

# 2018 HBCU/MSI RESEARCH SUMMIT AT VIRGINIA TECH

OCTOBER 14-15  
THE INN  
AT VIRGINIA TECH



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS TO ESTABLISH, EXPAND, AND IMPROVE RESEARCH  
INITIATIVES, RESOURCES ACCESSIBILITY, AND INCLUSION EFFORTS

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GRADUATE SCHOOL  
VIRGINIA TECH.



## Welcome to the 2018 Virginia Tech HBCU/MSI Research Summit!

The summit provides an opportunity for faculty, students, and administrators to explore research opportunities and potential collaborations between historically black colleges/universities (HBCUs), minority serving institutions (MSIs), and Virginia Tech. Through these partnerships we seek to enhance the quality of research and graduate education by placing equity, diversity, and inclusion at the forefront of our pursuit of excellence. Our goals in hosting the annual research summit include:

- **Research:** fostering cross-institutional research partnerships between HBCUs, MSIs and Virginia Tech.
- **Recruitment:** Providing current HBCU and MSI students with a preview of Virginia Tech's graduate programs, allowing Virginia Tech graduate programs a key opportunity to recruit prospective students if graduate pathways are not available or aligned with student's interests at their current/home institution.
- **Degree Partnerships:** Facilitate discussions about the feasibility of shared degree programs between the HBCUs and MSIs and Virginia Tech programs.

### Welcome Speakers



**Dr. Karen P. DePauw**

Karen P. DePauw serves as Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education and holds academic appointments as tenured Professor in the Department of Sociology and the Department of Human Nutrition, Foods & Exercise at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. Since her arrival at Virginia Tech, her major accomplishments include success in building a strong, diverse and inclusive graduate community; establishing the national award-winning innovative Graduate Life Center (GLC); and implementing the signature academic initiative known as Transformative Graduate Education (TGE), including the global perspectives and preparing the future professoriate programs.



**Dr. Menah Pratt-Clarke**

Dr. Menah Pratt-Clarke is the Vice President for Strategic Affairs and Vice Provost for Inclusion and Diversity. She is also a Professor of Education within the School of Education in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. Dr. Pratt-Clarke received a B.A. and M.A. in Literary Studies from the University of Iowa. Additionally, she received a J.D., as well as a M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from Vanderbilt University.

### Keynote Speakers



**Dr. Karen Sanders**

Karen Eley Sanders joined the Hokie community in 2001 and serves as Associate Vice Provost for College Access at Virginia Tech, and as Chief Diversity Officer at Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine. She has worked in higher education as a counselor, administrator, and faculty member. In college access, Dr. Sanders and her team work with the campus and commonwealth community to increase academic preparation, access and affordability for first-generation, low-income, underrepresented minorities, women and students from rural and inner city communities.

Dr. Sanders earned a B.S. and M.S. in Psychology from Virginia State University and a doctorate in Adult and Developmental Education from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.



**Dr. Willie Rockward**

Willie Rockward has a unique combination of leadership from academic, professional, and community experiences. As a tenured professor at Morehouse College, he served the past 7 years as the Chair of the Department of Physics & Dual Degree Engineering Program (Physics & DDEP) and the past 20 years as the Research Director of the Materials and Optics Research & Engineering (MORE) Laboratory. Among his professional leadership experiences, he is the President of the National Society of Black Physicists and the immediate Past President of Sigma Pi Sigma Physics Honor Society.

Dr. Rockward earned a B.S. in Physics from Grambling State University, a M.S. in Physics from State University of New York, Albany, and a M.S. and Ph.D in Physics from the Georgia Institute of Technology.





# Program

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14TH**

**3:30-5:00 PM**

HBCU/MSI GUEST REGISTRATION  
AND CHECK-IN AT THE  
INN AT VIRGINIA TECH/HYATT PLACE

### **STUDENT TRACK**

**4:00-6:00 PM**

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH  
POSTER SESSION  
LATHAM FOYER,  
INN AT VIRGINIA TECH

**4:30-5:30 PM**

HBCU/MSI ALUMNI STUDENT PANEL:  
CURRENT STUDENTS  
DISCUSS THEIR EXPERIENCES  
SOLITUDE ROOM,  
INN AT VIRGINIA TECH

### **FACULTY TRACK**

**4:00-6:00 PM**

FACULTY DIVERSITY INTER-  
INSTITUTIONAL POSTER SESSION  
LOWER QUAD, INN AT VIRGINIA TECH

**4:30-5:30 PM**

FACULTY PANEL:  
INTER-INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS —  
ESTABLISHING A MEMORANDUM  
OF UNDERSTANDING  
CASCADES ROOM,  
INN AT VIRGINIA TECH

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14TH**

**6:00-8:00 PM**

GREETINGS:  
DR. SHERNITA LEE  
DR. JUSTIN GRIMES

WELCOME:

DR. KAREN DEPAUW  
DR. MENAH PRATT-CLARKE

DINNER

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

DR. KAREN SANDERS  
DR. WILLIE ROCKWARD  
LATHAM BALLROOM,  
INN AT VIRGINIA TECH

## **MONDAY, OCTOBER 15TH**

**8:00 AM**

BREAKFAST AND  
GRADUATE SCHOOL  
ADMISSIONS WORKSHOP  
SOLITUDE/CASCADES ROOMS,  
INN AT VIRGINIA TECH

**9:00 AM-2:00 PM**

CUSTOMIZED ITINERARIES  
HOSTED BY COLLEGES &  
DEPARTMENTS

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