Virginia Tech, the commonwealth's largest university, provides excellent educational opportunities and a well-rounded collegiate experience that prepares students for life.
From a meager beginning in October of 1872, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, popularly known as Virginia Tech, has evolved into a comprehensive university of national and international prominence. As Virginia’s largest university, with 25,600 students on campus, and one of the top 50 research institutions in the nation, it is an institution that firmly embraces a history of putting knowledge to work. That tradition is rooted in the motto, Ut Prosim: “That I May Serve,” and Virginia Tech’s land-grant missions of instruction, research, and solving the problems of society through public service and outreach activities.

**Instruction**
Virginia Tech’s eight colleges (Agriculture & Life Sciences, Architecture & Urban Studies, Pamplin College of Business, Engineering, Liberal Arts & Human Sciences, Natural Resources, Science, and Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, plus the Graduate School) offer more degree programs than any other university in the state with 60 undergraduate and 110 graduate programs. Virginia Tech is one of the nation’s leaders in developing and using new instructional technologies.

**Research**
With annual research expenditures of about $170 million, Virginia Tech consistently ranks among the top 50 research universities in the United States. With more than 100 research centers, the university also consistently ranks among the top institutions in industry-supported research and near the top 10 in the number of patents issued each year.

The university’s faculty and students are involved in more than 3,700 research projects in fields ranging from biotechnology to materials, from the environment and energy to food and health, and from transportation to computing information.

**Outreach and International Affairs**
As part of its outreach mission, Virginia Tech is involved in a multitude of economic and community development projects. For example, it helps global marketing efforts, investigates better uses for strip-mined land, helps clean the Chesapeake Bay and other state waterways, directs reforestation in Senegal — and the list goes on.

Outreach efforts focus on education and the dissemination of knowledge in the global society in which we live.

Professionals, organizations, and communities tap Virginia Tech’s vast resources, expertise, and research results through hundreds of continuing education programs, part of Outreach Program Development. Virginia Tech has a long history of providing innovative distance learning techniques, such as satellite videoconferencing, multimedia, interactive video, interactive computer conferencing, and web-based courses, to meet the various needs of working adults and other nontraditional students.

The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center on campus are nearing completion, and The Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center in Roanoke, also owned by Virginia Tech, support the university’s outreach education mission by working with faculty to plan and host conferences.
Virginia Tech manages more than $30 million in funded economic development projects in 27 countries and encourages faculty to develop global course content and study abroad opportunities for students. In 2002-2003, 2,089 students from 113 foreign countries are studying at Virginia Tech while more than 800 Virginia Tech students are studying abroad.

Virginia Cooperative Extension, operated jointly in the commonwealth by Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, has been helping people improve their economic, cultural, and social well-being for more than 85 years now. With 107 city/county offices, and more than 44,000 volunteers and 160 programs Extension reaches and teaches millions of Virginians annually.

Virginia Tech at a Glance

- Located at Blacksburg, Virginia
- Eight colleges and graduate school
- 60 bachelor’s degree programs
- 110 master's and doctoral degree programs
- 25,000+ students on campus, making it the largest in the commonwealth
- 16:1 student-faculty ratio
- Main campus includes 100 buildings, 2,600 acres, and airport
- Computing and communications complex for worldwide info access
- Among the Top 50 research institutions in United States
- Has adjacent corporate research center
Virginia Tech Hokies

