

# CNC Community CHRONICLE

*Archivos*

April 15, 1977  
#12 of 1977

SUNDAY - April 17



dies solis

MONDAY - April 18



dies lunae

Men's Varsity Tennis - (away) - Randolph-Macon College  
2:00 P.M.

TUESDAY - April 19

Golf - Apprentice School -  
Sleepy Hole Golf Club  
Portsmouth



dies martis

Women's Tennis - ODU - (away) - 3:00 P.M.

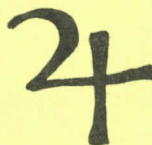
WEDNESDAY - April 20



dies mercurii

11:00 A.M. - CC Theatre - Debate and Forum

THURSDAY - April 21



dies jovis

Men's Varsity Tennis - (away) -  
Bridgewater College - 2:00 P.M.

FRIDAY - April 22

3:00 - Degrees Committee - Conf. Room  
Ad. Bldg.



dies veneris

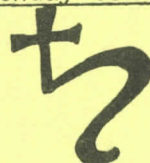
Men's Varsity Tennis - (away) - 2:00 P.M. - Roanoke College

Women's Tennis - Va. State - (away) - 3:00 P.M.

Library Book Requests for 1977-78 from Departments due  
to Faculty-Library Coordinator.

Birthday Congratulations to Laura Davis.

SATURDAY - April 23



dies saturni





## ACADEMIC INTEREST

*The following talk was presented by Dr. Gordon K. Davies, Acting Director of the State Council of Higher Education, at the March 30/31 meeting of the Association of Virginia Colleges. I thought Gordon's presentation was of sufficient interest to the faculty to warrant publication of the complete text in this week's CNC Chronicle.*

T. Musial

## EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY

The underlying theme of this Annual Meeting yokes two of the most vaunted attributes of higher education in Virginia--its tradition of excellence and its almost limitless diversity. As we consider these two attributes, appropriately if not necessarily linked together in a causal relationship, it is well to keep in mind a persistent philosophical and behavioral paradox: the simultaneous need for difference and similarity, for diversity and unity, for the many and the one.

We have talked a lot about diversity here in Virginia, not just in these two days of congregation, but day in and day out over the past several years. Indeed, the diversity theme has become almost a leitmotiv: no Virginia educator can appear stage center without its haunting and familiar echoes rising up about him or her. This is not necessarily undesirable; if we've got something going for us, we had best sell it as effectively as we can. Talents hidden under a bushel attract neither students nor financial support.

Under some conditions, diversity can be an excellence. Excellence itself, however, does not necessarily follow from diversity. This is another way of saying that diversity itself is not excellent; it is not even necessarily worthwhile. We are not just a random selection of strangers coming together for a brief moment on a city street corner. We are, rather, all going in the same direction despite our differences and, yes, even despite our occasional disagreements about the best way to get there from here.

Merely being different from one another is irrelevant. We have, in Virginia, thirty-one private institutions ranging in size from several hundred to several thousand students. We have elite institutions and we have not-so-elite institutions. We have a public system of colleges and universities that probably includes more diversity than any other in the nation.

So what? Where is the common thread?

From the earliest stages of recorded thought, it has been recognized that the mere plurality of being is not in itself wonderful. What is wonderful, however, is the linkage of all things great and small, the chain of being to which speculative metaphysics returns again and again. The diversity is only significant if there is a common thread which links together all of Virginia's colleges and universities--only if there is truly a community of diversity.

This last phrase, in case you have not recognized it immediately, is taken from one of the more profound works of speculative metaphysics to be published in this decade--the 1974 Virginia Plan for Higher Education. Like all plans, it has its inadequacies and inaccuracies. But its authors did grasp with a sure sense the fundamental necessity of a principle of unity underlying the differences among our institutions, and for that reason, if for no other, it is not without value.

Is it too facile to suggest that the common thread is the activity in which we are all engaged, and that this activity is grounded in the certainty that all human life has value which must be realized to the greatest possible extent? I do not think it is,



and we might consider with profit the eloquent words of the late Carl Becker on this subject:

To have faith in the dignity and worth of the individual...as an end in himself; to believe that it is better to be governed by persuasion than by coercion; to believe that fraternal good will is more worthy than a selfish and contentious spirit; to believe that in the long run all values are inseparable from the love of truth and the disinterested search for it; to believe that knowledge and the power it confers should be used to promote the welfare and happiness of all...These are the values which are affirmed by the traditional democratic ideology.... They are the values that readily lend themselves to rational justification, yet need no justification. [Freedom and Responsibility, New York: A.A. Knopf, 1949), p. XL-XLI]

It is not enough to say that human life is useful; we must affirm as the root of our mission that it is valuable. We move from value to utility at the peril of our souls, which is to say, at the risk of losing our very identities. However elusive it may be, the sense that each one of us is equally valuable and equally deserving of the opportunity to develop his or her potential is the common thread. We are not, surely, all equally useful. But we are all equally valuable, and it is because of our common reverence for this value that our diversity is more than mere idiosyncrasy.

