

What's Happening in BSU's Academic Affairs?

The Academic Affairs Newsletter



November 2024



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Faculty & College Showcase

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 Professional Studies

Celebrating Resilience: Second Annual World AIDS Day Brunch

Dr. Emory Perkins, LCSW.ACSW, LMFT-Associate Professor Social Work

Dr. Chizoba Anako, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, PMC-NE, CNE-Assistant Professor of Nursing

Dr. Emory Perkins from the Department of Social Work and Dr. Chizoba Anako from the Department of Nursing, will host the Second Annual World AIDS Day –Shades of Resilience Empowerment Brunch on Dec. 1 at Bowie State University in the Student Center Ballroom A & B from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. This event, co-sponsored by the Student Nurses Association, the American Sign Language Club, the Thurgood Marshall College Fund/Novartis Foundation, the Historic Metropolitan Baptist Church, and ATOD (Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs), will feature African American women sharing their experiences with HIV/AIDS, along with HIV education and a panel discussion.

Furthermore, Drs. Perkins and Anako will be taking nursing and social work students to attend the 15th International Conference on Stigma on Nov. 21, 2024. This conference offers an opportunity to collect data on the social determinants of risk-taking behaviors associated with HIV-positive and HIV-negative statuses among Black/African American women.

Additionally, Drs. Perkins and Anako submitted a scientific abstract to the *Social Work and Public Health Journal* at Morgan State University, where two students will be co-authors of the peer-reviewed research.

Share your accomplishments with us!

Send information on your recent presentations, awards, grants, acknowledgments and other accomplishments by visiting the [Academic Affairs newsletter webpage](#).

FACULTY & COLLEGE **SHOWCASE**

Child and Adolescent Studies Association Organizes Trunk or Treat Event



The Child and Adolescent Studies Association recently hosted an incredible Trunk or Treat event, bringing together over 500 families for a night of fun, laughter, and community! With creatively themed trunks, exciting games, activities, ice cream, and prizes galore, this event created a safe and festive space for children to enjoy Halloween.

The Child and Adolescent Studies Association is also proud to support a meaningful cause with a donation box for Zonta, an international organization dedicated to raising funds for young girls in Sierra Leone. A special thanks goes to partner organizations.

Thanks to everyone who came out and helped make this night truly magical!



Thurgood Marshall Library

Thurgood Marshall Library Hosts Librarians from Nigeria

Thurgood Marshall Library (TML) hosted a reciprocal visit with librarians from Nigeria from Oct. 15 to Oct.17, 2024. During the visit, both parties gained insights into each other's support services and resource utilization strategies. The Nigerian librarians learned about TML's inclusive approach to patrons and support for student workers, who serve as ambassadors of the library. In turn, TML staff members were introduced to the services provided by the Nigerian librarians.

This knowledge exchange aligns with Thurgood Marshall Library's goals to seek resources and build partnerships and relationships that can improve the services offered to patrons at Bowie State University.

This trip also included a tour of the Library of Congress, during which the librarians learned more about the United States library system.



