



**SCHOOL OF
NEUROSCIENCE**
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

**Class of
2020
Memory Book**



COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
SCHOOL OF NEUROSCIENCE
VIRGINIA TECH.

SCHOOL OF NEUROSCIENCE

Class of 2020

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Message from the Director

TO THE 2020 GRADUATES

Congratulations on your big day! I encourage you to celebrate your accomplishment and hope this graduation marks just the beginning of a lifelong journey of curiosity, discovery, leadership and service. Yes, you have earned your degree, but this is merely the stepping-stone for what is yet to come. Whatever your next endeavor may be, we know that you will succeed. What makes us so sure? Four years ago, you came to Virginia Tech fearless and determined to major in an emerging new scientific discipline. Possibly not fully grasping the field of Neuroscience and its scope, you have since learned about the inner workings of the brain; the brain-mind connection; you have learned to rely on data to make evidence-based decisions; you understand how human emotion is regulated by defined neurochemicals; you learned the volatility of memories, and became conversant in mechanisms of neurological illnesses. You learned how genes and the environment collaborate to shape human traits and personality. Most importantly, you have become a critical thinker and a person who is eager to impart on the world the power of knowledge.

I leave you with one challenge and it is not a simple one: “Make a difference in the world.” Always ask for evidence and the data that supports decisions we make individually or in society. I know you will succeed. I thank you for choosing Neuroscience as your degree and share pride in your future accomplishments.

Good luck and congratulations.

Harald Sontheimer



Dr. Harald Sontheimer
I.D. Wilson Chair and Professor
Executive Director
School of Neuroscience

Student Commencement Speakers

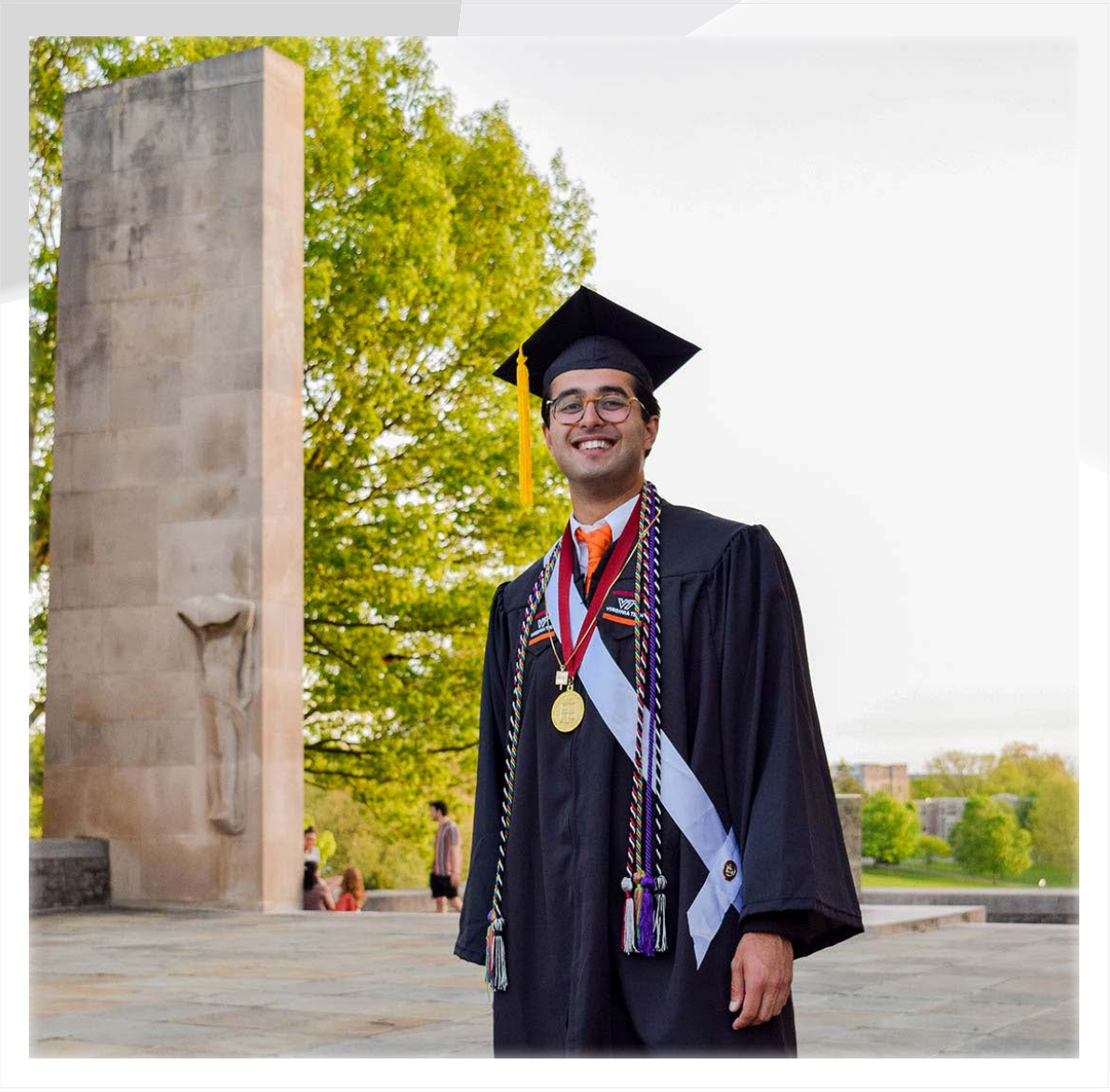
Lauren Haacke

Lauren is an Experimental Neuroscience major. She is the co-founder and President of the student organization Synapse, serves on the founding executive committee for Nu Rho Psi, has been an undergraduate researcher for the Sontheimer laboratory, and is a research ambassador the College of Science. Lauren was selected as Virginia Tech’s Undergraduate Student of the Year. She was also selected as a Fulbright Scholar. This fall she will be studying brain injury and regenerative medicine in Heidelberg, Germany.



Sidharth Madhavan

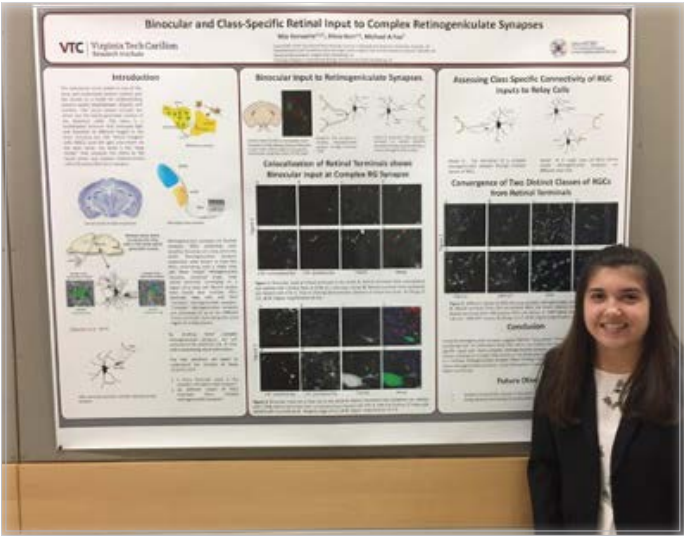
Sid is a Clinical Neuroscience major. He was an undergraduate researcher in laboratories of Dr. Matt Buczynski (Neuroscience) and Dr. Bin Xu (Biochemistry). Sid has presented his research at 9 different venues, is the recipient of several prestigious scholarships and fellowships, serves as the founding Vice President of Nu Rho Psi, and is among the first Ambassadors for the School of Neuroscience. This fall, Sid will begin graduate school at the University of Southern California - Buck Institute PhD program in the Biology of Aging. He was also recently awarded the USC Provost’s Fellowship for showing outstanding promise in a career in academic research.



Awards and Special Recognitions

MIA GENUARIO

SCHOOL OF NEUROSCIENCE
OUTSTANDING SENIOR AWARD

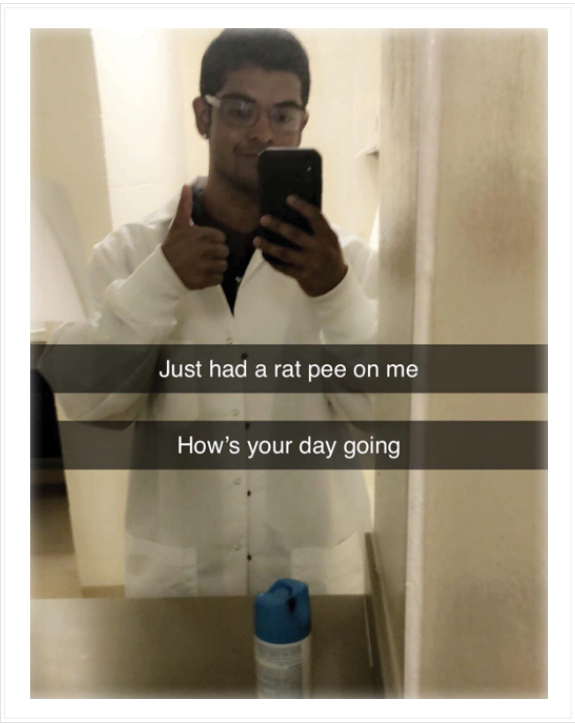


The Outstanding Senior Award recognizes a student with outstanding performance in academics, extracurricular activities, leadership, and contributions to the university and/or community.

