



# Applied Research Center Student Newsletter

## Important Visit



On December 9<sup>th</sup>, the ARC was visited by representatives from congresswoman Jo Ann Davis's office. These representatives (pictured above) were: Chief of Staff Chris Connelly and his associates: Mary Springer, Legislative Director, and Elizabeth Beckton, Scheduler. They were taken for a guided tour of the W&M labs. Students and staff members talked about the scientific projects they are working on and described the features of the equipment they use in their work. In the top picture, Dee Dee is discussing our ToF-SIMS and its use in analyzing the structure of biological samples. In the pictures below, Natalie (left) is describing features and explaining the fundamentals of the Scanning Probe Microscope.



Another instrument that attracted a lot of interest from our guests was the Hirox microscope. Its outstanding optical capabilities and powerful software allow us to obtain high quality images and data. Examples of the images and data were shown to the visitors.

## WORK IN PROGRESS



Yujun Song is a graduate student at ODU in the Chemistry Department. He currently works in the ODU Applied Research lab for Dr. Hani Assayed-Ali and Dr. Nancy Xu. He is currently researching applications of nanospheres in biotechnology. Our AFM helps him to observe how these particles are packed and to improve his methods of thin film preparation. The right picture, above, shows a 2x2 micron scan of one of his samples.

## LAB TOURS



On December 12<sup>th</sup>, Virginia Consortium of Engineering and Science Universities (VCES) Director, Dr. Liz Ward, and University of Virginia - Dr. James Groves, Assistant Professor and Director, UVA Engineering School Distance Learning Program visited our lab. Dr. Michael Kelley conducted a tour for them and talked about our equipment and work.

Another visit took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December. Dr. Bill Cooke, a W&M Professor of Physics brought Dr. Tina Gatlin, a new Research Professor of Applied Science to the ARC. Amy took them on a tour of the W&M and NSU labs. Tina's area of interest includes ToF-SIMS applications. In the left picture, below, Dee Dee talks about the ToF-SIMS and her work with it. In the right picture Christopher Brittin, a W&M senior, shows his AFM results to Dr. Cooke and Dr. Gatlin.

