

CAMP VANDERBILT

Summer programs give teens taste of college life

Summer is usually a peaceful season at Vanderbilt, with most students taking a well-deserved break from classes.

Last summer, however, the campus was a beehive of activity as numerous middle and high school students and teachers took advantage of more than ten programs sponsored by the University to expand their educational horizons. The College of Arts and Science, its faculty, and students supported and participated in several of those projects, including a new program for academically talented students, Project GRAD (Graduation Really Achieves Dreams) Summer Institute for Nashville inner-city high school students, and Girls and Science Camp.

Here is a look at those programs, which are part of the University's efforts to support and improve K-12 education and to encourage volunteerism among Vanderbilt students.

Wanted: Gifted Students

Wearing protective goggles and white lab coats, students in Mel Joesten's and Shawn Phillips's chemistry class worked to extract the iron shavings that are added to Total brand breakfast cereal, a standard experiment in Vanderbilt's general chemistry courses.

However, the pupils weren't college students engaged in a summer course. They were participants in the inaugural session of the Vanderbilt Program for Talented Youth (VPTY).

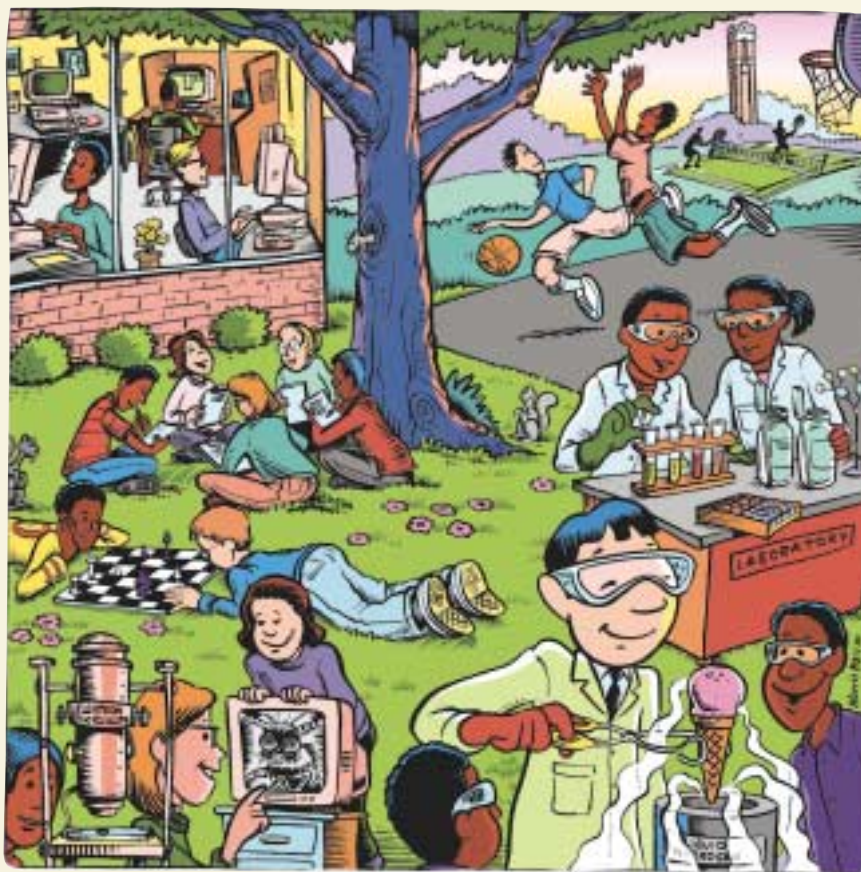
Many had never used laboratories, but they caught on quickly with only a few mishaps. "You have to have patience," said Bethany Wilder, a

sophomore from Clarksville, Tennessee. "If you make one little mistake, you have to do the experiment over."

"We get to see what's really happening," said Tiffany Ward, a tenth grader from Camden, Tennessee.

"It was really a lot of fun but also challenging to teach that group," Phillips said. "There was such a wide range in their ages and emotional development. However, the fact that they were so sharp and eager to learn made it easier."

A collaborative effort by the College of Arts and Science, Peabody College, and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, VPTY drew to campus 85 students from the mid-South last summer for four weeks of advanced study in chemistry, mathematics, computer science, and writing.



