InsideUVA

TOP MARKS
University scores high in two national magazine surveys

STAFF REPORT

TWO national magazines, Newsweek and U.S. News & World Report, gave the University of Virginia high marks in their annual college editions, published last week.

In U.S. News & World Report's annual college ranking edition, U.Va. was again No. 2 among 162 national public universities. U.Va. has been either No. 1 or No. 2 in every year since U.S. News made public universities a separate category 10 years ago.

U.Va. is tied with the University of Michigan for No. 24 overall among 248 national universities, public and private, ranked by U.S. News.

In other U.S. News categories, U.Va.'s McIntire School of Commerce was tied for No. 9 in the Best Business Programs category while the School of Engineering and Applied Science was in a five-way tie for the No. 34 spot among Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs.

On the magazine's list of "Great Values," See Rankings, page 2

Martin interim assistant VP for diversity and equity

BY ANNE BROMLEY

Dr. Marcus Martin, chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine in the Health System, has been appointed interim assistant vice president in the Office of the Vice President and Chief Officer for Diversity and Equity. The appointment runs for one year, effective July 10.

Martin, who came to the Health System in 1996, will fulfill his duties in emergency medicine for the rest of the calendar year, as well as work with Vice President William Harvey as his top adviser and representative.

"Marcus Martin is someone who has the recognition and respect of the University community and our neighbors in the surrounding areas," Harvey said. "He has significant admin-

Apprey appointed interim OAAA dean

STAFF REPORT

Vice President and Chief Student Affairs Officer Patricia Lampkin appointed Maurice Apprey, a professor of psychiatric medicine and the School of Medicine’s former associate dean for diversity, as interim dean of the Office of African-American Affairs, effective July 31.

Apprey, 58, who joined the University in 1980 and has been involved in the successful recruitment and retention of minority students in the Medical School, taught both undergraduate and medical students, residents in psychiatry, and hospital chaplains, among others. He also has published extensively in three interrelated areas: conflict resolution and social change management; modern French and German philosophy; and child, adolescent and adult psychoanalysis.

He is stepping in to lead the Office of African-American Affairs.

Curry’s Pianta gets $10M for national preschool study

BY ANNE BROMLEY

The Curry School of Education has been awarded $10 million from the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences to determine if a new method for training preschool teachers results in their students, especially disadvantaged children, learning language and literacy skills better. The stronger foundation would enable them to continue building academic success. A significant goal of the nationwide study, led by Robert Pianta, Novartis US Foundation Professor of Education, is to help close the achievement gap between children at risk of failing in school and their more academically successful and affluent peers.

Nearly 70 percent of the nation's 3- and 4-
MAGNET DESIGNATION

STAFF REPORT

The American Nurses Credentialing Center announced Aug. 18 that the University of Virginia Medical Center has received Magnet Recognition for nursing excellence. Only 3 percent of U.S. hospitals have achieved this recognition.

Magnet designation came after U.Va. submitted 1,900 pages of documentation demonstrating achievements in patient care, nurse satisfaction, quality improvement and nursing research. This was followed by a four-day, on-site inspection by Magnet appraisers that included visits to all patient care areas and interviews with hundreds of nurses.

Magnet designation signifies that an institution’s nurses have high levels of education, adhere to the highest professional standards and provide the best patient care. According to the ANCC, “Magnet recognition provides consumers with the ultimate benchmark to measure the quality of care they can expect to receive.”

“Magnet designation serves as external recognition for our nurses and the exceptional care they provide to our patients and their families,” said R. Edward Howell, vice president and chief executive officer of the Medical Center. “We are proud to receive this external recognition that reflects the value and appreciation the staff and physicians hold for our nursing staff.”

“Being recognized as a Magnet institution signifies not only excellence in nursing care and professionalism, but it also acknowledges the collaboration throughout the organization to support quality of care, shared governance and the promotion of nurses as leaders,” said Medical Center Chief Clinical Officer and Chief Nursing Officer Pamela F. Cipriano.

Independent studies of Magnet hospitals show that patients have shorter lengths of stay, higher satisfaction, higher nurse-to-patient ratios and lower mortality rates. Nurses are more satisfied with their work and Magnet recognition strengthens nursing recruitment and retention efforts.

“Magnet Recognition is an honor that distinguishes the registered nurses of U.Va. Medical Center. The intelligent, compassionate care provided by my colleagues is world class. This recognition formally and publicly celebrates that fact,” said Magnet team co-chair Kathleen Rea.

The Magnet Recognition Program was developed by the ANCC in 1994 to recognize health care facilities that provide the very best in professional nursing care. The 14 “Forces of Magnetism” that distinguish Magnet organizations include an environment that promotes excellence in interdisciplinary teamwork, research, education and patient care. U.Va. demonstrated excellence in all 14 forces to earn this award.

The ANCC is a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association and is the largest and most prominent nursing credentialing organization in the United States.

