

"...the demand for graduates with packaging knowledge and experience is skyrocketing."

Specialized equipment allows students to test packaging under various handling and transportation conditions.

Students tackle real-time packaging challenges

At the college's Center for Packaging and Unit Load Design, students are asked to find solutions for packaging problems that companies face. The result is a collaborative effort that connects leading companies with expert professors and students eager to take on the challenges of the packaging industry.

"The center's goal is to create a place where students, companies, and academics can interact," explained Center Director Laszlo Horvath. "The idea is that companies needing packaging expertise or certification can come to our center. Not only will they get highly trained people to help them solve their problems, but they're giving a new generation of students an opportunity to gain practical experience tackling real-world problems."

With the continuing increase in online commerce, the demand for graduates with packaging knowledge and experience is skyrocketing. The center works to ensure that all students in the packaging systems and design major graduate with resumes that have a strong emphasis on internships and co-op experiences. In addition, the center hires several paid student interns who work on projects brought to the center while simultaneously gaining certifications they can carry into the job market.

"Our students can go into an interview and say that they have industry certification, they can do protective packaging design and testing, and they know how to use the equipment and the software," noted Horvath, associate professor in the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials. "It makes them a lot more marketable, in terms of getting both internships and career positions."

A key driver for the exchange between companies and Virginia Tech is the center's recent designation as a package certification provider for Amazon and IKEA. As Amazon's only such provider in Virginia, the center provides a crucial service to companies seeking to utilize the online commerce platform.

Virginia Tech's undergraduate packaging program, which started in 2014, was recently cited as the fourth best in the U.S. by Universities.com, and Horvath would like to see it rise in the standings. "Packaging is relatively new to us," he said, noting that the center's traditional strength is in pallets and unit loads. "Right now, we're working to bring in more partners because that will allow us to offer a more diverse experience for our students."

"We're also looking to become the country's leading program in sustainable packaging materials," he added. "Our students can help reduce the amount of waste going into landfills, and they can have very successful careers doing it. If someone wants to change the world, this a good way to do it."



New sustainable biomaterials department head

Ching-Hsun Huang was named head of the college's Department of Sustainable Biomaterials and began her new position in January. Huang, who most recently served as interim executive director of Northern Arizona University's School of Forestry, believes that a central mission for the field of sustainable biomaterials is clarifying the impact that the field can have on broader global challenges.

"The department aims to lead in the effort to reduce the carbon footprint and lessen impacts on the environment," she said. "To address this challenge, strong efforts should be made to emphasize the importance of using the best science, training, faculty, and facilities to provide sustainable biomaterials solutions that will improve land and resources conservation."

Huang is committed to fostering the connections that will enable students to understand the impact that sustainable biomaterials can have on broader global challenges of climate change and pollution. She will also strive to increase access for students from diverse backgrounds.

Dean Paul Winistorfer said, "I look forward to working with Dr. Huang during the dynamic years ahead. She is a celebrated teacher, and her expertise in the science and economics of carbon in the forest sector will bring a unique perspective to the department and the college. We are fortunate to have her join our college in this senior leadership role."



From the Dean's Perspective



The college's curricula and disciplines form our foundation. Course development and the assembly of courses into a curriculum and degree program is the responsibility of our faculty, who bring tremendous expertise and a desire to share their knowledge and experience with our students. But it all starts with recruiting students into our programs, and that landscape has changed significantly over time.


We are in a competitive environment for student recruitment, and the world is more complex and noisy than ever before. We want to capture their interest with what we do in the college and match their career goals with opportunities in the disciplines. It's a complicated tale full of different actors and events, and it's the story you'll find detailed in this issue's feature article.

We've assembled a great team to recruit, advise, and support our students. Our Advising Center staff is well recognized on campus for its excellent work. Our new director of employer relations, John Freeborn, is now our primary link to external partners, fostering relationships between students and employers. We want and need your help to provide strong pathways forward for our students upon graduation.

We know that a college experience is more than just course work, and we want our students to experience a variety of perspectives. Our new Visiting Executive program is aimed at bringing in leaders to interact with students, faculty, and staff. Ryan Brown, executive director of the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, was our inaugural Visiting Executive, and his visit was a real treat for all of us.

The college has grown wider, deeper, and with more capacity in every way. We will retain our focus on our core business — educating students in the disciplines — while strategizing ways to maintain and increase our margin of excellence in all that we do. Growing our capacity as a college and using a strategic lens to see the future will enable us to be successful as faculty, staff, students, and alumni. We desire to make an impact — and we are.

Best wishes for the beauty of the spring from our faculty, staff, and students. Come visit us during Reunion Weekend June 4-7, 2020. We would enjoy seeing you again and reconnecting.