Students selected for the program took SAT or ACT tests, earning scores that ranked them among the top 2 percent of students in the nation. All were rising eighth through eleventh graders. They included 55 boys and 30 girls. Several participants were the children of Vanderbilt faculty members and alumni or siblings of current Vanderbilt students.

"This was a group of really curious, enthusiastic students," said Matthew Gould, professor of mathematics and codirector of the program. "You could see an intellectual awakening in them that was a joy to behold."

"The program's instruction was aimed at the very characteristics that make students gifted: their ability to make connections among seemingly disparate ideas, to assimilate new information rapidly, and to be challenged

by the subject matter," said Patrick Thompson, professor of mathematics education, who codirected the program with Gould.

"Participants also had the opportunity to socialize with other gifted students so that, in this setting, they are not considered odd for understanding ideas easily or being interested in seemingly arcane topics."

After being in class six hours each day, the students were ready to play in the late afternoon and evening. Favorite activities included basketball and tennis at the Student Recreation Center, games like chess and Risk in the commons rooms at Branscomb Quadrangle, playing musical instruments, and trips to local pizza and ice cream parlors.

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You can also access the main alumni Web page at www.vanderbilt.edu/alumni and the on-line version of the A&S Cornerstone at

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ON THE COVER

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A & S News

Freshman class most diverse ever

The College of Arts and Science has a problem this year that many of its peers would love to share. It is bursting at the seams with a large, academically talented freshman class that is also the most diverse ever, according to Dean John Venable.

As the University's largest school, A&S enrolled 983 students this fall. As is the practice at other selective universities, the college extends more offers of admission than it expects students to attend.

"We have to guess at the 'yield' from our offers of admission," Venable says. "At a time when Vanderbilt is increasingly attractive to students, sometimes the yield turns out to be higher than our guess."

Test scores and grade point averages are also high this year, with an average GPA of 3.61 and an average SAT score of 1313.



These are two of 983 freshmen enrolled in the College of Arts and Science this year, the most diverse class in A&S history.

"We are delighted to have such a large and diverse group of highly qualified students," Venable says. "The College has become more selective and very competitive in attracting academically talented students."

This year's entering class is the most diverse in A&S history, with 17.4 percent identifying themselves as minorities. African American enrollment is at a record high 6.5 percent, and the ratio of women to men is 56 percent to 44 percent.

Among all freshmen in Vanderbilt's four undergraduate schools, 102 are National Merit Scholars. Many were high school leaders, including 186 who graduated first or second in their classes, 42 student body presidents, 105 editors-in-chief

of student publications, and 563 captains of athletic teams.

They come from 46 states and 48 foreign countries, with 13.1 percent from Tennessee.

Venable serves as dean

John H. Venable, associate professor of molecular biology and formerly associate provost for faculty affairs, is serving as dean of the College of Arts and Science while a national search for a permanent dean is underway.

Venable came to Vanderbilt in 1967 after earning his BS degree in physics from Duke University in 1960 and his PhD in biophysics from Yale University in 1965. He also pursued postdoctoral training at Kings College, London, England, in the laboratory of Professor M.H.F. Wilkins, Nobel laureate.

He was named associate professor in 1972 and served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Science from 1981-1992. As associate dean he was responsible for academic programs, undergraduate admissions, and technology.

He was appointed associate provost in 1994, with responsibilities for oversight of faculty appointment, promotion, and tenure; research support; and strategic planning.

"These are exciting times at Vanderbilt, and the opportunities have never been greater," Venable says. "I look forward to the challenge of strengthening and advancing the College of Arts and Science during this period."



Dean John H. Venable

Commencement 2000

The College of Arts and Science awarded degrees to 783 undergraduate students during Commencement ceremonies in May.

Former Chancellor Joe B. Wyatt delivered his final speech to the graduates, saying he was also graduating with the Class of 2000 as chancellor, emeritus.

Among A&S students receiving awards was Founder's Medalist Brian James Miller, of Newark, Ohio, who was graduated *summa cum laude* with a BS degree in mathematics and a minor in music.

Miller has been a College Scholar and has served as a teaching assistant in the Department of Mathematics.

He received a fellowship from the National Science Foundation to study mathematical biology at Penn State during the summer of 1999. His research project focused on mathematical models of the effects of chemotherapy.

He is currently attending Ohio State University School of Medicine, studying to become a surgeon specializing in cancer. He is also one of ten entering students to receive a Cancer Research Summer Internship at Ohio State's Comprehensive Cancer Center.



