Distinguishing Features

New buildings alter the look of Appalachian, but not its heart

SPECIAL ISSUE:
Look inside for the premiere edition of

Appalachian State University’s Magazine
Comming to Appalachian!

Through May 23

In a New Light: Important Works of the American Impressionist Movement, and The Temporal: New Works in Photography and Video; Turchin Center for the Visual Arts

March 17
National Symphony Orchestra with Leonard Slatkin, conductor; Performing Arts Series, 8 p.m. Farthing Auditorium

March 19-20
GuitarFest: Hayes School of Music, 8 p.m., plus 1 p.m. March 20, Bryihill Music Center

April 1-5
"Fool of the World"; Appalachian Young People’s Theatre, 8 p.m. April 1, plus 2 p.m. April 2, Gray Studio Hall

April 6-9
Appalachian Dance Ensemble; Department of Theatre and Dance, 8 p.m. Valborg Theatre

April 7-9
Opera Performance; Hayes School of Music, 8 p.m. Rosen Concert Hall

April 20-25 and 27
"Antigone" by Sophocles; Department of Theatre and Dance, 8 p.m., plus 2 p.m. April 27, Valborg Theatre

April 21
Novelist Sheri Joseph, with book signing: Huguenot Boskan Frank Visiting Writers Series, 7:30 p.m. Plemmons Student Union

April 22
Chancellor Installation Ceremony: 10 a.m. Holmes Center (see related activities at www.chancellor.appstate.edu)

April 23
Steely Pan Band

Reunion Concert: Hayes School of Music, 8 p.m. Farthing Auditorium

July 1-Oct. 1
Where There’s Smoke... Ceramics & Glass* art exhibition, Turchin Center for the Visual Arts

For a complete listing of cultural events on campus, visit Appalachian’s Arts Calendar at www.highsouth.com/arts/
features

Campus Transformation
Appalachian alumni often say that the campus they knew in the 1950s and 1960s is long gone. Indeed, much of campus has been modernized, with more changes to come. While disorienting to some, today's campus has much to love.

From Rwanda to Appalachian
A young woman's loss spurs her desire for peace and justice.

Measuring Teacher Performance
A new study reveals whether teachers certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards make a difference in children's learning.

departments

On Campus
College of Arts and Sciences
Walker College of Business
Reich College of Education
College of Fine and Applied Arts
Cratis D. Williams Graduate School
Hayes School of Music
Alumni News

On the cover...
The newly constructed Belk Library and Information Commons, and the University Bookstore's new portico on the right, offer a striking view from Sanford Mall.

Just a-Swingin’
Sophomore Katie VonCannon, a history secondary education major, enjoys a sunny day outside East Hall with friend Justin P. Hilton, a sophomore communication major. Both students are from Concord.
Honors program named for Harry and Jerri Heltzer

In September the university renamed its honors program for Harry and Jerri Heltzer of Lenoir, who made a multimillion dollar estate gift to the program.

The Harry and Jerri Heltzer Honors Program enrolls about 1,000 students. Established more than 25 years ago, the program offers opportunities to broaden and enrich students’ academic experience through special classes in several fields. Emphasis is placed on independent and creative thinking, discussion and exchange of ideas.

Honors courses usually require an invitation and honors students generally have a 3.0 or better grade point average.

Harry Heltzer is a retired CEO of S&M Company and a longtime supporter of the university. He was instrumental in Appalachian’s acquisition of a coaxial cable system in the 1980s that helped proliferate computer use on campus. For years, the Heltzers have mentored students who wanted to attend Appalachian but lacked parental support.

Appalachian recently named Lynn Moss Sanders as the program’s new coordinator.

China connections to expand

Appalachian, which long has emphasized the benefits of international travel and study, will be an active player in the UNC System’s new Memorandum of Understanding and International Agreement with Fudan University, said Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock.

Fudan and UNC System officials signed the agreement in October 2004.

The system-wide initiative enables UNC to establish an office on the Fudan campus to develop joint degree programs, joint project grants, collaborative research and other activities.

The system-wide initiative builds, in part, on the connections Appalachian has created with Chinese universities during the past 20 years. The UNC-System publication “Sixteen Bridges to the World” credited Appalachian’s former Chancellor J. Thomas and his staff for being “among the first wave of American academics to explore possibilities for international cooperation” with China.

Mrs. Peacock hosts TV show

The chancellor’s wife, Rosanne Peacock, hosts a weekly television segment called “To See Appalachian.” The show features happenings on campus, student profiles and special interview guests. It airs on the Mountain Television Network in Boone.

REI gets trustees’ approval

Don’t be “green” with envy: Appalachian may be on the verge of joining North Carolina institutions to benefit from renewable energy.

Appalachian’s Board of Trustees approved in September the $10-per-semester Renewable Energy Initiative (REI) fee, which will help implement renewable energy projects on campus.

The UNC Board of Governors will vote on the measure in late March.

“Students see the REI fee as a way to take part in how their money was being spent and support the student-led effort to manage energy responsibility on our campus,” said University Government Association President Misty Mahlousky.

Appalachian has formed an REI committee comprised of faculty with renewable energy expertise and students. Mahlousky said the job of the committee is to help people with ideas for renewable energy projects formulate proposals to university administrators.

To solicit ideas, the committee helped present a November 2004 program, “The Greening of ASU,” featuring keynote speakers and brainstorming sessions. Presently, the committee is researching the cost of switching Appalachian’s buses to biodiesel fuel, a mixture of cooking oil and diesel used to reduce emissions.

New Center for Health and Human Services is underway

Appalachian has established a Center for Health and Human Services to enhance its 30 health-related programs and clinics—and possibly create new programs, such as nursing.

The center is evaluating current offerings and working with Watauga Medical Center and other community resources to identify the region’s needs.

A nursing program, which can help abate the state’s nursing shortage, may start as early as fall 2006, said Interim Director John Turner, a professor of psychology and social work.

If approved by the UNC Board of Governors, the nursing program would offer two years of advanced study to nurses already holding associate degrees in nursing so they can complete a bachelor of science degree in nursing, Turner said. A four-year program might also be possible someday.

The center plans to release detailed recom-

endations for the nursing program later this spring. Recommendations also will be shared on how to organize existing programs and make clinical services on campus more accessible to students interested in health-related professions. The programs, which are currently housed in various colleges, range from music therapy, health promotion and early childhood development to counseling, gerontology and communication disorders.

Student’s writing in “Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul”

Appalachian recently named Lynn Moss Sanders as the program’s new coordinator.

We all watched the news and realized we wanted to help.”

—JUNIOR MEGAN MACRAGHE, to The Appalachian, on why her Kappa Delta sorority, among other campus groups, collected money for tsunami victims in Asia.

(When wind energy succeeds in North Carolina) it will happen because of this community and this university.

—LARRY SHIRLEY, DIRECTOR OF THE STATE ENERGY OFFICE, congratulating Appalachian and the High Country on their collaboration to promote wind energy research, educational workshops and public service programs.

“What would New York City be today without Central Park? Or Washington, D.C., without Rock Creek? I want you to remember that open spaces not preserved today will be lost forever.”

—GILBERT GROSVENOR, PAST PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, encouraging December graduates to conserve natural resources.

“We were really surprised at how small it is. European castles have different dimensions.”

—GERMAN EXCHANGE STUDENT KRISTINA REEKT, in her blog after visiting Biltmore Estate, which a brochure describes as a “French Castle.”

Aeschleman appointed top academic administrator

Stanley R. Aeschleman was named provost and executive vice chancellor in December after serving as interim provost since July 1. The Appalachian Board of Trustees enthusiastically approved the appointment of Dr. Aeschleman,” said board chairman Robert G. Fox Jr. “He has demonstrated to the trustees in his interim role that he is a fair and effective administrator with extensive academic experience. We are confident he will relate well to his constituents and successfully manage resources in order to help lead the university to even greater heights.”

The university’s provost search committee unanimously recommended that Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock appoint Aeschleman rather than proceed with a search.

As provost and executive vice chancellor, Aeschleman is second-in-command at the university. He joined Appalachian in 1980 as a professor of psychology. In 1996, the university named him director of graduate studies for the Department of Psychology. He served as chair of the department from 1999-2003 and was interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 2003 until being named interim provost.

In other administrative changes, Timothy H. Burwell has been named associate vice chancellor for academic affairs. He has served in the position in an interim capacity since August 2003. Lorrin Baumberg, former interim dean of the Grazi D. Williams Graduate School, has been named chief of staff for the Office of the Chancellor.

Baumberg will be responsible for all government relations at the local, state and federal levels. Edelma Huntley, the graduate school’s senior associate dean for graduate studies, has been named interim dean. Also, Beth Alexander has been named executive assistant to the chancellor, following the retirement of Gail C. Hearn.
Athletics has interim leadership, national search underway

After 51 years at Appalachian, Roachel J. Laux resigned as director of athletics in November to assume an academic role at the university. Former women's basketball coach Linda K. Robinson is serving as interim director of athletics while a national search is underway to fill the position permanently.

At Appalachian, the director of athletics oversees 20 intercollegiate sports.

“I cannot say enough about the contribution Roachel has made to this university,” Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock said. “The Appalachian Family greatly appreciates his many years of leadership and service to our athletic program and to our student-athletes. He has given tremendously both to this university and to the community.”

Robinson is director of Appalachian’s Equity Office and a Freshman Seminar faculty member. She coached Appalachian’s women’s basketball from 1984 to 1997 and won the most games in school history; she was inducted into Appalachian’s Athletics Hall of Fame last fall.

“Linda is a seasoned administrator on our campus, and she is eminently qualified to provide strong leadership as we move forward,” Peacock said.

In other staff changes, Mark Dreisbichler ’72 ’97, associate athletics director since 1992, left to become the new assistant executive director of the N.C. High School Athletic Association. David Jackson ’00 has been promoted to associate director of athletics for public affairs, overseeing all public affairs operations including the Appalachian Sports Network, corporate sponsorship, marketing and sports information. Named interim associate athletics directors are Andy Mansey, former head athletic trainer and coordinator of Appalachian’s athletic training education program, and Jay Sutton ’97, former coordinator of academic services for student-athletes. Jean Roberts ’82 ’92 has become interim coordinator of academic services for athletes.

AD search committee named

Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock has appointed a search committee to select Appalachian’s next director of athletics. Committee members are:

- Jon Marcus – Committee chair and faculty athletics representative to the NCAA
- Brad Adams ’76 – SBC Board of Governors member and vice president for government affairs, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of North Carolina
- Ed Boyhill – Appalachian Board of Trustees member, Appalachian Campaign for Athletics chairman and president of the Boyhill Group
- Jeanie Collins ’75 – alumni and president of Underwood and Associates Inc.
- Bobby Cronin – former Appalachian and Georgia Tech basketball coach and friend of the university’s athletics program
- Joe Gibbons ’74 – past president of Appalachian
- Mark Dreibelbis – director of athletics
- Russell Patterson – Appalachian’s strength and conditioning coach
- Adhione Shuler – Appalachian’s head coach for women’s basketball
- Tommy Sofield ’83 – former Appalachian football player and president of US Buildings Inc.
- Scott Tobin – Appalachian faculty member and associate director of bands
- Bob Turchin – Appalachian Board of Trustees member and president of RLT Investment Group

Faculty Kudos

-Joby Bell ’90 (music) has been invited to perform July 3 as part of Washington National Cathedral’s organ recital series
-Kathryn Kirkpatrick (English) received the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association’s Roanoke-Chowan Award for Poetry for her collection of poetry “Beyond Reason.”
-Lisa S. McAnulty (family and consumer sciences) has been named to Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers.
-Dennis Scanlin (technology) received the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association’s top award for his 20-year involvement in renewable energy education and research in the state. The U.S. Department of Energy’s Wind Powering America Program also honored Scanlin for his wind energy work in the Southeast.
-Ilene Udovc (political science/criminal justice) received the Association of Third World Studies’ Distinguished Leadership and Service Award for significant contributions to the field.
A 10-year wave of new construction and building renovation is reaching its peak at Appalachian State University, transforming the living and learning spaces on campus. More than 15 projects are under way, according to Jane P. Helm, vice chancellor for business affairs, with more to come. Funds for these capital projects come from both state bond money and student fees.

