

Mission

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) is a public land-grant university serving the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world community. The discovery and dissemination of new knowledge are central to its mission. Through its focus on teaching and learning, research and discovery, and outreach and engagement, the university creates, conveys, and applies knowledge to expand personal growth and opportunity, advance social and community development, foster economic competitiveness, and improve the quality of life.

Core Values

- Freedom of inquiry
- Mutual respect
- A commitment to diverse and inclusive communities
- *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve)
- Lifelong learning
- A culture of continuous improvement
- Personal and institutional integrity

Scholarship Domains

Areas of immediate strategic focus within the broad array of programs consistent with the university's comprehensive missions

Learning

Undergraduate Education

- Create quality research experiences, capstone courses, education abroad, and service learning opportunities
- Increase and support a diverse student body
- Provide transitional support for transfer students
- Integrate liberal education into the curriculum through VT Pathways for Learning
- Expand international and foreign language study
- Strengthen academic and career advising

eLearning and Information Systems

- Strengthen role of distance and distributed learning
- Integrate advanced learning technologies across the curriculum
- Strengthen library systems appropriate for the 21st century

2012 Profile

- 29,000 total enrollments
- 2,600 PhD
- 3,900 Masters
- 22,500 undergraduate enrollments, including 3,000 who enter as transfer students

Graduate and Professional Education

- Align with National Research Council quality benchmarks
- Achieve transformative graduate education
- Enhance graduate and professional degree value through national partnerships and joint degrees

Educating the Whole Student

- Expand and support the holistic and transformative educational experiences of students
- Develop diverse and inclusive living and learning communities
- Develop opportunities to strengthen cross-cultural and international competencies
- Design ethical leadership opportunities within and outside the classroom
- Promote quality of student life, health, and well-being

Discovery

Energy, Materials, and Environment

- Energy: Establish a resource consortium focused on energy supply, distribution, and utilization: research foci include clean coal, fuel cell, bio-renewable, solar, wind, and nuclear energies, and transportation
- Materials: Establish research initiatives in polymeric, ceramic, metallic, composite, electronic, optical, computational, and biological materials
- Environment: Strengthen research partnerships in water quality, atmospheric sciences, and environmental health sciences

Health, Food, and Nutrition

- Establish research collaborations in infectious disease: host-pathogen-environment interaction (HPEI)
- Leverage research partnerships in health, food, and nutrition with a focus on the prevention, treatment, and management of obesity

2012 Profile

- \$540M in research expenditures
- Increased stature in strategic research areas

Social and Individual Transformation

- Explore the establishment of an institute aimed at researching global issues in science, policy, and society.
- Strengthen current multidisciplinary efforts that explore social, political, ethical, and cultural thought
- Establish collaborations in the National Capital Region that explore issues related to urban development
- Promote artistic and creative expression through collaborations with the future center for performing and visual arts

Innovative Technologies and Complex Systems

- Secure research opportunities in innovative technologies and complex systems: nanotechnology, bioinformatics, biotechnology, high-performance computing, power electronics and robotics, wireless, and geographic information systems (GIS)

Engagement

PK-12 Enhancements in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM)

- Expand PK-12 teacher preparation
- Expand PK-12 school and university partnerships
- Provide professional development for PK-12 STEM teachers and other educators
- Develop a continuum of recruitment from PK-12 to STEM undergraduate and graduate programs

Student Engagement

- Integrate service-learning in courses across the curriculum
- Increase experiential and service learning opportunities for all students, faculty, and staff with community and business partners

2012 Profile

- Significant number of patents filed, spin-off companies established, and regional economic development initiatives launched
- Five international regional centers established

Economic Vitality

- Strengthen public and private commercialization partnerships, including patents, spin-off companies, and licensing income with domestic and international businesses with commercial interests in Virginia
- Lead economic, research, and community development efforts in targeted regions in the commonwealth and National Capital Region
- Develop the workforce through training and continuing education

International Education and Research

- Implement the Virginia Tech International Strategic Plan
- Expand education abroad
- Strengthen faculty international research, education, and outreach
- Enhance international and cross-cultural content across the curriculum

Foundation Strategies

Development of the Organization: A High Quality Diverse and Inclusive Academic Environment

- Achieve competitive compensation for instructional faculty at 60 percent of SCHEV peers
- Promote competitive compensation for A/P and research faculty and for staff based on market data and available benchmarks
- Foster a diverse, inclusive, and welcoming university community
- Recruit, retain, and develop the best staff and faculty
- Reward achievement and excellence
- Nurture management and leadership development
- Develop new HR system supporting Higher Education Restructuring Act
- Implement succession planning programs
- Enhance cultural programming and awareness
- Continue management of competitive benefits
- Promote the health and welfare of the university community
- Partner with alumni, emeriti faculty, and business and government partners

Investment in the Campus Infrastructure

- Promote effective management of the university's space and land resources for learning, living, and work
- Enhance health, safety, and security operations
- Promote robust and integrated information technology strategies
- Promote and reward innovative administrative processes
- Enhance customer-service orientation in all business services operations
- Maximize the university's branding effort

Effective Resource Development, Allocation, and Management

- Work with governor, legislators, General Assembly staff, and SCHEV to increase state funding
- Increase funding from private and other sources
- Maintain competitive tuition and fee package
- Practice effective debt management
- Utilize strategies to aggressively grow the endowment
- Continue effective management of university-related corporations
- Utilize alternative fund sources
- Further develop existing partnerships and create opportunities for new partnerships with business, industry, and corporations