

HAMPTON RESEARCH BEAT

THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026 | VOLUME 5 | ISSUE 1



Workforce, Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Innovation Rooted in Community

Dr. Glenda Evans, Director of the Workforce Development Enterprise (WDE), is pictured along with university leaders and local officials celebrating the grand opening of the WDE - a hub designed to connect people with career training and job opportunities across the region.

Hampton University is advancing a community-centered Workforce Development Enterprise (WDE) that reconnects the institution to its vocational roots while addressing modern workforce and economic needs. Anchored by the Community Health and Vocational Center on Butler Farm Road, with additional innovation spaces at the Harbour Centre, WDE provides hands-on training in high-demand fields such as HVAC, nursing, and welding. Beyond workforce preparation, WDE is a strategic asset for Hampton University's research enterprise linking applied training to priority research areas, expanding industry partnerships, and enhancing competitiveness for funding focused on workforce integration and regional impact.

RESEARCH GRANTS

Dr. Ruben Delgado, Assistant Dean for Research and Associate Professor in Department of Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences (APS) in the School of Science has secured a \$1.2 million grant from NASA's MUREP Earth Science Systems Research (ESSR) Integrated Hazard Institute. The project will provide near real-time air, water, and radiation data to communities across the Chesapeake Bay region facing high environmental risk, supporting mitigation efforts and collaborative, data-driven decision-making. Dr. Delgado also serves as Director of the Center for Atmospheric Sciences, Principal Investigator (PI) of the Hampton University Lidar Laboratory, and campus PI for NOAA's Center for Earth System Sciences and Remote Sensing Technology.



DR. RUBEN DELGADO



DR. STEPHEN GUIMOND

Dr. Stephen Guimond, Associate Professor in APS department and Director of Hampton University's Severe Weather Research Center (SWRC), has been awarded \$750,000 from the Office of Naval Research (ONR) for his project, "Littoral Boundary Layer and Turbulence Characterization in the Hampton Roads Region." Dr. Guimond has built a strong track record in advancing hurricane science through innovative computational approaches. His work enables near real-time, three-dimensional analysis of turbulent wind structures, with data shared directly with the National Hurricane Center to improve forecasting accuracy and timeliness. His publication in IEEE Transactions on Radar Systems further highlights a next-generation airborne Doppler radar capable of detecting and analyzing small-scale turbulence within hurricanes.

A powerful new chapter in leadership development is unfolding at Hampton University with the launch of the Leadership Excellence Advancement and Development (LEAD) Initiative. This bold, research-focused effort is designed to transform how leaders are prepared, supported, and advanced across academia. Funded by the Kenan Charitable Trust, Inc., the LEAD Initiative represents a significant investment in building evidence-based leadership pathways at one of the nation's most distinguished HBCUs. The initiative is led by a collaborative team of distinguished faculty and administrators. Pictured from left to right: Dr. Denise Charbonnet, Chair of the Department of Education; Dr. Jessica Sullivan, Chair of the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders; Dr. Neelam Azad, Vice President for Research and Endowed University Professor of Pharmacy; and Dr. Katina Ward-James, Director, Teaching and Learning Initiatives, IT. Learn more about the LEAD Initiative: [Hampton University LEAD Initiative Overview](#)





RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

2025 YALE INNOVATION CANCER RESEARCH THROUGH COLLABORATION SYMPOSIUM

Strategic Research Partnerships Expanding Hampton University's Global Impact

Hampton University continues to strengthen its research enterprise through strategic collaborations with leading R1 and peer institutions, including Yale University, Tufts University, and the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). These partnerships are active and reciprocal, with faculty and leadership engaging through site visits, joint initiatives, and shared programming. Hampton maintains an ongoing collaboration with VCU Massey Cancer Center (MCC) and Hampton University Proton Cancer Institute (HUPCI), while its partnership with Yale University is advancing through a formal MOU and participation in the ASCEND initiative, with Hampton representatives also attending Yale's cancer symposium last fall. Additionally, Hampton is collaborating with Tufts University on a wind energy initiative and is exploring expanded partnerships with institutions such as Tuskegee University and Florida A&M University, further positioning the University as a key contributor to high-impact, collaborative research. In the picture, Dr. Rosuany Velez Acevedo, Team Science Research Project Manager at Massey, is presenting "Funding Navigation with VCU's MCC" at Hampton University.



