Changes

Since my report in Spring 2011, several changes have occurred in the department. Dr. Thomas Kuhar has transferred from the Eastern Shore AREC during the 2011/12 Academic Year to campus. The total faculty in the Department now consists of 14 Tenure Track on campus, three off-campus and two instructional part-time emeriti. Between Summer 2011 and July 2012, the Entomology Department conferred 3 M.S. and 4 Ph.D. degrees, and recruited 12 students (9 M.S. and 3 Ph.D.). The graduate student body in August 2011 totaled 43 (21 Ph.D., 14 M.S. and 8 Online M.S.). For the current academic year, starting Aug. 2012, we have 47 students: 20 M.S. and 20 Ph.D. on campus and 7 Online M.S.

Our fiscal technician, Robin Williams has moved to the Dean’s office in January 2012. She was replaced by April Craig who had to resign after three months for medical reasons. Subsequently, we hired our new fiscal coordinator, Mary Parks in May 2012. With the help of Robin Williams, Suella Wolfe, and Sarah Kenley, Mary has been able to restore some order to our financial accounts after several months of disarray.

Hearty congratulations are accorded Drs: Igor Sharakhov, Kevin Myles and Zachary Adelman on being promoted to Associate Professors with tenure in July 2011, and to Dr. Christopher Bergh to Full Professor in July 2012.

Research expenditures remain on the increase, exceeding three million dollars per year, with average >$230k per T-T faculty. Budget reductions still persist, but we have finally received recent approval to fill the Faculty position in Insect Systematics that has been vacant since the retirement of Dr. Michael Kosztarab in 1992.

Our students continued to be successful in winning numerous awards at professional conferences and meetings. Our outreach events proved to be highly popular and have attracted enormous crowds at each event. Thanks to the leadership efforts of Dr.. Weaver, we had a very successful celebration of the Alwood Dedication and one-day “Bugfest” in October 2011. We were encouraged to see over 2,000 attendees, many with families, who expressed the hope that we would make the “Bugfest” an annual affair.

Departmental morale seems to be high and productivity has increased. This would not have been possible without the strong commitment and participation of our staff, students and faculty.

It is with immense sadness that I end my message with the report that our much respected Dr. Mary Ross, emeritus faculty, passed away on July 7, 2012. She will be greatly missed by the Entomology community.

My grateful thanks to alumni/alumnae, emeriti faculty and friends for continued support of the Department. Our long-standing invitation to all to keep connected continues and we hope that many will visit or send us updates of their various activities.

L. T. Kok
Professor and Department Head
Lloyd and Pat Hipkins went to Qatar and Rome over spring break. The trip to Qatar was to see their second grandchild, Evan Hipkins, who was born December 28, 2011.

Zach Adelman, Kevin Myles, and Igor Sharakhov were all promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure in June 2011.

Chris Bergh received the 2011 CALS Research Excellence Award in Applied Research.

The successful dedication of the Alwood Burr Oak and Bugfest October 14-15, 2011 was due to the diligent work of Mike Weaver. The Alwood Society and many departmental members also helped to make the Bugfest a great success.

Mike Weaver was named President-Elect of the American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators in August 2011. He was also recognized by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in April 2012 for his years of service to the Virginia Pesticide Control Board.

Carlyle Brewster received the 2012 CALS Certificate of Teaching Excellence.

Dini Miller received the 2012 Alumni Award for Excellence in Extension.

Igor Sharakhov received the 2012 CALS Research Award for Excellence in Basic Research.


Kathy Kamminga and Ravi Radhakrishnan were married on July 14 2012 in Lansdowne, Va in an American ceremony. A second wedding was performed on July 15th in Lanham, MD. This wedding was the traditional Indian ceremony.
New Students

The department wishes to welcome the new students:

Fall 2011:

**John Aigner**: a native of Virginia’s Eastern Shore, joined the department in August 2011 as a MSLFS candidate under the direction of Dr. Tom Kuhar. A graduate of Oregon State University with a B.S. in Agriculture, John’s graduate research at Virginia Tech will focus on the physiology and control of brown marmorated stink bug in vegetable crops.

