

# Welcome to



Belle II Summer Workshop  
June 23–27, 2025



# Virginia Tech

- VT** Founded in 1872 as Virginia's white land-grant school (*Virginia's black land-grant school was Hampton Institute, now Hampton University*)
- VT** Names throughout the years:
  - Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College ("Virginia A&M")
  - Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute (*try saying that 5 times fast!*)
  - Virginia Polytechnic Institute ("VPI")
  - Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University ("VPI&SU")
  - **Virginia Tech** [*our informal name – rolls off the tongue of a football fan*]
- VT** Motto: *Ut Prosim* ("That I May Serve")
- VT** 2600-acre main campus + many other satellites
- VT** 30500 undergraduates, 7500 graduates (57% male, 43% female)
- VT** among top 6% in research expenditures in US



# Did you know ... the **Eastern Continental Divide** passes through Blacksburg?



The creek and pond behind this hotel drains into the [New River](#), which flows westward (!?!) across the Appalachian mountains into the Mississippi River. The New River is a really *old* river since it predates the mountain range.

# The HokieBird

①

When **Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College** had “**and Polytechnic Institute**” added (informally **VPI**), a contest was held for a new team-spirit cheer.

*The contest winner was:*

Hoki, Hoki, Hoki, Hy!  
Techs, Techs, VPI!  
Sola-Rex, Sola-Rah.  
Polytechs – Vir-gin-i-a!  
Rae, Ri, VPI!

Later, an “e” was added:

Hoki ➡ Hokie



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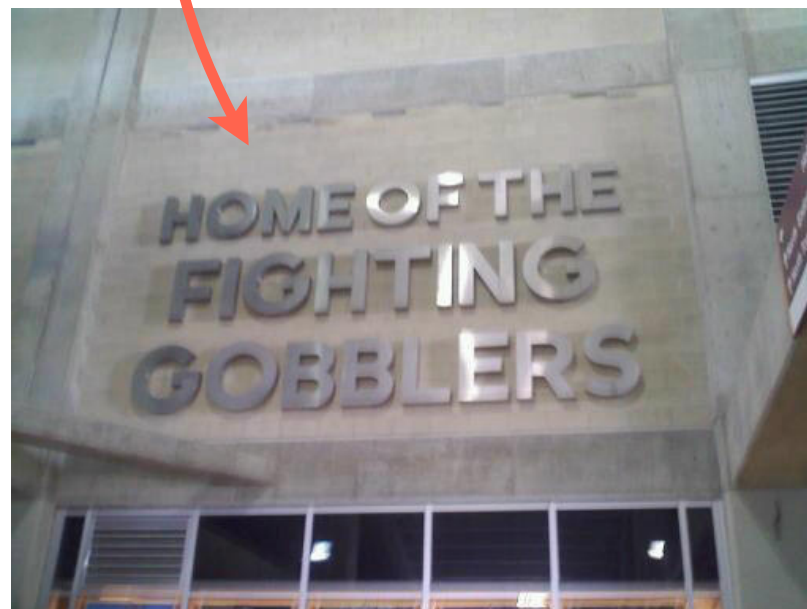
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③

“Gobbler” is another word for “turkey” because of the turkey’s sound.

