT, Page 3)

Wallenberg Humanitarian Lecture will address issue of corporal punishment

Jaap E. Doek, deputy justice in the Court of Appeal of Amsterdam, Netherlands, and former chairman of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, will deliver the Marc and Connie Jacobson Raoul Wallenberg Humanitarian Lecture Sept. 18.

The lecture, "Reducing Global Violence: The Role of Protecting Children from Corporal Punishment," is free and open to the public and will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the North Cafeteria of Webb Center.

The Wallenberg Lecture, part of the President’s Lecture Series, is sponsored by the Marc and Connie Jacobson philanthropic foundation.

Doek has published numerous books and articles on various topics in the area of children’s rights and family law in both national (Dutch) and international (English) journals.

Climatologist Tim Flannery will give the next President’s Lecture Series address on Oct. 16.

Galleries open

The ribbon cutting for the opening of the Baron and Ellin Gordon Art Galleries on Sept. 8 was cause for smiles and celebration. Taking part in the ceremony, above, are from left: Katherine Huntoon, gallery director; artist Melissa Vollmann; Baron and Ellin Gordon; Dean Chandra de Silva; and President Roseann Runte. At left, visitors look at one of the pieces in the inaugural exhibition of the Baron and Ellin Gordon Self-Taught Art Collection, “Collective Wisdom.”

PHOTOS BY JERRY ALFARES

Renowned writers here Oct. 1-4 for Literary Festival

 Tradition and the Individual Voice" is the theme for Old Dominion's 10th annual Literary Festival, which will bring 11 writers – and a blues trio – to campus Oct. 1-4.

The three-day literary gathering of its kind among Virginia colleges and universities, the ODU Literary Festival is free and open to the public.

Janet Peery, University Professor of English and Creative Writing, is the festival director. Commenting on the theme for the festival, she said, "Joyce Carol Oates wrote, 'The individual voice is the collective voice.' I liked this idea and I chose this year's theme because it seems to me that the power in literary works of art comes from the individual voice speaking out of a tradition.

This year's visiting writers include a PEN/Faulkner Award winner, Sabina Murray, and finalist, William Henry Lewis; a Whiting Writers’ Award winner, Sherwin Bitsui; and a Pulitzer Prize finalist, David Wojahn.

The 2007 Literary Festival authors “are among the writers who are creating the best in works written in contemporary times," Peery said. "They are probably not household names; among the authors you see in airport bookstores or drugstore racks; I purposefully avoided 'big names' in the belief that the words and the depth of ideas within their books are more important than star power. Anyone who comes to any of the events will find something of value to take away.

The festival also includes a performance by M.S.G., an acoustic blues trio that plays traditional Piedmont blues. “Some of their numbers are standards hundreds of years old, but to these samplings of work songs, gospel songs and traditional ballads, the trio adds their own interpretation and contemporary songwriting abilities in a mixture of old and new that speaks perfectly for what I hope the festival will reveal about tradition in story and song," Peery said.

For more information about the authors, go to www.lib.odu.edu/litfest/30th. The schedule is as follows:

MONDAY, OCT. 1
• Michael Blumenthal – 2 p.m., Chandler Recital Hall
• M.S.G. – 8 p.m., Stables Theatre
• Author reception – 7 p.m., Diehn Composers Room

TUESDAY, OCT. 2
• Janine Latus – 1 p.m., River Rooms, Webb Center

(See LITERARY FESTIVAL, Page 4)

DOEK

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(See VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT, Page 3)
newsandnotes

Welcome freshmen

Renowned poet and Virginia Tech professor Nikkio Giovannia addresses more than 1,000 freshmen and their families Aug. 26 at Freshman Convocation. During her keynote speech at the annual event, she encouraged the first-year students to move forward, change and grow. For the theme of her remarks, she chose Christopher Columbus, who Giovannia said sailed on successfully despite tremendous doubts. “You will continue sailing on that sea of knowledge,” she told the students. “You must continue to sail on, because we need you out there doing something good.”

“Rights of the Accused” is topic for Constitution Day

Old Dominion will observe Constitution and Citizenship Day on Sept. 20 with panel presentations on “The Constitution and the Rights of the Accused.” The program is free and open to the public.

Sponsored by the College of Arts and Letters, the event will begin at 7 p.m., preceded by a reception at 6:30, in the Mills Godwin Jr. Building auditorium. A question-and-answer session will follow the presentations.

Elizabeth Eishart, director of interdisciplinary studies/teacher preparation programs, will serve as moderator.

The panelists and their topics are:

- James Mathews, judge, Norfolk General District Court, “Search and Seizure”;
- Donald Smith, associate professor of sociology and criminal justice, “The American Jury and the Constitution;” and
- Megan Zweiss, senior assistant commonwealth’s attorney, city of Norfolk, “The Right to Counsel: Miranda Today.”

Old Dominion athletes excel on and off the field

Old Dominion’s athletic teams captured the Virginia Sports Information Directors trophy this summer as the winnigest Division I program in the state last season, but its student-athletes also enjoyed excellence in the classroom.

Eight of the university’s 16 intercollegiate teams posted an overall team grade point average of 3.0 or higher, while 127 (48 percent) of the 267 student-athletes posted a 3.0 GPA or higher and 22 achieved a 3.75 or higher GPA. ODU currently graduates 90 percent of its student-athletes who have exhausted their eligibility.

