Elon University Recognizes Kelli Palmer
Source: Elon University

Kelli Palmer received the 2007 Young Alumna of the Year Award from Elon University in recognition of her contributions to higher education and her community. After graduating from Elon in 1998 with a degree in elementary education, Palmer later earned a master’s degree in counselor education from Wake Forest University and a doctorate in higher education administration from the University of Virginia. She serves today as assistant to the president of the University of Virginia.

In that position, Palmer coordinates the Virginia Voyages travel program, works as a specialist on diversity and equity issues, supervises administrative searches, and is director of internal and external communication for the president. Palmer regularly attends education conferences and workshops and shares her knowledge with students and colleagues through classroom visits and presentations at professional seminars on subjects such as understanding diversity and career networking.

Devoted to serving her community, Kelli participated in a Hurricane Katrina relief trip and served as a mentor for other young women of color through her affiliation as an undergraduate and a graduate member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. She also is a founding contributor to the African-American Alumni Scholarship, which assists deserving African-American students at Elon.

College Knowledge of 9th & 11th Grade Students

Heather Rowan-Kenyon, assistant professor at the Curry School of Education, co-presented “College Knowledge of 9th and 11th Grade Students: Variation by School and State Context” at the 2007 Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) conference in Louisville, Kentucky, with Angela Bell and Laura Perna.

While college enrollment rates have increased over the last 40 years, gaps still exist across groups, especially high school graduates whose parents have not attended college, those with low incomes, and African-American and Latino students. One source of differences across groups in college-related outcomes is knowledge about college and financial aid. This lack of knowledge is typically most pronounced among Latino and Black students and parents, as well as low-income parents.

This paper is part of a larger study, the College Access Policies Project (CAPP), that Rowan-Kenyon was a part of during her doctoral and post-doctoral work at the University of Maryland. Along with co-PIs Laura Perna and Scott Thomas, she was part of a team that conducted case studies of 15 high schools—3 each in California, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. For more information, contact Heather Rowan-Kenyon, htr4z@cms.mail.virginia.edu.
Center Welcomes New Students

Kate Melton (SAPHE) earned a bachelor’s degree in American studies from the College of William and Mary in 2001. After graduation, she worked as a teacher and a museum educator. In addition to being a part-time graduate student, Kate develops curriculum plans for CaseNEX, a Charlottesville-based company.

Holly Deering (SAPHE) received a bachelor’s degree in speech communication from James Madison University in May 2002. Her professional experience includes working in the program management office at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory and as an assistant contracts administrator for an environmental consulting firm. Holly is currently the graduate assistant for the Center for Alcohol and Substance Education.

Jackie Lambertsen (SAPHE) earned a bachelor’s degree from East Carolina University in 2005. After graduation, she worked for Alpha Phi International Fraternity as a leadership consultant and as a marketing coordinator in Alexandria, Virginia. Jackie is an intern in the Office of Undergraduate Admission.

Kate Mason (SAPHE) graduated from Gettysburg College in May, 2005 with a double major in psychology and management. After graduation, she moved to Charlottesville where she worked for the CFA Institute as a testing coordinator. Currently, Kate is an intern for University Career Services.

Tara McKnight (SAPHE) earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Virginia and is currently the captain of the Cavalier basketball team. An outstanding student-athlete, she received the Bob Williams Award for outstanding athletic and academic performance. In addition to being a student-athlete, Tara also interns in University Career Services.

Katherine Michalik (SAPHE) earned a bachelor's degree in history and in psychology from the University of Tennessee in 2007. She moved to Charlottesville with her husband, Joe, to pursue her master’s degree.

Brian Nangle (SAPHE) received a bachelor’s degree in computer science from Colgate University in 2003. After graduating, he taught study-skills courses to high school students in Miami, Orlando, Grand Cayman, and Jamaica. After not recovering from the travel bug, he then moved to Seattle, Washington, where he worked for two years with the Washington Academy of Family Physicians as the information technology coordinator.

Allyson Ray (SAPHE) earned a bachelor’s degree from Mary Baldwin College. Before beginning her graduate work at the University of Virginia, she worked in the airline industry. Allyson currently interns at Piedmont Virginia Community College.

Ed Warwick (SAPHE) graduated Summa Cum Laude from Radford University in December 2006, earning his bachelor’s degree in elementary education. Warwick interns with University Programming in the Office of the Dean of Students.

Penny Cabaniss (PhD) earned a bachelor’s degree in German language and literature from the University of Virginia and received her master’s in business administration from the University of Richmond. Before assuming her current position in the Office of State Governmental Relations at UVa, she worked for twelve years in various positions at the Virginia House of Delegates.

