BEYOND BOUNDARIES: The foundation for the vision of Virginia Tech that accounts for future generations. A vision that reinforces the university's core values and established strengths.

INCLUSIVEVT
A foundational institutional and individual commitment to propel the Beyond Boundaries vision.

BLACK COLLEGE INSTITUTE
A program bringing high-achieving and intellectually curious, diverse students to Virginia Tech.

INCLUSION & CONNECTION
Envisioning the Campus of the Future
- Welcoming collegiate experience
- Powerful tools for success
- Collaboration with faculty
- Inclusive community

FUTURE FOCUSED
Global Land-Grant Institution
- Future is diverse
- Forward-thinking ecosystem
- Solution-centered mindset
- Long-term partnerships with corporations

FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
Discovering New Funding Models
- Strengthening current resources
- Creating new funding streams
- Establishing an affordable destination
- Enhancing the program

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
Preparing Students for the World
- Social justice project
- Competitive admissions
- Global untapped talent
- Connected internship pipeline

VIRGINIA TECH GRADUATES ARE
Globally recognized to solve complex problems on a regional, national and global scale
Interconnected with the world, no matter where they live and work
Connected to corporations from around the world
Driven to serve their communities

BCI SUCCESS
- The entering class of Black students at Virginia Tech grew from 3.8% in 2016 to almost 9% in 2022.
- Over 80% of BCI summer students are offered admission to Virginia Tech, with an average GPA of 3.875.

FUTURE THINKING
- According to a study by Josh Bersin and Deloitte, diverse and inclusive companies are almost twice as likely to be considered innovative leaders in their market.
- In their latest report, Diversity Matters, McKinsey & Company found that companies in the top quartile for racial and ethnic diversity are 35% more likely to have financial returns above their respective national industry medians.

Contact Dr. Menah Pratt at inclusivevt@vt.edu to support future leaders through scholarships and internships.
MEET THE PEOPLE OF BLACK COLLEGE INSTITUTE

BCI LEADERSHIP

MENAH PRATT, J.D., PhD.
Vice President, Strategic Affairs & Diversity
Professor of Education, Virginia Tech

Dr. Pratt is the founder of the Black College Institute. She oversees the Office for Inclusion and Diversity, the Office for Strategic Affairs, and the Council on Virginia Tech History. Dr. Pratt received a bachelor’s degree in English with high distinction and a master’s degree in Literary Studies from the University of Iowa. She earned a law degree, as well as a master’s and doctorate in Sociology, from Vanderbilt University.

BCI is evidence of Virginia Tech’s deep commitment to be a destination for diverse and talented students through the work of identifying, cultivating, stewarding, and preparing diverse students to serve the world.

ELLINGTON GRAVES, PhD.
Associate Vice Provost for Inclusion & Diversity, Virginia Tech

Dr. Graves oversees Virginia Tech’s student diversity programs and consults on topics of diversity in the university’s academic mission, inclusive of the curriculum, and research. Dr. Graves received a bachelor’s degree in Sociology from Johns Hopkins University and a master’s degree in Sociology from Virginia Tech. He completed his doctoral studies in Sociology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

BCI is a crucial strategy for Virginia Tech, to fulfill its core mission as a land-grant university by expanding awareness of the unique opportunities available to its students.

CRASHA V. TOWNSEND, PhD.
Assistant Provost for Inclusion & Diversity Office for Inclusion & Diversity (OID), Virginia Tech

Dr. Townsend has over 18 years of leadership experience in higher education focusing on diversity, equity, inclusion, and leadership access. Dr. Townsend received an undergraduate degree in integrated public relations at Central Michigan University, a masters in higher education administration at Grand Valley State University, and a Ph.D. in educational leadership at Northwest Nazarene University.

The Black College Institute is a critical pipeline to success, through the impactful connections to a variety of disciplines and early exposure to resources.

VIRGINIA TECH GRADUATES / BCI PIPELINE

ANGEL BYNUM-HARDY
CLASS OF 2022

BCI helped prepare me for med school. I learned how to better communicate, efficiently resolve conflicts, make connections, organize events, maintain my stamina and be heard.

2017 Attended BCI
2018 Enrolled at VT
2019 Became Student Staff Leader (SSL)
2020 JumpStart Leader
2022 Speaking opportunities at Virginia Tech
2023 Graduate
2024 Medical School Bound

TAYLOR WHITEHURST
CLASS OF 2023

BCI is a once in a lifetime opportunity. After being a student staff leader, it is natural to continue stepping into other leadership roles.

2017-18 Attended BCI
2018 Enrolled at VT
2019 JumpStart Leader
2020 Student Opportunity and Achievement Resources (SOAR) Intern
2021 Accepted job offer at Amazon after completing internship
2023 Graduate

JALEEL PATTERSON
CLASS OF 2024

BCI helped remove the preconceived notions I had about Virginia Tech. It introduced me to different opportunities I might not have looked at before.

2020 Attended BCI
2021 Enrolled at VT
2022 JumpStart Leader
2023 Applying to Accounting Internships
2024 Graduate