“The athletic department takes great pride in the outstanding performance of Monarch student-athletes on and off the playing fields,” said athletic director Jim Jarrett. “Dean’s list students, conference and national scholarly-athletes, and quality grade point averages have been the norm for Old Dominion teams. This past year was exceptional and I congratulate the student-athletes, our academic support staff, our faculty and coaches for their role in this academic success story.”

Overall, 96 student-athletes earned dean’s list honors last year with grade point averages of 3.4 or higher. Female student-athletes posted a 3.09 GPA, while males posted a 2.82. The cumulative GPA for all 267 student athletes was 2.95.

Field Hockey ranked first among ODU’s 16 teams, with a 3.51 GPA, which also ranked them third in the nation among Division I field hockey programs for academic performance.

Kasparov and wife release new CD on Albany Records

Pianists Andrey Kasparov, associate professor of music, and his wife, Oksana Lutysyn, have released a new CD, “Hommages Musicaux,” on Albany Records.

The disk’s two collections of compositions, “Tombeau de Claude Debussy” and “Hommage à Gabriel Fauré,” honor the memories of the French composers Debussy (1862-1918) and Fauré (1845-1924).

Kasparov and Lutysyn have performed together since 2003 under the name Invencia Piano Duo. Both are active outside the duo as well, touring the world as recitalists, soloists with orchestras and chamber musicians.

Kasparov also directs Credo, the ODU contemporary-music group, of which his wife is a member. In addition, he works as an organist at Freemason Street Baptist Church in Norfolk. Lutysyn serves as coach for the Virginia Opera and music director for the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Virginia Beach. The duo is listed in the 2007-08 Virginia Commission for the Arts Touring Directory.

To hear a sound file from their CD and for more information, go to http://www.albanyreCORDs.com/Merchant2/ merchant.mvc?Screen=PROD&Store_Code=AR&Product_Code=TRY922&Category_Code=CMN.

Sen. Warner to deliver lecture here Oct. 23

U.S. Sen. John W. Warner Jr. will be on campus Oct. 23 for the Waldo Family Lecture Series in International Relations. His talk, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 7 p.m. in the Ted Constant Convocation Center.

For more information call 683-5759.

Board meets Sept. 21

The Board of Visitors will meet Sept. 21 in Webb Center. Following committee meetings, the full board will meet from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

The following committee meetings are scheduled:

- Audit – 8 a.m., James/Lynnhaven River Room;
- Institutional Advancement – 9:15 a.m., Board Room;
- Student Advancement – 9:15 a.m., Rectors’ Room;
- Academic and Research Advancement – 10:50 a.m., Rectors’ Room;
- Administration and Finance – 10:30 a.m., Board Room.

Teaching with technology on menu at Sept. 19 forum

Nancy Cooley, vice provost for distance learning, and Rusty Waterfield, assistant vice president for computing and communication services, will sponsor the Fall Faculty Open Forum Discussion on Sept. 19.

They invite faculty, department chairs, program coordinators and other administrators to a noon luncheon in the Cape Charles/Isle of Wight Room in Webb Center on Tuesday, September 19. In addition to a variety of comeptibles, a discussion of teaching with technology is on the menu.

Faculty are encouraged to propose discussion topics, share tips for teaching with technology and offer feedback on ways to sustain ODU’s position as the premier distance learning university in Virginia.

Participants will also hear updates on last year’s open forum discussion items, including faculty workload for teaching at a distance, a TELETECHNET laptop initiative, podcasting, iTunes U, and a new process for online course and program developments.

In addition, participants will learn the results of a recent Distance Learning Advisory Board meeting, as well as hear plans to address issues that arise in the Sept. 19 forum.

To attend, visit http://ict.odu.edu/facecv and enter your CLT password. For more information contact Lucia Ball at lbsball@odu.edu or 683-3726.

Memorial fund established for Demetria Powell

A memorial fund has been established for Demetria S. Powell, the senior who was killed last month in an automobile accident at the intersection of 27th Street and Llewellyn Avenue in Norfolk.

Donations may be made to the Demetria S. Powell Memorial Fund at any BB&T branch bank.

Powell was enrolled in the interdisciplinary studies/teacher preparation program in the College of Arts and Letters. Her concentration was elementary education. Last year, she served as an America Reads tutor at Tidewater Park Elementary School.

Memorial services for Powell were held at her home church, East End Apostolic Church in Franklin, on Aug. 25.

Golf tourney set for Oct. 4 at Lambert’s Point course

The recreational sports department will sponsor a fall golf tournament Oct. 4 at the Lambert’s Point Golf Course, with a 3 p.m. shotgun start.

The entry fee is $10 for students, $25 for faculty and staff, and $30 for the general public. The cost includes nine holes of golf, awards and a post-tournament cookout.

To register go to www.odu.edu/recports or call 683-3384 for more information. The deadline is Sept. 27.
New program to reward doctoral mentoring

Doctoral Mentoring Awards program will be launched this fall by the Office of Graduate Studies. The four professors who will be announced in May as the first winners of the award will each receive a $3,000 cash prize.

