

# MONARCH

A pair of blue rubber boots with a repeating crest pattern, standing on a log in a stream. The boots are covered in water droplets, and the background shows a blurred stream with white water rapids.

*adapting to our  
changing  
environment*

# Full Frame

Monarch basketball fans had a lot to cheer about this past season.

The men's team was a 9th seed in the NCAA tournament and came just two points short of defeating Butler in Round Two. The men's overall record was 27-7 and the team won its second straight Colonial Athletic Association tournament title with a 70-65 victory over arch-rival VCU. Frank Hassell was named first-team All-CAA and Kent Bazemore was the conference's defensive player of the year.

The women's team finished at 20-11 and played in the Women's National Invitational Tournament.

PHOTO: RICK VOIGHT



Fan Assistance: Text "CAA" <Space> Issue and Location to 69050



2011 CHAMPIONS BASKETBALL



OLD DOMINION

## From the Editor



his is the first issue of Monarch, the Old Dominion University magazine. The variety of content that is merged here in one magazine was previously found in the discontinued Old Dominion University: A Magazine for Alumni and Friends and

Quest, the university's research and innovation magazine.

Our plan is to circulate Monarch three times a year to approximately 100,000 alumni, opinion leaders and friends of the university.

The page count for Monarch will be higher than for the magazines previously published by the university, allowing us to share more news about the ODU community.

Some articles will report on the exciting research, scholarship and classroom innovations that are ODU's contributions to the region and the world. We will make a special effort to write about those faculty members who are dedicated mentors and about those students who set high goals and achieve them. Alumni will notice more photos and other content about alumni chapter activities and the work of the Alumni Association. At least two longer articles in each issue will focus on newsworthy alums.

One of ODU's senior staffers, University Editor Steve Daniel, is writing a regular column titled "Then and Now" that explores how classroom experiences and campus life have changed over ODU's 80-year history. Athletic Director Wood Selig will also write a regular column in the athletics section of the magazine.

We hope that you will be Monarch boosters. Feel free to contact me by phone or email at 757-683-5585 or [jraper@odu.edu](mailto:jraper@odu.edu) if you have content suggestions or questions.

*-Jim Raper*

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### On our Cover

Boots in a storm, the Monarch cover photograph, is the work of Norfolk photographer Roberto Westbrook. Rising sea level in southeastern Virginia is leading to more flooding during storms, which is a topic explored in the cover story, Page 22.

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Students, guest artists and faculty perform in the University Dance Theatre Spring Concert on April 13-16 at University Theatre. For tickets, go to <http://oduartstix.com> or call 757-683-5305.

PHOTO: ANNE PETERSON



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Keith Fenimore '94 pitches himself as an experiment in the power of social media.

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# THEN & NOW

## East Campus Strip-From Gritty to Gleaming

*Remember Friar Tucks? How about the King's Head Inn?* BY STEVE DANIEL



PHOTO: RONALD ATKINSON/MEDIA EAST

**G**et a group of Old Dominion alumni reminiscing about their college days, and chances are good that there will be stories of favorite professors, cafeteria food, campus capers and life-long friends. Chances are equally good, however, that the subject of off-campus diversions will come up, particularly those that were available directly across Hampton Boulevard from the main side of campus.

From the 1970s until today, the six-block strip from 49th Street to 43rd Street (and a few blocks to the south) has featured a variety of businesses catering to the college crowd – everything from clubs and restaurants to bakeries and barbershops. Remember Captain Zig-Zag's? It's still there. And, of course, there was – and is – the venerable

Gray's Pharmacy, which has outlasted them all and continues to serve the campus community at the corner of 48th Street.

Lots of the old places have come and gone – popular eateries like Batterson's, Anthony's and the Burger King across from the Batten Arts and Letters, along with various other businesses that included a gas station, grocery store, clothing shop and laundromat.

Many of the establishments popular among students back in the day – haunts like the 4400 Campus Club, Friar Tuck's, King's Head Inn and Zero's, as well as Speedy's Tacos, just off the beaten path – went away around the time plans were announced for the Ted Constant Convocation Center, which broke ground in 1999.

"The 4400 Club was kind of the pivot point for that area," recalls Dana Burnett, the longtime ODU dean of students (now chair of the educational foundations and leadership department) who came to the university in 1972. "After 10 at night, that was the

party scene. If you drove up and down Hampton Boulevard, you would see hundreds of students on the sidewalk along a five-block stretch."

In fact, go online today and you'll find not one but two 4400 Campus Club Facebook pages, where former patrons have shared their memories of great music, PBR, quarter beer night and "the best pizza ever."

A little over a year ago, Jim DeAngelis '87 posted this reminiscence: "What a blast from the past. Some days I was not sure if I went to ODU and played at 4400 or if I went to 4400 and played at ODU. My oldest son is a freshman there now and my biggest regret is that he could not experience the 4400 Club. Sadly, an era gone by."

Most of today's students no doubt would be surprised to learn what the east side of Hampton Boulevard looked like just 10 years ago, let alone more than three decades earlier when students like Scott Sechrist '75, now an ODU professor of medical labora-

tory and radiation sciences, would venture across the main drag in search of extracurricular activity and a break from cafeteria food.

“I remember the King’s Head Inn the most. They had the greatest sandwiches. It was so dark you couldn’t see what you were eating anyway. And it always had that beer smell, so it made for a great lunchtime,” Sechrist said with a laugh.

He also remembers buying albums at Ramblin’ Conrad’s and stopping in at Abdul’s Leather Shop for underground newspapers.

Just the mention of Zero’s is likely to elicit a Pavlov-like mouth-watering response from Diana Wodder ’76, a former Rogers Hall resident from New Jersey. She would be hard-pressed to add up all of the oven-heated tuna and cheese subs she ate there during her four years at ODU, but it would be a considerable amount.

“Everybody went to Zero’s. I spent a lot of money there. A half tuna and cheese sub was all I ever got, but scraping together 80 cents in that day was sometimes not so easy.”

Wodder also recalls many of the other businesses, including Bodner’s Bakery, Gray’s and Buddy’s, a small grocery store on the corner of 49th Street, but Zero’s was by far her favorite haunt.

Quite a few of Wodder’s weekend hours were spent in Webb Center. “They had dances and Friday afternoon happy hours there. There were bands and DJs and kegs of beer in the cafeteria.”

The clubs did not suffer from a lack of student business, however, particularly prior to 1985 when it was legal to buy beer at the age of 18, Burnett said. “The first 13 years I was here, it was legal to drink when you were 18, and so that was no big deal. There were fewer problems, from an administration standpoint. I think it was a big mistake to change the drinking age to 21.

“The new law put us in a whole different relationship with the students – an adversarial one – when it came to alcohol.”

Despite the new law, the clubs along Hampton Boulevard continued to thrive into the 1990s. They would offer all-age shows earlier in the day to attract the under-21 crowd, but the late-night con-



The King’s Head Inn and Anthony’s Pizza (above) sat at the northeast corner of 43rd St. and Hampton Blvd., now site of the plaza and ticket office for the Ted Constant Convocation Center. In the next block (left), the 4400 Campus Club flashed its neon welcome from the corner of 44th St. and Hampton Blvd.



certs and dances were as popular as ever.

Bill Nuckols, who attended ODU for his junior and senior years from 1994-96, worked security at King’s Head Inn, and was occasionally called on to help out at the other venues.

“The 4400 Campus Club was where a lot of your graduate students and faculty went. It was a little more conservative, but still had a great atmosphere – everybody knew everybody. But it was a lot less musically oriented and more gathering oriented. You wouldn’t hesitate as a faculty member at the end of the semester to say, ‘Hey class, let’s go over to the 4400 and have a drink or a pizza after class.’”

“Friar Tuck’s had a pretty good lunch scene. Most nights there was some kind of entertainment.

“In the 1980s and ’90s, the club with the reputation for acts coming through town, either on their way up or on their way down, was King’s Head Inn. It was kind of a dirty place, known for bands and beer. A lot of underground punk rock bands played when I worked there. Bands like NOFX, who are legendary icons in California punk rock now, came through several times. And a band called the Bouncing Souls out of New Jersey got its start coming down here.”

Nuckols, who later went on to earn a law degree and run a successful construction business in Hampton Roads with a friend of his, is now back at ODU where he has started his second year in the higher education administration Ph.D. program.

But it’s a much different Hampton Boulevard today than the scene he nostalgically remembers from his younger days, when a collection of well-worn student hangouts proliferated. Now, in addition to

the Constant Center, still gleaming as it approaches its 10th birthday next year, there’s even a SpringHill Suites Marriott, and the thoroughfare itself is wider – six lanes instead of four.

Nuckols can still recall returning home from law school in Illinois – in the late 1990s – and riding his Harley down Hampton Boulevard. “Everything was gone. That was probably one of the toughest moments for me – to see the places where I spent so many hours, so many nights, so many years becoming who I am.

“When I get around other folks from those days, it’s something we have in common. Even if we had never met back then, we can talk about being at the King’s Head and Friar Tuck’s. You’re bonded.”

The “heyday” of Hampton Boulevard notwithstanding, the transformation of the east side of campus has been nothing short of amazing. With the Ted Constant Convocation Center as an anchor, much of the east-side activity has shifted to Monarch Way, which runs parallel to Hampton Boulevard behind The Ted and is known collectively as the University Village, a 75-acre development that includes both university facilities and retail businesses.

In addition to the University Bookstore, Gordon Art Galleries, student apartment buildings and two research buildings, the Village boasts a potpourri of restaurants and shops.

A number of businesses still operate along Hampton Boulevard – Gray’s, of course, along with a Subway, a more up-scale McDonald’s at its same location, and a few others – but, as many former students fondly recall, it was different atmosphere back in the day.

# 49TH & HAMPTON



## Mascot of the Year

Old Dominion University mascot Big Blue was crowned Capital One Mascot of the Year on Jan. 1. Big Blue was officially announced as the winner during the nationally televised Capital One Bowl in Orlando, Fla., besting a talented pool of 15 other All-America mascots and bringing both glory and \$20,000 to ODU's mascot program.

"We are immensely proud of Big Blue being named the Capital One Mascot of the Year," said ODU President John R. Broderick. "His victory not only demonstrates his hard work, but also the passion of students, alumni and supporters of our university. This is a wonderful honor and we are thrilled."

From Aug. 31 to Dec. 13, Big Blue fans cast their votes online and via phone texts for their favorite mascot. The university launched a "Vote for Big Blue" campaign using Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, and organized highly successful mass voting sessions, called "vote mobs." Students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the university worked together to keep Big Blue undefeated throughout the competition, earning him more than 2 million votes and ultimately the title of Mascot of the Year.

Big Blue faced fierce competition from fellow mascots such as Brutus Buckeye of Ohio State University, Big Red of Western Kentucky University, Mike the Tiger of Louisiana State University and The Duck of the University of Oregon. In the final, Big Blue squared off against Paydirt Pete, the mustachioed miner from the University of Texas–El Paso.

"In the nine years of the program, this has been one of the most memorable and spirited campaigns for the Capital One Mascot of the Year," said Roger Ferguson, vice president of advertising and sports sponsorships at Capital One. "We are very proud of all of the mascots who campaigned hard throughout the regular season and congratulate Big Blue on his victory."

Since 2002, Capital One has helped shine the spotlight on these unsung heroes of the college athletics programs. Each participating university gets \$5,000 for its mascot program, and the winning school receives an additional \$15,000 scholarship to help fund its mascot program.



## Wright Award

Kenny Wright, who graduated from Old Dominion University in 1991 with a degree in engineering technology, was elected mayor of Portsmouth in November 2010 and a couple of months later received the university's Hugo Owens Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Award.

Winning the award that carries Dr. Owens' name was particularly meaningful to Wright, as Owens had been his dentist – and mentor – as he was growing up. Owens, an influential civil rights leader in Hampton Roads, served as vice mayor of Chesapeake and as rector of ODU.

The Hugo Owens Martin Luther King Jr. award is given for achievement and leadership in civil rights, politics, housing and social programs. It was awarded at a dinner marking the university's official observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Wright, who is the president and CEO of Wright Design and Construction, a naval engineering firm, was described by ODU President John Broderick at the award presentation as having been very active in improving STEM education in the Portsmouth Public Schools. Wright has served on the city's finance committee and is the chairman of Portsmouth Schools Foundation. Broderick added that Wright is also known for his philanthropy and volunteerism with local schools as well as his service on a number of city boards.

The screenshot shows a website interface for the Capital One Mascot Video Challenge. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for VOTE, MASCOTS, STANDINGS, SCHEDULE, MASCOT VIDEO CHALLENGE, VIDEOS, EXTRAS, and HISTORY. Below the navigation bar, there is a large banner featuring the mascot Big Blue. The banner includes the text "CONGRATULATIONS TO BIG BLUE!" and "2010 NATIONAL MASCOT OF THE YEAR". To the right of the banner, there are several call-to-action buttons: "2010 MASCOT OF THE YEAR!", "2010 WRITE-IN WINNER", "CAPITAL ONE BOWL WEEK", and "WATCH THE MASCOTS".

## OmniGlobe: A Teaching Globe-trotter

The OmniGlobe spherical display that has been installed in the first floor lobby of the Old Dominion University Physical Sciences Building is a \$150,000 instrument that can take spectators on an interplanetary trip to Jupiter, send them via time travel back to the early Earth, or even zip them around the modern-day globe to pinpoint the fieldwork being done by ODU researchers.

It promises to be very popular not only with faculty and students, but also with visitors, including the school children who make field trips to the university.

Thanks to two projectors and a hemispheric mirror inside the 5-foot globe, and to an unlimited amount of digital imagery that can be provided by the instrument's computer component, the OmniGlobe can portray spherical objects ranging from the Earth and its moon to Jupiter and its moons.

Furthermore, the instrument can show

how the surface of the Earth looked six or 60 or 600 million years ago. With a flick of a switch the OmniGlobe becomes a very colorful display of varying water temperatures in the Earth's oceans. Or it can provide a backdrop for geological lessons in plate tectonics.

"The OmniGlobe is an important component of a broader initiative in geospatial interdisciplinary studies – called GEOIDS – that we see as an education/research vehicle that can forge links across departments, colleges and disciplines," said Richard Zimmerman, a professor of ocean, earth and atmospheric sciences who worked with Declan De Paor, associate professor of physics and the director of ODU's Pretlow Planetarium, to bring the instrument to ODU.

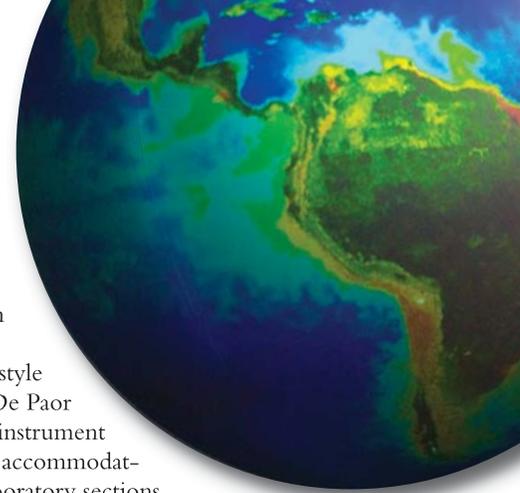
"The idea with OmniGlobe is to teach undergraduate students about the Earth in an immersive and kinesthetic environment and to allow browsing by students and vis-

itors in an informal, museum-style setting," De Paor said. The instrument is already accommodating 10 laboratory sections per week, mostly in oceanography and astronomy courses.

At the first astronomy lab, however, space became an issue. "Casual passers-by were curious about the globe and joined the class, doubling its size," De Paor related with a smile.

The office of President John Broderick and deans of several ODU colleges contributed funds for the purchase, setup and maintenance of the OmniGlobe.

For more information about the Pretlow Planetarium and OmniGlobe, or to arrange visits, see <http://www.lions.odu.edu/org/planetarium/website/Welcome.html>.



## Darden 2010 Alumni Fellows

Old Dominion University's Darden College of Education recognized the achievements of five graduates during the 2010 Darden Alumni Fellow awards luncheon. The annual event, during American Education Week, was sponsored by the ODU Alumni Association.

The 2010 fellows are:

David T. Bradley (M.S.Ed. '79) – A member of the Arizona State House of Representatives for the last eight years, he has received numerous awards for his advocacy of children and families. He has been the CEO of La Paloma Family Services Inc., a nonprofit child welfare agency, for more than 18 years.

James T. Roberts '69 – He became Chesapeake school superintendent last year after more than 40 years in public education. His career began as a social studies teacher in Portsmouth, and after a switch to Chesapeake, included jobs as director of budget and assistant superintendent. He earned three degrees from Old Dominion: a bachelor's and master's in secondary education, and a Ph.D. in urban services with a concentration in education.

Nicole Sneddon (M.S.Ed. '08) – She is a sixth-grade teacher at Gildersleeve Middle School in Newport News Public Schools, where she teaches reading and writing through nontraditional novel studies that link to present-day context. Last year, her fifth-grade students scored the highest in the division on the state SOL reading test.

Warren Stewart (M.S.Ed. '75) – A Norfolk native, he was superintendent of Goochland County, Va., Schools from 1991 to 2000 and is currently president of AARP Virginia and the Norfolk Crime Line. In 2005, he won the Liberty Bell Award, bestowed each year by Hampton Roads bar associations to honor outstanding citizens.

Brigitte Valesy (M.S.Ed. '81) – She is assistant provost for teaching, learning and assessment at Widener University near Philadelphia. As a technology teacher in 1998, she received the Maryland Governor's Citation for High School Program Excellence.

## Kyle Middleton Honored at Memorial Service



The university community gathered on Kaufman Mall Jan. 27 to honor Spc. William K. Middleton, who died in combat in Afghanistan in November 2010. Kyle, as he was

known to friends and family, had served in the Army since 2009. The Richmond, Va., native earned a bachelor's degree in communication with a minor in marketing in 2007. Mourners recalled his gifts in acting, writing and directing; "can-do" attitude in all class assignments; his fun-loving side as a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, and ultimately, his sacrifice and bravery in the armed forces.

# ENGAGE ODU

## Food Drive Puts ODU on 'Extreme Makeover: Home Edition'

Old Dominion University's basketball game against Delaware in February had some serious star power. The rapper Xzibit, one of the stars of the ABC television show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," revved up the halftime crowd, videotaping a message for Beverly Hill, Fred Burdette and their six children, who received a new house at the end of the week.

Television crews recorded Xzibit's halftime appearance, which featured him surrounded by the ODU student section taping a message for the Hill-Burdettes, who were in California while their house was built in Virginia Beach.

"I'm here at Old Dominion University, and I've got about 8,000 people that want to say hello," Xzibit shouted into a hand-held camera, while the students behind him cheered loudly.

The rapper-turned-television-star went on to say that since poverty and homelessness are such important issues for the Hill-Burdettes, "I'm proud to announce that we collected over 150,000 pounds of food" for local food banks through a drive co-sponsored by ODU.

The university sailing team contributed a "boatload" of food to the Extreme Food Drive, carrying a varsity sailboat out onto the court. The boat contained 5,000 pounds of food that were collected in a few weeks.

"We were really excited to participate," said ODU sailing coach Mitch Brindley. "The idea of a boatload of food, we thought, would be a fun way to get people excited to collect some food. It brought some attention to the sailing program, which we love, but more importantly, we got a lot of donations this way."

Scenes from halftime will be shown during the upcoming episode of "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" when the Hill-Burdettes receive their new home. The show was scheduled to air in the spring.

Members of the ODU band, along with the color guard, cheerleading squad, Big Blue and a contingent of students, also got into the action, joining other community supporters and volunteers in the "Extreme March to Make a Difference," which was organized by the ABC show staff as a fundraiser to help pay for construction items that were not donated. The



Rapper Xzibit and 8,000 new friends at the Monarchs' game on Feb. 2, show their support for the Hill-Burdette family, the ABC TV show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," and a successful drive to restock local food banks.

participants marched to the construction site to see the project firsthand.

ODU Athletic Director Wood Selig said the exposure for the university has been fantastic.

"I'm a big fan of 'Extreme Makeover,'" Selig said. "Our family watches the show on Sunday nights, and they do such a nice job." To see them here in our community, involving ODU in all the hoopla that surrounds that weekly program, was a great opportunity for fans to put their best foot forward and show a national audience the type of support ODU can garner, he said.

Selig said it all ties in to the new strategic plan that will guide the athletic department in the years ahead.

"We're going to have a major emphasis for all of our student-athletes, coaches and administration to give back to the community, and be very engaged and involved civically," he said. "It's in keeping with what we want to become on a larger scale, as far as giving back to the local Hampton Roads area."



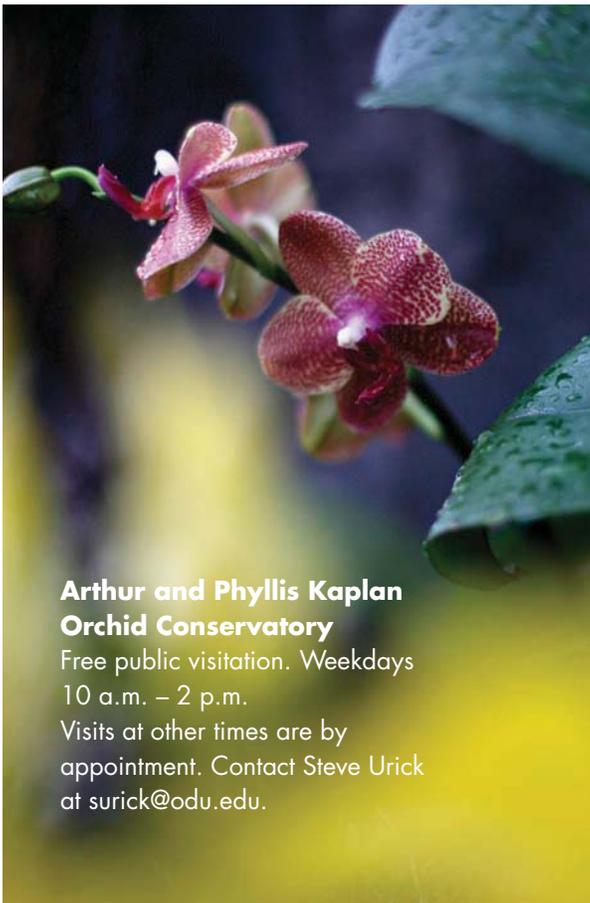
### March 1 – Sept. 4

The Self-Taught Artist in Context: Influences of American Culture – Examining both biography and the strategy of selected artists working within the context of their culture; this exhibition explores artistic and cultural influences of artists included in ODU’s Baron and Ellin Gordon Self-Taught Art Collection.

Baron and Ellin Gordon Galleries, Gallery hours  
11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tues. – Sat. and 1 – 5 p.m. Sun.,  
4509 Monarch Way. Free and open to the public.



## Baron and Ellin Gordon Galleries



### Arthur and Phyllis Kaplan Orchid Conservatory

Free public visitation. Weekdays  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Visits at other times are by appointment. Contact Steve Urick at [surick@odu.edu](mailto:surick@odu.edu).

# SPRING CAMPUS EVENTS, ATTRACTIONS AND PERFORMANCES

## April

### 7-11 Terell Stafford

Professional jazz trumpet player Terell Stafford will hold clinics and perform with ODU students during the week.

### 11 Diehn Concert Series

Terell Stafford, jazz trumpet. Chandler Recital Hall, Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center, 8 p.m. Tickets: \$15, 757-683-5305, <http://oduartstix.com>

### 13-16 University Dance Theatre Spring Concert

Choreographed by ODU dance faculty, guest artists and students, and performed by ODU students. April 13-15 at 8 p.m. and April 16 at 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. Tickets: \$12, 757-683-5305, <http://oduartstix.com>

### 14-23 Old Dominion University Theatre presents “Eurydice”

Orpheus once again goes through Hell – literally – to search for his lost love, Eurydice, in Sarah Ruhl’s fresh adaptation.

47th Street Warehouse of Theatre. April 14-16, 21-23 at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$15, 757-683-5305, <http://oduartstix.com>

### 15 University Concert Choir and Diehn Chorale

Mozart’s “Solemn Vespers,” Chandler Recital Hall, Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center, 7:30 p.m.

### April 16-May 8 Student Juried Art Show

Baron and Ellin Gordon Galleries, 4509 Monarch Way. Opening reception, April 16 at 7 p.m.

### 20 Wind Ensemble

Performance in University Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

### 26 ODU Symphony Orchestra

Performing in Young Artists Winners Concert, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre.

## May

### 7 114th Annual Commencement

9 a.m. Blythe McGarvie, global financial ethics and leadership consultant. Darden College of Education and College of Science

1 p.m. Sen. Jim Webb (D-Va.). College of Business and Public Administration and College of Health Sciences

5 p.m. Adriane Brown, senior executive of Intellectual Ventures. College of Arts and Letters and Batten College of Engineering and Technology

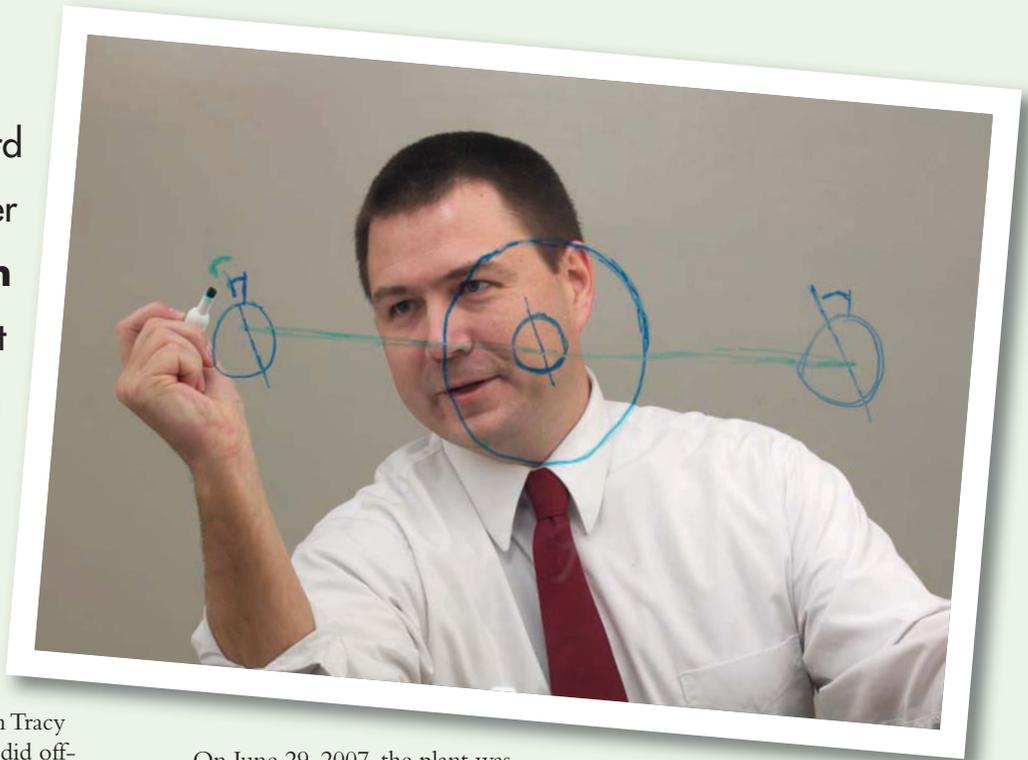
### 16 Summer School

First session classes begin!

