Homecoming
School Spirit in Photos
2011
Fall Move-in this year was like no other. Hurricane Irene blew through Hampton Roads on the weekend when ODU students had been scheduled to move in, requiring that this logistical challenge be accomplished during a single, madcap day - Tuesday, Aug. 30. More than 4,600 new and returning students moved into ODU's residence halls. Fortunately, the ODU community applied the "many hands make light work" approach. Almost 300 faculty, staff and students volunteered their time to carry boxes, direct traffic or just be a friendly face for incoming freshmen – and parents dealing with mixed emotions. Here, an incoming student poses for a family photo before his parents and siblings return to their home in New Hampshire.
As editor of Monarch, the Old Dominion University magazine, I strive to pull together content that showcases the extraordinary accomplishments of the ODU family. These contributions may be in education, technology and the sciences, business and industry, culture and the arts, or religion and charity. But all have one thing in common—they are the work of interesting and high-achieving people. I feel fortunate to cross paths with them.

We are proud to present in this issue the story of how ODU engineering students and faculty came to be on a big stage this fall in the U.S. Department of Energy’s Solar Decathlon, a design and build competition in Washington, D.C., for new-age solar homes. Only 20 university teams worldwide made it to the final round. Team Tidewater, which has students from ODU partnering with architectural students from Hampton University, was one of them.

Also profiled are Adriane Brown, who has blazed a remarkable trail in U.S. industry after receiving a degree in environmental health from ODU, and Stewart Ferebee, who has taken his ODU degree in fine arts in all sorts of directions, one of which led him to become a world-class photographer. Marcia Cronin wrote the article on Brown; Bill Morris wrote the one on Ferebee. Both are former staff writers for The Virginian-Pilot who are now freelancers, Cronin in Norfolk and Morris in New York City.

This, the second issue of Monarch, also offers articles about former ODU sailors who are involved in the America’s Cup and a music professor who delights us with the photographs he takes at home football games.

Thanks to those of you who sent notes or made phone calls to share with us your opinions about the debut issue of Monarch. Almost all of your reactions were positive and, as you can see on our Letters page, a popular offering was the inaugural “Then & Now” column written by Steve Daniel. It’s clear that many ODU alums of a certain age had unforgettable good times at King’s Head Inn, the 4400 Campus Club and other establishments that lined the east campus in years gone by. Daniel is back in this issue with a column about the introduction 50 years ago of the “Monarchs” moniker for Old Dominion’s sports teams. His column also relates how a feckless feline with a bad dye job evolved into our award-winning mascot, Big Blue.

–Jim Raper
Team Tidewater members from ODU and Hampton University worked through the summer constructing Unit 6 Unplugged, the team’s entry in the Solar Decathlon competition. Page 22

PHOTO: GLEN MCCLURE

Departments

6  Then & Now
8  49th and Hampton
10 EngageODU
12 Books
14 Research
50 Sports
56 Letter from the Provost

Features

14 Searching for Clues in Arctic Ice
Burning curiosity warms ODU oceanographer Victoria Hill during climate change research in the frozen north.

26 Musicians Catch the Camera’s Eye
Music department chair John Toomey has an ear for jazz and a photographer’s ‘eye’ for hard-working student musicians.

28 Adriane M. Brown
‘Bold thinking’ propelled environmental health grad into executive business roles. Now she creates opportunities for others.

Alumni

38 News
ODU Homecoming Week is Oct. 12-16. Events include athletics, shows, reunions and open houses—something for everyone.

40 Class Notes
"It brought back many memories of the nights I spent out and about between the King’s Head Inn and Bodner’s..."

The Monarch No. 1

As I sat on my Old Dominion College chair this week reading the Monarch, I began to think about how far the University has come since I took my first course as a night school student at the Norfolk Division of the College of William and Mary and VPI in Norfolk nearly 56 years ago, fall 1955. The new alumni magazine is but one more step forward. Congratulations.

James R. Hines (Jim) ’65
Newport News, Va.

The magazine arrived a few days ago. Congratulations to you. I think you did an excellent job putting (the interview with me) all together.

Tom DiCillo ’75
New York, N.Y.

I thought that the first issue of Monarch was great except for the following area. ODU has had a great start with football and a great year with basketball and probably did extremely well in some other sports. Considering that you probably had to design the magazine around optimizing the number of pages against postal cost, I personally felt that there was way too much emphasis on academic stories and way too little print about the accomplishments in Sports.

John Donnee ’73
Wilmington, N.C.

Great article by Steve Daniel. I was the manager of Speedy Gonzales Tacos from 1981-84. Everyone called me “Speedy.” Good ol’ Speedy’s. Now it’s center court of the Ted Constant Convocation Center.

Ken Held ’84
Fulton, Md.

I just got my issue of Monarch, and I’m impressed – I love the new publication type and format.

Frank LaVoi ‘01 (M.Ed. ’03)
Littleton, Colo.

The spring issue of Monarch was outstanding! I hope you can keep showing such coverage, including pictures. I enjoyed every page.

Marjorie Alberti ’67
Portsmouth, Va.

Also enjoyed reading about Friar Tuck’s, King’s Head, Zero’s and the 4400 Club. The sights, smells and sounds of all are still vivid to me after all these years. Keep up the good work.

Alan Schutte ’83
Hopkins, Minn.

Kudos go out to Steve Daniel for his column “Then & Now.” It brought back many memories of the nights I spent out and about between The King’s Head Inn and Bodner’s from 1970 to 1975. I spent many a night playing electronic darts, drinking 25 cent drafts, and eating Tuna Cheese Cosmo’s at Zero’s, or sitting in the fireplace on the table side of the 4400 Club hoping to meet a fine ODU “student” to have an intellectual conversation(!) with, and then, hitting up the doughnut maker at Bodner’s at two in the morning. What a great time in our lives! Diana Wodder’s comment about scraping together 80 cents for a sub was so right on the mark. Thanks Diana, it’s been a long time. So to all my friends who shared those great times, especially Tom, Leon and Randy (just to name a few), I think it’s time we take a ride in that convertible and “go to the store” one more time to reminisce about all those great changes that took us to where we are today.

Fred Sanderson ’77
Richmond, Va.

What a great piece (by Steve Daniel)! And it brought back a flood of great memories! I wish I had a dollar for every time I ate inexpensive pizza at 4400 Campus Club in the late-1970s. Cheap pizza and Stroh’s beer – you couldn’t beat the combination. At some point during my time at ODU, 4400 Campus Club installed a disco floor. I wanted to cry. Disco at 4400! Grrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr
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Then & Now

The Monarchy Looks Back 50 Years

It All Started with a Regal Name and a ‘Seedy-Looking’ Mascot

By Steve Daniel

There was no celebration, no cake or party hats, but Old Dominion reached a significant milestone recently—the 50th anniversary of an event that has put an indelible stamp on the university’s very being. In August 1961, a special faculty committee chaired by Professor John Foster West came up with the undeniably regal “Monarchs” as the new name for the school’s athletic teams, replacing the Braves, a derivation of the Indians of William and Mary, the Norfolk Division’s parent institution. It was regarded at the time as both an appropriate and inevitable change, as the growing two-year school had already begun the process of formally breaking its ties to W&M to become a fully independent, four-year institution.

The name of Monarchs, in fact, preceded the naming of the soon-to-be college by a year. The school’s Board of Visitors selected the name Old Dominion College during a meeting on Aug. 2, 1962, beating out such contenders as College of the Atlantic, Thomas Jefferson College and College of Hampton Roads. Old Dominion, the name given to the Virginia colony by King Charles II after Virginia’s loyalty to the crown during the English Civil War, seemed a good fit with the prior choice of Monarchs.

Warren F. Spencer, chair of the history department and a member of the committee that came up with the name Monarchs, wrote an explanation of the committee’s choice and concluded: “The Norfolk College of William and Mary Monarchs link the traditions of the past to the realities of the present.”

As James R. Sweeney, associate professor emeritus of history, observed in his 1980 book “Old Dominion University: A Half Century of Service,” “That was grand talk to associate with the naming of a college’s sports teams, but grand things were in store for those teams.”

Not long after the name was adopted, the Intercollegiate Foundation was established, giving the fledgling school the ability to fund and award athletic scholarships and grants-in-aid. While the men’s basketball program was the first beneficiary of the scholarships, it was the baseball team that initially had the greatest success as bearers of the new ODC Monarchs name. Under coach Bud Metheny, the Monarchs won the NCAA College Division Eastern Regional Championship in 1963 and 1964.

In a few more years, men’s basketball would take center stage at Old Dominion under coach Sonny Allen, who joined the school in 1965. Allen’s teams became known as the “Runnin’ Monarchs” for their fast-break style of basketball. The 1970–71 team ran all the way to the NCAA Division II
national championship game, losing to Evansville. Just four years later, the Runnin’ Monarchs returned to the championship series and this time captured the Division II national title with a 76–74 win over New Orleans.

These early glory days of ODU men’s basketball were followed by the ascendancy of the women’s basketball program. Led by coach Marianne Stanley, the Lady Monarchs won back-to-back Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women national titles in 1979 and 1980, and captured the NCAA championship in 1985. Years later, under coach Wendy Larry, the Lady Monarchs reigned as champions of the Colonial Athletic Association for an NCAA record-setting 17 consecutive seasons (1992 to 2008).

In 1971, the crown and mace as the Monarchs symbol gave way to the image of a roaring, crowned lion, followed by the introduction of Big Blue as the school’s mascot. Long used by emperors and kings, the lion is known far and wide as a symbol for courage, strength, fearlessness, bravery and royalty. (Incidentally, only one other U.S. college or university shares the Monarch name — King’s College, a small liberal arts Catholic school in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.)

While today’s Big Blue is more friendly than fearsome in appearance, owing to his interactions with the younger crowd at home basketball and football games, Old Dominion’s first mascot arrived on the scene to mixed reviews. The very first Big Blue made his debut during a men’s home basketball game at the start of the 1971-72 season in the ODU Field House, which had opened just one year earlier. The occasion was chronicled in the 1972 Troubadour in both pictures and text, written by a yearbook staffer who obviously was less than impressed with the costume: “Miss Norfolk, Regina Royster, was on hand for half time festivities, as was ‘Big Blue,’ a seedy-looking lion who serves as Mascot.”

It was, indeed, an auspicious start for the forerunner of ODU’s 2011 Capital One National Mascot of the Year. The costume had been ordered from a company in New York, but when it arrived, it was a yellow/orange rather than blue, recalls Jim Jarrett, ODU’s then-neophyte athletic director. Unfortunately, there was not enough time to send it back. According to an article by sportswriter Fran Lester in the student newspaper, the Mace & Crown, Tom Dunham, assistant dean of student affairs, and Jarrett took the costume to some local shops, where everything from blue food dye to blue hair coloring was used in an attempt to transform the lion. Lester reported that the dye, however, “turned the orange lion into a murky grey-green lion,” and Dunham ended up hiring a seamstress to sew on “some powder blue fake fur” to approximate the school’s primary color at the time.

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, it is said, and while the Troubadour writer was underwhelmed by the new mascot, Lester wrote: “And after all the struggle, strife, and strategy, ‘Big Blue’ emerged in Saturday night’s game as a true-blue, fuzzy, furry, freaky, funny, but friendly lion.”

Jarrett, who retired last year after a 40-year stint as ODU’s athletic director, recalls students and faculty going in different directions on the choice of a mascot, noting that there was even some sentiment for not using a lion at all as the university’s symbol because it was “a mean animal.”

“But we got through all that, and it’s worked out really well,” Jarrett said.

A contest was held to select the first person to wear the mascot costume. According to a Nov. 8, 1971, Mace & Crown story, the winner would be chosen by a committee of faculty and alumni, and the student selected would not be revealed until the final home game. As it happened, it was a former student rather than a current student who was chosen as ODU’s first mascot: 1970 graduate Harry Lozon. A former member of the basketball team and a starting forward his senior year, Lozon was chosen by ODU’s first mascot: 1970 graduate Harry Lozon.

In late 2010, Monarch Nation voted ODU’s beloved mascot all the way to the finals in Capital One’s mascot of the year challenge, which Big Blue won, besting University of Texas-El Paso’s Paydirt Pete in the finale. Along the way, ODU’s lion beat out 14 other All-America mascots from such big-name schools as Ohio State, Oregon and LSU. Students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the university worked together to keep Big Blue undefeated throughout the competition, earning him nearly 2 million votes and ultimately the title of Mascot of the Year.

The Old Dominion family is clearly proud of its mascot and proud to be known as Monarchs. (It was even the overwhelming choice for the name of this new magazine.) And to those from opposing teams over the years who occasionally joked, or even wondered, about ODU having a butterfly as its symbol, this latest recognition should put an end to all that.

Long live the Monarchy!
Ellen Neufeldt, formerly the vice president for student affairs at Salisbury University, has been selected as Old Dominion University’s vice president for student engagement and enrollment services. She has served as vice president since 2005 at Salisbury, a four-year comprehensive institution with an enrollment of 8,055.

Neufeldt previously served as assistant vice chancellor for student development and dean of student life at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. She was also a faculty member in its master’s program in educational counseling.

Her bachelor’s degree in business administration and a master’s in educational psychology and counselor education are from Tennessee Technological University, and she received a doctorate in education from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

In addition to her experience with the traditional functions of student affairs, she has led the enrollment management initiative at Salisbury, including supervision of admissions and financial aid.

At Old Dominion, Neufeldt will be responsible for the development, implementation, communication and maintenance of an institutional focus on student success. Along with the provost, she will co-chair the Student Success and Enrollment Management Advisory Board.

"Her breadth and depth of knowledge in student engagement, experience in student affairs and enrollment management, leadership skills and collaborative style make Dr. Neufeldt an eminently qualified leader in our effort to set a new standard for student success and student learning," ODU President John R. Broderick said.

Morgan Morrison Wins National Academic Advising Award

Morgan Morrison, academic advisor with ODU’s Advising and Transfer Programs, was selected recently as a National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Outstanding New Advisor Award winner in the Academic Advising – Primary Role category.

The award was announced as part of the 2011 Annual Awards Program for Academic Advising. It goes to individuals who have demonstrated qualities associated with outstanding academic advising of students and who have served as an advisor for three or fewer years. The Academic Advising – Primary Role category includes those individuals whose primary role at their institution is the direct delivery of advising services to students.

Morrison was the 2010-11 New Advisor Award winner at ODU. As a student success advisor, she focuses specifically on first-year students who may be experiencing academic transition issues. She handles a caseload of about 350 students from the College of Arts and Letters. One of Morrison’s accomplishments this year has been the creation of short videos that highlight all of the undergraduate majors.
Master’s of Engineering Management is Top-ranked in Nation

Consistently among the nation’s top five engineering management degree programs, the Master of Engineering Management (MEM) degree at Old Dominion University is currently the top-ranked curriculum of its type in America. The popular, portable program was recently elevated to the top spot for “excellence and leadership in MEM programs” by ASEM, the American Society for Engineering Management. The ODU program features four new classes and aims to produce graduates capable of addressing complex design, operation, analysis and transformation problems while mastering advanced communications skills required to supervise the successful completion of complex projects.

“We are proud that our MEM program has several times received top marks for excellence and leadership by ASEM,” said Professor Resit Unal, chair of the Department of Engineering Management and Systems Engineering. “We believe our MEM program makes significant contributions to our graduates and their employers by providing the right blend of technical and project management skills.”

Originally designed for the Navy’s nuclear-qualified officers and government nuclear laboratory employees, the ODU program has graduated nearly 1,000 military students over the past five years. It is now available to qualified enlisted military and civilian engineers with accredited academic preparation. The coursework aims to further develop the technical expertise, project management and leadership skills to enhance and advance their careers.

“It is great that the MEM program is now open to qualified enlisted engineers,” said Jon Gebo, a chief machinist’s mate stationed at the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center in Norfolk.

“I began the coursework late last year and expect to complete it in the fall of 2012. I am only taking one class at a time due to work, family and community commitments. The MEM program is great for those that can utilize self-paced learning and offers an excellent opportunity to earn a master’s degree.”

Flexible and affordable, the MEM graduate program is also portable, available asynchronously via DVD and CD-ROM, and at more than 50 ODU distance learning and military sites across Virginia, as well as Arizona and Washington state.

“The MEM program at ODU is superb,” remarked Capt. Will Pennington, executive officer of the USS George H.W. Bush and current MEM student. “The courses are applicable. The material is very well presented in a format ideally suited to deploying active-duty personnel, and the quality of instruction is excellent. I highly recommend this current and convenient program to anyone that is qualified to take it.

“Relevant to both Navy and post-Navy careers, I am not the least bit surprised the program is ranked No. 1 by the ASEM.”

For complete details, visit the website, http://dl.odu.edu/MEM2.
A fruitful business relationship started simply when a local company needed some help. KITCO Fiber Optics was informed by one of its customers, a Fortune 50 company based in Texas, that in order to continue to do business with that company, KITCO would need to meet ISO (International Organization for Standardization) standards for future contracts.

“At the time we were not an ISO company,” said Geoff Clark, the KITCO Fiber Optics president and CEO. “Finding out we were going to be eliminated as a supplier if we didn’t do something, my team and I came back and did some research. As a result we found ODU and Jerry.”

“Jerry” is Jerry Robertson, associate vice president and executive director of Old Dominion University’s Business Gateway.

“Our research found that ODU was able to help us prepare for and achieve ISO certification,” Clark said. “What was a real bonus was we learned that because we were a small business we qualified for, essentially, a scholarship. About 50 percent of our certification costs were paid for by the state.”

The ISO certification requires training and performance criteria aimed at increasing the quality of a company’s output, decreasing mistakes, decreasing returned products and increasing customer satisfaction.

That initial help was given to KITCO six years ago. Relationships that Clark and his company formed with ODU experts have since led to other opportunities in lean manufacturing and consulting on Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grants. Over this period of time, KITCO has become a leading provider of fiber optic products and services to the military and commercial communications industry from its headquarters in Virginia Beach.

However, the help KITCO received early on from ODU experts required both a little digging, and a little luck.

