N orfolk State University's graduate cybersecurity degree recently won the award of “50 Best Schools of 2018: Online Master's Degrees in Cybersecurity,” distinguishing it from hundreds across the nation. Dr. Aurelia Williams, professor and chair of the computer science department, and Dr. Cheryl Hinds, the program’s coordinator, said this award shows the quality of education provided to students.

“The recognition provides current and prospective students with an assurance that the material covered in the program is comparable to other schools; therefore, students can rest assured that the quality of the degree earned at Norfolk State University satisfies the expectations of employers,” Williams said.

CyberSecurityMastersDegree.org evaluated the 130 programs deemed as National Centers of Academic Excellence (CAE) by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The online organization assessed the CAEs on three key elements: additional designations, focus options and affordability.

Norfolk State University has achieved continuous recognition as a CAE since 2009 — first as a Center of Excellence in Information Assurance and now as a Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education with the introduction of the master's in cybersecurity program that began in 2015. “This recognition by DHS and NSA of the quality of our cybersecurity programs will provide more scholarship and internship opportunities for current students,” Hinds said. “Additionaly graduates from CAEs will be recognized by employers as having been developed in a quality cybersecurity environment.”

In addition to national designations, Norfolk State University's master's in cybersecurity degree provides many more technical elements than other programs, Hinds said. Williams added that students use virtual machines to perform tasks that they would conduct in the professional world. That, combined with the program's diversity, makes it one of the best in the nation, she said.

“The program also welcomes those with nontechnical degrees who are willing to work hard and provide them with a skillset to compete in the cyber job market,” Williams said. “To other, we have had great success with our graduates securing professional positions.”

This recognition is one of many that the program hopes to earn in the coming years as it continues to grow, work with local partners and provide competitive training to students.

VOTE FOR NORFOLK STATE IN HOME DEPOT’S RETOOL YOUR SCHOOL CONTEST!

Vote Everyday on Every Device through April 15

Norfolk State has the chance to win a $50,000 grant from Home Depot through the Retool Your School contest. All it takes is for the campus, alumni and friends of Norfolk State to vote every day on every device! All we have to do is:

VOTE DAILY USING ALL YOUR DEVICES
On Social Media — NSU_RYS18 via Twitter https://twitter.com/homedepotretool/ and Instagram https://www.instagram.com/homedepotretool/ — those votes count more!

On the Retool Your School website at https://www.retoolyourschool.com/

If we win in our cluster of schools, depending on the amount, we would move forward with one of the following campus enhancements:

$50,000 Project – Beaufication of Three Campus Access Gates — to enhance and redirect the entrances to our campus by upgrading the current security booths.

$40,000 Project – Replacement of Sidewalks on East Campus — to help alleviate constant flooding.

$30,000 Project – Renovation of Flagpoles — to improve lighting and functionality of the flagpoles at the football stadium, Wilson Hall and the police station.

We’ve got to vote to win! Let’s go Spartans —Vote!

March 2018
The Norfolk State Department of Athletics recently inducted 12 student-athletes into the University’s Eta Chapter of Chi Alpha Sigma, the National College Athlete Honor Society. The honor is bestowed upon selected junior and senior student-athletes based on outstanding academic performance, character, citizenship and athletics ability. Members must maintain a GPA of 3.4 or higher.

MEMBERS OF THE 2018 INDUCTION CLASS INCLUDE:

- Jill Aquino, Volleyball
- Shelby DesChamps, Softball
- TomasFantaye, Men’s Track
- Anteneh Girma, Men’s Track
- Hunter Halford, Softball
- Alexys Long, Women's Basketball

Dr. Cassandra Newby-Alexander has been appointed to The Virginia Museum of History & Culture advisory council that will consult on an upcoming major exhibition on 400 years of African-American history—from 1619 to present day. Newby-Alexander is interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts, professor of History, and director of the Joseph Jenkins Roberts Center for the Study of African-American Women. The Council also serves as the Editorial Review Panel for the Center’s scholarly publication, PHILLIS: The Journal of Research on African American Women. The Council also serves as the Editorial Review Panel for the Center’s scholarly publication, PHILLIS: The Journal of Research on African American Women.

