

"I am excited about the opportunity to make higher levels of educational attainment a goal and reality for more people. Success in the 21st century will demand a competitive skill set and the ability to reinvent oneself by being a lifelong learner."

Dean Cannaday

SCPS WELCOMES NEW DEAN

Billy K. Cannaday Jr., a veteran educator who served as the state's superintendent of public instruction, became dean of the University of Virginia's School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS) on October 1. University President John T. Casteen III praised Cannaday's career of commitment to public education and service to the commonwealth. "We are most fortunate to have Billy Cannaday join the University in this important position. He brings with him a distinguished record as an administrator-educator who set the standard for others across the state and the nation," Casteen said. Cannaday, Casteen added, will be charged with addressing three key areas of need.

- **Digital instruction:** making more effective use of digital technologies in classrooms and in distance-learning programs.
- **State outreach:** reaching all potential constituents in Virginia, including potential students, employers, governmental agencies and others.
- **International outreach:** extending the school's offerings to a global audience.

As superintendent of public instruction, Cannaday was the chief executive officer of the Virginia Department of Education, which is the administrative agency for the state's public schools. He also served as secretary of the Virginia Board of Education. Before taking the state position, Cannaday was superintendent of Chesterfield County Public Schools, a suburban Richmond school division with more than 56,000 students. Under his leadership, in five years the district went from having fewer than half of its 59 schools being fully accredited by the state to 100 percent receiving full accreditation. In 2005, he was named the Virginia Superintendent of the Year. The following year, Gov. Timothy M. Kaine appointed Cannaday to the state superintendent post.

Cannaday said that he is looking forward to tackling the aggressive goals laid out by Casteen and Dr. Arthur Garson, U.Va.'s executive vice president and provost. "I have a strong belief that high-quality, engaging and purposeful learning, when made easily available, creates opportunities for the learner and benefits the places where they live and work." Cannaday said. "The mission and goals of the School of Continuing and Professional Studies reflect the same values and aspirations to which I have dedicated my life."

Garson said he was extremely pleased with the thoughtful work of the search committee. "Billy Cannaday is an extraordinary choice. He is both an able administrator and a visionary educator who will build on the school's already-established reputation for public service and excellence." Cannaday succeeds Sondra Stallard, who became president of Strayer University in 2007, and interim Dean Lynda Phillips-Madson.

A native of Roanoke, Va., Cannaday, 58, received a bachelor's degree in health and physical education from Virginia Tech in 1972, a master's degree in educational administration from Hampton University in 1980 and a doctorate in educational administration from Virginia Tech in 1990.

Cannaday was superintendent of Hampton Public Schools, the third-largest urban school division in Virginia, from 1994 to 2000. Prior to that he served from 1986 to 1994 as Hampton's director of secondary education and assistant superintendent for instruction. In 1984, he was principal of Huntington Middle School in Newport News when that school received a Blue Ribbon Award for Excellence from the U.S. Department of Education.

In 2004, he served as the distinguished leader-in-residence at the University of Richmond's Jepson School of Leadership. He also previously served on the University of Virginia's SCPS Statewide K-12 Education Advisory Council and the College of William & Mary's Gifted Advisory Board.

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I N S I D E

Thomas Jefferson's Wine Tour

BIS/NOVA Partnership

Certificate Programs

K-12 Education

Post-Bac Pre-Med

Osher Gift

RECREATE THOMAS JEFFERSON'S WINE TOUR OF FRANCE AND ITALY

See the world with America's founding oenophile

When Thomas Jefferson arrived in France in 1784 as United States minister to the court of King Louis XIV, he was already a frustrated winemaker. In 1773, he had hired the Italian merchant and physician Filippo Mazzei to plant vines and make wine at Monticello, but they produced a few barely drinkable bottles for their trouble. This result was particularly irksome, for Jefferson loved wine as he loved his country, and he saw no reason why good wine couldn't be made in America. After all, he said, "we have every soil, aspect, and climate of the best wine countries."

In the spring of 1787, Jefferson left Paris on a tour through southern France and Italy, his famous "peep only into Elysium." One of his purposes was to seek out the best grapes and the makers of the best wine—and to use the knowledge he gained and the sources he accumulated to plant wine-making firmly in American soil.

This spring, the School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS) is offering a Travel and Learn program—Thomas Jefferson's Great Wine Journey—that will trace Jefferson's steps through parts of his itinerary. This seminar will take participants off the beaten path in pursuit of great wine. The program begins in Lyon on April 23, then travels to the great wine-producing villages of Beaune and Meursault in Burgundy and Condrieu and Hermitage in the Côtes du Rhône, then moves to the Italian Piedmont region of northern Italy, with visits to Alba, Barolo, and Asti, before departing Italy from Milan on May 1.

