



This newsletter is dedicated to welcoming new students arriving to the College of Business effective August 19, 2024.

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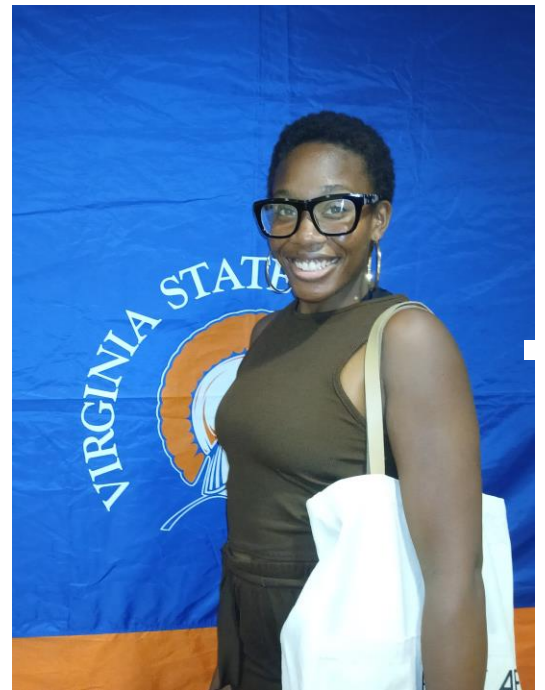
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## 2024: THE SUMMER IN PICTURES



Malik Alston and Marquis Mason visit the pharma company Phlow in Petersburg.



Indacia Turner graduated in May but visited Singleton in June to say hi.



Kiersten Williams poses for a pic.





## Next Door Neighbor

Ethan Mcknight (Marketing major) spent the summer interning for Tiffany Gullins (Marketing major and 2014 graduate) in the VSU Office of Institutional Advancement. The experience included learning from Tiffany who is the Special Assistant to the VP for Advancement and External Engagement and included on one hot June day a tour of the construction of the new Alfred W. Harris Academic Commons Building. Just next door to Singleton, the \$120 million project will include amenities like a pool, basketball courts, theater, dance studio, and café. Business students like Ethan are excited for the 174,000 square foot building because of its resources but also because of its proximity to Singleton Hall!



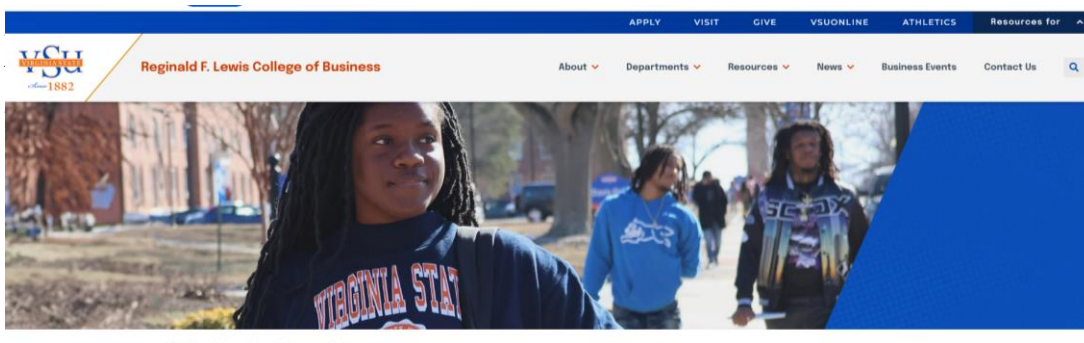
To learn more about the project, click here:

<https://www.vsu.edu/news/2022/vsu-breaks-ground-on-120m-academic-buildng.php>

## Off to a Fast Start!

Only a few months old, the College's new Master of Business Administration (MBA) program is off to a great start! Already scores of persons have applied for admission. Reniqua Walker earned her undergraduate degree in the College said, *"I cannot wait to get started! To be a part of the first cohort is very special."*

Prospective students can learn more about the program at <https://www.vsu.edu/business/mba.php>



### Master of Business Administration (MBA)

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) program is designed to equip students with both the cutting-edge technological competencies and the essential managerial skills required to excel in today's dynamic business landscape. Positioned at the heart of the Greater Richmond region, our MBA program is a cornerstone in



## Hot in Las Vegas!

The temperatures soared in Las Vegas this summer to 120 degrees but the scorching heat didn't stop students along with faculty from the College of Business from attending conferences on the iconic "Strip". First, a group representing the College's National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) chapter visited with industry along with colleagues from other universities at the NABA Convention and Expo. Joshua Nyantakyi (Accounting professor) shared that the "*students had a great time*" and that they made a most favorable impression on the many companies in attendance. It should be noted that the lead sponsor of the event was Deloitte, a leading organization that has hired many of the College's graduates in the last decade.

Soon after the students got back from Las Vegas, another leader from Singleton departed for her stay on the Strip. A (Marketing major), Aniya Omopariola in her capacity as President of the VSU Chapter of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) led a group of VSU students at the civil rights organization's conference attended by President of the United States Joe Biden. Of the opportunity to attend, Aniya said, "*I am really grateful to the College of Business for all of their moral and financial support.*"

The College's only ask of the students along with faculty that visited Las Vegas this summer was to not bring back the heat with them!