*(NOTE: Events are free and open to the public, unless specified)*

# TODAY'S STUDENT

Laid-Off Ford  
Plant Worker  
**Tracy Thornton**  
Assembles Perfect  
Record as a  
Science Student



**D**uring those 10-hour shifts when Tracy Thornton did off-buck welding and hood deck inspections at Ford Motor Co.'s Norfolk Assembly Plant, he would engage in mind exercises such as memorizing pi out to 3,000 digits - you know, pi equals 3.1415926535 ... and so forth.

This occasionally made him think he should do something else with his life - perhaps go to college and become a teacher. His wife had done just that, and her teaching job wasn't nearly as monotonous as the assembly line. But Thornton was paid well to build Ford F-150 pickups, so he stayed on and the years mounted.

Then in 2007, nearly 12 years after he had started the job, Ford helped to make the career decision for him.

On June 29, 2007, the plant was permanently closed. Thornton finished his last shift and was sitting in a classroom at Old Dominion University just a few hours later.

When he marched at fall commencement in December, Thornton did so as the College of Sciences' Outstanding Scholar. The 38-year-old father of a son, 10, and daughter, 7, graduated with a perfect 4.0 grade point average and received a Bachelor of Science degree in ocean and earth sciences. He has finished his cooperative/student teaching assignment and scored a perfect 200/200 on the Praxis II test for teacher certification in earth sciences.

His dream of becoming a teacher is soon to come true.

In a roundabout way, Thornton said, his teaching philosophy will be a product of

the time he spent on the assembly line.

First of all, there are the mind exercises he used to relieve boredom.

He found in his student teaching at a middle school and high school in Virginia Beach that several of these memory aids are especially effective for today's students. Modern-day youths are bombarded with so much information and so many special sensations that they seem to need special tools to help them memorize school lessons, Thornton said. One tool involves the loci system of mnemonics, which was first used by the ancient Greeks and is a way to organize memory by attaching facts to already familiar locations, such as the rooms of a person's house.

"Earth science is a lot of new terminology and the quicker students can



"The assembly line was about getting it done in 50 seconds, or else you're 'in the hole,' and putting the guy behind you farther down the line."

organize unfamiliar concepts into retrievable mnemonic devices, the more time they can devote to absorbing information at deeper, more meaningful levels,” Thornton said. “I try to get the numbers and facts out of the way quickly so students can learn the science behind the facts.”

He also learned at the Ford Plant that sturdy trucks aren’t built by grandiose schemes and promises, but rather by hard work and tried-and-true methods. “The assembly line was about getting it done in 50 seconds, or else you’re ‘in the hole,’ and putting the guy behind you farther down the line,” Thornton said. “Stay out of the next guy’s way, get your job done and do it right the first time. Repeat this same process every 50 seconds, 65 times an hour, 60 hours a week.”

This “real-world” experience has made him something of a skeptic. “I have made it a point to develop the student’s sense of skepticism,” he explained. “Always respect authority, but at the same time ask questions.” One of the games he created in his teaching is called “BS in Movies,” with the BS standing for bad science. “We watch clips from movies such as ‘Deep Impact’ and ‘Star Wars’ and pick apart the scientific mistakes.”

Thornton said the model he will shoot for as a teacher has also been shaped by ODU faculty members, specifically Malcolm Scully, Peter Sedwick and Richard Whittecar in the Department of Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

It was Thornton’s interest in geology that originally caused him to visit the College of Sciences and look up Whittecar, an associate professor and geologist. “Dr. Whittecar was a convincing salesman and has since been very influential during my studies at ODU,” Thornton said.

Whittecar was so impressed with Thornton in the classroom that he put him to work in the Whittecar Wetlands Lab, which has external funding to conduct a wetlands mitigation project. Not many undergraduates are asked to take on the research responsibility that Thornton was given, Whittecar said. “What is always amazing about working with Tracy is that you can hand him a challenging task and he inevitably does far more than you expect and far more completely than you imagined needed to be done.”

Thornton said that with the completion of his undergraduate studies and cooperative teaching he can jump full time into looking for a full-time teaching job beginning in the fall of 2011. In the meantime he plans to do substitute teaching.

And one more thing, he said. “I should say something good about Ford Motor Co. Its education buyout package paid my tuition at ODU and, probably just as importantly, paid to keep up my benefits while I was a student.” Still, he’s pretty sure he’ll be happier as a science teacher than as an assembly line worker. When the Norfolk plant closed, he turned down an opportunity to move to a Ford job in Dearborn, Mich. He said he doesn’t regret that decision at all.

## Doctoral Student Named Delegate to Sustainability Summit



**Krista Harrell-Blair**, an ODU doctoral student in higher education, represented the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) at the U.S. Department of Education’s Sustainability Summit in Washington, D.C., in September.

Harrell-Blair, who also serves as the 2010-11 student representative on ODU’s Board of Visitors, said that attending the summit supported her dissertation focus in the research area of facility design and student engagement.

Hosted by the U.S. Department of Education in coordination with other federal agencies, the Sustainability Summit was designed to articulate a set of action steps for education, business, industry, government and the environmental community to promote the transition to a sustainable, green economy. U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan was the keynote speaker.

“I felt privileged to represent my national professional organization (NACA),” Harrell-Blair said. With representatives from a host of government and nonprofit agencies sharing insights on the educational sustainability movement, “I was inspired by progressive college presidents and leaders in the field to be a part of the solution.”

At the end of the conference’s second day, teams of summit delegates put forward recommendations for consideration for the next steps that the U.S. Department of Education and the White House need to take.

“I was excited to have a recommendation I supported forwarded on – to convene a group to share information on existing national sustainability initiatives from students and identifying and acting on possible synergies between the groups related to student engagement in sustainability initiatives on campuses,” Harrell-Blair said.

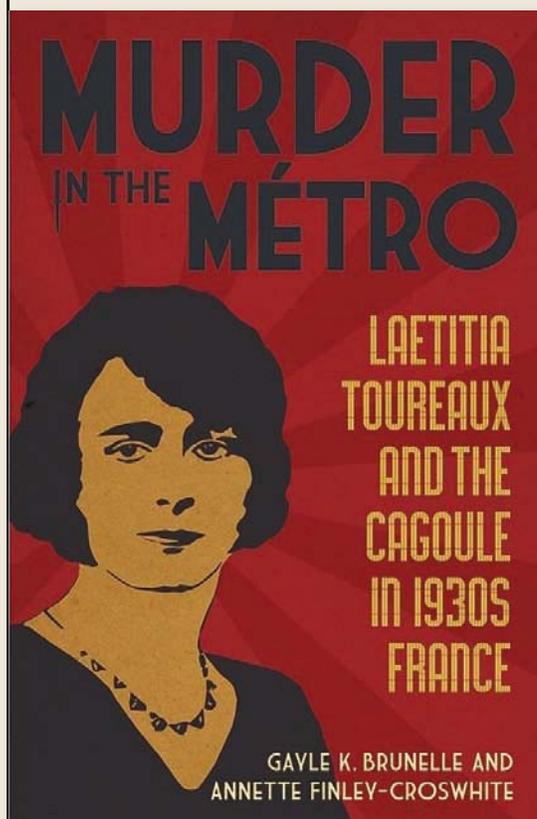
As she completes her doctoral program, Harrell-Blair said she hopes to assist ODU in moving forward with sustainability initiatives, noting that the university is a charter member of the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS). “I will assist in the completion of the assessment in the spring. It is critical to integrate sustainability at all levels of the institution – from the curriculum to the practices,” she said.

After completing her Ph.D., Harrell-Blair hopes to find a position that combines her passion for sustainability and her experience in student engagement and higher education administration.



*-Steve Daniel*

# BOOKS



chilling implications for our understanding of post-war France.”

About the same time, the British magazine *History Today* named “Murder in the Metro” (Louisiana State University Press) one of its favorite books of 2010. The *Virginian-Pilot* in Norfolk also ran a positive review and an interview with Finley-Croswhite in December.

“It’s a crossover book, like a country music song that

gets onto the pop charts,” said Finley-Croswhite, professor of history at ODU and chair of the Department of History. “It’s an academic book that has caught the attention of the trade press world.”

The authors researched newspaper clippings and other records from the 1930s to modern times in order to reconstruct the untold story of why someone stabbed Laetitia Toureaux in the neck on the Paris Metro. They build a convincing case for her knowing too much about the plans of French and Italian fascists, and for the inevitable suppression of the murder

investigation by men who would become post-war leaders of France.



## Historian Annette Finley-Croswhite

### Wins Praise for “Murder in the Metro”

“Murder in the Metro: Laetitia Toureaux and the Cagoule in 1930s France,” a book by historians Annette Finley-Croswhite of Old Dominion University and Janet Brunelle of California State University, Fullerton, won praise from academic reviewers when it was released early in 2010. By the end of the year, the popular literary press was chiming in with sterling reviews of its own.

The *Times Literary Supplement* of the *London Times* ran a lengthy review in December, declaring that Finley-Croswhite and Brunelle “have produced a gripping historical whodunit with

**“White House Politics and the Environment: FDR to George W. Bush.”** By Glen Sussman, professor of political science at Old Dominion University, and Byron W. Daynes, professor of political science at Brigham Young University.

The authors employ political communication, legislative leadership, administrative actions and environmental policy in examining the environmental records of 12 presidents.

### **“The Raven’s Bride.”**

By Lenore Hart MFA ‘08.

Edgar Allan Poe is one of the most famous figures in American literature, but his wife, Virginia “Sissy” Clemm, is a mere footnote. Hart sets out to rectify this in her vividly imagined new novel. First cousins “Eddy” and Sissy become acquainted when she’s seven years old and marry when she’s a mere 13. Though this unconventional love story, narrated from Sissy’s perspective, plays out against Poe’s black depressions, bouts with alcohol, and failure to earn a steady income, Sissy shines through as muse and steadfast supporter.

**“Academic Podcasting and Mobile Assisted Language Learning: Applications and Outcomes.”** Edited by Betty Rose Facer and M’hammed Abdous of the ODU faculty.

This large volume examines the advantages and disadvantages of podcasting in mobile assisted language learning (MALL) technologies. The book will be interesting to anyone who wants to know more about the use of cell phones, mp3 players and other mobile instruments to teach languages. Abdous is ODU’s assistant vice president for teaching and learning with technology. Facer is a senior lecturer of French.

### **“The Magic of Topsail Island.”**

By Lindsay McAllister Zarse BS ‘05.

Zarse introduced her father, Ray McAllister, the former *Richmond Times-Dispatch* columnist, to Topsail Island, N.C., and he later produced the popular book, “Topsail Island: Mayberry by the Sea.” Now Zarse has produced her own Topsail Island book, this one a children’s story centered on the fact that the island is a sanctu-

ary for sea turtles. “I have a deep affection for the island, but also, I have a six-year-old who lives to read,” Zarse said. The book’s illustrations are by Brian Martin.

### **“San Miguel de Allende, Mexico: Memoir of a Sensual Quest for Spiritual Healing.”**

By Rick Skwiot MFA ‘02.

This recounts the surreal, ret-rospectively humorous and life-altering events Skwiot experienced living among pleasure-seeking mejicanos and quirky Anglo-phone expats in the 1980s. Skwiot’s novel “Flesh,” a Hemingway First Novel Award winner, also has been recently reintroduced with the title “Death in Mexico.”

### **“Why Women Weep.”**

By Alfreda Brown-Kelly BS ‘10.

Kelly, currently a graduate student in sociology at ODU, has written this book of poetry, following up her “The Skin I Am In,” also a book of poetry, which was released in 2010. She also wrote “Transformation of The Mind, Body and Soul,” which was published in 2008. Her work has been featured in the poetry anthology “Ancestral Rites” and in *Praise* magazine.

### **“Mentoring in the Library: Building for the Future.”**

By Marta K. Lee BS ‘95, MA ‘97.

According to the cover flap, “In this useful book, Lee shows librarians how mentoring can be both personally satisfying and a path to career development.”

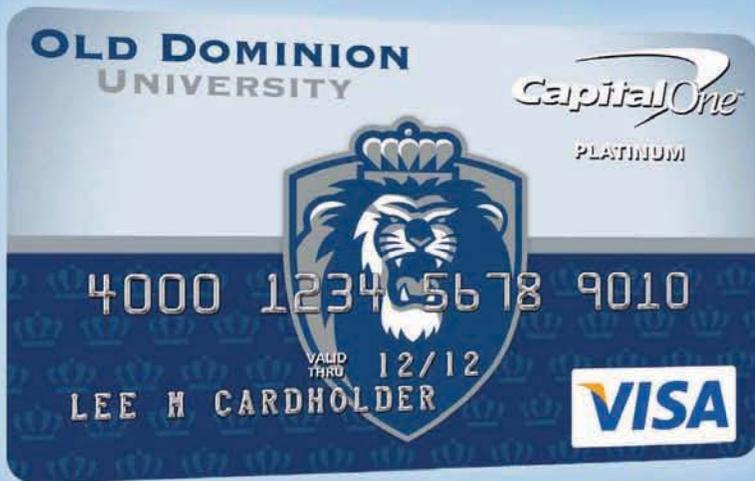
### **“Arsenic and Old Paint.”**

By Hailey Lind.

(Lind is the pen name for two sisters, one of whom is Carolyn Lawes, an associate professor of history at ODU. The other is Julie Goodson-Lawes, a San Francisco Bay area muralist and portrait painter.) This is the fourth book in an *Art Lover’s Mystery Series*. Carolyn Lawes is also the author of “Women and Reform in a New England Community, 1815-1860.”

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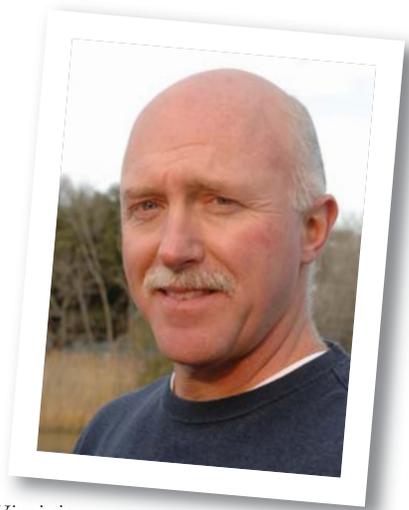


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# RESEARCH

## Marine Biologist Mark Butler, 2011 SCHEV Award Winner



**M**ark Butler, a marine biologist at Old Dominion University whose research promotes the stocks of blue crabs along the mid-Atlantic coast and of spiny lobsters in the Caribbean, is a 2011 recipient of the Virginia Outstanding Faculty Award sponsored by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

He is ODU's 25th winner since 1991. During the two decades since then, only the College of William and Mary has won more SCHEV outstanding faculty awards.

Twelve faculty members at colleges and universities in Virginia were chosen for the 2011 awards from among 106 nominees. Each recipient will receive an engraved award and a check for \$5,000 underwritten by the Dominion Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Dominion Resources.

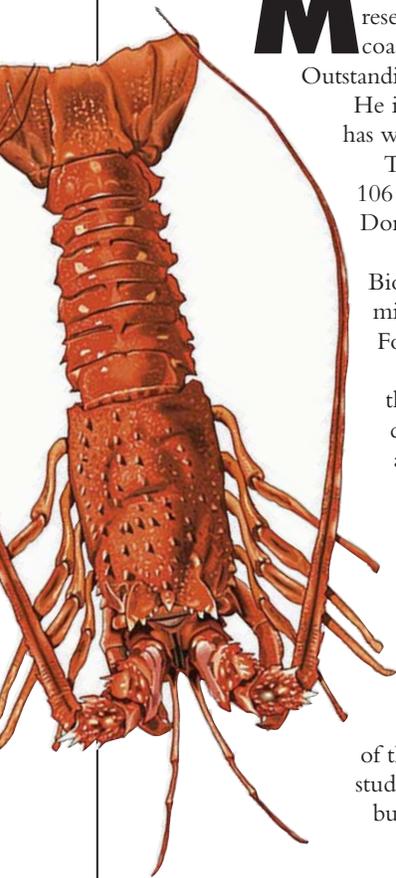
Butler, who was designated an Eminent Scholar at ODU last year and is a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, has been the principal or co-principal investigator on more than 50 grants totaling nearly \$8 million since he joined the university in 1989. Much of the support has come from the National Science Foundation (NSF), which has continuously funded his research since 1995.

In recent years, Butler has led multidisciplinary research teams in the study of marine diseases and the roles that species behavior, habitats and long-distance oceanographic transport of larvae play in disease dynamics. He is currently co-principal investigator on a \$2.25 million grant from the NSF to study the effects of over-fishing and climate change on disease dynamics in blue crabs in Virginia. Last year, he won \$1.4 million in additional NSF support to study how disease spreads among lobster populations in the Caribbean.

Two other grants awarded to Butler in the past 12 months from the Everglades National Park and a Nature Conservancy-NOAA co-sponsored program will allow him to launch the first-ever project aimed at restoring sponge communities in Florida that have been decimated by harmful plankton blooms.

He is frequently invited to present his research at science conferences around the world. In 2010, for example, he spoke at the joint meeting of the Crustacean Society and the Japanese Carcinological Society in Tokyo on the influence of humans on the ecology and long-term sustainability of lobster populations. Altogether, he has been the author or co-author of 200 presentations at scientific conferences.

One of Butler's students, Alden Cleanthes, wrote in the professor's nomination document: "Dr. Butler is one of the most demanding instructors I have ever encountered; but that is part of his excellence, for he challenges his students to be better than they believe they are or can be. Learning in such an environment is not only exceptional but character-building."



## VMASC Asked to Develop Rules of the Game

**M**odeling and simulation has been used for research for more than 30 years, starting with the Department of Defense (DoD) and expanding to be used in other areas. The problem is, the field is relatively new and no one has written down the rules of the game. Until now.

Old Dominion University's Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (VMASC) was awarded a \$650,000 contract by DoD in 2009 to begin to develop standards for M&S software development. The second year contract was approved late in 2010, totaling another \$800,000.

VMASC Executive Director John Sokolowski said this project was a recognition that DoD needs to change the way it does business.

"This funding actually is a congressional earmark from Congressman (Randy) Forbes (R-4th District)," Sokolowski said. "He saw that DoD was spending money on modeling and simulation over and over on the same thing. And that was because there were no clear standards that would allow something to be developed and then shared in different venues. So DoD was paying for something multiple times."

VMASC has been tasked with developing standards to allow a particular model, say, representing an airplane, to be used in multiple simulations.



## Grant Aims at Stronger Ties to Europe

Old Dominion University's ACCESSEU, a comprehensive plan to build alliances and partnerships between Hampton Roads and Europe, has been awarded a \$157,000 grant as part of the United Nations' 2011-12 "Getting to Know Europe Grants Competition." ACCESSEU is led by ODU's graduate program in international studies and the graduate program in business administration.

"This is a tremendous recognition of the region and the university," said Regina Karp, associate professor of political science and director of the graduate program in international studies, the project's principal investigator. ACCESSEU is an 18-month program dedicated to relationship building between our region and

Europe, and is centered on the themes of education, community awareness and local networking.

According to Karp, such a partnership is long overdue for Hampton Roads. She points to the fact that the region has a large European presence with NATO and the military, and that half of the area's international businesses hail from Europe, including BAE Systems, Maersk, Siemens and Volvo. "By strengthening these relationships and building new ones, we are harnessing the industrial, educational and civic potential of Hampton Roads," she said.

The initiative will introduce the Hampton Roads community to European perspectives on global problem solving. This includes educational activities for high school, college and graduate students in social studies,

European history, politics and government, and a model Europe simulation exercise with other universities in the region.

Larry Filer, who directs ODU's M.B.A. program in the College of Business and Public Administration and serves as the co-principal investigator, said the grant will benefit both ODU and the region. "It will help us strengthen some ongoing programs and existing regional outreach activities. In addition, we will be able to create several new initiatives in the area of economic development partnerships with the European Union, which should be a tremendous asset to the Hampton Roads business community."



## Colberg-Ochs Author of Diabetes-Exercise Paper

A joint position paper of the American College of Sports Medicine and the American Diabetes Association, written by a committee chaired by Sheri Colberg-Ochs, professor of exercise science at Old Dominion University, emphasizes the importance of regular exercise for diabetics.

The paper was published concurrently in the December 2010 issue of the journal *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise* and the ADA journal *Diabetes Care*.

In the introduction of the statement on "Exercise and Type 2 Diabetes," the authors note: "Diabetes has become a widespread epidemic, primarily because of the increasing prevalence and incidence of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM)." They add: "The intent is to recognize that many types of physical movement may have a positive effect on physical fitness, morbidity, and mortality in individuals with T2DM."

The statement includes the following conclusion: "Exercise plays a major role in the prevention and control of insulin resistance, prediabetes, gestational diabetes mellitus, type 2 (T2DM) diabetes mellitus, and diabetes-related health complications. Both aerobic and resistance training improve insulin action, at least acutely, and can assist with the management of blood glucose levels, lipids, blood pressure, cardiovascular risk, mortality, and quality of life, but exercise must be undertaken regularly to have continued benefits and likely include regular training of varying types. Most persons with T2DM can perform exercise safely as long as certain precautions are taken."

Colberg-Ochs, who specializes in diabetes and exercise research, is a frequent national lecturer and author. She has written eight books and more than 200 articles on exercise, diabetes, healthy lifestyles, fitness, nutrition, aging, weight loss, diabetic Latinos and more.

# Psychology Prof Turns Homework into Social Media Game

**R**ichard Landers, a psychology faculty member at Old Dominion University, isn't one of those teachers who wrings his hands over the online games and Facebook exchanges that keep his students from their homework. He figures if you can't beat them, join them.

The young assistant professor, who arrived at ODU in 2009, has embraced social media as an educational tool and his schemes are getting national attention, such as on the Chronicle of Higher Education website.

In the summer of 2010, Landers conducted research utilizing an online social network – socialPsych – that he created especially for undergraduate courses. Students set up profiles much as they would do with Facebook, and use the network to communicate about course work. The gamification aspect allows a student to take quizzes on course material. These quizzes are voluntary and they don't affect grades. But the student who answers questions correctly earns ribbons and badges. These are little icons that appear beside the students' names in their profiles and posts to indicate that they have reached various mastery levels.

Also a part of socialPsych is a Mentoring Center that allows students who become certified via their performance on the quizzes to tutor other students.

Landers was pleased by how eagerly the students took to socialPsych. Of the 400 students who participated, 113 willingly chose to take the optional multiple-choice quizzes that determined whether they got ribbons and badges. That figure alone is enough to make educators “shake their heads in disbelief,” he said. “For 28 percent of students to willingly complete optional multiple-choice quizzes that would never have an effect on their grades, that's absolutely amazing.

“Especially fantastic is that simply spending time completing the quizzes exposes them to course material more than they otherwise would have been exposed, meaning they were more likely to learn something.” Landers said the study found that the more a student used socialPsych the better his or her grade in the course would be, although he did not have data to establish this as a causal relationship.



## Balitsky, Luo Elected APS Fellows

Two Old Dominion University professors, Ian Balitsky in physics and Li Shi Luo in mathematics and statistics, were elected Fellows of the American Physical Society (APS) this past winter.

Balitsky was chosen for his innovative work in helping to describe the interactions of subatomic particles. Luo, who is the Richard F. Barry Jr. Distinguished Endowed Professor of Mathematics and Statistics, was chosen for his work in fluid dynamics.

ODU now has 13 faculty members as well as one recently retired faculty member who are APS Fellows. “This is a distinction that very few universities can claim,” said Chris Platsoucas, dean of the ODU College of Sciences.

The Balitsky-Kovchegov (BK) equation that the ODU professor helped to develop describes how the nucleus and its constituents behave at high energies. Recently, Balitsky has been making corrections that allow the equation to be relevant in experiments conducted at the

extraordinarily high energies of modern-day accelerators. One such instrument is the Large Hadron Collider that began operations last year on a 17-mile-long track at the border of Switzerland and France.

A citation from the APS states that Luo's election is “for his seminal contributions to the theoretical understanding and applications of the lattice Boltzmann equation and other kinetic methods.”

## Enterprise Center Chosen for Navy Training Contract

The Navy's Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Atlantic (SSC-LANT) has contracted with an enterprise center at Old Dominion University for training to address complex engineering problems using system of systems engineering.

SSC-LANT and its parent organization, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR), will work over the next three years with the National Centers for System of Systems Engineering (NCSoSE), an enterprise center of the Frank Batten College of Engineering and

Technology. The sole-source contract for the NCSoSE services is worth up to \$2.4 million.

As a sole-source provider, NCSoSE is now the only recognized provider in the world for system of systems engineering training for SSC-LANT. Kevin MacG. Adams, principal research scientist at NCSoSE and the lead on this contract, said SPAWAR is responsible for command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance (C4-ISR) and space and information systems for the Navy.

The certificate program NCSoSE will conduct will be broken into four courses - Systems Engineering, Systems Theory, Complex Systems and System of Systems Engineering. The program will be capped off with a case study, incorporating what students have learned in the first four courses. The case study will consist of an actual problem that SSC-LANT will have its newly trained staff members help solve.

Most residents of the area see themselves as healthy (82.6 percent) and satisfied with their lives (84.7 percent).



## Locals Give Thumbs Up to Life in Hampton Roads

**L**ife is good in Hampton Roads, says a study conducted by Old Dominion University's Social Science and Research Center (SSRC). The center, which conducted a comprehensive telephone survey to gauge perceptions and attitudes regarding a variety of local issues, found that most residents of the area see themselves as healthy (82.6 percent) and satisfied with their lives (84.7 percent).

"This survey gives us a pulse of residents in our area," said Tancy J. Vandecar-Burdin, associate director of the SSRC.

The scope of the questions was broad and included perceptions of the media, arts, transportation, politics, the environment, education and overall quality of life. Some of the more interesting survey findings included: 47.6 percent of

respondents believe that immigrants (legal or otherwise) will take jobs away from people already in Hampton Roads; 21.5 percent label global warming "an environmental hoax"; and 41.9 percent believe that gay and lesbian couples should be allowed to legally marry.

The findings, which were released late last year, are the result of nearly 700 telephone interviews with residents of Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Portsmouth and Suffolk. Funded by the ODU Office of Research, the random-sample survey will be conducted on an annual basis for at least the next three years to provide the community and ODU faculty access to data to assist in their own research.

