



The Beacon Room, Center for Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Nursing



Fellowship Class of 2026 (Seated Left to Right): Dion Smith, Jahlove Shakur, Nijah Williams, and Daniel Jones (Missing: Vichan Cooper and Nush Zweh). Standing: Dr. James B. Hyman; Vice President, Brent Swinton; Provost, Dr. Guy-Alain Amoussou; President Aminta H. Breaux, MPA Chair, Dr. Wendy M. Edmonds; and Dean Mohammed Djerdjouri.

## BSUPI

The Bowie State University Philanthropy Initiative

May 15, 2026

# Bowie State University and the College of Business Celebrate the Philanthropy Fellowship Class of 2026



President Breaux Delivers Special Remarks



Provost Amoussou Gives Greetings from Bowie State University



Dean Djerdjouri Gives a Welcome from the College of Business



Keynote Speaker, Roland Kennedy, Jr., Exec. Dir., Executive Alliance for Boys and Men of Color



Dr. Hyman, Founder, BSUPI and the BSU Philanthropy Fellowship

Six College of Business graduate students were honored today after successfully completing their full-time, 12-month, fellowship appointments in 4 foundations that are partnering with the Bowie State University Philanthropy Fellowship Program. Dion Smith, Nijah Williams, and Vichan Cooper served their appointments at the TIDES Network, located in San Francisco, CA. Daniel Jones was assigned to the Grand Victoria Foundation

in Chicago, IL. Jahlove Shakur worked at the Annie E. Casey Foundation in Baltimore, MD, and Nush Zweh served her fellowship at ABFE: A Philanthropic Partnership for Black Communities, headquartered in New York.

Prior to the Fellowship, these students knew little about philanthropy and could not have envisioned it as a career path. Each now attests that the program increased their understanding and enthusiasm for the field. “This fellowship significantly expanded my professional understanding and personal vision,” said Daniel Jones. “I learned that meaningful impact requires more than passion. It requires systems. It requires accountability. It requires measurable outcomes. It requires strategic partnerships.”

Nijah Williams also reflected on lessons learned. “My fellowship experience deepened my understanding of the capacities and limitations of the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors. This experience taught me that while philanthropy and nonprofit organizations can play an important role in advancing social change, meaningful and sustainable progress requires collaboration across communities, institutions, governments, and movements.”

Common to all, was the long-term value they placed on their experience. “The BSU Philanthropy Fellowship Program strengthened my confidence, expanded my professional network, and gave me practical experiences that I will carry throughout my career,” stated Nush Zweh.

“These, and other lessons and growth experiences, are what we are recognizing today as we celebrate the BSU Philanthropy Fellowship Class of 2026,” said Dr. Hyman. We are proud of the way these Fellows have represented the College and the University and are eager to witness their continued growth and their impacts as professionals in the field. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL.