

Asian Cultural Engagement Center's 2022 April Newsletter

A Message from Dr. Nina Ha

Greetings!

April is APIDA Heritage Month and for this year's APIDAHM, it is centered around "Making the Invisible Visible." While the APIDA community is not considered underrepresented at Virginia Tech, it is underserved and a racial minority. Thus, this month, the ACEC is highlighting so many amazing programs aimed to center the APIDA community in unique and fabulous ways.

We are kicking off APIDAHM through a collaboration with the Owens Dining Food Court which will serve so many amazing dishes from various parts of Asia on April 1st. Please come for the food and stay to watch some performances by our incredibly talented community members! Following this kickoff, there are so many opportunities to engage with the APIDA community.

We look forward to having you support the ACEC as it features various opportunities to explore the APIDA identity, culture, and society.

All ACEC's events are free and open to the public.

This year, Ramadan begins at sunset on Saturday, April 2, and ends on the evening of Monday, May 2.

amadan is a holy month of fasting, introspection, and prayer for Muslims, the followers o slam. It is celebrated as the month during which Muhammad received the initial revelation he Quran, the holy book for Muslims. Fasting is one of the five fundamental principles of slam. Every day during this holy month, Muslims do not eat or drink from dawn to sunset re supposed to avoid any impure thoughts and actions.

uslims break their daily fasts by sharing meals with family and friends, and the end of amadan is celebrated with a three-day festival known as Eid al-Fitr, one of Islam's major holidays. Ramadan always falls on the ninth month of the 12-month Islamic calendar. It begins and ends with the appearance of the crescent moon. Because the Muslim calendar year is shorter than the Gregorian calendar year, Ramadan begins 10–12 days earlier each year, allowing it to fall in every season throughout a 33-year cycle.

For more information, please visit: Link - https://studentlife.mit.edu/orsel/interfaith-understanding/about-ramadan-2022

ACEC's Statement of Purpose

The Asian Cultural Engagement Center (ACEC) is a division of the Cultural and Community Centers under the Virginia Tech Office for Inclusion and Diversity (OID). The ACEC's mission is to advocate for the Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) communities, including Virginia Tech faculty, staff, 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 local community are welcome in the ACEC and can participate in the ACEC's events, programs, and activities, whether in-person or virtually.

Interested in financially supporting the ACEC so that it can better serve the APIDA community? Please consider donating here: ACEC Donation Page.

Thank you for your consideration!

Follow us on social media!

Facebook: VTACEC

Instagram: vtacec

Twitter: acec vt

YouTube: ACEC VT

Website: ccc.vt.edu/index/acec.html

he APIDA Caucus serves as an advocacy and support group for faculty, staff, and gradua tudents at Virginia Tech and Blacksburg/NRV community members who self-identify as PIDA, or allies who are interested in participating in conversations relevant to the APIDA ommunity. We also serve the APIDA community at other Virginia Tech campuses (Washington, D.C. 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 listsery (apidacaucus-g@yt.edu) and to get more information, please contact Rommelyn Coffren at rconde@yt.edu. Want to get involved? Find us on Twitter @VTAPIDACaucus

APIDA Faculty and Graduate Student Mentorship Program

The APIDA Caucus, in collaboration with the ACEC, recently started a mentorship program for APIDA faculty and APIDA graduate students. The program was spearheaded by Ph.D. student, Hana Chan, to provide mentors for APIDA graduate students who traditionally have difficulty finding mentors and role models in their respective fields and who also self-identify as APIDA. The purpose of the program is to create connections between graduate students and faculty within the APIDA community who share similar identities and experiences and to create safe and culturally sensitive environments for graduate students to seek guidance and support.

Please reach out to Dr. Nina Ha at nha@vt.edu for more information.

APID Alumni Society

The Asian Pacific Islander Desi Alumni Society (APIDAS) of Virginia Tech is an organization dedicated to fostering community for all Asian/Asian American and Pacific Islander alumni. In addition to building a community of alums, we strive to foster mentorships with current undergrad and grad students, provide networking opportunities, and give back to our alma

ater from wherever we are. If you are interested in learning more about us or would like to oin, please email apidasvt@gmail.com.

acebook: https://www.facebook.com/apidasvt

nstagram: apidas_vt

Asian American Student Union (AASU)

The mission of the Asian American Student Union is to serve the Asian/Pacific Islander/Desi American (APIDA) communities within Virginia Tech. It shall act as an umbrella organization over the branching undergraduate APIDA organizations. It shall strive to enhance and further the individual, cultural, and ethnic diversities that exist in the APIDA communities. It shall make efforts to address the problems, issues, and concerns of the APIDA communities to the administration and other fellow student organizations.

Follow us on social media!

Facebook: VTAASU

Instagram: aasuvt

GobblerConnect: gobblerconnect.vt.edu/organization/aasu

Did You Know?

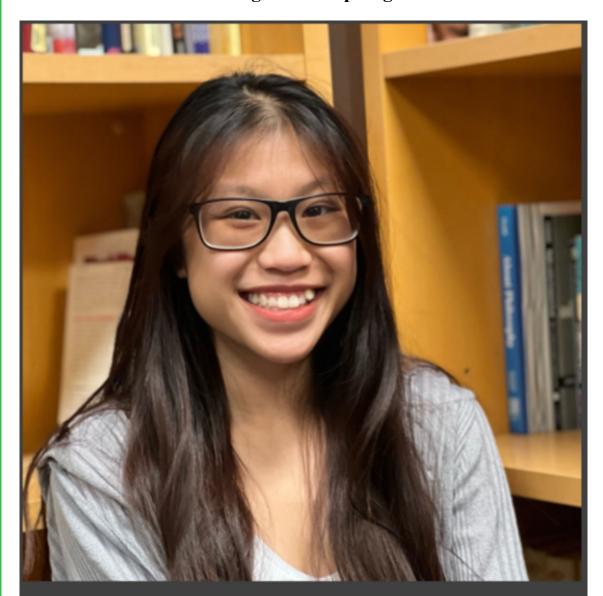
- 1. The Transcontinental Railroad 10,000 to 20,000 Chinese immigrant workers helped with creating the Central Pacific (West) railroad over the Sierra Nevada to connect with the Union Pacific (East) and was considered the largest workforce in the US industry during the mid-19th century.
- 2. The Manilamen of St. Malo First APIDA settlement was founded in 1763.

 Founded by Juan San Maló, who was the leader of a group of runaway enslaved people. They were made of mostly Filipino sailors who escaped from Spanish

hey are known for their contributions to the cultural society of inspiring cuisine and architecture.