Paul M. Winistorfer
Dean

VIRGINIA TECH.
BOUNDLESS
IMPACT

Join the Packaging Alumni Group

Are you a Virginia Tech graduate working in the packaging industry? Would you like to connect with other alumni and professionals in your field? Consider joining the Virginia Tech Packaging Alumni Group, whose mission is to help alumni connect and grow in their careers, as well as to provide career development assistance to current students and build relationships with university faculty. If interested, email vtpackagingalumni@gmail.com or visit the group's LinkedIn site.



Geography Preview recruitment event at Esri

High school students from Northern Virginia with an interest in geography were invited to the college's first-ever Geography Preview in December at Esri, a leading geospatial technology firm. Faculty, staff, and undergraduate students were joined by President Jack Dangermond (third from right), alumna Patty Mims (far right), and a host of other Hokie alumni employed at Esri. Attendees learned about the amazing opportunities available at Virginia Tech and what it's like to be a geography major, including areas of study, career options, and overseas study opportunities.

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Virginia Tech is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. Women, minorities, individuals with disabilities, and protected veterans are strongly encouraged to apply. Anyone having questions concerning discrimination or accessibility should contact the Office for Equity and Accessibility.



John Seiler speaks at commencement

Alumni Distinguished Professor John Seiler, the Hon. and Mrs. Shelton H. Short Jr. Professor of Forestry, was selected as keynote speaker for the fall undergraduate commencement ceremony in December. Known affectionately as "Dr. Dendro," his Dendrology Laboratory is considered the toughest one-credit course at Virginia Tech. Seiler offered several pieces of advice to graduates, including the importance of counting your blessings, loving your neighbor like yourself, and choosing how you want to be remembered.

"Your life is an open book. Some chapters are great and some are not great. The important thing is to keep turning the page," Seiler said.

VDGIF director welcomed as inaugural visiting executive

The college welcomed **Ryan Brown**, executive director of the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, as its inaugural visiting executive last fall. “Our goal is to bring accomplished professionals to campus so that they can engage with students, faculty, and staff, and help us develop or strengthen relationships,” said Associate Dean Keith Goyne, who spearheaded the initiative and anticipates hosting a visiting executive each semester.

Brown noted that the relationship between VDGIF and Virginia Tech is a strong one and crucial in his organization’s mandate. “Virginia Tech is a key partner with our organization. A number of our employees are Virginia Tech graduates, and this college continues to produce very high-quality students who are well-versed in what we do as an organization. It is a distinct honor for me to be able to come and talk to the students here.”

Brown visited classes and participated in roundtable discussions with student leaders and graduate students. He toured the Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation’s research facilities and gave a keynote presentation on the challenges that are central to wildlife management.

Professor Sarah Karpanty said that Brown’s visit was invigorating for her students. “They were excited to have the chance to ask questions ranging from what his organization looks for in future employees to how they might work with the VDGIF to improve wildlife habitats. His presence both validated and energized our student’s efforts to pursue careers in wildlife management.”

When asked what he wanted students to take away from their conversations with him, Brown stressed the importance of seizing opportunities as they arise and not being afraid to take risks. “One point that I try to touch on with students is not to set boundaries,” Brown said. “Don’t wait your turn in life; don’t say you’re not qualified for this or that you have to wait for the time to be right. When an opportunity presents itself, don’t be afraid to take advantage of it.”



Ryan Brown (right) engaged with students, faculty, and staff during his visit to campus.



The Wood Enterprise Institute presents its 2020 product – wooden cutting boards made from locally sourced walnut and maple. Available in two sizes and with a range of customizable laser engraving options, the cutting boards can be ordered from the student-run entrepreneurial venture at vtwei.com. Prices start at \$45. Orders will be accepted while supplies last, so place your order today! For more information, email vtweiteam@gmail.com.



Donald Orth receives American Fisheries Society award for public outreach

Donald Orth, the Thomas H. Jones Professor of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, received the American Fisheries Society 2019 Award for Excellence in Public Outreach, which honors society members who share the value of fisheries science with the broader public through popular media and other communication channels.

“Our university motto is *Ut Prosim*, That I May Serve. I tell my students that they can’t serve without communicating with a broad audience. To do that effectively, you have to develop a voice that is trusted and understandable.”

Orth, a faculty member since 1980, created Virginia Tech Ichthyology, a blog he uses to share stories and news about fisheries research, education, and other issues. He posts three or four articles a month while also moderating a Twitter account with over 4,500 followers and a public Facebook group with over 1,100 members.

Orth views these articles as a crucial way to connect to the wider world and to honor the vision of service that guides Virginia Tech. “Our university motto is *Ut Prosim*, That I May Serve. I tell my students that they can’t serve without communicating with a broad audience. To do that effectively, you have to develop a voice that is trusted and understandable.”



