

Visit to Egypt Furthers Idea for New Programs



Caption for photo

A team of VT faculty and administrators traveled to Egypt from February 17–25, 2001 to pursue cooperation with Egyptian institutions in the areas of communication and information technology. The team members were: **William (Bill) Tranter**, **Scott Midkiff**, and **Sedki Riad**, all Professors of Electrical and Computer Engineering, **Hudnall (Hud) Croasdale**, Director, Strategic Partnerships in Information Technology, and **S. K. De Datta**, Director,

Office of International Research and Development. This effort was conducted under the supervision of **Leonard Ferrari**, Vice Provost for Special Initiatives.

The team visited several Egyptian institutions and met with several officials including: Dr. Ahmed Nazif, Minister of Communications and Information Technology; Dr. Youssef Wally, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation; Dr. Naguib Goher, President, Cairo University (CU); Dr. Tarek Shawki, Regional Information Advisor, UNESCO Cairo office; Akil Beshir, Chairman of Telecom Egypt; as well as Reno Hamish, Deputy Chief of Mission, American Embassy in Cairo; and staff at USAID.

The trip resulted in progress on the following cooperation programs:

- The offering of the MIT (Master of Information Technology) in Cairo as a distance-learning program in Cooperation with CU through the coordination of UNESCO.
- The offering of a special Ph.D. program for students to take their first year graduate courses in Egypt and complete the degree requirements at Virginia Tech.
- Potential cooperation with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology in IT education, research, training, and industrial outreach.

Perspectives

*From the desk of Dr. S.K. De Datta,
Director of the Office of International Research and Development (OIRD), Outreach Division,
Office of the Provost, and Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences*

An important feature of the Collaborative Research Support Projects (CRSPs) that benefit Virginia Tech is the involvement of faculty and graduate students. These projects provide graduate research assistantships which allow for the involvement of graduate student thesis research. Project objectives are furthermore completely in sync with Virginia Tech's stated goal to become a top 30 research university. These research dollars and graduate research assistantships are important components of the overall goal of Virginia Tech. Currently I serve on all three CRSP boards representing Virginia Tech. Each board provides excellent opportunities to interact on policy issues concerning these three CRSPs.

Recently, OIRD/Virginia Tech hosted the board, the External Evaluation Panel (EEP) and the Technical Committee (TC) meetings of the Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource and Environment Management (SANREM) CRSPs. Over 30 participants from the United States and abroad were at the Tech campus for the deliberations of these three groups.

The U.S. Congress has revised Title XII, which is cited as the "Famine Prevention and Freedom from Hunger Improvement Act of 2000." One of the policy declarations states that they will offer "competitive grants through eligible universities to United States agriculturists and their partners from other countries for research, institution and policy development, extension, training, and other programs for global development, trade, and responsible management of natural resources." Under Title XII, there are 10 collaborative research support projects administered by the USAID global bureau with a combined annual budget of about \$34 million. Virginia Tech is involved in three such CRSP projects. These are: the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) CRSP, the SANREM CRSP, and the Peanut CRSP projects. OIRD/Virginia Tech serves as management entity of the IPM CRSP project, and the University of Georgia serves as management entity for the other two projects; the total budget for IPM CRSP projects was \$7.5 million for 1993-1998, and \$11.9 million for 1998-2002.

Notables

Faculty Involvement Around Campus

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Shirley Luckhart and Jake Tu, Assistant Professors of Biochemistry, were awarded one of three Gorgas Memorial Research Institute awards presented by the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in October 2000. This award provides funding to establish collaborations in tropical disease research between labs in the US and Central and South America. Luckhart and **Ed Lewis**, Assistant Professor of Entomology, will also travel to Kenya in May-June 2001 to continue a collaboration with the US Army Medical Research Unit focused on identifying genetic determinants of malaria parasite infection in mosquitoes. **Alex Niemiera**, Associate Professor of Horticulture, followed up on a previous visit to the Kunming Institute of Botany in Kunming, southern China. On this visit, in November 2000, he collected seeds from plant species that show promise for use as landscape plants in Virginia. This trip was part of an effort in "Ornamental Plant Introduction Enterprise" that seeks to introduce new plant taxa into the nursery and landscape trade. **Malcolm Potts**, Professor of Biochemistry in the VT Center for Genomics, visited the Bahamian Field Station on San Salvador Island, Bahamas, on March 2-9, 2001 as part of a collaborative research project with scientists from UNC-Chapel Hill studying hypersaline mangrove forest ecosystems. The study is supported through the Life in Extreme Environments program of the National Science Foundation. Potts also presented a seminar at the symposium "From Candidate Genes to Genomes: Integrative and Evolutionary Biology in the Post-Genomic Era" sponsored by the Society for Experimental Biology and the National Science Foundation, at the University of Canterbury, Kent, England on April 2-7, 2001.