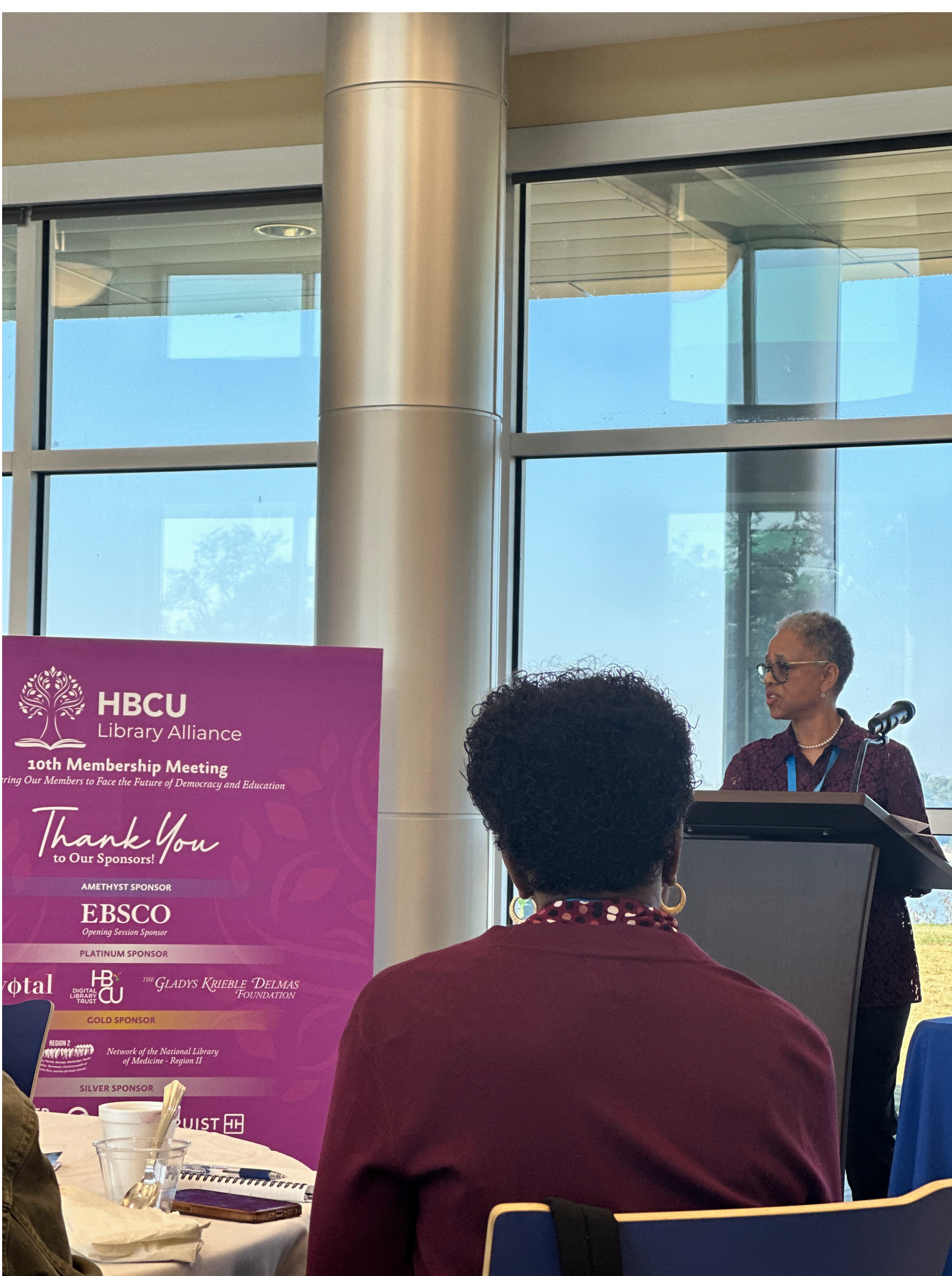
FACULTY & COLLEGE **SHOWCASE**

Thurgood Marshall Library attend the 10th Membership Meeting of HBCU Library Alliance



Sophia Sotilleo, Dean of the Thurgood Marshall Library, along with her staff members Shamica Terry and Linda Orajekwe, participated in the 10th membership meeting of the HBCU Library Alliance held at Southern University in Louisiana from October 27 to 29, 2024.

This event was packed with valuable insights, as various institutions showcased the resources they leverage to support their patrons. The 10th Anniversary of the HBCU Library Alliance aimed to explore how HBCU libraries can collaboratively advance the missions of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and highlight the vital role these libraries play in preserving the historical narratives of HBCUs.



The event was well attended by librarians from different HBCUs, including but not limited to Bowie State University, Tuskegee University, Benedict College, West Virginia State University, Delaware State University, Tennessee State University, Fisk University, Alabama State University, Hampton University, Morgan State University, Coppin State University among others.

Meet Claire Jeter - Head of Special Collections and Archivist for Thurgood Marshall Library

Thurgood Marshall Library is pleased to introduce the Head of Special Collections and Archivist, Claire Jeter.

Claire Jeter will support faculty members, and researchers connect their curriculums or research work to historical facts about Bowie State University and the community. If you need support on archive-related needs, please reach out to Claire Jeter.

Thurgood Marshall Library Resources

Free Subscription to The Wall Street Journal: To get access, one needs to visit [wsj.com/bowiestate](https://www.wsj.com/bowiestate) and create an account. Additionally, it can be found on A-Z Databases.