Timberbeast 2020! The Virginia Tech Forestry Club hosted teams from five regional schools for Timberbeast 2020 at the New River Valley Fairgrounds in February. The competition, which includes both technical and physical events, helps teams prepare for the annual Southern Forestry Conclave in the spring.

Bringing in the class

What it takes to recruit and enroll CNRE's best and brightest

What's your college search story? Did you visit campuses in Virginia and beyond, attend a college fair, or try to find your path through an avalanche of mail? How did you know — really know — that Virginia Tech was the place for you?

Choosing a college is a big decision for a 17-year-old. And it keeps getting tougher. In the past, searching for and deciding on a college often meant continuing a family legacy or taking the advice of a school counselor or teacher.

Today, many colleges are explored and enrollment decisions are made in the digital space. Whereas once the admissions office was every campus' front door, most students now make their first "visit" to a college through the website and social media.

Even though there are a plethora of opportunities in the digital space, there is still something to be said for the personal touch. For CNRE, no one does that better than John Gray Williams, director of recruitment, who travels many miles to talk with prospective students in their own backyards, as well as leading daily visit sessions and attending admissions events on the Virginia Tech campus.

Somehow, it all comes together — this blending of traditional and technology — and works together to create a pipeline of prospective students, a steady flow of admission applications, and a committed class each year of students who can't wait to study what they are passionate about and be a part of CNRE.

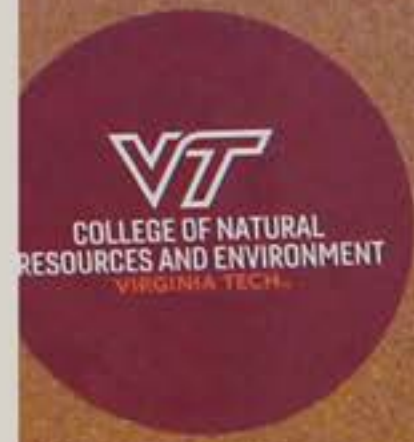
We invite you to get an inside look at what happens in Cheatham Hall, goes in the mail, gets clicked on the website, and pops up on Instagram as we work to bring in the class.

Like many things, it truly does take a village, and we are also looking for enthusiastic alumni who want to get involved. If you would be willing to visit your high school, judge a science fair, or help with a welcome party, connect with John Gray Williams at jghokie@vt.edu.

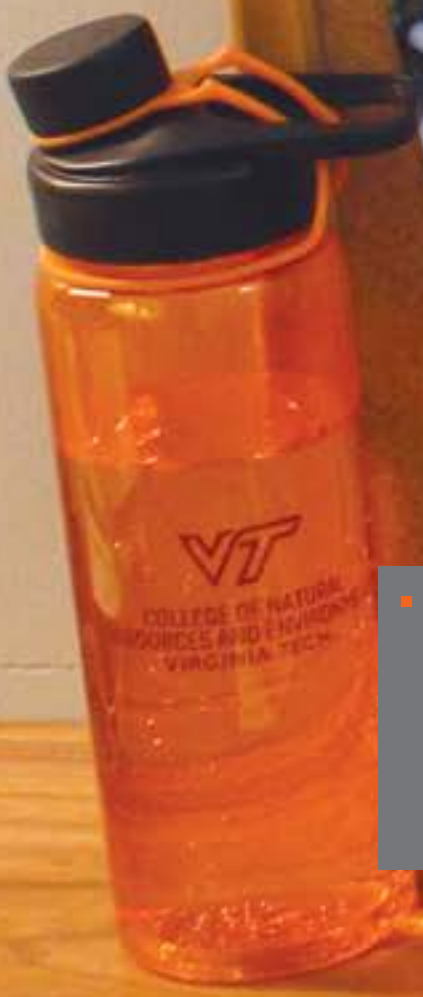
If you want to give more, consider funding a scholarship that would help make it financially possible for a student to attend college. Scholarships are also a great way to recognize students for their academic achievements and encourage those who have many offers to choose Virginia Tech. If you'd like to learn more, contact Julia Allen, assistant dean of advancement, at juliapallen@vt.edu.

And in the meantime, come visit CNRE any time on the web or through social media.

The door is always open.



Meet John Gray Williams, director of recruitment. In addition to on-campus recruitment events, he spends much of his time on the road, traveling to every region in Virginia as well as to neighboring states. His mission: to spread the word about the great things happening in CNRE at high schools, community colleges, college fairs, science fairs, and professional meetings for educators.