College of Architecture and Urban Studies

Flynn Auchey, Associate Professor in the Department of Building Construction, presented a paper on developing a risk model to help constructors improve their company profit margins at the International Project Management Institute conference in Houston, Texas on November 20, 2000. **Thom Mills**, Associate Professor in the same department, was a Visiting Professor in the Faculty of the Built Environment at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia during Fall Semester, 2000. During that time, he delivered several state of the art presentations, including: a seminar on "Virtual Visit Technology and Electronic Project Management;" and a workshop to the Risk Engineering Society of the Institute of Engineers, Australia on "Risk Implications in E-Project Management," which explored the potentials and risks inherent in e-business applications in the management of design and construction projects. Additionally, he initiated and completed a research project for the Australian Center for Construction Innovation and the Faculty of the Built Environment, UNSW, and Multiplex Constructions, one of Australia's largest design and construction companies, on "Electronic Project Management, Process Mapping and Application Solutions." **Mehdi Setareh**, Professor of Architecture, presented a paper entitled, "Semi-Ac-

tive Tuned Vibration Absorbers for Vibration Control of Force and Base Excited Structures" at the First International Structural Engineering and Construction Conference at Honolulu, Hawaii on January 24-27, 2001.

College of Arts and Sciences

Andrew Becker and Trudy Harrington Becker, professors in Foreign Languages and Literature and the Center for Independent Studies, respectively, are the two teaching faculty at the Center for European Studies and Architecture in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland this Spring Semester (2001). On December 11-18, 2000, **Jackie Bixler**, Professor of Spanish, returned to the Universidad Veracruzana in Mexico to initiate a student and faculty exchange agreement between the Universidad Veracruzana and Virginia Tech. **Glenn Bugh**, Chair of the History Department and former classical studies coordinator, was the Gladys Smith Professor of Classical Studies at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece, and in this role, was one of two summer directors of an intensive graduate program in Greece in the summer of 2000. He also lectured for a two-week Smithsonian Institution Study Tour to Greece and Turkey in October 2000. **Joanne McNeal**, Director of the Reynolds Homestead, an outreach center of Virginia Tech in southwest Virginia, made a presentation to the Western Regional Science Association Meetings held in Palm Springs, California on February 26, 2001. Her paper was titled, "Scientific and Traditional Knowledge: the Necessity of Converging Two Ways of Knowing in Remote Regions." McNeal's paper was based on her experience in the Yukon Territory of Canada prior to coming to Virginia, in which Yukon College cooperated with Indian elders to include and honor the traditional knowledge of the elders. McNeal is developing a new American Indian Studies minor within the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies at Virginia Tech. **Catherine Eckel**, Professor of Economics, was a plenary speaker at the 20th Arne Ryde Symposium, held at the University of Lund, Sweden, on November 9-11, 2000. The topic this year was experimental economics. Eckel's talk was titled, "Identity and Social Signaling in Experimental Games." Several other members of the Department of Economics presented papers at the First World Congress of the International Game Theory Society in Bilbao, Spain, in July 2000. **Mark Stegeman**, Associate Professor, presented "Existence and Uniqueness of Maximal Reductions Under Iterated Strict Dominance" as well as "Stochastic Darwinian Equilibria in Finite and Large Populations." **Hans Haller**, Professor of Economics, presented "Best Response Dynamics and Neural Networks." Economic faculty also presented papers at the Eighth World Congress of the Econometric Society in Seattle, Washington, July 11-16, 2000. The World Congress is held once every five years by the Econometric Society. The Society is the most prestigious learned society in the field of economics, with a worldwide membership. Hans Haller and his co-author presented two papers, "Outside Options, Household Stability, and Equilibrium Efficiency," and "On the Power in Households with Free Exit." **Aris Spanos**, Professor of Economics, presented Unit Root Testing Revisited: Nested vs. Non-nested Tests." **Robert Gilles**, Associate Professor of Economics, presented "Evolution of Conventions in Endogenous Social Networks." Hans Haller also went on a seminar trip to England from March 5-10, 2001, during which time he presented the paper, "The

