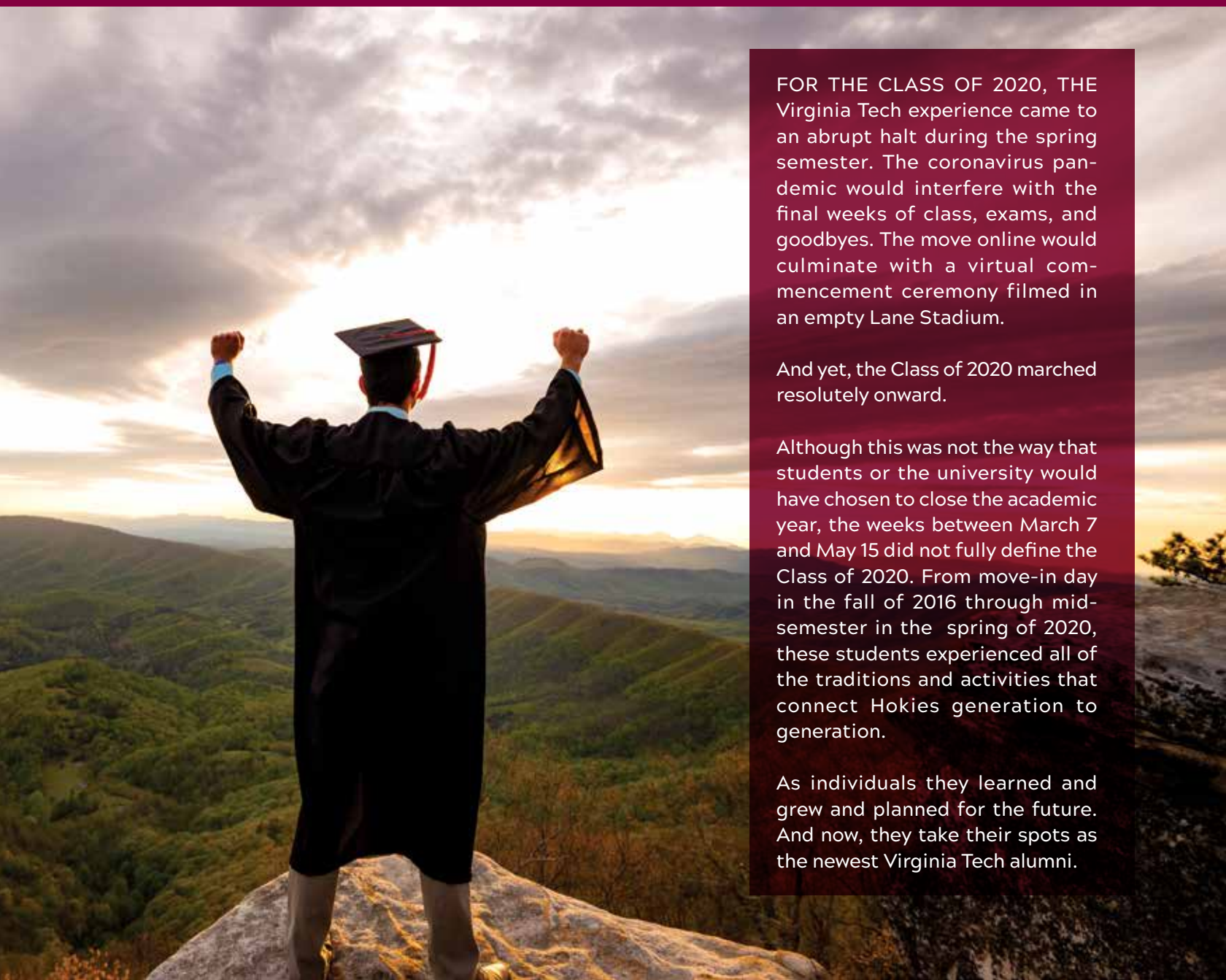


TURNING THE TASSEL IN 2020



FOR THE CLASS OF 2020, THE Virginia Tech experience came to an abrupt halt during the spring semester. The coronavirus pandemic would interfere with the final weeks of class, exams, and goodbyes. The move online would culminate with a virtual commencement ceremony filmed in an empty Lane Stadium.

And yet, the Class of 2020 marched resolutely onward.

Although this was not the way that students or the university would have chosen to close the academic year, the weeks between March 7 and May 15 did not fully define the Class of 2020. From move-in day in the fall of 2016 through mid-semester in the spring of 2020, these students experienced all of the traditions and activities that connect Hokies generation to generation.

