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New Vision and Mission Statement

The School of Graduate and Professional Studies has a new vision and mission statement to begin the new academic year. It has been almost a decade since the previous mission statement had been reviewed. The new statements capture the essence of the new school and its current graduate offerings while also providing direction for new, innovative endeavors in the future. They also complement Academic Affairs and the overall University missions:

Vision

Providing quality and innovative graduate and post-graduate programs to integrate ongoing regional, national, and global educational demands and career trends.

Mission

Shepherd University School of Graduate and Professional Studies is an innovative and diverse community of educators, scholars, learners, and professionals committed to advancing excellence in higher education. The faculty educate students to be lifelong learners and preeminent professionals in a global community spanning civic, ethical, and social challenges. The School embraces the Shepherd University mission statement with its emphasis on the core values of learning, engagement, integrity, accessibility, and community. ■

Dual Master's Degrees – Master of Arts in College Student Development and Administration and Master of Business Administration

Beginning spring 2020, current and new graduate students will have an opportunity to apply for Shepherd University's first dual master's degrees. This opportunity allows students to earn two existing master's degrees within three years as full-time students. The dual degree will share electives and still meet the state requirements of a minimum of 30 credit hours for each degree. The degrees will share electives that complement both programs, and students will need to complete

60 hours to earn both degrees. The program plan expects students to work on both degrees simultaneously. Students who have already been admitted to one of the two programs may provide remaining admissions materials for review to be admitted to the new program. New students will need to provide the required materials and be admitted to both programs simultaneously. Students without the requisite business background may be required to take M.B.A. foundation courses. ■

School of Graduate and Professional Studies

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Shepherdstown, WV 25443
304-876-5313
www.shepherd.edu/graduate-studies

From the Dean

Welcome to Fall 2019!

Summer has flown by quickly and fall is now in full swing. The School of Graduate and Professional Studies welcomes our newest graduate students including those who have begun our newest degree in Appalachian Studies.

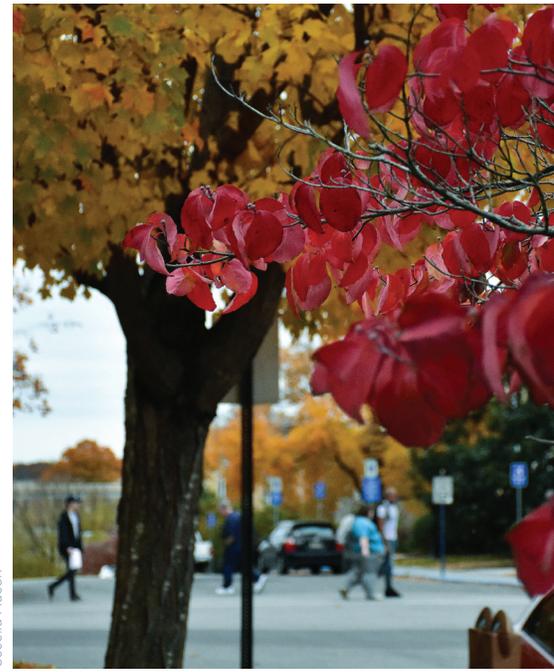
With the start of the fall semester you will see some changes to leadership and names of units as part of the academic restructuring. We are now the School of Graduate and Professional Studies. This unit includes the same graduate and continuing education areas but captures the broader mission of the school.

We have updated our vision and mission to forge ahead and will be finalizing a new strategic plan for the school by the end of the academic year.

New initiatives continue to strengthen the graduate culture including our first dual master's degree and work on additional non-degree certificates, master's concentrations, and opportunities for new continuing education.

As graduate students, I encourage you to take advantage of the resources that are available to you at Shepherd University. The Graduate Studies webpages have many resources and forms to help you navigate and transition at Shepherd, as well as tutor.com which is an online benefit connected to the Sakai site of your courses. ■

Best wishes,
Dr. Richard Stevens
rstevens@shepherd.edu



Cecelia Mason



Cecelia Mason

Rev. Dr. Jamie Washington

Rev. Dr. Jamie Washington provide an inspiring speech to round out a wonderful Graduate Student Commencement on May 11, 2019. The ceremony included hooding well-deserving graduate students, including our first graduates from the Master of Science in data analytics and information systems along with student from all other master's and doctoral programs. ■

Doctor of Nursing Practice - \$2.7 million grant

Shepherd University's School of Nursing has received a four-year, \$2.7 million Advanced Nursing Education Workforce Grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration. The grant will be used for an Innovative Modalities for Rural Nurse

Practitioner Education and Collaboration to Transcend Health Disparities (IMPACT) program. This program will provide great clinical experiences for D.N.P. students. D.N.P. students, through the grant, will be eligible for the final two years of their degree to be tuition free! ■



Cecelia Mason

Pantry manager, Angel Petty is a graduate student in the M.A. College Student Development and Administration program.