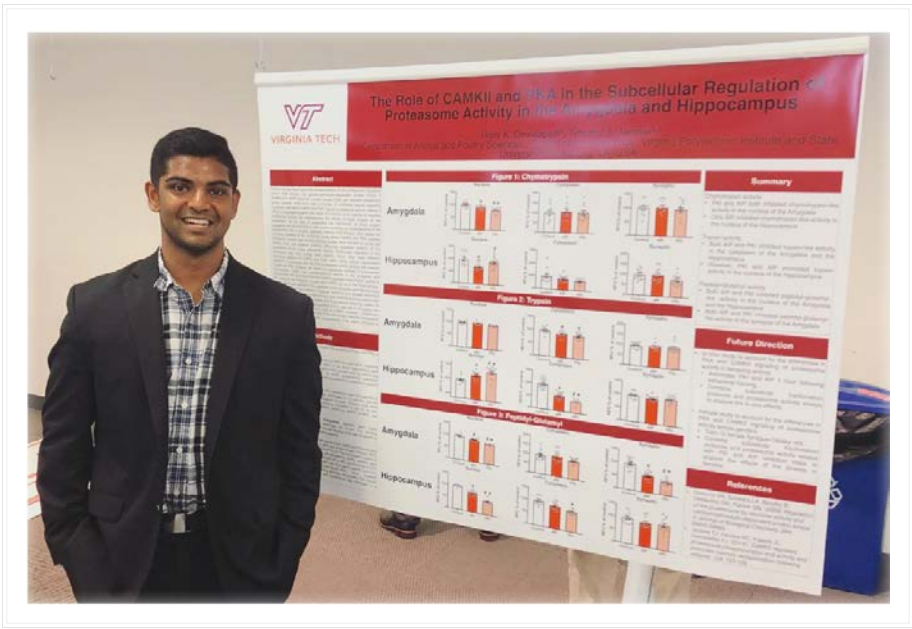


RISHI DEVULAPALLI

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
OUTSTANDING SENIOR RESEARCH AWARD



The Outstanding Senior Research Award recognizes a student with demonstrated excellence in undergraduate research.



LAUREN HAACKE

VIRGINIA TECH UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENT OF THE YEAR



The Undergraduate Student of the Year recognizes a graduating senior who has achieved overall excellence during their undergraduate career at Virginia Tech. This recognition is awarded to a student who has exceptional and balanced achievement in academics, leadership, and service.



Our Seniors



**OLUDAMILOLA
ADESHINA**
Gainesville, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Becoming a School of Neuroscience Ambassador, attending Chi Alpha Winter Formals, and graduating from behind a laptop screen. I truly thank God for these lifelong memories, crazy friends, and loving family!"



YEA IN AHN
Annandale, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:

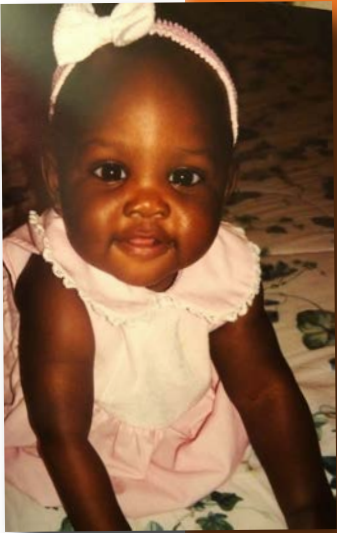
"New Cadet Week, where I was so tired and deranged that when someone said "spoon", I laughed so much other cadets thought I was crying."



Our Seniors

MALIKAH IMOGENE AJOSE

Virginia Beach, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"The life-long friendships gained and the knowledge that I am now equipped with has strengthened me during my college years."



ERIK AKBAR

Chesterfield, VA
EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE: *"Erik, get some sleep!" - All my friends*

Our Seniors

MAXWELL AMOAKO
Manassas, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Committing to neuroscience for my entire four years, I encountered amazing professors, fantastic friends, and valuable knowledge."



ZOE ANDERSON
Earlsville, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



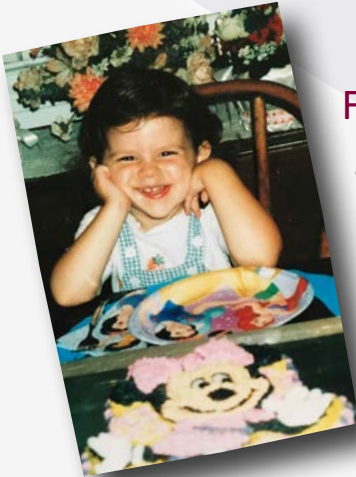
FAVORITE QUOTE:

"Diamonds are made under pressure" - Unknown



Our Seniors

MEGAN NICOLE ANSLEY
Alexandria, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:

"Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition." -Steve Jobs



MEGHAN BABINGTON
Sterling, VA
EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Bike rides through the duck pond, doing homework in the horticulture garden, and hammocking all around campus"

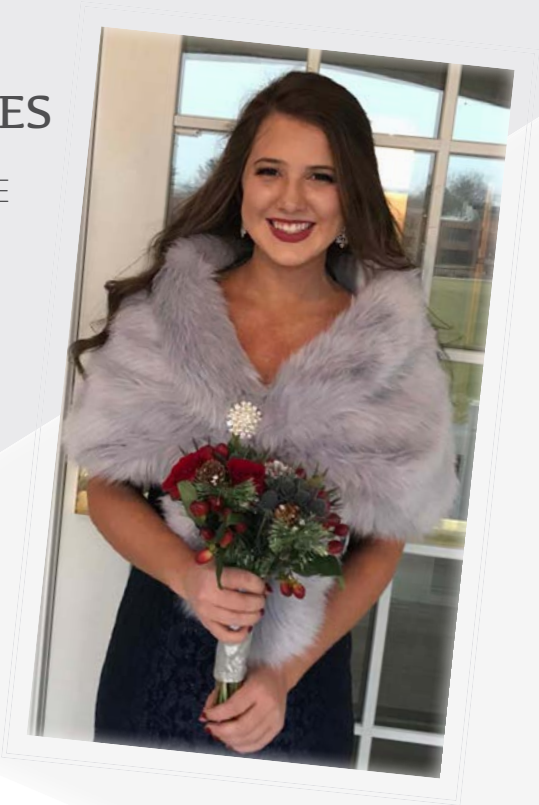


Our Seniors

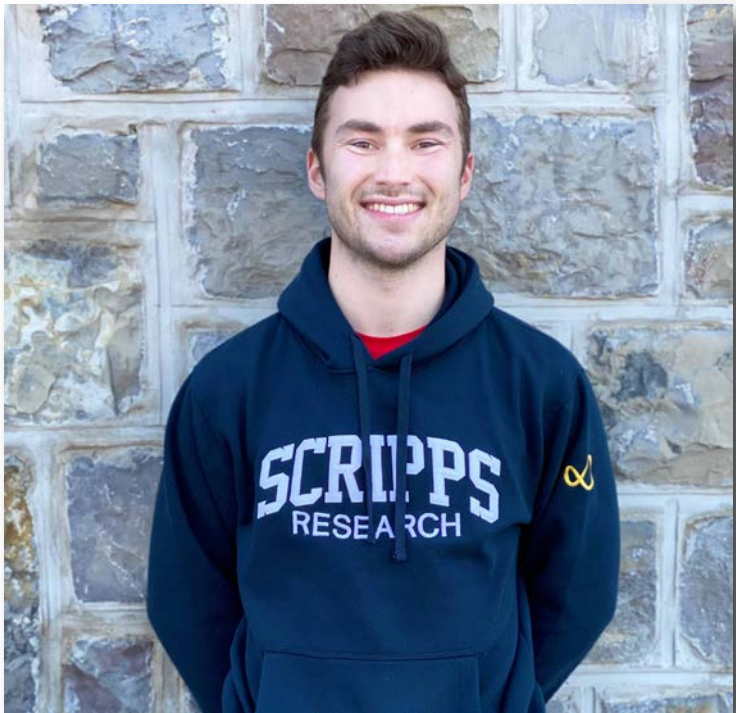


KATIE MARIE BARNES
Ronceverte, WV
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Home football games in October"



ROBERT GATES BASS III
Midlothian, VA
EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"My favorite memory at VT was conelius."

Our Seniors



BEN BATMAN
Monroe, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Working as a personal trainer for Virginia Tech Recreational Sports."



KOURTNEY A BAUMFALK
Richmond, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Winning the homecoming game against UNC."