## More Research Needed in Response to BP Spill

**E**fforts by scientists to evaluate the ecological effects of the 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico have exposed large gaps in our knowledge of the population trends of marine species. This is the message of a paper in the journal *Science* written by a group of researchers including Cynthia Jones, eminent scholar and professor of ocean, earth and atmospheric sciences at Old Dominion University.

Because many of these marine species were never adequately assessed prior to the BP spill, the authors say, U.S. agencies charged with managing protected species and with participating in recovery efforts in the Gulf cannot decide to what extent species and ecosystems have been hurt.

"After the 1989 Exxon Valdez Alaskan oil spill, evaluation efforts of effects on wildlife were ambiguous, in

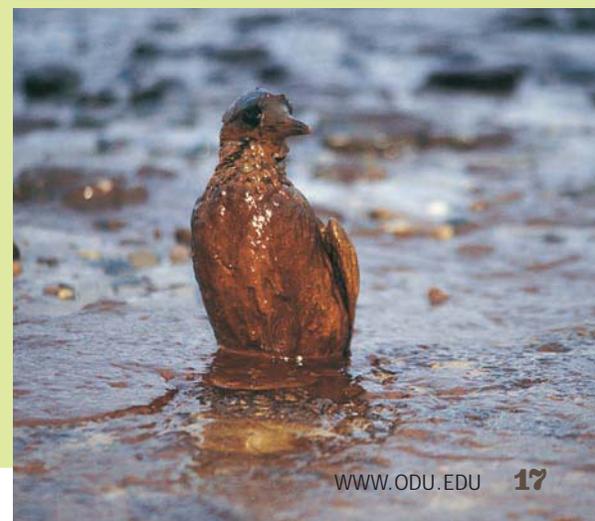
part because of limited data on abundance and demography...," the authors write. "Sadly, the situation in the (Gulf) is similar more than 20 years later."

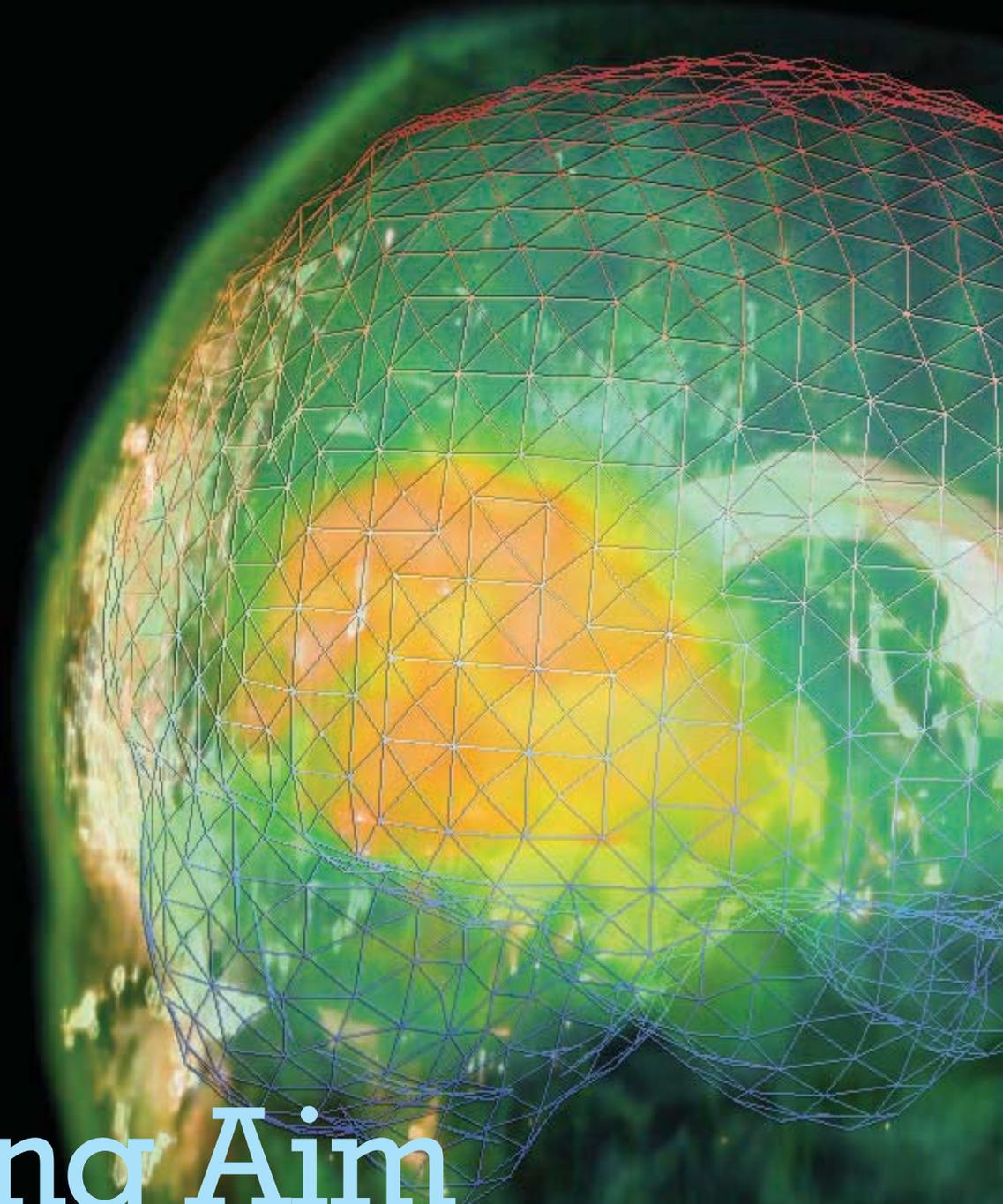
The article, headlined "Better Science Needed for Restoration in the Gulf of Mexico," is in the Policy Forum section of the Feb. 4 edition of the journal.

Jones and the other authors contend that scientists know how to make the critical species assessments that are needed, but lack research data to achieve this goal. "Tens of millions of dollars from BP intended to restore wildlife populations and ecosystems have already been disbursed, and hundreds of millions more are at risk of being distributed without a clear strategic plan to ensure that projects improve our understanding of population dynamics and the impacts of

proposed management actions," the authors write.

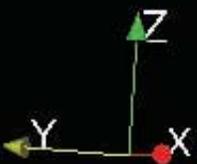
"It is not too late to invest funds from BP to support teams of experts to develop effective strategic plans that identify, prioritize and provide methodologies for collecting essential data."



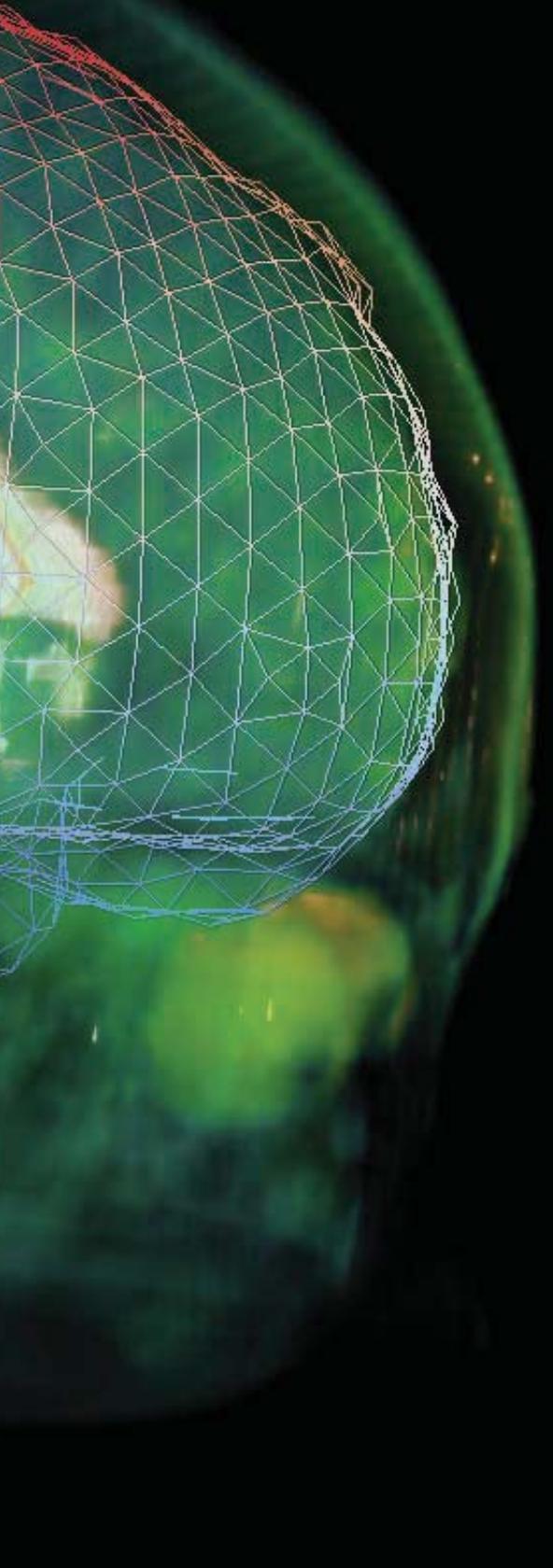


Collaborating  
with Surgeons  
in the United  
States and  
Abroad,  
Computer  
Scientist  
Nikos  
Chrisochoides  
is

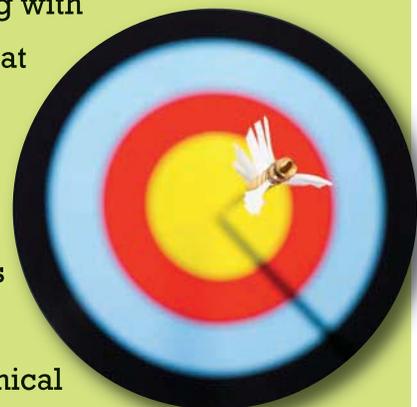
# Taking Aim at Brain Tumors



BY JIM RAPER



Over the past six years, Nikos Chrisochoides, the Old Dominion University Richard T. Cheng Endowed Chair in Computer Science, has been working with medical doctors and neurosurgeons at Harvard Medical School to reduce the risks of neurosurgery. Many millions of dollars in instruments and facilities, and thousands of hours of strategizing by scientists and physicians have been invested in clinical studies for the treatment of patients with brain tumors, all of whom have undergone surgery in a dedicated suite at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.



The expensive, state-of-the-art care that so far has been available only to a few patients in these clinical studies could soon pave the way for similar delicate surgical procedures to be offered by hundreds of hospitals worldwide.

“The technology is now there,” says Chrisochoides. “Many of the answers are coming from new innovations in medicine and, of course, from basic and translational research in mathematics and computer science.”

How could brain surgery be influenced so significantly by computer science, advanced algorithms and software? To answer this question, Chrisochoides provides some background – as well as an analogy based upon the GPS instrument that a motorist can use to find her way to a destination. First, he posits a driver maneuvering through a part of town that she knows like the back of her hand. “But there has been an earthquake and routes are blocked. She needs detours, but doesn't know where the detours are, or even whether or not they exist.”

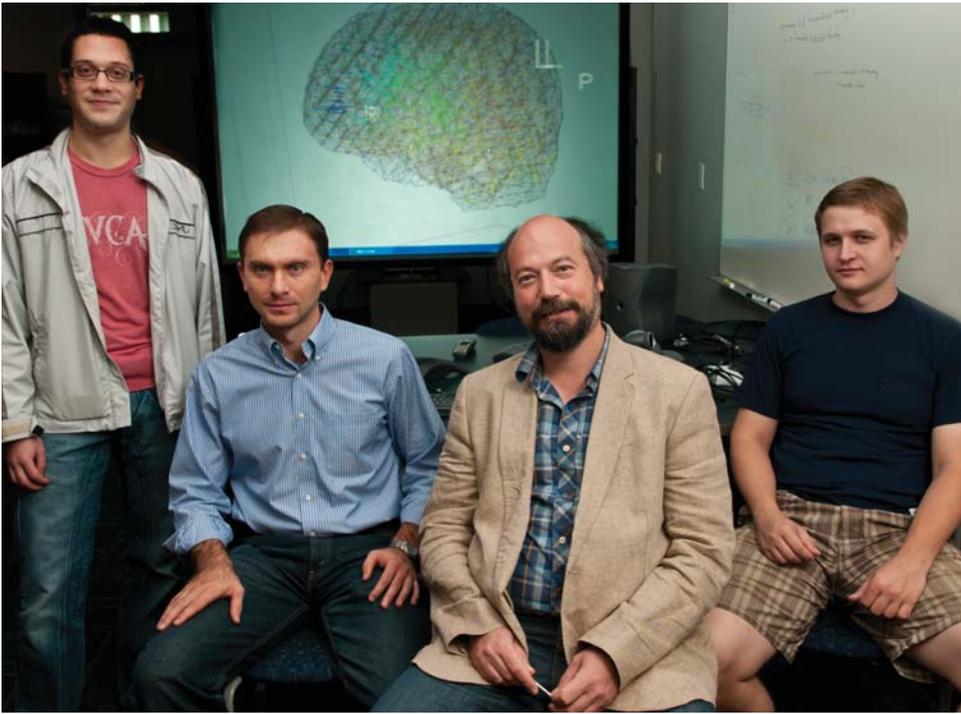
Like the city's grid of streets after an earthquake, the contours of the brain – and the tumor it harbors – are changed by opening the skull and other surgical procedures. Shifts and deformations of the tissue during surgery can compromise the usefulness of MRI scans that are conducted before the surgery begins. In addition, once the surgery starts it is no simple matter for the surgeons to get updated medical imaging informative enough to guide their scalpels.

A solution, as it turns out, is based upon numerical modeling and computer simulations, and this has allowed Chrisochoides to become a leading researcher in the field of medical image computing for image-guided therapy and, more specifically, for neurosurgery. His accomplishments in this field led to his selection in 2007 as a John Guggenheim Fellow in Medicine and Health.

Chrisochoides took the Cheng Chair at ODU in 2010. During the previous decade he was on the faculty at the College of William and Mary, where he directed the Center for Real-Time Computing (CRTC) and the Parallel Experimental Systems Lab. He has held visiting research and teaching positions at Harvard Medical School, MIT, Brown University and NASA's Langley Research Center. He also has collaborated with researchers at Yale University and at the Huashan Hospital in Shanghai, China. (See accompanying article.)

“We watch with pride as his state-of-the-art computer science research extends to life-saving applications in medicine and surgery,” said Chris Platsoucas, the ODU College of Sciences dean who recruited him.

What Chrisochoides and his colleagues have developed and are working to perfect is a dynamic mapping system to guide the surgeon's scalpel to its destination, even if detours are required.



Since 1990 there have been rapid advances in the development of navigational devices that help neurosurgeons be more accurate in the microsurgical treatment of tumors, vascular malformations and other intracranial lesions. A variety of imaging instruments has been used to study a patient's brain prior to surgery – or preoperatively, as the researchers say. The MRI does the best job of providing a high-resolution image and has come to be used widely in image-guided brain surgeries because it helps the surgeon identify and extract a tumor with minimal damage of healthy tissue and blood vessels.

Each year, approximately 210,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with a primary or metastatic brain tumor, according to the National Brain Tumor Society. Surgeons know that the patient's prognosis generally depends upon how much of the tumor they can extract. The majority of malignant gliomas recur less than an inch away from the edge of the original tumor.

However, removing all of a tumor can be extremely difficult. Cancerous tissue sometimes resembles healthy tissue, and tumors also infiltrate or wrap close to critical functioning portions of the brain. A slight slip-up, therefore, can damage functions such as speech and sight. This explains the advantage of the scalpel being guided by very accurate data.

But neurosurgeons found early on in the development of image-guided neurosurgery that preoperative MRI pictures, even when taken only a day prior to the surgery, can become outdated soon after the skull is opened. Cranial fluid escapes and the brain that had been floating in one configuration slumps and changes in contour.

The solution that would seem obvious to the layman would be to do brain imaging during the surgical procedure, or intraoperatively, to keep tabs on the changes. Yet anyone who has undergone an MRI scan knows that it takes a very large instrument and a high magnetic field to produce those high-resolution images of the interior body. When neurosurgery is interrupted so a patient can be wheeled away to undergo hour-long intraoperative imaging on a full-power MRI machine, physicians become concerned about the time that elapses while the patient has his or her skull open. MRI instruments have been developed that allow the scanning to go on in within the surgical suite, but so far these instruments have been less powerful and incapable of producing usable images.

Chrisochoides likens low-resolution, intraoperative MRI images to satellite photos of the Earth taken from thousands of miles up in space. "You see the oceans, the rivers, the continents, but the photos do not give you the details. They cannot tell you where you are, what you are near, or even how far you are from where you want to be."

Surgeons operating on a brain are like drivers who don't have time to waste finding their way, he says. "They don't need to waste their time driving around looking for their destination, worrying about the traffic."

## Hardworking Team



Nikos Chrisochoides flicks a switch for a roomful of colleagues wearing 3-D eyeglasses; a colorful model of a brain appears, seeming to jump from the screen and hover in front of the spectators. A tumor is visible; it has infiltrated the brain tissue. This is an image of an actual patient's brain, developed by the research group to guide neurosurgeons' scalpels. "What a talented, hardworking team," Chrisochoides says, speaking of his collaborators. "All of this is due to the work of these guys." In the large photo above, Chrisochoides

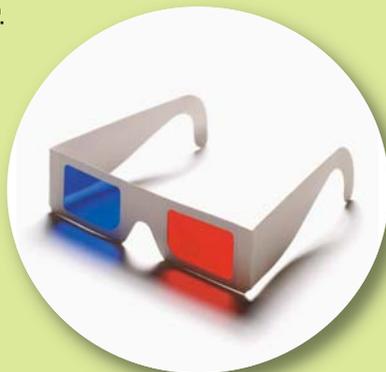


(wearing jacket) is flanked at left by Panagiotis Foteinos, research assistant, and Andrey Chernikov, an ODU research assistant professor, and on the right by

Andriy Kot, research assistant. Separately pictured are research assistants Yixun Liu and Mike Weissberger.

Chrisochoides' work has been and is now supported by several grants from the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and by an award from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. Most recently he has received funding via an endowment

to ODU computer science from Richard T. Cheng, founding chair of ODU's Department of Computer Science. Said Chrisochoides: "Cheng funds make it possible for experts from all over the world to visit us here and exchange ideas. Without this kind of support, our work is not possible."



Chrisochoides and his colleagues provide their service in this manner: Based on a variety of images of the patient's brain from the preoperative MRI, the researchers come up with a detailed, computer generated model of the brain. During surgery, quick breaks are taken for intraoperative MRIs and the images – think, satellite photos – are dispatched via a computer hookup to Chrisochoides and his team of researchers. “We take the original map and re-adjust it based on the new (low-resolution) images, bringing it into the current state where we can find the detours,” he says.

The researchers proceed, by means of high-speed computing and a complicated mathematical algorithm, to process a real-time image-to-mesh (I2M) conversion of the patient's brain, and then to align the preoperative model with the intraoperative model in a process called registration. “This is like fusing two or more images,” he explained.

Chrisochoides pointed out that the math problem for the advanced type of registration his team is working on is so difficult it has resisted a solution. “If you press on the brain, it moves with the energy and after a while it settles back a little. We can calculate the place where it settles by solving a partial differential equation,” he said. “Mathematics can tell us there is a solution, but this is so complex we cannot find what that solution is. We have to approximate.”

Experts in image-guided surgery worldwide know Chrisochoides, who holds a master's degree in mathematics and Ph.D. in computer science from Purdue University, as a pacesetter in real-time I2M conversion and the fusing of multiple images. As far back as 2006, he showed that he could receive intraoperative images from surgeons in Boston, fuse old and new images in less than five minutes and send back an updated model of the brain that the surgeons could load into their navigational device. With this five-minute turnaround time, the Chrisochoides research group became the first in the world to complete, in near real time, the alignment of pre- and intraoperative MRI using landmark tracking across the entire brain volume and to present the results to neurosurgeons during a tumor removal procedure.

The research group has concentrated in recent years on novel parallel computing strategies to make that turnaround time shorter. So far, with special contributions from Yixun Liu, a member of the Chrisochoides research team, these strategies have lowered the turnaround to about a minute, giving the team the right to drop the near from the real-time descriptor.

Still, Chrisochoides sees a lot of work remaining to be done. “This clinical work in Boston is useful to demonstrate what is possi-

## WORK ON THE CUTTING EDGE FROM NORFOLK TO SHANGHAI

For his research in image-guided neurosurgery, Old Dominion University computer scientist Nikos Chrisochoides has collaborated with physicians and scientists in Boston and Shanghai, working with two of the three facilities worldwide that have cutting-edge neurosurgery surgical suites. He has also begun work closer to home with a faculty member at Eastern Virginia Medical School.

Two medical doctors at Harvard Medical School who are pioneers in image-guided therapies, Dr. Ferenc Jolesz, the B. Leonard Holman Professor of Radiology, and Dr. Ron Kikinis, the Robert Greenes Distinguished Director of Biomedical Informatics and Professor of Radiology, are Chrisochoides' collaborators and mentors.

Other collaborators are Dr. Peter Black, neurosurgeon-in-chief at Brigham and Women's Children's Hospital and Franc D. Inghram, Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School and Dr. Alexandra Golby, also a Harvard Medical School neurosurgeon.

More recently, Chrisochoides has been recruited to the other side of the globe into a collaboration with medical professionals in the Neurosurgery Department at Huashan Hospital in Shanghai, China, where he works with neurosurgeons Dr. Zhou, Liang-Fu, member of China's National Academy, Dr. Jinsong Wu and Dr. Chengjun Yao. The Shanghai hospital has built a cutting-edge surgical suite for image-guided neurosurgery similar to the one in Boston.

Chrisochoides is working closer to home with Dr. Joseph Han of the head and neck surgery department at EVMS. They have conducted promising clinical studies using imaging devices and computer equipment that are much less expensive than those used in the cutting-edge suites.

ble, but it is so complex that it needs to be improved in order to be used every day.” This is why he is so intent on bringing advanced computer-guided neurosurgery to hundreds of hospitals around the world. He says he believes his work also can be useful in prostate cancer surgery, and potentially in other minimally invasive procedures.

The CRTC team has developed a new way to divide computational chores between multicore computers and graphics processing units (GPUs) – these are commonly used in video games – to get results faster and about 10 times cheaper than more conventional means. The team is also experimenting with Web-based computing services, the so-called “cloud” computing.

“Unlike the approaches that use multi-cores or GPU alone, our approach leads to desirable speedup for the whole application by taking advantage of all components of the cooperative parallel architecture for all individual parts of the application. This helps us to get closer to our goal of cheaper and faster image-guided therapies, leading to more widespread use,” Chrisochoides said.

He said he has been touched by the difficulties encountered by brain cancer patients who have to travel long distances to get treatment. “People with brain tumors don't want to be so far from home, and for these procedures they want their families to be with them. This can be very, very expensive when you include the travel, food and hotels. The solution is to have the procedures available in more places, and closer to home. We could do

it here in Norfolk.”

For this to happen, Chrisochoides says, less intricate and less expensive medical imaging must be used, such as computer tomography (CT) or ultrasound. He believes what is lost in quality of image from these machines will be compensated for by advances in numerical modeling and computer simulations.

“We can improve algorithms so we can use these other instruments that are less expensive, and in the end they will be no less effective. Instead of a few million to create the surgical suite, we can do it for a few hundred thousand dollars, making this health care more affordable and accessible.”

Jim Cheng, the Virginia secretary of commerce and trade, who is an ODU alumnus and whose father endowed the Cheng Chair, has met twice with Chrisochoides in recent months. “I am grateful for the opportunity to explain my work to Jim Cheng and Jimmy Rhee (assistant secretary of commerce),” Chrisochoides said. “They, plus the excellent work of ODU administrators in winning increased financial support for the university in this year's state budget, give me the feeling that ODU is not alone in its endeavors.”

Back to the GPS analogy, he said his team is zooming-in ever closer to its targets. “We started with general landscapes, and over time we have added landmarks such as streets and roads and buildings. Then we got in close enough to name the streets and buildings. In a few years, we will be looking in the windows of those buildings. This is where the future is.”

Lytton Musselman  
Is Getting to Know  
Deerberries and Farkleberries  
'On a Different Level'

# foraging for cocktails

BY JIM RAPER



**B**otanist Lytton Musselman has long been familiar with the deerberry shrub (*Vaccinium stamineum*) that is commonly found in the mid-Atlantic region. When he does summer field work in the 319-acre Blackwater Ecological Preserve, which he manages for Old Dominion University, he often sees an abundance of the deerberry fruit.



But although the fruit looks something like a common blueberry, it never develops the blueberry's bright, sweet flavor and Musselman has been happy to leave the deerberries for the deer to eat.

That all changed two years ago when Musselman's daughter, Jennifer Miller, who lives in Raleigh, N.C., showed him how she makes cordials. The recipe is simple: mix fruit and other botanicals with sugar and spirits, such as vodka, and let the concoction sit for a few months, allowing the alcohol to extract flavor and color.

Miller, whom Musselman describes as a very good cook, uses the same sorts of fruits for her cordials that she keeps handy in the kitchen for everyday uses. One of her favorite cordials is made with blueberries.

The forager in Musselman, however, made him wonder, What about the deerberries? Might they, with the addition of a little sugar, make a delightful cordial? Or the beautyberries, elderberries, farkleberries or huckleberries?

"This use of the fruits seemed to me to be a way to get to know wild plants on a different level," Musselman said. "And that's just the way it has turned out. It's like with a person, the more time you spend with someone, the more you can find that the person is multidimensional.

"I thought it would be interesting to

use common plants in an uncommon way."

Suffice it to say that Musselman, who is ODU's Mary Payne Hogan Professor of Botany and has been a faculty member at the university for more than 35 years, has embraced cordial making with the curiosity of a scientist and the enthusiasm of a hobbyist.

When he hosted what he called the First International Wild Plant Cordial Sampling at his home in January of this year, he was able to produce 26 varieties of his homemade elixirs. To be truthful, not all of the elixirs are sweet cordials. Some are made with little or no sugar and taste bitter or of tannic herbs. He calls these aperitifs or digestifs. Also, not all of the elixirs are made with wild plants. For example, Musselman has collected saffron crocus bulbs during his research trips to eastern Mediterranean lands and now produces a blanket of saffron flowers in his backyard garden each fall. He uses the orange-red stigmas of the flowers to color and flavor one of his digestif concoctions.



"Tolstoy mentions saffron-infused vodka in one of his stories," Musselman said. "That's where I got the idea. Some of the other recipes came to me through

folklore. With other of the aperitifs and cordials, I am experimenting with botanicals I know well, and know not to be toxic."

The professor brought up this toxicity hitch more than once during the formal sampling of his elixirs in January. "If you are going to try this, be sure your wild plants and fruits are safe to use. Buy a good field guide." He also noted that his own "Plants of the Chesapeake Bay: An Illustrated Guide" will be published later this year by Johns Hopkins University Press.