There's no better way for prospective students to experience life as a Hokie than a campus visit, and we roll out the red carpet for every student and family. Most visitors take an admissions campus tour and then come to Cheatham Hall to meet one of our CNRE ambassadors (all current students) and attend a one-to-one info session with John Gray Williams. When he launches into his "Top 7 1/2 Reasons to Choose CNRE" presentation, it's where he and the college really shine.

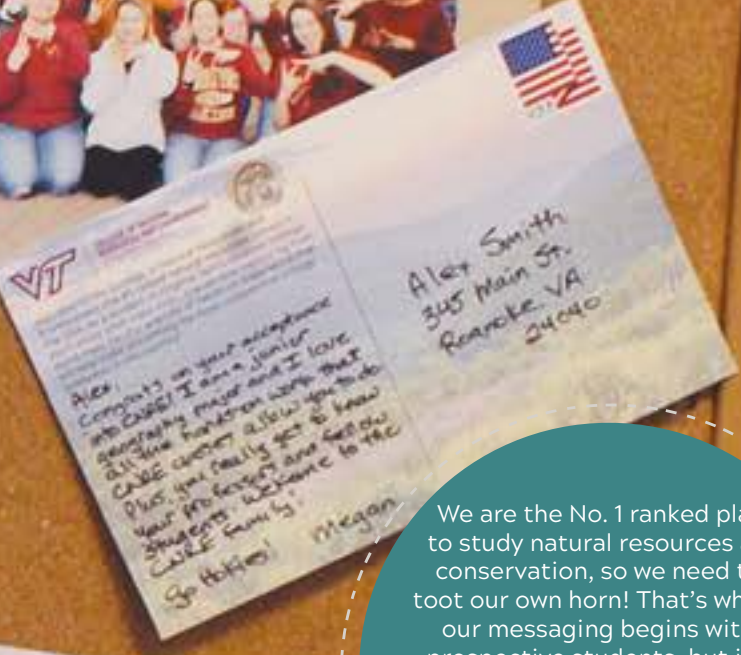
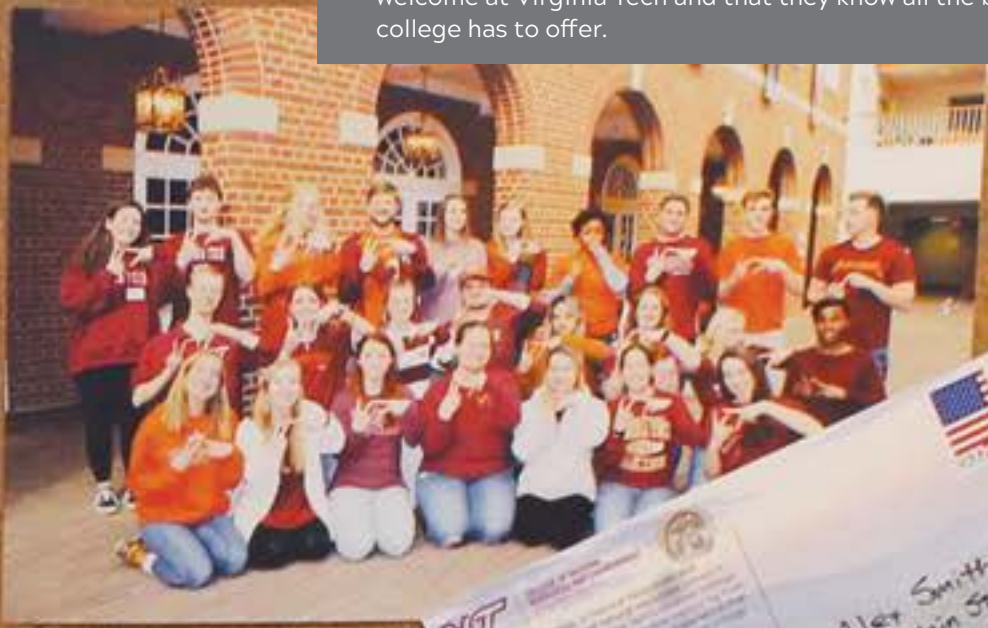


When he travels, John Gray always makes room in his suitcase for the college's recruitment brochures. The brochure is also placed in the hands of every student who comes to campus. It distills the best of CNRE, like hands-on and high-tech learning, faculty legends, overseas study options, and involvement opportunities, into a portable piece families can take home.



The website may have the most helpful college search info, but emails are a close second. That's why CNRE uses "drip" email streams for both prospective and admitted students (parents get some, too!). Emails start to go out as soon as we have a student's contact information or they get accepted, and the info is geared to what students need to know: application deadlines, how to visit, and what CNRE has to offer.

- In the digital age, there is always still room for the personal touch. Every year, CNRE student ambassadors take the time to sit down and write personal messages to admitted students in their majors. It's our way of making sure prospective students know they are wanted and welcome at Virginia Tech and that they know all the best things the college has to offer.



