

Online commencement details announced



A first-of-its-kind event, Virginia Tech's online commencement for the Class of 2020 will be held on Friday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m. ET. The ceremony will be available on vt.edu and will be viewable on-demand afterward.

Along with remarks from President Tim Sands, Provost Cyril Clarke, and featured speakers Miss America 2020 Camille Schrier, a 2018 alumna of the College of Science; the Hokies' former defensive coordinator Bud Foster, and University Distinguished Professor of English Nikki Giovanni, each college dean will deliver a message, and the college's graduating students will be named. During the ceremony, participants will be able to share comments and photos via an online platform.

In the lead-up to commencement, graduating students can submit photos and video clips for a chance to be featured in the Humans of VT video that will play during the ceremony. In addition, alumni can submit video with words of advice, and friends and family can share a video message.

[Learn more about the event and how to submit photos and video →](#)

In the Wake of COVID-19



ANDREA BERTKE
Virologist, Population Health Sciences

Virologist Andrea Bertke, associate professor of infectious diseases in the Department of Population Health Sciences, explains why animal coronavirus vaccines are unsafe — and ineffective — for human use.

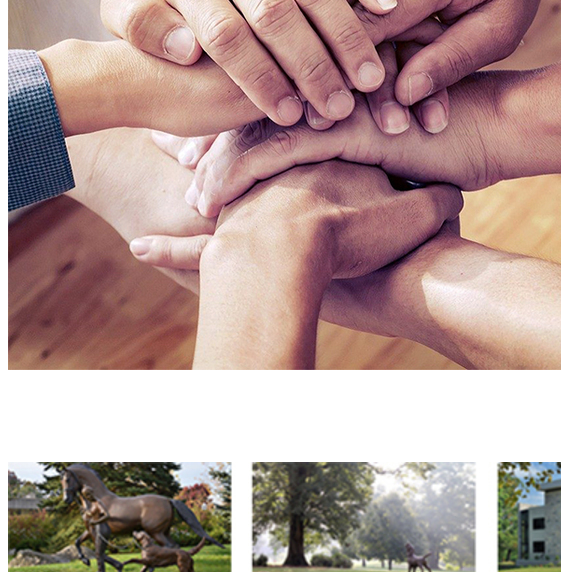


A team of Virginia Tech professors with expertise spanning public health, virology, epidemiology, economics, and psychology — including VA-MD Vet Med's X.J. Meng, University Distinguished Professor of molecular virology; Charlotte Baker, assistant professor of epidemiology; and moderator Laura Hungerford, head of the Department of Population Health Sciences and professor of veterinary public health and epidemiology — discussed the novel coronavirus and took questions during an hourlong webinar on April 7.



Public health students, faculty, and staff volunteer for local COVID-19 response efforts

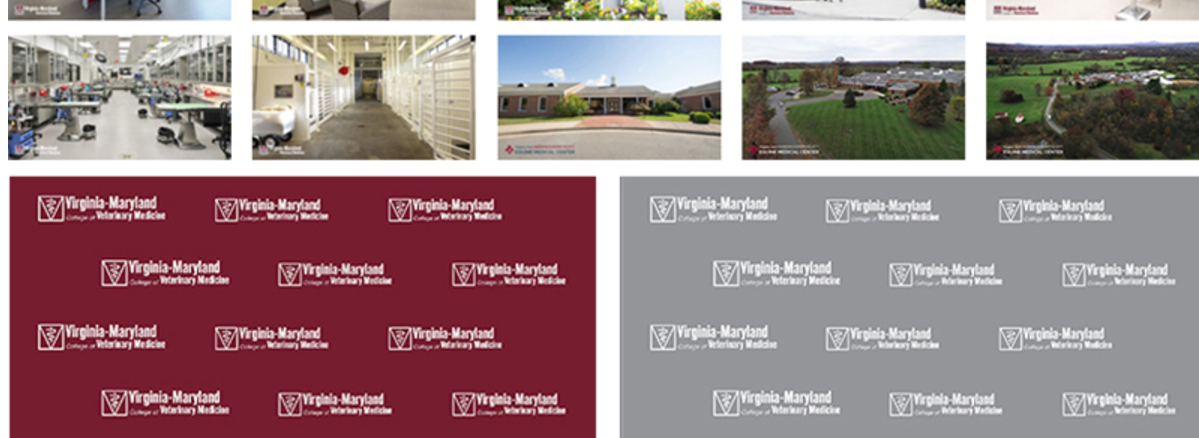
Medical Reserve Corps-trained public health students from the college's Master of Public Health (MPH) program and the dual Doctor of Veterinary Medicine/MPH program, along with additional faculty and staff, volunteered at a New River Valley COVID-19 call center and drive-thru testing sites administered by the New River Health District.