Rankings from page 1

which combines the quality of the academic program and net cost of attendance, U.Va. ranked No. 17 overall and second among public institutions.

The University of Virginia’s College at Wise, which was ranked in the fourth tier of National Liberal Arts colleges, topped the list of colleges whose students graduate with the least amount of debt.

Meanwhile, Newsweek magazine cited U.Va. as one of 25 “New Ivies,” those colleges “whose first-rate academic programs, combined with a population boom in top students, have fueled their rise in stature and favor among the nation’s top students, administrators and faculty — edging them to a competitive status rivaling the Ivy League.”

The 25 institutions listed by Newsweek were selected on the basis of admissions statistics as well as interviews with administrators, students, faculty and alumni.

John A. Blackburn, U.Va. dean of admission, said that the recognition from the two national publications “reaffirms what we have thought about the University of Virginia.

“It’s clear that the quality of our students is on the same level as those anywhere in the country, including the Ivies,” he said.

Blackburn added that U.Va.’s Class of 2010, which arrived on Grounds Aug. 19, is the strongest the University has ever enrolled.
Center for Politics wins federal grant to support Student Poll Worker Program

The University of Virginia Center for Politics has won a grant from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission to expand programs to recruit and train college students as nonpartisan poll workers on Election Day. The grant will allow for the continuation and expansion of efforts to recruit student participants in the Student Poll Worker Program, begun in early 2006 as a partnership between the Center for Politics and the City of Charlottesville Office of Voter Registration. “This is a remarkable opportunity for students to participate directly in the American electoral process and become more knowledgeable, engaged citizens,” said Larry J. Sabato, professor of politics and director of U.Va.’s Center for Politics. (Aug. 21)
Justice wins presidential research award

BY ANNE BROMLY

Laura M. Justice, a clinical speech-language pathologist at the University of Virginia Curry School of Education who specializes in research on early language and literacy skills, received a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers on July 26. Administered by the federal Office of Science and Technology Policy since 1996, the PECASE is considered the highest national honor for investigators in the early stages of highly promising academic careers.

President George W. Bush presented the award to her along with 57 other researchers at a ceremony with the President's science advisor John H. Marburger III, U.S. Dept. of Education Secretary Margaret Spellings and other government officials. This is the first year education research has been recognized.

Justice, director of the Preschool Language & Literacy Lab in U.Va.'s Center for Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning, has been testing the best ways to boost language and reading skills — the building blocks of future academic success — by using storybooks. She is identifying specific techniques teachers and parents can use with preschool children, from low socioeconomic households or with language impairments, to see improvement before they run into problems in grade school.

With almost 40 percent of fourth graders unable to read at a basic level, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, and most never catching up, Justice likens the problem to a public health concern.

Justice, whose research is supported by the National Center for Education Research, said, “The field of education is increasingly using experimental design to identify what works and what doesn’t [among education methods]. Otherwise we have to rely on trial and error. We look systematically at the methods we use.”

It’s not just reading to children that’s important, she has found. For instance, intentionally talking to preschool children about print during shared reading activities makes a “dramatic impact” on their literacy, said Justice. Such elements include the front and back of the book, first and last pages, the title, individual words and letters.

“With print as the focus of attention, the children’s alphabet knowledge increased fourfold in eight weeks,” Justice reported, based on the findings of one of her studies. “I am very pleased that one of the institute’s grantees, Laura Justice, has received the first Presidential Early Career Award to be bestowed on an education scientist,” said Grover J. “Russ” Whitehurst, director of the Institute of Education Sciences.

Specific federal departments and agencies may nominate scientists and engineers who show exceptional potential for leadership and success in scientific knowledge for the presidential awards. Justice is the second U.Va. researcher to win the award, following 2001 recipient David Worton, associate professor in the School of Medicine’s Center for Cell Signaling.

Transforming history lessons

Virginia Center for Digital History partners in $1 million grant

BY JANE FORD

The evolution and growth of democracy in America has deep roots in Virginia. Ideas of democracy, civil liberties and equality were nurtured at the colony of Jamestown, in the homes of our Founding Fathers at Montpelier and Monticello as well as during the Virginia Civil Rights Movement in Virginia.

Thanks to a $1 million award from the U.S. Department of Education’s Teaching American History Grant Program, teachers in Charlottesville and four surrounding counties will have an opportunity to explore ways to teach the history of this legacy in a program designed to enhance teaching American history in public schools. The grant will fund “The Virginia Experiment: Growing Seeds of Democracy in Four Hundred Years of American History,” a three-year project designed to provide resources and training for teachers to gain a deeper understanding of the evolution and growth of democracy in America using new skills and primary resources.

The University of Virginia’s Center for Liberal Arts, Center for Technology and Teacher Education, Miller Center of Public Affairs and Virginia Center for Digital History are partnering with the City of Charlottesville and the counties of Albemarle, Greene, Madison and Orange. The project will introduce teachers to content and research to increase their knowledge of American history and improve the quality of instruction, with the goal of increasing student achievement.