We're so proud of you! Love, Mom

We are the No. 1 ranked place to study natural resources and conservation, so we need to tout our own horn! That's where our messaging begins with prospective students, but it's not where it ends. Our goal is to build the pipeline and cultivate students' interest through a series of touches that might start with something like this postcard but will end with them becoming Hokies.

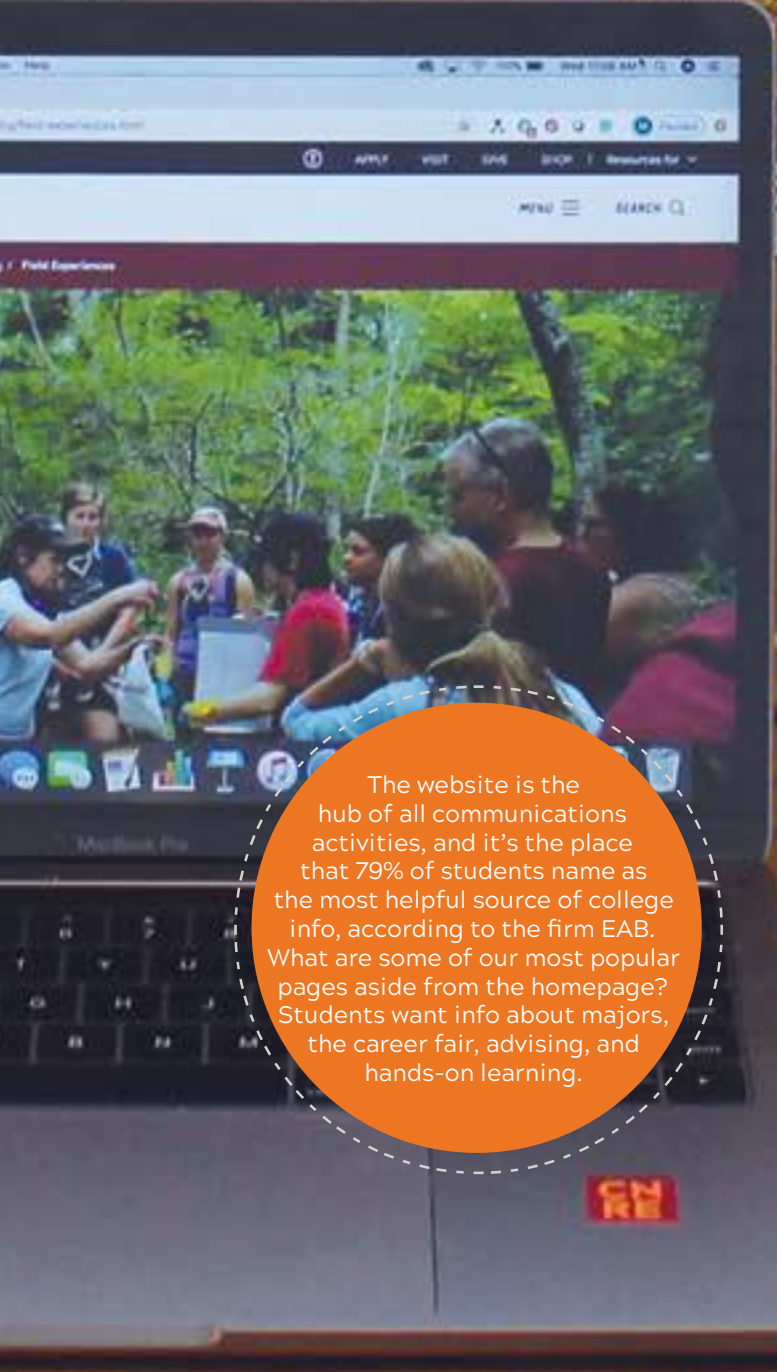
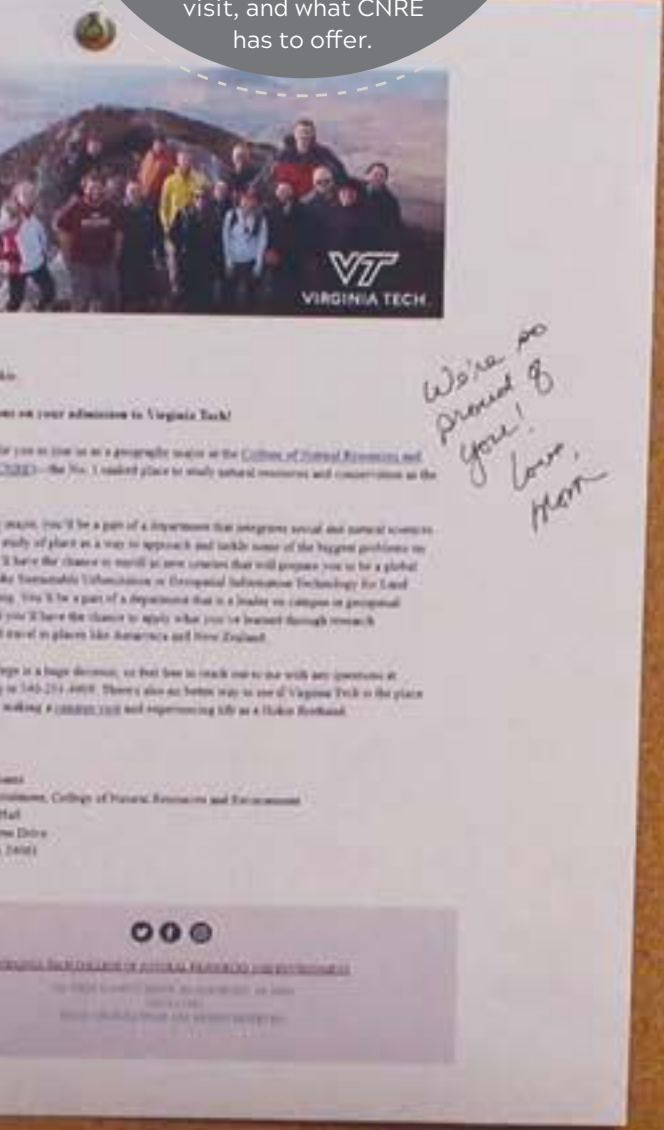