Former A&S Dean Ettore Infante congratulates Brian James Miller, left, Founder's Medalist in the College of Arts and Science.

New book traces history of physics, astronomy department

The Department of Physics and Astronomy has published a history of the department. *To Quarks and Quasars: A History of Physics and Astronomy at Vanderbilt University* by the late Robert T. Lagemann, MS'35, professor of physics, emeritus, was edited by Wendell G. Holladay, BA'49, MA'50, dean of the College of Arts and Science, emeritus; provost emeritus; and professor of physics, emeritus. Holladay also supplied more than 100 illustrations.

The book covers events from the establishment of the University in 1873 to Lagemann's death in 1994. It documents the careers of faculty members Landon C. Garland, E.E. Barnard, John "Dynamo" Daniel, and Carl K. Seyfert. One chapter describes the contributions of Francis Slack and other Vanderbilt physicists to the Manhattan Project and Oak Ridge National Laboratories. Another discusses the work of Nobelist Max Delbrück, who did his seminal work in molecular biology while a member of the Vanderbilt faculty during the 1940s.

Into the fire

The students and professors stood, barefoot, around a bed of glowing coals, waiting in the cold drizzle for the first person to take the plunge through the fire. Two students played drums, while others clapped or chanted.

Sophomore Kristin Milam made her way to the head of the fire. Looking past the 12-foot-long bed of coals, she calmly and purposefully walked across them, head erect and face glowing.

Others followed her, occasionally emerging with embers stuck to the sides or bottoms of their feet. They walked through the fire. Then they danced, somersaulted and strolled through it, defying the old adage about playing with fire and getting burned.

And that was exactly the point of the whole exercise—to move beyond preconceptions and fears to achieve the seemingly impossible.

"I think this whole thing was amazing. It really changes your perspective," said A&S junior Jeff Allen, an anthropology major who wrote the paper that spurred the event. "I wasn't even concentrating on the fire. I was concentrating on the energy around me. When it was over, I was disappointed."

"An additional motivation for the exercise is for each of us, individually, to feel the powerful emotions that can lead us to want to substitute non-scientific explanations for scientific ones," explained David Weintraub, associate professor of astronomy. "From physics we know why firewalking is possible. But even my professional colleagues thought it was a crazy idea."

The students in last spring's honors seminar "The Copernican Revolution: 1543 to the Present" probably didn't envision walking barefoot across glowing coals when they signed up for the class. Neither did Weintraub, who

teaches the course which focuses on the different explanations of phenomena from scientific and religious perspectives. However, a term paper on firewalking by Allen caught the imagination of the group and inspired A&S junior Sam Chase to research the topic on the Web.

After Weintraub found funding from a Templeton Foundation grant for the development of the course and received permission from University officials and the Metropolitan Nashville Fire Marshall, the walk was on.

Before firewalking, the students participated in a four-hour seminar led by Ariel Frager and Danny Pharr, firewalking instructors with Wings of Fire, a Portland, Oregon, organization.

More than 30 students, faculty and guests attended the seminar; most of them made the walk. Many went through multiple times. None of the walkers suffered injuries from the walk.

"This is a great physics experiment," said Didier Saumon, an assistant professor of physics and astronomy. Prior to firewalking, Saumon did calculations to determine to his satisfaction that it is physics, not anything mystical, that makes firewalking possible.

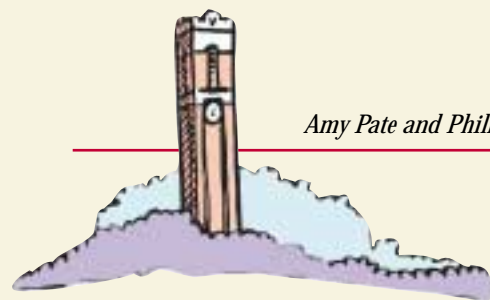
One explanation is that coals are not good conductors of heat. Therefore, the foot isn't in contact with the coals long enough to raise the skin temperature high enough and at a significant depth to cause burns, Weintraub explained.

Frager and Pharr instructed the students to write on an index card "I can do anything I choose. The impossible is possible." The students then signed the cards and were advised to keep them somewhere visible.



Arts and Science sophomore Jack Beuttell walked slowly across glowing hot coals during a firewalk held on campus last spring in conjunction with the honors seminar "The Copernican Revolution: 1543 to the Present."

