Hampton University Provides COVID-19 Testing & Vaccinations Across Hampton Roads Region

Since its unveiling on March 1, Hampton University and its Mobile Testing and Vaccination Unit have provided COVID-19 screenings and vaccinations to its faculty, staff and to citizens in underserved areas across the Hampton Roads region.

“Serving the community is central to Hampton University’s overall mission,” said Dr. William R. Harvey, Hampton University President. “The Hampton University Community COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic and the Mobile Testing and Vaccination Unit has provided COVID-19 vaccinations to hundreds of citizens across Hampton Roads and has taken us another step toward ending the pandemic. I am pleased that our faculty, staff and students continue to make an impact in the lives of those we call our neighbors.”

On March 20 and April 17, Hampton University hosted two Community COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics through partnerships with the Virginia Department of Health and the Riverside Health System in the HU Convocation Center. The clinic administered 439 citizens the first dose of the Moderna vaccine in March and those same individuals received the second dose of the vaccine in April. Faculty, staff, and students from Hampton University’s Schools of Pharmacy and Nursing as well as the Departments of Communicative Sciences and Disorders, Biological Sciences, and Physical Therapy assisted.

The Hampton University Mobile Testing and Vaccination Unit has also made stops throughout the Hampton Roads region over the last several weeks. The mobile unit was on site at St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church’s “Vaccines and COVID-19 Testing Drive” in Portsmouth, Va. on April 17th. The Hampton University Molecular Laboratory Staff, led by Dr. Luisel Ricks-Santi, provided qRT-PCR testing [considered the gold standard for COVID testing] for the citizens of Portsmouth at this event.

The Hampton University Mobile Testing and Vaccination Unit began administering the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to members of the HU faculty and staff Tuesday, April 20-22 in Lot 21, near the Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications.

Hampton University in partnership with the Hispanic Resource Center of Coastal Virginia held a vaccination clinic at Iglesia De Dios Adonai Church, located in Norfolk, Saturday, April 24th. HU staff was on site administering doses of the Pfizer vaccine as well as providing qRT-PCR COVID-19 testing.

Hampton University in partnership with the Virginia Department of Health held a vaccination and testing clinic Sunday, May 2nd, at the ‘Pop Up Mother’s Day Celebration’ from 2 PM to 5 PM, in the Towne Square area behind Barnes and Nobles at the Peninsula Towne Center in Hampton, Virginia.

Additional stops are planned for the mobile health unit, including Surry County, Newport News, Suffolk, Norfolk and more.

Hampton University’s commitment to raising awareness to get vaccinated began in December of 2020. Dr. Harvey and other local leaders received the COVID-19 vaccine to publicly support taking the vaccine and encourage the African American community to take it as well.

Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey Donates $100,000 to Establish Annual Norma B. Harvey Character Award for Faculty, Named for Wife of 54 Years

Hampton University President William R. Harvey has donated $100,000 to the institution he has led for 43 years to establish the Norma B. Harvey Character Award to be given annually, beginning May 2021. The award will be given to a faculty member whose actions demonstrate good character and/or encourage character development in other University constituents. The faculty member selected for the award will receive a $1,000 bonus.

The six-figure gift to his “Home by the Sea” will continue making educational dreams come true for generations to come. The Harvey's personal generosity to Hampton University now totals more than $8.6 million.

“I wanted to name this award in my wife’s honor because Norma demonstrates the traits of truth, respect, integrity, trust, and responsible personal behavior,” said Dr. Harvey.

The recipient of this award will be chosen by the President based on recommendations from a committee comprised of the chief academic officer, the chief financial officer, two deans and two faculty members. The deans and faculty members will serve a two-year term.

This offering truly displays Dr. and Mrs. Harvey’s heartfelt commitment to giving back to the University community they serve. There is no question that in their four decades of service, the Harveys have upheld the Standard of Excellence that is Hampton University. The Harveys are more than President and First Lady of Hampton University; they are truly admired for being the heart and soul of this prestigious institution.

As a visionary, Dr. Harvey has embraced HU founder General Samuel Chapman Armstrong’s mission to have every aspect of Hampton University excel, and excel it has under Dr. Harvey’s leadership. The William R. Harvey years, 43 and counting, will grace the record books as an unparalleled accounting of mega-success, not just for the HU students, faculty, and staff whose lives give testimony to the results of his labor, but for the global community of stakeholders who will continually reap the benefits of his astute leadership for generations to come.