- 3. First Chinese student to graduate from an American university in Wing graduated from Yale University and went on to go back to rder to establish the "Chinese Education System".
- 4. <u>Tien Liang Jeu</u> First APIDA student who graduated from Virginia Tech, came from Hong Kong to the United States in 1920, and soon transferred to Virginia Tech as an Electrical Engineer.
- 5. The Immigration Act of 1917 Was a total immigration ban on those from the geographic area designated as the "Aisatic Barred Zone." The Act was an expansion on the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 to prevent anyone who was non-Caucasian and Indian from entering the country.
- 6. <u>Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1965</u> It abolished the previous quota system that was based on national origin. This act resulted in the large part of the American demographic changing from a predominately Caucasian society to one that is closer to the one we see today.
- 7. The creation of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Congressman Frank Horton introduced the bill to designate May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in 1978. Due to the suggestion of Jeanie Jew, a Capitol Hill staffer at the time. Jeanie Jew was concerned about the lack of recognition Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders due to her great-grandfather, M.Y. Lee, who helped with creating the transcontinental railroad. May was the chosen month due to two significant events, the first being that the first known Japanese immigrant arrived in the U.S on May 7, 1843. The second being the completion of the transcontinental railroad, which was finished on May 10, 1869. In 1992, the bill permanently established May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month; it received unanimous support.

Undergraduate Spotlight



Caption by Julie Truong, Photo by Dean Compton

Julie Truong is a sophomore undergraduate studying Aerospace and Ocean Engineering. She was born in Houston, Texas. Truong moved from inner Houston and grew up in the suburbs outside of the city. She currently resides on the Virginia Tech campus, here in Blacksburg.

Truong started attending Virginia Tech in the Fall of 2020. She chose Virginia Tech because she wanted to surround herself in a college town, really immersing herself in the studies that it offers. She chose Virginia Tech because it is well known for its engineering programs, as well as offered a number of different subjects for her to explore. At first, Truong's experience at Virginia Tech was quiet due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She lived in a Living and Learning Community and found ways to interact with others. Truong is part of the Vietnamese Student Association (VSA), Aerospace & Ocean

Engineering Ambassadors (AOE), Baja SAE, and the Galipatia Living and Learning Community.

Truong is currently conducting undergraduate research at the Advanced Propulsion an Power Lab in the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Lab. She works under Dr. Joseph Meadows, helping with commissioning and instrumenting a high combustion rig that is meant to optimize an afterburner - a study that is sponsored by the U.S Navy.

Truong gave a strong piece of advice for incoming and current students: "Ask, go for it, do things." She encourages others to take opportunities, to just try and ask about them, and see where these opportunities can take a person. Now is a great time to develop passions that one's interested in. Even if you think you'll be denied, it still doesn't hurt to try. As Truong ruminates, "If I don't do it now, when will I?"

Graduate Spotlight



Caption by Anthony Gang, Photo by Samantha Shim

Anthony Gang is currently a graduate student at Virginia Tech, pursuing a Master's Degree in Structural Engineering, which he will complete at the end of this semester. He was born in Syracuse, New York, but grew up in Haymarket, Virginia since he was in kindergarden. Gang also attended Virginia Tech for his Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Fall 2016 to Spring 2020. During his last semester as an

undergraduate, Gang was looking at potential careers and decided that he wanted to work for APEX Technologies. When he had his meeting with the company, they expressed that they preferred if he had a Master's Degree in Structural Engineering, so he decided to apply to and was accepted in Virginia Tech's Graduate Program. Recently he went back to APEX Technologies to confirm that he would be completing his Master' Degree. Subsequently, they offered him a full-time position as a staff engineer.

The reason Gang chose Virginia Tech for his undergraduate degree was because of his interest in Engineering and wanting to attend a STEM-focused school. For his junior and senior year of high school, he joined the Governor School at Innovation Parks, which is a STEM-focused school. From his experiences, he thought about how he wanted to become an engineer, and he found that Virginia Tech has one of the best Engineering schools in Virginia.

Gang was heavily involved in KASA (Korean American Student Association) by being the Treasurer during his sophomore and junior years and then President during his senior year and first year of graduate school. The reason he did not run in his second year is because he wanted to finish strong in his Master's Degree program, and stepped down to let someone else have the opportunity to be an Officer and to lead. He is the only Officer who ever have run for four years as an Officer and two years as President.

Notably, Gang was given the award for "KASA Member of the Year" during his freshman year as an undergraduate. The most significant moments in Gang's college career was acting in the Cultural Show as the main male role every year for five years. He did not have any prior experience in acting, so this was a completely new skill that he had to learn.

A piece of advice Gang would give to incoming Virginia Tech students is to "Definitely go to Gobblerfest!" He was able to find his second home, which was KASA for him, at Virginia Tech through joining clubs and engaging in activities. Gang noted that it is important to find something you love so that you could find people with similar interests to make a perfect match. Also, Gang advised to not worry about being a minority because it should not affect anyone's dream, and to keep moving forward.

Faculty Spotlight



Caption by Shilpa Madan, Photo by Shilpa Madan

Dr. Shilpa Madan is an Assistant Professor of Marketing at Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Tech. She received her Ph.D. from Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, an MBA in Marketing from the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay, India, and a Bachelor of Technology in Information Technology from Indraprastha University in New Delhi, India.

Dr. Madan grew up and lived in New Delhi until she moved to Bombay for her MBA and then all over India for her marketing career with Castrol/bp and Unilever. She moved to Singapore with Unilever as the global marketing manager for Lux — one of Unilever's largest brands. She then pursued her Ph.D. in Consumer Behavior in Singapore. Dr. Madan joined VT as an Assistant Professor of Marketing after completing her post-doctoral research at Columbia University in 2020, right in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dr. Madan's research interests lie in leveraging consumers' naïve beliefs about the world to help them live better, more fulfilling, and more sustainable lives. Specifically, her research explores people's lay beliefs in domains such as personality, happiness, wealth, appearance, etc., and how these beliefs shape attitudes and behavior toward consequential issues such as accepting refugees in one's country, paying environment-friendly taxes, advocating for wage equality, and willingness to buy imperfect produce.

Having lived in two continents, three countries, and 12 different cities, Dr. Madan is a keen observer of cultural differences. Her second line of research seeks to understand how people's cultural values shape their consumption choices. Her work has implications for public policy, sustainable living, and consumer well-being.

Dr. Madan moved to the United States in 2018 with her family, living in New York for the first two years and now in Blacksburg. She described the APIDA community at Virginia Tech as inclusive and having a strong "sense of inclusiveness, and solidarity" and "being very welcoming."