Interesting Facts About Virginia Tech

- The university offers more career options than any other Virginia university, with 170 undergraduate and graduate degree programs.
- University budget equals approximately $740 million annually.
- Tech has about 165,000 alumni from every state and about 100 countries.
- Virginia Tech produces 40 percent of the state’s Ph.D.’s.
- All campus facilities, including residence halls, have high-speed connections to voice, data, and video communications.
- Virginia Tech was the visionary leader of the internationally recognized Blacksburg Electronic Village project, connecting the town and campus with each other and to the world.
- Virginia Tech is one of two universities in the country that offers the combined advantages of a military-style leadership development program and a traditional academic and social life through the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.
- U.S. News & World Report ranked Virginia Tech’s undergraduate program as the 26th best among national public universities. Of all universities — public or private — U.S. News & World Report ranked Virginia Tech the 46th best value in the country.
- Kiplinger Magazine ranked Virginia Tech the 16th Best Value in Public Higher Education in the nation.
- The National Science Foundation ranked Tech 5th in the nation in agricultural research expenditures.
- The university’s engineering program is in the nation’s top 25, according to U.S. News & World Report.
- Corporate Research Center was cited for best practice of technology transfer in a national study.
- Virginia Tech consistently ranks among the top 15 schools in the nation in number of patents received.
One of America's best college towns, Blacksburg is a perfect setting for a great university like Virginia Tech.

Located in Southwest Virginia on a plateau between the Blue Ridge and Alleghany Mountains, Blacksburg combines the laid-back lifestyle of a small town with the amenities one would expect to find around a major center of higher education. Together, the town and university have worked hard to create a progressive community that ranks among the nation's elite living environments.

Virginia Tech and the Town of Blacksburg gained national and international attention by creating the world's first "electronic village." Businesses and industries have been drawn by the potential of the quaint town.

Established in 1798 by John and William Black, the town is surrounded by scenic mountain views that accentuate the area. Since its founding, Blacksburg has grown to become the largest town in Virginia.

The nearly 42,000 residents (including students) enjoy a close proximity to a variety of recreation areas such as the Blue Ridge Parkway, Appalachian Trail, Claytor Lake and the New River. The region features a moderate climate and four distinct seasons.

Blacksburg's location (adjacent to major interstate highways) provides convenient access to most points in the southern and eastern parts of the country.


Blacksburg is surrounded by impressive natural beauty.
Now in his fifth year as President of Virginia Tech, Dr. Charles Steger has charted a course to bolster the university's research enterprise and compete among the nation's elite research institutions. Under his direction, the university has adopted a strategic plan, which is guiding the growth of the research enterprise, fostering outreach initiatives, and increasing quality across all aspects of the academic community.

Perhaps one of the most memorable contributions of Steger's administration will be his role in the Restructured Higher Education Financial and Administrative Operations Act, which was approved by the 2005 Virginia General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Mark Warner. Last year, President Steger joined forces with other university presidents to help define a new relationship between the Commonwealth of Virginia and her institutions of higher education, which enables greater institutional flexibility and potential for growth. Steger will be forever credited with negotiating Virginia Tech's entrance into the Atlantic Coast Conference — a 50-year dream come true for Hokie fans. As Vice President for Development and University Relations, Steger built a critical base of private support when he led the Campaign for Virginia Tech, which raised more than $337 million. Today, private support from Virginia Tech's alumni and friends continues to play an essential role in this university community. Last year, the university raised $67 million, a 23.5 percent increase over the previous year. This summer's opening of a new alumni, conference, and hotel complex provides an on-campus home to the university's more than 180,000 living alumni.

Steger's ties to Virginia Tech span five different decades as a student, professor, dean, vice president and now president. While on the faculty, he twice won teaching excellence awards. When he became dean of the College of Architecture and Urban Studies in 1981, he was, at age 33, the youngest architecture dean in the nation.

Steger recently finished a term as Chairman of the Virginia Council of Presidents and is currently chair of the Virginia Space Grant Consortium. He serves on the boards of several organizations including the Carilion Biomedical Institute, the Council of Higher Education’s General and Professional Advisory Committee (GPAC), the Virginia Business Higher Education Council, the World Institute for Disaster Risk Management, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, and the Roanoke Economic Development Partnership.

He is a Fellow in the American Institute of Architects, and received the William C. Noland Award for distinguished service and accomplishments from the Virginia Society of the AIA. The First Virginia Chapter of the National Society of Fundraising Executives recognized him as the Outstanding Fundraising Executive in 1999. Steger received his Bachelor of Architecture degree, Master of Architecture degree and Ph.D., in Environmental Science and Engineering from Virginia Tech.

