

September 22, 2011



From the Dean's Desk

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### IT Student Presents Research at Prestigious Conference

Information technology student Austin DeVinney's interest and curiosity has paid off with a summer internship opportunity with cybersecurity expert and Associate Professor of Computer Science at the University of Virginia David Evans.

Evans was invited to Radford University by the CSAT STEM Club in the spring as a speaker for the Distinguished Lecture Series. Information technology faculty member Prem Uppuluri says that's when DeVinney took advantage of opportunity.

"Immediately after the lecture, Austin got a chance to meet informally with Dr. Evans," says Uppuluri. "This meeting impressed Dr. Evans enough that it turned into a summer research opportunity for him at UVA," says Uppuluri.

During the summer, DeVin-

ney collaborated with Evans and his computer security student group. "I came into the group and was put on a project called 'GuardRails.' It is a source-to-source Ruby on Rails security framework that will take annotated code and transform it into a more secure version," says DeVinney.



David Evans, Associate Professor of Computer Science, University of Virginia

In addition to the project, DeVinney collaborated with Evans on an academic poster that detailed features and integrations of the 'GuardRails' system, which he presented in August at the USENIX Security Symposium 2011 in San Francisco.

According to Uppuluri, this was an incredible opportunity for DeVinney to meet some of the leading scientists in computing. He says this symposium is considered by many security experts as the best conference in the world.

Many national media publi-



RU IT student Austin DeVinney

cations such as *Information-Week*, *Computer World* and *Forbes*, attend the conference to learn about the leading edge of computing research.

DeVinney said that he continues to work with Evans throughout the school year. "We are currently developing an add-on for Google+ that I cannot give details on just yet," he adds.



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#### Upcoming Events:

- Alumni Panel Presentation, Sept. 30 at 3 p.m. in the Bonnie Auditorium
- CSAT STEM Club offers children's science activities during Highlanders Festival, Oct. 1 on Moffett Quad
- MES Lecture Series, October 4 at 7 p.m. in Bonnie Auditorium

# Goldwater and Udall Scholarship Opportunities

Last year marked the first time a Radford University student won the prestigious Goldwater scholarship. We hope Brandon Newmyer is the first of many CSAT students who are awarded the Goldwater. Now is the time to start encouraging the best and brightest in our college to apply for the Goldwater Scholarship or Udall Scholarship.'

## Goldwater Scholarship

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program was established by Congress in 1986 to honor Senator Barry M. Goldwater, who served his country for 56 years as a soldier and statesman, including 30 years of service in the U.S. Senate.

The purpose of the program is to provide a continuing source of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians, and engineers by awarding scholarships to college students who intend to pursue careers in these fields.

The CSAT is able to nominate up to four students for this prestigious scholarship. To be eligible the student must be a full-

time matriculated sophomore or junior during the 2011–2012 academic year, have a college grade-point average of at least "B" (or the equivalent) and be in the upper fourth of his or her class. Research experience with a faculty member and publication in academic journals or proceedings provide nominees with a competitive advantage.

The on-campus application deadline is January 22, 2012. Students who would like to be nominated by the CSAT should contact Assistant to the Dean Ann Brown at [abrown238@radford.edu](mailto:abrown238@radford.edu). For more information about the scholarship visit <http://www.act.org/goldwater/>.

## Udall Scholarship

In 2012, the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation expects to award 80 scholarships of up to \$5000 and 50 honorable mentions of \$350 to sophomore and junior level college students committed to careers related to the environment, tribal public policy, or Native American health care.

Applicants must have a college grade-point average of at least a "B" or the equivalent, be pursuing full-time study during the 2012-2013 academic year, and be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or U.S. permanent resident.

For more information about the Udall Scholarship visit <http://www.udall.gov/OurPrograms/MKUScholarship/MKUScholarship.aspx>.

Students interested in applying for the Udall Scholarship should contact Ann Brown at [abrown238@radford.edu](mailto:abrown238@radford.edu).



Brandon Newmyer, RU Goldwater Scholar

# SMART Scholarship for Math, Science and Research



CSAT students are eligible to apply for the SMART Scholarship for Math, Science and Research sponsored by the US Department of Defense.

The Science, Mathematics And Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship for Service Program is an opportunity for students pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines to receive a full scholarship and be gainfully employed with the U.S. Department of Defense upon graduation. This scholarship is open to U.S. citizens only.

Students enrolled in Chemistry, Computer and Computational Sciences, Geoscienc-

es, Mathematics, Physics and Biosciences academic programs with a grade point average of a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale are eligible to apply.

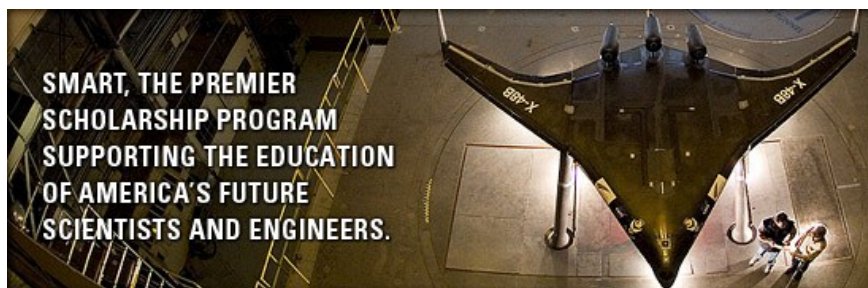
The program aims to increase the number of civilian scientists and engineers working at Department of Defense laboratories.