Dr. Harvey has introduced innovations, which have solidified Hampton University’s stellar position among the nation’s colleges and universities. Ninety-two new academic programs, an endowment that has increased 1003%, satellites on active missions in space, and the largest free-standing proton therapy cancer treatment center in the world speak to his desire to leave the world better than he found it.

Hampton University in partnership with the Virginia Department of Health held a vaccination and testing clinic Sunday, May 2nd, at the ‘Pop Up Mother’s Day Celebration’
The Chrysler Museum of Art, in partnership with Hampton University Museum, to Receive a $500,000 Grant from The Mellon Foundation

— The grant will fund a three-year fellowship program that encourages diversity in curatorial and conservation fields—

The Chrysler Museum of Art, in partnership with the Hampton University Museum, has been awarded a $500,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The highly competitive grant will fund Diversifying the Field of Curation and Conservation, a three-year pilot fellowship program for two aspiring museum professionals who have completed master’s degrees. One curatorial fellow and one conservation fellow will examine the Chrysler Museum’s traditional African collection and Hampton University Museum’s Harmon Foundation Collection of Modern African Art. Their work will demonstrate the ongoing importance of collecting, preserving, and studying non-Western art. Applications will open this spring, with the fellowships beginning in September. During the second and third years of the program, one Hampton University undergraduate student will also participate in a paid summer internship at the Chrysler Museum.

“It is an honor to partner with Hampton University Museum to make strides toward diversifying the curatorial and conservation fields while also turning the spotlight on our understudied collections of African art. We look forward to welcoming emerging scholars in the museum field who will benefit from practical training at both institutions, and we are grateful for the Mellon Foundation’s support in this endeavor,” said Kimberli Gant, Ph.D., the Chrysler’s McKinnon Curator of Modern & Contemporary Art.

“Many thanks to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for its investment and commitment to cultivating and developing diversity in the curatorial and conservation fields,” said Dr. William R. Harvey, Hampton University President. “This contribution will ensure talented and bright students will receive the best training in this field. It also creates a new partnership between the Chrysler Museum of Art and our own museum, the nation’s oldest African American museum and one of the oldest museums in Virginia.”

The fellows will work under the mentorship of Gant and Vanessa Thaxton-Ward, Ph.D., Hampton University Museum’s director, and chief curator, to curate a public exhibition, originate a catalog, and prioritize and conserve a group of objects from the collections. They will also write for Hampton’s influential art journal International Review of African American Art (IRAAA), develop educational curriculum-based materials for college students, and deliver several presentations to the public and the institution’s docents and volunteers. Through their work, the Chrysler’s African collection will benefit from research for new scholarship, while Hampton’s Harmon Foundation Modern African Art collection will gain more notoriety. “We are elated to receive funding from the Mellon Foundation. It is very exciting on many levels, and the Hampton University Museum is committed to working hand-in-hand with the Chrysler Museum of Art to increase diversity in the curatorial and conservation professions. We will draw upon the significant resources that have been developed at Hampton since 1868 and the Chrysler Museum of Art since 1933,” said Thaxton-Ward.

Both fellows will spend the first year of the program focused on the Hampton University Museum’s Harmon Foundation Collection, where they will identify 20–30 paintings for conservation and art historical scholarship. The conservation fellow will be based at the Chrysler Museum, treating the objects in the conservation lab under the leadership of Mark Lewis, the Chrysler’s conservator. After one year of assessing Hampton’s Harmon collection, the curatorial fellow will spend the second year researching the Chrysler Museum’s collection of African art, identifying 20–30 works for research and conservation, and using the works identified at both institutions to develop education guides for college students and the general public. The curatorial fellow will devote the final year of the program to organizing an exhibition with a small catalog that will be presented at the Chrysler Museum and Hampton University Museum based on their previous two years of research.

“The Mellon Foundation is providing a unique opportunity for the Chrysler Museum and Hampton University Museum to pool our talents and resources to enhance diversity, equity, and inclusion in the museum field while calling attention to the world-class collections and rich community programs in our region. We are eager to offer opportunities for professional growth while also turning our attention to important objects in our African collection. Working together ensures greater exposure for both institutions,” said Erik Neil, the Chrysler Museum of Art’s director.

An article published in International Review of African American Art presents the results of a survey released in 2015 that uncovered a lack of diversity in the museum field, particularly in curatorial, conservation, and other leadership roles. According to The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Art Museum Staff Demographic Survey, whites occupy 84% of director, curator, conservator, and educator positions. Asians occupy 6% of those positions, while 4% of the positions are held by Blacks. Hispanic whites occupy 3% of the leadership roles.

