

GRC NEWSLETTER

THE Graduate School @ Bowie State



June 2, 2025

Issue 4

ABOUT THE GRC

The Graduate Resource 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.



JUNE EVENTS

- June 2nd: First Day of Summer Classes (sessions I & III)
- June 6th: Last Day to Add/Drop Courses (sessions I & III)
- June 9th: Thesis/Dissertation Support groups begins
- June 19th: Juneteenth
- Last Day to Withdraw with a grade of 'W' (session I)



@BSUGradCenter



GRC@bowiestate.edu



Center for Business & Graduate Studies
Thurgood Marshall Library, 1185

Tailored Academic Support

GRADUATE WRITING SERVICES



Research editors at the Graduate Resource 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.

The services that we provide include:

- Constructive criticism for drafts as well as final products
- Help with developing revision plans
- Considerations for refining the writing process
- Support with overcoming barriers to productivity

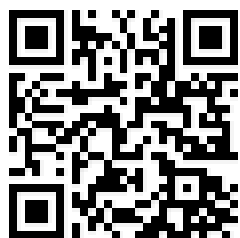
Brainstorming Consultations

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.

Register Here:



ACADEMIC ADVISING



Academic advisors at the Graduate Resource 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

Schedule Your Appointment Today:



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](#)



FALL 2025



GRAD STUDENT **CLASS** REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

DON'T DELAY REGISTER TODAY

[Take Me to Bulldog Connection](#)

[Schedule an Advising Appointment](#)

Historically Black Graduate Institutions (HBGI) Graduate Fellowship Program



THE Graduate School is pleased to announce that applications are now open for the Historically Black Graduate Institutions (HBGI) Fellowship for the Fall 2025 academic session.

This Fellowship opportunity is available to U.S. citizens of African American descent who have been **admitted to the doctoral program in either Computer Science or Counseling & Psychological Studies** and hold a minimum GPA of 3.0. Please note that all core requirements must be completed and passed for consideration.

See the **HBGI Application** for more information. Completed applications should be sent to boji@bowiestate.edu by **June 30th, 2025.**





GRADUATE WRITING SERVICES

ARE YOU WORKING ON A SUMMER PROJECT?

The GRC is here to help!
**EXTENDED HOURS OFFERED
JUNE-AUGUST**



**Register
Here!**



Grants
Book chapters
Scholarships
Academic blog posts
Fellowship applications
Personalized sessions
Conference proposals
Newsletter submissions
Navigating Zotero
Journal articles
& more!



GRC@bowiestate.edu

SAVE THE DATE: GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION



Saturday, August 16th, 2025



9:00am - 3:00pm



Martin Luther King Jr Building Auditorium

Graduate Student Orientation is designed to help **both new and returning** students get acclimated to Bowie State University and explore all that THE Graduate School has to offer! Whether you're advancing your academic journey or returning to complete your graduate studies, this orientation provides valuable insights into university resources, program offerings, and departmental expectations.

What to expect:

- Meet key personnel from THE Graduate School
- Learn about the university's history and mission
- Discover essential graduate student resources
- Get important admissions and departmental information
- Network with fellow students and faculty
- Plus: Enjoy a light breakfast and lunch as you get to know the campus and community.



REGISTER HERE:



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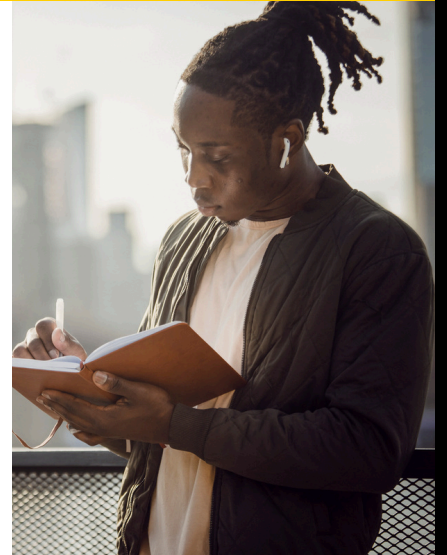
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Graduate Writing Services

Summer Thesis & Dissertation Support Groups

Begins June 9th, 2025 | Ends July 29th, 2025

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 Schedule

Mondays: 12:00-1:00pm

Tuesdays: 1:15-2:15pm or
6:15-7:15pm

Thesis Schedule

Tuesdays: 12:00-1:00pm
or 5:00-6:00pm



Sign Up Now!

Registration is **required** for **each** session you attend. Offering **multiple sessions** per week to meet your scheduling needs. Topics vary weekly.



SPOTLIGHT

IESHA CAISEY

Counselor Education & Supervision, PhD



Meet Iesha Caisey, a doctoral student in the Counselor Education and Supervision program at Bowie State University. Her research centers on the experiences of African American girls in schools, with a particular focus on pushout and the importance of culturally responsive counseling practices. Caisey is committed to developing counseling strategies that affirm and uplift marginalized students, using research as a vehicle for advocacy and systemic change.

Caisey employs mixed methods research designs to implement strengths-based frameworks in her work with Black high school girls in public school systems. Her academic contributions are already making an impact—she authored her first solo book chapter, *Black Girls and Pushout*, which is set to be published in fall 2025.

She has shared her work and insights at several notable conferences, reinforcing her voice as a thought leader in counselor education and social justice. Caisey presented Building Strength Amidst Bias at the Maryland School Counselor Association (MSCA) Conference, participated in the Beyond the Master's: Thriving in & Preparing for Doctoral Programs graduate student panel hosted by Maryland Counselors for Social Justice (MCSJ), and spoke at the national Counselors for Social Justice (CSJ) Conference with her presentation, Breaking Barriers: Social Justice in School Counseling. These opportunities reflect her deep engagement in shaping more inclusive and equitable practices in the counseling profession.