Dr. Charles W. Steger
University President

James C. Weaver, whose innovative ideas and work as a reformer have made him one of college athletics' most popular administrators, is the director of athletics at Virginia Tech.

Weaver, 60, was appointed on Sept. 24, 1997 and has been a tireless leader on behalf of Tech athletics. In his years on the job at Tech, Weaver has taken steps to place increased emphasis on projects benefiting student-athletes.

Weaver presided over Tech’s move into the Atlantic Coast Conference in 2004-05. Last summer, Virginia Tech and Miami were officially introduced as the ACC, effective July 1, 2004.

A top personal priority for Weaver is the continuing improvement of Tech’s facilities. Renovations on the west side of Lane Stadium are nearing completion. In addition to luxury suites and other game day amenities, the structure will house a ticket office, athletic fund offices, an Athletics Hall of Fame and a new student academic services area.

Weaver renegotiated Tech’s multimedia rights contract with ISP Sports, creating a new business relationship and enhanced revenue for the athletics department. In the Fall of 2000, Weaver arranged a joint venture with ISP to commit $2 million to purchase new scoreboards, upgrade sound systems, install an L.E.D. video display screen at Lane Stadium (which will be enlarged for the 2005 season) and place two wall-mount L.E.D. video screens in Cassell Coliseum.

Weaver came to Tech from Western Michigan University where he was director of athletics from January, 1996 until he came to Blacksburg. Prior to that, he was AD for three and a half years at UNLV, where he reconstructed a troubled athletic department.

Weaver brings a “Penn State mentality” to the position. He says that various schools’ interest in him as a reformer through the years can be traced to Penn State and its reputation for how it conducts business in intercollegiate athletics.

It was with the Nittany Lions’ football team that Weaver first made a name for himself in athletics. He was a center and linebacker on Penn State teams coached by the legendary Rip Engle and Joe Paterno.

A native of Harrisburg, Pa., Weaver was recruited to Penn State by Engle. He played three seasons under Engle and one under Paterno, who is still the coach of the Nittany Lions.

Weaver graduated from Penn State in 1967 with a bachelor’s in psychology and rehabilitation education. He received a master’s in college counselor education, also from Penn State, in 1968.

Weaver started a coaching career as an assistant at Penn State for six seasons. Prior to landing the athletic director’s job at UNLV, Weaver spent nine years at the University of Florida. He was a strong force at Florida in the field of compliance and concluded his time there as associate athletic director.

Weaver drew rave reviews at UNLV for his fund-raising expertise. He generated nearly $15 million in his time there.

While at Western Michigan, Weaver announced creation of a $7 million football center, stabilized fluctuating revenues and installed a CHAMPS Life Skills program.

Weaver and his wife Traci have four sons — Josh, Paul, Cole and Craig.
Athletics Management Staff

Sharon McCloskey  Senior Associate Director of Athletics/SWA

David Chambers  Senior Associate A.D., External Affairs

Tom Gabbard  Associate A.D., Internal Affairs

Jon Jaudon  Associate A.D., Administration

Randy Butt  Associate A.D., Financial Affairs

Megan Armbuster  Director of Student Life

John Baillein  Associate A.D., Football Operations

Tim East  Assistant A.D., Marketing and Promotions

Mike Gentry  Assistant A.D., Athletic Performance

Mike Goforth  Director of Athletic Training

Chris Helms  Coordinator, Student-Athlete Academic Support Services

Pam Linkous  Human Resources Manager

Lu Merrill  Director of Development for Intercollegiate Athletics

Tim Parker  Assistant A.D., Compliance

Dave Smith  Sports Information Director

Sandy Smith  Assistant A.D., Ticketing Services

Cara Walters  Game Operations Manager

Russ Whitenack  Director of the Monogram Club