

HAMPTON RESEARCH BEAT

THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENTIAL GRANTSMANSHIP AWARD

The 2025 Presidential Grantsmanship Award honored two distinguished Hampton University faculty at the Spring Faculty Institute for their exceptional success in securing research funding and commitment to research excellence at Hampton University. The awardees, **Dr. Deidre Gibson**, University Endowed Professor and Chair of the Department of Marine and Environmental Sciences in the School of Science, and **Dr. William Moore**, University Endowed Professor in the Department of Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences (APS) in the School of Science and Hampton University Professor in Residence at the National Institute of Aerospace, received a trophy and a monetary award in recognition of their outstanding research achievements.

RESEARCH GRANTS

Congratulations to the recipients of the Hampton University's Faculty Development Grant Awards



Naoufal Lakhssassi, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor,
Department of Biological
Sciences
School of Science

Title: **Genetic Strategies for Increasing the Nutritional Value of Soybeans**



Natasha Mavengere, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Biological
Sciences
School of Science

Title: **Soil Bacteria and the Search for Novel Antibiotics: Harnessing Nature's Chemical Diversity to Overcome Antimicrobial Resistance**



Catherine Porter, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Political
Science and History
School of Liberal Arts and
Education

Title: **Local Voices, National Struggles: Women & Congo Independence**



Mengistu Shukare, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Chemistry
and Biochemistry
School of Science

Title: **Identifying Biological Determinants of Cancer Aggressiveness and Treatment Resistance in African American Derived Cancer Cells**



RESEARCH SYMPOSIA

EMPOWERING INNOVATION

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY SHOWCASES STUDENT RESEARCH ACROSS VIRGINIA

April is recognized nationally as Research Month, and Hampton University stood at the forefront by hosting three high-impact symposia celebrating student innovation and academic excellence.

McNair Scholars Take the Spotlight - On April 8, Hampton welcomed scholars and guests to the 2nd Annual Virginia McNair Scholars Research Symposium, organized by Dr. Jordan Carson - Director, Ronald McNair Scholars Program, and Mr. Mikael Davis - Dean of Student Achievement at Hampton University. The event opened with remarks by Dr. Neelam Azad, and featured delegations from Virginia Commonwealth University, Old Dominion University, Virginia Union University, and Hampton University, all members of the Virginia McNair Consortium.

29th Annual School of Science Research Symposium - Held under the theme, "Quantitative Skills for Our Changing Planet", the 29th Annual School of Science Research Symposium provided a platform for Hampton students to present research on topics such as environmental modeling, public health, and sustainability. [More info here.](#)

Virginia Space Grant Consortium Student Symposium - On April 22, Hampton hosted the VSGC Student Research Symposium, featuring research from undergraduate and graduate scholars across Virginia in aerospace engineering, planetary science, and applied physics. A luncheon sponsored by President Darrell K. Williams and featuring remarks by Dr. Azad honored the 2024-2025 VSGC cohort. Congressman Bobby Scott, Delegate Shelly Simonds, and other distinguished guests were in attendance. As a founding member of VSGC, Hampton University continues to empower students and faculty in cutting-edge STEM fields, solidifying its role as a Carnegie R2 institution and a leader in inclusive research excellence.



DR. NEELAM AZAD
Vice President for Research
Keynote Speaker

RESEARCHERS' INFORMATIONAL FORUM SPRING 2025



Calvin Lowe, Sc.D.
Research Professor,
Department of Physics,
School of Science (SoS)

Title: **38 Years Chasing Research Funds - with some success**
February 6, 2025



Demetris Geddis, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean, School of Engineering, Architecture, and Aviation & Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Title: **Grant Writing Success through Collaborative Research**
March 6, 2025



Ruben Delgado, Ph.D.
Associate Professor,
Department of Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences, SoS, Director, Center for Atmospheric Sciences

Title: **Charting New Waters: Navigating Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Research**
April 3, 2025

RESEARCH TRIVIA

The first American to win a Nobel Prize was _____ for measuring the speed of light.

- A. Albert Einstein
- B. Albert Michelson
- C. Joseph Grimaldi
- D. Thomas Young

CORRECT ANSWER: B

Link to the website:

[Researchers' Informational Forum - Hampton University](#)

For more information contact us:

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