Musselman published "Figs, Dates, Laurel, and Myrrh: Plants of the Bible and the Quran" (Timber Press) in 2007 and also expects the release of his "Dictionary of Bible Plants" (Cambridge University Press) later this year.

Next up for the botanical drinks maker? Musselman says he may try blending several of his elixirs to create one seamless cordial or aperitif. After all, monks centuries ago in the Old World often used dozens of botanicals to flavor and color a single alcoholic beverage. The Green Chartreuse that is still sold today was created in the 1700s by Carthusian monks, whose recipe includes about 130 different herbal extracts.



## Cordially Yours, A Course Open to the Public

Want to know more about making cordials, aperitifs and digestifs from wild botanicals?

Norfolk Botanical Garden and Old Dominion University are sponsoring a series of classes at the Garden in 2011 called Cordially Yours: Wild Foods and Drink. Instructors are Lytton Musselman, the ODU botany professor, and one of his graduate students, Peter Schafran.

Classes remaining this year are on June 25 and Sept. 24. More information is at [norfolkbotanicalgarden.org](http://norfolkbotanicalgarden.org).

## Results of the Tasting are In: The Top 5

These elixirs were ranked highest in the First International Wild Plant Cordial Sampling in January:

- **Deerberry Cordial** – An apple-berry flavor, and a faint taste of melon, extends on a long finish. Color is very light blue-green tint.
- **Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) Cordial** – The color is light rust-brown and the aroma is a bit swampy, but the distinct taste of caramel prevails.
- **Dwarf Blueberry (*Vaccinium tenellum*) Cordial** – There is nothing wild – or funky – about this one. It looks like a deep blue-red blueberry cordial and tastes just as you expect it would. Delicious. Musselman says it is back-breaking work to pick the fruit from 6-inch-high plants.
- **Aronia (*Aronia arbutifolia*) Cordial** – The fruit, which looks like tiny apples and can be found in wetlands of ODU's Blackwater Preserve, is very astringent. But the floral bouquet, black cherry and cinnamon flavors and racy acidity make this cordial a winner.
- **Calamus (*Acorus calamus*) Cordial** – The root of the plant is used in the infusion, and the gold-colored cordial that results has a pleasant watermelon and cucumber flavor.

## Other Plants Professor Musselman Has Used in Making Elixirs

- Elderberry (*Sambucus Canadensis*) fruit and flower
- Farkleberry (*Vaccinium arboreum*) fruit
- Huckleberry (*Gaylussacia frondosa*) fruit
- Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) fruit
- Swamp rose (*Rosa palustris*) hips
- Trifoliolate orange (*Poncirus trifoliata*) fruit
- Wax myrtle or bayberry (*Morella cerifera*) fruit
- Teaberry (*Gaultheria procumbens*) fruit
- Basil (*Ocimum basilicum*) leaves
- Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) fruit
- Chinquapin (*Castanea pumila*) nuts
- Hackberry (*Celtis laevigata*) fruit
- Red Bay (*Persea borbonia*) leaves
- Red Spruce (*Picea rubra*) twigs
- Goldenrod (*Solidago odora*) flowers and leaves
- Mulberry (*Morus alba*) fruits



**"CLIMATE CHANGE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO HAVE LARGE IMPACTS ON THE HAMPTON ROADS ECONOMY, BUT IT MAY ALSO PROVIDE SOME OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE REGION."**

**—HAMPTON ROADS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION**

PHOTO: AMANDA LUCIER/THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT



**I**f sea levels rise rapidly during the 21st century, as many scientists believe will happen, Old Dominion University would be among only a handful of large, research universities in the United States to face the threat of saltwater intrusions onto its lawns and into its campus structures. "We are forced to take very seriously the scientific evidence that predicts the oceans' rise of 2 feet or more before the end of the century," said John R. Broderick, the ODU president. "It's as if we live in a climate-science fishbowl here on the Virginia coast." With this threat in mind, and believing that all six colleges at ODU can help address the challenges, Broderick instituted a university-wide initiative to scrutinize climate change and sea level rise. His message was directed not only to the obvious base disciplines of oceanography, marine biology, coastal engineering, and civil engineering, but also to sociology and marketing, economics and risk management, public health and political science, human factors psychology and journalism, education and modeling and simulation.

BY JIM RAPER



# How Can Coastal Cities Adapt to Sea Level Rise?

“We are uniquely situated and very well qualified to assess the multitude of crises a coastal urban area may encounter from climate change, and especially sea level rise,” Broderick said. “I have been pleased to witness the positive response of our faculty to this initiative. This truly will be a multidisciplinary and comprehensive effort, and I hope it will establish our university as a source of solutions for municipalities everywhere that are threatened by rising seas.”

Broderick said those who influenced his focus on climate change as an urgent regional issue include James V. Koch, the ODU president emeritus and Board of Visitors Professor of economics. Koch published an early warning about the impact that sea level rise could have in the region, “Climate Change, Global Warming and Ocean Levels in Hampton Roads,” which appeared in the 2009 edition of *The State of the Region: Hampton Roads*.

The article stated that if current trends continue, “We will see the ocean creep up into backyards and witness increased flooding during rainstorms and at high tide. Only those with no concern for the future can afford to ignore this development. This directly implies that we ought to be actively planning a system of dikes and levees (in Hampton Roads) unless we intend to forfeit huge portions of our land to the sea.”

Koch subsequently started a study group made up of Hampton Roads decision makers who meet regularly and have the goal of promoting sea level rise adaptation studies by government and business.



**B**roderick and Koch also consulted with Larry Atkinson, an ODU eminent scholar and the Samuel and Fay Slover Endowed

Professor of Oceanography, who immediately began to explore the feasibility of ODU becoming involved in a major, multidisciplinary way in climate change research and education.

“I’ve encountered nothing but encouragement,” Atkinson said after he had spent the late summer and early fall of 2010 taking with faculty members, local community and military leaders, and research funding sources in Washington, D.C., and New York about the potential structure of the ODU initiative. The Old Dominion University Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Initiative was formally launched in December.

Initial fruits of Atkinson’s work included the identification of fields - coastal engineering and coastal geology, for example - in which ODU could target new faculty hires.

Provost Carol Simpson has earmarked money to help professors design climate-change components for courses ranging from sedimentary geology to public administration. Cynthia Tomovic, a faculty member in the Darden College of Education, designed and is teaching a Spring 2011 course titled *Mitigating the Impact of Global Climate Change*. Journalism associate professor Joyce Hoffmann organized a mass media panel discussion to include comment about the media’s coverage of climate change. And Atkinson has worked with Karen Eck, the ODU director of research development, to identify potential research grants for faculty to pursue.

Michael McShane, an assistant professor of finance with a focus on risk management and insurance, and Ariel Pinto, an associate professor of engineering management, established the Emergent Risk Initiative@ODU in 2009 and are coordinating the efforts of that organization with the larger initiative. Their goal: to prepare future researchers, educators, practitioners and entrepreneurs for the challenges of managing risks in

the ever-changing global environment.

Another young researcher, Poornima Madhavan, assistant professor of human factors psychology, has been especially active in the initiative, focusing on the public’s perception of climate change and sea level rise, and how inclined the public will be toward behavioral change as a result of climate-related threats.

Mohammad Karim, ODU’s vice president for research, gave the initiative a major boost in February when he announced a seed-grant program that will provide up to \$50,000 in funding for each new multidisciplinary research project that is conceived by ODU faculty in support of the initiative and that meets the proposal criteria of the Office of Research.

“Facilitating faculty engagement in these research areas is a priority of Old Dominion University. Our goal is to make ODU a recognized leader in the fields in order to address the challenges that will significantly affect not only the Hampton Roads region but also the country and the world,” Karim said. “To achieve this goal, we seek to strengthen relationships among faculty, colleges, our centers, and departments working in and across disciplines that address the impacts of climate change and sea level rise.”

Karim said his office specifically hopes to promote the creation of faculty research teams that wish to look at the potential impacts on urban areas of sea level rise and other climate-related problems.

Atkinson has started a website for the initiative and is preparing to launch a newsletter. He has established himself as the “face of the movement,” as Broderick put it. “I am grateful to Professor Atkinson for being such a tireless proponent and skilled organizer,” the president said.

Karen Travis, who heads ODU’s Office of Community Engagement, said that the university becoming involved in a multidisciplinary way in climate change and sea level rise research and education is “precisely what we are hoping to achieve with our new program for the Study of Critical Issues.” A fund established by Doug and Patricia Perry, the benefactors of the university’s Perry Library, is making the program possible.

“Thanks to the Perrys, we will be able

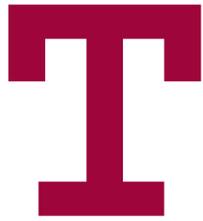
“We are uniquely situated and very well qualified to assess the multitude of crises (due to) sea level rise. I hope it will establish our university as a source of solutions for municipalities everywhere that are threatened by rising seas.”

—John R. Broderick  
President

to pull together the university’s and region’s foremost experts to help identify the multi-faceted impact of climate change and rising sea levels on our region. We will also be asking community leaders, business and industry heads, and our own faculty to identify and examine other pressing issues facing Hampton Roads.”

The Office of Community Engagement was a sponsor of visit to ODU Dec. 2 by Rear Adm. David W. Titley, the commander of the Navy Task Force Climate Change. Titley’s appearance marked the formal launch of the CC/SLR initiative.

The admiral met during the day with faculty and students, and also with a group of about 50 business and civic leaders who are interested in climate change research. Titley also delivered a public lecture, “Climate Change and the U.S. Navy,” that attracted about 700 people to the Big Blue Room of the Ted Constant Convocation Center.



itley, who holds the position of Oceanographer and Navigator of the Navy, has for several years been a leader of the service's climate

change assessment and adaptation planning. This is bringing port modifications in anticipation of sea level rise, not only at U.S. naval facilities, but also at bases shared with allies and partners overseas.

The Navy's leaders have been "proactive" on climate change, Titley said in an interview. "They have given me marching orders to take a hard look at this, and the more you look at the data the more



Cynthia Tomovic, professor of STEM education and professional studies; Michael McShane, assistant professor in finance, focusing on insurance and risk management; Poornima Madhavan, assistant professor of psychology, focusing on decision making in complex environments; and Ariel Pinto, associate professor of engineering management, focusing on risk management.

*Dr. Larry P. Atkinson is the Samuel and Fay Slover Professor of Oceanography in the Department of Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at Old Dominion University. He is a member of the Oceanography Society, the American Meteorological Society, the Marine Technology Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He is a Fellow of the AAAS. Currently Atkinson is coordinating the ODU Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Initiative.*

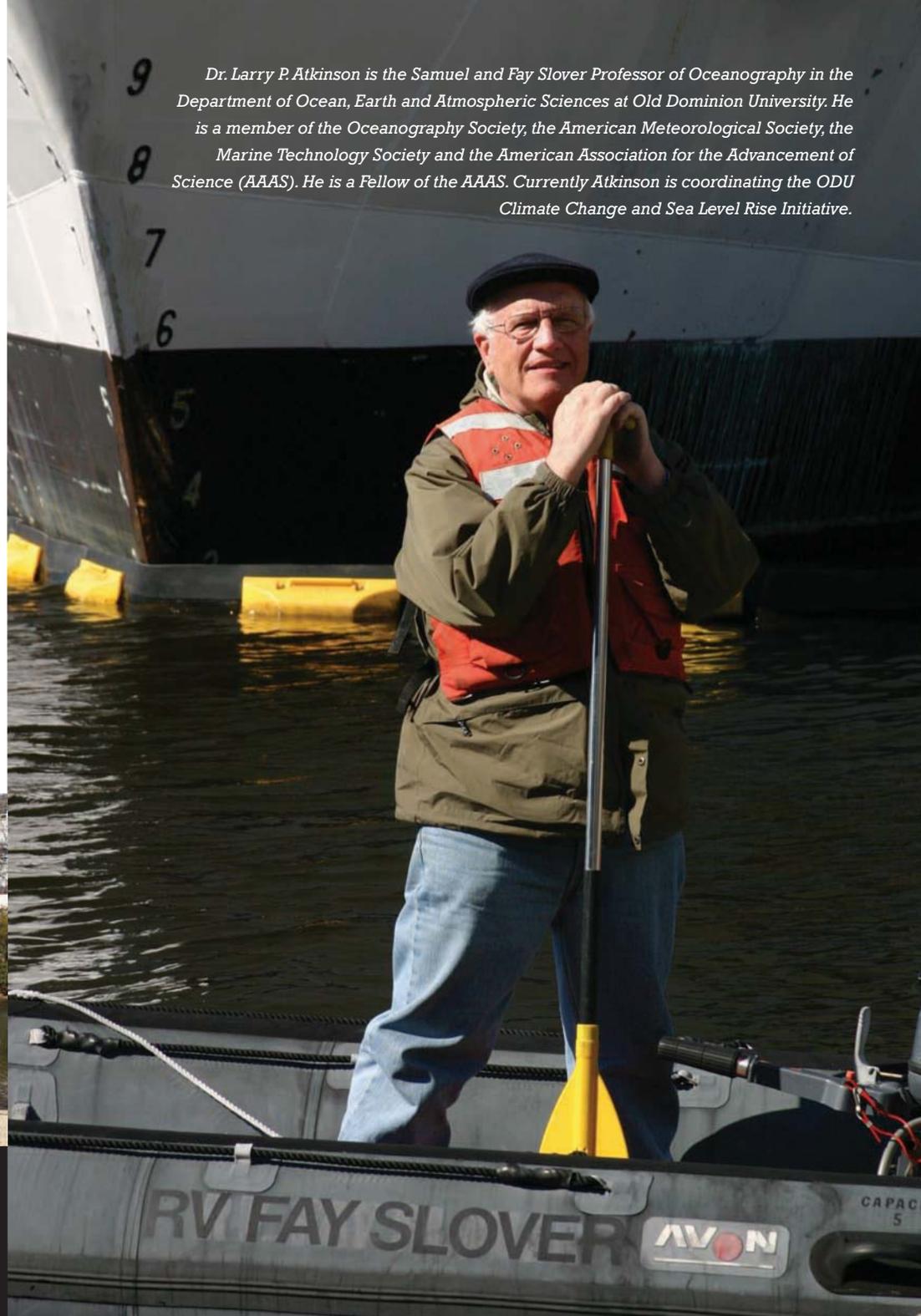


PHOTO: URBANSTOCKHOUSE.COM

you realize we have to do some very different things in the 21st century. We certainly see this as a national security issue, among others." He pointed out just how varied the Navy considers the potential ramifications of climate change to be. For example, the service is looking at social – and possibly, political – disruptions that could be caused in certain parts of the world by changes in rainfall patterns, temperature increases, food shortages or population migrations.

Assessments and adaptation strategies developed now, before seas rise to levels predicted for later in the century, will probably save money in the long run, he explained. "I can't speak for local or state governments, but I can say for the Navy that when we do deliberate planning in a non-crisis environment we have better information and make better decisions than if we get caught by surprise or ignore a challenge until it becomes a crisis."



**A**

tkinson said Titley's message served as a "perfect kickoff" for the initiative. "He laid it out as a multi-

disciplinary issue that has political, business, social, engineering and environmental issues that we need to address, and address right away."

His survey of ODU researchers, Atkinson added, found numerous faculty members already involved in climate-change-related studies, and that some of these reflect the multidisciplinary scope of the initiative. For example, oceanography researchers at ODU are involved with sociologists at other institutions in a study of how the warming ocean could force the migration northward of clam fishermen currently based in Virginia. Marine biology researchers are studying the degradation of coral-reef and other marine ecosystems, believed to be caused at least partially by climate change, and which could have an adverse impact on communities worldwide whose economies are based on seacoast tourism and harvests from the sea.

ODU oceanographers are also prominent among the U.S. researchers who are experts on the Arctic and Antarctic regions, where melting ice, shifting currents and altered food chains can serve as early warnings of sea level rise and the effects of global warming.

Atkinson joined Karim in saying that he hopes to shape climate change research at ODU to emphasize the impacts faced by a metropolis situated on an ocean, and a prime example would be the Norfolk-Virginia Beach area.



PHOTO: STEVE EARLEY/THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

"Hampton Roads is an urban coastal community dealing with sea level rise with more urgency than most such communities in the U.S.," he said. "Because of a particular geological factor, our land is slowly sinking while the waters are rising. The region is ranked (depending on the survey) either in the top 10 or top 30 of the world's urban areas most vulnerable to sea level rise."

Atkinson enlisted William A. "Skip" Stiles Jr., executive director of Wetlands Watch, an environmental group based in Norfolk, to speak to faculty at a fall 2010 planning meeting for the initiative. Stiles, an adjunct ODU instructor who teaches a course in science and public policy, was also a consultant to Koch and Broderick when the initiative was conceived.

Stiles helped the ODU researchers think through the questions raised by the threat of inundation. How does the public assess the threat and will it support the political decisions - and public financial allocations - needed to mitigate the impacts? Should our localities allow some developed areas to be reclaimed by the sea, and, if so, which ones? What will happen to Virginia Beach's wide beaches, and to the tourism industry those beaches promote? How will insurance companies deal with rising waters? Can the Navy maintain such a prominent presence here if its workers who live off

base are prevented by more frequent flooding from getting to work?

That last question, of course, could apply to numerous other industries, businesses and agencies, as well as to institutions such as ODU.

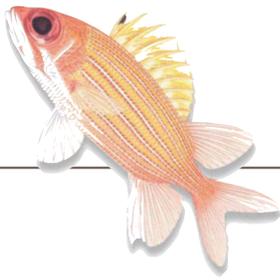
"ODU can facilitate research in climate change and sea level rise through internal actions, such as hiring more faculty in relevant research areas, and also external actions, such as hosting workshops and fostering collaborative activities among the university, industry and government," Atkinson said.

"I see a real niche for us, as a university in an urban coastal environment. From my talks with federal officials, I can say that they see this challenge as something faced by New York, Charleston, Miami and the Gulf Coast, as well as Hampton Roads. Since the federal government is going to end up footing the bill for studies on this subject and for mitigation of the effects, these people I have met with would like to make sure all regions share information, and they look to us to provide leadership in doing that."

"They are also very impressed when they learn that our initiative was started by the president of our university. It shows that the commitment starts at the very top."

**"I can say for the Navy that when we do deliberate planning in a non-crisis environment we have better information and make better decisions than if we get caught by surprise."**

*—Rear Adm. David W. Titley, Oceanographer and Navigator of the U.S. Navy*



Marine Biologist

**Kent Carpenter**

Collaborates on a New Field Guide  
to Coastal Fishes

# Is That a Dusky Jawfish?



**W**hen Val Kells, one of the nation's top marine science illustrators, decided a few years ago to produce a book cataloging the fishes in the coastal waters of the eastern United States, she found a co-author in Old Dominion University marine biologist Kent Carpenter, who is an expert in species assessment.

Their "A Field Guide to Coastal Fishes from Maine to Texas" released in February is the first comprehensive guide to the marine and brackish water fishes of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts to be published in nearly a quarter century, and the first ever to be completely illustrated in full color. The book, which includes illustrations and written descriptions of more than 1,000 fishes, was published by The Johns Hopkins University Press (<http://fieldguidetofishes.com/>).

The sturdy and compact paperback edition costs \$25 and is being billed as a guide to keep handy in a tackle box, backpack or at the console of a boat.

Pre-release reviewers suggest that it will be snapped up by fishermen, divers, students, scientists and naturalists.

Carpenter said Kells is an avid fisherwoman and that her hobby probably figured in the book's origins. But he added that academics are also eager to get the book. "I've already gotten an email from another ichthyologist who said he was ordering some of the books for his labs. I have to believe that many teachers will want this book as a marine field guide."

Kells lives in Charlottesville, Va., and one of the reviewers of her original book proposal recommended that she recruit Carpenter to be the project's marine species expert.

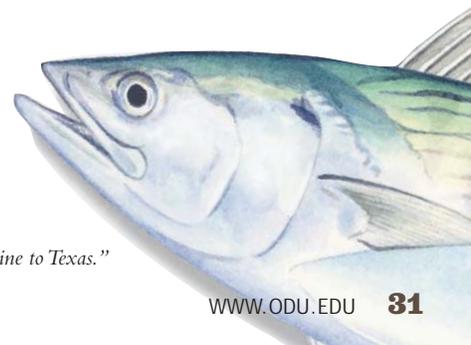
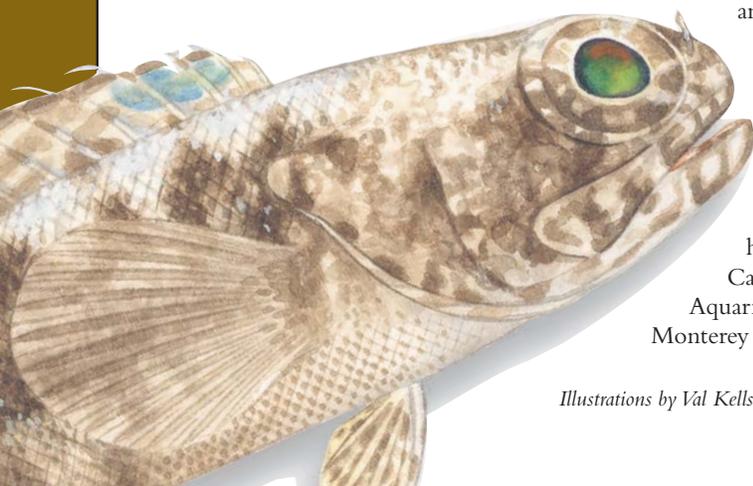
"It was a big job that went on for years," Carpenter said. "We wanted it to be comprehensive, and it is. She insists on drawing from photographs, not from someone else's illustration, and pulling together those photographs was a chore. But we got it done, and she is excellent at interpreting photographs."

A university-trained marine science illustrator, Kells contributed drawings to the recently published "Sea Turtles – A Complete Guide to Their Biology, Behavior, and Conservation," and is working on the illustrations for "Field Guide to Fishes of Chesapeake Bay." She also does artwork for educational and interpretive displays at public aquariums, museums and nature centers. Her work has been displayed at the North Carolina Aquarium, Texas State Aquarium, Long Beach Aquarium and Monterey Bay Aquarium.

Carpenter is the author of numerous scientific articles on fishes and he wrote and edited multivolume identification guides for fisheries as a project of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. His current work concentrates on evolution of fishes and marine conservation. He is director of the Global Marine Species Assessment (GMSA), which is headquartered at ODU and supported by Conservation International and the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

The ODU professor of biological sciences produced FAO identification guides of marine species, first as an author, then for five years as the manager of the FAO Species Identification and Data Programme in Rome. After joining ODU in 1996, he continued to manage production of these guides as funded research through the ODU Research Foundation.

Carpenter is also known internationally for his work in waters near the Philippines, where he has documented the existence of a region that has the richest shore-fish biodiversity in the world.



*Illustrations by Val Kells from "A Field Guide to Coastal Fishes from Maine to Texas."*



Independent Filmmaker  
Tom DiCillo  
*On Illicit TV Watching,  
Fellini at ODU, a Grammy Award  
and Brad Pitt as Johnny Suede*

## Tom DiCillo, BA '75,

has become one of America's most respected independent filmmakers over the past two decades on the strength of his sublime storytelling. The protagonists he creates may be chewed up by outrageous fortune or their own eccentric



dreams, but they are never quite defeated.

"Johnny Suede," DiCillo's first feature film in 1991, starred the then-unknown Brad Pitt as perhaps the most iconic rock and roll-obsessed – and coiffed – character ever conjured up. A few years later came "Living in Oblivion," with Steve Buscemi playing a harried independent filmmaker whose artistic vision is fogged over by a dysfunctional cast and crew. Buscemi is also the star of DiCillo's most recent narrative film, "Delirious" (2007), in the role of a threadbare paparazzo who sees himself as a legitimate artist and essential cog in the glitz and glamour trade.

A serendipitous departure from fiction for DiCillo was "When You're Strange" (released around the world in 2009 and 2010), a documentary about Jim Morrison and The Doors. In February of this year, the documentary won a Grammy Award and a big smile from the filmmaker.

"I'm pretty tickled about the Grammy win," he said by email just before this magazine went to press. "It's a rare award for an independent filmmaker to win. It came unexpectedly but is actually one of the most meaningful honors I've received. The film is about music. It was recognized by a body of musicians. I'm really honored and proud of the film."



DiCillo, who was recruited to be the documentary's director, was given access to previously unscreened film footage of *The Doors*, but the documentary also pulls a lot of its power from the spare and dreamy script he wrote for it. Narration was provided by Johnny Depp.

Next up for the filmmaker – as soon as he raises a few million more dollars to finance the shoot – is “Lost in Blue,” a tribute to 1960s Italian and French sex comedies. The story follows a Manhattan couple to what they hope will be a romantic vacation on a Caribbean island, but nothing goes as planned.

In recent years, DiCillo also has taken on directing gigs for television dramas, including “Law and Order Los Angeles” and “The Good Wife.” He lives in New York City with his wife of 30 years, Jane, who is a professional horticulturist, but when *Monarch Magazine* caught up with him in January he was preparing for a long business trip to Los Angeles.

What follows is a digest of his comments during a far-ranging interview.

**Maintaining Integrity in the Grind of Television**—Next week I go out to direct an episode of “Law and Order L.A.” I hooked up with the original show 10 years ago. Chris Noth (who appeared in DiCillo’s “Double Whammy” [2001]) was working on the show and he suggested I direct one of the “Criminal Intent’s” he was starring in. I was a little resistant, with my independent film background and the whole “integrity of my art” issue, but I did it and I had a good time. The actors and the producers gave me an inordinate amount of input and respect. So I went back and did five more. The irony of it is, that’s how I got the *Doors* film. (Dick Wolf is the executive producer behind “Law and Order,” and he was also heavily involved in the production of “When You’re Strange.”)

Usually in TV, the director is a cross between a traffic cop and someone who

works behind the counter in a cafeteria. When you’re done, the producers literally take it out of your hands. That’s something I’m not used to. Most recently I directed an episode of “The Good Wife” and the cast was uniformly talented and a real joy to work with. The sad fact is most directors, whether for television or cinema, know very little about acting. I feel fortunate that when I got out of film school at New York University in ’79, I studied acting and acted for about eight years. It was a hugely valuable detour. It gave me an ability to talk to actors in a way few directors can, to gain their trust and give them confidence to try unexpected things.

**A Marine Officer’s Son Enjoying the Illicit Pleasures of Television**—I grew up on military bases. In Virginia we were at Quantico twice, and in North Carolina at Camp Lejeune. So a lot of my childhood was spent in small towns, out in the woods kind of messing around. I have an older brother, Stephen (ODU, BA ’74), who now lives in Brooklyn and is a painter.

My father retired as a full colonel in the Marine Corps. He had aspirations for one of us to be a doctor and the other to be a lawyer. Thankfully he never pushed us toward the military. But, in actuality, we’d been in boot camp for our first 18 years.

