



INTRODUCTION

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Many question the need of going back to school after retirement, but why? It's never too late to learn, expand your boundaries, and add to your field's knowledge base. There's always something that you can contribute, if you have to the time, willpower, and desire. An excellent example can be found in the path of Judy Hinch, retiree who shows no sign of stopping as she pursues higher education and climate change activism. Check out her interview with Elizabeth Smith, Interdisciplinary Initiatives Administrator. You, too, may find inspiration to come back and grow with us.

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INTERVIEW WITH JUDY HINCH, PH.D. STUDENT
BATTEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY



Judy Hinch is soft-spoken, petite, and a determined climate change activist and Ph.D. student in the Department of Engineering Management and Systems Engineering at ODU. Hailing from western Massachusetts, Judy got her Bachelor's degree from the University of Hartford. She completed her Master's at ODU in Health Sciences 25 years ago! Judy enjoyed a full career in occupational and environmental health for the Commonwealth of Virginia, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Sentara Hospitals, and private industries before deciding to return to ODU to complete her education by getting her Ph.D. As a retiree, her graduate studies, and volunteerism/activism, are the two main draws on her time, in addition to square dancing and birding. Initially, Judy's graduate education was funded by ODU's Mitigation and Adaptation Research Institute (MARI), but after three years, she became eligible to take advantage of the Virginia Senior Citizen Higher Education Act of 1974. This little known legislation afforded Judy the opportunity, at age 60, to complete her remaining coursework and dissertation credits tuition-free! She likes to tell people she is a 62-year-old college kid. Judy's passionate about helping Norfolk businesses become more resilient to climate change and sea level rise. Let's find out what drives this ambitious student retiree!

Elizabeth Smith: What advice do you have for women who are returning to school after being away from formal education for a while?

Judy Hinch: If you have not been in the working world or otherwise keeping up with computers, start learning from your kids, local libraries may offer free courses, or at a community college. You will have to take the required tests, also, such as GREs if you are entering graduate school, so practice those (free online practice tests are available). You may need letters of recommendation, too, but those could be from the business world, from the community, or from past professors.

Be aware and be sure to take full advantage of the benefits afforded to senior citizens (over 60) through the Senior Citizen's Higher Education Act of 1974! For instance, ODU parking passes are free, and you might be eligible for free tuition depending on your income. If you are retired or on limited income, you could get all your tuition paid. Seniors can also audit classes for free regardless of income. I audit a lot of classes just for the knowledge and perspectives from different disciplines.

ES: What made you decide to go back to graduate school in your retirement?

JH: The reason I applied for the Engineering Management and Systems Engineering Ph.D. program was because this was the most transdisciplinary program I could find at the time, and I feel that involving people from many disciplines and walks of life is necessary to solve the complex problems of today, such as climate change and sea level rise. The fields of natural science have identified the problem of climate change, but it will take social sciences and people outside of academia to solve the problem and convince the variety of stakeholders to take appropriate action.

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## INTERVIEW WITH JUDY HINCH, PH.D. STUDENT (CONTINUED)



ES: Who have been your mentors?

JH: My mentors have been from a variety of disciplines including climate science (Hans-Peter Plag), engineering/risk analysis (Dr. Ariel Pinto), sustainable development (Dr. Mujde Erten-Unal), Public Administration (Drs. Wie Yusuf, Gail Nicula, and John Morris), English (Dr. Kevin DePew and Daniel Richards). Two now-deceased mentors encouraged my concern for nature, the environment, and me speaking out for action on climate change (Pat Okerlund and Professor Jim English).

ES: Tell us a little about your dissertation research.

JH: The purpose of my research is to obtain a better understanding of business owners' perceptions of frequent flooding, whether it be from tides or storms, in the flood-prone areas of Norfolk. How are they coping, and what are the concerns of the business owners and representatives? How are they responding and preparing for the next flooding event? Using a case study design, this study would also hope to find opportunities for Norfolk to become more flood-resilient by engaging with businesses who may have ideas for local adaptation measures, but who may not have had the opportunity to participate in the discussion before. Another research question I have is where do participants go for trusted sources of information to control flooding that may affect their business continuity?

XP: Judy's path is an inspiration and testament to the fact that graduate life doesn't stop no matter how old you are. You can always get back in the game and make an impact. It is my hope that you found inspiration in her experience. Please let me know your thoughts. You can reach me at [xpalmer@odu.edu](mailto:xpalmer@odu.edu).

## MONARCH TRANSIT AND SAFERIDE APP UPDATE

# Monarch Transit & SafeRide App Update



Step 1: **Remove** the RideCell App from your mobile device



Step 2: **Download** the DoubleMap and TapRide apps



Step 3: **Track** Monarch Transit busses (DoubleMap) Or **Request** a SafeRide (TapRide)



SafeRide Requests **MUST** be made through the TapRide App. Requests made by phone will be directed to download the TapRide App and submit a request through the TapRide App.

For more information or assistance contact:  
ODU Transportation & Parking Services  
4310 Elkhorn Ave Norfolk, VA 23508  
[parking@odu.edu](mailto:parking@odu.edu)  
(757) 683-4358  
[www.odu.edu/parking](http://www.odu.edu/parking)

[odu.edu/graduateschool](http://odu.edu/graduateschool)

## VIRGINIA SEA GRANT AND MORE

Are you interested in sea and wetland research aimed at producing innovative, adaptive tools, strategies, and designs towards improving Tidewater Community needs and solving real-world problems? Looking for a mentor and/or funding to get your solution off the ground, over the fall or spring semesters? Consider applying to the Virginia Sea Grant. There, you can also view relevant projects encompassing interdisciplinary projects such as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and urban planning. Follow along at: (1) <https://vaseagrant.org/> and (2) <http://wetlandswatch.org/design-collaboratory>.