Now that Old Dominion has created the Business Gateway — extending the concept of its former Virginia Applied Technology and Professional Development Center — the hope is that success stories like KITCO’s are repeated.

Business Gateway is designed to be a two-way portal, bringing the entire expertise of the university to bear as an asset to the local business community, Robertson said.

“Our ODU president, John Broderick, in particular has this vision of the metropolitan university, which is there as a community resource, that you can tap into for whatever you need. We had it before, but it was not clear how to tap into it,” Robertson said.

“If I had a business that needed assistance, I had to depend on having a neighbor who was a faculty member here, or some other, personal connection.

“At the end of the day, we hope that these folks not only keep the employees they have, but also hire some more, so there’s an economic impact on the community as a result.”

One of the most important resources of the ODU Business Gateway is its longtime relationship with the NIST-Manufacturing Extension Partnership. This national network of seasoned engineers has resulted in a huge economic impact on the region, more than $150 million last year, a figure that helped save 300 jobs. “This partnership has been our anchor relationship beyond the walls of the university,” said Robertson.

Shep Miller, KITCO’s chairman, said the creation of Business Gateway has been a great awareness builder for ODU. “There were a lot of companies that didn’t realize everything it had to offer, and what a great resource Old Dominion University is in the community.” Before, knowledge of the resources that ODU offered to the community at large was primarily through word of mouth.

Miller has done his share of that, spreading the word about the multidisciplinary expertise available at the university to the companies he works with as a business and community leader. He said ODU’s assistance is especially valuable to small companies.

The biggest problem small businesses face is that resources just aren’t available to them, Miller said. “And I don’t mean to suggest that large businesses have unlimited budgets, because they don’t. But small businesses, in particular, are resource constrained particularly when it comes to people and capital. A local asset like ODU has had a significant impact on us. Without Jerry and his team we wouldn’t have been able to have done what we did in the time we had.

“I think, as we consider to expand and grow our business, we’re going to continue to see new things, new opportunities that we might not have the answer for right away. But it’s great to know we can pick up the phone and call Jerry.”
FALL CAMPUS EVENTS, ATTRACTIONS AND PERFORMANCES

October

Baron and Ellin Gordon
Art Galleries
"The Self-Taught Artist in Context: Influences of American Culture," through Dec. 20; Faculty Exhibition, Oct. 29-Dec. 17. (Galleries open to the public Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday 1 – 5 p.m.)

2-7 34th Annual Literary Festival, “The Lie That Tells the Truth”
www.lib.odu.edu/litfest/

3 The Music of Paul Bowles, Andrey Kasparov with the Norfolk Chamber Consort
Bowles, a noted writer, was also a composer. Christopher Sawyer-Laucanno, a Bowles scholar and author of his biography, will deliver a pre-concert lecture, Chandler Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. In conjunction with the Literary Festival.

6 President’s Lecture Series
Former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins, North Cafeteria, Webb University Center, 7:30 p.m. In conjunction with the Literary Festival. rsvp@odu.edu

17 Diehn Concert Series
New York Voices jazz vocal ensemble, Chandler Recital Hall, 8 p.m. Tickets $15, $10 for students.

November

10 ODU Veterans Day Observance
Kaufman Mall, 12:30 p.m.

10 ODU Presents Lecture Series with film director John Waters
Big Blue Room, Ted Constant Convocation Center, 7:30 p.m. (rsvp@odu.edu)

11 Monarch Theatre grand opening
Including performances and tours. Monarch Theatre, 7 p.m.

14 Diehn Concert Series
Anthony McGill, clarinet recital, Chandler Recital Hall, 8 p.m. Tickets $15, $10 for students.

15-19 Monarch Theatre Gala
The modern tragedy “Eurydice.” A new look at the story of Orpheus trying to retrieve his wife from Hades. Monarch Theatre, 8 p.m. Tickets $12, $10 for students.

16-19 University Dance Theatre Fall Concert
Ballet, jazz and modern dance, University Theatre, 8 p.m. each day, also 2 p.m. on Nov. 19. Tickets $12, $10 for students.

December

2-3 Annual Madrigal Banquets
“Holidays in Merrie Old England.” Enjoy a holiday feast and the music of ODU’s Madrigal Singers and Collegium Musicum. Atrium, Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center, 6:30 p.m. Tickets $38, $33 for ODU faculty and $20 for students.

8 Annual Holiday Illumination
Webb University Center, 5 p.m. rssvp@odu.edu

11 ODU Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble Holiday Concert
Atrium, Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center, 3 p.m.

(See http://oduartsstix.com for more information about music, theatre and dance presentations. Unless otherwise specified, events are free and open to the public.)
“Hairspray.” By Dana Heller, Old Dominion University English professor and department chair.

Published in May 2011 by Wiley-Blackwell, this book focuses on the 1988 cult film by John Waters, exploring assumptions about the film found in mainstream popular culture as they pertain to gender, class, citizenship and race.

When doing research for the book, Heller interviewed Waters, who called “Hairspray” the most subversive of his films. “This struck me as oddly counterintuitive, as it should to anyone familiar with Waters’ movies, and I wrote this book because I wanted to explore the meaning and legitimacy of his claim,” Heller said.

In her book, Heller explores topics ranging from camp and queer theory to the history of the American film musical. “To better understand our culture we need to open ourselves to the possibility that even our most vulgar entertainments can critically engage our minds and change the way we see the world,” she said.

Heller has written widely about elements of popular culture. She is the author of “The Selling of 9/11: How a National Tragedy Became a Commodity;” “The Great American Makeover: Television, History, and Nation;” “Reading Makeover Television: Realities Remodeled” and over 40 scholarly articles.


“Explaining Foreign Policy,” from Johns Hopkins University Press, dissects the U.S.-led wars in 1991 and 2003, with the help of newly released declassified documents emphasizing the how and why of these conflicts. “The Petroleum Triangle,” from Cornell University Press for release in September 2011, explores how a relatively small group of terrorists has threatened global security. The central argument of "The Petroleum Triangle" is that Al Qaeda (including its many affiliates) has developed into a real and perceived threat to global security and has been hard to eliminate.


Using vintage photos, maps and reminiscences, this book from Arcadia Publishing tells the story of the once popular and thriving downtown commercial, social and entertainment area of Newport News, Va. The downtown was diminished by the flight to the suburbs after World War II.

“Firesoul.” By Frank La Voie ’01, M.A.E. ’03.

This is book one of a fantasy series envisioned by the author and published by Mbedzi Publishing in Dallas. The story introduces Tristan, a Ranger working deep inside Panic Wood, as well as a cataclysmic storm, a ship named the Dreaming Wyrm, and allies who form an uneasy truce to battle a former conspiratorial Kemist court sage. Along the way, readers meet color changing dragons, a unique system of magic, beautiful and original cities, complex and emotional characters, and rare beasts of all sorts.


From Dementi Milestone Publishing, this paperback combines Babbitt’s nostalgic stories and Custer’s detailed sketches to illustrate the work standards, people and leadership skills, and business basics that were instilled in Boomers while they were in their early teens. See Boomersbook.biz.

Tyler’s Mountain Magic

Malcolm Ater ’75 Writes Prizewinning Novel

“Tyler’s Mountain Magic” is based on the true story of Tyler Moore, a West Virginia teenager whose courage and determination in the face of adversity is the stuff of legend in small-town Harpers Ferry.

The book also has a good dose of fiction in it, such as the name – Mac Waters – given to Tyler’s middle school wrestling coach. The character Mac is based upon Malcolm Ater ’75, the author of this prizewinning novel.

West Virginia Writer Inc. gave “Tyler’s Mountain Magic” its top prize this year in book-length writing. The Midwest Book Review called it “a heartwarming story (and) a very highly recommended read.”

The title character is a boy with cystic fibrosis who realizes his dream to become a competitive wrestler and helps his middle school team compile a 40-0 record, the best ever for any West Virginia public school in any sport. The book’s climax, however, centers not on the 40th win, but on a human story much more important than sports.

Ater is a special education reading teacher at Harpers Ferry Middle School who also was Tyler Moore’s wrestling coach during the fateful 2000 season. As an author, Ater has written educational comic books for the American Cancer Society and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More than a million copies of the comic books have been distributed nationwide.


Ater, who grew up in Falls Church, Va., didn’t wrestle at ODU, but did have some success as a relief pitcher for the baseball team. And he says he was a diehard fan of ODU men’s and women’s basketball, as well as the president of the Interfraternity Council. (His fraternity was Sigma Nu.)

“My days at Old Dominion were among the happiest and most fun-filled days of my life,” Ater said, he remembers frequently meeting up with Professor Peter Stewart on basketball road trips. “Doc Stewart was easily my favorite professor. I had him for four classes in history.”

“Hairspray.” By Dana Heller, Old Dominion University English professor and department chair.

Published in May 2011 by Wiley-Blackwell, this book focuses on the 1988 cult film by John Waters, exploring assumptions about the film found in mainstream popular culture as they pertain to gender, class, citizenship and race.

When doing research for the book, Heller interviewed Waters, who called “Hairspray” the most subversive of his films. “This struck me as oddly counterintuitive, as it should to anyone familiar with Waters’ movies, and I wrote this book because I wanted to explore the meaning and legitimacy of his claim,” Heller said.

In her book, Heller explores topics ranging from camp and queer theory to the history of the American film musical. “To better understand our culture we need to open ourselves to the possibility that even our most vulgar entertainments can critically engage our minds and change the way we see the world,” she said.

Heller has written widely about elements of popular culture. She is the author of “The Selling of 9/11: How a National Tragedy Became a Commodity;” “The Great American Makeover: Television, History, and Nation;” “Reading Makeover Television: Realities Remodeled” and over 40 scholarly articles.


“Explaining Foreign Policy,” from Johns Hopkins University Press, dissects the U.S.-led wars in 1991 and 2003, with the help of newly released declassified documents emphasizing the how and why of these conflicts. “The Petroleum Triangle,” from Cornell University Press for release in September 2011, explores how a relatively small group of terrorists has threatened global security. The central argument of “The Petroleum Triangle” is that Al Qaeda (including its many affiliates) has developed into a real and perceived threat to global security and has been hard to eliminate.


Using vintage photos, maps and reminiscences, this book from Arcadia Publishing tells the story of the once popular and thriving downtown commercial, social and entertainment area of Newport News, Va. The downtown was diminished by the flight to the suburbs after World War II.

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Why is Arctic Ice Melting So Fast?
Oceanographer Victoria Hill Looks for Clues in the Color of the Water

“A scientist hopes that a better understanding of what is happening beneath the Arctic ice will offer an insight into why summer sea ice is melting at a rate that is alarming experts. Victoria Hill, an oceanographer from Old Dominion University, U.S., was one of five scientists who spent six weeks in the barren, frozen landscape where temperatures fall to -40C (-40F). ‘As a scientist, the reason I am prepared to come out here and be cold is because of the desire to learn and answer burning questions I have about what is going on up here, why the ice is melting as fast as it is,’ she told the Earth Reporters program.”

So began a news report in May on the BBC television network. Just a few weeks later The Times of London’s magazine, Eureka, featured ODU’s Hill in a lengthy article about climate change research in the Arctic. For Hill, who was born and educated in England, the publicity was especially welcomed, giving family, friends and former colleagues the opportunity to keep abreast of her research.

The news reports explained the tedious work that Hill, an assistant research professor in the Department of Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, undertook during March and April with the Catlin Arctic Survey sponsored by the London-based Catlin Group insurers.

Most scientific research in the Arctic Ocean region is done during the summer when the weather can be almost hospitable and there is more open water in which to take measurements and conduct experiments. But Hill and ODU research associate David Ruble rushed the season this spring because Hill’s research plan required it.

She believes the remains of tiny plants that live in polar ice can tint the water light brown and cause the water to absorb more sunlight and heat up faster than scientific models had previously predicted. To test her hypothesis she needed to get to the packed ice before the summer melt.

The brown-tinged material that interests Hill is chromophoric dissolved organic material (CDOM). River sediments containing CDOM can flow into seas, creating the tint, and heavy plankton growth and decay can produce it, too. But scientists have generally thought of the cold Arctic waters as relatively clear of CDOM. If biological activity in thick ice is creating it, models will have to be adjusted to account for more dark water and more heat absorption.

“It’s important to know,” Hill is quoted as saying in The Times magazine article. “Water with CDOM absorbs 40 percent more light, so it can add up to quite a significant amount of energy.”

For more about the Catlin Arctic Survey and Hill’s work, visit http://www.catlinarcticsurvey.com/.
Where are last year’s tweets? Nelson is on their trail.

The digital preservation work of Old Dominion University’s computer scientist Michael Nelson has been getting a lot of attention this year.

After an article about Michael Nelson’s so-called Web “time-travel” research appeared on the website of The Chronicle of Higher Education in July, the ODU computer science faculty member was featured in reports from The Washington Post and the “Canada AM” show on the CTV network.

The headline of the Washington Post article summed up the good publicity that Nelson, and ODU, have gotten: “Old Dominion U. Professor Is Trying to Save Internet History.”

Here’s an excerpt from the Post: “What if you woke up tomorrow and all of your painstakingly edited YouTube videos were gone, your 4,000-entry Twitter feed erased and your lovingly tended Facebook page deleted?”

“Michael Nelson, a computer science professor at Old Dominion University in Virginia, is thinking those terrible thoughts. His research team has spent the past couple of years studying how much of the Internet is being saved....”

Nelson, an associate professor in ODU’s Department of Computer Science, and Herbert Van de Sompel and Robert Sanderson, computer scientists at the U.S. Department of Energy’s Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), are the lead investigators of a project named Memento. The research team also includes Scott Ainsworth, an ODU graduate student.

Development of the Memento architecture has been supported by the Library of Congress under the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program. Last year, Memento won the Digital Preservation Award from the Institute for Conservation and Digital Preservation Coalition based in London.

Related to the project, the research team wants to find out how much of the public World Wide Web is archived and where it is stored. So far, according to Nelson, the researchers have found that popular sources such as uniform resource identifiers (URIs) from delicious.com or dmoz.org are 68 percent to 79 percent archived. New or less popular sources such as bit.ly or search engine results from interior pages are 16 percent to 19 percent archived.

These preliminary findings were reported in a paper presented at the Joint Conference on Digital Libraries of the Association for Computing Machinery and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers held in June in Ottawa.

Memento provides an easily deployed method to reunite Web archives with their home on the live Web. This can open the archives to millions of new users.

Although the ability to change and update pages is one of the Web’s greatest advantages, this creates a here–today, gone–tomorrow shortcoming. Services like the Internet Archive have provided a stable but partial memory of a fragment of the Web, but users had no way of linking between current content and earlier versions held by archives. Memento resolves this by letting users set a time preference in their browsers.

Nelson said he and his colleagues believe what differentiates Memento from other preservation projects is that it is an amplifying technology – it helps to better integrate existing archives instead of the current situation where archives essentially compete against each other.

Psychologist Joins Baywatch Advisors

Poonima Madhavan, a young member of Old Dominion University’s psychology faculty, has been elected to the Chesapeake Bay Program’s Science and Technology Advisory Committee (STAC), an elite group made up mostly of oceanographers, marine biologists, engineers, economists and agricultural specialists who help shape measures designed to protect and restore the bay.

Her election breaks with tradition and indicates that these experts who are interested in the health of the bay are expanding their outreach in order to win popular support, said Larry Atkinson, the professor of oceanography who is directing the university’s Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Initiative (CCSLRI).

Earlier this year, Madhavan and three ODU colleagues won a seed grant of nearly $40,000 from the ODU Office of Research to develop a climate change project titled “Human Dimensions in Public Engagement and Support for Environmental Resiliency Policies.” Working with her on the project are Maura Hametz, associate professor of history; Leona Tam, assistant professor of marketing; and Cynthia Tomovic, professor of STEM education and professional studies.

Madhavan said she joined Atkinson’s team because she wanted to research the public’s response to scientific evidence about climate change and sea level rise and its implications for addressing flooding issues in the local community. Climate researchers have identified the Norfolk region as second only to New Orleans among U.S. cities in vulnerability to rising sea levels. At the same time, a 2010 ODU survey in the Norfolk region found about a quarter of the population believes that climate change is not a serious concern.
The U.S. Department of Energy has invested $750,000 in the theoretical physics research of Jozef Dudek, an assistant professor of physics at Old Dominion University who is also a staff scientist for the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in Newport News.

The young researcher, who joined ODU five years ago after receiving a doctoral degree in physics from the University of Oxford in England and serving as a postdoctoral research fellow at Jefferson Lab, is among 69 scientists to receive 2011 grants from the Early Career Research Program. The program was launched last year.

Dudek uses calculations performed on supercomputers to predict the properties of subatomic particles called mesons, which are short-lived pairings of quarks and antiquarks. (Quarks and the gluons that bind them are the building blocks of the protons and neutrons that form the atomic nucleus.)

Determining the meson spectrum with unprecedented precision and using novel production methods are part of the planned Jefferson Lab experimental program to be explored after the energy of the facility’s continuous electron beam is doubled to 12 billion electron volts (GeV). The upgrade, which is under way, is projected for completion in mid-2014, when data-taking can begin.

“Professor Dudek’s work is of particular relevance to understanding the new data we will get with the upgraded beam energy at Jefferson Lab,” said Gail Dodge, former chair of the ODU Department of Physics.

Dodge said Dudek’s research “is very innovative and is already having an impact on our understanding of the quark and gluon structure of matter.”

Chris Platsoucas, dean of the College of Sciences, added, “Professor Dudek is highly deserving of this prestigious award. Early-career awards such as this one are given only to researchers whose work shows great promise. Here we have more evidence of the exceptional quality of the theoretical nuclear physics research at ODU.”

“It’s always encouraging to have your work recognized as important, and this funding award is ideally timed to support our research efforts in preparation for the 12 GeV upgrade,” said Dudek, who came to ODU because of the quality of the theory group in physics and the opportunity to work at Jefferson Lab. Other members of the ODU Theoretical Nuclear and Particle Physics Group include professors Anatoly Radyushkin, Rocco Schiavilla, Jay Wallace VanOrden and Ian Balitsky, all of whom have been elected Fellows of the American Physical Society.

