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

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1. Inaugural VT Latinx Symposium
The first Virginia Tech Latinx Symposium will take place on Friday October 25th in the Squires Student Center Old Dominion Ballroom. More information, including a tentative schedule for the Symposium, is available on the website: [http://www.hfsc.org.vt.edu/symposium/](http://www.hfsc.org.vt.edu/symposium/). We are soliciting proposals from undergraduate and graduate students to present posters at the Symposium. We are looking for a broad variety of research ideas, disciplines, and approaches from students who identify as Latinx or Hispanic.

Conference organizers will provide assistance for printing posters, easels for mounting them at the event, and even tutorials on how to present a poster. All they need now is the idea for a poster. Students can submit those ideas with this survey: [https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3lcjsgL12lWa0W](https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3lcjsgL12lWa0W)

Faculty, staff, and students interested in attending the Symposium can follow this link to register:[https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9mMuA96cdA4aS1f](https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9mMuA96cdA4aS1f)

You can come to one or more sessions, but we hope that you can make it to the whole Symposium!

Please email Veronica Montes (vmontes@vt.edu) with questions about the Symposium.

2. Opening for paid research assistant at VTTI
Research Assistant- Fall Semester
(On-Road Experimenter)
Virginia Tech Transportation Institute
Center for Infrastructure Based Safety Systems

Requirements:
Must be a current VT student
Must be available to work at least 4 nights per week
Must possess a valid driver’s license
Must be able to lift 50 lbs. unassisted
Must be willing to work outside at night
Must be punctual and dependable
Must have personal means of transportation (BT does not run during our hours)

Description:
On-road experimenters are tasked with setting up the Smart Road or VTTI facilities for a human participant research study, presenting experimental conditions during the session and cleaning up/preparing for the next evening’s session once data collection is completed for that night. During our night studies, it is typical for an on-road experimenter to stand on the side of the road as a pedestrian, set up objects along the road such as deer decoys or wooden targets, operate experimental equipment, or interface with human participants in a professional manner performing screening tasks.

There is also opportunity for data reduction tasks at the conclusion of data collection or assistance in “prebuilding” items or software needed prior to data collection. These tasks are generally during the day on an as needed/as available basis.

Most shifts will typically run from dusk- (currently about 7:30PM) until somewhere around 1AM. Pay is $10.00 hourly at entry level. This position is typically a good second job if you are hoping to work a great deal of hours steadily, as the work can be influx due to project needs or weather conditions. *This position CAN continue over breaks and into different semesters*

Please send an email of interest along with your resume to Liz Catron at lcatron@vtti.vt.edu

3. The Institute for Broadening Participation- Deadlines for scholarships approaching
The mission of the Institute for Broadening Participation (IBP) is to increase diversity in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) workforce. IBP designs and implements strategies to increase access to STEM education, funding, and careers, with special emphasis on reaching and supporting individuals from underserved communities and underrepresented groups, including underrepresented minorities, women, persons with disabilities, first generation college students, and students from underserved communities. Deadlines for many undergraduate scholarships are rapidly approaching!

Students can use IBP's searchable online directory to find STEM funding opportunities: Undergraduate Scholarships -- 30+ opportunities from a variety of private and federal funders for students pursuing STEM

They also have some great resources on how to build a strong application.

Please direct any questions to Liv Detrick (email: ldetrick@ibparticipation.org ) at IBP, https://www.PathwaysToScience.org

4. Rice University hosting Gulf Coast Undergraduate Research Symposium Nov. 2
Rice University is hosting the Gulf Coast Undergraduate Research Symposium (GCURS) for the 11th year in a row and would like to invite interested students to apply at gcurapply.rice.edu. This year, the symposium will be on Saturday, Nov. 2 with professional development activities the following day. A flyer is attached with more details, including sections that are participating. This is not your usual poster session. In fact, no posters are allowed at GCURS! GCURS provides undergraduate researchers the
The opportunity to present original research discoveries to scholars from around the world. Participants give 12-to-15-minute individual presentations which include a question-and-answer period. Following the presentations, faculty mentors provide feedback to each student. Past participants have shared that GCURS helps to foster interdisciplinary, intercollegiate fellowship. Here is a video overview of the symposium - it’s high-energy, exciting and the students get a lot of value out of it.

The application is now open and the deadline is Oct. 7; limited accommodations and travel awards for those outside the Houston area are available to accepted participants. In addition, students are encouraged to explore funding opportunities from their home institution. Apply for VT travel support HERE.

5. Inaugural Network for Undergraduate Research in Virginia (NURVa) Conference Call for Submissions

The Network for Undergraduate Research in Virginia (NURVa) is a consortium of Virginia colleges and universities dedicated to supporting undergraduate research and creative activity throughout the state. The NURVa conference is an opportunity for undergraduates in all disciplines to present their research and creative work at a statewide conference. The inaugural conference will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2019, at Hampden-Sydney College in Hampden-Sydney, VA. Faculty mentors are encouraged to attend. Conference registration, which includes lunch, is $15. Virginia Tech's Office of Undergraduate Research will provide transportation for all accepted student presenters and pay for student presenter registration fees.

NURVa invites submissions from undergraduates in all disciplines in the categories of oral presentation, poster, or performance. Submit abstracts (750 words maximum) with one letter of support from a faculty mentor at https://tinyurl.com/NURVaConference. Submission deadline is midnight, November 1, 2019. Flyer attached. Please direct questions to Dr. David A. Salomon, david.salomon@cnu.edu.

6. VAS Fall Undergraduate Research Meeting

The Virginia Academy of Science’s Fall Undergraduate Research Meeting is a research grant proposal competition, which has been held annually since the Fall of 2001. In order to participate in this meeting, undergraduate students, in conjunction with their faculty mentors, are required to:

(1) Prepare and submit an Undergraduate Research Grant Application by the October 1 deadline.
(2) Develop posters outlining the proposed research (following the criteria of the Fall Meeting Poster Guidelines) and present their posters at the Fall Undergraduate Research Meeting on November 2 at Christopher Newport University (9 am – ~5 pm).

Nine Undergraduate Research Grant Awards of $750 each will be awarded to selected recipients at the end of this meeting. The grant award recipients will also be awarded student membership in the Virginia Academy of Science for 2020 and will be expected to present the results of their research at the 2020 VAS Annual Meeting in May at James Madison University.

The deadline for electronic submission of 2019 Undergraduate Research Grant Applications is October 1, 2019. More details and instructions can be found in the attached document. Please refer questions to: cconway@vacadsci.org
7. Posters on the Hill
Each spring, the Council on Undergraduate Research hosts an annual undergraduate poster session on Capitol Hill. At this event and its related activities, members of Congress and their staff members learn about the importance of undergraduate research through talking directly with the student researchers involved in these programs. This event will take place in Spring 2020. Applications for Posters on the Hill 2020 will be accepted through Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 11:59 pm EST. Late submissions will not be accepted.

More information including link to apply are available online at: https://www.cur.org/what/events/students/posters_on_the_hill_2020/

8. Reminder: OUR Ambassador Fall Office Hours
Do you have questions about undergraduate research or need some help getting started? The OUR Ambassadors are available daily to meet with students face-to-face during their drop-in office hours hosted in Burruss Hall, Suite 104. We invite you to stop by during the following times:

- Mondays 1-2
- Tuesdays 4-5
- Wednesdays 10-11
- Thursdays 3-4
- Fridays 8-9

Or reach out to any Ambassador directly: https://www.research.undergraduate.vt.edu/AboutUs/Ambassadors1.html

Have a great week!
Best,
Keri

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