Hello Hokies! The annual Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference is on the horizon! This conference is open to all majors and multiple awards will be given. Please check out the awards information and apply by April 10 through the portal here if you’d like to present and get recognized for your research.

This week’s newsletter features research programs that welcome applications from students who are particularly interested in Biomedical Research, Wireless Communications and Machine Learning, and Integrated Health and Science Research. This newsletter also features two scholarship opportunities in Experiential Learning and Undergraduate Research, as well as eight professional development programs in the fields of Ethical Leadership and Integrity, Cyber Security, Blockchain Technology, National Security, Health Sciences, Women in Data Science Advocacy, and Teacher Education.

Let us know what you think about the newsletter by taking a quick survey at the end of the newsletter! (6 minutes read)

In today’s edition:

1. **OUR Office Bulletins**
   1. Office Hours

2. **Research Programs at and Beyond VT**
   1. Undergraduate Biomedical Research Summer Fellowship Program** (Accept CPT/OPT)
   2. VT/Duke Univ. Summer Research Program "Learning to Communicate"
   3. Integrated Health Sciences and Research Program Application & Info Session

3. **Scholarship**
   2. Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research Scholarship

4. **Professional Development**
   1. VT Ethics Week
   2. Pamplin Privacy Security and Trust Speaker event
   3. Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) Integrated Security Seminar
   4. Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) Distributed Trust: Is Blockchain the Answer?
   5. Annual National Security Education Program Colloquium
6. Health Sciences Exploration Visit Day
7. Women in Data Science Blacksburg Event
8. Teacher Education Program at the University of Richmond Info Sessions

1.1 Office Hours & Survey
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) The next three office hours will be:
Wednesday, April 6, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Thursday, April 14, 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Friday, April 22, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
We can always be reached at ugr@vt.edu if you need help with undergrad research experience.

2.1 Undergraduate Biomedical Research Summer Fellowship Program**
(Accept CPT/OPT)
Through this competitive summer fellowship program, students will have the opportunity to gain hands-on experiences in cutting-edge biomedical research laboratories at LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport, LA, under the mentorship of nationally recognized leaders in microbiology and immunology research. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is April 30, 2022.

2.2 VT/Duke Univ. Summer Research Program "Learning to Communicate"
Selected students will develop machine learning (ML) algorithms that take advantage of special features of new waveforms proposed for 6G wireless communication. The team will be highly interdisciplinary and will include students from Virginia Tech familiar with wireless communication, as well as students interested in machine learning. Students will design experiments, collect data, and analyze over the air performance, some working onsite using Virginia Tech’s CORNET testbed (https://cornet.wireless.vt.edu/), some virtually using CORENTbased remote lab experiments. Interested students should apply ASAP (ignore the indicated deadline on the website) and email Professor Carl Dietrich at
cdietric@vt.edu with the subject line "Summer Research (Duke/VT)" if they apply. Click here to learn more about the program.

2.3 Integrated Health Sciences and Research Program Application & Info Session
This is a multi-year undergraduate opportunity for students interested in careers in health professions, and clinical and translational research. It features experiential learning and innovative, clinically relevant, biomedical science-related classes for College of Science majors, particularly Biological Sciences, Neuroscience, and Nanoscience. To learn more about this opportunity, please join us at one of our upcoming information sessions: Wednesday, April 6th at 7:00 pm (Zoom) and Tuesday, April 12th at 6:00 pm (in-person in Sandy Hall). Information session details and program application link can be found on the website. For more information, contact program director Carlos Perez-Torres at cjpereztorres@vt.edu.

3.1 Jacklyn W. and William R. Jones, Jr. Experiential Learning Scholarship
The program recognizes students who engage in experiential learning opportunities. One awardee each semester will be selected to receive a scholarship in the amount of $1,000. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is April 30, 2022.

3.2 Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research Scholarship
The program recognizes students who engage in research in ANY field. This year, we will be awarding four (4) scholarships of $2,500 each to support students conducting research at Virginia Tech this summer. Click here to learn more about the program. The deadline is April 30, 2022.

4.1 VT Ethics Week
During the second annual VT Ethics Week, various departments and colleges across campus will offer events and programs related to ethical leadership and integrity
on campus and in our professional lives, including speaker events, an ethics case competition VT Ethics Bowl, and integrity workshops, panel discussions and more. Click [here](#) to learn more about the program.

### 4.2 Pamplin Privacy Security and Trust Speaker event
This event features guest speaker, Gerasimos (Gerry) J. Stellatos, who will speak about the Cyber Threat Landscape and Common Themes Across Cyber Security Incidents followed by a case study and Q&A. The event will take place in **New Classroom Building Room 170, 3 - 4:15 PM on April 8, 2022.** For Zoom ID/Passcode, email [sheasw@vt.edu](mailto:sheasw@vt.edu).

### 4.3 Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) Integrated Security Seminar
**Session 1: Expanding beyond Capture the Flag – developing workforce skills in realistic team scenarios**
Speaker: Stephanie Travis, CCI Fellow & director of the Senior Military College Cyber Institute, Intelligent Systems Lab at the Hume Center for National Security and Technology.

**Session 2: Robots that learn to influence humans**
Speaker: Dylan Losey, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at Virginia Tech.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the programs.

### 4.4 Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) Distributed Trust: Is Blockchain the Answer?
Distributed trust is about making a system resilient to misbehaving participants. People assume that anything built on "blockchain" will have such resilience. This talk will give an overview of the aspects of blockchain relevant to distributed trust. It also describes various problems and how they can be addressed with or without blockchain, comparing the results. Click [here](#) to learn more about the program.

### 4.5 Annual National Security Education Program Colloquium
The theme of this year's colloquium will be "The Future of National Security", and will showcase our students' continued endeavors to become the next generation of national security leaders. Click here to learn more about the program.

4.6 Health Sciences Exploration Visit Day
Along with the VT Carilion School of Medicine and Radford University Carilion, Virginia Tech's Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health graduate program is hosting a Health Sciences Exploration Visit Day on April 22, 2022, for undergraduate students interested in learning more about graduate programs in the health sciences and research. Please see the attachment at the end of the email to learn more about the program.

4.7 Women in Data Science Blacksburg Event
WiDS hosts a series of regional events focused primarily on technical aspects and applications of data science, in which all the presenters are women. The goal is to encourage women to pursue careers in data science and to support them by building a local community of data scientists, helping them develop their skillset and understand more about what it means to apply data science techniques to a variety of challenging problems. Click here to learn more about the program.

4.8 Teacher Education Program at the University of Richmond Info Sessions
The University of Richmond has programs in Elementary PK6, Secondary (mathematics, biology, physics, chemistry, English, History, and Social Sciences), and Comprehensive K-12 (visual arts, theater arts, foreign language). There are two info sessions available on April 5th at 5 pm, and April 13th at 7 pm. Please click here to join the info sessions on Zoom.

Let us know what you think about the newsletter by taking this quick survey!

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