Gant and Thaxton-Ward, both women of color, hold more than 30 years of combined curatorial and research experience and have encountered challenges and triumphs in the field. They recognize the need for a fellowship such as this to nurture the next generation of museum professionals and look forward to research about the collection, interpretation, and language. The fellows’ work will result in a more comprehensive picture of art’s global history and have long-lasting impacts on the staff and visitors’ experience at both museums.

ABOUT THE CHRYSLER MUSEUM OF ART

The Chrysler Museum of Art is one of America’s most distinguished mid-sized art museums, with a nationally recognized collection of more than 30,000 objects, including one of the great glass collections in America. The core of the Chrysler’s collection comes from Walter P. Chrysler Jr., an avid art collector who donated thousands of objects from his private collection to the Museum. The Museum has growing collections in many areas and mounts an ambitious schedule of visiting exhibitions and educational programs each season. The Chrysler has also been recognized nationally for its unique commitment to hospitality with its innovative gallery host program.

The Perry Glass Studio is a state-of-the-art facility on the Museum’s campus. The studio offers programming for aspiring and master artists alike in a variety of processes including glassblowing, fusing, fleming, coldworking, and neon.

In addition, the Chrysler Museum of Art administers the Moses Myers House, a historic house in downtown Norfolk, as well as the Jean Outland Chrysler Library. For more information on the Chrysler Museum of Art, visit chrysler.org.

ABOUT HAMPTON UNIVERSITY MUSEUM

Founded in 1868, the Hampton University Museum is the nation’s oldest African American museum. With galleries dedicated to African American, African, American Indian and Asian and Pacific art and artifacts, the museum contains more than 9,000 objects representing cultures and people from around the world. Within its fine arts collection is the largest existing collection of works in any museum by the artists John Biggers, Elizabeth Catlett, Jacob Lawrence, and Samella Lewis. The Museum is also the publisher of The International Review of African American Art (IRAAA) a major publication dedicated to African American art and artists.

The Hampton University Museum is located in the newly restored Huntington Building (the former library) on the grounds of Hampton University’s historic campus. From Interstate 64, take exit 267/ Hampton University and follow the signs to the museum. The museum is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 12 noon to 4 p.m.; closed on Sundays and major holidays. Admission is free. Call 757.727.5308 or log onto www.hamptonu.edu/museum for information.

The Museum is currently closed to the public due to COVID-19. Please review our website for updated information on reopening.
**Hampton University Receives $337,500 Grant from the PSEG Foundation to Assist Qualifying Students Studying STEM**

Hampton University is excited to announce it has received a $337,500 grant from the PSEG Foundation. This funding will provide qualifying students from New Jersey an opportunity to attend the Hampton University School of Engineering and Technology and pursue their studies in STEM education.

“We are very thankful that the PSEG Foundation has invested in Hampton University and this project which will enable the growth and development of new diverse STEM scholars,” said Dr. William R. Harvey, Hampton University President. “We are grateful for PSEG’s consideration of Hampton University and its stellar School of Engineering and Technology to launch this program. I look forward to sharing many reports of positive progress as a result of the PSEG Foundation’s gift to us.”

Hampton University will use its grant for the PSEG STEM Scholars Program, designed to support promising high school seniors and undergraduate freshmen from underserved and minority populations in New Jersey who are studying STEM fields. Hampton’s comprehensive STEM programs have positioned the university as a leader, with more than 20% of students studying in one of several science programs. Through the PSEG STEM Scholars Program, students are eligible to receive one of five two-year scholarships for New Jersey students, covering tuition, room, and board.

The PSEG Foundation is giving a total of $1 million in grant funding to three Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The additional institutions include Howard University and North Carolina Agriculture & Technical State University. Through this grant, the Foundation hopes to help diversify the STEM workforce by providing underrepresented students access to STEM education and creating a pipeline of competitive and capable talent for the future workforce, as well as the next generation of scientific and policy leaders in environmental science, sustainability, and social justice.

“HBCUs have a long history of offering an exceptional educational experience while enriching the lives of Black students and families and providing the resources that empower students to succeed in various STEM careers,” said Calvin Ledford Jr., president of the PSEG Foundation. “At PSEG, we have dozens of employees and their families that have attended HBCUs, including many alumni of Hampton University and Howard University. This support is exemplary of our vision to build equitable and prosperous communities, amplifying the direction we have been heading by providing support to organizations including the United Negro College Fund and Thurgood Marshall College Fund, just to name a few.”

