

2017

# HBCU/MSI RESEARCH SUMMIT AT VIRGINIA TECH

OCTOBER 15-16  
THE INN  
AT VIRGINIA TECH



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## Welcome to the 2017 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.

### Keynote 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. Her research interests include the transdisciplinary analysis of diversity issues in higher education. She recently released *Journeys of Social Justice: Women of Color Presidents in the Academy* (Peter Lang, 2017). *A Black Woman's Journey from Cotton Picking to College Professor: Lessons about race, gender, and class in America* is forthcoming this year.



**Dr. Theresa Mayer**

Dr. Theresa S. Mayer joined Virginia Tech in 2016 as Vice President for Research and Innovation. Mayer is a leading nanotechnology researcher, and concurrently serves as a tenured professor in the Bradley Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. She is widely recognized for her research in device nanomanufacturing, and formerly served as a site director for the National Science Foundation National Nanotechnology Infrastructure Network. In addition to a bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech, she holds a master's degree and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering, both from Purdue University.



**Dr. Sylvester Johnson**

Sylvester A. Johnson is Assistant Vice Provost for the Humanities, Professor of Religion and Culture, and founding director of the new humanities center being created at Virginia Tech. In addition to co-editing the *Journal of African Religions*, Johnson has authored two award-winning monographs on religion, race, and empire in the Atlantic world and an edited volume on the FBI's engagement with religion in the United States. He is currently writing a study of how intelligent machines and human-machine hybridization are impacting human identity and the future of race.



# Program

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15TH

**2:00-4:00 PM**

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

**2:00-4:00 PM**

TOURS DEPART  
AT 2:00 PM & 3:00 PM  
LOBBY, INN AT VIRGINIA TECH

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

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

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

DINNER  
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:  
DR. THERESA MAYER  
DR. SYLVESTER JOHNSON  
LATHAM BALLROOM,  
INN AT VIRGINIA TECH

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 16TH

**8:00 AM**

BREAKFAST  
HOSTED BY COLLEGES &  
DEPARTMENTS

**8:00 AM-12:00 PM**

CUSTOMIZED ITINERARIES  
HOSTED BY COLLEGES &  
DEPARTMENTS

**12:15 PM**

STUDENT AND FACULTY  
NETWORKING LUNCH  
LATHAM BALLROOM,  
INN AT VIRGINIA TECH

**1:30 PM**

FINAL OPPORTUNITY  
FOR A CAMPUS TOUR  
LOBBY, INN AT VIRGINIA TECH

Please tag us on social media at  
**#HBCUMSIResearchVT**



The Graduate School Office of Recruitment and Diversity Initiatives (ORDI) would like to thank our contributors:

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