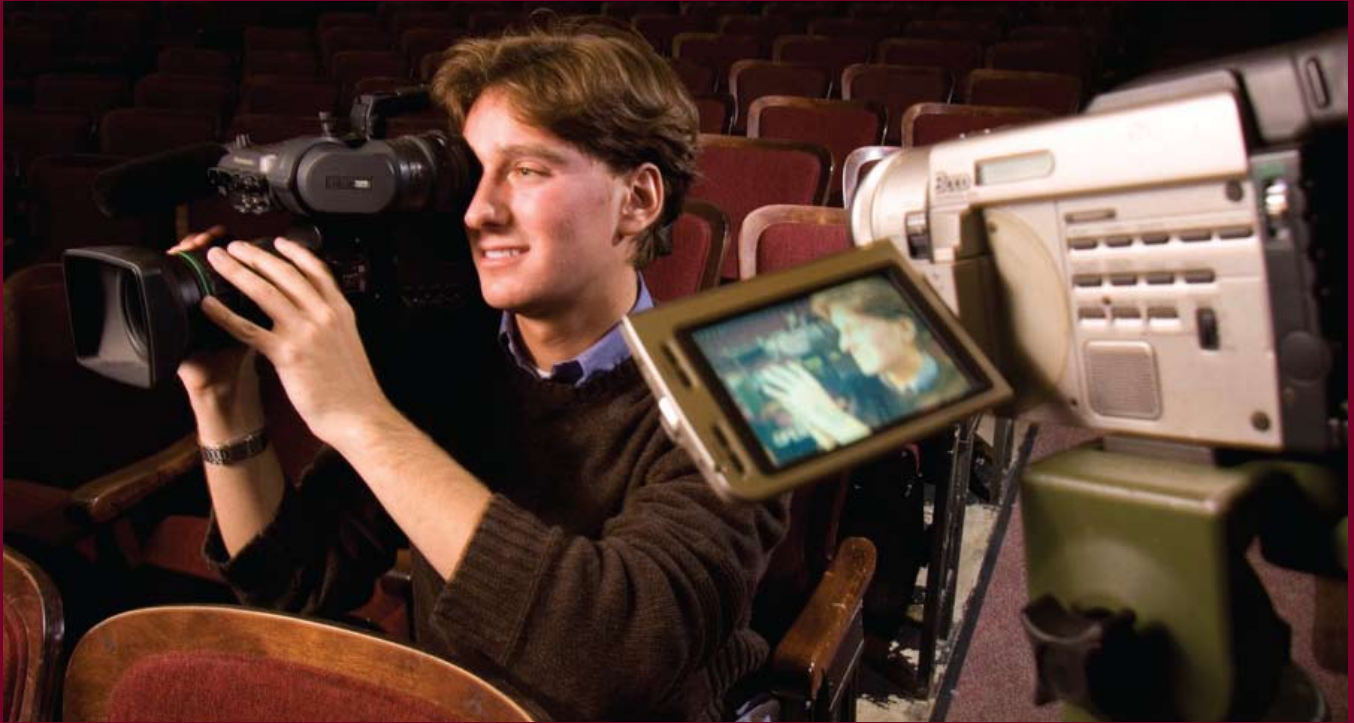


COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND
HUMAN SCIENCES



The
CAMPAIGN
for VIRGINIA TECH
Invent the Future

 Virginia Tech



CREATIVE ENERGY AND COLLABORATION

Creative energy flourishes in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, and its collaborative spirit extends to our distinctly inclusive arts. Our students have many options. They may work in apprenticeship fashion with an array of diverse and published writers. Musical opportunities abound as internationally known guest artists join forces with both our faculty and students to present more than 150 concerts here and around the world. Performances stimulate and connect people in both contemporary plays and new approaches to the classics, leaving no doubt that our theater is a community event and a way to build community. Our students also learn and work alongside Sundance award-winning producers.

During the week-long event of ArtsFusion, concerts, plays, films, readings, and exhibitions abound throughout the town of Blacksburg. The Summer Arts Festival also helps to showcase the range of campus and community talent.

In an invaluable service-learning experience, the local community also benefits from theater arts and creative writing summer camps. And in our Writers-in-Residence program, graduate students serve in area schools, helping our local youths to find their voice and to publish an anthology.

Our students experience firsthand how technology is transforming the arts with access to moving light technologies, CAD, motion graphics and 3-D animation, digital music and sound libraries, hypertext journaling, MIDI technology, and digital film production.

Together, we can continue to build on these opportunities and provide the best talent and technology available to serve our students and the community.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND HUMAN SCIENCES

WE LIVE IN A WORLD PROFOUNDLY AFFECTED BY WAR, DISEASE, AND HUNGER. IN EVERY NATION, WE ARE SURROUNDED BY THOSE WHO LACK THE BASIC NECESSITIES OF LIFE. POVERTY AND ILLITERACY ARE CASTING LONG SHADOWS ACROSS AN OTHERWISE PROMISING FUTURE. IT IS IN THIS CONTEXT THAT WE MUST RECOMMIT TO THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF A COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION, TO THE NOTION THAT ONLY BY EDUCATING OURSELVES ACROSS THE BROAD SPECTRUM OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE CAN WE HOPE TO ADDRESS THESE, AND MANY OTHER, FUNDAMENTAL CHALLENGES OF OUR AGE. WE MUST LOOK TO THE LIBERAL ARTS AND THE PROFESSIONS IN THE HUMAN SCIENCES AND EDUCATION TO BUILD CONNECTIONS AMONG PEOPLE AT THE DEEPEST LEVEL AND TRANSFORM BOTH SOCIETIES AND INDIVIDUALS. WE ARE COMMITTED TO PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN BUILDING A MORE JUST, GLOBAL SOCIETY.

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

We take very seriously our obligation to understand the human condition and to help solve the problems that face us. We care about and understand people. We study human problems in an effort to build a better world. That is the underlying goal of every student, faculty member, and administrator in the college, whether they are working in the arts, in education, in the humanities, or in the social and human sciences, and it is the viewpoint we hope to instill in every student – from any college – who studies in our diverse disciplines.

At the heart of our educational philosophy is the belief that all students must have the opportunity to find answers to the questions that inspire them. In this manner, we give students the opportunity to better understand themselves and, in the quest for knowledge, build relationships with and learn to understand others. These critical-thinking skills serve our students well in more than just their academic pursuits. Business and industry leaders also understand that the most valuable employees are those possessing both specific knowledge about their field and the ability to critically analyze problems, work effectively, and build relationships with others. This skill set is crucial in a world that is increasingly complex and increasingly interconnected. The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences is proud to be affiliated with individuals willing to accept these challenges.

We are able to do so, in large measure, because our ranks are filled with some of the best faculty on campus. Indeed, many of the university teaching award winners come from this college. Such excellent teaching shows that our faculty members are committed to building student engagement and promoting student ownership of their learning. They bring energy and purpose to the classroom, and their unbridled enthusiasm activates the passion in our students and engages them in meaningful tasks, both intellectually and emotionally. Likewise, the intellectual vigor of outstanding students inspires and kindles passion in their professors. Their thirst for knowledge and boundless curiosity is a critical part of the educational process at the college.



Front Cover:

Tim Leaton earned the top prize in the widely acclaimed Film Your Issue (FYI) competition – an eight-week paid internship at Disney Studios in Los Angeles. Leaton's one-minute film, "Orphans in Africa," won the nationwide contest, an initiative to encourage young Americans, ages 18 to 26, to engage in social issues and add their voices to the public dialogue.



DORIS ZALLEN

Professor in the Department of Science and Technology in Society and recipient of the Virginia Outstanding Faculty Award, the Commonwealth's highest honor

Professor Doris Zallen's energy, passion, and sense of scholarly activism have combined to make the lives of countless individuals better as they struggle to understand the consequences of scientific, medical, and technological advances.

Zallen has introduced bioethical components into her science and humanities courses. She has also expanded the public's awareness of these issues by founding the award-winning Choices and Challenges forum, a unique civic classroom created to consider such sensitive issues as end-of-life decisions, global warming, genetically modified foods, and "designer children." The forums have reached an on-site audience of 10,000 and, in partnership with PBS, video audiences at hundreds of sites throughout the country.

Nationally, Zallen helps to provide oversight of medical experiments involving human gene therapy. As chair of an NIH advisory committee on informed consent, Zallen wrote the federal guidelines, currently in force, which protect human subjects in gene-therapy experiments.

Our faculty members are already taking on a broad range of issues that have the potential to touch the lives of people around the nation and the globe. For example, our researchers are developing an assessment tool that will identify individuals who are likely to become repeat domestic violence offenders. Other faculty members are studying the disruptions that can occur when a member of the United States military is deployed and again when he or she returns home from active duty. Another researcher is helping cancer survivors use art to cope with illness and treatment. Our scholars have determined factors that influence girls' informational technology career choices. Our School of Education collaborates with public school partners in Virginia to enhance instruction in math, science, and technology.

Several professors have written books on political issues, both national and international. Peter Wallenstein, a professor of history and faculty mentor in the college's Undergraduate Research Initiative, recently published the 486-page *Cradle of America: Four Centuries of Virginia History*. It was written in collaboration with a fall 2005 University Honors class doing undergraduate research.

