

Subject: Monday Matters: ODU's Maritime Initiative
Date: Monday, November 8, 2021 at 8:03:29 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: Dodge, Gail
To: Dodge, Gail
CC: Dobbs, Fred, Harvey, Rodger, Whitfield, Tiffany L.
Attachments: maritime_hrh.docx

Dear Colleagues:

On Thursday ODU [announced its new Maritime Initiative](#), which will “coordinate and grow the University's maritime-related degree and certificate programs, talent development, entrepreneurship and research and innovation.” This initiative is the result of a campus working group (including Fred Dobbs from our college) that gathered information about existing efforts and opportunities across the region. Oceanography, marine biology, data science, and cybersecurity are just a few of the areas in which faculty in our college will be relevant to the new maritime effort. A search for an executive director for this initiative will be launched soon.

At the same event, Dubby Wynne, co-chair of Hampton Roads Maritime Collaborative for Growth & Innovation (HRMC) announced the release of a [report](#) titled “A Pathway for Maritime Innovation in Hampton Roads,” prepared by TEconomy Partners. The report identified four growing markets that can benefit from ODU’s increased emphasis on Maritime initiatives, namely (1) shipbuilding and autonomous systems, (2) port operations and logistics, (3) offshore wind energy, and (4) coastal resilience services.

Maritime innovation, broadly defined, will be an important growth area for ODU moving forward and can present opportunities for our faculty. In a way this initiative is following the path already established by the Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience (ICAR), which brings people from all colleges together to enable collaboration with government and industrial partners. I note that the Executive Director for ICAR, Jessica Whitehead, has now been on the job for about 6 months. She was recently [selected to serve as a chapter lead for the Fifth National Climate Assessment \(NCA5\)](#).

I hope these two new institutes (ICAR and Maritime) at ODU will enable new opportunities for faculty and students, both related to research and education/training.

Best Regards,
Gail

Gail Dodge
Dean, College of Sciences
Old Dominion University
gdodge@odu.edu
757-683-3432