Mary Hall (PhD) earned a bachelor’s degree in history education and a master’s degree in administration and supervision from Virginia Commonwealth University. She also worked for VCU in fiscal administration for several years. Mary is currently working full-time in academic and student affairs with the Molecular Cell and Developmental Biology doctoral program at UVa.

Marcus Ingram (PhD) earned a bachelor’s degree in finance and a master’s degree in divinity from Wake Forest University. Preceding the transition to Charlottesville, he served as assistant university chaplain at Wake Forest University. An ordained minister in the Christian Church/Disciples of Christ, Ingram's research interests include identity formation, character education, and access.

(See NEW STUDENTS, 3)
New PhD Students (From NEW STUDENTS, 2)

Todd Parks (PhD) earned a bachelor’s degree in human services and sociology from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a master’s degree in student personnel services from the University of South Carolina. Before attending UVa, he worked in both academic affairs and student affairs at the University of Florida, the University of Iowa, and the University of San Francisco. His research interests include team effectiveness, management, and supervision.

Brad Perl (PhD) earned a bachelor's degree in history and sociology from The University of Arizona in 2002 and a master's degree in education policy from the University of Virginia in 2003. Prior to returning to UVa this fall, Brad worked at the State University of New York College at Oswego in academic support services.

Josh Pretlow (PhD) earned a bachelor’s degree in government from the University of Virginia in 1999 and a master’s degree in teaching from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2005. Prior to returning to UVa, Josh taught history and world geography at Clarke County High School. His research interests include dual credit, student transition issues, and higher education policy.

Brian Reed (PhD) earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Berea College and a master’s degree in higher education from Appalachian State University. Prior to doctoral work, Brian spent six years in residence life and judicial affairs at Southern Methodist University, Vanderbilt University, and Dartmouth College. Brian's professional interests include the study of gender and masculinities, small independent colleges, and the working-class student experience. Brian enjoys fly-fishing and spirited debates about higher learning.

Jesse Rine (PhD) earned a bachelor’s degree in Christian thought from Grove City College and a master’s degree in teaching at Washington University in St. Louis. Prior to coming to the University of Virginia, he taught Latin at the middle- and high-school levels. His interests include Christian higher education and institutional assessment.

Student Happenings

Mary Hall (PhD) was elected to the American College Personnel Association directorate for the Commission for Graduate and Professional School Educators.

Janelle Perron Jennings (PhD) won the Southern Association for College Student Affairs research award. She accepted the award at the annual SACSA conference and will submit an article based on her research to the College Student Affairs Journal in 2008. She also co-chaired the Virginia College Personnel Association's inaugural Job Search Boot Camp to help graduate students and new professionals hone their job-search and interview skills.

Brian Reed (PhD) will present at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators’ annual conference. As a panel member, he will discuss men and multiple masculine identities, specifically the formation of working-class masculinity in a post-industrial economy.

Barbara Schmertz (PhD) and will co-present “Starting from Ground Zero: Constraints and Experiences of Adult Women Returning to College” with Nancy Deutsch, assistant professor in the Curry of School of Education, at the American Educational Research Association in March, 2008.

Announcements

Are you interested in receiving e-mails about job openings and professional development opportunities? If so, the Center for the Study of Higher Education (CSHE) has new mailing list specifically for you. To be added to the list, please email Murielle Kervizic, the CSHE Intern, at murielle@virginia.edu.
Alumni News

**Ronda Bryant** (PhD 2005) was named assistant vice president for student development at Mount Olive College in Mount Olive, North Carolina.

**Theresa Carroll** (PhD 2000) co-authored a book chapter, “Professional Development through Professional Engagement.” The chapter is published in *The Mid-level Manager in Student Affairs*, edited by Bob Ackerman.

**Jeff Doyle** (PhD 2001) wrote “Using Facebook Networks to Describe Colleges and Universities.” The article is in the *Southeastern Association of Housing Officers Report*.

**Chris Foley** (PhD 2003) is director of a new major-gift program that supports co-curricular activities at the University of Pennsylvania. Previously, Chris was the associate director of development for the Penn libraries.

**Dan Friedman** (PhD 2004) has accepted a position as a tenure-track faculty member in higher education at Appalachian State University. He will teach courses on finance, curriculum in higher education, organization and administration, American higher education, and leadership in higher education.

**Dennis Gregory** (EdD 1987) published *Current Issues in Academic Misconduct and Intellectual Property*. He also coauthored “The Influence of the Clery Act and Crime Reporting on Student Affairs Practice and Crime on Virginia's College and University Campuses.” In addition, he presented “An Effective Assessment Tool within a Community of Scholars,” “The Basics of Legal Issues Impacting Student Affairs: What’s New this Fall?,” and “Writing for Publication: What Prospective Writers Need to Know” at the Southern Association of College Student Affairs annual conference. Dennis was also selected as one of five “fellows” for the semi-annual University of Houston College of Law Higher Education Roundtable.

**Steve Hunt** (PhD 1979) was recently honored by the State Department for his services in preparing for the Moscow G8 Summit in 2006. He currently serves as a senior advisor to the National Center for Education Statistics. Steve is also a senior international affairs specialist at the Department of Education and manages the U.S. Network for Education Information. Steve and his wife Edeltraut live in Bethesda, MD.

**Alyson Kienle** (PhD 2005) was appointed an adjunct faculty member at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where she teaches the history of American higher education. Alyson is also the associate dean for campus life at Guilford College in Greensboro, but she will step down from this position in January to follow her new husband, Michael Munn, to his next assignment with the U.S. Department of Justice.

**Cheryl Lindeman** (EdD 1984) is now the executive director of the National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Mathematics, Science and Technology. Previously, Cheryl served as president and assistant to the president.


**Shizuka Modica** (PhD 2007) accepted a position a senior research assistant in the Batten Institute at the Darden School of Business. She will work with Ed Ness, a renowned researcher in corporate organic growth.

(See CENTER ALUMNI, 5)

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You can support the CSHE with your earmarked gift in care of the Curry Foundation.

For more information, please contact Deborah Donnelly, (434) 924-0848, or visit the campaign web site, http://campaign.virginia.edu/curry.
More Alumni News (From CENTER ALUMNI, 4)

John Noftsinger (EdD 1997) was promoted to vice provost of research and public service at James Madison University. He will retain oversight of research development, sponsored programs, economic development, technology transfer, congressional and federal relations, strategic alliances like SRI, and some centers and institutes. Additionally, in his new role he will assume responsibility for the Center for Assessment and Research Studies and Outreach Programs, the Mine Action Information Center, the International Beliefs and Values Institute (IBAVI), and the James Madison Center.

Kathy Soule (PhD 1997) is currently sailing around the world as the librarian for the Semester at Sea program, now hosted by the University of Virginia. She has visited ten countries in the last three months. After her voyage, she will return to her position as the coordinator for outreach and public service for the Brown Science & Engineering Library at the University of Virginia.

Center Faculty


Heather Rowan-Kenyon, assistant professor, co-authored “Understanding Sense of Belonging among First-Year Undergraduates from Different Racial/Ethnic Groups” in the Journal of College Student Development. She published “Predictors of Delayed College Enrollment and the Impact of Socioeconomic Status” in the Journal of Higher Education. Heather also co-presented “College Knowledge of 9th and 11th Grade Students: Variation by School and State Context” at the Association for the Student of Higher Education Conference. Heather was also elected to the directorate for the ACPA Commission on Professional Preparation.

Margaret (Peg) Miller, professor, helped the Miller Center and the Association of Governing Boards plan a conference on higher education for governors and higher education policy leaders. She also chaired a Curry committee on reinventing the EdD and will represent Curry in the Carnegie Project on the EdD. She participated in the TIAA/CREF annual invitational meeting for higher education leaders and keynoted the meetings of Virginia’s assessment officers and institutional researchers. She is currently involved in advising the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education on the future of Measuring Up.

Brian Pusser, associate professor, was appointed to the editorial board of the Review of Higher Education.

Student Spotlight

Troy Buer, a doctoral student in the Curry School of Education, presented “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde in the Academy: The Hybrid Identity of Intercollegiate Athletics Departments” at the 2007 Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) conference in Louisville, Kentucky

Buer explored the conflict between the business interests of college athletics and the educational objectives of higher education. The identity framework, he argued, is useful for understanding the dual identities of athletic departments and the conflicts that can emerge within hybrid organizations. Buer suggested that athletic departments are business-education hybrids resulting from the merger of the business of big-time college sports and the university sponsorship of amateur athletics. As leaders of hybrid-identity organizations, athletic directors must leverage these dual identities to meet the competing demands of their stakeholders.

For more information, contact Troy Buer, tsbuer@virginia.edu.
The Quarterly
The Newsletter of the Center for the Study of Higher Education
Todd Parks, Editor
Dr. Margaret Miller, Advisor

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The Quarterly is published three times a year
and encourages Center alumni, students and faculty to
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Help us keep the Center’s records up-to-date: contact us with any changes in address or position.