**Brittany Delong**: graduated from Shorter College, a small, private institution located in Rome, GA (her hometown) with a B.S. in Biology in 2009. Before coming to VA Tech, she worked as an undergrad. research associate for Dr. Josh Campbell. After graduating she worked with Steve Pennings (Univ. of Houston) studying herbivorous insects in salt marshes before joining Dr. Miller’s lab. Her graduate research is focusing on bedbugs.

**Jackson Means**: attended Denison University, where he majored in Environmental Studies. After college, he moved back to Charlottesville and worked at Keswick Vineyards before moving to Cibola, AZ for a Tamarisk removal project at the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge. He returned to Virginia and worked at Blenheim Vineyards and the Thomas Jefferson Foundation Center for Historic Plants for two years before moving to Blacksburg to attend graduate school at the Virginia Tech Department of Entomology. He is studying honey bees and Varroa destructor mites, specifically their spatiotemporal relationship and sampling methods, under Drs. Carlyle Brewster and Loke Kok. Varroa mites are one of the most important pests of *Apis mellifera*, the European honey bee, causing serious economic loss every year through reductions in bee health and productivity. We know little about how the spatial relationship between bees and mites within the hive changed throughout the year, a better understanding of which could lead to improved sampling and treatment methods.

**Ngoc Pham**: graduated from Virginia Tech with her degree in Biological Sciences. Her major professor is Dr. Troy Anderson and she is studying the mosquito *Anopheles gambiae*.

**Alison Reaves**: graduated University of North Carolina at Asheville with a B.S. in Ecology in 2007. She is working with Dr. Troy Anderson, Dr. Rick Fell, and Dr. Carlyle Brewster. Her project focuses on honey bee health and the interaction with in-hive pesticides.

**Sudan Gyawaly**: completed his bachelor’s degree in Agriculture from IAAS, TU, Nepal and Master’s degree in Entomology from West Virginia University. He is working on his Ph.D. and his major professor is Dr. Rod Youngman. He is researching sugarcane beetle damage in corn.

**Ashley Peery**: graduated from Virginia Tech with her undergrad degree in biological sciences. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. under Igor Sharakhov. Her project is titled “Chromosome Plasticity in Evolution of Malaria Vectors *Anopheles stephensi* and *Anopheles gambiae*”.

**Atashi Sharma**: from Delhi, India and did her undergraduate degree in Biotechnology from India. She received her M.S. in Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology from University of Wolverhampton, UK on determining bacterial DNA by PCR in bovine mastitis samples. After working for a couple of years and she joined VT as a graduate student in 2010. After the lab rotations, she joined Dr. Igor Sharakhov’s lab in March 2011. Her current research interest lies in determining fixed differences in heterochromatin of mitotic chromosomes of *Anopheles gambiae*’s (African malarial mosquito) two different chromosomal forms- M and S.
Fan Yang: Received his Master’s degree (2011) under Dr. Sharakov and is now working on his Ph.D. under Dr. Paulson.

Spring 2012

Angel Acebes: Received her B.S. in Agriculture with a major in Entomology (May 2007) from the University of the Philippines, Los Baños. Her bachelor’s thesis was titled: “Mass production and selection of Metarhizium anisopliae (Metsch.) strains for virulence against mango leafhopper, Idioscopus clypealis (Lethierry)” under Dr. Eliseo P. Cadapan. She received her M.S. in Entomology (Fall 2008 - Summer 2011) from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. The title of her Master’s Thesis was “Introduction and preliminary evaluation of a new aphid parasitoid, Binodoxys communis in Hawaii” under Dr. Russell H. Messing. She is now working on her Ph.D. under Dr. Bergh and Tracy Lesky. She is studying the host plant effects on brown marmorated stinkbug behavior and ecology in eastern orchard systems.