- Are you following CNRE on Instagram? It's the most used social media site by teens and the best place for getting an insider's look at what students and faculty are up to on campus and in the field – like when a wildlife conservation major released a rehabilitated hawk. You can also check us out on Facebook and Twitter!



The website is the hub of all communications activities, and it's the place that 79% of students name as the most helpful source of college info, according to the firm EAB. What are some of our most popular pages aside from the homepage? Students want info about majors, the career fair, advising, and hands-on learning.

- The Department of Geography recently held its first preview event to offer prospective students an inside look at what it's like to study geography at Virginia Tech. Faculty, staff, and current students partnered with geospatial leader Esri in Northern Virginia so prospective students could learn what they'll study as well as what careers they'll be prepared for.



Getting real-world experience in Wildlife Field Techniques



Kailyn Kampert straps a motion-activated camera to a tree.

Six students carrying backpacks, a GPS, and other gear trekked through the woods on a humid August day. Their task: set up motion-activated cameras to capture images of mammals. Once they found the right spots using maps and GPS coordinates, they hacked down the tall grass and fastened the cameras to trees with straps.

The adventure was all in a day's work for 50 students participating in the annual 10-day field experience at Mountain Lake Biological Station, testing the skills and knowledge they acquired during their Wildlife Field Techniques course.

The goal of the course, a requirement for wildlife conservation majors, is to show students how to study animals in a humane fashion and how to function as biologists in the field. "This experience is close to the real thing they will experience in wildlife field jobs or post-graduate study," said Professor Marcella Kelly. "This major is unusual in that it includes both academic ability and practical field skills."

Students stay in lodges on site, and field activities include everything from bat detecting to vegetation data collection. The students set up cameras and small mammal trapping grids, manage bird point counts, and collect and interpret data. They also complete group projects, give presentations, write a paper, and take a final exam.

"It's hard being in the classroom all the time as a wildlife major, so getting out here and being able to experience nature and do all the things we learn about is pretty awesome," said senior Kailyn Kampert. Read the full story and watch a video: bit.ly/2Uc64ZY



CLASS OF 2019: JONATHAN REYNOLDS

Internships have laid an important foundation for Jonathan Reynolds' upcoming career in water management. "My internships have helped me broaden my view of what's going on in the environmental side of water science. I've learned a lot of skills I wouldn't have gotten just by being in the classroom."

Reynolds, who graduated in December with degrees in environmental resources management and in water: resources, policy, and management, worked as a GIS intern for the Stafford County Department of Public Works, a crew leader in Virginia State Parks, a stormwater policy intern for the Virginia Water Resources Research Center, and a field conservation intern at James Madison's Montpelier.

"What has impressed me about Jonathan is his commitment to academic achievement and his understanding of the value of education in creating future opportunities for himself," said Associate Professor Eric Wiseman.

Reynolds is grateful for the ways that his time at Virginia Tech have prepared him for the future. "It's been a family environment in the College of Natural Resources and Environment. All of the professors are there to support students throughout the process, and I feel ready for anything the world throws at me down the road."