Article by Amy Pate



Amy Pate and Phillip Tucker contributed to these articles.

(Camp Vanderbilt continued)

"My favorite thing was hanging out in the dorm with my friends," said Bonnie Gay, a sophomore at Nashville's magnet school for the gifted. "We got to meet a lot of cool people."

Serving the Mid-South's brightest students

Twelve-year-old Thomas Szczorkowski enjoys teaching himself calculus, likes using the advanced software *Mathematica*, and hates dorm life. His new friend, 13-year-old Stephen Bevins loves being treated like an adult and wishes his middle school offered advanced subjects. Both youngsters said that experiences like VPTY are very important for gifted students.

"There's no motivation in boring [average] classes," said Thomas. "If you're at the top of your class, you think you're perfect."

"[The program] was very challenging," said Stephen. "You found out that there's always someone smarter than you."

With the establishment of VPTY, Vanderbilt joined a number of other universities, such as Johns Hopkins, Duke, Iowa State, and Northwestern, which offer talented youth opportunities to supplement their regular schooling.

Peabody College Dean Camilla Benbow, who has spent the last 20 years researching and tracking the progress of academically gifted youth, spearheaded the program. The cost to participants, which included room, board, books, and materials, was \$2,100.

"Both Dean Benbow and [former A&S Dean Ettore] Infante were very generous in providing scholarships for students who needed financial help to attend the program," said Gould.

A&S faculty members and graduate students who taught in the program included Joesten, professor of chemistry emeritus; Phillips, a lecturer in chemistry; Laura Patterson, a doctoral candidate in English; and Angie Anderson and Dan Prudhomme, graduate students in chemistry. Prudhomme is also a National Science

Foundation graduate teaching fellow (please see related article, "Win-win-win" page 5).

A&S graduate and undergraduate students served as program assistants, and the participants also used A&S classroom and laboratory facilities and materials.

Gould said VPTY continues Vanderbilt's tradition of serving the nation's brightest students. He hopes the program will help put the University at the top of participating students' college lists.

Project GRAD makes dreams come true

During the past two years, 14-year-old Corey Hoggett's brother and his best friend were killed. Now a sophomore at Nashville's Pearl-Cohn High School, Corey is determined to rise above those tragedies. His commitment to Project GRAD (Graduation Really Achieves Dreams) makes it more likely he will succeed.

Corey completed Project GRAD's first summer institute at Vanderbilt, despite the fact that he was grieving. "My brother would have wanted me to do this," he said, adding, "I think what I've learned here will help me with my classes this year and in the future. And, it's kept me out of trouble."

General Colin Powell, retired head of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, launched Project GRAD in Nashville with a visit to Pearl-Cohn High School.



More than 90 rising sophomores from Pearl-Cohn participated in the six-week summer institute. The students came from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds. All signed pledges to attend college in three years. Project GRAD provides \$4,000 scholarships to students who earn 2.5 grade point averages and attend two summer institutes at Vanderbilt. The students received instruction in English, one of the sciences (physics, biology, or chemistry), and math. In the process they also learned about college life and themselves.

Participants visited Radnor Lake State Natural Area and analyzed water samples while learning about water quality issues in



Alex Brown, a ninth-grader from Chattanooga, worked on an experiment to determine the amount of iron in a serving of Total breakfast cereal. The experiment is a standard one for Vanderbilt chemistry students.

chemistry class. They created a collection of their writings in English class. During math class they calculated their location with a global positioning system device.

"We hope the students will see all of this as a way of becoming successful in high school, as well as developing a better understanding of what college is all about," said Kathryn Lee, director of the summer institutes.

Giving back to the community

Modeled after a successful program in Houston, Project GRAD came to Nashville through the efforts of A&S senior Katie Dunwoody, and her father, Mac Dunwoody. "Giving back to the community is consistently encouraged at Vanderbilt," said Katie. "I had the opportunity to see the tremendous success of Project GRAD in Houston and, together with my family, wanted to bring this opportunity to Nashville."

Project GRAD sponsors include Vanderbilt, Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools, the Ford Foundation, and the Inner City Foundation. Marcy Singer Gabella, assistant professor of education and assistant provost, directs the program.

