

ASIAN CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT CENTER

AT VIRGINIA TECH

ACE Center's Statement of Purpose

The Asian Cultural Engagement Center (ACEC) is in the division of the Cultural and Community Centers under the Virginia Tech Office for Inclusion and Diversity. The ACEC's mission is to advocate for the Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) communities, including Virginia Tech faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students, and alumni. We also aim to educate the campus community on issues centered around or related to our communities. All members of the campus and the local community are welcome to the ACEC and can participate in the ACEC's events, programs, and activities.

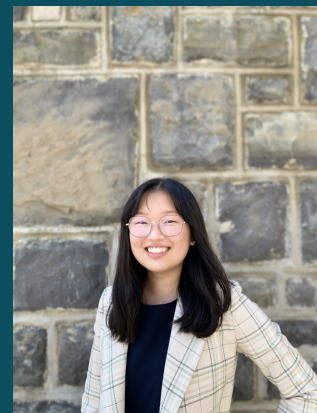
Undergraduate Student Spotlight: Daisy Ng

Daisy Ng is a junior majoring in Business Information Technology and minoring in Chinese Studies. One of Ng's goals is to apply her business degree and work in a Chinese-speaking city for some time, as it would be both personally and professionally exciting. She recently attended a conference about women in social entrepreneurship and is motivated to use her education in business to create a positive impact on the world.

Ng joined the Chinese American Society and the Korean American Student Association her freshman year. She was originally looking for a social outlet to make friends, but it was also her first time intentionally seeking organizations specifically highlighting the culture and experiences of APIDA students. She enjoyed the experiences she gained, and through meeting older students, realized the diversity of APIDA student involvement on campus.

Growing up in Northern Virginia, Ng felt that she did not have a strong awareness of her identity as a Chinese American. Since her high school demographic had a considerable APIDA student demographic, she never felt explicitly singled out due to her racial and ethnic background. However, this attitude changed during her time studying abroad in Switzerland. Although she is Asian American, Ng's presumed country of origin was Asia rather than the United States. While she did not know how to react initially, Ng felt that these experiences ultimately contributed to her growth, confidence, and self-awareness.

Ng participates on campus in the aforementioned APIDA organizations, but she also serves as the Secretary of the Class of 2022, is a member of the Pamplin Dean's Advisory Board of Students, and is currently an Analyst in the Consulting Group at Virginia Tech. Ng feels proud of her growth during her time at Virginia Tech and strives to further explore what it means to be Chinese American while developing other aspects of her identity as



well.

Reflecting on her experiences, Ng's advice to her younger self would be to, "Take the initiative to learn about yourself. Who you are is more important than what you do, and knowing what you believe in can help you make better decisions and create meaning in your life. Your accomplishments can be a source of pride, but they do not define who you are—you define who you are!"

(Caption: Daisy Ng, picture taken by Kajal A. Desai)

Graduate Student Spotlight: Inaash Islam

Inaash Islam (she/her) is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Sociology at Virginia Tech. Islam received her B.A. in Sociology from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and M.S. in Sociology from Virginia Tech. Islam's research interests include Islamophobia, anti-Black racisms, postcolonial feminisms, cultural representations, immigration, identity narratives, and digital sociologies. More specifically though, her scholarship examines the implications of social media mediated narratives of race, religion, Islamophobia, gender, immigration, and nationalism, on the lives of Black Muslims and diasporic Muslim women in Western contexts.



Her dissertation, entitled "Visible Muslims, Political Beings: Muslim Influencers in an Era of Islamophobia" examines how Muslimah social media influencers use social media platforms to negotiate, critique, and resist Islamophobia and Muslim patriarchal expectations of Muslim women in the United States, United Kingdom, and Canada. Her project investigates the complexities of the gendered responsibilities placed on visibly Muslim women, and the role of social media in building communities, shaping narratives, asserting agency, and defining claims to citizenship in times of rampant Islamophobia.

Although Islam is from Pakistan, she identifies as a Pakistani American without legally being a U.S. citizen, as she has lived in both countries for an equal amount of time. Advice that Islam has for students is to "find ways to integrate your academics with social justice." This means learning the ways to practice anti-racism, anti-sexism, and all other forms of social justice that you believe must be adopted in order to create a more socially just world. This also means working to incorporate practices of anti-racism and anti-sexism in our own communities, and holding our communities accountable for their prejudice and discriminatory behaviors. For Islam, this is an incredibly important work that needs to be done. It is only by working with and within our own communities that we can begin to shake the foundation of racism and sexism that the global order is founded on. Her advice for the international community in particular is to, "learn to be flexible with your plans, given our current times of precarity, and find a community that can provide you with the social support you deserve."

(Caption: Inaash Islam, photo: Self-taken portrait)

Alumni Spotlight: Rommelyn Coffren

Rommelyn Coffren is the Assistant Director for Communications and Marketing in the Global Education Office and has been with the Office for eight years. Given that Coffren's major was in Communication with a focus on Public Relations and Marketing and that her Master's degree was in Communications, it is no surprise that Coffren's

job centers in this field. In addition to Coffren's current position, she is also the Faculty Advisor to the Filipino American Student Association (FASA), a Communications Executive Member of the APIDA Caucus, and a member of the Outreach and International Affairs Inclusion and Diversity Committee.

Recalling her time as an undergraduate, Coffren said that she hadn't noticed the difference between her and other students when she studied abroad in Lugano, Switzerland. This experience has been a driving force in the work she has been doing in the last couple of years.



"I didn't realize that I was maybe one of two or three people of color," she said. "As I've gotten older, I've realized, 'Oh, that was a very different experience for me,' and as I look at the makeup of students that are going abroad, that also is very striking to me." She hopes to continue building awareness and resources to increase access to study abroad opportunities for all students.

Another great influence during her time as a student was joining the Filipino American Student Association (FASA) at Virginia Tech. Coffren said most of her friends are still from this organization that is near-and-dear to their hearts, and that she hopes FASA can connect to their alumni base more and continue to thrive in the future. While she is no longer an active member of FASA, she continues to promote diversity awareness in her role with the APIDA Caucus. The Caucus is another way for Coffren to connect with the community, she said.

"This [The APIDA Caucus] is kind of like FASA, as it connects [me] back and allows me to meet others in the university that I probably wouldn't really get a chance to interact with them that way ... it's been wonderful to have that outlet, to have that connection with others, and have those discussions that I feel like I haven't been tied into in quite some time."

(Caption: Rommelyn Coffren at Machu Pichu - Picture taken by unnamed tourist)

Faculty Spotlight: Deborah Wen-Hwei Carlier

Deborah (Debbie) Wen-Hwei Carlier is currently the Director of Strategic Initiatives and Engagement for the College of Engineering and Graduate Studies section. Prior to her current position, Carlier worked at Virginia Tech's Biocomplexity Institute (known then as Virginia Bioinformatics Institute) assisting in grant writing and project management, as well as in the Entomology Department where she served as project manager and liaison officer for a Grand Challenges in Global Health interdisciplinary malaria research project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. In this position, Carlier was able to draw upon her educational background in Psychology with a Management Concentration (Boston College, BA) and Public Health Planning, Policy, Finance, and Management (Boston University, MPH). She is also a certified facilitator for Mentoring in Research through the Center for Improvement of Mentored Experiences in Research (CIMER).



