

# THE INNERVIEW



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION  
OF COLLEGES & EMPLOYERS

## **A Heartfelt Thank You to Sherry Talbott**

The VACE community would like to give a huge shout out to Sherry Talbott for stepping up once more!

After finishing a three-year term as President, Sherry has graciously taken the lead on this years Conference Planning Committee.

We are incredibly grateful for your dedication and are looking forward to an incredible conference this year!



**REGISTER TODAY!!**  
**DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY APRIL 8!**

# VACE CONFERENCE 2026

Wednesday, April 22  
Thursday, April 23  
Friday, April 24



**HOTEL 24 SOUTH**  
**STAUNTON, VA**



Register on the [VACE website](#) or [HERE!](#) Scroll down to the Registration Link to begin the registration process.

## **Accommodations:**

Join us at the beautiful Hotel 24 South historic hotel in downtown Staunton.

To reserve a room, call reservations at 540-885-4848 and ask for the VACE Conference rate or use the group link for online group reservations [HERE](#)

To ensure your reservation, please contact the Hotel before 3/23/2026

For more information on Hotel 24 South, visit the website at [www.hotel24south.com](http://www.hotel24south.com)

# BECOME A CONFERENCE SPONSOR!

AS WE PREPARE FOR VACE 2026 WE INVITE MEMBERS AND PARTNERS TO SUPPORT THE EVENT AS A SPONSOR! IT IS A MEANINGFUL WAY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE VACE COMMUNITY WHILE INCREASING YOUR ORGANIZATION'S VISIBILITY AMONG CAREER SERVICES PROFESSIONALS AND EMPLOYERS ACROSS VIRGINIA. ENGAGE IN A FULL CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP TO SELECTED EVENTS, SUCH AS THE NEWCOMERS' LUNCH OR THE AWARDS CEREMONY.

CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS YOU THROUGH RECOGNITION THROUGHOUT THE CONFERENCE AND THROUGH COMMUNICATIONS, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND DIRECT ENGAGEMENT WITH ATTENDEES.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A SPONSOR? CLICK THE BUTTON BELOW TO ACCESS THE MANY OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO YOU. QUESTIONS? CONTACT CODY SMITH AT [CODY98@VT.EDU](mailto:CODY98@VT.EDU)



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to our current

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BECOME A  
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# WELCOME CONFERENCE NEWCOMERS!

*Have we got a treat for you!*



Are you new to VACE or attending your first VACE conference this year?

You're invited to two sessions designed just for you!

## **Virtual VACE Newcomers Pre-Conference Info Session**

Tues., April 14 | 12-1pm | Zoom link TBA

Join fellow newcomers, the Newcomers Welcome Committee, and the VACE Board for a conference info session, designed to introduce you to fellow attendees and help you get ready for the conference!

## **Newcomers Lunch and Learn**

Wed., April 22 | 11:30-1pm

We're kicking off the conference with a free lunch, just for newcomers! Connect with other first-time attendees, meet VACE leadership, and learn how to make the most of your membership, the conference, and networking opportunities.

Prizes and Lots of Fun!

We look forward to meeting you soon!

# Leadership the Shakespeare way

## **Shakespeare & Leadership: Tools for Communication and Collaboration**

Take a walk next door to the Blackfriars Theater, the world's first re-creation of Shakespeare's indoor theatre for a fun opener to our conference!

Join us for an interactive leadership experience for higher education professionals and employers.

- Cultivate professional presence through breath, voice, and body connection
- Explore persuasion and storytelling as tools for impactful leadership
- Experience Shakespeare's collaborative rehearsal methods as models for adaptive leadership

This interactive session draws on Shakespeare's tests and rehearsal methods - including cue scripts, shared light, and ensemble collaboration to strengthen communication, presence, and teamwork.



### **Do You Want to See More?**

VACE Members are invited to see

**"The Hound of the Baskervilles"**  
on Thursday night at a discount!

For More Info contact Sherry Talbott at [stalbott@bridge.water.edu](mailto:stalbott@bridge.water.edu) to get your discount code!