Teachers from the College of Arts and Science included Allison Piepmeier, lecturer in English; Amy H. Lin, a doctoral student in mathematics; Mel Joesten, professor of chemistry emeritus; and Shawn Phillips, lecturer in chemistry. Also teaching were National Science Foundation teaching fellows, Sam Brown, chemistry; Kara Adcox, physics; and Alan Smith, biology.

It's a GAS (girls and science)

When Ann Tseng, BA'97, was an Ingram Scholar, one of her projects was helping girls aged 12 to 14 develop an interest in science and scientific careers.

"Women are underrepresented professionally in the science and the math fields," Tseng, a mathematics major, wrote in her biography for the Ingram Scholarship Web page.

"With more women entering the work force now and in the future, it is becoming increasingly important to make [scientific] career options open for women of all socioeconomic backgrounds."

Today Tseng is a medical student at the University of Maryland.

The spirit of her girls and science project lives on in the Vanderbilt Girls and Science Camp (GAS), which was founded by Virginia L. Shepherd, professor of pathology, a year ago. About 80 eighth- and ninth-grade girls spent a week at Vanderbilt, learning that science could be fun.

Each age group conducted a series of hands-on experiments, which included building a roller coaster and identifying fingerprints with the help of DNA.

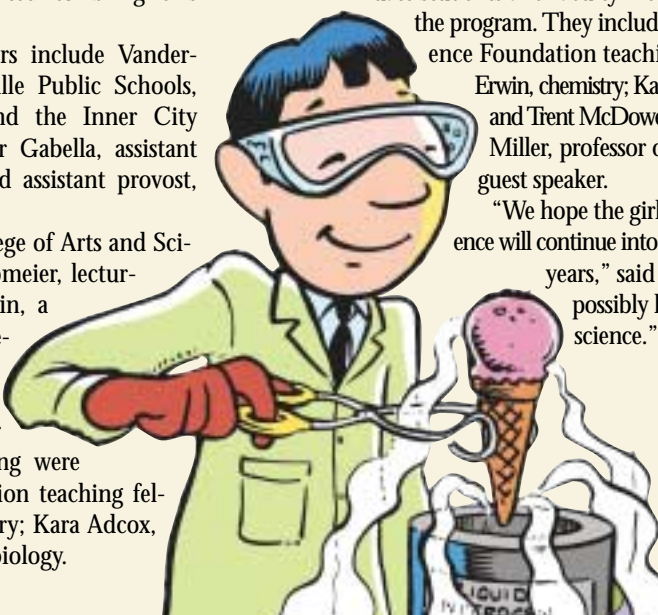
The camp was sponsored by the Vanderbilt Medical Center, the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, and the Women's Auxiliary at Vanderbilt Medical School. While the College of Arts and Science was not an official sponsor, several A&S graduate students and faculty members taught in the program. They included National Science Foundation teaching fellows Meg

Erwin, chemistry; Kara Adcox, physics; and Trent McDowell, geology. Molly Miller, professor of geology, was a guest speaker.

"We hope the girls' interest in science will continue into their high school years," said Shepherd, "and possibly lead to careers in science."



Participants in the Girls and Science Camp learned to identify rocks using diluted acid and magnifying glasses.



A win-win-win situation

The College of Arts and Science also sponsors an ongoing project with Meharry Medical College for Nashville elementary students during the school year.

Bringing science to life for the public school students while providing selected Vanderbilt and Meharry teaching fellows with valuable experience are the joint goals of a recent National Science Foundation (NSF) grant.

"This educational outreach benefits both the teaching fellows and the students they teach," said Bill Eickmeier, associate dean of the College of Arts and Science, who helped write the NSF grant application. "The program focuses on seventh-to-twelfth graders and is an asset for the public schools, Vanderbilt, and Meharry," he said.

Mel Joesten, Vanderbilt professor of chemistry emeritus, codirects the project, along with Virginia L. Shepherd, Vanderbilt professor of pathology, and Maria Lima, dean of Meharry's Graduate School.

One scoop or two?

"We want to make science come alive for children," said Joesten. Toward that goal, the fellows conduct experiments at Head and W.A. Bass middle schools and Martin Luther King Magnet and Pearl-Cohn Comprehensive high schools.

One lesson uses liquid nitrogen as the teaching tool to demonstrate properties of substances at extremely cold temperatures. "At the end of the session, the fellow uses the nitrogen to freeze ice cream for the students," said Shepherd, who adds, "Our goal is not to push students into the sciences but to raise the overall level of science literacy."