The offerings made possible by the grant will address issues of teacher retention, leadership and help further careers beyond the teaching practice, said Andy Mink, director of outreach and K-12 education at VCDH.

Approximately 70 local teachers of American history in grades four, five, six, seven and 11 will be able to partake in some aspect of the project.

“In each offering we will draw explicit parallels between the role of local and state events, people and places to foster a deeper understanding of the evolution of traditional democratic ideas,” Mink said. “Participants can take part in any or all of the offerings.”

This program provides a catalyst to schools to transform the way history is taught using primary sources and technology, said Glen Bull, co-director of the Center for Technology and Teacher Education at the Curry School of Education. “Web-based archives of primary materials are readily available to scholars and already have changed research on the university level. Now the world is changing inside K-12 schools in terms of accessing information. Students will have an opportunity to learn history in a deeper and more personal way that is less abstract and more understandable.”

During each year of the project, an annual series of eight lectures by world-renowned historians, experts from 17 major universities, will speak on a wide range of topics, at local historical and historical-related sites.

Also, each year 30 participants will have an opportunity to attend a multi-day institute on teaching strategies. In the first year, the Polis Center at Indiana University-Pur
Behind the firewall
How U.Va. handles adding 3,000 new student computers to its network in one day

BY BREVY CANNON

T he typical first-year student has three priorities on move-in day: meet the roommate, make the bed, and get the computer online. That seems simple enough, but adding 3,000 computers of all kinds to the University’s network in a single weekend involved more than 100 support staff on move-in day and months of preparations. Just as in previous years, this year’s move-in day on Saturday, Aug. 19, involved SWAT-team style coordination of technical support to make sure that each student’s first connection to the Internet went smoothly. Every dorm was assigned one student computer adviser, fresh from two days of technical training, along with one professional “troubleshooter” from U.Va.’s department of Information Technology and Communications, and another ITC staffer at a table outside the dorm who refereed the whirred heap of questions, requests for help and computer-related frustrations.

If the student computer adviser and the troubleshooter couldn’t fix a problem, they called in reinforcements from ITC’s move-in day headquarters in Gilmer Hall, which monitored and oversaw the staff of about 75 ITC staffers plus about 30 student CAs.

Both the ITC staff and the CAs were trained in how to reassure parents that even if a computer problem was not resolved by the end of move-in day, they could say goodbye to the son or daughter and rest assured that the problem would be solved in the immediate future by the IT team.

“Students are coming to school with more and more computer skills. What we see is students really get it, or they really don’t. For those who don’t, they really need these computing advisers,” said Janet Belew, ITC student services coordinator, who oversees the CA program.

In addition to the on-the-ground operations on move-in day, there were numerous other ways in which the students, their computers and the IT infrastructure were prepared for the onslaught. Nearly all incoming students have a computer; 99.4 percent of the 2005 incoming class had one, and 92.1 percent of them were laptops, according to data collected door-to-door by CAs, said Teresa Lockard, director of ITC Computing Support Services. (For comparison, in 1997, only 74 percent of incoming students brought a computer, and only 16.4 percent of those were laptops.) All dormitory network connections are protected by centrally administered hardware firewalls that can recognize and isolate any computer carrying certain viruses that ITC has identified as a high-risk threat. The standard suite of antivirus and anti-spyware software provided free to every student (under a U.Va. site license) handles remaining cyber-security threats.

Upon first connection to the U.Va. network, every incoming student must read the U.Va. Computer Usage Policy, pass an online test reviewing the policy, and then agree to abide by the policy, which requires that all students must protect their own passwords and accounts, must not access or misappropriate the account of another user, and must not access confidential data or violate other applicable laws.

Approximately half of incoming students purchased a computer for school through the University’s Cavalier Computers store, which includes with each new computer, for no additional charge, a customized bundle of software, including antivirus and anti-spyware, along with proper settings for networking and keeping software properly updated against emerging security threats, such that the computer is “ready-to-go” as possible for use at U.Va., right out of the box.

For those students with financial difficulty purchasing a computer, the Laptop for Students program provided a loaner laptop for the school year. Dell donated 50 laptops for the program, Apple provided 10, and U.Va. purchased 25, and all came with a printer.

To learn more about how things went at this year’s move-in day, read the Aug. 20 Washington Post story: “Move-In Day at U.Va./3,000 First-Years, All Searching for a Connection! Tech Squads Ease Computer System’s Huge Hookup Test,” by Susan Kinzie, available online at www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/08/19/AR2006081900628.html.