President and provost will provide funds for graduate studies and research, will coordinate the program and chair the selection committee. Nomination letters, which can be submitted by graduate students or faculty, should be sent no later than Nov. 5 to planglia@odu.edu.

The awards program encourages and rewards excellence, innovation and effectiveness in mentoring doctoral and Master of Fine Arts students through their dissertation or fine arts thesis project.

There will be one award winner from each of these academic clusters: (1) life and physical sciences; (2) engineering; (3) humanities and fine arts, education and health sciences; and (4) social and behavioral sciences, and business and public administration.

Winners will be announced at the annual Faculty Recognition and Awards ceremony in early May.

The following is a list of eligibility and nomination criteria:

- Only currently active graduate faculty, tenured or tenure-track, who supervise doctoral dissertations or Master of Fine Arts theses are eligible.
- The nominee must have a current record of supporting graduate education through teaching, service on graduate committees and sponsorship of student research.
- The nominee must have graduated (served as chair or co-chair) at least one doctoral or M.F.A. student during the preceding academic year (FA, SP, SU) and must have graduated (chaired or co-chaired) at least two additional students with dissertations or M.F.A. degrees in the past five years.

Nominations will be accepted from graduate students, former graduate students, faculty members, department chairs, graduate program directors, advisers and administrators. Individual faculty members may not nominate themselves.

Individuals who receive a Doctoral Mentoring Award during the previous five years are not eligible.

The application packet must include a letter of support from the department chair and college dean.

Princeton Review names Old Dominion one of Southeast’s top institutions

For the third consecutive year, Old Dominion University has been named one of “The Best Southeastern Colleges” by The Princeton Review in its annual guide. The ranking, which was based on student surveys, constitutes a portion of the publisher’s best regional guidebooks that feature profiles of more than 600 schools. The Southeastern section showcases the top schools in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, and Tennessee.

Institutions featured in the annual review met criteria for academic excellence in their regions and students were interviewed anonymously, either through the Princeton Review Web site or a paper survey. The survey asked students questions about their school’s academics, campus life and student body.

Old Dominion also ranked in the third tier of U.S. News and World Report’s top national universities section of the recently released America’s Best Colleges 2008. Other Virginia schools in the third tier include George Mason and Virginia Commonwealth universities.

Army ROTC promotions

Above, Lt. Col. Bill Brown (left), professor of military science and head of Old Dominion’s Army ROTC, welcomes ODU alumni, Chief Warrant Officer Ronald “R.J.” Smith, after the Virginia Army National Guard pilot landed a Black Hawk helicopter on Kaufman Mall Aug. 24. The ROTC program arranged for the visit during ODU’s Week of Welcome. The Monarch Battalion has enrolled its largest class of cadets, which Brown expects to top 170 students. Left, at the Main Street student organizations fair on Sept. 6, the ROTC program brought a rock-climbing wall to campus.

PHOTOS BY STEVE DANIEL
Chemists to study link between saltwater molecules, climate change

BY JIM RAPER

Four Old Dominion chemists lead a research team that has been awarded $465,000 by the National Science Foundation (NSF) for a sophisticated new study of dissolved organic matter (DOM) in seawater. The researchers propose to investigate the connections between DOM and the carbon cycle, which influences climate change.

Aron Stubbins, an assistant research professor of chemistry and biochemistry, is principal investigator for the three-year grant. Other investigators from ODU are Patrick Hatcher, Batten Endowed Chair in Physical Sciences; Jinglong Mao, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry; and Kenneth Mopper, professor of chemistry and biochemistry.

The researchers’ goal of providing the most in-depth analysis ever of DOM in seawater is possible by instruments in ODU’s 18-month-old College of Sciences Major Instrumentation Cluster (COSMIC), which Hatcher directs. Those instruments include a $1.3 million, ultra-high-resolution 12-Tesla Fourier transform ion cyclotron resonance (FT-ICR) mass spectrometer. Michael Perdue, a chemist and professor of earth and atmospheric sciences at Georgia Tech, is also an investigator on the NSF collaborative research grant.

The title of the grant, “Comprehensive Chemical Characterization of Marine Dissolved Organic Matter Using Efficient Isolation Coupled to Advanced Analytical Techniques,” reflects a two-pronged effort. First, the researchers will isolate DOM molecules using a new, highly efficient reverse osmosis and electrodialysis technique capable of isolating as much as 95 percent of DOM from a seawater sample. This is a major improvement over other current procedures, which can only collect 10-40 percent of DOM.

The second prong is the actual analysis of DOM. The proposal predicts that the “unparalleled power” of the ultra-high-resolution FT-ICR mass spectrometer and an advanced nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy instrument in Hatcher’s COSMIC lab will allow the researchers to read the “molecular messages” of marine DOM. These messages are important to our understanding of how DOM and dissolved organic carbon (DOC) arrives and is processed in seawater. DOM comes from decomposed plant and animal matter, both on land and from within the sea itself.

As river water is carried to the sea, and then mixes through the oceans, it carries the molecular signals of all the environments it has passed through and all the life that has occurred within it. The DOM pool consists of millions of different molecules, each carrying information about its source, how it has been processed and, therefore, also about the journey of the water that carries it.

