

GRC NEWSLETTER

THE Graduate School @ Bowie State



March 10th, 2025

Issue 1

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.



MARCH EVENTS

- March 11th: Professional Development Workshop
- March 12th: Professional Development Workshop
- March 15th: Graduate Comprehensive Exam
- March 17th-21st: Spring Break
- March 24th: Class Resumes
- March 31st: Summer/Fall Registration Opens



@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

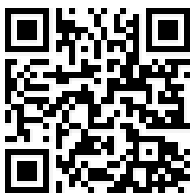
Brainstorming Consultations

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.

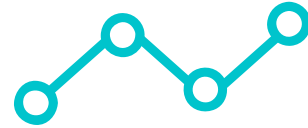
Read Ahead Consultations

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:



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:

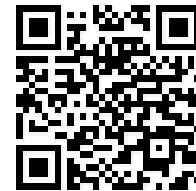
One-on-One or Group Sessions to address challenges directly related to coursework in the following:

- **EDAD 810 - Descriptive and Inferential Statistics in Education**
- **COES 760 - Multivariate Research and Statistics in Counseling**

Individual sessions for graduate students to address statistical related research questions that stem from course work:

- **EDAD 835: Research and Design Methods**
- **COES 700: Research Theory, Design and Methods**

Register Here:



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](#)



Looking for an Opportunity to Hone Your Professionalism? We've Got You Covered!

Join us for a two-part, two-day Professional Development training hosted by Zachary Cochran, presented by the GRC. Register today using the QR code below!



UNDERSTAND YOUR TRANSFERABLE SKILLS: UNCOVER A HIDDEN SECRET TO A FULFILLING CAREER

TUESDAY, MARCH 11TH AT 12PM

LOCATION: VIRTUAL

Companies hire you for your skills! Do you know what yours are? Come to this interactive training, to understand what your transferable skills are, why they matter, and what to do with them.

After you register for this session, you will be invited to take a transferable skills assessment, SkillScan Drive, in advance of the training.

Please note that this session is a **prerequisite** for the training taking place on March 12th.

REGISTER HERE:



LAND THE JOB: SUPERCHARGE YOUR JOB HUNT WITH CUTTING EDGE CONCEPTS, TOOLS, AND BEST PRACTICES

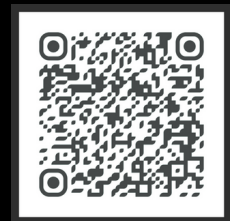
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12TH AT 3PM

LOCATION: THURGOOD MARSHALL LIBRARY IN THE
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ROOM /VIRTUAL OPTION
AVAILABLE

In this interactive training, students will be introduced to the concepts of career design and exploration, gaining guidance on re-evaluating their career paths and identifying new opportunities aligned with personal goals and market demand. Students will also obtain modern job search techniques and tools, such as leveraging digital platforms, personal branding, and networking, which will set them up for a successful job search and start to their new role.

- Light refreshments will be provided for in-person attendees
- Graduate Assistants must attend in person
- Hybrid

REGISTER HERE:



SPOTLIGHT

DR. JANET GUYDEN

Interim Dean of Graduate Studies

Dr. Janet A. Guyden is no stranger to the value of education, especially in a place where you are comfortable enough to discover who you are.

Growing up in Northwest Pennsylvania, Dr. Guyden lived in two worlds. An educational world, where schoolmates and teachers were predominately white, and a social world, where time with family and friends that looked like her allowed her the comfort to be herself.

In 1929, her father became the first African American to graduate from Carnegie Tech, which would merge with the Mellon Institute to become Carnegie Mellon University in 1967, with a degree in graphic arts. Her mother acquired post-secondary education in science and math. Despite their academic achievements, they came under less-than-ideal conditions, with racist and discriminatory encounters along the way.