Read the full story and watch a video: bit.ly/2O6cLZM

STUDENT PROFILE:

John Kese channels life-threatening diagnosis into a passion for wildland fire management

Senior John Kese spent the better part of last summer in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, leading a team of fellow students researching how much fuel mass exists in the forest understory and estimating wildfire risks for the area. For most students, this would be a challenging adventure and a valuable opportunity. For Kese, the experience was something more: "When a doctor tells you that he's not sure you'll ever walk again, and you find yourself running up and down the mountains in the Smokies, that's reward enough right there."

Kese was supposed to be a baseball player, but an injury in high school revealed a life-altering diagnosis — Arnold-Chiari malformation, a rare condition in which a cavity at the base of his brain blocked the flow of spinal cord fluid. What followed was a whirlwind year of hospital stays and rehabilitation, including 11 surgeries.

Kese found a new path through his childhood interests in forestry and the outdoors, sparked by helping his parents manage 600 acres of family land. A presentation at his high school by the college's recruitment director helped Kese find his way to Virginia Tech and the forestry major. "I was invited to campus for a private interview and tour, and fell in love with the place."

Last spring, when Assistant Professor Adam Coates needed someone to lead a group of students to research wildfire hazards and risks in the Smokies, he knew just whom to

John Kese (far right) and fellow students sampled forest fuel loads in Virginia Tech's Fishburn Forest.



"When a doctor tells you that he's not sure you'll ever walk again, and you find yourself running up and down the mountains in the Smokies, that's reward enough right there."

ask. "I first met John in my role as faculty advisor for the Wildland Fire Crew at Virginia Tech. He really impressed me with his work ethic: he's prompt and professional and self-directed."

The student team spent their summer days hiking through the forest, using a GPS unit to locate plots scattered throughout the park. "Normally we'd start our day at sunrise and be out there for 12 to 14 hours," Kese said. "It was hard work — the Smokies are *real* mountains, so it was

a struggle for us to acclimate to the terrain. But it was a great experience."

For Kese, the path from aspiring baseball player to aspiring forester has been a trial by diagnosis that has led to a future in fire. "They say that good things come out of bad situations, and I think that's definitely the case for me. I think there's a reason why something like this happens, and I'm very grateful for the path I'm on now." Read the full story and watch a video: bit.ly/2UrKyjV

Alum Jamie King is Virginia Tech's first arborist

Virginia Tech is deepening its efforts around tree preservation and sustainability by hiring Jamie King as the university's first arborist. Housed within the Facilities Department, King is responsible for overall planting, health care, safety, and general maintenance of the more than 10,000 trees on campus.

King, who earned a degree in natural resources conservation, previously worked as the city arborist for the City of Roanoke. "I am looking forward to building the university arborist program from the ground up and having the opportunity to engage with a variety of campus and community stakeholders and students," he said. "Even more, I am excited to return home to Virginia Tech as a proud alumnus."

Associate Professor Eric Wiseman anticipates future engagement opportunities that will open up campus as a living-learning laboratory where students can gain hands-on experiences in urban forestry. "We're thrilled the university now has a dedicated staff member ensuring the longevity and abundance of trees on campus. In working alongside Jamie, students will be able to gain practical skills around tree inventory, planting, pruning, and more," he said.



"Even more, I am excited to return home to Virginia Tech as a proud alumnus."



Pythons are just one of the many animal species threatening national parks.

PROTECTING NATIONAL PARKS from invasive animal species

More than half of America's national parks are facing a grave and immediate threat: invasive animal species. The National Park Service asked a group of experts to help chart a course to ensure the survival of these treasured places. Assistant Professor Ashley Dayer, a conservation social scientist, served on the panel and as first author on its findings, published in *Biological Invasions*.

The panel's primary finding is that invasive animals undermine the mission of the NPS. These invaders can cause the loss of park wildlife, lessen visitors' enjoyment, introduce diseases, and have huge economic impacts due to the cost of control measures. The panel also concluded that coordinated action is required to address the challenge. Dayer and her fellow panelists will continue to tackle this complex issue by disseminating their findings, promoting action from the NPS, and encouraging people to participate in efforts to protect our national parks.



Volunteers help identify invasive species during a BioBlitz event at Rocky Mountain National Park.

Photo courtesy of the National Park Service.

