

UNIVERSITY

Continued from 1

programs that will increase and enhance faculty and staff diversity at all levels of the university, to develop internal and external collaborations and partnerships that will extend diversity and multi-cultural education and research to the broader community, and to assess "pipeline" student-recruitment strategies and programs.

Gooden will help Alumni Relations coordinate reunions and other meetings of African-American alumni on campus and in strategic locations off campus, develop programs and activities that will reconnect African-American alumni to the university and encourage them to establish supportive relationships with current students, establish a global network of African-American alumni, and develop and maintain an African-American alumni web site and virtual community.

Gooden will work with VCE to develop a database of outreach programs and other

resources at the university that target minority populations; increase the visibility of VCE among minority populations across Virginia; help the university and VCE recruit, retain, and promote qualified minority faculty and staff members, and students; and disseminate information to 4-H students and their families about academic and outreach programs at Virginia Tech.

In his job as an Extension specialist, Gooden planned and provided leadership to an extensive state-wide research project that assessed the needs and issues in communities throughout Virginia, analyzed data regarding community-development issues, and identified and categorized resources and expertise at Virginia Tech and Virginia State University that could address community-development issues in the state.

Before joining the faculty at Virginia Tech, Gooden was a legislative fellow for U.S. Senator Charles Robb in Washington, where he analyzed and suggested policy recommendations for federal legislation regarding economic development in rural and minority communities and addressed community-development issues. He has also been a pre-doctoral fellow for the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research at the University of North Carolina (UNC), research assistant for the Psychosocial Research Division in UNC's School of Social Work, graduate assistant in Syracuse University's Health Education Office, research fellow for the State University of New York Health Science Center at Syracuse, and legislative assistant for U.S. Representative Lewis Payne.

Gooden holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Virginia Tech and a master of public health and Ph.D. in social work from UNC. He is also a graduate of the Marine Corps Officer Candidate School in Quantico.