Scholarships include full tuition, a yearly stipend of \$25,000 to \$41,000, a \$1,000 book allowance, health insurance contri-

bution, paid summer internships with the Department of Defense, travel fees for internships and student fees.

Application deadline is December 1, 2011.

For more information visit <http://smart.asee.org/>.



## CSAT Enrollment Increases for Fall 2011

According to the university's census data, the College of Science and Technology welcomes 18 more majors to its laboratories and classrooms. This is after an increase of 176 more students in 2010, to total a 17 percent increase in enrollment since 2009.

The following numbers reflect college enrollment since 2009, according to university census data.



	2009	2010	2011
Anthropological Sciences	29	38	49
Biology	324	382	365
Chemistry	78	98	117
Computer Science	229	268	271
Geography and Geospatial Sci.	29	37	11+30=41
Geology	45	54	59
Information Sci.& Systems	92	106	88
Mathematics	68	77	88
Physics	41	51	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>1,111</b>	<b>1,129</b>

## Gwyn Moseley Joins Advising Center Staff

***Beginning in May, Gwyn Moseley is the new Assistant Coordinator in the CSAT Advising Center. Below, she explains her new position, experience and her goals.***

### **Why did you want to join our team?**

I already knew a little about the position from being a Graduate Assistant within another college on campus, but I really had a sense of peace when I met Susan Underwood, Dean Rogers, and Dr. Carter; I'm happy to say my instincts were correct and I thoroughly enjoy working with such great people. Researching all that this college has to offer current and prospective students was really exciting to me as well.

### **What is your background and how best are you using it to benefit our students?**

I recently received my Master's degree in Counseling and Human Development at RU, where I focused mostly on School Counseling. Having worked in several high schools, it helps me see where students

are coming from, especially when it deals with the high school-to-college transition. My counseling background helps me understand where students are struggling and to intervene from an academic standpoint if necessary. Most of all, I think just having a genuine love of higher education and students in general helps me assist students in finding their paths to success.

### **What do you enjoy most about your position?**

I really enjoy getting to know students – their goals, dreams, and daily struggles. It's exciting to me when a student can come in here feeling overwhelmed, but leave feeling encouraged and knowing how to tackle the current academic issues they are facing.

### **What has come up that has surprised you?**

As the year progresses and I get more involved in the day-to-day tasks of this job, I find myself frequently surprised that it takes so much behind-the-scenes work to get a student from Orientation through

graduation. I never realized as a student how much support I was receiving without ever having to ask, but it makes me appreciate that hard work so much more.

### **How are you looking forward to making a difference in CSAT?**

I hope that as I grow and develop in my position that I am able to find ways to meet more students' needs. I really want to work with setting up internships and helping students prepare for careers or continued education that bring them success and fulfillment. Until they get to that point, I look forward to helping students prepare for and handle any stumbling blocks along the way.



# Statistics Alumna Presents Research

Gabby Ness, a 2010 applied statistics graduate, will be presenting her research on Friday, Sept. 23 at 10 a.m. in Reed 205. Ness took courses in biology, participated in research with biology faculty members Christine Small and Jeremy Wojdak, and served as a "statistical consultant" for their ecology courses. She is now working on a Ph.D. in statistics at the University of Kentucky.

This past summer, Ness was an intern with the U.S. Forest Service on Small's Appalachian medicinal plant (black cohosh) conservation research. She helped to design a new field experiment and develop a predictive model to better understand wild harvest impacts on black cohosh, a southern Appalachian medicinal plant.

During her time at RU, Ness was a Dean's Scholar in 2009 and 2010 and received the Artis Outstanding Student Award in 2010. She also served as the founding president of the CSAT STEM Club.

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## CSAT STEM Club News

The CSAT STEM Club has many activities planned for the semester. The first one is a hike up to the Cascades waterfall in Giles County on September 25. The club has extremely enjoyed this fall hike in past years. For one of our service projects, we will be participating in the Highlander Festival on October 1. We will have a table with children's activities and a trivia board. Later in the semester, we will have a game night on November 8 in the Bonnie Game Room for members to take a break from studying to have some fun.

The club president Erin Fowler has created a new opportunity for club members in the forms of committees, which are led by the different officers. The different committees we now have are: Funds, Service, Advertisement, Volunteer, and Events. Club members are encouraged to join these committees, in order to have a more active role. The activities for the Highlander's Festival were thought of by one of our new committees, the Service Committee.

On Friday, September 30 at 3 p.m., Erin Fowler, will be the MC for the CSAT Alumni Panel at in the Bonnie Auditorium at 3 p.m..

The CSAT STEM Club has enjoyed a good start to the semester with both new and returning members, and we hope to have a great year full of fun events, service projects, guest speakers, and volunteer opportunities.

**Jasmine Jackson**

*Secretary of CSAT STEM Club*



Top left: The CSAT STEM Club attended Club Fair to recruit new members.

Top right and bottom left: The first CSAT STEM Club meeting was very well attended. Members enjoyed getting to know each other during ice breaker activities.