**AMERICAN  
SHAKESPEARE  
CENTER**



# VACE CONFERENCE FIRESIDE CHAT

## *Nicole Hall* *and* *Christian Garcia*

VACE is excited to feature Nicole Hall and Christian Garcia from UVA in a keynote fireside chat to explore what's next in career services: emerging industry trends, evolving employer expectations, and practical strategies for elevating professional development. Together, Nicole and Christian bring 40+ years of leadership experience across public and private university settings. They have each served on the NACE Board, with Nicole currently preparing to step into the role of Chair. Their work spans employer development, team and talent development, building a true institution-wide career network, and advancing career readiness at scale. To make this session as relevant and actionable as possible, we invite you to submit topics or questions you'd like Nicole and Christian to address. Please send your ideas to Ashley Crute [acrute@hsc.edu](mailto:acrute@hsc.edu) by April 15th. Thank you in advance for helping us shape a conversation that will deliver real takeaways for our community.

# MEET OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKERS!



*Nicole Hall*

**Senior Associate Vice President, Student Affairs  
and Dean of Students  
Student Affairs, University of Virginia**

Dean Hall began serving as the University's Senior Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students in March 2025. She joined the Student Affairs division as Associate Vice President for Career and Professional Development in February 2023. As Dean of Students, she oversees an experienced and dedicated team, including the University Career Center; the Hoos First program serving first generation and limited-income students; Student Engagement; Rotunda and University Events; Fraternity and Sorority Life; Multicultural Student Services; Office of African-American Affairs; and Orientation & Transition Programs.

Previously, she was the Director of Career and Professional Development at the University of North Carolina (UNC) Greensboro, a minority serving institution with over 18,000 enrolled students, where she led campus-wide efforts to foster student career readiness and employment outcomes. She also served as the executive director of market readiness and employment with Wake Forest University's School of Business and as executive director of alumni and career services at Pepperdine University's School of Business.

Active on several boards over the years, she currently serves as chair-elect of the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) and will become chair during the 2026-2027 academic year. She is currently working closely with the CEO and the board of directors to set an agenda for the next year as well as to identify strategic committees and task forces that can serve the organizational priorities. As chair, she will be an advocate for the membership and help to oversee the strategic direction and financial stability of NACE. Dr. Hall has served on a variety of NACE task forces and committees, including as co-chair for the Conference Committee and as co-chair for the Inclusion Committee. She served as a member of the Finance and Audit Committee and subsequently chaired the committee while serving as Vice Chair-College. In addition to serving on the board of directors and executive committee, Dr. Hall has enjoyed advising affinity groups and facilitating conference and symposium sessions. She was also honored to have her research on cultural and social capital featured in the NACE Journal. Dr. Hall is also a past president of the MBA Career Services and Employer Alliance, leading the expansion of the organization into Asia. She earned a bachelor's degree in marketing from Indiana University, an MBA from Pepperdine University, and a doctorate in educational leadership and cultural foundations from UNCG.

# MEET OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKERS!



*Christian Garcia*

**Associate Vice President, Career and  
Professional Development  
University Career Center, University of Virginia**

Christian Garcia is a higher education leader with 30 years of experience advancing student career success. In September 2025, he became Associate Vice President for Career & Professional Development at the University of Virginia, where he provides strategic oversight of the central Career Center and its team of more than 35 professionals, and chairs the Career Services Council, which represents all 12 UVA schools and other affiliates.

Prior to UVA, Christian spent 24 years at the University of Miami as Associate Dean and Executive Director of the Patricia and Harold Toppel Career Center. There, he led transformative growth efforts, raising millions of dollars for a state-of-the-art facility and endowments supporting funded internships, career readiness programs, and essential student resources.

A nationally recognized thought leader, Christian is a recipient of the NACE Mackes Leadership Award and NACE Mentor of the Year honor, and has served on multiple national professional boards. A first-generation college graduate born to Costa Rican parents, he holds degrees from Florida International University and Florida State University. His work reflects a lifelong commitment to access, opportunity, and student success.