Affectionate Society: Does Competition for Partners Promote Friendliness?" at the Universities of Birmingham, Exeter, and Manchester. He also presented the paper, "Nash Networks with Heterogeneous Agents" at the London School of Economics. **Ray Kass**, Professor of Art History, participated in a symposium panel discussion and gave a paper at an international conference in Paris entitled, "In the Spiral of the Ocean: Movement, Transformation and Circulation in the Arts of John Cage," during June of 2000 at the University of Paris X-Nanterres. He will also have a solo exhibition of his new works of art on paper and silk, and give a public slide lecture at the Japan Art Forum in Kyoto, Japan in May, 2001. **David Kingston**, Professor of Chemistry, spent March 5-10, 2001 in Suriname, where he convened the Annual Meeting of the Suriname/Madagascar International Cooperative Biodiversity Group (ICBG) in Paramaribo. The meeting featured a reception by the U.S. Ambassador to Suriname and a visit to Kwamalasemutu in southwest Suriname to meet with Granman Asongo of the Trio Indians, a cooperating partner in the ICBG program. He also attended a workshop on "Exploring African Biodiversity for New Natural Products" from April 9-11, 2001 in Rome, Italy. **Ann-Marie Knoblauch**, Professor in the Department of Art and Art History, gave a paper at the international conference, "Coinage, Politics, and Ideology in the Ancient World," held at the Villa Vegiliana in Cumae, Italy from May 20-25, 2000. The title of her paper was "Regional Cults of Dionysus: Out and About with the Archaic God." She was also the study leader on a Smithsonian Institute study cruise called "The Classical World." This trip began in Istanbul and ended in Athens, stopping at several classical sites in-between. Knoblauch gave lectures on various aspects of the ancient world and classical archaeology to the participating Smithsonian members. She is currently involved in an excavation on Cyprus. Professor **Harold McNair** presented a lecture on "Recent Advances in Gas Chromatography" at various venues in Australia and New Zealand in late January and early February, 2001. He presented the talk at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Chemistry in Melbourne on January 29th, at Macquarie University in Sydney on January 31st, and at the University of Auckland on February 2nd, 2001. McNair was sponsored by the Royal Australian Chemical Institute. **Larry Taylor**, Chair of the Department of Chemistry, visited several sites in Asia in February in order to lecture and consult on supercritical fluid technology. The trip was sponsored by Isco, Inc. of Lincoln, Nebraska. Isco is the only major manufacturer of commercial analytical supercritical fluid instrumentation in the world. The itinerary included Seoul, Korea; Beijing, China; Bangkok, Thailand; and Hong Kong. In Seoul, Taylor visited with the Director for Supercritical Fluid Processing at the Korea Institute of Science and Technology. Taylor also presented a talk at the National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER) at Incheon and visited with the President of NIER. The next day Taylor presented three talks to industrial and academic scientists/engineers at the Korea Science and Technology Center in Seoul on principles, methods development and applications of supercritical fluid technology. In Beijing, Taylor presented several talks on the same subjects to food and environmental scientists as well as approximately 40 industrial personnel. In Thailand, Taylor presented talks to medical scientists from the Ministry of Public Health and faculty from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology as well as the Rajamangala Institute of Technology. In Hong Kong, Taylor delivered a lecture to the

School of Chinese Medicine at the Hong Kong Baptist University. **Jack Webster**, Professor of Ecology, presented a paper entitled, "Large wood jam in a fourth-order Rocky Mountain stream" at the XXVII Congress of the International Association of Theoretical and Applied Limnology in Melbourne, Australia, February 4-10, 2001.