"You know, we are very different — South Asians, Southeast Asians, North Asians, including Pacific islanders. But compared to many other groups, we share a common sense of identity and heritage. It's always comforting and reassuring to be with people like yourselves, and I would love to be more actively involved."

Dr. Madan hopes to get more involved with the APIDA communities and organizations on campus. Dr. Madan took part in a panel discussion on mentorship for South Asian students organized by ACEC in October 2021. She is a part of the Graduate Programs Committee in the Marketing Department as an advisor and spends her time supporting graduate students in their academic progress and well-being. She is currently a member of the APIDA Caucus.

Dr. Madan encourages students, especially those who are new to Virginia Tech or those moving into a new environment, to not change who they are to fit in: "When we come to a new place, we often try to blend in too much because we want to belong to a new place. But at some point in time, you'll realize that it's important to celebrate your uniqueness. If you blend in so much that you become one of them, you've lost what makes you special. Be part of the community, but embrace your uniqueness too. You bring certain strengths based on your heritage, identity, and where/how you grew up. Retain your individuality and uniqueness; that's what makes you special."



Caption by: Hussein El Haj, Photo by: Masoumeh Riazi

Hussein El Haj was born and raised in Beirut, Lebanon. Currently he resides in Waterloo, Canada, where he moved after earning his Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering at Virginia Tech in May 2021.

El Haj entered his doctoral program in August 2017. His research study was based on problems in service operations research, with a focus on public health screening. El Haj said "I have done research in two screening domains, newborn screening, and infectious

disease screening, as well as working on finding optimal screening strategies using prescriptive analytic frameworks, where I identify important structural properties to generate some algorithms that can solve these problems."

During his graduate studies, El Haj mentioned that he was fortunate to work side-byside with other students from different backgrounds. He had classmates and teammates from different races and ethnicities. He was also fortunate to be an instructor and a graduate teaching assistant for culturally diverse classes, which enhanced his teaching skills.

El Haj was feeling grateful that he had the chance to be exposed to different outlooks which enhanced his way of thinking and deepened his beliefs in how important diversity is.

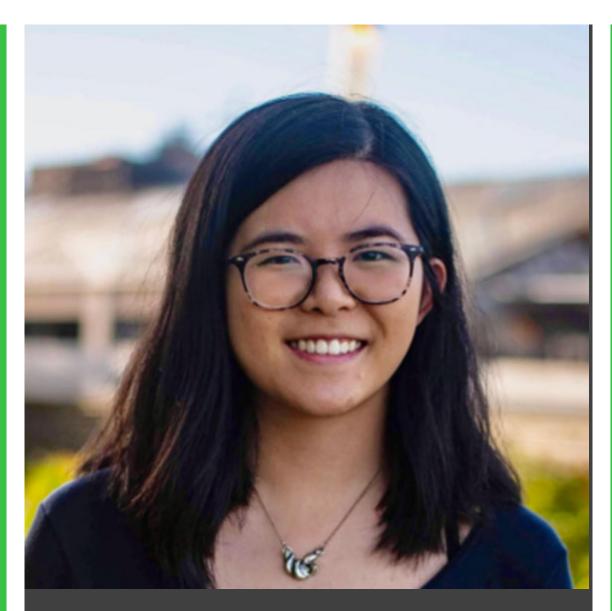
Moreover, El Haj said "As an Asian, it was important for me to feel welcomed, to feel that I belong to VT, and luckily the environment was more than I hoped for. The diversity at VT created an environment of mutual respect among all students and faculty members. Regardless of my background, I felt that I belong to a community."

Unfortunately, El Haj did not get any chance to join any student organization, but he does regret it now. He mentioned that he would have accomplished much more and contributed better. However, through his network, he was able to learn about different cultures around the world, as well as share some of his culture. In his opinion, he believes this helped to eliminate many of the stereotypes that his colleagues and friends had about his background.

El Haj said "Diversity not only helped me in becoming more accepting of other cultures, but also taught me how to set aside differences, and benefit from other perspectives and points of view. Acceptance of others is one of the most important traits to foster a rich environment." Besides that, El Haj's research contribution was significant. He has created some screening strategies that account for equity, since current screening strategies may place some races at a disadvantage. For instance, the current cystic fibrosis screening is placing Asians and Blacks at a disadvantage.

Finally, El Haj mentioned that he spent a lovely time at VT; he used to share and compare different traditions with his Asian friends as well. Therefore, as an advice for incoming students, El Haj mentioned "Don't be afraid of who you are, trust yourself, be confident, and inform, show, and highlight others about your traditions and cultures."

AASU Council Member Spotlight



Caption by Gia Ha, Photo by Kimberly Estoque

Gia Ha is a first year Master's student pursuing dual degrees in Sustainable Land Development and Urban Affairs and Planning. She grew up in Virginia and graduated from George Mason University in 2019 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. Before Virginia Tech, Ha worked as a water engineer.

Ha currently serves as the Graduate Student Liaison for the Asian American Student Union (AASU) and the Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) Caucus, in which she serves as a bridge between the undergraduate/graduate students and faculty.

Ha is passionate about empowering people with marginalized identities as well as building infrastructure that will expand access to clean water and guide policies toward sustainable development. She is interested in utilizing technology and behavioral science to promote more sustainable choices for engineering and planning policy.

She says, "As a first-generation student, social networks have played an enormous role in my success and resiliency during school. Through my APIDA leadership experiences and the

APIDA Grad Mentoring Program (a Diversity Scholars project), I hope to help others to create connections and build their support network."

Based on her previous experiences, she says that one should be brave enough to make mistakes and ask for help when they need it. "It can be scary to try new things, but I encourag you to say yes to opportunities that excite you and push you outside of your comfort zone, even if it's not directly related to your field, or you've already invested a lot of time into something else. Don't fall for the sunk cost fallacy and embrace a growth minist." Having quit her job to start her programs in graduate school, Ha did feel disconcerted but took the leap of faith to pivot her career and learn more about sustainability. "Isolation is the drawn little", and we develop best when we have support and encouragement from our communities."

"It's incredibly important to get involved with APIDA organizations! My involvement with organizations like AASU started in undergrad and they were crucial for developing my confidence as a leader. I learned that leadership is defined by our actions and character rather than just roles or titles, and I believe that everyone has the potential to be a leader."

In her down time, Ha enjoys experimenting with her indoor garden, doting on her two dogs Matcha and Mango, and kayaking with her partner Osaze.

Meet the Newest ACEC Programming Assistants!



