



# CONNECTIONS

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Vol. 14, No. 1 September 2001

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## Message from the Dean

Welcome to the new academic year! You'll see many new faces around CAS this fall. Please join me in greeting our new tenure-track faculty colleagues.

In the Department of Biology, two new faculty members are **Lynne Arneson**, a specialist in cell biology, who earned her PhD in molecular genetics and cell biology at the University of Chicago; and **David Carlini**, whose field is molecular genetics and who comes to AU with a PhD from the Marine Science department at the College of William and Mary.

Meanwhile, the Chemistry department welcomes **Monika Konaklieva**, who earned her PhD in chemistry from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Her field is organic chemistry. New to the Department of Computer Science and Information Systems, in the field of knowledge management, is **Vincent Ribiere**, who holds a Doctor of Science in engineering management and systems engineering from George Washington University.

In the History department, two new professors are **Andrew Lewis**, who earned his PhD in American Studies at Yale University and specializes in 19th century U. S. History; and **April Shelford**, a specialist in early modern European history, with a PhD in history from Princeton University.

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics welcomes **Linda Davis**, whose doctorate is in statistics from Rutgers University. And the Department of Performing Arts is pleased to announce the addition of **Rob Esposito** to the dance program. Rob earned a Master of Fine Arts at the State University of New York at Rockport.

Finally, **Andrea Tschemplik**, a specialist in early modern philosophy, comes to the Philosophy department with a PhD in philosophy from City University of New York.

In addition to our new professors for fall, two new tenure-track faculty members will join us in later semesters after they complete postdoctoral work. **Katharine Norris** will come to the Department of History in Spring 2002, and **Thomas Hertz** will join the Economics department in Fall 2002.

Also during the fall semester, CAS will finally have a home on the Quad in the new Battelle-Tompkins building, and the CAS Office of Graduate Admissions is now up and running in McKinley Hall. Please see page 8 for more details on these and other developments within the college.

*Continued on page 10*

# CAS Connections is Back!

## *News Excerpts for Fall '01:*

- ◆ The University's 10-year plan has been approved by a D.C. zoning panel. This will allow for the University to proceed with the plans for the Katzen Arts Center on Massachusetts Avenue and the new theater at 4200 Wisconsin Avenue. These two buildings will be tremendous additions to the CAS facilities.
- ◆ The College of Arts and Sciences continues to expand. Its new home base in the Battelle-Tompkins building is due for completion next month. A portion of the Dean's office and several departments will be moving into the new building. See *What's New in CAS* on page 9 for complete details.
- ◆ History professor Alan Kraut was interviewed on Fox News Channel 5 concerning the state of patriotism in today's society. The story aired on July 2nd.
- ◆ The Art Department's Art in Italy Semester in Corciano, Italy, offered both undergraduate and graduate students a chance to paint among medieval carvings and Roman ruins this fall.
- ◆ Professor Gay Young from the Sociology Department was interviewed on ABC News Channel 7 in May discussing the new census data on marital status.
- ◆ The Department of Biology is offering a new program starting in the Fall 2001. See *Department News*, page 3.
- ◆ The Department of Performing Arts is currently involved in an opportunity to offer programs in dance with the European Union and with four countries within the Union. To read more about this unique program see *Department News*, page 6.
- ◆ The School of Education's David Sadker was once again quoted in a national publication and featured on television concerning gender and the classroom. *U.S. News & World Report* interviewed Dr. Sadker for the article, "Are Boys the Weaker Sex?" for the July 2, 2001, issue, while CNN interviewed him for a piece entitled "Are Boys Now Doing Worse in School than Girls?" which aired August 11th.

- ◆ Also in the media: Professor Allan Lichtman from History has recently been featured on Fox News Channel 5 as well as on ABC radio to discuss, respectively, the retirement of Senator Jesse Helms and the controversy surrounding Congressman Gary Condit.
- ◆ The American University Scholar/Teacher of the Year, Professor Anthony Riley from the Psychology Department, spoke at this year's Opening Convocation on August 24th. President Benjamin Ladner and Student Confederation President Ken Biberaj also spoke to kick off a new academic year.