The variety and multitude of DOM molecules bestows great information richness to these molecules and makes them extremely useful for scientists exploring the cycling of carbon and the mixing of waters in the oceans.

DOM accounts for almost all of the organic carbon in the oceans, making it a storehouse containing about the same amount of carbon as is present in atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2). The amount of atmospheric CO2 is already rising at an alarming rate, and any change in DOM dynamics that results in more carbon being released into the atmosphere could hasten global warming. A thorough understanding of the Earth’s carbon cycle is therefore required so that we can best predict and react to future climate disruption.

For their various tests, the researchers have chosen seawater sample collection sites in the North Pacific near Hawaii and off the west coast of Africa.

The project team also includes John Toomey at Georgia Tech; Dan Lohman at Old Dominion; and the late James Turpin at the University of the West Indies.

A Virtual Pathology Stethoscope invented by a team of researchers from Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS) and Old Dominion’s Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (VMASC) has been licensed to a Texas-based company, Cardionics Inc., that manufactures medical diagnostic and teaching equipment.

The agreement was announced in August. EVMS, ODU license virtual stethoscope to Texas manufacturer

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NIH-funded research

Project will look at correlation among food prices, obesity and food assistance programs

BY JIM RAPER

D o low prices for soft drinks and cookies versus higher prices for healthier foods such as fresh tomatoes and avocados contribute to obesity among America’s poor? Is there a correlation among food prices, obesity and national food assistance programs? These and related questions will be the focus of a new research project headquartered at Old Dominion and funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The two-year, $135,550 grant, titled “Price Effect on Diet and Obesity Risk of Food Assistance Program Recipients,” will link data from three national surveys to study the effects of local food prices on food assistance program (FAP) participation, on FAP participants’ dietary intakes and on FAP participants’ body mass index. In hypotheses advanced by their grant proposal, the researchers suggest that participation in the federal food stamp program and other food assistance programs will be found to be higher in regions where the cost of living is higher. They also believe their research will show that these FAP participants face an increased risk of obesity because the healthiest foods cost more than unhealthy foods.

“The proposed research is significant because identification of price effect on FAP participants’ diet and health outcomes will have important policy implications,” said Zhang, a health economist who joined the ODU faculty in 2005. “If, for example, FAP participants consume more unhealthy foods because of the lower price relative to healthy foods, the government should promote health education for FAP participants and provide subsidies to healthy foods to increase their consumption of healthy foods.”

As a long-term goal of the project, the researchers hope to identify the economic mechanisms that promote weight gains among low-income Americans. Collaborators on the project are Dr. Youfa Wang, a physician and assistant professor of human nutrition at Johns Hopkins’ Bloomberg School of Public Health whose research focus is childhood eating behaviors and obesity, and Harold Pollack, an assistant professor and faculty chair of the Center for Health Administration Studies at the University of Chicago whose research focus is poverty and public health policy.

Zhang, who has researched socioeconomic disparities and prevalence of obesity in the United States, has collaborated on other projects with Dr. Wang.

The study will use existing data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth, the American Chamber of Commerce Researchers’ Association price data set and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

Expert critiques of the proposal note that the association of obesity and socioeconomic status, including ties between obesity and food assistance programs, has been the focus of many researchers. But Zhang and his team are given credit for innovative thinking that will allow them to exploit existing data sets. “The implications of their findings may change the way food assistance programs are structured and identify other preventive measures to address the obesity epidemic,” wrote one reviewer of the proposal.

Zhang conducted a related pilot study with research support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Economic Research Service and Southern Rural Development Center at Mississippi State University. The pilot study found that the cost of food — including many popular unhealthy foods — is generally less in the South. Coca-Cola, according to the research, costs 7 percent less by average in the South than in the country as a whole.

The preliminary work in the South indicates that lower costs of living do promote unhealthy weight gain. “This suggests that the cost of living could be an important factor that affects low-income populations’ food choices and other health behaviors that affect body weight,” the proposal to NIH asserts.

Applications are due Oct. 1 for interdisciplinary team grants

A new round of interdisciplinary, multi-investigator grants will be awarded by the Office of Research to nurture promising startup research projects of faculty members and their collaborators.

Mohammad Karim, vice president for research, said his office will fund several projects proposed by multidisciplinary teams of ODU faculty members or by teams from ODU and other institutions. Awards will be up to $100,000 for the grant period of Jan. 1 through June 30 of 2008. The deadline for applications is Oct. 1.

In an effort to support and promote the growth of interdisciplinary multi-investigator sponsored programs, the Office of Research invites faculty to submit proposals detailing their ideas for such research. The goal of this initiative is to provide seed funding for projects that (a) will involve areas relevant to institutional research priority; (b) are multidisciplinary and can produce immediate impact; and (c) build thematic teams with serious prospects to attract additional and new research dollars.

Those who have been funded by previous multidisciplinary awards from the research office may not serve as investigators on subsequent proposals; however, they may serve as unpaid consultants.

The proposal should consist of a narrative plan (not to exceed five pages) including:

• Description of the multidisciplinary problem.
• Targets that will be accomplished during this phase and subsequently.
• A statement as to how this project could help the proposing team attract new or additional research dollars.
• The target agency and program, or other funder. The rationale for choosing this funding mechanism for the proposed project. A justification of why it is appropriate to apply for intramural seed funding rather than apply to the target agency itself.
• Description of any interactions with the target agency or other funder to date, either through previously funded projects or discussions about the project at hand. Prior to discussing potential intellectual property with any company, please talk with Zohir Handy (zhandy@odu.edu).