"SUPER SATURDAY" FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP HONORED BY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

The first-ever “Super Saturday” financial aid workshop, held Feb. 4, 2006, in Charlottesville, was honored recently at the Pester Session of the yearly conference of the National Association of Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) in Seattle as one of four “innovative financial aid practices” from across the nation. The Super Saturday event drew 320 people from eight Central Virginia cities and counties, provided one-on-one counseling to 100 persons, and helped 40 students to complete online federal student aid applications. It was co-sponsored by U.Va. and PVCC, and was free and open to all families and students, regardless of age or what college they planned to attend.

“We want all students who desire a college education to understand the path to it, through academic preparation, and how to finance it,” said Robin White, project manager of the Access UVA financial aid program and one of the architects of Super Saturday. “We believe the level of attendance indicates that there is a high demand for outreach to support college access. U.Va. and PVCC are both committed to making a difference in the perception of the availability of financial aid, regardless of school choice.”

The second annual Super Saturday is scheduled for February 2007. For more information, please contact Robin White at 924-5769 or robinw@virginia.edu, or visit http://www. virginia.edu/topnews/releases/20060825N AFSAAaward.html.
By Cathy Berly

Dean James H. Aylor
Guiding Engineering School’s vision to reality

These days the technology industry dominates much of our nation’s economic activity. Many of the research and training priorities of the federal government provides him with a unique perspective on the school and its profile within the University community, nationwide and nationally. Since his appointment, Aylor has made clear his educational goals and led the institute into a new era of growth and research funding. He continues to talk about his vision for U.Va. engineering.

Q President John C. Tishman III has said that strengthening the University programs in sci- ence and engineering will be our top priority over the next ten years. What will this mean for the engineering school?

A This will take substantial additional resources, of course. The University is doing what it can by doubling the rate of increase from tuition.

SEAS Study
CarCrashes Are More Deadly for Seniors

The archetypal elderly driver fatality involves a belted, sober driver pulling into the path of an oncoming vehicle during the day and dying days after a collision of moderate severity. Preexisting health issues are often related to the death. In contrast, the archetype for a 20-45 year-old driver involves an unbelted, impaired driver losing control of his vehicle at night and dying during an extreme, single-vehicle crash.

• Older drivers were more likely to die at a site more than 1.6 miles away from the crash location (the crash death).
• Frail or pre-existing health conditions played a significant role in the deaths of the older group, but not in the younger group (50 percent of the deaths involved the older group).
• Older drivers were more likely to die at a site more than 1.6 miles away from the crash location (the crash death).

Dean, School of Engineering and Applied Science

Dean, School of Engineering and Applied Science

WEARABLES

Davis, Microtechnology Systems and Information Engineering

• In 1990, the University inaugurated the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

JAMES H. AYLOR

Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from MIT. Research interest is in error-free IC design and the impact of process scaling on memory circuits and architectures.

• Ongoing educational programs include hands-on experience with international universities, co-ops, and other types of internships—increased opportunities—pro- vided we can negotiate the scheduling problems. It is my hope, that, by arranging internships with multinational corpora- tions, students will have the opportunity to gain international experience while working in a much more global environ- ment.

We are planning for modest growth. We are planning for modest growth. We are planning for modest growth. We are planning for modest growth.

The technology industry dominates...
Martin from page 1

Martin traveled to Louisiana in September 2005 and February 2006 to serve the disadvantaged populations—black and white—through medical relief efforts subsequent to hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Martin will continue ongoing responsibilities as assistant dean of medical education in the School of Medicine, one of those being to teach medical students life-saving techniques using computerized human patient simulators, a program he started two years ago. He also recently completed a monograph on cultural competency for use by educators in medicine.

Before coming to U.Va., Martin, the first African-American graduate in the 1976 charter class of Eastern Virginia Medical School, was acting chairman of the emergency medicine department at the Medical College of Pennsylvania and Hahnemann University in Pittsburgh. He was director of the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh from 1984 to 1995.

Martin has four children, three of whom are University of Virginia alumni.

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American Affairs in the wake of the recently announced retirement of M. Rick Turner, the department’s dean since 1988.

“Maurice is the ideal person to provide interim leadership and to manage this transition period in as seamless a manner as possible and in ways that will assist affected students and staff as they negotiate change in the office,” Lampkin said. “I have worked closely with him on a number of complex issues over the years and I feel confident that his strong management skills and gentle personal touch are what are needed at this time.”

Lampkin also had high praise for Sylvia V. Terry, the office’s longtime associate dean and director of the nationally recognized Peer Advisor Program. “Sylvia has been both a rock and a role model for our students. Together, Sylvia and Maurice will reach out to our students and assure them they are our No. 1 priority. They also will provide steady leadership as we continue to move the important work of this office forward.”

Apprey said he is taking on the interim position to give back to the institution that has afforded him a rewarding career. “It is an honor to be able to serve the University in this capacity,” Apprey said. “I hope to sustain the welcoming and supportive environment for our African-American students, and to ensure a continuous, collaborative presence and meaningful representation in student affairs and across the University.”