## Want to get "Connected"?

If you have ideas for a story in a future issue of *Connections* please contact:

**Alison Torrillo** (ext. 1781)  
CAS Dean's Office,  
alison@american.edu.



## Student Spotlight

Mike Dema, a senior in Environmental Science, was recently chosen to compete on the *Comedy Central* game show "Win Ben Stein's Money" in a showdown against students from Georgetown and George Washington, deemed "The Battle of the Capital." Mike answered more questions correctly than either of his fellow contestants, beating them both to advance to the final round where he played against TV host Ben Stein himself for \$5,000. Mike's victory aired the week of September 10.

# Department News

The chairs and directors in the College of Arts & Sciences this academic year are as follows:

## **Anthropology**

Brett Williams

## **Art**

Ron Haynie

## **Biology**

Cathy Schaeff

## **Chemistry**

Jim Girard

## **Computer Science & Information Systems**

Rick Gibson

## **Economics**

Larry Sawers

## **Education**

Lynn Fox

## **English Language Institute**

Michael Roehm (Interim Director)

## **Environmental Studies**

Kiho Kim

## **Health & Fitness**

Robert Karch

## **History**

Valerie French

## **Jewish Studies**

Pam Nadell

## **Language and Foreign Studies**

Olga Rojer

## **Literature**

Jonathan Loesberg

## **Mathematics and Statistics**

Mary Gray

## **Performing Arts**

Naima Prevots

## **Philosophy & Religion**

Amy Oliver

## **Psychology**

Anthony Riley

## **Sociology**

Bette Dickerson

## **Women's & Gender Studies**

Amy Oliver

## **Anthropology**

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Lavender Languages and Linguistics Conference, originally scheduled for September 21-23, has been postponed until February 15-17, 2002. The conference focuses on exploring and discussing lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer language, linguistics, literature, and other verbal and non-verbal communications. This year's participants come from all over the U.S. as well as from as far away as Singapore and Norway. All events are open to students, faculty, community members, scholars and activists. Additional information can be obtained from the Web at <www.american.edu/lavender\_languages> or contact **Bill Leap** at x1831 or via e-mail to <wlm@american.edu>.

## **Art**

From August 27 through September 19, the department sponsored *Open Spaces*, an exhibit curated by **Jonathan Bucci** which featured the work of three young regional artists, each addressing spatial issues in different ways. **Dustin Carlson**, from Baltimore, showed large chalk drawings on black panels. His imagery is based on patterns generated from sub-atomic reactions. **Isabel Manalo** lives and works in Washington and recently completed her MFA in painting at Yale. She showed paintings that combine spatial traditions found in both eastern and western painting, flat planes of color, and deep lines of perspective. **Haeggen Kim** recently completed her MFA in sculpture at Virginia Commonwealth University. She showed wall mounted sculptures created from tape measures and paper.

The department is also holding an adjunct faculty art show with a reception kicking off the event on September 28<sup>th</sup>. The show itself runs from October 1-27. A group exhibition of artwork by adjunct faculty from the studio program will feature painting, drawing, and sculpture. The artists and faculty that will be featured are **Catherine Betza, Leslie Berns, Tom Bunnell, Mary Cloonan, Jonathan Bucci, Steven Cushner, Sharon Fishel, Carol Goldberg, Rick Honn, Isabel Manalo, Brenda Moore, Jeneen Piccurro, Elise Richman, Judith Southerland, Susan Yanero, and Guy Zoller.**

## **Biology**

Starting this fall, the Department of Biology offers a new five-year BS/MA in Biology. Juniors may opt into the program and receive an MA along with a BS in

# Department News

Biology. The program requires students to complete a laboratory research project supervised either by a faculty member or by a biology research associate, such as the National Institutes of Health. For more information contact the Biology Department or call **David Culver** at x2180.

**Kiho Kim** was invited to speak at a Symposium Talk for the Ecological Society of America this August (2001). His speech was entitled, "Escalating Impact of Marine Epizootics and the Role of a Changing Environment."

In May, **Vikki Connaughton** attended the annual meeting of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. Her presentation at the conference, "Immunocytochemical Localization of the Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup> ATPase in Zebrafish Retinal Neurons," was the result of a collaboration between Dr. Connaughton and **M. Miller**, an AU undergraduate. Also discussed was "Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup>ATPase Adds Long Term Hyperpolarizing Components to Glutamate Responses of Zebrafish Retinal Neurons," by R.F. Nelson, A.M. Bender and V.P. Connaughton.