Childhood Food Insecurity is Focus of ODU Researchers

Qi “Harry” Zhang, an Old Dominion University health economist, has developed a research specialty in the last few years studying food assistance programs, hunger and obesity. His latest grant comes from a highly competitive program of the University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research and will allow him to look more closely at food insecurity among children in the United States. Working with Zhang, who is principal investigator for the project, will be Hua Liu, ODU assistant professor of political science and geography and an expert in geographic information systems (GIS).

The researchers will use U.S. Census data together with a 2010 Hunger in America survey to determine how the availability and accessibility of emergency food assistance programs affects the risk of very low food security in households with children. The Hunger in America surveys are conducted by the Feeding America organization. Household food security means that each member of the household feels confident about access at all times to sufficient, safe food to maintain a healthy and active life.

Due to lack of information about emergency food assistance programs, they are used by only 36 percent of the very low food security households, Zhang said. Also, he said the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) spent $55 billion on multiple food assistance programs in 2007, yet 6.2 million households with children were sometimes “food-insecure” during that year.

“The results of this new study will provide important information, allowing policymakers to target specific sociodemographic groups and regions for resource allocations to enhance local emergency food assistance and eliminate children’s hunger by 2015,” Zhang said.

The geospatial analyses will be a contribution of Liu, whose previous GIS research has included work in epidemiology, human-environment interactions and environmental health. She will be responsible for constructing the maps that show areas where low availability of emergency food programs coincide with significant numbers of households reporting insecurities brought on by a lack of money to buy food.
It was just the sort of information-sharing and brainstorming session that is needed to address a tough question facing Hampton Roads: What should communities, companies and the military be doing right now in response to predictions of significant 21st century sea level rise and gradually increasing threats from floods?

A Sea Level Rise Research Forum sponsored by Old Dominion University in mid-August brought together nearly 40 people who have a professional stake in accurately assessing the threat of rising waters in Virginia, and who also will be advising elected officials and other decision makers about actions that are warranted. Engineers from local cities, consulting companies and the Navy took most of the seats around the forum roundtable.

ODU’s year-old Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Initiative (CCSLRI) sponsored the daylong think tank.

“The forum reflected what President (John) Broderick had in mind when he launched the initiative,” said Larry Atkinson, the ODU Slover Professor of Oceanography who directs the CCSLRI. “This university wants to facilitate problem solving for coastal metropolitan areas experiencing rising sea levels.”

Doctoral student David Pezza planned the forum with help from Atkinson and Gary Schafran, ODU professor and chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Pezza is a retired Army Corps of Engineers official who is pursuing a Ph.D. in civil engineering.

Carol Simpson, the ODU provost, also welcomed the participants and supplied the forum’s bywords: “Inaction is not an option.”

“The Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Initiative is a top priority for Old Dominion University,” she said after the session was over. “The close proximity of our university to the ocean, coupled with our existing strengths in coastal engineering and ocean sciences, puts us in a unique position to address the many logistical and practical problems that will occur as mean sea levels continue to rise.”

Pezza, who moderated the forum’s five topical sessions and concluding summary session, as well as Oktay Baysal, the dean of ODU’s Frank Batten College of Engineering and Technology who delivered a welcoming address, helped to frame the forum’s engineering thrust.

The forum’s participants and observers, who also included scientists and business faculty from ODU, have a stake in protecting infrastructure, property and the populace from rising seas. Storm surges and flooding exacerbated by higher water levels were the No. 1 topic of conversation. Accordingly, improved storm drainage was proposed as a starting point for government response to sea level rise.

Other points of discussion and debate:

- Land subsidence is part of the equation when it comes to measuring sea level rise in Hampton Roads. That means the land is sinking as the waters are rising. One reason for the sinking is the seesaw geological motion of the Atlantic coast; glacier withdrawal in the far north is allowing land there to rise and causing Hampton Roads to sink. Depleted aquifers also could be causing the subsidence. Yet another reason could be the large areas of the region that were once marshes, long since filled in with dirt and rubble, that are now subsiding. Again, variables are a problem; experts cannot be sure what is causing a particular tract to sink and how much subsidence to expect.
- Because of the variables noted above, there is support for an “adaptive management” course of action that, for example, does not require infrastructure being built today to withstand worst-case scenarios predicted 50 years from now. By design, however, infrastructure – for everything from transportation to communications – that is built during the next decade should be easily adapted to accommodate ever higher water levels. Evidence presented by one participant showed that this incremental response to sea level rise is the cost-effective way to go.
- “Hardening” of the shoreline is the term applied to structures such as dikes, bulkheads and rip-rap barriers that can provide protection from rising seas and surges. With these barriers, which replace natural interfaces between water and land, such as beaches and marshes, come new erosion and environmental problems. One participant predicted a huge swell of popular opposition to efforts to harden the shoreline in response to sea level rise.

The group was impressed that ODU is taking on a tough, but inevitable, issue and that the institutional leadership is committed, Baysal said.
“The kids are hilarious and so forgiving. I love them. That’s the reward. The challenge is trying to get them to value their education.”

–Nicole Ambrose ’10
It’s called the Teacher Immersion Residency (TIR) program, and Nicole Ambrose, a student teacher at I.C. Norcom High School in Portsmouth during the 2010-11 school year, admits that at times she felt like she was drowning.

In making the comment, she says she was “slightly kidding,” but that’s sort of the idea – the immersion concept, anyway, not the drowning: immerse aspiring teachers in an intensive, 12-month graduate-level training program so that by the end of the experience they will have resurfaced from their baptism prepared to take on the challenges of full-time teaching in urban schools.

Billed as a new and creative approach to teacher training, Old Dominion’s year-long school-based residency program was created by a Teacher Quality Partnership grant from the U.S. Department of Education. ODU’s Darden College of Education received a five-year, $6 million grant – one of only 28 in the country – to help improve instruction in high-need schools. The TIR project represents a collaboration between ODU and the Portsmouth and Norfolk school divisions.

“The graduates of the ODU-TIR program will be ready to connect to students in today’s classroom. The benefit to students in Norfolk and Portsmouth will be improved achievement and a desire to learn,” said Sharon Judge, associate dean for graduate studies and assessment in the Darden College, who was principal investigator for the ODU grant.

Judge said the grants are aimed at helping school districts attract potential educators from a wide range of professional backgrounds. These are people who did not pursue teaching certification during their undergraduate years and who have worked in a variety of fields since graduation. The first cohort of nine ODU-TIR students, the oldest of whom is 28, completed the program during the summer. The second cohort of 11 residents started this fall, and two more groups will be funded under the grant in succeeding years.

Like Ambrose and the other residents in the inaugural group, Keith Goodman came into the program after working in another field. Since graduating from Norfolk State University in 2008 with a B.S. in physics, Goodman had been employed as a U.S. patent examiner in Alexandria, Va. Ambrose, who left Hunter College in New York last year with a bachelor’s degree in history, was holding down jobs as a youth specialist and instructor in an after-school program in Spanish Harlem and waiting tables in a bar.

Students who are accepted into the highly selective program receive free tuition and fees, a $25,500 living stipend, a laptop computer and $1,000 for professional development. Those who successfully complete the program
are guaranteed a job as a teacher in a high-need school in the Norfolk or Portsmouth public school systems. This includes three years of mentoring after receiving their Master of Science degree in secondary education to aid in their continued growth and development as an educator. In exchange for all of this financial and professional support, the TIR residents are required to sign an agreement that they will serve as a full-time teacher for a minimum of three years after the residency. The residents complete 42 semester hours of graduate study, which includes 18 hours of coursework in English, math, science or social studies, nine hours in a middle school- or high school-based residency, and 15 hours of professional education courses. They are also assigned a trained teacher mentor in the public school as well as a university mentor for expert support during their training. A final element of the program is a summer internship designed to give the students discipline-specific and real-world experiences.

Denise Alberti, who serves as project coordinator for the TIR program, sums up how this training differs from the typical ODU program for aspiring teachers. “Teacher training normally takes four years. Toward the end of this period, the students complete their in-building student teaching experience for 14 weeks. The TIR in-building experience is 37 weeks in a local school. Our residents experience everything that a contract teacher experiences during the school year. This program immerses them in the art and science of teaching. It’s a very different way of training teachers.”

A former administrator at Norfolk’s Maury High School, Alberti added, “Teaching is not easy. You are basically preparing a new lesson every day and designing a presentation to educate and motivate your students. It’s different from anything else that anybody does. It really is.”

Part of the unique and creative aspects of the TIR program is the TeachME simulation the students take part in. Short for Teaching in Mixed-reality Environments, the simulator was developed at the University of Central Florida. The two-way immersive technology tool features a computer-generated classroom of virtual students whose voices and movements are all controlled in real time by a UCF graduate student in education. The virtual classroom is beamed via Skype to a large screen inside a room at the ODU Tri-Cities Center. During the brief, but intensive, mock classroom period, the ODU teachers in training take turns delivering a lesson plan while dealing with comments and questions from the on-screen “students,” most of whom are not all that interested in the subject matter, and constantly keep the teachers on their toes. The idea behind the training method is to allow the future teachers to work on their pedagogic and classroom management skills prior to getting in front of a classroom of flesh-and-blood students.

Both Ambrose and Goodman thought the classroom simulation exercises were helpful, particularly early in the program before they took over their respective teaching

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assignments at Norcom and Norview, but Goodman said it paled in comparison to standing in front of a real classroom.

And what was that experience like? “About as crazy as any first-year teaching experience,” Ambrose speculated back in May, with just one month of teaching to go. She taught two blocks of U.S. and Virginia history at Norcom, including an honors class. Despite the stress and frustration that go along with being a novice teacher, she added, “I learn something new every day about how to do this job better.”

Ambrose, who has just started as a full-time teacher of social studies at Churchland High School in Portsmouth, developed good relationships with many of her students at Norcom. “The kids are hilarious and so forgiving. I love them. That’s the reward. The challenge is trying to get them to value their education. I went to a middle-class suburban high school, but I didn’t do that well even in that setting. Some of these kids deal with probation, pregnancy, dead-beat parents. How can I get them to value school if it’s not naturally occurring within them?”

Occasional self-doubt and misgivings naturally are part of the package for any first-time teacher, but Norcom social studies teacher Brooke Archambeau, who served as Ambrose’s in-class mentor teacher, called her “a born teacher. She had the compassion, enthusiasm and ‘want to’ that you can’t teach someone.

“The students reacted well to her and understood from day one that she wanted nothing but the best for them,” Archambeau said. “She gave the students a survey periodically to ask about how they thought she could improve and what they thought she did well. They liked that she asked for their input about her teaching, and I think it helped her to deepen connections with the students.”

While Archambeau identified assertiveness and classroom management as Ambrose’s main challenges, she watched as her charge grew increasingly comfortable in her role as the school year progressed.

“The kids really fed off her energy.” Archambeau said. “One day she came in to play a ‘Jeopardy’ review game with the kids before exams. She had glasses with a nose and mustache attached and introduced herself as Alexa Trebek. It was hilarious, and the kids loved it.”

Archambeau added, “Niki was my first student teacher. If I could have 10 more like her, I would do this every year.”

(Archambeau, incidentally, graduated from ODU in 2003 with a B.A. in history and B.S. in interdisciplinary studies, and earned an M.A. in history from the university in 2009. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in educational leadership at her alma mater.)

Goodman experienced some of the same challenges and frustrations at Norview – particularly with the required geometry class he taught, where some of the students didn’t care about grades “or recognize the connection between the effort you put forth and the grade that you get.” He truly enjoyed teaching introductory and AP physics, however. And he believed that the TIR program prepared him well, even though the workload was overwhelming at times.

“Undoubtedly, it was challenging to take two graduate physics classes during the fall and spring semesters while student teaching. But the program has been great for immersing me into the classroom. I have learned what it takes to manage a classroom – this includes instructional quality, behavioral management and even procedural tasks.”

The basic challenges to teaching in an urban school are similar to those in any school, he said. “Primarily, a teacher must find a way to make content interesting and relevant to students, and determine how best to get students to make progress so that they can master the content. The rewards of being a classroom teacher are seeing my students master content that was unfamiliar at the beginning of the semester. It is great to see students interested in certain topics in physics or geometry as a result of my teaching.”

Kenny Grimes, the regular AP Physics teacher who supervised Goodman at Norview, was impressed by what he saw. “Keith came in already very comfortable with the content, so I was able to give him a lot of autonomy in his role as the school year progressed. “The kids really fed off her energy.” Archambeau said. “One day she came in to play a ‘Jeopardy’ review game with the kids before exams. She had glasses with a nose and mustache attached and introduced herself as Alexa Trebek. It was hilarious, and the kids loved it.”

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Like Archambeau’s supervising teacher, Grimes said classroom management was probably the most challenging aspect of the job for Goodman. “But you learn where the buttons are, where the lines are, what battles are worth fighting and how to fight them.”

Grimes speaks from experience, having been a student teacher himself 10 years ago after two careers in other fields. After observing Goodman over the past school year, Grimes gave him high marks.

“The students liked him a lot. He’s got a wonderful demeanor, he’s very patient. I learned a lot from him this year. I hope he learned from me.”

Two of Goodman’s AP Physics students recalled him being quiet at first, but saw him gain confidence and control as he became more comfortable in his role. “He definitely loves doing what he’s doing,” said Bartlett Jones, a senior. “I really enjoyed him. He knows his stuff and is good at explaining things.”

Fellow senior Dashauna Williams also gave Goodman an A. “I learned a lot about relativity. He really did a good job. I think he’ll be a great teacher.”

Goodman was grateful for the opportunity to join the TIR program, and appreciates the built-in support – that which he received during the past school year and the mentor support yet to come. After completing his final ODU courses over the summer and doing an internship at NASA Langley Research Center, he is teaching physical science this fall at Azalea Garden Middle School in Norfolk.

“Based upon my TIR experience, I expect to hit the ground running,” he said.
A
er more than two years of planning and construction, and a frantic few days dodging Hurricane Irene, Team Tidewater from Old Dominion and Hampton universities was to take its newfangled modular home to Washington, D.C., to compete Sept. 23 to Oct. 2 in the Department of Energy’s international Solar Decathlon.

Engineering students from ODU, architecture students from HU came together to form Team Tidewater, and their design of a house called Unit 6 Unplugged was selected as one of 20 finalists to be erected, opened for public visitation and judged in the competition.

The Solar Decathlon, which is held every other year, challenges collegiate teams to design, build, and operate solar-powered houses that are cost-effective, energy-efficient, and attractive. The winner of the competition is the team that best blends affordability, consumer appeal, and design excellence with optimal energy production and maximum efficiency. A panel of experts judges all of the homes in 10 categories (hence the name “Solar Decathlon”).

Unit 6 is conceived as part of a larger, six-unit multifamily building. By sharing infrastructure costs between units of the building, this energy-efficient house is made more affordable. The architecture of the house draws inspiration from the arts and crafts-style homes found throughout the center-city neighborhoods of Norfolk. The house consists of three sections: a pergola integrated into the utility core, a main module with the solar panels and porch, and a living space that features nearly floor-to-ceiling windows.

Team Tidewater students and some professional helpers, led by John Whitelaw, a doctoral student in environmental engineering at ODU, built out the house on the ODU campus during the summer before it was disassembled and trucked to the National Mall, West Potomac Park.

Mujde Erten-Unal, the faculty adviser for the team, is associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at ODU. The other faculty members working on the project are Stella Bondi, ODU assistant professor of civil engineering technology, and HU architecture professors Mason Andrews and David Peronnet.
Two years ago, the Old Dominion University School of Dental Hygiene gave Sharon Stull ’96 (M.S.D.H. ’02) an Outstanding Alumna Award in Public Health for her leadership in delivering dental care to underserved populations in eastern Virginia.

This summer, Stull’s work captured the attention of the American Dental Health Association (ADHA), which awarded her one of five national Procter & Gamble-ADHA Pro in the Profession awards for 2011. Three thousand professionals were nominated for the honor.

Hundreds of people who have benefited from Stull’s dental hygiene expertise and organizational skills – receiving approximately $500,000 in free care over the past two decades – were with her in spirit, if not in person, in June when she was honored at the ADHA annual meeting in Nashville. These clients include seniors in nursing homes, children in Head Start programs and at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Norfolk, workers at Eggleston Services who have physical and mental disabilities, local participants in the national Project Homeless Connect, and most recently, residents of St. Mary’s Home for Disabled Children in Norfolk.

A proverbial multitasker, Stull takes up the cause of the dentally underserved via myriad channels. Since 1992, she has been a volunteer dental hygienist with the Chesapeake Care Free Clinic. During most of that same period, she has been an adjunct faculty member with ODU’s School of Dental Hygiene, where she now has taken on the job of chief departmental adviser.

Stull leverages her influence on the region’s dental health by teaching the school’s Community Oral Health Planning and Practice course, which involves classroom work during the fall semester and community service in the spring. This past spring, for example, Stull and 41 dental hygiene seniors provided $85,000 worth of donated services to the community.

She also serves as president of the Oral Health Improvement Coalition (OHIC) of South Hampton Roads, a community collaboration of more than 30 organizations that are working to provide the most vulnerable populations in the region – the dentally uninsured and underinsured – with dental access and educational awareness and prevention programs. Among the coalition’s initiatives has been a Dental Voucher Program that offers participants low-cost care at the Sofia and David Konikoff Dental Hygiene Care Facility at ODU.

Thanks to Stull and her students, as well as to her friendship with a fellow educator at the Pankey Institute, a Florida school for advanced dental education, the OHIC has twice sponsored a Pankey Institute Dental Access Weekend in Hampton Roads. These resulted in about $250,000 in services being provided to participants.