Ironically, we never owned a television. My father wouldn’t allow it. We’d go to school and kids would be talking about the new TV shows that were coming out. Did you see “Batman”? Did you see “The Man from U.N.C.L.E.?” Well, we hadn’t. We had nothing to relate to and felt very much on the outside of popular culture and acceptance. But whenever we could, when he was away, we’d go over to someone’s house or my mother would go to the local hardware store and rent a TV and we’d have a marathon of TV watching. Of course, we hated my dad for not allowing

it, but now I’m grateful for it. It forced me to read at a very early age and it also instilled in me an almost illicit pleasure in the moving image.

**Chasing the Family Typewriter to ODU; Two Defining Moments**—I had gone to high school near Woodbridge, Va. My brother, who is a year older, went down to ODU first. I literally had no idea what I was going to do. I had stumbled into writing late in my high school years, but the idea that I might make a living out of it was many years away. My father suggested that I go down to ODU because my brother had taken the family typewriter with him. It was an old Hermes. You had to hit each key really hard to make an imprint.

I had two extremely formative experiences while I was at ODU. I joined a film society put together by some students I knew. The first movie that they screened was Fellini’s “La Strada.” I can distinctly remember the fireworks going off in my brain as I watched the film; I felt transformed. I had my first inkling that here is something I can relate to. Film is visual, but it also deals with storytelling and writing; it’s about rhythm; it’s really all about music. Then we saw “The Seventh Seal” (Bergman), “Rashomon” (Kurosawa), “Shoot the Piano Player” (Truffaut) and “Masculin-Feminin” (Godard), and those films imprinted on me an almost primal sense of what true filmmaking is.

Something else that blew my mind, Dr. (Phil) Raisor’s (now an emeritus professor of English) class on James Joyce. It was an equally intense pleasure to enter the world of Joyce’s writing, especially with the astute, enthusiastic guidance of Dr. Raisor. I couldn’t wait to get there three times a week. Joyce, everybody talks about him as a wordsmith, but he was also incredibly visual. The way he observes human behavior is incredibly honest and specific, but it’s not the kitchen sink stuff that bores



me. He manages to find reality that is touched with art. Fellini does the same thing. “La Strada” is a gritty film, but touched with art. It takes rare ability to show honesty and reality, but to add an extra dimension of art to it.

### Front Row at the NARO, and Film School at NYU—I took a year off after ODU. I was really into films and got into going to movies all the time. Some friends from a great group that I used to hang around with would go to the Naro in Norfolk and sit in the front row. We saw “Slaughterhouse-Five” there. I thought that was a great film. There was no such thing as an indie film at that time. The only person doing that kind of film was John Waters. I remember him coming down to ODU – I think this is right – and showing “Pink Flamingos” on a sheet outside one of the dorms – still not co-ed at the time.

At NYU, Spike Lee was a year behind me. I met him later. But Jim Jarmusch and I were in the same class and we were both directors. I didn’t start out as a cinematographer. My M.A. is in directing. But, for a class exercise, students were chosen at random to put together a couple of short films. Jim was chosen to write one and I was chosen to shoot it. I’d never shot anything before in my life. But the

collaboration worked well; it was like two directors working together because I was thinking like the film was mine and I had no preconceived notions as to what a cinematographer was.

**Working on “Stranger Than Paradise,” a Surprise Winner at Cannes**—(Jarmusch wrote and directed “Stranger Than Paradise,” which was released in 1984 and went on to win numerous prizes, including the Camera d’Or Award for debut films at the Cannes Film Festival. DiCillo was his cinematographer.)

I’m incredibly proud of the way “Stranger Than Paradise” looks. But it causes problems even today. Most people think I started out as Jim Jarmusch’s cinematographer. In Spain, where I was doing publicity for “Living In Oblivion,” a journalist asked, probably 10 years after “Stranger Than Paradise” came out, “Will you shoot for Jarmusch again?” I said I didn’t think so. The headline the next day was “DiCillo says he’ll NEVER shoot for Jarmusch again.” I had to fight really hard to break free of this categorization of me, ultimately making the decision not to shoot any more films for people – except myself.

**Signing Brad Pitt for “Johnny Suede”**—I had a really good casting direc-

tor, Marcia Shulman, for “Johnny Suede.” My budget was \$500,000, not a bad budget for 1991, but we knew the plan going in was not to get A-list stars. I thought briefly of playing Johnny. I had originated the role in an off-Broadway production I had put on. But I felt for my first movie it would be better if I just focused on the writing and directing.

I knew this character (Johnny) wasn’t a jerk, just sort of lost in time. But most of the guys who auditioned thought he was the Fonz. Then one day we went out to California and we had a casting session. Marcia says this next guy hasn’t done very much, some TV, and he’s just finished a film called “Thelma and Louise” that nobody has seen. Brad Pitt walked in and I knew right away he would be a star. And he instantly knew what I was looking for. He committed totally to the film, to Johnny’s insecurity and the goofy humor in the film. I caught him at the right time.

Samuel L. Jackson, who was in the movie, too, was just beginning to blow up big. A film needs willingness from those involved and when the percentage of willingness outweighs negativity, it can be incredibly enjoyable and exciting. Sam was incredibly willing, even in a small part.

**“Living in Oblivion” with Steve Buscemi**—Steve Buscemi and I knew

### Films by Tom DiCillo

■ “Johnny Suede” (1991) with Brad Pitt, Catherine Keener, Nick Cave, Samuel L. Jackson and Richard Boes. Nominated for the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival. Won Golden Leopard Award for best motion picture at the Locarno International Film Festival in Switzerland.

■ “Living in Oblivion” (1995) with Steve Buscemi, Catherine Keener, Dermot Mulroney and James LeGros. Won the Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award at the Sundance Film Festival.

■ “Box of Moonlight” (1996) with John Turturro, Sam Rockwell, Catherine Keener and Lisa Blount. Screened at the Venice Film Festival.

■ “The Real Blonde” (1997) with Matthew Modine, Catherine Keener, Maxwell Caulfield, Daryl Hannah and Elizabeth Berkley.

■ “Double Whammy” (2001) with Dennis Leary, Elizabeth Hurley, Steve Buscemi, Luis Guzman and Chris Noth.

PHOTOS: Previous pages, Brad Pitt and DiCillo on set of “Johnny Suede” and two photos of DiCillo, one with Steve Buscemi during the making of “Delirious.” Above from left, Michael Pitt in “Delirious,” Pitt and Steve Buscemi in “Delirious,” John Turturro, Sam Rockwell, Lisa Blount and Catherine Keener in “Box of Moonlight,” and Keith Knobbs in “Double Whammy.”

each other even while I was going to film school in New York. He had a writing partner and they would go around to clubs on the East Side and do little plays and skits that they had written, funny and absurd stuff. When it came time to make "Living in Oblivion" the first person to put money in the production was Dermot Mulroney. He was married to Catherine Keener at the time. I had shown her the script and she loved it. Dermot put up \$5,000 and wanted to play the part of the director. I told Dermot, "I'll take the money, but I want you to play the cameraman." He said, "OK, so how about Buscemi as the director?" It was his idea.

I really want to make a movie like "Living in Oblivion" again, with actors who want to play a part being willing to put up production money. At least 85 percent of the actors did in "Living in Oblivion."

Nobody auditioned for "Living in Oblivion." I didn't know until I started shooting how things would go. Brad (Pitt) had committed to play Chad, but he had to pull out to do "Legends of the Fall."

That same day I was on the phone with Catherine Keener and she said, "Wait a minute." And I heard her yell, "Hey James, we're making a movie with Tom DiCillo. You want to get involved?" That's how James LeGros came to play Chad.

(There were rumors that the swaggering, clueless Chad character was based on Brad Pitt and was DiCillo's revenge for problems between them during the making of "Johnny Suede.") That is absolutely untrue. He was going to be in the film. It was hurtful to both me and him that those rumors got started.

**Dealing with Criticism, Freedom and Recognition**—I wrote "Delirious" for Steve Buscemi. Some people looked at the movie and resisted seeing the soul and heart I'd worked into all of the characters. The New York Times liked the film but said that it was riddled with anger. This really astounded me. Les, the paparazzo character Steve Buscemi plays, is cynical, but this comes from a human being who has been severely damaged. His cynicism and defensiveness actually stems from great pain. Sometimes it's frustrating

that people take things so literally.

I'm very much interested in what happens when people are confronted with freedom. People in this country are terrified of freedom. One of the things Jim Morrison struggled with was freedom. I don't think he dealt with freedom, he battled it. What pressure he must have felt to go further in each performance than ever before. His idea, you know, was "no rules." That's something that people in general have a problem with. It takes real courage to seize a moment of freedom, especially if

**“One of the things Jim Morrison struggled with was freedom. I don't think he dealt with freedom, he battled it. What pressure he must have felt to go further in each performance than ever before.”**

there is truth facing you, a moment of revelation.

What does recognition mean to me? They (film festival awards and good reviews in the media) don't mean so much as what somebody wrote the other day into my blog. They wrote: "You should know that your commitment to honesty and to your own films is a tremendous inspiration to a lot of people..." Frankly, that comment from a complete stranger meant more to me than getting money to

make a film.

It's hard not to just end up making crap just because someone will give you the money. I don't think people really understand the horrible dilemma that the filmmaker, especially the writer-director, is confronted with. You have to write something that they will want to finance. It becomes this horrible compromise: I want to be honest but I also want to get the film made. How do you do it? For several of my films, it's taken four or five years to raise the money. And, listen, I made some choices. I made casting choices because of money that I probably shouldn't have.

**Advising Young Artists**—I'm not going to give aspiring filmmakers false hope, but I can say, if you really feel strongly about it, and are willing to put your soul into it, that's the only way you're going to find out if you've got what it takes. Talent and a unique vision are important. But if you're being honest with yourself and are interested in doing more than simply imitations of imitations, and willing to start with the most basic truth that you know, then, by all means, go for it.

If I'd known how difficult it would be, I might have thought twice, but I didn't think twice. Just know if the time comes that you have to make a decision to move on to some other endeavor, make the decision and tell yourself, I gave it my best shot. Not everyone is an "artist." Frankly, I hate that word. Some of my best friends are "non-artists."

I might also ask an aspiring filmmaker, or someone venturing into the arts, what is his or her real motivation. Sometimes that answer is horrifying. Many times I hear people say, "I want to do it because I want to become famous." This is their sole reason. When I hear this I usually just quietly withdraw, smile and say good luck. For me there is only one reason to venture out into this uncharted territory. It's because you love it so much you can't wait to do it, again and again. It is immensely difficult and frequently crushing, but if you don't find the joy in it you will never be able to keep going.

WINNER AUDIENCE AWARD  
2010 SXSW Film Festival

2009  
DEAUVILLE  
FILM FESTIVAL  
OFFICIAL SELECTION

2009  
SUNDANCE  
FILM FESTIVAL  
OFFICIAL SELECTION

2009  
BERLINALE  
FILM FESTIVAL  
OFFICIAL SELECTION

A FILM BY TOM DICILLO

# WHEN YOU'RE STRANGE

A FILM ABOUT THE DOORS  
NARRATED BY JOHNNY DEPP

WOLF FILMS/STRANGE PICTURES IN ASSOCIATION WITH RHINO ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT  
A FILM BY TOM DICILLO NARRATED BY JOHNNY DEPP ARCHIVAL CINEMATOGRAPHY BY PAUL FERRARA  
EDITORS MICKY BLYTHE AND KEVIN KRASNÝ PRODUCERS JOHN BEJG, JEFF JAMPOL AND DICK WOLF  
PRODUCED BY PETER JANKOWSKI WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY TOM DICILLO

WHENYOU'RESTRANGEMOVIE.COM THEDOORS.COM RHINO.COM

WOLF  
FILMS

Strange Pictures

RHINO

RESTRICTED

SOME SEXUAL CONTENT INCLUDING REFERENCES,  
SMOKE, DRUG MATERIAL, AND LANGUAGE



# POSTINGS on the Wall OF FAME

## It had to happen.

Keith Fenimore, an ODU alumnus and television producer who knows how to hype a story, has begun a dialogue on the Internet with Lisa Sinclair, an ODU marketing specialist and expert in the public-relations use of social media. Fenimore has launched a unique national campaign to garner media attention, and Sinclair is fresh off a publicity victory on behalf of ODU's mascot, Big Blue.

What follows is a Facebook-like account of who they are and what they have to say to each other.



### PROFILE: Keith Fenimore

Keith Fenimore, BA '94, lives in bustling Brooklyn, N.Y., and has a day job that could run a man ragged. He's senior writer and producer for "Howard TV" – that's "Howard" as in Howard Stern. He's also married and has a young son.

But he still finds time these days for another project: he is campaigning via traditional and social media to become the most recognizable man in America.

This is a social experiment, says the 39-year-old Fenimore. Can a man who has worked behind the scenes in show business for 15 years – he previously produced and worked in marketing for A&E, VH-1, Fox Reality and the TV Guide Channel – recast himself as a celebrity by means of Tweets, Facebook postings and countless other publicity schemes? Until the fall of 2010 he had no Twitter or Facebook accounts, but now he has thousands of followers and friends. He has given interviews to more than a dozen newspapers, such as the Philadelphia Inquirer and the New York Post.

Fenimore says he only wants to be known – very well known – but not famous. He believes people become famous for selling something, such as their looks, or how well they dance or throw a football. But he claims to have nothing to sell. He will reach his goal, he says, if he can tap into that well-known "media snowball effect."

At ODU, Fenimore was accepted into the Independent Studies Program and devised his own major in the areas of marketing and communication. "I was very thankful I had the opportunity to craft a degree," he said. "It was like I had a book of pre-existing majors to choose from and I said, 'No, none of these are right for me. I'm going to make my own.' And I did. ODU afforded me that. Now as a professional – and as a person – I tend to stick to my way as opposed to the predetermined cookie-cutter route or path."



### PROFILE: Lisa Sinclair

Lisa Sinclair joined ODU's Office of University Relations in 2007, and for most of the time since then has been promoting the university on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and other social media. Her innovations in this capacity have been numerous, but none so bold and successful as her

efforts during the 2010 college football season to make ODU's mascot – Big Blue – the Capital One College Mascot of the Year.

On Jan. 1, 2011, at halftime of the Capital One Bowl in Orlando, Fla., Big Blue and ODU President John Broderick accepted the top mascot trophy while a nationwide television audience watched.

Big Blue won the title by getting more Internet votes than any of the other competing mascots, including the Ohio State Buckeye and the University of Oregon Duck. All told, in a dozen victorious rounds of competition, Big Blue pulled in nearly 2.5 million votes. Sinclair, for her efforts to push Big Blue over the top, won a University Advancement employee performance award from ODU Vice President Alonzo Brandon '85, for her "sterling efforts to show the breadth, the depth – and the enthusiasm – of Monarch Nation."



**LS:** I was just sitting around thinking about the Big Blue campaign and hoping some of what I learned might be useful to you. One of the things I did that was shady but effective was to enlist my enemy's enemy in the battle against the Oregon Duck. When the Ducks were preparing to battle the Oregon State Beavers in the annual "Civil War" football game, I trolled the Beavers' official FB page and exhorted them to vote for Big Blue against that wretched water fowl. We had a few bites before the game, but on game day, especially after the Ducks hammered the Beavers' QB on the first play, our vote total started to roll like the national debt.

**KF:** Lisa you are sneaky and I love it! I would like to employ you full time to work with me and I can pay you in Hi-C packets. (I have all the flavors...)

**LS:** I would like to be absolutely clear that Hi-C packets, although a generous offer, are insufficient. I prefer to mainline my sugar via Pixy Stix, thank you very much.

**KF:** We think the same way, which makes me wonder if you're the one who has stolen a majority of my brain cells. The cool thing (or the easier thing) I am faced with, compared to what you did with the mascot race, is vastness. I have no age barrier and no sex barrier or restrictions. My target audience is EVERYONE!

**LS:** I was also thinking it might be hilarious AND effective if you and some select conspirators trolled pages like Perez Hilton and his ilk with comments about stories. In other words, if there is a blind-item story about the latest celeb to have liposuction, the comment could be something like: "I think it's (insert celeb name here), but Keith Fenimore would know." This sort of thing, done in an entirely strategic manner, would get people to begin asking the question, "Who's this Keith Fenimore and how would he know?"

**KF:** I HAVE been going to social media articles and finding stories reported on by the press and leaving comments like, "That story was amazing, almost as amazing as Keith Fenimore's story

www.keithfenimore.com. Just sayin.'" And I have met people from doing this, but I haven't gotten an interview from it yet!

**LS:** I guess the key is to have a fun place for people to land when they Google your name. Speaking of which, I like your website and was wondering if you were considering adding video content? One of the things I did for Big Blue was throw together random videos. They seemed to be pretty popular. I thought maybe you might enjoy this one. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pa7eC09xSQk>

**KF:** I did shoot a bunch of video that I will release as 15-second image spots. The idea here is that if I try to be overly funny or overly serious I will turn people off, plus it is not about what I say, just my face.



# I ♥ FACE BOOK

So the image spots are simple, and just a reveal of me without dialogue or a story. I think they are good... to sort of get people used to me in a three dimensional way. [youtube.com/keithfenimore](http://youtube.com/keithfenimore). What do you think?

**LS:** Great stuff. I get what you are saying about not being too annoying while still getting buy-in. That is a very fine line to walk. I can tell you from experience that there are folks out there who WILL lose their ever-loving minds and actively loathe you for this. But there are plenty more who will get the coolness quotient of the experiment. Back to the loathing thing for a sec, in this situation, I think even dislike is preferable to indifference.

**KF:** I think what I am doing will become even more powerful if I can build a larger loyal Facebook following. There are two camps with me: The people who will see my face and read my story and say, okay, that's nice and be done with it. Then there are people who are more vested. They want to interact with me and want to help. While most are passive, there are a substantial number of people who want to participate. This surprised me.

**LS:** Your FB Diaspora theory seems sound to me. It would be interesting, given how things went with Big Blue, to see what kind of traction a few well-placed posts on the ODU Facebook page could give one of its esteemed alums. I feel an evil plan coming together here...

**KF:** Put Big Blue in an "I Know Keith Fenimore" T-shirt.

**LS:** But when you achieve your goal and are talking about the little people who helped you along, will you give a shout-out to ODU?

**KF:** I can't guarantee this. George Mason University has offered me \$40,000 to say I went there, and I'm thinking of taking them up on it, as I want to buy a Hummer.

**LS:** What sort of swath did you cut through ODU during your student years? Anything that would predict how you've turned out?

**KF:** I became the youngest president ever of Kappa Alpha Order, Delta Gamma Chapter. This was a bittersweet ODU experience, because under my watch we were booted off campus.

**LS:** Oh dear!

**KF:** I had a mentor at ODU in Fred Talbot (a former faculty member in journalism and a freelance comedy writer). He's still a friend. Great teacher, powerfully motivational

and inspirational outlook on life, and with a no-limits attitude. He helped shape me and was a great take away from ODU.

**LS:** We have something in common, you and your alma mater: We want to raise our national profile. I really would hope we could help each other achieve that goal.

**KF:** I get my T-shirts today from the printer. "I know Keith Fenimore." I am finding that the logo and the T-shirts are almost as big of a draw and a conversation piece as the experiment itself. I find this fact funny. I equate it to the beach ball syndrome at a stadium or concert. People will spend more time waiting for the ball to come than watching the band.... Why? I have no idea.

**LS:** You are absolutely right about the T-shirts, btw. I am reminded of that whole "Vote for Pedro" thing from Napoleon Dynamite (a brilliant film in my never-so-humble estimation). When Pedro T-shirts started showing up in Target, I knew it had finally and irrevocably trickled down into the depths of the

American pop culture morass. Surely there is room for Keith Fenimore in that morass?

**KF:** Here is something I posted last week on Facebook: I think it is time to divide (or come together, whatever works) and conquer. If you want, you can become an armchair publicist, by taking this photo and posting it on the Facebook page of the local media in your town (newspapers, radio, TV) along with a note saying "You need to interview this guy!"

**LS:** For my part, I will be happy to introduce you, Keith Fenimore, successful ODU grad, to his fellow Monarchs. I have already favorited your vids on our YouTube channel and will soon begin "Operation Fenimore" on our FB page. I am hoping that between the two of us we can "do a Big Blue" and introduce your mug to all the nation.



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# ALUMNI

## A Top Job with Toyota

Engineering Grad **Wil James** Leads the Company's Largest Plant Outside of Japan

BY BRENDAN O'HALLARN

**G**rowing up in Norfolk, Wilbert "Wil" James always excelled in school. He sailed through elementary school and Maury High with good grades.

When he made the "short walk" from his home to Old Dominion University, however, he was challenged academically for the first time. "I was always pretty comfortable with school. I got a good education in Norfolk, but school was really easy for me," he said.

"When I went to Old Dominion and entered the mechanical engineering technology (MET) program, that curriculum really pushed us. It stretched me in ways that I had never been challenged. It also exposed me to a lot of people from a lot of different places. It broadened me, and helped get me ready for the working world."

Graduating in 1977 with a degree in MET from ODU's Frank Batten College of Engineering and Technology, James embarked on a journey that has taken him to three other states and, last summer, landed him as president of the largest Toyota plant outside Japan, Toyota Motor Manufacturing in Georgetown, Ky.

"I thank God every day for the opportunities he's put in my way – and for supporting and guiding me to be the best person that I can be," James said.

After working at two other companies, James first came to Toyota's Georgetown plant in 1987. With a background in mechanical engineering, he could have commanded a more senior role. "But I asked to start as a first-line supervisor," James said. "I wanted to get management experience, and really learn about the people I work with. Because that's what Toyota is all about."

Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Kentucky Inc. (TMMK) employs nearly



7,000 people, and is the North America manufacturing site for Toyota vehicles such as the Avalon, Camry, Camry Hybrid and Venza. In his role as president, James is also responsible for overseeing the startup of a Toyota assembly plant in Mississippi, and supports a Subaru assembly line in Indiana.

"This is quite a handful at this point. But having had the opportunity to come back here as president last July is something I'm very, very proud of."

During his first tour at TMMK, James worked his way up the management ladder. He was named vice president of manufacturing in 2003, responsible for overseeing all vehicle manufacturing as well as production control. He was also general manager of assembly, responsible for engineering, maintenance, production and internal parts conveyance for TMMK's two assembly lines, along with the plant's plastics organization.

After nearly 20 years at TMMK, James joined TABC in Long Beach, Calif., in 2006 as senior vice president of operations. TABC is a parts compo-

nent plant and a wholly owned subsidiary of Toyota. A year later, he was named president of TABC. A brief rotation to Toyota's Indiana plant set the stage for his return to Kentucky last summer.

As the first African American to lead TMMK, James has made an effort to reach out and be a role model. One of his first appearances as president was as the keynote speaker for Toyota's 21st Opportunity Exchange in Cincinnati. The Opportunity Exchange, Toyota's own unique annual trade fair and conference, has generated \$160 million in minority contracts since its start 20 years ago, according to the company.

James is proud to be an African American role model. And he is likewise proud to have been a role model to the colleagues he supervised on the assembly line more than 20 years ago, many of whom are still doing their jobs diligently and with passion.

"One of the things I like so much about Toyota is the company's respect for people. That's something I try to bring to my job as president every single day," he said.

As a child, James lived, from grades 2 through 8, in the Lambert's Point neighborhood just south of Old Dominion. He attended elementary school in a building once located on the present-day campus.

Following the death of his mother in 2007, James was approached by the Rev. Anthony Paige, pastor of First Baptist Church of Lambert's Point, who asked if he would help transform the sanctuary of the old church (a new church opened in 2001) into a performing arts center. James led that fundraising campaign.

Today, James lives in Louisville with his wife, Michaelene. But he thinks often of his time growing up in Norfolk. His dad and three siblings are still in the area. He also remembers fondly his time at ODU.

"What I love about Old Dominion is I came out of there ready to take on anything. Old Dominion challenged me academically, and I needed that," James said.

There was one course in particular, Hydrothermal Dynamics, that is traditionally a bear for MET students. By applying himself, and simply having a knack for the concepts, however, James sailed through the course, which ultimately helped him land his first job after graduation, at nuclear research firm Babcock & Wilcox. Prior to joining Toyota, he also worked as a mechanical engineer at Olin Co. in Louisiana.

James visited the ODU campus last spring for the first time in a number of years. "I couldn't believe all the changes. I saw the new (Ted Constant) Convocation Center. I got to see the new football stadium. And having a football team, that was something we were praying for back when I was at ODU," he said.

The lessons James has learned – from his upbringing in Norfolk, from ODU and from his time in industry, especially at Toyota – have taught him many things. But he said continuous improvement and respect for people are among the most important.

"Those are our two main tenets as a company. A lot of attention is paid to those tenets, and that's good for me, because they fit me perfectly," James said.

"Having everyone responsible for what the company produces makes good business sense, but it's also the right thing to do."

## Come See How Your Campus Has Changed

"Things are so different, I don't know where to go."

**T**hat was the response I got from an alumnus during a recent conversation in which I learned that this gentleman hadn't been on campus in 20-plus years. Upon arriving at ODU to meet up with friends for a basketball game, he got disoriented because... well, things were different.

He makes a good point. For example, the alumni office is housed in what used to be the parking office, which was built on land that formerly supported the School of Education. (Anyone recall Fink's Flats?) And on top of that, it was known as Old Dominion College then. When you come into the alumni center, you can see old photos from this era, as well as key images from the institution's history.

What you won't see – pictorially, at least – is the 30,000-square-foot recreation center. You also won't see how greatly expanded the dining offerings are, or the Kaplan Orchid Conservatory. Both are pretty cool. I highly recommend spending some time on campus with a map, just walking around. But if you can't, check out our Flickr album with amazing campus shots at [www.odualumni.org](http://www.odualumni.org) under "Photo Album."

In talking with alumni, I constantly hear how overwhelming and exciting these changes are. This excitement has had a great impact on your alumni association and we've been working to respond. In the past few years we've chartered new chapters, revamped our awards program, enhanced our communication efforts and increased our visibility among students. Or, as we like to call them, future ODU alumni.

Our ability to evolve and continue to grow relies heavily on you, our members, for help. Chapters need leadership, and the more Monarchs who come together at an event, the better! Our awards dinner relies on sponsors to help raise funds for programs and scholarships. We love to send email updates and campus information, but we still only have email addresses for about 60 percent of our alumni. And students benefit greatly from their ability to interact with alumni who can offer much needed career and life advice.

I hope you enjoy the new look and feel of the magazine. We like it. We think you'll like it too. And if, after reading, you get that tingly feeling of Monarch Pride that just won't go away, contact us in the alumni office. You can drop a line to [odu-alumni@odu.edu](mailto:odu-alumni@odu.edu), or visit us online at the website listed above. While you're there, make sure to register for the Lion's Den, the association's online community.

And don't worry if the next time you visit campus you, too, get a bit lost in the middle of all the amazing changes. We've got plenty of maps here in the alumni center and would welcome you with open arms!