## Morocco

Tavon Massenburg (Information Systems major) and Brooke McClinton (Information Systems major) participated in a study-abroad visit this summer to Morocco. Brooke said of the experience, *“During this life-changing program, I collaborated with a vibrant group on classroom planning and teaching in local schools in Tikhfist and Ourzazate. Together, we explored the themes of water and culture by having discussions with two local NGOs, visiting Marrakech’s Water Museum, touring the landscapes, and more. Individually, I observed Morocco’s CO2 emissions and gender and income inequality, revealing environmental challenges alongside the social and infrastructural strides. I could not possibly fit all of my observations and lessons into one post, so I will simply start by thanking Professor Anne-Marie Turnage, Rajae Bougaze, Dean Daniel Roberts, and the Institute for Leadership and Communication Studies for facilitating this trip. You all made this experience special. Finally, I want to acknowledge how deeply inspired I am by the incredibly dedicated, graceful, hospitable individuals we met in Morocco. From the children we exchanged nursery rhymes and dances with to the community leaders and guides we spoke with, I learned so much about Moroccan culture and following the true values of family and faith. For that, I am forever grateful.”*



## Welcoming the Governor

It is becoming kind of a habit for students in the College to help host Governor Glenn Youngkin for his visits to Petersburg. The latest opportunity regarded July when Malik Alston (Management major), Marquis Mason (Marketing major) and Aniya Omopariola (Marketing major) joined the Governor at an event in Petersburg that included a celebration of CNBC naming Virginia the best state to do business.



