RVA Collab is the new identity of the RVA-VTOP program team.

If you know anyone who may be interested in our work and staying updated on RVA Collab events, please pass this newsletter along so that they may subscribe to our mailing list.
RVA COLLAB COFFEE HOUR: 
JUNE 23, 2022 AT 10AM

Thursday, June 23rd from 10:00am-11:00am will be RVA Collab's second monthly Coffee Hour, via Zoom. This month's featured presenter is Carla Moore of Brown Edwards who will be talking about the internship program which she manages. She will share knowledge from her experiences managing such a program as well as some student success stories. After Carla's presentation there will be time for breakout room discussions and networking with other participants on the call.

If you are interested in joining us for this meeting please register at this link.

If there are particular topics of conversation you would like to see covered in future meetings, please let us know by filling out our brief online form.
MAY 22 INTERNSHIP WORKSHOP RECAP

We had a great time at our second Internship Workshop, hosted at John Tyler, becoming Brightpoint, Chester Campus, where we learned more about what our regional two-year HEIs and leading employer partners are doing in the internship and apprenticeship space. This in-person workshop brought together 45 higher education and employer leaders to discuss solutions for making apprenticeships and internships more accessible for two-year students and also provided a space for employers to find meaningful ways to provide more hands-on learning opportunities and learn about the apprenticeship model of work-based learning. Attendees spent lunch talking through internship-related issues and topics, such as the impact of internships on company culture, and shared their findings to conclude the workshop.

JULY 28: RVA COLLAB VIRGINIA INTERN DAY
STUDENT PANEL
July 28th, 2022 is Virginia Intern Day! RVA Collab will be hosting a celebration of student interns and the businesses who employ them at Hardywood Park Craft Brewery--Richmond from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. A panel of student interns will be present to discuss their internship experiences and participate in a Q&A with attendees.

Bring your interns and your appetite and enjoy an opportunity to socialize with other employers and interns from the richmond region. Food will be provided by
To register for the event follow this [link](https://mailchi.mp/86beee32e577/rva-collab-march-2022-newsletter-905...).

**INTERN INSIGHTS**

Intern Insight from Maddie Berghuis of Dominion Energy

**Favorite Internship Experience**
My favorite experience working as an intern has to be touring the Chesterfield Power Station. As an intern in more of a “corporate” setting, sometimes it is difficult to understand the impact of the work the company does bringing energy to our customers. However, my first summer all interns had the opportunity to visit a power station of their choice and it was remarkable! I was able to gain an understanding of how we generate and distribute power to the grid and see it firsthand.

**Career Exploration**
I believe my time as a DE intern significantly improved my career outlook. Especially being an intern throughout summer 2020 at the heart of the pandemic, the internship enhanced my resume with relevant virtual work experience. Not only that, but I was able to pinpoint exactly the characteristics I wanted in a full-time job and work place.

** LOL Moment....**
One moment I still laugh about took place as we were transitioning to working from home. I guess my cat was also adjusting. As I was on a video call with my manager, my cat managed to tug on my charging cord and knock my laptop off my desk! That was quite embarrassing in the middle of a call, but thankfully nothing was damaged!

**Advice for a Future Intern**
You can never ask too many questions! Having an internship is not only an opportunity for the company to see your work, but also for you to evaluate your fit with them. Take the time to learn as much as you can about your position, your department, and even the company as whole.