Spring 2021 Graduation Celebration

Bowie State University Department of Natural Science
Victor Amadu

Has been offered an internship at Biogen in the AAV immunogenicity Bioassays division.
"Thank you to all the faculty members of the Natural Science department, without you all and your hard work and dedication into shaping us into the people we have become, we wouldn’t be walking that stage tomorrow! You’ve instilled values like honesty, respect, hard-work and always gave solutions to all our problems. Currently I am working as a clinical assistant at an urgent care helping patients in our current global pandemic. I also became a licensed phlebotomist and do work in the lab. I am looking forward to achieving more of my goals in the medical field as well as participating in more research! Once again, thank you Natural Science !!"
Bai Bangura

Plans to complete a doctoral program
Constance Barrett

Plans to become a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner in the future
Paris Carter

“This semester I was able to continue working for a private STEM company, T-STEM Inc. as a Research Intern.

I was also a Teaching Assistant for Dr. Burks (BIOL101) and Dr. Bonsu (CHEM107). I was a peer mentor for Dr. Burks’ Genetics students during their research project.

I have also been acknowledged for my educational research in a published book, Engineering for Teens: A Beginner’s Book for Aspiring Engineers, written by Dr. Pamela McCauley.

After graduation, I aspire to work at The National Institute of Health or another lab to gain more experience and to also narrow down my area of study to eventually pursue a graduate degree.”
Cameron Chambers

During his time at Bowie State University, Cameron Chambers has accomplished many things. Being a part of the 2018 BSU CIAA championship football team, acquiring multiple summer research internships and presenting at national level conferences, being a Teaching Assistant for the department of Natural Sciences, making Deans List and obtaining a full time offer at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Post-Baccalaureate program.
Tamarrah Cherry

Plans to take a gap year to prepare for Medical School
Adia Dobbs
Bengyella Doh
Alexa Dragon

Aspires to become a dentist
Daija Edwards

Will work for UNICEF after graduation and has a long-term goal of “Bringing education to those who don’t have access”
Blessing Ekpo
"My time at Bowie is coming to an end, but the memories I have created there will last forever. I have been blessed with the opportunity to serve as the lab manager for Dr. Osano's lab. This has allowed me to present at various conferences like the Eastern Analytical Symposium and The Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students. It has also allowed me to work with respected people in their field like Dr. Eike Reich, the head of CAMAG. I also want to thank the Honors program and my Honors family because without them none of this would have been possible. I look forward to helping and mentoring those students who are coming after me during the Summer. Lastly, I plan on pursuing a Post-Bac with the NIH while I study to take the MCAT in September."
Taylor Ellis

Plans to receive her Master’s in Healthcare Administration and work in the Healthcare field on the business side.
Jhakye Garcia Medrano

I'm very happy and proud to be part of the Bowie family, I have met wonderful and inspiring young people here. A special thanks to my awesome professors, for sharing their knowledge with us. I will continue my path towards the medical field and research, as a Physician Assistant. Is never too late to achieve your goals. Whish you all the very best.
My name is Taylor Gooden. I am graduating with a bachelors in biology.

I plan to take a gap year to work within the medical field. I currently work with a medical technology company and also as a hemodialysis technician. While taking my gap year I plan to take the MCAT to apply to medical schools next fall.

Bowie has taught me so much and has given me the tools to be successful in STEM!
Jakiara Hyner

Plans to attend Sonography School
Kasey Johnson

Aspires to become an Entrepreneur
Tajah Kee

“This year I served as Campus Activities Board Chief of Staff [and] I am a sister of NCNW Organization.

After graduation I plan to take a gap year to build my resume with more medical field jobs and retake my MCAT. Then apply to medical schools next fall on my journey to becoming an Anesthesiologist.”
My name is Layelle Leach I was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland. I fell in love with science in middle school and been in love ever since. Now I’m graduating college with a biology degree.
Ca’Rel Lee

Plans to enter Military Service following graduation
"While being at Bowie State University, I made the Dean’s list, became a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and studied abroad in Harbin, China on scholarship.