**Stephen MacAvoy** has co-authored "Isotopic turnover in aquatic predators: quantifying the exploration of migratory prey" in a recent issue of the *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* (58(5): 923-932). Dr. MacAvoy also attended the spring meeting of the American Geophysical Union in Boston, Mass., and discussed "Groundwater-derived nutrients and microbial community processes in pristine and developed coastal areas in the southeast USA" by S.E. MacAvoy, N. Weston, W. Porubsky and S.B. Joye.

**Cathy Schaeff** attended the "Teaching Ethics Across the Science Curriculum" conference at the Illinois Institute of Technology - Center for the Study of Ethics in the Professions in Chicago this June.

## Chemistry

**Nina Roscher** spoke at the 221<sup>st</sup> national meeting of the American Chemical Society in April in San Diego, California. Her talk was entitled, "Data on Women Chemists: A Historical Perspective."

**Paul Waters** (emeritus) published "Letter to the Editor: Too Good to be True" in *Chemistry in Britain*, vol. 36 no. 12, December 2000.

## Computer Science and Information Systems

Professor **Thomas Bergin** recently edited *50 Years of Army Computing: From ENIAC to MSRC*, a record of symposium and celebration (November 13 and 14, 1996, at Aberdeen proving Ground), *ARL-Special Report Number 93*, September 2000.

## Economics

**Howard Wachtel** presented a paper entitled "Tax Distortion in the Global Economy: Instances of Failed States" at Sussex University in the United Kingdom, April 2001.

## Education

Through a Dwight D. Eisenhower Faculty Development Program award, a multidisciplinary team of faculty members and graduate students from American University hosted a workshop on our campus for a group of 20 middle school teachers and their students from the District of Columbia Public Schools during the summer 2001 session. Teams of four were identified and constructed, with most teams including a science, mathematics, and language arts teacher, plus one student. A portion of the resources developed for the workshop (as well as a photo gallery of the workshop activities) can be found at <http://www.american.edu/IRVINE/ike/>.

The week-and-a-half-long interactive workshop provided an opportunity for participating teachers to experience constructivist teaching and learning strategies first-hand. During the week, teams of teachers worked to prepare an integrated, Web-based lesson using materials from science, mathematics, and the language arts. Careful attention was given to following the national content-standards developed for each of these areas of the curriculum.

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**Vivian Vasquez** was one of a group of scientists, educators and children's advocates invited to participate in a White House summit of experts in the field of early childhood education, hosted by First Lady Laura Bush, on July 26 and 27. The discussion centered around the launch of a campaign to explore the most effective way to support preschoolers in the U.S. Dr. Vasquez is most known for her work in the area of Critical Literacy and Young Children.

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# Department News

America's ongoing classroom gender debate has continued in the media, with Professor **David Sadker** maintaining his high profile. He was recently quoted in *U.S. News & World Report's* July 2 article, "Are Boys the Weaker Sex?," by Anna Mulrine. Dr. Sadker expressed concerns about the recent shift back to greater classroom attention given to boys than girls. Sadker also commented on improving co-education classroom problems rather than running away from them toward a single-sex format. This topic came up again in an August 11 CNN interview with Sadker, along with Harvard physician Dr. Eli Newberger, entitled "Are Boys Now Doing Worse in School than Girls?"

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Professor and Director of the Lab School of Washington, **Sally Smith** has been busy preparing for the celebration of the Lab School's 35<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, she has appeared on various news programs and has been interviewed and quoted in local, regional and national publications this past summer. She has had a live guest appearance on *9 Eyewitness News*; she appeared on the *Mark Steiner Show* (NPR-Baltimore), *Eye on Books* (Bill Thompson: NBC/Westwood One), *The Morning Show* (WBFF Fox 45, Baltimore) and was mentioned in *People Magazine* on July 23, 2001. Also, PBS is producing a series of four one-hour films on the unique teacher's training methods that are taught here at AU and in the Lab School.

