



## Lynn M. Davis

Director of Communications  
College of Natural Resources  
Virginia Tech

**Contact Information:**  
E-mail: [davisl@vt.edu](mailto:davisl@vt.edu)  
Phone: 540/231-6157

142 Cheatham Hall (0324)  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061  
[www.cnr.vt.edu](http://www.cnr.vt.edu)

### Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Lynn M. Davis leads the communications and public affairs efforts at the College of Natural Resources to make it well known throughout the nation. She started working at Virginia Tech in 1992 as a public relations specialist in the College of Engineering and moved over to develop the public affairs program for the College of Natural Resources when it was separated from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in 1994. She held a shared communications position with NOAA's Sea Grant Program for several years.

Davis has worked for the National Park Service's Blue Ridge Parkway as a public affairs specialist and served as communications director for the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce, where she helped coordinate the Golden Anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway in 1985 and its Dedication Celebration in 1987. She worked with two Virginia governors in hosting their Small Business Conferences. She has also been a Maryland newspaper reporter and worked for Maryland Congressman Larry Hogan, the University of Maryland at Baltimore and at Baltimore County, Baltimore-Washington International Airport, Hollins University, North Cross School, WDBJ-TV, Houck Advertising, and Virginia's Office of Tourism.

One of her greatest accomplishments was engaging the Society of Environmental Journalists to hold its 2008 annual conference at Virginia Tech and the Conference Center at the Hotel Roanoke, attended by more than 800 journalists and government officials. Davis has received thirty-some professional awards over her career, including the Dugdale Award for Conservation from the Garden Clubs

of Virginia for her work in getting county governments to use wise planning to preserve the integrity of the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Newsweek Award for Best College Newsmagazine for her work at the University of Maryland at Baltimore County. She appears in various editions of *Who's Who in America*.

Davis writes reviews of outdoor books for the *Roanoke Times* and is the author of several regional best-selling books, including the three-part series, *Bed and Breakfast and Unique Inns of Virginia*. She has interviewed such notable individuals as Bob Hope and Franklin Roosevelt, Jr., and is also the editor of several books, including the *Marine and Freshwater Products Handbook*.

She currently serves on the Virginia Association for Parks Board as National Parks Chair, the Virginia Museum of Natural History Board, Friends of the Blue Ridge Parkway (founding member), member of the 75th Anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway, and founding board member of the Western Virginia Land Trust. She has served on numerous other boards in the past.

Davis earned her B.S. in government and journalism at the University of Maryland-College Park, and her M.B.A. from Averett University, Roanoke Campus. She attended University of Virginia's Managing People Program and the Roanoke Valley's Leadership Program. She lives in Roanoke and has one son, Jason, a Virginia Tech trained water engineer in Boise, Idaho. He and his wife, Aryn, have a son, Tobi, and a daughter, Kiowa Lynn.

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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