Caption by Jane Park, Photo by Jackelyn Gonzalez

Hey Everyone! My name is Jane Park (she/her), and I'm a sophomore English major, hoping to soon minor in Political Science. I love writing, whether it's for the Collegiate Times newspaper (be sure to keep up with us!) or for fun. One of my future goals is to publish a novel. I love my major because not only have I become a better writer since coming to Tech, but it has forced me to think deeply. If I'm not in the ACEC, then I'm probably sitting in the cafe on the first floor of the Newman Library — it's the perfect place to write away! The Torgerson Bridge is also one of my favorite study spots, especially during sunsets. During my free time, I'm either reading a good book or hanging out with my friends. I'm excited to work in the ACEC because I get to meet new people, so if you ever see me, feel free to say hi.



Caption by Kourtney Phillips, Photo by Kourtney Phillips

Hi All! My name is Kourtney Phillips, and I am thrilled to join the ACEC Programming Assistants Team. I am a senior majoring in International Public Policy and National Security/Foreign Affairs with minors in Arabic and Spanish. Aside from school, I am also the Vice President of my service sorority, Chi Delta Alpha, and I intern at a local law firm as I am hoping to go to law school next year. When I'm not doing any kind of work, I like to spend as much time outside as possible, and I've recently gotten into a non-fiction kick with reading (so if you have any reading suggestions I would highly appreciate:). My passions lie with social justice causes, particularly in regard to criminal law reform, which is why I hope to practice criminal defense law upon *hopefully* graduating law school one day. As a woman of color, I think representation is extremely important, and I am so excited to be deeply involved with the APIDA and surrounding cultural communities at VT through this position for my last few months at Tech!

The long awaited AASU Spring Volleyball Tournament is finally here!! The volleyball tournament will take place on Sunday, April 17th from 9AM to 4 PM (games will start a 10AM, so please feel free to come at 9AM if you would like to practice). Location will be at the Bubble (Rec Field House).

It will be free to members of our constituent organizations. However, if you have not yet paid your membership fee then you will need to bring \$5 in cash on the day of the event in order to play. As for non-VT students, the cost will be \$7.

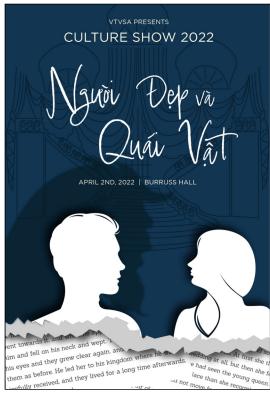
Link to registration: https://bit.ly/3iIXSvu

Link to rules: https://bit.ly/36S2JYq











APIDA Caucus Events



THE APIDA CAUCUS AT VT

LUNCH SOCIAL

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022 11 AM - 1 PM EST

ACEC, Squires Student Center Room 140

The first 20 people can grab a free lunch



ABOUT US

The APIDA (Asian Pacific Islander Desi American) 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, D.C. 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 or for accommodations, please contact Dr. Theo Lim at tclim@vt.edu. Want to get involved? Find us on Twitter @VTAPIDACaucus!

https://bit.ly/3tvwG9D



Dear colleagues.

My name is Yang Zhang, I am a faculty member in the School of Public and International Affairs at Virginia Tech. My kidney condition has been declining rapidly and I am now in need of a transplant. We are hopeful for a living donation, in which a healthy person donates a kidney to a person needing a transplant.

Through this process, I have learned so much about the miracle of organ donation. Each year



It has been a wild, emotional ride for my family. There were a lot of tears. My young kids, both are sixth graders in the Blacksburg Middle School, are scared that they might lose their dad soon. While the road head is uncertain, we have been blessed with thremendous amount of love and prayers from friends. I am feeling ok, somehow-even with only 10% kidney function.

So many people have asked how they can help. Please just share with your friends and keep us and the future donor in your prayers as we face the road ahead with faith and courage.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a living donor, please reach out to us at yang.zhang08@gmail.com and amywutamu@gmail.com.

Thank you.

Please register your information using this UVA medical center link:

https://forms.uvahealth.com/donor/kidney.cfm

ACEC Upcoming Events

MAKING THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE

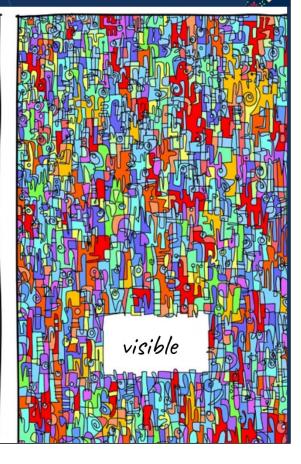
ASIAN CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT CENTER APRIL 2022 - SAVE THE DATES







Making the invisible



ASIAN CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT CENTER SAVE THE DATES!

Stay updated on our upcoming events this month



Collaboration with Owens Dining - APIDAHM - APIDA Organizations: Performances 10:30 AM - 8:00 PM EST Location: Owens Dining Food Court



AASU and VTU present...: Doors open 5 PM, Event starts at 5:30 PM EST Location: Haymarket Theatre, Squires Student Center



APIDAHM Learning Lunch with Artist, Purvi Shah: 12 PM - 1 PM EST Location: ACEC and Zoom



APIDAHM Learning Lunch with Social Justice Advocate, Purvi Shah: 12 PM - 1 PM EST

Location: ACEC and Zoom



Reading of Artist's Poetry, Writing & Dancing/Workshop: 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM EST Location: GLC Auditorium and ACEC (Reception)



APIDA Mixed Race Roundtable Discussion: 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM EST Location: ACEC and Zoom



APIDAHM Learning Lunch with Dr Shilpa Madan: 12 PM - 1 PM EST Location: ACEC and Zoom



Film Discussion on Minari: 6 PM EST Location: ACEC and Zoom



APIDA Mental Health Support Group: 4 PM - 5 PM EST Location: ACEC and Zoom



Career Advising & Resume Workshop: A Presentation by GEICO Collaboration with AASU, ACEC, VSA, SASE: 6 PM - 7:30 PM EST Location: Black Cultural Center



InspirASIAN Series - Undergraduate Student Panel: 7:30 PM EST Location: Zoom

ASIAN CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT CENTER

SAVE THE DATES!