\* \* \*

The School of Education has been a proud participant in the **D.C. Teaching Fellows** program this past summer. D.C. Teaching Fellows is a program sponsored by the New Teachers Project, an organization that works to relieve the shortage of teachers throughout the U.S. The program recruits seasoned professionals from varying industries and trains them to teach elementary and secondary education, as well as ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages) and special education. There were six universities in the D.C. area that applied to participate in this program, but only two were chosen; American University and George Washington University.

The program has recruited professionals with a wealth of experience in areas such as computer science, law, government, and business. Nearly 60% of the fellows have advanced degrees beyond a bachelor of arts or science in their fields. In return for a two-year minimum commitment to teach in the

District of Columbia, the fellows receive signing bonuses, stipends, and awards of varying monetary amounts paid in their name to the universities which they attend. This funding has come from the office of the D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams.

The fellows at AU will focus on ESOL and elementary education and will complete the program in two years, at which point they will be certified and licensed to teach.

## History

**Robert Beisner** (emeritus) discussed U.S.-China relations on the Voice of America program, *Encounter*, in April 2001.

**Debbie Ann Doyle** (ABD) serves in the Executive Office of the American Historical Association where she oversees many arrangements for the organization's annual meeting and administers the AHA's book and film prize programs and its grants program. She is also a project assistant for "Crossing Intellectual, Institutional, and International Borders: Strengthening Area Studies Through World History."

In addition to her CAS Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for AY 2001-2002, **Aleisa Fishman** (ABD) has won support for her research from the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies; the Jane and Jerrold Goodman Scholarship, Jewish Studies Program, American University; the Ruth B. Fein Prize and the Sid and Ruth Lapidus Fellowship from the American Jewish Historical Society; the Rabbi Levi A. Olan Memorial Fellowship; and the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, Jewish Caucus Fellowship, National Women's Studies Association.

**Joshua Greenberg** (ABD) has won research awards from the Hackman Research Residency, New York State Archives; Mellon Fellowship, Library Company of Philadelphia and Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Mayers Fellowship, Huntington Library; New York Historical Society Fellowship. He is also a recipient of a CAS Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for AY 2001-2002.

**Meredith Hindley** (ABD) is now a writer/editor and webmaster for the National Endowment for the Humanities' Office of Publications and Public Affairs. She also received a Cosmos Club Foundation Junior Scholar Award for 2001-2002.

# Department News

**Robert Kagan** (ABD) writes extensively on contemporary international affairs for *The New Republic* and major national newspapers.

**David Onkst** (ABD) is now collaborating on a project to commemorate the centennial of the Wright brothers' first flight. He is the co-editor of a 1998 Smithsonian Institution Press book, *Eye in the Sky: Spy Satellites and American Intelligence Gathering During the Cold War*. He is the co-author of *Exploring the Unknown: Selected Documents in the History of the U.S. Civil Space Program*, vol. 3. (U.S. Government Printing Office, 1998).

**Katrin Paehler** (ABD) is a consultant at Historical Associates, Inc. and has received a Fellowship at the United States Memorial Holocaust Museum.

**Anne Rush** (ABD) was the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship 2000-2001 – Caribbean Region.

**John Schmitz** (ABD) is now an historical research specialist at the Army Research Labs.

**Elizabeth Stewart** (ABD) is a Research Historian for the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture at the Banneker-Douglass Museum in Annapolis.

**Bernard Unti** (ABD) has won a research support grant from the Oliver and Jennie Donaldson Charitable Trust. In 2000-2001, he held a prestigious Newcomb Fellowship.

## Jewish Studies

Professor **Pamela S. Nadell** published *Women and American Judaism: Historical Perspectives*, which she co-edited with Jonathan D. Sarna (Brandeis University Press, 2001).

## Language & Foreign Studies

**Brock Brady**, coordinator of the TESOL programs, was an invited presenter at the Overseas Briefing Center Foreign Service Institute in Arlington, VA. His talk was entitled "Careers in Teaching English as a Foreign Language."

Assistant Professor **Ana Serra** published "The Literacy Campaign in the Cuban Revolution and the Transformation of Identity in the Liminal Space of the Sierra," in the *Journal of Latin American Studies*, vol. 10, no. 1, in April 2001.

Professor **Naomi Baron** published "Put on a Public Face," which details why e-mail looks like speech in

the *New York Times*, April 2001. Dr. Baron was also interviewed this April by the *Los Angeles Times* on differences between American and British English.

