The Dean’s Office is soliciting student nominations for scholarship programs including the Goldwater and Udall Scholarships.

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship is targeted to students who intend to pursue careers in mathematics, the natural sciences or engineering. RU is eligible to nominate up to four students for this $7,500 scholarship. To be considered for nomination as a Goldwater Scholar, a student must be a full-time sophomore or junior, have a “B” GPA, be in the upper fourth of their class, and be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident or U.S. national.

For more information, visit www.act.org/goldwater/

The Morris K. Udall Undergraduate Scholarship is offered to full-time sophomores or juniors who have demonstrated commitment to careers related to the environment. Students must have at least a “B” GPA and be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national or U.S. permanent resident. This $5,000 scholarship may be used for tuition, fees, books, room and board or other specifically approved expenses.

For more information, visit www.udall.gov/

The Virginia Urban Forest Council Student Scholarships are open to full-time graduate and undergraduate students who are studying urban forestry and related curricula at Virginia colleges. Students must successfully have completed at least one academic year of courses in forestry, horticulture, environmental science, biology, landscape architecture or geography and possess an overall GPA of 2.5 or greater.

For more information, visit www.treesvirginia.org/ and click on scholarships.

Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics 2008-2009 Scholarship Program offers two $2,000 scholarships annually to students interested in becoming teachers of mathematics. Students must be full-time students who are Virginia residents, currently enrolled in a degree-seeking program with a concentration or major in mathematics, graduating in Fall 2008 or Spring 2009, and planning to teach in a Virginia school upon graduation.

For more information, visit www.vctm.org/scholarship.htm

Please send student scholarship nominations to Dean Rogers by Oct. 15 for consideration.

Other funding opportunities include:

The Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research program offers grants to support scientific investigation in any field. Application deadlines are Oct. 15 and March 15 annually. For more information, visit www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/guide.shtml.

The Developing Global Scientists and Engineers (IRES) program provides international research experiences for U.S. students.

For more information, visit http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2004/nsf04036/nsf04036.htm

Biology student Gretchen Urban participates in undergraduate research.

Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)

For more information, visit www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5518.

Please send student scholarship nominations to Dean Rogers by Oct. 15 for consideration.
First CSAT “Chalk Talks” Great Success

Organized by biology associate professor Gary Cote, the CSAT “Chalk Talks” on Sept. 25 gave chemistry major Chris Estes and biology majors Brian Prall and Angela Via “real world” experience of bouncing research ideas and projects off of colleagues—their professors and fellow students.

Close to 30 students and faculty attended the event to support RU’s student researchers. Scheduled the last Thursday of each month, the next “Chalk Talks” will be on Thursday, Oct. 30 from 5—6 p.m. If you know of a student interested in participating by talking about their research, contact Cote at gcote@radford.edu.

“Organizing our ideas on the fly helps us think through ideas and the questions attendees ask are often helpful. Now, our students have the chance to experience this invaluable professional experience,” - Gary Cote

News and Photos Needed for New CSAT Homepage

The college is beginning the redesign process for an updated CSAT website. Photos and news items are needed to exemplify the great work happening within our classrooms, labs and through community outreach.

Faculty and student publications, presentations, grant awards and community service activities will also be highlighted in addition to special events within the college.

If you have information that you would like highlighted on the college website, please contact Assistant to the Dean Ann Brown at x6277 or email ahillenb@radford.edu.

Thank you to all of the hard work and dedication of Jack Davis and his talented group of students for taking the lead in this redesign process. We hope to have the new website up by the end of the semester.

“Organizing our ideas on the fly helps us think through ideas and the questions attendees ask are often helpful. Now, our students have the chance to experience this invaluable professional experience,” - Gary Cote

Math Education Masters Degree Program In Final Approval

The CSAT, Graduate College and College of Education and Human Development are teaming up to offer a masters degree program in mathematics education beginning Fall 2009. The program is in the final approval stage. Once approved, the program will be recruiting its first students.

This 36-credit-hour program is for licensed secondary teachers, students with an undergraduate degree in mathematics education licensure program, and prospective college or university mathematics instructors. The program will enhance secondary mathematics teachers’ knowledge in teaching while providing the mathematical content preparation required for teaching at a two or four year college.

