

# GRC NEWSLETTER

THE Graduate School @ Bowie State



August 1, 2025

Issue 6

## 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.



## AUGUST EVENTS

- August 8<sup>th</sup>: Last Day of Summer Sessions II & III
- August 13<sup>th</sup>: Final Grades are Due (sessions II & III)
- **August 16<sup>th</sup>: Graduate Student Orientation**
- August 25<sup>th</sup>: First Day of Classes (15 week & 1st 7-week session)
- August 29<sup>th</sup>: Last Day to Add/Drop Courses (1st 7-week session)



@BSUGradCenter



GRC@bowiestate.edu



Center for Business & Graduate Studies  
Thurgood Marshall Library, 1185

# WELCOME FROM OUR DEAN



Welcome to THE Graduate School at Bowie State University — where bold minds are empowered to transform lives.

At Bowie State University, Maryland's oldest HBCU, we don't just offer graduate degrees — we deliver exceptional, future-ready programs that challenge, inspire, and equip you to lead in an increasingly complex global landscape. Our graduate programs are designed with rigor, relevance, and real-world solutions in mind, preparing you to address 21st-century problems with creativity, critical insight, and cultural awareness.

Research is central to who we are. Here, you'll find cutting-edge faculty scholarship, opportunities for applied research, state-of-the-art facilities including our celebrated VR lab, and support structures including our Graduate Research Center, that position you to be a knowledge creator, not just a consumer.

At BSU, we believe graduate education is more than a credential — it's a powerful catalyst for personal transformation and societal progress. As one of the nation's leading HBCUs and a rising research institution, Bowie State is home to high-impact programs and a supportive community that nurtures ambition and drives achievement.

But perhaps what truly sets us apart is our commitment to the transformational graduate experience. You will be challenged to think critically, act ethically, and lead boldly. At BSU, you are not just a student, you are part of a community that sees your potential, nurtures your leadership, and supports your aspirations from enrollment to graduation and beyond. Our faculty and staff are deeply invested in your success and are here to ensure that your time at BSU is a launchpad for lifelong impact.

Whether you are returning to graduate school to advance your career, change direction, or pursue a long-held dream, know this: you belong here — and your bold future begins now.

We invite you to explore our programs, connect with our faculty, and join a legacy of excellence and purpose. THE Graduate School at Bowie State is ready to partner with you on your journey to the next level.

With pride and purpose,

**Ofosuwa M. Abiola, PhD**

Dean, THE Graduate School  
Bowie State University



# THANK YOU DR. JANET GUYDEN



We are excited to celebrate Dr. Janet Guyden as she wraps up her time as Interim Dean of THE Graduate School. Since November 2023, Dr. Guyden has led with grace, clarity, and purpose-- helping to guide our team and students with steady leadership and a collaborative spirit.

From supporting graduate students and faculty to strengthening our academic community, Dr. Guyden's impact has been deeply felt.

As she steps back into retirement, we wish her nothing but joy, rest, and adventure. Thank you, Dr. Guyden, for all you've done. You've truly left a legacy that we will continue to build upon!



# 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:

Starting September 13, THE GRC will offer a Dissertation Workshop Series focused on guiding 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.

## 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**

## Schedule an Advising Appointment:

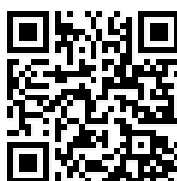


## Need to Print?

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](#)

## Schedule a Writing Service:





# FALL 2025



## GRAD STUDENT CLASS REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

# DON'T DELAY REGISTER TODAY

[Take Me to Bulldog Connection](#)

[Schedule an Advising Appointment](#)

# SAVE THE DATE: GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION



Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 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.



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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  
Starting September 13

**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

## ADEDOTUN ADEMOWO

### Management Information Systems

Meet Adedotun Ademowo, a graduate student in Management Information Systems at Bowie State University, whose passion for innovation is matched only by his commitment to building stronger, more inclusive communities both locally and globally.