Our Seniors

JENNIFER LEIGH BEAUCHAMP

West Chester, PA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
*"My favorite memory is attending
ring dance in the spring of 2019."*



NORALEE BEECROFT

Woodbridge, VA
COGNITIVE AND
BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
*"Jumping for the first time in Lane Stadium
on a sunny September day in 2016."*



Our Seniors

SARA BELAY
Washington, DC
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:
*"My mission in life is not merely to
survive,
but to thrive; and to do so with some
passion, some compassion, some humor,
and some style." - Maya Angelou*



MATTHEW DAVID BERGSTRESSER

Charlottesville, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:
*"No matter the risks we take, we always consider the end to be too soon, even though in life, more than anything else,
quality should be more important than quantity." - Alex Honnold*



Our Seniors

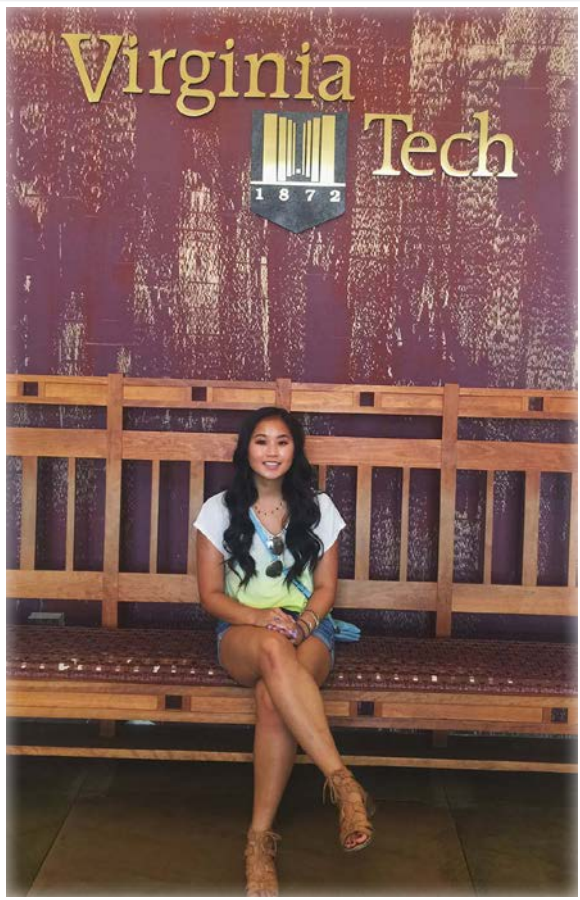


RIYANKA BHAVSAR
Aldie, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE QUOTE:
"People may not remember what you said, but they'll remember how you made them feel."



HANNAH ELIZABETH BIRD
Chesapeake, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:
"What lies behind us, and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us."
Ralph Waldo Emerson



Our Seniors



AMANDA LEE BLATTEL
Virginia Beach, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"I know of a place where you never get harmed, a magic place with magical charms; Indoors, Indoors, InDooOOORSSSS" - Spongebob Squarepants



KATELYN SUE BOLT
Front Royal, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE

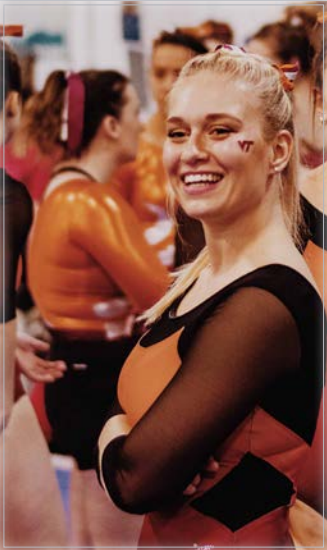


FAVORITE MEMORY:
"My favorite memories come from Dr. Phillips class and the discussions that really made us think about our brains and society"

Our Seniors



TAYLOR BOYD
Severna Park, MD
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"I think the school of neuroscience taught me the most important lesson: that I could be the best neurosurgeon in the country or I could take vitals all day in our nearby hospital and as long as I made someone's worst days a little bit easier, my work would matter all the same."

TAYLOR AUDREY BRISCOE
Manassas, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"One of my favorite things at Virginia Tech was walking around with friends on a cloudy fall day and seeing how pretty the campus is when all the leaves have changed."

Our Seniors



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Getting to celebrate "Wearing the Tradition" with my best friends since freshman year. It was a way to celebrate and reflect on all of our growth through the years and spend time with our fellow 2020 classmates."



SAVANNAH KAY BROOKS
Mineral, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Jumping to enter sandman with friends in lane stadium, it is an amazing, unreal feeling changed."



CAITLIN ELIZABETH BRNICH
Newport News, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



Our Seniors

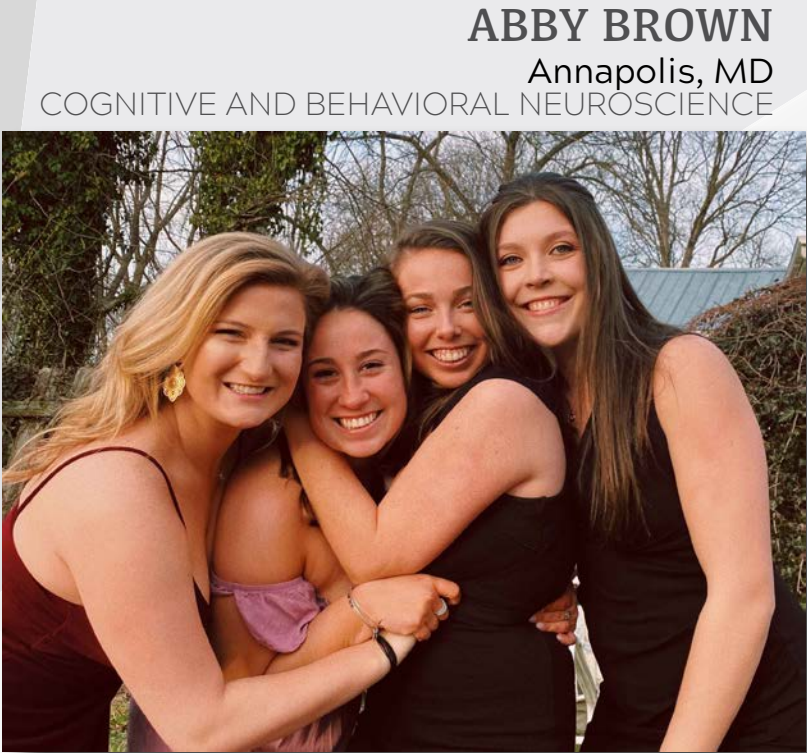


FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Studying abroad in Lugano, Switzerland."

CHELSEA BUHLER
New York, NY
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:
"It's never too late to be who you might have been." -George Eliot



ABBY BROWN
Annapolis, MD
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



Our Seniors



**SOFIA DANIELA
CADENA CORO**
Tyson's Corner, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Military Ball and Ring Dance were two of my favorite memories here at Virginia Tech. Meeting the wonderful friends, I now get to call family."



**SARA HOPE
CARBAUGH**
Bluefield, VA
CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." -Aristotle



Our Seniors

KATHERINE CARNIVALE

McMurray, PA
CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"The 6 OT football game during my last football season. I couldn't have asked for a better end to my last football season!"

MEGHAN
ELIZABETH CASEY
Laurel Springs, NJ
CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"One of my favorite memories is definitely when both of my best friends/roomies switched into Neuro! Nothing has bonded us quite like late nights cramming for Dr. Cline's exams. Couldn't have done it without you guys."

Our Seniors

CAMERON ELISE CASHWELL

Virginia Beach, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE
MEMORY:

"Junior year football season where my friends and I hit the road and made it to every home and away football game starting with the Florida State game in Tallahassee."



GABRIEL M. COLEMAN

Mobile, AL
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE
MEMORY:

"Favorite memories are jumping to Enter Sandman."

Our Seniors

MIKAYLA ANN COLT
Chesterfield, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"One of the best was the opportunity to study abroad in Switzerland with the School of Neuroscience."



ELLE CORNMAN
Midlothian, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



Our Seniors

CAROLYN MIKAELA COX
Abingdon, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE

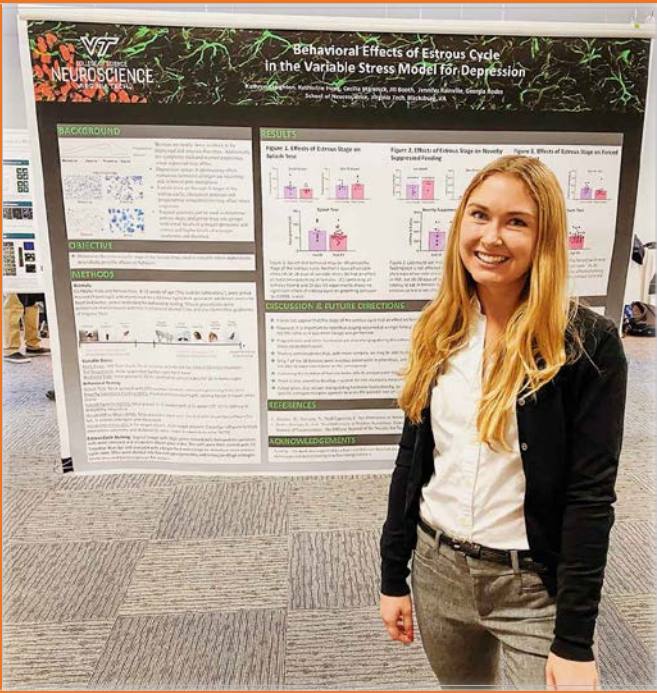


FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Meeting my best friend Michael during the Summer Bridge program has to be my favorite memory. It opened the door to four years of fun and chaos."



