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MEES PROGRAM

WELCOME TO THE MEES GRADUATE PROGRAM. THE GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION FOR MEES HAS PUT TOGETHER THIS INFORMATION BECAUSE MEES SPANS MULTIPLE INSTITUTIONS, WHICH CAN BE CONFUSING. PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO REACH OUT WITH MORE QUESTIONS.

DR. TIMOTHY CANTY
DIRECTOR, MEES PROGRAM
COLLEGE PARK
TCANTY@UMD.EDU

TAMARA HENDERSHOT
PROGRAM MANAGER
COLLEGE PARK
TBARKSDA@UMD.EDU
DUTIES: TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS, ADMISSIONS, SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, REGISTRATION, RESEARCH SECTIONS, GRADUATE POLICY, PETITIONS, SCHEDULE OF CLASSES, PHR APPROVALS, UMD GRAD FACULTY PROCESSING, LOA ASSISTANCE

VALERIE BONHOMME
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST
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DUTIES: PROGRAM AND GS FORMS, GRAD FACULTY NOMINATIONS, ADMISSIONS INQUIRIES-PROCESSING, MANDATORY FEE WAIVERS, MEETING COORDINATOR, MS AND DISSERTATION SUBMISSION ASSISTANCE, COURSE EVALUATION COLLECTION/DISTRIBUTION

HANG NGUYEN
PROGRAM COORDINATOR
COLLEGE PARK
HNGUYE14@UMD.EDU
ON LEAVE UNTIL NOVEMBER 1, 2021

MEES OFFICE
COLLEGE PARK
MEES@UMD.EDU

MEES GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION
PROGRAM-WIDE, REMOTE
MEES-GSO@UMD.EDU

MEES STUDENT LISTSERV
PROGRAM-WIDE, REMOTE*
MEES-EXT-STUDENTS @LISTSERV.UMD.EDU

*SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THESE EMAILS HERE. DO NOT EMAIL DIRECTLY.
DEAR NEW STUDENTS,

ON BEHALF OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND I WANT TO WELCOME YOU TO THE MARINE ESTUARINE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES (MEES) PROGRAM!

YOU HAVE JOINED A VIBRANT, HIGHLY REGARDED PROGRAM THAT PROMISES TO PROVIDE AN OUTSTANDING EDUCATION, EXCITING EXPERIENCES, AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH WORLD-CLASS SCIENTISTS. MEES HAS EXCELLENT FACILITIES OF OUR OWN AND WE ARE LOCATED NEAR SEVERAL FEDERAL LABS AND HAVE CLOSE COLLABORATIONS WITH STATE AND REGIONAL AGENCIES.

THIS OFFERS YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO COLLABORATE WITH THE BROADER SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY AND CREATE PERSONAL CONNECTIONS THAT CAN GREATLY BENEFIT YOUR CAREER AFTER YOU GRADUATE.

CHEERS,
DR. TIMOTHY CANTY
DIRECTOR, MEES

THE GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION (MEES GSO) IS HERE FOR MEES-WIDE QUESTIONS AND ISSUES. WE WERE ESTABLISHED IN SPRING 2021. WE HAVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH DEGREE GRANTING INSTITUTION IN MEES TO HELP STUDENTS CLARIFY QUESTIONS THAT COME UP, AND TO ADVOCATE ON BEHALF OF STUDENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM. WE WORK ON FUNDRAISING, REGULAR NEWSLETTERS, SOCIALIZING, RECRUITMENT, ORIENTATION, AND COLLOQUIUM. EMAIL US AT MEES-GSO@UMD.EDU.

