

MEET THE FELLOW

MATTHEW DIGMAN



WHAT DREW YOU TO VIRGINIA TECH? TO YOUR MAJOR?

Both of my sisters went to Tech before me, so we were always down here for football games or to visit. I fell in love with the campus, both its natural beauty and the atmosphere of togetherness that I felt.

I chose management because I knew I wanted to go into business, and part of me was drawn to the importance of soft skills needed within management.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES OR STRENGTHS YOU BRING?

I think my empathy for others has always played a huge role in how I approach any interpersonal situation, whether with friends, family, or colleagues.

BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU'VE RECEIVED?

"We're all human, and humans are fallible. Never take yourself too seriously or overly criticize your mistakes."
- a former English teacher

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR HOBBIES?

Reading, video games occasionally, running, and watching TV series.

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

I had no career aspirations as a child, but I guess possibly a train conductor because I loved trains for some reason.

ONE THING ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?

To visit as many countries around the world as I can. No specific goal, I just want to travel and see the vast beauty that the world has to offer.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO ABOUT THIS FELLOWSHIP?

Getting to understand and work behind the scenes of higher education, and to be a part of the machine that keeps Virginia Tech as smoothly as it does! I hope to learn as much as possible, make meaningful connections with co-workers and help VT however I can.



HOMETOWN
Winchester, VA

VT CLASS OF 2020
Major: Management

FIRST ROTATION:
Procurement

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HOW HAS YOUR LIFE BEEN DIFFERENT DURING COVID?

I've never worn pajamas or sweatpants more frequently in my life. I also got a lot closer with my family in my time at home.

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THREE OF THE GO-TO APPS ON YOUR PHONE?

Twitter, Reddit, Instagram

ONE OF YOUR WEIRDEST QUIRKS?

I will physically cringe at the sound of Styrofoam.

ONE CHORE YOU ENJOY?

I actually really enjoy doing dishes, warm water is comforting to me and it's oddly satisfying to clean the dishes.

EVER MET ANYONE FAMOUS?

I met Tim Kaine at a coffee shop in Winchester once. Had absolutely no idea he was there until I saw people crowding around him.

ANY TV SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS?

Vikings, it's an absolutely phenomenal show.

FIRST JOB?

I worked at Hollister in high school, it was the easiest job I've ever had and my co-workers were so nice.

SOMETHING OUTSIDE WORK YOU ARE REALLY PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Politics.

IF YOU COULD...

LEARN TO DO ANYTHING?

Play the piano, it's such a beautiful instrument and I love the sound of it.

HAVE A SUPERPOWER?

Ability to fly. Plane tickets are too expensive.

HAVE LUNCH WITH ANY 3 PEOPLE?

Bernie Sanders - One of the most influential politicians of my generation and a man whose sole purpose has always been fighting on behalf of others.

Leonardo DiCaprio - he just seems like a fantastic guy who both cares about the environment and is an incredible actor.

Donald Glover - his personality and mine would intersect very well and he is incredibly talented with all of his endeavors.

BE ANY FICTIONAL CHARACTER?

Indiana Jones easily, he goes on adventures in search of historical artifacts for a living. And I think having such a thorough understanding of history would be amazing.

MEET ONE PERSON IN HISTORY?

Alan Watts. He is my absolute favorite philosopher, and his work cross-examining Eastern philosophies with Western values is eye-opening. I would love to listen to him speak about his work and beliefs for hours.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE...

SPOT ON CAMPUS?

The area of the pylons overlooking the Drillfield, it is so peaceful and I used to love to bring a book and some music and read leaning against them.

BREAKFAST CEREAL?

This answer changes frequently but a safe bet is probably Froot Loops. I have the palate of a 9-year-old sometimes but I'll own it.

FLAVOR OF ICE CREAM?

Rocky Road of course! Chocolate with marshmallows never misses.

HOLIDAY?

Christmas, it's essentially an entire month devoted to being cheery and giving to others!

MOVIE OR BOOK?

It's a series, but *A Song of Ice and Fire*. George RR Martin is an absolutely fantastic author and the universe he's built in those novels is astounding.

SPORT OR TEAM?

Arsenal FC in the English Premier League.

FOOD OR BEVERAGE YOU CANNOT GO WITHOUT?

Either pasta or cheese, it's a hard choice.

PLACE YOU'VE VISITED?

Tromsø, Norway. I went there on a solo trip in January 2020, and the beauty of Norwegian geography, the northern lights, and the activities I did during the trip made it unforgettable.

MUSIC OR ARTIST? WHAT IS THE FIRST CONCERT YOU ATTENDED?

I like a variety of genres, but alternative and rap are my favorites! My favorite musician is Joji and my first concert was Kendrick Lamar, it was absolutely fantastic.