College of Engineering

The College of Engineering was one of four co-hosts for the Third Global Engineering Education Workshop, entitled "Educating the Engineer for the 21st Century," conducted at the Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule in Aachen, Germany from October 18-20, 2000. Attendees included rectors and presidents of technical universities around the world, including the Indian Institute of Technology in Kanpur, India, the Munich University of Technology, Germany, and the Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands. **F.W. Stephenson**, Dean of the College, and **Pamela Kurstedt**, Assistant Dean, Enrichment and International Programs, addressed the workshop. Kurstedt and Saifur Rahman, Director, Alexandria Research Institute and Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, have served on the Steering Committee for all three Global Engineering Workshops. **Mary Beth Rosson**, Associate Professor in Computer Science, and **John M. Carroll**, Professor in Computer Science and Director of the Center for Human-Computer Interaction, presented a paper entitled "Non-functional Requirements in Scenario-Based Development" at OzCHI 2000, the annual conference of the Computer-Human Interaction Special Interest Group of the Ergonomics Society of Australia, at the University of Technology in Sydney, Australia, on December 7, 2000. Rosson and Carroll also presented a full-day tutorial on "Scenario-Based Usability Engineering" at the same conference on December 4, 2000. Carroll also gave a keynote address entitled "Making Use: Scenarios and Scenario-Based Design" at the conference. **Susan Eriksson**, Associate Professor of Geological Sciences, did a sabbatical in Australia from June through September of 2000 during which time she was associated with the Department of Geology at the Australian National Laboratory as a visiting fellow. During her stay, she presented a paper entitled, "Inquiry and Minerals on the Web" at the International Minerals and Museums Conference in Melbourne. Her talk focused on how mineral museums are supporting scientific inquiry through their web sites. Eriksson also accompanied several international mineralogists on a field trip to see the volcanic fields of western Victoria, Australia. While there, she was interviewed by two local newspapers on how these unique volcanic fields should be protected from development. **Bernard Grossman**, Professor and Head of the Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering, presented a keynote paper at the First International Workshop on Surrogate Modelling and Space Mapping for Engineering Optimization at the Danish Technical University in Lyngby, Denmark on November 17, 2000. The title of his paper was "Effective Use of Surrogate Models in Aircraft Design." While in Scandinavia, he also presented seminars at Saab Aerospace in Linköping, Sweden on November 20, 2000 and at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden on November 22, 2000. **Y. A. Liu**, the Frank C. Vilbrandt Professor of Chemical Engineering, received the National Friendship Award from the State Council of the People's Republic of China in an awards

ceremony held in Beijing in December, 2000. This international award is given annually by the Chinese Premier to top international experts and professionals who have demonstrated dedication and excellence in helping China's cultural, scientific and technological development. The award recognizes Liu as one of the top 40 international experts and professionals among more than 10,000 working in China during 2000. He was cited for helping the Chinese petrochemical industries with technology development and engineering training from 1992 to 2000. **Yilu Liu**, Professor of Electrical Engineering, visited Wuhan University in China in September of 2000. Her visit included serving as the advisory board member, session chair, and presenter at the First International Conference on Power Equipment Maintenance and Diagnosis. For the fourth year, **Jim Marchman**, Professor of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering, accompanied 12 aerospace students to Loughborough University in England from November 19-25, 2000. During that week, students collaborated on design projects in teams including English engineering students. In mid-April, 2001, the Loughborough students and faculty will travel to Virginia Tech to finalize their projects and give a final group presentation. In January 2001, 16 students and five faculty from VT's Grado Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering traveled to France and collaborated with engineering students and faculty from the Ecole des Mines de Nantes (EMN) on senior design projects. **Brian Kleiner**, Associate Professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, was instrumental in organizing this project; other faculty who went were: **John Casali**, Department Head, **Joel Nachlas**, **Subhash Sarin**, and **Russell Meller**, all of whom are Associate Professors of Industrial and Systems Engineering. While in Nantes, Professor Casali also signed an agreement that establishes a dual Master's Degree program with the Virginia Tech Grado Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering and EMN. **Malcolm McPherson**, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, will present a paper on The Westray Mine Explosion, Nova Scotia, at the International Mine Ventilation Congress to be held in Krakow, Poland on June 16-22, 2001. McPherson was a co-founder of this Congress, which began in 1975. The International Mine Ventilation Congress is held every four years, and is the premier international venue for this discipline, attended by several hundred mine ventilation engineers from countries around the world. **Richard Nance**, Director of the Systems Research Center and RADM John Adolphus Dahlgren Professor of Computer Science, is a Visiting Professor in the Department of Information Systems and Computing at Brunel University in Uxbridge, the United Kingdom for the academic session 2000-2001. During the summer of 2000, Nance delivered presentations in a short course and as part of a University of Exeter course. **Ken Reifsnider**, the Alexander Giacco Professor in the Department of Engineering Science and Mechanics, delivered an invited paper on the topic of "Performance Evolution of Layered Functional Materials" at the Seventh International Conference on the Science of Hard Materials in Ixtapa, Mexico on March 3, 2001. Application areas associated with the conference include manufacturing, high technology bearings, and fuel cells. **Saifur Rahman**, Director of the Alexandria Research Institute, gave a series of lectures on environment, energy development, and critical infrastructure needs for information technology at universities and research institutes in Thailand, Malaysia, Bangladesh, and India in November 2000. He visited these countries under the Institute

