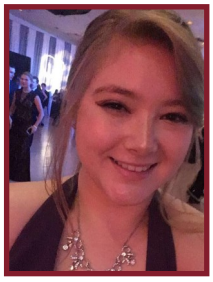
Galipatian Station

WHILE YOU PEE IN LEE

Friday, February 16th – Friday, February 23th 2018

COMPILER

Meghan Eck
Mechanical Engineering
Sophomore



Getting to Know Blacksburg!

Ashley Shafer
Computer Science
Sophomore

Blacksburg has some really awesome events going on Main Street nearly every week! Usually, free movie events or live music happens, like just this week there will be several live performances on Thursday and Friday at night. Check out their Event Calendar to see food deals at different restaurants. An interesting event going down on February 17th is live music with Justin Craig at Gillie's starting at 6:30 pm. Also, on February 23rd check out at the Moss Arts Center, Dorrance Dance, "ETM: Double Down" at 7:30 pm. Another thing to try out is the Farmer's Market every Saturday from 8am-2pm. They tend to have pretty neat things from local crafters and of course some produce as well. Head over to http://www.downtownblacksburg.com to take a look at their schedule and most importantly get out there and have fun!

The Lyric theatre is also a great place to head to in your free time. The tickets run $5 for non-members and $4 for memberships; not to mention, every Monday they offer free popcorn. Every other week they change up which movies and performances they are showing, so definitely check it out! Upcoming next week includes showings of "I Tonya", about competitive figure skater Tonya Harding played by Margot Robbie. VT's Department of Plant, Physiology, and Weed Science will be holding a special on Food Evolution on February 21st, and on the 23rd VT's Jazz Ensemble will be performing as well! On February 24th there's a showing of "Call Me By Your Name", a romance story set in the 1980's in Italy about a young teenage boy exploring his sexuality, and the "Dark Side of Oz", where the classic movie's soundtrack is synced with Pink Floyd's "The Dark Side of the Moon" album, will play that weekend! Many more events will be going on, so be sure to check out their schedule at http://www.thelyric.com/calendar/ .

Research at VT

Deep Jain
Computer Engineering
Sophomore

Doing research is a great way to earn experience at Virginia Tech! There are many professors on campus that are looking for people to help them out with their many cool projects. The research you do is usually a great way to catch a recruiter's attention at a career fair. Here are a few places where you can do some quality research!

Terrestrial Robotics Engineering and Controls Lab (TREC)

They are located all over campus such as Durham Hall and the CRC (Corporate Research Center); however their main lab is on the second floor of Goodwin Hall. The team specializes in developing robots that can move autonomously and solve everyday issues. One of their many projects they are working on is creating a 4-legged robot that can carry several hundred pounds of supplies and travel a few miles. Other projects include humanoids, autonomous drones, and much more! If you are interested in working with this team visit their website: http://www.me.vt.edu/research/laboratories/trec/

Dreams Lab

The Dreams Lab is located on the fourth floor of Goodwin. The team works on developing ways to support designers in their use of Additive Manufacturing systems. The labs continue to improve the 3D printing process, manufacturing process, and many other processes. Two of the projects that the lab works on are Alumina Processing and Cyber Security for Additive Manufacturing Systems. If you are interested in working with this team you can visit their website at this link: http://seb199.me.vt.edu/dreams/

CPE vs CS

Christina Lin
Computer Engineering
Sophomore

If you like programming, and the MATLAB assignments were a breeze for you, then you've probably already decided on either pursuing computer engineering or computer science. But what is the difference?

Computer Engineering

Computer engineering focuses not only on general purpose computers like desktops or laptops, but computing in all its forms—from microcontrollers to embedded systems to supercomputers. It combines the electrical engineering considerations of computer architecture, microprocessor functions, and assembly instructions with the computer science aspects of higher level programming and software compilation. In a way, computer engineers are specialized electrical engineers.

Some of the research areas in computer engineering include: artificial intelligence, biomedical engineering, cybersecurity, power electronics, nanotechnology, signal processing, and fiber optics.

What to look forward to: programming in C-based languages, microcontroller interfacing, and embedded systems design.

Computer Science

Computer science focuses on how data and instructions are processed, stored, and transported by computing devices. There is a much heavier focus on software design, how programming languages work, and the theory behind data transfer, organization, and analysis. Many schools offer computer science through the College of Science, so there is a fair amount of additional mathematics and science courses involved.

Some of the research areas in computer science include: computational biology, interactive systems design, machine learning, simulation design, data science, and cybersecurity.

What to look forward to: programming in Java, combinatorics, computer systems, and comparative languages.