Hi,

Happy Thanksgiving! We are launching a new format for this newsletter in the coming weeks. Please let us know what you think about the current newsletter and or suggestions you have by filling out a survey (it takes less than 5 mins to complete)! Until then, here’s what’s included in this newsletter:

1. OUR Student Ambassadors Recruitment
2. Cord for Seniors Graduating this Fall
3. Interactive Workshop on Mentoring Undergraduates in Research
4. Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program (MAOP) Summer Research Internship Collaboration
5. 2022 Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference
6. Interested in Volunteering to Become an Abstract Reviewer?
7. Global Fellow in Residence Program
8. Cranwell International Center Program Development Grants
9. RFA - Pilot Feasibility for VT/Carilion Collaborations and Health Behaviors-Related Studies
10. National Science Foundation Opportunities

1. OUR Student Ambassadors Recruitment
The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) is recruiting students who are passionate about undergraduate research and want to share that with other students while helping them to navigate their own research journey. Student ambassadors will also gain:
- Free swags such as T-shirts, gadgets, stickers, and etc.
- Access to workshops on professional development.
- Advanced access to research excellence graduation cord from the OUR.
- Exclusive networking opportunities during professional conferences/symposiums.

Please help us to spread the word! If you have questions about the Ambassador program or application process, please contact Nicole Bottass (nicoleje@vt.edu). For more information click HERE. Access the online application form HERE.

2. Cord for Seniors Graduating this Fall
Please help us to spread the word! For seniors who are graduating this December, there is a chance to pick up a specially designed graduation cord from our office if the student has done research project(s) and or participated in research-related activities as an undergrad! This is open to ALL MAJORS!
Graduating seniors can claim this honorable badge of excellence by documenting their undergraduate research experience(s) through the Undergraduate Research Excellence Program (UREP) Canvas site. Learn more and sign up to join the program online. If you have any questions about the program and or items that can be counted as potential substitutions for points, please contact Keri Swaby, the director of the Office of Undergraduate Research, at kswaby@vt.edu. The deadline to complete the program for a graduation cord is Dec. 6 at 9 am.

3. Interactive Workshop on Mentoring Undergraduates in Research
You are invited to participate in the interactive workshop on Mentoring Undergraduates in Research on Thursday, January 13, 2022, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm in the Newman Library Multipurpose Room. We are planning this to be in-person but will modify it if necessary based on campus health status at the time.

Drawing from multiple well-established sources and programs, including the nationally recognized Entering Mentoring curriculum, this free half-day workshop will engage participants through interactive sessions on recognizing their mentoring approach, exploring what a mentor is and is not, what a mentor does, and guidelines and best practices for mentoring undergraduate students in research. The principles presented will be applied broadly to all areas of research. Participants will be required to prepare for the workshop by reading introductory documents and case studies to be posted on a dedicated Canvas site; preparation time should not exceed two hours.

This workshop is open to faculty, post-doctoral fellows, and graduate students. Participants are eligible to receive PDN credit. Program capacity is 50, accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Participation in this workshop is free but registration will be required. Complete the online registration form by January 5 at 5 pm.

The workshop is developed and facilitated by Dr. Stephanie (Nikki) Lewis, Collegiate Assistant Professor in the Honors College, who brings over 10 years of experience and training in mentoring undergraduates and graduates in research and is co-developer of a scaffolded research mentoring model for computational research (https://doi.org/10.1002/bmb.20975) currently used in the Brown Experiential Learning Lab at Virginia Tech (https://bevanbrownlab.com/).
4. Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program (MAOP) Summer Research Internship Collaboration

The Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program (MAOP) Office is preparing for the 29th Annual Summer Research Internship Program. This year’s program is set for May 23, 2022 - July 29, 2022. Faculty in various colleges and departments have graciously hosted summer interns for many years. In case you are not familiar with this program, this is a 10-week internship that provides undergraduates from across the United States and VT an opportunity to gain hands-on research experience in their chosen discipline.

The student internship benefits are as follows:
$3,000 Stipend
On-campus housing
Meal plan
Attends GRE class each week (pre and post-test)
Workshops on research and graduate education
Other activities throughout the 10-week program.

We are planning as if the summer will resume as normal and be held on campus this year. Last year we participated in the first virtual approach and found it to be successful for those who could participate virtually. We thank those who participated in supporting our SRI students in 2020 as well as in previous years. I am contacting you to see if your college/department is interested in hosting interns for Summer 2022. We do ask that your college/departments also support this endeavor, financially. If students are hosted on campus this summer, the total for the college/department is $4,500. Payment will need to be transferred to MAOP between May 1, 2022- July 31, 2022. This allows for your area to use money from fiscal years 21-22 and/or 22-23. (Please keep in mind this money would need to be transferred into a fund that is considered E&G funds, we can only use E&G funds).