The PSEG Foundation has a longstanding history of support for programs that empower diverse and inclusive communities with a focus on addressing inequities. Further support to under-served and under-represented communities includes the following:

- **UNCF:** The PSEG Foundation provided the organization with a grant for four-year scholarships for nine students, as well as support for the Emergency Student Aid program. The foundation has funded the scholarship program for more than 20 years.
- **Thurgood Marshall College Fund:** The PSEG Foundation has provided sponsorship support to this organization for more than 20 years.
- **Public Service Enterprise Group Inc. (PSEG) (NYSE: PEG)** is a publicly-traded diversified energy company with approximately 13,000 employees. Headquartered in Newark, N.J., PSEG’s principal operating subsidiaries are: Public Service Electric and Gas Co. (PSE&G), PSEG Power and PSEG Long Island. PSEG is a Fortune 500 company included in the S&P 500 Index and has been named to the Dow Jones Sustainability Index for North America for 13 consecutive years.

**About the PSEG Foundation**

The PSEG Foundation, 501(c)(3), the philanthropic arm of Public Service Enterprise Group Inc. (PSEG) (NYSE: PEG), prioritizes investments in the environment, safety, STEM education & workforce development, diversity & inclusion, and the communities served by PSEG. Headquartered in Newark, N.J., PSEG is a diversified energy company with approximately 13,000 employees. In 2020, PSEG was named one of Forbes’ Best Employers for Diversity for the third year in a row. In addition, PSEG was named to the Dow Jones Sustainability Index North America for the 13th consecutive year in 2020.

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**Hampton University and United Airlines Kick-off Pilot Development Partnership**

New program recruits HU students to participate in United Airlines’ elite “Aviate Academy” training program

Hampton University is excited to announce a new partnership with United Airlines to identify and recruit top talent from HU’s Department of Aviation into United’s Aviate Academy. United Airlines Aviate Academy is the first commercial pilot development program to partner with an HBCU.

“Hampton University is proud to partner with United Airlines for this collaborative effort designed to cultivate the next generation of commercial pilots as well as create new professional pathways for women and people of color to pursue careers in aviation,” said Dr. William R. Harvey, President of Hampton University. “The United Airlines Aviate Academy shares Hampton’s Department of Aviation’s mission to prepare our students for meaningful aviation careers, and instill in them a strong sense of social awareness and responsibility.”

Through this new partnership, Hampton University flight education students, recommended by a board of United pilots that are HU alumni, will get to interview with United Airlines’ Aviate Academy. If selected, they will be among the thousands of pilots United will train over the next decade. These Aviate Academy students will also be guaranteed a job with United, upon successfully completing all the requirements of the program.

In addition, to Hampton University, United Airlines announced partnerships with Elizabeth City State University and Delaware State, University.

United Airlines plans for its United Aviate Academy to create opportunities for thousands of women and people of color looking to pursue a career as a commercial airline pilot. United Airlines will begin taking applications for the United Aviate Academy with an ambitious plan to train 5,000 new pilots by 2030, with the goal that at least half of them are women and people of color. Aviate Academy expects to enroll 100 students in 2021.

In February, United Airlines shared the story of a group of six Hampton University Department of Aviation alumni who are breaking barriers in the sky as pilots for the airline. Those six alums first set out to become pilots back in 1997.

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**Hampton University and the U.S. Department of Defense Present: Taking the Pentagon to the People**

The U.S. Department of Defense’s Diversity Management Operations Center sponsored the 6th Annual Taking the Pentagon to the People: Technical Assistance in collaboration with Hampton University on April 8, 2021. This virtual program provided an opportunity to learn about employment opportunities within the Department of Defense for students, alumni, faculty, and staff.

“We are very appreciative of the U.S. Department of Defense’s Diversity Management Operations Center for bringing the “Taking the Pentagon to the People” virtual program to our campus,” said Hampton University President, Dr. William R. Harvey. “I’m sure the recruiters learned quickly that our students, alumni faculty and staff exceed THE Standard of Excellence that Hampton University is
Hampton University Professor Participates in Virtual Event with US Department of Homeland Security Secretary

On Wednesday, March 31, Hampton University computer science professor, Dr. Chutima Boonthum-Denecke participated in the US Department of Homeland Security’s virtual event, “Confronting Realities: A vision for Cybersecurity Resilience.” The purpose of this special event with Homeland Security Secretary, Alejandro N. Mayorkas, was to provide the Secretary the opportunity to outline his vision and roadmap for the Department’s cybersecurity efforts.

