

MEET THE INTERN

ADIA LONG



WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO VIRGINIA TECH?

I grew up here in Blacksburg and I think it was kind of a given that I would go to Virginia Tech. It's always felt like home and of course, it's a really great school. I didn't really look at other schools or even apply anywhere else (which I don't recommend to anyone) but thankfully it worked out.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE YOUR MAJOR?

I knew that I wanted to have some kind of business background but I also wanted to apply it to something I'm passionate about, which in my case is horse training. So that's how Agribusiness fits in. As for my minor Environmental Policy, I'm really passionate about the environment and am interested in the public sector and the legal aspects of environmental protection.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO ABOUT THE INTERNSHIP?

The two biggest things I'm excited about are developing my professional workplace skills and working on unique and impactful projects throughout the Summer.

WHAT IS ONE OF YOUR STRONGER ATTRIBUTES OR SKILLS THAT YOU BRING?

I consider myself a really good listener. I always value what other ideas people bring to the table and see the importance of understanding different perspectives.

ARE YOU INVOLVED WITH STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS?

I'm in a club right now called Protectors of the Watershed. Basically we go to various places around Blacksburg and pick up trash. It's honestly kind of sad how much people litter and I never realized it before.



- **Hometown:** Blacksburg, Va.
- **Studying:** Major in Agribusiness with a minor in Environmental Policy
- **Graduation Date:** December 2022
- **Internship Rotations:** (1) Financial Management (2) Capital Budgeting and Financing
- **Contact** adia@vt.edu

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WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR HOBBIES?

I ride horses and I'm big into hiking and running. I also like to draw and paint!

FOOD OR BEVERAGE YOU COULDN'T GO WITHOUT?

Tacos. There's so much variation there, you can always mix it up.

ONE THING ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?

I'd really like to go and hike in the Rocky Mountains.

FIRST JOB?

I worked on a horse farm. It was a lot of physical labor (leading horses in and out of the barn, cleaning stalls, driving the tractors) but it was also a ton of fun.

ANY PETS?

I have a bunny (Gilbert), a cat (Lucky), and my horse (Jazz).

FAVORITE BOOK?

Chasing Redbird—It's a super cute story that I've probably read at least five times.

WHAT MUSIC DO YOU ENJOY?

I listen to a lot of Indie and New Wave music. My favorite bands are Glass Animals and Fleetwood Mac, I can't decide just one.

WHO IS SOMEONE WHO INSPIRES YOU?

My mom inspires me a lot. When I was a kid she was battling chronic illness and she's overcome so much and doesn't give up. I find that really inspiring and brave.

ANY TV SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS?

I'm currently re-watching *Gilmore Girls*. Definitely my favorite comfort show.

BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU'VE RECEIVED?

It's really simple, but I've been told many times not to compare myself to others. Especially in this era of social media, I think we all try to act like we're accomplishing the same things as everyone else on the same timeline. It's your own race and it's OK to go at your own pace and accomplish different things. I think we lose sight of that a lot.

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

Snapchat, Weather, and Spotify.

WHEN YOU WERE A KID, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GREW UP?

A wildlife photographer. I wanted to go to Africa and photograph the animals there, and I also think the travel aspect sounded fun to me as a kid.

FAVORITE PLACE YOU'VE VISITED?

Quebec. I went in the wintertime and it was really snowy, it looked like something out of a fairy tale.

SOMEWHERE YOU WANT TO VISIT ONE DAY?

Greece. The architecture is really pretty, and I also love Mediterranean food.

ONE OF YOUR WEIRDEST QUIRKS? HOW ABOUT PET PEEVES?

Quirk—I really like frogs, it's almost an obsession. If I see one, I have to go and mess with it. They're probably my favorite animal. They're just so ridiculous looking.

Pet peeve—When people mix the big spoons and forks with the little spoons and forks.

IF YOU COULD HAVE LUNCH WITH ANY THREE PEOPLE, THEY WOULD BE...

Stevie Nicks – Because I love her music and also she would probably be fun to talk to.

Dolly Parton – She just seems like the most genuine and down-to-earth person.

Jane Goodall – Her conservation efforts are super inspiring to me.