

GRC NEWSLETTER

THE Graduate School @ Bowie State



October 1, 2025

Issue 8

ABOUT THE GRC

The Graduate Research Center's mission is to transform the graduate student experience. We cultivate a dynamic academic environment in which graduate students engage in innovative research, receive tailored academic support, and leverage resources for both academic and professional development. We are dedicated to nurturing emerging scholars, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and empowering individuals to excel in their academic pursuits through mentorship, fellowship opportunities, and transformative services.



OCTOBER EVENTS

- October 1st: Graduate Assistantship Application Opens
- October 3rd: Last Day to Apply for Fall (December) 2025 Graduation
- October 4th: Graduate Comprehensive Exam
- October 10th: Last Day of the 1st 7 Week Session
- October 11th: Dean's List Celebration
- October 13th: 2nd 7-Week Session Begins
- October 17th: Last Day to Add/Drop Courses (2nd 7-Week Session)
- October 22nd: Career Fair
- October 27th: Winter & Spring 2026 Registration Opens
- October 29th: Success Fest
- October 31st: Last Day to Withdraw with a Grade of 'W' or Audit a Course



@BSUGradCenter



GRC@bowiestate.edu



Center for Business & Graduate Studies
Thurgood Marshall Library, 1185

Welcome to the GRC Team!

DR. JULYANN PÉREZ MAYORAL

STEM Graduate Technical Editor



Dr. Julyann Pérez Mayoral serves as STEM Graduate Technical Editor, bringing more than a decade of experience in biomedical research, scientific communication, and editorial support. She earned her Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences with a focus on cancer biology and genetics and has authored 16 peer-reviewed publications. Her experience includes refining complex scientific writing to ensure clarity, coherence, and adherence to academic standards. Dr. Pérez Mayoral specializes in helping graduate students and researchers in producing high-quality theses, manuscripts, and grant applications that advance their academic and professional goals.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Graduate Assistantship Application is NOW Open!

Bowie State University graduate assistantships offer students the opportunity to gain professional and academic experience in their field of study while receiving tuition remission and a monthly stipend. Graduate assistants work 20 hours per week in various academic departments and campus programs, supporting research, teaching, and administrative responsibilities.

Applications are open to all graduate students who are enrolled in at least nine credit hours each semester and in good academic standing (3.5+ GPA). The deadline to apply is October 31.

[Apply Here!](#)

Graduating This Winter? Apply for Graduation by October 3, 2025!

Students who plan to participate in Bowie State's Winter Commencement must complete the commencement application by Friday, October 3, 2025. You must complete BOTH steps to have your record reviewed and your application must be approved for you to participate in the ceremony.

Step 1: Pay Graduation Fee (\$100/graduate)

- Login to Bulldog Connection to pay online or visit the Cashier's window in the Henry Administration Building Lobby (Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.)
- You will need your receipt for Step 2.
- Note: Please allow 1 day of processing time before completing Step 2.

Step 2: Complete the online graduation application

- Eligible students MUST apply online. Log in to Bulldog Connection to access the application by clicking Academic Advising & Graduation > Apply for Graduation.
- Note: Students who paid online should use their ID number as the receipt number. Students who paid in person must use their receipt number.



Tailored Academic Support

GRADUATE WRITING SERVICES



Research editors at the Graduate Research Center focus on helping graduate students grow as academic writers and scholars across disciplines. We support students at any stage in the writing process. We provide feedback on a range of work including research papers, literature reviews, dissertation chapters, grant proposals, and conference presentations.

Offerings:

Brainstorming Consultations

Students talk through approaches they are considering for starting an assignment, drafting sections of longer manuscripts, or even working through structural issues in a current draft. The consultation focuses on using dialogue to explore ideas, ask questions, and gain clarity. Brainstorming consultations are scheduled 24 hours in advance and require an assignment sheet or a short project description.

Read Ahead Consultations

Students will identify a specific challenge that they are facing in a current draft. An editor will read student work before the consultation. The consultation centers on using dialogue to provide constructive feedback, potential strategies, and resources for overcoming the challenge. Consultations are scheduled 48 hours in advance. Requirements for making the appointment include an assignment sheet or a short project description in addition to 5-8 double-spaced manuscript pages or slides.

Thesis/Dissertation Support Groups:

Weekly, noncommittal groups will offer a supportive, flexible space for writers to meet the demands of revising manuscripts and take advantage of dedicated writing time. Sessions will also feature brief workshops focused on enhancing your writing process, trying new revision strategies, using feedback effectively, maximizing writing time, and more.