“Our campus is more than 100 years old, and student growth during that time has made many of our oldest buildings too small and obsolete,” Helm said.

Helm pointed out that the new Belk Library and Information Commons, as well as the University Bookstore renovation, occurred because the buildings had simply become inadequate for the needs of Appalachian’s 14,653 students. Other projects, such as the new Student Recreation Center, have come about because of a “domino effect.”

“We know we have to replace Welborn Dining Hall – it was built in 1925, which makes it our oldest building,” Helm said. “We can’t simply shut it down because we have nowhere else to feed the students and staff, so we decided to put the new dining hall where Broome-Kirk Gym is today. Broome-Kirk has, among other things, the only pool on campus, so we have to replace Broome-Kirk first – hence the new Student Recreation Center. When campus real estate is as tight as ours, you have to plan ahead and the result is often a domino effect, not to mention the fact that Broome-Kirk has become antiquated.”

Because Appalachian’s campus is so geographically constricted, Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock and his leadership team have been working to acquire parcels of land that are adjacent to campus or nearby.

“We need room to grow, which will give us the opportunity to dream of new possibilities,” Peacock said. “The recent acquisition of 60 acres contiguous to the land we currently own on State Farm Road is a fine example of what we are trying to do. There is any number of possibilities for that land – every single one of which would be beneficial to the university.

“We also are extremely grateful to our friends, Jack and Jean Elledge, as well as to the Watauga County Medical Center Foundation, which recently made a gift that enabled us to purchase the Elledge land adjacent to University Hall. That will be the perfect location for our new allied health campus,” Peacock said.

“Without that acquisition, we would have been hard-pressed to move forward with a critical strategic initiative for our region and our state because we have nowhere else to locate a new program like a nursing school.”

The university must also take care of its existing programs. Peacock said the utmost capital project priority for the future is a new building to house the Reich College of Education. “No question, that is our No. 1 need,” he said. “It’s difficult, however, because we have no ‘swing space.’ In other words, we can’t just shut down the College of Education and tell them to come back once we have a new building ready for them.”
Major projects that are changing the face of Appalachian’s campus include the following:

University Bookstore
Enrollment growth had far outpaced the capacity of the old University Bookstore and, with the facility’s low levels, handicapped access was an issue as well. The first phase of work involved construction of a 20,000-square-foot addition to the south side of the existing building, adjoining Plemmons Student Union. Designed to create a “mall-like” connection, it was opened to staff and students in December 2004. The old facility is now being renovated, and when complete, the entire new bookstore will be 40,000 square feet and can accommodate projected campus enrollment growth for the next 10 years. At a cost of $9.8 million, the facility will be completed by September 2005.

Summit Trail Solarium
This beautiful new addition to the Plemmons Student Union was completed in November 2004. At a cost of $4 million, Summit Trail Solarium has added 16,000 square feet to the student union and features eight waterfalls and six bee-hives by an Asheville-area artist. The large trees, extensive foliage and floor-to-ceiling window walls create a warm and pleasing area for study and socializing during the winter months. The Solarium also has a built-in stage for performances.

Rankin Science Center
The Rankin Science Center project has three parts. First is Rankin North, a new building that was completed more than a year ago and contains four biology teaching labs and research space. The second part includes Rankin South, now under construction on the footprint of the demolished old Rankin. The $7.2 million project will house a portion of geology, biology and astronomy. To be completed in 2006, it features a distinctive dome that houses a 16-inch, computer-controlled telescope and an introductory astronomy lab, complete with a retractable-roof observation platform. The existing four-story Rankin building will be partially renovated, at a cost of $2.2 million.

Student Recreation Center
Completely funded by student fees, the Student Recreation Center, located at the corner of Rivers Street and Sudholtz Drive, will house a 50-meter pool, indoor track and climbing wall. At 116,900 square feet, it is the largest student recreation facility on campus. The project is scheduled to be completed by late autumn or early 2006, at a cost of $24 million.

Turchin Center for the Visual Arts
The largest visual arts center in the region, the Turchin Center is on King Street in the heart of downtown Boone. Prior renovations to the building included creation of the gallery space, conference room and administrative offices, storage areas and handicapped accessible elevators. The current new construction phase includes creation of a new wing with a downtown pedestrian entrance; additional gallery spaces; a sculpture park; large tiered classroom; 185-seat lecture hall and multi-purpose event space. This Phase III component will cost $4.3 million and is scheduled to be completed in early 2005.

Athletic Facilities Enhancement
Improving the fan experience is a major focus of the athletics facilities plan. The turf and track at Kidd Brewer Stadium already have been replaced, and attention now turns to Owens Field House and fan seating. The plan calls for replacing Owens Field House with a state-of-the-art facility with improved office, meeting and service facilities, improved seating capacity—from 16,000 to 21,500 seats—and transformation of the East and West grandstands at a cost of $32 million. Half of which will come from student fees.

Ongoing and Future Projects:

Campus Housing
The oldest residence halls on campus are being renovated in chronological order. White Residence Hall, now undergoing renovation, is projected to be complete in July 2005. Once White is completed, work will move to Lorrin Residence Hall. Doughton Hall re-opened this fall after its renovation.

Campus/Academic Buildings
Founders Hall, Smith-Wright Hall and Walker Hall are all part of an investment to renovate older buildings. Founders Hall and Walker Hall are complete, and Smith-Wright is scheduled to begin renovations in 2005. Renovations included new HVAC systems, ADA renovations, code upgrades, asbestos removal and new fire alarm and electrical systems. Total cost of the three renovations is $3.4 million.

Steam Plant Replacement
A near total system replacement will be accomplished by the end of this project with installation of parallel distribution and return lines. First, large segments were replaced adjacent to Rankin Science Center and I.G. Greer Hall. Phase II is scheduled to be complete in 2005 and then Phase III will commence. The budget for this upgrade is $2 million.