Stay updated on our upcoming events this month



(Revisiting) APIDA Experiences in Agriculture and Natural Resources: 6 PM - 7:30 PM EST Location: ACEC and Zoom



A Reading by Craig Santos Perez in collaboration with the English Department: 7 PM EST Location: Zoom



April 21 Nighttime Guided Meditation in collaboration with aKDPhi: 8 PM EST Location: Zoom



#WeToo Movement: 12 PM - 1:30 PM EST Location: ACEC and Zoom



APIDA Alumni Career Panel: 7-8 PM EST Location: Zoom



April 26 Re-imagining Vietnamese Refugees: 12 PM - 1:30 PM EST Location: Zoom



Understanding Displacement - Global and Local Perspectives: 6 PM EST

Location: New Hall West Training Room and Zoom

To join our listserv:

Social Media:

Website:

Sign-Up for Achievement Ceremony



https://forms.gle/u PLsk]dg88g2kfZT8

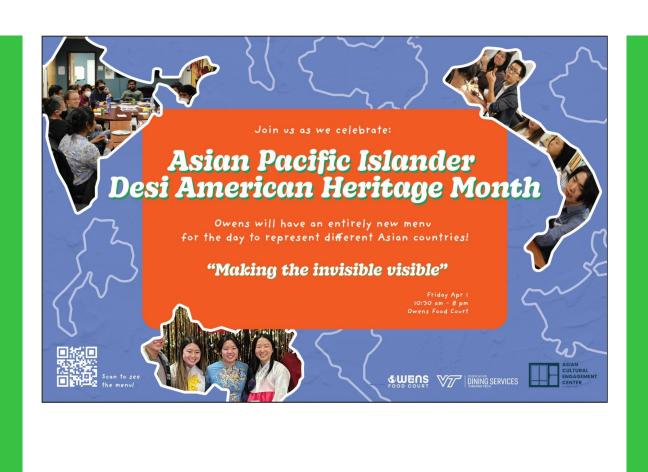
IG: VTACEC FB: @VTACEC Twitter: @ACEC_VT Youtube: ACEC VT

https://bit.ly/ 3uCTT96



https://bit.ly/ 36ymEfe

For questions or accommodations, please contact Dr. Nina Ha at nha@vt.edu.

















APIDAHM Learning Lunch

PURVI SHAH

ARTIST

Purvi Shah's favorite art practices are sparkly eyeshadow, raucous laughter, and seeking justice. She won the inaugural SONY South Asian Social Service Excellence Award for her leadership fighting violence against women. Her new book, Miracle Marks, explores women, the sacred, and gender & racial equity.

During this event, she will discuss the process of writing and of her journey and experiences of being a part of the APIDA community.

Light Refreshments will be served in accordance with Covid-19 health guidelines.



12 pm - 1 pm EST | April 4th, 2022



ACEC, Squires Student Center Room 140 and Virtual on Zoom

Register in advance:







Purvi Shah

FOR ACCOMMODATIONS AND/OR QUESTIONS, CONTACT DR. NINA HA AT NHA@VT.EDU.













APIDAHM Learning Lunch

PURVI SHAH

SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCATE

Purvi Shah's favorite art practices are sparkly eyeshadow, raucous laughter, and seeking justice. She won the inaugural SONY South Asian Social Service Excellence Award for her leadership fighting violence against women. Her new book, Miracle Marks, explores women, the sacred, and gender & racial equity.

During this event, she will discuss her work Social Justice Advocacy and domestic violence, focusing on APIDA women. Light Refreshments will be served in accordance with Covid-19 health guidelines.



12 pm - 1 pm EST | April 5th, 2022

ACEC, Squires Student Center Room 140 and Virtual on Zoom

Register in advance:



bit.ly/36w6MJQ



Purvi Shah

FOR ACCOMMODATIONS AND/OR QUESTIONS, CONTACT DR. NINA HA AT NHA@VT.EDU.















APIDAHM PRESENTS:

Reading of Artist's Poetry & Writing followed by Dancing



Purvi Shah's favorite art practices are sparkly eyeshadow, raucous laughter, and seeking justice. She won the inaugural **SONY South Asian Social Service Excellence** Award for her leadership fighting violence against women. Her new book, "Miracle Marks", explores women, the sacred, and gender & racial equity.

The event will include a reading from the Speaker's poetry collections. Following a short intermission, the Speaker will engage with the audience and provide a mini-dance workshop.



APRIL 5TH, 2022 6:30 - 8:30 PM EST



IN-PERSON AT THE GLC AUDITORIUM FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION AT THE ACEC, **SQUIRES STUDENT CENTER ROOM 140**

FOR ACCOMMODATIONS AND/OR QUESTIONS, CONTACT DR. NINA HA AT NHA@VT.EDU.



Virginia Tech is for

Invers

April 7, 2022 | 5:30 PM EST

'Am I APIDA Enough?'

Identity is something that we all hold near to us as we navigate this abundant world, and being someone of biracial identity makes this navigation more challenging but still something to be proud of celebrating. Ten panelists comprised of Virginia Tech undergraduate, graduate, alumni, and faculty will discuss their experiences as individuals who identify within the APIDA community in mixed forms through a roundtable discussion in the Asian Cultural Engagement Center.

Conversation Moderated by Carla Okouchi



REGISTER HERE: https://bit.ly/3 Lhs8Kc

or via Zoom!

Hybrid Event: Come join us for refreshments in the ACEC (Room 140 Squires Student Center)



For questions or any accommodations, contact Dr. Ha at nha@vt.edu



Moore he/him



Stanley he/him



Kourtney Phillips



Francine Williams



David **Petrulis** he/him



Haas she/her



de Sturler she/her



he/him



Dr. Annie Patrick





APIDAHM PRESENTS: LEARNING LUNCH



Dr. Shilpa Madan is Assistant Professor of Marketing at Virginia Tech. Prior to this, she was a Post Doctoral Fellow at the Columbia Business School, New York. She completed her PhD in Consumer Behavior from the Nanyang Business School, Singapore and her MBA from IIT Bombay, India. Dr. Madan aspires to use consumer behavior research to help people live better, more fulfilling, and more sustainable lives. Her work has implications for public policy, sustainable living, and consumer well-being.

APRIL 8, 2022 12 - 1 PM EST HYBRID / ACEC, SQUIRES, ROOM 140 Please Register
In Advance
https://bit.ly/
3q6yzr6



LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COVID-19 HEALTH GUIDELINES.

FOR ACCOMMODATIONS AND/OR QUESTIONS, CONTACT DR. NINA HA AT NHA@VT.EDU.



ASIAN CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT CENTER (ACEC) & THE FIWGSA DEI SUBCOMITTEE INVITES YOU TO

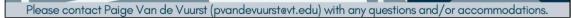


JOIN US FOR A FILM DISCUSSION OF THE 2020 MOVIE MINARI IN CELEBRATION OF APIDA HERITAGE MONTH



Watch the movie before the event and then we will discuss the movie as a group during the event.











APIDAHM Presents

APIDA MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUP

Going away for the summer?