THE MEES PROGRAM SPANS FIVE DEGREE-GRA NTING INSTITUTIONS (ABOVE) ACROSS SIX CAMPUSES - COLLEGE PARK, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE IN SALISBURY, IMET IN BALTIMORE, THE APPALACIAN LAB IN FROSTBURG, CBL IN SOLOMONS ISLAND, AND HORN POINT IN CAMBRIDGE. BECAUSE OF THIS GEOGRAPHIC SPAN, MEES HAS ALWAYS HOSTED COURSES REMOTELY, AND WE WELCOME STUDENTS TO EXPAND THEIR GRADUATE EXPERIENCE TO INCORPORATE ASPECTS THROUGHOUT THIS COMMUNITY.
IMPORTANT DATES - ALL MEES

August 30, 2021
Fall First Day of MEES Classes

September 8, 2021
Last Day to Drop Classes

September 15, 2021
Deadline for Fall 2021 Graduation Application

October 22, 2021
MEES Colloquium, Remote (UMES)

December 13, 2021
Fall Last Day of MEES Classes

January 24, 2022
Spring First Day of MEES Classes

March 20-27, 2022
MEES Spring Break

May 10, 2022
Spring Last Day of MEES Classes

IMPORTANT LINKS - ALL MEES

TESTUDO
Class Organizing Website

MEES GSO Slack
Social Medium for MEES Students

MASTER’S REQUIREMENTS
A MEES-Wide Checklist for MS Students

PhD REQUIREMENTS
A MEES-Wide Checklist for PhD Students

INSTITUTION SPECIFIC DOCUMENTS
A Landing Page for Information by Institution

MEES COURSE CATALOG
TIPS & TRICKS

WHEN EMAILING MEES:

- Always include which campus you work from
- It can be helpful to remind them how you’re funded/who your advisor is
- Be friendly! They want to know you and are great at remembering who you are
- Don’t be shy to politely follow up

REQUIRED CLASSES

ALL MEES STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE:

- Your foundation course
- 1 Issue study group class
- 2 Seminars in MEES
- 3 Professional Development Classes (1 of which is Applied Environmental Science)
- Research credits (Dependent on degree and institution)

REQUIRED PAPERWORK

REGARDLESS OF DEGREE, INSTITUTION OR CAMPUS, BE SURE TO SEND THE FOLLOWING TO MEES:

- Initial Advisory Committee Meeting Report (Due by End of 2nd Semester)
- Annual Student Progress Report (Due September 30 Annually)
- Proposal Submission (Email MEES)
- Nomination of Members for Final Committee
- Announcement of Defense
- Dissertation // Comprehensive Exams
EACH CAMPUS HAS AN OFFICE FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS, SUPPORTING THEIR COMMUNITY AND HELPING THEM ACHIEVE THEIR ACADEMIC, PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL GOALS. THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICES OFFER A VARIETY OF SERVICES, SUCH AS IMMIGRATION ADVISING (VISA STATUS-RELATED), COMMUNITY BUILDING, AND WORK AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY SUPPORT (CPT, OPT, AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATIONS). FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT WEBSITES FOR YOUR ENROLLED CAMPUS.

UMCP, UMCES:
International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS).

UMES:
Center for International Education (CIE).

UMBC:
International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS).

UMB:
Office of International Services.

THE MEES GSO KNOWS THAT LEAVING YOUR HOME AND CULTURE IS STRESSFUL FOR EVERYONE, AND TO DO THAT DURING GRADUATE SCHOOL IS AN EXTRA LAYER OF STRESS. PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO REACH OUT TO THE GSO FOR ANY REASON. THE GSO HAS BOTH AMERICAN AND INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENTS HAPPY TO LISTEN AND HELP YOU FIND RESOURCES AND A SENSE OF COMMUNITY.
THE FOUNDATIONS

Environmental Molecular Science & Technology
This foundation encompasses research topics that include current molecular approaches to study biodiversity, bioremediation, food chains, the discovery of drugs and enzymes from marine microbes and macroorganisms, sustainable aquaculture, biofuels, biogeochemistry of carbon cycling, and genomics/metabolomics or marine organisms. An entrepreneurship program is available for translation of scientific research into start-up business through the development of business plans and the formation of biotechnology start-up companies.