Before relocating to Blacksburg, Carlier lived and worked in Asia doing development work in health care, income generation, agriculture and water resources. While in Asia (she and her family lived in Hong Kong for 9 years), Carlier also worked for the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology in the Industrial Engineering and Engineering

Management Department, helping faculty and students to render technical details into readable documentation.

The desire to be geographically closer to their extended families grew after the birth of their two daughters in Hong Kong. Consequently, when her husband Professor Paul Carlier received a job offer in the Department of Chemistry at Virginia Tech, the family made the move back to the US mainland. Carlier has now lived in Blacksburg for 20 years and has witnessed a lot of change in the area! It is much more diverse with the Asian population being the largest growing minority in Virginia, including Blacksburg. In contrast, when her family first arrived along with 4 of her husband's graduate students from Hong Kong, they often encountered stares at restaurants and grocery stores. People in the community were not used to seeing Asian Pacific Islander Desi Americans (APIDAs). The change in demographics has paved the way for the success of few more ethnic restaurants in the area.

As a second-generation Chinese (and one eighth Japanese), Carlier can identify with many APIDA Virginia Tech students who have had to negotiate parental expectations when declaring a major. Although Carlier had wanted to study music, her father urged her to recognize the importance of choosing a major that was "practical" and even instructed her to major in a physical science. She did not follow her father's wishes, but eventually received his blessing. When raising her own "third-culture" children (Carlier's children were born in Hong Kong, raised in Blacksburg, and are of German, French, English, Scottish, Chinese and Japanese descent), she tried to expose them to different things, but ultimately let them choose their majors and career paths. Given Carlier's experience, she was asked, "What advice would you give APIDA students in interacting with their own parents?" Carlier's reply is, "Tak[e] time to understand [their] parents' backgrounds.... It takes time to understand the motivations [of parents], especially if parents are first generation." Carlier's ability to understand where her parents came from helped her to be able to talk in a more compassionate way when they disagreed. Additionally, during the ACEC's Learning Lunch on February 1, 2021 featuring Carlier, she was asked what advice she would give her former self. Her response was, "Have courage to know yourself." Similar to taking time to understand one's parents, one should also take the time to know oneself. These are definitely words of wisdom to carry forth into the future.

(Caption: Deborah Wen-Hwei Carlier, Photo taken by Molly Hagan)

Featured AASU Organization: FASA

The Filipino American Student Association (FASA) at Virginia Tech is an all inclusive student run organization that accepts all with open arms. Their purpose is to foster community for students and not just for those who are of Filipino descent. As Filipino culture is heavily influenced by family, the organization ensures that the environment is welcoming to students, especially since Virginia Tech is so large that it can be troubling for students to find a place where they feel comfortable and belong. JC Cepillo, President of FASA, stated that when he first became an officer his sophomore year, he experienced the significance of bonding like family throughout the Officer Board. The organization has been keeping their priority of maintaining strong relationships with the members instead of just prioritizing having successful events. For this Spring 2021 Semester, the organization has planned many events so be on the lookout for them through their social media platforms! The bigger events include their annual Culture Show and hosting their Big/Little event.

The best ways to contact and join the community include their Instagram @vt_fasa and their Facebook @fasavirginiatech! On their Instagram account, use the [Linktree](#) and it will show you everything that you need to know on upcoming events!

(Caption: Officers of the Filipino American Student Association 2020-2021)



Another Featured Organization: APID Alumni Society and interview with founding member, Jaclyn Marmol

Jaclyn Marmol is a 2020 alumna of Virginia Tech who graduated with a B.A. in Political Science. Marmol is the former president of the Asian American Student Union, former Programming Assistant for as well as an initial advocate of the Asian Cultural Engagement Center, and now a founding member of the Asian Pacific Islander and Desi (APID) Alumni Society.

The APID Alumni Society is one of the newest alumni societies at Virginia Tech and is specifically catered toward the APID community. Marmol said one of the biggest reasons she met with Virginia Tech Alumni Relations to launch this Society was because APIDs make up the largest minority population on campus, thus having the largest minority alumni members, but, unfortunately, APIDAs did not have an alumni organization similar to other cultural groups until now. Furthermore, this APID Alumni Society will also provide networking opportunities as well as build friendships for not only recent graduates across various colleges, but also for other APID graduates who want to stay connected.



“One of the most fulfilling and rewarding experiences I had was being a part of the community at Virginia Tech in various different roles, and I wanted that to continue afterwards,” Marmol said. “This alumni organization is really to bring all alumni together, but specifically our community, and to kind of give that sense of home away from home.”

“[The APID Alumni Society] gives an opportunity to provide mentorship, and that's something that I have always looked for when I was a college student and something that really benefited me — and I think in the giving spirit of other Virginia Tech Hokies, we also like to give back. So, I think it's a way to connect alumni to the school, and for the school to hear feedback from its community.”

For more information about the APID Alumni Society, please email apidasvt@gmail.com or check out their social media pages: @apidas_vt (Instagram and Twitter) and apidasvt (Facebook). To sign up and join the APID Alumni Society listserv, please go to: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdqaDXBxtQ0wxP33z_rnz8_z6MtWzOIEExkTuiYKp6DoLfrVNg/viewform.

(Caption: Jaclyn Marmol, photo taken by Michelle Kim)

AASU INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

- Link to Internship Application:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSds1S2vHgYnsa7LcMwF9WNULcA7ZG8UG7CiBaW9p5BAZw_t8g/viewform?usp=pp_url
- Application opens January 22nd



AASU MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

- Link to MENTOR Interest Form:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-ftHsP30thPx1Z4s1HXujkzxYqlxGOXqS7y0_aibkM_AdPg/viewform?usp=pp_url
- Link to MENTEE Interest Form:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfZUApp0S9UAq-YdxhplYxEhXXjoGI4V03C4VSI0Zuyt6Ggdg/viewform?usp=pp_url
- Interest Forms open week of January 25th
- Zoom: <https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/82526833774>



FASA (Current times of these events are being finalized, but they all will be around 7PM and last 1-2 hours on average)

- Feb 2: D7 Alumni Panel
- Feb 3: Ate/Kuya General Body Meeting
- Feb 5: Soul Movie Night
- Feb 8: Mingle Week Day 1
- Feb 10: Mingle Week Day 2 / Valentine's General Body Meeting
- Feb 12: Mingle Week Day 3
- Feb 15-18: Ate/Kuya Clue Week

KASA

- Feb 3: 1st GM at 7PM

CAS (Questions? Contact mhluo@vt.edu)

