

NEWS & INFORMATION

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Professional MBA program available to employees

Applications to the program are being accepted through May 15 (priority deadline)/August 1 (final deadline).

Virginia Tech employees who are interested in pursuing a Professional MBA may use an employee tuition waiver to pay for a portion of the program tuition.

Virginia Tech's Professional MBA is a two-year program specifically geared toward working professionals. With in-person classes that meet one weekend a month (alternating monthly between Roanoke and Richmond), and an online component, the PMBA provides a structure that works with most people's busy lives.

The PMBA's cohort-based lockstep program provides a strong business foundation to students from a variety of industries. Students currently in the program hail from across the Commonwealth and represent a variety of ethnic and professional backgrounds.

Anyone interested in sitting in on a PMBA class, speaking with a current student or alumni, or setting up an individual information session may contact our office for more information.

To learn more about the Professional MBA program, visit www.vtnews.vt.edu/notices/040815-hr-pmba.html, send an email to pmba@vt.edu, or call 540-231-6152.

Register to volunteer or participate in the 3.2-Mile Run in Remembrance

The 3.2-Mile Run in Remembrance to honor and remember 32 individuals who lost their lives on April 16, 2007 is scheduled for Saturday, April 18 at 9 a.m. on the Virginia Tech campus.

The event is free and open to the public; individuals may run or walk the 3.2-mile course, or volunteer to help work the event.

The event requires approximately 300 volunteers to provide support for the walkers and runners. A variety of shifts are available such as pre-race preparations, set-up, registration, route marshals, water station, and post-race clean-up, and all volunteers will receive a commemorative t-shirt.

Participants and volunteers are asked to preregister for the event online at www.recsports.vt.edu/events/2015-day-remembrance-32-mile-run-remembrance. For more information about volunteer needs contact Alison Cross at 540-231-2543.

3.2-Mile Run in Remembrance to affect campus parking and traffic

Parking and traffic on campus will be affected by the 3.2-Mile Run in Remembrance scheduled for Saturday, April 18:

Traffic impacts:

The following roads will be closed to traffic beginning at 8 a.m., April 18. Police will gradually reopen the roads as the run progresses.

- CRC Trail
- Drillfield Drive
- Duckpond (between West Campus and Grove)
- Grove Lane
- Kent Street
- Oak Lane
- Spring Rd
- Sterrett Drive
- Washington Street SW (between West Campus to Kent)
- West Campus Drive

Parking impacts:

Beginning at 7 p.m. Friday, April 17, new parking will not be allowed in the following areas:

- Drillfield
- Washington Street
- Spring Road
- Golf Course Lot along Duck Pond Road
- Kent Street
- Clay Street House (formerly the Cranwell house)

All vehicles must be removed from these areas by 10 p.m. Friday, April 17, or be subject to towing. These areas will be restricted until the end of the 3.2 Run in Remembrance at about noon Saturday, April 18.

Vehicles parked in the following lots will not be allowed to exit until the end of the run:

- Wright House Lot
- Hahn Lot
- Duck Pond Overflow Lot
- Price Hall Lot
- Engel Lot
- Coliseum Lot
- Coliseum East (Basketball Practice) Lot
- Basketball Practice Ext. Lot
- Northern part of Stadium Lot
- Owens Lot
- Bookstore Lot
- Grove Lane
- Duckpond Overflow Lot
- Smithfield Road Lot

General Parking

Public parking will be in the large commuter lots between Prices Fork Road and Perry Street.

The Rec Fields and Health and Safety Lots (off Tech Center Drive), will be available for media vehicles.

For more information on the run and to view a map of the route, please visit the 3.2-Mile Run in Remembrance website.

For information about bus routes and schedules visit Blacksburg Transit or call 540-961-1185. For more parking information, contact Parking Services by sending an email to parking@vt.edu or call 540-231-3200.

What you should know about tax-related identity theft

The Department of Human Resources, Information Technology Security Office, and other offices at Virginia Tech

are receiving reports of tax-related identity theft.

The IRS defines tax-related identity theft as theft that occurs when someone uses your stolen social security number to file a tax return claiming a fraudulent refund. Employees are urged to be vigilant in protecting their social security number and to be aware of the risk of tax-related identity theft.

The Taxpayer Guide to Identity Theft published by the IRS provides more information about tax-related identity theft and what to do if you are a victim. It can be accessed online by visiting www.irs.gov/uac/Taxpayer-Guide-to-Identity-Theft.

