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**ECONOMICAL AND SUSTAINABLE  
MATERIALS STRATEGIC GROWTH AREA**  
**VIRGINIA TECH™**

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## The Winter Cold Hasn't Stopped Us!

The cold winter days have not halted our staff and students from contributing to the establishment of partnerships in support of Virginia Tech faculty, local companies, and the wider state of Virginia. Read more below to learn how Materials SGA faculty and scholars have contributed to the world of Materials Science. For daily news, follow our Twitter feed ([@MaterialsSGA\\_VT](#))!

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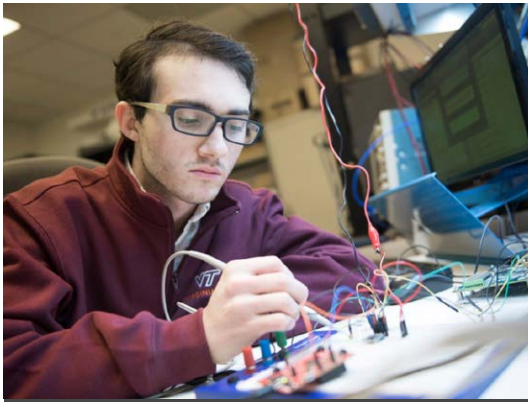
### National Graduate Research Polymer Conference 2020

Virginia Tech is excited to be hosting the 2020 National Graduate Research Polymer Conference from July 13 - 15 this summer in Blacksburg. Students participating in the conference will have the opportunity to hear from polymer scientists in academia, industry, and government. Interested in submitting an abstract? The [submittal deadline](#) has been extended to January 31st. [Learn More](#) about the conference, and then mark your calendars for general [registration, which opens February 12, 2020.](#)

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### Hume Center awarded \$3.8 million by Department of Defense

Virginia Tech researchers have been awarded \$3.8 million for advanced manufacturing education by the Department of Defense. The research will support a number of engineering disciplines and includes the support of Economical and Sustainable Materials SGA stakeholders, Scott Case, Chris Williams, and Steve McKnight.

[Learn More](#)



### Amy Elliott, selected as an AAAS IF/THEN Ambassador

ONRL engineer and researcher, Amy Elliott was selected as one of 125 American Association for the Advancement of Science IF/THEN Ambassadors. Elliott studies additive manufacturing and joined the ONRL's MDF in 2013 while finishing her Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the DREAMS Lab. In her role, Elliott will assist in the IF/THEN goal to improve the visibility of women STEM professionals by communicating science through popular media.

[Learn More](#)



### David Dillard and Camden A. Chatham Wilkes Interdisciplinary Scholars

David Dillard and Camden A. Chatham were recipients of the 2019 Wilkes Interdisciplinary Scholars award. The award is given to recognize a faculty member and student who



2019 **MRS**<sup>®</sup>  
FALL MEETING & EXHIBIT  
December 1-6, 2019 | Boston, Massachusetts

### MRS Fall Meeting & Exhibit Recap

The Materials Research Society (MRS) Fall Meeting, an international scientific gathering for materials research, was held this December in Boston. Research Programs across the Materials spectrum at Virginia Tech (Biomaterials, Health, Additive Manufacturing, Materials Synthesis and Characterization,

exemplify Garth Wilkes' passion for an interdisciplinary approach to research.

[Learn More](#)

Energy, Water and more) presented talks and posters. This included our very own Rana Ashkar, who led a talk on *Biomimetic Lipid Membranes—A Neutron Scattering and Simulations Perspective*.

[Learn More](#) about the leading interdisciplinary research in both fundamental and applied areas presented by scientists from all over the world!



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