Christian Garcia is Associate Vice President for Career & Professional Development at the University of Virginia, where he leads the central Career Center and chairs the Career Services Council across UVA's 12 schools. With 30 years of experience in higher education, Christian is a nationally recognized leader in career readiness, employer engagement, and outcomes-driven student success. Prior to UVA, he spent 24 years at the University of Miami, serving as Associate Dean and Executive Director of the Toppel Career Center. A recipient of the NACE Mackes Leadership Award and NACE Mentor of the Year, Christian is a first-generation college graduate committed to access, equity, and preparing students for lives of purpose and leadership.

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

## **Strategic Management of Employer Relations Using an Algorithmic Informed Tiered Structure**

Natalie Slone, Asst Director of Experiential Learning & Employer Relations, Virginia Military Institute

Balancing employer recruiting needs with student employment interests requires continual adjustment of employer partnerships. VMI redesigned employer relations into a tiered menu where employers gain on-campus resources based on engagement. Proactive recruiting for consistent hiring of VMI students as interns and first destination hires results in higher tiers. This session highlights how data trends, student feedback, employer needs, and institutional priorities shaped the model, while sharing algorithm development, employer responses, lessons learned, and next steps for refining strategy.

## **Building Bridges: Mentorship in Action**

Carolyn Sutphin, Associate for Innovative Work-Based Learning Initiatives, V-TOP, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Learn how to design a high-impact, inclusive mentorship program that supports student and early-career success. This session offers a practical framework, real-world examples, and tech-enabled tools to help institutions and organizations launch or enhance mentorship initiatives. Attendees will leave with a customizable action plan, templates, and proven engagement strategies to build meaningful mentor-mentee relationships that foster equity, persistence, and career readiness.

## **Careers Across the Curriculum: Building Faculty Capacity and Community**

Jeanne Mekolickhick, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, Radford University

Paige Tan, Professor of Political Science, Radford University

Rajas Patil, Project Manager, VTOP Capacity Building Grant, Radford University

Funded by a VTOP Capacity-Building Impact Grant, Radford sought to build faculty capacity in career-connected learning within the curriculum. Leveraging the VTOP Becoming a Career Champion course, 40 full-time faculty were incentivized to complete the course, implement, assess and share a career-connected learning from their class. Faculty infused career readiness components through an array of approaches with overwhelmingly positive results. The team will share highlights of faculty implementation, lessons learned, and ideas for Career Teams and Employer Partners interested in building career-connected faculty capacity, community, and curricular infusion.

## **Expanding Pathways, Expanding Possibilities: Transforming Work-Based Learning Experiences in Higher Education**

Dr. Lauren Jackson, Associate for Innovative Work-Based Learning Initiatives, VTOP

Carolyn Sutphin, Associate for Innovative Work-Based Learning Initiatives, VTOP

This session highlights how the Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership (V-TOP) is advancing a bold, statewide vision for work-based learning in higher education. Presenters will share key initiatives, recent successes, and SCHEV's efforts to expand the definition of work-based learning to support innovative, workforce-aligned opportunities. Participants will gain insight into strategies that ensure students at Virginia's two-year and four-year institutions have access to high-quality, paid internships and experiential learning before graduation. Attendees will explore practical ways to leverage their roles to strengthen and scale these pathways.

## **The Supervisor's Toolkit for Creating Career Ready Students**

Sam Squyars, Assistant director for Career Advising, James Madison University

Student employment can be more than a paycheck; it can be a launchpad for career success. Supervisors play a critical role in helping students develop transferable skills that prepare them for life after graduation. This session equips supervisors and career professionals with practical strategies to integrate career readiness into everyday supervision. Learn how to connect job responsibilities to NACE Career Competencies, provide meaningful feedback, and mentor students toward professional growth. Walk away with actionable tools and a ready-to-use toolkit that empowers you to turn campus jobs into stepping stones for future careers.

## **Lost in Translation: Making Liberal Arts Learning Employer-Ready**

Meghan Jester, Director of Enrollment Management, Virginia Tech

This highly interactive session explores practical strategies for helping students translate academic and co-curricular experiences into employer-relevant skills aligned with NACE Career Readiness Competencies. Using liberal arts learning as an illustrative example, participants will engage in hands-on activities, advising simulations, and a four-year academic-to-career roadmap that can be adapted for students across disciplines. Designed for practitioners, the session emphasizes immediately usable tools that support student confidence, career clarity, and skill articulation.

## **Coaching Students in the Age of AI**

Brendan Harris, Assistant Director of Career Services, Virginia Military Institute

AI and machine learning continue to reshape the job market and influence hiring practices, creating uncertainty for students and placing new demands on career coaches and faculty.

This session will explore how Higher Ed professionals and stakeholders can address misconceptions, define responsible use, and integrate AI into coaching without weakening core human skills. Through a structured overview, facilitated discussion, and hands-on critique of AI-assisted materials, participants will develop strategies to: demystify AI in recruiter systems and ATS; guide students to engage AI appropriately for career planning and employment; and prepare them for an evolving workforce.

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

## **Building a Career Ecosystem: The Future of Career Development in Higher Education**

Julia Lapan, Executive Director of Career Design, University of Virginia

Heather Palmer, Interim Director and Career Advisor, School of Engineering & Applied Science, UVA

As higher education and the labor market evolve, institutions must move beyond traditional career center models to better prepare students for post-graduation success. This session explores the concept of a school-wide career ecosystem that embeds career readiness throughout the student experience. Using the University of Virginia as a case study, presenters will share strategies for integrating career development into curriculum, advising, and cross-campus partnerships. Participants will engage in discussion and reflection to consider how a career ecosystem approach can be adapted to their own institutions and leave with actionable ideas to strengthen student career outcomes.

## **Beyond the Degree: Work-Based Learning for Liberal Arts Success**

Claire Denny, Career Advisor, James Madison University

Work-Based Learning Experiences (WBLEs) are critical to student growth, bridging academic learning with real-world practice. While more straightforward in technical and professional fields, WBLEs are equally valuable for liberal arts students who bring strong transferable skills and employer-valued competencies across industries. This session will go over WBLEs, emphasize importance for liberal arts students, and highlight ways students can leverage strengths to access meaningful opportunities. Gain practical strategies for faculty and employers to create and expand WBLEs tailored to liberal arts disciplines supported by data-informed insights from JMU.

## **Advancing Internships at Scale: A Statewide Partnership Approach in Virginia**

Alisha Bazemore, Asst. Director of Innovative Work-Based Learning Initiatives, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Debbie Melvin, Vice President, Talent and Partnerships, Virginia Economic Development Partnership

This session will share updates to Virginia's Innovative Internship Fund and Program, a statewide initiative designed to expand high-quality, paid, and credit-bearing internships and other work-based learning opportunities in partnership with Virginia employers. The program supports two complementary efforts—InternshipsVA and the Virginia + Talent and Opportunity Partnership—through a combination of institutional grants and statewide capacity-building strategies that strengthen student, employer, and higher education readiness to participate in internships. Presenters will provide an overview of the program's original intent, current structure, and early outcomes, and will discuss how proposed revisions to the enabling legislation may significantly shift the program's focus, activities, and impact. While final legislative decisions may occur close to the conference date, this session will offer participants timely insights into the policy context, anticipated changes, and practical implications for institutions, employers, and workforce partners engaged in work-based learning across the Commonwealth.

## **Mandatory Career Prep Classes - The Why and How-To**

Kristin Stephens, Director of Career and Professional Development, Christendom College

Do you wish your school required career development workshops or classes for all students? Learn how Christendom College's mandatory credit-bearing four-year career prep courses have positively impacted students' professionalism, career readiness, and employability. The presentation will cover structure of classes, topics covered and assignments given, plus how backend data is managed and organized data.

## **Career Services as a Catalyst for the Campus: How to Leverage Career Services to be a Driver for Enrollment, Retention, Student Engagement, and Alumni Relations**

Matthew Frederick, Associate Provost for Career Services, Emory and Henry University

Christine Arias, Associate Director for Career Services, Emory and Henry University

This presentation will illustrate how the work of an intentional and outcomes-focused career center can be a powerful driver for many elements of campus and facets of the strategic vision of the institution. Review multiple examples of highly effective practices currently in place at Emory & Henry University, as well as new and innovative approaches that can be scaled and replicated at any institution. This presentation is intended for all who are interested in new approaches to student engagement, recruiting, retention, and alumni engagement.



For All the Latest Updates to  
Programming and Other Conference  
Details, Attendees Can Use SCHED!

*Instructions Coming Soon!*

# VACE 2026 Conference Schedule

Events Subject to Updates



## Wednesday, April 22

Time	Event
11:00 am	<b>Registration Opens</b>
11:30 am- Noon	<b>Newcomer Event and Lunch</b>
1:30 pm- 2:45 pm	<b>Leadership the Shakespeare Way and Welcome</b> American Shakespeare Center – Just Next Door!
2:45-3:00 pm	<b>BREAK</b> – Continuous Coffee and Beverage Service Throughout the Conference
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<b>Breakout #1</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Building Bridges: Mentorship in Action</li> <li>2. Strategic Management of Employer Relations Using an Algorithmic Informed Tiered Structure</li> <li>3. Career Across the Curriculum: Building Faculty Capacity and Community</li> </ol>
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	<b>Hotel Check In</b> Check into your room and relax for a while before the President’s Employer Networking Reception and Awards Banquet
5:00 pm- 6:30 pm	<b>President’s Employer Networking Reception</b> Enjoy networking with your colleagues and take the opportunity to tell local employers how great VACE is!
6:30 pm- 9:00 pm	<b>VACE Awards Banquet</b> Enjoy a delicious dinner followed by our VACE Awards Ceremony
9:00 pm- 11:00 pm	<b>Hospitality Suite</b> Get into your jeans and join us on the balcony for social time!

## Thursday, April 23

6:30 am- 9:00 am	<b>Breakfast</b> Enjoy Hotel 24 South’s famous breakfast buffet at your leisure. A great time to share a table with your VACE friends
9:00 am - 4:00 pm	<b>Registration Opens</b>
9:00 am- 9:50 am	<b>Business Meeting</b> <b>Committee Sign Ups</b>
9:50 am – 9:55 am	<b>Door Prize Drawing</b>
10:00 am- 11:15 am	<b>Fireside Chat with Keynote Speakers</b> Nicole Hall, NACE Chair-Elect and Christian Garcia, NACE Mackes Leadership Award and NACE Mentor of the Year
11:15 am- Noon	<b>Employer Panel</b> Discussion with VACE and Local Employer Members
Noon- 1:00 pm	<b>Lunch</b> Enjoy a delicious buffet while networking with friends and colleagues
12:50	<b>Door Prize Drawing</b>
1:00pm– 1:50 pm	<b>Breakout #2 (3 Sessions)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Expanding Pathways, Expanding Possibilities: Transforming Work-Based Learning Experiences in Higher Education</li> <li>2. The Supervisor’s Toolkit for Creating Career Ready Students</li> <li>3. Lost in Translation: Making Liberal Arts Learning Employer-Ready</li> </ol>

2:00 pm- 2:50 pm	<b>Breakout #3</b> (3 Sessions) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coaching Students in the Age of AI</li> <li>2. Building a Career Ecosystem: The Future of Career Development in Higher Education</li> <li>3. Beyond the Degree: Work-Based Learning for Liberal Arts Success</li> </ol>
3:00 pm	<b>Afternoon Off and Dinner on Own</b> A Great Time for Networking While Enjoying Staunton, the Queen City!
7:00 pm - 11:00 pm	<b>Hospitality Suite</b>