Sage Research Methods: This product has two tools in particular that are very useful for planning research projects, Project Planner and Methods Visualizer. These can be found on the Faculty Resources page on the library website or A-Z databases. [Click here for access.](#)

Policy Map: The tool integrates geographic mapping with extensive data on health, demographics, education, economy, income, quality of life, etc. Users select a geographic region (city, state, country, census tract, block group, congressional district, school district, etc.) and can use data derived from over 150 sources.

Readex Newspaper Collections: The Library purchased two permanent newspaper collections! Find them on A-Z Databases or click the following links: [African Americans and Jim Crow: Repression and Protest, 1883-1922](#) and [African Americans and Reconstruction: Hope and Struggles, 1865-1883.](#)



PEDAGOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

To inspire and empower, the Academic Affairs Division emphasizes a range of diverse pedagogical approaches.

Pedagogical Perspectives: Pioneering Change Through Podcasting

In an unprecedented initiative, students in the “Maternal Newborn & Women’s Health Nursing” (NURS 380) course at Bowie State University are breaking new ground. Partnering with Otis Thomas from the Communications Department, they are developing and recording podcasts on topics often left in the shadows—sexually transmitted infections, medical and elective abortions, and substance abuse. These students are not just completing an assignment; they are becoming the voices for vulnerable populations, driving conversations that matter.

This innovative project, recorded in the MLK Podcast studio, embodies Bowie State’s mission as an HBCU—leading where others have yet to go. No other undergraduate nursing program is empowering students to educate communities on such critical health issues. This is more than coursework; it is advocacy in action. These podcasts will serve as a bridge between the classroom and the community, equipping students to create lasting impact in the fight for health equity.

This is nursing education, reimagined.

Fostering the Emergence of Entrepreneurs at Bowie State University



An invitation was extended to Dr. Gaye Acikdilli, Associate Professor of Marketing, to participate in the Reimagining Entrepreneurship Education workshop at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business.

The workshop focused on strategies that enable entrepreneurs to create opportunities and address challenges by utilizing existing resources, instead of depending on future predictions. The event served as a platform for learning and sharing ideas. Dr. Acikdilli notes, “This [workshop] provided me ideas to incorporate in my marketing classes to assist Bowie students inspiring creativity and entrepreneurial aspirations.”



Unit

Achievements

UNIT **ACHIEVEMENTS**

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

The Entrepreneurship Innovation Center



Pictured are the finalists of the 2024 Inaugural Tom Joyner Foundation (TJF) "I Got An Idea" Pitch Competition, alongside Sherise Malachi, Head of Strategic Partnerships for the Tom Joyner Foundation.

Don't Miss Out on the Entrepreneurship Innovation Center's Upcoming Events

Nov. 13 & 20	Game Night
Nov. 18-24	Global Entrepreneurship Week
Nov. 19	Makerspace Workshop: 3D Printing Workshop
Nov. 20	Bulldog Pitch Competition Application Opens
Nov. 21	Ask An Entrepreneur
Nov. 21	International Market Day Pop Up Shop & Open Mic

For more details, please visit the [Entrepreneurship Innovation Center’s events webpage](#).

Forging the Path for Business Visionaries: A Fresh Online Tool Approaches

Exciting news! Thanks to the Maryland Innovation Initiative (MII) Grant, the Entrepreneurship Innovation Center (EIC) and the College of Business's Department of Management Information Systems (MIS) are teaming up this semester to create an innovative online pathway tool for campus and community entrepreneurs. The EIC is curating unique pathways tailored to meet the diverse needs of our aspiring entrepreneurs. MIS Capstone students are stepping up to design and build the backend database for this tool, ensuring a smooth, user-friendly experience that will unlock easy access to the extensive resources EIC has to offer. Get ready for an incredible tool that will empower entrepreneurs to reach new heights—stay tuned for the launch!



Innovation Ignites: BSU's HBCU Founder's Initiative Showcase



Join the Entrepreneurship Innovation Center (EIC), for the HBCUFI (HBCU Founders Initiative) Pitch Competition, held in the EIC Building on Tuesday, November 19, from 3:00–5:00 PM, where five Bowie State University students will showcase their innovative ideas and compete for top prizes!

These students are part of the Fall 2024 HBCUFI Pre-Accelerator Cohort, an 8-week program that empowers early-stage startup founders to refine their concepts, validate their business ideas, and develop a minimum viable product. Throughout the program, BSU students have participated in virtual workshops, mentorship sessions, and pitch preparation activities, collaborating with other founders from HBCUs.