Associate Professor and Chair, **Olga Rojer** was nominated, along with Joseph O. Aimone, for a Pushcart Prize for the translation of "A Stranger on Earth: A Dutch Caribbean Novel by Boeli van Leeuwen." The work was originally published in *The Caribbean Writer*, vol. 13, Fall 1999.

The 2001 Fall WATESOL (Washington Area Teachers to English to Speakers of Other Languages) Conference will be held on October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus in the Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center. The conference theme this year is teaching reflection and renewal. The keynote speaker will be Michael Lewis, author of *The Lexical Approach*. The fall convention is WATESOL's biggest meeting of the year so don't miss this opportunity to meet and share ideas with other ESL teachers in the D.C. area. For more information, see the *Events Listing* on page 10.

## Mathematics & Statistics

In May, **Alexis Haakensen** (undergrad) won the first Hanna M. Sandler Award recognizing her achievement in mathematics. The award provides an undergraduate student with a \$2,500 scholarship and was established by the late Professor Sandler's family in her honor.

## Performing Arts

The Department of Performing Arts has been given a unique, first-time opportunity to participate in an exciting program with the European Union. This intensive dance program will bring together students and faculty from various countries. Students' course of study will include not only dance, but also guest lecturers speaking about politics, economics, history, and culture, plus visits to various performances and museums internationally. The program will last for six years and will take place each year in a different country. The first site visited will be in Brussels at the University of Louvain this coming academic year.

The European Union is funding this extraordinary event. This will therefore be a one-of-a-kind opportunity for CAS students and faculty to share cultures, break down barriers, and learn from our counterparts overseas. **Naima Prevots**, Chair of the Department of Performing Arts, was instrumental in the program's planning.

# Department News

## **Sociology**

Professor **Gay Young** was interviewed by ABC News Channel 7 in May to discuss the recently compiled census data on marital status in the U.S.

Congratulations to **Kira Dahlk**, graduate student in the sociology department for winning the Best Graduate Student Paper Award from the District of Columbia Sociological Society (DCSS). She joins a distinguished group of previous student winners from the AU sociology department.

In addition to running the Sociology Conference of Student Research, **Rahal Saeed** (grad) has written "File Under Hurt: Domestic Violence is Sri Lanka." This article appeared as a chapter in the book *No Paradise Yet: The World's Women Face the New Century* edited by Judith Mirsky and Marty Radlett.

**Jordon Naod's** text, *Ideology and the Development of Social Theory in Teaching Sociology*, was reviewed in the July issue of *Teaching Sociology*.

**Willie and Elaine Oliver** have a regular column, "Lifetalk" in *Message: The Magazine for Virtuous Living*. Willie Oliver also wrote the book, *We are the Pathfinders Strong*, Hagerstown, MD: Review and Herald Publishing Association (2000).

**Andrea Brenner** co-authored with Professor **Jurg Siegenthaler** the article, "Flexible Work Schedules, Older Workers, and Retirement," in the *Journal of Aging & Social Policy*, vol. 12 (1), (2000). Dr. Brenner also has three exercises in *Sociology Through Active Learning: Student Exercises* edited by Kathleen McKinney, Frank D. Back, and Barbara S. Heyl, Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press (2001). Her exercises are "Understanding Social Location: A Group Exercise," "The Symbolic Basis of Culture: The Cultural Cocktail Party," and "Stereotyping and Labeling: A Group Exercise."

## **New Educational Policy Committee Members Announced**

The EPC Committees for the Academic Year 2001-2002 are as follows:  
(New members are indicated with an \*)

### **Steering Committee**

Lyn Stallings (Math/Stat), Chair\*  
Joe Dent (Anthropology), Vice Chair\*  
Brett Crawford (Performing Arts)\*  
Bryan Fantie (Psychology)\*  
Robert Karch (Health/Fitness)  
Robert Lerman (Economics)\*  
Charles Tesconi (Education)\*

### **Budget Committee**

Paul Côté (LFS)  
Nancy Flournoy (Math/Stat)  
Valerie French (History)\*  
Jim Girard (Chemistry)  
Andrea Prejean (Education)

