2023 HBCU/MSI RESEARCH SUMMIT AT VIRGINIA TECH

A VISION OF INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATIONS AND SUPPORT OF RESEARCH, RESOURCES, AND RECRUITMENT: VIRGINIA TECH AND BEYOND
Welcome to the 2023 Virginia Tech HBCU/MSI

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.

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**GRADUATE SCHOOL WELCOME**

Aimée M. Surprenant, PhD, serves as Dean for Graduate Education and holds an academic appointment as tenured Professor in the Department of Psychology at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. She plans to build on past successes in supporting a strong, diverse and inclusive graduate community; supporting the development and expansion of the innovative Graduate Life Center (GLC); and championing the academic initiative known as Transformative Graduate Education (TGE), including the global perspectives and preparing the future professoriate programs.

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**MEET THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS**

The Diversity, Inclusion, and Strategic Partnerships team focuses on building community for graduate students and on providing support as they get acclimated and adjusted to their graduate programs/certificates. We do this through the development of inclusive and diverse programming to meet students’ needs. We focus on the importance of creating and growing communities by providing frequent opportunities for students to participate in welcoming environments to maximize their success and degree completion.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrival to Blacksburg, Virginia</td>
<td>8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Networking Breakfast LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM</td>
<td>8:00 AM - 08:45 AM Breakfast &amp; Dean’s Welcome LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM - 5:00 PM Luggage Storage LOCATION: DRILLFIELD</td>
<td>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Graduate Admissions and Student Funding Opportunities LOCATION: SOLITUDE ROOM</td>
<td>8:45 AM - 9:00 AM Meet hosts and transportation to sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Registration LOCATION: LATHAM FOYER</td>
<td>10:00 AM - 10:15 AM Break</td>
<td>9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Departmental Visit with Program of Interest</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Opening Dinner with Networking Panel Discussion: “The Impact of HBCUs/MSIs, how they have shaped your lives and propelled your career in academia or industry.” LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM</td>
<td>10:15 AM - 11:15 AM ETS GRE Prep Workshop LOCATION: SOLITUDE ROOM</td>
<td>12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch With Host Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional Events</td>
<td>11:15 AM - 12:00 PM “Wearing the Corporate Uniform” LOCATION: SOLITUDE ROOM</td>
<td>1:00 PM - 1:30 PM Return to the Inn</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30 PM - 4:00 PM Refreshment Break LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM</td>
<td>12:00 PM - 12:45 PM Networking Lunch LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM</td>
<td>Departure from Blacksburg, Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 PM - 5:00 PM Campus Tours (30 minute frequency) LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM</td>
<td>1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Juneteenth Scholars Showcase LOCATION: ASSEMBLY HALL</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Diversity Scholar Showcase LOCATION: SOLITUDE ROOM</td>
<td>2:30 PM - 3:00 PM Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 PM - 6:30 PM Freshen Up for Dinner LOCATION: SOLITUDE ROOM</td>
<td>3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Track Time STEM Track: “Aero Managing” LOCATION: SOLITUDE ROOM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Event Program</strong></td>
<td>4:00 PM - 4:15 PM Break</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong><a href="http://WWW.GRADUATESCHOOL.VT.EDU">WWW.GRADUATESCHOOL.VT.EDU</a></strong></td>
<td>4:15 PM - 5:30 PM HBCU/MSI Student Panel LOCATION: SOLITUDE ROOM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, November 12- Tuesday, November 14</td>
<td>5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Research &amp; Recruitment Showcase LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM HALLWAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Inn at Virginia Tech Skelton Conference Center 901 Prices Fork Road Blacksburg, VA</td>
<td>6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Networking Dinner and Speaker Session LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional Events</td>
<td>7:30 PM - 9:30 PM Community Game Night with Sounds by VTDITC LOCATION: SOLITUDE ROOM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Career &amp; Professional Development Tour &amp; Iris Photobooth Headshots Transportation Provided</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SUNDAY 12

Arrival to Blacksburg, Virginia
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Luggage storage
LOCATION: DRILLFIELD
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Registration
LOCATION: LATHAM FOYER
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Kick-Off Dinner with Networking & Panel Discussion: “The Impact of HBCUs/MSIs, how they have shaped your lives and propelled your career in academia or industry.”
LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM

Optional Events
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM
Refreshment Break
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Campus Tours (30 minute frequency)
LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Diversity Scholar Showcase
LOCATION: SOLITUDE ROOM
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
Faculty Mixer
LOCATION: CASCADeS ROOM

