



SUCCESS  
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# **What's Happening in BSU's Academic Affairs?**

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### Meet Dr. Rosalynne Whitaker-Heck, Associate Vice President for Retention & Student Success

Rosalynne Whitaker-Heck, Ed.D., APR, has joined the Office of the Provost as the Associate Vice President for Retention and Student Success. She most recently served as the Associate Provost of Academic Affairs at Champlain College, a small, private, 4-year institution in Burlington, Vermont, with administrative leadership of the Center for Learning and Teaching, the Library, Academic Technology, Provost Office operations, and the Office of Academic Support and Coaching Services, in addition to co-leading a cross-institutional Student Success and Retention team.



*Dr. Rosalynne Whitaker-Heck*

Other faculty and administrative appointments included the first administrator of the Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications at Hampton University. In addition, she has been an adjunct professor at Old Dominion University and Norfolk State University, as well as administrative positions in a K-12 school district in Newport News, Virginia.

In her new role, Dr. Whitaker-Heck will be responsible for developing, implementing, and evaluating the strategic student success and retention plan of Bowie State University. This position will have direct supervision and oversight of programs and services that promote, encourage, and support student success.

Dr. Whitaker-Heck earned a B.A. in Communications from Howard University, an M.S. in Media Management from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a doctorate in Higher Education Administration from The George Washington University.

Her hometown is Hampton, Virginia.





# Faculty & College Showcase



The Division of Academic Affairs has outstanding faculty with excellence in teaching, research, and service. We are proud to recognize those individuals/colleges who have demonstrated unwavering excellence by advancing scholarship through presentations, publications, and research.

## College of Arts & Sciences

### Department of Fine & Performing Arts Professors Shine in Regional and National Exhibitions



Art Vidrine, Winter Glow (Alaska, 2023)  
18" x 24" archival inkjet print (22" x 28" matted frame)

The Department of Fine and Performing Arts (DFPA) Professors Art Vidrine and Gail Shaw-Clemmons were selected to exhibit art works in the 5th Biennial Maryland Regional Juried Art Exhibition at University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC). The exhibition ran during the summer: Jun. 2 – Sept. 8, 2024. An exhibition catalog was produced for the show.

DFPA staff member Tracy Barwick and Professors Tewodross M. Williams, Art Vidrine, Kevin Holder, and Doreen Vernon were selected to participate in a Natural Alliance of Artists from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (NAAHBCU) juried art exhibition entitled Living the Legacy. The exhibition will also feature work by professors from Savannah State University. The show will run this fall, Oct. 14 – Nov. 9, in BSU's Fine and Performing Arts Center Gallery.



## Department of Fine & Performing Arts Professors Shine in Regional and National Exhibitions

An interdisciplinary team of researchers including Prof. Gina Lewis (Associate Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences and Professor of Fine and Performing Arts), Dr. Monifa Love (Professor, Language, Literature, and Cultural Studies), Dr. Tamara Brown (Professor, History and Government), Dr. Carmen Walker (Associate Professor, History and Government), former BSU faculty member Dr. Sheneese Thompson (Howard University, Department of Afro-American Studies), and doctoral candidate Damita Green (Morgan State University) is investigating Carl and Lilian Sandburg's relationship to the African American community and the Civil Rights Movement for the U.S. National Park Service's Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site.

The team will review materials held by the National Park Service (NPS) and those in US special collections devoted to the Sandburg-Steichen family and provide its insights to the NPS. Co-PIs Lewis and Love and the team members aim to contribute to Sandburg scholarship as it relates to material culture, American poetry and politics, cultural influence, the Civil Rights Movement, Sandburg-Steichen activism, and representation of the Sandburgs in African American publications.

The two-year long project, Special History Study – The Sandburgs' Views and Roles Related to African Americans and Civil Rights, will culminate in a public sharing of findings as well as a final report for the NPS.



# FACULTY & COLLEGE **SHOWCASE**

## College of Education

### Dr. Jordan Alston Leads Discussions on Environmental Justice and Workforce Development



Dr. Masica Jordan Alston was a featured speaker at two prominent national conferences in September. At the 10th Environmental Justice Symposium at the University of Maryland, she led discussions on environmental harms faced by returning citizens in prison and their transition to healthier communities. She also presented on clean energy workforce development, emphasizing inclusive pathways for marginalized groups. Both sessions centered on the theme of equitable workforce development as a means to justice and inclusion, with over 5,000 attendees amplifying the impact of these discussions.

At the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Research Conference, Dr. Jordan shared a panel with presidential appointees and Harvard researchers, representing Bowie State University as the sole HBCU participant. Her presentation focused on culturally responsive training to reduce recidivism among justice-impacted individuals. Speaking at these competitive, high-profile events highlights her expertise in workforce development and justice reform, underscoring her leadership in advancing equity across sectors.

### Environmental Justice Symposium



**2024** National Research Conference  
**ADVANCING JUSTICE**  
THROUGH SCIENCE



## **College of Professional Studies**

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### Reexamining Sociological Theory: A New Perspective from Dr. Parris



*Dr. Elliott Parris*

D. Elliott Parris, PhD, the Chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Human Services, and former Interim Dean of the College of Professional Studies, has authored a new textbook on sociological theory, published by Cognella Academic Publishing of San Diego, California.