-Dana Allen

Assistant Vice President for Alumni Relations



## Nine Alumni Association Awards Given at Honors Dinner

**T**he Old Dominion University Alumni Association presented awards to seven former students and named two additional people as Honorary Alumni at the annual Alumni Honors Dinner during Homecoming 2010.

Distinguished Alumni Award recipients were:

- Thomas A. DiCillo '75 - An award-winning independent filmmaker, he received a bachelor's degree in English. DiCillo's films, which include "Box of Moonlight," "The Real Blonde" and "Delirious," have all been shown at the Sundance Film Festival. His film "Living in Oblivion," winner of Best Screenplay at Sundance and other best-picture awards, is considered an independent classic. "When You're Strange: A Film About The Doors," DiCillo's most recent work, is a full-length documentary that won a 2011 Grammy Award.

- Kenneth G. Stepka '74 - Chair of the board of Clark-Nexsen, a Norfolk-based company providing architecture, engineering, interior design, planning and landscape architecture services, he received a bachelor's degree in engineering. Stepka has extensive experience in project

management, subcontract administration and client interface. While holding key leadership positions at Clark-Nexsen, he has helped to grow the company from 43 employees with revenue of \$2.3 million to more than 500 employees and revenue over \$70 million.

- Richard B. Thurmond '76 - President and owner of William E. Wood & Associates since 1990, he received a bachelor's degree in marketing management. The company, which has thrived under Thurmond's leadership to become the largest of its kind in Hampton Roads, is ranked No. 62 in the 2010 Real Trends' report of the top 500 brokers in the nation. Thurmond, who entered the real estate business in sales with Woodard Realty while enrolled at ODU, joined William E. Wood as an agent four years after graduation.

- Ting Xu '88 (M.S. '89) - Creator and current president of Evergreen Enterprises, she holds bachelor's and master's degrees in computer science. The company, which she started in the garage of her suburban Virginia home in 1993, had broken the \$1 million sales mark by 1994. Today, it is not only the nation's largest decora-

tive flag designer and wholesaler, but it also produces more than 12,000 other home and garden products. Xu now manages over 700 people and has annual sales of more than \$200 million. She lives in Goochland, Va.

Recognized with Outstanding Achievement Awards:

- Nancy I. Lieberman '80 - Widely considered one of the most influential figures in women's basketball history, the three-time Kodak All-American received a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies. At ODU, Lieberman led the Lady Monarchs to two consecutive AIAW national championships (1979, 1980). The first two-time winner of the prestigious Wade Trophy, she was also selected as the Broderick Award winner as the top women's player in America. She went on to shape the landscape and future of women's professional basketball as a player and coach. Today she is an analyst for ESPN/ABC, covering the NBA and WNBA and NCAA women's basketball. Her business book, "Playbook for Success," went on sale in October 2010.

- James L. Taylor Jr. '78 - Recently confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the chief financial officer for the Department of Labor, Taylor received a bachelor's degree in political science. He has nearly 30 years of federal financial management experience, including his recent successful tenure as deputy inspector general for the Department of Homeland Security, where he reviewed, assessed and tested the effectiveness of controls for financial reporting in the wake of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. He served as deputy chief financial officer and director for financial management at the Department of Commerce from 1999 to 2005.

In addition, William I. Foster III '78 - President of TowneBank of Norfolk, was given an Alumni Service Award. Foster, who received a bache-

lor's degree in business administration, joined TowneBank in 2004 as president of the Norfolk region and opened the Norfolk branch in 2005. Heavily involved in civic and community affairs, he led the private effort in 2005 to raise matching funds for a Major League Baseball grant for the Reviving Baseball in the Inner Cities project in the Barraud Park section of Norfolk. He has also done fundraising on behalf of Hampton Roads for the U.S. Olympic Committee. In 2008, the Hampton Roads Youth Center presented him with the Ray of Hope Award for his leadership in community service.

Named Honorary Alumni were George T. Coker and Dwight W. Schaubach. Coker, a highly decorated Navy veteran, spent 6½ years as a prisoner of war after his aircraft was shot down over North Vietnam in 1966, including 2½ years in solitary confinement after he was recaptured following an es-

cape attempt. Following his release from prison in 1973, Coker returned to duty five months later at NAS Oceana. His final tour, which began in 1985 as the director of the Atlantic Fleet Command Center in Norfolk, ended with his retirement on Sept. 30, 1986.

Schaubach started the original Bay Disposal in the late 1970s and drove its first trash truck. Still the owner and president, he is also the owner and operator of Johns Brothers Security; Johns Brothers Heating, Cooling and Oil; Bay Disposal Waste Division; and Suffolk International Truck Sales, all under Schaubach Companies of Virginia. In the mid-1980s, he established a medical waste collection company, offering the first medical waste incinerator in Virginia. Schaubach is also the former owner of Langley Speedway in Hampton. In 2009, he purchased the former Williamsburg Country Club with a partner and reopened the golf course in 2010.



## Homecoming 2011 October 12-15

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# CLASSNOTES

## ALUMNI PROFILE

### From ROTC To Robes

**Penney Azcarate** Has a Professional Interest  
in How Courts Handle Reckless Drivers

Penney S. Azcarate BA '88, a Fairfax, Va., General District Court judge, hopes to make a difference in a few people's lives—particularly those who may be tempted to drive while impaired, speed or otherwise behave recklessly. "I want them to understand that their actions could have serious consequences that can be 100 percent avoidable," Azcarate says. "If one person's life is saved, it is worth it." One case, in particular, reminds her of how senseless the tragedies can be: A 19-year-old man appeared before her to plead guilty to a reckless driving-by-speed charge for an accident in which he drove over 100 miles per hour, lost control of his car and hit a tree, killing his best friend.

"I listened to the victim's mother tell me about her son she lost in the crash, who was an A student and an outstanding individual in his short life," Azcarate recalls. "I remember looking at this young defendant completely sobbing over the loss of his friend. There was nothing I could do to him that would be more punishment than having to go through the rest of his life knowing he was responsible for his friend's death."

Azcarate (her name was Wilson while an ODU student) knew early on that she wanted to be an attorney. She came to ODU because it had one of the most comprehensive criminal justice programs at the time. "The first criminology class I took incorporated psychology into the course work and, for the first time, I viewed criminal justice through the mind of the defendant," she recalls. "I found it very eye-opening to discuss issues that could address what defendants are facing and possibly look at rehabilitation solutions as well as punitive outcomes."

She attended ODU on a full military scholarship and became a battalion commander in the Naval ROTC. As such, she was responsible for operations and logistics of a diverse unit that included students from ODU, Norfolk State University and Hampton University, giving her a strong foundation in leadership that served her well in the Marine Corps, as well as in everyday life. She also credits her military training with helping her overcome her shyness toward public speaking and preparing her to run an efficient and orderly courtroom.

After serving as a communications officer in the Marine Corps, Azcarate attended George Mason University School of Law. She then worked for the American Prosecutors Research Institute in Alexandria where she assisted and trained prosecutors nationwide on various issues, including prosecuting drunk and drugged drivers and vehicular homicide. She later became an assistant commonwealth's attorney in Fairfax County, trying hundreds of cases.

*-Marcia Cronin*

**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.



## 1950s

**Ed Tyree '56** of Virginia Beach was prominently featured in an Oct. 1, 2010, Sports Collectors Digest feature story, "Murphy's Law: Don't cheat: If he's not holier than thou, Dale Murphy is certainly holier than most, but that doesn't seem to sway the HOF voters." T.S. O'Connell's story about the retired Atlanta Braves baseball player includes Ed's quest to have Murphy enshrined in baseball's Hall of Fame. A photo of Ed with Murphy accompanies the story. O'Connell writes, "Tyree has lobbied the Hall of Fame with as much intensity as he is able to muster, he being of an amiable, polite and respectful nature not at all dissimilar to his hero." Ed says he has had approximately 50 articles and letters published about the subject over the past two decades.

## 1960s

**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.

**Jacqueline Warren '69** is a professor in the IT and Business Division at Tidewater Community College in Virginia Beach. As she enters her 41st year of teaching, Jacqueline writes, "Time flies. A lot of changes have occurred in the technology field, and we are encouraged to keep up." Jacqueline also teaches voice recognition. In closing, she says, "I love my job and the people with whom I work. Come see me!"

Bright Ring Publishing, the company of **MaryAnn F. Kohl '69**, celebrated its 25th anniversary in November 2010. Bright Ring ([www.brightring.com](http://www.brightring.com)) publishes books about creativity and art for parents, children and educators. MaryAnn holds a B.S. in elementary education and founded Bright Ring in 1985. She will be speaking around the country in 2011 on how to nurture creativity in children of all ages.

## 1970s

**John P. Murphy '70** recently retired

after 39 years experience in providing audit, banking, finance and financial advisory services to numerous government agencies and financial institutions. John and his wife, Terry, live in Alexandria, Va.

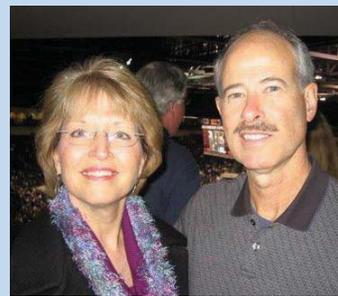
**Carlton Bennett '72** was listed in the 2011 Edition of Virginia's Best Lawyers in two categories: Medical Malpractice Law and Personal Injury Litigation.

**Robert Rose '72** has retired after 25 years of teaching in Virginia Beach City Public Schools, as well as in adjunct positions at Broward Junior College and Old Dominion University. He still teaches meteorology as an adjunct instructor at Tidewater Community College where he has taught since 1978.

**Jackie (Davis) Perry '73, '01 (M.S. '03)** received the American Dental Hygienists' Association Distinguished Service Award in 2006 and was chosen in 2010 to receive an Outstanding Dental Hygiene Alumni Award from Old Dominion University's Gene W. Hirschfeld School of Dental Hygiene. Jackie earned a certificate in dental hygiene in 1973, followed by bachelor's and master's degrees in the field years later. She lives in Kitty Hawk, N.C., with James Stanley Perry, her husband of 33 years.

**Larry Knight '74** recently accepted a position with the Rough Diamond Band located in Tampa Bay, Fla., as lead guitarist, keyboard player and vocalist. Larry retired from his job as an executive clinical specialist with GlaxoSmith Kline, the world's second largest pharmaceutical company. He had worked for the company for 30 years. In addition to joining the Rough Diamond Band, Larry is playing amateur golf events. He and wife Tinna live in Lake Jovita in Dade City, Fla. Their son, Cameron, graduated from Florida State University last August and is pursuing a career as a professional golfer. Larry writes, "We are easy to find, so get in touch."

**Norman McIntosh '74** of Sandston, Va., was featured in an Aug. 18, 2010, story in The Virginian-Pilot about his retirement from the Virginia National Guard. Norman, who retired after almost 42 years in the military, was the longest-serving aviator in the VNG.



**THETA CHI REUNION**—The Theta Chi alumni reunion held in January attracted more than 100 attendees to the Ted Constant Convocation Center on a day when the ODU men's basketball team hosted rivals from George Mason University. Pictured (clockwise starting top left) are Kathy and David Farmer; Lynn and Jim Levick; Rob Ladd and Richard and Eileen Werber; and Carlton and Sue Bennett and John Zydron. Joe Kendall reports that a special 45th anniversary reunion for the Theta Chi chapter will be held next year in April. For more information, contact Kendall at [joesankendall3@comcast.net](mailto:joesankendall3@comcast.net).

He joined the Guard in 1971 after a year's tour in Vietnam as an Army helicopter pilot. According to the story, he also plans to retire from his accounting officer job at Norfolk Naval Shipyard this year. Norman said he hopes to sign on with the Virginia Defense Force, a volunteer auxiliary to the Guard.

**Loyce Jarvis (M.S.Ed. '75, C.A.S. '81)** of Virginia Beach was featured in a Sept. 20, 2010, Virginian-Pilot story about her screen debut in a feature film by the Virginia-based independent film company Shoestring Productions Central. Loyce appears in five scenes of "Push Came to Shove," which premiered at the Kimball Theatre in Williamsburg on August 29. She previously appeared in a number of local theater productions.

**Ann (Finley) Andrews '76 (M.S. '87)** writes that after spending 30 years in health care as a licensed long-term care administrator, she retired in 2005 and is pursuing a second career in real estate. Ann obtained a broker's license last year, and she and her hus-

band, Tom, have become partners in the RE/MAX Select franchise where she has been an agent. She now serves as principal broker/owner. She writes, "I have a lot on my plate but would love to hear from some friends from college days! You can find me living in Hampton, or for faraway friends, on Facebook."

**Robert Stewart '76** writes, "I have been awarded my Ph.D.!" His dissertation is titled: Identification of Potential Reoccurring DUI-Related Conviction Recidivists Following Successful Completion of Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment in the State of Florida: A Comparison of Two Statistical Methods.

**Mary G. Commander '77** has been selected as a member of the 2010 "Legal Elite" in Domestic Relations by Virginia Business magazine. She has also been designated a 2010 "SuperLawyer" in Family Law by Law & Politics magazine.

**Chuck Harrison '77** became director of missions of the Peninsula Bap-

tist Association in December 2010. He will be working with 63 churches in the Peninsula area of Virginia.

**Penny (Richter) Klein '77** retired from teaching Special Education at Orange Park Elementary School in Orange Park, Fla. Prior to retiring, Penny was selected as the "Orange Park Teacher of the Week" in October 2010.

**Norman Soroko '78** has been selected as one of the National Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs and Seaboard Region's eight recipients of the 2011 Ma'asim Tovim Award. This award is given to individuals who are "doers of good deeds" and is the highest honor that a region of FJMC can bestow to an individual. Norman will receive the award at the FJMC convention in July 2011 in Costa Mesa, Calif. This will be the first time that the award has been given to an FJMC member from the Hampton Roads area. Norman serves on the board of directors of the Men's Club of Congregation Beth El of Norfolk and its Congregational Board. He also serves on the Seaboard Region and National Federation boards. Norman works for Citigroup and part-time with Altmeyer Funeral Home in Virginia Beach. He is also in his 14th year as a volunteer and accounting chairman for the Norfolk/Virginia Beach Relay for Life.

**Deborah (Crecraft) Taylor '78** recently accepted a position as a Medicaid provider dentist at Pan-Care of Florida located in Panama City, Fla. She was previously employed as a U. S. Army contract

dentist. "I now have the pleasure of providing dental care for the truly needy. This is a non-profit organization with a highly diverse patient population. The work is both difficult and rewarding."

**Yvonne (Wilson) Boone '79** has exhibited artwork in a number of recent local shows. These include the Tidewater Art Alliance "Tiny Treasures" exhibit at the Hermitage Foundation Museum in Norfolk and "Small Works: Miniature Art by Hampton Roads Artists" at the Charles H. Taylor Arts Center, Hampton. Yvonne received Complementary Awards in the 10th Annual National Exhibition at Renaissance Art Gallery, Huntington, W.Va.; Suffolk Art League Juried Show at the Suffolk Museum, Suffolk, Va.; Snap to Grid at Los Angeles Center for Digital Art, Los Angeles, Calif.; the Hampton Art League Members Show at the Charles H. Taylor Arts Center; the Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, D.C.; the International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature at Strathmore Mansion, North Bethesda, Md.; and the Halls of Art VI Exhibition, Hampton Roads Convention Center.

**Phillip Bradshaw '79 (M.B.A. '90)** was selected as the Isle of Wight County, Va., School Board's chief financial officer. The board stated in its announcement that Phillip has worked for International Paper in the past and currently works with Mastec Inc. He has 30 years of business experience.

**Stephen Solosky '79** retired from his professorship at Nassau Community College after 30 years in the teaching field. He now runs [www.travelingprofessor.com](http://www.travelingprofessor.com)

## 1980s

**J. Roger Garrett '81** recently accepted a position at Fulton Mortgage Co. Fulton Bank, N.A. located in Virginia Beach. He will be area production manager. Roger was previously employed at PrimeLending, as area manager.

**Ted Hand '81** was recently elected to his fourth term as national secretary of the Society of Broadcast Engineers.

**Kirk Havens '81 (M.S. '87)** has been reappointed to the Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee by Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell. The appointment marks the beginning of Haven's third consecutive four-year term. Haven is assistant director for Virginia Institute of Marine Science Center for Coastal Resources Management.

**Al Bianchi (M.B.A. '82, Ph.D. '93)** has moved his restaurant, the Fossil Rock Inn, to a new location at the Mount Pleasant Marketplace in Chesapeake. The restaurant's website is: [www.fossilrockinn.com](http://www.fossilrockinn.com).

**Debbie Russo Marushi '82** writes that she and her husband, **Barry Marushi '86**, visited the "NCIS" set in Los Angeles in 2009. Barry works with NCIS and is the special agent in charge of the Greater Southeast Asia Field Office in Singapore. The Marushi family lived in Singapore for three years and was scheduled to repatriate to the states in summer 2010.

**Joe Pettoni '82** wrote in August that he has been selected as the first civilian Deputy J-1 for morale, welfare and recreation in Afghanistan. He will be responsible for all quality-of-life issues for all U.S. and Coalition forces. This will be Joe's fourth deployment for the Army. He will be based out of Bagram Air Base in north-central Afghanistan. His tour is for one year.

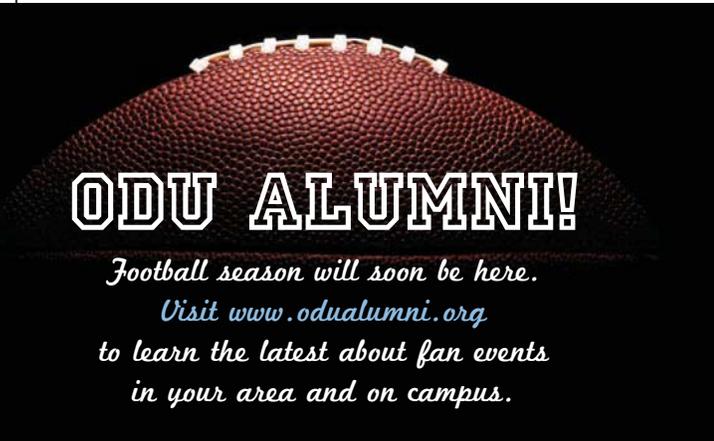
**Kevin Kavanagh '83** reports that he enjoyed a "mini-reunion" with fellow Monarchs during football season, and was thrilled to reconnect with friends who traveled as far as 600 miles to watch ODU defeat Georgia State in the Homecoming game.

**Michael F. Clarke '83** retired as a lieutenant colonel from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers last year and is now the director of public works for the city of Davenport, Iowa. His wife **Kim '81**, is entering her fourth year as a Realtor with Mel Foster Co. She is registered in both Iowa and Illinois.

**Kay (Langley) Dezern '83** began a grief support group seven years ago. The group holds weekly meetings during 14-week cycles that occur three times a year. Over the years, the group has had continuous growth. Just prior to Thanksgiving, Kay held a seminar called "Surviving the Holidays," which offers tools to make the holidays less stressful for those in grief. Her church, Great Bridge Presbyterian in Chesapeake, holds a "Service of Remembrance" every December for people to remember a lost loved one, no matter how long it has been since their passing. Kay writes, "What a privilege it has been to initiate these three events. My church has been supportive of this endeavor from the very beginning."

**Ken Frohlich '84** and his wife, Karen, live in Kingsport, Tenn. They have four children: daughters Blaine, 14, Makenzee, 8, and Sophie, 3, and son, Jake, 2. Ken remains a big supporter of ODU basketball and often watches games on the Internet.

**Karin Gifuni '84** recently accepted a position at U. S. Trust located in McLean, Va., as senior vice president/private client advisor. Karin was previously employed at Wells Fargo Private Bank as a wealth advisor. Of her company, Karin writes, "U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management, provides investment management, planned giving, and fiduciary services to a range of institutional clients, including not-for-profit organizations, corporations, public



## ODU ALUMNI!

*Football season will soon be here.  
Visit [www.odualumni.org](http://www.odualumni.org)  
to learn the latest about fan events  
in your area and on campus.*

funds, insurance companies and unions.”

**Tom Gilgren '84** was elected president of the San Diego, Calif., chapter of the Appraisal Institute. He had served on the board of directors for the past three years. Tom is currently the CEO of The Gillgren Group, a real estate appraisal and consulting firm in northern San Diego County.

**Joseph R. Stainback IV '84** received a Ph.D. in industrial engineering from the University of Tennessee in May 2010. “I never imagined getting my Ph.D. when I graduated from ODU 26 years ago,” he writes. Joseph has worked for Babcock & Wilcox since his graduation from ODU. He is considering a second career in academics.

**Christopher Abel (M.A. '85)** was elected chairman of the York County, Va., Planning Commission for 2010–11. He is a partner and practice group leader with the Norfolk office of Troutman Sanders.

**Craig Herrick '85** recently assumed command of Defense Enterprise Computing Center located in Mechanicsburg, Pa. Craig writes, “25 years after receiving my degree in MIS, I'm excited to lead one of the DoD's major computer facilities.”

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

**Scott D. Rankins (M.S. Ed. '88)** co-owns Blue Ridge Therapy Associates, a private rehabilitation office in Lynchburg, Va. He is the current president of the Speech-Language-Hearing Association of Virginia.

**Caroline M. Schloss '88** released her recent publication “The Shooters Crossword Puzzle and Word Search Book” in October 2010 through distributor Rumpf Outdoor Titles. Her website is: <http://www.ShootersCrossword-Puzzle.com>

**David Cotoir '89** was selected as 2011 Engineer of the Year for Naval Facilities Engineering Command-

## ALUMNI PROFILE

# 'My Child's Path'

## Researching Career Options is Kid's Work, According to Maria Livecchi Connolly

Ever wonder what your kids will do when they grow up? Or what you might do for a second (or third) career? “My Child's Path,” the website of Maria Livecchi Connolly BA '92, may lead you – and them – down the right path. Connolly started the website to inspire children and teenagers to research as many career paths as possible, starting when they're young and curious. She makes the information personal and approachable by interviewing people about their careers and posting the interviews as easy-to-read Q&As. She describes more than 120 careers online and is continually tracking down new ones as people request them.

“I hope it leads to kids researching career options before they make those important life choices,” she says.

The idea for the website came to Connolly during a long drive. She began daydreaming about what her young son and daughter might do when they grow up. Soon she was interviewing her family and friends and blogging about their careers. All interviews on her site are from people who actually work in those fields, and she tries to get varied perspectives.

Teaching has been a constant in her life since she worked as a camp counselor in her youth. Her career path took several turns, but always with a touch of teaching: preschool teacher, day care director, insurance company employee (whose duties included training) and, now, career adviser. “In a round-about way, I am teaching kids about all of the career opportunities out there,” she says.

Connolly says the skills she learned at ODU, where she majored in secondary education and minored in marketing and English, come in handy in marketing her new venture and in writing blog posts. Other life lessons from college also help her run her business. “I am originally from Michigan, and going away to school was a big learning experience,” she says. “Not only did I have to be successful in my schooling, I had to mature into a responsible adult without the comfort of having my family right around the corner. College taught me responsibility, communication and gave me drive.”

That drive has helped her build and market “My Child's Path” ([www.mychildspath.com](http://www.mychildspath.com)). What's next? Maybe a book, a radio show or even a segment on TV geared toward teens. “I would love to be known as ‘The Career Mom!’” she says.

–Marcia Cronin



Mid-Atlantic. He is a senior water program manager in the Environmental Business Line in Norfolk.

**James Dykes '89** recently accepted a position as program manager at Raytheon Command & Simulation Solutions in Orlando, Fla. James was previously employed at Wake Forest University as director of alumni relations. He writes, "I am looking forward to working with the DoD again, and would love to hear from classmates."

**Victoria Nicholls '89** was recently promoted to business intelligence analyst from database architect at ODU.

## 1990s

**Kenneth E. Ampy '90** CEO of Astyra Corp. of Richmond, was honored in August 2010 when the firm was recognized for the second straight year by Inc. magazine as one of the nation's fastest-growing private companies. Astyra improved its ranking from 1,246 in 2009 to 888 in 2010. Founded in 1997, Astyra Corp. is a staffing, outsourcing, consulting and technology integration firm.

**Franci (Christensen) Brice '90** recently accepted a position at NASA Kennedy Space Center located in Florida as senior systems engineer. Franci represents Kennedy Space Center as a member of the NASA Engineering Standards Panel and the Systems Engineering Working Group. She writes, "I have the privilege of working with an excellent cadre of engineers at all 10 NASA centers. This work involves ensuring that our engineering standards and systems engineering are state of the art and ready to support all mission requirements."

**Julia (Eisenbass) Broach '90** moved back to Virginia and started her own acupuncture practice after receiving her master's in acupuncture in 2001. Julia initially rented space in a business and felt she had built up a strong enough following to open her own business in 2004. She then opened Norfolk Acupuncture, which became Norfolk Acupuncture and Therapeutic Massage. She writes that she is "for-

tunate to have such a wonderful career."

**Cindy Mathena (M.S. '90)** is the dean of post-professional studies at the University of St. Augustine. She is also an associate professor.

The Habitat Conservation Agency Commenting Team led by **Joe Walsh '90** was recently recognized by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Division of Habitat and Species Conservation as its Scientific Team of the Year for 2009-10. Among its accomplishments, the team published the Florida Wildlife Conservation Guide online in 2009.

**Brett Augsburger '91** writes that he will be going back to Arizona from Austin, Texas, in the summer of 2011 to handle the daily operations of his RV park.

**Wayne Lesperance '91** writes that the summer of 2010 was very busy for him. He was promoted to the rank of full professor of political science at New England College and worked with colleagues to host both a United States Senate and Congressional debate at the college.

**Neil Bailey '92** is the athletic director and head men's basketball coach at East Georgia College in Swainsboro. He is married to **Carrie Lynn Bailey (M.Ed. '00)**, who is a professor at Georgia Southern University. They have two children: Ellie, 12, and Cooper, 5.

**Maria (Livecchi) Connolly '92** has started a website/blog geared toward inspiring children and teenagers to research as many career paths as possible. Her hope is that young people will read about careers that are unfamiliar to them, and choose to research them. The site has been featured in several publications based near her home in Maine, including The Scarborough Leader. The web address for Maria's blog is: <http://mychildspath.com/?p=950>

**Linda (Hutcheson) Murphy '92** graduated in August 2010 with a M.S. in music from Shenandoah Conservatory. Linda currently resides in Winchester, Va., with her

husband, Dr. Michael Murphy, and their two children, Michael Lee and Matthew.

U.S. Navy Reservist Master Chief Petty Officer **Gary Alston '93** recently returned from a one-year active duty recall as senior enlisted leader for Navy Expeditionary Medicine Unit-10 at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.