FAVORITE QUOTE:
"Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing"

KATHRYN CREIGHTON
Charlottesville, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



Our Seniors

FRANCESCA CZESAK
Wappingers Falls, NY



COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE QUOTE:
*"How wonderful it is that nobody need
wait
a single moment before starting to
improve
the world."
-Anne Frank*



HAYDEN DAVIDSON



Chesapeake, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

Our Seniors

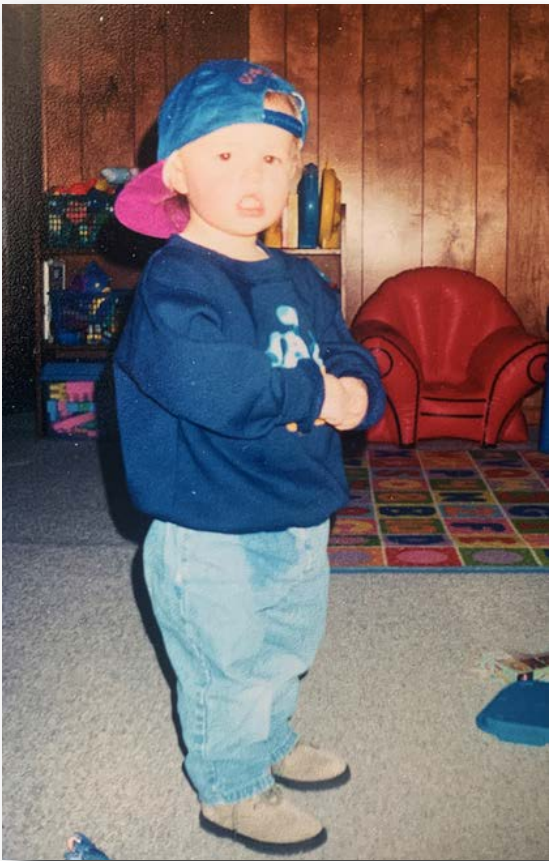
CAROLINE
DANA DE
JAGER



Williamsburg, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE QUOTE:
"It's not what happens to you, but how you react that matters."

LAKE DEANE
Richmond, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:
*"Perseverance is the hard work you do after you get tired of the
hard work you already did." -Nestle Gingrich*

Our Seniors

RISHI KASHYAP DEVULAPALLI
Ashburn, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"The Neuroscience Study Abroad program."



NISTHA DUBE
Fairfax, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:
*"No one is you and that's your
superpower
that's what makes you unique, that's
what it is
about you that will make a difference
in the
world."
- Jay Shetty*



Our Seniors

KRISTINA N. EAST
Memphis, TN
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
*"Virginia Tech gave me amazing
friends that I will cherish forever."*



MARIANA ESCALANTE
Ashburn, VA
COMPUTATIONAL AND SYSTEMS NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Jumping to Enter Sandman for the first time in Cassel, high fiving our players after the game, and sharing this excitement with friends from Alpha Phi Omega made waiting to be a senior for this experience definitely worth it."



Our Seniors



CAITLIN STEPHANIE FANNING

Bland, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Life is about accepting the challenges along the way, choosing to keep moving forward, and savoring the journey."



ROBBY FECONDA

Leesburg, VA
COMPUTATIONAL AND SYSTEMS NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"When I realized that Virginia Tech is not just a school, but a place where you make your best friends for life."

Our Seniors



CAITLYN FINN
Chesapeake, VA
COGNITIVE AND
BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE
MEMORY:

"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending."
- C.S. Lewis

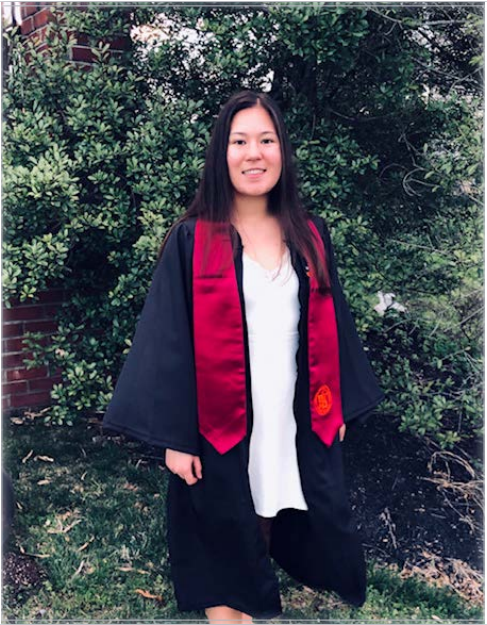


SERENA LYNN FLEMING
Ashburn, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"My favorite memory at Virginia Tech was when I celebrated my 21st birthday in Lane Stadium and got a picture with the Hokie Bird."



Our Seniors

ALEXANDRA MARIE GAUTHIER
Woodbridge VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:
*"If you fail this week, that's okay. You can't
succeed all the time because then life will
get boring." - Dr. Ian Kimbrough*

MIA CHRISTINE GENUARIO
Alexandria, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:
"Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory"



Our Seniors



Elisabeth
Ann George



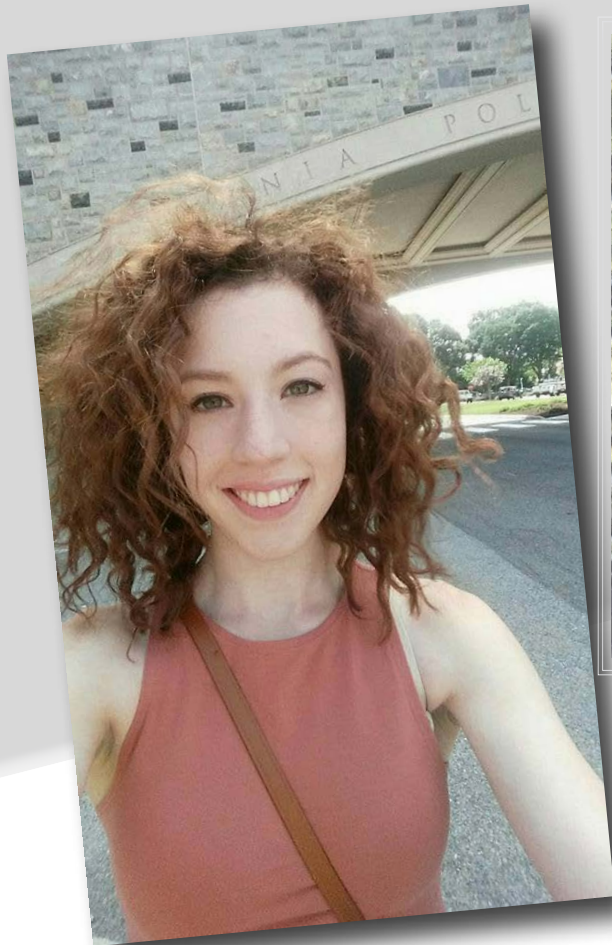
Sterling, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE

Favorite Memory:
*"A surprise party for my twentieth birthday, because it encapsulates how I have been richly blessed by the community of
friends I found here at VT."*

TEZETA GEATENET
GESSESSE
Springfield, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



Our Seniors



DANIELA VICTORIA GIL
Woodbridge, VA
EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:

"While the end of my time in college might have fizzled out, the beginning was more than I could have hoped for, and I'll cherish those memories for the rest of my life."



EMMA ROSE GNATOWSKI
Potomac Falls, VA
EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE

"Jumping to Enter Sandman at the Clemson game, traveling abroad with the School of Neuroscience, and singing on stage at The Lyric Theater with my a cappella group, Sensations."



FAVORITE MEMORY:

Our Seniors

JARRED MICHAEL GREEN
Chesapeake, VA



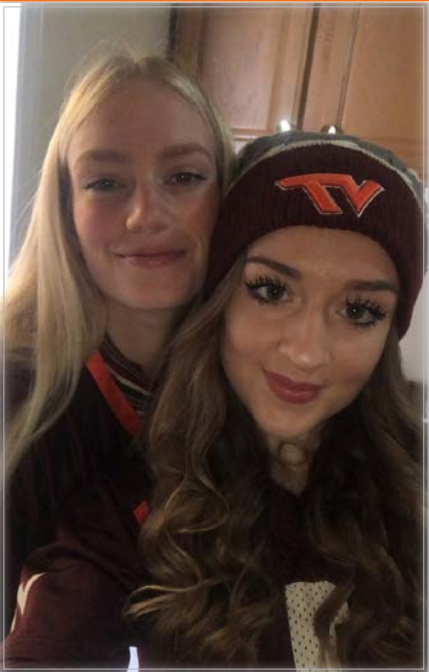
COGNITIVE AND
BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE



LAUREN GUTTMAN
Sterling VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Gamma Phi Beta bid day freshman year."



Our Seniors

LAUREN KAY HAACKE
Lorton, VA



EXPERIMENTAL
NEUROSCIENCE



RACHEL A HEID
Richmond, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE
MEMORY:

“One of my favorite memories from my time at Virginia Tech is getting a \$2 in one of Dr. Cline’s Intro to Neuro classes for getting an answer to a question correct.”



Our Seniors



KATIE HOGGE
Clifton, VA
CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE
MEMORY:

“Being surrounded by the beauty of Switzerland and an incredible group of people who share my passion for neuroscience and beyond was an opportunity I never expected to have and one I will forever be grateful for.”



