

**BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**IN THE CHESAPEAKE WATERSHED COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNIT (CHWA CESU)**

**JANUARY 2018**

Prepared by: Gina M. Lewis

**A. Expression of desire to enroll in CHWA CESU as a new partner institution/organization**

Bowie State University submits the accompanying materials to support its application to join the Chesapeake Watershed Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CHWA CESU) as a new nonfederal partner institution/organization. Bowie State University is a comprehensive institution with strong roots in its history in the training of educators, and being the oldest Historically Black University in the state of Maryland. Bowie has a history of contributing to the knowledge of all disciplines represented by its colleges, departments and programs, and supporting the collective of national knowledge through participation in federal grant projects. We believe that these application materials will demonstrate our commitment to the mission of the CHWA CESU and the importance of collaborative partnerships in advancing basic research, education and outreach in support of federal CESU members.

**B. Confirmation that institution / organization has read the CESU agreement and agrees to support the CESU mission and goals and fulfill the roles and responsibilities of a nonfederal partner, as described in the CESU agreement**

Provost Dr. Guy-Alain Amoussou, is supportive of this application. Through her endorsement she is providing assurance that Bowie State University is willing and able to meet the responsibilities and roles of a nonfederal partner and to support the CESU mission and goals. The primary contacts, Dr. Anika Bissahoyo, Dr. Artelia Covington, and Associate Professor, Gina M. Lewis, will also work with faculty, students and staff to ensure that Bowie State University meets these expectations while fulfilling the roles and responsibilities of a nonfederal partner.

**C. Description of the institution / organization, its mission and the primary focus of collaborative activities to be supported through the CHWA CESU in the context of the CESU mission**

Founded in 1865, Bowie State is the oldest Historically Black College/University in Maryland and one of the ten oldest in the country. It is also a diverse university whose 5,600 students, along with faculty and staff, represent many ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

Bowie State University provides high-quality and affordable educational opportunities for students with ambitions to achieve and succeed. In addition to its 22 undergraduate majors, Bowie State offers 38 masters, doctoral, and advanced certification programs with specific focus on science, technology, business, education and related disciplines. A supportive academic environment empowers students to think critically, make new discoveries, value differences and emerge as leaders in a highly technical, rapidly changing global society.

The university's advanced teaching and research facilities include a FlexPod, one of the latest computing innovations with the capabilities of a supercomputer in a box the size of two student desks. Bowie is also home to a satellite operations control center managed in conjunction with NASA and an all-Steinway Fine and Performing Arts Center equipped with the latest technologies for digital media arts and music production.

As a member institution of the [University System of Maryland](#), Bowie State upholds the System's mission of providing high-caliber, accessible, and affordable educational opportunities.

Bowie State is in the midst of one of the nation's most exciting metropolitan areas, within easy reach of Washington, DC, and Baltimore. At the same time, it boasts a serene campus on a 300-acre suburban wooded tract. With seven residence halls, the University is a hub of 24/7 undergraduate life, yet it also offers convenient evening classes and online courses to serve employed professionals seeking to move ahead in their careers.

Bowie State University recognizes the need to reduce the worst impacts of global warming. The University is deeply concerned with the scale and speed of global warming and its potential for large-scale, adverse health, social, economic and ecological effects.

#### [Climate Commitment Coordinating Committee \(C4\)](#)

BSU has a group of students dedicated to helping preserve our campus and the earth.

The C4 is committed to enhancing sustainability awareness as a way of life for all campus members. The C4 consists of student representatives, faculty, staff, and community partners who meet monthly throughout the academic year to plan green activities geared toward increasing education and awareness on sustainability initiatives for the campus community.