of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Distinguished Lecture Program. On February 13, 2001, Rahman met with representatives from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) to discuss best practices and policy guidance for resource allocation with research output/outcome. **Professor Michael von Spakovsky**, Director of the Energy Management Institute, is leading a team of researchers at Virginia Tech in a cooperative research agreement with researchers at the University of Zaragoza, Spain. The scientific objective of the project is to determine the feasibility of fuel cells and fuel cell systems in small- to medium-scale combined heat and power plants through the application of conventional and thermoeconomic modeling, analysis and optimization techniques. Both research teams have close relationships with companies in the energy production sector in their respective countries. These relationships will reinforce the direct application of research results and will allow the joint initiation and development of new research subjects. **Anbo Wang**, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, received the 2000 National Outstanding Overseas Young Scholar Award from the National Natural Science Foundation of China on November 9, 2000. This award is similar to the NSF Presidential Award in the United States. **Brian Woerner**, Associate Professor and Associate Director of the Mobile and Portable Radio Research Group in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, attended the Second International Symposium on Turbo Codes in Brest, France on September 4-7, 2000. Brest is the hometown of the inventors of Turbo Codes. Professor Woerner presented a poster paper on "Decoder-Assisted Frame Synchronization for Turbo-Coded Systems," co-authored with recent Virginia Tech doctoral candidates Mostofa Howlader and Yufei Wu. Turbo codes are the first practical error correction technique that achieves performance close to the theoretical channel capacity limit. The technology will be used extensively in the next generation of cellular telephones.

College of Human Resources and Education

David Alexander, Department Chair in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, traveled to Exeter College at the University of Oxford, England from March 17-24, 2001 for the Educational Leadership and Ethics Conference, sponsored by Virginia Tech. The goals of this conference included encouraging participant interaction and establishing networks while engaging in a study of the English educational system in relation to educational reform issues in the United States. **Don G. Creamer**, Professor in the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies Department, took part in the international conference, "Becoming a Learning College" (Community Colleges), on March 24-31, 2001. This weeklong forum was designed to offer upper level administrators and senior faculty members from Europe, Great Britain, and the United States opportunities to reflect upon and discuss contemporary issues in higher education. **Jamie Callahan**, Assistant Professor in the Adult Learning/Human Resources Development Program, has been selected as editor of a special international issue on emotional behavior in organizations for the Sage journal. The issue focuses on "Advances in Human Resource Development." **Eric McCollum**, Associate Professor in the same department, is co-author on the introductory chapter to the issue. **Michael E. Houston**, Professor and Department Head in Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise, was keynote speaker at the International