Consequently, Dr. Guyden's parents decided that all seven of their children (1) had to receive an undergraduate degree and (2) it must come from an HBCU. As parents, they wanted their children to have more than an education, but a full college experience. The value in a degree is not just what you learn, but the relationships and social experiences you have along the way.

Dr. Guyden received her Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from Howard University in 1968. There, with the right conditions and the Civil Rights Movement taking place around her, she comfortably grew into who she is today. Without the pressure of being the best, or being the first, she was able to discover her voice and exercise it without risk.

After supporting her family as a Military Wife for several years, Dr. Guyden went on to earn her Master of Education in Counselor Education/School Counseling and Guidance from Worcester State University in 1977.

In 1992, she completed her PhD in Educational Leadership and Administration at Georgia State University, with a research focus on senior administrators' perceptions of HBCU presidents' leadership styles. Dr. Guyden's family history and experience attending an HBCU sparked a passion that she continues to explore.

For the past 33 years Dr. Guyden has worked in higher education, serving in a multitude of roles including associate professor, interim Dean of the College of Education at FAMU, Interim Provost/VP for Academic Affairs and Associate, VP for Research/Dean of Graduate School at Grambling State University, Director of Master's Thesis Projects at Daniel Morgan Graduate School of National Security, and currently as a self-employed Senior Consultant which as allowed her to assume the interim roles of Dean of Libraries at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and currently Dean of Graduate Studies here at Bowie State University.

**INTERESTED IN
NOMINATING A GRADUATE
STUDENT OF FACULTY
MEMEBER? FILL OUT THIS
FORM!**



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:**



Meet THE GRC Team



DR. JANET GUYDEN

Dean of THE Graduate School

Dr. Janet A. Guyden joined Bowie State University in 2023 as interim Dean of THE Graduate School, bringing over 30 years of leadership experience from institutions such as Florida A&M University, Georgia State University, and Grambling State University. Her focus is on enhancing the Graduate School's programs and processes to elevate its success, with a particular emphasis on achieving R-2 research status. Dr. Guyden's extensive background includes roles as Associate Vice President for Research and Dean at Grambling State and interim Dean at Florida A&M. She holds a B.A. in English from Howard University, an M.Ed. in Counselor Education from Worcester State University, and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Georgia State University.

DR. MATHIAS MBAH

Assistant Dean of THE Graduate School



Dr. Mathias A. Mbah is the Assistant Dean of THE Graduate School at Bowie State University, where he leads day-to-day operations, oversees graduate student services, and develops programs to support the school's mission. He has successfully managed the Graduate Assistantship Program, supervised international graduate partnerships, and led initiatives to enhance graduate-level programs. Previously, Dr. Mbah was Chair of the Department of Business, Public Administration, and Economics and played a key role in establishing the Master of Public Administration and Master of Business Administration programs at Bowie State. His academic interests include Economics and Management Information Systems, with numerous scholarly publications and presentations. Dr. Mbah received a B.Sc. in Management, M. A. in Economics from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Binghamton, M. S. in Management Information Systems from the Watson School of Technology at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Binghamton and a Ph.D. in Economics from Howard University in Washington, DC.

DR. KESLA M HOLDER

Program Coordinator



Hailing from Georgia, Dr. Kesla M. Holder joined Bowie State University in 2021 as Coordinator of the Graduate Resource Center, bringing a wealth of experience in public management and leadership. As a former City Services Director, she pioneered initiatives in civic engagement, workforce development, and restorative justice, earning national recognition. At BSU, she is dedicated to fostering academic excellence, inclusivity, and student empowerment through equitable access to education. Passionate about collaboration and lifelong learning, Dr. Holder remains committed to advancing the university's mission and shaping brighter futures.