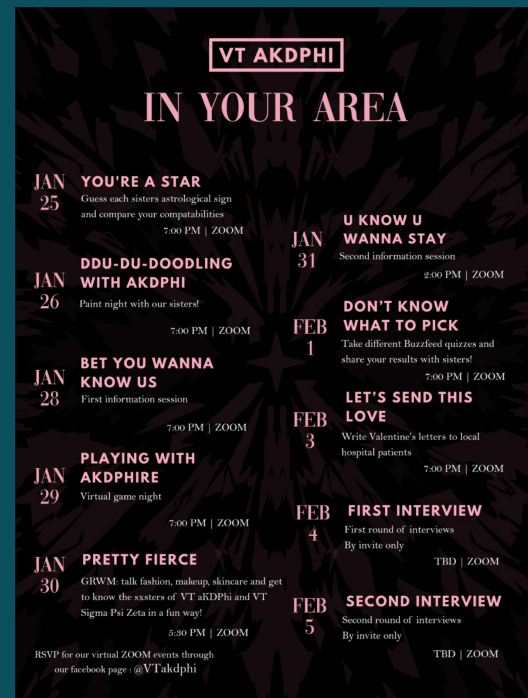
- Feb 1: First Spring GBM @7pm via Zoom
- Feb 2-28: Freshmen Red Box Event
- Feb 7-13: Zodiac Group Battle
- Feb 21-28: CAS Chess Tournament

- Feb 8-12: Tet Week
 - Feb 8: Trivia Night
 - Feb 9: Arts & Crafts
 - Feb 10: Service Day
 - Feb 11: Food/Fundraiser
 - Feb 12: GBM Celebration

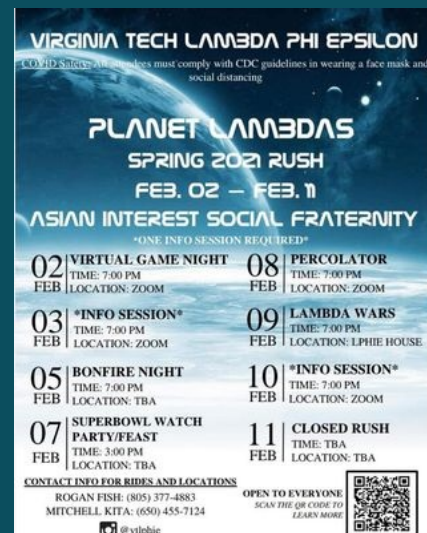
JCA

- Feb 4: JCA's First Spring GM at 7:00pm via Zoom
- Feb. 7-13: JCA Pocky Fundraise

VT aKDPHI In Your Area: Spring Virtual Recruitment



Lambdas Phi Epsilon - Spring Recruitment



Sigma Psi Zeta - Sigmachella: Spring Recruitment



ACEC Events and Collaborative Events:

Black History Month Presents: Anti-Blackness in the APIDA Community

- This Anti-Blackness in the APIDA Community Panel Presentation features scholars in Higher Education, Sociology, and Social Work, respectively. Each panelist will address not only issues of anti-Blackness and racialization in the APIDA community, but will also provide scholarship from Ethnic Studies, Social and Political Movements, and Activism to Comparative-Historical Sociology - as well as constructive tools like Critical Race Theory (CRT) that challenge Anti-Blackness.
- Register in Advance: <https://rb.gy/epujfh>

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH PRESENTS
 ANTI-BLACKNESS IN THE APIDA
 COMMUNITY**
 SPONSORED BY ACEC & BCC
February 4, 2021 at 5 PM EST

REGISTER HERE:
[HTTPS://RB.GY/EPUJFH](https://rb.gy/epujfh)

SCAN ME:

Tae-Sun Kim, Ph.D.
 Strategic Diversity Initiatives Manager
 University of California Office of the President

Joe Kyun Kim, Ph.D.
 Visiting Assistant Professor
 Department of Sociology
 Davidson College

Sharon Chun Wetterau, LCSW
 Assistant Field Director, Full-Time Lecturer
 Department of Social Work
 California State University, Dominguez Hills

This Anti-Blackness in the APIDA Community Panel Presentation features scholars in Higher Education, Sociology, and Social Work, respectively. Each panelist will address not only issues of anti-Blackness and racialization in the APIDA community, but will also provide scholarship from Ethnic Studies, Social and Political Movements, and Activism to Comparative-Historical Sociology - as well as constructive tools like Critical Race Theory (CRT) that challenge Anti-Blackness.

FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT DR. HA AT NHA@VT.EDU

When Mountains Take Wing: Tuesday, February 9th from 5 - 7 PM EST

- Register in Advance: <https://rb.gy/jnqzpm>

COLLABORATIVE EVENT WITH: ACEC, AIICG, BCC, EL CENTRO, IEC, WOMEN'S CENTER, CENTER FOR HUMANITIES, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, OFFICE OF RECRUITMENT, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION, GRADUATE SCHOOL, VT ENGAGE, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND HUMAN SCIENCES

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH &
 DAY OF REMEMBRANCE:
 COMMEMORATING
 JAPANESE AMERICAN
 INTERNMENT**

**FILM VIEWING OF MOUNTAINS THAT TAKE WING
 FOLLOWED BY FACILITATED DISCUSSION WITH
 DRS. ELLINGTON GRAVES, PAULA SENIORS, ANDREA
 BALDWIN, BIKRUM GILL, AND SUCHITRA SAMANTA**

**5 PM - 7 PM EST
 FEBRUARY 9, 2021**

REGISTER HERE:
[HTTPS://RB.GY/JNQZPM](https://rb.gy/jnqzpm)

MOUNTAINS THAT TAKE WING features internationally renowned scholar, professor, and writer Angela Davis and 89-year-old grassroots organizer and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Yuri Kochiyama. These women spent over a decade conversing intimately about personal histories and influences that shaped them and their overlapping experiences. This film offers the gift of these two remarkable women's lives, sharing the pair's recorded exchanges in 1995 and 2000. The film's unique format honors the scope and depth of their knowledge on topics ranging from Jim Crow laws and Japanese American internment camps, to Civil Rights, anti-war, women's and gay liberation movements, to today's campaigns for political prisoners and prison reform. Intercut with compelling period footage, Davis and Kochiyama's cogent observations, keen analyses, and steadfast resolve to create a more equitable, humane world offer inspiring lessons in empowerment and community building for current and future generations.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DR. HA AT NHA@VT.EDU

Financial Wellness on February 17th

- Register at <https://rb.gy/ctl19g>

CO-SPONSORS: AIICC, ACEC, BCC, EL CENTRO, IEC, HOKIE WELLNESS

KEVIN SUTTON



This workshop will discuss different sectors of your financial wellness, including budgeting, managing debt, and credit scores. Attendees can bring any financial question to this workshop as well for an open Q+A!

Target Audience: Undergraduate Students

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL WELLNESS, HOKIE WELLNESS

SCAN HERE: 

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021 | 12PM EST

ENHANCING YOUR FINANCIAL WELL-BEING

Register in Advance: <https://rb.gy/c1ll7g>

For questions, contact Dr. Nina Ho at nha@vt.edu

The Inaugural Series of the InspirASIAN Series: Presentation on caste, the Hindu Goddess Kali, and Disaster Responses in Nepal

- Register in Advance: <https://rb.gy/oryag9>

ACEC PRESENTS

THE INAUGURAL LAUNCH OF THE INSPIRASIAN SERIES

PRESENTATIONS ON CASTE, THE HINDU GODDESS KALI, AND DISASTER RESPONSES IN NEPAL

FEBRUARY 17, 2021 | 6 PM EST

REGISTER HERE: [HTTPS://RB.GY/ORYAG9](https://rb.gy/oryag9)

MEET THE PRESENTERS



DR. SWETA BANERJEE
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY



DR. BONNI ZARE
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY



DR. SUGANTHA SAMANATA
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

The Inaugural Launch of the InspirASIAN Series
This panel features presenters who will share their respective research and reflections on South Asia.

FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT DR. HA AT [NHA@VT.EDU](mailto:nha@vt.edu)

Financial Wellness on February 19th

- In this presentation, Dr. Travis Mountain will cover financial tips that you can use to enhance your financial well-being such as tax and wealth benefits of contributing to your retirement plan, childcare tax strategies, budgeting, goal setting, student loans, and "big expenses."

CO-SPONSORS: AIICC, ACEC, BCC, EL CENTRO, IEC



This Financial Well-being Workshop will cover tips such as: Tax considerations, wealth benefits, retirement contributions, budgeting strategies, and goal setting.

Attendees can bring any financial question for an open Q+A.

Target Audience: Faculty, Staff, Graduate Students, and Alumni

SCAN HERE: 

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2021 | 12PM EST

TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR FINANCIAL WELL-BEING

Register in Advance: <https://rb.gy/q0zlll>

For questions, contact Dr. Nina Ho at nha@vt.edu

Nighttime Guided Meditation with Vivek Rajan: Thursday, February 18th at 8PM EST


- Zoom Link: <https://rb.gy/2nl8nd>

ACEC Presents:


Nighttime Guided Meditation with Vivek Rajan

Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 8pm EST

Questions? Contact Dr. Nina Ho at nha@vt.edu.

Scan Here: 

Vivek Rajan was trained and certified as a meditation teacher at the Art of Living Center in Washington, D.C. in 2009 and has led these programs for hundreds of people nationally.



Zoom Link: <https://rb.gy/2nl8nd>

An Evening with Staceyann Chin: Wednesday, February 24th at 7 PM EST

- Register in advance for this webinar:

https://virginiatech.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_w9w4rWvIRWOdMvmFftv4yQ



A Workshop for Students Facilitated by Staceyann Chin: Friday, February 26th at 11 am EST

- Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://virginiatech.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMoceisqz0uEtwcOqnJZ6QU4uA7rFjNIOBj>



APIDA Caucus Lunch Socials

- Register in Advance: <http://bit.ly/39vPDOh>



APIDA Caucus Information

APIDA Caucus

- The APIDA Caucus serves as an advocacy and support group for faculty, staff, and graduate students at Virginia Tech and Blacksburg/NRV community members who self-identify as APIDA, or allies who are interested in participating in conversations relevant to the APIDA community. We also serve the APIDA community at other Virginia Tech campuses (Washington DC area, etc). The Caucus acts as a liaison to the university administration and is committed to supporting the needs of all APIDA individuals. Our events are open to faculty, staff, graduate & undergraduate students, and community members.

- To be added to our new email listserv (apidacaucus-g@vt.edu) and to get more information, please contact Rommelyn Coffren at rconde@vt.edu. Want to get involved? Find us on Twitter @VTAPIDACaucus!

Capitol Hill Violence Statement - To the APIDA Community

Dear Members of the VT APIDA Community,

The events we saw unfold on January 6th, 2021 at the US Capitol building have left us deeply saddened and angered. The violence and vandalism of one of our country's most sacred spaces that we witnessed were a direct result of the inflammatory words and actions of the president. For his entire presidency, and especially since his lost re-election bid, Donald Trump has been a constant and abundant source of lies and hateful rhetoric that have fanned the flames of the basest racist, anti-Black, anti-Native American, anti-immigrant, xenophobic, ableist, sexist, anti-LGBTQ+, anti-Muslim, and anti-Semitic instincts of our society.

The leadership of the APIDA Caucus is signing on to a joint statement (below) in solidarity with a coalition of VT Caucuses in response to the event. The statement:

1. Condemns the violence
2. Identifies the president himself as the source of the seditious conduct
3. Rejects the double standard set by law enforcement and implicates historical roots of US law enforcement in reinforcing white supremacy
4. Rejects pleas to "engage" increasing acceptance of far right-wing forces in this country in civil discourse

In addition, APIDA Caucus leadership is prioritizing strategies to work within our own community to build media literacy and capacity to work with other racialized minorities to stand up for equity and justice. We believe this work to be highly necessary for opening conversations with family members and friends in the APIDA community about our positions in a racialized society.

We are aware that many members of our VT community including students, faculty, staff, alumni, family, and friends were in the Washington, DC area when the events of last week occurred. We recognize that watching these events happen so close to where you live and work may have been especially terrifying. To all our VT APIDA community members: we encourage you to take time as needed to process and rest, and urge you to stay safe in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,
The VT APIDA Caucus Executive Board

Capitol Hill Violence Statement - VT Caucuses

Unified Virginia Tech Caucus Leadership Response to Capitol Hill Violence

The leadership of the undersigned Caucuses at Virginia Tech condemn the recent acts of violence on January 6, 2021 at the U.S. Capitol Building. The rioters who engaged in these acts of terror and insurrection were incited by the president and many other Republican lawmakers. For his entire presidency, Donald Trump has been a constant source of lies and hateful rhetoric, inciting racist, anti-Black, anti-Native American, anti-immigrant, xenophobic, ableist, sexist, anti-LGBTQ+, anti-Muslim, and anti-Semitic beliefs within our society. We recognize the violence of January 6 as a direct outcome of the president's words and actions. Those responsible need to be held accountable.

We are also disgusted by the stark contrast between the response to the insurrection's attack on the Capitol building, and the largely peaceful Black Lives Matter protests of last summer in the same vicinity. This offers yet more evidence of the continued inequity and lack of accountability for the systemic racism as exemplified in the response by law enforcement.

As the leaders of caucuses that serve the whole diversity of the Virginia Tech community, we stand firm in condemning violence as well as all past and present injustices and oppression. We reject trends toward the acceptance of the far right's extreme views by our elected officials, our society, and in our civil and educational discourse.

Signed,

The Leadership of the following Caucuses:

- American Indian and Indigenous Alliance (Caucus)
- Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Caucus
- Black Caucus
- Disability Caucus
- Hispanic/Latino Faculty Caucus
- LGBTQ+ Caucus
- Women's Alliance Caucus

OPPORTUNITIES for Students/Faculty/Alumni/Community Members

APAICS Congressional Fellowship and Internship

- APAICS is a national non-partisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting Asian Pacific American participation and representation at all levels of the political process, from community service to elected office. We're

recruiting Asian American and Pacific Islander students and young professionals interested in advocacy and public service.

- Our [Fellowship](#) program is designed for young AAPI professionals looking to increase their experience in public policy and service. The full-time, paid, 9-month program, places fellows in congressional offices to gain policy experience serving as part of the legislative team.
- **Eligibility:** Have completed their undergraduate or graduate degree and/or have at least five years of public service experience prior to the program start date.
- **2021-2022 Fellowship Program Dates:** September 7, 2021 - June 4, 2022
- **Application Deadline:** January 31, 2021 at 11:59 PM EST
- **Application link:** <https://bit.ly/APAICSFellowApp>



- Our [internship](#) program is for AAPI undergraduate aged students looking to increase their experience in public policy and service. The paid, eight-week long summer program places Interns in congressional offices.
- **Eligibility:** full-time undergraduate students or recent graduates
- **2021 Internship Program Dates:** June 2021 - August 2021
- **Application Deadline:** February 5, 2021 at 5pm EST
- **Application Link:** bit.ly/APAICSInternApp21



- Both of our programs provide professional development opportunities to build leadership skills and network with other AAPI professionals in public service. They provide great starts to a legislative career on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.
- If you're interested in learning more, we will be hosting information sessions over Zoom in the coming weeks:
- Mon Dec 7, 5pm EST Info Session for Congressional Fellowship [Register here](#)
- Mon Dec 14, 5pm EST Info Session for Congressional Internship [Register here](#)

Digital Connect: Preparing for Career Fairs

- Tuesday, February 2nd from 3:30-5:00 PM ET
- Registration required: https://vt.joinhandshake.com/events/638201/share_preview
- From 3:30-4:15 pm, hear from a panel of recruiters from GEICO, ManTech, and Southern Teachers Association.
- From 4:15-5:00 pm, get in virtual lines for the chance to have a brief 1-on-1 conversation with a company representative or career advisor.
- Registration is limited and will close 2 hours before the event begins.



The Community Group Leader Scholar program

Getting homework done has become much harder during lockdown - *can you help?*

- Provide academic tutoring
- Share hobbies, interests
- Disrupt the cycle of falling behind



Consider helping with

The Community Group Leader Scholar program!

Use the QR code or fill out a tutor volunteer form here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y2rtuj8h>



Tutoring is solely online @ 2x/week for 30 minutes

The Leader Scholar program currently works with 3rd-5th graders at Christiansburg Elementary and is sponsored by The Community Group, an organization enriching the African American community in Montgomery County.

Questions? Please email bonzare@vt.edu (Bonnie Zare)

DC APA Film VP (3 roles)

- (www.APAfilm.org) is looking for urgent vacancies to fill the following positions below.
- If you are interested please reach out to Dee Sanae dee@apafilm.org with a resume and one to two paragraphs of interest and why you are a good candidate. We are looking for students that are reliable, self-motivated, and have an interest in film, preferably Asian cinema but not necessary. We will also offer credit hours in exchange for volunteer hours if needed. This is an unpaid internship position. The deadline is January 30th.
- Social Media Manager (Urgent Vacant)
 - Maintain DC APA Film social media content and prepare all posts, tweets, etc.
 - Manage main DC APA Film accounts - YouTube, Instagram, Twitter, etc.
 - Work with Executive, Programming and Marketing/PR Committees for content and timely posts.
 - Manage content synchronization with Webmaster
- Marketing Intern (Urgent Vacancy)
 - The Marketing Intern will assist in reinforcing the DC APA Film brand in DC through the production of multimedia outlets - photography, videography, web. You create various campaigns and media content to promote the festival and community activities and strengthen the DC APA Film brand. Work to create, manage, & promote the APA Film branding:
 - Creative Design content and work with Executive Committee and Festival Director
 - Maintaining Brand cohesion and aesthetics
 - Be a part of a diverse team of creatives that will coordinate with DC APA Film webmaster for web content and the PR/Marketing committee for social media and other promotional channels which includes:
 - Newsletter send-outs
 - Assisting the Marketing Chair to reach out to community partners in the DMV
- Creative Designer Intern (Vacant)
 - Maintain DC APA Film Branding and Aesthetic Brand building
 - Work with Marketing Director for promotional items and design recommendations
 - Works with Programming committee to create a coherent theme and brand for the festival book
 - Recruits and works with Graphic Designer to create aesthetic and brand
 - Graphic designer on Canva preferably
 - Responsible for all design & production of 2D media and properly submit

- designs at appropriate deadlines.
- Produce clean, dynamic, and eye-catching designs for:
 - Banners & Ads
 - Flyers/Posters for all events

Freddie Mac Case Competition



Juneteenth Scholars Program for Summer 2021

- <https://liberalarts.vt.edu/about/office-of-the-dean-announcements/2020/juneteenth-scholars-call-for-applications.html>

Inclusive Excellence: Summer Institute 2021

- <https://ie.vt.edu/>

Kundiman 2021 Mentorship Lab

- Apply through January 15th to join our 2021 Mentorship Lab! This program supports nine emerging writers across the fields of Creative Nonfiction, Fiction, and Poetry with six craft classes, six workshops, a \$1000 stipend, and individual sessions with the genre's mentor. Register [here](#).
- Kundiman Southwest presents a reading in celebration of Dara Yen Elerath's *Dark Braid*, along with readings by fellow Southwest writers Anushah Jiwani and Edie Tsong. Register [here](#).
- On January 27th, Kundiman celebrates the culmination of our 2020 Mentorship Lab with a reading featuring this year's cohort of Fellows and Mentors, co-hosted with Books Are Magic! Register [here](#).





Lambda Horizon Scholarship Fund Eligibility

- Preference is given to students who have made contributions to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community through leadership, service, volunteering and/or research.
- Preference is given to rising seniors at Virginia Tech who anticipate graduating in the next academic year.
- Evaluation Criteria:
 - Minimum grade point average of 2.5 on 4.0 scale
 - Applicants need not provide documentation of financial need to be considered for this scholarship only.
- Note: Applicants must submit an additional essay detailing what they have done to support the LGBT community (1 - 2 pages max.)
 - Typical Scholarship Award: \$1,000
- Apply by Monday, February 1.
- Applications are awarded through the Community Foundation of the New River Valley. Learn more and apply via their website: <https://cfnr.org/scholarships/applicants-information/>.

The PAMLA (Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association) 2021 Asian American Literary and Cultural Studies Panels

- The PAMLA 2021 Asian American Literary and Cultural Studies panels will take place on November 11-14 in Las Vegas. Submissions are open from now until April 15. You can submit to the panel [HERE](#).
- We invite proposals for individual papers exploring any aspect of Asian American literary or cultural studies. We have a particular interest in presentations that engage across disciplinary boundaries (critical race theory, postcolonial studies, feminist and queer studies, etc); make connections to issues in the field at large (transnationalism, biopolitics, aesthetics, memory, etc); focus on texts not often discussed; or attend to genres not often represented in Asian American literary and cultural studies. "Texts" here is defined broadly to include visual, performing and digital arts, film, new media, disciplinary landscapes, geographic terrain, the politicized body (and more).
- We also invite proposals in conversation with this year's theme, "City of God, City of Destruction." In *Cities of Others: Reimagining Urban Spaces in Asian American Literature*, Xiaojing Zhou describes the American city as "at once an exclusionary nation-space, a segregated space, and a site of encounters and resistance, as well as a space of multiplicity and becomings" (292). In addition to looking at the role of cities and urban spaces, proposals can also consider other aspects of this year's theme: postmodernism and post-secularism, exiles and pilgrims, post-apocalyptic and haunted cities, etc. Close readings of specific works are welcome as are broader theoretical and thematic discussions of the subject. Ultimately we hope to address and encourage emergent issues and robust conversations in the fields of Asian American Literary and Cultural Studies.