#### [Campus-wide commitment to environmental sustainability](#)

**D. Description or list of the primary programs, departments, or other institutional divisions of relevance to federal land management, environmental, and research agencies that will likely be engaged in CESU activities. Include website addresses for further information, as appropriate.**

With 18 departments, 22 undergraduate majors, 19 master's degree programs, two doctoral programs, and nine advanced certificate programs, Bowie State University offers a wide range of academic opportunities. The University's student-faculty ratio is a low 15:1. The faculty are highly qualified, with 92% of full-time professors holding at least a master's degree and 64% holding PhDs. The National Science Foundation recognized the strength of the University's science, engineering, and mathematics programs by selecting it as one of six Historically Black Colleges/Universities to be chosen as a Model Institution of Excellence. Research at the University is supported by such advanced facilities as a \$1 million supercomputer and a NASA satellite operations control center.

## College of Arts and Sciences

- [Department of Communications](#)
- [Department of Computer Science](#)
- [Department of English and Modern Languages](#)
- [Department of Fine and Performing Arts](#)
- [Department of History and Government](#)
- [Department of Mathematics](#)
- [Department of Military Science](#)
- [Department of Natural Sciences](#)

## College of Business

- [Department of Accounting, Finance, and Economics](#)
- [Department of Management Information Systems](#)
- [Department of Management, Marketing & Public Administration](#)

## College of Education

- [Department of Counseling](#)
- [Department of Educational Leadership](#)
- [Department of Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development](#)

## College of Professional Studies

- [Department of Behavioral Sciences and Human Services](#)
- [Department of Nursing](#)
- [Department of Psychology](#)
- [Department of Social Work](#)

### **E. A list of and brief description of the staff or faculty with expertise in disciplines and subject areas of relevance to federal land management, environmental, and research agencies**

Bowie State University has many faculty engaged in various research activities, a listing of research activities of some faculty can be found on the Bowie State University website. Many other faculty members has posted their research to such sites as Research Gate and Academia.edu. The following links connect to profiles and publications of some of our faculty.

[Faculty Research Profiles](#)

[Scholars Studio](#)

[Research Gate](#)

[Academia.Edu](#)

**F. For academic institutions, include a description of student demographics and the institution's status as a minority-serving institution (e.g., as defined by the U.S. Department of Education)**

The student [demographic at Bowie State University](#) is predominantly African American. However, we serve a diverse population from within the state of Maryland, and other states. In addition, we also host an international student population. A recent overview of Fall 2017 enrollment is shown below:

**Fall 2017**

- 6,148 Total
- 5,188 Undergraduate students
- 1,075 First-time, full-time freshmen
- 960 Graduate students
- 82% African American
- 21 Countries of origin
- 17.5 to 1 Student/faculty ratio

**G. Description or list of facilities, equipment, centers, or institutes that would provide support to research, technical assistance, or educational activities of relevance to federal land management, environmental, and research agencies that will be engaged in CHWA CESU activities.**

Bowie State University is aware that CHWA CESU works with several government agencies, and that in addition to the opportunities in scientific research, there are projects that may involve public history, communications and visual aspects. Our department faculty and students have a wide array of interests and experience that would be applicable to such projects. Below are some details on the campus facilities, particularly our new buildings which house several departments and programs.

[Campus Facilities](#)

[Center for Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Nursing](#)

[Fine and Performing Arts Center](#)

[Communications](#)

[History and Government](#)

**H. Description or list of past research, technical assistance, and educational services supported through federal financial assistance awards that are of relevance to federal land management, environmental, and research agencies that will be engaged in CESU activities**

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Bowie State University faculty have received funding to support a symposium focused on food security and food safety from the US EPA (Dr. Anne Osano, Associate Professor, Department of Natural Sciences). The University has also received several awards to support the research infrastructure and undergraduate research in a variety of areas including biotechnology (Dr. George Ude, Professor, Department of Natural Sciences, plant metabolomics (Dr. Anne Osano, Associate Professor, Department of Natural Sciences), and cybersecurity (Dr. Lethia Jackson, Professor and Chair, Department of Technology and Security; Dr. Weifeng Xu, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science; Dr. Guy-Alain Amoussou, Interim Provost and VP for Academic Affairs, Professor, Department of Computer Science) from the National Science Foundation.