• How this project will bring together investigators from multiple units, departments, and/or centers and additional resources.

• Final time for this seed project to be completed by June 30, 2008.

• A tentative six-month budget that does not exceed $100,000. Include budget justifications. Principal investigators are encouraged to discuss the budget with chairs and deans. If department and/or college will provide some support, this should be stated.

Historically speaking

Bill Barker, left, who portrays Thomas Jefferson in Colonial Williamsburg, was a guest at ODU’s Welcome Back Picnic Aug. 23 at the Ted Constant Convocation Center. Talking to Barker is Harold Wilson, professor of history.

PHOTO BY STEVE DANIEL
New study to examine Hampton Roads evacuation plans

B Y J I M R A P E R

Several plans exist for the emergency evacuation of Hampton Roads, but how adequate are they? The Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) has awarded $300,000 to Old Dominion engineers to get an up-to-date answer to the question.

The 11-month study, administered by ODU’s Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (VMASC), will focus on evacuations ordered when hurricanes are threatening Hampton Roads. It will address the complicating incidents — wrecks, vehicles running out of fuel, debris in the road, lapses in emergency response coordination and irrational behavior of motorists — that have reduced the efficiency of hurricane evacuations elsewhere.

Standstill traffic and blocked roads, for example, are what many Americans remember about evacuation. In particular, such as in the Texas for Hurricane Rita. The bridges and tunnels in Hampton Roads are notorious bottlenecks and present special problems for evacuation planners.

John Sokolowski, research professor and director of research at VMASC, is the principal investigator of this study. He has led several of VMASC’s transportation modeling projects and was responsible for working with the state Office of Domestic Preparedness to bring this research to fruition.

“Simulation provides a valuable addition to this study that will allow for the exploration of many scenarios not possible with more traditional analysis,” Sokolowski explained. “It will provide policymakers with a better understanding of the breadth of possible outcomes under varying conditions.”

Asad Khattak, ODU’s Batten Endowed Chair in Transportation Engineering, is the leading transportation specialist on the research team. He joined the university last year after serving for more than a decade on the transportation faculty of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where he developed the Carolina Transportation Systems model.

The project’s “statement of work” acknowledges the existence of a state evacuation plan that will be implemented if a natural or man-made disaster should force Hampton Roads residents to leave the region. Portions of the plan were developed by a private civil engineering firm and others are the work of public agencies.

“Work accomplished under this project expands upon the efforts of the other organizations,” according to the statement of work. “It is created in rather than duplicates other results and findings of those studies and on-going activities, including the Virginia Hurricane Evacuation Study and evacuation transportation analysis by the Virginia Transportation Research Council.”

“A lot of evacuation plans do not really account for unanticipated incidents, the crashes, et cetera, that cause half of the roadway congestion,” said Khattak. “The other half of congestion happens at peak traffic flow periods such as workday rush hours and is called recurrent congestion. Because it can be anticipated, recurrent congestion is easier — but by no means simple — for planners to address.

If a high-category hurricane were headed for Hampton Roads and mandatory evacuation was ordered, the potential for congestion will probably develop in patterns we have seen before, Khattak said. “In a sense you are creating a recurrent congestion situation compounded by incidents,” he explained. In other words, an evacuation nightmare will be something like a tractor-trailer getting wedged in a tunnel just as the start of rush hour.

But in an emergency evacuation, the congestion problems often are made worse than rush-hour tie-ups by motorists’ fears, indecision and blankets of bad information. Someone tells evacuees that hitch their boats to their vehicles and throw as many of their belongings as possible into the boat. (Decisions such as this can put unnecessary vehicles, as well as debris, on the roads.)

One example from a Florida evacuation was of a single family that insisted on fleeing in a caravan of several passenger vehicles and an RV towing a boat.

The work of Khattak and VMASC researchers will include an evaluation of baseline evacuation models, one of which is a general model that is widely used in the United States and another of which was prepared by the civil engineering firm that has done evacuation studies specifically for Virginia.

Then the work will bore on in Hampton Roads. A primary area of investigation revolves around the Safety Parentheses (SSPs), the vehicles with yellow emergency lights that come to the aid of motorists who have run out of gas, had a flat tire or been involved in a fender-bender. SSP operations and incident reports over the years will be scrutinized in order to identify patterns of interruptions in traffic flow. Questions to be answered might include:

- How heavy rain or high winds impact Hampton Roads traffic?
- How quickly can SSPs clear up incidents and what is the relative advantage of having extra SSPs in certain corridors?

Emergency managers in all Hampton Roads localities will be interviewed to collect data about recent traffic experiences during hurricane threats. The evacuation plans of these localities, including strategies for communicating with the populace, and channels of emergency response coordination between localities and agencies, will be evaluated.

In addition, existing research will be mined for information not only about traffic, but also about the socio-economic factors and behavioral tendencies that might affect evacuation decisions.

Evacuation incident scenarios will be worked out between models, and computer simulations will be run to frame overall evacuation planning and to identify the best responses emergency managers can employ to mitigate the effects of unanticipated incidents.

