Greetings! For some of you, this is your first semester, while for many of you, this is a countdown toward the last. To each, I welcome you all and am glad to be in your company. The Graduate School and its newsletter aim to keep you informed of activities and opportunities within graduate school and serve as a beacon by which you can voice concerns. What you can expect in each issue is an interview with a spotlight, links to helpful or exiting opportunities, promotions, important announcements for graduate students, and even prizes. In the meantime, we would like to introduce you to a sit-down with President Broderick!

This past summer, as part of a two-part series, I had the opportunity to talk with President Broderick concerning the graduate experience. Below, you’ll find a lightly edited passage from parts of our talk.

XP: Drawing on your background in communication, what social media platforms are emerging as the best way to reach millennials?

President Broderick: I think that one of the great advantages I have teaching graduate students in the College of Education is learning first-hand about what is emerging in social media. My background was in traditional media, at a time when local newspapers, television, and radio stations were key.

XP: What has impressed you the most in your interactions with graduate students and their research at Old Dominion University?

PB: We have some incredible student researchers who are working alongside not only faculty, but each other. The campus gets to witness this every year through posters and public displays of research in the Learning Commons or in Webb Center. These events are a phenomenal opportunity for people to see for themselves the level and caliber of the research that our students do. They’re also opportunities for students to be part of something much bigger than the classroom.

XP: How do you determine what ideas are worth pursuing?

PB: The advantage of being in an institution of higher learning is that you’re surrounded by many incredibly intelligent people with a variety of opinions. I try to take advantage of that as much as I can by consulting them and by trying to understand all the particular sides of an issue or an opportunity. There’s an expression: “Saying yes is easy. Saying no takes some skill.” One of the things I strive not to do is discouraging people who offer an opinion or have an idea. I might entertain seven or eight suggestions or thoughts on something, but ultimately decide to go in another direction. But maybe it’s that ninth suggestion or thought that’s a game changer. How do we as leaders work in such a way that we can disagree with people, but not prevent them from continuing to want to have dialogue with us? I believe if you can somehow find a way to do so, that’s going to lead to far more success in the long run.

XP: What advice would you give to graduate students both starting and finishing?

PB: I think with graduate programs in particular, you need to have a true passion for what you’re about to embark upon. At the undergraduate level you can major in something and dabble in other areas and ultimately find some point of discovery as to where your interests lie. But with our graduate programs, because of the commitment required, you need to have that energy and passion and believe that this is definitely something that you want to do. My other piece of advice is to take advantage of partnership opportunities with a faculty member or other students. I think one of the greatest advantages we have at Old Dominion University – because we are such a diverse and inclusive campus – is that window of opportunity. If we choose to open it, to work with a variety of people who don’t necessarily think like us or talk like us or look like us, we’re better prepared for the world in which, ultimately, we’re all going to have to both compete and partner!

The President’s words resonated strongly with me, as that had been and continues to reflect my experience here at Old Dominion University. It is my hope that these words and advice resonate with you, as well. Next month, this dialogue continues in the October issue of the Graduate School Newsletter. Please let us know your thoughts. You can reach me at xpalmer@odu.edu.
As the volume and sophistication of cyber-attacks grow, cybersecurity researchers, engineers and practitioners heavily rely on advanced cyberinfrastructure (CI) techniques such as big data, machine learning, and parallel programming, as well as advanced CI platforms, e.g., cloud and high-performance computing to assess cyber risks, identify and mitigate threats, and achieve defense in depth. However, CI techniques have not been widely introduced in undergraduate and graduate cybersecurity curricula. This project introduces a unique Data-Enabled Advanced Training Program for Cyber Security Research and Education (DeapSECURE), aimed to prepare undergraduate and graduate students with advanced CI techniques and teach them to use CI resources, tools, and services to succeed in cutting-edge cybersecurity research and industrial cybersecurity projects. Contact: Dr. Hongyi “Michael” Wu @ h1wu@odu.edu for more information.

Learn How to Conquer Grad School with 2nd Wednesdays!

The Graduate School is offering two sessions to help graduate students conquer Graduate School. Please join us for the sessions below (12-1 pm):

**Session 2: Handling Relationships with Family, Friends, and Faculty - RSVP Required**
Wednesday, October 10th—Virginia Beach/Portsmouth Rooms, Webb Center

**Session 3: Resolve Conflicts - RSVP Required**
Wednesday, November 14th—Virginia Beach/Portsmouth Rooms, Webb Center

Two-Factor Identification: Have you Enrolled?

Old Dominion University offers comprehensive security for its staff and students, but some of the effort in upkeep of its quality falls on the user. In order to improve protection of sensitive information, Two-factor authentication has been rolled out for your account and will be required in the upcoming spring. Be sure to learn of your options and consider the expanded options for protecting your information.