Jacqueline Brown: received her B.S. in Fisheries Science from Virginia Tech in 2010. After spending a year working as a technician for the tree of heaven and hemlock woolly adelgid biological control projects, she was brought on as graduate research assistant in Dr. Salom’s lab. Her research focuses on determining the phenology of pine bark adelgid, Pineus strobi, and its predator, Laricobius rubidus, in southern Virginia. She is being co-advised by Dr. Salom and Dr. Kok.

Fall 2012

Cameron Blank: received his degree in Environmental Science from SUNY ESF in 2009, and spent a couple years working for an archaeology company in Rochester NY. He is pursuing a master’s degree in the entomology program, and his major professors are Dr. Herbert and Dr. Brewster. He is planning to work on developing models for the spread of the Brown Marmorated Stinkbug, Halyomorpha halys.

Stephanie Blevins: an office services specialist in Pesticide Programs. She will be working part time on her MSLFS under the supervision of Dr. Weaver.

Mark Chivvis: received his Bachelors of Science degree from Iowa State University in entomology after he decided to return to school and continue his education. The first degree that he earned was an Associates degree in Urban Tree Management/Forestry which he obtained from Paul Smiths College in upstate New York. Before returning to school for his BS degree, he worked as a full-time arborist. Following 2 years of employment, he relocated from Concord, Massachusetts to Story City, Iowa when his wife, Gal, got accepted to the veterinary program at Iowa State University. She has since graduated with her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree and currently practices as a small animal emergency veterinarian. They now reside in Christiansburg, VA with their two dogs. At Virginia Tech, he is being co-advised by Dr. Salom and Dr. Kok while working on Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and three parasitic wasps as bio control and working towards obtaining his Masters’ degree.

Molly Darr: received her undergraduate degree in Wildlife Science at Virginia Tech. Under Dr. Salom and Dr. Kok, she is working towards her MSLFS in the Department of Entomology. Molly is investigating the predatory beetle Scymnus coniferarum as a potential biological control agent of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.

Katlin Mooneyham: received her undergraduate degree in spring 2011 from NC State University with a B.S. in Natural Resources and a minor in Forest Management. She is working on her M.S. in Entomology under Dr. Salom and Dr. Kok focusing on field releases and establishment of an introduced beetle, Laricobius osakensis, a predator of the hemlock woolly adelgid. She will be working in the lab studying factors impacting the emergence of this beetle.

Fan Yang: Received his Master’s degree (2011) under Dr. Sharakov and is now working on his Ph.D. under Dr. Paulson.
while being reared in the lab.

**Meredith Schrader:** received her MSLFS at Virginia Tech under Dr. Kuhar. She is now working on her Ph.D. under Dr. Pfeiffer.

**Jennifer Williams:** originally from Woodbridge, Virginia. She received her undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences from Virginia Tech. She is working on her Master’s in Entomology under Dr. Anderson in the Insect Toxicology and Pharmacology lab. Her research involves the interaction between in-hive pesticides and honey bees.

The department also wishes to welcome the following new MSLFS students: **Louis Nottingham** (Dr. Kuhar) and **Sara Scates** (Dr. Anderson).

**Students**

The following students have met the requirements for their degree:

**Amy Snyder** (Salom/Kok): successful defense of M.S. thesis “Assessing *Eucryptorrhynchus brandti* as a potential carrier for Verticillium albo-atrum from infected *Ailanthus altissima*” on May 20, 2011.


**David Owens** (Herbert): successful defense of M.S. thesis “Behavior of and Crop Injury Induced by Native and Exotic Stink Bugs in Mid-Atlantic Soybean” on April 23, 2012.


Jennifer Williams, an undergraduate student in Troy Anderson’s lab, placed first place with her undergraduate Poster entitled “Impact of Pesticides on Honey Bee Colonies in Virginia” at the National ESA meeting in Reno NV November 12-16, 2011.