FAVORITE QUOTE:

“Be the change that you wish to see in the world” -Gandhi

EMILY HUDSON HURST
Rocky Mount, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



Our Seniors



BRIANNA JANOCHA
Middletown, DE
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



DILLON JENKINS
Emporia, VA
COMPUTATIONAL AND SYSTEMS
NEUROSCIENCE



**DANA ELIGIA
JOHNSON**
Bronx, NY
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



NATALIE JONES



Annandale, VA
CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE
MEMORY:

*"Camping out in whiteboard forts
with my friends in Newman library
during finals week every semester."*



SEOK MIN KIM
Vienna, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE
QUOTE:

*"Humility is a daily deci-
sion, and a
lifetime commitment."*

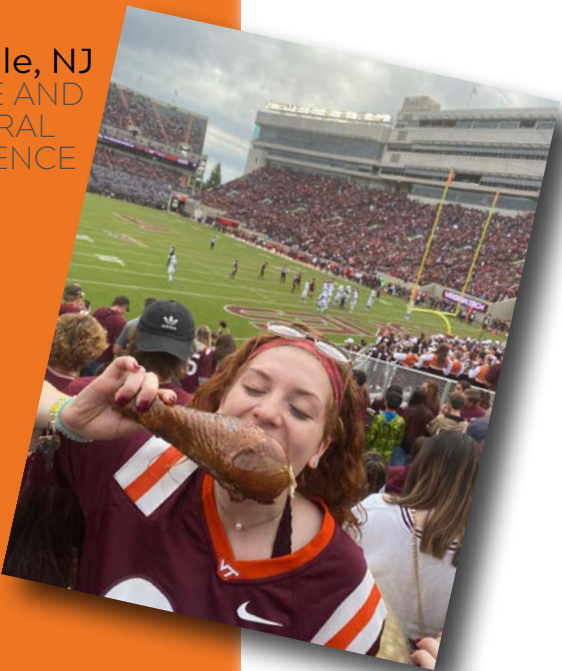


Our Seniors

ABIGAIL C KIRKPATRICK



Robbinsville, NJ
COGNITIVE AND
BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE: *"My favorite Virginia Tech Memory was being with all of my closest friends at Ring Dance."*



EVELYN ANN
KOON

Potomac Falls, VA
COGNITIVE AND
BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY: *"Jumping to Enter Sandman at football games."*

Our Seniors

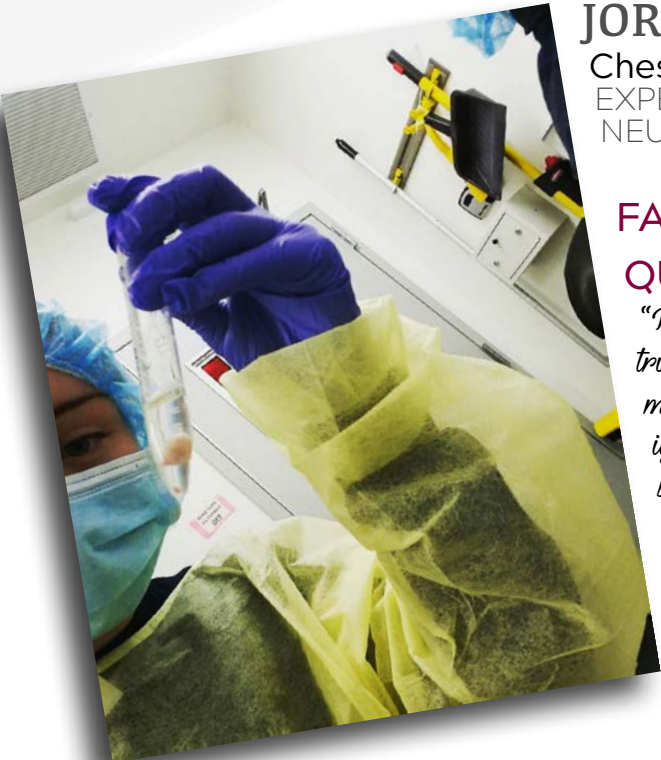
LISA KRIPOWICZ



Manassas, VA
COMPUTATIONAL AND
SYSTEMS NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Jumping to Enter Sandman in Lane Stadium to enjoying a sunny afternoon on a veranda on Roanoke Street, the one thing that has made my time at Virginia Tech unforgettable was the friends by my side."



JORDAN LANDRY
Chesapeake, VA
EXPERIMENTAL
NEUROSCIENCE

**FAVORITE
QUOTE:**

*"It is paradoxical, yet true, to say, that the more we know, the more ignorant we become in the absolute sense, for it is only through enlightenment that we become conscious of our limitations."
- Nikola Tesla*



Our Seniors

BHAVYA LANKIPALLI
Cary, NC
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:

"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending."
- C.S. Lewis

ALEXIS ELAINE GELACIO LAPID
Virginia Beach, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:

"Reaching my full (action) potential"

Our Seniors

MADISON LEE
Falls Church, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"My favorite moments here at Tech definitely revolved around volunteering at the Blacksburg farmer's market on Saturdays and seeing the different performances at the Moss Arts Center while working there."



IAN LEVINE
Orlando, FL
EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY: *"My favorite memory at Virginia Tech was when I performed stand-up comedy for the first time at the VTU student stand-up show."*



Our Seniors

NADIA MONIQUE LEWIS

Richmond, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:

*"Good, Better, Best. Never let it rest. Until
your good is better. And your better is
best."*



SIDHARTH MADHAVAN

Springfield, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

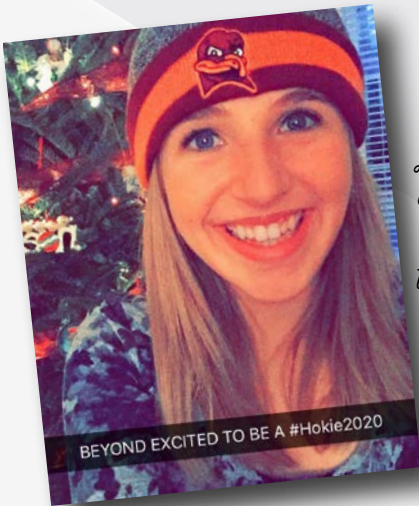


FAVORITE MEMORY: *"Pedal-boating and watching the sunset with my friends at Lake Lucerne during
the Neuroscience Study Abroad."*

Our Seniors

KAYLEY MANARCHUCK

Burke, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



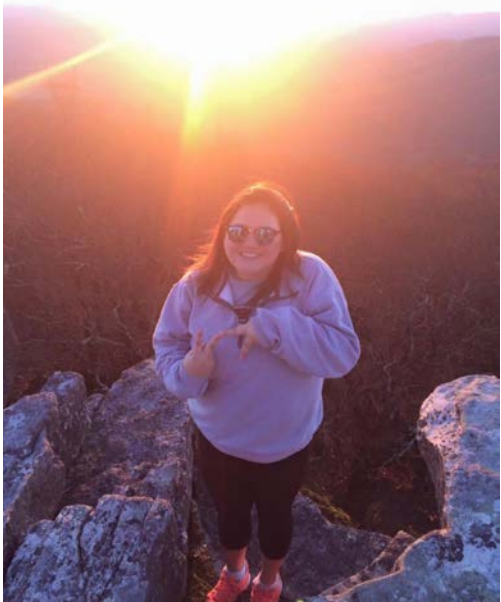
FAVORITE QUOTE:

*"Everyone is a walking story. Billions of
perspectives, dreams to be chased, hearts to be
opened, passions to be discovered and moments
to be created. Seeking to see
the splendor in each second and appreciating the
art in every angle, the world explodes in living
color."*



ELIZABETH MAQUERA

Springfield, VA
EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

*"The first week of my freshman
year, I
decided to play club water polo.
Joining
water polo has been one of the best
decisions I've ever made."*



Our Seniors

ANOO MASKERI
Vienna, VA



EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Participating in the Big Event every year."

SAMANTHA ANN MCCHESNEY
Kirkland, WA



CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

Our Seniors

MICHAEL JUSTUS MCGREGOR
King George, VA



COMPUTATIONAL
AND SYSTEMS
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Late night DX runs and playing VT ice hockey."

REAGAN MEYERS
Moneta, VA



CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

Our Seniors



JAMIE LEA MUSTIAN
Richmond, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE QUOTE:
"We always have to walk in the light of the truth."



RYAN NASSER
Woodbridge, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



JACOB L. NELSEN
Harrisburg, PA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"My last summer on campus serving as a research assistant and Fokie Ambassador."



Our Seniors



MADISON ROSE NOBLE
Mechanicsville, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE QUOTE:
"Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light." -Albus Dumbledore

NEHA OGALE
Ashburn VA



COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



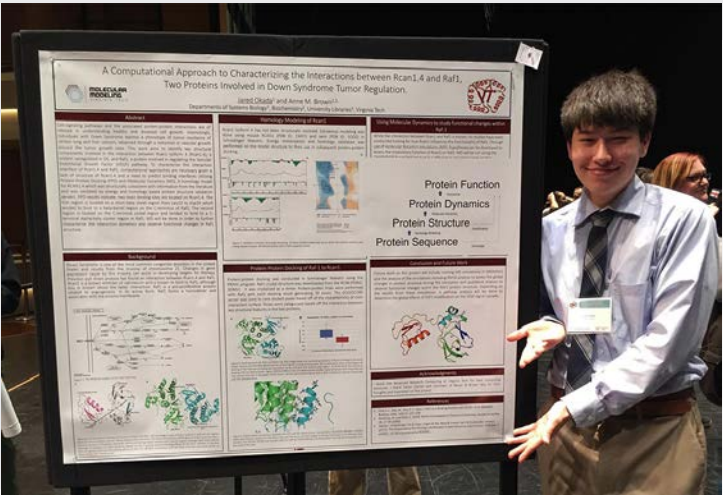
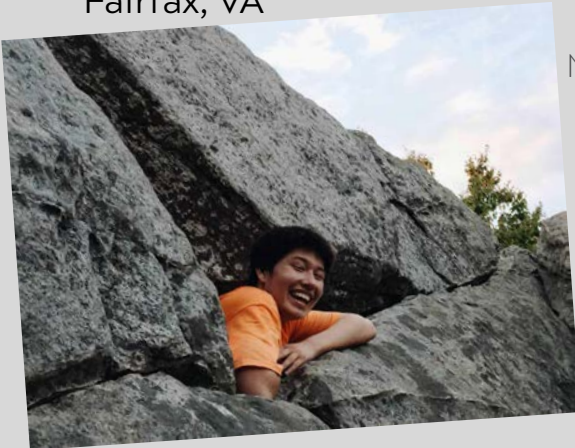
FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Hiking Dragon's Tooth and climbing up to the very top of the tooth."