### **Curriculum Committee**

Barbara Fick (LFS)\*  
Teresa Hein (Physics)  
Andrea Prejean (Education)\*  
David Sadker (Education)\*  
Christopher Tudge (Biology)\*  
Brian Yates (Psychology)\*  
Vivian Vasquez (Education)

### **Inter-Disciplinary Committee**

David Beach (Literature)  
Fred Carson (Chemistry)  
Ellen Feder (Phil/Religion)\*  
Eileen Findlay (History)  
Henry Taylor (Literature)\*

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# What's New in CAS

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## CAS Graduate Admissions

Following the decentralization of Graduate Admissions in May, CAS established its own Graduate Admissions office in the McKinley Building. CAS will also be using an online inquiry and admissions process that will make the communications between the prospective student, the departments, and the CAS admissions office more efficient.

The CAS Graduate Admissions office is comprised of Director of Graduate Admissions **Jo-Anne Saxe**, Senior Admissions Associate **Kathy Clowery**, Admissions Associate **Jessica Lundgren**, and Graduate Application Information Specialist **Michelle Taylor**. Jo-Anne, Kathy, and Michelle were all formerly employed in AU's Graduate Enrollment Services office prior to coming to CAS Graduate Admissions; Jo-Anne came to the CAS Dean's office last year and was instrumental in setting up the new admissions office. Jessica was working part-time in Undergraduate International Admissions while finishing her BA in History here at AU. This team, under the direction of **Mary Schellinger**, CAS Assistant Dean for Program Development, and along with **Alison Torrillo**, CAS Marketing Manager, and **Jeremy Wisemiller** and **Jan Post**, Special Program Coordinators, will facilitate the entire graduate application process, from recruiting to entering initial inquiries to communication follow-up, making use of the new technologies that have become available through the ApplyYourself system.

Created and warehoused by Fairfax-based ApplyYourself, the new system allows prospective students to use the Web to both inquire about CAS programs and apply online. The Web site where this information can be found is <[www.american.edu/cas/admissions](http://www.american.edu/cas/admissions)>. Here, prospective graduate students can not only request information about their particular field of interest, but also find information about financial aid, admission requirements, and student resources, as well as the online application.

Additionally, the system's tracking capabilities enable both the CAS Graduate Admissions team and the departments to create ongoing, personalized communications to better recruit prospects and convert them into applicants and then enrolled students. Moving the application process to an online environment means that applicants are able to instantaneously transmit their application directly to the CAS Graduate Admissions Office, therefore minimizing delays and facilitating decisions and communications. The ApplyYourself system, now being used to enter all inquiries and applications, also interfaces with Datatel, the legacy system that has been used to store applications.

For more information regarding the new system or CAS graduate admissions in general, call x3620 or e-mail <[CASGRAD@american.edu](mailto:CASGRAD@american.edu)>.

## CD-ROM

To aid in recruitment this fall and beyond, CAS has developed a new, media-rich, interactive tool, geared specifically toward prospective graduate students who are seeking to further their education and to make their voices heard in the world.

The new CD-ROM, "American Voices," replaces the "cluster books," which were previously distributed to prospective students interested in a particular area of graduate study (arts, humanities, sciences, social sciences, or education). The CD contains all of CAS's diverse offerings, with complete program listings and direct links to program information and department Web sites, plus background on each department, including profiles of faculty, students, and alumni. In addition, prospective students will be able to actually hear first-hand perspectives through voice-overs for each department and see video representations of some of the major benefits of study at AU.

The CD will be distributed to prospective graduate students who inquire via the online form, e-mail, phone, or postal mail, or who attend education fairs and other events. It is designed to work hand-in-hand with the CAS Web

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# What's New in CAS

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site, linking back to individual programs for course listings, requirements, and more complete information on faculty, as well as to the newly created CAS Graduate Admissions page for the online application and related information.

For more information, contact Marketing Manager Alison Torrillo at x1781 or <alison@american.edu>.

## Battelle-Tompkins Building

During the fall semester, CAS will finally have a home on the Quad. The new Battelle-Tompkins building will house five departments and several programs, as well as the CAS Dean's office.

