

November 16, 2020, ACEC Holiday Newsletter

ASIAN CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT CENTER

AT VIRGINIA TECH®

Holiday Greetings from Dr. Nina Ha, ACEC Director

Welcome to the ACEC's Holiday Newsletter! This Newsletter will slightly differ from our previous Newsletters because we wanted to feature the family of one of our Programming Assistants, Monica Nguyen, who has had a tradition of two generations of her family becoming Hokies and attending Virginia Tech. Thus, in this Newsletter, Monica has interviewed not only her brother, Francis Nguyen, but also her father, Hoang Nguyen. Moreover, Monica has created a family tree featuring all her family members who either have graduated from VT or are still currently enrolled at VT. Hopefully, Monica's youngest brother will also be joining the Hokie family in the Fall of 2021!

In addition to featuring Monica Nguyen's family, we highlight two out of the three APIDA Caucus Co-Chairs and learn about their family's holiday traditions. Finally, the other ACEC Programming Assistants share their own special family gatherings for memorable occasions.

This will be the ACEC's final Newsletter for the Fall of 2020; however, please be on the lookout for the ACEC's Spring Newsletters, which should resume at the end of January 2021!

Thank you again for all the members, allies, and supporters of the APIDA community who have supported the ACEC in its efforts throughout this semester! We definitely couldn't do the work we do without the knowledge that we have such a generous and amazing community of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends!

We hope that you, your family, and loved ones stay healthy and safe during this holiday season and wish you good luck with the end of the semester.

Wishing you all well this year and into the next!

Sincerely,
Nina Ha, Ph.D.
Director, ACEC

Undergraduate Spotlight: Francis Nguyen

Francis Nguyen, older brother of Monica Nguyen, a programming assistant at the Asian Cultural Engagement Center (ACEC), is a senior majoring

in Computer Science. In his free time, he enjoys playing League of Legends and learning new languages. For programming, he is learning C# and for actual languages, he is learning Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Korean. Here at Virginia Tech, Nguyen was a part of the Esports Association as well as the League of Legends Team at VT.



Nguyen was the team captain for the League of Legends Team. He wanted the leadership role because he felt that he had good ideas for what direction the team needed. Nguyen scheduled all of the practices and came up with a process to get the most of them, focusing on giving constructive feedback and devising strategies for their upcoming tournament matches. Outside of the game, he was responsible for marketing the team so that they could attract potential sponsors and also integrate with VT Rec Sports. While Nguyen was the captain, the team generated over \$5,000 in sponsorship revenue and \$20,000 in tournament winnings, as well as taking home two trophies for Virginia Tech. Ultimately, the goal that they are still pursuing is to get Esports recognized by the school as a legitimate sport.

The personal project that Nguyen is most proud of is integrating Virginia Tech's Grade Point Average (GPA) data with PScheduler. PScheduler is an open source scheduling tool used by over 10,000 VT students that allows them to input what classes they want to take as well as any time constraints (such as no classes before 9 AM or at least 1 hour between classes) and it will generate all possible schedules that meet that criteria. He used to always use this system while cross-referencing VT's GPA data to determine which professors he wanted. After getting experience coding from his internship, Nguyen thought it would be a cool idea to automatically integrate the two together. He then built out the feature so now PScheduler has the ability to show which professors to take for the highest "estimated" GPA. Nguyen is most passionate about this project because he got to expand his knowledge on new technologies, but also help out other Virginia Tech students at the same time.

Nguyen's biggest advice to incoming freshmen would be to not be afraid to step out of their comfort zone. "College is way different compared to high school in that there is basically an organization or club for pretty much anything. I would say use this time to really explore what is out there, as there could be something you're interested in that you've probably never thought of. If there isn't a club for something you're into, start one! There's probably an untapped community of students that would be interested, and this would also be a great way for you to get firsthand experience in managing and running an organization. Most importantly, this is the time to do this because eventually, you will end up focusing more on your efforts on finding jobs/internships and your academics later on in your college career."

Alumni Spotlight: Hoang Nguyen

Hoang Nguyen, father of Monica Nguyen, a programming assistant at the Asian Cultural Engagement Center (ACEC), is a Vietnamese Virginia Tech alumni from Northern Virginia. He attended Virginia Tech between 1985-1989 for Electrical Engineering. After receiving his Bachelor of Science at Virginia Tech, Nguyen received his Master's for Electrical Engineering at Johns Hopkins. At Virginia Tech, he participated in intramural sports for volleyball and joined the Vietnamese Student Association (VSA). At the time, VSA was small, but his class was the largest class of Vietnamese students so the organization grew exponentially. Nguyen's class was the largest class of incoming high school students compared to previous years where students were coming from Northern Virginia

Community College.

Some advice Nguyen would give to Virginia Tech students is to enjoy life. "Right now in college, you aren't working 40 hours a week so enjoy the social aspect of college," he said. "Obviously balance school and social life. But, go out and meet different types of people, especially international students as well as the cadets."

Currently, Nguyen is the Chief Engineer for one of the programs at National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. He builds software which, as one notices, is not electrical engineering. He states, "[What] you learn at Virginia Tech is a baseline or foundation for you to learn more in the workforce. You will change and learn new things as you progress in your career."



With the holidays coming up, Nguyen's favorite family holiday tradition is getting together with the whole family and eating. It doesn't matter what food you eat, it's all about getting together with the family to catch up and play together.



Monica Nguyen's VT Family Timeline

Monica Nguyen's Hokie Family Tree



Graduate Spotlight: Hana Chan

Hana Chan is a Chinese-American third-year Ph.D. student in the Biomedical Engineering Program at Virginia Tech. Chan's academic research mainly focuses on crash injury biomechanics and automotive safety. Her dissertation looks at human occupant responses during sled tests that simulate autonomous emergency braking and low severity frontal crashes. In addition to examining mid-sized male subjects who are normally used to evaluate occupant safety, Chan is also researching small-sized females, a demographic that is typically underrepresented in terms of the available data in this field used to assess occupant protection.

Moreover, Chan does much more than her research at Virginia Tech. In her Department, she serves on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, and she is a Diversity Scholar this year under the Virginia Tech Graduate School by the Office of Recruitment, Diversity, and Inclusion. In addition, Chan said she reached out to ACEC Director Dr. Ha early last semester while she was trying to find a sense of community at Virginia Tech. She is now one of three Co-Chairs for the APIDA Caucus and was recently offered and accepted the role of Graduate Student Liaison for AASU. These roles allowed her to find mentors who can support her future goals as well as become a mentor herself. Also, these positions allow her to engage with various members of the community as well as advocate for the APIDA community on a university administrative level.



"This year has shown us that it's really important that we advocate for ourselves, and make sure that our issues are brought to the attention of everyone, but also understand that the APIDA community plays an important role in uplifting other communities as well," Chan said.