**I. Description or list of current formal agreements and informal relationships with federal agencies that are of relevance to federal land management, environmental, and research agencies that will be engaged in CESU activities**

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Bowie State University has a Memorandum of Understanding that was first signed with the US EPA Office of Management and Debarment in 2009. This partnership initially formed with the College of Business, has expanded to include all Colleges of the Universities including Arts and Sciences, Education and Professional Studies. Joint projects have included the following:

- Joint research projects between BSU and environmental organizations' environmental programs.
- BSU faculty and student participation in public policy forums, presentations, and other events at environmental agencies.
- Provision of EPA and other experts and/or resources for curriculum development, public policy forums, teaching, presentations, speeches, and other events at BSU.
- Enhanced access by BSU faculty and students to Agency research facilities and instrumentation.
- EPA staff members serving as mentors or coaches for BSU students, including shadowing opportunities for students and visits to EPA facilities.

- Development of electronic bulletin boards, email lists, networks and other means to support program activities and increase their visibility.
- Bowie community programs to increase environmental awareness and action.
- Strengthen BSU staff and student connection to Chesapeake Bay, its tributaries and coastal resources through interaction with Chesapeake Bay Program partners or hands on learning experiences.

Bowie State University is also a part of the K-20 Cybersecurity Workforce Development Project which includes a consortium of HBCU and two DOE National Labs, Los Alamos and Sandia. This program provides a continuum of cybersecurity education and research to prepare underrepresented minorities to help meet the growing demands of cybersecurity expertise across the country. Bowie State University is also a part of the University System of Maryland which is a partner in NIST's Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC), the National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (NCCoE).

**J. Confirmation of the institution's /organization's willingness to accept a limited overhead rate of 17.5% and cost items to which the rate is applicable for activities conducted through the CESU, including research, technical assistance, and educational services (this overhead rate applies to the entire institution/organization for CESU activities)**

Provost Amoussou supports this application and acknowledges that the maximum overhead rate for all work will be 17.5% and that there can be limitations on the cost items where the overhead rate can be applied. As part of Bowie State University's commitment to this partnership we consider the difference between this rate and our federally negotiated overhead cost rate (44%) to be an in-kind contribution and supportive of the collaborative work that would be completed by Bowie State University faculty, students and/or staff.

**K. Designation of a technical representative (with full contact information – name, title, full address, phone, fax, email) to serve on the CHWA CESU steering committee.**

Gina M. Lewis  
 Associate Professor, Art  
 Program Coordinator, Studio Art  
 Department of Fine and Performing Arts  
 Bowie State University  
 14000 Jericho Park Rd  
 Bowie, MD 20715  
 Phone: 301/860-3715  
 Mobile: 301/445-4462  
 Fax: 301/860-3767  
 Email: [glewis@bowiestate.edu](mailto:glewis@bowiestate.edu)

Administrative Contact:

Dr. Anika Bissahoyo  
Director, Office of Sponsored Projects and Research  
Bowie State University  
14000 Jericho Park Rd  
Bowie, MD 20715  
Phone: 301/860-4399  
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**L. Participation in the CESU annual/semiannual partner meetings and facilitation of internal and external communication, promotion and response to CESU correspondence and administrative actions (e.g., announcement, new member applications, processing agreements/amendments, five-year reviews).**

Bowie State University will attend and actively participate in partner meetings. We will relay all internal and external communications to the targeted groups and respond to correspondence and administrative actions from the CESU in a timely manner. The primary responsibility for ensuring that Bowie State University completes these tasks will be assumed by Gina M. Lewis, who is a tenured Associate Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences. Ms. Lewis will work closely with the academic deans, department chairs, faculty and staff to ensure that there is appropriate dissemination of material between the CESU and Bowie State University stakeholders. She will also work closely with Anika Bissahoyo, Director of the Office of Sponsored Research and Programs to ensure that any dissemination related to funded work is done so in a timely and correct manner.