According to Fredrick Hamilton, assistant dean of graduate studies and research at Meharry, the program is a unique opportunity for all involved. "It allows teaching fellows, who have in-depth knowledge in specific content areas, to gain teaching experience while shadowing a master teacher in the classroom," said Hamilton.

"At the same time, it provides that teacher with another set of hands and head when developing practical experiments. A spin-off benefit is that the teaching fellows provide young people with additional positive role models who make science come alive."

Craig Owensby, director of communications for Metro schools, couldn't agree more about the benefits of the program. "This is exactly the kind of partnership we strive to build because it's a win-win situation for our students as well as for the teaching fellows."

The program includes 12 graduate teaching fellows from Vanderbilt's chemistry, biology, molecular biology, engineering, or medical school programs and from Meharry.

Volunteers for Science

The National Science Foundation grant builds on the success of the Vanderbilt Student Volunteers for Science (VSVS) program, which Mel Joesten developed in 1994 with Michael Schooling, MD '96, of Chico, California. Pat Tellinghuisen, coordinator of VSVS, helps the teaching fellows plan inquiry-based activities for use in their classrooms, Joesten said.

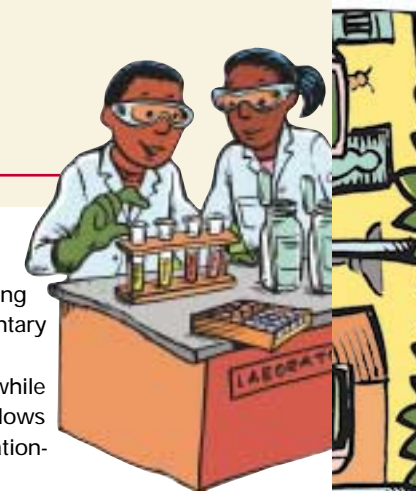
About 250 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students volunteer each year with VSVS. The majority are A&S students, who provide hands-on science activities for Nashville middle school students through both on-campus and off-campus programs.

The VSVS teams present an on-campus lesson on polymers to approximately 5,200 sixth graders each year through Vanderbilt's Day On Campus Program. At the conclusion of the class, the youngsters make their own "slime."

The off-campus program involves VSVS teams working with teachers in 60 classrooms at five middle schools involving 1,800 fifth- and sixth-grade students. "This program helps middle school teachers enhance the science instruction in their classrooms by supplementing the middle school science curriculum with additional hands-on, inquiry-based lessons presented by VSVS teams," said Joesten.

"Science is about experimentation," he said, adding that the program helps the students to become "informed citizens [who] understand how the fundamentals of science and technology affect their lives."

—Mardy Fones



A Mann for all seasons

Academy Award-winning director Delbert Mann, BA'41, an A&S alumnus, received the Vanderbilt Alumni Association's 1999 Distinguished Alumnus award in April 2000.

A member of the University Board of Trust since 1962, Mann has achieved a long and illustrious career in motion pictures, television, and theatre. He produced award-winning live television shows during that medium's "Golden Age," and won an Oscar in 1956 as best director for his debut feature film, *Marty*.



Delbert Mann

A political science major who minored in sociology and economics, Mann has spoken often of the value of a liberal arts education in preparing him for his illustrious career.

"I have grave problems with young people who go to college and immediately select a major of filmmaking when they are freshmen and concen-

trate on that, almost to the exclusion of the ranging-across-the-board education that I had," he said.

Neuroscientist Jon Kaas elected to National Academy of Sciences

Jon H. Kaas, Centennial Professor of Psychology, has been elected to the prestigious National Academy of Sciences.

The academy, a private organization of scientists and engineers established in 1863 by an act of Congress, chose Kaas "in recognition of [his] distinguished and continuing achievements in original research." Election to the academy is considered one of the highest honors a scientist can achieve.

Kaas came to Vanderbilt in 1972 from the University of Wisconsin. His research is devoted to comprehending how the animal and human brain is organized. He has made fundamental contributions to understanding how the brain develops and how mature brains respond to injuries. His major goal is to develop a model of how the human brain is hardwired to process visual information.