MONDAY 13

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Networking Breakfast
LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Funding Opportunities: Humanities, Social Sciences and education
LOCATION: CASCADeS ROOM
Life Sciences
LOCATION: ASSEMBLY HALL
10:00 AM - 10:15 AM
Break
10:15 AM - 11:30 AM
Discussion: Intentional and Authentic Partnership Development - What do partner institutions want and need from Virginia Tech?
LOCATION: CASCADeS ROOM
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Break
12:00 PM - 12:40 PM
Networking Lunch
LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Juneteenth Scholars Showcase
LOCATION: ASSEMBLY HALL
2:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Break
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Track Time
STEM Track
LOCATION: CASCADeS ROOM
Humanities & Social Sciences Track
LOCATION: ASSEMBLY HALL
4:00 PM - 4:15 PM
Break
4:15 PM - 5:15 PM
ICTAS Session
LOCATION: CASCADeS ROOM AND ZOOM
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Research and Recruitment Showcase
LOCATION: LATHAM HALLWAY
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Networking Dinner and Speaker Session
LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM

TUESDAY 14

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM
Breakfast and Dean’s Welcome
LOCATION: LATHAM BALLROOM
8:45 AM - 9:00 AM
Meet hosts and transportation to sites
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Departmental Visit with Program of Interest
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Lunch with Host Department

Departure from Blacksburg, Virginia

Event Program
WWW.GRADUATESCHOOL.VT.EDU
HOSTS AND PANEL MEMBERS

SUNDAY, NOV 12

Opening Dinner

Moderator

- Dr. Ellington Graves
  Associate Vice Provost for Diversity and Inclusion

Panelists

- Dr. Jay Northern
  Assistant Principal Director
  Strategic Deterrence and Defense
  The Aerospace Corporation

- Dr. DuAnna Katey
  Director
  Undergraduate Student Programs
  College of Engineering

- Dr. Chontrese Hayes
  Assistant Dean
  Graduate Student Academic Affairs and Student Success | Northern Virginia

MONDAY, NOV 13

Grad Admission and Student Funding Opportunities

- Dr. Jamine Austin
  Assistant Dean and Director of Graduate Admissions and Academic Progress

- Monica Hunter
  Director
  Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program

GRE Prep Workshop ETS

- Dr. Jack Klett
  ETS
MONDAY, NOV 13

Wearing the Corporate Uniform

Mr. Bernard Jefferson
Associate Director
Electronics and Power Systems Department
The Aerospace Corporation

Casey Jones
MS Student
VT Engineering

Juneteenth Scholars Panel Showcase

Dr. Amaryah Armstrong
Assistant Professor
Department of Religion and Culture

Dr. Marcus Johnson
Professor
School of Education

Dr. Desiree Poets
Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science

Dr. Geovani Ramirez
Assistant Professor
Department of English

Track Time (STEM) Aero Managing

Mr. Bernard Jefferson
Associate Director
Electronics and Power Systems Department
The Aerospace Corporation

Mr. Jim Fishenden
General Manager
Advanced Technology Division
The Aerospace Corporation

GRADUATE SCHOOL
VIRGINIA TECH
MONDAY, NOV 13

HBCU/MSI Student Panel

Moderator
Nina Ha
Associate Vice Provost for Diversity and Inclusion

Panelists
Antonia Carrington
Student
Michelle Ausman
Student
Sean Chambers
Student
Gavin Hough
Student

Networking Dinner and Speaker Session

Dr. Matt Cowley
Executive Director
VT Career and Professional Development
MONDAY, NOV 13

Opening Dinner

Moderator

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Associate Vice Provost for Diversity and Inclusion

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Dr. Jay Northern
Assistant Principal Director
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The Aerospace Corporation

Dr. DeAnna Katey
Director
Undergraduate Student Programs
College of Engineering

Dr. Chontrese Hayes
Assistant Dean
Graduate Student Academic Affairs and Student Success | Northern Virginia

Funding Opportunities

Humanities, Social Sciences and Education

Dr. Julia Nguyen
Senior Program Officer
National Endowment for Humanities

Life Sciences

Dr. Janet Webster
Director, Proposal Development & Pre-Award
Fralin Life Sciences Institute
SUNDAY, NOV 12

Discussion: Intentional and Authentic Partnership Development

**Moderator**

- **Monica Hunter**
  - Director
  - Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program

**GlycoMIP Partnership Panelists**

- **Dr. Maren Roman**
  - Associate Professor
  - Department of Sustainable Biomaterials
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Alan Esker**
  - Professor, Graduate Program Director
  - Department of Chemistry
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Maren Roman**
  - Associate Professor
  - College of Engineering
  - FAMU-FSU

- **Dr. Jesse Edwards III**
  - Professor
  - Department of Chemistry
  - Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University

- **Dr. Sanket Deshmukh**
  - Associate Professor
  - Department of Chemical Engineering
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Valerie Welborn**
  - Assistant Professor
  - Department of Chemistry
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Amaryah Armstrong**
  - Assistant Professor
  - Department of Religion and Culture

- **Dr. Marcus Johnson**
  - Professor
  - School of Education

- **Dr. Desiree Poets**
  - Assistant Professor
  - Department of Political Science