Charles Terrier, chief of staff for the office of NASA’s deputy administrator for education, spoke with students about his career trajectory and the importance of working with people from different cultural and gender backgrounds.


dr. wanda g. brockington was appointed to serve as a member of the sister scholars advisory council of the delta research and educational foundation. the sister scholars advisory council offers counsel regarding the program component and research endeavors of the foundation’s center for research on african-american women. the council also serves as the editorial review panel for the center’s scholarly publication, phillis. the journal for research on african american women.

The NSU Theatre Co.'s production of Fences made history Thursday, February 22 — it's opening night. The production became the University's first sold out, non-musical performance in more than 25 years. NSU Theatre Co. Director Anthony M. Stockard is profiled in the Spring 2018 Brandeis Magazine. Read the article at http://www.brandeis.edu/magazine/2018/spring/featured-stories/stockard.html.

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Joyce Daniel credits former chair, the late Dr. Sanford Perkins, as the source of motivation and inspiration for her academic success. “Professor Perkins was more than a professor. He shared life lessons with the students in the School of Business,” she said. As a student, Daniel was a member of Phi Beta Lambda with and a Kappa Sweetheart. A retired accountant from the Department of the U.S. Navy (NAVFAC), she is a life member of the Norfolk State University Alumni Association. She has served in numerous roles with the national association and the Norfolk Chapter including national recording secretary, membership chair, president of the Norfolk Alumni Chapter and a member of the Homecoming and Noah Ryder committees. Daniel was also crowned Ms. Alumni in 1983 and received the NSUAA Alumni of the Year Award in 1989. Additionally, Daniel is a member of NSU’s Emerald Society.

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Alumni’s Medical Charity spreading smiles with chips

Operation Smile, an international medical charity founded by William P. Magee Jr., M.D. and Kathleen S. Magee (MSW ’86), is partnering with Lay’s potato chips to raise $1 million. The Smile with Lay’s campaign is hoping to help Operation Smile change the lives of children who suffer from cleft conditions and other facial deformities. Kathleen Magee credits her Norfolk State professors with helping her clarify and pinpoint where Operation Smile could provide services to those with the greatest need when the organization was new. Now, roughly 35 years later, Operation Smile has grown into a highly regarded global organization that has performed more than 260,000 free surgeries in developing countries. For more information on the Smile with Lay’s Campaign, go to Lay’s.com.

Virginia Governor Northam Appoints James W. Dyke to the NSU Board of Visitors

Virginia Governor Ralph Northam appointed James W. Dyke to the NSU Board of Visitors March 9. He is filling the unexpired term of Rodney Powell. The appointment is effective immediately and expires June 30, 2021. Dyke serves as a senior advisor for Virginia Government Relations at McGuire Woods Consulting in Tysons, Virginia. Dyke previously served as Virginia’s Secretary of Education under former Virginia Gov. L. Douglas Wilder and as domestic policy advisor to former Vice President Walter Mondale. He also served as a senior advisor to the BOV from 2013–14.

He is an active leader in the Northern Virginia business community and has served or is serving on several state commissions and committees. He has also served as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia. Dyke has also been named to several power and influencer listings in Virginia and Washington, D.C. He is an alumnus of Howard University where he earned his undergraduate and law degrees.

Joyce Seldon Daniel ’74 and husband James E. Daniel, who studied in the NSU School of Business, recently established the Daniel Endowment. The fully funded $25,000 endowment will provide financial assistance to full-time, degree-seeking students in the School of Business, with a preference for Accounting majors.

Joyce Daniel credits former chair, the late Dr. Sanford Perkins, as the source of motivation and inspiration for her academic success. “Professor Perkins was more than a professor. He shared life lessons with the students in the School of Business,” she said. As a student, Daniel was a member of Phi Beta Lambda with and a Kappa Sweetheart. A retired accountant from the Department of the U.S. Navy (NAVFAC), she is a life member of the Norfolk State University Alumni Association. She has served in numerous roles with the national association and the Norfolk Chapter including national recording secretary, membership chair, president of the Norfolk Alumni Chapter and a member of the Homecoming and Noah Ryder committees. Daniel was also crowned Ms. Alumni in 1983 and received the NSUAA Alumni of the Year Award in 1989. Additionally, Daniel is a member of NSU’s Emerald Society.

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