**Friday, April 24**

6:30 am - 9:00 am	<b>Breakfast</b> Enjoy Hotel 24 South’s famous breakfast buffet at your leisure. A great time to share a table with your VACE friends
9:00 am- 9:50 am	<b>Breakout #4</b> (3 Sessions) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Updates from InternshipsVA and V-TOP</li> <li>2. Mandatory Career Prep Classes - The Why and How-To</li> <li>3. Career Services as a Catalyst for the Campus: How to Leverage Career Services to be a Driver for Enrollment, Retention, Student Engagement, and Alumni Relations</li> </ol>
9:55 am	<b>Door Prize Drawing</b>
10:00 am – 11:15 am	<b>Round Table Discussions</b>
11:15 am – Noon	<b>Ask Me Anything: The Next Generation of You</b>
12:00pm – 12:15 pm	<b>Final Door Prize Drawing</b> <b>Grand Prize Drawing</b> <b>Closing</b>

We Hope to  
See you There!

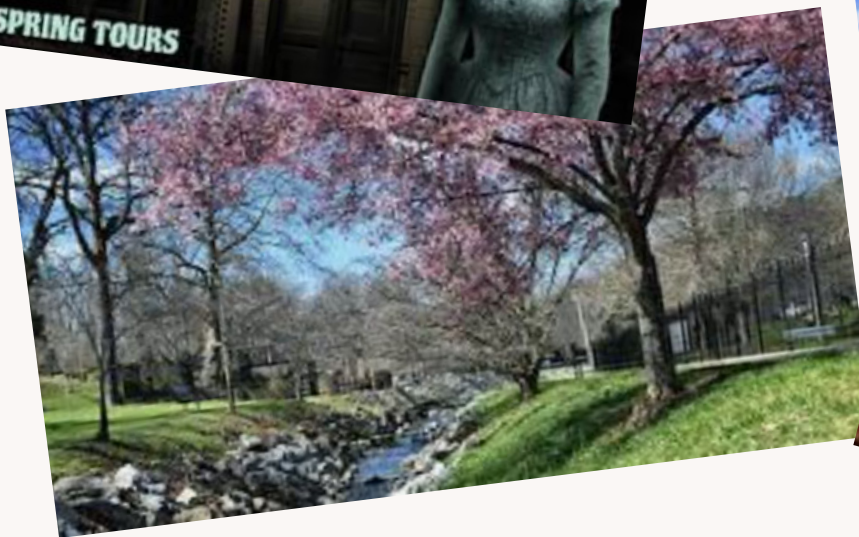


# ENJOY YOUR THURSDAY AFTERNOON IN THE QUEEN CITY!

Staunton is ready to welcome VACE! This year's conference will pair great professional development with memorable local experiences in one of the Shenandoah Valley's most charming historic towns.

Conference attendees can kick off Thursday, April 23, with a fun run through beautiful Gypsy Hill Park, explore the city's legends on a 90-minute walking ghost tour, and take part in an engaging workshop led by the American Shakespeare Center. History buffs will can tour the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and theater goers enjoy discounted tickets to a performance at the Blackfriars Playhouse, the world's only recreation of Shakespeare's indoor theatre.

We hope you enjoy the many charms of Staunton as you enjoy networking with your fellow conference attendees!



# NOTICE



## THE VACE BOARD IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION!

We are seeking passionate leaders to serve on our Board. Help shape the future of career development and employer engagement in Virginia!

**Swipe to see available positions!**  
**To nominate yourself or a colleague,**  
**email [askvace@gmail.com](mailto:askvace@gmail.com) by**  
**Friday, March 27.**



### DIRECTOR OF FINANCE-ELECT



Serve a one-year term and perform all duties of the Director of Finance at their request and shall fill the unexpired term of the office the Director of Finance should it become vacant. Assumes the role of Director of Finance after one-year term.