Welborn Dining Hall Replacement
Once the Student Recreation Center is complete, Broome-Kirk Gymnasium will be demolished to make room for a new dining hall. At 80,000 square feet, the new facility will have two stories and direct access from Rivers Street. A “skywalk” is planned for access directly from the parking deck across the street. Once the new dining hall is complete, the existing Welborn Dining Hall will be demolished and the site incorporated into open space for Sanford Mall.

The current plan is to build a living and learning center for RCOE where East Hall sits. This academic program would be on the lower levels with the living area on upper floors.

Other priorities on the proposed capital project list include monies to renovate the old Bell Library, renovation and additions to Brodyhill Music Center, renovations to Wey Hall, and the addition of pedestrian bridges and tunnels across Rivers Street.

“We must continually invest in our campus in order to maintain the best possible quality experience for our students and the rest of the campus community,” Peacock said. “While it will continue to be a challenge for us, there is no question that it will be done.”

Appalachian Today Spring 2005
A young woman’s loss spurs her desire for peace and justice

Family is omnipresent. Family weaves around a person’s choices, opportunities and hardships. Before she was a teenager, Appalachian State University senior Angelique Ugiliwabo had most of her family taken from her.

Ugiliwabo’s family lived half a world away from Boone, in the African country of Rwanda. At age 11, she witnessed acts of hatred that killed an estimated 800,000 to 1.6 million people. By Will Gillespie

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To Life! Peace! Appalachian encourages greater emphasis on non-violence

By Linda Cantout '91 MA Editor

Appalachian encourages greater emphasis on non-violence

People of the Jewish faith use two phrases at celebrations: “Shalom,” and “Shabbat.” These words have become the central theme for a strengthening educational outreach at Appalachian State University. Through the new Office of Judaic, Holocaust and Peace Studies, faculty are working to make a safer, more loving world for all people.

The university’s outreach started as a summer symposium in 2002 to assist public school teachers’ instruction of the Nazi Holocaust. Since then, the office has grown into a university-wide effort to address attitudes and perceptions about historical events, resulting in curricular changes and increased interest among students and faculty. The office is focused on educational outreach to region schools and the community.

The office is currently preparing a film series and related study-abroad course. Re and resources are dependent on outside funding, such as the generosity of the Rosens and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hudnall, and “Art and Conflict Resolution,” taught by art professor Mary Babcock.

A comparative genocide course is being planned to address the Nazi Holocaust, Rwandan atrocities and the World War I-era Armenian genocide, which Brantz said is considered the first modern genocide. The course will be taught by history professor Amy Hudnall, and will feature guest speakers from the community. The RPF overtook the Rwandan government by July 1994.

“It’s hard to refer to what happened in Rwanda as genocide,” Ugilwabo said. “With genocide, only one group is being set up to be killed. You could say what happened are double genocides. It’s so sad. Even right now, anybody who is able to leave Rwanda, they’re leaving.”

Although Ugilwabo’s father was Hutu and her mother a Tutsi, Tutsi soldiers took them both and her three other siblings from a refugee camp in June 1994. No one was heard from again. Ugilwabo’s oldest sister helped her surviving siblings escape to Kenya. Ugilwabo then moved to the United States, living first in Pennsylvania, and then later in Tommy Lee, N.C, at the beginning of high school, where she lived with another sister.

The first challenge Ugilwabo faced in the United States was learning English.

“It was easy,” said Ugilwabo. That same can-do attitude toward schooling earned Ugilwabo a scholarship when she chose to become part of the Appalachian Family in 2000.

“I knew I wanted to go to college. Though neither my family nor I knew much about the college entrance process, I was still determined to go,” Ugilwabo said. “I saw Appalachian … it wasn’t that expensive, and it had a good reputation.”

Even with her scholarship, Ugilwabo knew that paying for college could prove difficult. But she was determined not to let finances hold her back. After all, a new language hadn’t slowed her education, why should money?

Ugilwabo was offered a work-study option at the Office of Student Financial Aid. She began working there in August 2001.

“Being here has been wonderful, amazing,” Ugilwabo said. “A lot of people knew part of what was happening, but their reaction was ‘We can do anything.’ Each of us can make a difference in today’s issues if we don’t turn away and choose to become indifferent,” she said.

For seven years, Boyd and Brantz have taught an honors class to Appalachian students about the Holocaust. They also co-sponsored a film series and led a related study-abroad course. They worked with Jewish groups for years, and so helpful to me ever since.

“From Rwanda to Appalachian” is the central theme of the symposium. The RPF overtook the Rwandan government by July 1994.

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The Office of Judaic, Holocaust and Peace Studies has not forgotten its roots. It presents the Fourth Annual Martin and Doris Rosen Summer Symposium, “Remembering the Holocaust,” for school teachers and the community June 20-July 2.

The office’s Internet site (www.holocaust.appstate.edu) offers various resources for school teachers and the public. It features a related study-abroad course. Religion faculty have taught Judaism courses for several years, but additional classes are being formed across campus that further relate to ethnic experiences and peace studies.

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Teachers who have achieved certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) are more likely to design instruction aimed at higher levels of student understanding, according to preliminary findings of a two-year, $450,000 study led by Appalachian State University researcher Tracy Smith. In addition, evidence suggests that students of National Board Certified Teachers® are more likely to achieve higher levels of understanding than students of non-certified teachers.

The results are important to policymakers who want to know if investing in incentives for teachers to achieve National Board Certification®—the highest credential in the teaching profession—translates into better instruction and learning outcomes for students.

North Carolina leads the nation in the number of certified teachers, in part because the state waives NBPTS’s $2,500 application fee and offers a 12 percent pay increase to those who achieve certification.

“The public and legislators want to know if the tax money they are spending to support teachers in their National Board Certification® efforts is making a difference in student learning,” said Smith, an assistant professor in the Reich College of Education’s Department of Curriculum and Instruction. “The bottom line is that yes, there is a positive relationship between National Board Certification® and student learning.”

Smith’s study, which was funded by the U.S. Department of Education and private donors, is unique in the way it measured student performance and teacher quality. Most studies focus on large-scale assessments and provide results in standardized test scores—which policymakers often use to make decisions regarding teacher performance and compensation, as well as student progress and promotion. Smith’s study examined actual teacher and student work samples.