We plan for the application to go live on December 6, 2021. Please let us know no later than November 22, 2021, if you are willing to host an intern(s) this coming summer. Thank you in
advance for your support. Contact Monica Hunter, Director, at monicah@vt.edu for more information.

5. 2022 Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference
The annual Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference will take place in person (fingers crossed!) throughout the day on Friday, April 29 in the Commonwealth Ballroom in Squires Student Center. Designed to be an accessible and open opportunity for students to present and share their work with peers and the VT Community at large, we are hoping that you can help us by encouraging your students to apply and/or attend this amazing event. More information about the conference, including a student registration link, will soon be available on the symposium webpage.

We wanted to share this information with you now as you start to plan your spring classes, in the event that you are interested in having your students present artifacts from your course (as a group or individually) or if attendance to the event could be built into your schedule. We are happy to discuss the possibilities. Feel free to contact Keri Swaby, Director for the Office of Undergraduate Research, via email at kswaby@vt.edu or phone at 540-231-7737.

6. Interested in Volunteering to Become an Abstract Reviewer?
Posters on the Hill receives hundreds of student abstracts in all academic disciplines. Council on Undergraduate Research is soliciting for volunteers who are interested in dedicating 2-3 hours of their time during December 17, 2021 - January 27, 2022, to review a select amount of Posters on the Hill abstract submissions. If interested, please fill out the following form by December 13, 2021. Click here to learn more.

National Conference on Undergraduate Research 2022 @Home
National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) will be delivered as a virtual experience again in 2022, and while we are extremely excited about the potential of this digital experience, we are also in great need of your help. NCUR receives and accepts thousands of student abstracts in all academic disciplines every year, and we anticipate this year to be no different. As a result, we are in need of abstract reviewers. If you are an administrator, faculty member, post-doc, or graduate student you will be eligible to review student abstracts for NCUR 2022. Click here to learn more.
7. Global Fellow in Residence Program
Mozaiko, Virginia Tech’s global living-learning community, offers a complimentary apartment to Virginia Tech departments. We invite departments to host visiting scholars, artists, industry professionals, staff, and lecturers to serve as a Global Fellow in Residence (GFIR). Designed as a short-term residency experience, Mozaiko will provide a complimentary, fully-furnished, one-bedroom apartment in Harper Hall, the home of Mozaiko, for up to 4-weeks. We are currently accepting applications for Spring 2022. Deadline for submission: December 3rd, 2021.
Click Here to Read More

8. Cranwell International Center Program Development Grants
- Department Grants
- Bhadra & Chrys Gunasekera Memorial Excellence Grants (Departments/Student Organizations/Living-Learning Programs all eligible)

Cranwell International Center is committed to the advancement of Virginia Tech as a global land grant university that is globally oriented and internationally connected and to the development of global and intercultural competence in all students. These grants are intended to provide financial support for the design, development, and implementation of initiatives that will have a significant impact on the international student experience and/or on the development of intercultural competence in Virginia Tech community members (faculty, staff, students).
Click here to learn more.

9. RFA - Pilot Feasibility for VT/Carilion Collaborations and Health Behaviors-Related Studies
In a partnership with the Carilion Clinic Research Acceleration Program (RAP), the office of the Virginia Tech Vice President of Health Sciences and Technology, and the CHBR, FBRI Center for Health Behaviors Research will fund up to three health behavior related P/F studies up to $20,000/year that demonstrate a high likelihood of future extramural funding.

Click here to learn more.

10. National Science Foundation Opportunities
- Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases | Deadline November 24, 2021
- Archaeology and Archaeometry | Deadline December 1, 2021
• Cyberinfrastructure for Sustained Scientific Innovation (CSSI) | Deadline December 8, 2021
• Biological Oceanography | Deadline December 31, 2021
• Partnerships for Research and Education in Physics (for minority-serving institutions) | Deadline January 21, 2022
• Community Facility Support: Synchrotron-Based Analytical Capabilities Advancing Earth and Environmental Sciences Research and Training | Deadline March 4, 2022

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SO, HOW'D WE DO?

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Share your thoughts with us by taking this short survey (less than 5 min to complete)!

Have a great week!

Best,
Shu

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