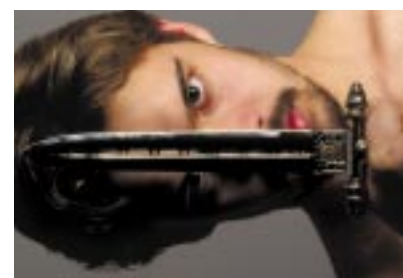


**Theatre Student Earns Grad School Boost**

Recent graduate Justin Gallo, who had the title role in SU's production of *Hamlet* directed by the



London Globe Theater's Charles Duff, has been awarded a scholarship to the University of Florida's theater graduate program valued at \$70,000.

**Great Faculty + Great Students = High Retention**

*Student Research Earns International Recognition*

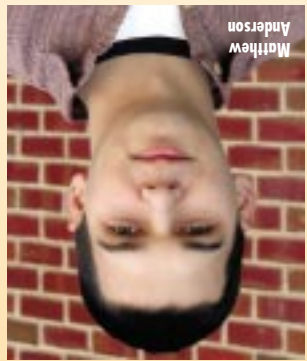
Senior biology major Matthew Anderson recently presented a paper in Toronto to an international group of scientists. The research described in the paper, "Membrane Lipin Involvement in the Molt Cycle of the Blue Crab (*Callinectes sapidus*)," was conducted by Anderson in the laboratory of Dr. Eugene Williams. No stranger to international conferences, this was Anderson's second paper presented to the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Williams had high praise for Anderson's work, which reflects the University's commitment to undergraduate research. "We are committed to having our students do important and meaningful research that contributes to the body of knowledge in a real way. Matt is an example of a student whose work was good enough to present at national meetings," said Williams. Anderson's work was also good enough to win him a research assistantship to Georgetown University where he will pursue his Ph.D. in molecular biology.

*Regents Honor SU Faculty*

Three Salisbury University professors have received the highest honor given to faculty by the University System of Maryland, the Regents' Faculty Award for Excellence: Dr. Memo Diriker, marketing; Dr. Kimberly Hunter, biology; and Dr. Judith Stribling, biology. "These educators, recommended by the Regents Faculty Award Committee, are an example for every person in higher education," said Clifford M. Kendall, chairman of the Board. "Through their hard work, dedication and creative endeavors, they have shown that for teachers and students alike, real learning knows no boundaries. The Board is pleased to bestow its highest honor upon them." More than a fourth of this year's Regents' Award winners were SU faculty. The only other campus represented by three was the University of Maryland College Park.



The Maryland Higher Education Commission Student Advisory Council ranked SU's advising program as one of the top three most effective in the state.



Matthew Anderson



This spring SU said farewell to the largest graduating class in its over 75-year history, 1,152.



Dr. Kimberly Hunter, biology; Dr. Memo Diriker, marketing; and Dr. Judith Stribling, biology.



*SU Students Stay At SU*

For the 16th consecutive year, Salisbury University has the highest four-year graduation rate in the University System of Maryland. SU also boasts the System's highest five-year graduation rate for the 11th consecutive year and the highest six-year graduation rate for the eighth straight year. SU's six-year graduation rate, at 70.8 percent is 15.5 percentage points higher than the 2001 national average of 55.3 percent. The report, "Retention and Graduation Rates at Maryland Public Four-Year Institutions," examines the number and percentage of students who were retained at their original public four-year campus and those who graduated from any senior public college or university in the state. The six-year measurement is a nationally recognized standard of measuring graduation at the baccalaureate level. Bryan Price, director of institutional research at SU, said there are several factors that account for the school's high graduation level. "First, students get the classes they need when they need them," he said. "Department chairs and departments are flexible in planning. There is a strong student-centered focus. "We have a two-pronged approach to student advising that also serves students well. Each school's professional advising coordinator works with students to make sure their University requirements are on track. Then the faculty advisor provides the mentoring and professional guidance which adds depth to the level of interaction. An emphasis is placed on a personal understanding of each student's needs." The result is an advising system that was praised this year by students in a Maryland Higher Education Commission survey as one of the best in the state.

On The Cover: Ernestine Kon-Bendu from Sierra Leone.

**SU TODAY**  
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Summer 2003

**SU Grads Rule!**

16 Years with the Highest Maryland System Grad Rate

**ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- Bringing Philosophy to the Prison
- Lax Is No. 1
- Caribbean Colleges Learn from SU
- Lit/Film Journal Turns 30



## President Dudley-Eshbach Brings SU Presence to Caribbean

Salisbury University President Janet Dudley-Eshbach was a featured speaker at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities' seminar for new presidents in Puerto Rico. Because of her presidential experience, Latin American expertise and fluency in Spanish, Dudley-Eshbach was asked to serve as a mentor for new Puerto Rican college and university presidents. Earlier in the academic year, Dudley-Eshbach traveled to Cuba as a member of a delegation with the NAESA: Association of International Educators, exploring the possibility of faculty and student exchanges with Cuban universities, as well as bringing the Cuban people needed school and medical supplies.



## History Channel Taps SU Prof

When the History Channel needed an expert on the history of torture, they turned to Salisbury University history professor Dr. Melanie Perreault. Perreault appeared on the channel's Modern Marvels series during an episode detailing torture devices used from ancient to modern times. Speaking about the European and Native American clashes during the 17th century, Perreault examined the Iroquois and the Jesuits of New France.