**Omega Harris '94** is currently serving as the division fire support officer at Fort Carson, Colo.

**John Haynes '95** has been with Johnson Controls Inc. for the past three years as the human resources director for the mid-Atlantic region. John now is director, organizational development, North America, where he focuses on leadership, mid-management and front-line development, as well as coaching and advising operations leaders. Additionally, he is the founder of Regeneration! Life and Business Coaching. He resides in Bowie, Md., with wife **Gwen '95**, who is an events and meetings consultant. They have a son, Miles Christian, 3.

**Hank Krebs '95** was elected to the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank (N.C.) Public Schools Board of Education in November 2010. Hank previously served as a Pasquotank County Commissioner from 2002-06.

**Maya Erhardt '96** recently joined Randolph-Macon College as associate director of annual giving. She writes, "I'm proud to be a part of the team at R-MC and am also excited to have earned my Certified Fund Raising Executive credential in September 2010."

**Tammy A. Andreyko (M.S.Ed. '97)** successfully defended her dissertation titled, "Principal Leadership in the Accountability Era: Influence of Expanding Job Responsibilities on Functional Work Performance, Stress Management, and Overall Job Satisfaction" at the University of Pittsburgh in November 2010. She is currently the assistant superintendent for curriculum at North Allegheny School District in Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Daniel Barchi (M.E.M. '97)** was appointed chief information officer for the Yale New Haven Health System and Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Conn. He was previously senior vice president and chief information officer at Carilion Health System in Roanoke, Va. Daniel is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md.

**Carlos Garza '98** was elected to the Texas State Board of Education, District 1 in November 2010. The board consists of 15 member districts and meets in Austin. The board has been at the center of national news over the past year.

**Sharon Hollins '99** was honored last fall at the 15th annual Women of Color in Technology STEM Conference in Dallas with the Special Recognition Award. Sharon is a systems engineer and lead risk and opportunity manager for the supply chain procurement division at Northrop Grumman shipbuilding sector's operations in Newport News. With a broad range of experience in production, design, structural engineering, manufacturing engineering, as well as program management and system engineering, she is currently responsible for implementing risk management programs in her organization.

**Erica Kiernan '98** recently graduated from the University of St. Augustine with a dual degree: Doctor of Physical Therapy and Master's of Occupational Therapy. After working as a clinician in both professions, she became a faculty member at the University of St. Augustine in both the occupational therapy and physical therapy programs.

**Leo Katsetos '99 (M.S.Ed. '01)** was named a National Athlete of the Month last year by StrengthUSA.com. He is the associate head athletic trainer at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn. Leo writes, "I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis seven years ago, and since then have had some rough moments. In return, I have changed my life around. I currently do a lot of volunteer work serving as an ambassador speaking at events, and fundraising for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. I honestly like to tell my story to help others diag-

nosed with MS who have it much worse than I do.” Since 2005, Leo has put teams together for the Annual MS walk and has raised just over \$100,000.

### **Melissa (Willard) Lang '99**

is currently the director of alumni relations at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk. She recently received word that she has been selected as a 2011 recipient of the Association of American Medical Colleges Group on Institutional Advancement (GIA) Award of Excellence. The award presentation and reception were scheduled for the GIA National Professional Development Conference in April in Nashville, Tenn.

## 2000s

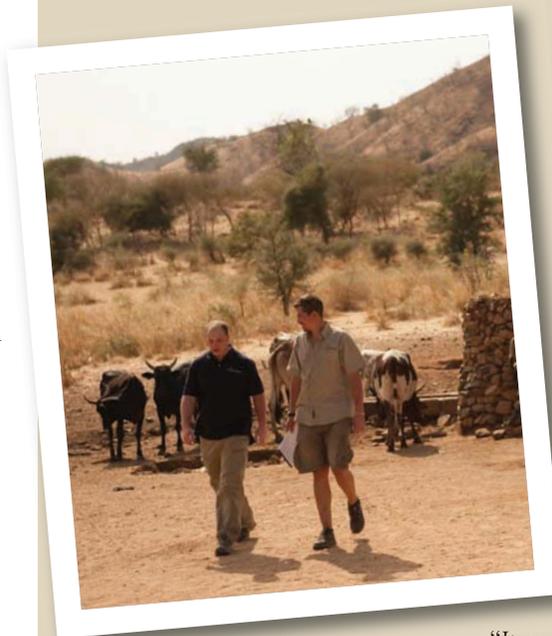
**Karen Clark (M.S. '00)** was profiled in the Aug. 20, 2010, edition of *The Coast*, an Outer Banks of North Carolina publication of *The Virginian-Pilot*. She is the program coordinator for the Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education.

**Todd Dyer '00** recently accepted a business development position at CE Property Services Group located in Orlando, Fla. Todd relocated with his family to the Central Florida region to join CE Property Services, a division of the Spotless Group based in Melbourne, Australia. Todd's focus is business development for the United States and Canada, targeting conference, sports and entertainment venues for the organization's facility management and maintenance services. Todd can be reached at [tdyer45@hotmail.com](mailto:tdyer45@hotmail.com)

**Sean Huggins '00** is a national sales representative for Victory Packing based in Phoenix, Ariz.

**Ronald Berkebile '01** was recently appointed as the financial analyst for the city of Virginia Beach's new Strategic Growth Area Office. In addition to strategic growth area analyses, the job functions will include analyzing economic vitality for the city's Economic Development Department, and tourism trends for the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

## ALUMNI PROFILE



# Good Samaritan

## Engineer **Gavin Gramstad** Leads Quest for Water in Sudan

The skills Gavin Gramstad BS '08 (at right in photo) learned in ODU's engineering school help him decide what type of drills and pumps to use creating wells in Sudan. Equally important, the skills he learned as president of the ODU Rowing Club help him lead a team of former soldiers, most of whom are older than he is and have no engineering background and no experience in civilian jobs.

“It can be daunting,” Gramstad says of working with largely untrained workers to bring water to the deserts of Sudan. But he calls on those lessons from the rowing team: discipline, team building in a high-stress environment, time management, budgeting and leadership.

Gramstad appreciates the “first-rate education” he received at ODU—even though he hadn't planned to attend the university. The Fairfax, Va., native was in Norfolk visiting his aunt and uncle and walking around the nearby ODU campus when a man stopped him and started chatting. That man turned out to be John Broderick, then a vice president of ODU and now president. He encouraged Gramstad to consider ODU and said that if he was interested in studying engineering, he could put him in contact with someone in the Admissions Office who could help him apply for a scholarship. Gramstad eventually qualified for the Governor's Technology Scholarship, which covered a significant part of his college costs.

It was an offer too good to refuse, and Gramstad is glad he didn't. He enjoyed Norfolk and the university and saw a lot of changes in his five years as a student. When he arrived, he says, ODU was housing some students in a downtown hotel because there weren't enough dorms, and there was no quad student housing, no University Village businesses, and little esprit de corps among students.

All of that changed while he was in school. On a recent visit back, he sipped coffee in one of the new campus coffee shops and talked excitedly about the new Student Recreation Center.

Gramstad started out studying civil engineering at ODU but realized he wasn't “a cubical kind of guy.” He worked on a project involving the Hampton Roads Sanitation District and Gary C. Schafran, chair of ODU's civil and environmental engineering department, and became hooked on water.

“My goal was to work in a developing country doing water,” Gramstad recalls, and not long after he graduated, he found work with Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization.

Gramstad's team in Sudan works primarily in supplying water and improving sanitation. He not only helps to build water systems and teach the locals how to maintain them, but also hands out bars of soap and demonstrates proper hand washing.

He talks animatedly about the great need in Sudan. The recent vote in southern Sudan to secede from the north created a humanitarian crisis, as southerners who'd moved north fled back to the south. When a caravan of buses drops off 4,000 people, Samaritan's Purse jumps into action, digging latrines, bringing in water trucks and drilling wells. “Every day is different, and sometimes you fly by the seat of your pants,” Gramstad says. “It involves a lot of problem solving.”

In October, when Gramstad's contract is up, he hopes to find work in the business sector—and head out to another corner of the world that needs water solutions.

**Corey D. Hamlin '01**

was hired as dean of students in November 2010 (at King and Queen Central High School in King and Queen County, Va. Corey currently resides in Hampton.

**Alton Jamison '01** worked as a mechanical engineer for 11 years, but is now a full-time professional speaker and author. He has been running his speaking company for two years. Last October, Alton was selected as an honoree for the Inside Business "Top 40 Under 40 in Hampton Roads." He writes, "My book, 'No More Handcuffs: 5 Keys To Removing The Mental Handcuffs From Your Life' (published in December 2009) is doing very well."

**Richard S. Mead '01** is the head coach of boys' soccer at Cox High School in Virginia Beach. During his first two seasons as coach, the team won two district titles, one district tournament title, two Eastern Region titles and two Virginia AAA state titles with a combined record of 46-2-1. The team finished 25-0 last season. He wrote in October, "I also sent the top recruit from our last team to Old Dominion this fall, where he started every match until he was injured against William and Mary. Other commits from my program include two to U.Va., two to Virginia Tech, one to Coker College, and one to William and Mary."

**Brian Rubin '01** is currently a project manager and Six Sigma Black Belt at Bank of America. He recently passed an exam to be certified as a Project Management Professional.

**Gary Holaso '02** recently accepted a position at Commonwealth Financial Partners located in Virginia Beach as a financial services representative. Gary had been employed at United Parcel Service as an account manager. He writes, "After a successful career in transportation, I am looking forward to this career change into a new industry. I feel the ability to help families and individuals develop strategies to meet their financial goals to be personally rewarding."

**Navy Lt. Robert B. Conner '04**

recently received his master's degree from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif. Conner's graduation from the school indicates that he has been prepared through advanced professional education to provide intellectual leadership and sound judgment in defense matters.

**Deena Corwin '04**, a Coast Guard seaman, graduated last year from U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J.

**Brian Coughlan (M.B.A. '04)** is working in Manassas, Va., as a mutual fund salesman.

**Shannon L. Hair, '05**, joined Danville Community College in October 2010 as director of development. He was previously manager of economic development for Dewberry Inc.

**Kristopher Knepper (M.B.A. '05)** was promoted by Wheeler Interests to vice president, acquisitions and finance.

**Diane Postman '05** was named the Elementary Teacher of the Year for Gloucester County Schools in 2006 and was chosen as Old Dominion University's Special Education Graduate Student of the Year. In 2007, she was selected for the Division of Early Childhood (DEC) Nancy Fallon Award for Early Childhood Special Education Teacher of the Year. After serving as a science lab teacher for grades 2 and 3 during the 2009-10 school year, she chose to retire after 31 years in education. Diane is doing some consulting work for TTAC at ODU and dreams of one day working with student teachers.

**Michael Jones '06** recently passed the California Real Estate Broker's License Exam.

**Tiffany Mitchell '06** received her master's in teaching: elementary education from American University in December 2010. She now holds two teaching certifications in elementary education and middle school social studies. She is currently a seventh grade history teacher in Washington, D.C.

**Kristy (Pagan) Wyngaarden '06**

recently accepted a position at the Alzheimer's Association SEVA Chapter located in Norfolk as the communications coordinator.

**Tracy Agnew (M.A. '07)** was promoted to the new position of news editor at the Suffolk News-Herald in September 2010. She has worked at the newspaper in Suffolk, Va., for more than four years and resides in Norfolk.

**Ashley Burton-Mims '07** was promoted from location planning analyst I to location planning analyst II with Ross Stores Inc. in August 2010.

**Jahtn Flores '07** recently accepted a position at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro as an academic advisor. He will work with the First-Year Experience program there. Prior to accepting his position, Jahtn studied at Clemson University and completed a master's in counselor education, with an emphasis in student affairs.

**Zuleika Hernandez '07** recently accepted a position with the Department of Defense. She is a program analyst at the Pentagon for military community and family policy.

**Tonye Lofton '07** of Lanham, Md, joined the National Council on Aging in October as a data collection and tracking coordinator for the workforce development team. NCOA is the leading nonprofit service and advocacy organization for older Americans. Tonye previously worked as a quality assurance team leader and program analyst for KRA Corp. He is pursuing a law degree from Catholic University of America.

**Bridgette Silano '07** graduated from George Mason School of Law in December 2010.

**Eric Angevine '08** is currently a national college basketball writer for CBSSports.com.

**Alexis Blow '08** began her master's program in criminal justice at Norfolk State University in the spring of 2009. At the time of her writing

in December 2010, Alexis had just finished all of her classes for the program and was studying to take her comprehensive exams in January.

**Mark E. Cacamis (M.P.A. '08)**

was recently hired as the new state construction engineer and division administrator for the Virginia Department of Transportation's Scheduling and Contracts Division. Mark is a veteran with VDOT and now oversees the development, review and management of construction and maintenance projects issued by VDOT each year.

**Kathy Colbert '08** has accepted the position of chair of the National Nurses in Staff Development Organization Public Policy Committee. The Public Policy Committee monitors legislation that impacts nursing education, nurse educators and quality healthcare. The committee also advocates opportunities for professional development, quality patient care and healthy work environments. Kathy writes, "It is an honor to serve fellow nurse educators in this role."

**Jonathan Daniel Gayfield '08** of the U.S. Navy was awarded his naval aviation "wings" in July 2010 in Pensacola, Fla.

**Emily Grace Hall '08** writes, "My husband, who is in the Air Force, has been stationed in Doha, Qatar. We are very excited to have the chance to go there together."

**Amour Mickel (M.S. Ed. '08)** joined Berkeley Middle School in Williamsburg, Va., last fall as the assistant principal. She was previously the discipline team leader at Mary Passage Middle School in Newport News.

**Amber Napier '08** founded YogaTherapy of Virginia Beach in 2010, which provides yoga classes and therapeutic services. She uses her counseling training from ODU in her work with individuals and groups. At the time of publication, Amber planned to launch the website My Daily Oasis.com. She writes, "My Daily Oasis will be a free resource for visitors to access holistic health and wellness related services in their community, as well

as daily content that supports physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being by serving as a source of inspiration, insight, and perspective.”

**Veronica Sander '08**

recently accepted a position at USA Football located in Indianapolis, Ind., as a marketing coordinator. She was recently employed at Monumental Sports and Entertainment as a manager of sponsorship services for the Washington Mystics, Wizards and Capitals.

**Carrie SheaBerry '08** received an M.B.A. in finance from Old Dominion University in December 2010.

**Zack Mansell '09** founded Norfolk Walkabouts in April 2010. The company conducts food tours and historical walking tours in Hampton Roads. On the food tour, guests sample house specialties at restaurants while having a behind-the-scenes experience during which the staff discusses the prepared selections. Between locations, the tour visits numerous landmarks and discusses the history of Norfolk and Hampton Roads. Norfolk Walkabout's website is:

<http://www.norfolkwalkabouts.com>

**Katherine Perkins (M.E. '09)**

has joined the environmental department in the Virginia Beach office of Michael Baker Corp., where she is a civil engineer and began working on the NAVFAC multimedia contract. Katherine specializes in engineering designs, including designs for water and wastewater infrastructure design, pump stations, wastewater treatment plant, environmental site assessments, storm water management, pavement, dams and marinas, and cost estimating.

**Jim Redick (M.P.A. '09)** was selected by Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell in August 2010 to serve as a board member on the Secure Commonwealth Panel. The panel is an advisory board in the executive branch of state government that monitors and assesses the implementation of statewide prevention, preparedness, response and recovery initiatives. Where necessary, the panel also reviews, evaluates and makes recommendations relating to the emergency preparedness of government at all levels in the commonwealth. Jim

is the Emergency Management Planner for the city of Virginia Beach and is a certified emergency manager with the International Association of Emergency Managers. He also serves on several preparedness-related committees at all levels of government. He has been trained for FEMA's Hurricane Liaison Team, and serves as an instructor for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

**Kimberly Stinedurf '09** is currently working on her doctorate in history at the University of Delaware. At the time of her writing, she was about to start her fourth semester and would soon be finished with her coursework. After taking her qualifying exams in the fall of 2010, Kimberly wrote that she would soon begin writing her dissertation. Her research interests include early American religion and gender, and she is particularly interested in Quaker and Mid-Atlantic histories.

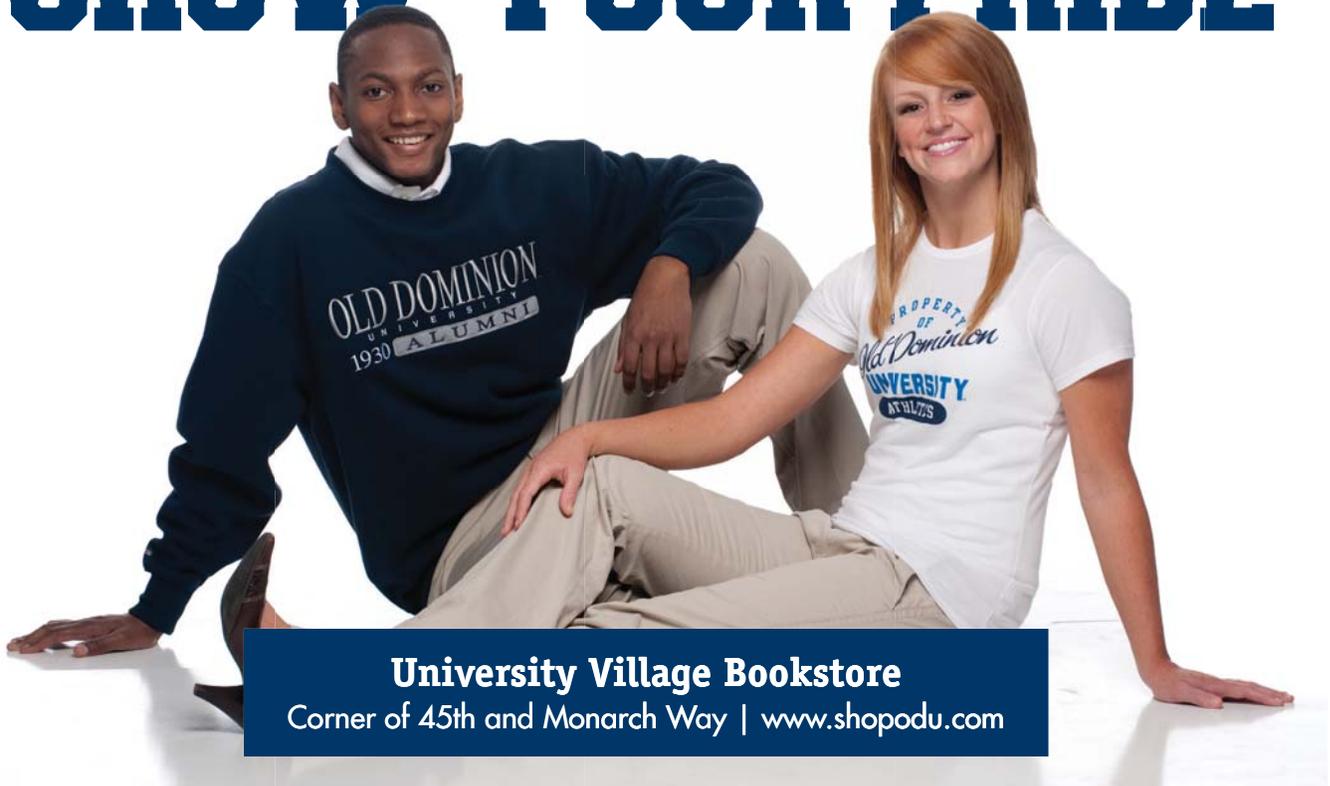
**Bekah Tunnicliffe '09** writes, “After one year of working with a local studio in Virginia Beach, I released my debut album into the entertainment world. Writing and recording the

songs onto the CD was a dream come true. I started the process when I was in my last year at ODU, so trying to balance my workload and make it into the studio was a challenge.” Bekah finished her album in April 2010 and released her first single, “Run Away with Me” in June 2010. Last December, she released the debut album, “Unexpected.” Her album may be found on iTunes by searching “Bekah Eden.” She is also selling autographed copies of the album on [www.bekaheden.com](http://www.bekaheden.com).

**Christina Wells '09** began teaching with the Chesapeake Public School system after graduating in 2010 with her master's in Education. At the time of her writing, she was halfway through her first year of teaching as a third grade teacher. She also plans to marry in July. Christina writes, “What a wonderful and successful experience this first year out of college has been for me.”

**2nd Lt. Aubrey W. Bibbs '10** in the U.S. Marine Corps was promoted to his current rank last summer after completing the Marine

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Enlisted Commissioning Education Program. MECEP allows enlisted Marines in the ranks of corporal and above between the ages of 20 and 26 to seek a bachelor's degree and be commissioned as second lieutenants. Aubrey was scheduled to attend the Basic School in Quantico, Va., preparing for duty as a company grade officer and rifle platoon leader.

**Corey Boone '10** recently accepted a position at the Valentine Richmond History Center in Richmond, Va., as the public relations/development assistant.

**Alfreda Brown-Kelly '10**, whose third book, "Why Women Weep," will be released in May 2011, is the MPH special projects administrator in the Community and Environmental Health Department at ODU.

**William T. Eliason '10** (Colonel, USAF, Retired) joined the Joint Force Quarterly team at National Defense University Press as the journal's editor in November 2010. At the time of writing, he was already hard at work shaping the first issue that would bear his name on the masthead (Issue 61, Second Quarter 2011). For more information, he encourages visiting: <http://ndupress.blogspot.com/2011/01/new-jfq-editor-completes-joinup.html>

**Angela Fusco (M.S. Ed. '10)** recently accepted a position at Saint Johns County School District, located in Florida, as a school counselor. She writes, "After completing my de-

gree in counseling, I was awarded a job as a school counselor in one of the top school districts in the state of Florida. With my skills and knowledge learned in ODU's amazing program, I was hired on the spot with over 100 applicants wanting the position. I absolutely love my job and love living in St. Augustine! Thank you, ODU!"

**William R. Harris '10** has joined the environmental department in the Virginia Beach office of Michael Baker Corp. where he began working as an environmental associate on the NAVFAC Multimedia contract. He is currently pursuing a master's in environmental engineering at ODU.

**Brandon Jack '10** has joined the environmental department in the Virginia Beach office of Michael Baker Corp., where he began working as an environmental associate on the NAVFAC multimedia and DESC leak detection contracts.

**Tristan C. Merrill '10** an ensign in the U.S. Navy, received his commission as a naval officer after completing Officer Candidate School in Newport, R.I.

**Bobby Redmond '10** has joined the environmental department in the Virginia Beach office of Michael Baker Corp., where he began working as an environmental associate on the DESC Leak Detection contract. He is currently pursuing a master's in environmental engineering at ODU.

**Rachel Waldron '10 and E. Dale Watson III '08** are happy to announce their engagement. The wedding ceremony will take place on June 18, 2011, in Newport News.

**Jamey White '10** passed the October 2010 Professional Engineering Exam in Virginia and became licensed to practice in the state of Virginia in January 2011. He is now a partner in Warner Engineering, a civil engineering firm in Lynchburg, Va.

## MARRIED MONARCHS

\* **Jamie Shackelford '00** and **Michael Bastas '01** were married Sept. 18, 2010, in the Pagoda Garden in Norfolk. They currently reside in Virginia Beach.

\* **Jessica Naquin '03, (M.A.Ed. '05)** and Bryan Townsend were married April 25, 2009, at Norfolk Botanical Garden.

\* **Ashley Burton-Mims '07** and **Terence Holland '07** are happy to announce their marriage on Sept. 18, 2010, at First Mount Zion Baptist Church in Dumfries, Va. The couple writes, "We couldn't have asked for a more perfect day, surrounded by our family, friends and fellow ODU alumni." They currently reside in Jersey City, N.J.

\* **Mark Van Deren '08** and **Emily Coghill Van Deren '08** were married on Aug. 08, 2009, in Richmond. They enjoyed a weeklong honeymoon in Disney World and gave birth to their first child, Jackson, on March 18, 2010. The Van Deren's now reside in Newport News.

\* **Emily Lauren Parise (M.S. Ed. '08)** and Wilbur Emmett Carawan were married July 10, 2010, in Virginia Beach.

**Bethany Zeigler '10** and David Kopp are happy to

announce their marriage on May 11, 2010. Three days after graduating from ODU, Bethany and David were married in a small ceremony at a courthouse in Prince Frederick, Md., with a reception following in Lusby, Md. The couple currently resides at the Naval Air Station in Key West, Fla.

## NEW MONARCHS

\* **Sandra (Stalnaker) Taylor '92** and her husband, Richard, welcomed son Fisher Tenzin Taylor on Feb. 4, 2011, in Knoxville, Tenn. He joins big brother John, 10.

\* **Lang Wedemeyer '94** and wife Tabitha are proud to announce the birth of a boy, Hunter Langdon. He was born Oct. 27, 2010, in Brookings, S.D., and weighed 8 lbs., 6 oz.

\* **Dr. Erica Kiernan '98** and husband Tom had their first child, Keegan, in 2010.

\* **Rebecca Bolte '02** and husband Steve are proud to announce the birth of a girl, Annaliese Isla. She was born Sept. 18, 2010, and weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz.

\* **Amber (Carr) Huffman, '05** and husband Andrew welcomed a daughter, Shealyn Paige, on Jan. 10, 2010. The Huffmans currently reside in Florida where Andrew is stationed with the U.S. Navy.

