

Cyril Clarke named Virginia Tech executive vice president and provost

Cyril Clarke, interim executive vice president and provost and former dean of the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, has been named Virginia Tech's permanent executive vice president and provost.

Virginia Tech President Tim Sands announced Clarke's selection following an international search involving several in-person and on-campus candidate interviews. Clarke assumed his permanent role on Jan. 1, 2019.

"I am honored to have Cyril join us as the EVP and provost at such a pivotal time in our history," Sands said. "Under his guidance as interim provost, we have advanced the Commonwealth Cyber Initiative, integrated the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine into Virginia Tech, launched the Calhoun Honors Discovery Program at the Honors College, and contributed to attracting Amazon to Northern Virginia with the higher education package that features the Virginia Tech Innovation Campus. It is leadership like Cyril's that will allow us to achieve our highest aspirations."

Serving as chief academic officer and lead for the institution's academic enterprise, Clarke will continue to work closely with Sands, college deans, and administrators across the campus to advance cross-disciplinary initiatives; continue to build the institution's research enterprise; and position Virginia Tech as a 21st-century global land-grant university.

"As interim executive vice president and provost, I have focused on engaging our academic community in advancing President Sands' Beyond Boundaries vision and the foundational initiatives that are creating comprehensive growth opportunities for Virginia Tech," Clarke said. "I am honored to be able to continue this collaborative work with faculty and academic leaders in every college and every department and to help Virginia Tech serve the commonwealth as we achieve global distinction. I look forward to leading Virginia Tech's academic enterprise and partnering with this amazing community of academicians and researchers."

From his first day as interim provost, Clarke has actively engaged the campus, advancing the university's vision and foundational initiatives and soliciting ideas and feedback from faculty and staff. He plans to continue this direct communication and partnership with the academic community, working collaboratively with them to create new opportunities for Virginia Tech throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Going forward, he will focus on listening to the campus community, leveraging ideas, experiences, and expertise to build strategic areas of excellence that are distinctive, relevant, effective, and sustainable.

For more information, visit bit.ly/2SJrxpv.

Registration open for professional development workshops

Registration opened Jan. 7 for spring Professional Development courses.

The spring calendar lists workshop offerings and dates and can be found at bit.ly/2Rf7zGu. Full workshop details are also available.

Sessions fill up quickly and space is limited. To attend a workshop, register online at bit.ly/2RzN3jm.

In addition, changes to the certificate program will be announced this spring.

For more information, contact the Division of Human Resources at hr@vt.edu or 540-231-5100.

Voluntary retirement plan contribution limits for 2019

Virginia Tech employees have many retirement plan options, including voluntary plans such as the university's Deferred Savings Program (the "403(b) Plan") and the Commonwealth of Virginia's Deferred Compensation Plan (the "457(b) Plan").

All Virginia Tech employees are eligible to participate in one or both of these voluntary plans, which provide additional ways to save money toward retirement. Contributions can be made through

pre-tax or after-tax (also called “Roth”) payroll deductions. Employee contributions and any applicable matching employer contributions in your 403(b) and 457(b) Plan are immediately 100 percent vested.

Below are the 2019 IRS maximum annual limits for contributions to a 403(b) Plan and a 457(b) Plan:

- Under age 50: \$19,000 (increased from \$18,500 in 2018)
- Age 50 or older: \$25,000 (increased from \$24,500 in 2018)

For more information about Virginia Tech’s retirement plan options, contact Human Resources Service Center at 540-231-9331.

Vaccines to be offered at the Hokie Wellness Health and Benefits Fair

Vaccines will be offered at the Hokie Wellness Health and Benefits Fair on Wednesday, Jan. 16, from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at McComas Hall.

The TDAP (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis), and pneumonia vaccinations will be available. Certain restrictions apply for the pneumonia vaccine, which will be discussed with the pharmacist at the time of vaccination.

The flu vaccination will also be available. It is not too late to be vaccinated if you have not yet received your flu vaccine.

The vaccinations are free for employees with Anthem or Aetna benefits who bring their insurance cards. The flu vaccination will cost \$25 cash or check for those who do not have health insurance.

As part of the university’s commitment to maintaining healthy lifestyles, all employees are encouraged to attend the fair. Supervisors of employees are strongly encouraged to allow eligible employees in their respective areas to participate for a minimum of two hours in this year’s event. The event is sponsored by Virginia Tech Division of Human Resources, Student Affairs and Real Life Dental.

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

Screenings and Bloodmobile available at the Hokie Wellness Health and Benefits Fair Jan. 16

Free health screenings will be available throughout the day at the Hokie Wellness Health and Benefits Fair including

dental, vision, skin cancer, and dermascan. Diabetes risk assessments, diabetes blood sugar screening will be offered along with body mass index and body composition testing by BOD-POD assessments. Registration is required for the BOD-POD assessments at bit.ly/2EEg6MK.

In the spirit of *Ut Prosim*, employees are encouraged to take the time to donate blood the day of the fair from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Cassell Coliseum parking lot. Register to donate blood at bit.ly/1msPrxP. On the American Red Cross website, scroll down until the Jan. 16, Virginia Tech Hokie Wellness drive appears. Click in the box area, then choose an appointment time. Either sign in or create an account to complete the registration process.

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

Join Hokie Wellness for Spring Semester Walking Wednesday kick-off Jan. 23

Hokie Wellness Walking Wednesdays resumes Jan. 23.

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.

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. Designated gym space in War Memorial Hall will be available for walking.

Complete nine walks this semester, get your card stamped, and earn one entry into a drawing for a Yeti Roadie 20 cooler. Complete 12 walks and earn two entries for the drawing. Complete all 16 walks and earn three entries into the drawing. The tracking card must be returned on May 8 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.