Discovery Commons work recognized

Staff from Imaging and Archiving (in TLOS) were recognized for their work on the project to preserve the Marshall Plan through painstaking digital imaging work. The George C. Marshall Foundation thanked the Virginia Tech personnel on October 3. Paul Barron, director of library and archives at the foundation noted, “The results achieved by the Virginia Tech group exceeded our highest expectations.

The scans were completed without having to unbind the book or damage it in any way, and the completed volume is of excellent quality.” Staff members each received a commemorative coin and a letter of commendation from the foundation.


Supercomputing 13

Virginia Tech shared a booth with the University of Virginia at SC13, the International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, and Storage Analysis, in Denver. The display highlighted work done by Advanced Research Computing staff and by Network Infrastructure and Services staff to support high performance computing at the university. The conference was attended by over 15,000 people from more than 50 countries.

Srinivas Yarlanki, Brandon Sawyers, Mark Gardner, Alana Romanella, Justin Krometis, James McClure, Chris Snapp, and Nicholas Polys
INCITE award

The Office of Science in the Department of Energy awarded nearly six billion core hours on two of America’s fastest supercomputers dedicated to open science. The INCITE—Innovative and Novel Computational Impact on Theory and Experiment—program provides access to DOE’s computing facilities at Oak Ridge and Argonne national laboratories. James McClure, computational scientist in Advanced Research Computing, was part of the team with Cass Miller (Environmental Science) and Jan Prins (Computer Science) of the University of North Carolina. They were awarded 60 million processor hours at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Their project focuses on directional flows of fluids through porous materials at macro-, meso-, and microscales.

Focus on HR

With this edition of the ITELL, we introduce a new feature—“Focus on HR.” This section will provide news of general interest on changes in recruitment, employment, and benefits for employees. For more information on any item, you can follow the embedded links, reference the HR website (www.hr.vt.edu), or contact Jamie Boggs.

Hybrid Retirement Plan

Beginning January 1, 2014, the Virginia Retirement System will offer a new Hybrid Retirement Plan that combines features of a defined benefit plan with those of a defined contribution plan.

All classified and university staff hired on, or after, January 1, 2014, will be entered into the Hybrid Plan. Employees currently enrolled in VRS will have the option to opt-in to the new Hybrid Plan between January 1 and April 30 with the change effective beginning July 1, 2014.

A Plan Comparison Guide provides a quick look at some of the plans.

Register for the “Hybrid Retirement Plan Opt-In Process” webinar, December 19, 4-5 p.m.

Transition from ING to ICMA-RC for 457(b) plan

Employees who are taking advantage of Virginia’s 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan are encouraged to register online for and attend an informational meeting about the transition to ICMA-RC as record-keeper.

Performance planning

The performance planning process for the 2013-14 cycle should be fully completed by January 17. More information about performance planning is available.

Virginia Tech closed for an additional day, December 23

Employees must use appropriate leave for remainder of winter break. See winter break.

Applicant dispositions in PeopleAdmin

Effective October 1, 2013, the procedures for reporting on the final disposition of job applicants within PeopleAdmin have changed. See the Disposition Document.