The book, entitled *Confronting Sociological Theory*, aims to bridge the gap between sociology and students from minority backgrounds, particularly those attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), as well as first-generation college students. The book reexamines sociological theory with a focus on making it relevant and accessible to these audiences. By highlighting the work of W.E.B. Dubois and other significant sociologists, it introduces students to the discipline's rich and varied perspectives, while also underscoring the implicit biases that have historically excluded minority contributors.



## BSU Academic Nurse Educator Certification Award ( ANEC)



*BSU Nominees*

During the spring 2024 semester, several Nursing Faculty received the Academic Nurse Educator Certification (ANEC) Award. This award is given to Nurse Educators who achieve or maintain the National League for Nursing Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) Certification during the current or prior fiscal year. Bowie State University's Department of Nursing had five (5) nominations. Each of them will receive \$5000 along with the NLN CNE honor cord. The recipients are:

- Mrs. Allison Griffith
- Dr. Kiyann McCormick
- Dr. Paula Sutton
- Dr. Sharon Wilks
- Dr. Janice Williams



*Dr. Jacqueline Hill*

On Wednesday, May 8, 2024, all awardees met with the Chairperson of Nursing, Dr. Jacqueline J. Hill, to take a photo that was shared with the NSP II Administration for publication. The photo has since been published and the awardees names have been added to The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) Nurse Support Program II (NSP II) List of Awardees.



## **Thurgood Marshall Library**

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Thurgood Marshall Library Associate –  
Etana Laing, Featured in Sage Publishing



*Etana Laing*

Etana Laing, Thurgood Marshall Library Associate was featured in Sage, a global academic publisher of books, journals and a growing suit of library materials and services.

In this feature, Etana addressed the critical issue of censorship through the lens of student protest and advocacy and the actionable steps and stance Universities can take by utilizing its space to remind students and its communities about the history of advocacy and resistance.

According to Etana “Doing so shifts the needle to a place of agency and is a reminder that there is a legacy of speaking truth in the face of censorship attempts.” Read the full feature [here](#).

### **Thurgood Marshall Library is Now on Social Media!**

To better connect with its patrons, Thurgood Marshall Library has launched its social media accounts that includes Instagram and Facebook. The purpose of these accounts is to create further awareness about the resources available within the library, show patrons how to locate and use them and also connect better with the various populations the library serves.

The account names are [@bsu\\_tmlibrary](#) on Instagram and [Thurgood Marshall Library](#) on Facebook. Do reach out, connect with us to see our latest resources and events, and share with others!





Thurgood Marshall Library Hosts the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL)

On the Sept. 12, the Thurgood Marshall Library hosted its first-ever Assessment Workshop, ‘Standards for Libraries in Higher Education’, conducted by the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL).

The workshop is part of Dean Sophia Sotilleo's goals to improve and effective ways the library can connect with patrons and build spaces that proactively support the institution's goals and objectives.



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Thurgood Marshall Library Partners with Bowie Public Library & Student Life for ‘Get a Library Card Month’

In celebration of ‘Get a Library Card Month’, Thurgood Marshall Library had its first iteration of the Library Exchange Program through partnering with the Bowie Public Library and Student Life to offer all Bowie State University’s students a public library card.

Students had the opportunity to get library cards at the Bowie Branch, learned about their collection of resources, and toured the space. Students were also made aware of community service opportunities, including a teen mentorship program hosted by Bowie Youth and Family Services.



## Thurgood Marshall Library Launches Book Club in Celebration of Banned Books Week



In celebration of Banned Books Week, Thurgood Marshall Library is launching a new book club aimed at fostering open discussions about censorship, intellectual freedom, and the power of literature. The club will explore a selection of historically challenged books, encouraging students, faculty, and staff to engage in meaningful conversations about the themes, cultural significance, and lasting impact of these works. This initiative highlights the library's commitment to promoting diverse voices and the free exchange of ideas in the academic community.

The Thurgood Marshall Library would be excited to have everyone participate including members of faculty and staff. [Click the link to join and be a part of our banned book club.](#)





**Unit**

**Achievements &**

**Updates**



The Division of Academic Affairs has outstanding staff who lead with excellence. We are proud to share their achievements.