Environment & Society
In this foundation, students will obtain foundational knowledge of core theories and methods in the following domains of integrated social and environmental sciences: Coupled natural and human systems, cultural models of the environment, political ecology, participation and governance, ecological economics, and environmental ethics. Students will develop scholarship and practice in social science aspects of coupled natural human systems that include critical thinking, written and verbal communication, and practice in interdisciplinary fieldwork to hone skills in data collection and analysis, consensus building, and stakeholder analysis.

Ecological Systems
The Ecological Systems Foundation focuses on the interactions between organisms and their environment. From genes to ecosystems and from the mountains to the seafloor, previous student research in this area has included the development of techniques in landscape ecology, ecological genomics, and fisheries stock assessment. Our faculty draw from the traditions of individual, population, community, and ecosystem approaches, providing students with depth in their individualized training even as the curriculum promotes access to a variety of ecological perspectives. Students interested in pursuing ecological research or engaging in cross-disciplinary research are strongly encouraged to explore graduate work with us.

Earth & Ocean Sciences
Students will gain a fundamental understanding of the movement and transformation of materials and energy between mountain headwater and estuarine, coastal, and oceanic systems, including geomorphology and landscape dynamics, physical circulation and transport, chemical transformation, and biological reaction. This foundational area also includes elements of environmental chemistry, geochemistry, hydrology, and toxicology. In Earth and Ocean Sciences, we use a wide variety of techniques and approaches, including observing platforms and numerical models to investigate processes in each sub-system, build connections across systems, understand processes at multiple spatial scales, and foster interdisciplinary educational experiences for graduate students.
BARRY BOWMAN

B arry is a Master's student in the Environment and Society foundation, and is located at the College Park campus. He is currently studying science communication and ecosystem restoration, and he enjoys hiking and SCUBA.

bowmanba@umd.edu

COLLEGE PARK CAMPUS CAN BE OVERWHELMING TO STUDENTS WHO HAVEN'T EXPERIENCED LARGE, URBAN-ADJACENT STATE COLLEGE CAMPUSES. THANKFULLY, SHUTTLE SERVICES ARE OFFERED THROUGHOUT CAMPUS.

MEES IS IN THE HJP BUILDING. THEY HOST A SMALL STUDY AREA, AND THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE LIBRARY OFFERS A GRADUATE STUDENT WRITING CENTER.
IMPORTANT CONTACTS

registrar-help@umd.edu
Registrar's Office
301-405-3667
Dr. Mark A. Shayman
Professor and Graduate Student Ombudsman
(301) 314-7651 (non-urgent & urgent)
Counseling Center
301-405-1142
titleIXcoordinator@umd.edu
Sexual Harassment & Sexual Misconduct
301-405-1142
civilrights@umd.edu
Discrimination Misconduct
410-706-0476
Danielle Brown
Executive Director, Sponsored Programs Administration
Vincent Lee
IRB Research Compliance
Ms. Cecily Greene
(301) 538-7638
IACUC Research Compliance
biosafety@umd.edu
Institutional Biosafety Committee Research Compliance
coi@umd.edu
Conflicts of Interest Point of Contact

IMPORTANT DATES

July 26
Parking Lottery Opens to Graduate Students
11:30 PM
Deadline to Accept TA Position
12:10 AM
Mandatory TA Training
August 23 - 26
Optional College Park Orientation
MEGEN MUNKACSY
Meg is a Master's student in the Environment and Society foundation. Based out of UMCES' Chesapeake Biological Lab, Meg works on exploring the ecological and socio-environmental values people hold towards SAV and oyster aquaculture in the Chesapeake Bay.
munkacsy@umces.edu

BILLY ATKINSON
Billy is working with Dr. Victoria Coles on "Predicting, Validating and Understanding Zooplankton Distribution from Space in an Eddy Rich Ocean". In his spare time, he enjoys going to the beach with his friends, watching sports and spending time with his family.
watkinson@umces.edu