Currently it is possible to access any ODU service with your MIDAS ID and Password, but this single point of access can be problematic, especially if your password is compromised. With Two-factor authentication, you can learn of when your account is accessed as well as control access, even if unwanted parties get ahold of your password.

Learn more here: https://www.odu.edu/content/odu/announcements/student/2018/9/24/two_factor_authentic.html.

Questions be forwarded to the ITS Help Desk at: https://www.odu.edu/its/helpdesk.

The Graduate School and Several Students Visit NASA’s Wallops Flight Facility

Left to right: Chantel Chabela Murdock (CS), Xavier-Lewis Palmer (BME), Lucas Potter (BME), and Dr. Miltiadis Kotinis (MAE-Graduate Program Director)
Please join us for The Waterside Conference™ on the development and production of therapeutic proteins including antibodies, Fc fusion proteins, enzymes, cytokines, hormones, and growth factors. We’ll feature five concurrent programs on Cell Line Characterization & Banking, Process Analysis & Automation, Contaminant Control, Expansion & Expression, and Raw Materials & Contract Services. The conference will be held at the Norfolk Hilton The Main on November 12-14, 2018. For more information, please visit www.isbiotech.org.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) announces the launch of the NSF 2026 Idea Machine, a prize competition to help set the U.S. agenda for fundamental research in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and STEM education. Participants can earn cash prizes and receive public recognition by suggesting the pressing research questions that need to be answered in the coming decade, the next set of “Big Ideas” for future investment by NSF. It’s an opportunity for researchers, the public and other interested stakeholders to contribute to NSF’s mission to support basic research and enable new discoveries that drive the U.S. economy, enhance national security and advance knowledge to sustain the country’s global leadership in science and engineering. Entries will be accepted through October 26, 2018. For more information, including entry instructions, eligibility, rules, and judging criteria, please visit the NSF 2026 Idea Machine website: (https://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/nsf2026ideamachine/index.jsp).

Are you interested in improving your ability to analyze data in your field? Research Computing Services, with funding from South Big Data Hub, is here to offer you a free training program to empower you. No matter your domain, whether you’re from social sciences, business, engineering, or the art, you are invited to attend a free workshop that will be held in the Perry Learning Commons Conference Rooms 1310 and 1311 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, October 25-26.

No skill per-requisites are needed to attend. Lessons covered in this program are: using UNIX Shell (for automating repetitive tasks), GIT version control system (for collaborative document and program development), and R (a an open source programming language that is popular for reproducibly performing data analysis. More information can be found here: https://www.odu.edu/content/odu/announcements/student/2018/9/24/software_carpentry_w.html.

Seats are limited. Sign up here and be sure that you can commit: https://rbavery.github.io/2018-10-25-odu/.
Curious of what is happening in other departments? Below is a sample of social media accounts and department websites to follow. More is to come:

Higher Education:
[Facebook] https://www.facebook.com/ODUHIED/
[Site] http://www.odu.edu/efl/academics/hied

Chemistry and Biochemistry:
[Facebook] https://www.facebook.com/OldDominionUniversityChemistryandBiochemistry/

History:
[Site] https://www.odu.edu/historydept/news/graduate

Notable Newsletters:


MFA: https://barelysouthreview.com/


For those who are reading this newsletter for the first time, I’m Xavier-Lewis Palmer. I’m a Biomedical Engineering doctoral student, your editor, and a point of contact for this newsletter and upcoming events like our Graduate Achievement Day and Graduate Professional Networking Event. Our primary goal at the Graduate School is to enhance your experience and chances for success. To new students and old, I invite you to email us with ideas and concerns that you may have, and I wish you all a successful new year!

G.R.A.D. (Graduate Research Achievement Day) Announcement

This year, we are starting early with Graduate Research Achievement Day preparation and are looking to break records. If you have enterprising research or have research in mind, get ready. If you have submitted a preprint, feel free to use it. If you have submitted for a prior conference in the year or plan to for an upcoming one, feel free to present it here as well. The goal is to show off your research to the greater community. Lastly, if you have a company that you would like for us to bring to our Graduate Professional Networking Event, let us know. G.R.A.D. will be in March 2018. Look for the RFP to be released later on. The submission deadline is January 20, 2019. No exceptions.

Alternative Funding Sources: Seek and Apply!

Unigo: https://www.unigo.com/
Fast Web: https://www.fastweb.com/
Scholarship America: https://scholarshipamerica.org/
Scholly: https://scholarshipamerica.org/
Scholarships.com: https://www.scholarships.com

Find Graduate School News online at:
www.odu.edu/graduateschool.

ODU graduate student Xavier-Lewis Palmer compiled and edited this newsletter with help from Dr. Robert Wojtowicz, Dr. Bryan Porter, and Ms. Missy Barber in the Graduate School.
You can contact Xavier-Lewis at: xpalmer@odu.edu.
Let him know how the Graduate School can improve your graduate experience.