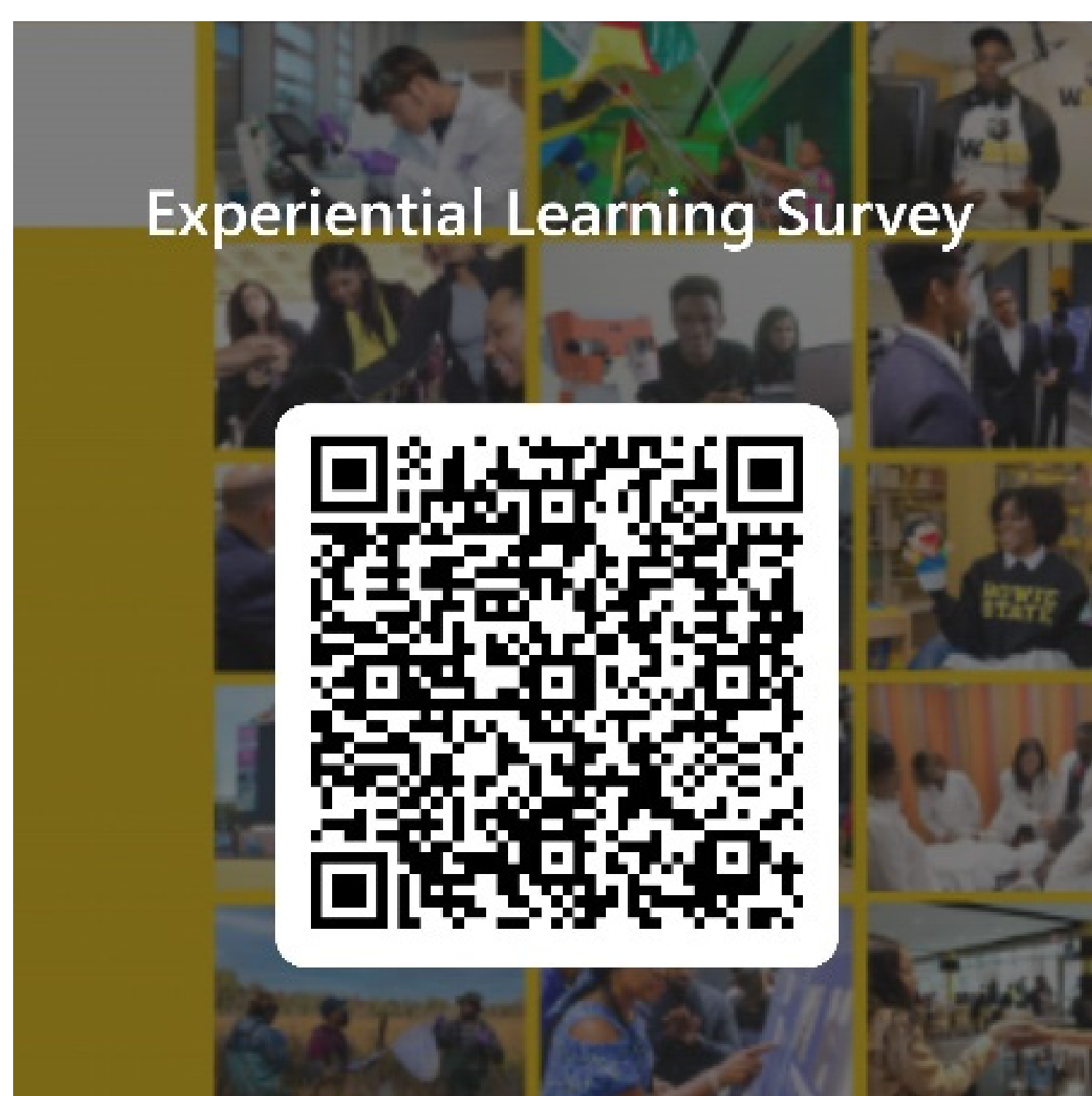


Laura Walker

## Meet Laura Walker - Senior Analyst for Decision Support & Visual Analytics

Office of Planning, Analysis and Accountability is excited to announce the addition of a new team member Laura Walker, Senior Analyst for Decision Support & Visual Analytics. Laura's expertise in data visualization, data warehousing, R, programming and data management and governance will enhance OPAA's dashboard development. Laura was previously the Senior Institutional Research Data Analyst at the University System of Maryland (USM) and holds a Master of Information Management from the University of Maryland, College Park. Please welcome Laura by stopping by JEP 312 or through teams / email [awalker2@bowiestate.edu](mailto:awalker2@bowiestate.edu).

## Experiential Learning Survey



The Office of Experiential and Integrative Learning has launched an Experiential Learning Survey! As you already know, experiential learning is hallmark component of a BSU undergraduate and graduate education, and it is a part of BSU's current Strategic Plan: Racing to Excellence and will be included in the FY2026-2029 Strategic Plan: Elevate. We're asking that all faculty and staff complete this survey as we continue to build a university-wide comprehensive model for experiential learning. Your survey responses will help to create a baseline of the experiential learning activities led by faculty and staff across the curriculum and co-curriculum at the university.

Also, your feedback will help to refine a university definition of experiential learning as well as shape a better understanding of your needs for developing and facilitating experiential learning activities. The estimated time to complete the survey is 5-10 minutes. We sincerely appreciate your participation in this Experiential Learning Survey. If you have any questions about this survey, please reach out to Dr. Jared E. Moffett, Director of Experiential Learning.



