# 2020 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 2020 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.

#### Graduate School Welcome

#### Dr. Karen P. DePauw, Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education



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.

## Meet the Office of Recruitment, Diversity, and Inclusion



**Pictured left to right (from top)**: Assistant Dean and Director, Dr. Shernita Lee; Assistant Director, Dr. Justin Grimes; Diversity Initiatives Support Specialist, Shania Clinedinst; Office Assistant, Sarah Wright; Graduate Assistants, Yousef Jalali (PhD) and Zuleka Dauda (PhD).

The Office of Recruitment, Diversity, and Inclusion focuses on graduate student recruitment and on providing support to students as they get acclimated and adjusted to their graduate programs/certificates 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.



Thursday, October 29, 2020

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM EST

#### Webinar

1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m., Virtual welcome and greeting (Zoom)

Office of Recruitment, Diversity, and Inclusion, Director and Assistant Dean, Shernita Lee, PhD, and from Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education Karen P. DePauw, PhD

1:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m., "Partnership Opportunities with Virginia Tech" Discussion (Zoom)

Led by: Dr. Shernita Lee Director of Office of Recruitment Diversity and Inclusion, Virginia Tech Graduate School

Break 1:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### Panel Discussion

2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. "Successful Research Partnerships with Virginia Tech and HBCUs/MSIs" Panel (Zoom)

Hosted by: Dr. Tremayne Waller, Director of Graduate Student Programs, College of Engineering Research and Graduate Studies Sponsored by Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science, Virginia Tech

Break 2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## Interactive Engagement Sessions

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Research and Collaboration Discussions (Brazen)

\*Information and resource booth will be available throughout the event for your



The hashtag for the event is #HBCUMSI@VT

## Student Program

## Friday, October 30, 2020

11:00 AM - 4:00 PM EST

Webinar

11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m., Virtual welcome and greeting (Zoom)

Dr. Shernita Lee, Assistant Dean and Director, Office of Recruitment, Diversity, and Inclusion, and from Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education Karen P. DePauw

11:15 a.m. - 11:50 a.m., Graduate School Admissions Workshop (Zoom)

Led by: Dr. Janice Austin, Assistant Dean and Director of Admissions and Academic Progress, Virginia Tech Graduate School

Break 11:50 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

## **Interactive Engagement Sessions**

12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., Interactive sessions with department representatives (Brazen)

Meet and Greet/Q&A with various Virginia Tech programs! Inquire about academic and research opportunities, funding, and more!

#### **Panel Discussion**

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. HBCU/MSI to PWI a Panel Discussion (Zoom)

Featuring current Virginia Tech Graduate Students and HBCU/MSI Alumni.

\*Information and resource booth will be available throughout the event for your assistance\*





The Graduate School Office of Recruitment, Diversity, and Inclusion would like to thank our contributors:

## **Sponsors:**

- Office of Inclusion and Diversity
- Graduate School

**Partners:** (in alphabetical order)

- Carilion School of Medicine and Fralin Biomedical Research Institute
- College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- College of Architecture and Urban Studies
- College of Engineering
- College of Liberal Arts and Human Science
- College of Natural Resources and Environment
- College of Science
- Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science
- Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program
- NanoEarth
- Pamplin College of Business
- Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine