



VCU Alumni

Dear graduate,

Welcome to the Virginia Commonwealth University alumni family. My name is E. Taylor Doctor, Class of 2011 in the School of World Studies and a 2019 10 Under 10 honoree. I use the skills I acquired at VCU every day.

On my first day of classes, I remember making a casual joke with a classmate; who knew that 13 years later she would be a lifelong confidant and we would still share laughs about that day? The point: Make lasting connections. They will be your friends for life, the godparents of your children, the people who support your love and attend your wedding, the ones who will always be by your side.

Give yourself some grace; no one expects you to have solved world peace by now. It's OK to not have all the answers. But there is always a calling for all of us to give back to creation. We all have a responsibility to make the world a better place, no matter your career, no matter your training. If you can make one person's life better, then you have gotten your reward.

You are graduating during unprecedented circumstances. Though it is hard to miss so many of the traditional celebrations that accompany this special moment, your persistence and courage make your achievement all the more remarkable. Good luck to you as you begin your next journey. Your alumni family is so proud of you!

Best,

E. Taylor Doctor

E. Taylor Doctor (B.A.'11/H&S)

P.S. Share your letter on social media with #vcualumni. The first 1,000 students to post online get a VCU license plate to show your Ram spirit!



E. Taylor
CLASS OF 2011

About me

I am E. Taylor Doctor, and I have spent my career bridging gaps between faith spaces and public health initiatives that impact the lives of LGBTQ/SGL people.

Why I love VCU

In 2008, I was a member of the VCU Concert Ensemble, which was invited to travel to Beijing to perform during the opening weeks of the 2008 Summer Olympics. It was a moment that I realized the impact being a student at VCU would have on my life. VCU prepared me for the diversity I would meet in the working world. There is no better preparation than VCU.

Why giving back to VCU is important

I have made it a point to come back to campus and share with the students through presentations and lectures about diversity with the Office of Student Affairs. I also connect with alumni in the Washington, D.C., area once a month.

Congratulations!



VCU Alumni

Recent Graduate Council

Purpose:

- To support the mission and goals of Virginia Commonwealth University and VCU Alumni.
- Provide leadership and guidance to the Office of Alumni Relations as it relates to recent graduates needs and wants.
- Work in conjunction with the Associate Director of Outreach and Engagement, Student and Recent Graduate Programs to create meaningful programs for VCU's most recent graduates.
- Promote, attend, volunteer and invest on behalf of VCU Alumni and as an engaged alumnus.

Membership

- The council will be composed of VCU alumni who have graduated within the last 10 years.
- Complete and submit an application and interview.
- Interviews will take place with the Office of Alumni Relations staff, VCU Alumni board members, and/or alumni volunteer leaders.
- The term of membership will be from July 1-June 30, with a minimum of two years commitment.
- There will be no less than 10 and no more than 30 members per term.
- The application will open March 1 and close April 30.
- Not required to live in the Richmond area.

Benefits

- Build relationships with current board members from VCU Alumni, MCVAA as well as across the university.
- Attend events sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations.
- Access to alumni leaders and university administrators.

Expectations and Responsibilities

- Attend and participate in quarterly meetings (at least 3 of the 4 is required), virtual or in-person.
- Advocate and support alumni programs and events as well as familiarize yourself with all programs and activities sponsored, organized, and coordinated by the office.
- Connect with Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow, the student alumni association.



VCU Alumni

Recent Graduate Council

- Plan an event or contribute to the development of recent graduate programming with the Office of Alumni Relations.
- Join and follow all Office of Alumni Relations social media channels.
- Assist in the identification and recruitment of new volunteers.
- Serve a minimum two-year commitment.
- Attend at least two Office of Alumni Relations sponsored events per year.
- Maintain confidentiality with pertinent University information. Volunteers are expected to agree to the confidentiality agreement, conflict of interest disclosure statement, and volunteer agreement.
- Support the Office of Alumni Relations by completing at least half of the items on the action plan. Action plan items may include:
 - Make any size gift to the VCU Alumni Annual Fund.
 - Purchase a ticket to Alumni Stars or Alumni Service Awards.
 - Host/co-host a Dinner for Alumni event with Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow.
 - Volunteer to assist with an Office of Alumni Relations event.
 - Participate in an industry networking event.
 - Volunteer at an Alumni Day of Service event.