As individuals they learned and grew and planned for the future. And now, they take their spots as the newest Virginia Tech alumni.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020

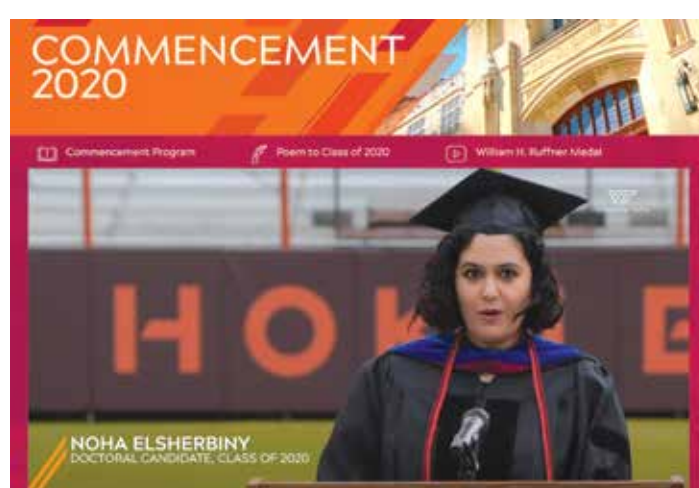
ONCE A HOKIE, ALWAYS A HOKIE

GRADUATE DEGREES



MORE THAN 170 GRADUATE PROGRAMS are offered across Virginia Tech's nine colleges. Students in the university's graduate programs learn to apply their speciality to the real world through interdisciplinary research, teacher training, and professional development.

In May, degrees were conferred to 1,247 Virginia Tech graduate students, including those in the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine and the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine in Roanoke.



GRAD SCHOOL



2020



MEDICINE



Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine's Class of 2020



Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine's Class of 2020

Members of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine's Class of 2020 will go into programs representing 14 specialties in 16 states. The most represented specialties in the class include emergency medicine, internal medicine, and general surgery.

Recognized in the veterinary college community as trailblazers, members of the Class of 2020 were the first cohort to participate in the college's newly designed curricula. While 63 percent of the class secured work in private clinical practice, 22 percent are pursuing clinical internships or residencies, and 11 percent are serving in government, corporate, or military sectors, including three grads who were commissioned into the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps as captains.





graduation poem

I join-----in gentle sadness and silent tears the pride of the class
of Twenty Twenty in accepting their duty

I join-----the unheard steps across the stage
And the shouts when that diploma is put in their hands

I join-----the bravery of the class of Twenty Twenty in understanding:
some gave their health; some gave their lives; some gave their possibility
of kindness because of the selfishness of others

I join-----the understanding of forgiveness

I join-----my students in writing about their first kiss and

I join-----them in the heartbreak when he is gone

I join-----the laughter after a winning football game
And the pouts when UVA finally almost evened the score

I join-----our parents who struggled to make this day a possibility that is not
possible that will always be possible because The Hokie Nation is the possibility

I join-----us all in the struggle to be a better nation through the betterment of ourselves

I join-----those who hope our campus will find room for a monument to celebrate these youngsters. Most of our monuments honor those who cannot know how we praise them.

I join-----those who praise the living

I join-----all of the Hokie family who welcome the newest Hokie members Who one day will bring their grandchildren to show “See? I was a different soldier in a different war”

I join-----the pride we take in the Hokie family
The Class of Twenty Twenty has been gracious and brave

I join-----all of us all over the globe who applaud their sacrifice

I join-----the sun shining for your warmth and the rain for quenching your thirst
Spring will come and winter will be embraced

I join-----all people of goodwill wishing you congratulations

Nikki Giovanni

**This poem, which was written for the Class of 2020, was read by Nikki Giovanni during the virtual commencement ceremony on May 15, 2020.*

2020

2016 TO 2020



'18

Virginia Tech opened its first drone park.



2019: Virginia Tech recognized the 40th anniversary of Denim Day, the first gay rights event on campus. The celebration was held in conjunction with Pride Week.



ESPN's College GameDay broadcasted live on the Blacksburg campus before the Hokies' Sept. 30 game against Clemson University.

'17

2020: Virginia Tech extends spring break, moves classes online for the remainder of the spring semester, in response to COVID-19.



Freshman Orientation

'16

2020: The annual Run in Remembrance went virtual for three days in April.



'16

Gobblerfest



2018: Virginia Tech announced plans for the Innovation Campus, a 1 million-square-foot graduate campus located in Alexandria, less than two miles from Amazon's new headquarters.





THOMAS MILLER, LOGAN WALLACE, AHMEND MUSTAFA, MYKENZIE WEBB, SCREEN CAPTURE, SHAY BARNHART, JEFF GREENOUGH



Move-in Day '16

2016-17: Four cultural centers debuted—the Asian Cultural Engagement Center; the American Indian & Indigenous Community Center; El Centro, a Hispanic and Latino center; and the LGBTQ+ Resource Center. They joined the Black Cultural Center, which opened in 1991.



'19 Three hundred e-scooters rolled onto campus.



Virginia Tech hosts virtual commencement ceremony to honor Class of 2020 graduates.