"There is simply no other wine program like this one," says Joan Gore, director of U.Va.'s Travel & Learn Programs. Like Jefferson, participants will travel through some of the most beautifully cultivated landscapes in the world, converse directly with winemakers whose families have been growing grapes for centuries (including two domaines that we know Jefferson visited—Chateau Chapoutier and Chateau Grillet), and, of course, taste some of the most well-made wines in the world. "We will visit the villages and vineyards very few tourists see, meet with the vintners few



travelers meet, and learn about the influence both past and present that the great European wine houses have had on American wines and the Virginia grape." Gore says.

There will also be time to tour the architectural masterpieces from the Roman era that inspired Jefferson's love of the neoclassical and that provided the pattern for Monticello and the University of Virginia. And of course, there will be ample opportunity to seek out the best restaurants in the region, to learn more about the slow food movement that has taken root in Italy, and to enjoy delicious food paired appropriately with just the right local vintage.

Travel with Monticello's First Winemaker

During his retirement, Jefferson again tried viticulture at Monticello. While disease and drought probably took their toll on Jefferson's vines, the varieties he imported from Europe would have been easy prey for the phylloxera aphid. He ended by ripping them out.

Fittingly, this program will be lead by the Italian winemaker who succeeded in realizing Jefferson's dream of creating stellar wines at Monticello—Gabriele Rausse. Under his direction, the first vintage of Monticello Sangiovese in 1999 sold out in just four days. Currently, the associate landscape director at Monticello, Rausse came to Virginia in 1976 to begin what is now Barboursville Vineyards north of Charlottesville. Altogether, he has helped to start over 40 vineyards and 10 Virginia wineries. He also began the first nursery in the state to grow European vines, propagating over one million plants.

"Jefferson sought out the best advice, and he himself had a superior palette," Rausse remarks. "Many of the domaines he visited are today's premier cru and the varieties he imported to Monticello—among the thousands of varieties—are the ones that are the basis of twenty-first century winemaking. Tracing his process of discovery will be fascinating."

**Jefferson's Wine Tour of France and Italy
April 23-May 1, 2009**

*With Gabriele Rausse, Vintner and Associate
Director of Landscapes at Monticello*

Visit www.virginia.edu/travelandlearn
for program itinerary and registration details.



STUDENTS EARN U.VA. UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Until this fall, a U.Va. undergraduate degree was literally out of reach for many Northern Virginians. For those who had a full-time job or were raising a family, the 200-mile round-trip commute to Charlottesville was an insurmountable barrier. It was too far, took too long, and cost too much money.

Now the School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS) has stepped in to span this distance, welcoming an inaugural class of 23 students to its Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS) program at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA). This initiative builds on U.Va.'s groundbreaking partnership with Tidewater Community College, which enabled U.Va. to offer its highly-regarded BIS program off-Grounds for the first time.

"Providing qualified students from around Virginia with access to a U.Va. education is a priority of the School of Continuing and Professional Studies," says Donna Plasket, assistant dean and director of the BIS program. "When Robert Templin, president of NOVA, approached us with the idea of developing a BIS program for his graduates, we jumped at the opportunity."

The BIS degree program is designed to foster a broad liberal studies education. Students take a generalized curriculum and concentrate in a specific area, currently the social sciences. As the program becomes established at NOVA, concentrations in business, the humanities, and education for those interested in pursuing the alternative route to teacher licensure in Virginia will be added. In addition, all students complete an ambitious capstone project before graduating. "This is a rigorous course of study that is consistent with the quality a U.Va. degree represents," Plasket notes.



A One-of-a-Kind Program

Students at NOVA have responded to the new offering enthusiastically. Julia Brown, special assistant for transfer services at NOVA, has helped U.Va. find a home for BIS at the community college and has been in an excellent position to judge student reaction. "Our graduates are very excited to have this option available, not simply because a U.Va. degree is so attractive," she says. "There are many colleges and universities in the Washington area, but none of them offers this kind of interdisciplinary program."

Although the program is still in its initial stages, Brown has been impressed by the quality of academic and emotional support available to students. "SCPS does a tremendous job helping students feel that they are truly part of a U.Va. experience." For its part, SCPS is grateful for NOVA's willingness to provide logistical support and classroom space for its courses.

Students applying for the BIS program must have 60 transferable hours including core and prerequisite requirements. Fifteen of those hours must have been earned at NOVA. BIS classes taught by U.Va. faculty are held at NOVA's Alexandria campus and meet on weekends and evenings. The expectation is that the program will be expanded to NOVA's other locations.



CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS PROVIDE A COMPETITIVE EDGE IN A WEAK ECONOMY

In good economic times, the certificate programs offered by the School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS) can make the difference between a dead-end job and a rewarding one. These hard-hitting programs give individuals the knowledge they need to change careers, to qualify for a promotion, to prepare for professional accreditation, or earn credits for graduate school.

Students like them because they are affordable, they take less time to complete than a full-fledged degree, and they are practical. Knowledge gained in the classroom can be put to use the very next day.

When times are bad, SCPS certificate programs take on added value. For individuals they can provide the crucial margin between a secure job and unemployment. And for organizations navigating rough economic waters, they are a cost-effective way to increase the skills, the flexibility, and the productivity of their work force.

The number and variety of SCPS certificate programs are steadily growing, but each one is carefully vetted before being introduced. "We have established a network of connections in the communities we serve that provides valuable suggestions about potential topics," says Barbara Kessler, director of career and professional development programs at University Center in Charlottesville. "But before we develop a new program, we identify expert instructors who know the subject and check with other local colleges and universities to make sure we are not duplicating their efforts."

Over the last 18 months, three new certificate programs have gone through this process. Nonprofit Management is being offered in Charlottesville, Association Management in Richmond, and Public Administration, developed by the Hampton Roads Center, will be available online.



SCPS introduces nonprofit management, association management, and public administration programs

Certificate in Nonprofit Management

In May 2008, the 16 students who were the first to complete the Certificate in Nonprofit Management were honored at a ceremony in Charlottesville. They are employed at a variety of organizations, from ARC of the Piedmont to the Thomas Jefferson Foundation. "I was a classical musician thinking about getting more involved in arts administration," says Adrienne Wager, an arts development officer at U.Va. "The exposure I gained through the certificate program led me to fundraising."

To earn the certificate, participants must complete 35 contact hours from a menu of noncredit courses. "We surveyed local nonprofit leaders to find out what issues would be valuable to them, and we consulted with our counterparts at Piedmont Virginia Community College and the Charlottesville-based Center for Nonprofit Excellence to find out how our three organizations could work together," notes Kessler. The result of these deliberations is a slate of day-long and half-day courses that include such topics as successful grant writing strategies, organizing a capital campaign, managing volunteers, and strategic planning. SCPS also offers a number of courses designed specifically to reinforce the skills of nonprofit board members, an area identified from the surveys.

These hard-hitting programs give individuals the knowledge they need to change careers, to qualify for a promotion, to prepare for professional accreditation, or earn credits for graduate school.

Certificate in Association Management

In 2007, three leaders of Richmond-based associations made their case for a new certificate program to U.Va. Richmond Center Director Kathy Cullen. There are hundreds of associations with headquarters in Richmond, they pointed out, but very little in the way of affordable professional development opportunities for association executives. They had a vision of a small, select group of executives, meeting once a month for 10 sessions, that would cover such hands-on issues as leadership and succession planning, lobbying and the law, strategic planning, and project management. A special feature of the program would be the caliber of the guest speakers featured at each session.

In September 2008, the center offered the first session in its Certificate in Association Management. Among the highlights of the year will be modules featuring Tom Silvestri, president and publisher of *The Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Wally Stettinius, former chairman and chief executive of Cadmus Communications, and Delegate David E. Poisson, who represents the 32nd District in the Virginia House of Delegates. Participants can sign up for the individual noncredit modules or attend a minimum of nine modules to receive the certificate. Both the certificate program and the individual sessions have been approved by the American Society of Association Executives for continuing education credit.

“The program meets an unfilled need,” says David Reel, executive vice president of the Home Building Association of Richmond and one of the three proponents of the program. “While there are numerous programs on how to be more effective in the private sector, there is a continuing shortage of cost-effective local programs for those who want to master the unique set of skills required for success in the association world.”

Certificate in Public Administration

While the Certificates in Nonprofit Management and Association Management are delivered live to local audiences in Charlottesville and Richmond, the online Certificate in Public Administration offered by the Hampton Roads Center will reach a national and global audience. Among the participants in this year’s pilot class are the spouse of a foreign service officer in Hong Kong, the counsel for a Florida county health department, and a member of a parks and recreation department in North Carolina.