Stull said she believes her role in setting up Pankey Institute Dental Access Weekends was a main reason she received the Pro in the Profession award, which carries a $1,500 prize. Another, she said, is her forging of an affiliation agreement with Virginia Commonwealth University’s Dental School that enlists fourth-year dental students as volunteers at the free clinic in Chesapeake where Stull has volunteered for the past 15 years. These students work at weekend events, and Stull’s coordination involves arranging preceptorships (practical training) and finding places for students to stay while they’re in Hampton Roads. The affiliation agreement has been in place for two years. The first year, Stull and the students provided $135,000 of donated dental services to underserved members in the community.

“None of these things I do alone,” Stull said. But she does acknowledge a very special call to service: “It’s always there, this passion to help those who haven’t been as fortunate as me.”

Michele Darby, the ODU Eminent Scholar and University Professor who chairs the dental hygiene program, nominated Stull for the Pro in the Profession award and summed up her colleague in these words: “Sharon epitomizes volunteerism, humanitarianism and commitment to people in need of dental care. She is one of those very special people who is able to engage people in a positive manner.”

Darby called the award “outstanding national recognition and achievement” that brings “honor to Sharon, our department and the university.”

Stull’s students were also quick to praise her upon learning of the award. “Ms. Stull was probably one of the most caring teachers (in) the dental hygiene program. She’s the reason why a lot of the dental hygiene students have the experience that they do in the community,” said Jennifer Uwanaka, a 2011 graduate of the dental hygiene program.

As for Stull, she said she’s been blessed with professional success to the point where “to give back is essential.” She said that, to her, it is important not to get wrapped up in self, but “to get wrapped around the problems of others.”
For the past 20 years I’ve taught nonfiction workshops to undergraduate and graduate students who have written about multiple abortions, serial affairs, repeated sexual abuse, alcoholism, chess games in which the players became the pieces, famous writers in love with hand puppets, and aliens who inhabited a narrator’s solar plexus.

Until the last few decades the writing workshop meant fiction or poetry. Only in recent years has nonfiction become part of the creative writing academy, accepted as a literary art. And that makes sense: nonfiction can work the language like a poem, and it can tell a tale with the narrative depth of a short story or novel.

What makes nonfiction different, of course, is that it’s not supposed to make things up. It’s meant to stick to what actually happened. Certainly, that places some limitations on the writer, as well as offers some opportunities for making a story immediate and compelling.

In nonfiction workshops, instructors and students alike examine structure, characterization, the balance of showing and telling, the relationship between scene and exposition, the consistency of the voice and point of view, word choice and tone in pretty much the same way those in other genres would. Nonfiction workshops, like those in poetry and fiction, seek to examine a piece of writing from within, to see it as the writer had, to discover what a piece of prose means in order to assist it in meaning more honestly and powerfully.

However, there is a crucial difference between a nonfiction workshop and its near cousins. At the end of the nonfiction class, that writer stands up as memoirist or reporter or essayist, declaring that the story is his or her experience or observation, be it first- or secondhand. The writer, in this sense, often becomes the elephant with a trunk full of psychological baggage standing unacknowledged in the room. For the instructor that can mean he feels more like Sigmund Freud than Frank Conroy. And that’s OK, I suppose, as long as the instructor doesn’t take on a Viennese accent.

In nonfiction workshops, we may not be able to suspend disbelief, but we have to distend our sense of what a story means, to forget for those hours of the class that the author is there, was there, and can never fully hide from the narrative. As long as the instructor recognizes the real plot of nonfiction courses, then he/she will not be taken off guard by any revelations that could transform the class from writing workshop into group therapy session.

Whether the piece is reportage, essay, or memoir, to one degree or another, some secret is revealed about the narrator or a central character in the piece. In poetry and fiction workshops, D.H. Lawrence’s wisdom can be invoked — “Trust the tale, not the teller.” Or an instructor can murmur about intentional
In the workshop we leave the romantic and Byronic writer behind; that person can appear in a hot tub at a writers’ retreat at Sandbridge. For the record, the actual writing life is about doubt, rejection, endless hours sitting in a chair staring at unimaginably blank pages and screens, and intermittent moments of grace and satisfaction and success that lead to more doubt, rejection and sitting. In the workshop, the writer disappears and his/her work takes center stage.

**Pearson’s Golden Rules**

1. **In the workshop we leave the romantic and Byronic writer behind; that person can appear in a hot tub at a writers’ retreat at Sandbridge. For the record, the actual writing life is about doubt, rejection, endless hours sitting in a chair staring at unimaginably blank pages and screens, and intermittent moments of grace and satisfaction and success that lead to more doubt, rejection and sitting. In the workshop, the writer disappears and his/her work takes center stage.**

2. **Our focus: a close reading of the words on the page. Writing may ultimately be a test of character, but the only character we challenge in the classroom is the one made of words. For an hour or so the writer of those words is invisible.**

3. **We are here to study the craft of making stories, and in the business of producing writing, not writers. John Barth said that not even in America, the land of grandiose dreams, could one “major in Towering Literary Artistry.” Let’s keep our eyes on the specific, human landscape of storytelling and leave transcendence for now to the angels.**

4. **Kierkegaard said, “If a man cannot forget, he will never amount to much.” The workshop should teach us not only how to write but how to read, how to think about our writing. Sometimes the most important lesson we can learn in workshop is what not to do. In this respect, reading the stories of our peers is as important as listening to advice about our own work. Becoming a writer means becoming a more scrupulous reader, knowing what to listen to and what to resist.**

5. **In terms of the creative act, keep in mind both Keats’ notion of Negative Capability and Wordsworth’s idea of “emotion recollected in tranquility.” The writer must be of two minds – passionate, immersed, open-hearted and analytical, distant, critical, all at the same time. But also remember this is a nonfiction workshop and Keats’ definition of Negative Capability as the writer’s ability to compose an imaginative work “without an irritable grasping after fact” might not absolutely fit our purposes. We strive to be creative and seek Truth while staying within the boundaries of factual truth.**

6. **Creativity in nonfiction comes not in making things up but in seeing the world clearly, in organizing the disparate details of experience, in re-creating character and scene, in reflecting with wisdom on the story we are expressing.**

7. **At times the workshop experience can seem to be one long thunderous NO. The most important element the workshop offers is not praise but a critical reading, a questioning, of language, style, tone, plot, point of view. But the grace and beauty, the successes, of a story should not be lost in the inclination to offer constructive criticisms. Therefore, we will begin all discussions with a recounting of what works in the piece, and we will conclude – always – with a reiteration of what is excellent in a story and how that can be built on to make the story the writer seeks to create.**

8. **We examine structure, point of view, tone, characterization, dialogue, scene, setting, exposition, the balance of showing and telling in a narrative, but what the writing workshop may teach, by implication, is the habit of writing – humility, patience, dedication, attentiveness, bravery.**

9. **Keep in mind something John McPhee once said to me: “The most creative part of a piece of writing is the reader.” Write for what J.D. Salinger called the ideal reader, your best self. Make the same demands of your work that you make of your reader.**

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Who’s Posting Those ‘Jazzy’ Photos on Facebook?

It’s Music Department Chair John Toomey

When the U.S. Information Agency selected jazz musician and Old Dominion University faculty member John Toomey to be a cultural ambassador to Botswana, Africa, in 1991, no one guessed just how much the visit would expand his artistic horizons. He not only collected new experiences as a pianist, but also bought a camera and began a love affair with photography. The hobby has segued into a big production over the last few years, and many members of the Old Dominion University community are gaining an appreciation for his “eye” by following the John Toomey Facebook page.
“BEFORE DIGITAL AND FACEBOOK, I would just print out the pictures and put together albums. Thank God for digital! It’s very forgiving, and a great learning tool,” Toomey says.

When he became chair of ODU’s music department four years ago he started shooting most of the concerts and special events sponsored by the department. Then came ODU’s return to intercollegiate football and the formation of a marching band.

“That’s when things started to get pretty busy picture-wise,” he says. “I post on Facebook all shots from events and the home games, and what started small has become quite a task.”

Marching band members, cheerleaders, football players, and especially their parents, are part of a large and appreciative audience. His pictures also are routinely used to promote music department recitals or for music student recruitment displays and brochures.

“I’ve actually started receiving emails from football players asking me to try to catch them via the camera. They provide their position and number. It’s funny!” Toomey says. “Several moms have approached me (on the sidelines) during the games thanking me for documenting every game.”

Toomey admits, however, that his favorite photo subject is his 7-year-old daughter, Charlotte, and he prefers to think of himself as simply a dad who owns a good camera. “I love to take pictures as a hobby, but I’m not close to professional level.”

True or not, Toomey is definitely professional level as a jazz musician, and has been recognized as one of the state’s top music teachers. In 2000, a decade after he joined the ODU faculty, he won an Outstanding Faculty Award from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

A professor of music, he directs the ODU Jazz Choir and teaches jazz improvisation and the history of jazz. He has toured with trumpet legend Maynard Ferguson, with whom he recorded two albums, and is well known regionally for his John Toomey Trio. He also has written soundtracks for the History Channel, the Discovery Channel and NBC.

-Jim Raper
Working with some of the leading physicists, biotechnologists, geologists, nuclear experts, mathematicians, patent experts, software engineers, and even, on occasion, Bill Gates himself would intimidate some people. Not Adriane M. Brown. As president and chief operating officer of Intellectual Ventures, a global leader in the business of invention, Brown moves comfortably among some of the leading technologists and legal minds in the country. “It’s all about being comfortable in your own skin,” she says. “I bring a different point of view that unleashes bold thinking. There are many ways of contributing, and it doesn't always require you to be the smartest in the room. If you’re not willing to be who you are, then that’s not smart.”

“It’s OK to be uncomfortable and to have to work a little harder for something important to you. Do things because they are the right things to do, not because you expect rewards or recognition. And be true to yourself and your values.” — Adriane M. Brown

Satisfied? Now Let It

Adriane Brown Bets on Herself, and Wins

By Marcia Cronin
All Go!
That’s the message Brown brought to Old Dominion University students when she spoke at the May 2011 commencement ceremony. Brown, who graduated from ODU in 1980 with a bachelor’s degree in environmental health and returned in 2009 to receive an honorary doctorate, urged the graduates to be comfortable with who they are and what they’ve accomplished.

But she told them not to stop there. “Enjoy this moment—and this day,” she said. “Be proud of what you’ve achieved. Feel comfortable with who you are and what you have become. ... Do you feel that sense of satisfaction and comfort?”

“Good! Now, be prepared to let it all go.”

That’s not an easy lesson, but it’s one Brown lives by. She likes to quote the late French critic and essayist Charles Du Bos: “The important thing is this: to be able at any moment to sacrifice what we are for what we could become.”

Entreating the graduates to take risks, Brown told them: “The truth is that it’s only when we’re willing to think the unthinkable, to take unorthodox action, to set aside our comfort … that we can truly unleash the unlimited power of our minds and the endless force of our creative spirit.”

Brown understands that people crave comfort and that it is important to be comfortable with yourself and your values. The kind of comfort she confidently tosses aside is that of conventional thinking and business-as-usual—the kind that keeps people in the same job, the same niche, the same thinking, day after day and year after year.

“Get comfortable exploring things outside of your comfort zone and from that come extraordinary opportunities and experiences,” she says. “It’s about believing in what’s possible—to create your own reality and not buy into other people’s reality for you. Create your own, even though at times you may not always know what that reality will be.”

In an interview, Brown explained how she began her career path at ODU. “I wasn’t sure what I wanted to be when I grew up, so I was hoping to find my place in college. I picked ODU because I wanted to go to a really good school, but had limited means. ODU provided a great education at a reasonable cost. When I read about the Environmental Health Program, the light bulb went off. I knew the field was just emerging and would only get more important.”

“I picked it not knowing exactly how I would use it,” she recalled. “It has served me well and I have led two businesses that have a significant positive impact on the environment.”

She went on to get a master’s in management from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the two degrees—plus her own bold spirit—helped shape a highly successful career, much of it connected to protecting the environment.

At Corning Inc., she was appointed to run the company’s automotive catalytic converter business in the Americas and Asia and eventually became vice president and general manager of Corning’s Environmental Products Division.

After 19 years at Corning, Brown moved to Honeywell where she would rise to become president and CEO of Honeywell Transportation Systems. Her environmental background helped her run Honeywell’s $5 billion automotive business, the world’s largest turbocharger manufacturer, which creates fewer emissions through better fuel economy.

At age 50, when many people have settled into a comfortable job and routine, Brown made a bold move, accepting the job as president and COO of Intellectual Ventures, a relatively young company in the Puget Sound area of Washington state. Leaving 30 years of the corporate world behind and going to a young private company illustrated, once again, her willingness to take risks. “I had a choice,” she said, “and I chose the untraditional and the unfamiliar because I wanted to experience the growth and the challenge and step up and redfine myself again as related to the needs of that organization.”

The move to Intellectual Ventures paid off. Brown is enjoying the challenge of leading an organization that both invests in invention and directly comes up with solutions to the problems in today’s world. The company is currently focusing on inventions in energy and climate change, medical technologies and information and computer technologies, among others.

One Intellectual Ventures project that Brown is especially proud of is its efforts to eradicate malaria, such as through epidemiological modeling and the development of a laser-powered photonic fence to identify and kill parasite-carrying mosquitoes. “Mosquito nets are not enough when a child dies every 30 seconds somewhere in the world,” she says. “It is a big world problem that will take a lot of effort and resources. We are making progress.”

Another project that has captured her imagination is Intellectual Venture’s inventive approach to nuclear energy, which would produce safe, sustainable and emission-free energy. TerraPower, a spinoff company, is working to develop a traveling wave reactor that uses nuclear waste to create energy, rather than requiring refined weapons-grade material. “Imagine being able to take away the negatives of nuclear power,” she says. This is one of the projects in which Bill Gates, an investor in IV, has been involved.

“I am so pleased with the past 15 months,” Brown says, especially because of the ability to have an impact on an organization that is doing something profound in the world by creating an invention capital market. “As COO, I create a rhythm for the business. I ensure that we have the right people with the right focus. Through alignment of what’s important to us, we deliver results.”

Despite her many successes, Brown’s climb up the corporate ladder was not always easy, and she’s quick to credit the many people who helped her along the way. She did not grow up in the
As a young business leader at Corning, Brown attended automotive conferences all over the world, where often she didn’t know a soul. “What was I going to do? Just skip the cocktail hour because I didn’t know anyone, or walk in and put myself out there? I’d walk in. And sometimes everyone would be wearing a blue suit. Sometimes I’d wear a red suit just to put an exclamation point on it and to say, ‘I have arrived, and I will be counted.’”

Occasionally she would be the only woman or the only African American at gatherings of automotive or aerospace executives, but rather than let that bother her, she would work to change it. “One of my philosophies is, ‘Let your work speak the loudest.’ But first you have to be seen and recognized as a part of the industry. In a room of blue suits, I don’t worry about the past or whether they think I should be there or not. I want to be counted, and I want to make the future better. The next time I go in there, maybe there will be five women or 15 women. That gives me great personal satisfaction.”

Mentorship—both behind-the-scenes and face-to-face—remains important to Brown, only now she’s more often the mentor than the mentee. In addition to mentoring others in the workplace, she’s on the board of directors of Jobs for America’s Graduates (JAG), a dropout prevention program, a cause that she has been eager to take up.

“Twenty-five percent of our young people don’t graduate from high school,” she says. “It’s because of their sense of helplessness and lack of possibility.” JAG mentors these at-risk students, helping to create possibilities for them and tracking their progress.

As chair of the JAG Management Development and Job Development committees, she seeks national corporate partners who need part-time student employees and will give preferential interviews to JAG participants. “We work with kids who are the least likely to succeed, and we turn them into productive citizens, with a 90 percent-plus graduation rate nationally,” she boasts. “These are highly motivated kids, and they’re fabulous employees. We also track them for a year post-graduation from high school. We have a very good success rate.”

Another favorite cause is STEM education—science, technology, engineering and math—for girls and women. Brown recognizes that more women role models are needed in these traditionally male-dominated areas, so she works with STEM organizations, speaks at events and talks with girls about the possibilities open to them in the STEM fields. She tries to demonstrate through her own experiences that it’s OK to be uncomfortable about something, but that doesn’t mean you don’t do it. “We practice this at home with my own daughter, who is 12, ensuring that she understands the power and importance of math,” Brown says.

Brown’s many efforts and successes were recognized in 2009 when she was named one of Black Enterprise magazine’s 100 Most Powerful Executives in Corporate America. She also was named one of Fortune magazine’s Women to Watch in 2006, and Automotive News featured her on its list of the 100 leading women in the North American automotive industry in 2005.

But Brown isn’t resting on her laurels. “I’m not finished yet, and part of what I hope to do is complement my experience by serving on a public board of directors—something I’m passionate about and something I can commit time to. I feel like I have something to contribute.”
Photos with this article include those taken by Stewart Ferebee, such as magazine covers, and those taken of him. Below right, the photo of him and dog is a recent one. Above is a photo of Ferebee's father, John, who was a surfer at Virginia Beach in the 1940s.
By Bill Morris

IN THE BEGINNING there was the surfing – back in the day when Virginia Beach had some killer surf, and a scene to go with it. Then came the music – playing guitar in a punk band that had an actual chance to go places, but didn’t manage to go there. Then came the painting, followed by the photography and now, years later, there is the writing – a magazine article on the history of surfing in Virginia Beach that got so out of control, like some rogue wave, that it’s now well on its way to becoming a book.

This, so far, has been the life of Stewart Ferebee, who graduated from ODU in 1985 with a degree in fine arts. That life has literally come full circle, having taken Ferebee from the beaches of his boyhood to New York City, then all the way around the world shooting photographs for high-end travel, fashion and lifestyle magazines, and now right back to where he started from, Virginia Beach.

But let’s begin at the beginning. Ferebee was born in Norfolk in 1961, and a few years later his family moved to the soon-to-boom Thalia section of Virginia Beach. An uncle, Oscar Benson “O.B.” Ferebee, was instrumental in developing the Green Run and Princess Anne Plaza sections of the city, and Stewart’s father, John, had been a lifeguard at the Cavalier Beach Club and an avid surfer way back in the 1940s. While flying F-86 jets in the Korean War, John picked up a Japanese knockoff of a Leica camera.
When he got home from the war he started shooting pictures of surfers and local architecture and became an avid amateur photographer. That Leica clone was the first camera young Stewart ever used.

