

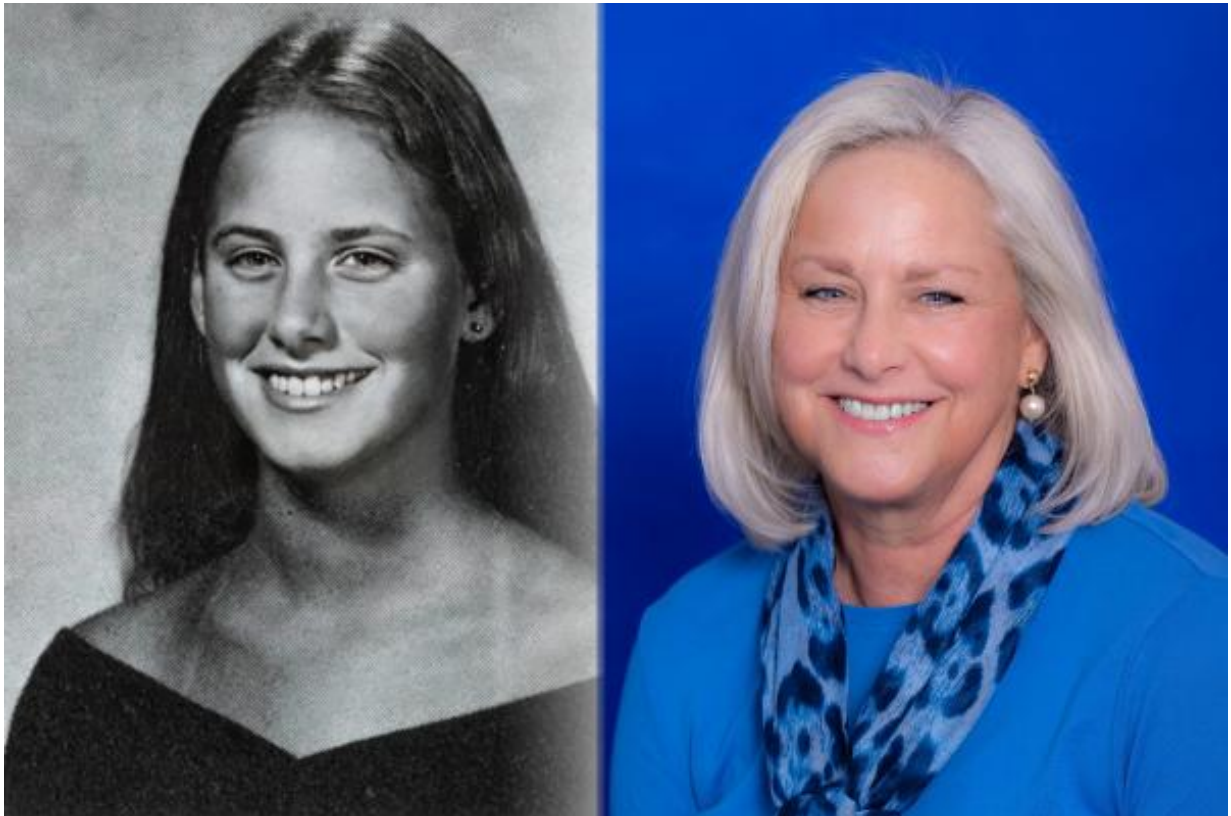


OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

College of Health Sciences

Monday, June 12, 2023

Longtime Assistant Dean Reflects on 41 Years at ODU



After over four decades of service, Debbie Bauman, assistant dean of the College of Health Sciences, is preparing to bid farewell to Old Dominion University (ODU) with her retirement on June 9.

Bauman's connection to ODU began in 1976 when she began her undergraduate studies in the dental hygiene program. Following her four years as an undergraduate, she spent an additional two years as a teaching assistant in the master's degree program before beginning her distinguished career at ODU. Bauman dedicated 26 years to molding the minds of students as a faculty member, three years as the chair of the School of Dental Hygiene, and a further 15 years as the assistant dean.

Recalling the early days, Bauman reminisced about the university's transformation. "When I toured

ODU, Kaufman Mall didn't have any trees," she said, striking a visual of the remarkable growth and progress that ODU has witnessed during her tenure.

[Click here to read the full story.](#)

NIH R15 Grant Proposal Incubator Program

The ODU College of Health Science's research is growing at a rapid pace, which necessitates the adoption of new programs to support our faculty. One such program that was recently launched by Associate Dean for Research & Innovation, Chris Rhea, PhD, is the NIH R15 Grant Proposal Incubator Program.

