

HAMPTON RESEARCH BEAT

THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH
NEWSLETTER

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Hampton University Receives \$1.3M from NSF's Ideas Lab Initiative

NSF Ideas Lab awardees pictured from left to right: Dr. Ruben Delgado, Dr. Glenda Evans, Dr. Noufal Mohamed, Dr. Demetris Geddis, Dr. Neelam Azad, and Dr. Anand Iyer

The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded millions of dollars through the Ideas Lab initiative to strengthen research capacity, expand access to facilities, and develop talent at historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs). Hampton University received four awards totaling \$1.3 million. These include a project funded by the Enabling Partnerships to Increase Innovation Capacity (EPIIC) program, titled "Workforce and Innovation Collaborative for Regional Partnerships (WICRP)." Additionally, two projects, "Panoramic Institutional Assessments: A Playbook for Advancing Research Capacity" and "Partnership for Advancing Research Capacity in Semiconductors at HBCUs," along with a planning grant, "HBCU Climate Action Network," were funded through the NSF's Advancing Research Capacity (ARC)-HBCU initiative. These awards will foster collaboration, build sustainable networks, and enhance interdisciplinary research in STEM fields at Hampton University, ultimately strengthening partnerships to drive academic and innovation growth.

RESEARCH GRANTS



Mikael Davis, director of student support services, has secured a \$1.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education for Hampton University's Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) program. This grant will support graduate students in the School of Science, specifically in the department of Physics and the department of Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences (APS). Dr. Robert Loughman (chair, APS), Dr. Felix Seo (chair, physics and assistant dean, school of science), and Dr. Isi Ero-Johnson (dean, school of science) serve as Principal and Co-Investigators on the grant. Mr. Davis has a track record of successfully securing grants to support students, including the McNair Scholars Program, Upward Bound, and Talent Search. His efforts are driven by a commitment to providing as many opportunities as possible to help students succeed in their educational journeys.



Dr. Carolina Lewallen is assistant professor in the department of marine and environmental science in the school of science. She is a marine biologist trained in population genetics and the use of molecular tools to study the ecology and behavior of marine organisms. Dr. Lewallen is particularly interested in understanding the mechanisms that generate and maintain genetic diversity in wild populations of marine mammals. She runs the only National Science Foundation's (NSF) Antarctic research program at an HBCU in the country. In 2021, Dr. Lewallen and her collaborators successfully obtained funding from one of the most competitive NSF directorates (Polar Programs) on their first attempt, and she recently secured an additional \$1 million from the NSF's biology directorate to continue her research on marine mammals in polar regions.



U.S. Department of Energy Hosts 2nd Annual 'DOE to the People' Event

Experts discussed the future of energy, Aviation students take demo flight on electric aircraft

Hampton University co-hosted a dynamic event that highlighted the energy revolution and the need to engage students around the opportunities to advance clean, sustainable energy, learn about energy efficiency, careers in energy and more. The university recently welcomed the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Justice & Equity for its second annual "DOE to the People" event on October 10-11. The event showcased a range of DOE programs, projects, and initiatives, its National Laboratories, and the broader energy sector, aimed at fostering collaboration and innovation in energy technology. The two-day event featured presentations and discussions led by industry experts who shared insights into the latest advancements and opportunities within the energy landscape. The event included a tour of the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab) on October 11, where students and faculty gained insights on cutting-edge research in nuclear physics and energy technologies. The day concluded with a visit to the Hampton Roads Executive Airport, where an electric airplane demonstration took place in collaboration with the Forgotten Heroes Foundation, showcasing the future of sustainable aviation. Two lucky students were chosen to fly along with Forgotten Heroes Foundation President Micah Lennox.

Read full article here: <https://home.hamptonu.edu/blog/2024/10/15/u-s-department-of-energy-hosts-2nd-annual-doe-to-the-people-event-at-hampton-university/>

Interested in viewing the news coverage of this amazing opportunity?

[Click to watch the WAVY-TV 10 news segment.](#)

[Click to watch the WVEC-TV 13 news segment.](#)



The Office of the Vice President for Research is proud to announce the launch of the **new proposal submission system – CAYUSE**. Two training sessions were conducted, one for investigators and one for approvers, on October 16 and 17. There are two more training sessions scheduled on November 6 and 7. Please visit the Office of Sponsored Programs page to view and access the system:

<https://home.hamptonu.edu/research/sponsored-programs/>

Cayuse Sponsored Projects (SP) offers all the latest features and processing capabilities including replacing old proposal system and emails, automated notification and routing, messaging within the platform, enhanced tracking and system of record, immediate visibility for Hampton University administrators, and streamlined approvals.



MEET OUR STAFF

We're pleased to welcome **Dr. Eric J. Sheppard** back to Hampton University as the new assistant vice president for research. Dr. Sheppard previously spent more than 15 years at Hampton in various roles and brings over seven years of experience as a program officer with the National Science Foundation, where he worked in undergraduate education and managed the Graduate Research Fellowship Program.

In his new role, Dr. Sheppard will work closely with the vice president for research to oversee Hampton's research initiatives and serve as a liaison with stakeholders in research and innovation. His commitment to advancing Hampton's research mission will be instrumental as we continue to elevate academic inquiry and discovery.

RESEARCH TRIVIA

Which of the following is a fundamental goal of research in Artificial Intelligence?

- A. Reasoning B. Coupling C. Mastering D. Data

CORRECT ANSWER: A

Link to the website:

[Hampton Research Beat](#)

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