AFRIL 12, 2022 4:00 PM EST

For some of us, leaving for the summer means leaving our direct support group, but fear not because in this month's mental health support group we will be discussing strategies to combat isolation and continue to seek out support and community this summer.

This event will be hybrid so join us at the ACEC (Squires Room 140) or via Zoom!

Light Refreshments will be served in accordance with Covid-19 health guidelines.

REGISTER HERE: https://bit.ly/3LqFV0T



For questions or accommodations, please contact Dr. Ha at nha@vt.edu.

GEICO PRESENTS:

Career Advising & Resume Workshop

IN COLLABORATION WITH: ACEC | AASU | VSA | SASE

6:00 - 7:30 PM EST WEDNESDAY | APRIL 13, 2022 BLACK CULTURAL CENTER SQUIRES RM 126















Come and listen from GEICO on how to tackle top interview questions, how to respond, as well as how to manage online interviews.

We will also have free time for you to go up to the recruiters or fellow VSA and SASE members that have experience in interviews and landed successful internships.

Bring your resume to be reviewed and you will be entered into a raffle for a Starbucks gift card!



APIDAHM PRESENTS:



INSPIRASIAN SERIES: UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT PANEL

14 APRIL 2022 | 7:30 PM EST

https://bit.ly/3tUdUJ

Illuminating APIDA Undergraduate Student Experiences

This transdisciplinary panel features APIDA undergraduate students from different fields. The panelists will share their research and their experiences as APIDA undergraduate students in their respective fields.





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KIMBERLY HAN



VIVIAN HONG



DIANNA KIM



SIMON LE











APIDAHM PRESENTS

(REVISITING) APIDA EXPERIENCES IN AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Tuesday, April 19, 2022 | 6 PM-7:30 PM EST ACEC (Squires, Room 140) and Zoom

Although APIDAs tend to be over-represented in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields overall in the US, this group is under-represented in Agriculture and Natural Resources. The panelists will describe their career trajectories, discuss their experiences with stereotypes and discrimination, and answer questions from the audience.

Registration Link: https://bit.ly/3qStlua

Refreshments will be served in accordance with Covid-19 health quidelines.





MEET THE PANELISTS



Elizabeth Tsang

Her research for the Dayer Lab led to her first publication in 2021. Since the fall of 2019, Tsang has worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a natural resource specialist in both Colorado and Montana.



Dr. Kang Xia

The Associate Director for the Center for Advanced Innovation in Agriculture (CAIA) in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, her research focuses on understanding the occurrence, fate, and environmental impact of organic compounds.



Dr. Arvind Bhuta

He has worked for the USDA Forest Service for almost eight years; first in Oregon as a forester/biometrician, then as an Ecologist in Alabama, and now as a natural resources specialist at their Washington, D.C headquarters



Dr. Jim Tokuhisa

He has over 40 years of experience in the laboratory conducting discovery research on the biochemistry, molecular biology and physiology of plants. His research has focused on how plants adapt to environmental stresses.



Eric Li

He is the Principal of The VIE Group, a business development and real estate consulting firm in Richmond. Prior to his current role, Eric was the Owner and Director of Operations of Sunrise Enterprises, the mid-Atlantio's largest wholesale orchid nursery

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



APIDAHM Presents: Nighttime Guided Meditation Thursday, April 21, 2022 | 8pm EST



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.

Register Here!



Zoom link: https://bit.ly/3L9IzYO

For accommodations and/or questions, contact Dr. Nina Ha at nha@vt.edu.









APIDAHM PRESENTS: #WeToo Movement



Dr. erin Khuê Ninh

Associate Professor in the Department of Asian American Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

"More than Consent: Beyond a Neoliberal Framing of Sexual Agency"



Dr. Juliana Hu Pegues

Associate Professor at Cornell University in the Department of Literatures in English, the American Indian and Indigenous Studies Program, and the Asian American Studies Program.

Rape Is/Not a Metaphor"

April 22, 2022 12 - 1:30 PM EST Hybrid / ACEC, Squires, Room 140 Please Register in Advance!

https://bit. ly/3wzQtXj



For accommodations and/or questions, contact Dr. Nina Ha at nha@vt.edu.



APRIL 25, 2021 | 7 PM EST

Register here: https://bit.ly/3DDNIFZ

The purpose of this career panel is to showcase APIDA alumni in various career fields and to connect them with current students. Topics include, but are not limited to, experiences working as an APIDA, changing career tracks, pursuing graduate school, and general career development advice.

Meet the Panelists:

Hoang Nguyen

Jaclyn Marmol

Graduated: 2020

School Board Office

Fairfax County Public Schools

Graduated: 1989

Dennis Wang Graduated: 1998

Director of Product Management Bank Solutions Chief Engineer Fisery National Geosp

Jennifer Loh Graduated: 2017

Coordinator for New Student Connections

University of South Florida

Melanie Do Graduated: 2020 Internal Vice President

Mid-Atlantic Union of Vietnamese Student Associations

(MAUVSA)









National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Staff Aide to School Board Member Karl Frisch,



Questions? Contact Dr. Ha at nha@vt.edu

APIDAHM Presents: Re-imagining Vietnamese Refugees





Jana K. Lipman
Professor of History
Tulane University

"In Camps: Vietnamese Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Repatriates"



Amanda C. Demmer Assistant Professor of History Virginia Tech

"Refugees and Postwar US-Vietnamese Relations"



Timothy K. August Associate Professor of English Stony Brook University

"Ocean Vuong and a Theory of Refugee Beauty"

Tuesday April 26, 2022 12 PM - 1:30 PM EST Virtual



Registration
LINK:
https://bit.ly
/3tnETfY

For accommodations and/or questions, contact Dr. Nina Ha at nha@vt.edu.







APIDAHM PRESENTS: UNDERSTANDING DISPLACEMENT - GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES



Dr. Scott Bailey

Director, Blacksburg Refugee Partnership Director, Center for Space Science and Engineering Research Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Virginia Tech



Dr. Katring Powell

Professor of Rhetoric and Writing Founding Director of CRMDS



Dr. Brett Shadle

Professor and Chair of History Associate Director of CRMDS

This panel presentation will provide various perspectives related to the refugee experiences as well as the local and global implications of displacement. Given the situation in Ukraine, not to mention the growing people who have become displaced due to war, poverty, natural disaster, and other circumstances, the panelists have been asked to share their perspectives in doing work in this area.

Date: April 28th, 2022

Time: 6 PM EST

Location: Hybrid/New Hall West Training Room

Registration Link: https://bit.ly/3gR3sAi

Refreshments will be served in accordance with Covid-19 health guidelines.