Her favorite family holiday tradition is going to watch a new movie together late at night on

Christmas Eve.

“Usually all the other families are at home, opening gifts, but my dad takes us all out super late at night into early Christmas morning, and we go to the movies and always watch whatever’s new — we can’t go this year, but that’s always been something that’s really fun.”

Faculty Spotlight: Theo Lim

[Dr. Theodore Lim](#) is an assistant professor of Urban Affairs and Planning in the School of Public and International Affairs at Virginia Tech. In addition to his teaching role, he currently advises students in doctoral, master’s, and undergraduate programs. His research interests mostly revolve around public health and how to implement policy to make infrastructure more sustainable. He was born in Newark, New Jersey and grew up in Princeton Jct., New Jersey. Lim’s parents are of Chinese descent, but they were born in the Philippines. He says their family culture is a mix of Chinese, Filipino, and American heritages.



Lim has had several diversity leadership and political organizing roles throughout his career, including now at Virginia Tech as the leader of the Urban Affairs and Planning Anti-Racism and Diversity Committee and serving on the Diversity Committee at the College of Architecture and Urban Studies. His role as a Co-Chair of the APIDA Caucus motivates the diversity work in his own Department, but also allows him to reinvest time into the advocacy and organizational work he has done in the past.

One thing that he wants to remind undergraduate members of the Virginia Tech APIDA community specifically is that the vast majority of learning happens outside of the classroom.

“This is the time when you’re going to make your lifelong friends and find out who you are as an independent person,” Lim said. “Equally as important (as academics) is finding out the kind of person you want to be ... like how to be a leader and stand up for what’s right. Being in this age-range, it’s the prime time to have the space to figure out those kinds of things. You shouldn’t discount those as less important than the typical reasons for someone who is going to university.”

Lim’s favorite holiday tradition is his family’s rendition of turkey at Thanksgiving. “We have a stuffing of rice, and chestnuts, and Chinese sausage inside the turkey, and then my father makes a fresh spring roll dish that’s very special — we only have it once a year on the Thanksgiving spread.”

Organization Spotlight: Vietnamese Student Association

The Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) is an all inclusive student run organization that accepts all races to join with no restrictions. Their purpose is to promote the awareness and interest of Vietnamese culture with the community here at Virginia Tech. Their goal is to make Virginia Tech a community where all members are respected and given the opportunity to grow. Alex Woo, the president of VSA, stated that some memorable moments that make him love the organization include Culture Show in the spring as well as traveling to other schools to celebrate Vietnamese culture at each school’s Culture Show. Another would be going to the Mid-Atlantic Union of Vietnamese Student Associations’s (MAUVSA) Mid Atlantic Conference (MAC) every year! There, the members

are able to meet and network with others as well as bond.

There are many ways to contact and join the community!

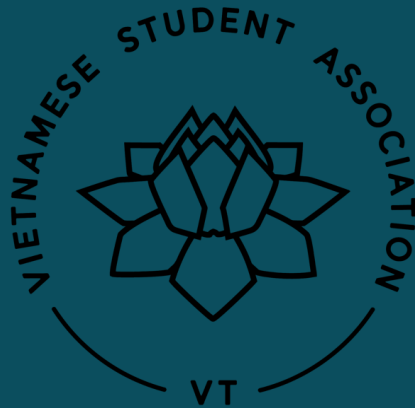
Alex Woo (President) email: alexlw@vt.edu

VSA email: vtechvsa@gmail.com

VSA group page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/vtvsa>

VSA page: <https://www.facebook.com/vsahokies>

VSA Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/vsahokies/>



ACEC Programming Assistants and Graduate Programming Assistant Holiday Traditions

Tahreem Alam

Ramadan is a month-long holiday in my religion that celebrates the Quran descending to Muslims, and is usually filled with night-time festivities, gatherings, and daily fasting periods. My favorite holiday traditions take place during this month and during Eid al-Fitr, which is a celebratory day that subsequently follows the end of our fasting period. While most of our Ramadan traditions are like other families, gathering with friends and the community after we break our fast has always been a fun way to end our days. Moreover, Eid al-Fitr is typically a day full of community-wide events and family gatherings. My favorite family tradition is coming back together from the early morning Eid prayer with the community and immediately having people from our neighborhood visit our house to eat beef curry with khichuri, a rice and lentil dish that's often made for special occasions. Along with this morning tradition, taking my biannual afternoon Eid nap is also a part of my special holiday traditions!

(Picture: Masjid community members making a "Ramadan Mubarak" banner)



Joong Won Kim

Although now we are living in different parts of the world, my family has always celebrated Chuseok - a major harvest festival and a three-day holiday that takes place every Autumn. Chuseok celebrates the bountiful harvest and strives for the next year to be better than the last. We participate in the tradition of Songpyeon - rice cake filled with sweet fillings made of sesame seeds, black beans, or cinnamon. We then have Charye - one of the ancestral memorial rites celebrated during Chuseok, symbolizing the returning of favors and honoring ancestors and past generations (my grandparents). The rite involves the gathering of families in holding a memorial service for their ancestors through the harvesting, preparation, and presentation of special foods as offerings. The clothing that is worn by my family is called "hanbok," which is the traditional attire worn throughout Korea during Chuseok.



(Picture: Joong Won and his family celebrating Chuseok in Korea, 1993)

Prince Wang

Growing up, we never had a large, extended family to celebrate the holidays with, as most of our family is still living in China. Usually, it would be my parents, my grandmother, and my sister. In terms of the traditional 'American' holidays, because my parents both never experienced them firsthand, my sister and I were always trying to figure out how to celebrate them. For Thanksgiving, we always had a combination of Chinese and American food; our homemade dumplings and fried rice would sit next to our turkey and mashed potatoes. It would always be a lot of fun because my sister and I, once we got older, would attempt to make the American dishes, while my grandmother would make all the Chinese classics. My favorites would be whole steamed fish, chicken and potatoes in a Szechuan sauce, a giant meatball called Lion's head, and stir-fried green beans. During Christmas, we blended the traditional Christmas tree traditions by also taking the time to call all of our relatives in China. We usually woke up really early due to the 12-hour time difference, and we would make our way down an endless list of grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, family friends, and more. These were the times that my Mandarin speaking skills were truly tested. Afterwards, my parents would give my sister and I hongbao, which is a red envelope with Chinese decorations that would be filled with money. Another interesting tradition that we tried to incorporate was going to D.C. during the holiday season. We always ended up visiting Mei Mei and Tian Tian, the pandas that resided in the Smithsonian Zoo, and that would be one of our favorite memories.



