This week we have a lot of information to share! Here's what's included in this week's newsletter from the OUR:

1. National Collegiate Research Conference at Harvard University: January 2019
2. Spring 2019 Tentative Diplomacy Lab Topics Unveiled
3. Student Advising Ambassadors Applications Open
4. ICTAS Seed Funding Opportunity
5. Virginia Space Grant Consortium STEM Research Scholarships
6. DOE Scholars Program Accepting Applications
7. Global Change Center Undergraduate Science Policy Fellowship
8. Global Change Center Undergraduate Research Grants
9. Share your opinion on textbook costs

Scroll down for details on each item. Have a great week!

1. **National Collegiate Research Conference (NCRC) at Harvard University: January 2019**
   
   NCRC is a large-scale, multidisciplinary forum held annually at Harvard University, where the most accomplished undergraduate students from across the United States and internationally convene each year to share their research in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. The core vision behind our conference is to provide student researchers with the opportunity to hear from the world’s leading authorities in academia, policy, and industry, as well as to foster important exchanges and dialogue between students.

   Past speakers have included Marcia K. McNutt (President of the National Academy of Sciences and former Editor-in-Chief of Science), Jeffrey D. Sachs (American economist and Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia), Harold Varmus (former director of NIH and Nobel Prize Laureate), Gina McCarthy (former Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency), and Stephen Wolfram (founder and CEO of Wolfram Research), as well as many other notable individuals in academia, policy, and industry.

   **Applications are due** by 11:59pm on December 31.

2. **Spring 2019 Tentative Diplomacy Lab Topics Unveiled**

   Diplomacy Lab research teams work on a semester-long “policy advice” group research project for a bureau or office at the U.S. Department of State, with their final project submitted to the corresponding DoS office at the end of the semester, as well as the possibility of an in-person or teleconference presentation for that office (depending on project requirements.)

   Many projects are multidisciplinary in nature, so Diplomacy Lab is open to students from all majors, pertaining to requirements and needed skills for each independent research project.

   For more information, contact Chris Price (chprice5@vt.edu) and/or check out the information attached to this e-mail.

3. **Student Advising Ambassadors Applications Open**

   Student Advising Ambassadors are Hokies who help Hokies by:
   - Helping with development of academic plans
- Connecting students with academic advisors and general campus resources
- Facilitating workshops
- Providing outreach services to people across campus

Apply to serve as an Advising Ambassador by Monday, November 26.

4. **ICTAS Seed Funding Opportunity**
   - **Roop and Kavita Mahajan Research Awards** have been established to provide small grants to current students or current student organizations in good standing at Virginia Tech to undertake projects that aim to break cycles of poverty and negligence in under-resourced communities around the world.

   Proposals may be submitted until December 3. Ideas are welcome from across a wide spectrum of areas including health, education and infrastructure. Preference will be given to proposals that show a transdisciplinary approach and are broadly aligned with the mission of ICTAS. We expect to award 2 proposals at a maximum of $2,500 each.

   For more information, contact Chris Tysor (ctysor@vt.edu) and/or check out the information attached to this e-mail.

5. **Virginia Space Grant Consortium STEM Research Scholarships**
   - The Virginia Space Grant Consortium (VSGC) provides undergraduate research scholarships of up to $8,500 to students majoring in STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Scholarships require students to participate in a faculty-mentored research experience that aligns with NASA’s mission. Student scholarships and research support totaling $4,000 during the academic year and $4,500 during the summer semester are available.

   Apply by January 28, 2019.

6. **DOE Scholars Program Accepting Applications**
   - Being selected as a DOE Scholar offers the following benefits:
     - Stipends starting at $600 per week during the internship period
     - Limited travel reimbursement to/from assigned location
     - Direct exposure to, participation in projects in DOE mission-relevant research areas
     - Identification of career goals and opportunities
     - Development of professional networks with leading scientists and subject matter experts

   Apply by December 17.

7. **Global Change Center Undergraduate Science Policy Fellowship**
   - Rising juniors and seniors majoring in science or engineering are encouraged to apply for $7,000 Global Change Center fellowships that cover in-state tuition, fees, housing, and a small stipend. Fellows attend a 6-credit Washington Semester summer program while interning 30 hours a week in D.C. with agencies such as USFWS, USAID, USEPA, and USDA.

   Apply by December 1.
8. **Global Change Center Undergraduate Research Grants**
   The Global Change Center (GCC) at Virginia Tech is accepting proposals from undergraduate students and their GCC-affiliated faculty mentor(s) to support undergraduate research that will advance the mission of the GCC. Award requests can range from $250 - $1,000 and may include itemized supply and analytical costs, as well as travel costs to research sites.

   **Apply by** December 15.

9. **Share your opinion on textbook costs**
   Student Government is working with the Library to promote Open Education, which is the elimination of cost to learning materials for students. The group is surveying students to gather information to use in legislation to ask President Sands to commit to lowering costs for textbooks and learning materials. If you would like to add your thoughts, please complete the survey here:

   [https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b8ykj71LKrpWB37](https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b8ykj71LKrpWB37)

   Questions can be directed to Sid Madhavan, email: ghrelin@vt.edu.