UMCES IS THE INSTITUTION THAT HOSTS THE MAJORITY OF MEES STUDENTS. CAMPUSES WITHIN THE INSTITUTION THAT HOST RESEARCH STUDENTS INCLUDE THE APPALACHIAN LAB, IMET, CBL, AND HORN POINT. UMCES STUDENTS CAN ALSO BE CO-HOSTED AT COLLEGE PARK.
IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Central Administration Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 775
Cambridge, MD 21613
410-228-9250

Please note that UMCES students should refer to the College Park list for important ethics, certification, and reporting contacts.
Additional important contacts include:

Vice President for Education:
Dr. Larry Sanford (lsanford@umces.edu)

Director of Graduate Certificate Programs and Extended Learning:
Dr. Denise Yost (dyost@umces.edu)

Assistant to the Vice President for Education:
Amy Griffin (agriffin@umces.edu)

Education Office:
education@umces.edu

UMCES HR Director:
Lisa Ross (lross@umces.edu)

UMCES Graduate Student Council:
gradstudentcouncil@umces.edu

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, August 27th at 9 AM
UMCES Virtual New Student Orientation

TBD
Campus Open Houses

TBD
Commencements
You may not be spending the majority of your time on the UMBC campus, should you ever need to visit campus we have provided a map. This map is also available for download here.

Tori is a PhD student in the Environmental Molecular Science and Technology (EMST) foundation through UMBC and is currently located at IMET. Her research focuses on marine disease, specifically pathogens in eelgrass, oysters, and their interactions. magnew1@umbc.edu

Sakura is a third-year Ph.D. candidate in the EMST Foundation, studying fish reproductive endocrinology at UMBC-IMET. She is especially excited to work toward improving domestic and international student recruitment. stanaka@umbc.edu

## CHECKLIST TO GRADUATION

- **Register for Classes**
  - Aug 29 / Jan 29
  - UMBC students must submit a USM Inter-Institutional Enrollment form (More Information)

- **Online Application for Diploma**
  - See below

- **Nomination for Final Examination Committee**
  - At least 6 months prior to defense

- **Readiness to Defend Thesis**
  - At least 2 weeks before defense
  - Master's Form
  - PhD Form

- **Completion of Requirements Form**
  - Due the last day of graduation term
  - Master's Requirement (Form)

- **Thesis Filing Requirements**
  - Check website for deadline
  - Master's Form
  - PhD Form

## CAMPUS GUIDE

Though you may not be spending the majority of your time on the UMBC campus, should you ever need to visit campus we have provided a map. This map is also available for download [here](#).
IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Dean; Graduate Program Director for MEES
Janet Rutledge (jrutledge@umbc.edu)
410-455-2199

Registrar's Office
410-455-2500

Counseling Center
410-455-2472

Title IX Compliance Officer
Mikhel Kishner (kushner@umbc.edu)
410-455-1250

Office of Sponsored Programs
410-455-3140

IRB/IBS/IACUC Research Compliance,
Conflicts of Interest
compliance@umbc.edu
410-455-2737

Graduate Program Coordinator
Shirl Curtis (sfcurtis@umbc.edu)
410-455-3659

International Student and Scholar Services
isss@umbc.edu

IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline to apply to graduate

August Graduation
Apply to Graduate: April 1 – June 15
Supplemental Application Due: June 30

December Graduation
Apply to Graduate: July 1 – September 15
Supplemental Application Due: September 30

May Graduation
Apply to Graduate: December 1 – February 15
Supplemental Application Due: March 1

Deadline to Submit Thesis
- Fall: November 30
- Summer: July 31
- Spring: May 1
Nidhi is a PhD student in the Environmental Molecular Science and Technology Foundation and is located at IMET. She works in Dr. Som Chatterjee’s lab, and her research focuses on beta-lactam resistance mechanisms in Staphylococcus aureus. nidhi.satishkumar@umaryland.edu

