

# Esther S. Cho

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## EDUCATION

### **Virginia Tech**

Bachelor of Arts: **Literature & Language**

Bachelor of Science: **Packaging Systems and Design**

Blacksburg, VA

May 2019

May 2019

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### **Undergraduate Researcher**

**Virginia Tech Department of English**

August 2018 - Present

Blacksburg, VA

- Research collaboration with Virginia Tech and Korea University on Korean pitch and politeness: the purpose of this research is to understand the correlation between politeness and pitch in the Korean language and culture
- This research was a derivative from my 'Gender and Linguistics' research paper written in Spring 2018
- Recent studies suggest the Korean language opposes the universal pattern across languages: speakers lower their pitch when speaking politely
- Attempt to confirm this finding using a listening study by manipulating the pitch of Korean speakers and understanding what lower pitch is signaling in these situations
- Conduct research on Korean students at Korea University using the Virginia Tech Qualtrics Survey Software
- Manuscript in preparation
- Accepted to do an oral presentation at *Southeastern Conference of Linguistics (SECOL)* in June 2019, Boca Raton, FL
- Submitted to present at *Virginia Area Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium (VALING)* in April 2019, Williamsburg, VA

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **Teacher**

**K&E Academy LLC.**

June 2017 - August 2018 (Seasonal)

Fairfax, VA

- Taught 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade English and Math for the 2017 and 2018 summer program (8 weeks)
- Managed a classroom of 10-12 Korean- American and American students per class
- Modified assignments for students at different ability levels
- Organized and executed lesson plans for 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade English and Math classes
- Aided in administering unit tests

### **Event Coordinator Intern**

**National Association of Professional Asian-American Women (NAPAW)**

June 2017 - August 2017

Washington, D.C.

- Organized NAPAW's national training conferences and 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> Annual NAPAW Concert, funding for Johns Hopkins University Hospital

### **Special Assistant**

**USDA Farm Service Agency**

May 2016 & May 2017

Washington, D.C.

- Special assistant to the USDA Farm Service Agency National Affirmative Program Manager
- Worked with the USDA to arrange Hephzibah Youth Orchestra performances for the Asian and American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Observance in May 2016 and May 2017

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

**Activity Coordinator** January 2014 - Present  
**Hephzibah International Volunteer Organization (H.I.V.O)** Fairfax, VA

- A non-profit to serve people in need in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area through music
- Led community outreach events monthly at Fairfax Nursing Center and Sunrise Senior Living Center
- Volunteered to teach English to the children of missionaries in Penang, Malaysia since Spring 2016

## CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

**Virginia Tech Packaging Student Club Member** August 2015 - Present

**Virginia Tech Chinese-American Association Member** August 2016 - Present

**Virginia Tech English Club Member** August 2017 - Present

**Virginia Tech Japanese Cultural Association Member** August 2018 - Present

## AWARDS

**Dean's List - Virginia Tech** Dec 2017 - Present

**NAPAW Outstanding Community Service and Academic Achievement Award** August 2018

**USDA Certificate of Appreciation** May 2017

- 2017 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Observance Program

**President's Volunteer Service Awards (Gold)** December 2011 - 2018

- 250+ hours of community service through Hephzibah Volunteer Organization

**John D. Smith Scholarship - Virginia Tech** August 2018

- Approximately \$1,000

**G. Scott Francis Scholarship - Virginia Tech** August 2016 & 2017

- Provides support in area of paper, fiber, recycling, packaging, and unit load research and education
- Approximately \$2,000

**Shelton H. Short Scholarship - Virginia Tech** August 2016

- Approximately \$2,000

**The Congressional Award - Washington, D.C.** November 2014

- 175+ hours of community service through H.I.V.O