Hi!

I know that the current situation is far from ideal but we will all make the best of it and come out the other end stronger! Good luck resuming your classes in the virtual environment.

I am including relevant content that was sent out last week in the event that you missed it. In addition, here are some useful online resources:

- University information on COVID-19
- Student Tips for Academic Success in an Online Environment

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

1. Undergraduate Research at VT
2. OUR Operations
3. HRPP Office Hours are now virtual
4. Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education Virtual Outreach Fair
5. VT's Annual Research Conference
6. Summer research programs

1. **Undergraduate Research at VT**

If you are currently engaged in an undergraduate research project, please check with your research mentor on the status of your project. Since the university has restricted student presence on campus, it is likely that in-person research projects will be suspended for the remainder of this semester. Departments and Colleges are actively exploring options and alternatives so stay tuned for updates and actions in the coming weeks. Please be patient as this is all new to us and is an evolving situation. Check with your research mentor and OUR website for research related updates.

2. **OUR Operations**

As the university has shifted to on-line instruction, the Office of Undergraduate Research will no longer host any in-person meetings or events. Drop-in Ambassador Office hours are cancelled for the rest of this semester, however Ambassadors are still available to help you virtually, via email. Visit the Ambassador webpage for more information. You can also email OUR staff at any time: undergraduateresearch@vt.edu.

3. **HRPP Office Hours are now virtual**

The Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) Office, in light of recent events, is hosting virtual office hours for faculty and student researchers from 9 to 12 on Wednesdays. The HRPP calendar has details on how to access our remote office hours: https://www.research.vt.edu/sirc/hrpp.html
4. Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education Virtual Outreach Fair

On March 25, from 12 to 3 p.m. ET, the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) is hosting a virtual outreach fair to highlight the variety of paid internships, fellowships and research associate appointments available within our Research Participant Programs!

During the event, attendees will have the opportunity to:

**CHAT** with scientists and mentors from government agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and more!

**LEARN** about the research conducted within those agencies.

**EXPLORE** our paid internships and research associate appointments.

**CONNECT** with recruiters and get your questions answered.

Get more information about the event and register [HERE](#).

If you have any questions or trouble registering, contact us at ve@orau.org.

5. VT's Annual Research Conference

The annual Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship conference scheduled for April 24 is moving to a virtual format! We are currently working out the details but please continue to register and submit your abstracts [online](#). Updates and information will be posted on the conference website as they become available.

6. Summer research programs

We are still hoping to offer a vibrant and exciting summer research experience on campus this year but we are cautiously monitoring the fluid situation and will made adjustments as needed. Please check [OUR website](#) regularly for the status of undergraduate research at VT. And check your individual program webpages or Directors for the most up to date information on your individual program.

Best,
Keri

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