(Picture: Prince and his family at the Smithsonian zoo visiting the pandas)

Lily Xie

My family does not celebrate holidays the traditional way like most families do. Growing up, I did not celebrate Christmas by decorating a Christmas tree or going on an egg hunt for Easter. Even for the Mid-Autumn Festival, it feels like any normal day, though we might buy mooncakes from the Chinese supermarket to feel a bit fancy. My family is very small since none of my relatives live in the United States. Usually it is just my mother and me. Although my family does not celebrate the traditional holidays, we usually celebrate for other occasions such as my older brother visiting from California. When the three of us are together, my mother always cooks triple the number of dishes she would usually cook for a single meal. You can tell the meal is fancy because she cooks a whole fish, pork ribs, soup, and other dishes that my brother and I love. Aside from eating, our favorite activity together as a family is playing different card games. We would teach her how to play American card games such as Exploding Kittens and she would teach us the Chinese card games she played with friends and family back in China.



(Picture: Lily and her mother visiting her brother in California in 2016)

ACEC Events

November Nighttime Guided Meditation

- Tuesday, November 17 at 8 PM EST
- Attend session here: <https://rb.gy/zlsy56>

A promotional graphic for an ACEC event. The background is dark blue with white stars. The text reads: "ACEC Presents: Nighttime Guided Meditation with Vivek Rajan Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 8pm EST". Below this, it says "Questions? Contact Dr. Nina Ha at nhaevt.edu." and "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." There is a small portrait of Vivek Rajan on the right. At the bottom, it says "Zoom link: https://rb.gy/zlsy56" and the ACEC logo is in the bottom right corner.

CCC Karaoke

- December 10 at 7PM EST
- Register at <https://rb.gy/eadhaz>



Asian Pop Culture Workshop #4: Food

- Here is the link to join: <https://bit.ly/3pmlkQb>

APIDA Caucus Information

APIDA Caucus

The Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) Caucus serves as an advocacy and support group for faculty, staff, and graduate students at Virginia Tech and Blacksburg/New River Valley community members who self-identify as APIDA, or allies who are interested in participating in conversations relevant to the APIDA community. Our events are open to all Virginia Tech and Blacksburg/New River Valley community members including undergraduate students. The Caucus also serves as a liaison to the university administration and is committed to supporting the needs of all APIDA individuals.

For more information and/or to get involved, please contact: Vincent Wang (vmwang@vt.edu), Theo Lim (tclim@vt.edu), or Hana Chan (hxc419@vt.edu). To be added to our new email listserv (apidacaucus-g@vt.edu) and to get more information about upcoming events, please contact Rommelyn Coffren (rconde@vt.edu). Find us on Twitter @VTAPIDACaucus!

APIDA Caucus Lunch Socials

Come and join us for virtual lunch hours where APIDA community members can socialize and network! All faculty, staff, students, and community members are welcome!

- Time: 12:30pm-1:30pm
- Dates: Tuesdays (12/1, 12/15)
- Registration (to receive meeting link): <https://bit.ly/3odS26V>



Survey for APIDA Graduate Students

Graduate students who identify as Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) are invited to share their thoughts about their experiences with faculty mentoring at Virginia Tech. To participate, use this form: <https://forms.gle/m737YCarz8Pui2116>. All graduate students (including international students) who identify as APIDA (or Asian/Asian American) are encouraged to respond and can enter a raffle to win a free padfolio from the Virginia Tech Cultural and Community Centers upon survey completion. The survey will take 10-20 minutes to complete. For more information or if you have any questions, contact Hana Chan at hxc419@vt.edu. This project is part of the Graduate School's Diversity Scholars program.

AASU Affiliated Organizations

VT Ascend

With great honor, the Asian American Student Union at Virginia Tech would like to welcome [Ascend](#) as a constituent organization member. The executive and council members look forward to working with you all this year! We hope to foster a strong relationship to ensure the prosperity of the organization for years to come!

Vietnamese Student Association

- Nov 18th @7PM - Resume workshop with VT Ascend



Stand Out With a Career Brand
Correct the mistakes that students normally make and become visible to recruiters

Via Zoom on Wednesday, November 18 @ 7PM
Register now at: tinyurl.com/y3v4c5cl

Kwan Segal, CEO and Founder of ICAway

Kwan is an experienced human-capital consultant and a career coach for International Students. Originally from Thailand, Kwan moved to the U.S. and joined one of the world's top consulting firms in Chicago. With 15+ years of experience at global companies like BMW, Accenture, and Deloitte, she helped companies develop L&D initiatives that impacted employees from 16K to 200K worldwide.

Today, as the Founder of ICAway (i-see-a-way), her mission is to **empower** International Students for employability & serve International Educators as a trusted advisor. Kwan holds an Executive MBA through a Sasiv/Kellogg School of Management Global Partnership and certification of Senior Professional in HR by HRCI.

Korean American Student Association

- Nov 18th 7PM-9PM - Culture Show Interest Meeting
- Nov 19th - Himalayan Fundraiser

Chinese American Society

- Nov 16th 7PM-9PM - CAS x KASA Thanksgiving Meeting

Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers

- Nov 16th 8PM - Thanksgiving Meeting

Exodus

- Nov 21st - Dance Workshop: Blue Hours by TXT taught by Becca

Sigmas

- Nov 18th 6PM - Last General Meeting for the semester

Asian American Mental Health Alliance

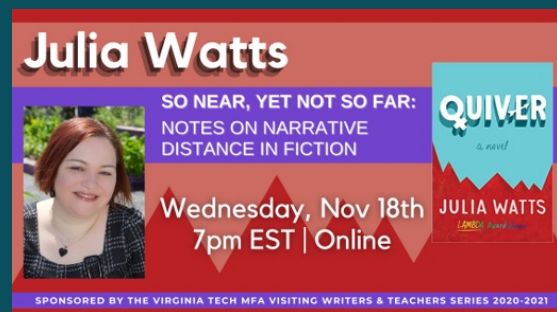
- Every Saturday check out their podcasts!
- Yullie Kwak (President): "Hey everyone! I'm on the team for an app called Unmasked. It allows completely anonymous communication about anything from mental health to simple prompts between people at Tech. As someone who advocates a lot for mental health, I feel that this app will help people be vulnerable and feel heard without putting up a front or feeling judged."



Unaffiliated ACEC Information

Join us for a Visiting Writers and Teachers event!

- Author: Julia Watts
- Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 7pm EST
- Event Name: So Near, Yet Not So Far – "Notes On Narrative Distance In Fiction"
- This event is free and open to the public! The registration link can be found [HERE](#)



Presentation Topic: Effective use of point of view is often what separates the rookies from the professionals in fiction writing. However, one aspect of point of view that doesn't get discussed often enough is narrative distance, or the closeness or remoteness of the narrator's relationship to their fictional world. This workshop will examine different degrees of narrative distance and the effects these choices have on stories and their readers. We will discuss examples from a variety of authors and try an exercise which gives you the opportunity to practice this often undervalued aspect of fiction writing.