My aspiration is to become a Pediatrician. I appreciate Bowie State University for preparing me for the next step of my journey, which is medical school."
Ashley Mbionwu
David Miller

Since transferring in Spring 2020 David has shown a love of the Natural Science Department and Bowie State. He has become a TA and is an active member of Army ROTC.

In the future, David plans to commission in the United States Army as a 2nd Lieutenant. He then will go to medical school where he will obtain his MD/MPH. His career goal is to become an OB/GYN to drastically reduce the mortality rate of black mothers during delivery and increase the fertility rate of black mothers.
Kristyn Miller

Plans to pursue a career as a radiology technician
Nayieh Miller

While at Bowie, Nayieh was in a variety of organizations and campus services, New Student Orientation Leader, NCNW, Sister to Sister, Queen In You, Cab Street Team.

"I plan to study for the MCAT so I can follow my dream of becoming an OBGYN. We did it Joe!"
Alvine Momo Azobou

Plans to become “a physician assistant and serve people in the rural community.”
Aaliyah Muhammah

Plans to take a gap year to prepare for Medical School
Binta Mustapha
Chinoyelum Nnorom

Plans to become an Optometrist
Amalachukwu Okoye

"During this pandemic, I worked with an urgent care and assisted with their COVID 19 mobile testing. I will be graduating Bowie State University with honors (Cum Laude) with an overall GPA of 3.6."
"I am Vincent Osekwe, a Prince George’s County native. I am a graduating senior with an aspiration in medicine. I also like sports and fashion."
Jasmin Perkins

Jasmin has been active:

- a New initiate of the Zeta Delta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated

- a sister of the BSU National Council of Negro Women

- a member and on the E-board for BSU Campus Curlz as the Membership Chair for 2019-2020

- a scholar in the BSU Ronald E. McNair Program

- Presented two research projects at national conferences including the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in Anaheim, CA and The National Conference for Undergraduate Research, online

- a mentor for the City of Bowie Youth & Family Services

- a teaching assistant for General Genetics for four semesters (FALL 2019- SPRING 2021)

Also, Jasmin has been accepted into the UC Davis Prep Program. After completing this program, she will go to graduate school and get my PhD in genetic research.
Taylor Sedgwick
Jhanelle Stewart

Plans to attend graduate school
"I recently presented my research with Dr. Kari Debbink on CVEV encapsilated CYVaV at the Spring Research Expo.

I will be going to medical school next year after taking a gap year to work in my field."
Congratulations!

We are sooooo PROUD of you all!!!!
Program

Welcome - Dr. George Ude

Ice Breaker - Dr. Kari Debbink

Guest Speaker - Dr. Sharma Cook - Richardson

Senior Awards - Dr. Chi-Chi Esimai

Address from Graduates

Greetings from Faculty
Dr. Sharma Cook-Richardson
Class of 2010
Senior Awards
Academic Achievement

- Bai Bangura
- Paris Carter
- Cameron Chambers
- Tamarrah Cherry
- Johnny Chowoe
- Adia Dobbs
- Bengyella Doh
- Alexa Dragon
- Blessing Ekpo
- Christian Elcorrobarrutia
- Jhakye Garcia-Medrano
- Ca'Rel Lee
- Temi Lyons
- Ashley Mbionwu
- David Miller
- Nayieh Miller
- Alvine Momo-Azobou
- Aaliyah Muhammad
- Binta Mustapha
- Chinoyelum Nnorom
- Amalachukwu Okoye
- Deborah Onyia
- Vincent Osekwe
- Jasmin Perkins
- Taylor Sedgwick
- Jhanelle Stewart
- Kaishea White
Top Scholar Awards
"Paris is a great student!"

"Paris has been consistent in leadership and service. She has also been very dedicated to her academics. What I love most about her is her strong sense of self and her quiet leadership both within Bowie State University and outside of the school with various initiatives. I can't wait to see what's next for her!"
Christian Elcorrobarrutia

"Christian is just an excellent student, who also applies his knowledge in practical settings and to other new problems and experiences. He is also kind, respectful, and engages in class in a meaningful and constructive way."

