Boys and Girls Club

Rob Dickert, Computer-Integrated Learning Spaces in Technology-enhanced Learning and Online Strategies, was instrumental in a project supported by President Emeritus Steger that saw computers and connectivity established for a new Boys and Girls Club location in Scottsville, Virginia. The learning space was equipped with fifteen new computers, a color laser printer, a large format display system, and other components all connected to a high-speed network. The club’s access to technology is on par with the learning spaces on the Blacksburg VT campus. Rob put in extended hours in consulting on technology for the facility, and more hours in helping get it installed.

At the James River Club grand opening on October 4, Dickert was rewarded with delighted appreciation from the children of the club and received thanks from Senator Tim Kaine and from Virginia Tech President Emeritus Charles Steger. As with other outreach projects of Information Technology, this effort helps Virginia Tech advance social and community development, foster economic competitiveness, and improve the quality of life through outreach and engagement.

Boys and Girls Clubs of America is a non-profit organization providing education and development programs for more than 4 million children in some 4,000 facilities through the country. The James River Club opened on October 4, 2014, in Scottsville Virginia to serve the children of Albemarle, Buckingham, and Fluvanna counties.
Focus on HR

The timetable for merit increases is below:

November 25—University staff and faculty merit increases will be effective.

December 16—University staff and faculty merit increases appear in employee paychecks.

Faculty and information technology

The Educause Center for Analysis and Research has published a report on what faculty expect from information technology at their institutions. More than 17,000 faculty members were surveyed in 13 countries.

The top expectation was assistance in improving student learning outcomes. Interest in early alert systems and intervention notifications are two ways that student learning and course performance can be flagged as in need of guidance as to how to improve outcomes.

Other topics with broad support include a desire to be better able to utilize the functions of the learning management system and to be better able to integrate technology with instruction.

The full report is available from Educause (www.educause.edu/library/resources/2014-student-and-faculty-technology-research-studies). Note that an Educause login is required. Once registered, VT credentials may be used through the federated InCommon login.

Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign

The 2014 CVC campaign is here! Virginia Tech’s 2014 campaign goal is $325,000. IT’s Target Goal for 2014 is $15,899. The on-line giving page is available of employees that are eligible for payroll deduction—www.cvc.hr.vt.edu/donate/index.html. The VT CVC website www.cvc.hr.vt.edu has brochures, charity lists, FAQ’s, and a wealth of information. Watch for the fall’s activities—

- **Halloween Bake Sale: Thursday, October 30** in the AIB atrium and in Torgersen Hall, with a raffle of a Hokies bracelet and earrings
- **Three Bi-Weekly Raffles:** Beginning on Monday, November 3 we will be selling raffle tickets. The raffles will continue every other week through December 12th
- **Chili Cook-Off:** Back by popular demand! The Annual Chili Cook-off is scheduled for **Thursday, December 4th** from 11:30–1:30 in the AIB atrium area.

The 2014 IT CVC representatives are Kalpana Kethineedi, Jennifer Crawford, Kandice Barnett, Angel Carter, Danielle Thacker, and Debbie Fulton