

# OAAA E-Weekly Newsletter

Office of African American Affairs

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## November 16, 2020

### Special Announcement

Expanded regulations in Virginia. Everyone spending the holidays in Virginia should be aware of [new regulations](#) announced last Friday, Nov. 13, by Gov. Ralph Northam. They include in-person gathering limits of 25 (UVA's limit remains 10 or fewer); an expanded mask mandate; a curfew for on-site alcohol sales, consumption, and possession; and increased enforcement measures.

Pre-departure testing for students. [Testing for COVID-19](#) is available to students before they leave for Thanksgiving or Winter break, and both on-Grounds and off-Grounds students have received detailed information in the past week. Testing also will be required of students prior to the start of second semester. More information about the requirements for the spring semester will be available in the near future.

Reduction of University services during upcoming breaks. We recognize a small number of students will need to remain in on-Grounds housing or in the area over the extended break due to unusual circumstances. Many services will be curtailed after the Thanksgiving Break, with a further reduction in services occurring after exams end on Dec. 11. Some offices, such as Student Health and Wellness, will remain available to students whether they are here or at home, but they will observe the Thanksgiving Break as well as the University's Winter Break from Dec. 19-Jan. 3.

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In order to reduce the risk of exceeding the max capacity, the Office has created an email for you to send print requests. [Click here to get more details about printing.](#)

Also, to maintain social distancing and safety guidelines while still supporting you, OAAA will only be able to host a very limited number of persons by appointment only. Students will be able to reserve study space for 60 minutes each day. [Click here to get more details and to make a reservation for study space.](#)

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### UVA COVID-19 PREVENTION, DETECTION, AND RESPONSE PLAN

The University is closely monitoring key metrics and has developed a [COVID-19 dashboard](#) that will be shared and will track key metrics like the rate of infections and our operational readiness to respond to the virus. We stand ready to alter our operations and plans based on these metrics. We are grateful to all members of our community for their diligence in following the guidelines outlined below. A printable copy of the [UVA COVID-19 Prevention, Detection, and Response Plan](#) is available.

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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Nov. 19: Lighting of the Lawn (virtual).  
Watch the livestream on the [LOTL website](#).  
Nov. 24: Fall courses end  
Nov. 25, noon: Residence hall access ends  
for students who do not plan to return until late January  
Nov. 25-29: Thanksgiving Break  
Nov. 30-Dec. 1: Reading Days  
Dec. 2-11: Exams

Dec. 6 and 9: Reading Days  
December (various dates): Spring course registration  
Dec. 12, noon: First-year residence halls close  
Dec. 12: Winter Break begins for students  
Dec. 19-Jan. 3: University academic offices closed  
Jan. 4-15: January Term (virtual)  
Jan. 14: Spring 2021 term notification of charges  
Jan. 16-31: Winter Break continues for students  
Late January (various dates TBD): First-year residence halls reopen  
Feb. 1: Spring courses begin  
Feb. 12: Spring 2021 term charges due  
Feb. 17: No classes  
March 9 and 29: No classes  
March 15: Decision about graduation observances  
April 15: No classes  
May 6: Spring courses end  
May 7-15: Exams  
May 9 and 12: Reading Days  
May 21-23: Class of 2021 Finals Weekend (tentative)  
May 28-30: Class of 2020 Finals Weekend (tentative)

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## OAAA Announcements & Services

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### OAAA Virtual Office Hours

Monday with Dean Bassett

9:00 am – 10:30 am

[Zoom Meeting](#) - Passcode: 104941

Tuesday with Dean Bassett

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

[Zoom Meeting](#) - Passcode: 864290

Wednesday with Dean Thomas

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

[Zoom Meeting](#) - Passcode: 692599

Thursday with Dean Mason

11:30 – 1:00 pm

[Zoom Meeting](#) - Passcode: 605279

Friday with Mason/Thomas (*Alternating*)

9:30 am – 11:00 am

[Zoom Meeting](#) - Passcode: 474974

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OAAA Tutoring for Fall 2020 –

OAAA Organic Chemistry Tutoring with Sarah Weisflog

Every Monday - 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm – [Zoom Room](#)

**OAAA Chemistry Tutoring with Yvette Gamor**  
Every Tuesday – 5:00 pm–7:00 pm – [Zoom Room](#)

**OAAA Biology Tutoring with Jermaine Austin**  
Every Thursday – 3:00 pm–5:00 pm – [Zoom Room](#)

**OAAA Calculus I and Statistics Tutoring with Travis Elliott**  
Every Monday - 12:00 pm – 2:30 pm – [Zoom Room](#)

Every Thursday - 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm – [Zoom Room](#)

Contact: [Dean Thomas](#) for more information

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Contact: [Dean Mason](#) for more information on:

- **Black College Women (BCW) Book Club**
- **Black Male Initiative (BMI)**
- **Black President’s Council (BPC)**
- **Black College Women (BCW) - In the Company of my Sister**

## Quote of the Week

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"A great figure or physique is nice, but it's self-confidence that makes someone really sexy." - Vivica A. Fox

## Quote's Corner



**Vivica Anjanetta Fox** was born in South Bend, Indiana, on July 30, 1964. She is an American actress, producer, and television host. Fox is the daughter of Everlyena, a pharmaceutical technician, and William Fox, a private school administrator. She is of African American and Native American descent and is proud of her heritage. She is a graduate of Arlington High School in Indianapolis, Indiana, and, after graduating, moved to California to attend college. Fox went to Golden West College and

graduated with an Associate Art degree in Social Sciences. While in California, she started acting professionally, first on soap operas, such as Generations (1989), Days of Our Lives (1965) and The Young and the Restless (1973). In the early 1990s, Fox began appearing in prime-time television, playing guest-starring roles on The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air, Beverly Hills, 90210, Family Matters, Matlock and Martin. In another early role, she played Patti LaBelle's fashion designer daughter, "Charisse Chamberlain", on the NBC-TV series, Out All Night (1992). Her first big break was in the film, Independence Day (1996), along with Will Smith, and also Set It Off (1996). She has earned critical acclaim for her portrayal of "Maxine" in the 1997 motion picture, Soul Food, which netted her MTV Movie Award and NAACP Image Award nominations. From 2004 to 2006, Fox co-produced and starred as FBI special agent Nicole Scott in the Lifetime television crime drama series Missing. She received NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Actress in a Drama Series for her role in 2006. Fox was a judge on The WB's talent show The Starlet. In 2007, she was a contender on Dancing with the Stars and stayed until she was voted off in the fourth week. In 1998, Vivica A. Fox married singer Christopher Harvest (aka Sixx-Nine), whom she later divorced in June 2002. In 2015, she was cast as Cookie Lyon's sister for the second season of the Fox prime time soap opera, Empire. In 2016, it was announced that she would portray the president of the United States in the science fiction film "Crossbreed", making her the first African-American woman to portray the role in a feature film. Vivica's Every Day I'm Hustling published in 2018 is a part memoir, part inspirational book that focuses on her career and relationships. Additionally, Fox states that her biggest regret in life is not having children. On September 20, 2020, Fox backed out of co-hosting E!'s Live from the Red Carpet virtual pre-show for the 72nd Primetime Emmy Awards, because she tested positive for COVID-19.

## Upcoming Events

### **\*ONLINE\* Davis Projects for Peace Information Session**

**Monday, November 16 - 4:00 pm-5:00 pm - Zoom**

The purpose of the Davis Projects for Peace is to spark initiatives for building prospects for peace in the world. Each year, the University of Virginia nominates one project and an alternate for the \$10,000 prizes to actually complete the project. Come explore how your vision for peace could be funded by Davis. [Register here](#):

### **The Office of Citizen Scholar Development**

#### **\*ONLINE\* Intro to Office and Q&A**

**Monday, November 23 - 4:00 pm-5:00 pm - Zoom**

Haven't heard of the Office of Citizen Scholar Development? Don't know what fellowships are? Come listen to a brief introduction of the office followed by a time for Q&A. This session is helpful for students and alumni who have yet to interact with the Office of Citizen Scholar Development. [Register here](#)

### **\*ONLINE\* UK Fellows Information Session**

**Monday, November 30 - 4:00 pm-5:00 pm - Zoom**

The United Kingdom Fellows Program allows graduating University of Virginia students the opportunity to teach and live abroad in a boarding school in the UK for the year following graduation. Come learn about the different schools with which we have a relationship and how to apply. Students in all fields welcome! [Register here](#)

## Opportunities with Deadlines

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The Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship is a highly selective scholarship for the nation's top community college students seeking to complete their bachelor's degrees at four-year colleges or universities. Each Cooke Scholar has access to generous financial support for two to three years, college planning support, ongoing advising, and the opportunity to connect with the thriving community of fellow scholars.

Each award is intended to cover a significant share of the student's educational expenses – including tuition, living expenses, books and required fees – for the final two to three years necessary to achieve a bachelor's degree. Awards vary by individual, based on the cost of tuition as well as other grants or scholarships they may receive. This highly competitive scholarship includes:

Up to \$40,000 per year to attend a four-year accredited undergraduate school.  
Ability to pursue any area of study.

Personal advising about selecting a college and navigating financial aid.

Multifaceted advising about how to transition to a four-year college and maximize the student experience.

The application closes on January 6, 2021 at 11:59 pm in your local time zone.

[More information:](#)

## This Week in Black History



Did you know that? In 1992, **Mae Carol Jemison** was the first African American woman in space. Jemison was born on October 17, 1956, in Decatur, Alabama. She is the youngest child of Charlie Jemison, a roofer and carpenter, and Dorothy Green Jemison, an elementary school teacher. The Jemison family moved to Chicago, Illinois, when Jemison was three years old to take advantage of better educational opportunities, and it is that city that she calls her hometown. Throughout her early school years, Jemison spent a considerable amount of time in her school library reading about all aspects of science, especially astronomy. She attended Morgan Park High School where she believed she would pursue a career in biomedical engineering. Graduating in 1973 as a consistent honor student, she entered Stanford University on a National Achievement Scholarship. Jemison was very involved in extracurricular activities at Stanford, including dance and theater productions, and served as head of the Black Student Union. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering from the university in 1977. Upon graduation, she entered Cornell University Medical College and, during her years there, found time to expand her horizons by studying in Cuba and Kenya and working at a Cambodian refugee camp in Thailand. After obtaining her M.D. in 1981, Jemison interned at the University of Southern California Medical Center and later worked as a general practitioner. The next two and a half years, she was the area Peace Corps medical officer for Sierra Leone and Liberia where she also taught and did medical research. Jemison returned to the US in 1985 where she made a career change to follow her dreams. In October, she applied for admission to NASA's astronaut training program. The Challenger disaster of January 1986 delayed the selection process, but when she reapplied a year later, Jemison was one of the 15 candidates chosen from a field of about 2,000. On June 4, 1987, Jemison became the first African American woman to be admitted into the NASA astronaut training program. After more than a year of training, she became the first African American woman astronaut, earning the title of science mission specialist; this was a job that would make her responsible for conducting crew-related scientific experiments on the space shuttle. On September 12, 1992, with six other astronauts aboard the Endeavour on mission STS47, she became the first African American woman in space. During her eight days in space, Jemison conducted experiments on weightlessness and motion sickness on the crew and herself. Jemison received a number of accolades, including several honorary doctorates, the 1988 Essence Science and Technology Award, the Ebony Black Achievement Award in 1992 and a Montgomery Fellowship from Dartmouth College in 1993. She was also named Gamma Sigma Gamma Woman of the Year in 1990. In 1992, the Mae C. Jemison Academy, an alternative public school in Detroit, Michigan, was named after her. Jemison has been a member of several prominent organizations, including the American Medical Association, the American Chemical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of

Science, and she served on the board of directors of the World Sickle Cell Foundation from 1990 to 1992. She has also served as an advisory committee member of the American Express Geography Competition and an honorary board member of the Center for the Prevention of Childhood Malnutrition. In March 1993 Jemison accepted a teaching fellowship at Dartmouth. Additionally, she established the Jemison Group which seeks to research, develop, and market advanced technologies.