Dissertation Workshop Series:

The Dissertation Workshop Series guides doctoral students through writing and refining key sections of the dissertation. Workshops will focus on writing a clear problem statement, crafting a comprehensive literature review, describing research methodologies, presenting findings, and highlighting a study's significance.

[Schedule a GRC Service](#)

ACADEMIC ADVISING



Academic advisors at the Graduate Research Center support new and continuing graduate students through the enrollment and registration process, help them understand program requirements, and provide ongoing guidance throughout their academic journey.

Offerings:

In-person and online advising sessions by appointment only.

New Student Advising: Ms. Williams

Doctoral/Certificate Program Advising: Ms. Oji

Master's Program Advising: Ms. Bradford-Yancey

STATISTICS ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE



Statisticians at the Graduate Resource Center provide academic support to graduate students by assisting with statistical concepts, data analysis techniques, and software applications. We help students understand probability, hypothesis testing, regression analysis, and other advanced statistical methods. Services include one-on-one or group sessions, guidance in applying statistical methods to research projects, and clarification on complex topics to enhance comprehension and confidence.

Offerings:

One-on-One or Group Sessions to address challenges directly related to coursework.

Need to Print?

Graduate programs or students in need of printing large images for conference presentations, abstract presentations, posters, etc., may complete the request form below. Materials will be ready for pickup on Mondays and Wednesdays in room 1185 of the Thurgood Marshall Library.

[Print Services Submission Form](#)



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION AND INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CLUB VISIT UNITED NATIONS HQ

On Wednesday, September 19th, the International Student Association (ISA), in collaboration with the International Business Club (IBC) and under the sponsorship of the College of Business, organized a trip to the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. A total of 43 participants took part in this educational and cultural experience, including 5 faculty members and 38 students (18 graduate and 20 undergraduate).

Founded in 1945 after World War II, the United Nations was established to prevent future global conflicts and provide a forum for international cooperation. One powerful quote displayed at the UN Headquarters captures its mission well: "The United Nations was not created to take mankind to heaven, but to save mankind from hell." This sentiment guided much of our reflection during the visit.

Leadership and Participation

The trip was led by Hermann Fokou Chendjou (President of ISA), representing the graduate student body, and Elando Serrano (President of IBC), representing the undergraduate students. Under their leadership, the trip was a resounding success, with participants expressing deep appreciation for the opportunity. We departed from Bowie State University at approximately 7:00 a.m. and returned by 10:00 p.m.

For many of the students, this was their first time visiting the United Nations Headquarters, and for some, their first time in New York City altogether. The excitement and engagement throughout the day made the experience both educational and memorable.

Student Reflections

At the conclusion of the trip, many students asked the same question: "When are we taking our next trip?" Here are a few excerpts:

- "My takeaway on this trip was seeing the council rooms where great deliberations take place, and how every country — whether represented by a king or a common delegate — has equal time to voice their perspective."*
- "My main takeaway was the flag ceremony, which takes place every year for the five permanent members and the ten non-permanent members of the Security Council, rotated every two years."*
- "My biggest takeaway from our trip was learning how the United Nations supported the decolonization of the Gold Coast (now Ghana) and Togoland. The process, alongside the efforts of the Ewe people, unified these regions with the support of the UN."*





RICE BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

The Rice Business Plan Competition (RBPC), hosted by Rice Business and the Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship, is the world's largest and most prestigious **graduate-level** student startup competition. Each year, the RBPC brings together the most promising early-stage, student-led university startups from across the U.S. and around the globe to pitch their ventures, gain valuable feedback, and compete for funding.

Mark your calendars for this exciting opportunity to witness innovation in action:

- Applications Open: November 3, 2025
- 2026 RBPC Dates: April 9-11, 2026
- Location: Houston, Texas at Rice Business

[Learn More Here!](#)



Graduate Writing Services

Fall 2025

Research editors at the Graduate Research Center focus on helping graduate students grow as academic writers and scholars across disciplines.

AVAILABILITY
MONDAY-
THURSDAY

Brainstorming Consultations

Students use dialogue to explore ideas, ask questions, and clarify approaches for assignments or drafts.

AVAILABILITY
MONDAY-
THURSDAY

Read Ahead Consultations

Students receive constructive feedback and strategies on a draft after an editor reads their work in advance.

AVAILABILITY
MONDAY-
THURSDAY

Final Dissertation Review

Doctoral candidates receive copyediting and formatting feedback on individual dissertation sections in scheduled 30-minute sessions.

DISSERTATION
MONDAYS@
12PM

THESIS
TUESDAYS @
12:15PM

Writing Support Communities

A weekly group offering dedicated writing time, peer support, and workshops on revision and writing strategies for dissertating and thesis students.