Care for the humans who care for animals in Virginia's New River Valley

A resource blog has been established by the college's veterinary social workers in response to the evolving needs of those experiencing challenges as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

All are encouraged to contribute to the blog by sharing resources that help animal owners and the community during this difficult time.



Zoom backgrounds for the VA-MD Vet Med community

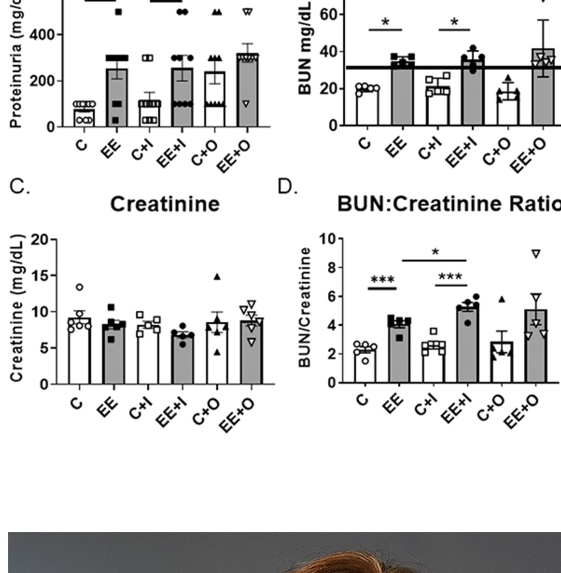
Add a little bit of VA-MD Vet Med to your virtual meetings by downloading a college background specially created for use with Zoom.

Around the College



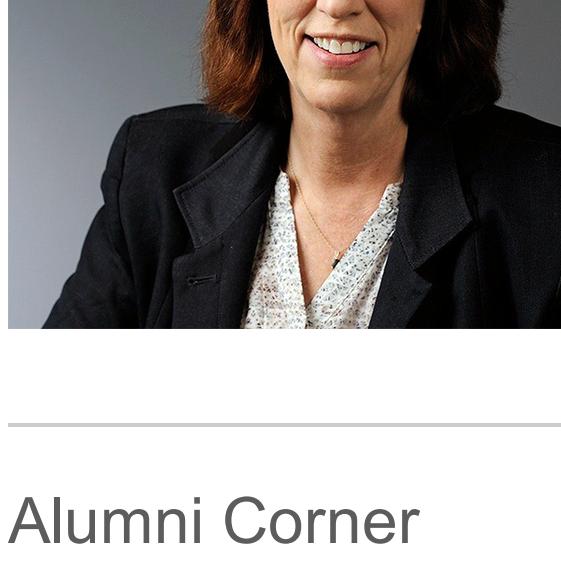
Grant funds research on community-level intervention to address opioid overdoses

Connection 2 Care (C2C), an innovative collaboration that aims to address the opioid crisis in the Roanoke Valley, is led by co-principal investigators Kimberly Horn, Kathy Hosig, and Sophie Wenzel of the college's Department of Population Health Sciences and Mary Beth Dunkenberger, the associate director of the Institute for Policy and International Affairs.



Research examines environmental exposure to endocrine-disrupting chemicals

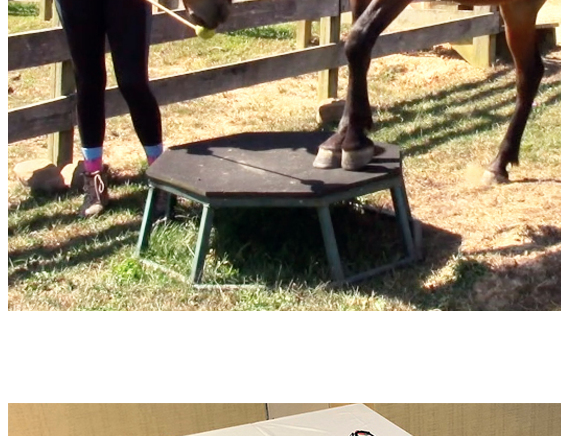
Appearing in Scientific Reports (Nature Research), a paper by first author Michael R. Edwards (PhD '18), a former NIH-T32 trainee in Professor of Immunology Ansar Ahmed's lab, has significant implications for those who are susceptible to autoimmune diseases. Edwards will begin a radiology residency at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital in the fall.