# UNIT **ACHIEVEMENTS & UPDATES**

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## **The Entrepreneurship Innovation Center**

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The Entrepreneurship Innovation Center (EIC) is proud to highlight their latest program and outreach:

- **Drone Workshop** - On Sept. 16, 2024, the EIC hosted a successful Drone Workshop with 15 students in attendance! Students built drones and learned the basics and safety precautions required to fly a drone. The Global Air Drone Academy also shared insight into the many entrepreneurial opportunities in the drone industry. This event was made possible by a grant from Proctor & Gamble.



- **EIC Fellows** – This Fall 2024 BSU EIC Fellows will collaborate with students from Al-Balqa Applied University in Jordan through the Global Solutions Sustainability Challenge implemented by IREX (International Research & Exchanges Board), a global development & education organization. Students will work together to develop business concepts related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, participate in a virtual competition, and gain access to entrepreneurial resources from the EIC.

- **Pop-Up Shops** – The EIC held two Pop Up Shops to support our campus entrepreneurs. Students, faculty, and staff displayed, marketed their businesses and services, and generated revenue along the way!

- **Game Night** – The EIC held our first Game Night on Sept. 11 where 30 students, staff, and faculty in attendance enjoyed board games, snacks, and great company.



# UNIT ACHIEVEMENTS & UPDATES

## EIC Campus-Wide Outreach



- **Open House** – Attended the Fall 2024 Open House on Saturday, Sept. 12 where EIC engaged with prospective and transfer students to provide information and resources about the EIC.
- **Student Success Fest** – Attended the Success Fest on Tuesday, Sept. 3 engaging with students to provide resources and information about the EIC and give support for a successful semester.
- **Educational Technology Day** – During this fun-filled event, the EIC flew drones and connected with vendors, students, staff, and faculty while learning about current and emerging technology.
- **BSU Parents & New and Returning BSU Students** - The EIC welcomed new and returning BSU students and families in August with snack bags and custom "BSU Parent 2024" keyrings, showcasing the innovative capabilities of the EIC Makerspace.



We are excited to announce the 4th Annual HBCU+ Entrepreneurship Conference, hosted by Bowie State University, on **Friday, Nov. 1, 2024**. This year's hybrid conference, held in collaboration with the White House HBCU Initiative and the Tom Joyner Foundation, is essential for everyone interested in participating in inclusive dialogue and the intersection of HBCUs, other minority-serving institutions (MSIs), and entrepreneurship. Our theme, "Igniting Innovation, Building Legacies: Empowering the Next Generation of Entrepreneurs," underscores our commitment to fostering innovation and equipping students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the broader community with the knowledge and tools to create sustainable businesses. This year, we are thrilled to share that the Tom Joyner Foundation has asked the EIC to launch the inaugural event, "Tom Joyner's" I Got an Idea: HBCU Pitch Competition." The top six finalists will pitch their innovative ideas for a chance to win up to \$5,000 in cash and additional scholarship awards of up to \$10,000 from the Tom Joyner Foundation.



# UNIT **ACHIEVEMENTS & UPDATES**

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## EIC Awards & Recognition Highlights:

- Through the **Maryland Innovation Initiative** under TEDCO, the EIC/Technology Transfer and Innovation Office (TTIO) received \$147k to create a student consultant team, a digital entrepreneurial tool kit and support for building the infrastructure of the TTIO. In addition, we received Technology Validation funding for 3 faculty proposals, including Dr. Anne Osano, Dr. Supriyo Ray, and Dr. William E. Smith, for \$50K each.
- Through the **Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) grant**, EIC held its 2nd Summer Building Businesses @ BSU (BB@BSU) Summer Incubator program with 25 student entrepreneurs this summer. Five of these entrepreneurs came to the program via Egerton University. The program offers distinct programs and activities for each stage of our entrepreneur's business development and provides them with ultimate business resources to launch businesses.
- **The EIC received MBDA's Spotlight Award.** Highlights of first-year success included being the only HBCU to be awarded a "Spotlight Recognition Award" by MBDA at its national conference in June of 2023. Our Building Business at BSU signature program was honored for our "outstanding efforts and contributions to advancing minority business development. This award was presented to the BSU by the Under Secretary for MBDA, Donald R. Cravins, Jr.
- **Johnetta B. Hardy received the HBCU Entrepreneurship Legacy Black Commerce Award** from HU/PNC National Entrepreneurship Center.

## **To Learn More About EIC Check Out These Platforms**

### **Website:**

<https://www.bowiestate.edu/entrepreneur>

### **Email:**

[eic@boweistate.edu](mailto:eic@boweistate.edu)

### **Sign up for one of EIC's Upcoming Events:**

<https://bowiestate.startuptree.co/discover/events> to!





# Student Success



The Division of Academic Affairs fosters an academic environment which prioritizes student learning and success.

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*Temilade Ayo Aladeokin,*

## The Path to Leadership: An HBCU's Unique Appeal for Black Professionals an International Summer Experience in Italy

Meet Temilade Ayo Aladeokin, a third-year Department of Educational Leadership doctoral student at the prestigious Bowie State University. For Mr. Aladeokin, the decision to pursue a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership and Administration at a Historically Black College or University (HBCU) is multifaceted. HBCUs offer distinct cultural, academic, and professional advantages that may not be readily found in predominantly white institutions.