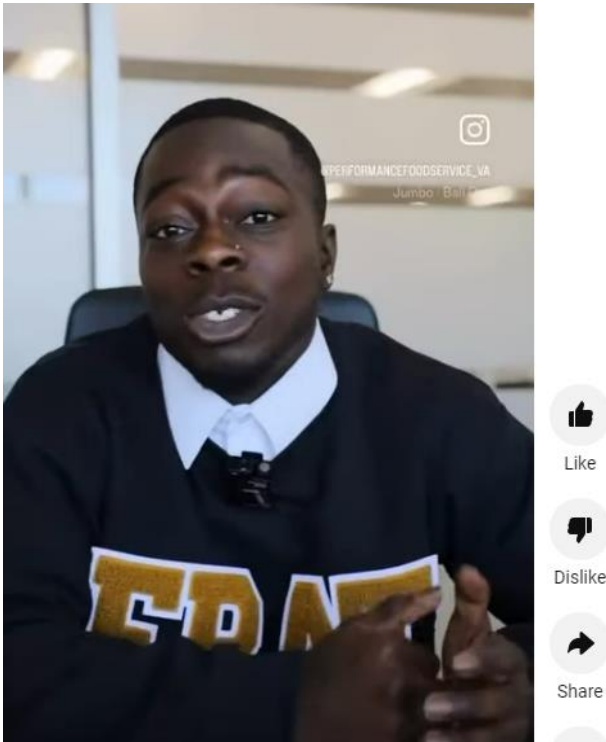
## Invited and Accepted

The Reginald F. Lewis College of Business prioritizes relationship building exercises for students with industry and already the following organizations have committed and are scheduled to visit Singleton Hall this semester; Google, JPMorgan Chase, Cintas, CoStar Group, First Principles Coaching, ChamberRVA, Capitis Advisors, Qualified Staffing, U.S. Department of the Treasury, PSMJ Resources, Just Let Me Do It, AT&T, HireTheBest, Peoples Advantage Federal Credit Union, Hire1, Abraham Youth and Family Services, Virginia Farm Bureau, Towne Bank, Coleman Institute for Addiction Medicine, Spider Management, Arcus Consultants, Gilbane, Maxxtell Creations, WM Jordan, OneBridge Advisors, Virginia Economic Development Partnership, Atlantic Union Bank, MikeKingBiz, Tegrity Marketing, Chesterfield County, Granderson Motivational Speaking, Dominion Energy, Virginia Supportive Housing, Urban Land Institute Virginia Technical Advisory Panel Committee, Chesterfield County Public Schools, Centering Elements, Rutter Mills Law, Liberation Center, Waffle House, Winter HR Consulting, HCA, HealthEquity, Richmond Region Tourism, State Farm, Virginia Urology, Shamin Hotels, Tax Solutions Alliance, Growing Perspectives, The Trotter House Assisted Living Facility, VA21, Henrico County, Pure Perspectives, City of Colonial Heights, Richmond Public Schools Education Foundation, Century Construction, Bryant & Stratton, Prince George County, Primis Bank, RiverFront, Federal Reserve, Very Ashley, Defense Logistics Agency, Elite Medicare Specialists, Timmons Group, Morgan Stanley, Internal Revenue Service, Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing, Capital One, Truist, Chesterfield County Public Library, Skanska, Thoughtful Minds Consulting, Positive Path Wellness Coaching, Bankers Life, ServiceNow, C&F Bank, Comcast, Aflac, Xponent21, Bergman Group, Swift Creek Insurance & Realty, Makeup by Holly, TowneBank, Boys to Men Mentoring Network of Virginia, Buckingham Greenery, Elevance Health, Consolidated Planning, Focused Project Management, BDO, Travelers, Beacon, HRichnetworks, CRB Solutions, Edward Jones, YWCA Richmond, Amped Up Marketing, ECPI, National Transparency Project, Precise Business Group, NEXAI, Myers & Stauffer, Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City, Potomac Abatement, Foundation for Family and Community Healing, Virginia Housing, Barr, U.S. Coast Guard, Guidehouse, On Board Experiential, Crater Hospice, Desbuild, Metamorphosis Consulting, Modern Door, Donald Leon Search, Vital Care Infusion Services, Republic National Distributing Company, Wells Fargo, Brown Edwards, WAGE, Carver Foundation, Communities in Schools of Virginia, NXP, Virginia Manufacturers Association, The Commonwealth Alliance for Rural Colleges, Keiter, Authentic Business Services, McCoy Bennett Marketing Firm, MetaPhase Consulting, IHG Hotels & Resorts, Networking Technologies + Support, Verus Financial Planners, Virginia Department of Veterans Services, Indispensable Marketing, Urban League, AutoZone, Women's Business Enterprise, Prelical Solutions, Appteon, PIC Results, Esquire Atelier, Accel Talent and Development Group, Win14u, Super Radiator Coils, Intact Technology, Metropolitan Business League, Papa Johns, Hopewell Downtown Partnership, D&H Construction Services, AWOMANUP, City of Petersburg, First Citizens Bank, Virginia Department of Corrections, Stratageum, American Heart Association, Michael Baker International, Petersburg Public Schools, Primerica, BWM Outcomes, Great Workplaces, DOD, Mad House Rage Room, FedEx, RL Dash Consulting Services, FOLAR, Airlink, Enterprise Mobility, Piedmont Healthcare, Kalyan Hospitality, NuVegan Café, Deloitte, and Southside Medical Center. The preceding organizations will lead hands-on exercises amounting to experiential education. The objectives including refining soft-skills, augmenting career awareness, and developing real-world skills not often learned in a traditional classroom.



## Summer Internships are Fun

Roosevelt Byrd (Management major) interned this summer at Fortune 500 Performance Food Group in Richmond and he took to the camera to convey his enthusiasm for the experience and to share that internships are fun! To watch, click here: <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/65BoKfggTCg>



### Scholarships

Congratulations to the seventy-eight students in the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business that because they submitted an application in June were awarded a total of \$39,000 in scholarship support for the 2024-2025 academic year. Congrats!

## More Pictures







## Welcoming New Students

Every summer the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business has an opportunity to welcome new students to the ranks relevant to VSU orientation and if summer 2024's sessions are indicative of the next four years the College should be in good shape. Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun (Dean) and his faculty/staff shared how impressed they were with e.g. how many of the incoming students were already entrepreneurs, on scholarships, were student athletes, had identified career objectives, etc. To all of the new Trojans, WELCOME!!



## Benchmarking

Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun (Dean) led a team of faculty of staff to visit the College of William and Mary in June to benchmark and to share best practices pertinent to an MBA program. The Reginald F. Lewis College of Business team met with Dr. Todd Mooradian (Dean) at the Raymond A. Mason School of Business at William and Mary along with his administration. Topics included culture, technology, room configuration, fundraising, career counseling, mentoring, etc. The two Deans along with their staff agreed to a partnership that both institutions are confident will be mutually rewarding.

## Virginia21

The College of Business was again this summer afforded an opportunity to have students attend the Virginia21 Summer Leadership Institute held for four days at the University of Richmond. Inclusive of workshops, networking, and camaraderie with undergrads from other institutions of higher learning across the Commonwealth, attendee A'lysia Vincent (Management major) said, *“VA21 has widened my eyes to new interests and tools that I will work to bring to VSU. I shook hands, conversed and collaborated with people who will become the change for future generations to come.”*

## Message from the Dean

How exciting! The sentiment in the Reginald F. Lewis College of Business regards enthusiasm for new beginnings. We are welcoming new students, new business partners, new ideas, and a new Master in Business Administration program. We cannot wait to get started!

However, before we can convene the new academic year it is important to celebrate everything accomplished this summer. Students studied abroad in Morocco, traveled to conferences, and completed rewarding internships at places like Ally, Atlantic Union Bank, Lockheed Martin, BNY Mellon, etc. Faculty authored papers, completed trainings, worked on accreditation, and traveled overseas. Also of note, Singleton Hall's exterior was painted in anticipation of new murals that I know all of our stakeholders will be proud of as soon as installed.

Now that the summer has wound down we are ready to launch a new chapter in the long and proud history of the College of Business and I invite you if it's been a little while since you visited with us last to come and see us soon. We are excited for what has been done and even more for what is coming! Welcome!



Sincerely,

Produced by Jonathan Young Photography by Jonathan Young

Dr. Emmanuel Omojokun, Dean