"The public can play a key role in helping the parks detect or remove invasive species, pushing for new governmental policies and funding allocations, or assisting through philanthropy efforts," Dayer said. "In order to make headway, it is critical that the people of the U.S. are engaged fully in determining and implementing the solution to this challenge." Read the full story: bit.ly/37zLQgP

Upcoming events

CNRE SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS BANQUET

Thursday, April 9
cnre.vt.edu/getinvolved

April 9

BLACK ALUMNI REUNION

April 17-19
alumni.vt.edu/bar2020

April 17-19

CNRE NEW ALUMNI LAUNCH PARTY

Thursday, April 23
cnre.vt.edu/getinvolved

April 23

CNRE COMMENCEMENT

Thursday, May 14
cnre.vt.edu/commencement

May 14

REUNION WEEKEND

June 4-7
alumni.vt.edu/reunion2020

June 4-7

New CNRE video web page

Want to see our students in action?

Check out our new video page at cnre.vt.edu/video for a front-row seat into life in the College of Natural Resources and Environment. You'll see our students – including those featured here – getting hands-on experience as they do everything from managing a prescribed burn to releasing a rehabilitated hawk to working on a sustainable biomaterials research project.

News from around the college

CGIT helps make Virginia's roads safer

Center for Geospatial Information Technology staff access more than 2,000 accident reports submitted each week by police jurisdictions to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, using geospatial technology to pinpoint the location of each vehicle crash. Law enforcement agencies use the data to determine patterns and answer questions, such as why a large number of accidents may happen at a particular intersection.

Virginia Tech started working with the DMV in 2011 when it needed help determining the exact location of crashes, so CGIT developed an online tool that combines data from multiple sources. Out of about 130,000 crashes annually, CGIT's success rate at identifying accident locations is 99.99%.

The center can customize the crash data, for example, by legislative district to inform lawmakers or for localities that have seen increases in fatal crashes. "We have an enormous amount of data, well over a million records," said CGIT Director Peter Sforza. "You can slice and dice it and ask a lot of different questions."

As a result of their work, Sforza and his team shared the 2019 Governor's Transportation Safety Award in the Innovation in Highway Safety category. Meanwhile, CGIT is positioning itself to further customize crash data with enhanced technology, such as integrating the information with 3D city models and using visual analysis to evaluate other problems in transportation safety.

Read the full story: bit.ly/3aRHvY8



Understanding hydrologic and carbon dynamics in wetlands

A collaborative grant from the National Science Foundation will allow scientists to research the linkages between hydrological and carbon dynamics taking place in forested wetlands. The project will utilize state-of-the-art sensors to collect data, making simultaneous measurements of water storage and water exchange, dissolved organic carbon, and CO₂ and CH₄ emissions, and capturing the relationship between carbon processes and wetland hydrology in real time.

"While wetland carbon processes are well recognized, less is known regarding how they are regulated by water

storage and exchange within networks of multiple, interacting wetlands," said Assistant Professor Daniel McLaughlin, co-principal investigator. Virginia Tech scientists are collaborating with researchers from two universities to study isolated wetlands in the Delmarva Peninsula area of Maryland. With wetlands under threat from land use changes, it is crucial to understand how hydrology influences wetland carbon export and emissions in order to strengthen efforts to conserve and restore wetland ecosystems.

Read the full story: bit.ly/2RzigIX

Fifteen years of ocelot tracking revealing new information

Professor Marcella Kelly has tracked the movements of predatory ocelots and jaguars in Belize using remote sensor cameras for 15 years. Now her research, one of the longest continuous studies of wild cat populations in the world, is giving scientists new insights.

Her research has led to a more dynamic understanding of how wild cats adapt to differing environments, share territories with other wild cats, and what their survival rates are. "Our practices have become a standardized technique in the field," Kelly said. "The effort we put into designing effective methods to use cameras to measure wild populations are now being taught everywhere. If you're going to survey for forested animals, you'll follow procedures partly developed in my lab." She notes that this standardization is a valuable step because it allows researchers to compare data across sites and species so that research on the drivers of population dynamics of carnivores can be understood in a broader context.

Read the full story: bit.ly/3aNLBk5



Helping coastal communities face flooding and sea level rise

Assistant Professor Anamaria Bukvic is using a National Center for Atmospheric Research fellowship to research population mobility in the face of coastal vulnerability. "Recurrent flooding and other hazards in coastal areas represent a very complex and unique challenge that can only be resolved by holistic problem solving," she said. "We need to understand how social systems respond to coastal flooding and accelerated sea level rise so that we can develop more effective policies and programs for adaptation in coastal communities."

During her summer residency at NCAR, Bukvic collaborated with other scientists to study the issue of coastal resilience using different disciplinary angles and novel methodologies. The two-year fellowship also funded graduate student Aaron Whittemore's research on the factors that affect how people feel about the places they live, which will be used to develop a metric to help scientists better understand why some people relocate while others stay despite the risks.

Read the full story: bit.ly/2GsfoRw

Assistant Professor Anamaria Bukvic (right) and master's student Aaron Whittemore confer while collecting field data in the city of Hampton, Virginia.



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