Apprey, who served as associate dean of diversity and student support in the Medical School until stepping down two years ago to pursue a second doctorate in executive management, is no stranger to the undergraduate experience and has long been a contributing member of the broader University community. He has assisted Lampkin on a number of difficult student affairs issues, including leading mediation sessions between student groups regarding hate crimes. He served as a member of President John T. Cas-teen III’s Commission on Diversity and Equity, and prior to that he served on former President Robert M. O’Neill’s task force that produced the document “Audacious Faith.”

While at the medical school, he set up the federally funded Medical Academic Advancement Programs to provide student academic support and professional counseling to medical and pre-medical students. As a result, the school experienced a 13-year run of 100 percent retention of minority and disadvantaged students and significant increases in the number of minority students in entering classes.

In 1982, Apprey was appointed assistant dean of student affairs at the medical school, a position he held for 10 years. He then went on to serve as associate dean of diversity for 11 years before being named associate dean of student support. He was a member of the University’s team from the Center for the Study of Mind and Human Interaction that managed the transition step from Sovietization to the restoration of independence of Estonia in Eastern Europe from 1994 to 1999.

Apprey continues to serve in the Division of Outpatient Psychiatry and the Division of Child and Family Psychiatry.

He is one of a handful of students trained in London by Anna Freud at the Hampstead Clinic where he graduated in 1979. He went on to receive his adult training in psychoanalysis at the New York Freudian Society where he is now a training and supervising analyst. Always interested in the tension between description and interpretation, he was a student of Amedeo Giorgi at the Saybrook Institute in San Francisco where he studied phenomenological psycholog-ical research and hermeneutics and where he received a Ph.D. in human science research.

This past May he received his second doctorate in executive management at the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. He said this gave him the opportunity to study leadership, conflict management and nonprofit management research.

Apprey received his B.S. in psychology, philosoph-y and religion in 1974 from the College of Emporia in Kansas.
Ahead of her time: Hale a pioneer in internationalizing U.Va.

BY MARY CARLSON

Long before “globalization” became a buzzword in American higher education, pioneers like Lucy Hale were taking risks and blazing paths for internationalizing their campuses. For U.Va., which is now engaged in a new, large-scale internationalization effort, Hale has left a rich legacy. But it is one that almost wasn’t.

The year was 1960. Hale turned down the offer not once, but twice. Only on the third try did Edward Younger, the history professor who served as the University’s foreign student adviser, persuade Hale to accept the position as his assistant. Little did she know how much her decision would change her life and, at the same time, transform the University’s inchoate internationalization effort.

A young mother of two, Hale was trying to put her life together after having received a devastating blow several years earlier—the sudden death of her 34-year-old husband, William Hale, from a heart attack. A graduate of U.Va.’s architecture school, William had made a name for himself locally as a serious historic preservationist and designer of elegant Colonial Revival homes. In an awful twist of fate, he had died the night before he was due to sign a life insurance policy.

Lucy Hale knew that she needed a job to support her family, but with little professional experience, the outlook seemed bleak. Then came the call from Younger. She politely declined his offer, believing that she did not have the proper experience for the job. A few days later, Younger called again. She declined a second time. But he persisted.

Looking back, Hale recalled that Younger saw a potential in her that she herself didn’t see. “He had a way of seeing beyond what was readily visible in others. He said, ‘Lucy, this job will open up a whole new world to you.’ It may sound odd, but I felt a rushing sensation around my head. I realized at that instant who I was and what he was offering me.”

Hale immediately set about learning the intricacies of visa application and documentation processes. She found the work challenging but stimulating. At the time, U.Va. hosted roughly 55 foreign students, many from India and China. One of the main challenges facing foreign students was the shock of being transplanted in a culture so different from their own. “You have to remember,” she said, “at the time U.Va. admitted only white students and very few females. And it was set in this sleepy southern town.” On occasion, the culture shock led to horrible consequences. Only a month into her new job, Hale remembered, an international student who was having difficulty adjusting to American cultural mores shot his girlfriend before turning the gun on himself. The girlfriend survived; he did not. For Hale, the lesson was clear. She believed that the University needed to do more — much more — to anticipate and better serve foreign students’ needs. To complicate matters, Younger stepped down several months later as the foreign student adviser. Two more advisers came and went in rapid succession.

Then Hale made a bold move. “I went to the dean and told him, ‘There’s been too much turnover in this office. We can’t be successful like this. We need continuity. And I want the job.’” The dean agreed.

Suddenly, Hale had become U.Va.’s first female administrator on a nonacademic track. As she worked to stabilize and expand the FSA office, she encountered resistance from some administrators in the University’s upper echelon. “Some administrators, like Professor Younger, encouraged me. But others, though they were not overtly hostile, did not pay any attention to what a woman was saying or wanted to do. I loved the University and felt that it was my university. But I began to feel that I was an alien in my own environment. I could identify with the foreign students.”