We share a common purpose: to enhance this sense of value and, where it is missing, to help our students to discover it within themselves. Our endeavor is, at its very best, midwifery, just as Socrates observed long ago.

In this context, our diversity--large and small, private and public, two-year and four-year, graduate and undergraduate, female and male, military and liberal arts, predominantly black and predominantly white, commuter and residential--is a marvelous set of alternative opportunities to pursue the same general purpose. Even if we disagree at times about how to get there from here, I suspect we all agree that there are many paths to travel and that different paths will best serve different persons. That, I submit, is what Virginia's diverse community of higher education is all about.

Much has been written lately about the declining value of college going. From the perspective of utility, which is the perspective of training, the doomseers are probably correct in part. From the perspective of value, which is the perspective of education, they are dead wrong.

I can be over-trained, but I cannot be over-educated.

I can be trained for jobs that are obsolescent or not available, but I cannot be educated for a world which is not available. "The mind is its own place, and in itself can make a hell of heaven and a heaven of hell."

Training responds to the world in which we live; education shapes that world. The poet knows this, even if we sometimes forget it. And so he asks:

Little lamb, who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee?

Not why were you made, little lamb. But who made you. It is a question not of use but of value. The poet also knows that our struggle to value the person for his or her own sake will always fall short, and he tells the young girl:

I heard an old religious man  
By yesternight declare  
That he had found a text to prove



That only God, my dear,  
 Could love you for yourself alone  
 And not your yellow hair.

There is, of course, a higher kind of usefulness which springs from a sense of value. It is to this that John Wesley referred when he exclaimed in prayer, "Lord, let me not live to be useless!" But if we settle in our colleges and universities for the lesser utility of the job market and the social ladder, we become undistinguishable from a wide array of other institutions, and the common thread among us is lost.

The great preoccupation with jobs, with the acquisition of skills, with earning power and upward social mobility, threatens all of higher education. At one of the most prestigious universities in the world, there are now reported to be two groups of undergraduates: pre-medicine and pre-law. It is a pity that this is so, because there are too many lawyers and there can be too many physicians. But there can never be too many men and women who know the complex richness of their past, the dazzling array of options in their present, and the challenges of their future. They are men and women who know their own worth and can make their own world.

In trying to be true to ourselves, to our common purpose, I hope that we do not settle for other people's definitions of our function. It is true that we all live at the sufferance of a highly utilitarian society. But we cannot afford to mirror that society, and that society cannot afford to let us mirror it. Whatever we must do to accommodate the career-oriented, manpower-conscious, cost-benefit pressures of a utilitarian market, we have a more fundamental task to perform that is finally our reason for being.

Preposterous as it might sound, it is time for us to respond to the accusation that the world of education is out of phase with the world of work by suggesting that the fault might well be with the world of work and not entirely with ours. Even more preposterous, we must affirm that it makes a difference that Homer brought Odysseus home and that Dante sent him out again; that Jacob won a new name by wrestling with an angel; that Leonardo tried to fly but could not; that Heisenberg postulated a principle of indeterminacy which Einstein denied; that Ralph Ellison was an invisible man; and that Dylan Thomas would not go gentle into that good night while Thomas Wolfe could not go home again. True, it will be said that these things do not matter against a job, a split-level and a late model car. But we must say that they do, for taken cumulatively, they symbolize the struggle of persons for self-realization, for social and political equity, for creative expression and for truth, and for a sense of oneness with the whole, warts and all.

So with a sense of oneness, we come once again to the idea of a community of diversity, one as to purpose, many as to means. While there may be competition within the community, I hope that it will continue to be that generous kind which inspires greater achievement on the part of all. I hope further, of course, that there will be even greater efforts toward cooperation than there have been in the past so that our limited resources can be put to the best possible use. Perhaps if we can maintain our common sense of purpose while at the same time providing the greatest possible diversity, some future generation will look back at us in awe and say, as Matthew Arnold said a century ago about Oxford,

...What is our puny warfare against the  
 Philistines compared with the warfare which  
 this queen of romance has been waging against  
 them for centuries, and will wage after we  
 are gone?

[Essays in Criticism, 1st series.]



## FACULTY NEWS

VINOD P. MANIYAR has been asked to serve as a discussant on two papers entitled "Inventory Accounting Changes and Stock Prices," by Eugene G. Geiser and Thomas K. Tiemann, and "Social and Cultural Issues in Poverty Models," by Arthur M. Ford. These papers are to be presented at the Eastern Economic Association, Hartford, Connecticut, April 13-16.