Our Seniors

JARED AKIRA OKADA
Fairfax, VA

CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY: *"Travelling up to sunset hill off of Clay Street with some friends for a worship night my freshman year."*

VALERIA ORTIZ GARECA
Lorton, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



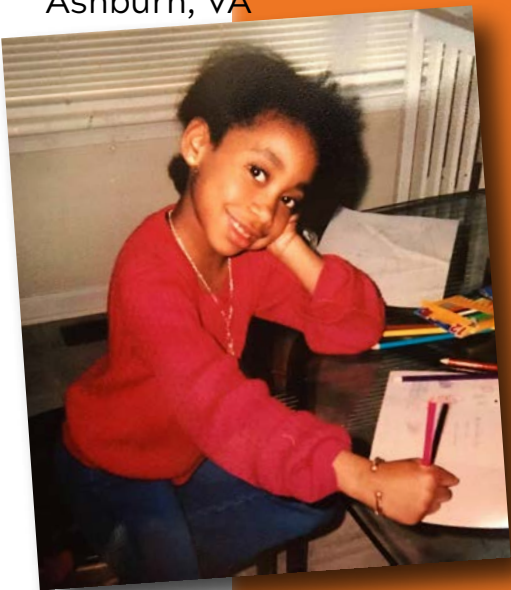
FAVORITE MEMORY: *"My favorite memory of my time during VT was having the opportunity to study abroad!"*



Our Seniors

MARIAM NICOLE OUATTARA
Ashburn, VA

COGNITIVE AND
BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE: *"If I could find a real-life place that'd make me feel like Tiffany's, then... then I'd buy some furniture and give the cat a name!"*

- Audrey Hepburn as Holly Golightly, in Breakfast at Tiffany's.



ALEXIS NICOLE PAGÁN
Chesapeake, VA

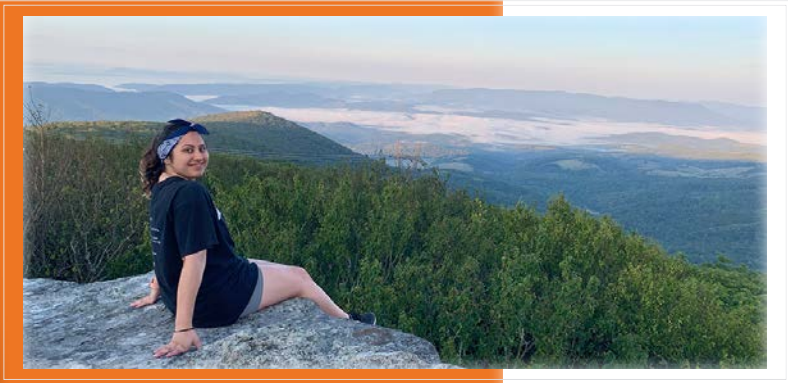


CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



Our Seniors

SHRITI PANT
Chantilly, VA



COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE

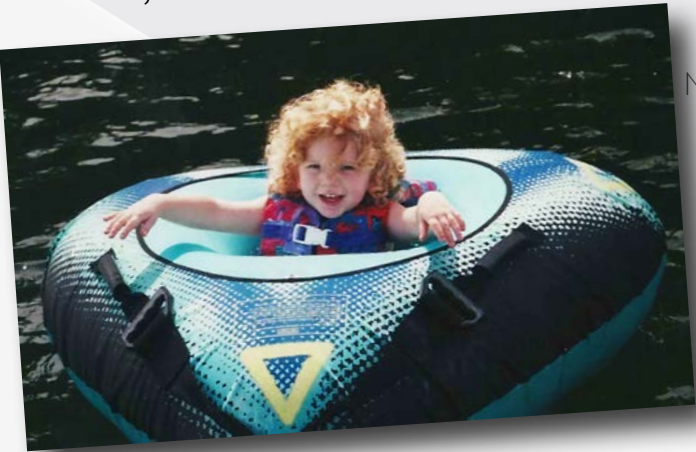
KYRA PARKER
Alexandria, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Creating lifelong friendships and being a helping hand to individuals in the Blacksburg community."

Our Seniors

NICOLE LORRAINE PERITZ
York, PA



CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:
*"Life is a journey to be experienced,
not a problem to be solved."
- Winnie
the Pooh*

MADISON GRACE PHILHOWER
Richmond, VA



CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



Our Seniors



NIKITA PIKE
Reston, VA



CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Visiting Lucerne, Switzerland during the Neuroscience Study Abroad."

CAROLYN NICOLE POLLOCK

Virginia Beach, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:

"I just work here"
- Dr. Sontheimer



Our Seniors



FAVORITE QUOTE:

"Home is not simply a mark upon a map, any more than a river is just water. It is the place at the center of the compass from which every arrow radiates, and where the heart is fixed." - Jennifer Worth

KAYLA PURCELL

Millington, NJ
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Going on the field in Lane Stadium during Enter Sandman for the Hokies for Hokies game."

CARLY PORTER
Radford, VA

COGNITIVE AND
BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE



Our Seniors

KYLIE REAM
Haymarket, VA



CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE
MEMORY:

*"Have been jumping to Enter
Sandman with my friends
before football games begin."*



JULIANNE ELIZABETH REILLY
New Canaan, CT
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

*"The first time I jumped to Enter
Sandman surrounded by all my friends.
There really is not a better tradition."*



Our Seniors

SASHA MARIE REYNOLDS
Vienna, VA



COMPUTATIONAL
AND SYSTEMS
NEUROSCIENCE



ALEXANDRA NICOLE RHODES
Chantilly, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

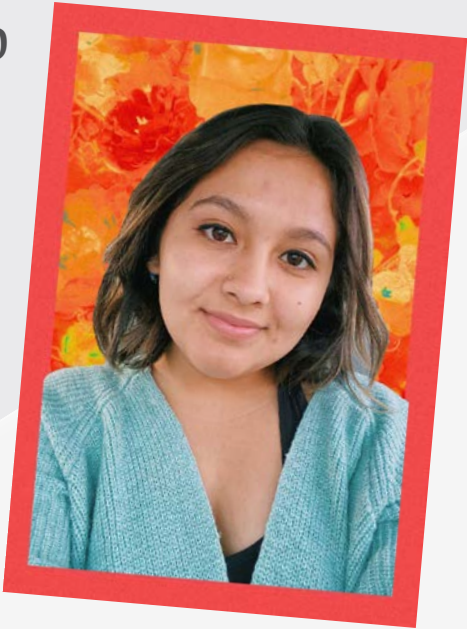
"Ring Dance!"

Our Seniors



GISELLE NICOLE RIVERO BALLON
Sterling, VA
EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Being a part of the NRV community through service."



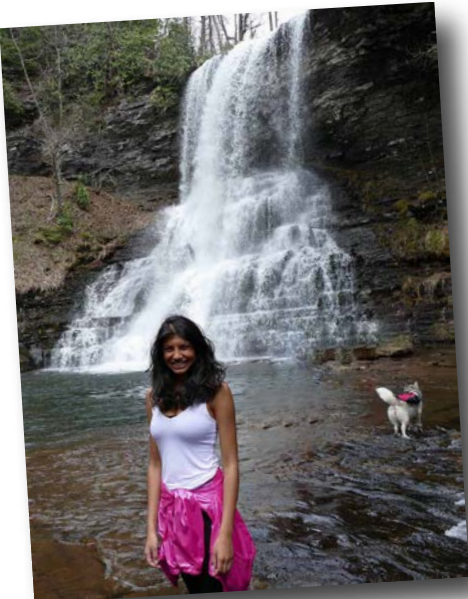
FORREST J. ROBERTSON
Virginia Beach, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"My favorite memory at Virginia Tech is when my roommates and I were able to go see College GameDay."



TANMAYA RODDA
Manassas, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Living on my own for the first time, yet still being supported by my fellow Hokies."



Our Seniors



LORIN TYLER ROEMHILDT
Midlothian, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Meeting Frank Beamer on the field during a football game my senior year!"



AMY ELIZABETH SABET
Chesterfield, VA

COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"My favorite memories at VT were made with my friends at the amphitheater by the duck pond!"