Khattak, who is the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Intelligent Transportation Systems, sees potential in the application of information technology to transportation systems. As such, he predicts that the ability of emergency managers to provide real-time information to evacuees just before they leave home and during their travel will be a critical element of a successful plan.

“Information is key, and especially given that we have greater and greater access to information,” he said. “Communication through the Internet, cell phones and other electronic media has been a very effective strategy in difficult situations.”

Contra traffic flow — for example, the use of all lanes of major arteries to handle westbound evacuees — is planned already if a Category 3 or higher hurricane is predicted to make landfall. But also important to any evacuation of Hampton Roads, Khattak believes, is the ability of the region to keep the roads open. This can be done by increasing the number of SSP incident response vehicles on major evacuation routes, possibly by drawing in emergency help from other cities in Virginia. He said incidents are sure to happen, but if a typical incident can be cleared up in 15 minutes rather than 30, then the benefit to traffic flow will be significant.

VMASC has several other ongoing projects requiring transportation modeling, including the Hampton Roads Cargo Project and the Critical Infrastructure Modeling Project.

The cargo project was requested by the state legislature. It is assessing the impact of increased container ship traffic to the region as a result of the new Maersk terminal being built in West Norfolk. The critical infrastructure research is examining the effect of disaster events on the region’s infrastructure including energy, water and wastewater, communication and transportation.

Treviño anxious to strike up the band

B Y M I C H E L L E M . F A L C K

The prospect of an Old Dominion football team in the fall of 2009 is already stirring much excitement around campus, but for some, equally exciting is the news of a marching band. In preparation for this year’s season, the University of Washington in Seattle, joins ODU as the director of athletic bands and associate director of bands. While in Washington, he served as assistant director of the Husky Marching Band and Husky basketball bands from 2004-07. He also was the director of the Husky volleyball band that accompanied the volleyball team to the NCAA finals in 2007.

Current students can audition for the ODU Marching Monarchs in the spring, and recruitment of prospective students will begin in the summer. According to Treviño, auditions are necessary to guarantee the level of performance of the band; prior marching band experience is required. He anticipates that scholarships will be available to all accepted members.

“A marching band is an educational ensemble, not just a spirit group,” notes Treviño. “It does not exist solely to provide spirit and entertainment.”

In addition to playing their instruments and performing on the field, band members will handle logistical tasks related to the management of a marching band, such as care and distribution of uniforms and equipment. Eventually the band will include a graduate assistant who will learn how to recruit and direct a marching band.

The instrumentation for the marching band will include: piccolo, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, melophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, sousaphone, marching snare, marching bass drum, marching tenors and marching symbols. There will be no pit percussion, as is found in competition bands, but plans call for a color guard and drum major.

Although game performances are still a ways off, the band will begin practices and participate in public performances, including parades and exhibitions, as of fall 2008.

Of great interest, Treviño says, will be the unveiling of the ODU Marching Monarchs’ “signature move.” While working as a graduate assistant for the University of Tennessee’s “Pride of the Southland” marching band, Treviño introduced the “Zipper T” maneuver, now a highlight of Volunteer football team’s pregame show. He is currently working on a number of creative ideas for the ODU team, but the final maneuver will depend upon the number of members. His goal is to have close to 240 members.

“You have to have something that the crowd looks forward to,” remarked Treviño, “that’s where traditions start.”
Submit Calendar notices to Steve Daniel, 100 Koch Hall, smDaniel@odu.edu. The next Calendar will be dated Oct. 12 to Nov. 19; submissions are due Sept. 28.

Speakers

Tuesday, Sept. 18
Alexei Trifonov of Maqip Corp., Physics Colloquium, 3 p.m., 200 Ocean. & Physics Bldg. 683-3274

Thursday, Sept. 20
Paula Justice, instructor of comm. and theatre arts, “Dreamwalking.” 7 p.m., Vs. Beach 368-4100

Tuesday, Sept. 25
Tom Gray, Univ. of Nebraska, Physics Colloquium, 3 p.m., 200 Ocean. & Physics Bldg. 683-3274

Wednesday, Sept. 26
Michael McFarland, executive director of VMASC, for the Economics Club of Hampton Roads, noon, Norfolk Marriott Waterside. 683-5138.

Meetings

Tuesday, Sept. 18
Faculty Senate, 3 p.m., Ports./Ches. Room, Webb Center. 683-3401

Wednesday, Sept. 19
Assn. of Univ. Administrators, welcome back networking social, 4-6 p.m., Kornblau Alumni Ctr. 683-6548

Friday, Sept. 21
Board of Visitors, 1:30 p.m., Board Room, Webb Center (committee meetings at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.). 683-3072

Performances

Sunday, Sept. 30
ODU Wind Ensemble, directed by Alexander Trevino, 3 p.m., Diehn Ctr.atrium. 683-4061.

Monday, Oct. 15
Jazz trumpeter Jeremy Pelt with the John Toomey Trio, Diehn Center Series, 8 p.m., Chancellor Rec Hall. 683-4061.