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CARL M. COLONNA will be chairing a session on Cultural Economics at the Virginia Association of Economists in Roanoke, Virginia, April 13-15.

Professors Maniyar and Collona refereed three journal articles for the Journal on Cultural Economics for its May edition.

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## NOTICES

### Governor's Savings Bond Campaign

Campaign material will be distributed with payroll checks on April 15, 1977. The authorization card should be completed and returned to June Saunders in the Business Office by April 22, 1977.

Series E Bonds are accrual-type registered securities available in seven denominations starting at \$25.00 (purchase price is \$18.75). Their interest is now a full 6%, compounded semiannually. For additional information, contact Nancy Melton in Room 159 of the Administration Building.

Nancy Melton

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### Debate and Forum

On Wednesday, April 20, from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. the CNC Young Democrats and the Black Student Association are sponsoring a forum and debate in the Campus Center Theatre. Participants in the program include Delegate Ira Lechner and Mr. Charles Robb, candidates for Lieutenant Governor, and Delegate Alan Diamonstein and Mr. Bobby Scott, candidates for Virginia Assembly Delegate. Students may be requesting permission to attend these presentations in connection with course work and in an attempt to become better acquainted with the issues of the election and the political process. Faculty members are encouraged to consider such requests as a legitimate reason for an excused absence.

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## DEAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Department Chairmanship

Mr. Christopher Scheiderer has been appointed for a one year term as Chairman of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures. His term will expire on the day of graduation, May 1978.

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### Guide for Parliamentary Procedures:

COURTESY: "The ritual by which we avoid hurting other people's feelings by satisfying our own egos."

--Sir Kenneth Clark

submitted by Mario Mazzarella



ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN'S EQUALITY

Christopher Newport College  
presents

CAREER CHALLENGE WORKSHOP

12 - 3 p.m. Friday, April 15, 1977  
Campus Center

Welcome and Introduction: Sharon Lassiter, Vice-President, OWE

Speakers: Ruth Herrink, Board member of the Women's Bank of Richmond and Director  
of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation in Virginia  
Greer Wilson, Coordinator of Student Affairs at Hampton Institute

Career Resource Persons:

<u>Accounting:</u>	Gloria Usclton, Corporate Officer, Benson-Phillips
<u>Aerospace Technology:</u>	Katherine Goble Johnson, NASA
<u>Airline Management:</u>	Sylvia Berry, City Manager, United Airlines
<u>Air Traffic Control:</u>	Kitty Pownall, Patrick Henry Airport
<u>Architecture:</u>	Robin Peter, Urban Design Intern, Hampton Planning Commission
<u>Banking:</u>	Ethel Ferguson, Vice-President, Fidelity American Bank
<u>Court Stenography:</u>	Stephanie Wallace, Student, Reporting Academy of Virginia
<u>Data Processing:</u>	Carol Haworth, Systems Engineer, Advisory Industry Specialist IBM
<u>Electricity:</u>	Shirley Culbreth, Master Electrician, Vice-President of Bay Electric
<u>Hotel Management:</u>	Linda Howrylak, Director of Sales, Holiday Inn
<u>Insurance:</u>	Jan Calvert, Lincoln National
<u>Journalism:</u>	Mary Ann Leonard, Reporter, <u>Times Herald</u>
<u>Law Enforcement:</u>	Carleen Conway, Newport News Police Department
<u>Marine Biology:</u>	Linda Kilch, VIMS
<u>Parks and Recreation:</u>	Diane Stallings, Park Ranger, Colonial National Historical Park
<u>Public Administration:</u>	Nina Banner, Government Public Information, Newport News Frances Worrell, Neighborhood Community Development, Newport News
<u>Public Utilities:</u>	Sarah Herring, District Manager Network Administration & Toll Maintenance, C & P Telephone
<u>Real Estate:</u>	Dot Wright, Abbitt Realty
<u>Retail Management:</u>	Janice Mills, Merchandise Manager, Sears
<u>Television:</u>	Cynthia Adams, News Reporter
<u>Tool Designing:</u>	Debbie Eriksen, Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock Co.
<u>U.S. Air Force:</u>	Captain Marsha Foster
<u>U.S. Army:</u>	Marilyn Roth, U.S. Army Recruiting

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Program Coordinator: Judy Hrul

Advisors: Lora Friedman, Bonnie Hansen

Co-sponsored by CNC Counseling Center  
DECA Club

Admission Free

CAREER CHALLENGE WORKSHOP

Christopher Newport College, Campus Center, Friday, April 15.  
Sponsored by Organization for Wo/Men's Equality

