EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

AMANDA MARCUM

Student Medical Insurance Coordinator
(Risk Management)

Hometown: Christiansburg, VA

Joined Virginia Tech in: 2016

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Job Duties & Responsibilities: International Students and Veterinary Medicine students are required to have health insurance that meets certain criteria while attending Virginia Tech. I help students enroll in the insurance and assist with any problems they may have with insurance claims. I work directly with Aetna Student Health in making sure that our students are enrolled correctly and that the students get the best benefit through the insurance plan. I also do reconciliations and audits to make sure that students with payroll deductions are paying correct amounts for their insurance.

SOME OF YOUR HOBBIES?

I love to craft when I have the time! My favorite thing is to make stainless steel tumblers with glitter and epoxy.

BEST ADVICE YOU'VE RECEIVED OR A FAVORITE QUOTE?

"Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass but learning to dance in the rain."

MOST REWARDING ELEMENT OF YOUR JOB?

Being able to help our students with insurance issues. Insurance can be very intimidating, so being able to solve their issues rather than them having to deal with the insurance company directly makes it a much smoother process.

HOW HAS YOUR LIFE BEEN DIFFERENT DURING COVID?

I worked from home for six months in 2020 with two kids at home (3 and 7). It was a major challenge, but I really enjoyed spending the extra time with them.

Not being able to be around family and friends was a big struggle. I am someone who likes to be on the go and that was my biggest obstacle. I am glad that we are getting back to normalcy. It definitely makes you appreciate the things you have when you go through something like this.

ANY PETS?

We have a dog named Kobe. He is part Golden Doodle and part Bouvier. He looks like a big teddy bear and is almost as long as I am.

IF YOU COULD ONLY KEEP 3 APPS ON YOUR PHONE, THEY WOULD BE...

Amazon, Pinterest, and Facebook

EVER MET ANYONE FAMOUS?

Jeff Foxworthy and Geena Davis. My brother got married in Washington D.C. and our hotel was at The Willard. Both of them were staying there as well and I was able to get a picture with Geena in the lobby. During the reception we were hanging out upstairs and Jeff Foxworthy was there and agreed to do a photo shoot with my cousins and I. He was a super nice guy! I also met Rascal Flatts in my younger days. My friend and I were chosen to be on stage for the entire concert and got to go backstage.

WHAT TYPE OF MUSIC DO YOU ENJOY?

Country music would have to be my favorite, but I like all different kinds of music. Pink is actually one of my favorite musicians! My sister-in-law actually went to school with her!

DO YOU STILL BUY CDs OR RECORDS?

No, Pandora or XM radio.

THE FIRST CONCERT YOU ATTENDED?

98 Degrees, thanks to my mom!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE...

SPOT ON CAMPUS?
Lane Stadium

HOLIDAY?
Seeing my kids' eyes light up on Christmas is the best!

MOVIE?
One of my favorites is *Man on Fire* with Denzel Washington.

SPORT OR TEAM?
Don't come at me for this one, but I was raised a Dallas Cowboys fan! And Virginia Tech of course!

FOOD?
Pizza–I could seriously eat it every day. Hot or cold!

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GREW UP?

A teacher.

ONE OF YOUR PET PEEVES?

I know it says ONE, but I have a few. Chewing loud, cracking your knuckles, and chomping on gum. My husband would tell you that I have more, but it just depends on what type of mood I am in.