Despite those obstacles, Hale plunged headlong into her new role. She audited Professor Walter Hauser’s course on the history and culture of India. She joined the National Association of Foreign Student Advisors, gleaming as much information as she could from attending conferences hosted by other U.S. universities. She absorbed what her counterparts were doing and took risks, many of which paid off.

Hale developed U.Va.’s first English language program for non-native speakers. At the invitation of the Taiwanese government, she led a trip to Taiwan for administrators from Rutgers University, Notre Dame University and other American schools. And she established an international center on grounds that would serve as a meeting place for foreign students. “I worked with Mary Brush, a secretary, but we had no other paid staff at the center,” she said.

To raise awareness of the University’s international student community, Hale wanted to hold a 150th anniversary celebration of the admission of U.Va.’s first international student — Fernando Bolivar, the nephew and adopted son of the famed Venezuelan leader Simon Bolivar. The effort failed when top administrators didn’t provide financial support.

Undeterred, Hale reached out to the Charlottesville community. “I talked to civic groups and churches because I wanted to involve them in knowing our international students.” She asked local families to host foreign students for holiday meals when the University was on break. It’s a tradition that continues to this day. She also developed U.Va.’s first host family program in 1964, now known as the International Host Program.

Other many accomplishments, Hale was especially pleased to have created the University’s first handbook for international women students. It included what she described as a “subversive” touch — a graphic rendition of the Rotunda adorned with women’s turban–clad heads. Between Hale’s acceptance of Younger’s job offer in 1960 and her retirement as director of the International Student Affairs office in 1986, she had presided over a time of remarkable growth in U.Va.’s international community. With 750 foreign students representing 75 countries, this community at last had a defined presence within the larger context of the University.

“My goal,” Hale said, “was to internationalize the University of Virginia.” Pausing a moment, she smiled at the thought of it. “It seems now like such a presumptuous, radical statement.”

The international center that Hale established in 1972 is known today as the Lorna Sundberg International Center. Located on University Circle close to Grounds, it provides various educational and social programs for international and domestic students, scholars, faculty, family members and local residents. Thanks to Hale’s far-sighted approaches and resourceful leadership, U.Va.’s international community is thriving.
Pianta from page 1

year-olds are enrolled in preschool programs, and the number is growing, according to the National Institute for Early Education Research. Yet “there is little evidence that current approaches to training produce demonstrable gains for children,” Pianta said. He and his U.Va. research team have found a way to enhance teachers’ effectiveness in the classroom, using one-on-one coaching via a Web-based conference system, called My Teaching Partner. Pianta will head the National Center for Research on Early Childhood Education, where student-teachers will be trained to use the MTP program before they get their own classrooms, and the center will provide consultation to the new teachers in their first jobs.

This five-year study will be the first of its kind to conduct a large-scale, randomized, controlled experiment with partner teacher-education colleges to test whether this new method of including a course developed for preparing preschool teachers actually makes them better teachers and shows in children’s learning and social interactions.

Colleagues at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and UNC-Greensboro, plus the University of California at Los Angeles, and the U.Va. researchers, will work with about 550 student-teachers mostly from two- and four-year institutions in several large urban areas in Chicago, Los Angeles, central Florida and New York City.

“The partners are showing a willingness to participate and accept a large amount of innovation,” Pianta said. “The grant for the center will allow us to have a considerable impact on the policy, practice and training of early childhood educators, in addition to the research.”

Preschool programs exist in a variety of places from public elementary schools to typically smaller settings — private schools, churches, day-care centers. The teachers have a variety of educational backgrounds. Although they probably have learned basic child development and curriculum ideas, they are not taught how to apply that curriculum or how to interact with the diversity of children in their classes, Pianta said.

Several recent studies have shown that teachers’ education and experience do not show whether or not they teach well. Yet studies also have shown that children’s early success in school influences their continued academic achievement.

Pianta and his research team have made the connections between teacher and student by capturing on video what it is a great teacher does that makes children succeed. In a recent Child Development article, Pianta and his team showed that teachers who provide high levels of instructional and emotional support to children close the achievement gap for at-risk children — they get higher marks on standardized tests and are better adjusted socially and emotionally.

“A lot of terrific teachers aren’t aware of the really good things they do,” Pianta said. “When we point it out, it becomes an insight they can share with others.”

Student-teachers will get exposure to videos that demonstrate model classrooms. Clips of the videos are slowed down and edited to pinpoint specific examples of interactions so that viewers might better understand the effects of nuances, such as tone of voice, verbal feedback and emotional dimensions, and to trace the richness of vocabulary and language used. The videos show the teacher’s performance isn’t too didactic, but also doesn’t look like an accident, said Pianta, who has taught at the University since 1986.

Some student-teachers will take part in both activities, the course and consultation; two other groups will get one or the other, and another group will serve as the control group, receiving the education presently offered in the program in which they’re enrolled.