Hungerford named to editorial board

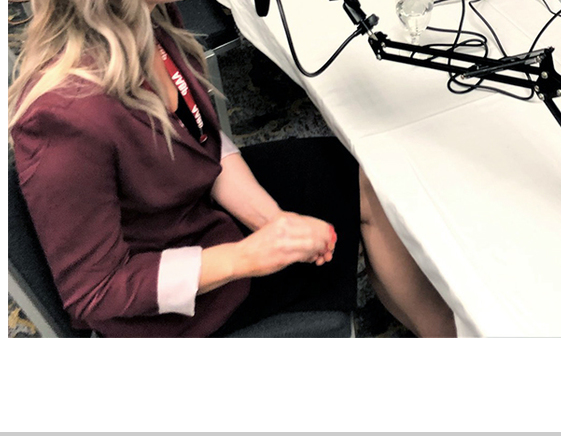
Professor of Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology Laura Hungerford, who heads the Department of Population Health Sciences, has been named to the editorial board of the Journal of Appalachian Health, which features peer-reviewed research articles and a range of shorter articles on preliminary research addressing the health of the population of the Appalachian region from Pennsylvania to Mississippi.

Alumni Corner



Alumna offering webinars on wild and feral horses

Beginning May 1, Sarah Low (DVM '15), founder of the nonprofit Humane Horse Handling, will host a weekly webinar series focusing on behavior and welfare of wild and feral horses. Upcoming topics include natural behavior, population control, gathering techniques, and training of formerly free-roaming equids.



Alumna featured on AABP podcast

In mid-March, Keelan Lewis (DVM '11), of central Texas, discussed work-life balance and rural practice challenges and opportunities with Fred Gingrich, American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP) executive director, on the AABP's "Have You Herd?" podcast.

Vet Med in the News

What Is Phase One of Trump's U.S. Coronavirus Reopening Plan?
NEWSWEEK

Georgia Governor Kemp Defends Reopening of State, Says People Would Be Safer in Gyms than Grocery Stores
NEWSWEEK

Coronavirus sticking to shoes in hospitals, study says. What about grocery stores?
BOSTON HERALD

Are grocery stores and pharmacies vectors for the coronavirus?
USA TODAY

COVID-19 hurts rural areas, too, even if it's not obvious
POPULAR SCIENCE

Update: Pets and COVID-19
WTFF/VIRGINIA PUBLIC RADIO

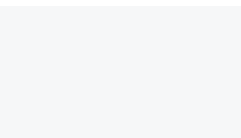
Here's How to Clean Your Groceries During the COVID-19 Outbreak
HEALTHLINE

Hoof Care for EMS Horses
THE HORSE

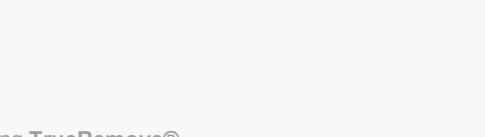
GIVE to VA-MD VET MED

Your support helps us advance knowledge, improve health, and save lives.

STAY CONNECTED

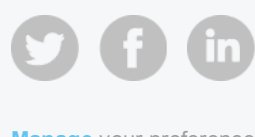


Want more news from Virginia Tech?
Subscribe to the Virginia Tech Daily email



Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine
205 Duck Pond Drive | Blacksburg, VA 24061
540-231-7666 | vetmed.vt.edu | vamdvmed@vt.edu

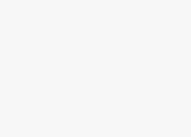
Share this email:



Manage your preferences | Opt out using TrueRemove®
Got this as a forward? Sign up to receive our future emails.
View this email online.

205 Duck Pond Drive, Virginia Tech (0442)
Blacksburg, VA | 24061 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.



[Subscribe](#) to our email list.