Hello Hokies! The Office of Undergraduate Research just launched a new summer research program called F.I.R.E. Starters Program with the theme of Environment and Society. The program is open to all VT students and the application portal is open! We’d also like to remind you of the application for the paid summer employment opportunity with our office as a Peer Mentor is due this Friday, March 4, at 5 pm EST. This newsletter also features research programs focused on Data Science, Data Modeling, Biology, Engineering, Computer Science, Health, Energy, Nuclear and Cyber Security, Biomedical Science, Math, Statistics, Life Sciences, Nanotechnology, Photonics, STEM, and related fields. See asterisks (**) for programs that are accepting applications from international students. In addition to research programs, this newsletter includes two scholarship & fellowship opportunities for eligible students to apply. This week’s edition ends with professional development programs in Crystallography and African American Art, as well as presentation and paper opportunities.

Did you find the newsletter helpful? Have opinions about the newsletter? Let us know by taking the quick survey at the end of the newsletter! (6.5 minutes read)

In today’s edition:

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1.1 Office Hours
Office hours will be held virtually at this point until further notice. You need to be logged into your VT Zoom account before opening the link. (Personal ID number: 540 231 3580)
Friday, March 4, 2022, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 16, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, March 24, 2022, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
We can always be reached at ugr@vt.edu if you need help with undergrad research experience.

1.2 F.I.R.E. Starters Program**
The mission of the program is to forge interest, knowledge, and skill development in transdisciplinary research and engagement among underrepresented and underserved undergraduate students in the social sciences, humanities, and life sciences at Virginia Tech. The theme for the inaugural year of the F.I.R.E. Starters program is Environment and Society. Students in all disciplines – especially in the humanities and social sciences – are encouraged to think broadly about how their interests intersect with this theme and how they could advance a research project that builds on their interests. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is Apr. 1, 2022.

2.1 Solving Problems with Data Science at Virginia Tech
This paid summer REU program is for undergraduates interested in solving problems with data at the interface of biology and engineering. Students will collect data, and learn to make decisions from these data. Research projects will use sensor-based assets and/or computational-based assets at Virginia Tech. Students will learn to communicate effectively with fellow students, policymakers, and the public. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is Mar. 25, 2022.

2.2 Computing for Health and Well-Being REU
The program is motivated by the considerable strain on the U.S. healthcare system due to short-term challenges, such as those posed by the COVID-19 outbreak, and
long-term trends, such as an aging U.S. population. Computer scientists are in a unique position to help solve these and other problems in health and wellbeing. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is Mar. 31, 2022.

2.3 Minority Educational Institution Student Partnership Program at U.S. Department of Energy
The program is designed to provide talented undergraduate and graduate students with internships that introduce them to a variety of entry and mid-level research, technical and professional positions within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and its national laboratories. Interns will help support the DOE mission of discovering solutions to power and secure America’s future. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is Mar. 31, 2022, EST.

2.4 WVU Biomedical Sciences Summer Research Experience
The internship is an 8-week hands-on summer research program designed to provide students with the opportunity to actively engage in biomedical research in the following areas: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Cancer, Cell Biology, Cellular, and Integrative Physiology, Exercise Physiology, Immunology, and Microbial Pathogenesis, Neuroscience, Pharmaceutical, and Pharmacological Sciences. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is Mar. 1, 2022, at 11:59 PM EST.

2.5 Mathematical, Statistical and Computational Methods for Problems in the Life Sciences
The program is an 8-week intensive program that actively engages undergraduate students in research projects designed to introduce students to mathematical, statistical, and computational methods in the study of life science problems. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is Mar. 6, 2022.

2.6 Nanotechnology and Photonics REU at Boston University
The program provides undergraduates (freshman to seniors) and novice (community college) students majoring in or with an interest in Mechanical, Biomedical, Electrical & Computer, and Materials Science Engineering with an
opportunity to actively participate in cutting-edge summer research projects. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is Mar. 15, 2022.

2.7 SMALL *Math* Undergraduate Research Project at Williams College**
The program is a nine-week residential summer program in which undergraduates investigate open research problems in mathematics. Topics in the past few years have included additive combinatorics, commutative algebra, ergodic theory, geometry, knot theory, mathematical biology, mathematical physics, number theory, random matrix theory, statistics, tropical geometry. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is Mar. 10, 2022.

3.1 MAOP Undergraduate Scholars Program
This program provides financial assistance to undergraduate students from Virginia, who demonstrate a commitment to academic and community stewardship. In exchange for financial support, Undergraduate Scholars must participate in meetings to share ideas and experiences with other MAOP participants. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is Apr. 15, 2022.

3.2 Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation
This program is designed to increase the graduation rates of underrepresented students in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields. The LSAMP program will provide academic support and enrichment to undergraduates participating in the program. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is Apr. 15, 2022.

4.1 The Four-day Pacific Northwest Summer Crystallographic Institute
This program has been created to instruct up to 25 students and their faculty research mentors in the methods and rewards of single-crystal X-ray crystallography as a tool for routine characterization. While other workshops and academic courses focus on training crystallographers, this Institute is unique in having as its target audience as junior scholars and faculty who wish to become better-informed consumers of crystallographic data. Click here to learn more about
the program. The deadline is not specified, but we suggest interested students apply ASAP.

4.2 African Art Through the Years
Steve Tatum, Digital Collections and Art Curator at the Newman Library, Virginia Tech, will deliver an illustrated talk on the topic “African Art through the Years.” This presentation honors the late Professor Robert Farris Thompson (1932-2021), who thoroughly immersed himself in the cultures he studied and who brought the study of African Art into the field of Art History. No registration is required. The event starts on March 2, 2022, at 9 am at the Dean's Conference Room, Cowgill Hall.

5. Paper & Presentation Opportunities

- IMAGE 2022, International Meeting for Applied Geoscience and Energy | Deadline March 17, 2022
- Pharmaceutical Microbiology Conference 2022, Parenteral Drug Association | Deadline March 31, 2022

Have you applied? Did you find the newsletter helpful? Have opinions about the newsletter? Let us know by taking this quick survey!

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