Firstly, HBCUs provide a haven of cultural connection and belonging. Many Black students who have navigated the often-isolating terrain of white-dominated spaces find solace in the shared identity and understanding fostered within HBCU communities. This sense of belonging can be profoundly empowering for mid-career professionals seeking to develop their leadership potential within a culturally relevant context.

Furthermore, HBCUs boast a higher proportion of Black faculty members who serve as both mentors and role models. This representation matters, especially in the field of education, where Black leadership is historically underrepresented. Witnessing Black scholars excel in their fields can ignite a sense of aspiration and possibility in students, propelling them toward their own leadership goals. This is the case for Mr. Aladeokin, who expressly affirmed that having Dr. Ann Hilliard and Dr. Hyacinth Anucha as professors and mentors has helped him tremendously and greatly benefited his research efforts. "The acts of teaching that Drs. Hilliard and Anucha employ in and out of the classroom show that they are seasoned with a profound understanding of the foundational tenets that underpin effective leadership in education and that create a learning environment that is not only intellectually stimulating but also deeply respectful of diverse perspectives and experiences," says Mr. Aladeokin.

*(Continued on the next page)*



In July 2024, Mr. Aladeokin took Bowie State University to Pisa, located in the Tuscany region of Italy, a city renowned worldwide for its Leaning Tower, for a summer school on Leveraging Ecological Economics to Advance the Sustainability Transition. With the concept of community wealth building (CWB) emerging as a promising approach to counter globalization and neoliberalism's negative economic and social impacts, CWB seeks to shift power and resources back into communities, promoting local ownership and democratic control over economic assets.

As major employers and producers of goods and services, universities are increasingly recognized as "anchor institutions" with the potential to leverage their resources and influence to foster local economic resilience. The summer school, which took place at the University of Pisa in Italy, taught Mr. Aladeokin about enhanced expertise in sustainable development in education and exposed him to leading-edge thinking and research skills to help him with his dissertation titled: Fostering Local Economic Resilience through Community Wealth Building Using Universities as Anchor Institutions.

Mr. Aladeokin believes that as Bowie State University aspires to be a Research II Institution according to the Carnegie Classification System, there is a need for more collaboration between faculty and students to strengthen the University's capacity for research.





# Research & Innovation



Our focus in the Division of Academic Affairs is to continue to promote education through innovative academic research.

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## Du Bois Center Awarded Grant to Study Free Black Communities in the Shenandoah Valley



*Dr. Karen Cook-Bell*



*Dr. Festus Cole*

Dr. Karen Cook Bell, Director of the BSU Du Bois Center for the Study of the Black Experience (CSBE), and Dr. Festus Cole, Co-Director of the Du Bois Center, received a \$63,426 grant from the National Park Service to conduct a study of free Black communities in the Shenandoah Valley in the years immediately preceding the Civil War and into the Reconstruction Era/Post-Reconstruction Era (1860-1900). The NPS study will focus on free Black women and men who lived and worked in the Shenandoah Valley at Cedar Creek and Belle Grove, Virginia.

The BSU Du Bois Center for the Study of the Black Experience published its inaugural volume of *Freedom: A Journal of Research in Africana Studies*. View the journal [here](#). The Du Bois Center is also accepting abstracts for the second volume. Abstracts can be sent to [duboiscenter@bowiestate.edu](mailto:duboiscenter@bowiestate.edu). Proposals are also being accepted for a one-day interdisciplinary symposium at Bowie State University's Du Bois Center for the Study of the Black Experience titled, "The Civil Rights Movement and the African American Quest for Freedom," planned for April 4, 2025. This symposium seeks to examine the efforts by African Americans to secure their rights as citizens of the United States. Please submit your proposals (max 500 words) to [duboiscenter@bowiestate.edu](mailto:duboiscenter@bowiestate.edu) by Nov. 15, 2024 with "Symposium" in the subject heading. Proposals should be accompanied by a two-page CV.