The terrace level will hold the departments of Anthropology and Sociology, along with American Studies, Women's and Gender Studies, and the Center for Israeli Studies. It will also have a computer lab and space for adjunct faculty and graduate students. The first floor will have the CAS counseling office and the departments of History and Philosophy and Religion. The second floor will be location for the Dean's office and conference room and the Department of Literature and the Writing Center.

A major feature of the building will be the central atrium, topped by the skylight, where we will hold CAS events. We look forward to seeing you at the opening events, soon to be announced.

## Excellence in Teaching

Congratulations to the Department of Physics for excellence in teaching during Spring 2001. On four key indicators of student satisfaction with the teaching in their courses – course rigor, satisfaction with what was learned, and overall course and instructor ratings – Physics courses received the highest scores in CAS. Congratulations as well to Studio Art, TESOL, and Philosophy, which also scored very well on these student evaluations of teaching.

## New AU Travel Policy

The university has recently instituted a new global accident and health protection insurance policy for faculty, staff and students traveling or stationed abroad. All participants are required to carry this new insurance coverage when on AU sanctioned travel. To obtain the insurance, a report must be filed with Dean Mussell prior to the travel. This report should include all information pertaining to the trip: name of traveler, destination, status of traveler (faculty, student, staff), department arranging the travel, purpose, and number of weeks of travel. The report must be e-mailed to the Dean prior to commencement of the travel. The university will pay the

## Events Listing

**September 21-23**  
**Butler Pavilion 6<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Lavender Languages**  
**Conference - POSTPONED**

Conditions surrounding the national emergency have made it necessary for us to postpone the conference until February 15-17, 2002. For details, refer to the Anthropology section of *Department News* (page 3). Additional information available at <www.american.edu/lavenderlanguages> or contact Bill Leap at <wlm@american.edu> or x1831.

**September 26**  
**12 noon, Mary Graydon**  
**Center**  
**Prospective History**  
**Major/Minor Luncheon**

All undergraduate students interested in a major or a minor in history are invited to attend this event. Sponsored by the Department of History. For more details call x2401.

**September 28**  
**Reception, 5-7 pm**  
**October 1 –7, Exhibit**  
**Watkins Art Gallery**  
**Adjunct Faculty Art Show**

For details, refer to the Art section of *Department News* (page 3). Or contact Jonathan Bucci at <bucci@american.edu>.

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# What's New in CAS

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## Events – continued

**October 1**

**12:15-1:30 pm, Bentley Lounge, Gray Hall**

**Faculty Forum: “Harmonic Analysis” presented by Jeff Hakin of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics**

A light lunch will be served. Please RSVP one week before the event to Ernestine Barnes at <ebarnes@american.edu> or x2446.

**October 3**

**8 pm, Butler Board Room**

**Visiting Writers’ Series: Amy Bloom**

For more information, contact the Literature department at x2971 or <lit@american.edu>.

**October 8-9**

**Fall Break**

No classes, university offices open.

**October 12**

**3:30 pm, Georgetown University**

**Biology Department Seminar**

The topic will be “A Life Without Light: Exploring the Trophic Interactions Among Chemosynthetic and Heterotrophic Fauna in the Gulf of Mexico.” For more information please contact Stephen MacAvoy at <macavoy@american.edu>.

**October 13**

**Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus  
2001 Fall WATESOL Conference**

For details, refer to the LFS section of *Department News* (page 6). Or contact Karen Taylor at <kataylor@wam.umd.edu> or at 301-405-5188.

premiums for both the faculty and staff members traveling. Departments have been charged for students’ coverage beginning on September 1, 2001.

Benefits under the new insurance policy include accident and sickness coverage, executive assistance services, medical evacuation and repatriation benefits.

## New Staff in the Dean’s Office

Over the past few months Dean Mussell has added some new members to the administrative staff here at CAS. The new staff and their positions are as follows:

**Larry Medsker** - Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

**James Mooney** - Special Assistant to the Dean

**Kate Bruffett** - Academic Counselor

**Kathy Clowery** - Senior Graduate Admissions Associate

**Jamie Cooper** – Graduate Advisement Specialist

**Stephen Geer**- Technical Support Specialist

**Jessica Lundgren** - Graduate Admissions Associate

**Meryl Paskow** - Academic Counselor

**Darryl Robinson** - Degree Completion Specialist

**Linda Swanson** – Faculty Personnel Coordinator

**Lauren Tabbara** - Administrative Assistant

**Michelle Taylor** - Graduate Application Information Coordinator

**Doug Vibert** - Academic Counselor

**Olga Zelikovitch** - Budget and Grant Coordinator

A correction from *CAS Connections* in April 2001 that appeared online:

**Alison Torrillo** - Marketing Manager

Alison’s name was misspelled in that edition.