Julia Watts is a native of Southeastern Kentucky and is proud to be both an Appalachian and a queer writer. Her work most often depicts the lives of LGBTQ characters in the region. Julia is the author of over a dozen novels for adult and young adult readers including the Lambda Literary Award winning *Finding H.F.*, the Lambda Literary Award finalist *The Kind of Girl I Am*, and the Golden Crown Literary Award winner *Secret City*. Her 2018 novel *Quiver* was an Indie Awards finalist, a VOYA Perfect 10 Award winner, and a Southeastern Independent Booksellers' Okra Pick. She is the co-editor, with Jeff Mann, of the anthology *LGBTQ Fiction and Poetry from Appalachia*, which was also a Lambda Literary Award finalist. Julia lives in Knoxville and is a member of the East Tennessee Writers' Hall of Fame and was recently the recipient of the Tennessee Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Award. Julia taught college English for over twenty years, then "retired" to pursue a PhD in Children's/Young Adult Literature at The University of Tennessee. When not writing or reading, she enjoys cooking, swimming, and spending time with her family and her many pets.

Towards a politics of mobility and women's empowerment: the case

of self-help groups in India”

- Thursday, November 19th from 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM
- Please click the link below to register:



<https://virginiatech.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ud-qsqD4qHtIsVvTXYxcT0SnKHV1I4ayS>

Bio: Dr. Carly Nichols is an assistant professor at the Department of Geographical and Sustainability Sciences, Global Health Studies Program, University of Iowa. She has a broadly trained human-environment geographer with specializations in feminist, health, and agro-food geographies. She has over 10 years of research experience across northern, eastern, and central India investigating agriculture, health, gender, and food and nutrition security. Her research examines the complex interplay among processes of human health and wellbeing, ecological change, and everyday social relations, particularly in relation to food and agriculture. In considering human-environment-health relationships, Dr. Nichols has a particular interest in using qualitative, ethnographic, and feminist methods to understand how health and social inequities are produced, reproduced, and experienced by different stakeholders.

Abstract: Within the empowerment literature “freedom of movement” or “mobility” are frequently used as indicators to assess empowerment programs and assess whether women have become social empowered. As women’s self-help groups (SHGs) engaged in saving/lending and livelihood improvement schemes have emerged as the de facto vehicles for women’s empowerment over the past two decades, their propensity for increasing women’s opportunities for mobility has been an oft-lauded benefit. In this paper, I draw on multi-year ethnographic research of women’s SHG interventions in eastern and central India to critically explore the ways different mobile practices intersect with empowerment goals. I contend that it is critical to examine mobility as more than physical movement and also to analyze it as a meaning-laden and embodied practice. Using this analytic I find that although newfound mobility is often experienced positively by women, it is far from ‘free,’ and remains embedded in power relations where women continue to engage on unfavorable terms- exemplified in women’s inability to ghumna or to aimlessly tour/wander. I conclude by reflecting on how empowerment interventions might more productively engage mobility less as a practice of increased economic and political participation and more as a site where women can experiment with new forms of being.

Virtual Round Table Hosted by State Senator Ghazala Hashmi

- Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 from 7- 8:30 pm

This town hall is a little different: We will celebrate the immigration experience in America and what it means to “build our own table” in spaces that may have prevented us from coming to “the table.”

Topics that will be considered:

- What it means to be an immigrant woman of color in the advocacy, government, and political spaces?
- How did your childhood experiences shape you?
- What were some of the highs and lows as you navigated through spaces not necessarily designed for someone like you?
- What are you cooking or doing for Thanksgiving this year?

Register here: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_f15p7fBMQ7uBEYUVlywqtQ

Transgender Day of Remembrance

- November 20, 2020, 6 PM EST

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998. The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.

Amiyah Scott is an actress, model, author, and LGBTQ advocate, best known for her role as Cotton on Lee Daniel's Star on Fox. With this role, Amiyah broke history as the first transgender actress to play a transgender character on a major network television series. In just a short time, Amiyah's trailblazing brand in beauty, modeling, and acting have garnered immense popularity among the trans community and beyond. Amiyah struggled with bullying and acceptance throughout her life, but she never let that deter her drive, ambition, or goals. VHI crowned her king, reporting that Amiyah "is the first transgender model to amass a large social media following on Instagram." Amiyah is also known for her unique and gorgeous look. Her style is heavily sought after by fans who admire her hair, makeup, and fashion creativity. In addition to modeling and acting, Amiyah made her mark when she was a teenager by pioneering the New Orleans underground ballroom scene.

Registration is required to attend this event:

https://virginiatech.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_GBWGJt5kSTW_SjkbjG7-XA

Questions for Amiyah can be submitted here: <https://forms.gle/38H2pCiy5rMSAYki6>

TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

November 20, 2020
6 pm EST

Join us as we gather to remember and honor the transgender people whose lives have been lost to anti-transgender violence.

REGISTER TO ATTEND



Scan Here

Keynote by **Amiyah Scott**
Actress, Model, Author & LGBTQ Advocate

Sponsored by LGBTQ+ Resource Center, Africana Studies, Black Cultural Center, HokiePRIDE, Arts Center, & The Center for Peace Studies and Violence Prevention



Black Technical and Professional Communication: A Virtual Panel

- Monday, November 30, 1:30–3 PM Eastern, Zoom
- Registration is required: bit.ly/3nRSFmc

A coalition of Black scholars in technical and professional communication offer their perspectives on defining Black technical and professional communication; advocating for the inclusion of Black perspectives in the body of mainstream disciplinary scholarship and pedagogical practice; and carving out the methodological, theoretical, and practical space that will enable other Black scholars, teachers, and practitioners in the field to see and do such work.

The featured speakers are members of the Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) Black Technical and Professional Communication Task Force, who worked on this CCCC Black Technical and Professional Communication Position Statement with Resource Guide:

Dr. Kimberly C. Harper is Assistant Professor of English at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and Director of the Technical Writing concentration for the Department of English. Her research examines social justice, race, and ethos within technical and professional communication, and she writes about the rhetoric of maternal health, mental health, and hip-hop discourse. She is the founder of The Space of Grace—a monthly podcast focusing on Black maternal health and reproductive justice.

Constance Haywood is a third-year PhD student in the Writing, Rhetoric, and American

BLACK MON 11/30
1:30–3 PM ET
ZOOM

TECHNICAL & PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION

Register at: bit.ly/3nRSFmc

Dr. Kimberly C. Harper
Assistant Professor and Director of the Technical Writing Concentration at North Carolina A&T State University. Her research examines social justice, race, and ethos within technical communication, the rhetoric of maternal health, mental health, and hip-hop discourse. She founded The Space of Grace—a podcast on Black maternal health and reproductive justice.

Dr. Natasha N. Jones
Associate Professor at Michigan State University, Vice President of the Association of Teachers of Technical Writing, and co-author of Technical Communication after the Social Justice Turn: Building Coalitions for Action. Her research interests include social justice, narrative, and technical communication pedagogy.