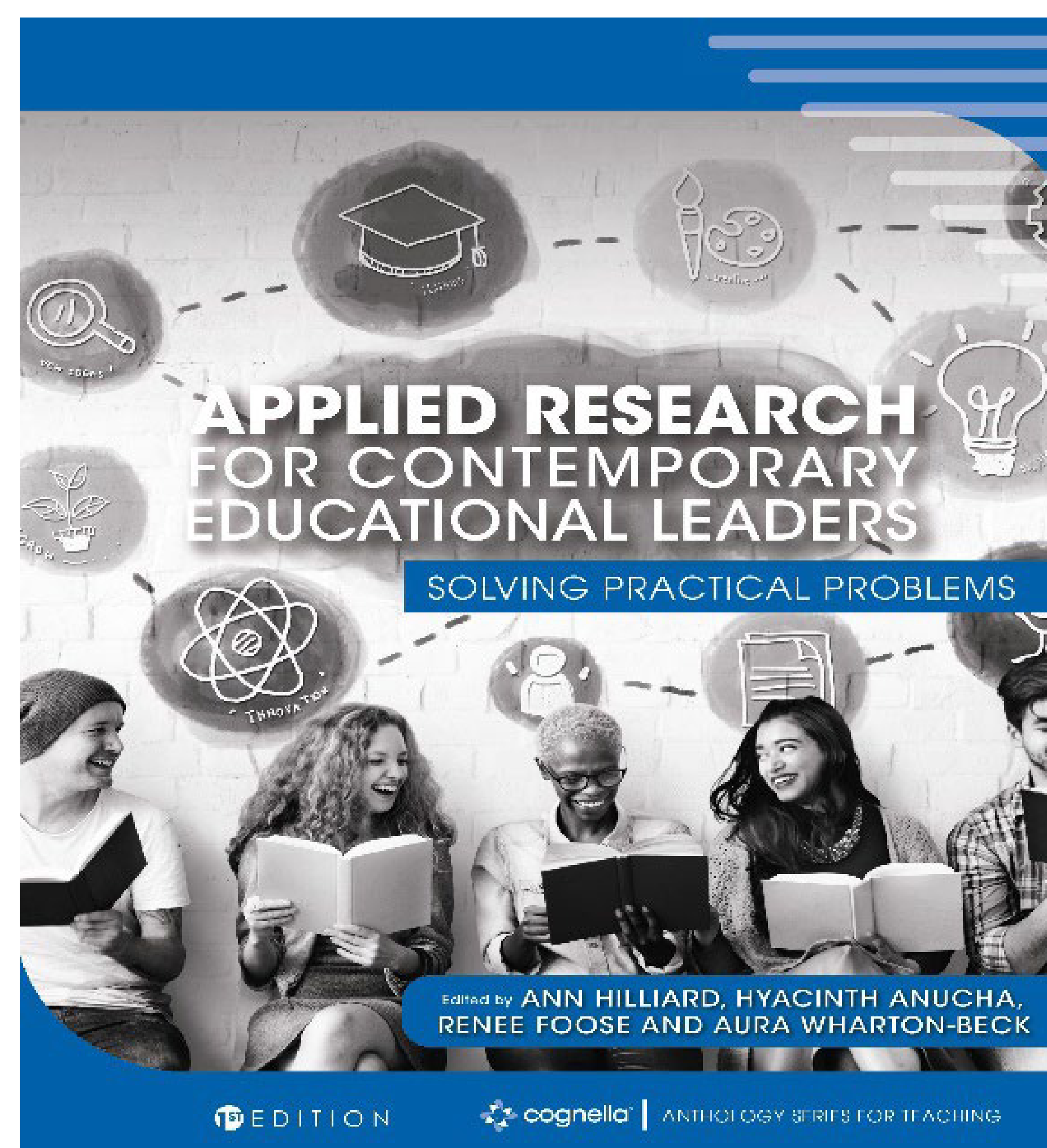
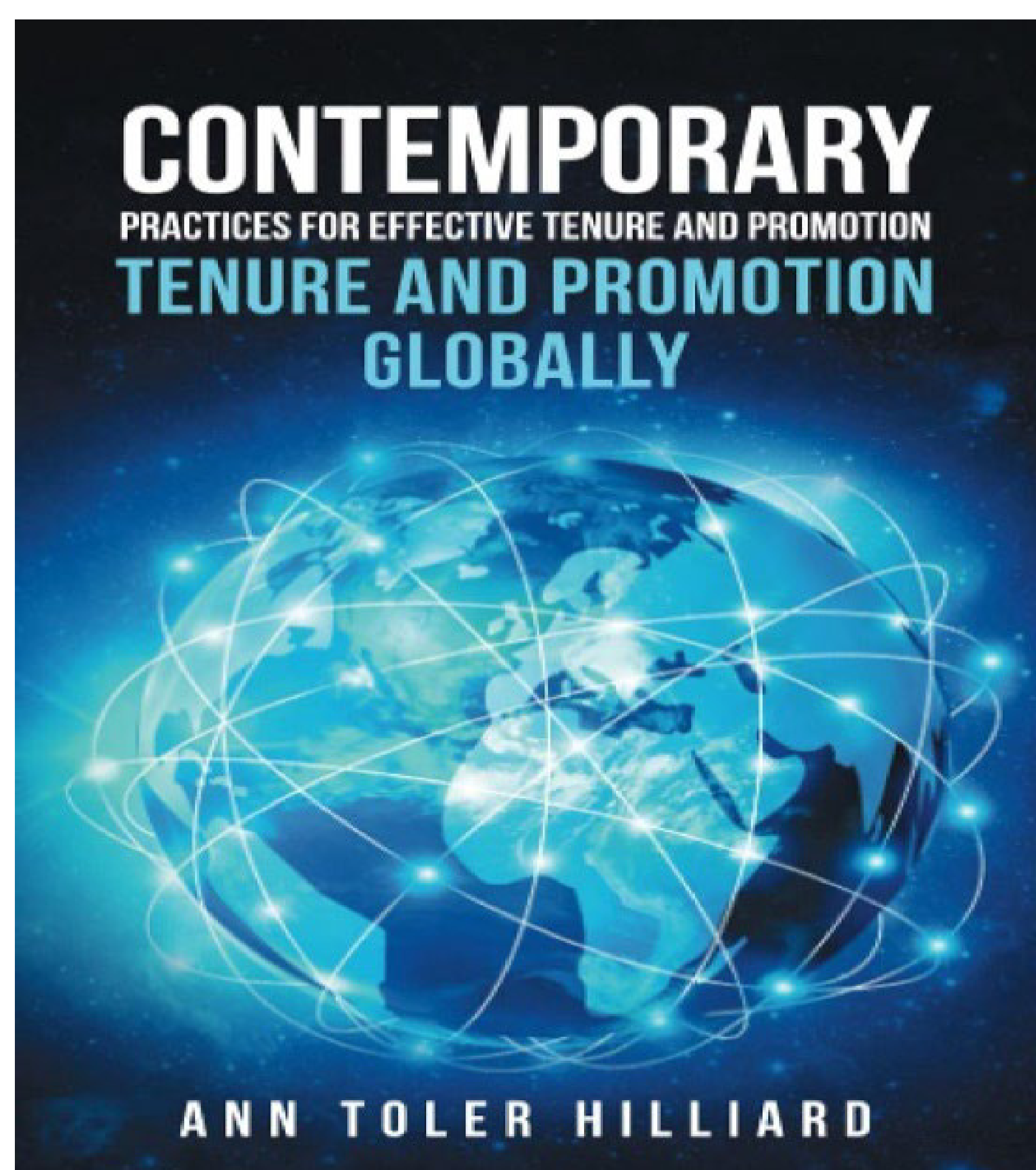


