Collaborative Research at the Center

Dr. Brian Pusser has been working for the past three years with colleagues at Curry and graduate students in the Center for the Study of Higher Education under a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan foundation to study the contemporary competitive environment for higher education institutions around the world. A specific emphasis of this research project has been the rise of for-profit, degree-granting higher education providers in the United States and abroad. In collaboration with Curry faculty member Dr. Sarah Turner and Curry School Dean David Breneman, Dr. Pusser has addressed the ways in which public and private nonprofit universities are adapting to demands from the wider political economy for efficiency, productivity and entrepreneurial behavior.

Through a combination of site visits, interviews and the use of national postsecondary data sets, Dr. Pusser has studied the many ways in which increased competition and changes in the traditional resource bases for postsecondary institutions have shaped the contemporary organization and governance of higher education. These findings, along with the work of Dean Breneman, Dr. Turner, and a number of national and international colleagues, will be brought together in an edited volume to be published by SUNY Press.

The Center Aids in the Development of a New Encyclopedia for Higher Education

A new two volume encyclopedia entitled, *Higher Education in the United States: An Encyclopedia*, edited by J. Forest and K. Kinser and published by ABC-CLIO, Inc., Santa Barbara, California, includes many contributions from the Center. Dr. Brian Pusser along with Center students Brian Prescott, William Haarlow, and Dudley Doane supplied information to the encyclopedia on the topics of for-profit institutions and state coordination. The two volumes are comprehensive and serve as a valuable resource for those interested in the study of higher education.

Center Hosts Fall Picnic

In the late afternoon on August 27th, Center faculty and returning students welcomed the new students for 2002-2003. Center faculty and students brought their families and gathered at Pen Park to usher in the new academic year. A delicious assortment of food and drink was provided by faculty members and returning students. Rhonda Bryant completed her duties as Center Graduate Assistant by organizing the event.
Center Begins the Year Welcoming Ten New Students

Laurie Casteen, a part-time first-year student in the Center, works full-time at the University in the Student Affairs Division as the Assistant Director of Orientation and New Student Programs. Her undergraduate degree is in French Language and Literature from Bates College, and her M.Ed. is from UVA. She lives in Earlysville with her husband and daughter.

Kristine Dahm arrives from Randolph-Macon Woman’s College, where she was the Director of Activities and Leadership. She also worked in Student Affairs at Fairleigh Dickinson University. Kristine earned a BA in History and MA in College Student Personnel from Bowling Green State University.

Robyn Beck Dietter comes to the Center from Kailua, HI, where she spent two years teaching. Prior to that she worked in Special Sales for Harcourt Publishers in San Diego. She will be interning this year at Alderman Library in Instructional Technology. Robyn received her BA in English from Emory & Henry College and her MS from Radford University in Corporate and Professional Communications.

Alyson Kienle, graduate assistant in the Center this year, most recently worked as a Residential Life Coordinator in the Office of Housing and Residential Life at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA. She also received her BA in Biology and MSED with a concentration in higher education and student affairs from Bucknell University.

Carolyn Livingston is studying part-time as she works full time as an Admissions Counselor in the Office of Admissions at UVA, where she has been employed since November 1999. She earned a BS in Applied Mathematics, NC State University, and a M.Ed. in Counselor Education, University of Virginia. She is a Native of North Augusta, SC and lives with her husband, Ricky, in Charlottesville.

Nicole Loyd joins the center from Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA where she was the Assistant Director of Housing and Residential Life. While at Bucknell she also served as the Assistant Director for Campus Programs in the Office of Alumni, Parents and Volunteers. She earned her BSED and MSED from Bucknell. Nicole will be working with Dr. Brian Pusser this year as a research assistant.

Tim Merrill spent seven years in the financial services industry working for firms in Pittsburgh, PA and Denver, CO before deciding to pursue a professional career in higher education at GWU. He is interning for the Associate Dean at the School of Nursing this year. Tim earned a BA from Miami University and a MA from The George Washington University.

Catrina Goodwin Murphy, originally from Columbia, SC, spent six years at Wake Forest University School of Medicine where she held several positions including Director of the Office of Minority Affairs. This year she is an intern in the School of Nursing in the Dean’s Office. She moved to Charlottesville with her husband and 16 month old son. She has an AB in Sociology from Duke University and a MA in Elementary Education from Appalachian State University.

Greg Nayor will be studying part-time this year as he continues his work as Coordinator of Residence Life at Lynchburg College in Lynchburg, VA. where he also directs the First Year Explorations program. He received both his BA in History and Education, and M.Ed. from the State University of New York at Potsdam.

David Schein has worked as an Attorney, Mediator and Arbitrator concentrating on all aspects of employment law, labor law and human resources administration. He is Co-founder of Claremont Management Group, Inc., which provides human resources training and consulting. Dave has an internship teaching Business Ethics at McIntire. He earned a BA, University of Pennsylvania; MBA, University of Virginia; and JD, University of Houston.
Center Alumni

David Allen (Ph.D. 1982) has been promoted to full Colonel in the Army Reserves and is on “standby” for October deployment to Afghanistan. He, Joan and Melissa are living at 4430 Coddle Creek Rd., Concord, NC 28027. He is an Education Services Specialist at the Charlotte Military Entrance Processing Station.

Roy W. Baker (Ed.D. 1991) has accepted the position of Vice President and Dean of Students at Catawba College in Salisbury, NC.

Tatia Daniels Granger (Ph.D. 1999) has been appointed Vice President for Enrollment Management at Bennett College in Greensboro, NC. Tatia expressed delight at working with Bennett President Johnnetta Cole as they assume the challenges of college refocus and rebuilding.

