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# RESEARCH FORWARD

H O W A R D U N I V E R S I T Y OFFICE OF RESEARCH 2(1)





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# FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT AWARD HIGHLIGHTS

### Amy Yeboah Quarkume,

Associate
Professor,
College of
Arts &

**Sciences** is recipient of

an **Andrew** 

#### W. Mellon Foundation

New Directions Fellowship \$296,000 award.

**Atanu Duttaroy**, Professor, **College** 

of Arts &
Sciences

is a recipient of a

National
Institutes
of Health (NIH):
National Institute on

**Aging** \$369,048 award entitled, *Advancing Aging* Research Through Development of Minority Gerontologists.

### Timothy Ramadhar,

Assistant Professor, College



of Arts & Sciences, has been awarded a three-year \$378,682

National Sciences

Foundation (NSF)

award. His research is entitled, Acquisition of a High Brilliance X-Ray Diffractometer for Fundamental Materials and Catalyst Research and Education.



Goulda
Downer,
Associate
Professor,
College of
Medicine is
recipient of a

\$225,000 Gilead

**Sciences, Inc.** entitled, *Minority Serving Institutions* (MSI) HIV/HCV Prevention Program.

## Kera Lawson Joins Howard University, Office of Research as Executive Director, Research Development



Dr. Kera Lawson joined the Office of Research in October 2020 as Executive Director of Research Development. Dr. Lawson brings over a decade of biomedical research and grant administration experience Foundation (NSF) to spanning across academia, non profit sector, and government. As Executive Director, the She also works with nonprimary goals of Dr. Lawson are to advance Howard's research mission with a particular focus on working with Schools and Colleges to increase the production of research proposal

submissions to federal. local, and philanthropic sponsors. Dr. Lawson also directed to President serves as the Carnegie Institute Research Status liaison as this concerns the Howard goal to attain R1 status. In this role, Dr. Lawson works with Howard University's Office of Institutional Assessment and Research, and representatives of the National Science monitor and report survey data that is relevant to the attainment of R1 status. profit institutions that assist HBCUs in the development and advancement of research portfolios. In addition, Dr. Lawson monitors, engages in follow-up and reports on research

initiatives and researchrelated inquiries that are Frederick.

A native of Savannah, Georgia, Dr. Lawson received her bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Xavier University of Louisiana and her doctorate in biomedical science (neuroscience and pharmacology) from Meharry Medical College. She previously served as a Senior Health Services Researcher, providing oversight of the scientific and programmatic review processes and subject matter expertise on the research-to-translation life cycle for the Defense Health Agency's Research and Development Directorate. She served as

a contract Scientific Review Officer at the NIH Center for Scientific Review and in 2015, became the Director of Research and Education for Paralyzed Veterans of American. Dr. Lawson also led the development and publication of the Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism in Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury clinical practice guideline. In 2012, Dr. Lawson was a contractor for the military's Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate. Prior to this, she was a behavioral pharmacology research fellow in the Vanderbilt Center for Neuroscience Drug Discovery.

#### Office of Research **Central Contacts**

Dr. Bruce Jones, Professor and Vice President for Research

Ms. Dana Hector, Executive Director, Research Administration Services

Mr. Andre Lane, Senior Program Director, Research Administration Services

Dr. Kera Lawson, Executive Director, Research Development

Ms. Pamela Clarke, Director, Research Development

Mr. Terry Adams, Intellectual Property, Faculty Innovation, and Marketing Specialist

Mr. Crawford Taylor, Facilities Manager, Interdisciplinary Research Building (IRB)

https://research.howard.edu/

https://research.howard.edu/about/leadership

## Office of Research, Intellectual Property Unit Launches

# Howard University 'PITCH HU' Competition, Sponsored by Fiserv and Powered by Humble

Pitch HU was born out of learning incubator a partnership between Fisery, who sponsors the program with a \$100,000 grant to Howard University's Office of Research, and Humble Ventures who provided the program content and management. The mission of Pitch HU is to bring together the greater Howard University

community through an experientialprogram that helps accelerate participant entrepreneurs, whether they have an idea or a business.

The first Pitch HU cohort consisted of \*42 participant entrepreneurs:

- Sixteen Alumni,

- Two Howard University staff,

- Six Howard faculty,

- Seven Howard Students,

- Fourteen people connected to the greater Howard University community.



**PITCH HU First Cohort 2021** 

\*Some participant entrepreneurs may count in more than one category