The NIH R15 mechanism can provide up to \$300,000 in funding to support a research project for three years. While this funding mechanism is competitive, its funding rate is typically higher than other NIH opportunities, such as the R01. Moreover, the R15 mechanism is only available to faculty who work at institutions that have less than \$6 million in NIH funding per year in four of the last seven years. This means health sciences faculty won't need to compete with faculty at places like Harvard or Stanford for these funds, helping level the playing field relative to larger institutions that have much greater resources to support research.

The NIH R15 Grant Proposal Incubator Program in the ODU College of Health Sciences is enrolling faculty who are interested in developing a grant idea and submitting their proposal in one of the next three R15 deadlines (October 2023, February 2024, or June 2024). This program will include wraparound support from the Associate Dean for Research & Innovation, the ODU Office of Research, the ODU Research Foundation, and external reviewers. Thus far, 14 health sciences faculty have expressed interest in the program. Initial one-on-one interest meetings with the Associate Dean for Research & Innovation are underway and an announcement of first cohort for this program will happen in June.

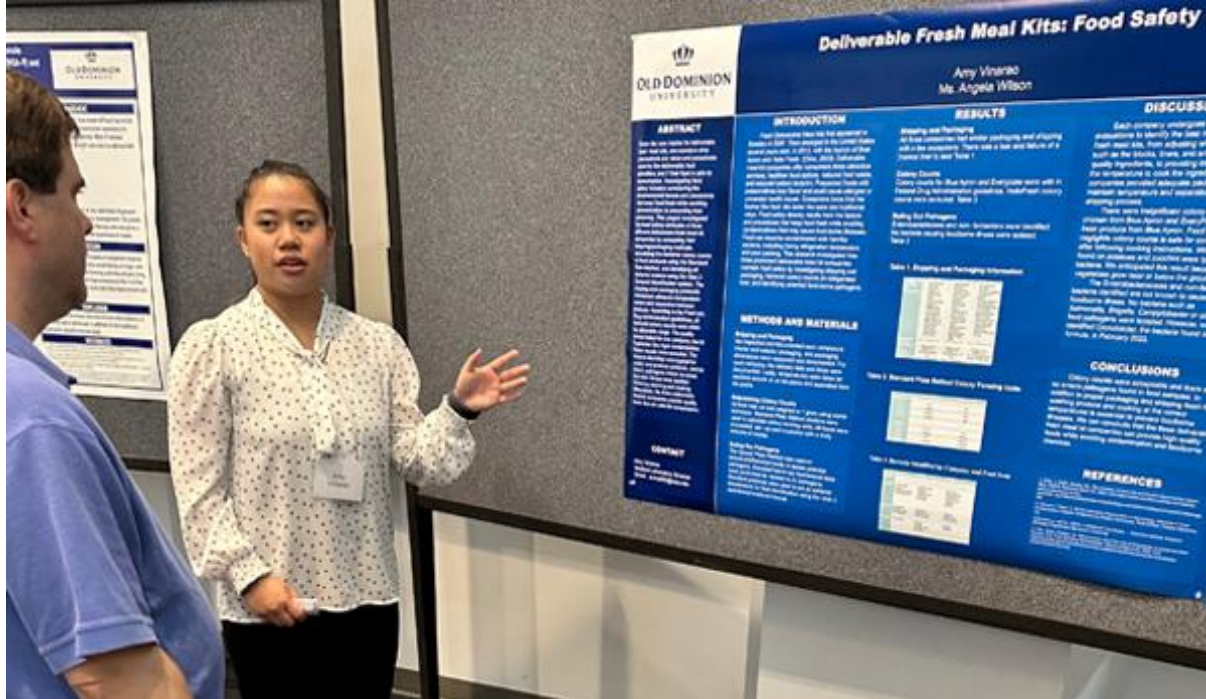
National Academies of Practice Inducts Bonnie Van Lunen, PhD, Dean of the ODU College of Health Sciences

The National Academies of Practice (NAP) elected Bonnie Van Lunen, PhD, Dean of the ODU College of Health Sciences, as a Distinguished Fellow in the Athletic Training Academy. Class of 2023 Fellows were welcomed into the National Academies of Practice during the awards and induction ceremony in Washington DC on April 1, 2023.

Founded in 1981, the National Academies of Practice advances interprofessional education, scholarship, research, practice and public policy. The academies within the National Academies of Practice include: Allopathic and Osteopathic Medicine, Athletic Training, Audiology, Dentistry, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Optometry, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, Podiatric Medicine, Psychology, Respiratory Care, Social Work, Speech-Language Pathology and Veterinary Medicine.