“With a wave of senior government officials set to retire in the next decade, there will be a premium on people with the knowledge base needed for decision-making, planning, administrative effectiveness, and budgeting,” says Celeste Greene, who proposed and developed the program. “This certificate is designed to provide a foundation for the next generation of leaders.” Each of the program’s four graduate-level courses, on such topics as public policy analysis, and public organization management, will last 16 weeks. Although the program is still under review, the Hampton Roads Center is considering offering the courses in four, 10-week quarters.

Assignments, tests, discussion panels, and student progress are posted using the Blackboard Learning System™. Several times during the semester, all the students get together virtually thanks to another program, Elluminate Live!, which combines voice communication with web-based content that Greene presents. “I have had great exchanges with the other students,” reports Nicholas Romanello, legal counsel with the Health Care District of Palm Beach County. “As someone looking for a solid introduction to public administration rather than a degree program, this certificate fills the bill.”

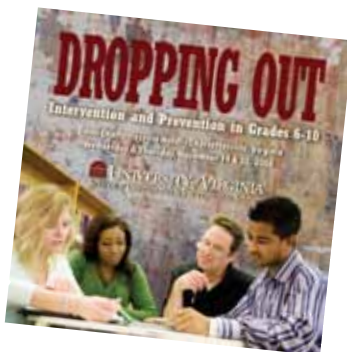
PARTNERING FOR COMPREHENSIVE CHANGE IN K-12 EDUCATION

In the high-pressure, high-accountability environment that is now K-12 education, the challenges school divisions face are unprecedented in their size, complexity, and diversity. No Child Left Behind and other legislation have placed the spotlight on schools to raise academic achievement for all students. At the same time, an entire generation of experienced teachers is approaching retirement, shifts in population are increasing demand for ESL and other services, and a global economic crisis threatens to jeopardize funding models that, in many cases, were barely adequate. Teachers and administrators alike are being asked to learn new skills and to better integrate their efforts across the curriculum and across grade levels, in essence to effect a comprehensive change in practice while continuing to provide the best possible education for their students. It is a tall order!

The Center for K-12 Education at the School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS) has adapted and broadened its offerings to help school divisions more efficiently and effectively meet this challenge.

Increasing Awareness of the Alternatives

The School of Continuing and Professional Studies has long provided conferences on key educational issues that face individual educators and schools—and it will retain this emphasis. For instance, this fall the center hosted *Dropping Out: Intervention and Prevention in Grades 6-10*, a two-day conference that brought educators from around the country together to consider a variety of research-based approaches to addressing student disengagement in grades 6-10. “Our goal is to put together practical, well researched programs on the pressing issues that school systems face,” says Nancy Iverson, assistant dean and the center’s director.



A Framework for Change

The center has now added services for school divisions that reflect its ability to draw on expertise at the University and from the around the state. “We have developed a portfolio of offerings that provide school divisions with a comprehensive framework for building organizational capacity around specific issues,” Iverson says. These services include everything from an initial needs assessment with key stakeholders and an instructional audit to creating a professional development curriculum and providing follow-up support. In effect, the center’s role is to partner with the division to mobilize its staff around clear goals for

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*Nancy Iverson, Assistant Dean, Director,
Center for K-12 Education*

student learning and accepted strategies for achieving them. “The result is coherence,” says Iverson. “Everyone in a system knows how the piece they are doing fits into the whole and can articulate the system’s organizational goals.”

For instance, the Center for K-12 Mathematics Outreach office worked closely with Bath County Public Schools to strengthen the district’s mathematics instructional program. Mathematics outreach consultants brought together teachers and administrators involved in math to review the existing K-12 instructional program in light of best practices and to create a more coherent curriculum and instructional process.

The center has also helped strengthen organizational capacity of Virginia’s school divisions through the Statewide Communities of Practice for Excellence (SCOPE) program, which it created in collaboration with the SCPS Statewide K-12 Education Advisory Council. The purpose of the program is to cultivate the leadership skills of high-potential principals and assistant principals through a series of 11, one-day seminars that focus on two major themes, leading people and leading learning. Since it was formed, almost 200 administrators from nearly 20 school districts across Virginia have graduated from SCOPE cohorts.

“The deans and superintendents associated with this initiative recognize that SCOPE is central to assuring that there will be a deep pool of quality, emerging school leaders,” says Stewart Roberson, superintendent of Hanover County Public Schools. “The resources, inspiration, and leadership that the center provides have been essential to its success.”

In the past, many school divisions around the state thought of their relationship to the University primarily in terms of re-licensure. Through its expanded slate of initiatives, the Center for K-12 Education is demonstrating that the potential benefit for school divisions is much greater. “We believe that by partnering with the school divisions, we can serve as a catalyst for real change,” says Iverson.

