

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
Office of the Governor

Timothy M. Kaine
Governor

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Contact: Kevin Hall
Phone: (804) 225-4260
Cell Phone: (804) 393-9406
Internet: www.governor.virginia.gov

Kirsten Nelson
(804) 225-2627
(804) 614-0554
www.schev.edu

**GOVERNOR KAINE ANNOUNCES 2007 OUTSTANDING
FACULTY AWARD RECIPIENTS**

RICHMOND -- Governor Timothy M. Kaine today recognized 12 outstanding faculty members from Virginia's public and private colleges and universities who have been selected for their excellence in teaching, research, knowledge integration, and public service. The recipients, who were selected from a pool of 95 candidates nominated by their peers, were honored during a ceremony at the Library of Virginia.

The Outstanding Faculty Awards (OFA) are administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) and funded by a grant from the Dominion Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Dominion. This year marks the 21st anniversary of the awards program, which is considered the Commonwealth's highest honor for faculty members.

"Students and citizens across the Commonwealth benefit from the academic research and instructional leadership demonstrated by these remarkable faculty members," said Governor Kaine. "These recipients come from every region of the state and represent diverse disciplines, and their dedication to scholarly pursuits has helped Virginia's colleges and universities remain among the finest in the nation."

"All 12 of the recipients have given freely of their academic expertise and of themselves to benefit their students, their colleagues, and their communities," said SCHEV Executive Director Daniel J. LaVista. "Their commitment to the pursuit of knowledge serves as an inspiration to us all."

Dominion has funded the OFA program since 2005, when the Dominion Foundation made a three-year commitment to support the annual recognition of the outstanding faculty in Virginia. This year Dominion renewed their commitment, extending their sponsorship of the OFA program through 2010.

"Dominion greatly values the contributions of these inspirational educators both in their classrooms and their communities," said William C. Hall, Dominion's Vice President of Corporate Communications and Community Affairs. "We are pleased to

continue our role in honoring their contributions to the Commonwealth through the Outstanding Faculty Awards program.”

2007 Outstanding Faculty Award recipients:

Dr. John Adam
Professor of Mathematics & Statistics
Old Dominion University

Dr. Francie Cate-Arries
Professor of Modern Languages & Literatures
The College of William & Mary

Dr. William Connelly
Professor of Political Science
Washington and Lee University

Dr. Daniel Cristol
Associate Professor of Biology
The College of William & Mary

Dr. Marc Andrew Edwards
Professor of Civil Engineering
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Dr. Charles Errico
Professor of History
Northern Virginia Community College

Dr. James Hentz
Professor of International Studies and Political Science
Virginia Military Institute

Dr. Patricia Lisk
Professor of Nursing
Germanna Community College

Dr. Priscilla Norton*
Professor of Instructional Technology
George Mason University

Dr. Tracey Schwarze
Associate Professor of English
Christopher Newport University

Professor Benjamin Spencer**

Assistant Professor of Law
University of Richmond

Dr. Doris Zallen
Professor of Science and Technology
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

* *“Teaching with Technology”* recipient

***“Rising Star”* recipient

Through Dominion’s corporate sponsorship, each of this year’s OFA recipients will receive \$5,000 and an original glass sculpture designed by Virginia artist Jude Schlotzhauer.

The Virginia General Assembly and Governor created the OFA program in 1986 to recognize the finest among Virginia’s faculty. Since the first awards ceremony in 1987, a total of 244 Virginia faculty members - including the 2007 recipients - have received this high honor. Over the past two decades, outstanding faculty members at state institutions have received awards totaling more than \$1.1 million through the OFA program.

SCHEV is the Commonwealth’s coordinating body for Virginia’s system of higher education. The agency provides policy guidance and budget recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly, and is a resource for information on higher education issues and Virginia colleges and universities. Photos and information about each of this year's recipients can be found on the SCHEV website at <http://www.schev.edu/AdminFaculty/OFAprogramIndex.asp>.

The Dominion Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Dominion. Headquartered in Richmond, the company serves retail energy customers in eleven states. The Dominion Foundation donates more than \$10 million annually to non-profit organizations in states where the company does business. For more information about Dominion, visit the company’s Web site at www.dom.com.

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