Food Pantry Opens

Shepherd University is addressing food insecurity among its students by opening a food pantry in Boteler Hall where the Ram Mart convenience store used to be on West Campus. Shepherd is partnering with the Mountaineer Food Bank, which will provide the university with an inventory list of both free and for-cost items that can be selected and delivered the second Tuesday of each month. The Ram Pantry will be open Wednesdays 1-3 p.m. and Fridays 5-7 p.m. For the entire story: shepherd.edu/news/food-pantry-for-students-opens-october-2 ■

Douglas C. Smith Passing

Dr. Douglas C. Smith passed away peacefully on June 25, 2019 at his home in Falling Waters. Dr. Smith received a B.A. in history and B.S.Ed. from the University of Tampa, an M.A. in European history from the University of North Carolina, an M.A. in political science from West Virginia University (WVU), a Ph.D. in American history from WVU, an Ed.S. postdoctoral degree from WVU, a Postdoctoral Fellowship at Columbia University, and Honorary Doctorates in Letters from John Dewey University and Glenville State College. Dr. Smith enjoyed a long and distinguished career as a professor and administrator at WVU and Shepherd University; he was an accomplished scholar, a lifelong learner, and prolific author of more than 50 books and academic articles on comparative education, history, and politics. Dr. Smith was brilliant and kind, he had a witty and sarcastic sense of humor, a sharp mind, and enjoyed reciting historical facts and obscure movie details from memory.

Dr. Smith helped start the continuing education program at Shepherd and was a great supporter of graduate education. The Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award was named in his honor. ■



Cecelia Mason

Graduate Student Resources

Help Desk

The White Hall Help Desk provides real-time assistance with writing and other courses such as accounting for all graduate students. Two graduate students are employed to assist with questions and tutoring. The Help Desk is located in White Hall, Room 213 and provides about 30 hours of service each week. The hours are posted on the door and help is available on a first-come, first-served basis. No scheduled appointments are available at this time. ■



Tutor.com

Several graduate courses were selected to be part of a pilot for tutor.com. This resource provides tutors for students in those classes. This resource is linked to the Sakai for the course. ■

Shepherd Telehealth (Teledoc)

This fee for service is open to all graduate students and provides a variety of health-related services. Visit shepherdtelehealth.com ■

Tuition waiver due dates

- Spring 2020** November 1, 2019
- Summer 2020** March 1, 2020
(pending remaining funding)

Waiver forms

Student Tuition Waiver Form
<https://media.suweb.site/2015/04/student-waiver.pdf>

Employee or Graduate Student Researcher Tuition Waiver Form
<https://media.suweb.site/2015/04/employee-waiver.pdf>

Calendar dates to remember

- October 17-19** Fall Break
- October 23** Advisement begins
- November 4** Spring 2020 Registration begins
- November 24-December 1** Thanksgiving Break
- December 6** Last Day of Classes
- December 9-13** Final Exams
- December 17** Fall 2019 Grades available (tentative)

REMINDER

Financial aid runs from fall to summer; please plan accordingly if you plan to use aid for summer 2020 courses.



Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Don Mills

Assistant Professor of Mathematics and the MS-DAIS Program Coordinator

Dr. Mills earned his Ph.D. in mathematical sciences from Clemson University (SC). Dr. Mills was hired by Shepherd University in 2014 and assumed the role of program coordinator in 2019. He has previously taught at the U.S. Military Academy, Southern Illinois University, and Pennsylvania State University. His research interests include the mathematics of secure communications,

combinatorial number theory, and geostatistics. He teaches a number of courses including number theory, cryptography, coding theory, complex analysis, probability and statistics, ordinary and partial differential equations, operations research and discrete dynamical systems. In his spare time, Dr. Mills writes novels for fun. ■



Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning fall 2019 schedules available now

EDPD Schedule

shepherd.edu/continuing-education/edpd

Lifelong Learning Schedule

shepherd.edu/lifelonglearning

December 2020 graduation application deadline

Friday, March 1, 2020

\$50 late fee applied after the date

Graduation Application

<https://media.suweb.site/2019/01/GRADUATION-App-INFORMATION-Grad.pdf>



Connect with Us

Find up-to-date information and events

Graduate Studies

<https://www.facebook.com/SUgradstudies>

CSDA

<https://www.facebook.com/ShepherdUniversityCSDA>

Martinsburg Center

<https://www.facebook.com/MartinsburgCenter>

Graduate program contacts

Master of Arts in Appalachian Studies

Dr. Sylvia Shurbutt

sshurbut@shepherd.edu

Master of Arts in College Student Development and Administration

Dr. Ann Wendle

awendle@shepherd.edu

Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. B.B. Mitchell

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Master of Science in Data Analytics and Information Systems

Dr. Donald Mills

dmills@shepherd.edu

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Dr. Doris Burkey

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Master of Business Administration

Dr. Ben Martz

bmartz@shepherd.edu

Master of Teaching

Dr. LeAnn Johnson

ljohnson@shepherd.edu