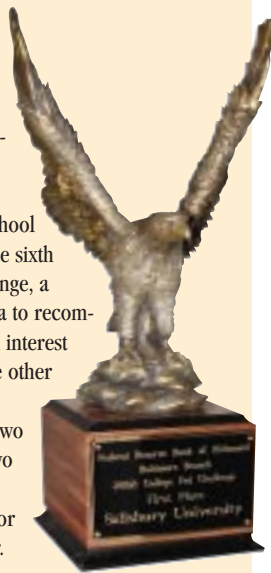


## Top Teachers Are SU Grads

More than one in five of Maryland's 24 teachers of the year in 2003 call Salisbury University their Alma Mater. SU alumni receiving the distinction this year include Bernadette Richardson in Caroline County, Nancy Phillips in Dorchester County, George Radcliffe Jr. in Queen Anne's County, Aaron Deal in Wicomico County and Carvel LaCurts in Worcester County. Dr. Dennis Pataniczek, dean of the Seidel School of Education and Professional Studies, said "This is a testimony to their superb professional skills, their efforts and their preparation. We are extremely proud that they are SU alums."

## Business Students Meet the Fed Challenge

Five Perdue School of Business students were recently honored, along with their coach and economics/finance professor Dr. Ying Wu, by the Federal Reserve Bank in Baltimore. The Perdue School team took first place in the sixth annual College Fed Challenge, a competition analyzing data to recommend possible changes in interest rates. "Unlike some of the other campuses, Salisbury has been competing for only two years. And within those two years they were winning," said Federal Reserve Senior Manager Gordon Woelper.



# Students, Inmates Free Their Minds

*The Baltimore Sun* describes it as "one of the bolder town-gown initiatives a college has ever tried." The program has provoked such interest that newspapers as far away as Texas have covered it. One mother, who has a son in prison, was so moved and grateful when she read about it, that she wrote the University to say thank you.

But its biggest impact is upon the "students"—those at Salisbury University and those incarcerated, who say it's been life-changing. Said one, "It's been a break-through in my life." One of the prisoners involved calls it "my (weekly) two hours of freedom."

Sponsored by the University's Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement (PACE) and initiated and supervised by Dr. James Hatley in the Philosophy Department, the program is seemingly simple: a book group between SU philosophy students and convicted felons. Starting with only a handful of students, it now has expanded to some 20 each semester. In a cooperative effort, PACE, the Philosophy Department and the University Book Store are working to augment the holdings in the prison library.

Each week, carrying only their books on philosophy and a belief in the power of ideas, different small groups of University students meet in the library at Eastern Correctional Institution with 12-15

prisoners who also have been studying the texts. Together they tackle works by Albert Camus, Frederick Douglass, Friedrich Nietzsche and W.E.B. DuBois, in spirited, free-wheeling, sometimes heated

discussions. Their two worlds do more than collide: they merge.

The study and discussion of books can change lives, and here, even surrounded by guards, they do.



Kevin Lockhart of Eastern Correctional Institution (left) shares a laugh with Salisbury University students Michael Hansen and Ron Cirillo as they discuss W.E.B. DuBois. (Photo Courtesy of Jed Kirschbaum, The Baltimore Sun.)

## Foreign Affairs Leader Visits

On the eve of war in the Middle East, Salisbury University's Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement (PACE) hosted Senate Foreign Relations Chairman Richard Lugar. Looking to the future, he shared with a packed auditorium his concerns about post-war Iraq, speaking eloquently on the future of democracy and what he called "the failed state." His lecture was part of the semester-long Peace and Conflict program. Lugar was the second speaker in the Paul S. Sarbanes Lecture Series, established last year as a joint partnership between the senior senator from Maryland and PACE.



Dr. Harry Basehart, Senator Paul S. Sarbanes, SU President Janet Dudley-Eshbach, Senator Richard Lugar and Dr. Fran Kane

## Lit/Film Turns 30

The University recently celebrated the 30th anniversary of one of the most respected film journals in the United States, *Literature/Film Quarterly*. Honored at the reception were its founders and editors, Dr. James Welsh and Dr. Thomas Erskine of the English Department, and business manager Anne Welsh. The publication began at a time when universities nationwide were beginning to boost film programs, and huge information databases such as the Internet were still decades away. Throughout its history, *Literature/Film Quarterly* has provided each new generation of SU graduate and undergraduate students opportunities to learn about film studies and journal publishing through internships in its office.



## Perdue Majors Excel

Four students at Salisbury University's Franklin P. Perdue School of Business scored in the 99th percentile on the Educational Testing Service's Major Field Test For Business 2003.

SU finance majors Douglas Church and Alexis Johnson, management major Benson Harper and international exchange student Karsten Ploog bested 99 percent of the nation on the test.

Perdue School Professor of Management Frank Shipper said the results point to a developing trend. "Our accounting, finance, information/decision sciences, management, and marketing majors all

scored above 94 percent in their respective fields," he said.

The 159 graduating Perdue seniors who took the Major Field Test competed with students from other business schools across the country. The tests are used to gauge students' knowledge of accounting, economics, management, finance, marketing, information systems, and legal and international issues.

The Perdue School is one of approximately 25 percent of the business schools nationally accredited by AACSB International - Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Of 5,300 undergraduate students at Salisbury University, 1,200 pursue business degrees.



## A Winning Season

An outstanding spring season by virtually all the sports teams vaulted the Sea Gulls to a number 18 finish in the national Directors' Cup ranking for 2003. The men's lacrosse team highlighted the spring by capturing its fourth national championship with a thrilling 14-13 overtime victory over Middlebury in the NCAA final. The softball team concluded its most successful season ever by finishing as the national championship runner-up. The women's lacrosse team won its third conference championship in four years and advanced to the national quarterfinals of the NCAA Tournament. The baseball team made its fourth straight NCAA Tournament appearance. The women's tennis team won its second straight conference championship and earned its third straight NCAA Tournament berth.

