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**engnews**

A monthly e-newsletter  
College of Engineering  
Research & Graduate Studies

***Announcements:***

**New research publications available in the College of Engineering:**

Research fliers featuring descriptions of the many different types of Virginia Tech engineering research are now available on-line. Go to: [http://www.eng.vt.edu/research\\_graduate/program\\_descriptions.shtml](http://www.eng.vt.edu/research_graduate/program_descriptions.shtml).

For the latest edition of the *Virginia Tech Research* magazine, go to: <http://www.research.vt.edu/resmag/>

A new **Ware Lab brochure** featuring “Hands-on, Minds-on” engineering is now available. For copies, contact Liz Crumbley, [lcrumb@vt.edu](mailto:lcrumb@vt.edu).

**Workshop on Proposal Writing:**

The Office of the Vice Provost for Research is launching a new workshop for faculty members. “Strengthening your grant proposal: building in quality outreach and diversity components,” will be offered on Thursday, **April 15**, from 3:00 to 4:30p.m. in Room 3080 Torgersen Hall. Presentations will feature an overview of Tech’s outreach resources, discussion of the National Science Foundation’s “Broader Impacts” policy, sample K-12 outreach programs, and perspectives from faculty members who have written outstanding outreach components into their awarded proposals. **Seating is limited—pre-registration is required.** Contact Debbie Nester at [Debbie@vt.edu](mailto:Debbie@vt.edu) or 231-5410.

***Our Latest U.S. News and World Report Graduate Program Rankings:***

<http://www.eng.vt.edu/news/EngGradRank04.pdf>

***New Funding Opportunities for Research:***

Looking for research in progress that is related to yours? Check out the research presentations made by faculty at the **2004 Engineering Research Showcase** in Northern Virginia:

[http://www.eng.vt.edu/showcase/presentation\\_list](http://www.eng.vt.edu/showcase/presentation_list)

**National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Proposal Deadlines:**

There are four NSF program deadlines for engineering in May and three in June. Be sure to check the deadlines for all related programs, as well: <http://www.nsf.gov/home/deadline/deadline.cfm>

**Upcoming Virginia Tech Limited Submission Deadlines**

<http://www.research.vt.edu/limitsubs/>

Be sure to check out the new web page, “**Research Initiatives and Information**” on the College website for up-to-date information about research funding opportunities from a variety of sources.

[http://www.eng.vt.edu/research\\_graduate/research\\_initiatives.shtml](http://www.eng.vt.edu/research_graduate/research_initiatives.shtml)

For more information about any of these programs, contact Doug Eckel (231-3347) or email: [deckle@vt.edu](mailto:deckle@vt.edu).

***New Funding Opportunities for Graduate Studies:***

NEH Fellowships applications are **due May 1<sup>st</sup>**. Lindbergh Foundation Grant applications are **due June 10<sup>th</sup>**.

**For more information, see “Funding Opportunities” on the Graduate School homepage:**

<http://www.grads.vt.edu/fundingopp/index.html>



Congratulations to the 2003-2004 Virginia Tech Grand Challenge Team and their autonomous vehicle “Cliff” – one of only fifteen teams out of the original 106 teams to qualify for the DARPA Grand Challenge Finals! Go to: <http://www.me.vt.edu/grandchallenge>

**Good News:**



**Kent Murphy, a member of the ICTAS Task Force, was named one of the 2004 Outstanding Scientist and Industrialist for the Commonwealth by Governor Mark Warner.** Murphy is chief executive officer and founder of Luna Innovations Inc., a Blacksburg-based employee owned corporation. The company has more than 180 employees and is responsible for bringing to Virginia more than \$125 million in Small Business Innovation Research awards, venture capital, large corporate partnerships and product revenue. Since 2000, Luna has spun off five new companies focusing on the areas of manufacturing process control, nanomaterials, proteomics and analytical instrumentation, petroleum monitoring systems and integrated wireless sensing systems. **Read more about Luna Innovations Inc. at <http://www.lunainnovations.com>.**



**Raymond Staats, a Ph.D. student in industrial and systems engineering** won second-place in the National Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) Pritsker Dissertation Award competition for 2004. He will receive this honor at a special awards ceremony at the IIE Research Conference to be held in Houston TX, May 15-19, 2004. Staats is currently on the faculty at the Air Force Institute of technology.

Staats and his advisor, **Hanif Sherali, W. Thomas Rice Chaired Professor of Engineering**, and a member of the National Academy of Engineering, wrote a paper on this work, published in a special issue of the prestigious journal *Transportation Science* (<http://www.transci.pubs.informs.org/>) dedicated to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of flight.



**Peter Vikesland** was awarded a \$400,000 NSF CAREER Award for his work on using nano-particles to remove solvents from groundwater. Vikesland is an assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering.



**Dr. Edmund G. Henneke, Associate Dean of Research & Graduate Studies  
College of Engineering at Virginia Tech**

*Please send information for this newsletter by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month to the editor, Karen Gilbert:  
[karen.gilbert@vt.edu](mailto:karen.gilbert@vt.edu)*