Fellowship in the National Academies of Practice is an honor extended to those who have excelled in their profession and are dedicated to furthering interprofessional practice, scholarship and policy in support of interprofessional care.

ODU Undergraduate Student Amy Vinarao Receives National Research Award



Amy Vinarao, a student at Old Dominion University (ODU), has been awarded the prestigious 2023 Clinical Laboratory Educators Forum (CLEF) Student Research Competition. The competition, organized by the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS), recognizes outstanding research conducted by students in the field of clinical laboratory science.

Vinarao, a pre-Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) student, collaborated with Professor Angela Wilson on a research project titled "Deliverable Fresh Meal Kits: Food Safety." Inspired by her experience working at international grocery stores and her commitment to a healthy lifestyle, Vinarao explored the topic of food safety and meal kits.

While focusing on microbial growth in food, Vinarao and Professor Wilson realized the importance of considering multiple factors such as temperature control, packaging integrity, and appropriate methods and materials. Professor Wilson provided invaluable guidance and support throughout the project, making her an exceptional mentor in Vinarao's eyes.

[Click here to read the full story.](#)

ODU Alumna to Compete for Miss Virginia Title, Advocate for Health Literacy



In late April and early May, Megan Frick finished her doctor of physical therapy degree at Old Dominion University, passed her licensure exam and started work at ODU Monarch Physical Therapy. At the end of June, she'll trade her clinic gear for an evening gown and compete for the title of Miss Virginia.

"I'm really looking forward to representing this area," said Frick, the reigning Miss Hampton-Newport News. The preliminary rounds start June 29 at the Berglund Center in Roanoke, with crowning on July 1.

For Frick, the pageant is serious business. Besides the title and crown, the winner receives \$20,000 in scholarship money. And Frick will have a chance to push her pet project - a health screening and health literacy initiative she created last year.

[Click here to read the full story.](#)

ODU Students Thrive in Remote Internships, Gaining Valuable Experience

As remote work continues to reshape the world of education and professional opportunities, students at Old Dominion University (ODU) are making the most of remote internships, proving that distance is not a barrier to gaining valuable experience and making a positive impact. Amy Prusinski, a BSPH to MPH 4+1 alumna in the ODU School of Community and Environmental Health, has exemplified the possibilities and successes that can be achieved through remote internships.

Prusinski's journey began in 2018 when she joined the BSPH program on campus. However, in 2020, her husband received orders to Camp Pendleton, prompting her to transition to a fully remote learning experience from her new home near San Diego. Despite the physical distance, Prusinski remained determined to make meaningful connections, expand her network, and secure an internship aligned with her career goals.

"Even as a fully remote student, I was able to network, make friends, and go to virtual events," Prusinski said. "You have to put in the effort, but know there are people happy to help you along the way."

[Click here to read the full story.](#)

EVMS, ODU launch Doctor of Occupational Therapy program

The inaugural cohort of the Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) program, developed in partnership with EVMS and Old Dominion University, began its first classes June 5.

The first cohort includes nine students but is eventually expected to admit 40 students annually. The program was created in response to regional demand and is designed to graduate diverse, inquisitive and innovative occupational therapy practice leaders and scholars.

"The Hampton Roads community has had a shortage of occupational therapy practitioners for some time," says Patricia Laverdure, OTD, OTR/L, Program Director and Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy at Old Dominion University. "It is a very impactful shortage and one that I think we can make a real difference in addressing over the coming years of our program."

Dr. Laverdure welcomed new students during an orientation session held June 1 at EVMS and shared her vision for the program.

[Click here to read the full story.](#)

Featured photos: 2023 White Coat Ceremony



Old Dominion University's School of Medical Diagnostic and Translational Sciences in the College of Health Sciences conducted its fifth annual White Coat Ceremony on May 25. The event recognizes students' transition from the classroom to working with patients and symbolically presents them with guidelines regarding the professional expectations of future health providers. [Click here to view the photo slideshow.](#)

Call for stories

Share your stories about research, grants, teaching success, awards and honors, student success, alumni success, interdisciplinary collaboration, students getting experience in the field, community service, events, and anything else that shows how unique our programs are and how great it is to be a Monarch! If you are featured in the media, please share that as well ***Deadline to be featured in the next newsletter is August 14***, but the "call for stories" is constant. Please share your story ideas with Erica Howell at ehhowell@odu.edu.



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