

# Virginia QuarkNet Center 2023-2024 Activity Report

November 10, 2024

The Virginia QuarkNet Center currently has around 15 active high school teachers from Hampton, Newport News, Williamsburg, Richmond, and northern Virginia. Josh Erlich from William & Mary and Phil Rubin from George Mason University are the lead mentors. Lead teachers and QuarkNet LHC Fellows Mike Fetsko and Maria Niland have been sharing the bulk of the organizational responsibilities.

## Masterclass 2024

William & Mary hosted a CMS Masterclass on March 23, 2024 for around 35 students from VA and MD. In addition to the analysis of CMS data and videoconference with Fermilab, students listened to a talk about particle physics, interacted virtually with a former Masterclass student currently studying at CERN, and toured several hadronic physics and AMO labs, and a NOvA experiment control room.

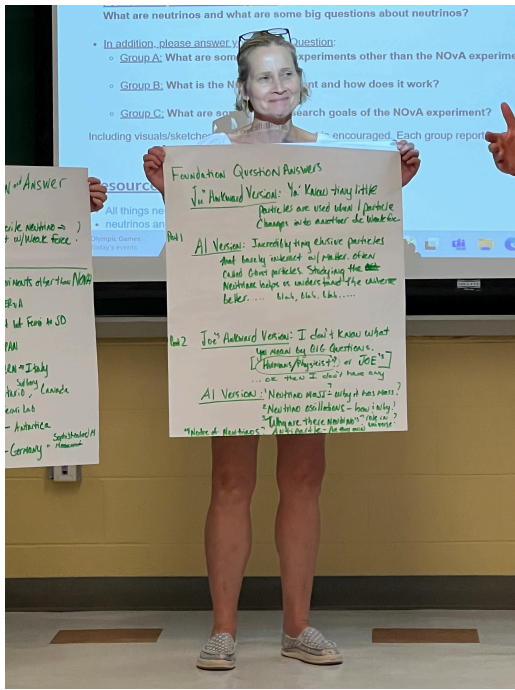


Students at Masterclass (William & Mary)

## Workshops

The Virginia Center hosted a workshop on October 28, 2023 at William & Mary. Josh Erlich and Patricia Vahle gave particle physics talks. Mike Fetsko and Maria Niland reviewed the Data Activities Portfolio and discussed World Wide Data Day and Masterclass activities.

The Virginia Center also hosted a three-day Summer workshop on July 29-31, 2024. The first two days were led by Shane Wood and Ray Hodges, who worked through the NOvA neutrino workshop. This was supplemented with a talk by NOvA spokesperson Patricia Vahle. The third day was spent with a talk by Josh Erlich, a discussion of sports and physics by Maria Niland, and discussions of AP Physics updates and upcoming QuarkNet activities led by Mike Fetsko.



Fall Workshop (William & Mary)

Other Activities

Janet Kahn attended the CERN High-School Teacher Program during Summer, 2024.  
Samantha Cohodas attended Data Camp and Coding Camp at Fermilab.