**GOT NEWS TO SHARE?**

Registered alums can submit news at The Lion's Den site, <http://www.alumniconnections.com/odualumni/> or <http://www.alumniconnections.com/odualumni/>



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## IN MEMORIAM

SARA T. HUNT '34 of Virginia Beach, 10/5/10  
MARY F. RICE '37 of Portsmouth, 10/23/10  
LAWRENCE "LARRY" MORRIS JR. '40 of Portsmouth, 8/26/10  
JOSEPH E. RUSSO '43 of Portsmouth, 8/20/10  
DOROTHY DELBIANCO MCCARSON '45 of Virginia Beach, 11/8/10  
OLIVER L. "FISH HAWK" PERRY SR. '46 of Virginia Beach, 10/2/10  
NORMA B. SCHRADER '46 of Newport News, 11/7/10  
BLANCO W. WALLIN JR. '46 of Virginia Beach, 12/2/10  
LEON M. HARRIS '47 of Norfolk, 12/1/10  
LT. COL BENJAMIN L. WHITE (RET.) '47 of Norfolk, 10/24/10  
KENNETH GUTTERMAN '48 of Alexandria, Va., 10/14/10  
JOSEPH G. HARRIS JR. '49 of Chesapeake, 10/7/10  
DONALD R. WHITSON SR. '49 of Portsmouth, 9/4/10  
WILLIAM R. DASHIELL '51 of Portsmouth, 12/12/10  
DEBORAH BATTS POOL '54 of Virginia Beach, 9/15/10  
DR. EDWARD T. WRIGHT '54 of Mechanicsville, Va., 11/3/10  
GEORGE D. EASTES '59 of Portsmouth, 9/23/10  
HELEN BROYLES HYLTON HARPER '60 of Norfolk, 11/21/10  
MARY C. HOFFENBERGER '60 of Norfolk, 11/26/10  
ELIZABETH "BETTY" ANN PACE '63 of Norfolk, 8/27/10  
CHARLES MURELLO '66 of Virginia Beach, 8/18/10  
CARL B. WARD III '67 of Norfolk, 10/24/10  
CAROLYN PATE WILLIAMS '68 of Franklin, 12/11/10  
ELIZABETH SMITH MINTZ '70 of Norfolk, 11/21/10  
MICHAEL L. TREMPER '71 of Norfolk, 10/19/10  
EDMUND J. STRONSKI '72 of Hampton, 10/28/10  
DAVID V. GRIMES '73 of Portsmouth, 12/12/10  
THEODORE E. "TEDDY" MASTERS JR. (C.A.S. '73) of Portsmouth, 9/7/10  
EARL F. MCDANIEL JR. '73 (M.S.ED. '75) of Chesapeake, 9/24/10  
JANICE JONES SHAFFER '74 of Norfolk, 10/11/10  
PAUL W. WISE '75 of Portsmouth, 10/16/10  
PAUL H. WILSON '76 of Hampton, 10/18/10  
MICHAEL THORNTON WISE '76 of Norfolk, 12/2/10  
WILMA JEAN M. KMETZ '77 of Virginia Beach, 11/21/10  
FRANCIS J. LAWLOR '77 of Virginia Beach, 11/6/10  
CAROL FRAZIER GIBSON LEWIS '79 of Chester, Va., 12/10/10  
HELEN MANG MALONEY '81 of Portsmouth, 10/23/10  
JOE B. GOING JR. '82 of Virginia Beach, 12/5/10  
CMDR WILLIAM L. HANLEY, (RET.) '82 of Virginia Beach, 10/20/10  
ETTA LOUISE HILLIER '82 of Virginia Beach, 11/4/10  
VICTORIANO C. "BUDDY" CARAMILLO JR. '84 of Virginia Beach, 9/13/10  
HUGH T. CALLAHAN '85 of Virginia Beach, 12/7/10  
JOSEPH V. DELDONNA '89 of Virginia Beach, 8/31/10  
WALTER D. JACOBSON '90 of Virginia Beach, 8/31/10  
KIENDA MARIA JONES '92 of Virginia Beach, 9/30/10  
LIZZIE A. YARBOROUGH '92 of Virginia Beach, 11/6/10  
CMDR JAMES J. ADAMS '96 of Virginia Beach, 11/19/10  
CAROL WALLER CUNNINGHAM DOWLING (M.S.ED. '98) of Virginia Beach, 10/11/10  
SANDRA JEAN CHANG '00 of Virginia Beach, 10/11/10  
SPC. MICHAEL J. BOYKIN '04 of Roanoke, Va., formerly of Virginia Beach, 7/30/10

## IN REMEMBRANCE

### Alf J. Mapp Jr.

Author, historian and journalist Alf J. Mapp Jr., eminent scholar emeritus and Louis I. Jaffe Professor Emeritus of English at Old Dominion University, died Jan. 23, 2011, in a Suffolk nursing facility. A lifetime resident of Portsmouth, he was 85.

A nationally recognized authority on Thomas Jefferson, Mapp wrote and co-authored more than a dozen books. His scholarly works on Jefferson included "Thomas Jefferson: America's Paradoxical Patriot" (2007), "Thomas Jefferson: Passionate Pilgrim" (1993) and "Thomas Jefferson: A Strange Case of Mistaken Identity" (1989).

After starting his undergraduate education at the College of William and Mary in 1941 at the age of 16, Mapp had to drop out the following year due to health reasons. He later worked as a journalist for many years in Hampton Roads and wrote his first book, "The Virginia Experiment: The Old Dominion's Role in the Making of America," in 1957. After its publication, he enrolled at Old Dominion, which at the time was still known as the Norfolk Division of W&M, and received an A.B. degree in 1961.

Charles Burgess, ODU professor emeritus of English and a former dean of the College of Arts and Letters, remembers his former colleague fondly. "Alf was one of a kind. He was a scholar and a writer before he even earned a bachelor's degree, and he went on to write rings around his colleagues – impressive books in content and in style," Burgess said. "We shall certainly miss him."

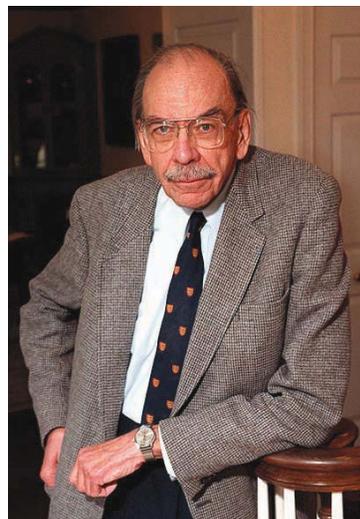
Charles Wilson, current interim dean of the College of Arts and Letters, called Mapp "a pioneer in interdisciplinarity. He was an English professor who was also proficient in historical scholarship."

Mapp joined the faculty at Old Dominion as a lecturer in English

after his graduation, and progressed through the ranks to professor in 1979. He was designated as an eminent professor in 1982 and eminent scholar in 1989. He was named Louis I. Jaffe Professor in 1990. Mapp, who taught courses in literature, journalism, creative writing, history and

western civilization, retired from the university in 1992.

"He wanted to make historical figures real," his son, Alf Mapp III, said in a story published in *The Virginian-Pilot*. His son added: "I think he was proudest of his writing on Thomas Jefferson.



And he loved teaching at Old Dominion. I think he felt that his writing might live the longest."

Over his career, Mapp's books and hundreds of published articles gave him national and international recognition. His writings have been translated into nine languages. He also co-authored "Portsmouth: A Pictorial History" with his late wife, Ramona Hartley Mapp, who died Jan. 8.

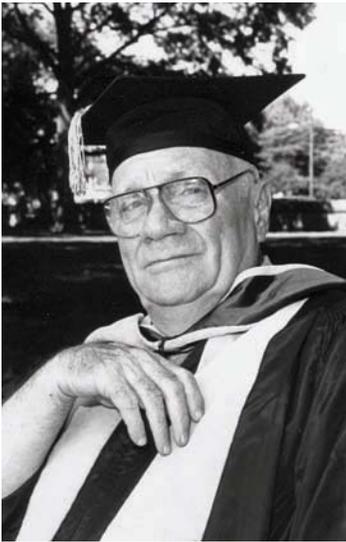
Mapp is survived by his son, two stepsons and several grandchildren.

### Ramona Hartley Mapp

Ramona Hartley Mapp, who was married to Alf J. Mapp Jr. (see above) for 39 years and had been a member of the English department faculty at Old Dominion University, died Jan. 8, 2011.

She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in English from Old Dominion, where she taught English for several years and helped found the Delta Sigma Lambda sorority. She earned a doctorate in education from Virginia Tech.

She taught at Tidewater Community College's Portsmouth campus from 1971 to 1995, serving as professor of English, English department chair, and chair of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences.



### **Carl Helwig**

Carl Helwig, 93, associate professor emeritus of education at Old Dominion University, died Jan. 14, 2011, at Bon Secours DePaul Medical Center. He was a resident of Province Place of DePaul in Norfolk. Helwig was interred at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

Born Oct. 31, 1917, in Marosujvar, Romania, to the late Carl and Elizabeth Boer Helwig, he immigrated to the United States in 1923 with his parents and his late sister, Elizabeth Jessica Schindler. He grew up in Cleveland.

Helwig joined the U.S. Army in 1936 as an enlisted soldier and retired in 1956 with the rank of major. He was a field artillery officer and served in the 33rd Infantry Division with front-line combat experience in 1945 on Luzon in the Philippines Campaign. His final assignment prior to retirement was with the Joint U.S. Military Assistance Group – Thailand.

Following retirement he used the GI Bill to pursue his higher education. He entered college as a 38-year-old freshman and went on to earn a bachelor's and two master's degrees from Case Western Reserve University in 1960, 1961 and 1967. He earned a doctor of education degree in administration and supervision from the University of Akron in 1969. He joined the ODU faculty in 1968 as an assistant professor of education and was promoted to the rank of associate professor of educational foundations and special programs in 1971. He retired in 1979.

Helwig returned to his studies in 1990 to pursue a third master's degree – in humanities – from ODU, which he received in 1995.

He is survived by his nieces, Christina Knisely of Bay Village, Ohio, and Judith Conn of Grand Rapids, Mich.

Helwig was a firm believer in education and, as a continuing legacy, left his entire estate to establish the Carl Helwig Undergraduate Humanities Scholarship at ODU. Expressions of sympathy may be made in his memory to the Helwig Scholarship Fund at Old Dominion University, 4417 Monarch Way, 4th Floor, Norfolk, VA 23529.

### **Thomas “Jack” Reed**

Thomas J. “Jack” Reed, associate professor emeritus of finance at Old Dominion University, died at his home in Richmond, Va., with family members at his side on Dec. 13, 2010. He was 93.

Reed joined the ODU faculty as an assistant professor of business management in 1957 when the university was a two-year division of the College of William and Mary, and retired in 1982. Prior to joining the faculty, he was the director of the Editing and Coding Department of National Analysts Inc. He was a graduate of the University of Arkansas and Iowa State University.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Joy Kiser Reed; six children; 16 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Rachel Hepler, and two brothers, Raymond Reed and Fred Reed Jr.

### **Emily Robertson**

Emily G. Robertson, 63, of Virginia Beach, director for Old Dominion University's Dahlgren Naval Surface Warfare Center and Quantico Marine Corps Base Teletechnet sites and an assistant professor, died unexpectedly at her home on Sept. 19, 2010.

Robertson, 63, was a longtime member of Temple Baptist Church in Norfolk and an accomplished artist. She will always be remembered as a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She is survived by her husband of 42 years, William Robertson; a son, David Robertson; a daughter, Martha Grace Norton; a sister, Elizabeth Jane Webster; and four grandchildren: Zoe, Emma, Luke and Walker.

Condolences may be shared with the family at [www.emilygillespieroertson.wordpress.com](http://www.emilygillespieroertson.wordpress.com).

### **Albert Teich Jr.**

Albert Teich Jr., professor emeritus of finance, died Oct. 24, 2010. He was 81. He taught business law at Old Dominion, retiring in 1991 after 35 years. At the same time, he was a practicing attorney, closing his private practice in 1996. An active member of the Norfolk Republican Party, he served as a Norfolk member of the House of Delegates for Virginia in the early 1970s and was elected clerk of the circuit court of Norfolk in 1996, retiring in 2004. A longtime resident of Norfolk, Teich served in the Air Force during the Korean conflict. He served many years in the Norfolk Jaycees and held a number of elected positions in that organization.

He was a founding member and past president of the ODU Credit Union. As a member of Epworth United Methodist Church in Norfolk, he taught Sunday school classes both there and at Larchmont United Methodist Church. In his retirement, he enjoyed traveling throughout the world, especially Hawaii.

He is survived by his wife, Lillian B. Teich of Norfolk; son, Albert “Trey” Teich III of Norfolk; daughter, Lillian Melissa “Missy” Koch of Glen Ellyn, Ill.; and two grandchildren, Thore and Kelsey Koch of Glen Ellyn.

### **Lee Bouvier**

Lee Bouvier, a longtime adjunct faculty member in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, died Jan. 26, 2011, at the age of 88. Bouvier, of Norfolk, led a colorful life that included work as a jazz musician, professor, scholar, internationally known demographer and former vice president of the Population Reference Bureau.

He came out of retirement in 2000 to teach at ODU and worked at the university for more than 10 years. Charles Wilson, interim dean of the College of Arts and Letters, described him as dedicated to both his students and his discipline. “He was a beloved teacher, becoming one of the most popular instructors in the department, indeed in the university,” said Wilson.

During his tenure at ODU, Bouvier was a widely sought-after de-

mographer and expert on the U.S. Census. He was quoted and appeared on the front page of The New York Times (April 17, 2001) in a story about the changing face of suburbs in the United States. Randy Gainey, chair of the sociology and criminal justice department, described Bouvier as a student's teacher who cared immensely about the success of each student.

At the age of 16 and known then as Lee Francis, he left school to begin a 20-year career as a trumpeter in leading jazz bands along the East Coast. It wasn't until the age of 34, married with four small children, that he entered Spring Hill College in Mobile, Ala., in 1957, earning a bachelor's degree in history and sociology. In 1964, he received a master's from Brown University.

Following his education, Bouvier went on to teach at six colleges, including Georgetown University and Tulane University's School of Public Health.

He is survived by four children, eight grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

### **Lucy Elizabeth Rowe**

Lucy Elizabeth Rowe, of Norfolk, a longtime cook with the Webb Center Café 1201 team at Old Dominion University, died Dec. 15, 2010, in Bon Secours DePaul Medical Center.

Rowe worked at ODU for 43 years – the past 16 years with Aramark, and prior to that as an ODU employee in dining services.

Known to her family as “Mama Lucy,” Rowe was born Sept. 15, 1939, in Jackson, N.C. She was a 1958 graduate of Booker T. Washington High School. She was a member of First Baptist Church, Logan Park, where she served on the Female Usher Board No. 2, Nurses' Unit and Women's League. She was also a member of the E.L. Harrison Radiant Tent No. 767 and the Eastern Star Rising Sun Chapter No. 32.

Rowe is survived by her husband, Robert Rowe; one daughter, Arlene Jones; and three sons, Lamar Rowe, Quinton Rowe and Malcolm Rowe.

Janet McLaughlin, Aramark resident district manager for dining services, said of Rowe, “She was very beloved on campus. She loved working here and seeing everyone.”

# SPORTS

## \$2 Million Women's Rowing Center is Latest Jewel among Sports Facilities

BY WOOD SELIG,  
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

It's an incredibly exciting time to be a Monarch. I've been athletic director at Old Dominion University since last July, and I can't imagine a better time to have arrived on this diverse, vibrant campus. Not only are our teams performing well on the field of play – three-quarters of our teams with fall schedules participated in some form of postseason play – but also we have invested more than \$500,000 in facility upgrades and enhancements in the past six months to help give our student-athletes the facilities they deserve.

The new Women's Intercollegiate Rowing Center at Lakewood Park in Norfolk is another jewel in the Monarch crown. The \$2 million, 13,000-square-foot facility offers a majestic, two-story view of the Lafayette River.

It includes storage for 28 boats, training and locker-room space for 60 or more athletes, coaches' offices, team meeting space and a hospitality room, a study area for students, wireless Internet access, and a state-of-the-art viewing area for presentations and video analysis.

Acting rowing coach Dan Garbutt says the team is thrilled with the new home, and in fact, has been "buzzing with excitement" for more than two years. He said the facility's smart design and engineering make it clear the focus of the building will be the athletes and their optimal performance.

Garbutt calls the rowing center a "game changer" for the ODU rowing program, in terms of its resources and overall appeal.

The boathouse was scheduled to have its grand opening March 31, three days before our Lady Monarchs hosted the University of Miami in a rowing regatta.

ODU Athletics has two other construction priorities that we are excited about.

The first is a state-of-the-art men's and women's basketball practice complex, adjacent to our beautiful Ted Constant Convocation Center. Renderings of this complex, which will provide much-needed support to our men's and women's basketball teams, will be available soon on our website. ([www.odusports.com](http://www.odusports.com))

With an estimated price tag of \$12 million, the facility will provide separate practice courts for men and women, new offices, locker rooms, lounge and weight training room. Also included in the project are a new video board and ribbon panels for The Ted. A basketball practice complex is something that has been truly lacking for our

programs, and we are very excited about this.

The other significant project on the books is an indoor batting cage for baseball. We are continuing our efforts to raise \$1 million for this facility, which would be constructed along the first base line of the Bud Metheny Baseball Complex.

Another new addition to The Bud this season is "Rally Alley," a hospitality space located on the first base side of the stadium. Fans will have the opportunity to have food and adult beverages in this area while watching the game. Also, all fans in the stands will be protected this season by a safety net wrapping the entire seating area, from first to third base.

As is the case with major construction projects, we need support from alumni, the community and our corporate partners. Please call Mark Benson with the Old Dominion Athletic Foundation at 757-683-6963 if you would like to learn more about how you can participate in either the basketball complex or batting cage project.

If you haven't visited any of our athletic facilities lately, I urge you to stop by and check out our new look. ODU Athletics has embarked on a campaign to add the "wow" factor for spectators, athletes, donors and potential recruits. This has included the recent addition of new signage inside and outside all the facilities, along with photos at each venue of our student-athletes in action. I hope that you will continue to provide the outstanding support they need and deserve.



## Bailey Mosier Lands a Dream Job at Golf Channel

**W**hen she took up the game of golf at age 15, Bailey Mosier pursued it passionately. It took her from her home in Las Vegas to Old Dominion University on a golf scholarship. When she subsequently earned a master's in mass communication at Arizona State University, Mosier hoped to be able to write about golf for a living.

Now, at 24, she's been hired by Golf Channel, working as an associate editor for the network's website, which is a magnet for passionate golf fans from around the world.

"It really is a dream for me," said Mosier, who played varsity golf for the Monarchs from 2004-08, graduating with a degree in communication and a minor in psychology.

Mosier and seven other journalists write headlines, edit copy and follow golf news worldwide for the Golf Channel website. Since she has a job dedicated to following professional golf, Mosier works evenings from Wednesday to Sunday. "I love the job, and that's when the tournaments are," she said.

It's exactly what Mosier wanted to do.

"As soon as I entered college, I basically knew I wanted to be a journalist, a sports journalist in particular," she said. "And I always had the Golf Channel in the back of my mind."

During college, Mosier did internships with the PGA Tour and golf manufacturer Titleist, helping her learn more about the game



and make contacts. While she was in graduate school, Mosier was hired to be editor of *Avid Golfer Arizona*. She wrote reviews for some of the best courses in golf-mad Arizona, and had an opportunity to play famed Pebble Beach the week before the U.S. Open last year.

Her four years at Old Dominion were special, and Mosier has many happy memories from her college days.

"It was a great experience. I wanted to do something completely different, and that was it. A Las Vegas girl moving to the East Coast," Mosier said. "Coach (Pat) Kotten was amazing, and the girls on the team were great. They're still my best friends."

Mosier is also very appreciative of the academic support she received from ODU faculty members who she said helped her tremendously in her goal to become a sports journalist.

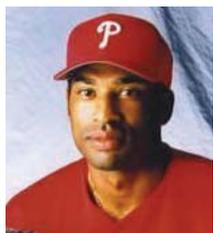
She still plays golf when she can, which is currently a couple of times a month. Now that she's doing it for fun, Mosier finds it interesting that she's playing better golf than she ever did in college.

"There are golfers who play better because of the competition. There are also golfers who don't play as well and, unfortunately, that was me," she said.

One thing hasn't changed, however – her passion for the game, a passion that she hopes will lead to a long career as a golf journalist.

**-Brendan O'Hallarn**

## Wayne Gomes named Bud Metheny Recipient



Former major league relief pitcher and ODU Hall of Famer Wayne Gomes '93 was named as the 34th annual recipient of the Bud Metheny Award at the GTI Systems Inc. "Meet

the Stars" banquet in January.

"I am honored to be chosen for an award that bears the last name Metheny," said Gomes. "The name alone is synonymous with ODU baseball. Those before me that have received the award, Gary Wright, Sandra Pickens, Henry Morgan, Ed Fraim and many others, have all made significant contributions to the Hampton Roads community. To

be put in that category is one of my greatest accomplishments."

Metheny, who had played major league baseball, was the Old Dominion athletic director from 1963-70, head baseball coach from 1948-80 and head basketball coach from 1948-65.

The "Meet the Stars" banquet came during the ODU Baseball Clinic weekend, which featured Baseball Hall of Famers Rolie Fingers and Andre Dawson as the keynote speakers and clinic leaders.

Since retiring from major league baseball, Gomes has created and owns the Virginia Baseball Academy in Hampton and also serves as pitching coach for the Peninsula Pilots, members of the Coastal Plains Summer Baseball League.

A relief specialist, Gomes was the fourth overall pick in the 1993 draft, at the time the only Monarch player to be selected that early. He pitched for the Philadelphia Phillies, who had drafted him, from 1997 to 2001.

As an ODU junior in 1993, Gomes earned first team honors from the Colonial Athletic Association and first team All-State honors. That year he compiled a 2.03 earned run average with four saves and 55 strikeouts in 26.2 innings. Gomes, who graduated from ODU with a degree in recreation and leisure studies, was inducted into the ODU Sports Hall of Fame in 2001 and the Hampton Roads African American Sports Hall of Fame in 2010.

# Letter from the President



## OUR VISION IS BECOMING REALITY

Last year, I unveiled our campus-wide vision for Old Dominion University to become one of the nation's great metropolitan research universities.

In the intervening months, I've occasionally been asked what it means to be a metropolitan university, how it benefits students and what such schools provide to the regions in which they are located.

In addition to the obvious criterion of being located in a metropolitan region, metropolitan universities have unique missions in teaching, research and public service and have student bodies that are diverse in age, ethnic and racial identity, and socioeconomic background.

Such universities also respond to special needs of the metropolis, providing community services, workforce development and stimuli for economic growth.

It is easy to see how Old Dominion – with its 24,000 students coming from all walks of life, its robust academic offerings and cutting-edge research – fits this description. When you match it up with the university's strategic plan and several significant initiatives we've launched in the past year, our image is unmistakable and our future clear.

For more than 80 years, Old Dominion has served the Hampton Roads region. Our commitment to contribute to the area's economic development can be seen in our longstanding leadership role in modeling and simulation, and our services to the business community through economic forecasting, the Economics Club of Hampton Roads and E.V. Williams Center for Real Estate and Economic Development, among other efforts.

With our launch last year of the ODU Business Gateway and its Veterans Business Outreach Center, Old Dominion continues to find new and practical ways to foster job creation and innovation.

One of our strategic plan goals is to invest in research to spur economic growth. As we move forward, ODU's researchers in bio-electrics, plasma, nanotechnology and alternative energies have the potential to not only find solutions to many of society's greatest challenges, but also position the region and the state as technology leaders.

We have strengthened our region's social fabric with outreach efforts such as the Community Development Corporation and Lambert's Point summer program. Old Dominion's many dance, theatre and music performances, Gordon Art Gallery and award-winning lecture series all have richly enhanced Hampton Roads' cultural vitality.

This year, we introduced Engage ODU, a civic and community outreach effort that builds upon our successful student-oriented Center for Service and Civic Engagement. The enhanced effort focuses student and faculty resources on the needs of the community. From student service learning opportunities with Habitat for Humanity to our Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Initiative, the Old Dominion community is committed to solving problems.

But perhaps our most important contribution as a metropolitan university is in academics. We are, after all, a university, and education continues to be at the helm of any endeavor we undertake.

That starts with our faculty, who are nationally and internationally recognized by their peers for their scholarship, research and teaching. In January, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia named ODU biology Professor Mark Butler a Virginia Outstanding Faculty Award winner, making him Old Dominion's 25th recipient in 20 years.

Old Dominion offers rigorous and challenging programs while remaining accessible and affordable to thousands of students across Virginia. In fact, some 87 percent of our student body is Virginian. We offer a myriad of online programs and have a thriving partnership with the Virginia Community College System to offer bachelor and master's degrees at every community college in the state. Our tuition remains among the lowest in the commonwealth.

This year, Governor McDonnell and the General Assembly delivered a significant endorsement of Old Dominion University's efforts by awarding the school \$12.6 million in special funding. Earmarked for student financial aid, research and base adequacy, the funding also includes money to support Old Dominion's initiatives in educational access, affordability and new degrees.

With the additional money, ODU will now be funded at 80 percent of base adequacy. Although we remain the lowest base-funded institution in the commonwealth, this infusion of money helps to close the money gap and ensure that we can build upon recent advances.

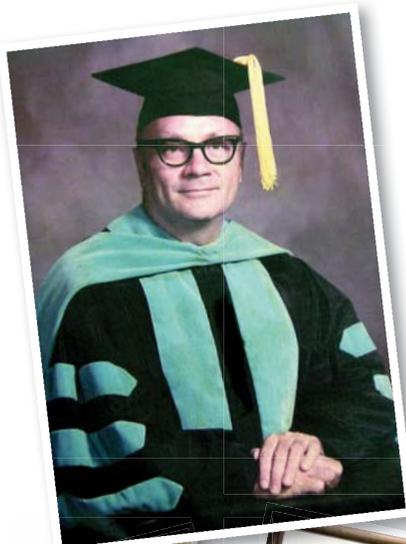
I'd like to thank the members of the ODU Government Relations Student Advisory Board, who visited Richmond and contacted legislators, and the Alumni Legislative Network, who made calls and sent notes on our behalf. Their support and advocacy ensured that legislators were keenly aware of the impact being made by Old Dominion.

As you can see, Old Dominion University is well positioned to achieve its goal of becoming a great metropolitan university. The truly wonderful aspect of that achievement is that everyone – students, communities, businesses, the region and the state – wins.

**-John R. Broderick, President  
Old Dominion University**

# CARL HELWIG

## *an American Scholar*



Carl Helwig's goal was to become, in his words, an "American scholar." That was an impressive aspiration for a boy born in Marosujvar, Romania, who immigrated to the United States at age 6 with his parents and sister in 1924. Between then and the day he died in January 2011, at age 93, his love for his new country and his passion for education drove his remarkable accomplishments. By leaving his entire estate to Old Dominion University to establish the Carl Helwig Undergraduate Humanities Scholarship, he made it possible for others to achieve their own academic goals.

In and around pursuing his own higher education, Carl became a teacher in the public schools in Ohio and at various colleges. He came to ODU in 1968 as an assistant professor of education and was eventually promoted to the rank of associate professor of educational foundations and special programs. He retired in 1979 and, though he continued to teach part time and enjoy some personal pursuits – gardening, travel, reading, raising tropical fish and growing exotic plants – he still wasn't finished!

Remarkably, at age 78, he received yet a third master's degree, this one from ODU in humanities.

His story reveals a lifelong pursuit of excellence. At 18, Carl joined the Army as an enlisted soldier and retired in 1956 with the rank of major. Relying on the GI Bill, he enrolled as a first-year student at Case-Western Reserve University at the unconventional age of 38. Eleven years later, he left Case-Western with a bachelor's degree and two master's degrees, one in American Studies (1961) and another in English (1967).

Carl was the first among ODU's emeriti faculty to will an entire estate to the university. Alonzo Brandon, vice president for university advancement said, "Carl's generous endowment will support up to five full-time renewable, merit-based scholarships per year – a legacy that will give rise to ODU's next generations of American scholars."

He wasn't finished.

Next came a doctor of education degree in administration and supervision in 1969 from the University of Akron.

As you make your estate plans, please consider how you might also make a difference to future generations of students at Old Dominion University.

For assistance, please contact **Barbara Henley**, *Director of Planned Giving*, at **757-683-6563**, or visit our estate planning website at [www.odu.edu/give2odu](http://www.odu.edu/give2odu) and click 'planned giving'

If you have already included ODU in your estate plans please let us know so we may thank you.



