Bowen Presents Lectures on Equity and Access

William Bowen, President of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, presented a series of three lectures in April as the 2004 Thomas Jefferson Foundation Distinguished Lecturer. In the lectures, titled “Equity and Excellence in American Higher Education,” Bowen reported on recent work from the Mellon Foundation on the socio-economic status of students at 19 selective colleges and universities. The research builds on Bowen’s previous work on access and equity.

Bowen’s study shows that students from lower socio-economic backgrounds are at a competitive disadvantage in need-blind admissions processes. In his conclusion, Bowen suggested “class based affirmative action,” similar to the preferences given to legacy applicants, although he was careful to add that this should not replace the consideration of race.

Bowen’s lectures were part of the University-wide lecture series, supported by the Thomas Jefferson Foundation. The even kicked off a year of activities celebrating the U.Va. Curry School of Education’s 2004-05 Centennial.

Transcripts of the lectures are available at the Mellon Foundation website: http://www.mellon.org/MellonAnnouncements.htm.

Center Students Graduate in Spring 2004

Seven Center students graduated in May after successfully defending dissertations: Leanna Blevins, “Rural Students’ Baccalaureate Degree Attainment at Public Colleges in Virginia,” (Annette Gibbs, advisor); Dan Friedman, “University Administrators’ Perceptions of their Teaching Roles,” (Annette Gibbs, advisor); Patricia W. Neely, “A Cost Comparison of Various Methods of Delivering Courses,” (Brian Pusser, advisor); Brian Prescott, “Grant Aid as Entitlement: Institutional Responses to Virginia’s Tuition Assistance Grant,” (Sarah Turner, advisor); and Kathryn M. Pumphrey, “Characteristics That Motivate Alumnae Giving at a Research I Public University,” (Annette Gibbs, advisor).
Student Awards and Recognitions

Three Center students received Curry School of Education Foundation Awards at the Education Awards Day Ceremony held on April 23, 2004.

Tim Merrill received the 2004 Annette Gibbs Research/Publication Award, presented to a student in the Center for the Study of Higher Education who displays an early publication record. Tim is completing his second year in the Center. Robyn Beck Dietter was the 2004 recipient of the Johnnie E. Merritt Graduate Fellowship, which honors student leadership contributions. She is completing her second year in the Center, and this fellowship will support her dissertation research. Kristine Dahm was the recipient of the Jay L. Chronister Student Award, established by former students and advisees of Dr. Chronister. The award funds professional development opportunities for current students. Kristine is completing her second year in the Center.

The Raven Society initiated Center students Laurie Casteen and Carolyn Livingston this spring. The Raven Society is the oldest and most prestigious honorary society at the University. Founded in 1904, the Raven Society has sought over the years to honor and promote superior academic and extracurricular achievement. This organization also sponsors scholarships and fellowships in recognition of academic and scholarly excellence.

In April, Omicron Delta Kappa initiated new members including two higher education students: Nicole Loyd and Carolyn Livingston. Omicron Delta Kappa is a national leadership honor society for college students, faculty, staff, administrators, and alumni that recognizes and encourages superior scholarship, leadership, and exemplary character.

2004-2005 Center Student Internship Placements

Danny Steeper
Dean of Students Office
Tim Merrill
Development
Robyn Dietter
Development, Women’s Leadership and Philanthropy
Nicole Loyd
Federal Executive Institute
Justin Thompson
Management and Budget
Carolyn Livingston
President’s Office
Sean Jenkins
School of Commerce
Marc Shook
School of Nursing
Mark DeNoble
School of Nursing
Alexis Andres
Orientation & New Student Programs
Blair Brown
Summer Session Office
Alyson Kienle
Development Publications & Communication
Christian Steinmetz
University Relations
Andrea Spreter
School of Continuing & Professional Studies
John Donnelly
Asst. to Dean of Instruction, Germanna Community College
Grag Nayor
Student Affairs, Lynchburg College
Center News

Internship Appreciation Luncheon

On Friday, April 23, 2004, the Annual Internship Luncheon was held to honor internship supervisors for their support of, and contributions to, the educational experiences of Center students. The internship supervisors joined Center interns and the higher education faculty at the Boar's Head Inn for the appreciation luncheon.

Center Brown Bag Tradition Continues

Jane Urbaska, Executive Director of the Curry School Foundation presented “Leaving Your Thumbprint: Conversations About Development” to students and faculty at the Center’s final Brown Bag Luncheon of the academic year. Urbaska, who joined the University of Virginia in November, 2003, shared her thoughts on successful relationship-building as well as future plans for the expansion and construction of a new Ruffner Hall.