Miscellaneous

Tuesday, Oct. 2
Tech Tuesday, “Questionmark,” Cit for Learning Technologies, 1:30-3:30 p.m., 411 Gornto. Registration: http://clt.odu.edu/facdev.683-3172

Friday - Sunday, Oct. 5-7
Six-session Play Therapy certification program series begins with “Principles of Play Therapy,” sponsored by Counselor Education and Programs for Continuing Education, Darden College of Education. 683-6081.

Wednesday, Oct. 17

Saturday, Sept. 29
Man’s soccer vs. Richmond, 7 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 30
Women’s soccer vs. Davidson, 1:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 5
Man’s soccer vs. Northeastern, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 6
Field hockey vs. Hofstra, 1 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 7
Man’s soccer vs. Hofstra, 1 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 7
Field hockey vs. Drexel, 1 p.m.

ODU announces radio talent for men’s and women’s basketball games

Football call-in show debuts this month

Ted Alexander, news and sports reporter for WTKR-TV, and Tony Mercurio, the sports director at ESPN Radio 1310, will lead the radio announcer teams for the Old Dominion men’s and women’s basketball games, respectively, on 94.1 FM and coaches shows on ESPN Radio 1310, the ODU athletic department announced Sept. 6.

In addition, the “ODU Football Update” show, featuring head coach Bobby Wilder, began airing Sept. 12 on ESPN Radio 1310 and will continue for nine successive Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m. The call-in show is anchored by Mercurio and will include discussions on ODU’s emerging football program as well as CAA football and the national college football scene.

“We are delighted that Ted has joined our radio team,” said athletic director Jim Jarrett. “He will bring a wealth of local experience and knowledge of our program to the broadcasts that I know our fans will enjoy.”

Alexander served as sports director at WTKR for 1998-2000, and 2001-05. After a stint as morning host at WWDE Radio, he returned to News Channel 3 in 2005. He will continue his television reporting as well as broadcasting on ODU radio.

Beta Alpha Psi honored superior chapter honor

The Zeta Pi chapter of Beta Alpha Psi in the College of Business and Public Administration achieved superior status for the 2006-07 academic year.

Beta Alpha Psi is an international honors organization that enhances the university educational experience by providing interaction with finance, information systems and accounting professionals; conducting technical and personal development programs through campus, regional and international meetings; and promoting and encouraging community service.

Superior chapters receive a financial award contributed by the KPMG Foundation. All chapters earning this status were recognized at the Beta Alpha Psi annual meeting held Aug. 2-4 in Chicago. Tara Clarke-Brooks, chapter president-elect; Randall Spurrer, senior lecturer of accounting and chapter adviser; and Srumrti (Runthe) Desai, outgoing chapter president, attended the event and accepted the award.

Speakers

Tuesday, Sept. 18
Alexei Trifonov of Maqip Corp., Physics Colloquium, 3 p.m., 200 Ocean. & Physics Bldg. 683-3274

Thursday, Sept. 20
Amit Choudhury, post,新股，ceo and author of “The Guardians” (Random House, 2007), a novel about life along the U.S.-Mexico border, sponsored by the Latin American studies program, 8 p.m., 316 Dudgeon 683-3988

Tuesday, Oct. 2
Marceo Bartlett, MBB, Physics Colloquium, 3 p.m., 200 Ocean. & Physics Bldg. 683-3274

Wednesday, Oct. 10
Kenneth Hersh, managing partner, Natural Gas Partners, for the American studies program, 8 p.m., 136 Diehn Ctr. 683-6081.

Monday, Oct. 15
Randall Spurrier, senior lecturer of accounting, “Cybersecurity 101,” 11:30 a.m., Killian-Kelly Hall. 683-6548

Tuesday, Oct. 15
Katharine Hinchliffe, “The M Word: A Woman’s Journey Through Gender,” 7:30 p.m., 136 Diehn Ctr. 683-3988

Tuesday, Oct. 16

Wednesday, Oct. 17

Tuesday, Oct. 29
Man’s soccer vs. Richmond, 7 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 30
Women’s soccer vs. Drexel, 1 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 5
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Games and coaches’ shows. He will be joined by long-time analysts Billy Mann, former ODU basketball great, and Rick Kiefner on the game broadcasts.

“This is a dream come true,” Alexander said. “I’ve followed ODU basketball for years and to be part of the broadcast team is incredible. I appreciate the opportunity from ODU and the flexibility with my schedule from the new management team at News Channel 3 to do the games and shows.”

The men’s basketball show, featuring head coach Blake Taylor, will air on ESPN Radio 1310 Mondays from 6-7 p.m., beginning Nov. 12.

Mercurio will begin his 17th year as the voice of the Lady Monarch basketball program. A 13-time Virginia Sportscaster of the Year, he will also anchor the women’s bas- ketball coaches’ show, featuring head coach Wendy Larry, on Tuesdays from 6-7 p.m., beginning Nov. 13. He will be joined by color analyst Susan Montgomery, a former Lady Monarch assistant coach, on the game broadcasts.

Friday, Oct. 12
Men’s soccer vs. VCU, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 14
Men’s soccer vs. JMU, 1 p.m.

Field hockey vs. Duke, 1 p.m.