Congress on Exercise Nutrition in Taegu, South Korea on December 1-2, 2000. His keynote address was entitled: "The Importance of Antioxidants in Foods and Supplements for the Training and Performance of Elite Sportsmen." **Shannon Jarrott**, Assistant Professor in the Human Development Department, is organizing a study abroad course to Sweden for May 2001. The course will focus on services available for older adults. **Mercedes ter Maat**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, traveled to Argentina in December 2000 to exchange information about the counseling profession in the United States with the Universidad de Tucuman's psychology and art departments. Theory, practice, educational programs and art therapy were the topics of exchange and discussion. Ter Maat also made contact with the local American School's principal in Buenos Aires to explore possibilities for partnerships between that school and Virginia Tech. **Meg Weigel**, Assistant Professor in the Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise Department, is conducting research in an on-going project at the Hospital Municipal Patronato San Jose in Quito, Ecuador, throughout 2000 and 2001. The project has followed approximately 850 pregnant women to identify the dietary, nutritional, and other predictors of suboptimal maternal and perinatal outcomes. The study also investigates how symptoms of early pregnancy, such as nausea, affect prenatal dietary cravings and aversions, dietary intake and weight gain patterns. This project is in its final year. Professors **Patricia Kelly**, Director for Teacher Education, **Jerome Niles**, Associate Dean for Human Resources and Education, and **Josiah Tlou**, Associate Professor of Social Studies Education, received a USAID grant to study teaching and learning in three Malawi primary schools. Their project is called "An Initiative to Develop School-based Problem-solving Capacity Sites in Malawi." They finished the research phase in February 2000, began the professional development phase in September 2000, and in December went to Malawi to set up a strategic plan for it. From April 16-20, 2001, participating teachers will share their work with each other and will develop materials for others to use. The Department of Teaching and Learning has also received a \$2 million USAID grant to establish the Department of Primary Education at the Domasi College of Education in Malawi. This is a five-year project that will start in May 2001. Tlou and **Jennifer Sughrue**, Assistant Professor in the Education, Leadership and Policy Studies Department, also won another partnership grant to teach a research course at Domasi College of Education in Malawi, during summer 2001.

College of Natural Resources

Khaled Hassouna, Coordinator of the International Conservation Division for the Conservation Management Institute, is coordinating a collaboration between Virginia Tech and the Institute of Graduate Studies and Research at Alexandria University (AU) in Egypt. **James E. Johnson**, Associate Dean of Outreach and Professor of Forestry, traveled to Bled, Slovenia, on November 14-19, 2000 to conduct a workshop on "Extension Methods in Forestry," as part of an FAO-funded project to assist the Slovenian Forest Service with a transition to a more service-oriented organization. The FAO plans to use the Slovenia training program as a pilot, with the eventual participation of many other eastern European nations. **Earl Kline**, Associate Professor in the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products, is conducting sabbatical

research at the Department of Wood Technology at Lulea University of Technology in Skelleftea, Sweden from January 10 through May 31, 2001. This research will allow him to gain an international perspective on the application of new processing and information technologies to wood products manufacturing. Also, Kline is co-teaching a course on machine vision systems and their application to the manufacturing of wood products.

College of Veterinary Medicine

Bernard F. Feldman, from the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology, gave lectures in Sapporo, Tokyo, Osaka, and Fukuoka, Japan from February 5-20, 2001. These lectures covered such topics as anemia, myeloproliferative diseases, hemostasis, and transfusion medicine, and were supported by the Japanese Animal Hospital Association. Feldman also gave lectures in the cities of Cremona and Milan, Italy from February 23-March 4, 2001 at the Italian Veterinary Medical Association. The topics of his talks ranged from evaluation of bone marrow, hematology instrumentation, transfusion medicine, hemopoiesis, and preventive medicine for geriatric and surgical patients. **Jeryl Jones** and **Martha Moon**, Professors in Small Animal Clinical Sciences, attended the Spanish Association of Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging Specialists Congress in Murcia, Spain from October 6-8, 2000. Jones gave presentations on veterinary computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging. Moon gave presentations on veterinary echocardiography and abdominal ultrasonography. **Phillip Sponenberg**, Director of Student Affairs and Professor of Pathology and Genetics, gave presentations on genetic resource management at the Fifth Global Conference on Conservation of Domesticated Animal Genetic Resources in Brasilia, Brazil from November 20-24, 2000. His talks included: an examination of the role of imported breeds in the erosion of adapted genetic resources; strategies for maintenance of genetic resources to allow for production and viability without sacrificing predictability and uniformity; and results of a recent survey of domesticated waterfowl genetic resources in North America. Sponenberg also presented papers at the Fifth Latin American

The University Abroad is prepared by the Faculty and Staff of the Office of International Research and Development (OIRD) at Virginia Tech, Outreach Division of the Office of the University Provost.