'20

Online Commencement Ceremony

CAMILLE SCHRIER '18
MISS AMERICA 2020



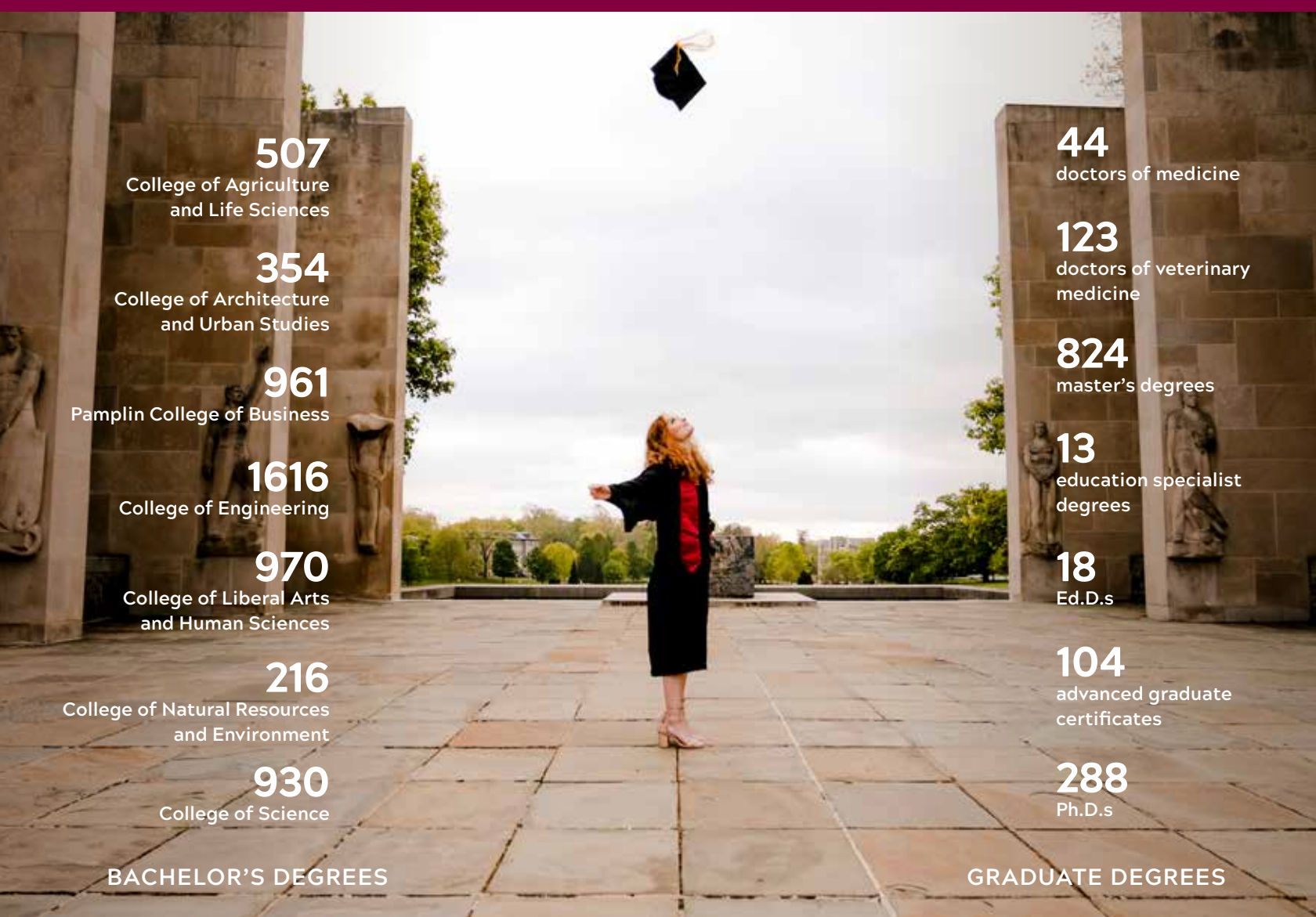
'19 The Big Plant: Hokies planted 6,000 trees on campus and throughout Blacksburg.



'19

Anderson .Paak & The Free Nationals, Fitz and The Tantrums, and DJ Earworm performed on the Drillfield at the launch of Boundless Impact: The Campaign for Virginia Tech.





507

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

354

College of Architecture and Urban Studies

961

Pamplin College of Business

1616

College of Engineering

970

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

216

College of Natural Resources and Environment

930

College of Science

BACHELOR'S DEGREES

44

doctors of medicine

123

doctors of veterinary medicine

824

master's degrees

13

education specialist degrees

18

Ed.D.s

104

advanced graduate certificates

288

Ph.D.s

GRADUATE DEGREES

Your graduation is a milestone. Your journey with Virginia Tech is just getting started. Here's how you can stay connected.

➤ FROM STUDENT TO ALUMNUS ➤

Find it all online at alumni.vt.edu/youngalumni.

- ❑ Update your contact information so you don't miss news and updates.
- ❑ Attend an event online with fellow alums.
- ❑ Find your local chapter so you can connect with Hokies wherever you are.
- ❑ Check out the Hokie Club Recent Graduate Program for discounted game tickets and more.
- ❑ Get career help with our Hokies job board and virtual networking opportunities.