“Photography was always there because of my dad,” says Ferebee, who is pushing 50 but still speaks in the lingo and cadences of a surfer half his age – think of Jeff Bridges’s the Dude character in “The Big Lebowski.” “There was always a camera around the house, rolls of film, boxes of slides. When we asked for a slide show, our father was in heaven. He took wicked good pictures. They transcended home-movie type stuff. They had a reverence for family history and local history, and they gave me an ingrained interest in two-dimensional imagery.”

Another early influence was an aunt, Ann Ferebee, who attended ODU for two years before transferring to Barnard in New York City in 1951. After going to work for Time Inc. as a researcher, she would visit home with stories about the big-city writers and photographers she worked with. “She brought this alien element into this very old-school Norfolk milieu,” Ferebee remembers fondly. “The people she worked with had opinions about everything, and I didn’t have an opinion about anything.”

Ann, now 79 and still living in New York, muses, “I suppose it’s true Stewart could have seen me as this exotic Greenwich Village bohemian.”

At that time, Virginia Beach was approaching a seismic moment. A sleepy, laid-back beach town with an avid surfing scene was about to experience explosive growth in development, population and, especially, a certain kind of cookie-cutter tourism.

“I feel fortunate I got to see the very, very end of the cottage-hotel era,” he says. “It was this intense juxtaposition of archetypes – old cedar-shake cottages next to the cuckoo, post-deco hotel architecture of the ‘50s. It was this architectural cacophony.”

Anyone who has visited the oceanfront recently knows that the latter swallowed the former without even pausing to chew, and the results are not always pretty.

“Sadly,” Ferebee says, “the mentality of the powers that be was to make...
everything a Hilton experience. People want everything homogeneous. That’s sad because Virginia Beach could have been a wild amalgam of Wildwood and Cape May, New Jersey. Now it’s just bling. And the city crammed all the surfers into a tiny area – that three-block insane asylum.”

For Ferebee, the end came when the Steel Pier at First Street, a magnet for surfers, burned in the late 1970s. By then he was into painting and music, playing guitar in a punk band called Brigade that eventually became Krokodile Tears. After graduating from Princess Anne High School in 1979, Ferebee spent a year at Tidewater Community College, where he made a super-8 millimeter movie about the band. This led him deeper into photography.

“There wasn’t any genesis moment,” he says. “By the time I started at ODU in 1981, nobody could make the imagery of the band we wanted – blurry, ambiguous, low-resolution. I enrolled in Wally Dreyer’s photography course to get access to the darkroom so I could develop my own negatives. I wanted exposures with real slow shutter speeds and Wally said, ‘Hmm, interesting. Well, if that’s the way you want to go, do a lot of it.’ He was very encouraging. All of the art teachers were open, as long as you were going at it fully, whole-heartedly. They wanted to see that it wasn’t just some willy-nilly thing. They wanted to see you focusing on something, which is how a style comes about. I was going for something that would allow the brain to fill in what the eye didn’t see. I didn’t realize that until 25 years later.”

Other teachers who influenced Ferebee were the art historian Linda McGreevy, the painters Robert McCullough, Ron Snapp and Jean Kondo – Weigl, and the photographer David Johnson.

“David didn’t limit the photography classroom just to photography,” Ferebee says. “He’d talk about music, cars, history. He was so loose and free-form – he was trying to get us away from a myopic focus on just photography. In my book, that’s the most important thing you can learn about anything – art, acting, writing, everything. Specialization is for businessmen and scientists, not artists.”

As Ferebee’s senior year drew to a close, Krokodile Tears caught the interest of the producer Keith Levene, who’d helped form The Clash and wanted to record the Krokodile Tears in New York. But the ODU administration notified Ferebee that he was three credits shy of the graduation requirements, and so he had to stay behind in Norfolk to finish up. It was a bitter pill, and the band fizzled in his absence. When he finally made it to New York, he was in for some rude shocks.

“The first thing I figured out was that I didn’t want anything to do with the art world,” he says. “I felt like it was a Mafia. If you’re going to do anything in that world you’ve got to be an avid surfer, and then you’ve got to become a blood drinker. It turned me off.”

He got a job in a take-out burrito restaurant called The Kitchen (not to be confused with the famed performance space) in Chelsea, which wound up standing in for his version of Schwab’s drugstore in Hollywood. “All kinds of creative people came in there – Tom Waits, Debbie Harry, Joey Ramone,” he says. “One day a guy walked in and said he needed a photographer’s assistant. I didn’t know what that was, but I knew I was miser-
eight months with Mueller, he was ready to go out on his own. If the time with Mueller was like prep school, the next five years with Richard Imrie were like getting a master’s degree. A Scot with a taste for the finer things in life – he drove a black-and-blue Bentley like the David Hemmings character in “Blow-Up” – Imrie did shoots for British Vogue, Tatler, American Express and other high-end clients. “I was learning a craft and I was learning life stuff,” Ferebee says. “Richard had a genius for craft and I was learning life stuff.”

Ferebee’s aunt Ann regards the time spent with Imrie as a pivotal phase. “That apprenticeship was the real breakthrough for Stewart,” she says. “That was when he managed to break the middle-class Virginia mold, and I salute him for that.”

Ferebee had begun taking pictures on his own, building a portfolio and showing it around London, which was then, along with Milan and Paris, a world capital of commercial photography. But that creative axis was about to tip. Around 1990, there was a major shift to New York, and it was there that Ferebee met Martha Stewart, then in her phase of empire building. He shot odds and ends for Seventeen and Sassy and other magazines. In 1993 he shot his first cover for Martha Stewart Living magazine, in black and white at a time when color was the rage. The magazine world took notice.

“At that point the phone started ringing,” Ferebee says. “I got in with Travel + Leisure and got one cover after another. It’s funny. I was too fashion-y for the travel people, and I was too travel-y andarty for the fashion people. But that became what’s known as ‘lifestyle’ photography, and it became my niche.”

The niche sent him all over the world for Travel + Leisure, Vogue, Harper’s Bazaar and W – from Venezuela to Switzerland, Moscow, Dubai, Tokyo and Bali. In 2004 Ferebee pulled the plug on New York City and moved 120 miles east to the tip of Long Island, where some serious waves rumble across the North Atlantic and wash ashore at the town of Montauk. Ferebee needs eight words to explain the move – “because I wanted to surf all the time.” He still worked, but now he had the luxury of picking his jobs.

When his father’s health began to fail, Ferebee came back to Virginia Beach in 2009 to be with him. He called Virginia Living magazine and got hired to shoot the Blandfield Plantation in Tappahannock for the February 2010 cover. During the shoot the creative director overheard Ferebee talking about something he loves to talk about – surfing – and eventually he asked Ferebee if he would be interested in shooting the pictures for a planned article on surfing in Virginia Beach. The answer was Yes, with a qualification.

“I said I’d do it under the condition that they appoint an appropriate writer to the piece and not just send some random person who really doesn’t have any feel for surfing, and especially East Coast surfing,” Ferebee says. “They agreed. After I’d had some substantial email contact with the magazine, they got the idea I could connect some sentences together and they asked if I would write the article. I warned them that it would probably wind up sounding like Kerouac meets Joyce meets Marshall McLuhan – wordy and long-winded with few periods. Or something along those lines.”

The magazine said go for it. “So I took a crack at it and then really started getting into it, researched it thoroughly in many different ways, put heaps of time into it.

What I turned in was vast, and although the editor praised it, it was far too long for a simple magazine article. I’m working on a revision, but it remains to be seen how it will all come down. I write in this intertwined way where you can’t just go in and hack words out.

“There’s a rhythm to the prose where one line is inextricable from the one before it and the one after it, and so forth. It’s still unclear where we are with the thing. It may very well turn into a book.”

Ferebee’s father died from heart disease in February of last year at the age of 81. His mother, Meredith, is now 80, and he’s not inclined to go back to Montauk just yet. For now he’s happy living in a rented house two blocks from the ocean in Virginia Beach, working on what might or might not become a book, trying to figure out what comes next. A return to Montauk looks increasingly doubtful.

“Lately all the kooks from Manhattan have been going out there because surfing’s gotten so hot,” he says. “It’s been Gidget-ized. I don’t feel all that compelled to go back. Where I go next is a mystery. Paris? London? Mars? The future is unwritten.”

Bill Morris is the author of the novels “Motor City” [1993] and “All Souls’ Day” [1998].
PRIDE

Show your Monarch spirit in ODU alumni apparel

University Village Bookstore
Corner of 45th and Monarch Way | www.shopodu.com
WEDNESDAY, October 12
Homecoming Week officially kicks off when the Lion Fountain is colored Blue!

8 P.M., COMEDY SHOW, North Café, Webb Center
A good time is guaranteed at Comedy Central on Campus, featuring comedians TJ Miller, Jermaine Fowler and Nick Vatterott. For more information please contact Meghan Harr in the Office of Student Activities and Leadership at 757-683-3446.

THURSDAY, October 13
11 A.M., MONARCH PRIDE DAY, Kaufman Mall
Come out for hours of food, excitement and games, including the revealing of the 2011 Homecoming Court.

7 P.M., NPHC STEP SHOW at the Ted Constant Convocation Center. $5 for students, $10 for public. Doors open at 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, October 14
(We welcome the 50th Reunion Class from 1961!)
8:30 A.M., WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SERIES BREAKFAST, Barry M. Kornblau Alumni Center. Join women leaders in the area for this annual networking event.

NOON, FOUNDERS DAY LUNCH, Big Blue Room, Ted Constant Convocation Center. Share in the celebration of ODU and Civic leaders as the University and Town-N-Gown honor individuals who have made a significant impact at the university and Hampton Roads. Tickets are $20 each and may be purchased by contacting the Office of University Events at 757-683-5759.

4 P.M., POWDERPUFF CHAMPIONSHIP, Student Recreation Center

6 P.M., ALUMNI HONORS DINNER – Norfolk Marriott Waterside
The Alumni Association will honor its Distinguished Alumni, Honorary Alumni and Alumni Service award winners. We will also be recognizing our 50th reunion class members. Tickets $100 each, sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 757-683-3097 for more information.

6 P.M., BLACK ALUMNI CHAPTER SOCIAL, Baxter’s Restaurant
Join members of the BAC for this no-host social at Baxter’s, 500 Granby St., Norfolk. Registration required, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 757-683-3097 to RSVP.

8 P.M., CONCERT @ TED – Headliner: J. Cole & Big Sean with special guest Kids These Days.

SATURDAY, October 15
9 A.M., ODU TODAY, Barry M. Kornblau Alumni Center
Hear from ODU administrators how ODU has evolved over the years and what lies ahead.

10 A.M.–9 P.M., OPEN HOUSE, Student Recreation Center
Tour the center and learn about the programs and services it offers alumni and the community.

11 A.M., HOMECOMING PARADE, Monarch Way
Prime viewing spots are along Monarch Way, 49th Street and 43rd Street.

NOON, HALL OF FAME LUNCH, Lobby, Ted Constant Convocation Center
The annual athletics Hall of Fame induction will include recognition of outstanding former student athletes Tiffany Snow (field hockey), Hamchetou Maiga Ba (women’s basketball), Tim Hummel (baseball), Geoff Harris (men’s golf), and Keith Thomas (men’s basketball). Tickets are $25 each and may be purchased by contacting Jackie Barrow at 757-683-3359.

12:30 P.M., KAUFMAN MALL TAILGATE FANFEST
Gather in the center of campus on Kaufman Mall for the pregame festivities! There will be live music, the Alumni Association Tailgate Tent and games for the kids. Don’t forget to cheer on the team during their traditional Monarch March and enjoy a performance by the ODU Marching Band.

3:30 P.M., FOOTBALL GAME, Foreman Field at S.B. Ballard Stadium
The Monarchs take on the Tigers of Towson. BAC members will be hosting a watch party in House of Blue in Webb Center.

2011
HOMECOMING
OCTOBER 12-16
Come Catch the Big Blue Wave during Homecoming 2011!

“We’re growing the pride.”

According to Wikipedia, the University of Missouri stakes its claim to having the first “annual Homecoming centered around a parade and a football game” in 1911. While I can’t comment on the historical accuracy of this information, I can’t help but think how that might have looked 100 years ago, compared to now. For example, I’m fairly sure they didn’t tailgate on industrial-sized grills, and I know for a fact that no one was watching the day’s other big games on 42-inch HDTVs. (Although they may have been playing cornhole, as its origins go back to the 14th century. Thank you again, Wikipedia.)

Here, in 2011, ODU offers you a variety of ways to come back and participate in Homecoming. A full schedule can be found at left, but you’ll see that we, too, offer a parade and football game, just as Mizzou did last century. However, there’s also a comedy show, an honors dinner, leadership breakfast and much more. And unlike the Tiger alumni from long ago, you can easily access the full updated schedule online at odualumni.org.

If you haven’t been back to campus for Homecoming or otherwise, I encourage you to find something that fits with your schedule and make your way back to Norfolk. And if you’re not that far away, don’t think that Homecoming isn’t for you! It doesn’t matter how many or how few miles you put on the odometer to get here, we just want to see you back.

When you’re here, we’d be pleased, too, if you’d stop by the Kornblau Alumni Center to say hello and let us know what you’re up to these days.

Of course, we understand that it may not be possible for you to be here in person. In that case, why not bring the spirit of Homecoming to where you are? You can visit the bookstore online to order the official T-shirt or other items. And how about wearing some ODU gear to work between Oct. 12–16 and sending us a picture of you sporting your Monarch Pride? Our email is odualumni@odu.edu.

Better yet, stream the game online and set up your own tailgate party at home. We’d love to see pictures of just how creative you can get.

Please know that Old Dominion is your home all year long, even if there’s no big game. And with enough advance notice, I’m willing to gather a few other folks and march around the alumni center for a mini-parade in your honor.

-Dana Allen
Assistant Vice President for Alumni Relations
New Achievement for Former City Manager

George L. Hanbury II Becomes Nova Southeastern President

George L. Hanbury II (M.P.A. ’77) is remembered in southeastern Virginia as the dapper, hard-charging city manager of Virginia Beach and Portsmouth in the 1970s and 1980s. His career also included an early stint as an assistant city manager in Norfolk, his native city.

But in Florida, where he moved in 1990 to become city manager of Fort Lauderdale, he has blazed another career path.

In April he wore the robe of an academic as he was formally installed as the president of Nova Southeastern University in Broward County. The institution has an enrollment of 29,000 and is the seventh largest not-for-profit university in the country.

After serving as Fort Lauderdale’s city manager for nearly a decade, Hanbury took an administrative post at Nova Southeastern. He said at his investiture ceremony in April that his move from city governance to university governance had been at the suggestion of a friend he had known since they were boys in Norfolk. That friend, Edward Brickell, was a guest speaker at the investiture ceremony. A longtime superintendent of schools in Virginia Beach, Brickell, too, shifted gears late in his working life to become president of Eastern Virginia Medical School.

Nova Southeastern’s board of trustees voted in 2010 to elevate Hanbury, who had been serving as the university’s senior financial officer, to the presidency. The investiture in April led to him officially receiving the title of president and chief executive officer on July 1.

Hanbury is also active in civic affairs in the Fort Lauderdale area. He has been recognized for his leadership by organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America, Fort Lauderdale Riverwalk Trust, Leadership Broward Foundation, Rotary Foundation of Rotary International and the American Diabetes Association.

He currently serves on the boards of the Florida Lambda Rail, the Broward County Library Foundation, and the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County. He was a founding member of the Broward Partnership for the Homeless.

STAY CONNECTED The Lion’s Den provides alums with a free, online connection to the Old Dominion University Alumni Association. Membership is exclusive to ODU alumni. Once you have registered, you can use the Lion’s Den online community to share information about yourself through online postings, and to submit Class Notes and other news to Monarch Magazine.

Get more information about The Lion’s Den at http://www.alumniconnections.com/odualumni/.

As members, you also can search a secure online database of other registered alumni; update your information with the Alumni Association; and upload your resume and search the resumes of other registered alums.
Edward Blanks ’65 retired after 45 years in architecture. He received his AAAS from the university and worked for local firms for 14 years before starting his own practice. As of June 2010, Edward had completed 31 years of mostly residential design work.

Jim Dincalci ’68, founder and CEO of The Forgiveness Foundation, is also the author of “How to Forgive When You Can’t: The Breakthrough Guide to Free Your Heart & Mind,” published in 2010. The book has received three national awards, and is being published in German, French, Spanish and Korean. In 1993, Jim had a personal forgiveness transformation. Since then, he has taught forgiveness workshops for large and small groups and in his private counseling practice.

Elton Winslow ’68 retired on June 30, 2011, after eight years as headmaster of Ridgecroft School in Ahoskie, N.C. He previously retired after 30 years of service in Gates County Public Schools. Elton writes that he is looking forward to hunting, fishing, sailing and spending time with his four grandchildren. He will continue to serve as the mayor of Gatesville, N.C.

Margaret Nix Windley ’68 (M. A. ’92) was reappointed to the Portsmouth History Commission. This will be her fourth term serving on the commission.

Judge Gene A. Woolard, ’68 was re-elected for a two-year term as chief judge of the Virginia Beach General District Court. He has served on the bench since 2004, and his present term expires in 2016. He is also a member of the James Kent Inns of Court and an ex-officio member of the Chesapeake Bay Alcohol Safety Action Program.

Doug Moore ’69 writes that since graduating from ODU and from the University of Virginia’s M.B.A. program in 1971, he worked until his recent retirement at Newport News Shipbuilding. He and his wife, Anna, have two children, both of whom have attained their master’s degrees—one from Virginia Tech, and the other from Missouri State University’s Northern Virginia campus.

Reese Lukei ’70 is a volunteer research associate for the Center for Conservation Biology at the College of William and Mary. She was an operator of the live bald eagle web-cam at Norfolk Botanical Garden. See www.WVEC.com/eaglcam. Reese also writes these blogs: http://eaglenest.blogs.wm.edu and http://eagletrek.blogs.wm.edu.