Dr. Donnie Johnson Sackey
Assistant Professor of Rhetoric & Writing at the University of Texas at Austin and senior researcher with Detroit Engaged Vision for Environmental Research through Science and Engagement (DRESE). His research centers on the dynamics of environmental public policy deliberation, environmental justice, and environmental cultural history.

Ja'La Wourman
Doctoral Candidate in Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures at Michigan State University and King-Chavez-Parsons Future Faculty Fellow researching the role of race and identity in Black women entrepreneurs branding and content strategies on social networking sites.

Constance Haywood
Third-year PhD student in Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures at Michigan State University with research interests in Black feminist rhetoric(s) & literatures, online community-building, and digital research ethics.

Dr. Temptaous Mckoy
Assistant Professor and Co-coordinator of Graduate Studies for the Department of Language, Literature, and Cultural Studies at Bowie State University. Her research redefines the field of TPC and challenges it to be more inclusive of the (in)formal communicative and learning practices of found in Black communities, such as HBCUs.

Dr. Cecilia D. Shelton
Assistant Professor at University of Maryland. She draws on Black feminist theory & praxis and prioritizes the perspectives, goals, and experiences of Black people (and other communities structuralized into the marginal) as a way to resist on more equitable solutions to social, political, and organizational problems.

Don't miss the Professional & Technical Writing Program in the Department of English at Virginia Tech with the support of our partners:

Cultures department at Michigan State University. Her research interests include Black feminist rhetoric(s) & literacies, online community-building, and digital research ethics.

Dr. Natasha Jones is Vice President for the Association of Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW) and Associate Professor of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures at Michigan State University. Dr. Jones is a technical communication scholar and a co-author of the book *Technical Communication after the Social Justice Turn: Building Coalitions for Action* (2019). She has received national recognition for her work, being awarded the CCCC Best Article in Technical and Scientific Communication (2020, 2018, and 2014) and the Nell Ann Pickett Award (2017).

Dr. Temptaous Mckoy, Assistant Professor of English with a focus in Technical and Professional Communication, and Co-coordinator of Graduate Studies in the Department Language, Literature, and Cultural Studies at Bowie State University. Her research focuses on redefining the field of TPC and challenging it to be more inclusive of the (in)formal communicative and learning practices as found in Black communities, such as HBCUs. She is an HBCU alum (Elizabeth City State Univ.) and also a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

Dr. Donnie Johnson Sackey is Assistant Professor of Rhetoric & Writing at the University of Texas at Austin, and a senior researcher with Detroit Integrated Vision for Environmental Research through Science and Engagement (D•VERSE). His research centers on the dynamics of environmental public policy deliberation, environmental justice, and environmental community-based participatory research. He is currently working on a monograph, *Evasive Species: Communities, Invasion Ecology, Crisis*, which focuses on invasive species and environmental public policy deliberation.

Dr. Cecilia D. Shelton is Assistant Professor of English at the University of Maryland. Drawing on Black feminist theory and praxis, her research prioritizes the perspectives, goals, and experiences of Black people (and other communities structured into the margins) as a way to insist on more equitable solutions to contemporary social, political, and organizational problems. Her work is published in *Technical Communication Quarterly*, *The Journal of Multimodal Rhetorics*, and *Praxis: A Writing Center Journal* among other places.

Ja'La Wourman is a Doctoral Candidate in the Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures program at Michigan State University. Her dissertation looks at the role of race and identity in Black women entrepreneurs branding and content strategies on social networking sites. She is a King-Chavez-Parks (KCP) Future Faculty Fellow and recipient of the 2020 Excellence Award in Interdisciplinary Scholarship for her work in Tanzania, East Africa with the Tanzania Partnership Program at Michigan State University.

This event is generously supported by a number of units at Virginia Tech, including the Black Cultural Center, the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, the Center for Humanities, the Composition Program, the Writing Center, the Center for Communicating Science, the Center for Educational Networks and Impacts (CENI), the Engineering Communications Program, the Materials Science and Engineering Diversity Committee, and the Engineering Communication Center.

More about the event is available at: <https://liberalarts.vt.edu/news/events/2020/10/black-technical-and-professional-communication.html>

Women of Color Healing Hour

- December 3, 2020 at 12 PM ET

It's that time again.

Join the Faculty Women of Color in the Academy National Conference for a virtual Women of Color Healing Hour on Thursday, December 3rd at 12 pm ET.

Let's take a moment to focus, connect and empower one another.

Let's take a moment to center ourselves to draw on a more powerful and combined energy, as we appreciate the value and power of us as women of color in the academy.

To register for this event and to receive additional information about FWCA, click [here](#).

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you!

FACULTY WOMEN OF COLOR IN THE ACADEMY NATIONAL CONFERENCE
Women of Color Healing Hour

Join us for virtual healing hour for women of color in the academy.

Thursday, December 3rd at 12pm ET
To register and learn more about this event, and FWCA, visit:
<https://bit.ly/fwcahealinghour>



One Year of Covid-19: How Women Across the World Are Coping, Managing, and Resisting Covid-19

- Date: Dec 07, 2020 Time: 9:00-10:30 AM EST, (2 PM GMT) 10 AM in Puerto Rico, 7:45 PM in Nepal, and 3 PM in Nigeria

In this event, we are inviting speakers and scholars from various disciplines, profession, and communities who have transnational research expertise on feminist work in a disaster, community work experience on disasters like pandemics. December 2020 will mark a year of Covid-19 pandemic which has challenged human civilization in a way we have never seen before. In this regard, the gender perspective on COVID-19 is a matter that is often ignored specially because women are considered vulnerable and not able to manage a disaster. In this regard, this event will create a space for scholars and practitioners to share with the Virginia Tech community: a. The impacts of COVID-19 on women globally b. Women's Disaster Management as well as coping, managing, and resisting strategies c. How feminist perspective will be helpful in managing the disaster? This event will feature speakers from Nepal, Nigeria, and Puerto Rico. This global discussion and interaction will be very beneficial as we all move through and are coping with the aftereffects of Covid-19 in our own ways. This event will create an opportunity for all of us to understand the leadership aspects of women globally in order to cope with the virus.

Questions should be directed towards Dr. Sweta Baniya (baniya@vt.edu)

More information here: <https://tinyurl.com/y4hv9gml>

Registration Required: <https://tinyurl.com/yjee6hnd>

ONE YEAR OF COVID-19 HOW WOMEN ACROSS THE WORLD ARE COPING, MANAGING, AND RESISTING COVID-19

[Register By Clicking Here](#)

Or by copying this link to your browser: <https://tinyurl.com/yjee6hnd>

Date: Dec 07, 2020

Time: 9 -10:30 AM Eastern Standard Time (2 PM GMT)
(10 AM in Puerto, 7:45 PM in Nepal, and 3 PM in Nigeria)



Dr. Rieta Chansky, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez, Puerto Rico
Dr. Neeti Aryal Khandel, Tribhuvan University, Nepal
Ms. Tosin Akhin, UN Women- Nigeria
Dr. Sweta Baniya, Moderator, Virginia Tech

Join Us to Listen to Stories of Strong Women from Puerto Rico, Nepal, and Nigeria

[Presentation Information here](#)
Questions: baniya@vt.edu



Program Supported by the International Initiative Small Grant by College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences and the Department of English at Virginia Tech. Organized by Dr. Sweta Baniya and Dr. Neeti Aryal Khandel. Technical support: Doree Schuch, Tina and Keqing Wang, Dept of English.