"Jon's research is revolutionary," says Jeffrey D. Schall, professor of psychology and director of the Vanderbilt Center for Integrative and Cognitive Neuroscience. "He

PHENIX rises

A new particle collider designed to recreate an ancient state of matter that scientists think existed in the microseconds following the birth of the universe has begun operating at Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island. Two Vanderbilt physicists—Professor Charles F. Maguire and Associate Professor S. Victoria Greene—each play a key role in the massive enterprise that involves more than 1,000 scientists from 90 different institutions in 19 countries.

According to the PHENIX spokesperson, William Zajc of Columbia University, "Both Vicki and Charlie have taken responsibility for a very major task at PHENIX, and they have done fantastically well at it."

The accelerator is named the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC). Maguire and Greene are part of the scientific team that developed a complex detector, called PHENIX, which is one of four experiments at the new accelerator. PHENIX is designed to track and identify the different subatomic particles created in the extreme conditions produced following the collisions.

Physics professors Victoria Greene and Charles Maguire are playing key roles in an international quest to recreate an ancient state of matter called quark-gluon plasma.



RESEARCH BRIEFS

Putting the curves in fonts, computer graphics • The next time you view or print a fancy font on your computer, you might thank Larry Schumaker, Stevenson Professor of Mathematics. Schumaker has played a key role in developing a field called spline theory that modern computers use to reproduce fonts in a wide variety of styles and sizes. The usefulness of spline functions is by no means limited to fonts. They are also used in MRIs, video games, Hollywood special effects, and to compress graphic images for transmittal over the Internet. About 155 mathematicians from 33 countries attended an international symposium on mathematics held at Vanderbilt in May in honor of Schumaker's 60th birthday.

Fall of Saigon helped end Cold War • While the fall of Saigon was one of the lowest points in recent American history, it may have contributed to the collapse of the Soviet empire 15 years later, says Thomas Schwartz, an expert in recent U.S. foreign policy, especially during the Vietnam War. Schwartz, associate professor of history, notes that the true irony of the fall of Saigon was that it might have encouraged the Soviet Union to be overconfident about its goals for the Third World. This led to an overextension of the Soviet Union's own resources in Africa, Afghanistan, and other parts of the world that contributed to the collapse of the Soviet Union in the 1990s. Schwartz recently visited Vietnam as part of a delegation from the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C., that has tried without success to obtain war documents from the Vietnamese a quarter of a century after the war's end.

More harm than good? • If history is any indication, Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan's decision to slow the speculative boom in the stock market by raising interest rates could do more harm than good, according to Peter L. Rousseau, assistant professor of economics. "When you're trying to break a speculative bubble, it's sometimes better not to do it with a policy instrument that can cause severe and unintended effects on other sectors of the economy," Rousseau said. In a paper recently published by the National Bureau of Economic Research, Rousseau discussed Andrew Jackson's monetary policy that helped lead to the economic panic of 1837. He believes Greenspan's current monetary policies are similar to those practiced by Jackson.

New appointments



Carol M. Swain

Political science, Law School gain expert on minorities and Congress Widely regarded as a leader in the field of minority representation and congressional politics, **Carol M. Swain** has joined the faculty as professor of political science, with a secondary appointment in the Law School. She comes to Vanderbilt from Princeton University, where she was an associate professor of politics and public affairs at the Woodrow Wilson School. Her teaching interests include American government, congressional politics, Southern politics, welfare reform, and race and class issues. Her book, *Black Faces, Black Interests: The Representation of African-Americans in Congress*, won the 1994 American Political Science Association's Woodrow Wilson Prize, and it received the V.O. Key Award.

Swain was graduated magna cum laude from Roanoke College with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. She holds a master's degree in political science from Virginia Polytechnic and State University and a doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Kudos

A&S faculty win awards

During the spring Board of Trust meeting in April, former Chancellor **Joe B. Wyatt** announced the winners of several faculty awards presented annually for excellence and outstanding achievement. Arts and Science professors receiving awards included the following:

- Hugh Davis Graham, the Holland N. McTyeire Professor of History and professor of political science, was awarded the Alexander Heard Distinguished Service Professorship for "distinctive contributions to the understanding of problems of contemporary society."
 - Leonard Folgarait, professor and chair of fine arts, was named to a Chair of Teaching Excellence. He also received the Alumni Education Award.
 - Malcolm Getz, associate professor of economics, won the Madison Sarratt Prize for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.
 - John Sloop, associate professor of communication studies, received the Ellen Gregg Ingalls Award for Excellence in Classroom Teaching.
- The Sarratt and Ingalls awards are among the highest honors that a Vanderbilt faculty member can earn.