UMB IS ABOUT 1.5 MILES AWAY FROM IMET. YOU CAN WALK, DRIVE OR USE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TO COMMUTE. CHECK OUT THE CAMPUS WALKING PATHS TO ENSURE THAT YOU USE SAFE AND SECURE ROUTES.
IMPORTANT CONTACTS

UMB Safe Walk/Safe Ride
410-706-6882

Student Counseling Center
410-328-8404

UMB Student Health Center
667-214-1899

Research Administrator
Kim Curry

Erin Golembewski
PhD Senior Associate Dean, Graduate School

Jamila Savage
Academic Coordinator

Office of the Registrar

Office of Accountability and Compliance

Human Research Protections Office

IACUC Research Compliance
iacuc@som.umaryland.edu

IMPORTANT LINKS

One Card Registration

UMB SURFS

UMB Shuttle

SMC Campus Center

The Elm
Shanelle is third year PhD student and NOAA-LMRCSC fellow in the EMST foundation working in the lab of Dr. Pitula at UMES. In addition to her work on genetic responses to disease in crabs, Shanelle is also treasurer of the AFS Tidewater chapter-UMES student subunit.

sohaughton@umes.edu

Kasondra Rubalcava

Kasondra is a PhD student at UMES. She is in the Ecological Systems foundation and her research focuses on fisheries ecosystem modeling in the Maryland Coastal Bays. She likes to go camping and spend time with friends and family.

kdrubalcava@umes.edu

TIPS FOR UMES STUDENTS

All UMES courses can be enrolled in your Hawkweb account.

Any courses taken outside of UMES (UMCP, UMBC, etc.), you’ll need to fill out an Inter-institutional enrollment form. This form can be found here, or a hard copy can be picked up at the Registrar’s office.

A tuition remission form needs to be filled out every semester once you register in your courses. It can be completed online here.

NOTE: give a copy of your completed tuition remission form to your grants coordinator.
IMPORTANT CONTACTS

LaKeisha Harris, Ph.D., CRC
410-651-7966
Dean, School of Graduate Studies and Research
Registrar@umes.edu
410-651-6413 / 410-651-6414
Registrar's Office
410-651-6449
Counseling Center
Jason A. Casares
(410) 651-7848
Title IX Compliance Officer
(410) 651-8993
Sponsored Programs Director
Dr. Jennifer Bobenko
410-651-7945
Human Subjects
Dr. Kimberly Braxton
410-651-6193
Animal Welfare
Dr. Salina Parveen
410-651-8339
Biosafety
Dr. Victor Hsia
410-651-8491
Material Transfer

IMPORTANT DATES

Please refer to the UMES Graduate School website for up to date information on deadlines for graduation and other resources.
Miranda is a first-year PhD student in the EMST foundation at IMET. She is studying molecular regulation and toxin production in dinoflagellate species. mjudd@umces.edu

Due to how many degree granting institutions are hosted at IMET, please check the guide for your degree granting institution to find guidelines on graduation steps.

Graduate students working in IMET pursue Master's and PhD degrees through both the MEES program and the GPILS program. Students within these programs are advised by IMET faculty, but their educational pathway and graduation requirements are outlined by the university their advisor belongs to. Faculty at IMET can be associated with any of the schools under the University System of Maryland. If you are joining an IMET lab, please communicate with your advisor about what university they are associated with.
IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Russell Hill
Executive Director
hill@umces.edu
410-234-8802

Vacant
Assistant to the Executive Director
410-234-8802

Nina Lamba
Assistant Director
nlamba@umces.edu
410-234-8811

Monica Gellene
Associate Director
mgellene@umces.edu
410-234-8898

Sam Sibanda
IT Support
sibanda@umbc.edu
410-385-6350

IMPORTANT DATES

Refer to your degree-granting institution for these dates.