“Expert teaching is complex,” Smith said. “Student achievement on tests is not the only thing we should be examining.”

Smith and her colleagues collected, examined and analyzed teacher and student work samples from more than 60 teachers across the nation. They looked at notes, textbooks, films, tests, project assignments and all associated work completed by students.

Smith compared the National Board Certification® results with the instructional approach used by the teachers and the learning outcome of students.

“Teachers’ assignments and instructional materials were evaluated to determine if their aim was to elicit higher levels of understanding. Students’ subsequent work samples were evaluated to determine if, in fact, they achieved these higher levels of understanding. Basically, there are two types of instruction, according to Smith. Many teachers practice what is called “surface learning instruction,” in which students are asked to memorize and reproduce information for an assignment or test. Then there is “deep learning instruction,” in which teachers take learning a step further by requiring students to connect these facts and information to the larger concepts.

For example, a high school history teacher using a surface learning instruction “to teach about the 1920s might lecture, assign readings and have students memorize names and dates. The students are tested, and the process starts over for the 1930s. In deep learning instruction,” however, the teacher facilitates instruction that requires students to move beyond learning facts and have students create a timeline, predict how events in the 1920s affect other decades, analyze how economic issues affect entertainment or fashion, or write a fictional story set in the 1920s. Ideally, students apply their higher-level thinking skills and knowledge to other classes. They relate the historical perspective of the 1920s to readings in their English class, or to Einstein’s theory of relativity in a science class, for example.

Smith’s research shows that teachers who employ deep learning instruction are not only more likely to have students achieve higher levels of understanding, but also are more likely to achieve National Board Certification®.

“Clearly, in this study if a teacher used deep learning instruction approaches, that teacher was much more likely to be national board certified,” Smith said.

“Surface learning is not enough,” added Smith, who earned a master’s degree at Appalachian. “Students who learn to think about bigger, more complex issues are more likely to make connections when they learn something new. Employers want people who are imaginative, creative and big picture problem solvers, and that is what deep learning instruction allows students to do.”

Study measures teacher performance

By William H. Purcell ‘94

The Appalachian Today

Appalachian State University’s pre-health professions program boasts a student acceptance rate into schools of medicine, dentistry, and other health-related fields that is twice as high as the national average.

Caring faculty who pay close attention to students makes the difference. “Good advising is key,” biology professor Skip Sedivec said.

For the past five years, Appalachian students have had a 77 percent overall acceptance rate to medical, dental, veterinary, optometry, physician assistant and podiatry schools. In comparison, the national average acceptance rate for medical school, specifically, is 35 percent.

Appalachian’s pre-health professions program requires a demanding curriculum of biology, chemistry and physics courses. Each year, about 250 freshmen enter Appalachian with intentions of pursuing a health professions career.

“We spend a lot of time finding students’ strengths and greatest potential. We know these students, and as a result we can write strong letters of evaluation to get them into these schools,” Sedivec said.

Medical school acceptance rate high

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Course teaches science of wine making

The biological and chemical process of wine making is the subject of a popular new course in the Department of Chemistry. Student interest, plus the growing prevalence of vineyards in North Carolina, prompted Appalachian chemistry professor Grant Holder to develop the course, titled “The Science of Wine.”

“Every 50 years or so, wine production, especially in the Southeast, becomes worthwhile,” Holder said.

“Wine is not only part of our heritage, but also is a growing industry,” Holder said. “We’re teaching techniques learned in freshman chemistry and relating them to something everyone has an interest in.”

The course covers wine production, but also explores viticulture, microbiology, and fermentation analysis.

Right now, when a North Carolina vineyard detects a problem in the aroma or look of their wine, they send it to Califormia to be analyzed. Then, a laboratory and enologist here at Appalachian that can assist local vineyards,” Holder said.

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services reports more than 300 vineyards and 34 wineries in the state. Twelve are in Western North Carolina.

Appalachian Today

Appalachian Today
Walker College hosts high schools for summer business institute

High school students have long been able to take advantage of summer programs in sports and in the arts and sciences. Now, rising seniors with an interest in business have a similar opportunity through the Martha Gay Summer Institute for Future Business Leaders (MGSI), hosted by the Walker College.

Last summer the institute’s inaugural class of 22 young people spent two weeks on Appalachian’s campus followed by a week in New York City and Washington, D.C. The program introduced the students to the basic principles of business and entrepreneurship.

“This institute opened my eyes to the business world,” said participant Caitlin Forrest, a student at North Moore High School in Pinchurt, “and allowed me to experience new events that I will never forget.”

While on campus, participants created their own business idea, learned how to develop a business plan, and developed their professional and executive skills through etiquette, résumé writing and interviewing workshops. They also attended cultural events and enjoyed outdoor activities. In New York, the class benefited from arranged visits to the New York Stock Exchange, U.S. Department of Commerce, World Trade Center Association and Bank of America’s trading floor. In Washington, they met with N.C. Representative Richard Burr’s policy director.

The MGSI is named for Martha Gay, a donor and friend of the Walker College, and former president of Avery County School Board.

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New system can test knee force exerted during exercise

Not much is known about the forces inside the knee during exercise. For the health benefit of athletes and even your average everyday exerciser, a new research technique used in Appalachian State University’s Department of Health, Leisure and Exercise Science may soon find out.

Associate Professor Jeff McBride has built a system that measures force in the knee joint using fiber optic cable. The system is based on one developed at the University of Jyvaskyla in Finland, where McBride completed a post-doctoral fellowship in the Neuromuscular Research Center. Appalachian is just the third institution in the world to have such a system, following Penn State.

“Inserted through the patella tendon, which extends over one’s knee cap, the fiber optic is connected to a transmitter that sends a light signal to a receiver. As a person bends his or her knee, the joint squizzes the fiber. The greater the force exerted by the knee, the less light that passes through the fibers,” McBride explained.

The information can answer questions such as, ‘Is a knee extension exercise gentler to one’s patella tendon than a squat exercise?’ What depths of squats exercise place less pressure on the knees?

“We can measure the force placed on the knee during a knee extension and compare that to the force used in squat exercise or a vertical jump or whatever we would like. We can even measure the force when the knee is at different angles,” said McBride, who teaches biomechanics. He plans to use the system for future research in better understanding how the knee works during exercise.