“Bob Pianta’s work is of tremendous importance, not simply because he’s focusing on how to prepare teachers of young children, but because he focuses on high quality interactions between teachers and children,” said Samuel J. Meisels, president of the Erikson Institute.

“His work is leading the way to improving the early childhood profession.”

“We are geared up to make a big impact on the training needs of early childhood educators. This is rigorous and programmatic research on teacher-training that could be used by any teacher or program,” Pianta said. The study also creates a new precedent for research on teacher education at any grade or age level, not just pre-kindergarten, he added.

In addition to the U.Va. center on early childhood education and development, the Institute of Education Sciences recently awarded centers on three other areas: gifted and talented education, local and state policy, and postsecondary education. Curry professors Heather Wathington and Sarah Turner and Dean David Breneman are involved in the last study. The IES mission includes developing and evaluating the effectiveness of programs, strategies and products that are intended to increase student learning and achievement.
Calendar

'Complicit! Contemporary American Art and Mass Culture’ exhibit opens Sept. 1

Contemporary artists are involved in a vital dialogue with mass culture. Their work challenges our assumptions about the identity and function of art in a world saturated with media images and messages. Many are using the materials of mass culture as the very material from which they make art, acknowledging the seductive power of popular imagery.

“Complicit! Contemporary American Art and Mass Culture,” which opens at the University of Virginia Art Museum on Sept. 1, features more than 60 works by more than 50 cutting-edge contemporary, well known and emerging artists working in any and every medium — paint, sculpture, photography, mixed- and multi-media, book arts, printing and digital output. They are all engaged in a clear dialogue with mass culture, media industries and the history of fine art’s own vocabulary of methods and subjects of expression.

Curated by U.Va. artist, art historian and Robertson Professor of Media Studies Johanna Drucker, the exhibition draws its initial impetus from arguments put forth in Drucker’s recently published and highly provocative book, “Sweet Dreams: Contemporary Art and Complicity.”

“Artists are engaged in a new studio-based but conceptually self-conscious dialogue with mass culture,” Drucker said. The artists use 21st-century materials and ideas while at the same time drawing on art history. The works are fabricated and carefully crafted and “seductive, beautiful and very rich in that way.”

Drucker chose the title of the exhibition as a means to challenge the academic and critical establishment that relies on outdated ways of talking about art and calls for a new critical voice to discuss art grounded in mass culture.

For more on the ‘Complicit!’ exhibit, go to the museum’s Web site, www.virginia.edu/artmuseum.

New coastal research center opens on Eastern Shore

A dedication ceremony for U.Va.’s new Anheuser-Busch Coastal Research Center will be held at the facility on the Eastern Shore on Saturday, Aug. 26 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The center is the new home base for the Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) project conducted by U.Va. environmental scientists. The new state-of-the-art facility is located in the town of Oyster, Va., about 15 miles north of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, on 42 acres and includes more than 9,400 square feet of dry and wet lab space, 5,800-square-foot residence building that can accommodate 30 people, and a dock for its fleet of four shallow water research vessels.

The event will include a series of speakers, including U.Va. President John T. Casteen III, Jay Zieman, chair of the Department of Environmental Sciences, Karen McGlathery, lead scientist of the Anheuser-Busch Coastal Research Center, and officials from the Nature Conservancy, the National Science Foundation, and other federal and state agencies, and the Anheuser-Busch Companies (which provided $1.25 million to build the center).

U.Va. has been conducting research through the LTER since 1986 with major support from the National Science Foundation, as well as various other research grants and private donations. Recently the research was funded for an additional six years by NSF ($820,000 per year) through its LTER program, which includes a network of environmental projects at 26 sites across the North American continent.

Preview Opening & Gallery talk by Johanna Drucker
WHEN: Aug. 31, 4:30 p.m.
WHERE: University of Virginia Art Museum museum; reception to follow

AROUND GROUNDS

Aug. 25 – Sept. 10

Calendar items must be submitted by Aug. 29 for the Sept. 8 publication, via messenger mail to Box 400229, or by e-mail to insideuva@virginia.edu.

Exhibits
Through Aug. 31. The Garden in the Library. Harrison Institute / Small Special Collections Library. (University Library)
Through Aug. 31. Portrait of the Artist as a Young %@?*!?: ? The Development of Art Spiegelman. Harrison Institute / Small Special Collections Library. (University Library)
Through Sept. 30. The Style of Power: Building a New Nation. Harrison Institute / Small Special Collections Library. (University Library)


Speakers & Conferences
Sept. 6. Thomas Jefferson and Classical Design. Susan Stein, curator at Monticello, 12:30 p.m., Harrison Institute / Small Special Collections Library. (University Library)
Sept. 8. Investigating the Quality of Teacher-Child Relationships in Early and Middle Childhood: Predictors and Consequences. Eric O’Connor, New York Univ., 9 a.m., Ruffner 241. (Curry)
Sept. 8. Modern Sounds in Country and Western Music: Race, Class and Region in the Nashville Sound. Diane Pecknold, teaching scholar, 4 p.m., Old Cabell 107. (Music)
Sept. 8. Open Reception: Radiance: Seeing the Divine in Aboriginal Art. 5:30 p.m., 400 Peter Jefferson Place. (Kluge-Ruhe)