EVERY THIRD
SATURDAY
STARTING
9/13

9-11AM

Dissertation Workshops

Workshops guide doctoral students in drafting and refining key sections of the dissertation.

EVERY THIRD
THURSDAY
STARTING
9/18

12-1PM

Research Reading Club

A discussion group that explores research texts focused on socially just, community-engaged methodologies.

**SCHEDULE AN
APPOINTMENT TODAY!**



Winter Breakthrough: Dissertation Writing Retreat

Friday, January 16 – Sunday, January 18, 2026

THE GRC's Graduate Writing Services is excited to announce the 2026 Dissertation Writing Retreat, a *selective* opportunity designed to help doctoral students make significant progress on their dissertations through focused writing time, accountability, and mentorship.

Includes:

Private lodging

Meals

Structured writing sessions

Independent writing time

Supportive environment

Apply Here:



**20
Slots!**

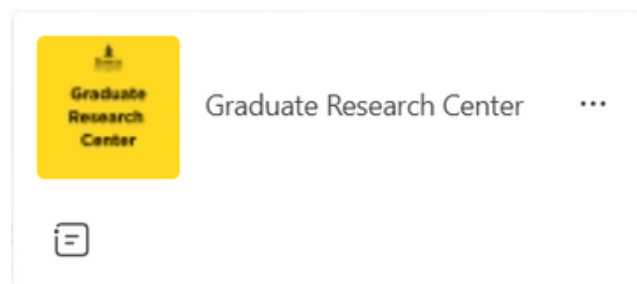
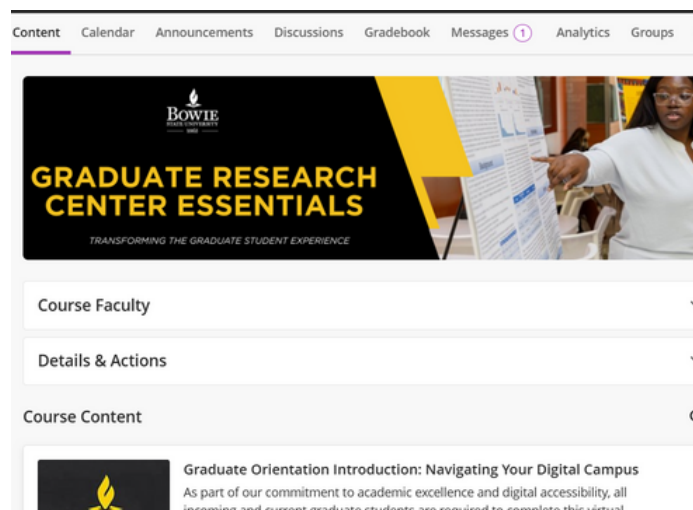
Eligibility:

- Enrolled in a dissertation course at the time of retreat
- Passed comprehensive exams
- Minimum 3.25 GPA
- **Submit all required materials by October 17, 2025**

Application Requirements:

- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Work Plan Proposal (min. 500 words)
- Research abstract
- Faculty Letter of Support from dissertation chair/advisor

GRC ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ACCESSIBLE ON NEW PLATFORMS



The Graduate Research Center (GRC) Essentials Blackboard Course is now open to all graduate students. This course is designed to orient students to GRC services while also providing access to essential Graduate School resources.

Students can easily access the course by visiting [Blackboard](#), logging in, and selecting Courses. Within the GRC Essentials course, students will complete a brief orientation and earn a digital badge to recognize their participation.

The course will remain available throughout the academic year, serving as a convenient point of reference for all things related to the Graduate Research Center and the Graduate School.

In addition to Blackboard, we are excited to announce the launch of the GRC Team Hub, now available to all graduate students and faculty. The hub serves as a centralized resource, offering easy access to pertinent information about GRC services, university personnel, policies, and more. By streamlining these resources into one convenient space, the Team Hub is designed to support academic success, strengthen communication, and foster engagement across the graduate community.

**JOIN THE
HUB
[HERE!](#)**



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LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY ABORAD?

Apply for the Fulbright Program!

Opportunities for U.S. College Graduates and Grad Students

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program offers unparalleled international educational and cultural exchange experiences to talented and accomplished graduating college seniors, graduate students, and young professionals of all backgrounds and academic disciplines. Fulbright U.S. Student Program participants pursue graduate study, conduct research, or teach English in over 140 countries worldwide.