Below, a fiber optic cable is run through a patella tendon to begin testing knee force used in various exercises. Above, a model of the knee’s patella tendon.

Grad student enjoys Olympic moment

Pro Cormia received her first week of classes last fall as a new graduate student in exercise sciences. But she had a good excuse. She was working at the U.S. Olympic Committee’s High Performance Center at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

As an Olympics intern, Cormia helped athletes and their coaches analyze athletic technique and biomechanical performance, and make final adjustments before competition. The opportunity developed from her internship at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., through her alma mater, Virginia Commonwealth University.

A citizen of Australia, Cormia calls the experience a “once in a lifetime opportunity.” It taught her the importance of sports science research, which is what she’s studying at Appalachian. “Research at the ground level can make such a difference in performance. The smallest change in training can mean the difference of winning a gold medal or going home without a medal,” she said.

Below, Cormia joins spectators in Olympic Stadium to watch a competition.

Wilson is farmer and grad student

A maverick of sorts, graduate student Alice Brooke Wilson has applied her sustainable development knowhow to a real world situation.

Wilson, who is enrolled in the university’s Appalachian Studies program, is one of five founders of Maverick Farms, a sustainable agriculture project that, since last April, has yielded tangible – and edible – results.

Wilson started Maverick Farms with her sister Hillary and three friends when her family farm in Valle Crucis was in danger of being sold. Wilson took up the tiller, feeling a responsibility “to preserve family farmland as a public resource and to reconnect local food networks,” she said.

A state-registered, non-profit organization, Maverick Farms earns revenue in part through agritourism, in which visitors pay a modest fee for room and board and the opportunity to lend a hand on the farm.

Off-campus graduate enrollment equals on-campus

As many graduate students now pursue degrees off campus as they do at Appalachian State University’s main campus in Boone. The addition of nearly 100 students this semester means about 50 percent of students take classes off campus. Appalachian offers more than 40 off-campus graduate programs at community colleges to accommodate working adults who seek career advancement or a career change. The majority of programs are in teacher preparation, school administration and public administration—disciplines that are in high demand in the region’s communities.

“Graduate education at Appalachian has increased 34 percent in the past five years, and off-campus programs are the reason,” said Edelma Huntley, interim dean of the Cratis D. Williams Graduate School.

Huntley and others believe the trend will continue. “The programs that have been in demand, and will remain in demand, are those that offer jobs right after graduation in the communities where our adult students live. We’re putting programs where they find it convenient to take classes,” said Tom Fisher, director of Appalachian’s Office of Extension and Distance Education.

Appalachian is working to increase graduate enrollment in on-campus programs as well, through stronger recruiting efforts. For information on graduate programs, visit www.grad.appstate.edu. For questions about off-campus programs, both graduate and undergraduate, go to www.ext-dl.appstate.edu.
Student musicians featured on UNC-TV special program

North Carolina’s public television station featured Mariam Cannon Hayes School of Music students in an hour-long program called “An Appalachian Showcase,” which debuted in January and is being aired at least three more times throughout the year.

More than 300 musicians perform during the UNC-TV broadcast, which is hosted by writer Robert Inman.

The program was recorded before a live audience in Rosen Concert Hall in September. UNC-TV arrived on a Wednesday morning with a 16-person production crew to begin taping dress rehearsals, to be used as backup should on-stage jitters or other problems occur during the Friday evening concert.

“To my surprise, we ended up using almost all the live performances,” William Harbinson, dean of the Hayes School of Music, said of the finished piece.

The idea for the program sprang from Tom Howe, UNC-TV’s director and general manager, who heard Hayes School of Music students perform in early 2004 during a dinner held for UNC System trustees attending a conference on campus.

School hosts first orchestra festival

Orchestras from five high schools and one middle school attended the first Appalachian State University Orchestra Festival held on campus in November.

More than 200 student musicians participated in the event designed to hone their performance skills and offer a look at the educational opportunities at Appalachian.

“It’s an opportunity for us to provide a service to the public schools,” said festival organizer James Anderson, a music faculty member who directs the Appalachian Symphony Orchestra. “The festival wasn’t a competition; it was an opportunity for educational growth.”

The students participated in master classes taught by Hayes School of Music faculty and attended a performance by the symphony orchestra.

Each student orchestra also gave a 20-minute performance that was critiqued by visiting clinicians Robert Jesselson, former president of the American String Teacher Association and a professor of cello at the University of South Carolina, and Gail Barnes, director of the University of South Carolina String Project and an assistant professor of music education at the University of South Carolina.

The performance and critique were recorded for each school to use as a teaching aid.

Afterwards, Howe knew the music school and its students would be a good feature for the station. The program would also help recruit potential students to the Hayes School of Music.

“The success of the music school depends on the success of our recruiting program,” Harbinson said. “If you don’t recruit talented students who are already developing their skills, you can’t turn them into advanced musicians when they leave.”

For UNC-TV programming information, visit www.unctv.org.

Board certification workshop to be held in June

The North Carolina Summer Institute in Choral Art and Appalachian’s Hayes School of Music will host a National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Music Certification Workshop, June 13-17. The camp prepares teachers for the music certification exam offered on campus in 2006.

Cost is $425. For more information and to register, contact the North Carolina Summer Institute in Choral Art at oceanic@fiord.com or at NCSICA, PO Box 10883, Greensboro, NC 27406; or visit www.ncsica.com.

AN APPALACHIAN SPRING: In the early 1980s, sunbathing on the football field—most likely without sunscreen—was a popular activity.
Ball receives arts award
Jackerie Synder Ball ‘53
For her volunteering for Asheville Civic Theater and ArtWorks, Ball was named as a 2010 ACAS Arts Award Recipient. "We are excited to have her as part of the Asheville Civic Theater Family," said executive director Lawrence Henry. Ball plans to continue to volunteer in the community.