Please welcome these new staff members to the CAS community.

### Dean’s Message – *continued from page 1*

Finally, this fall we will continue our lunchtime Faculty Forum series, which highlights the work of our colleagues. The dates for the first forums are listed in the CAS Events Calendar beginning on page 9. Be sure to mark your calendars.

Welcome back- and have a wonderful semester!

Kay Mussell

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## Events – continued

**October 20**

**1:15-4:30 pm, leave from Clark Hall**

***American Studies Thematic Walking Tour: Arlington National Cemetery***

Please RSVP to x2453 by 5pm on Thursday, October 18.

**October 23**

**12:15-1:30 pm, Bentley Lounge, Gray Hall**

***Faculty Forum: “What Happened to the Peace Process? Polls and Public Opinion in Israel and Palestine” presented by Russell Stone of the Department of Sociology***

A light lunch will be served. Please RSVP one week before the event to Ernestine Barnes at <ebarnes@american.edu> or x2446.

**October 24**

**8 pm, Butler Board Room**

***Visiting Writers’ Series: Andrew Holleran***

For more information, contact the Literature department at x2971 or <lit@american.edu>.

**October 25**

**5:30 pm, SIS Formal Lounge**

***Project South***

Suzanne Pharr, Director of the Highlander Research and Education Center will talk about her book, *In the Time of the Right: Reflections of Liberation*.

**October 29 – December 7**

**Advance Registration for Spring 2002**

**November 5-December 1**

**Reception November 10, 3-5 pm**

**Watkins Art Gallery**

***Mark Oxman, Recent Sculptures***

For details contact Jonathan Bucci at <bucci@american.edu>.

**November 7**

**8 pm, Butler Board Room**

***Visiting Writers’ Series: Robin Becker***

For more information, contact the Literature department at x2971 or <lit@american.edu>.

**November 9**

***The Eleventh Annual McDowell Conference***

Hosted by the Department of Philosophy and Religion. For more information call x2925.

**November 13**

**12:15-1:30 pm, Bentley Lounge, Gray Hall**

***Faculty Forum: “Engagement-Response” presented by Luis Silva of the Department of Art***

A light lunch will be served. Please RSVP one week before the event to Ernestine Barnes at <ebarnes@american.edu> or x2446.

**December 1**

**1:15-4:30 pm, leave from Clark Hall**

***American Studies Thematic Walking Tour: Dupont Circle***

Please RSVP to x2453 by 5pm on Thursday, November 29.

## **Events – continued from page 11**

**December 7**

**12:15-1:30 pm, Bentley Lounge, Gray Hall**

***Faculty Forum: “Ecology and Physiology of Fish Vision” presented by Victoria Connaughton of the Department of Biology***

A light lunch will be served. Please RSVP one week before the event to Ernestine Barnes at <ebarnes@american.edu> or x2446.

**December 10**

**Classes End**

**December 16-21**

**Final Grades Due**

## **Ongoing/Weekly Events**

**Tuesdays, 3:30 pm, Ward Circle Building**

***Department of Mathematics & Statistics Weekly Colloquiums***

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics hosts weekly colloquiums to discuss various topics in mathematics and statistics. The meetings are usually on Tuesdays in the Ward Circle Building and start at 3:30 PM. Call x3120 for an itinerary for the fall semester.

**Wednesdays, 12:00-1:15 pm, Roper Hall Room 100**

***Department of Economics Brown Bag Seminars***

For a complete schedule, visit <[http://www.american.edu/academic.depts/cas/econ/brown\\_bag.html](http://www.american.edu/academic.depts/cas/econ/brown_bag.html)>.

**...And Stay Tuned for the annual CAS Student Research Conference this Spring!**

Watch for details on our Web site at <[www.american.edu/cas](http://www.american.edu/cas)>.



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