**To nominate yourself or a colleague,**  
**email [askvace@gmail.com](mailto:askvace@gmail.com) by**  
**Friday, March 27.**



### DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS



Serve a two-year term issuing meeting notifications and maintaining Board and Annual Business Meeting minutes. Manage annual updates to the Operations Manual and Constitution and keep the Articles of Incorporation current. The Director of Operations also serves as liaison to the Awards Committee.

**To nominate yourself or a colleague,**  
**email [askvace@gmail.com](mailto:askvace@gmail.com) by**  
**Friday, March 27.**



### EMPLOYER DIRECTOR



There shall be two (2) elected Directors who shall serve for a staggered two (2) year term. This year, we are seeking an Employer Director who will serve as a representative of employer constituents and serve as conference co-chair.

**To nominate yourself or a colleague,**  
**email [askvace@gmail.com](mailto:askvace@gmail.com) by**  
**Friday, March 27.**



### PRESIDENT-ELECT



Serve a one-year term and perform all duties of the President at their request and shall fill the unexpired term of the office of President should it become vacant. The President-Elect serves as Co-Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee. Assumes role of President after one-year term.

**To nominate yourself or a colleague,**  
**email [askvace@gmail.com](mailto:askvace@gmail.com) by**  
**Friday, March 27.**



# VACE 2026-2030 STRATEGIC PLAN

Over the past several months, we have been hard at work shaping the future of VACE! In collaboration with our Immediate Past-President, Sherry Talbott, and President-Elect, Carolyn Sutphin, I'm pleased to share that we have completed the strategic plan for 2026-2030. This will serve as a roadmap to strengthening our community, enhancing the value of membership, and deepening our impact across Virginia's career development and employer-engagement ecosystem.

This new plan builds on the momentum of recent years and reflects VACE's commitment to our members and partners. It focuses on expanding professional development, enriching member engagement, increasing employer and affiliate involvement, and elevating VACE's presence and influence across the Commonwealth. A newly created addendum will accompany the strategic plan to outline tangible strategies and tactics that will guide our work over the next five years.

We look forward to sharing the 2026-2030 Strategic Plan with all of you at the Annual Conference in April where we will outline our vision and priorities as well as highlight opportunities for members to get involved in bringing that vision to life.

Thank you for your continued dedication to VACE and to the students, employers, and institutions we serve! It has been an honor to serve as President while creating our next strategic plan, and I am excited about the future we are building together.

Kindly,  
Julia Ward, VACE President

**LEARN MORE ABOUT  
THE STRATEGIC PLAN  
AT THE CONFERENCE!**

# COLLEAGUE SHOUTOUTS!

**CONGRATULATIONS** GOES TO:

**SAM SQUYARS** AND **SARAH LAFRANCE** FOR PRESENTING AT THE NACE COMPETENCIES SYMPOSIUM IN NOVEMBER 2025!

THEIR SESSION, “**FROM CANVAS TO CAMPUS: A DIVISION-WIDE APPROACH TO DEVELOPING CAREER-READY STUDENT EMPLOYEES,**” HIGHLIGHTED THEIR INNOVATIVE WORK SUPPORTING CAREER-READY STUDENT EMPLOYEES.



BE SURE TO CONNECT WITH OUR FRIENDS AT JMU

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## SUBMIT NEWS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER!

**WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR MORE CONTENT FOR OUR  
NEWSLETTERS!**

**LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE:**

- **STORIES AND TESTIMONIALS FROM A CONFERENCE**
- **PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS – PRESENTATIONS, PUBLISHING, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**
- **DEPARTMENT NEWS – TELL US ABOUT YOUR RECENT SUCCESSES & RECOGNITIONS**
- **RECRUITING NEWS – PROMOTE UPCOMING JOB FAIRS, HIRING EVENTS, OPPORTUNITIES**
- **ANYTHING ELSE THAT MIGHT BE RELEVANT TO OUR COMMUNITY!**

**EMAIL NEWS ITEMS TO [ASKVACE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ASKVACE@GMAIL.COM)**