Wade honored by USDA
William O. Wade ’73
As a full professor of agriculture, Wade has been honored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for his role in transferring several agricultural-talent-based functions to the Department of Homeland Security. He received the Harry E. Sharp Award for Excellence, the USA’s most prestigious award, for his contributions to the field of agriculture. In recognition of his 35 years of service, Wade is education director for USDA’s Professional Development Center in Frederick, MD. He also leads training and education for agricultural specialists who are part of the Department of Homeland Security’s Bureau of Customs and Border Protection. Wade oversees USDA’s National Detector Dog Training Center in Orlando, FL, and Plant Protection and Quarantine’s disease-squashing operations in Georgia.

ANNUAL MEETING
Fort Lauderdale, FL, and Palm Beach Atlantic College, West Palm Beach, FL, after 35 years of service.

NEW POSITIONS

ALUMNI NEWS

Rhododendron Society.

Fort Lauderdale, FL, and Palm Beach Atlantic College, West Palm Beach, FL, after 35 years of service.

NEW POSITIONS

Alumni news

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alumni news

Loses in the Appalachian Family

In Memoriam

Professor emerita and longtime administrator Joyce V. Lawrence of Hays died Dec. 4. Lawrence, a former elementary school teacher, was a professor and assistant dean in the Reich College of Education during the 1970s and 1980s as well as serving as dean of the Cratis D. Williams Graduate School from 1980-96. She was active in women’s and minority affairs, serving on the board of N.C. Equity and as president of Appalachian’s Organization on the Status of Women. She was a master in graduate education at the state and national level, including the member of the Council of Graduate Schools’ Board of Directors.

1944
Elizabeth Bingham Egers, '61, Alumni Center, April 27.

1945
Gretta Gobbin Lamb, '61, Moneta, Sept. 15.

1948

1949
Floyd C. Parker, '49, Charlotte, Aug. 5.

1950

1952
Melinda M. Collins, '52, Bessemer, June 24.

1953
Bill H. Derleth, '53, Blacksburg, May 27.

1954

1955

1956

1957

1958
Peter A. Green, '58, Plattsburg, Feb. 29.

1959
Jon P. Jorgensen, '59, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, June 11.

1960
David F. Edmon, '60, Greensboro, Jan. 12.

1961
Gary M. Hamby, '61, Wilkesboro, July 31.

1962
Cory A. Martin, '62, Statesville, June 1.

1963
Nell Trivette Brewer, '63, Morganton, Oct. 15.

1964
Evelyn Bingham Smith, '64, Pinnacle, June 2, 2009.

1965

1966
Marvin E. Findley, '66, Kannapolis, April 28.

1967
Bill Little, '67, Kingsport, Tenn., Sept. 25.

1968
Bobby S. Lawson, '68, Hickory, Apr. 28.

1969
Tommy T. Burt, '69, Gastonia, April 28.

1970

1971

1972
Paul M. Dour, '72, Lewisville, March 1.

1973
Joyce E. Huggins, '73, Kannapolis, Aug. 20.

1974
Henry A. Bynum, '74, Greensboro, April 28.

1975
Larry R. Jacks, '75, Columbia, June 20.

1976

1977
Steve Jeck '77, Hill City, April 27.

1978
Frank R. Ross, '78, Statesville, June 1.

1979
Gary A. Colvin, '79, Statesville, May 27.

1980
Jeffrey Lewis, '80, Lenoir, Feb. 22.

1981
Don H. Thompson, '81, Statesville, May 17.

1982
Jack S. Luttrell, '82, Statesville, May 17.

1983
Ginger Hicks, '83, Statesville, May 17.

1984
Lawrence Williams, '84, Statesville, May 17.

1985

1986
Nancy C. Bell, '86, Statesville, May 17.

1987

1988

1989
Stacy M. Reynolds, '89, Statesville, May 17.

1990

1991
Larry R. Jacks, '91, Statesville, May 17.

1992
Tommy T. Burt, '92, Statesville, May 17.

1993
Frank R. Ross, '93, Statesville, May 17.

1994

1995
Rex W. Edgerton, '95, Statesville, May 17.

1996

1997

1998

1999
Scott A. McRae, '99, Statesville, May 17.

2000
Casey Andrews, '00, Statesville, May 17.

2001
Frank R. Ross, '01, Statesville, May 17.

2002
Gary A. Colvin, '02, Statesville, May 17.

2003
Rex W. Edgerton, '03, Statesville, May 17.

2004

2005
Stacy M. Reynolds, '05, Statesville, May 17.
**Herbal interest turns profitable for young alumna**

When Gwenyfar ’92 was ready to publish a herbal remedy book, she chose self-publishing because she didn’t think a New York publisher would take her seriously at age 22. Never mind that she already had founded two nonprofit organizations and a newspaper before finishing high school, and had started her own herbal company while in college.

“I’ve never done things I was supposed to at a certain age,” the Appalachian State University alumna says. “I’ve found that my parents are comfortable with that.”

Gwenyfar, who lives in Wilmington, has found that she can do a lot of charitable work with the help of her book. “Your Health Is In Your Kitchen,” published because she didn’t have time or interest to shop at health food stores. “Everything in the book can be bought at Harris Teeter. It’s written for the woman who, for example, freshens her kids cinnamon toast and wants to know what health benefits cinnamon can provide.”

(According to her book, cinnamon when added liberally to cooking foods fends fungal infections and helps relieve nausea and diarrhea.)

“Growing up, my mother had a three feet wide and two feet deep full of herbs. In contrast, my friends’ mothers had maybe 10 herbs in their cupboards,” she recalls.

“Your Health Is In Your Kitchen” targets the average consumer who may not have the time or interest to shop at health food stores. “Everything in the book can be bought at Harris Teeter. It’s written for the woman who, for example, freshens her kids cinnamon toast and wants to know what health benefits cinnamon can provide.”

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**Computers as War Strategy**

**Retired brigadier general commanded Marine Corps’ technology**

John R. Thomas at a glance

1972 – commissioned as a Second Lieutenant
1990 – promoted to Lieutenant Colonel
1995 – promoted to Colonel
1997-98 – served as commanding officer, 1st Surveillance Reconnaissance and Intelligence Group, responsible for training 1,100 specialized combat Marines
1999-2002 – guided financial planning for the Marine Corps, which then had an annual budget of more than $16 billion
2000 – promoted to Brigadier General
2001 – named Chief Information Officer for the Marine Corps

**BIRTHS:**
- Christopher and Christina Miller Adkins, Raleigh, a daughter, Camryn Grace, Aug. 23.
- Christopher and Rebecca Lander Thomas ‘94, Indian Trail, a daughter, Anna Claire, May 24.
- Aimee and Mark Way, Winston-Salem, a son, Xander Fields, June 10.