Lea Fowlie ’72 retired from the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives on Sept. 30, 2010, after more than 36 years of service.

Mike Stoneham ’73 writes that he has retired again, this time from the city of Franklin, at the end of March. He and his wife, Linda, have planned several short trips for the summer in their travel trailer. Next year, they are planning another cross-country tour for several months.

Pamela Patterson Dickerson ’74, currently chairs the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Commission on Accreditation, and serves as president of PRN Continuing Education, an Ohio-based continuing nursing education provider. In October 2010, Pamela received the President's Award for leadership in advancing the mission and goals of ANCC.

Stavropol State Agrarian University invited Jan Dray ’74 to lecture for a semester on American history and culture, intercultural communication, and civil society and tolerance as a visiting professor. The university is located in the North Caucasus region of Russia. Classes are held in English. In addition, Jan worked with the Russia Peace Foundation to promote the development of charitable foundations in Russia and took part in the international conference, “Ways of Peaceful Interaction in Modern Society,” held at Stavropol SAU.

Frederick Radcliffe ’74 is the administrator for Fort Walton Beach Developmental Center in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. The facility provides residential services to individuals with developmental disabilities and/or mental health issues. Frederick has been involved with this type of work for over 35 years.

Melvina Noel (Ed.D. ’75) is the owner of Write4U, LLC. She is also the founder/director of Noel Hugging Buddies, a nonprofit that provides stuffed animals to cancer patients. She recently authored the book “How to Thrive in College,” a comprehensive preventative tool that will help protect college students from the vicissitudes of life at a university.

Phyllis Begley-Bookbinder ’75 is in private practice in Western Montana. She recently completed training as a past-life regression therapist. Phyllis moved to Montana with friends from ODU in 1976, and stayed there. She has four grown children, three of whom are in Seattle, and one in New York City. Phyllis writes, “I have three grandkids and another due in November. I have been involved in politics and community planning, and I love fly-fishing and going to Hawaii.” She would love to hear from any of her old friends.

Yvonne Wilson Boone ’79 exhibited her artwork in recent shows. A sampling includes: The Tidewater Art Alliance Members Portfolio Exhibit, d’Art Center, Norfolk; the Tidewater Art Alliance Juried Exhibition at the Charles H. Taylor Arts Center, Hampton; the 30th Annual Juried Miniature Art Show, El Dorado Gallery, Colorado Springs, Colo.; and the 12th annual National Miniature Show, Prairie Winds Art Center, Grand Island, Neb.

Lisa Summs Soorani ’80 recently retired from Norfolk Public Schools after teaching mathematics at Granby High School for 30 years.

Shirley Baird ’81 worked for 10 years at Chesapeake General Hospital in the Cardiac Telemetry unit following graduation, progressing from RNA to unit director. One of her greatest joys is using her nursing experiences to mentor her granddaughter, who is presently completing her second year in nursing at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Va. Shirley would love to hear from anyone from the 1981 era and may be reached at 540-885-8116.

Denise Pastore Roane ’81 is currently retired. She wrote to share some of her past accomplishments, which include her induction as a charter member of ODU’s Sigma Theta Tau-Epsilon Chi chapter of the National Nursing Honor Society in 1981. In 1987, she received the Sierra Club Excellence Award in Vir-
Virginia for environmental activism and also began her ministry in Appalachia in housing for youth and adults. She earned degrees from the Medical College of Virginia and worked in nursing/community health and as a family nurse practitioner until 2000. Since 2000, she has been a volunteer prison chaplain with Prison Fellowship and Established Footsteps Ministry.

Kim Jersild Roberts ’81 recently moved to Richmond, Va., and works at Bon Secours St. Mary’s Hospital. She has been a CRNA for 20 years.

Mary Jaquet Gibson B.S.N. ’82 (M.S.N. ’06) currently works as a family nurse practitioner at Family Practice of Hampton Roads in Hampton. She and her husband, Gary, live in Yorktown. Mary returned to ODU for her master’s degree in nursing prior to becoming licensed as an FNP.

Rhonda [Ellsworth] White ’82 (M.S. ’92) received a doctorate of physical therapy from VCU in May 2013. She writes, “Technically, I am a Ram now; however, my educational roots are forever in ODU!”

Susan Wilks Bailey ’83, husband Bob, ’83, and their sons Peyton, 16, and Bryce, 11, are temporarily living in Towson, Md., while Peyton trains with the North Baltimore Aquatic Club.

Barbara Frederick Taylor ’83 is a financial advisor for Morgan Stanley Smith Barney. She writes: “I have the pleasure and satisfaction of helping individuals and business owners establish financial goals, work on a plan to meet those goals, and actively monitor their progress toward success.” She encourages alumna to call her at 410-736-5575.

Michael Lucas ’84 recently accepted a position at U.S. European Command, Stuttgart, Germany, as the Division Chief for Logistics Support. Michael previously worked as a comptroller with the U.S. Navy.

Christine Heine Mueller ’84 was named to the School of Nursing Endowed Long-Term Care Professorship at the University of Minnesota.

Barrett Schmanska ’84 has been working as a construction manager for the Port Gamble Sklallam Indian Reservation located outside of Seattle. He recently published a book titled “Shuskan Descent” with Bennett & Hastings Publishing that is available exclusively as a Kindle download.

Tracey Arehart ’85 was recently honored for volunteerism by Soroptimists International. She was recognized for contributing her time and talents to organizations in the community that include the American Cancer Society, the Upper Tampa Bay Chamber of Commerce and Hyde Park United Methodist Church.

Bill Hale ’85 is the vice president of national accounts with Van Zyverden Inc. He received a distinguished service award during a ceremony on May 26, 2011, in Meridian, Miss. He has been with Van Zyverden for 15 years, and has worked in the Dutch flower bulb business for the past 24 years. Additionally, he is celebrating his 20th wedding anniversary with his bride, Wendie. He writes, “Together we have two wonderful boys, Connor, 7, and Tyler, 5. Go BIG BLUE!”

Sharon Nagle Olmstead ’85 recently accepted a position at Novartis in Rockville, Md., as vice president of global development and regulatory policy. She was recently employed at Merck as head of U.S. regulatory policy.

Danielle Flanagan Roby ’87 was recently promoted to the position of senior coordinator, music education, from her former position of choral director/department chair at Norfolk Public Schools. Danielle writes that she is “thankful for the opportunity to continue the work of fellow ODU alum Beth Hazelette in my capacity as the senior coordinator of music for Norfolk PS.”

Kimberly Hughes Phillips ’88 opened the law firm Phillips & Peterson, PLLC, in October 2010. Located in Norfolk, the firm focuses on family law, including divorce, custody, visitation, support, adoption, simple wills, and mediations. Kimberly is married to Colonel Jimmy Phillips, ’88. They have two children, Austin and Faith.

1990s

Shawn Walker ’91 has been named director of field operations by the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Bureau of Law Enforcement. He will be responsible for field investigations, industry compliance, training and education. Walker has been with ABC for 17 years. Walker began his law enforcement career as a patrol officer with the Old Dominion University Police Department.

Nancy Merhige Watts ’91 writes that she has “one son and two beautiful grandchildren living in San Francisco with a lovely daughter-in-law.” She is working part time for Blackbox Federal and as an environmental program manager for COMNAVSECGRU. She was widowed in March 2006 and lives in Annapolis, Md., with her chocolate Lab, Lucky Dog.

Hisham Ashur ’93 recently started a new online engineering continuing education service at PDH Source, LLC, located in Charlottesville, Va. He writes, “ODU Engineers: Please ‘Like’ us on Facebook at: http://www.facebook.com/pages/PDH-Source/175744265774461”

Jay Vergara ’93 wrote to share the ODU story of his family. He writes, “There are four Filipino children of Clem and Fe Vergara: Joey, Mitzi, Leah and Jay. We grew up in Norfolk, which was my father’s last Navy duty station in 1977. We are all graduates of...”
From Desk Job to Brewery Owner

Justin MacDonald Is Producing Beers and Ales in Virginia Beach

Justin MacDonald ’08 (MBA ’10) is one of those fortunate people who can say he loves what he does for a living. He’s president and founder of Beach Brewing Co. in Virginia Beach. Last October MacDonald’s dream came true when Beach Brewing first opened its doors for business. Since then, he has been busy brewing beer on the weekdays and serving it up in the tasting room on the weekends.

The 28-year-old entrepreneur found his passion for beer-making while he was at ODU working toward his undergraduate degree in economics. “It was a hobby for me. I home-brewed all through college,” but he insists that it wasn’t to save money. Home-brewing takes a lot of time and dedication, but the end result is what makes it worthwhile, he explained.

While working on his master’s degree, Justin took a job with a large company in Norfolk, but quickly realized that sitting at a desk wasn’t for him. So he decided to take matters into his own hands and combine his passion with his job.

After years of planning, Beach Brewing finally came to fruition with MacDonald as the mastermind behind the operation. “It’s the hardest thing I’ve ever done, running my own business,” MacDonald said. Working between 70-80 hours a week can be grueling, but he would much rather do what he loves than sit behind a desk with a bigger paycheck. “I just knew it wasn’t for me; it’s not what I loved.”

Beach Brewing makes a set lineup of beers year round and also fits in seasonal brews. On the list recently were Bullhead Brown Ale, Hammerhead IPA, Hurricane Wheat, Killer Whale, Tigershark Red and Hoptopus Double IPA.

Because the business is still very small, he is able to be involved in every step of the process, ensuring a quality product. MacDonald would like to see the business expand, but for now is happy with the way things are going. The tasting room is open Friday through Sunday, and the proprietor offers up free samples to allow customers to settle on the best brew for them.

As a successful, young entrepreneur, MacDonald’s advice for establishing a career is simple: “Find something that you are passionate about. If you don’t like what you are doing, you aren’t going to succeed.”

(Beach Brewing is at 2585 Horse Pasture Road, #204, Virginia Beach. Phone: 757-563-2337. Open Friday 3-8 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m.–8 p.m.; Sunday 1-6 p.m.)

—Lauren Scolamiero ’10
Charles Brown ‘99 is a nurse educator for Memorial Hospital of Jacksonville (Fla.). He manages more than 500 student nurses from 12 different universities and colleges and is responsible for the training of all staff patient care technicians. He recently received a $65,000 grant to boost nursing education and advanced R.N. certifications.

Monica Jill Brinkley Mizelle ‘99 was named as the Windsor (Va.) Middle School and Isle of Wight County Schools Middle Level Teacher of the Year. An educator since 2000, Jill has taught technology education at Windsor Middle School for the past four years. “I feel as though I am home now,” Mizelle wrote. She received her B.S. in occupational and technical studies with an emphasis in technology education. Her educational philosophy is that teachers should make sure their students are so engaged with the “cool” stuff, they don’t realize they are learning!

Dr. Romualdo V. Talento ‘99 (’01 M.S.; ’03 M.P.H.), who received his M.D. from Eastern Virginia Medical School in 2006, recently completed his residency training in anatomic/clinical pathology. He will begin a one-year, ACGME-accredited cytopathology fellowship at Pitt County Memorial Hospital in Greenville, N.C. He will then move to Nashville, Tenn., for a second fellowship in renal pathology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in July 2012.

2000s

Keith Clemente ‘00 recently achieved the status of LEED Accredited Professional in Building Design & Construction. He is a construction manager for Coakley Williams Construction Inc., a leader in constructing sustainable buildings in the Washington, D.C., area.

Sean Huggins ‘00 has been promoted to general manager for Victory Packaging Co. in Phoenix, Ariz. He has worked in sales in the packaging industry for eight years and was sales manager prior to his current role. He has been in Phoenix since 2005 and writes that his position is “the best move I’ve made in my career.”

The Peninsula Institute for Community Health (PICH) in Newport News recently selected Khalilah LeGrand ‘00 as its first-ever public relations and fund development director. The community healthcare nonprofit operates six medical and two dental practices in Hampton Roads. LeGrand was most recently employed by the city of Norfolk as the census coordinator for the 2010 U.S. Census, responsible for city-wide outreach efforts within the hard-to-count areas. She is the former Eastern Virginia director of the Virginia Minority Supplier Development Council. Khalilah is pursuing a doctorate in organizational leadership at Nova Southeastern University.

Crystal Johnson Wesselmann ‘00 used her nursing knowledge in 2005 to work on building an electronic medical record for Sentara Healthcare. In 2009, she became an independent healthcare IT consultant and now owns her own business. Crystal is currently working with Cedar Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, to help build and implement its electronic medical record. She writes, “This is a long way from working the evening shift in the emergency room, but I could not have done it without the excellent nursing education that I received at Old Dominion University.”

LaNae Briggs Budden ‘02 graduated from Nova Southeastern University with a doctor of education in organizational leadership on June 12. She became the dean of students at Columbia College, a women’s college in Columbia, S.C., on July 1.

Jason Gates ‘03 has been touring as a professional standup comedian since his second year at ODU in 1999 and has performed in major cities such as New York, Las Vegas and Los Angeles. He writes, “I became the iChooz.tv Standup King National Champion in 2008 and took second in the Yobi.tv global comedy competition. Comedy quickly led me to acting.” He has appeared in feature films such as “Transformers III.”

Ashley Smith Crowned Miss United States

Ashley Smith ‘10 had won several beauty pageants in southeastern Virginia, but had never placed first in a statewide contest. Then came 2011. She waltzed through the Virginia Miss United States qualifying pageant in April, and three months later was crowned as Miss United States 2011 in Las Vegas.

Smith, from Chesapeake, became only the second African American to win the Miss United States title in the competition’s 11 years of existence. She won a $10,000 prize and the opportunity to travel the nation to make public appearances and promote her personal cause of breast-cancer awareness.

“I was actually planning to take a year off from pageants to focus on school and work,” said Smith, 23. “But something inside of me told me to give it a shot.”

The Miss United States competition is a newer rival of the Miss America and Miss USA competitions.

Smith, a graduate of Oscar Smith High School in Chesapeake, earned a degree in communication from ODU, and is currently pursuing a master’s in journalism at Regent University.

She said she believes her communication expertise helped her ace the interview portion of the national contest, a key component of judging.

“My family and I used to make a big deal of watching pageants on TV,” Smith said. “I always thought those girls were so beautiful; I never imagined that would be me some day. Growing up, I didn’t have many friends and had very low self-esteem. Pageants helped me turn that around and today I’m able to help other young women who struggle with the same issue.”

Smith has worked hard to promote breast cancer awareness for the past eight years, even before she started entering pageants. Among her community service activities, she founded and serves as executive director of the Queen of P.I.N.K. Pageant, a fundraiser event in which all the entrants are breast cancer survivors.
than 30 examples of his work can be seen on his website: www.JayGates.net. Jason says, “My biggest accomplishment so far, however, is scoring season tickets to ODU football this year! GO-D-U!”

Lt. Monica D. Ormeno, MC, USN ‘03 writes, “After four years of training at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, I graduated from psychiatry residency in June 2011 and will be moving to be stationed as the new staff psychiatrist for Naval Hospital Guam in July. Hafa Adai!”

Naomi Pitcock ‘04 received an M.S.N. from the University of Virginia in May 2011. She will enter the DNP program at U.Va. in the fall of 2011.

Jennifer Dizon Rionda ‘04 recently accepted a position as a registered nurse at Sentara Healthcare in Norfolk. She writes, “After working in public relations in Washington, D.C., I moved back home to Hampton Roads to attend nursing school, passed the boards, and started working in a cardiac unit. It was a challenge, but I made it!”

Lakeisha Leevy ‘05 recently received a graduate certificate in human resource management from the Marymount University School of Business Administration in Arlington, Va.

Cindy Newman (M.S. ‘06) a Rural Retreat Middle School special education and resource teacher, was named Wythe–Bland, Va., Chamber of Commerce’s Teacher of the Year for Wythe County. Newman has been teaching for seven years. Before choosing the career path in education, she did social work with Mt. Roger’s Health District in western Virginia. Doug Brown, site director for ODU’s distance learning site at Wytheville Community College, is familiar with Newman’s work. “Cindy is a wonderful, caring person and I knew that she would make an outstanding teacher. She is one of those students who is an absolute joy to work with and makes you proud to have helped her on her path.”

Elysis Edmondson ‘06 has been working for the Chesapeake Community Services Board (CCSB) in the outpatient psychiatric services department. She writes: “The CCSB has a shortage of psychiatrists and no PMHNP (psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioner) employed. I hope to remedy that.” Elysis has been accepted into the University of Virginia’s post-master’s certificate program for PMHNP/CNS and will begin classes this fall.

Ingrid Garrett Mahoney ’06 was commissioned in the Navy Nurse Corps upon graduation in May 2006 and served early on at Bethesda as charge nurse on the Wounded Warrior Ward caring for wounded troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. She then moved to the post anesthesia care unit. She has since moved to Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton in Southern California, where she is currently the division officer of an ambulatory procedures unit and post anesthesia care unit. Ingrid recently returned from an eight-month deployment to Afghanistan, where she worked as an ICU nurse at a Role 3 multi-national medical unit.

Shauna Mayo ‘06 was selected as the 2010-11 Teacher of the Year for her school, Robert E. Lee Elementary, in Petersburg, Va.

Adrian Morrison ‘06 will graduate from George Washington University Law School next year and hopes to obtain a job with the federal government. In addition to attending law school, he has two jobs and is recovering from foot surgery he had in May.

Elizabeth Old ‘06 was recently promoted to location director from director of nursing at PSA Healthcare in Norfolk. She writes, “I am currently running a pediatric home health agency in the local area. We provide private duty nursing in the homes of children with tracheostomies and ventilators. Our largest challenge is finding professional, caring staff who want to actively engage their patients in growth and development.”

Mark Stevenson ‘06 received a J.D. from Regent University School of Law in May 2011.

Scott Guirlinger ‘07 pioneered and chairs the nation’s most charitable pub crawl, the Ghent Winter Bar Tour. This year’s event was held on February 26 and raised over $30,000 for Edmarc Hospice for Children.

