VT Autism Clinic & Center for Autism Research
Biennial Spring Conference:
Celebrating 10 Years of VTCAR: Access and Neurodiversity

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Overview of our clinic and research

- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is the fastest-growing developmental disability in the U.S.
- Our mission: To improve lives of people on the autism spectrum and families through service, education, and research.
- VTAC (Psychology Department) opened in 2005 to train clinical science graduate students in evidence-based autism services.
- VTCAR (College of Science Center) opened in 2012 to add multidisciplinary research.
- The Mobile autism clinic launched in 2018 to provide mobile and telehealth services to rural underserved locales.
Core Research Areas

- Clinical/Translational Biomedical & Imaging
- Education
- Technology
- Biomedical & Imaging

Promoting Inclusion and SAFE Spaces for Autism
Using MRI to Diagnose and Subtype ASD
Preventing Attrition in Rural Special Education Teachers
Understanding Neurodevelopment and Nervous System Maturation

Registry and Weekly Newsletter

Mobile app for Behavioral Parent Training
Improving Emotion Regulation in Autistic Preschoolers
Machine Learning for Neurodiverse Workplaces
Using Technology/Telehealth For Evidence-based Practices
Housekeeping

➢ Restrooms
➢ Visit exhibitors during breaks
➢ Refreshments throughout the day
➢ Events during lunch
➢ If you need assistance
➢ Raffle tickets for give-aways!
➢ SAFE space inside the MAC (parked out front)
Virginia Tech Center for Autism Research
Biennial Spring 2023 Conference

Celebrating 10 Years of VTCAR:
Access and Neurodiversity

Friday, April 21 at the Inn at Virginia Tech
8:30am – 4:30pm

Inviting researchers, self-advocates, parents/caregivers, providers and anyone interested.

Cost is $10.
Pre-registration required.
Register at
www.vtcar.science.vt.edu
or with the QR code.

Scholarships available for autistic individuals, students, or others as needed.
Email vt autismcenter@vt.edu for more information.
Refreshments and lunch provided.

If you are an individual with a disability and desire accommodations, email vt autismcenter@vt.edu at least 10 business days prior to the event.
SAFE Champion Award
Supporting Autism Friendly Environments
Tori Thurston, Assistant Director of Marketing & Fan Experience and the VT Women’s Basketball Team
Exhibitors
Exhibitors

- New River Valley Disability Resource Center
- MoMs In Motion
- At Home Your Way
- Infinity Acres
- Cognitive Fitness
  - Fluency Building
  - Concept Instruction
- Mosaic Pediatric Therapy
Thank you to our sponsors:

Their mission is to help educate families and caregivers of people with special needs about the importance of creating a life care plan to help provide a secure financial future. The team offers Life Insurance, Disability, Insurance, Trust Services and additional resources.

https://www.massmutual.com/specialcare
Research Keynote Speaker
Dr. Julie Lounds Taylor

Transitions to adulthood for autistic youth: Improving outcomes by supporting families

Dr. Taylor is Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences and Associate Director of the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center, Data Sciences Core at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

The goal of her research program is to understand how to promote positive outcomes in adulthood for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families. Much of her current work focuses on the transition to adulthood for youth on the autism spectrum.
Self-Advocate Keynote Speaker
Daniel Durany

My Journey with Aspergers from Nonverbal to Raising a Family

Daniel will share his journey with Asperger’s and how he went from nonverbal to raising a family. He brings an enthusiastic perspective reflecting on his time in school, the world of a working adult, and dating/relationships.

He will discuss his childhood trails/tribulations, transitioning experiences into adulthood, failures/successes of relationships and approaches to help others.
In Closing:
Happy anniversary to VTCAR!

We believe that every person and family affected by autism should have access to the services they need, regardless of age, income, or residence.

We aim to *merge science with service* to make this a reality.

THANK YOU for your support! If you believe in what we do and want to support our work, visit this QR code.

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The Virginia Tech Autism Clinic & Center for Autism Research newsletter aims to provide weekly communication about autism and neurodivergent related events, research, news, groups, workshops, educational opportunities and more.

If you’re interested in joining, email vtautismscenter@vt.edu and ask us to add you to the listserv!