Fulbrighters join a network of thousands of alums serving as leaders and changemakers across the globe. Through Fulbright, participants enrich their educations, advance their careers - and make meaningful contributions to their fields.

[Click here to apply!](#)

2026-2027 COMPETITION DEADLINE: TUESDAY OCTOBER 7, 2025 AT 5 PM EASTERN TIME

Hosted by Dr. McElroy at THE Graduate Research Center

DISSERTATION WORKSHOP SERIES

Online | Every 3rd Saturday | 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

We're Here to Help You Cross the Finish Line!

Join us for a focused, monthly virtual workshop series designed to help you write and refine the most critical components of your dissertation.

Each session will dive into essential topics such as:

- **Writing a Clear Problem Statement**
- **Crafting a Comprehensive Literature Review**
- **Describing Your Research Methodology**
- **Presenting Your Findings**
- **Highlighting the Significance of Your Study**

Register Today!

SPOTLIGHT

TEMI UNONU

Counseling Education & Supervision Doctoral Student



Meet Temi Unonu, a doctoral Counseling Education and Supervision student at Bowie State University. Temi's research focuses on culturally responsive, trauma-responsive counseling practices with an emphasis on racially minoritized groups and the impact of microaggressions and racialized trauma. Through African-centered, Afro-humanistic approaches and the Multicultural and Social Justice Counseling Competencies (MSJCC) framework, she aims to advance equity-driven counseling practices that empower individuals, foster resilience, and reimagine healing as both personal and collective transformation.

In 2025, Temi received the Maryland Counseling Association Community Action Award and the Maryland Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Outstanding Graduate Student Award for her leadership, advocacy, and scholarship. Her professional experience as a school counselor, adjunct faculty member, and mental health therapist reflects a consistent commitment to culturally responsive practices, community engagement, and advancing social justice. Her research employs qualitative and survey-based methods, with a particular interest in phenomenological research to capture lived experiences and meta-analysis to synthesize findings across studies. These approaches allow her to generate both in-depth and broad insights that inform equitable, data-driven counseling practices.

Temi has also actively participated in a range of professional development conferences, including the Maryland Counseling Association Annual Conference, a roundtable discussion on Healing Words for the Diaspora, and a group presentation of Restoring Her Story: Black Girls Group Counseling Interventions. Additional contributions include presenting at the NBCC Global Connections Conference on addressing the professional needs of first- and second-generation Africans and at the Advancing School Mental Health Conference on Decolonizing MTSS and Toxic Resilience of Racially Marginalized Youth. Beyond her academic and professional achievements, Temi serves on the Counselors for Social Justice National Executive Board and as Chair of the CSJ School Counseling Task Force Committee, where she helps shape equity-centered initiatives and advocacy efforts within the counseling profession. Through these roles, she collaborates with colleagues nationwide to advance culturally responsive practices, dismantle systemic barriers, and amplify the voices of marginalized students and communities.



Join the **RESEARCH READING CLUB: ENGAGING WITH SOCIALLY JUST RESEARCH METHODS!**

Hosted by Dr. Bettis & Dr. McElroy



OPEN TO ALL
DOCTORAL
STUDENTS

REGISTER HERE



Are you passionate about equity in research?

Our research reading club operates like a book club but focuses on a single research article or chapter per meeting. This club provides a space for scholars to explore texts that challenge traditional paradigms and center socially just, community-engaged research methods.

Each session dives into thought-provoking readings that spark critical conversations about power, ethics, inclusion, and transformative research practices. Whether you're working on your dissertation or just beginning your doctoral journey, you'll find inspiration, connection, and thought provoking ideas. Come read, reflect, and reimagine research with us—one reading at a time.

Our first reading will be Eve Tuck's *Suspending Damage: A Letter to Communities*. "In this open letter, Eve Tuck calls on communities, researchers, and educators to reconsider the long-term impact of 'damage-centered' research—research that intends to document peoples' pain and brokenness to hold those in power accountable for their oppression."

VISIT THE GRADUATE LOUNGE!

Looking for a space to study, collaborate with peers, or work on assignments? Visit the Graduate Lounge in **Thurgood Marshall Library (Room 1185)**. This modern space features seating for 30, 7 computers, 3 private study pods, and a large 80" interactive screen with virtual and touchscreen capabilities.



Thurgood Marshall Library, Room 1185

**RESERVE THE
GRADUATE LOUNGE:**



Bulldog
Card
Required
for Entry



STAY CONNECTED WITH THE GRC !



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Instagram](#)



[Click here to follow us on our
NEW Facebook Page](#)



YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!**GRC Feedback Survey****INTERESTED IN BEING
FEATURED?**