For accommodations and/or questions, contact Dr Nina Ha at nha@vt.edu.



Pride Week

friday.Apri

Met Gayla: a Night in Hollywood i

Sunday, April 3rd

together to a local trail for a short hike to watch sunset. We will provide light snacks, necessary equipment, and transportation. \$5 participation fee. Registration Required

Monday, April 4th

Queer Conspiracies: Gays and

1-2:30pm in Newman Multipurpose Room Sponsored by the University Libraries in support of the Americans and the Holocaust exhibit

Living Queer History with Dr. G. Samantha Rosenthal 5-6pm in Newman Multipurpose Room

Queer in Appalachia Performance with Crys Matthews

6:45-8pm in Burruss Auditorium Sponsored by the LGBTQ+ Caucus and VT Engage

Tuesday, April 5th

Legal Name Change Assistance

11am-4pm in Sauires Yorktown Room

Student Workshop with Crys Matthews 12-1pm Location to be Determined

Wednesday, April 6th

Free Haircuts by Embellish Hair Studio

Discussion with Travis Alabanza

6-7pm in Moss Arts Center

Thursday, April 7th

Free & Confidential STI Testing 10am-3pm in Squires Brush Mountain

Out at Work Networking Event 5-6pm in CID LLC Community Assembly

Pride Week Drag Show 7-9pm in Owen's Ballroom

Friday, April 8th

Show your love & support for our LGBTO+ community by wearing denim and sharing it with #VTDenimDay

Free & Confidential STI Testing 10am-3pm in Squires Brush Mountain

Pride Week Mural 11am-4pm in the Armory

"Burgerz" by Travis Alabanza 7:30pm in Moss Arts Center

Saturday, April 9 th "Burgerz" by Travis Alabanza

4pm & 7:30pm in Moss Arts Center

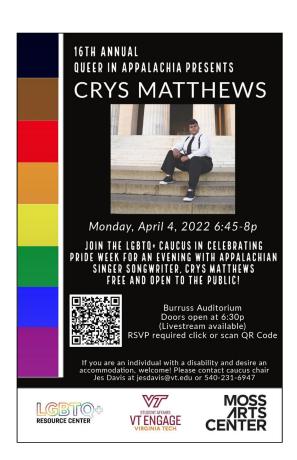
2pm meeting at SW corner of Salem Ave and 3rd St SW



If you are an individual with a disability and desire an accommodation, welcome! Please contact Dr. Bing at anbingham@vt.edu or 540-231-3533 at least five business days prior to the event.



CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTERS





Campus Partners Events

Hill 1 In na ional is partnering with Virginia Tech on a Campus Climate Initiative
(I) o ass ss and improve the experience for Jewish students at our campus. As part of this effort, we are interested in understanding students' perspective on aspects of the campus climate, including their sense of welcome, cross-cultural attitudes and interactions, and suggestions for campus action with a specific focus on the inclusion of Jewish students.

We are inviting you to participate in an hour-long, virtual focus group with 4-8 other undergraduate students in a conversation about <school name>'s campus climate. The focus groups will be conducted by researchers at the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago. The focus group conversations will be recorded to ensure accuracy of reporting. However, students' names (or other identifying information) will not be associated with anything shared in the reported findings.

To thank you for your participation, Hillel International will be providing you with a \$20 Amazon gift card, which will be sent to you upon completion of the focus group.

If you are interested, please complete the Google form using the link below:

Past Issues

Link: https://bit.ly/3LuNROV

If you have any questions about the focus group or the CCI, please feel free to reach out to Alicia Cohen at acohen@yt.edu

Opportunities







Hamkae Center is seeking a full-time Health Services Coordinator to lead their health services program, including signing community members up for health insurance. See responsibilities, qualifications, and how to apply: hamkaecenter.org/22hsc. Apply ASAP; we're hiring immediately! The Asian American Scholar Forum (AASF) has developed an academic climate survey: Aiming to assess the pressing challenges and experiences of Asian American scholars regarding their research and educational environment, academic climate and activities, grant activities, and sentiment and well-being. If you have any questions about this survey, email AASF at aasforum.org@gmail.com.

Link: https://forms.gle/qpK3YN6ubj6trF2Z6





RECLAIM

SUPPORT GROUP







Sessions Held Every 2 Weeks

March 15th

March 29th

April 12th

Folx of All Gender Identities, Racial-Ethnic Identities, and Sexualities Identities are Welcome

Advocacy short term counseling

ABOUT US

This is a support group for folx of all genders, racial-ethnic identifies, and sexualities who are victim-survivors of power-based and gender-based violence to connect with other survivors. The facilitators will promote discussions around coping mechanisms, validation, and normalization of trauma responses.

Phone: 540-231-7806 Email: wcsupport@vt.edu

CORE SERVICES

Safety Planning

Assistance with university and criminal/civil proceedings

Support family, friends, and other impacted individuals

WOMEN'S CENTER

HOKIE WELLNESS IS RECRUITING

BECOME A FINANCIAL WELLNESS INTERN:

- EDUCATE STUDENTS ON FINANCIAL TOPICS SUCH AS BUDGETING, CREDIT, AND STUDENT LOANS
- + COACH YOUR PEERS IN INDIVIDUAL FINANCIAL CONSULTATIONS
- + DEVELOP YOUR PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC SPEAKING SKILLS
- + ENHANCE OUR PROGRAM OFFERINGS IN UNIQUE AND CREATIVE WAYS
- NEED TO BE ABLE TO WORK THE FULL 2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEAR
- INTERNS RECEIVE A STIPEND EACH SEMESTER
- APPLY WITH A RESUME AND COVER LETTER (DETAILS ON APPLICATION)
- HOURS COUNT TOWARDS CFP AND AFC CERTIFICATIONS
- OPEN TO ALL MAJORS AND CLASS YEARS! RISING SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.











(FOR FREE!)

Tuesday, March 29th from 12pm to 1pm AND

Wednesday, April 20th from 10:30am to 11:30am AT THE SMITH CAREER CENTER

Edited photos will be returned about 2 weeks later

First come, first-served. If you need an accommodation to attend this event, please contact: arianard@vt.edu

CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SMITH CAREER CENTER | 870 WASHINGTON ST SW



BLACKSBURG, VA 24061 540.231.6241 | CAREER.VT.EDU

Graduate Residential Fellow (GRF)

The Residential College at West Ambler John

Overview: The Residential College at West Ambler Johnston (RC@WAJ) is a community of \$50 students ranging from fest-your to graduate students from all students (steplines Under the direction of the levein Fasably Principal, the RC@WAJ consists of four residential Poscose' of gragoriumstep 200 students. Each floore is feel by a leve-of Associate Fasably Principal (APP) and a leve-in Candante Residential Fellow: The Condante Fellows work dough with the student house council, resident shows; n. for Fasably Principal, student affires steff, and others to user that the gales and apprintion of the residential college are fulfilled (see Interellibate Astronomical, college-eval-hand more). The Graduate Residential Fellow is a live in position with a primary responsibility of assisting the AFP with their actorise and intellectual golds, offering mentership to students, and facilitating the creation of a trong store of community within the Residential College.