DYMONDE NORMAN

Administrative Assistant



Dymonde Norman is the Administrative Assistant at THE Graduate School, where she has been dedicated to assisting and guiding students for the past three years. With a lifelong passion for serving her community, Mrs. Norman transitioned into administrative work over 10 years ago. She is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in biotechnology at UMGC, with plans to graduate in 2028. Committed to making graduate school engaging and accessible, she strives to create an inclusive learning environment for all Graduate School students. Mrs. Norman firmly believes in student-centered learning and is constantly seeking innovative and creative ways to present information to students.



Meet THE GRC Team



RACHEL RAVEN-CHABIN

Program Administrative Specialist

Rachel Raven-Chabin grew up in New York City, and graduated from Stony Brook University (SUNY) in 2019 with a degree in Spanish Literature and Political Science. She joined the Graduate Resource Center team at Bowie State after working for two years as an MA program coordinator at Columbia University. Rachel loves working in education, supporting students through their degrees, and helping to remove systemic barriers to academic success.



DEZIREE' BRADFORD-YANCEY

Masters Program Management Specialist

Deziree Bradford-Yancey graduated from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Biological Sciences in Cellular Biology and Genetics in the Spring of 2024. As a campus leader, she significantly increased her sorority's membership as President and boosted the relationship between the NPHC and campus community as NPHC Co-Vice President of Programming. Currently, she works as a Program Management Specialist for Masters Programs at Bowie State University. In her role, she manages student records, develops programming, and facilitates communication between students, faculty, and university departments.



BOLANLE OJI

Doctoral Management Specialist

Ms. Bolanle Oji began her career at Bowie State University as the Program Management Specialist for the Computer Science HBGI Doctoral Program in July 2023, transitioning from Sandy Spring Bank, where she served as a Universal Banker. With over 20 years of professional experience, she previously served with the United States Embassy (State Department), supervising the Accounts Payable and Payroll Section. As the HBGI Doctoral Program Management Specialist, she compiles and monitors student records, ensures department compliance, organizes professional and academic workshops and seminars, etc., to provide support and needed aid to students.



KAMRYN KISER

Program Management Specialist

Kamryn Kiser has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Towson University. With experience in both higher education and the non-profit sector, she has made significant contributions to branding, outreach, and operational efficiency. Currently, Kamryn serves as the Program Management Specialist of the Graduate Resource Center, where she is responsible for managing GRC resources, correspondence, and marketing initiatives. Passionate about education, Kamryn is dedicated to ensuring students have access to the support they need.



Meet THE GRC Team

DR. HONOR MCELROY

Graduate Research Editor



Dr. Honor McElroy is a Graduate Research Editor at the Graduate Resource Center. Her research interests include adult literacy, critical literacy, and feminist approaches to literacy research. She has extensive experience working as an academic editor, education researcher, English education leader, and a writing consultant. She has worked as part of collaborative teams with teachers, students, education leaders, editorial teams, faculty, and researchers. Dr. McElroy is passionate about supporting graduate students' development as researchers and writers.

DR. STACY COBB

GRC Statistician



Dr. Stacy Cobb is an accomplished data scientist with a robust background in statistical modeling and data analysis, notably at UNC Healthcare. She is an expert in transforming complex data into actionable insights, leading multidisciplinary teams, and enhancing decision-making processes. Excels in machine learning and research, with a proven track record of solutions in healthcare analytics. Dr. Cobb is the first African American to earn a PhD in Statistics from the University of Georgia in 2017.

ZACHARY COCHRAN

GRC Professional Development Coach



Zachary Cochran is the award-winning founder of Cochran Coaching LLC, a premier professional development company in Maryland. Since 2017, he has coached executives, business owners, and emerging leaders to develop their careers and leadership skills. Zachary specializes in leadership development, business coaching, career design, and training for a wide variety of audiences. He facilitates CEO Roundtables, corporate retreats, and career workshops for professionals and students alike. Recognized as Young Professional of the Year (2022 & 2023) by multiple organizations, he is a leader in shaping the next generation of professionals, and has a heart to see others flourish as they launch or re-launch their careers.



YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!
GRC Feedback Survey

