



## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(Blacksburg, VA) – VT KnowledgeWorks hosts its sixth annual Global Partnership Week on August 16-22, 2015. University students, faculty, and staff from all over the world will congregate, collaborate, form partnerships, and build their global networks.

The Global Partnership is a multi-layered, ongoing cooperative association of regions building permanent social, academic, and business relationships. This year's 14 participating university partners include Alexandria University, Egypt; Ghent University, Belgium; King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT), Thailand; Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile; Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico; Télécom SudParis, France; University of Technology, Sydney, Australia; Universidad del Norte, Colombia; Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Ecuador; University of Kent, England; University of Trento, Italy; Vienna University of Technology, Austria; Virginia Tech, USA; and ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland.

Members of the Global Partnership gather annually during a week-long event hosted by VT KnowledgeWorks, the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, Virginia Tech, and the citizens and businesses of the Roanoke-Blacksburg region. Two concurrent tracks offered during the Global Partnership Week address the particular globalization issues faced by student entrepreneurs and innovative universities.

The Student Track celebrates the energy and ingenuity of university students and their important contributions to the global economy by means of the Global Student Entrepreneurship Challenge. The Challenge provides a unique opportunity for students to compete globally for a \$25,000 grand prize and VT KnowledgeWorks trophy. While in Blacksburg, the teams are housed with local families, spend interactive time with successful technology companies, enjoy fellowship with Virginia Tech students, and attend a formal awards banquet.

Another key element of the week is a stimulating multi-university roundtable event at Virginia Tech, where faculty members participating in the University Track will discuss and exchange best practices and provide an update on their entrepreneurship support programs, as well as new innovations and initiatives being conducted at their institution. Participants of the University Track enjoy celebratory meals with a regional audience and have numerous opportunities to network, partner, and do business with each other. They also attend the Global Student Entrepreneurship Challenge and awards banquet.

For more details about this event, visit our website at [www.vtkwglobal.com](http://www.vtkwglobal.com) or contact Lindsey Eversole at 540-443-9100 ext. 2 or via email at [lindsey.eversole@vtknowledgeworks.com](mailto:lindsey.eversole@vtknowledgeworks.com).

These generous sponsors make this very special week of education, competition, relaxation, and relationship-building possible: [Automation Creations, Inc.](#), [BAE Systems](#), [BB&T](#), [The Branch Group, Inc.](#), [Brown, Edwards & Company, LLP](#), [CIT GAP Funds](#), [City of Roanoke](#), [Fox 21/27](#), [G.J. Hopkins, Inc.](#), [Interactive Achievement, Inc.](#), [Meridium](#), [Montgomery County, Virginia Economic Development Department](#), [National Bank](#), [New River Valley Intellectual Property Law](#), [Plastics One Inc.](#), [Rackspace](#), [Shentel](#), [SimulTV](#), [SunTrust Bank](#), [TechLab](#), [Third Security](#), [Town of Blacksburg](#), [Town of Christiansburg](#), [Union Bank & Trust](#), [UXB International, Inc.](#), [Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center](#), [Virginia Tech's Outreach and International Affairs](#), [VPT, Inc.](#), and [Wordsprint](#).

VT KnowledgeWorks encourages and enables creative entrepreneurship world-wide, through innovative curriculum, local business resource centers, and a global network of cooperating regions, all focused on three essential contributors to success: clear understanding of fundamental business principles; access to timely, relevant information; and meaningful personal and corporate relationships. It is a subsidiary of the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, supported by the continuing confidence and enthusiasm of its clients, sponsors and friends, both corporate and individual. Its world headquarters is in Blacksburg, Virginia, USA.