*Dr. Ann Toler Hilliard*

## Leading Author of Two Recent Books

Dr. Ann Toler Hilliard is a professor in the Department of Educational Studies and Leadership at Bowie State University. The author's research interests include international studies, professional development, case methods, instructional and responsive leadership and learning/leading in global communities, and online teaching. Dr. Hilliard has published over forty-seven research articles in peer-reviewed refereed national and international journals. She has published three chapters of her work with Peter Lang.

A 2023 article by Hilliard can be found in the book titled *Confronting Antisemitism on Campus*, edited by Virginia Stead, OISE University of Toronto, Peter Lang Publisher. An early publication by Hilliard is *Being Smarter – Managing Financial Resources More Effectively* (2022), Cognella Academic Publisher. In March 2023, Dr. Hilliard authored the book *Contemporary Practices for Effective Tenure and Promotion* and will present her work as a panelist at Harvard University on October 9, 2024. Dr. Hilliard recently led a collaborative authorship (2024) for the book *Applied Research for Contemporary Educational Leaders: Solving Practical Problems*. Cognella Academic Publisher.





## Bowie State University Autonomous Technologies Lab (BSU@Lab) Robotics Infrastructure and Systems Enhancement

*D. Josyula, Bowie State University*

The BSU Autonomous Technologies Lab (BSU@lab) at Bowie State University has received \$788,250 in funding through DoD's Equipment/Instrumentation program to acquire a range of state-of-the-art robotic systems, including a legged robot equipped with a six-degree-of-freedom arm, twenty smaller robots, and five drones, each complete with sensor payloads and supplementary accessories. Our long-term goal is to develop software to enable these robots to autonomously gather situational awareness and conduct field operations independently and collectively for extended durations in contested settings.

The specific equipment includes the Boston Dynamics' legged robot - Spot, Modal AI's VOXL 2 Development drone - Sentinel, and Quanser's educational robots - QCar, QBot, and QArm Mini. These cutting-edge systems are designed to collect multi-modal data, navigate complex terrains, and carry payloads, enabling advanced research in machine learning, perception, reasoning, and agent behaviors. To safely operate the drones indoors and outdoors, we also plan to procure TentCraft Pop-up Netted Drone cages. With the introduction of these equipment, we aim to transition our ongoing research into real-world applications, facilitating real-time data collection across various modalities, employing adaptive behavior techniques to address anomalies, and innovating novel approaches for target search and surveillance in intricate and unfamiliar terrains.

In addition to their pivotal role in advancing our research objectives, these robotic systems, along with their digital twins and dedicated studio labs, will serve as invaluable resources to enhance the training and education of students within our institution. Moreover, we envision these robots as catalysts for fostering interest and participation in STEM fields, particularly among underrepresented minority students. Through K-12 outreach programs and collaborations with the community, we aim to engage and inspire young minds to explore the exciting realms of robotics-related STEM disciplines. By doing so, we aim to nurture a diverse and inclusive generation of future scientists and engineers, empowering them to pursue careers that will shape the future of robotics and technology.

This abstract is publicly releasable.



## The 81st Annual South Central Modern Language Association

The 81st Annual South Central Modern Language Association (SCMLA) Conference, held in the vibrant city of New Orleans, Louisiana, on Sept. 19-21, provided an exceptional platform for intellectual exchange among scholars and practitioners in modern languages and literature. Dr. Latifa Zoulagh, in the Department of Language, Literature, and Cultural Studies, chaired the Women in French panel. In her presentation, titled "L'Histoire sort de la bouche des femmes: quand la femme écrit l'histoire," drawing from various texts, she explored the intersection of women's writing and history. The essay examined how women authors have used literature to challenge societal norms, document their experiences, and shape historical narratives.