Math chair named associate provost

Professor **Constantine Tsinakakis**, chair of mathematics for the past seven years, has been named associate provost for academic affairs. He succeeds John H. Venable, who has been named dean of the College of Arts and Science (please see related article on page 2). Tsinakakis will be responsible for a number of different areas, including "faculty appointment, renewal, and promotion, and other faculty actions such as research leaves," said Provost Thomas G. Burish.

Emeritus A&S professors

Dean **Ettore F. Infante** was among nine members of the A&S faculty honored for their years of service to the University by having the title "emeritus" or "emerita" bestowed on them during the Commencement ceremony in May. Infante received the titles professor of mathematics, emeritus, and dean of the College of Arts and Science, emeritus.

Honored faculty included **Paul K. Conkin**, Distinguished Professor of History, emeritus. Conkin received a PhD from Vanderbilt in 1957, and returned to the A&S faculty in 1979. His research interests include recent American history, the history of American thought, and the philosophy of history. He is the author or co-author of 20 books. His *Gone With the Ivy: A Biography of Vanderbilt University* has become an invaluable resource to the University since its publication in 1985.

Other A&S honored faculty included:

- Robert H. Birkby, professor of political science, emeritus
- Burton J. Bogtish, professor of biology, emeritus
- T. Aldrich Finegan, professor of economics, emeritus
- Antonina Filonov Gove, professor of Slavic languages and literatures, emerita
- Erwin C. Hargrove, professor of political science, emeritus
- C. Elton Hinshaw, professor of economics, emeritus
- C. Enrique Pupo-Walker, Centennial Professor of Spanish, emeritus (see related article, below).



Paul Conkin



Antonina Gove

My favorite professor

My most memorable professor remains Enrique Pupo-Walker. He was an inspiring teacher both in and out of the classroom. As a result of his encouragement, I spent six months in Madrid with Vanderbilt-in-Spain. What a wonderful experience! He was very supportive when I suffered "senior year angst" upon my return from Madrid. On a professional note, I still remember many of the novels we read and reflected upon in his classes. In fact, I recently contemplated contacting him to "discuss" *100 Years of Solitude*, which I recently read in English. As an economics/Spanish double major, I relished the personal contact that I had with my Spanish professors, especially that of "Pupo." He cared about his students' academic and personal growth.



Enrique Pupo-Walker

Por favor, digale hola a Pupo!

Elizabeth Craig Parkinson BA'81

Editor's note: We'd like to hear about your favorite professor. Please send your nominations or articles (300 word maximum) by e-mail to Cornerstone@vanderbilt.edu, or by U.S. mail to A&S Cornerstone, VU Station B 357703, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, Tennessee 37235-7703.

REUNION 2000

About 2,500 alumni and their guests returned to campus Memorial Day weekend to celebrate their undergraduate experience. The ten reuniting classes and the Quinqs committed \$16.5 million in gifts and five-year pledges to many parts of the university.

Approximately 250 people attended the Alumni Association/A&S Meet-the-Faculty luncheon on Friday of Reunion weekend. They heard poet Mark Jarman, professor of English, read from the works of Vanderbilt poets old and new.



TOMMY LAWSON

These A&S alumni are members of the Vanderbilt Alumni Association Board of Directors: Tom Amonett, BA'65, JD'68, left; Jerry Reves, BA'65; Wayne Hyatt, BA'65, JD'68, new Alumni Association president; and Ruth Montgomery Cecil, BA'65, former president.

QUICK FACT

The College of Arts and Science is Vanderbilt's largest school, enrolling approximately 3,400 undergraduate students.



West meets East



These photographs by Stacey Irvin, BA'98, are among hundreds she took while traveling to the Far East this year as a result of winning the 1999 Margaret Stonewall Wooldridge Hamblet Award. A philosophy major, Irvin used the \$16,000 cash award to travel to China, Tibet, and Pakistan. Her photographs will be on display at the Fine Arts Gallery from January 11-February 1, 2001.

The Hamblet Award is given to a graduating senior each spring by a panel of outside jurors. Jennifer Gill, BA'00, is the 2000 winner. A ceramist, she traveled to Europe and Japan, where she took a special course in ceramics with people from all over the world. Her work will be exhibited next year.



VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

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