"Christian did exceptionally well in my classes, and he is just a well-rounded student!"

"Christian's dedication to learning and research is noteworthy. His work with Dr. Osano and his CURE research in my class was outstanding."
Most Improved Student Awards
Bai Bangura

"I've seen a huge growth in confidence in him since he started in the biology program. When he was my research student, he went from not asking questions when he didn't understand something to being proactive about finding information and asking questions. He also immensely improved his presentation skills. Congratulations Bai!"
Cameron Chambers

"I have watched Cameron grow and mature; he has so much potential. I cannot wait to see what else he accomplishes as he continues his journey!

Congratulations Cameron!"
David Miller

"I voted for David as the most improved student because of the rapid change from being shy and silent to taking the lead as a prominent TA in the department and for his research and presentations throughout the year. Congratulations David!"
"Vincent was a very shy student when I had him as a student, but he has really blossomed and is excited about his future. He has finished well. Congratulations Vincent!"
Top Student Researcher Award
"Jasmin is serious about research and continuing on in a research-focused graduate program."

"Jasmin has been conducting research with Dr. Burks for many years and I know she will do well in graduate school."

"I really was impressed with Jasmin's research in Genetics."
“There are so many deserving students for the Student Researcher Award, it's difficult to pick just one person.

However, Alvine stands out. Alvine has demonstrated consistent work and outstanding dedication to getting major research projects such as the aquaponics research off the ground along with her team in the Osano Lab.

Congratulations on your work, Alvine, and best wishes for the future!”
"Christian has contributed greatly to the research activities of the Osano Lab in such a short time and has also participated in a few Course-based Undergraduate Research (CURE) Projects. His work has been outstanding."
The Department of Natural Sciences acknowledges its Graduating Seniors who were part of the Teaching Assistant Program.
Graduating Seniors who were Teaching Assistants

- Victor Amadu
- Paris Carter
- Cameron Chambers
- Christian Elcorrobarrutia
- Jhakye Garcia-Medrano
- David Miller
- Alvine Momo-A zobou
- Deborah Onyia
- Jasmin Perkins
- Kaishea White
Best Teaching Assistant Awards
"David has honestly been the best. He has stepped in to assist with many courses in the past when help has been needed. He has also supported the other TAs in the TA Program and helped lend structure to the program.

Thank you for your contributions, David, and congratulations! Best wishes for the future."
"Kaishea has been a dedicated TA for Dr. Debbink for many years. I believe she can independently run some of the micro labs and I wish her all the best."

"Kaishea was not my TA, but I really wished she had been. Engaged, caring and fully committed to make a difference in the class outcome."

"Kaishea's role as a TA and support for the TA program has truly been outstanding. Congratulations Kaishea!"

"Kaishea has been my TA for microbiology for three years and she is fantastic at it. She is trustworthy, has a great grasp of the content, can anticipate what I need her to do and follow through on it, and she goes out of her way to accommodate students who need help. Replacing her will be nearly impossible."
Greetings from Graduates
Well Wishes from Faculty
"Congratulations, Graduates! You did it! It's been great getting to know many of you over the past few years. I look forward to seeing where your paths take you--please keep in touch! @Kaishea White--you've been invaluable as a TA over these past few years. Thank you for all you've done to help your peers master microbiology! " - Dr. Kari Debbink

"Do good, be well, stay in touch and give back!!!" - Dr. Lucia Santacruz
"Congratulations graduates! What an honor and a privilege it's been to meet and know so many of you. You've persevered and succeeded – in a pandemic no less – and so the sky is quite literally the limit. I can't wait to see what's next for each one of you. Don't hesitate to reach out and please stay in touch! Congratulations to you and your families!" - Dr. Chimdimnma Esimai
"Congratulations graduates! You should be very proud of your accomplishments. Stay in touch and stay connected through our vibrant alumni network. To join, please contact Dr. Smith or join the LinkedIn Group. Congratulations again!"
- Dr. George Ude, Chair, DNS