- Please contact Nancy Carranza (ncarr007@ucr.edu) for any questions and/or inquiries about the panel.

Student Success Center Spring 2021: Virtual Tutoring and Peer Academic Coaching

- [Tutoring](#) offers course-specific support for primarily first- and second-year students in introductory math and science courses. Students can reserve individual appointments through Navigate, and they can drop in to [weekly review sessions](#).



- Peer Academic Coaching and Seminars
 - Our [PAC program](#) helps students develop academic success skills such as time management, study skills, overcoming procrastination, or success in online classes. Students can reserve individual appointments through Navigate (we're under Additional Support Services), [request weekly appointments](#), or attend our [Seminar Series on Academic Success](#).



Virginia Tech's Kids' Tech University

- Registration for Kids' Tech University is open now! Please register here: <https://tinyurl.com/VT-KTU>
- Kids' Tech University, founded by Fralin Life Science Institute and Virginia 4-H, is a first-come, first-served spring kids program that is open to children ages 9 through 12 as of September 30, 2020. This program is open to all children meeting the age requirement, regardless of the place of residence or academic achievement, and can accommodate up to 250 kids representing a geographically diverse area. Program dates are Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 20 and April 10th, 2021. Sessions will be held in the morning and will conclude by noon.
- With the current worldwide pandemic (COVID-19) we will be hosting a virtual program utilizing zoom and mailing packets of materials (which will require minimal, if anything, extra materials from the household) for hands-on activities after the interactive session. Parents are welcome to watch the interactive session with their child and we ask that they assist their child with doing the hands-on activity. Parents may be needed to assist with poking holes and handling sharp utensils for an activity. Undergraduates will be leading a group of kids/parents through the activity--all done virtually!
- In order to keep up with the costs of providing a quality program, there will be a non-refundable registration fee of \$50.00 per child, payable upon registration. Parents have an option to apply for a scholarship for your child at the time you register online.
- Registration closes on 1/15/2021 but will close earlier if capacity fills. More

Wake Forest University: Corporate Fellowships and Test Waivers

- Corporate Fellowship
 - The Corporate Fellowship is a fully funded [Master of Science in Management](#) experience for high-achieving students from historically underrepresented groups. In addition to full MSM tuition, Corporate Fellows are awarded a stipend to assist with living experiences while in the program. They also benefit from direct mentorship and a focus on personal and professional development with our Corporate Fellow Alumni. [Fellowship eligibility details and the application are available here.](#)
 - Connect with Current Students
 - Are your students eager to learn more about the School of Business graduate experience? They can connect with current students from the [MS in Management](#), [MS in Accountancy](#), and [MS in Business Analytics](#) programs. Check out videos from our current student ambassadors. We encourage any interested student to email our ambassadors with questions about the application process, coursework, career resources, and life in North Carolina.
 - Test Waivers
 - Qualified students will receive a GRE/GMAT test waiver when completing the online application for our MSM, MSA, or MSBA programs. Students are encouraged to reach out to me directly for more information.
-

Wings Fund

- Eligibility: Applicants from the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski, and the City of Radford Applicants pursuing education at a college (2- or 4- year), university, or postsecondary vocational school. Older and nontraditional students are encouraged to apply
 - Evaluation Criteria: Documented financial need
 - Additional Information: This scholarship is renewable Typical Scholarship Award: \$1,000
-

Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund

- Eligibility: Applicants who are rising sophomore, junior or senior women who have completed at least one semester at Virginia Tech Transfer students are eligible but must be enrolled at Virginia Tech for a minimum of 2 semesters before applying
 - Evaluation Criteria: Minimum QCA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale Financial need is considered but need not be a determining factor Excellence in scholarship, curricular and extracurricular activities
 - For more information, please visit the website [here.](#)
-

Virginia Talent and Opportunity Website

- <https://virginiatop.org/>
-

NCORE Student Scholars Program 2021

- <https://ncore.ou.edu/en/ncore-2021/student-scholars/>
-

The Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program (MAOP)

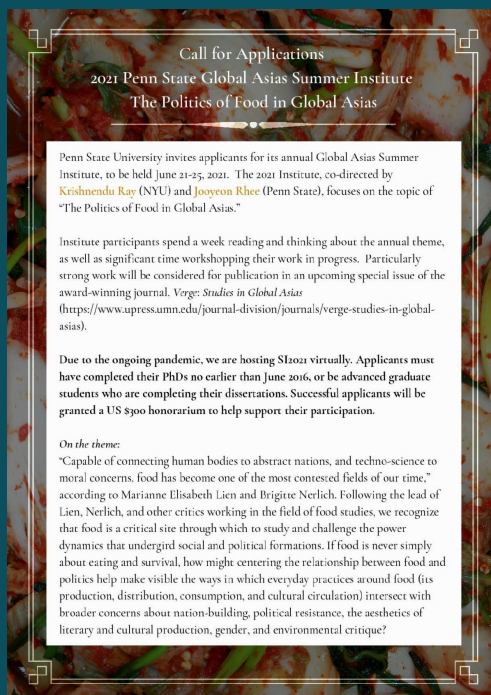
- MAOP founded in 1993, is an academic success community founded upon the principles of self-efficacy, mentoring, and peer support. Central to the goal of MAOP is the promotion of diversification within the student body of Virginia Tech. Through partnerships with various academic colleges and departments at Virginia Tech, other colleges and universities, governmental entities, and various organizations, MAOP participants are supported with academic guidance, emotional and social support, and financial support.
 - The scholarship is for Virginia residents and it is based on merit and unmet financial need. The application for the 2021 - 2022 Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program (MAOP) Undergraduate Scholarship is now open through April 30, 2021.
 - The electronic application is available at www.maop.vt.edu.
 - Students can contact the MAOP Office with any questions maop@vt.edu or 540-231-5023.
-