Philip George (Advisor Sharakhov) was awarded a 5 month Chateaubriand Fellowship. He was at the Université d’ Clermont-Ferrand in France from September 2011-January 2012.

Meredith Cassell and Charles Schrader were married Saturday May 26, 2012 at Rockwood Manor in Dublin VA.

Brenna Traver received the Grayson Award for a Ph.D. student.

Maryam Kamali received the Kosztarab Award for 2012.

Brenna Traver and Ligia Maria Marques Cota Vieira received full membership in the Sigma Xi Scientific Society while Reina Koganemaru and Grace Mudholland (undergraduate student working with Brenna Traver and Rick Fell) received associate membership in Sigma Xi.

Tim Jordan has just finished another field season of visiting vineyards for his research with grape berry moth. In addition, he deployed traps for monitoring several invasive insects not known to occur in Virginia. After a successful bout with his qualifying exams, Tim anticipates wrapping up his degree over the coming year and is dreaming of a life after graduate school. His wife, Mary Kate, graduated from Virginia Tech this spring with a doctorate in Clinical Psychology, and she will continue her good work studying forgiveness with a post-doc at Wake Forest University. Tim’s beagle, Giacomo, is feisty as ever and enjoys swallowing bunny rabbits whole. Tim greatly appreciates that fact, for all of his beans were eaten in the garden! After a blast at Bugfest 2011, made possible by a great collaborative effort from so many in the department—Thanks everyone!!!—he looks forward to what the Alwood Society and the Entomology department come up with in 2012. Go team, go!”
Holly Gatton (M.S. Entomology, Class of 2005) and her husband, Brian Yohn, welcomed their second child, Kathryn Mae Gatton-Yohn (7 lbs., 2 oz., 20 inches), into the world on August 1, 2011 (photos attached). Katie has an older brother, Benji, who is three years old.

Susan Terwilliger and Rachel Parson attended an EPA-sponsored certification exam development workshop in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in May 2012 (photo attached). Pesticide safety educators from all over the country gathered to learn how to write and administer certification exams that are fair, sound, and good predictors of how pesticide applicators will perform on the job.

VTPP staff now includes two specialists, Whitney Mullins and Stephanie Blevins. Whitney is our IT specialist who does systems administration, webmaster duties, and online course support. She also plays on the joint entomology/forestry department softball team. Stephanie manages pesticide applicator course approval data, writes a consumer pesticide safety newsletter, and enhances VTPP program support with her experience and training in horticulture.

Whitney Mullins is a certified brand ambassador for Virginia Tech and is vice president of technology for Valleys of Virginia Chapter of American Society for Training and Development. She is an adjunct faculty member in information technology at New River Community College. Whitney also serves on the technology committee and as webmaster for Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity.

Whitney Mullins has two recent conference presentations:
- Mullins, W. Engaging collaborative learning through social media for digital natives. Presented as a concurrent session at the VCCS New Horizons Conference in Roanoke, Virginia.
- Cruz, E., & Mullins, W. The importance of SMART Board training for pre-service teachers. Presented as a concurrent session at the Virginia GOALS Conference in Charlottesville, Virginia.
Jess Samler (M.S. 2012) has accepted a position with Nichino America, Inc. as Product Development Representative responsible for managing field research in the Pacific Northwest; primary crops will be pome fruit, wheat, grapes, and potatoes.

David Owens (M.S. 2012) has been accepted into the Ph.D. Program at University of Florida and will be under the tutelage of Dr. Gregg Nuessly at the Everglades Research and Education Center working on sweet corn, sugar cane, leafy vegetable pests and potentially a tropical fruit pest.

