

## ODU Students Present in Charlottesville



Dorothy R. Yordt (left) presents her poster at VCGS on February 16th.

Seven Old Dominion students presented posters at the 7th Annual Graduate Student Research Forum on February 16th, 2012.

The event, which is sponsored by the Virginia Council of Graduate

Schools (VCGS), took place at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. It was attended not only by graduate students, but educators, and business leaders from throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

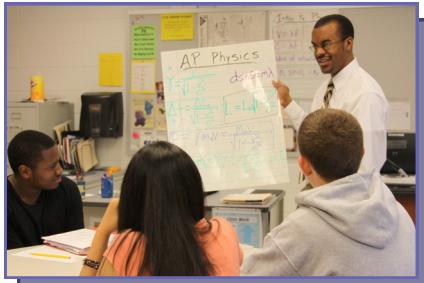
The forum was created to emphasize the importance of public universities by showcasing the scholarship of Virginia graduate students. The Virginia Secretary of Education, Laura W. Fornash, highlighted this point in this year's welcome letter to attendees, "As graduate education becomes increasingly important for entry into many professional fields the VCGS builds awareness of the benefits of post-graduate education for both students and the commonwealth as a whole," said Fornash.

This year VCGS decided to place a special emphasis on the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in an effort to further the importance of these fields, and make Virginia a global competitor in the information age.

Old Dominion students in attendance presented posters that ranged in topics from dental hygiene to modeling and simulation. Lydia Wigglesworth-Ballard, a PhD candidate in the College of Health Sciences, was truly honored to be part of the experience. "It gave me the opportunity to meet and share experiences with graduate students from other universities," said Wigglesworth-Ballard.

For a complete list of the ODU students presenters, please see the back of the newsletter.

## Teacher Immersion Residency Program



Keith Goodman teaches physics at Norview High School in Norfolk as part of his residency.

The Teacher Immersion Residency Program provides both undergraduate and graduate students an excellent opportunity to begin a career as a teacher.

The Teacher Immersion Residency Program is a partnership between Norfolk and Portsmouth public schools, as well as Old Dominion University's Darden College of Education. The program was awarded a federal grant in 2009, and saw its first cohort graduate in the summer of

2011. Those graduates are now teaching in public schools throughout Norfolk and Portsmouth.

"The grant is a unique collaboration of key stakeholders in Hampton Roads to improve the quality of teaching, increase teacher retention, and improve student achievement in high-need secondary schools in the region," says Dr. Sharon Judge, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies in the Darden College of Education.

Students accepted into the program are compensated with a full tuition waiver, a laptop computer, and a \$25,500 stipend for the year. This is on top of the hands-on mentorship experience provided through the program.

"I think the fact that I get an entire year student-teaching internship is the best thing any program could do for me," says Dana Olson, who is currently in her final semester of the training pro-

gram. Olson loves her experience with the program, "I am observed constantly by my various mentors and I am getting constant feedback and advice."

The program is open to all students who have an undergraduate degree in a high needs subject area. These areas are: Mathematics, English, Social Studies, Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

Graduate students who are currently working toward a Master's degree in a high needs field and have made the decision to teach are strongly encouraged to apply to the program.

All students who apply for the program must have a deep commitment to teaching in a high needs school, as the program will require students to teach in Norfolk or Portsmouth schools for three years after completing the program.

For more information on the Teacher Immersion Residency Program please visit their website, at: [education.odu.edu](http://education.odu.edu).

## Meet the VCGS Presenters



From left to right:

**Lydia Wigglesworth-Ballard**  
*Health Services (PhD)*  
**Koren S. Goodman**  
*Health Services (PhD)*  
**Michael Martin**  
*Mod. Sim. (PhD)*

**Erika Frydenlund**  
*Int'l. Studies (PhD)*  
**Dorothy R. Yordt**  
*Bio Med. (PhD)*  
**Denise Claiborne**  
*Dental Hygiene (MS)*  
**Syed R. Rizvi**  
*Computer Sci. (PhD)*

## Graduate Funding

- ◆ **Phi Kappa Phi Love of Learning Scholarship**  
Eligibility: *Active Phi Kappa Phi members in post graduate or professional studies*  
Award: *\$500 to 140 students*  
Due/Website: *April 15, 2012, www.phikappaphi.org*
- ◆ **Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship**  
Eligibility: *Phi Kappa Phi members starting graduate studies. No more than 9 credits by due date*  
Award: *\$5,000 to 51 students and \$15,000 to 5 students*  
Due/Website: *April 15, 2012, www.phikappaphi.org*
- ◆ **Institute for Learning in Retirement Graduate Scholarship Award**  
Eligibility: *All students currently enrolled in an MA program.*  
Award: *\$1,500 per semester, to one student.*  
Due/Website: *June 1, 2012, http://www.oduilr.com/*

## Office of Graduate Studies

Graduate News is online!  
[odu.edu/ao/gradstudies](http://odu.edu/ao/gradstudies)

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ODU graduate student Nicholas Benson compiled and edited this newsletter with help from Dr. Brenda Neuman Lewis and the staff of the Office of Graduate Studies. You can contact Nicholas at [nbenson@odu.edu](mailto:nbenson@odu.edu)

## Important Dates For Graduate Students: GSO Meetings:

March 15, 11:30 am James/Lynnhaven Rm.

April 19 , 11:30 am U Center Conf. Rm.

### GSO Events:

March 19: YNot Pizza Fundraiser

March 30: ODU Day at Richard Bowling

April 13: Relay for Life Participation

### PFF Workshops

“The Academic Job Search: Discipline Specific Issues”

When: March 23, 12 pm -2 pm

Where: Potomac York River Rm.

### Graduate Roundtable For Arts and Letters

When: March 30, 3 pm -5 pm

Where: Burgess Room, BAL 9024

Topic: Professional Conferences

### Master's and Doctoral Reception

May 2, 5:30 p.m. Baron and Ellin Art Galleries

RSVP by April,25

(757) 683.3097 or [odualumni@odu.edu](mailto:odualumni@odu.edu)



### Did you know?

The number of jobs requiring Master's and Doctoral degrees will increase by 2% every year for the next six years.