Ademowo is the visionary behind E-HabTech, a startup that blends modular housing, renewable energy, and smart technology to tackle the housing crisis in underserved communities. His work goes beyond the drawing board he's designing real solutions that address food insecurity, energy inefficiency, and economic exclusion through sustainable urban development.



Earlier this year, Ademowo proudly represented Bowie State University at the HBCU Business Plan Competition in Atlanta, Georgia, where his forward-thinking approach to affordable housing caught the attention of peers, judges, and industry experts alike.

On campus, he wears many hats. As a Graduate Assistant at the Center for Business & Graduate Studies, he supports impactful initiatives that empower students. As President of the BSU AI Club, he's helping shape the university's growing reputation as a hub for emerging tech. Last semester, he hosted a campus-wide AI Workshop in collaboration with the Center for Data Analytics, bringing together students, faculty, and AI enthusiasts to explore how artificial intelligence can solve real-world problems.

His leadership journey also includes participation in the Spring 2025 Global Solutions Conversation Program, a binational initiative powered by IREX and the Stevens Initiative. There, Ademowo presented how integrated smart housing systems can promote sustainability, community resilience, and equity, contributing to global conversations around UN Sustainable Development Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.

Ademowo also co-led the development of the BSU Student Wellness Tracking System, a digital platform that uses cloud-based tools and predictive insights to support student well-being. His work has earned him recognition, including the Youth Ambassador Award, and he continues to mentor fellow students in areas like Microsoft Azure, MySQL, and agile project development.

Driven by purpose and powered by innovation, Adedotun Ademowo is not just preparing for the future, he's building it



# THREE BOWIE STATE DOCTORAL STUDENTS PUBLISHED IN NATIONAL COUNSELING NEWSLETTER

THE Graduate School at Bowie State University is proud to celebrate the recent publication of three doctoral students from the Counseling Education and Supervision (COES) program in the Spring 2025 edition of the Association for Child and Adolescent Counseling (ACAC) Newsletter. Their articles explore culturally responsive, healing-centered approaches to group counseling for youth, with a particular focus on equity and identity for Black girls.

## **Iesha Caisey - "It's Giving Healing: Black Girls, Group Healing, and Radical Belonging"**

In her compelling piece, Caisey critiques the disproportionate discipline Black girls face in educational settings, where natural adolescent behavior is often misread as defiance. Drawing on restorative justice and culturally affirming group models such as the Black Girl Magic Crew and Talking Circles, she positions group counseling as a radical act of belonging and identity reclamation. Caisey underscores the importance of emotional safety and facilitator cultural humility in transforming schools from punitive environments into spaces of affirmation and liberation.

## **Temitope B. Unonu - "Reclaiming Identity for Black Girls: Countering Erasure Through Culturally Responsive Self-Esteem Counseling Groups in Education"**

Unonu's article examines how systemic oppression and dominant ideologies erase the identity and potential of Black girls in American schools. Grounded in Critical Race Feminism, she shares a case study of a self-esteem group conducted at a Montessori school, where six sixth-grade girls were guided through sessions focused on emotional healing, affirmations, and identity development. Unonu's work offers a roadmap for how school-based counseling groups can challenge harmful stereotypes, restore Black identity, and create space for joy and self-definition.

## **Maatenre Ramin - "Leveraging Diversity to Build Trust Among Students in Group Counseling"**

Ramin explores the complexities and transformative potential of group counseling in diverse school environments. Her article highlights the essential role of trust-building, particularly for students from marginalized backgrounds who may have experienced discrimination or exclusion. Through a range of practical, culturally responsive strategies—from multilingual materials to inclusive group rituals—Ramin outlines how counselors can create affirming spaces that support student voice, foster empathy, and empower authentic participation in group settings.

These outstanding contributions demonstrate Bowie State's continued leadership in preparing scholar-practitioners who advocate for justice, healing, and equity in counseling and education. Their work provides valuable insights for counselors and educators across the country.



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

Hosted by Dr. Cox & Dr. McElroy



OPEN TO ALL  
DOCTORAL  
STUDENTS

## **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 provide 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 THIS SUMMER!



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