QUOTES FROM FACULTY WORKING WITH GEM SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Supporting my community is a priority in my career as a scholar. The GEM Consortium helps me to connect with top tier students from across the nation!
- Freddy Paige, PhD

The GEM Fellowship Program has helped me to recruit and support domestic and underrepresented students, and also gives students lots of additional resources in networking and professional development.
- Jonathan Boreyko, PhD

IMPORTANT DATES

- July 1: GEM application opens for students
- November 15: application closes
- Week following: GEM administrators convene to score applicants and selection
- Week following: scores up, students ready to be selected by GEM Industry Partners for internships

APPLICATION PROCESS

Beginning July 1, students apply to the GEM Consortium. Students hoping to receive funded offers from universities are encouraged to apply early. Graduate Directors and Graduate Coordinators can recruit starting July 1. Each department will receive names and contact information of applicants for focused recruitment.

CONTACT INFO

For more details or questions send an email to both Dr. Trey Waller (trwaller@vt.edu) and Dr. Kaiya Jennings (kaiyaj@vt.edu)
What is GEM?
Since 1987, Virginia Tech’s Graduate School has participated in the GEM Consortium. GEM’s mission is “to enhance the value of the nation’s human capital by increasing the participation of underrepresented minorities (American Indian, African American, Mexican American, Puerto Rican, and other Hispanic Americans) at the master’s and doctoral levels in engineering and science.

GEM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

MS
- GEM Fellows pursuing the MS at VT will be provided a stipend up to four academic semesters
- Tuition and some fees for four academic semesters will also be provided to GEM Fellows who pursue the MS at VT
- If selected by a GEM Industry Partner, thus becoming a GEM Full Fellow, MS students will receive two 12-week summer internships with the GEM Industry Partner

PhD
- GEM Fellows who pursue the PhD at Virginia Tech will receive a stipend per academic year up to the fifth year
- PhD will receive one 12-week summer internship with sponsoring GEM member employer if selected as full fellow
- GEM fellows must accept a research or teaching assistantship

BENEFITS OF GEM FOR FACULTY
- Faculty benefit by having a comprehensive recruiting list of American Indian, African American, Mexican American, Puerto Rican, and other Hispanic American students who want to earn a MS and/or PhD.
- Students seeking the MS, who are selected by a GEM Industry Partner, will receive two summer internships, relieving the faculty from summer funding. There may also be an opportunity to have the student in the lab for a portion of a semester as a GRA.
- GEM Fellows are confirmed New Horizon Graduate Scholars, thus receiving 1 to 2 semesters of CoE funding as a GRA, depending upon the degree being sought.

VIRGINIA TECH GEM SCHOLAR STATS
Since 2011, 83 GEM Fellows have participated with Virginia Tech’s New Horizon Graduate Scholars program
Since 2014, 48 students have graduated
*34 earned the MS,
*12 earned the PhD,
*2 earned both the MS and PhD

How does GEM work?
Applications to the GEM Consortium open on July 1 and close on November 15. GEM University Partners may begin recruiting from GEM’s applicants to identify talent from underrepresented populations on July 1. Industry Partners begin selecting applicants to sponsor in late November. GEM Fellows who are selected by GEM Industry Partners become GEM Full Fellows. Students not selected will become GEM Associate Fellows.

If selected by a GEM Industry Partner, GEM Full Fellows who are MS students receive 2 summer internships (beginning MS and between 1st / 2nd academic year)
GEM Full Fellows who are PhD students receive one summer internship (before beginning PhD program)
GEM Full Fellows (MS and PhD) receive $20,000.00 from the GEM Consortium. Virginia Tech utilizes these funds to cover the student’s comprehensive fees.

If not selected by a GEM Industry Partner, the student is a GEM Associate Fellow and receives no additional funding other than the multi-year offer from the department.