**INTERESTED IN
NOMINATING A
GRADUATE STUDENT
OR FACULTY
MEMBER? FILL OUT
THIS FORM!**



Caisey's commitment to professional development and service is equally impressive. She is a recipient of the Historical Black Graduate Institutions (HBGI) Fellowship at Bowie State University. She also served as a proposal reviewer for the MCSJ/MACES Graduate Student Conference in March 2025, where she conducted blind reviews of graduate student submissions. Additionally, she contributes as a CACREP Advisory Board Member for the Counselor Education Program at Bowie State, providing strategic feedback on the program's annual report. Most recently, she was nominated for the Secretary position with Maryland Counselors for Social Justice, further demonstrating her leadership and dedication to the field.



SPOTLIGHT

DR. RODNEY A. HARRISON JR

Educational Studies & Leadership, Ed.D



Meet Dr. Rodney A. Harrison Jr., a recent graduate of the Educational Studies & Leadership doctoral program at Bowie State University. Dr. Harrison's scholarly work addresses a critical and underexplored issue in education: the retention and professional development of Black male elementary school teachers. His dissertation, *A Hermeneutic Phenomenological Investigation of How Racial Affinity Groups Support Black Male Elementary School Teachers' Professional Growth, Development and Retention in Education*, provides a powerful examination of the role racial affinity groups play in supporting this underrepresented group.

Black men comprise less than 2% of the teaching profession, and while recruitment initiatives have been widely promoted, retention remains a significant challenge (Bristol, 2014). As both a Black male teacher and leader with firsthand experience in elementary education and racial affinity spaces, Dr. Harrison recognized the urgent need to explore how these groups influence professional growth, empowerment, and retention. His work responds to a notable gap in the literature, especially regarding Black men teaching at the elementary level, and offers insights into how schools and districts can more effectively support and sustain these educators.

Using hermeneutic phenomenology as his research methodology, Dr. Harrison investigated the lived experiences of Black male elementary school teachers—both within their teacher preparation programs and professional environments. His study aimed to understand the factors that contribute to their retention and development, and to examine how preparation pathways may influence whether these educators stay in the profession. His work not only illuminates individual experiences but also points to systemic strategies for lasting impact.

Dr. Harrison's commitment to educational equity and leadership extends well beyond the classroom. He was awarded the Black Male Educator Empowerment Award by Bowie State University in recognition of his contributions. His professional development activities include presenting *Transitioning to Administration* for Coppin State University's Administration I Certification program and *One World, Many Classrooms: An International Exchange on Culture, Technology, and Wellness* with the Ghana EdTech Alliance. He also contributed to the documentary *Cultural War: Focus on Black Youth* (Season 1, Episode 2) and served as moderator for the panel *What the Research Says About Black Male Educators* at BOND Academy in May 2022. THE Graduate School at Bowie State University congratulates Dr. Harrison on his remarkable accomplishments and contributions to the field of education.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

DR. PAULA SUTTON

Nursing

Dr. Paula Sutton, a dedicated faculty member in the Department of Nursing at Bowie State University, is leading a transformative effort to integrate big data analytics into nursing education. As the principal investigator for a groundbreaking project funded by the Data Analytics Integration Mini Grant, Dr. Sutton is at the forefront of modernizing the graduate nursing research curriculum for future nurse educators and practitioners.

Her proposal, titled *“Integration of Data Analytics into the Graduate Nursing Research Course for Nurse Educators and Nurse Practitioners,”* has brought a data-driven dimension to nursing education. Through this initiative, Dr. Sutton conducted a self-efficacy survey measuring data science knowledge among current and former graduate nursing students. These insights have directly shaped the successful incorporation of big data principles into the research curriculum.

One of the standout features of her pilot study was a two-week experience for students spanning the past five years. Participants explored their own perceptions of data science before and after the study, using the SAS analytical tool to interrogate a real-world health or nursing-related question. Their analyses were assessed using a structured rubric, and while voluntary, this innovative experience allowed students to gain hands-on exposure to big data without impacting their course grades or program progression.

Dr. Sutton’s scholarly contributions have also garnered national recognition. Her abstract, *“Integration of Data Analytics into Nursing Curricula: A Pilot Study,”* has been accepted for presentation at the prestigious 9th Edition of the Nursing World Conference, taking place October 27-29, 2025, in Orlando, Florida. She will serve as the primary presenter and lead author, joined by collaborators Dr. Sharon Wilks and Dr. Euwanna Heard.

Beyond her research, Dr. Sutton is an active participant in professional development. In Summer 2024, she completed the Data Science, Analytics and Research (DSAR) Academy hosted by Bowie State University’s Center for Data Science and Analytics—further deepening her expertise in analytics integration.

Dr. Sutton’s leadership extends throughout the BSU nursing community. She plays a pivotal role in faculty development by chairing and coordinating the Lunch and Learn workshops, enriching the department’s collaborative learning culture. Through her research, mentorship, and leadership, Dr. Paula Sutton is redefining how data science intersects with nursing education, equipping future nurses with the analytical skills needed in today’s data-driven healthcare landscape.



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:**



STAY CONNECTED WITH THE GRC THIS SUMMER!



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LinkedIn Page](#)



[Click here to follow us on
Instagram](#)



YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!
GRC Feedback Survey