**M. Agree to relay agency-specific research, technical assistance and educational needs and associated funding opportunities to other institutional/organizational members (e.g., faculty, students)**

As part of her responsibilities, Ms. Lewis will communicate information to appropriate stakeholder groups at Bowie State University. As part of the efforts to disseminate information about funding opportunities she will engage academic deans, and members of the Bowie State University Executive Leadership Team and the Director of the Office of Sponsored Research and Programs. Ms. Lewis will also work directly with faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences to develop grant proposals in response to announcements of funding opportunities.

**N. Signature (or endorsement) from an appropriate official, with authority to commit institutional resources in a binding multi-year federal cooperative and joint venture agreement (e.g., president, executive director, chief financial officer, vice president for research, director of sponsored programs).**

A letter of support from Provost Amoussou is included at the end of the application packet.

**O. Letter(s) of support from one or more CESU federal agency partners sponsoring the new partner's application, including a description of successful past collaborative work**

**supported through federal financial assistance awards.**

The requested letters of support from some of our federal partners follow the letter of support from the Provost.



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January 18, 2018

Daniel M. Filer, M.B.A., EdD.  
Chesapeake Watershed CESU Research Coordinator  
National Park Service  
University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science – Appalachian Laboratory  
301 Braddock Road – Room 304  
Frostburg, MD 21532

Dear Dr. Filer:

I write to express my support for Bowie State University's application for membership in the Chesapeake Watershed Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CHWA CESU).

Bowie State University is the oldest Historically Black University in the state of Maryland, and boasts a broad regional, national and international faculty and student body. This provides us with the capacity to offer unique perspectives individually and collectively on issues regarding environmental and cultural research, conservation and awareness. Through our participation in the CHWA CESU Network, we look forward to partnering in support of research and the application of knowledge to the CESU and its partner agencies.

Bowie State's administration, faculty, staff and students are dedicated to research in all disciplines across the campus, and are excited to learn that the opportunities for participation in stewardship and conservation with the CHWA CESU are often broad and interdisciplinary in scope. Our culture of interdisciplinary collaboration across the campus provides us with the existing internal networks to respond expediently to a variety of research needs that may arise. It would be an honor to join the CHWA CESU network of partners, and to leverage its efforts toward ecological and cultural conservation within the region and state. Bowie State's role as a comprehensive institution also allows us the opportunity to dedicate ourselves to both research, and the sharing of knowledge with our students, and community, to prepare our students to go out into the world as informed and dedicated practitioners in their fields. Further, we are excited about the opportunity to participate in research that makes significant contributions to national narratives and efforts to conserve and preserve our rich, history, culture and land resources.

I am pleased to offer my full endorsement and support of this application for membership, with an understanding of the 17.5% overhead rate limitation.

Sincerely,

Guy-Alain Amoussou, Ph.D.

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs



United States Department of Agriculture

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Research, Education, and Economics  
Agricultural Research Service

January 19, 2018

To whom it may concern:

I Dr. Devanand L. Luthria, a Research Chemist at the Food Composition Laboratory, Beltsville Human Research Center, Agricultural Research Service, US Department of Agriculture is pleased to support Bowie State University's proposal.

I have partnered for many years with Bowie State University (BSU) and have provided training opportunities to number students.

I will be glad to explore and provide opportunities for BHNRC scientists to serve on dissertation committees of graduate students, supervise their research, and/ or serve as co-principal investigators with BSU faculty on sponsored research projects. All the new agreements have to be approved by the USDA management prior to start.

I have provided opportunities to student interns from BSU in my laboratory and share equipment's as needed.

With enthusiasm, I support Bowie State University's proposal to the Chesapeake Watershed Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CHWA CESU).

Sincerely,

*D. L. Luthria*

Dr. Devanand (Dave) Luthria, PhD & EMIB  
Research Chemist

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