Submissions for Events/Programs

WGD CONF 2021

Women and Gender in Development Virtual Conference 2021
February 23 – 26, 2021



Women and Gender in Development Virtual Conference 2021 at Virginia Tech

OUT OF THE THEORY & INTO THE FIELD: A DIALOGUE ON GENDERED APPROACHES TO INCLUSIVE RURAL DEVELOPMENT
FEBRUARY 23 - 26, 2021

Hello folks!

We have extended the abstract submission deadline for the 4 Minute Student Flashtalks ([4MFlashtalks](#)) at Virginia Tech's virtual [Women and Gender in Development conference](#) but it is fast approaching. Thank you to those who have already submitted abstracts. If you have not done so but are interested, please do so at your earliest convenience before the [deadline on Friday, November 20th, 2020](#). The online abstract submission link is [HERE](#). More info below.

Note that the [poster](#) abstract submission deadline has been extended as well, but to November 25th.

Students may enter into competitions for both. All (not just students) are welcome to submit posters within the topics of the conference. Cash prizes for student competitions!

Registration for the conference is [open now](#). You will be invited to register for a workshop when you register so check out the four workshop options before you do. Take a moment to review the Pre-Conference Workshops before making your selection when registering. Topics range from teaching to youth, to monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL), to qualitative research methods.

More on the 4MFlashtalks

The 4MFlashtalks is a virtual asynchronous competition that promotes student engagement by providing opportunities to graduate students who have completed data collection for their research to present their work through a brief 4 minutes (maximum) presentation. It is inspired by the [3 Minute Thesis \(3MT\) research communication competition](#) developed by the University of Queensland in Australia and held in academic institutions around the world. The 4MFlashtalks is an experience intended to communicate research to a non-expert audience in a simple, concise, and articulate manner. This event in the virtual WGD Conference aims to provide a space where all attendees (students, faculty, practitioners, leaders, others) from around the country and the world can learn and connect with future professionals.

We encourage participation of currently enrolled or recently graduated students (PhD and Masters) who will have completed the data collection process of their research by the submission date and are looking to improve their oral communications skills, build external relations outside their institutions, expand their professional network, and engage in academic conversations. Three cash awards will give credit to the best presentations. In order to have your submission reviewed by the judging panel, presentations must be uploaded by December 9, 2020. Abstracts must be accepted first. Detailed instructions will follow.

The conference theme is focused on expanding the dialogue between researchers and practitioners engaged in international development and those that are engaged in similar research and outreach activities in the US. As such, we welcome submissions that broadly represent the intersection of gender and inclusive agricultural and rural development from the Global North and the Global South. We encourage presentations that explore aspects of intersectionality, including, but not limited to youth, masculinities, race, and ethnicity.

For more information on the 4MFlashtalks see the full announcement on this site <https://wgdconf.org/4m-flash-talks>

Details about the program can be found online <https://wgdconf.org/about-wgd-conf>

Fees are under \$50, and only \$20 for students. Scholarships are available but limited. Apply [here](#).

Register for the conference [HERE](#). Fees are only \$20 for students. [Scholarships](#) available.

Follow us on Twitter [@wgdconf](#)

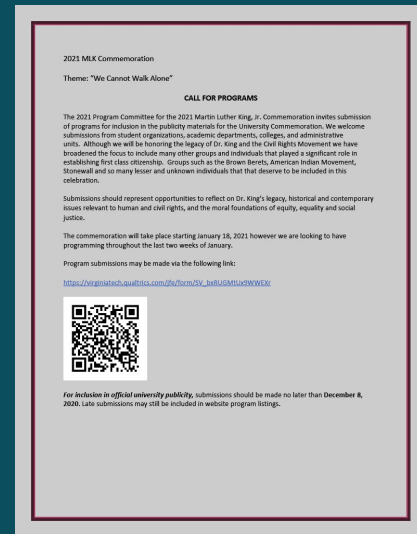
We are looking forward to greeting you all in February 2021.

MLK Program Submissions

For inclusion in official university publicity, submissions should be made no later than December 8, 2020. Late submissions may still be included in website program listings.

Program submissions may be made via the following link:

https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bxRUGMtUx9WWEXr



Homecoming Board Applications

Homecoming Board has some exciting news, our 2021 Homecoming Board applications are currently open!

Our organization is unique in that it provides students the opportunity to partake in one of our university's most beloved traditions while also interacting with amazing individuals from across our campus and the Blacksburg community. As a Board member, you will work alongside a group of dedicated students who share the same passion for creating the best Homecoming experience for the Virginia Tech community. This year will be extra special as we will be celebrating the Sesquicentennial year of Virginia Tech which is going to create an even bigger Homecoming! Virginia Tech's tradition of Ut Prosim even flows into Homecoming Week with the Court Candidates and their platforms which you will have the opportunity to work closely with! Lastly, collaboration with large campus figures like the Office of Student Engagement & Campus life and Virginia Tech Athletics. With all that being said, the students on our board grow and develop as leaders but are also able to make lasting memories that are cherished for a lifetime!

The applications are open until Friday, November 20th at 11:45 pm and are open to all rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The application can be found on the Homecoming Board's Gobblerconnect page. Interviews will take place on Friday, December 4th from 9 am to 5 pm over zoom.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us!

Connect with us on social media [@vthomecoming](#) or visit our website

<https://vt.edu/homecoming.html>

Call For Artists: Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Art Exhibit

Virginia Tech students are invited to submit...no need to be a full time artist...or a visual artist, we are accepting videos, spoken word, photos, poems, as well as traditional visual art pieces electronically.

Deadline for submissions is December 11.

Submit work to: campuslife.vt.edu/perspectivegallery

WHY WE CAN'T WAIT

Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Art Exhibit - January 19-March 7, 2021

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Dr. King published Why We Can't Wait in 1964 about the non-violent movement against racial segregation. Virginia Tech students are invited to submit a creative response to this statement for inclusion in the Perspective Gallery annual exhibit which highlights Dr. Martin Luther King's work encouraging peaceful community action against racial injustice.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Original work accepted from current VT students. Any of the following media may be used to create your artwork: Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Video, Poetry, Short Story, Spoken Word, Photography, Mixed Media

Submit artwork electronically by 5 pm on Dec 11.

