



OUTREACH & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
VIRGINIA TECH™

- [A Home for Fresh Food: Town of Hillsville Breaks Ground on Farmer’s Market](#)
- [Vibrant Virginia & Beyond Tackles the Urban-Rural Divide and Issues of Equity](#)
- [Learn About A Pro Bono Management Consulting Opportunity For Your Organization](#)



A Home for Fresh Food: Town of Hillsville Breaks Ground on Farmer’s Market

In 2016, Virginia Tech’s Office of Economic Development conducted a study to

look at the feasibility of a farmer's market in downtown Hillsville, a town in Carroll County, VA. Four years later, Hillsville broke ground on the structure for the farmer's market after getting approval to build in a historical district.

Read More

<https://blogs.tlos.vt.edu/cece/2020/10/13/a-home-for-fresh-food-town-of-hillsville-breaks-ground-on-farmers-market/>



Vibrant Virginia & Beyond Tackles the Urban-Rural Divide and Issues of Equity

The second event of the Vibrant Virginia virtual forum series, Vibrant Virginia & Beyond, brought together initiatives from across the U.S. who spoke about working to achieve shared prosperity in their communities.

Read More

<https://blogs.tlos.vt.edu/cece/2020/11/06/vibrant-virginia-beyond-tackles-the-urban-rural-divide-and-issues-of-equity/>

Learn About A Pro Bono Management Consulting Opportunity For Your Organization

The Management Department at Virginia Tech offers a course in Management Consulting for our majors. Based on a clear briefing and performance agreement with a client organization, a team of 4-5 students will work on a semester-long consulting project for a real client.

We would like to offer this unique consulting opportunity and the following benefits to your organization:

- Opportunity for your organization to create additional value with the support of the student consulting team.
- Significant resources will be made available to you. Typically, each team will invest 25 hours of work per week for your project.
- **No costs** for your organization.
- Committed team of senior students who will focus on your specific needs and improvement opportunities for your business.
- Experienced professor will guide and coach the student team to success.

In order to assure a value-adding consulting assignment there are some drivers for mutual success:

- An appropriate project selection is key to success. Not all proposed projects are a good fit, as they must be large enough to encompass a whole semester of work.
- A good starting point for a project would be to consider your business “pain points” and business issues that keep you up at night. Typical consulting projects are business plans for starting or growing a business, market analysis and strategy development, specific business improvement opportunities, a business audit analyzing which business functions is performing well and where improvements should be made, etc.
- While there are no costs for you, the consulting project requires a dedicated point of contact for the consulting team and your time commitment for a kick-off meeting, regular review meetings, and a final presentation of project results. It has shown that a dedicated interface in the client’s organization drives best alignment and results.

We believe that this management consulting opportunity can create a lot of value – both for you and our students. If you are interested in using the resources of the Pamplin College of Business Management Consulting Team, we would love to hear from you and explore how we can add value to your business while providing real life development opportunities for our students.

If you are interested, please contact:

Dirk Buengel, Assistant Professor of Practice

Phone: 917-216-8630

DirkBuengel@vt.edu



Copyright © 2020 The Office of Economic Development, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

Virginia Tech Office of Economic Development
702 University City Blvd. (Mail Code 0373)
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.