On January 24, Dr. Bill Fornadel and Dr. Donna Klepper, both of the University of Virginia’s School of Continuing and Professional Studies, presented “Current Practices and Future Trends in Distance Education.” Dr. Klepper, Director of the Charlottesville Center of the School of Continuing Education & Professional Studies, and Dr. Fornadel, Director of the University Center at the University of Virginia’s School of Continuing and Professional Studies, are alumni of the Center for the Study of Higher Education.

Alumni News

David Allen (Ph.D., 1982) has been named Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Programs and Planning at Fayetteville State University (N.C.). He is also the new Brigade Commander for the Army Reserves 108th Division, Spartanburg, S.C.

Sarah Collie (Ph.D., 2002) and Alton Taylor (Center, Professor Emeritus) published an article titled, “Improving Teaching Quality and the Learning Organization” in Tertiary Education and Management, Vol. 10, No. 2 (June 2004), the journal of the European Association for Institutional Research.
Center Students

Leanna Blevins was the recipient of a Doris Buffet Fellowship from the Center of Children, Families, and the Law. The fellowship monies will allow her to continue her dissertation research on rural students as well as share and apply her findings in rural Virginia.

Ronda Bryant and Leanna Blevins participated as panelists for discussions and presented findings from their dissertations-in-progress on rural and first generation college students at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators and Association of College Personnel Administrators conferences in April.

Robyn Beck Dietter was elected as a Curry School representative on the Honor Committee and will chair the Faculty Advisory Committee, which was created to facilitate communication and interaction between the faculty and Committee members. Robyn also serves as President of UVa’s chapter of Phi Delta Kappa.


Alyson Kienle was elected as a Curry School representative on the University Judiciary Committee for the 2004-2005 academic year.

Chris Loss received a 2004 Curry School Dissertation Grant.

Kelli Palmer (with A. Davis and M. Smith) presented “Commissioned to Improve Diversity and Equity” at the March Conference on the Scholarship of Diversity, sponsored by Virginia Tech in Blacksburg.

Danny Steeper was elected as the student representative to the Curry Faculty Council for the 2004-2005 academic year.

Dave Wolcott and Leanna Blevins presented “Advancing Ethics through Liberal Education” at the Association of American Colleges and Universities national conference in Washington, D.C. in February. Center students who attended AACU were treated to lunch by Center alumnus and president of Susquehanna University, Jay Lemons.

On February 5, Dave Wolcott successfully defended his dissertation proposal titled “The Moral Judgement of University Student Leaders.”
Center Faculty

Dr. Annette Gibbs just published “Colleges Relationships With Their Greek Organizations: Time to Be Definitive,” in Developments, Vol. 31, No. 2 (May 2004). This research focused on the legal parameters of student freedom of expression, colleges’ responsibilities for safety of students, and risk management in terms of protecting institutional interests as well as student freedoms.

The prestigious Raven Award was presented to Dr. Annette Gibbs at the Society’s Centennial Celebration dinner. The Award, the highest honor given by the Society, is conferred as a recognition of service and contribution to the University of Virginia. Dr. Gibbs was recognized for her significant contributions through 34 years of service to the University which highlighted her role in the transition to coeducation and her serving as major professor and director of 52 doctoral student dissertations.

Dr. Patricia Lampkin was awarded as the “Outstanding Mentor to Graduate Students” at the April 2004 ACPA conference in Philadelphia. The award is given to outstanding student affairs professionals who go above and beyond in their efforts to provide guidance and support to graduate students. The seven nominators highlighted Dr. Lampkin’s commitment to the career development of students as well as her continued dedication to teaching at both the graduate and undergraduate level in addition to her full-time position as Vice President for Student Affairs at the University.

Dr. Margaret Miller presented “Writing for Change magazine” at the American Association of Higher Education National Conference in April. She also presented “Scholarship Reconsidered,” a workshop for faculty at the University of Massachusetts at Boston in May.


Special Note to Alumni
The Center for the Study of Higher Education is working to update the alumni list. Please contact the Center with any changes in address or employment updates by e-mail at highered@virginia.edu. Thank you for your help.

“The very spring and root of honesty and virtue lie in good education.”

Plutarch
Upon the subject of education, not presuming to dictate any plan or system respecting it, I can only say that I view it as the most important subject which we as a people may be engaged in. That everyone may receive at least a moderate education appears to be an objective of vital importance.

Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)