- **Sprowabilities**

 **Provide a from greenice in the "house" and the larger residential college. Knowing each student living in the house is expected.

 **Coordinate advisties and experiences that facilitate community and serve the goals of the Residential College.

 **Serve as a role model for students as they serve to be academically successful and engaged citizens in the Residential College and it Virgians Tech.

 **Amistic the Faculty Principal and (unsticularly) their house's Associate Faculty Principal accomplish his' har academic and intelligential goals for the community.

- Serve as advisor for House Council and linise between council and affiliated faculty of the House, and regularly attend Council meetings.

Remuneration: Oraduse Residential Fellows receive a single room with all utilities in the Residential College, a major on compass med plan, and ne appointed for a 1-year term, based on performance, Ideally, a GRF serves in the position for 2 consecutive years. Note that this is a supplemental position and GRF are note to the consecutive years. Note that this is a supplemental position and GRF are note to the lobel a concurrent GA-ship or GTA-ship. The duties at the Rec College are compatible with holding an additional fellowship.

Application Process: We expect to be hiring for 2 positions this year.

uestions can be directed to Faculty Principal of the Residential College, Prof. Dama Agmon (Associate Prof., History paratiment) at diagnoss/Pct.edu. Applications are considered on a rolling basis but for priority consideration, please email a for of interest, counsel, occurate information (cominal and phone number) for three references, all in one document, by onday, March 4, 2022. Email documentate to the unique the object line "GRF Application: LAST NAME."

- A general understanding of academic support related skills and issues.
 Some skills in media design preferred, but not required.

PLEASE POST AND DISTRIBUTE

CALL FOR PAPERS ON

9/11 in Popular Culture

MIDWEST POPULAR CULTURE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING

DePaul University-Loop Campus DePaul Center, 1 E. Jackson Blvd., Chicago IL 60604, USA

Friday-Sunday, October 14-16, 2022

Send a 250-word statract or panel proposal to the 2111 in Popular Culture Area on the submission website: https://form.jutform.com/220165867492162

Deadine her receipt in April 18, 2002.

People inshelt name, affisiers, and enail address of every authorityantopast.

Each person may abertif only one paper. Please do not submit the same there to more than one area.

IMPER will provide an LCO projectis for presentations. IMPER down not provide laptings, conts, or speakers.

Conference eithrondern Imperating-coaca orgiciticago-2022.

Complate self-for papers with conference information: https://repcasta.orgiciticago-2022.

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PLEASE POST AND DISTRIBUTE

PLEASE POST AND DISTRIBUTE

CALL FOR PAPERS ON

Subculture

MIDWEST POPULAR CULTURE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING

DePaul University-Loop Campus DePaul Center, 1 E. Jackson Blvd., Chicago IL 60604,

Friday-Sunday, October 14-16, 2022

Send a 250-word abstract or panel proposal to the Subculture Area on the submission website: https://form.jotform.com/220165357462152

Deadline for receipt in April 30, 2022.
Please include name, affalation, and small address of every author/participant.
Each person may submit softly one paper. Please do not submit the same item to more
than one area.

MPCA will provide an LCD projector for presentations. MPCA does not provide laptings.
Conference information: https://impcaaca.org/chicago-2022/
Complete call for paper with conference information: https://impcaaca.org/chicago-This year the conference with a la survivative land of a human call of the paper with conference with the as a university indicated of a human call of a human

2022/2022-chi
This year the contenence will be at a university instead of a hotel. Conference
participants will be responsible for securing their own lodging.

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PLEASE POST AND DISTRIBUTE

Leading trips, exploring your passions

Join the leadership team that coordinates our alternative break service trips! At weekly meetings and during service experiences, you'll develop your leadership capacities through the lenses of service and social justice. You'll help coordinate these service programs based on community-identified need

Why apply? You'll...

- Deepen your connection to Ut Prosim. Explore the issues you care about while leading service opportunities.
- Build a variety of skills during weekly meetings. Grow as a leader while developing skills in trip management, reflection facilitation, and communication.
- Be part of a fun team. Venture out of your comfort zone as you learn with and from peer leaders.

Interested? Apply!

Undergraduate students are invited to apply by Tuesday, April 5. The direct link to the application can be found below!

https://baseline.campuslabs.com/vpiasu/abt23

If you have questions, contact Brooke Cassada-Maple at bmaple@vt.edu or 540-231-6947.

Past Issues

Kaitlyn and Paige, co-chairs of the DEI subcommittee at Virginia Tech's Fish and Wildlife Conservation Graduate Student Association wanted to share a great outreach opportunity to volunteer and educate some kiddos for <u>Stormwater days</u>, which will be happening on April

11th and 12th! The AFS chapter will be leading a few different tables, and there are multiple opportunities to participate at different times and with different activities on some really cool topics! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Hailey Conrad (haileyconrad@vt.edu) to coordinate.

The 2022 3.2 Mile Run in Remembrance will take place in person on Saturday, April 16

at 9:43 a.m.All are welcome to join us on the Virginia Tech campus for this walk/run.

You can register for free with an option to purchase t-shirts here. This is also a

wonderful volunteer opportunity. Here is a link to our volunteer site, if you'd like to serve

our community in that way.

Hokie Mentorship Connect Program Assistant

The position will work closely with the Assistant Director – Mentorship Program to provide onboarding assistance, assist in the implementation of innovative marketing ideas, and oversee on-campus related needs. Members of Career and Professional Development work together to provide excellent professional development programming and support for students.

Link: https://careers.pageuppeople.com/968/cw/en-us/job/519046/hokie-mentorship-connect-program-assistant

White Blowse Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders Careers and Internships

WHIAANHPI offers full-time student volunteer internships year-round (spring, summer, and fall). Part-time applicants who can commit to at least 20 hours a week will be considered, although the Initiative prioritizes full-time applicants (32-40 hours a week). Internships will be based in Washington, DC, with the option to work remotely.

Link: https://www.hhs.gov/about/whiaanhpi/careers-internships/index.html#internship