U.VA.'S POST-BAC PRE-MED PROGRAM GETS HIGH MARKS

Over 90% of the program's first cohort is accepted to medical school.

Not everyone who becomes a doctor knows they want to go to medical school when they arrive at college. Quite often, students don't decide on a career in medicine until their third or fourth year, when it is often too late to find room in their schedules for prerequisite science courses. The people who come to medicine even later in life are in a similar bind.

Until recently, U.Va. offered no option for these late bloomers and career changers. "When I was director of admissions at the U.Va. School of Medicine, I could only recommend that people in this situation apply to post-baccalaureate pre-medical programs at institutions like Bryn Mawr or Johns Hopkins," notes Beth Bailey.

Today as director of the University of Virginia's Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medical Program, Bailey now has the satisfaction of offering a U.Va. alternative. "Not only are we providing a great alternative for aspiring physicians who live in central Virginia," Bailey notes, "but we're also drawing students from across the country who understand that the caliber of instruction they receive at U.Va. will be excellent preparation for medical school."

The program, now accepting applications for its fourth cohort through the School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS), began in 2006 with graduates of such schools as Duke, Dartmouth, and Bates as well as U.Va. The program now accepts approximately 30 students each year. Students follow different routes to the program. Lee Cunningham, a cognitive science major at U.Va., and a member of the first cohort, decided to go into medicine in his last year at college, but chose to delay taking science courses until after graduation. Theresa Cooper, an English major from the College of William and Mary, and George "Will" Stone, a religious studies major at the University, both came to the program from the Peace Corps. "We've had an aerospace engineer, a professional pilot, a midwife, and a score of other professions," Bailey notes. "But despite these differences, they have in common the decision to sacrifice time and money for the chance to be admitted to medical school."

The intensive, full-time course of study begins during summer session. Students sit for the MCATs the following spring and typically complete the program at the end of that semester. During the "glide" year that follows, they apply to medical school, using the time to add value to their applications by working in a hospital and volunteering at a community clinic or rescue squad.

In addition to meeting their science requirements, students take a course taught by the program's medical director, Dr. Robert Powers, on the structure and financing of the U.S. health care system. Dr. Powers, an emergency room physician, also helps students find internships and opportunities to shadow physicians the U.Va. Medical Center. Students in the program also attend a series of seminars on such issues as biomedical ethics, financing medical school, and taking the MCATs. They meet with the program's administrators several times during the course of the semester, and confer on academic matters with Robert Burnett, the program's academic director and professor of chemistry.

The effectiveness of this program can best be judged by its success. This year, 11 of the 12 graduates of the first cohort began medical school at universities like Emory, Pittsburgh, North Carolina, and Wake Forest—and they have found that U.Va.'s Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medical Program was great preparation. "You get rigorous classes and access to extremely knowledgeable people," says Cunningham, who is now in his first year of medical school at U.Va. "You get a quality education. I would recommend it highly."



Highly Selective Admissions Process Yields Diverse Third-Year Cohort

This summer, the School of Continuing and Professional Studies welcomed the third cohort of students to the Post-Bac Pre-Med Program. Thirty-three students, 19 women and 14 men, range in age from 21 to 51 years. They represent the states of:

- California
- Colorado
- Florida
- Georgia
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- Virginia

The average GPA of this cohort is 3.58. Their undergraduate institutions include:

- Amherst College
- Boston College
- Clemson University
- College of William & Mary
- Columbia University
- Dartmouth College
- Duquesne University
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- Georgetown University
- Harvard University
- Notre Dame University
- Penn State University
- Pepperdine University
- Stanford University
- University of Florida
- University of Georgia
- University of Maryland
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Southern California
- University of Virginia
- Vanderbilt University
- Washington University
- Wellesley College



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OSHER GIFT SUPPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS

The University of Virginia recently received \$1,050,000 from The Bernard Osher Foundation to support Osher Reentry Scholarships. These scholarships are available to students in the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS) program, offered through the School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS). Reentry students who have a significant gap in the pursuit of their undergraduate degrees, have financial need, and who are enrolled in the BIS program may be eligible. Ten to twenty scholarships will be awarded annually.

BIS students have already benefited from the Osher Reentry Scholarship Program from prior gifts made to the University of Virginia during the past two years.

“This gift will create opportunities for adults to continue their formal education and make what once was a remote possibility, a hopeful reality,” note SCPS Dean Billy Cannaday.

The Bernard Osher Foundation, headquartered in San Francisco, was founded in 1977 by Bernard Osher, a respected businessman and community leader. The Foundation seeks to improve quality of life through support for higher education and the arts.



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