S.K. De Datta, Director, OIRD
1060 Litton-Reaves Hall
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0334 USA
Tel: (540) 231-6338
Fax: (540) 231-6741
E-mail: dedatta@vt.edu
<http://www.oird.vt.edu>



OIRD

Please direct submissions to the staff editor: Miriam Rich
E-mail: mrich@vt.edu

The Office of International Research and Development would like to thank all those individuals who submitted information to the University Abroad Newsletter. Regrettably, some submissions could not be included due to space constraints.

Conference on Aboriginal and Creole Races held in Havana, Cuba from November 27-30, 2000. There he gave a general overview of the philosophy and methods of livestock genetic resource conservation in the United States. **Nathaniel A. White**, Theodora Ayer Randolph Professor of Surgery at the Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center, presented lectures at the Congress of Brazilian Veterinary Surgery and Anesthesia in Goiania, Brazil on October 2-3, 2000. His talks were on: surgical approaches to the oral cavity; a surgical approach to the larynx and guttural pouch; arthroscopic surgery of the interphalangeal joint, the tibial tarsal joint, the scapulohumeral joint, femoropatellar joint, and femorotibial joint; and gastrointestinal forum-post surgical care for endotoxemia: Thrombophlebitis and Laminitis. He also gave the Sir Fredrick Hobday Memorial Lecture at the British Equine Veterinary Association entitled "Intestinal Injury in the Horse with Colic" on December 13, 2001 in London, England.

Northern Virginia Center

Frederick Krimgold, Co-Director of the World Institute of Disaster Risk Management (DRM), served as co-chair for a NATO/Russian seminar on "Forecasting and Preventing Catastrophes," held in Moscow, Russia on October 30 – November 1, 2000. The seminar was the first activity of a new program supporting scientific collaboration between Russia and the member states of NATO. Krimgold and Co-Director **Juerg Hammer** also participated in the semi-annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the World Institute for Disaster Risk Reduction in London, England on November 29-30, 2000. Board members for this body include **Charles Steger**, President of Virginia Tech. On March 12-13, 2001, Hammer and Krimgold conducted a workshop entitled "Disaster Risk Management: Foundation for a New Development Strategy in Central America" at a seminar organized by the Ministry of Finance of Honduras in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Continuing Education

Ted Settle, Director of Continuing Education, gave a presentation on "Meeting the Education Needs of Today's Information Technology Workers" at the 10th Annual Commemorative Inter-American Distance Education Consortium Conference on distance learning in Caracas, Venezuela on November 17-23, 2000. On February 17-21, 2001, Settle met with Jose Morales, Director General of EDUCON at the Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara in Guadalajara, Mexico. With EDUCON staff, Ted interviewed five corporations in Mexico's Silicon Valley to discuss technical training and assistance needs through a partnership with Virginia Tech.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
Perspectives *continued from page 1*

The impact of OIRD/Virginia Tech on IPM CRSP research has generated enthusiasm and confidence such that USAID missions from Eritrea, Uganda, Mali, Albania, and Jamaica have provided additional dollars to expand the IPM CRSP projects in these countries. Furthermore, USDA has provided local currency funds to expand the IPM CRSP programs in Guatemala and the Philippines. All of these resources have helped further the goals of faculty and student participants in the international research collaboration and globalization of Virginia Tech.

Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of race, sex, disability, age, veteran status, national origin, religion, political affiliation, or sexual orientation. Anyone having questions concerning discrimination should contact the Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Office.

Editor, *The University Abroad*
 Office of International Research and Development
 Virginia Tech
 Blacksburg, VA 24061-0334 U.S.A.
 Phone: (540) 231-6338
 Fax: (540) 231-6741
 Web: www.oird.vtech.edu
 E-mail: dedatta@vtech.edu
 Forwarding Service

Non-Profit Org.
 BULK MAILING
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Blacksburg, VA 24060
 Permit No. 28