## 3 MINUTE THESIS (3MT) - FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2019



### When

Friday

January 18, 2019

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

### Where

ODU University Theatre  
4608 Hampton Blvd.

**RSVP by January 11th**

### Questions?

Email the Graduate School:  
ATTN Dr. Bryan Porter  
[bporter@odu.edu](mailto:bporter@odu.edu)



Old Dominion University's Graduate School invites YOU to attend the Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) Competition.

The 3MT is an academic competition that challenges graduate students to describe their research within three minutes to a general audience. 3MT celebrates the discoveries made by research students and encourages them to communicate the importance of their research to the broader community.

Don't miss this opportunity to witness top graduate students representing a wide variety of graduate programs competing for prize money and the chance to represent the University at a regional 3MT competition in February 2019.

YOU also help award one of the prizes. Besides a first and second place winner chosen by a community VIP judging panel, the audience votes to determine a People's Choice prize winner.

**The 3MT Competition will be held on Friday, January 18, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** at the University Theatre at 4608 Hampton Blvd. A reception for attendees begins at 5:00 p.m., and the competition begins at 6:00 p.m. (The audience will be encouraged to begin seating at 5:45 p.m.)

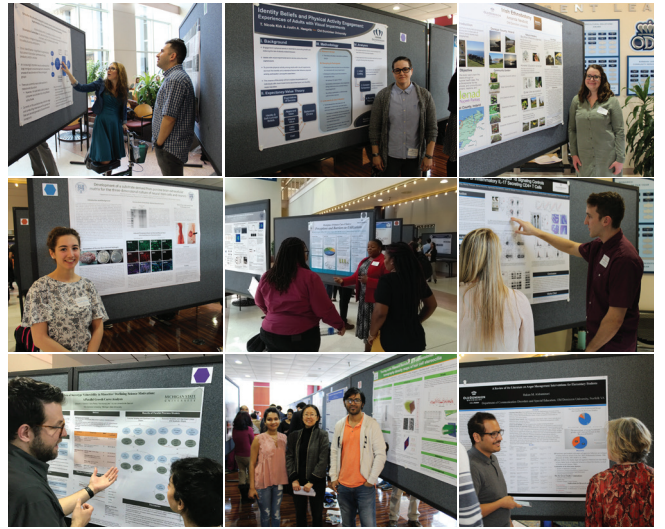
**RSVP by Friday, January 11, 2019 to:** <https://bit.ly/2PleDRe>

We look forward to seeing you!

[odu.edu/graduateschool](http://odu.edu/graduateschool)

## GRADUATE RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENT DAY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Graduate School will be hosting the eighth annual Graduate Research Achievement Day (GRAD) on **Thursday, March 28, 2019, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Webb University Center.** GRAD is a great opportunity for students to showcase their research for the campus community, while networking with other students and learning about the great diversity of research and scholarship at Old Dominion University. Students interested in participating must submit a poster proposal that consists of the graduate student's name, any co-authors, a project title, and a 300-word maximum abstract. The proposal must be submitted no later than **Friday, February 8, 2019, at 5:00 p.m.** to <https://goo.gl/forms/pyaxmqM9SZBHRbt2>. Proposals that do not follow the formatting requirements or are submitted late run the risk of not being accepted. Students in disciplines that do not normally undertake poster presentations and who would like to participate may contact Mr. Xavier-Lewis Palmer, Graduate Administrative Assistant for the Graduate School, for assistance at [xpalmer@odu.edu](mailto:xpalmer@odu.edu). Distance students are also welcome to submit proposals.



## NSF CYBERINFRASTRUCTURE (CI) TRAINING PROGRAM



**CONTACT DR. HONGYI "MICHAEL" WU**  
FOR MORE INFORMATION AT [h1wu@odu.edu](mailto:h1wu@odu.edu)

If you have ever wondered about how prepared ODU is to tackle the expansion of its cybersecurity programs and capabilities, look no further than a packed, intellectually diverse room of students at the second of multiple DEAPSecure (Data-Enabled Advanced Training Program for Cyber Security Research and Education) Workshops held at ODU. This was sponsored by the National Science Foundation and was led by the Batten Chair of Cybersecurity and the Director of the Center for Cybersecurity Education and Research at Old Dominion University, Dr. Hongyi Wu, who is diligently working to prepare students to use advanced CyberSecurity Techniques in an ever-changing cyberworld. These workshops enable our students to better protect our nation and world against cyber attacks. The latest session included talks by ODU Information Technology Professor and Scholar, Dr. Li Da Xu, and Associate Professor of Engineering Management & Systems Engineering, Dr. Jingwei Huang, followed by a workshop led by ODU Computational Scientist, Dr. Wirawan Purwanto. This current session aimed at teaching students how to sift through and analyze security logs in order to test for network intrusions and develop more effective, secure systems that they are in charge of.

## EDITOR'S SPOT

The Winter Holiday break is here, and the Graduate School wishes you a happy end to the season and restful break. Be sure to get much needed rest, fill out your FAFSA, spend time with those dear to you, and get ready for another season. We look forward to working with and seeing you again. For those who have graduated, I wish you all success out there! You'll do great! Happy Holidays!  
-Xavier-Lewis Palmer

## ABOUT

Find Graduate School News Online at: [www.odu.edu/graduateschool](http://www.odu.edu/graduateschool).

ODU graduate student Xavier-Lewis Palmer, compiled and edited this newsletter with help from Dr. Robert Wojtowicz, Dr. Bryan Porter, Ms. Missy Barber, and Courtney Nishnick in the Graduate School.

If you have an idea, event, news, or anything otherwise notable that you would like to share, contact Xavier-Lewis at [xpalmer@odu.edu](mailto:xpalmer@odu.edu).



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