College faculty and students are also engaged in artistic performances and digital history projects like Virtual Jamestown, a digital research-teaching-learning project to explore the legacies of the Jamestown settlement. We are studying the impact of science and technology on people all over the world. We sponsor summer camps in creative writing, music, and theater and provide students the chance to gain hands-on experience and promote civic engagement.

But the effects of this inspired educational process and expansive thinking are not limited to our college. Because of the breadth and scope of our work, we build connections throughout Virginia Tech. We work with faculty members from every other college on campus in an interdisciplinary context, connecting this great university's innovative research to the human dimensions of important problems. In this way, we are playing a critical role in applying the advancement of knowledge to much-needed solutions for complex human problems.

PROVIDING A BROAD AND ENGAGING EDUCATION

Much of our success is dependent on the extraordinary dedication and passion of our faculty. If we are to move boldly into an expansive future, we must continue to recruit and retain faculty members who inspire and engage our students. The Campaign for Virginia Tech: Invent the Future will increase funding for graduate fellowships, faculty chairs, and professorships. This will help us attract and retain the best graduate students and faculty members.

Undergraduate students, too, play an equally important role in generating and sustaining the intellectual excitement that characterizes our college. We will offer a variety of need- and merit-based scholarships, so that highly qualified students may attend Virginia Tech. We will also increase opportunities for undergraduate research and international experiences. The campaign will increase funding for scholarships, so that we can recruit students who will invigorate our classrooms and stimulate our faculty. Another way we will support our students is to raise money to help expand our library holdings. The heart of a liberal arts education, the library serves as a laboratory for our students and faculty who must have the resources they need to answer the questions about which they are passionate.





In reaching our goals, we will improve in those areas that best define a land-grant university. We will continue with innovative scholarship by providing a broad and engaging education with relevant, meaningful, student-centered inquiry. We will continue our excellence in discovery and embrace the human problems that matter. We will also continue to expand our outreach. Even now, our faculty members are examining evolving political processes in Central America, working with the senior community in post-Katrina New Orleans, improving small-business development in the textiles and sewn-product industry of South Africa and enhancing the teaching of sciences, math, and technology in K-12 schools. The Campaign for Virginia Tech: Invent the Future will also provide the resources necessary to preserve and restore Solitude, enabling Virginia Tech to enhance our Appalachian Studies and American Indian Studies programs, provide meeting space, and create a visitor's center with information and exhibits about our regional and local history.

SOLVING PROBLEMS TOGETHER

Our college is home to influential scholars, poets, researchers, writers, musicians, actors, philosophers, sociologists, linguists, and scientists. Our students and faculty study world literature, and they look into ways to deal with aging parents, depression, and energy concerns. Graduates of this college have become teachers, governors, astronauts, captains of industry, and football coaches.

Each of us has an obligation to understand the human condition and collectively achieve solutions to its most persistent problems, no matter what our area of study. We ask you to become a partner and share in our exciting future.

CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES

Academic Excellence		\$14 million
Chairs		\$2 million
Graduate fellowships		\$3.5 million
Junior faculty fellowships		\$2 million
Libraries		\$500,000
Professorships		\$2 million
Senior faculty fellowships		\$2 million
Programs		\$2 million
Undergraduate Experience		\$3 million
Honors scholarships		\$500,000
Need- and merit-based scholarships		\$2.5 million
Expansion and Renovation of Research and Teaching Facilities		\$1 million
Annual Funds		\$1 million
TOTAL		\$19 MILLION



UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences opened its Undergraduate Research Institute in the fall of 2006. The college has been engaged in undergraduate research for a number of years, but the Undergraduate Research Institute formalizes these opportunities for undergraduates so that more students from across the college can benefit.

While the primary benefits for undergraduates are refined inquiry skills and an enhanced resume, the Undergraduate Research Institute also helps students understand how research differs across disciplines. The institute holds workshops in quantitative, qualitative, combined, and creative approaches to research. Many services are Web-based, including a database of available research opportunities — one that matches college faculty with potential student researchers.

In addition, faculty members gain assistance with their own research projects, while fostering positive learning experiences with students and generating excitement and interest in their discipline. Faculty can also help students contribute new knowledge to a field. Peter Wallenstein, professor of history, encourages and utilizes undergraduate research often.

“I’ve cited my students’ work in various previous publications,” said Wallenstein. “My undergraduates have presented their work at the annual conference of the Virginia Social Science Association and elsewhere, and even published it.”

Arguably one of the most comprehensive undergraduate research programs at the university, the new institute offers small grants (from \$300 to \$1,000) for undergraduates and their mentors to obtain the books or computer programs they need for their research projects or to travel to conferences to present their work.



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