Nancy Adamson (Ph.D. 2011) sends greetings from Greensboro, NC, where she’s working as a Pollinator Conservation Specialist with the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. She takes care of a perennial garden that’s part of the community garden where she has a vegetable plot. A highlight of the summer was seeing loggerhead turtles laying eggs in the middle of the night in Edisto Beach, SC. Though she misses the mountains and Blacksburg a LOT, she’s also been impressed with the artwork and downtown programs in Greensboro (see sculpture of one of NC’s endemic plants, the Venus flytrap), including “Fitness by the Fountain,” free exercise classes in a park downtown and concerts that move to different parks around the city each week. She hopes you’ll visit!

Serena Ciparis (Ph.D. 2011) and her husband Mike are the proud parents of a son. Matthew Kemp Brennan arrived on Friday 3/23 at 3:41 am. He was 7 lbs 5 oz.

Anna Wallingford (Ph.D. 2012) has accepted a 2 year USDA postdoctoral position and has moved to California.

Michael G. Fletcher (Ph.D. 1987) has been promoted to Vice President – Specialty Products, Research and Development with Y-TEX Corporation. Y-TEX is an animal health company located in Cody Wyoming. In other news, Mike’s son 2nd Lieutenant Benjamin Matthew Fletcher, born in Roanoke VA while Mike was attending Virginia Tech, was married on June 29th to Victoria Dixon of Ogden UT. Mike’s other son Nathan Aaron Fletcher graduated this spring from the Univ. of Wyoming with a B.S. degree in Chemical Engi- and has been accepted to the Colorado School of Mines for a Ph.D. program starting this Fall.

Dorothy and Bill Allen (Ph.D. 1973) recently (June 17) celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with a trip to the Yucatan Coast of Mexico. They had a great time.

Nicholas Anthony Mendez was born on February 22, 2012 to Rachael Perrott (M.S. 2003) and Edgar Mendez, who were married in 2009. He was more than three months premature and had a significant stay in the Fairfax NICU. Nicholas weighed 2 lbs 5 oz. and was 14 inches long at birth. Despite his rough start in the world, he is amazing his doctors everyday with his good health and happy demeanor. Currently, Nicholas weighs 12 pounds and has no significant health issues. He is expected to do big things and is a joyful, bubbly little boy! Rachael will return to work in October and continue to work as a supervisor for Fairfax County Code Enforcement.
Aaron Mullins grew up in Blacksburg (Don & June’s son). Growing up in an entomology environment, and influenced by Rick Fell’s courses, he majored in Biology with a Minor in Entomology from VA Tech in 1998. Aaron spent two years as a Peace Corps volunteer and two years as a seed quality chemist with Anheuser Bush (Fort Collins, CO). In 2003, he enrolled as a M.S. degree graduate student in Entomology at the University of Florida, while being located in New Orleans as an Entomologist with the New Orleans Mosquito & Termite Control Board (2002-2005). Unfortunately, he lost a major portion of his research data during Katrina hurricane. He completed his M.S. degree in Entomology (UFla) with a focus on the Formosan termite. In 2008, he joined Dr. Fell’s Research program as a Research Technician (2008-2010). In 2010, he assumed his current position as a Senior Biological Scientist with the Subterranean Termite Research Lab, University of Florida, located at the Fort Lauderdale Research & Education Center, Davie, FL. He currently provides lab support and assists 7 graduate and 3 Post Doctorate students as well as conducting independent research for Dr. Nan-Yao Su. For the past two years, he has been a member of a termite diversity survey and collection team that included UF faculty (Rudolf Scheffrahn, termite taxonomist), and members to Terminis Inc & BASF, Inc. The past two adventures took them to Ecuador in 2011 and Paraguay in 2012.

Laura Maxey has had an eventful year. On October 8, 2011, at her uncle’s farm in Newport, she married Josh her college sweetheart. Laura and Josh met in Chemistry their freshman year at college at Virginia Tech. Their first year of marriage has been exciting and they are finally settled in their King William home. Josie and Jasper love their home too and show off their very own fenced in yard to any visitors. In February, 2012, Laura became the Agricultural and Natural Resources Extension Agent for King William and King and Queen Counties. She is so blessed to have a dream job that is so fulfilling and allows her to give back to the Entomology Department that helped her become who she is today.
In January, our fiscal technician, **Robin Williams**, for the past seven years accepted another position in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. She left some big shoes to fill and after some complications, we now have a new fiscal technician **Mary Parks**. We wish Robin the best of luck and welcome Mary to the department.