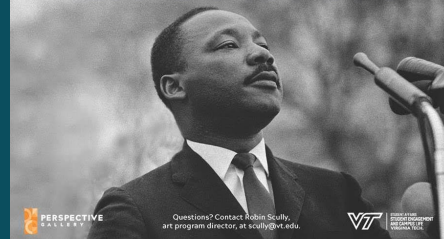
Include with Submission: Name of Artist, Title of Artwork, Media used to create artwork, Statement about the work (optional).

NEED SUPPLIES?

Stop by the Pop-Up Table next to Perspective Gallery, 2nd Floor Squires Student Center:
Mondays: 1 - 3 pm
Wednesdays: 12 - 2 pm

Or supplies will be available at the gallery desk:
Tuesday - Friday: 12 - 8 pm
Saturday: 12 - 5 pm & Sunday 1 - 5 pm

SUBMIT WORK TO [CAMPUSLIFE.VT.EDU/PERSPECTIVEGALLERY](https://campuslife.vt.edu/perspectivegallery)



Disability Culture Course

Have you ever wondered how Deaf people experience music, or how disabled folks play video games? Did you know that wheelchair users dance and nonspeaking autistics write poetry? Have you ever heard the terms "disability rights," "disability justice," "disability culture," and "disability pride," but wondered what they actually mean?

I am offering an exciting new course in the coming semesters that will count towards the Disabilities Studies minor (but can also be taken as an elective) called Disability Culture. We'll be learning about:

- Disability as an identity, community, and culture
- The history of the disability rights movement and the future of disability justice
- Disabled musicians, writers, filmmakers, athletes, gamers, dancers, and artists
- Disability representation in media (classical music, contemporary popular music, television, etc.)

You'll be watching films, listening to music, reading what disabled people have to say about their own lives, and practicing navigating the mindfield of social media, blogs, and opinion pieces about disability. You will also produce projects responding to what we learn in class (individually or as a group) that can range from traditional papers and oral presentations to podcasts, art works, even a curated social media exhibit.

There are no prerequisites, and Disability Culture is open to all majors. As a disabled & autistic instructor, I will work hard to make sure disabled students are fully included.

We will be in an online synchronous format, but we won't just be sitting in front of the computer the whole time. While there will be some lecture material, we will spend most of our time with films, music, and discussions. And please do not be intimidated by the long blocks of time: we will have breaks and time to move around.

The CRNs and times are:

Winter 2021: CRN 40348, online synchronous instruction MTWRF 10:00 am to 12:30 pm

Spring 2021: CRN 21108, online synchronous instruction, TR 11:00 am to 12:15 pm

Scholarship Opportunities

SOAR Scholarships

SOAR Scholarships are now open! Visit Scholarship Central at <https://vt.academicworks.com/> to apply! Deadline to apply is December 18, 2020.



Now Open!

DEADLINE 12.18.20

William S. Alderson
Memorial
Black Cultural Center
Alumni
Groove Phi Groove
Black Alumni Endowed
Dr. Benjamin and K.
Stallings Endowed



2021–22 STUDENT AFFAIRS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Student Affairs awards several scholarships to currently enrolled undergraduate students who demonstrate outstanding leadership. These scholarships typically range from \$1,000 to \$4,000. The application deadline for the 2021-22 academic year is Thursday, January 21, 2021.

For more information and to apply, visit students.vt.edu/scholarships



2021–22 STUDENT AFFAIRS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Student Affairs awards several scholarships to currently enrolled undergraduate students who demonstrate outstanding leadership. These scholarships typically range from \$1,000 to \$4,000. The application deadline for the 2021-22 academic year is Thursday, January 21, 2021. For more information and to apply, visit students.vt.edu/scholarships.

Henry Dekker Student Leadership Award

The Henry Dekker Student Leadership Award was established to honor Henry J. Dekker '44 and to acknowledge his outstanding service to the university. This award recognizes a rising sophomore or junior who has demonstrated outstanding leadership service within Student Affairs. The following guidelines are required for this award:

- Rising sophomore or junior
- Demonstrated outstanding leadership service within Student Affairs
- GPA of 2.8 or higher

One scholarship will be given to an eligible undergraduate student.

Edward F.D. and Norrina Bailey Spencer Leadership Scholarship

The Edward F.D. and Norrina Bailey Spencer Leadership Scholarship was established to honor Edward F.D. Spencer, vice president emeritus for student affairs, and in memory of his wife Norrina Bailey Spencer, who served as associate provost and director of undergraduate admissions. The recipients of this scholarship will be known as Spencer Scholars. The following guidelines are required for this award:

- Undergraduate student in any field of study
- Demonstrated outstanding leadership potential
- Preference given for individuals with financial need

Multiple scholarships may be given annually to eligible undergraduate students.

Robert Edward Nance '50 Memorial Scholarship

The Robert Edward Nance '50 Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of Robert Edward Nance, a graduate of Virginia Tech in the Class of 1950. The following guidelines are required for this award:

- Resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia
- Demonstrated financial need
- Outstanding leadership potential
- Preference given to current or newly selected members of the Gorman Club

Multiple scholarships may be given annually to eligible undergraduate students.

Benedetti Student Leader Scholarship

Brothers Stephen '86 and Mark '88 Benedetti created this endowment to provide support to students who wish to pursue leadership activities as part of their experience at Virginia Tech. The following guidelines are required for this award:

- Undergraduate student in any field of study
- Leadership service at Virginia Tech
- Demonstrated financial need


Preference will be given to a student in the Pamplin College of Business or the College of Engineering.

Robert C. and Emily S. Jones Family Scholarship

Mr. Jones '89 created this endowment, on behalf of his wife and five children, to set an example of philanthropy and to provide support to students with financial limitations that wish to pursue leadership activities as part of their experience at Virginia Tech. The following guidelines are required for this award:

- Undergraduate student in any field of study
- Leadership service at Virginia Tech
- Demonstrated financial need

Preference will be given to a student in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.



Virginia Tech is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

Stubb-Helffer Motivation Matters Scholarship

In gratitude for the encouragement received from the VT community during her own personal and academic challenges, Barbara Stubb-Helffer '77 established this endowment. It is meant to provide continued incentive for students who may have had difficulty during their first years at the university, but through perseverance and commitment have been able to make steady academic improvement. The following guidelines are required for this award:

- Full-time academic status
- Rising junior or senior for the current academic year
- Demonstrate personal challenge(s) while showing academic improvement throughout their time at Virginia Tech (personal statement and letter of recommendation should reflect individual experience)

Elian and Ben Ames Leadership Scholarship

Ben Ames '48, with his wife Ellen, established this award to recognize an outstanding student leader. While a student here at Virginia Tech, Mr. Ames served as a cadet, vice-president of the Gorman Club, and the student body president. The following guidelines are required for this award:

- Undergraduate student in any field of study
- Demonstrated student leadership experience in a program within Student Affairs

Bible Family "Dream Big" Scholarship

The Bible Family "Dream Big" Scholarship was established to honor the spirit of service of Bible family members who have attended and served the university, both while students and later as alumni. As the second endowed scholarship established by Bible family members at the university, it challenges its recipients to a lifelong leadership journey to invent the future. This award recognizes undergraduate students in the College of Engineering with demonstrated financial need. The following guidelines are required for this award:

- Undergraduate student in the College of Engineering
- Demonstrated student leadership experience in a program within Student Affairs

Preference will be given to students with demonstrated financial need.