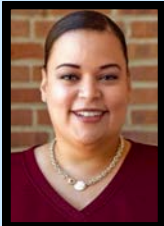
VCU MCC PRESENTATION, HAMPTON UNIVERSITY

STAFF NEWS



Dr. Karen Brown has been promoted to Director of Grants Management after serving as Grants Management Coordinator for the past five years. She has consistently demonstrated exceptional diligence and expertise, and we look forward to her continued leadership and service to Hampton University.

Twelve Hampton University students were awarded 2025 National Association of HBCU Title III Administrators Scholarships—the highest number of recipients from any institution. Each student received \$1,000 in recognition of their achievements and potential. This success was made possible through the leadership and dedication of Ms. Monica Weakley, Title III Coordinator.



MS. MONICA WEAKLEY

RESEARCHERS' INFORMATIONAL FORUM - FALL 2025

Researchers' Informational Forum

Title: Building Pathways of Promise
Presenter: Glenda Evans, Ph.D.

Executive Director - Virginia Workforce Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center (VWIEC)
Chair and Associate Professor, Entrepreneurial Studies
Ph.D. Business Administration
Hampton University

Grant Writing Success Tips from One of Our Own Experts
Networking with Experts, Colleagues, and the Office of the VPR

SEPTEMBER 4, 2025
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
McGrew Towers Meeting Rooms A&B

Sponsored by: The Office of the Vice President for Research
Contact us: vpforresearch@hamptonu.edu
(757) 728-6580

SPONSORED BY: THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

IRB SUBMISSION AND REVIEW PROCESS

PANEL PRESENTERS:

DR. AYODELE AKINREMI
Associate Professor
Department of Physical Therapy
Circle 888
Hampton University

DR. ANN MARIE KOPTZKE
Associate Professor
School of Nursing
Committee member, IRB
Hampton University

DR. CARLA JONES
Associate Professor
School of Science
Committee member, IRB
Hampton University

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

2 OCTOBER 2025

3:00 TO 4:30 PM

1 Training
Institutional Review Board Submission and Review Process: What you need to know

2 Networking Opportunities
Networking with Experts, Colleagues, and the Office of the Vice President for Research

vpforresearch@hamptonu.edu | (757) 728-6580

SPONSORED BY: THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

RESEARCHERS' INFORMATIONAL FORUM

BUILDING UNDERSTANDING: GRANT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OPEN FORUM

PANEL PRESENTERS:

MS. TARIANA JACKSON
DIRECTOR OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS

DR. KAREN BROWN
DIRECTOR OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT

MS. MONICA WEAKLEY
TITLE III COORDINATOR

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH, 2025

3:00PM TO 4:30PM

1 PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT AND PRE-AWARD COMPLIANCE

2 POST-AWARD MANAGEMENT AND PRACTICES

3 TITLE III INITIATIVES AND SUPPORT

vpforresearch@hamptonu.edu | (757) 728-6580

SPONSORED BY: THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

RESEARCHERS' INFORMATIONAL FORUM

AI AS A TOOL FOR PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

TARINA A. WHITFIELD, M.S.
Research Associate and Senior Technical Assistance Coordinator at QEM Network

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- EXPLORE AI'S ROLE IN STRENGTHENING STEM PROPOSALS
- ENGAGE IN INTERACTIVE REFLECTION & DIALOGUE
- LEARN STRATEGIES FOR EMPOWERING INSTITUTIONS & TALENT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4TH, 2025

3:00PM TO 4:30PM

VIA ZOOM
<https://hamptonu.zoom.us/j/9772728430285>
BUSINESS

vpforresearch@hamptonu.edu | (757) 728-6580

RESEARCH TRIVIA

What does a Geiger Counter measure?

- A. Emulsion
- B. Radiation
- C. Transversion
- D. Bouleversement

CORRECT ANSWER: B

Link to the website:
[Hampton Research Beat](https://www.hamptonresearchbeat.com)

For more information contact us:
vpforresearch@hamptonu.edu | (757) 728-6580