Our Seniors

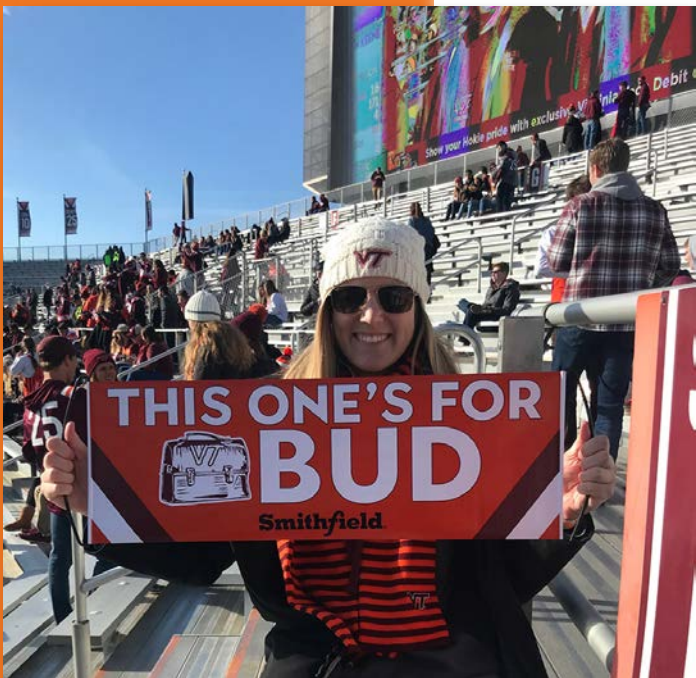


ERIC SANDERLIN
Richmond, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
"One of my fraternity brothers plays on VT Men's Rugby and one night we all went out to support him at a game. When we won the crowd went crazy, and we all got to storm the field and celebrate with him."

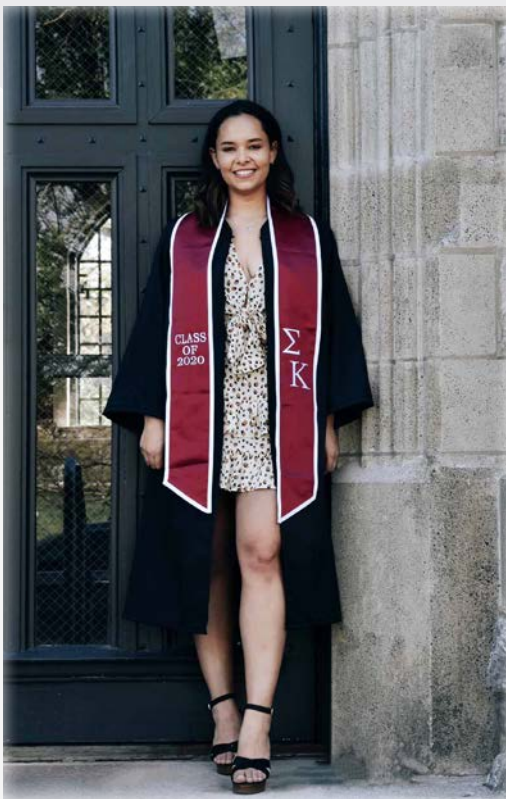


TAYLOR NICOLE SCHAEFER
Stafford, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY: *"When my grandfather came to Blacksburg to speak to my sorority about his experiences as a caregiver for my grandmother after she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease."*

Our Seniors



Nikita Nanna Schroll-McLaughlin
Leesburg, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

CHASE ROBERT SCHULTE
Burke, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



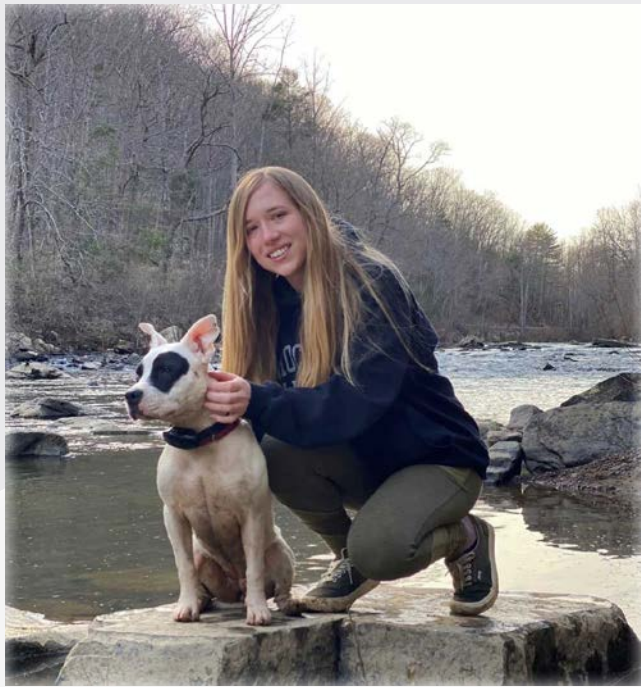
FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Kansas City Chiefs won the Super Bowl."



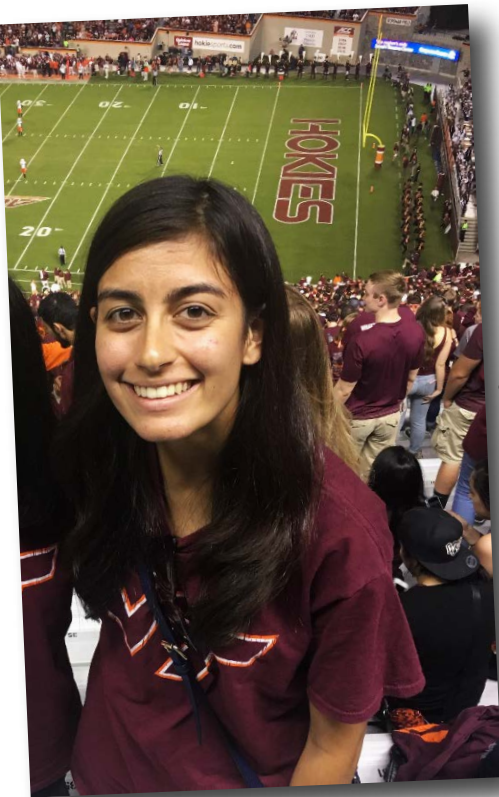
Our Seniors

MEGHAN WALKER SEDOVY

Lexington, VA
CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:
"A posse ad esse."



CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE QUOTE:
*"Are we what we do with time,
or are we what time does with
us?"*
- Mahmoud Darwish

ANA SHAFFI
Waterford, VA



POOJA SHETHNA



Burke, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

Our Seniors

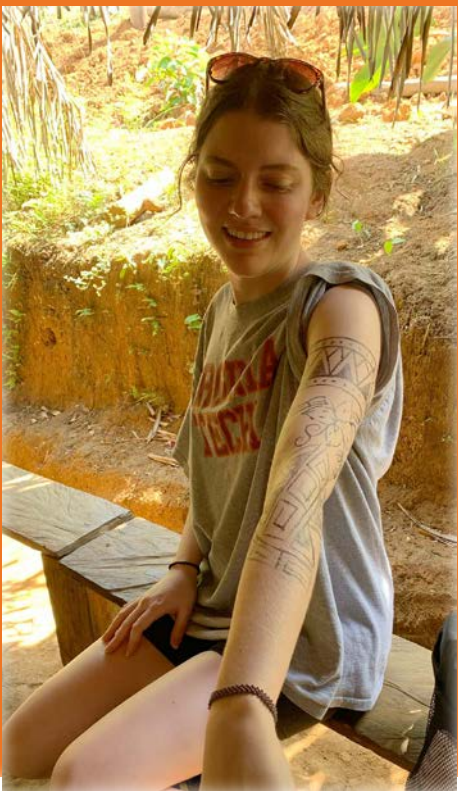


CLAIRE LOUISE SHIFFLETT
Warrenton, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE
MEMORY:

*"Collective memories of walking on campus
after class at sunset with my headphones on, just breathing in fresh air and feeling
comforted by the ever-present beauty in the scene around me."*



Our Seniors

**RACHEL
VIOLETTA SILVER**
Chesterfield County,
VA
COGNITIVE AND
BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY:
*"My favorite memory is studying
abroad and coming back to
spend the summer in Blacksburg.
Seeing the world somehow made
this place even better, and made
Virginia Tech feel like more of a
home."*



**FAVORITE
QUOTE:**
*"Discipline is the
strongest form of self-
love."*



ALATHEA JOY SMITH
Manassas, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

Our Seniors

ERYNN SORENSEN
Norfolk, VA

COMPUTATIONAL AND SYSTEMS NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Traveling with VT Engage on a service immersion trip to Peru during the summer of 2017"

NICOLE LOUISE SPIEZIO
Silver Spring, MD
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Enjoying the view from Bald Knob at sunset with friends."

Our Seniors

AMBER ELISE STEPHENS
Virginia Beach, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"My favorite memory is when I was on the field for football game day for rescue. Experiencing Enter Sandman on the field was amazing."