All students will complete an extensive teaching or research project in the Graduate Seminar course as a capstone experience to the masters program. An optional one-credit professional seminar is offered every semester. This seminar examines current issues in math education and focuses on reading, presenting and critiquing math education literature. This seminar can be taken more than once. For more information, visit www.radford.edu/gradcollege/.
Advising Corner: Meet the Staff

The Advising Center, located in Stuart Hall, is a resource for both students and faculty. We assist students with forms, processes and procedures and faculty who may need clarification on policies. The Advising Coordinator is also the Judicial Coordinator for the College.

The staff members are:

Susan Underwood – Advising Coordinator – Susan was the “founding” coordinator for the College of Information Science and Technology and for CSAT. She is an RU graduate with an undergraduate degree in English and her master’s degree in education. Abby Bullinger – Assistant Advising Coordinator – Abby has worked first with CSAT as a graduate student advisor for four semesters, then as an advisor. Abby received her undergraduate degree from Virginia Tech her master’s degree from RU in student affairs. After working as an Academic Advisor at Marymount University, Abby returned to RU as Assistant Advising Coordinator.

Olivia Webb – Academic Advisor – Olivia received her undergraduate degree in English from UVA Wise and is currently pursuing a master’s degree at RU.

Charde Cobbs – Graduate Student Advisor – Charde received her undergraduate degree from RU and is currently pursuing her master’s degree in student affairs.

Robin Lawson – Graduate Student Advisor – Robin received her undergraduate degree from VT and is currently pursuing her master’s degree in student affairs.

If you have questions about advising, call us at 831-5601.

Faculty Focus: Mark Cline

Biology assistant professor Mark Cline is devoted to his students and their success. As an animal physiologist, Cline’s research focuses on the effects that various neurotransmitters have on the neurophysiology and behavior of human food-producing animal species, such as fish and chicks. He has mentored dozens of biology majors who are interested in following in his footsteps.

Cline has created a research laboratory where undergraduate biology students can receive graduate level research experience.

“The focus of my research laboratory is to provide motivated undergraduate students research experiences and to explore the neurological control of appetite using chicks—not rodents or primates,” says Cline.

Cline’s students have written successful grants and disseminated their findings at statewide, national and international research meetings.

“Undergraduate research is a gateway for students who plan a career in human or veterinary medicine, dentistry, industry, or those who will be entering graduate school to pursue a scientific-related degree, and active participation serves as an important factor for acceptance into related professional schools,” says Cline.

Cline’s mission is to teach and give students skills to conduct research, and to give them exposure to research so they may decide if they want to pursue it as a career.

“After being introduced to research, and after demonstrating maturity and an above average interest in what we are doing, the student may design their own experiment, apply for external grant funding, conduct the experiment and statistical analysis, and prepare the resulting manuscript with minimal input from me,” says Cline.

I take great pride in the scientists and professionals that we produce. All of our research participants reflect the quality of our laboratory,” says Cline.

The experiments Cline and the students conduct address real biological questions. “We do not repeat or confirm the work of others simply to give the students research exposure. Since what we are doing has never been done, it’s not uncommon to have unexpected outcomes or setbacks. These situations don’t discourage us since sometimes more can be learned from an experimental ‘failure’ than a ‘success’,” adds Cline.

All students who are part of Cline’s lab are required to present their findings at RU’s research forum and at a professional meeting. In the last five years, Cline’s students presented at more than 50 regional, statewide, national and international conferences and presented their research more than 30 times on campus. “One of our laboratory members was invited to join a graduate program based on her presentation at a national research meeting,” says Cline.

“Since what we are doing has never been done, it’s not uncommon to have unexpected outcomes or setbacks … sometimes more can be learned from an experimental ‘failure’ than a ‘success.’”
The College of Science and Technology inspires students to look beyond their world and into the global arena of ingenuity, invention and research.

College faculty dedicate themselves to their students' success. They are mentors who guide inquiring minds through the process of discovery in the classroom and in real-world research.

The College of Science and Technology houses the Departments of Mathematics and Statistics, Information Technology, Geology, Chemistry and Physics, and Biology.

College faculty and students collaborate across disciplines in research and real-world problem solving. This synergy inspires many opportunities for faculty and student innovation to take root and grow to meet the ever changing needs of the global community.

Thank you for being a part of our CSAT faculty. You inspire excellence within our students and your colleagues.