**DEGREES:**
- Eric and Kristi Kiser Purvis, twins, Duncan, a daughter, July 27.

**AWARDS/HONORS:**
- Scott and Karen Port Clagett, Wake Forest, a son, Camden buscott, Apr. 21.

**AWARDS/HONORS 1996:**
- Paul Thomas, Oak Ridge, appointed to the Board of Trustees for Samaritan Ministries of Winston-Salem. He also was awarded the Adult Volunteer of the Year from the United Way of Forsyth County. He is president of Qued Companies Inc., Winston-Salem.

**DEGREES:**
- Eric Garges, Brookline, MA, master’s in higher education, frontline master of public health, Boston University School of Medicine.
- Van Bergstrom, Florence, PhD, in communication sciences and disorders, University of Iowa.
- Shannon Hatley Ramsey, master’s in elementary education, Appalachian State University. She is a teacher at Iron Station Elementary School, Lincolnville.

**NEW POSITIONS:**
- Brandon Williams, Dr. Brandon Williams, 224 S. King, Hendersonville, an assistant membership sales director, Atlantic Club South End, Charlotte.
- Candace Cutsi Coghill, communications marketing specialist, Piedmont and Love Inc., Cary.
- Rachael Angley, vice president and mortgage loan officer, Citizens First Bank, Hickory.
- Brandon Robertson, assistant alumni director, Appalachian State University Boone.
- Todd Laun, general manager, Appalachian State University Boone.

**WEDDINGS:**
- Candace Cutsi Coghill and Gregory Coghill, Raleigh, Jan. 10, a son, Graham Ely Coghill.

**AWARDS/HONORS 1997:**
- Brian Corbin, director of sales, Inter-Tech, Charlotte.
- Brooke Wymore, assistant program specialist, Waveland Shores, Carolina Beach.

**DEGREES:**
- Aimee Adkins and Matthew Way, Winston-Salem, juris doctorate, Wakeforest University School of Law.
- Erika and Tien Nguyen, Asheville, a daughter, Hagen Marie, Aug. 10.

**AWARDS/HONORS 1998:**
- Darrelyn Chery, born Dec. 20, 1994, to William and Africa Chauncey, Lexington, SC.
- Levin, son of William and Anna Grace, Apex, a son, Avery Allen, June 10.

**WEDDINGS:**
- Scott and Karen Port Clagett, Wake Forest, a son, Camden buscott, Apr. 21.

**AWARDS/HONORS 1999:**
- Aimee Adkins and Matthew Way, Winston-Salem, an associate professor of business administration, assistant vice president/officer manager, Bank of Asheville, Candler.
- Hannah Allgood, history, child therapist LCSW, New Directions Counseling Services, Shelby.
- Sidney-Olive, marketing specialist and chief graphic designer, South- ern Regional Amer. ACMH, Fayetteville.

**WEDDINGS:**
- Christopher Hill and Julie Picson, Elizabeth City, May 7.
- Elizabeth George and Thomas Marron, Jacksonville, FL, May 20.
- Heidi Effrd and Ross White, Chapel Hill, Oct. 2.
- Jason Sutherland and Briana Benshe, Boone, May 1.

**BIRTHS:**
- Spread these joys to our Alumni Network.

**AWARDS/HONORS 2000:**
- Aimee Adkins and Matthew Way, Winston-Salem, a daughter, Kennedy Grace, Aug. 10.

**DEGREES:**

**AWARDS/HONORS 2001:**
- Aimee Adkins and Matthew Way, Winston-Salem, a son, Augustus, Jan. 10.

**BIRTHS:**
- spread these joys to our Alumni Network.
Stay TUNED: New, assigned login will improve online updating

Later this year each member of the Appalachian Family will be given a new, one-digit login number to use when updating demographic information, sharing career and family news, making online gifts and finding classmates. The computer-generated number for identification and record-keeping purposes is a part of a new university-wide database system being installed by Appalachian’s Advancement Services team. More than 165,000 alumni, parent and friends records have been moved to the system this winter.

Advancement Services Director Teresa Cantor said the database upgrade also will allow for even more secure online giving, which is now the fastest-growing method for donating to Appalachian.

Members of the Appalachian Family will need the new login number when accessing the update, directory and online giving page through www.alumni.appstate.edu or www.give.appstate.edu.

You’re Invited to a Cyber housewarming

The Appalachian Alumni Association invites graduates to a cyber housewarming as it launches its recently renovated and upgraded website www.alumni.appstate.edu.

The site presents a fresher look with new features, including regularly updated alumni news, the alumni store and access to friends around the world via the Appalachian Alumni Association’s Facebook page.

A quick glance introduces you to:

• Online alumni directory. Update your personal information and find old friends and roommates. It’s simple, quick and rewarding.

The newest members of the Appalachian Family.

Our popular online photo album of “Baby Mountaineers” continues to grow with new photos of newborns, which you can also submit your own professional or personal accomplishments.

Appalachian Family Network. Reconnect with classmates, or learn how to become an alumni contact in your area.

Travel benefits available to all Appalachian alumni.

Explore the offers and destinations included in the Alumni Benefits Program, which can provide fully-equipped 2-bedroom resort condos for as little as $349 a week.

Merchandise in the alumni store.

We stock top-quality diploma frames and Appalachian throws, with new products such as university emblazoned purses.

Appalachian involvement. We’ve outlined the Mountaineer Volunteer Program and invite you to participate in Freshman Move-In Day and the Career Information Fair.

Display your Appalachian pride every day. See the latest information on Appalachian affiliation plates and the Appalachian credit card. Joining either of these programs helps support the alumni office.

How to give back to Appalachian. Learn the history of the Alumni Memorial Scholarship, as well as how to support programs across campus.

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