Adam Ward '11 Memorial Scholarship

The Adam Ward '11 Memorial Scholarship was established to honor Adam's legacy at Virginia Tech to help students who, like Adam, are true Hoopes and are persistent, active, caring, and willing to reach out and help others. The following guidelines are required for this award:

- Undergraduate student in any field of study
- Demonstrated financial need

Preference will be given to students who demonstrate caring competition and service to others; residents of the Roanoke Valley; and students in the Department of Communication.

Student Government Association Leader Scholarship

The Student Government Association Leader Scholarship was established to recognize the leadership and contribution a student leader has made to SGA and the student body. The following guidelines are required for this award:


- Undergraduate Student who is a current member of SGA and who holds a leadership position within the organization and a 3.0 GPA at the time of application.

The recipient must maintain a leadership position to remain eligible for any additional awards.

Charles W. Schifflert and Dolores S. Schifflert Scholarship

The Charles W. Schifflert and Dolores S. Schifflert Scholarship was established to provide scholarship support for a current undergraduate student who plans to pursue a career as a medical physician. The Schifflerts moved to Blacksburg in 1958 from Craigsville, Virginia where Dr. Charles Schifflert served as a family practitioner. He was Associate Director of Student Health at Virginia Tech from 1968-1971 and served as Director from 1971 until he retired in 1985. The following guidelines are required for this award:

- Undergraduate student enrolled in a curriculum that will prepare her/him for a career as a medical physician
- Demonstrated financial need



Virginia Tech is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

Job Opportunities

Recreational Sports

[Recreational Sports](#) is seeking students interested in employment opportunities that begin in the spring 2021 semester. Rec Sports has one of the largest student staff teams on campus with over 500 employees who inspire the Virginia Tech community to live healthy and active lifestyles.

Both work study and non-work study positions are available. Please find linked here a list of current positions available as well as spring 2021 academic courses (currently available for registration) that help students receive certifications to make them eligible for certain staff positions.

Cook Counseling Center

The Cook Counseling Center is recruiting students for the Peer Assistance for Learning (PAL) program for the 2021/2022 academic year. *All our peer educators will now be compensated for the hours they work.*

Are you interested in getting experience for graduate school and future employment? If yes, the Cook Counseling Center's Peer Assistance for Learning (PAL) Program is for you. Applications are being accepted from students interested in becoming a Peer Assistant for Learning (PAL). The program involves undergraduate students educating peers about mental health related concerns and spreading awareness about mental health. All majors are welcome to join. The application date starts from November 16th, 2020 and will be closing on February 1st, 2021. If you would like to know more information about the PAL program, please visit the Cook Counseling Center's website: [CCC PAL Program](#).



APPLICATIONS OPEN
NOV 16TH 2020
AND CLOSE FEB 1ST
2021

**APPLY TO BE A PART
OF THE PAL PROGRAM**

*from the Cook Counseling
Center*

Are you interested in getting experience for graduate school and future employment? Are you looking for a way to give back to your fellow students? The Cook Counseling Center is recruiting students for the Peer Assistance for Learning (PAL) program for the 2021/2022 academic year!

The program involves undergraduate students educating peers about mental health-related concerns and spreading awareness about mental health. All majors are welcome to join. If you would like to know more information about the PAL program, please visit the Cook Counseling Center's website

Benefits:

- Compensation for hours worked
- Opportunities to develop leadership and public speaking skills
- Meet new people
- Learn stress management strategies for self-improvement
- Have fun and become part of the CCC outreach team!

Call 540-231-6557,
or apply immediately with this link or QR
code:
https://virginatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/m/SV_0dZaiVWQkX67DPT?Q_CHL=qr



In addition, participants will be provided the opportunity to develop leadership and public speaking skills, meet new people, learn stress management strategies for self-improvement, have fun and become part of the CCC outreach team! If you are interested in becoming a CCC PAL call 231-6557, or apply immediately by clicking the link below: https://virginatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0dZaiVWQkX67DPT?Q_CHL=qr

Fundraising for the APIDA community

- Rice Sticks and Tea Asian Food Pantry (Located in Boston, MA)
- Join us for the annual TAPsgiving event virtually this year! TAPsgiving is our Thanksgiving-inspired luncheon and community-focused event. About this Event

This year, we will be co-hosting a virtual dumpling making class with Myers and Chang to fundraise for Rice Sticks and Tea Asian Food Pantry (RST). Myers and Chang is a neighborhood asian-fusion restaurant co-owned by award-winning chef Joanne Chang of Boston's Flour bakery and her husband, Christopher Myers. When Chang married acclaimed restaurateur Christopher Myers, she would make him Taiwanese food for dinner at home every night. The couple soon realized no one was serving food like this in Boston, in a cool but comfortable restaurant environment.

This TAPsgiving, our ticket proceeds will be donated to Rice Sticks and Tea. RST is a food pantry program which serves low-income Asian immigrant and refugee families each month. It is the only food pantry program in the region whose mission is to serve the Asian community and provide food that is consistent with their cultural cooking traditions and preferences.

To participate in our virtual TAPsgiving, please register through our Eventbrite!

[See: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tapsgiving-virtual-dumpling-class-tickets-128579674267>] Tickets are \$15 and we recommend you purchase the take + make from the Myers and Chang website, <https://app.upsolve.com/s/myers-and-chang-boston>. TAPsgiving attendees can use the 10% off code for the take + make kits, orders for the kits need to be made by Thursday 11/19. You can find the discount code in the confirmation email sent upon registration on Eventbrite. Please note that each \$15 ticket includes one free raffle ticket, we are raffling off three pairs of waterproof Vessi shoes. Additional raffle tickets can be purchased by venmo to @TAP-Boston, \$2 for one extra raffle ticket and \$5 for three additional raffle tickets.

TAP Boston would like to thank our generous sponsors this year in no particular order:
Myers and Chang - <https://www.myersandchang.com/>
Vessi Footware - <http://vessifootwear.com/>

Myers and
Chang Myers and Chang Joanne Chang
Christopher Myers
Rice Sticks and Tea Asian Food Pantry (RST)
RST
\$15 Myers and Chang
<https://app.upserve.com/s/myers-and-chang-boston>
TAP 11 19
Vessi
Venmo @TAP-
Boston \$2 \$5
RST

TAP Boston:

Social Media