“It is wonderful to see Hampton University faculty like Dr. Chutima Boonthum-Denecke actively engaging in important conversations regarding the future of our nation’s cybersecurity with the Secretary of Homeland Security,” said Hampton University President, Dr. William R. Harvey. “The future of our nation’s cybersecurity begins at Hampton University, where we continue to train individuals who will go on to enhance the nation’s capacity to defend against domestic and foreign cyberattacks, and work with the federal government to safeguard our vital networks.”

Boonthum-Denecke introduced the Secretary, and they were later joined by Girl Scouts’ Interim CEO, Judith Batty for a fireside chat. During the virtual event, many topics were discussed:

- US Cybersecurity challenges
- Biden-Harris Administration
- Vision and Roadmap from the US Department of Homeland Security
- Mobilizing Action to improve cybersecurity resilience

“First, the government does not have the capacity to achieve our nation’s cybersecurity resilience alone. So much of our critical infrastructure is in the private sector’s hands. We need to work with the private sector to protect the interests of the American people and the services on which we rely. We need organizations like the Girl Scouts and Hampton University to inspire and mobilize the next generation of diverse talent to help us tackle what remains a monumental challenge,” said Secretary Mayorkas.

Secretary Mayorkas outlined five foundational principles for his vision for cybersecurity resilience:

- Acknowledging the broader geopolitical context and democratic backsliding that is happening around the world
- Bold and immediate innovations, wide-scale investments, and raising the bar of essential cyber hygiene are urgently needed to improve our cyber defenses.
- Determining what risks to prioritize and how to allocate limited resources is crucial to maximizing the government’s impact.
- Strengthen collaboration between the private sector and government to generate the insights necessary to detect malicious cyber actors.
- Integrate diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Boonthum-Denecke joined the Hampton University Department of Computer Science, in Fall 2006 as an Assistant Professor. She earned her Ph. D. in computer science from Old Dominion University in 2007; MS in Applied Computer Science from Illinois State University in 2000; and BS in Computer Science from Srinakharinwirot University in 1997.

“It was a great honor to be a part of this cyber event and introduce the US Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro Mayorkas, and the Girl Scouts of the USA’s Interim CEO, Judith Batty, Secretary Mayorkas’ vision and roadmap on cybersecurity effort will guide us to overcome cybersecurity challenges and improve our cyber resilience. And I look forward to our future collaboration,” said Boonthum-Denecke.

“When asked who would represent the Department of Computer Science at the Cybersecurity Resilience Event, I immediately suggested Dr. Boonthum-Denecke,” said Dr. Jean Muhammad, Chair of Hampton University’s Department of Computer Science. “She has dedicated herself to ensuring that the Department has maintained the highest of standards in the field of Cyber Security Education as the Chief Security Officer for the department. Dr. Boonthum-Denecke is also the National Science Foundation Primary Investigator for the Scholarship for Service in Cyber Security. She has diligently carried forward the Department of Computer Science’s distinction as the Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education. Dr. Boonthum-Denecke represented Hampton University and the Department of Computer Science excellently and made us all proud.”

known for. This opportunity will open doors for Hampton University to continue its tradition of protecting and serving our wonderful country.”

The mission of “Taking the Pentagon to the People” (TTPTTP) is to expose minority-serving institutions, their faculty, staff, administrators, and students to business opportunities and employment opportunities in STEM and other mission-critical skills (e.g. contracting, intelligence, cyber) and careers within the Department of Defense (DoD). The DoD Diversity Management Operating Center (DMOC) sponsors this program to promote employment opportunities through internships, contracts, grants, scholarships, and research and development programs. Building bridges through developing new relationships with universities, and enhancing existing partnerships are vital pillars of the program. Participation in the TTPTTP program includes DoD leaders, non-DoD leaders, program managers, recruiters, HBCU/MSI leadership, faculty, staff, and students. This premier strategic initiative helps the DoD maximize its efforts to successfully attract, recruit, and develop a highly-skilled Total Force to meet military readiness requirements from diverse demographics and experiences.

“This was an amazing show of the Total Force by the Department of Defense and its public and military servant leaders as they shared with the Hampton University family the myriad of opportunities that are offered by our federal government and corporate partners. I am extremely proud of the 98 students who had one-on-one interviews with recruiters in the Recruiters Cove. I am sure they have found a new mentor and will continue on their career and professional journeys with newfound knowledge,” said Dr. Jarris Louis Taylor, Jr., Director of the William R. Harvey Leadership Institute.