- **Dr. Geovani Ramirez**
  - Assistant Professor
  - Department of English
**SUNDAY, NOV 12**

**Track Time**

**STEM Track**

- **Dr. Ashley Shew**
  - Associate Professor
  - Department of Science, Technology, and Society
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Nneka Logan**
  - Associate Professor
  - School of Communication
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Josh Kittle**
  - General Manager
  - Advanced Technology Division
  - The Aerospace Corporation

**Liberal Arts Track**

- **Dr. Jay Northern**
  - Assistant Principal Director
  - Strategic Deterrence and Defense
  - The Aerospace Corporation

- **Dr. Sylvester Johnson**
  - Professor and Director
  - Center for Humanities
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Tom Ewing**
  - Professor of History
  - Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Elizabeth McLain**
  - Instructor of Musicology
  - School of Performing Arts
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Matt Cowley**
  - Executive Director
  - VT Career and Professional Development

**Networking Dinner and Speaker Session**

- **Dr. Ashley Shew**
  - Associate Professor
  - Department of Science, Technology, and Society
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Elizabeth McLain**
  - Instructor of Musicology
  - School of Performing Arts
  - Virginia Tech

**Social Media and Public Relations**

- **Dr. Sylvester Johnson**
  - Professor and Director
  - Center for Humanities
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Tom Ewing**
  - Professor of History
  - Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research
  - Virginia Tech

- **Dr. Elizabeth McLain**
  - Instructor of Musicology
  - School of Performing Arts
  - Virginia Tech
PLANNING COMMITTEE

College of Arts, Architecture and Design (CAAD)
- Dr. Takyiah Amin
  Director
  Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS)
- Dr. Chevon Thorpe
  Assistant Dean
  Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

College of Natural Resources and Environment (CNRE)
- Dr. Maryam Kamra
  Director
  Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

College of Engineering (COE)
- Dr. Kaiya Jennings
  Assistant Director
  Graduate Student Programs

College of Engineering (COE)
- Dr. Wayne Scales
  Professor
  ECE

College of Science (COS)
- Dr. Estrella Johnson
  Assistant Dean
  Inclusion and Diversity
  Department of Mathematics

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (CLAHS)
- Dr. Shalisa Mehta
  Assistant Dean
  Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (CLAHS)
- Dr. Genia Chandler
  Associate Professor and Associate Chair
  Department of English

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (CLAHS)
- Dr. Katherine Cleland
  MA Program Director and Director of Graduate Studies
  Department of English
PLANNING COMMITTEE

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (CLAHS)
Dr. Tom Ewing
Associate Dean and Professor
Department of History

Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS)
Tonya Pruitt
Assistant Director
NanoEarth

Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS)
Chris Tysor
Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator

Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS)
Katherine Velasquez
Diversity and Outreach Coordinator
NanoEarth

Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program (MAOP)
Monica Hunter
Director
Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program

Macromolecules Innovation Institute (MMI)
Dr. Kim Felix
Graduate Program Administrator and Director
REU Program

Office for Inclusion & Diversity (OID)
Kimberly Clark
Director
Black Cultural Center

Office for Inclusion & Diversity (OID)
Dr. Erica Cooper
Assistant Provost of Faculty Diversity

Office for Inclusion & Diversity (OID)
Dr. Nina Ha
Director,
Asian Cultural Engagement Center
Office for Inclusion & Diversity (OID)

Dr. Zachary Mackey
Faculty STEM Specialist and Fralin Visiting Researcher

A‘me Dalton
Special Projects Manager for Communications and Events

Pamplin College of Business (PCOB)

VT National Security Institute (VTNSI)

Dr. John Gilbert
Research Assistant Professor

Ananya Prakash
Graphic Designer and MEng Computer Science Student

Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine

Garry Morgan II
Director
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
The Graduate School Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Strategic Partnerships

WOULD LOVE TO THANK OUR CONTRIBUTORS:

SPONSORS

PARTNERS (in alphabetical order)

Career & Professional Development (CPD)
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College of Arts Architecture, and Design (CAAD)
College of Engineering (COE)
College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences (CLAHS)
College of Natural Resources and Environment (CNRE)
College of Science (COS)
Cultural & Community Centers (CCCs)
Digging in the Crates: Hip Hop Studies at Virginia Tech (VT DITC)
Educational Testing Service (ETS)

Graduate School
Innovation Campus
Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS)
Macromolecules Innovation Institute (MMI)
Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program (MAOP)
NanoEarth
Office for Inclusion & Diversity (OID)
Pamplin College of Business (PCOB)
Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health (TBMH)
Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine
VT National Security Institute (VTNSI)
Hotel Layout

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Link to Blacksburg Campus Map

Sunday, November 12-
Tuesday, November 14

The Inn at Virginia Tech
Skelton Conference Center
901 Prices Fork Road
Blacksburg, VA