Roddena Kirksey ‘07 received an M.A. in media and communications in public relations from Norfolk State University in May 2011.

Kristan M. Pitts ‘07 received a J.D. in May 2011 from the University of Akron School of Law. The law school features top programs in intellectual property, professional responsibility and trial advocacy.

Kathy Colbert ‘08 has accepted the position of chair of the Public Policy Committee of the National Nursing in Staff Development Organization. The committee monitors legislation that impacts NNSDO interests in professional development, quality patient care and healthy work environments. Kathy writes, “It is an honor to serve fellow nurse educators in this role.”

Angela Hinton ‘08 was chosen as a 2010 Presidential Management Fellow (PMF) as part of a government-designed program that places promising professionals into positions of federal leadership. She subsequently accepted an appointment as a program analyst with NASA’s Science Mission Directorate, Resource Management Division – Earth Science. She earned her M.B.A. with a concentration in public administration in 2010 and is pursuing her doctoral in public policy and administration – policy analysis.

Edward Kent ’09 graduated from the ODU School of Nursing B.S.N. program and remains a member of the ODU chapter of Sigma Theta Tau. He is a nursing supervisor on the evening shift at Eastern State Hospital in Williamsburg.

Brian G. Murden ’09 recently completed Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill., as a Navy Seaman recruit.

Melodee Baines ’10 is a current Ph.D. student in international studies. She was in Sakara, Egypt, in December 2010, just one month before the January 2011 revolution that unseated Hosni Mubarak, who had been president of Egypt for almost 30 years.

Shunia Burruss ’10 has been involved with the KLM Scholarship Foundation in Richmond, Va. The scholarships from this organization benefit Virginia students going to in-state colleges and universities.

Jackie DeFreitas ‘10 has been appointed as a financial representative by Northwestern Mutual in Williamsburg. In addition to offering products such as life, disability and long-term care insurances, she provides guidance and solutions for a variety of financial needs and goals. DeFreitas, a native of Erlangen, Germany, resides in Williamsburg with her mother, Diana DeFreitas.

Daniel Gonzalez ‘10 is a lieutenant corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps currently serving in Afghanistan. He notes that he was saddened to hear about the death of ODU student Christopher Cummings, as he knew Chris well. Daniel had attended Chris’s initiation into the Theta Chi fraternity.

Coast Guard Seaman Mandy I. Pearson ‘10 recently graduated from the eight-week training program at the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J.

Jennifer Vannoy ‘10 received a B.S. in nursing in August 2010 and the same month gave birth to her second child. She writes, “It was a very exciting time for my family! I have not stopped in continuing my education, as I am currently enrolled in ODU’s master’s program in nursing with a concentration in women’s health. I hope to complete my degree in December 2012, and begin working soon after.”

Katherine Glosson Winstead ’10 is a registered nurse with Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C. She writes, “I work on the postpartum unit and really enjoy the time I get to spend educating my patients about their new family member. I love the challenge of working with both infants and adults!”
Married Monarchs

LaNaé Briggs '02 married Adrian Budden on May 28, 2011.

Kelly Kanara '04 and Matt Midkiff announce their marriage on June 18, 2011, in Kennett Square, Pa. Kelly was a member of the ODU lacrosse team and Matt played baseball at the University of South Florida. They reside in Coatesville, Pa.

Rachel Woodruff '05 and John Woodruff were married Oct. 9, 2010, at the Omni Hotel in Richmond, Va. Rachel and John met in September 2004 while Rachel was an ODU student and John was in the U.S. Navy. Fellow alums Alanna LoGioco (Ceccino) and Sigma Phi Epsilon members Daniel Bryant, Gavin McAlpine and Brandon Allison attended the ceremony. The couple resides in Hampton.

Corie Nixon '07 and Christopher Hardy announce their marriage on March 17, 2010, in Las Vegas. They currently reside in Tempe, Ariz.

Mark Magnotta (M.B.A. '09) and Sarah Russell Magnotta (M.B.A. '09) announce their marriage on May 14, 2011, in Virginia Beach. They live in Lexington, Ky., where Sarah is earning her Ph.D. in marketing at the University of Kentucky.

Katherine Glosson '10 and Travis Winstead were married Sept. 18, 2010, in Newport News. They reside in Alexandria, Va.

New Monarchs

Ken Falkenstein '91 and wife, Kim, announce the birth of their twin boys, Dylan George and Joshua Thomas. They were born on April 18, 2011, in Norfolk.

Christina Schlott Crawford '98 and James Crawford announce the birth of a baby girl, Rachel Christina. She was born on Feb. 13, 2011, in Reading, Pa. She is welcomed by her older sister Alexa, and half-sister Kiah.

Ericka N. Bjorken Carter '00 and Jonathan Carter announce the birth of their first baby boy, Noah Slater, on May 2, 2010, at Kapiolani Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. His parents write that he is a “3rd generation Monarch in the making!”

Amy Reed '00 and Chris Reed announce the birth of a baby girl, Sydney. She was born in July 2010, in Anchorage, Alaska.

Brandon Sawyer '03 and Margaret Stocks Sawyer '03 announce the birth of a baby boy, Caleb Joseph, born on March 8, 2011, in Sentara Leigh Hospital. Caleb surprised his parents by arriving seven weeks early but thankfully, he was completely healthy.

Nathan Miller '04 and Jessica Miller announce the birth of a baby girl, Abbie. She was born on April 18, 2011, in Virginia Beach.

Ryan Roach '06 and Morgan Forrey Roach '07 are proud to announce their adoption of two boys, Davis Joshua and Camden Kramer. Davis was born Sept. 7, 2009, and Camden was born Jan. 3, 2011.

Brandy Cole Ridpath '07 and Christopher Ridpath '07 announce the birth of a baby girl, Ryleigh Nicole, born on Dec. 8, 2010. The Ridpaths currently reside in North Carolina.

Kevin Crossman '10 and wife, Brandi, announce the birth of their first child, a baby girl named Emma Judith. She was born on April 16, 2011, in Norfolk, Va.
Here’s something to cheer about: ODU alumni could get a special discount on car insurance.

Get a free quote. GEICO
geico.com
1-800-368-2734

EACH QUOTE HELPS SUPPORT THE ODU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.
IN REMEMBRANCE

Robert L. “Bob” Fodrey Sr.
One of Old Dominion University’s well-known alumni and dedicated volunteers, died March 27, 2011. He was born Dec. 17, 1918, and was a native of Norfolk but made his home in the Virginia Beach area.

Old Dominion awarded Fodrey an honorary doctorate at the fall 2008 commencement in recognition of his many years of service to his alma mater. Fodrey was awarded the University Medal, Old Dominion’s highest honor, in 1986, and was a recipient of the Distinguished Alumni and Alumni Service awards. He was a member of the ODU Board of Visitors for eight years (1973-81), including a stint as vice rector.

A nontraditional student at Old Dominion, Fodrey earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration in 1957 at age 38 as a member of the school’s second four-year class. The Norfolk Division, as it was known then, was still five years away from becoming an independent institution.

Fodrey immediately adopted his alma mater as his special mission. As hard-working as he was soft-spoken, he played a key role in forming the Alumni Association, and served as its board president from 1958-60 and in 1987-88. In addition, Fodrey was a member of the President’s Council, served on the Educational Foundation board and served as its board president in 1986, and was a member of the University Medal, Old Dominion’s highest honor, in 1986, and was a recipient of the Distinguished Alumni and Alumni Service awards. He was a member of the ODU Board of Visitors for eight years (1973-81), including a stint as vice rector.

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He was a lifetime member of Friends of the ODU Libraries and for years was a regular at the men’s and women’s basketball games. Fodrey retired as director of the U.S. Navy’s Regional Office of Civilian Manpower Management in Norfolk with 41 years of federal service. He began his civilian personnel career in 1939. In 1944 he was furloughed to enter the U.S. Navy in World War II. In 1945 he was restored to his former position. He worked in various capacities at the Naval Supply Center, ultimately becoming deputy personnel director before leaving in 1960.

In 1966 he was district civilian personnel director at the Fifth Naval District when the Navy reorganized civilian personnel management and established the Office of Civilian Personnel Management with eight regional offices. At that time, he was selected as director of the Regional Office Civilian Manpower Management in Norfolk.

Following several other reorganizations, the name was changed to Southern Field Division and included 15 southeastern states, in addition to Bermuda, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Canal Zone.

A high school dropout during the Depression, Fodrey received his high school diploma with honors from Matthew Fontaine Maury High School in 1946. After earning his degree at the Norfolk Division, he became interested in pursuing a master’s in personnel management. He persuaded officials at George Washington University to establish a graduate program on the naval base and he went on to earn a master’s degree in 1962.

Fodrey was very active and supportive of his church family at Bayside Baptist Church. He was a deacon, chairman of deacons, deacon emeritus and Sunday school teacher, and served on the board of directors of the Norfolk Baptist Association. He served on the board of directors of Virginia Baptist Hospital in Lynchburg from 1966 to 1974. He was also an avid supporter of Habitat for Humanity, helping to raise funds and construct homes.

Fodrey’s honors include the Distinguished Civilian Service Medal, the Navy’s top civilian...
award, as well as its Superior Civilian Service and Meritorious Civilian Service awards.

He received a presidential citation for leadership in a summer employment program for disadvantaged youth and honors from the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The Urban League of Hampton Roads presented him with its Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service Award for showing tremendous interest in the life and welfare of Hampton Roads citizens through his involvement in educational and community organizations.

Fodrey was preceded in death by his wife of 57 years, Geraldine E. “Gerry” Fodrey, three sisters and eight brothers. He is survived by his three children: a son, Robert L. Fodrey Jr. of Virginia Beach, and two daughters, Bobbye Francis Young of Auburn, Maine, and Patricia F. Rathbun of Virginia Beach. Survivors also include seven grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren, and his brother, George Fodrey, of Louisville, Ky.

Memorial donations may be made to the Fodrey Alumni Scholarship Endowment, c/o Old Dominion University, 4417 Monarch Way, Norfolk, VA 23529.

Jeffrey H. Richards

Jeffrey H. Richards, professor and eminent scholar of English, died May 30, 2011, after a battle with brain cancer. He was 62.

Richards, who joined Old Dominion faculty in 1992, served two terms as chair of the English department and taught early and 19th-century American literature and American drama.

He was born Dec. 4, 1948, in Libertyville, Ill., to Fenton Omar and Betty Quanz Richards, both deceased.

Dana Heller, professor and chair of the English department, called Richards “a cherished teacher and mentor, and a noble, compassionate man.” She said, “The loss to our department — and to the college and university — is incalculable and will take some time to absorb.”

Charles Wilson, acting dean of the College of Arts and Letters, described Richards as a “mentor, gentleman and friend,” saying that he will be greatly missed. “While we mourn this loss to our community, our thoughts are with Jeff’s wife, Dr. Stephanie Sugioka, also an ODU faculty member, and Jeff’s children, Sarah and Aaron,” Wilson said.

His many friends in the ODU community remember Richards as gentle, noble and compassionate man who treated the people and the world around him with deep care and respect. He loved spending time outdoors gardening and hiking. He strove to live a simple life, devoting his time to what was most important to him — his family, his teaching, and his writing.


Richards also was editor of the following books: “Mimic Life; or, Before and Behind the Curtain” by Anna Cora Mowatt (Copley, 2001), “Eugene O’Neill: Early Plays” (Penguin, 2001) and “Early American Drama” (Penguin, 1997). In addition, he published numerous articles on early American literature. Before joining the ODU faculty, Richards held teaching positions at Duke University, North Carolina State University, UNC-Chapel Hill, Lakeland College and Beijing Normal University.

A 1971 graduate of Yale University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in English, Richards received a doctorate in American literature, drama from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1982.

He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Stephanie Kay Sugioka; his two children, Aaron Nicholas and Sarah Grace Richards; and his three sisters, Suzanne Richards Uczen, Sally Ann Anderson and Polly Ann Rotunda, and their families.

Margaret Frances Bullard Holland

Margaret Frances Bullard Holland, of Norfolk, a former assistant alumni director at Old Dominion University, died March 10, 2011.

She was born Feb. 22, 1926, in Lynchburg, Va., and attended Mary Washington College, Lynchburg College and Old Dominion. Holland worked in the treasurer’s office at Lynchburg College, and retired in 1987 as assistant alumni director at ODU after 24 years in the office.

During her tenure, Holland served under four alumni relations directors and 17 Alumni Association presidents. She served as acting director of alumni relations on three occasions. Her dedication and devotion were recognized by the Alumni Association in 1983 when she was presented the Honorary Alumni Award.

“Margaret Holland embodied the alumni relations program at ODU. She was there when we had alumni directors and sometimes when we did not,” remembers Bernie Kirsch ’64, a former president of the ODU Alumni Association.

“Her years were mostly very lean years for the alumni program. She held it together when there was little money and sometimes when there was very little interest or understanding of alumni relations.”

Kirsch, who described Holland as “strong willed,” added, “Everyone who knew Margaret knew that she was always after what was best for ODU alumni.”

David Shuffelbarger, a former ODU administrator, also fondly recalled Holland’s contributions to the university. “Margaret was a jewel - no-nonsense and deeply dedicated.”

Holland was a member of Central Baptist Church in Norfolk. She is survived by her former husband, John E. Holland II of Norfolk; and cousins, Mary Ches Applewhite of Florida and Hannah Modrell of North Carolina. She is also survived by her very dear friends, James Donald, Sue Christian, Barbara Frith and Linda Whitt, and a very special young lady, Miss Zoe Frith, who always made her smile.

Kenneth V. Geroe

Virginia Beach attorney Kenneth V. Geroe, an Old Dominion University alumnus and former member of the ODU Board of Visitors, died from complications during liver-transplant surgery July 21, 2011.

Geroe was born Aug. 20, 1954, to Marvin “Ken” and Joan Geroe, in New York City. His family moved to Norfolk in 1956 as part of his father’s U.S. Navy service. They settled in the Bayview section where Geroe grew up. He graduated from Norfolk Catholic High School and earned a bachelor’s degree from ODU in 1976. He received a law degree from Marshall-Wythe Law School at the College of William and Mary in 1979.

Geroe began his legal career as an associate in the Portsmouth Commonwealth Attorney’s office. After entering private practice, he founded Geroe and Rosenblatt in 1993. The firm merged in 2005 and became Brydges, Geroe, Rosenblatt and O’Brien, where he was managing partner. Geroe was appointed a commissioner of accounts by the Virginia Beach Circuit Court, a position he served in lieu of his ultimate dream - servicing as the commissioner of Major League Baseball.

He was active in civic and political affairs throughout the community. As president of the board of directors for the Hurrah Players for 12 years, he worked tirelessly to help them raise money and grow as an organization.

Geroe also spent many years serving in leadership positions, including the ODU Board of Visitors (1978-86) and the State Board for Community Colleges. He served as Virginia Beach Democratic City Committee chair, Virginia Democratic State Party vice chair, chair of the Democratic Party’s 2nd Congressional District and was a close aide and confidant to Congressman Owen Pickett.

He is survived by his four children: Daniel, Katherine, Caroline and Margaret. He is also survived by his parents and sister, Gabrielle “Missy” Geroe Zimmerman.
ODU Sailing Greats Earn Roles in America’s Cup Competition

Two decades ago, their sailing colors were blue and silver. In the late 1980s, three ODU sailors — Mike Martin ’88, Charlie Ogletree ’89 and Terry Hutchinson ’90 — secured their places among the sailing champions who have competed for ODU. They helped the Monarchs win back-to-back Fowle Trophies in 1989 and 1990, emblematic of the best overall performance in U.S. collegiate sailing.

Now, look at them. All three yachtmen have significant roles in the world’s most prestigious regatta, the America’s Cup.

Ogletree and Hutchinson have been hired by Chinese and Swedish boats that are trying to win the right to challenge the current America’s Cup defender boat, Oracle Racing of San Francisco. And Martin has been appointed director of umpiring and rules administration of the 34th America’s Cup by America’s Cup Race Management.

The dizzying success has impressed a former teammate at ODU, current Monarchs sailing coach Mitch Brindley.

“Terry, Charlie and Mike are all very talented athletes, and I was fortunate to have them as teammates,” said Brindley, a 1989 ODU graduate. “I think it says a lot about the Old Dominion University sailing program not only to have so many All-Americans and national championships over the years, but also to enable and inspire the athletes to continue to pursue their sport at the highest levels, be that in the Olympic Games or pinnacle professional events like the America’s Cup. It’s very inspirational for our current athletes to have this caliber of alumni to follow.”

In the America’s Cup, boats from around the world race in a series of regattas to determine which challenger will take on the boat currently holding the America’s Cup. The regattas will begin in 2011 with events in Cascais, Portugal, Plymouth, England, and San Diego.

After that racing series, the top challenger boat will compete head-to-head against the Oracle Racing boat in San Francisco in 2013.

Hutchinson, a two-time National Collegiate Sailor of the Year while at ODU, and now a resident of Annapolis, Md., was hired as skipper (or helmsman) for the Swedish entry, Artemis Racing. He joined Artemis Racing in 2009, and will lead the 18-member crew on its odyssey through the challenger regattas for the America’s Cup.

“My experience as helmsman of Artemis Racing is really just starting,” Hutchinson said. “The transition from a mono hull to a high-speed multihull (or catamaran) is a game changer.”

“The speed of these boats is phenomenal and learning to race at incredibly high speeds is one of the major challenges of this next America’s Cup. The design aspect and team development will be a major factor in our success. We are up against the best there is with Oracle Racing, and to be successful at this game we have to do a lot of things properly to have success on the water.”

Ogletree, from Columbia, N.C., was invited by the China team sailing director to a tryout. He spent a month with the team in Auckland, New Zealand, and was selected as “wing trimmer.”

(Keyon Carter recently finished his career with the ODU men’s basketball team. Shortly after graduating in May with a degree in sport management, he had an opportunity to visit Malawi as part of a mission to a school for deaf children. Here is his account of the trip.)