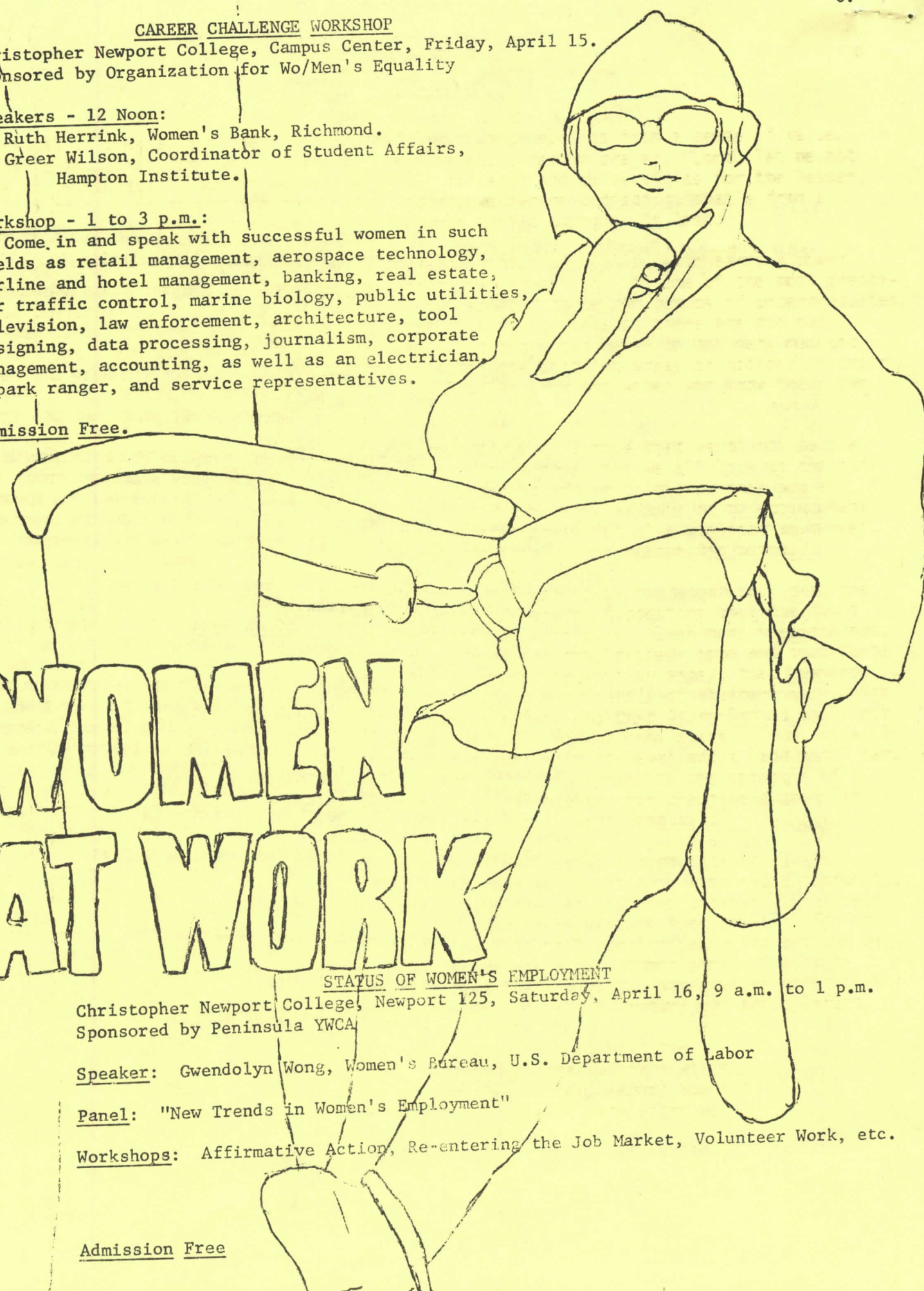
Speakers - 12 Noon:

Ruth Herrink, Women's Bank, Richmond.  
Greer Wilson, Coordinator of Student Affairs,  
Hampton Institute.

Workshop - 1 to 3 p.m.:

Come in and speak with successful women in such fields as retail management, aerospace technology, airline and hotel management, banking, real estate, air traffic control, marine biology, public utilities, television, law enforcement, architecture, tool designing, data processing, journalism, corporate management, accounting, as well as an electrician, a park ranger, and service representatives.

Admission Free.



# WOMEN AT WORK

STATUS OF WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT

Christopher Newport College, Newport 125, Saturday, April 16, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Sponsored by Peninsula YWCA

Speaker: Gwendolyn Wong, Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor

Panel: "New Trends in Women's Employment"

Workshops: Affirmative Action, Re-entering the Job Market, Volunteer Work, etc.

Admission Free