Sept. 8 & 9. South-Central Graduate Music Consortium. Fri. 3:30 p.m., Sat. 8:30 a.m., Old Cabell 107, Registration contact: Allison Robbins, asr3a@virginia.edu. (Music)

TV & Radio
Week of Aug. 26. Franco and the Seeds of World War II. Geoff Jensen, Virginia Military Institute, Kimberly Phillips, College of William & Mary. On WVE-88.9 FM Sat., 1 p.m.; WMU 88.5 FM Sun., midnight; WMRA 103.5 FM Mon., 7 p.m.; WISE-90.5 FM Mon., 7-9 p.m.; and WWFT-88.5 FM Wed., 7:30 p.m. (With Good Reason)

Miscellaneous
Through Sept. 8. Community Scholar Program Registration. 8 a.m., Zehmer Hall, 104 Midmont Lane. (School of Continuing and Professional Studies)
Through Sept. 18. Noncredit Community Course Registration. 8 a.m., Zehmer Hall, 104 Midmont Lane. (School of Continuing and Professional Studies)
On the right track: Herman runs for life

BY MATT KELLY

Janet Herman runs because she likes the results, both immediate and long-term. “After I run I feel mentally calmer and physically energized. It’s a good time to think,” said Herman, an environmental sciences professor who also credits running for her determination and strength to fight breast cancer.

Herman, 50, is a runner, running coach and now beneficiary of her own work raising money for the U.Va. Breast Care Center. For 10 years, she has run in the Charlottesville Women’s Four Miler, a Labor Day tradition for 24 years. The race is now a fund raiser for the U.Va. Breast Cancer Center.

By the time Herman was diagnosed, she had run for a decade, a practice she started to regain some control. “I was in complete disbelief,” she said. “I felt healthy and normal. This couldn’t be happening to me.”

Biopsy results indicated it was happening to her, but she was still convinced the tumor would be benign. She got the verdict on that in mid-November, with a surgery at the end of the semester to remove the tumor. “That was not my favorite Christmas,” she said.

More tests. More surgery to remove more tissue. The semester started, and so did chemotherapy, continuing through the end of April. She lost her hair at the end of February. “It put a whole new spin on tired,” she said of the chemo.

The 47 undergraduates she was teaching were kind and supportive, she said. One student had his head shaved for crew. This gave her the courage to remove her hat. “He helped me be bald,” she said.

The radiation treatments went from May through the end of June. The treatments further sapped her strength. Herman reduced and then stopped running. Treated at the Medical Center, she walked to her appointments. “Walking across Grounds in the spring, with the fresh air, was very good for me,” she said.

“Early detection is still the best factor in ultimate survival,” she said. “Exercise during and after treatment brings about better survival rates.”

After radiation, she tried to reclaim her life. “When you are diagnosed, your whole life feels out of control,” she said.

To regain some control, Herman prepared for the Four Miler. But her trials were not over. Her mother died that July.

“She was declining and ready to go, but she wanted to see me through,” Herman said. “She lived to see me finish treatment.”

Herman started fund raising as well. She convinced 122 people to be her personal sponsors for the race. “People were willing to give to the cause, but also because they could sense her passion,” said Mark Lorenzoni a founder of the race and a member of the race committee.

Herman’s daughter, Amelia, 17, raced with her. It was hard going, but Herman got a boost at the “inspirational mile,” where donors post signs with the names of cancer survivors and victims. Herman knew her name and her mother’s name were posted.

“I was afraid to look,” she said, noting she had cried at seeing other people’s names. “I thought if I looked I would lose it.”

After the race, she returned to see her name on the wall. “It was such an emotional day, a life-affirming day,” she said. “It was draining knowing I was one of those survivors.”

The consummate teacher, Herman now coaches during Saturday morning training sessions. The teacher has also learned something from her battle with cancer.

“I am not a relaxed person,” she said. “I learned to enjoy the little things in each day. More. The little things I might have missed.”

THE CHARLOTTESVILLE WOMEN’S FOUR MILER was started by the Charlottesville Track Club in 1983 when Cynthia and Mark Lorenzoni decided Charlottesville should host a foot race for women. Cynthia, a nationally ranked road racer, traveled the country to races and saw the possibilities.

The race, a Labor Day tradition, contributed proceeds to different programs at the Medical Center, settling on raising money for the Breast Care Center in the early 1990s.

There were 974 runners in 2000. This year, the 24th year of the race, entries were closed at 2,400 runners with about 90 percent from the local region. The largest age group of runners this year is 45 to 49, with 318 entrants. The 40 to 44 age bracket comes in second, with 35 to 39 third.