Deadline

Monday, Oct. 1
Applications due for multidisciplinary seed grants, sponsored by the Office of Research. 683-3460

Coming soon to “THE TED”

Tuesday, Sept. 25
Bob DiPaolo and fresh, with Elvis Costello, 7 p.m., $46, $61 and $71

Thurs. - Sun., Nov. 1-4
Sesame Street Live! "When Elmo Grows Up.", 7 p.m. Thurs., 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Fri., 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Sat., 2 p.m. Sun.; $10.50, $14.50, $19.50 and $25.50

Sunday, Nov. 18
"World Famous" Lipizzaner Stallions, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. $21, $24, $29 and $34

Thursday, Dec. 6
AnthemLake, charity tennis exhibition to benefit cancer research, featuring James Blake and Serena Williams, 7 p.m. $10.50, $14.50, $19.50 and $25.50

For tickets, visit the Constant Center box office or call 888-411-4TED.
Profacts

Research and Educational Activities in Parallel Computing and “A User Friendly, Visualized Stiffness Matrix Model for Structural Analysis I Courses,” at the University of California, Los Angeles.

JULIE PERRINS, 2006 doctoral graduate in urban studies, “Bridging the Literacy Gap Inside and Outside the Classroom: Rising, High-stake Testing and the African American Student” to the International Reading Association in Toronto, Canada. Co-authors include GAEL TAYLOR, associate professor of educational curriculum and instruction; JACK ROBINSON, associate professor of early childhood language, learning and literacy; and DENNY WOLFE, professor emeritus of educational curriculum and instruction.

Research on the influence of dance, music, and stories on students’ understanding of their family and cultural backgrounds, and for students’ personal and academic achievement.

Distributing Crowd Behavior Model Using Game Exercisescience, sport, physical education and recreation, distributed crowds are charged with advancing Governor Tim Kaine’s goal of ensuring broadband access for every Virginia business.

Dining, the Aramark Food Service Director of the Year in Italy. Co-authors are Simulations Interoperability Workshop 2007 in Genoa, MINGUEN HOYEN, Mikel Petty, associate professor, and Francesco Terra, associate professor, of community and environmental health, member of the Health Services and Behavioral Research Schaffer, associate vice president for college transfer education, elected to the Editorial Policy Board of the Journal of Environmental Health, appointed to a four-year term as a member of the State Committee on Transfer along with Lonnie Bradbury, associate professor of early childhood education, and to a two-year term on the editorial committee and to an advisory board.

Papers/Presentations

JOHN ADAM, University Professor of mathematics, “Noah’s Ark: Asia in the Sky” at the 9th International Meeting on Light and Color in Nature at Montana State University.


JOHN HOLLSINGER, emeritus scholar of biological sciences, “Forty-Six Years of Caves, Karst and Speleology” for a special symposium honoring Hollsinger at the 2007 annual convention of the National Speleological Society in Marquette, Michigan.


JOHN HOLLSINGER, emeritus scholar of biological sciences, “For the Tributaries of the Alabama River: The Role of Ecosystems in Sustainable Development” at the University of Alabama.

FREDERICK LUCEH, chair of foreign languages and literatures, “Daddy Dearest - Monster Daddy: Family Romances of the Daughters in Contemporary German Literature,” in Germany, at the Goethe Institute, Cairo. Also, “Goethe and Thomas Mann: Elective Affinities Across the Centuries,” in Germany, at the Goethe Institute, Alexandria, and at the Goethe Institute in Sarajevo and in Amsterdam. He also conducted a workshop on “Googling: Foreign Languages and Intericultural Studies” at the Wunderkammer (vocational high school) in Gepiringen/Tourna, Germany. He was interviewed by the German press on the Goethe Karo in the topic on “Genetic Conflicts in Literature.”

DEBRA MAJOR, professor of psychology, and VALERIE MORGANSON and KURT OROTON, doctoral students of industrial/organizational psychology, “Coping with Work-Family Conflict: A Leader-Member Endorsement Perspective” at the 12th International Conference on Work and Family in Barcelona, Spain.

GARRETT MCAFULIE, professor of educational leadership and counseling, “Reducing Culture Conflict: Promoting Self-authorized Thinking” and “Key Practices in Culturally Alert Counseling” at the International Conference on Counseling for Conflict in Israel. He also chaired the papers and working groups session on “Culture and Spirituality.”

GARRETT MCAFULIE, assistant director and liaison to distance sites, Career Management Center, a workshop on “From the Chat Room to the Boardroom” at the Eastern College of Health and Employers Annual Conference in Baltimore.

CHUH MEI, emeritus scholar of aeronautical engineering, “The Pulsed Laser-Ultrasonic Testing Methodology” at the EUROMAT Conference 483, Geometrically Nonlinear Vibration of Structures, in Porto, Portugal. “Nonlinear Response of Plates to Random Stochastic Excitation” (with co-authors Guoan Jiang of Jefferey Loh and Jiehen-Michael Dhawan of Embraer Aeronautics, Brazil) and “The Effect of Anti-symmetric Modes on the Nonlinear Response of Composite Shallow Shells to Random Loads” (with co-authors Xinwei Zhang, David Webster College and Yun-Yin Lee of City University of Hong Kong). He also chaired a session on “Nonlinear Modes and Reduced Order Modeling.”

DUC NGUYEN, professor of civil and environmental engineering, two research seminaries, “Multiscale In-