2021 Penn State Global Asias Summer Institute: The Politics of Food in Global Asia

- Penn State University invites applicants for its annual global Asias Summer Institute, to be held June 21-25, 2021. The 2021 Institute, co-directed by Krishnendu Ray (NYU) and Jooyeon Rhee (Penn State), focuses on the topic of "The Politics of Food in Global Asias."
- Institute participants spend a week reading and thinking about the annual theme, as well as significant time workshoping their work in progress. Particularly strong work will be considered for publication in an upcoming special issue of the award-winning journal, *Verge: Studies in Global Asias*.
- (<https://www.upress.umn.edu/journal-division/journals/verge-studies-in-global-asias>).
- Due to the ongoing pandemic, we are hosting SI2021 virtually. Applicants must have completed their PhDs no earlier than June 2016, or be advanced graduate students who are completing their dissertations. Successful applicants will be granted a US \$300 honorarium to help support their participation.
- On the theme:
 - "Capable of connecting human bodies to abstract nations, and technoscience to moral concerns, food has become one of the most contested fields of our time," according to Marianne Elisabeth Lien and Brigitte Nerlich. Following the lead of Lien, Nerlich, and other critics working in the field of food studies, we recognize that food is a critical site through which to study and challenge the power dynamics that undergird social and political formations. If food is never simply about eating and survival, how might centering the relationship between food and politics help make visible the ways in which everyday practices around food (its production, distribution, consumption, and cultural circulation) intersect with broader concerns about nation-building, political resistance, the aesthetics of literary and cultural production, gender, and environmental critique?
- This year's Summer Institute seeks to bring together a diverse cohort of scholars working on projects that focalize multi-sited power struggles across gender, class and racial/ethnic boundaries in Asia and its multiple diasporas through an analysis of food and foodways. We welcome projects that approach the study of food

contextually, in the process highlighting the intersectional and cross-disciplinary implications of the politics of food. Western media's attack on the Wuhan meat market is one example where the cultural politics of race, biomedical science, and international politics intersect. The Japanese state's calculated non-response to women's demand for a transparent assessment of, and safety guidelines on, the radioactive-contaminated agricultural products in Fukushima after the nuclear disaster shows how gender politics intersects with the governmental health and environment policies (Aya Hirata Kimura). Debal Deb's work protecting agro-cultural diversity by cultivating 1,340 threatened varieties of rice in Odisha, India, demonstrates that food activism involves the study of food policy, food security and agricultural bioscience. Interdisciplinary analyses of culture, immigration history, and sociology highlight the ways in which culinary traditions play an important role in the development of Asian immigrant communities and identities.

- We welcome research from multiple disciplines but we are also interested in interdisciplinary research that integrates anthropology and/or sociology with other disciplines such as science, history, literature and media studies. By investigating the parallel ways in which food has been constructed in "apolitical" terms even as it can also be politicized in arenas not commonly thought of as political, we will consider how the study of the politics of food impacts our understanding of Global Asias—itself a nebulously defined, contested, and generative concept.
- Application Requirements:
 - To apply, please send the following documents to vergevents@psu.edu by March 1, 2021. Items #1-3 must be sent as a single PDF file; the recommendation letter for applications from advanced graduate students may be sent separately.
 1. An abstract of 1500 words outlining research project and clarifying its connection to the Institute theme.
 2. A sample of current work.
 3. A current c.v. (no longer than 2 pp).
 4. A letter from a principal advisor about the advanced status of work (in the case of graduate students).
- Decisions will be made by mid-April 2021. Other inquiries regarding the Summer Institute may be directed to Jooyeon Rhee (jxr5820@psu.edu) or Tina Chen, Director of the Global Asias Initiative (tina.chen@psu.edu).



Call for Applications
2021 Penn State Global Asias Summer Institute
The Politics of Food in Global Asias

Penn State University invites applicants for its annual Global Asias Summer Institute, to be held June 21-25, 2021. The 2021 Institute, co-directed by [Krishnendu Ray](#) (NYU) and [Jooyeon Rhee](#) (Penn State), focuses on the topic of "The Politics of Food in Global Asias."

Institute participants spend a week reading and thinking about the annual theme, as well as significant time workshoping their work in progress. Particularly strong work will be considered for publication in an upcoming special issue of the award-winning journal, *Verge: Studies in Global Asias* (<https://www.upress.psu.edu/journal-division/journals/verge-studies-in-global-asias>).

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we are hosting SI2021 virtually. Applicants must have completed their PhDs no earlier than June 2016, or be advanced graduate students who are completing their dissertations. Successful applicants will be granted a US \$300 honorarium to help support their participation.

On the theme:
"Capable of connecting human bodies to abstract nations, and techno-science to moral concerns, food has become one of the most contested fields of our time," according to Marianne Elisabeth Lien and Brigitte Nerlich. Following the lead of Lien, Nerlich, and other critics working in the field of food studies, we recognize that food is a critical site through which to study and challenge the power dynamics that undergird social and political formations. If food is never simply about eating and survival, how might centering the relationship between food and politics help make visible the ways in which everyday practices around food (its production, distribution, consumption, and cultural circulation) intersect with broader concerns about nation-building, political resistance, the aesthetics of literary and cultural production, gender, and environmental critique?



Call for Applications
2021 Penn State Global Asias Summer Institute
The Politics of Food in Global Asias

This year's Summer Institute seeks to bring together a diverse cohort of scholars working on projects that focalize multi-sited power struggles across gender, class and racial/ethnic boundaries in Asia and its multiple diasporas through an analysis of food and foodways. We welcome projects that approach the study of food contextually, in the process highlighting the intersectional and cross-disciplinary implications of the politics of food. Western media's attack on the Wuhan meat market is one example where the cultural politics of race, biomedical science, and international politics intersect. The Japanese state's calculated non-response to women's demand for a transparent assessment of, and safety guidelines on, the radioactive-contaminated agricultural products in Fukushima after the nuclear disaster shows how gender politics intersects with the governmental health and environment policies (Aya Hirata Kimura). Debal Deb's work protecting agro-cultural diversity by cultivating 1,340 threatened varieties of rice in Odisha, India, demonstrates that food activism involves the study of food policy, food security and agricultural bioscience. Interdisciplinary analyses of culture, immigration history, and sociology highlight the ways in which culinary traditions play an important role in the development of Asian immigrant communities and identities.

We welcome research from multiple disciplines but we are also interested in interdisciplinary research that integrates anthropology and/or sociology with other disciplines such as science, history, literature and media studies. By investigating the parallel ways in which food has been constructed in "apolitical" terms even as it can also be politicized in arenas not commonly thought of as political, we will consider how the study of the politics of food impacts our understanding of Global Asias—itself a nebulously defined, contested, and generative concept.

Call for Applications
2021 Penn State Global Asias Summer Institute
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1. An abstract of 1500 words outlining research project and clarifying its connection to the Institute theme.
2. A sample of current work.
3. A current c.v. (no longer than 2 pp).
4. A letter from a principal advisor about the advanced status of work (in the case of graduate students).

Decisions will be made by mid-April 2021. Other inquiries regarding the Summer Institute may be directed to Jooyeon Khee (jkr5820@psu.edu) or Tina Chen, Director of the Global Asias Initiative (tina.chen@psu.edu).

Office for Inclusion and Diversity Presidential Principles of Community Awards

- The Office of Inclusion and Diversity invites you to nominate members of the Virginia Tech community who exemplify Principles of Community, and who have demonstrated an active commitment to Inclusion and Diversity.
- The nomination process opened on January 11th and will remain open until February 22, 2021. Link to additional information and the nomination form can be found by clicking [here](#).
- For more information contact Stacey Wilkerson at stacey9@vt.edu
- Universities Fighting World Hunger Virtual Summit 2021 Co-hosted by University of California Davis



Apply by January 29 for VT Engage's Lead for Good program

- [VT Engage: The Center for Leadership and Service Learning](#) is excited to announce that the application for the first spring session of the Lead for Good program is now open! Lead for Good is intended to provide a foundational leadership experience for all undergraduates to apply to their lives during college and beyond.
- Over the course of five weeks, during each 90-minute virtual session, students will gain 21st-century leadership skills to take with them after the program ends, regardless of whether they plan to pursue formal leadership positions on campus.
- Learn more and apply on the [VT Engage website](#).

