

# Virginia Tech Center for Autism Research

## Upcoming Events:

### Overview of Pivotal Response Treatment for ASD

**WHEN:** Wednesday, October 5, 2016

9:00am to 3:00pm

**WHERE:** Biocomplexity Institute of Virginia Tech, Conference Center (145)

**WHAT:** This knowledge-based training will discuss the history of Pivotal Response Treatment (PRT), highlighting motivational procedures to increase communication while decreasing challenging behaviors. The training will include video examples and interactive activities, emphasizing the importance of data collection to monitor progress.

**HOW MUCH:** Cost is \$85 per person, \$55 for students. Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

The registration link can be accessed at: <http://www.cpe.vt.edu/reg/prt/>

See the flyer [here](#).

### Hokie BugFest

**WHEN:** October 15, 2016

10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**WHERE:** Inn at Virginia Tech (Latham Ballroom)

**WHAT:** The Hokie BugFest is a free festival that celebrates the joy and excitement of entomology and appeals to every age group. It will be held on October 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Inn at Virginia Tech. Attractions include a live Bug Zoo, a Spiders' Lair, departmental research displays, a flea circus, games, crafts, and eye-catching exhibits. Bug enthusiasts can admire a giant bird-eater tarantula, meet the HokieBird, and learn all about bed bugs. This is a fun and educational event for the entire family. **This year, we are pleased to welcome members of the autism community for a special SAFE hour from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Come enjoy some highlights of the Hokie BugFest in a quieter environment.**

For more details, visit [www.hokiebugfest.org](http://www.hokiebugfest.org)

## **Studies:**

### **VTCAR is looking for Potential Employers**

**WHY:** The Virginia Tech Center for Autism Research (VTCAR) wants learn about the needs, goals, and barriers towards employment of young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). In the long term, we aim to develop an employment training program that helps improve employment opportunities for young adults with ASD.

**WHO:** You are eligible if you are a business owner or employee responsible for making hiring decisions for your business.

**WHAT:** We invite employers from companies of all sizes to participate in 1 hour focus groups to discuss employment issues related to individuals with ASD. Participants will hear a short presentation about ASD and then discuss potential barriers, benefits, and other surrounding factors concerning employing individuals with ASD. If employers would like to help with this project, but are unable to attend a focus group, an individual interview may be scheduled.

**WHERE:** Virginia Tech or a location of your choosing, at a time scheduled for your convenience. Interviews can also take place over the phone!

**CONTACT** VTCAR at [540-231-8747](tel:540-231-8747) or email [vtcar2013@gmail.com](mailto:vtcar2013@gmail.com)

### **Driving Study**

**WHY:** The Virginia Tech Center for Autism Research (VTCAR) wants learn about how those with and without ASD learn to drive.

**WHO:** We are asking parents and teenagers/young adults (ages 15-25 years) with and without ASD to take a survey related to experiences learning to drive.

**WHAT:** The survey is online, should take no longer than 30-45 minutes to complete, and those who complete the survey will receive \$10.00.

**WHERE:** Online at your convenience!

**CONTACT:** To learn more or to receive a link to the survey, call 540-231-8747 or email [vtcar2013@gmail.com](mailto:vtcar2013@gmail.com) and mention the "Driving Study."