SAMEERA SUNKARA



Ashburn, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

RITHIKA SURINENI
Ashburn, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



MICHAELA
GRACE
STEVENS
North Dinwiddie,
VA

CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:

"One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world."
-Malala Yousafzai



Our Seniors

ERICA SONG TOWNSEND
Fairfax Station, VA



COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE MEMORY: *"My fondest memories would have been group study sessions, but I'll definitely cherish my amazing and intelligent friends that made them so memorable."*



COLLEEN MARGARET VALENTINE
Chester, NJ
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"Study abroad in Switzerland through the P&S program"

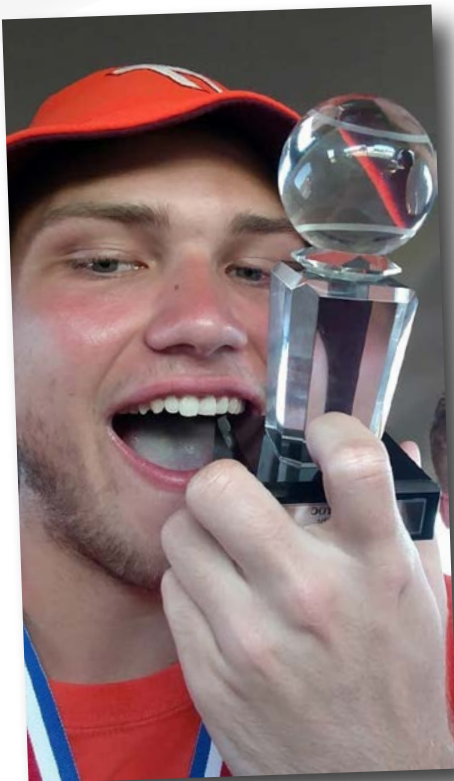


Our Seniors

KATIE VAN
NUYS
Leesburg, VA
COGNITIVE AND
BEHAVIORAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"My last home football game. My whole family visited, as well as my roommate's family, so despite the rain and cold, we made the most of it and had a lot of fun."



WILHELM HARRY
VENITZ
Richmond, VA
CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:
"First week of school freshman year. I was able to meet so many new and interesting people and build some lifelong friendships which is something I will truly cherish from Virginia Tech."

Our Seniors

MARIA VILLAFUERTE
Arlington, VA

CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Making neuroscience group chats with my friends and sending memes of our professors to ease the pain of how difficult some exams were."



RACHAEL ELIZABETH WARD
Vienna, VA

EXPERIMENTAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE
MEMORY:

"Going on an impromptu road trip to North Carolina to see the eclipse. We watched the eclipse from a rock in the middle of a river."



Our Seniors

ALEXANDRA
WARREN
Manasquan, NJ
CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE
MEMORY:

"The feeling of jumping to Enter Sandman with an entire stadium solidified the community aspect of this school. I knew that in that moment I had chosen the right school and Virginia Tech was home."



LAUREN WEAVER
Pasadena, MD

CLINICAL
NEUROSCIENCE

FAVORITE
MEMORY:

"Spending last summer in Blacksburg for the School of Neuroscience SURF-n! I hadn't stayed in Blacksburg over the summer before

d participating in full-time research without any distractions."



Our Seniors



ADDISON NICOLE WEBSTER
Chesapeake, VA
EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:

"It is beyond a doubt that all our knowledge begins with experience." -Immanuel Kant

ABIGAEL RAE WEIT
Lititz, PA
EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:

"It does not matter how slowly you go so long as you do not stop." - Confucius



Our Seniors

HANNAH ELOISE WILDING
Pittsburgh, PA



CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

RYAN WILLIAMS
Roanoke, VA



EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE



Our Seniors

MEREDITH K WILSON
Richmond, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:

"I was patient, ay-oh. Now I can scream that we made it. Now everyone, everywhere I go, they 'gratulations.'" -Quavo



MOLLIE MCKENZIE WOODS
Roanoke, VA
COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Helping to start a national service sorority, Omega Phi Alpha. I met so many people who are some of my best friends and I was honored to service as President of the organization my junior and senior year."



Our Seniors

KRISTINA WOODWARD
Reston, VA



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"My favorite memory at Virginia Tech was sitting front row of the Student Section at my last VT Football game."

COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE



SARAH VICTORIA WOOLVERTON
Winchester, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE MEMORY:

"Attending my first home football game freshman year."

Our Seniors

TAYLOR MARIE WYNNE
Virginia Beach, VA
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE



FAVORITE QUOTE:

"In vain have you acquired knowledge if you have not imparted it to others." -Deuteronomy Rabbah



Congratulations
CLASS OF 2020!

Information about our Majors

Students in the School of Neuroscience program learn directly from experts in the field about advances in genetic, cellular, molecular, cognitive and systems Neuroscience.



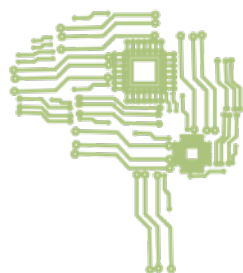
CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE

Graduates of the Clinical Neuroscience major have completed a curriculum that promotes a detailed understanding of genetic, cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying diseases and disorders of the nervous system. Several Clinical Neuroscience courses emphasize the translation of research findings into clinical practice and the role and responsibility that health care plays in society.



COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE

Graduates of the Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience major have completed a curriculum that focuses on thought processes in humans. These students have explored a wide array of topics including sensory and motor systems, learning, memory, decision-making, language, sleep, mood, awareness, and attention.



COMPUTATIONAL AND SYSTEMS NEUROSCIENCE

Graduates of the Computational and Systems Neuroscience major have undertaken an interdisciplinary branch of Neuroscience that incorporates theoretical and experimental approaches to understand the brain. Graduates from this major have explored tools and techniques that neuroscientists use to make sense of vast data in hope of finding solutions to neurological diseases as well as understanding processes such as decision-making, addiction, motivation, and more.



EXPERIMENTAL NEUROSCIENCE

Graduates of the Experimental Neuroscience major have completed a curriculum that prepares students for a hands-on career in science or science education. These graduates have gained a comprehensive understanding of genes, molecules, and cells that are the building blocks of the brain. Furthermore, many Experimental Neuroscience students have taken part in undergraduate research.

Commencement Keynote Speaker

Georgia Hodes

Dr. Hodes’ work in mice and human subjects identifies the underlying biology that contributes to vulnerability and resilience to stress and mood disorders respectively. She is interested in understanding how the sex of an individual contributes to their susceptibility to stress and depression. Her goal is to develop novel personalized treatments and bioassays for mental illness so these disorders can be medically diagnosed and treated effectively.

Dr. Hodes’ initial education was in the liberal arts. She received a B.A. in Drama/Dance from Bard College and worked as an actor and a designer in New York City. In 1999, she went back to school and obtained post-baccalaureate training at Hunter College in order to pursue a graduate degree in Neuroscience. At Hunter she experienced her first foray into research studying sensory behavior in electric catfish at the American Museum of Natural History and mirror self recognition in Beluga whales at the New York Aquarium. Dr. Hodes was accepted into the laboratory of Dr. Tracey Shors at Rutgers University in 2001. She received her Ph.D. from the Behavioral and Systems Neuroscience division of the Psychology program in 2007. At Rutgers University her research explored sex differences in the effects of stress on learning and brain plasticity across the lifespan. In 2007, she began postdoctoral training in Pharmacology with Dr. Irwin Lucki at the University of Pennsylvania examining the contribution of growth factors and adult neurogenesis to genetic and sex differences in vulnerability to stress. In 2010, she joined the laboratory of Dr. Scott Russo as a post-doctoral fellow for training in molecular neuroscience. Her work at Mt. Sinai focused on neuro-immunological and epigenetic mechanisms contributing to individual differences in stress susceptibility. In 2013, she received a postdoctoral NARSAD young investigator award to examine the role of the cytokine Interleukin-6 in stress susceptibility. In 2015, she was promoted to Assistant Professor at Mt. Sinai. In 2016, she left Mt. Sinai to join the newly formed School of Neuroscience at Virginia Tech as an Assistant professor where she received a second NARSAD young investigator award to examine sex differences in the effects of stress on the peripheral immune system. She is an author of over 50 scientific papers and has contributed to 3 different textbooks. She currently runs her own research laboratory at Virginia Tech examining how sex differences in the immune system interact with the brain to drive behavioral differences in susceptibility and resiliency to stress.



Georgia Hodes
Assistant Professor,
School of Neuroscience

ALUMNI

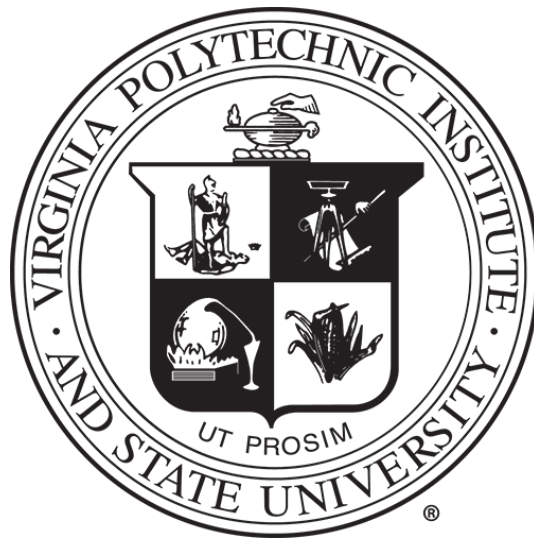
Stay engaged within the School of Neuroscience and continue to be involved with Virginia Tech community.

Learn about alumni: <https://www.alumni.vt.edu/>

Join the School of Neuroscience LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8633446/>



COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
SCHOOL OF NEUROSCIENCE
VIRGINIA TECH.



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