In memoriam: Horace Edward Alphin, dairy science benefactor, alumnus, and distinguished army officer

Col. Horace Edward Alphin — a prodigious benefactor to Virginia Tech, alumnus, and distinguished military officer — died on Jan. 15. He will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery in a ceremony on April 15. He was 102 years old.

A faithful alumnus of Virginia Tech, Alphin funded scholarships for cadets as well as undergraduate and graduate scholarships in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Alphin also funded three professorships in the college, including two in the Department of Dairy Science and one in the Department of Biological Systems Engineering. All three Alphin professorships support outstanding teaching and research faculty members.

After graduating from Buchanan High School, Alphin attended Virginia Tech, then called Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in dairy husbandry in 1934. That same year he was also commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Reserve. The following year he received a master's degree in dairy bacteriology after being awarded a fellowship in the biology department.

His distinguished military career included service at numerous duty stations including Seoul, Korea, and Heidelberg, Germany. His last overseas assignment was that of adjutant general to Headquarters, 8th Army and adjutant general of United Nations Command in Seoul, Korea.

Though Alphin eventually retired in Northern Virginia and lived and traveled the world over, he often spoke fondly of Buchanan, Virginia, in Botetourt County and his experience growing up on the family farm.

Alphin will be laid to rest with full military honors at a graveside service at Arlington National Cemetery at 9 a.m. on April 15. A catered reception will follow the service at the Women's Memorial from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sign up for mental health first aid training

You may know CPR and the Heimlich maneuver. You can call 911. But can you administer first aid in a mental health crisis?

It's easy to tell when someone is having a heart attack, is choking, or can't breathe. But what does depression look like? Or anxiety? What would you say to a person you know who says they are thinking about suicide? How can you help in a panic attack?

Mental Health First Aid USA is an eight-hour training program to teach participants how to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The evidence behind the program demonstrates that it helps trainees identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders.

The Division of Student Affairs will be sponsoring two sessions of the Mental Health First Aid class in the coming months. There is no registration fee.

Sessions will be held at the following times:

--April 30 and May 7, 2015 – 8 a.m. to noon – Squires Brush Mountain Rm.

--May 28 and June 4, 2015 – 8 a.m. to noon – Rec Sports Training Rm., McComas Hall.

Attendance at both days of a session is required.

The class is an interactive, discussion and activity based opportunity for participants to learn and practice applying a 5-step action plan to assess a situation and help. More details about the class can be found by visiting www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/cs/.

To register for either session please visit GobblerConnect online at www.gobblerconnect.vt.edu/ and search under Events for Mental Health First Aid. If it is your first time using GobblerConnect you will have to create an account and login to see the entry. Questions should be addressed to Ron Angert at 231-5538 or prepared@vt.edu.

Download LiveSafe app to stay safe and informed

Students, faculty, and staff on the Blacksburg campus are encouraged to download and use the LiveSafe mobile app for Android and Apple devices.

The app allows students, faculty, and staff to send tips and messages to the Virginia Tech Police Department, share their location with friends or family as they walk on campus, find buildings on campus, and access emergency preparedness information. If you are an Android user, download the app at www.play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.livesafe.activities&hl=en. If you are an Apple user, download the app at <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/livesafe/id653666211?mt=8>.

In addition to downloading the app, the university community is encouraged to sign up for VT Phone Alerts. For more information contact the Virginia Tech Police Department at 540-231-6411.

Safety tips for biking on campus

Biking can be a great way to move around campus. However, make sure you understand and practice the following tips to keep yourself and those around you safe while biking.

Be knowledgeable:

--When approaching an intersection, proceed with caution and do not assume that other vehicles or pedestrians can see you.

--Understand the local laws that are in place where you bike.

Be predictable:

--Obey all traffic laws, regulatory signs, and speed limits.

--Yield to pedestrians and dismount at crosswalks.

--Avoid making unexpected changes in direction or speed.

--Use hand signals when turning and stopping.

Be alert

--Look for road hazards and be ready to brake.

--Look behind you before changing lanes.

--Watch for open car doors ('dooring') and for people exiting vehicles.

Be equipped:

--Use lights and reflectors at night; it's required by state code.

--Wear a helmet and bright clothing.

--Lock your bike when not in use.

--Register your bike with Parking and Transportation.

--Perform regular maintenance checks on your bike.

For more information on bike safety contact Alternative Transportation with any questions at 540-231-0248.

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