The differences between America and Malawi, a small, impoverished country in Sub-Saharan Africa, are vast and evident. I began noticing them the moment I stepped off the plane.

How did I end up in such a remote location? The answer to that question is love – for both my fellow man and the game of basketball.

The Rev. Robert Davenport and wife, Elizabeth Allen-Davenport, of Norfolk’s Church of the Good Shepherd, were ultimately responsible for my participation. Although I didn’t know them before the trip, I have since grown very fond of this couple. The person who connected me with the Davenports is ODU Athletic Director Dr. Wood Selig, who attends their church.

When the Davenports inquired if any Monarch basketball players might be interested in the trip, my name was mentioned immediately. I accepted the invitation and a few weeks later I was visiting one of the poorest countries on Earth.

My mission was simple – share my knowledge of basketball with the children at the Embangweni School for the Hard of Hearing. Equipped with some basic sign language skills I learned from Elizabeth, I approached this adventure with an optimistic mind.

Malawi is a country where the overwhelming majority of residents have no electricity or running water. People live off the land, farming corn and raising livestock.

On the three-hour drive from Lilongwe, the capital city, to Embangweni, the driver was forced to dodge multiple goats and chickens.

Once we arrived at the school and the children gathered at the basketball court, I noticed another stark contrast, this one less innocent. None of them had proper basketball shoes; many had no shoes at all. This was a sobering reminder that some people never get an opportunity to escape poverty, and that every opportunity I receive should be explored and maximized.

However, what the children lacked in attire was made up for with enthusiasm. They were willing learners, which made my job easier and more enjoyable. I taught them the basics of dribbling, passing and shooting.

The lessons I learned from them, however, were invaluable. I grew up a little more in Africa, and I thank God I was lucky enough to have the experience.

The time I spent in Malawi has made me a better person, and so I thank the hospitable, caring people I met. I went there to help, but they ended up helping me far more.
New Coaches Aim to Take Monarch Teams to New Heights

BY WOOD SELIG, DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

It was a busy summer for ODU Athletics. Here are some of the exciting changes and improvements that are going to help our program achieve even greater heights, this year and beyond.

New Faces

We conducted six head coaching searches this past summer and my thanks go out to the members of our search committees who did outstanding jobs of selecting candidates for us to interview and ultimately hire.

We conducted an exhaustive women’s basketball head coaching search and chose Karen Barefoot, a Hampton native. A successful head coach with more than 225 wins at Elon, Lenoir-Rhyne and the Apprentice School, Karen also served as an assistant coach for three years at ODU. Her enthusiasm, work ethic and tenacity are infectious and I know she looks forward to meeting many of you in the next few months, as well as getting you to our games this season. Please help us restore the tremendous home court advantage the Ted represents by bringing some friends with you to the games.

Karen, of course, succeeds Wendy Larry, who was at ODU as a student athlete, assistant coach and head coach for more than 30 years. Wendy made major contributions to the program, winning 559 games as head coach from 1987 to 2011. Her teams played in 20 NCAA tournaments and won an NCAA record-setting 17 straight Colonial Athletic Association titles.

Chris Finwood was named our new head baseball coach in late June. Another Hampton native, he brings 25 years of head and assistant coaching experience to our program. “Finny’s” most recent success at Western Kentucky and local recruiting ties will pay huge dividends for the Monarchs. During his six years at WKU, his teams went to two NCAA tournaments, and produced 17 players who signed professional contracts. A special thanks goes out to Nate Goulet who served as our interim coach this past year, earning CAA Coach of the Year honors and leading our team to the finals of the CAA championship.

We have reorganized our tennis program, naming new head men’s and women’s coaches. Aljosa Piric will lead our men’s program after three years as an assistant coach at Georgia Tech. He was the No. 1 tennis player at the University of Richmond and a member of his native Bosnia’s Davis Cup team in 1999. ODU alumnus and tennis standout Dominic Manilla will direct our women’s program. Dom was an assistant coach for us for three seasons and coached last year at the prestigious John McEnroe Tennis Academy in New York.

Carol Robertson will take over as our head women’s golf coach, bringing her winning resume to the program. Carol finished second in last year’s U.S.
Women’s Mid-American Championship, and was voted as a member of the CAA Silver Anniversary women’s golf team after a stellar career at James Madison.

Dan Garbutt, a graduate of Princeton and a former member of the U.S. National Rowing team, was named the women’s rowing head coach after having served a year as the interim coach. The women rowers had a strong spring season, finishing third in the CAA and 32nd in the nation in just their third year of competition.

We also say goodbye to women’s lacrosse coach Sue Stahl, who retired in August after 21 years as head coach. The U.S. Lacrosse Hall of Famer led the Lady Monarchs to a CAA title, earned Coach of the Year honors in the CAA five times and served as the U.S. national coach, leading the national team to four World Cup titles.

Fan Friendly Info

Thanks to the support of our community, we have sold out of football season tickets for the third consecutive year. As we begin our first season as a competing football member for the CAA championship, we expect our fans to be louder and prouder than ever at home games at Foreman Field at S.B. Ballard Stadium.

We will bring back the Oyster Bowl to Foreman Field after an 11-year absence, with the James Madison game on Oct. 29 being designated to honor the Khedive Shriners and their charitable causes. Homecoming is set for Oct. 15 against CAA foe Towson, and we ask you to wear white to this game to support the Monarchs.

To achieve one of the primary goals of our new athletic department strategic plan, we will be video streaming home event for our intercollegiate teams. Fans can view the games live, catch post-game interviews with players and coaches, and watch news conferences at odusports.com. A subscription for live games is $7.95 per month. Our video services staff and Ted Alexander, formerly the WTKR-TV sports director in Norfolk and our new director of broadcasting, will be providing hundreds of video interviews and features in addition to live game coverage.

We’re also excited that we have been selected to host the first and second rounds of the NCAA women’s basketball tournament March 19 and 21 at the Ted — the eighth time we have earned this honor in the 10-year history of the Ted Constant Center. Season ticket holders can purchase tournament tickets now at a discount. And, mark your calendars now for the fall of 2012 and 2013, when we host the NCAA field hockey “Final Four” at the Powhatan Sports Complex.

Academic Accomplishments

I am pleased to inform you that 93 of our student-athletes earned dean’s list honors for the spring semester with a grade point of 3.4 or higher. Field hockey posted the highest team GPA for both seasons combined with a 3.3.

Collectively, eight of our teams posted GPAs of 3.0 or higher, including field hockey, women’s golf, lacrosse, rowing, women’s sailing and women’s soccer, along with men’s tennis and wrestling.

Four student athletes were named CAA Scholar Athletes of the Year, which tied Hofstra and Georgia State for the most honorees from a single school. Trian Iliadis of men’s basketball, Kristofer Hagg of men’s swimming, Amanda Bieber of field hockey and Phil McCarthy of baseball earned the awards. In addition, six Monarchs earned Academic All State honors: Iliadis, Hagg, Bieber, McCarthy, Alyssa Pietrobono of women’s soccer and Adam Roscioli of men’s soccer.

With the start of our school year, our focus is on meeting our department’s mission and vision within our strategic plan, which serves as the road map for our success. With more than 140 measurable goals and objectives, our coaches and staff will be tasked with achieving success on and off the playing fields, graduating our student-athletes, generating increased revenue, engaging with our communities, adhering to NCAA rules and regulations, being creative and innovative, and competing and operating with integrity at all times. We look forward to all of you joining us in achieving this mission and as always, thank you for your continued support of our Monarch teams.

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Nissen Headed for Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame

Inge Nissen ’81, who helped lead the Lady Monarch basketball team to back-to-back AIAW national championships, will be inducted into the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame class of 2012. She will join Nancy Fahey, Nikki McCray, Pamela McGee, Robin Roberts and Dawn Staley.

Nissen will join Lady Monarch teammates Anne Donovan and Nancy Lieberman, who were previously inducted into the Hall. The class of 2012 will be formally introduced at the 2011 State Farm Tip-Off Classic.

Nissen finished her ODU career with 2,647 points and 1,459 rebounds. She was named the team’s MVP during the 1978, 1979 and 1980 seasons, as well as the Outstanding Female Athlete of the Year in 1980. She was a two-time Wade Trophy finalist and a 1980 Kodak All-American.

Nissen is entering her 23rd year on the staff, and 21st as associate head coach, at Florida International University with head coach Cindy Russo ’75, a fellow ODU alumna.

Anders, Larry Tapped for Local Hall of Fame

Old Dominion field hockey coach Beth Anders, the nation’s winningest Division I coach, and former Lady Monarch basketball coach Wendy Larry ’77, who became the nation’s 20th coach to reach 600 wins in December, will be inducted into the Hampton Roads Sports Hall of Fame on Oct. 18 at Norfolk Scope.

Anders, the first Division I field hockey coach to reach the 500-victory plateau, enters her 29th season at the helm of the ODU field hockey program. She has a career record of 524-127-7 and her teams have won an unprecedented nine NCAA championships.

Wendy Larry’s career at Old Dominion spanned more than 30 years, as one of the first women student-athletes to receive a grant-in-aid to ODU, as a graduate and assistant coach, and as the head coach of the Lady Monarchs from 1987 to 2011. She completed her tenure at ODU after the 2010-11 season with a 608-234 overall record and 559-203 slate at the university.
Verlander Has a Stellar Year

The Detroit Tigers’ Justin Verlander ’04 became Major League Baseball’s first 20-game winner in late August and at the copy deadline for this magazine was widely considered to be leading the race for the American League Cy Young Award. This was the first time in his major league career that Verlander had reached the 20-win mark. He was 19-9 in 2009, 18-6 in 2007 and 18-9 last year.

The all-time strikeout king in ODU, Colonial Athletic Association and Virginia collegiate Division 1 history with 427 strikeouts in 335.2 innings, Verlander became the fifth MLB pitcher in the last 20 years to reach the 20-win mark before the end of August. The others are Curt Schilling (2002), Roger Clemens (1997), John Smoltz (1996) and Jack McDowell (1993).

Verlander, the 2006 AL Rookie of the Year and four-time AL All-Star, had his ODU jersey retired during a ceremony in November 2010. He also tossed a no-hitter in May 2011 against Toronto, the second of his career.
ODU Sports Hall of Fame Adds a New Class

Five Monarch greats will be inducted into the Old Dominion University Sports Hall of Fame during a homecoming weekend ceremony Oct. 15 and they will be honored later that same day at halftime of the football game with Towson University:

- **Tiffany Snow Huisman** was the 2002 Honda Sports Award winner, a two-time All-American, 2002 CAA Field Hockey Player of the Year and a member of the U.S. Olympic field hockey squad in 2008. She now resides in Temecula, Calif., with husband, Aaron, and daughter Taitum, who was born in March.

- **Hamchetou Maiga-Ba** was the 2001 CAA Player of the Year in basketball and helped lead the Lady Monarchs to the 2002 NCAA Elite Eight. She was selected in the second round of the WNBA draft in 2002 by Sacramento where she teamed with another Lady Monarch great, Ticha Penicheiro, to help the team win the 2005 WNBA title.

- **Tim Hummel** was the 2000 CAA Baseball Player of the Year and CAA Defensive Player of the Year. A consensus All-American, the shortstop had a .963 fielding percentage with only 11 errors, an ODU best. He played two years in the majors for the Cincinnati Reds and now resides in Virginia Beach with wife, Brooke Thomas Hummel (a former ODU lacrosse player), and son Noah.

- **Keith Thomas** is ODU’s second all-time free throw percentage leader at .834 and ranks 14th in scoring with 1,530 points. He played on the 1986 basketball squad that earned an eight seed in the NCAA tournament and defeated West Virginia before losing to Duke. He currently lives in his native Richmond, where he works for the Virginia Corrections Department.

- **Geoff Harris** was the 2003 CAA medalist champion, as well as CAA Golfer of the Year in both 2002 and 2003. He sank a sudden-death putt to give ODU the 2003 CAA team championship and was a Golf Coaches Association All-America Scholar in both 2002 and 2003. He is now a golf professional in England, where he lives with wife, Catherine, and two sons, David and Ewan.

There are countless words to describe what Old Dominion University can do for students...
change, educate, motivate, create, transform, inspire.

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There are countless words to describe what Old Dominion University can do for students...
change, educate, motivate, create, transform, inspire.

**is the word to describe the alumni, parents and friends who will make gifts of support this year.**

**THE DOMINION FUND**
Make your tax deductible gift to Old Dominion University’s Dominion Fund at www.odu.edu/efgive or contact Dawn Richardson at 757-683-6330 by December 31, 2011.
Letter from the Provost

OUR NO. 1 GOAL - GIVING STUDENTS - AND FACULTY MEMBERS - THE TOOLS TO SUCCEED

The past few years have seen a dramatic increase in the number of students selecting Old Dominion University for their education, and that has meant an increase in the number of instructional faculty and programs needed to support them.

Thanks to federal stimulus funding and careful resource planning, ODU has hired almost 40 additional full-time faculty members over the last two years. At the same time, our academic programs have grown from strength to strength, with several now gaining national and international recognition. Recently added programs include: Modeling, Simulation and Visualization Engineering; a Master of Arts in Lifespan and Digital Communication; a new Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering; and the Doctor of Engineering and Doctor of Nursing Practice options.

One of the key goals of the university’s 2009-14 Strategic Plan is “to provide students with the tools to succeed,” and we have undertaken several major initiatives to do just that, starting with a new Student Success Center on the south side of the Perry Library and a new Learning Commons that occupies the ground floor at the front of the library. Both of these new facilities open in this fall and between them, they provide a unique and highly supportive experience for our students.

The new Learning Commons will house the latest in instructional technology to facilitate student learning through exploration, discussion and collaboration, in support of out-of-class assignments and research needs. It will have flexible workspaces to foster creativity and experimentation and help students develop skills to improve their personal and professional success. This specially designed space in the library offers an exciting, learning-centered environment to all our students and faculty.

The Student Success Center has a natural flow-through to the library and the effective workspaces of the Learning Commons. It will consolidate all of the support services that students need, including academic advising and counseling, testing services, experiential learning, and a variety of tutoring and mentoring activities. The center will also house the Honors College, which now includes undergraduate research opportunities for high-achieving students to gain hands-on research experience in collaboration with graduate students and faculty. We have a new ODU undergraduate research journal and our annual Undergraduate Research Symposium showcases the top students from across the university as they present their scholarly research and creative works.

And while on the subject of student presentations, we now have a Graduate Research Appreciation Day each year, too, at which our graduate students present their research findings to other students, faculty and external visitors.

Student successes, to a large degree, reflect the efforts of our superb faculty. To aid new faculty, as well as more senior faculty who would like to improve their teaching techniques even further, we are remodeling our Center for Learning Technologies into a Center for Learning and Teaching, which is more than just a cosmetic name change. The new CLT now offers a wide variety of tools to help all ODU faculty excel in teaching both large and small classes in face-to-face or online formats.

The number and quality of peer-reviewed publications, books, book chapters, conference presentations, research awards, grants, technical reports and other scholarly activities that our faculty produce, while at the same time maintaining excellence in classroom instruction, is extraordinary! ODU faculty consistently generate almost $90 million a year in external research grants and contracts, and they had significant successes recently in obtaining prestigious grants from the National Institutes of Health, as well as from a wide range of other federal and state funding agencies. I am sure you will be reading about some of their innovative and important research endeavors elsewhere in this and future issues.

In April 2011, in the presence of Gov. Bob McDonnell, President Broderick signed a partnership agreement with Chancellor Glenn DuBois of the Virginia Community College System to facilitate student transfers from Virginia’s 23 community colleges into ODU’s four-year degree programs through collaboration and shared distance learning technologies. Distance learning has been one of ODU’s great strengths for many years, and we continue to expand and offer innovative new programs. The distance learning staff is working with faculty to develop at least 10 new fully online programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels in response to the governor’s call for increased degree attainment among the citizens of Virginia. We also plan to increase offerings at our three higher education centers in Virginia Beach, Portsmouth and Hampton.

As you see, we have been keeping busy in Academic Affairs, and we expect to continue to be busy for the foreseeable future as we focus on our No. 1 priority – to help our faculty and students reach their maximum potential and achieve success in their careers.

–Carol Simpson
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
George ’67 and Linda Consolvo have included Old Dominion University in their estate plans.

"LINDA AND I BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THOSE OF US WHO HAVE HAD THE GOOD FORTUNE TO BENEFIT FROM OUR EDUCATION TO SUPPORT THE INSTITUTIONS THAT LAID THE FOUNDATION FOR THAT SUCCESS. HOWEVER, IT IS NOT SIMPLY A SENSE OF DUTY THAT DRIVES US BUT ALSO THE JOY OF SHARING AND THE KNOWLEDGE THAT OTHER LIVES WILL BE ENHANCED BY THE GIFT OF EDUCATION SO WELL PROVIDED AT OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY."

George L. ’67 and Linda L. Consolvo

If you would like more information on making an estate or other planned gift to Old Dominion University, please contact Barbara M. Henley, Director of Planned Giving, at (757) 683-6563 or visit our estate planning website at www.odu.edu/give2odu and click ‘planned giving’.

We invite you to join The 1930 Society where your membership will continue throughout your lifetime, and beyond. If you have already included ODU in your estate plans please let us know so we may thank you.
Are you looking for peace of mind in your retirement?

You can put your mind at ease by making a gift of cash or appreciated securities to Old Dominion University to fund a charitable gift annuity. Your irrevocable contribution will guarantee you a fixed annuity for life. You will remove the asset from your taxable estate and receive a charitable tax deduction. With the remainder portion, you will also leave a valuable legacy to ODU.

To show you how this program can benefit you, here are some selected annuity rates:

**SAMPLE INDIVIDUAL RATES**

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For illustrative purposes only. Rates are recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities, confirmed as of July 1, 2010, and are subject to change. Gift annuities are not offered in all states.

Go to [www.odu.edu/give2odu](http://www.odu.edu/give2odu) and click ‘planned giving’

For confidential information, please contact:
Barbara Henley • Director of Planned Giving
757-683-6563 • bhenley@odu.edu