William N. Haarlow (Ph.D. 2000) has been appointed Director of College Admission Relations at Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, at Northwestern University. Bill and Laurel “feel at home” in the Chicago area, and Bill can be reached at wnhaarlow@northwestern.edu

Timothy Millard (Ed.D. 1995) has accepted the position of Director of Institutional Research and Planning at Brooms Community College in Binghamton, NY. He was previously Academic Dean at Practical Bible College in Binghamton, NY.

E. Clorisa Phillips (Ph.D. 1997) has accepted the position of Associate Provost for Institutional Advancement at the University of Virginia.

Denisha Sanders (Ph.D. 1997) has been named the Director of Career Services for The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

Kerstin M. Soderlund (Ph.D. 1998) has accepted the position of Director of the Hansen Student Center & Student Leadership Development at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, CT.

Steven Titus (Ph.D. 1998) has been named President of Midland Lutheran College in Fremont, NE. He will assume the office on Oct. 14 and, with Sarah, looks forward to the challenges facing the 1000 student Lutheran institution. Steve succeeds Dr. Jennifer Braaten, who just assumed the presidency of Ferrum College in Virginia.

Dr. Tim Rose, Center Alumnus, To Kick Off Brown Bag Series

Dr. Rose, the Chief Executive Officer of the University of Virginia Foundation, is scheduled to give a presentation on October 1st, to Center students and faculty entitled, “The University of Virginia Foundation: Real Estate Management and Development.” Dr. Rose graduated from the Center in 1993 and formerly served as an assistant vice president at UVA after holding teaching positions at two other universities and working in student affairs early in his career.
Center Students

Leanna Blevins participated in SCHEV’s Quality and Access Workgroup during the summer. The purpose of the workgroup was to develop implementation strategies for the 2003 Systemwide Strategic Plan for Virginia Higher Education.

Chris Foley has been invited to serve a one-year term as Student Representative to the Board of Directors for the Curry School Education Foundation. He guest lectured in the “Philanthropy and Fundraising in Higher Education,” seminar this summer, focusing on the “Coming of Age of Philanthropic Research,” and finally, he was recognized for his IPEDS data analysis in contributing to Drs. Chronister and Baldwin’s chapter on “What Happened to the Tenure Track?”

Tom Galbraith (ABD) has accepted the position of Sports Information Director at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa. Galbraith serves as the public/media relations liaison and marketing director for the Duhawk athletics department and its 21 varsity sports programs.

Cameron Howell will present a paper entitled “The Racial Composition of the Legacy Pool: Timing the Transformation to Equality” at the November meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management. Cameron co-authored the paper with Dr. Sarah Turner, Assistant Professor of Education and Economics at UVA.


Cathy Smalley Pales successfully defended her dissertation proposal on August 30th. The title of her proposal is “Undergraduate Student Judicial Systems in Colleges and Universities: Ensuring Both Legal and Educational Components.”

Last semester, Kelli Palmer was a Consultant at Sweet Briar for its diversity self study and strategic planning process under the supervision of Dr. Bob Covert of the Curry School of Education. In July, she consulted with the Civil Rights Project presenting a session for its collegiate program Civil Rights Summer.

Brian Prescott and Dr. Brian Pusser contributed an entry to Higher Education in the United States: An Encyclopedia, edited by J. Forest and K. Kinser. Their topic was “State Coordinating Structures in Higher Education.”
Center Students (Continued)

Dave Schein was one of the speakers for the Privacy Panel at the Mid-Atlantic Health Initiative (“MAHI”) HIPAA conference in Virginia Beach in September. MAHI is a non-profit regional organization formed to help healthcare providers, insurers and service companies learn about the various aspects of HIPAA, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. The UVA Health System is an active participant in MAHI.

Matha Thornton successfully defended her dissertation proposal on September 23rd, titled “A Gender Comparison of Factors Influencing Students’ Perceptions of the Educational Climate in a University School of Engineering and Applied Science.”

Center Faculty


Dr. Alton Taylor gave a presentation entitled, “Criteria for Designing and Evaluating Institutional Research Websites,” with Libby Morris and Larry Jones from the University of Georgia, at The European Association for Institutional Research Annual Forum in Prague, Czech Republic on September 11, 2002. He was also involved in a panel presentation with Cameron L. Fincher from the University of Georgia, and Marvin W. Peterson from the University of Michigan at The 42nd Annual Forum of the Association for Institutional Research in Toronto, Canada from June 2-5, 2002. Additionally, Dr. Taylor has written an article with Leanna Blevins entitled, “Strategic and Long-Range Planning,” appearing in the Encyclopedia of Education, Second Edition, published by Macmillan Reference, N.Y., 2002.

The Center’s Electronic Resources

The Center has a new homepage! Information about center activities, faculty, alumni, and the most recent additions of The Quarterly along with links to educational resources are easily accessible. Those browsing the World Wide Web can access the Center’s homepage at http://curry.edschool.virginia.edu/highered/. The Center’s list-serve (he-list@virginia.edu) is available for use by students, faculty, and alumni. There is also a separate list-serve for the Center’s Internship Program (he-intern@virginia.edu).
The Quarterly encourages Center alumni, students, and faculty to submit information for future issues. Forward your items of interest to Alyson Kienle in the Center at (434-924-7782)/ highered@virginia.edu. Also, contact us with any changes in address or position so we can keep the Center’s records up-to-date.

“Truth and reason are eternal. They have prevailed. And they will eternally prevail; however, in times and places they may be overborne for a while by violence, military, civil, or ecclesiastical.”

To Rev. Samuel Knox, 1810. ME 12.360