VT Graduate School Virtual Resource Fair

- February 3, 2021 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST)
- This online chat will connect you directly with organizations to support you as a graduate student from the comfort of your home, office, smartphone or tablet.
- Our online, cloud-based platform makes it easy and fun for you to participate. After signing in, you'll be able to explore the available information and opportunities, and participate in 1-on-1 text-based chats with representatives from participating organizations.
- Share your background and experience, and get all your questions answered.
- Sign up [here](#)

The Virginia Network of Women in Higher Education 2021 Outstanding Woman Leader Award

- The Virginia Network of Women in Higher Education seeks nominations for the 2021 Outstanding Woman Leader Award. Please consider recognizing a woman in your organization who has made significant contributions to higher education in Virginia. Attached is a handout that I ask you to distribute as you are able.
- Criteria for the award are as follows:
 - Exemplified leadership, success and service; and
 - Served as a role model and leader to other women in the field of higher education through her demonstrated commitment to their leadership development; and
 - Employment in, or retired from, a Virginia institution of higher education.
- Nominations should be submitted to the Scholarship and Award Committee by March 15, 2021, by completing the form located at https://virginia.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cYIJZ7cVNpXiaW1. Nominations may include up to three letters of recommendation. The award will be presented at the annual (virtual) University and College President's Panel which will feature women of color and will be held on May 26th, 2021.

COVID-19 Information

- VA Vaccination Information
 - <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/covid-19-faq/>

SAVE THE DATE(S):

“I’m Not a Virus!”: Asian Americans’ Perspectives on COVID19 by Center for Community Health Education Research and Service, Inc.



- CCHERS third community conversation session will address the backlash faced by Asian American communities due to COVID-19 and our government's response to it. Join us as we facilitate a dialogue between community members and panelists about the issues and stigma that Asian American's have had to face.
 - To sign up, click [here](#) to register. (Registration is free)
 - Please click here to submit any questions you would like the panelists to address.
 - The session will be recorded and a link to the recording will be provided to all who register.
 - We look forward to speaking with you on February 8th!
-

Moss Arts Center: Jake Shimabukuro, ukulele






- Thursday, March 4, 2021, 7:30 PM EST
- With his out-of-the-box blend of stunning virtuosity and deep musicality, ukulele master Shimabukuro takes the four-string, two-octave instrument to places no one has gone before.
- In this intimate night of music followed by a question-and-answer session, Shimabukuro will forge a deep emotional connection that is open, magical, and transcendent.
- Get Your Tickets: <https://artscenter.vt.edu/performances/jake-shimabukuro.html>

Priyanka Chopra Jonas

- Unfinished: A Memoir in conversation with Lilly Singh
- Tickets on sale now (signed book included)
- All tickets include a signed, hardcover copy of Unfinished, specially bound by the publisher.
- Harvard Book Store's virtual event series, Politics and Prose, and Books & Books welcome award-winning, internationally renowned actress and producer PRIYANKA CHOPRA JONAS for a discussion of her debut memoir, Unfinished. She will be joined in conversation by actress, writer, and creator LILLY SINGH, host of NBC's late-night talk show, A Little Late with Lilly Singh.
- This event will be pre-recorded and live-streamed to a password-protected YouTube page. Ticket-holders will have the opportunity to submit their questions for the speakers ahead of the recording.
- For tickets, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-event-priyanka-chopra-jonas-tickets-136722892853>

UC DAVIS Universities Fighting World Hunger Virtual Summit 2021



UC Davis World Food Center to Co-host UFWH Summit 2021
Universities Fighting World Hunger Virtual Summit 2021 to be held March 25-26, 2021

Monday, January 11, 2021 – The University of California, Davis' World Food Center will co-host the virtual student summit 2021 of Universities Fighting World Hunger (UFWH) alongside the University of California Global Food Initiative and the Nutrition Policy Institute, University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources in partnership with the Hunger Solutions Institute at Auburn University. The summit's theme is **One Health. One Planet.**, and it will take place on March 25 and 26, 2021.

The **Summit 2021** will be the 16th held by UFWH, but is the first to be hosted by the University of California and on the west coast. With a focus on involving students, the virtual summit will consist of keynote speeches, presentations, and panel discussions from experts across the United States who will speak to a broad array of topics covering human health, the planet, and their inherent connectivity.

The goal of the summit is to bring together current and future leaders to see a world without hunger. Students, administrators, faculty, staff, and community partners will network and share ideas that lead to actions and impact at the campus, community, and global levels.

UC Davis Chancellor Gary S. May will give the summit's opening remarks and UC President Michael Drake will share his thoughts on the power of student voices to affect change. Keynote speakers include:

- William Dietz, Director of Sumner M. Redstone Global Center for Prevention and Wellness at George Washington University
- Dr. Rattan Lal, winner of the 2020 World Food Prize for developing and mainstreaming a soil-centric approach to increasing food production that restores and conserves natural resources and mitigates climate change
- Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University's Earth Institute

Universities Fighting World Hunger (UFWH) is a global higher education movement focused on educating, mobilizing and organizing students, faculty and administrators in the war against hunger. In 2004, Auburn University accepted an invitation to partner with the United Nations World Food Programme in the fight against hunger, one of the world's most pressing global issues. Inspired by this partnership, Universities Fighting World Hunger (UFWH) was launched in 2006. This coalition is now led by the Hunger Solutions Institute at Auburn University and has expanded to nearly 300 campuses worldwide.

Registration for the UFWH Summit 2021 opens Monday, January 11, 2021, and can be accessed [here](https://ucdavis.edu). The event is free of charge.

For further comments, please contact:
Ermias Kebeab, Director, UC Davis World Food Center: 530-752-0860, ekebeab@ucdavis.edu
worldfoodcenter@ucdavis.edu

Andrea Thompson, Associate Program Director, UC Davis World Food Center: 530-752-9480, aethompson@ucdavis.edu

Women, Policy and Political Leadership: Regional Perspectives

- A virtual panel discussion, “Women, Policy and Political Leadership: Regional Perspectives,” will showcase a new edited collection of the same title that brings together regional perspectives to address the role of women parliamentarians around the world. The free event will take place January 29, 2021, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Eastern Time
- Advance registration is required to participate:



https://virginiatech.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_GaYpTUDhQYesdsOuVOKG8Q

- After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the webinar.

Virtual Lunar New Year Family-Friendly Events

- Looking for fun ways to spend Lunar New Year this year? Here's a list of events happenings all around the nation:
- Events list:
 - Pao Arts Center event: <https://www.paoartscenter.org/events/2021/lny>
 - Smithsonian American Art Museum: <https://americanart.si.edu/events/lunar-new-year-virtual-celebration-february-13-2021>
 - Asia Society: <https://asiasociety.org/texas/lunar-new-year-2021-virtual-celebration>

Social Media

