Hi!

We hope your first week back was good and that you are adjusting to our current new "normal" on campus. Welcome to all our new listserv members!

Here's what's included in this week's message:

1. Undergraduate Research form now available
2. OUR Operations
3. Ambassador Office Hours
4. Diversity in STEM Mentorship Program
5. Virtual Undergraduate Research Opportunities
6. Undergraduate Research Grant Opportunities
7. Calls for Papers

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1. Undergraduate Research form now available
   The Virginia Tech Plan for Reinstating Undergraduate Research for 2020-2021 establishes the conditions under which undergraduates can return to conduct research during the fall 2020 semester. Included in this Plan is a new mandatory form indicating agreement to the requirements for conducting undergraduate research. Students are required to initiate and sign the form, which applies to all experiential learning modalities (undergraduate research, study abroad, internships, co-ops, field study, etc). Upon submission, the form will be automatically forwarded to the research supervisor for signature. This form will be in addition to any college level forms required for students wishing to register for undergraduate research credit hours.

   These requirements apply to ALL Virginia Tech undergraduate students who will be conducting face-to-face research, whether for credit, for pay, or as volunteers and align with the existing requirements that were approved for Fall teaching labs as well as the research requirements established by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation (OVPRI). Failure to complete the form will prohibit students from engaging in in-person research activities and can result in students being dropped from research courses.

2. OUR Operations
   As a reminder, the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) will be operating virtually throughout the Fall semester. But even though we aren't available in-person we are still available to help you. We can be reached by email at undergradresearch@vt.edu.

   Answers to many questions can be found on our website. Some helpful pages to get you started include:

   Welcome to the OUR
   Getting Started
   Research Opportunities
3. OUR Ambassador Office Hours
OUR Ambassadors are available to work with you one-on-one but have moved their daily office hours online. Meet the ambassadors, learn about their drop-in office hours, and how to connect with them directly via email on their webpage. Starting this week, drop-in office hours will be held via zoom:

- Mondays 6-7pm
- Tuesdays 4-5pm
- Wednesdays 9-10am
- Thursdays 3-4pm
- Fridays 10-11am

Zoom link for all office hours: virginiatech.zoom.us/my/research (personal ID number: 540 231 3580)

4. Diversity in STEM Mentorship Program
Project SHORT (Student Health Opportunities and Research Training) is an organization comprised of volunteer MD, PhD, and MD/PhD students who offer pro-bono consulting for medical and graduate school admissions. Project SHORT was founded with the goal of combatting socioeconomic and systemic inequalities in the medical and graduate school admissions processes. By offering free, high-quality admissions consulting, Project SHORT aims to help diversify the pool of highly qualified applicants to graduate and medical/dental schools. We have a team of over 300 mentors who have worked with over 350 applicants.

More information can be found at project-short.com.

5. Virtual Undergraduate Research Opportunities
- “Echoes” Virtual Conference, 47th Annual DC History Conference; submission | Deadline August 31
- Online Symposium—Music, Mediation, and Disability: Representation and Access | Deadline August 31
- ePoster or Oral Presentation Session, ABRCMS | Deadline September 11
- Call for Posters, Online 15th Annual Autism Conference, Association for Behavior Analysis International | Deadline September 16
- Call for Poster Abstracts, Eighth Annual Virtual Conference, Black Doctoral Network | Deadline August 31
- 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting and Student Research Conference, Sigma Xi | Deadline [poster presentation abstract] October 1
- “Pitch It to Win It,” Herman and Myrtle Goldstein Undergraduate Student Competition, American Assn of Textile Chemists and Colorists | Deadline January 26, 2021
- 2021 RASC-AL Competition, National Institute of Aerospace | Deadline March 4, 2021
- Twenty-First Annual Steel Design Student Competition, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture | Deadline June 2, 2021

6. Undergraduate Research Grant Opportunities
- Grants in Aid of Research Program, Sigma Xi | Deadline October 1
7. Calls for Papers

- Call for Abstracts, "River Health: Past, Present, and Future," 27th River Symposium (Virtual) | Deadline September 1
- Call for Abstracts, 2020 Bays and Bayous Virtual Symposium | Deadline September 7
- Call for Papers, "Archaeology in a Time of Unprecedented Crisis," Virtual Conference, Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology | Deadline September 15
- Call for Abstracts, 2020 Virtual Symposium on Substance Use Research | Deadline September 18
- Call for Abstracts, "Faces of Stigma," November Virtual International Conference on Stigma, Howard University | Deadline September 18
- Undergraduate Student Paper Competition, Earthquake Engineering Research Institute | Deadline October 1

Have a good week. Be Committed. Be well.

Best,
Keri

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