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## The State of Black Male-Owned Businesses in America: High-Growth Disparity

Dr. Tia Young, Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship and Marketing at the College of Business, recently published another fantastic research article entitled "The State of Black Male-Owned Businesses in America: High-Growth Disparity." This informative work was published in the "International Journal of Business and Applied Science." Dr. Young's Doctorate and expertise are specific to Entrepreneurship. She states, "Black businesses are the fastest growing population of new ventures in America, but struggle with sustainability and high growth. Understanding how to support more of these firms and BSU entrepreneurial students to achieve success is vital." The research involved interaction with 200 Black male-owned businesses and is quite insightful. If interested, the link to the article is below: The State of Black Male-Owned Businesses in America: High-Growth Disparity.



*Dr. Tia Young*



## New Instructional Designers at Bowie State University

The new Instructional Designers at Bowie State, Mr. Andrew Rider and Ms. Sara Ibrahim, have quickly ensconced themselves into the full intellectual and pedagogical atmosphere of the university! A quick, and brief, list of some of the projects they have engaged in this early academic year is truly impressive:

- Bowie Business Innovation Center (BIC) working with Dr. Lawrence Potter, Dr. Matthew Crosston, Dr. Jared Moffett, and Ms. Sara Ibrahim to develop an online certificate of completion that aims to provide HBCUs and other minority-focused educational and non-profit organizations with knowledge and skills to be more competitive in the governmental grant/contracting space.
- Created Blackboard Ultra Faculty Training workshops, including Designing Online Course Content and Using AI in Blackboard Ultra. Additionally, reviewing courses based on faculty feedback, while also working one-on-one with faculty members to enhance their syllabi and rubrics.
- Started generating automatic reports through Anthology Illumination for the seven core essentials and tracking student performance based on faculty requests.
- Collaborating with the Educational Leadership program to continue the process of dynamic learning in new course designs.
- Working with lead faculty on redesigning the Project Management Certificate courses, shifting them entirely into the new Blackboard Ultra format.

Please remember the easiest way to avail yourself of these new talented people you only need to submit a HelpDesk ticket the normal way, indicating it is an “instructional design” request and the ticket will be automatically forwarded to our Instructional Designers.



## New Instructional Designers at Bowie State University

Dr. Matthew Crosston, Director of Academic Transformation, is leading two exciting new projects that will impact both the faculty and student communities this coming year. Firstly, the successful completion of implementing Interfolio into Bowie State for both the FAR and ART processes. This mammoth effort (which occupied the previous 12 months to pull off) now means faculty have a single place of entry for the efficient organization and compilation of achievements and contributions to the university, reducing the complexity and frustration of previous iterations for both annual review and promotion/tenure. Crosston will also be running weekly workshops/office hours for all faculty going up for tenure/promotion so as to maximize candidates' success. Secondly, he is leading the development and implementation of an Executives-in-Residence program. This coming academic year will see the arrival and engagement of three impressive E-i-Rs, covering everything from teaching classes, running a speaker series, and developing new entrepreneurial financing avenues for the ELLC.

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## Published on Women in French

On Jul.7, 2024, Dr. Latifa Zoulagh, in the Department of Language, Literature, and Cultural Studies, published her short essay "Marrakech lumière d'exil : Benchemsi et l'écrit-xhumation du corps féminin" was published on Women in French Website. The essay explored the relationship between the writing and the female body.

[Read Dr. Zoulagh's essay here.](#)





# Upcoming Events



# UPCOMING EVENTS

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Stay up-to-date and catch upcoming Academic Affairs events.

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## Spring Dean's List Tailgate Celebration - Oct. 26



We're gearing up to celebrate the dean's list recipients Saturday, Oct. 26 starting at 11:00 A.M. The day's events will include a pregame tailgate for spring 2024 dean's list recipients and an on-field halftime presentation for honorees. We welcome family and friends to join us in celebration before cheering on our mighty Bulldogs as they face off against Virginia Union University.

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## Success Fest - Oct. 30

Success Fest is Wednesday, Oct. 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Student Center Wiseman Ballroom.

The goal of this event is to ensure that students receive valuable support and use this opportunity to address any challenges they may be facing and utilize the resources available to support their academic goals.

We hope to see you there!



# BE RECOGNIZED!

This newsletter will be published monthly to recognize the contributions and achievements of faculty and staff in the academic community.

Please provide the published-ready news for the accomplishment, along with a photo and additional links if you like, and we'll add it to the next issue.

As your colleges, departments, and units reach academic milestones, publications, presentations, grant awards, and more, we want to hear from you!

To be featured in the next issue complete the form by **October 23** and email questions to [academicaffairshappens@bowiestate.edu](mailto:academicaffairshappens@bowiestate.edu).

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## OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

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