Hokie + Turkey = HokieBird





# Hokie Stone

– the limestone façade on campus buildings



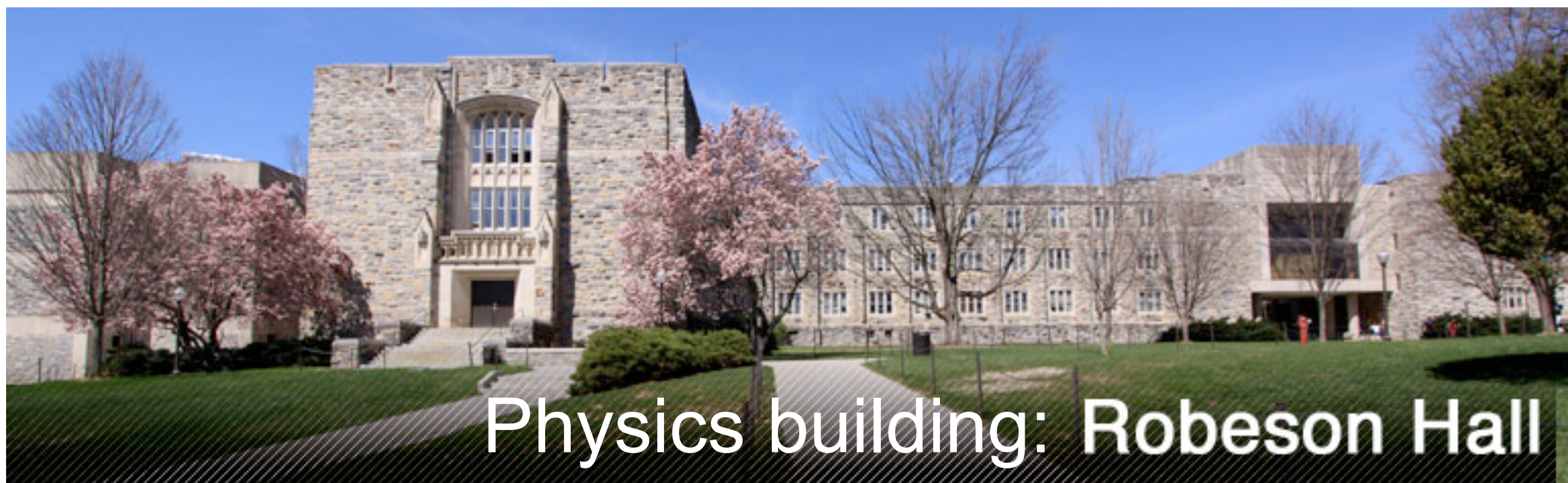
quarry in south Blacksburg



detail



# Hokie Stone





# Administrative stuff

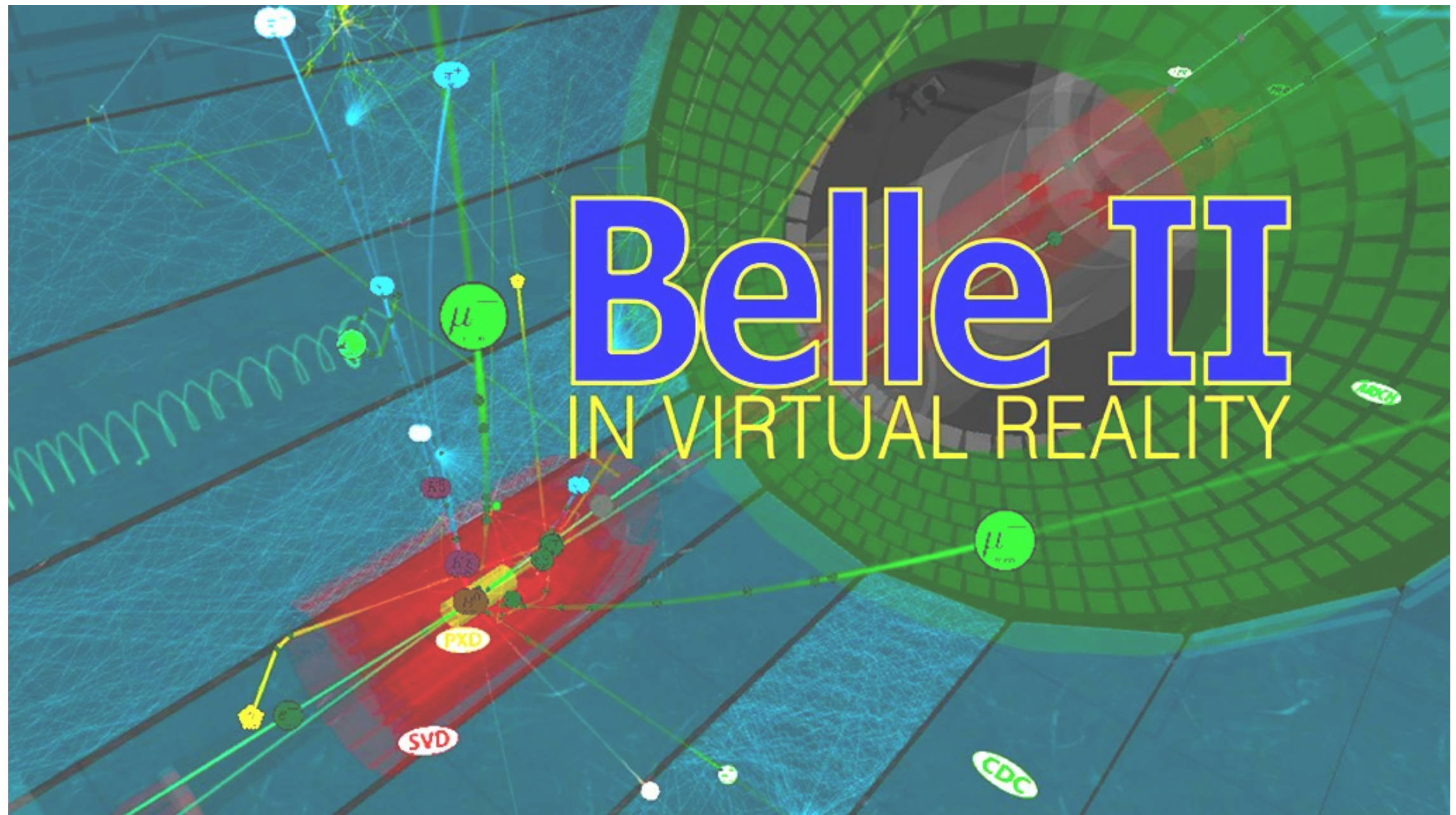
If you didn't get your gimme cap yet,  
pick it up at the back of this room.



Group photo this morning  
at the start of the coffee break



Go downstairs to the foyer  
next to the ballrooms.



Try it on the VR headsets at the back of the room.  
Wander around in Tsukuba Hall.

If the headset is asleep, tap its side button to awaken.



# Let's continue with the 2025 Belle II Summer Workshop



VIRGINIA TECH<sup>®</sup>

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Let's go ...