



Staff Appreciation Day is Today

Make plans for Staff Appreciation Day today, May 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Owens Hall.

Staff Appreciation Day is for staff, non-student wage employees, and emergency hires. The event offers a wide range of activities including campus tours, Bingo, stress-relieving massages, the “Fabulous Feud” game team competition, live music by the “Half Throttle Band,” lunch by Personal Touch Catering, and more. View the tours and events [here](#).

Supervisors are encouraged to allow staff employees to attend for a minimum of several hours. Please refer to the memorandum from the President’s Office.

For more information or details, visit the Staff Appreciation Day website at staffday.bams.vt.edu or contact the President’s Office at 540-231-7111.

Update for Virginia Tech employees: July 5 additional holiday time

On May 13, Governor Ralph Northam announced additional holiday time would be granted to eligible state employees for July 5, 2019 in recognition of their hard work.

Virginia Tech leaders join the governor in thanking our university faculty and staff for another great year and for the work you do to support our students, each other, and our campus community.

For Virginia Tech, July 5 is the last day of Summer Session I. Due to our unique circumstances and in order to maintain our summer academic calendar, the university will not close on July 5.

Although we will not close, the university will grant eight hours of holiday time to all eligible faculty and staff. Subject to your manager’s approval, you may use this holiday time on July 5 or at another time.

In addition, university leadership is giving departments that do not directly support Summer Session I the latitude to close on July 5 as long as there is no impact to university operations. Unit leaders should work with their senior leader to

make a determination about their department’s July 5th operations.

Specific information related to leave reporting will be available in the monthly notice from the Leave Team for the impacted period. In the meantime, if you have questions, please reach out to your department’s HR contact or the HR Service Center at hrservicecenter@vt.edu or 540-231-9331.

Concrete walkway replacements: Burruss, Hancock, Norris, and Patton Halls impacts

Virginia Tech Facilities will be completing multiple concrete replacement projects in the campus’ academic region that will have accessibility impacts. They include:

- The concrete walkway area on the backside of Burruss Hall adjacent to Hancock and Norris Halls will be replaced. Beginning May 20, 2019, a temporary ADA ramp will be constructed at the stairs in front of Hancock Hall. The concrete replacement work is anticipated to begin on or about May 24 and the work will take approximately 5- 6 weeks to complete (weather permitting).
- Facilities will also be completing a concrete replacement project at the northwest entrance to Patton Hall starting on or about May 20, 2019 and the work will take approximately 4- 5 weeks to complete (weather permitting). During this time, the northwest entrance to the building will be closed. Please refer to posted signs and the map below for the alternate ADA route.

The Facilities team will make every effort to complete the work as quickly and safely as possible.

Please contact Marianne Ouren (ourenm@vt.edu or 540-231-9403) and Joy Manning (mjoy1@vt.edu or 540-231-1117) with any additional questions or concerns.

Join Hokie Wellness for Walking Wednesdays this summer

Hokie Wellness Walking Wednesdays resumes for the summer on today, May 22.

Members of the Hokie Wellness team will be in the lobby of War Memorial Hall at 11:45 a.m. to hand out tracking cards for an hour.

Hokies are encouraged to join a friend for a 30-minute walk around campus or town every Wednesday at lunch time. Stop by the Hokie Wellness table in War Memorial each week to have the tracking card validated.

Complete six walks this summer, get your card stamped, and earn one entry into a drawing for a Yeti Roadie 20 cooler. Complete nine walks and earn two entries for the drawing. Complete 13 walks and earn three entries into the drawing. The tracking card must be returned on Aug. 21, the last Wednesday to be eligible for the drawing. (Please note that due to regulations and policy, the winner will be taxed through payroll for the value of the cooler.)

For more information, contact Hokie Wellness at hokiewellness@vt.edu or by calling 540-231-8878.

Fireworks planned June 8 as part of Reunion Weekend

Fireworks are planned for Saturday, June 8 at approximately 8:50 p.m. as part of Reunion Weekend 2019.

Virginia Tech's annual four-day, summer reunion weekend is June 6-9.

For questions or more information, please call 540-231-6285.

Photos and video: Virginia Tech graduates ready to make global impression

In the midst of spitting rain, Hokie graduates, family, and friends gathered in Lane Stadium on Friday morning for Virginia Tech's University Commencement Ceremony. The start of the event was delayed by an hour due to nearby lightning

The rain eased throughout the ceremony, which featured Frank Beamer, Virginia Tech's legendary retired football coach, as commencement speaker. The ceremony also recognized recipients of the Alumni Distinguished Service Award; Heywood Fralin, who received the William H. Ruffner Medal; and Steve Mollenkopf, recipient of the University Distinguished Achievement Award.

"Today I'm probably more nervous than any game that we ever played in," said Beamer, addressing the Class of 2019, who entered Virginia Tech as freshman the same year that Beamer began his final year as the Hokies head football coach in 2015.

The Class of 2019 includes graduates receiving 5,485 bachelor's degrees and 52 associates degrees.

Commencement ceremonies for individual colleges and departments continue throughout the weekend. Read more: bit.ly/2X5bvZy

Editor's note: Summer publication schedule for the Blue Sheet

Beginning today, the Blue Sheet will be on a summer publication. The newsletter will be published every other week on Wednesdays.