Join to support their journey and celebrate their entrepreneurial achievements!

UNIT ACHIEVEMENTS

MélangeByT: Where Beauty Meets Empowerment



On October 11, 2024, Hanna Tchokote, a senior Psychology major and Entrepreneurship Innovation Center (EIC) student, took center stage at Howard University's FounderFEST, where she competed in the prestigious HBCU Rocket Pitch—and won 1st place, earning a \$2,000 prize!

Hanna, the proud owner of MélangeByT, a DMV-area beauty bar, has created a unique space that empowers clients to embrace self-expression through innovative beauty aftercare solutions. Her victory is a testament to her entrepreneurial spirit and dedication to building community through beauty. Let's hear it for Hanna and her incredible achievement—GO HANNA!



Student Success

STUDENT SUCCESS

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

Student Leader Creates Inclusive Space with Bowie State University's New Hispanic Student Association



This fall 2024 semester, Ingrid Portillo, a second-semester junior nursing student, launched the Hispanic Student Association (HSA) at Bowie State University.

After the former Hispanic student club, Raíces, was disbanded in 2023, a need arose for Hispanic students to have a space and sense of belonging on campus. Ingrid bravely rose to the occasion and created such a space. This organization not only serves the Hispanic student population but is also meant to bridge the gap between other cultures across campus.

The HSA will host many events throughout the year that students of all backgrounds are welcome to attend. Between education-based and community-building events, there is something for everybody.

It is important that, as an institution dedicated to underrepresented group, we come together and make all feel welcome.

Thank you to Ingrid for creating a space for Hispanic students to be represented and celebrated.

Bowie State University Student Lands Prestigious Associated Press Election Job

Professor Catherine Hollingsworth, in the Department of Communications, teaches courses in print journalism and editing.

Ahead of the November elections, Professor Hollingsworth urged her students to apply for election season jobs with the Associated Press (AP), a highly respected news organization dating back to the 1850s. One of her students, Taye Nelson, was recently hired under contract with the AP on their vote tabulation team.

Congratulations, Taye!

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

National Science Foundation Awards \$399,999 to Bowie State University for Campus-Wide AI Research Expansion



The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded Bowie State University (BSU) \$399,999 to expand artificial intelligence (AI) research and education across campus, broadening AI participation among African Americans and other underrepresented groups. Led by Principal Investigator Dr. Rand Obeidat and Co-PIs Drs. Azene Zenebe, Sriram Srinivasan, and Tyesha Burks, the CAP initiative integrates advanced AI tools, including Generative AI and Large Language Models like GPT-3 and GPT-4, into research and curricula.

"While this project supports many departments, it particularly empowers students and faculty in Data Analytics, Computer Science, and Information Systems," said Dr. Obeidat. "Enhanced infrastructure and collaborative research will create an inclusive pathway for students to excel in AI."

This grant provides robust AI research infrastructure, workshops, hands-on learning, and faculty-student collaboration opportunities. For more information, contact the Expand AI team at BSU.



Cross Talk: Ukraine's Timeline



Dr. Matthew Crosston, Director of Academic Transformation, was invited to appear as a panelist for the international politics streaming RT media show, Crosstalk, on Oct. 23, 2024.

The show featured global guests to discuss some of the more complex and nuanced aspects of the current Russia-Ukraine conflict, including President Zelensky's "Victory Plan," NATO reaction, American policy adaptations, and future possible timelines for ending the war.

To view the complete show, visit the Russia Today webpage at <https://rt.com>.

Exploring Circular Economy Practices in International Business

Dr. Gaye Acikdilli, Associate Professor of Marketing, recently had her article, "Circular Economy Practices in International Business: What Do We Know and Where Are We Heading?" accepted for publication after a rigorous review process lasting over one year.

The online version of the article is accessible in the SSCI-listed journal "Business Strategy and the Environment" through the following link: <https://doi.org/10.1002/bse.3978>.



Service & Community Engagement

SERVICE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Academic Affairs is at the forefront of innovation and social change. Discover how our faculty, staff, and students solve real-world problems through community outreach and groundbreaking research, inspiring future leaders.

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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 **November 18** and email questions to academicaffairshappens@bowiestate.edu.

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