**Dr. Thomas Payne** (Left: Former Ent. Dept. Head and currently Dean of College of Agriculture, food & Natural Resources, University of Missouri. Right: **Dr. Ren Wang**, Alumnus and currently Director, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, Washington DC.

**In the News...**

**Tom Kuhar, Chris Bergh** and **Kathy Kamminga** were interviewed on NPR radio show “Virginia Insight” on the brown marmorated stink bugs -June 27. They were also featured in VT News Daily E-mail July 14.

**Jake Bova** (Advisor: **Paulson**) was featured on the NPR evening news July 27 discussing trapping of mosquito vectors of the La Crosse virus that causes LaCrosse encephalitis.

**Eric Day** featured in the Roanoke Times July 28 issue as a regular host providing educational insect walks at Hahn’s Horticulture Garden.

**Dini Miller** was the keynote speaker at Texas Pest Management Association meeting in Arlington, TX. July 27/28.

**Tim McCoy** was interviewed on bedbugs for an Ohio newspaper article “Evil Bedbugs Won’t Leave Without a Fight” The newspaper was the Akron Beacon Journal Aug. 6, 2011.

On Oct. 14/15, 2011, the Burr Oak planted on the drillfield near Burrus Hall was dedicated to William Bradford Alwood, the first Virginia Tech entomologist.
On October 15, 2011, the Alwood Society held its first annual BUGFEST. Over 2000 people attended the festivity.

Igor Sharakhov and his student Philip George were featured in the Fralin Life Science Institute Newsletter 5/8/12.


Tom Kuhar was featured on the Plant Management Network News June 29 webcast on brown marmorated stink bug on tomatoes.

On the VT News website September 20, one of the features was a stinkbug article; http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2012/09/092012-cals-stinkbug.html.

The second annual BUGFEST will be held October 20, 2012 at The Inn at Virginia Tech.
Mary H. Ross, who pioneered genetics and behavioral research of the German cockroach, died July 6 in Blacksburg, Va. She was 87.

Ross, professor emerita of entomology in Virginia Tech’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, was internationally recognized for her research with the German cockroach, the most common of all cockroaches. For nearly 30 years she studied the insect in the same laboratory, where shelves were stacked high with containers of wiggling bugs. Her career at the university spanned 38 years.

“She was an extremely gentle woman who remained focused on her research,” said Professor Loke Kok, head of the Department of Entomology.

Ross’ extraordinary service was recognized in 1983, when she was presented Virginia Tech’s Alumni Award for Excellence in Research and Extension. She was likely one of few women in the Entomological Society of America during her early years.

“She was also one of the nicest ladies I’ve had the opportunity to meet,” said Thomas Kuhar, associate professor in entomology. He still has an insect-dissecting kit that Ross gave him when he was a graduate student.

Though some may cringe at working with cockroaches, they fascinated Ross as she delved deep into their genetics and behavior.

“I don’t mind working with a German cockroach,” Ross said in a 1987 interview with the Associated Press. “When you keep it in a jar and keep it clean, it’s not bad — a lot better than flies.”

Because she feared the possibility that an exterminator could accidentally wipe out her life’s work, she posted a sign outside the lab that reflected both her concern and politeness. It read, “Please do not spray insecticide in this lab. Thank you.”

“Dr. Ross was a wonderful mentor and adviser. She was intelligent, generous, and relentless in pursuing her goals,” said Professor Clifford Keil, who received his master’s, and Ph.D. from Virginia Tech. He is now the director of the Museum of Invertebrates at Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador.

Ross received her bachelor’s degree, master’s degree, and Ph.D. from Cornell University. She is survived by her children, Mary, Robert, and Nancy Ross.

“My mom was my best friend, I loved her dearly,” said Nancy Ross, head of the Department of Geosciences in the College of Science at Virginia Tech. “We were lucky to be able to share our professional experiences.” She said her mom was a quiet woman. “She wasn’t into a lot of chit chat, but behind her silence was a keen mind,” Nancy said. “When she spoke, people would listen.”

Nancy laughed when she remembered finding an essay that her mom wrote in grade school, which illustrated her life-long interest in all creatures great and small. The essay was titled, “From Birds to Skunks.”

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the James M. Grayson Scholarship Fund in the Department of Entomology at Virginia Tech. Donations may be mailed to: Virginia Tech Foundation, Virginia Tech, University Development (0336), Attention: Gift Accounting, Blacksburg, VA 24061.
Dear Entomology Alumni, Faculty, Staff, Students, and Friends:

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences can trace its roots back to the early years of our university. One of the key contributors during those early years was William Bradford Alwood. From 1888 to 1904, Professor Alwood served as vice-director of the newly established Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station and professor and head of the horticulture, mycology, and entomology department. Alwood was Virginia Tech’s first entomologist and Virginia’s first state entomologist. He was trained by USDA entomologists Charles Valentine Riley and L. O. Howard during his tenure as assistant USDA entomologist prior to coming to Blacksburg. Alwood was a pioneer station entomologist. For 16 years his dedication and sacrifices put the station and the yet to be established agricultural college on the road to success. In 1927, VPI President Julian Burruss wrote:

"The splendid service which you rendered this institution will ever be remembered and it is my hope that some day your name will be honored in some permanent manner, which will remain here for all time to let those who come after us know of your part in the making of this institution."

To honor Professor Alwood, we have established the Alwood Fund – dedicated to the preservation of the Alwood legacy, and the tradition of public outreach and student scholarship.

Today we are announcing the availability of a special art print for donors of $250 or more to the fund. This unique print is limited to donors and is not available to the public at this time. To follow is more information on this excellent project and how to give. You can also learn more about Professor Alwood legacy project by going to “http://alwoodhistory.org”.

Thank you,

Michael J. Weaver, Chair - W. B. Alwood Fund
Professor & Director - Virginia Tech Pesticide Programs

Check Donor Form (see attached information for details) – Alwood Fund 875250:

Name_______________________________________Phone#: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________
City: __________________________State: _______Zip: __________________________
Email: __________________________Class of ___Department: ____________________________
Check#: _______ Amount: ___________ Please contact me for a pledge: _______
In 1888, Professor William Bradford Alwood was appointed as the vice-director of the newly established Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station. Alwood was later promoted to professor and head of the department of horticulture, mycology and entomology. For 16 years, his dedication and sacrifices put the station and the yet to be established agricultural college on the road to success. Professor Alwood, one of Virginia Tech’s greatest scientists, is known as the father of Virginia horticulture and savior of its fruit industry.

To honor Professor Alwood, the Alwood Fund has been established. This fund is designated to preserve the Alwood legacy and to promote scholarship. The goals are:
* Build the Alwood Plaza- a memorial to Professor Alwood and the site of Horticultural Hall- the original station building. (Completed summer 2012).
* Preserve the Alwood Oak- planted by Professor Alwood in 1895. It was dedicated to him October 14, 2011.
* Preserve and share our station and college history and memorabilia.
* Support service, outreach, and scholarship in the Alwood tradition.

To accomplish these goals, your help is needed. For more details, please see

http://alwoodfund.org

Checks can be written to the “Virginia Tech Foundation” with a memo to the “Alwood Fund 875250”. Please mail to: Vernon B. Meacham, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 216-D Hutcheson Hall (0402), Blacksburg, VA 24061. phone: 540-231-3071. email: vmeacham@vt.edu.