

# UNIVERSITY OF THE POTOMAC STUDENT & ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

**June 2020** 



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#### 2020 Virtual Graduation Commencement

The UOTP 2020 Virtual Graduation Commencement will be streamed on June 27th at 10:30 AM.

# **New Degree Programs**

The UOTP is now accepting applications for our new terminal degree programs. Starting August 31, 2020, the University will offer a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) and a Doctor of Education (EdD) and later in the year a Doctor of Computer Science (DCS). If you are interested, please contact the UOTP Admissions team for requirements and to start the application process by dialing 888-635-1121 or admissions@potomac.edu

#### **Student Government Association (SGA)**



Eurenice Houndjahoue. Jose Casana.

**Ruben Pijnenburg** 

Diana Enriquez. P

Priya Mishra

Thank you, Dean Matthews, for assembling this enthusiastic group of UOTP students to lead the UOTP Student Government Association (SGA). The SGA President, Diana Enriquez extends a warm invitation to all faculty and staff to engage and contribute to the success of this important association in support of our students.

#### **Featured Staff Member**



Camilla Meros is the Campus Manager (DC and Virginia campuses) at University of the Potomac with over 15 years of experience in higher education and language teaching. She holds a Master of Arts in Teaching English to Students of Other Languages (TESOL) from Virginia International University and three Bachelor of Art degrees, Translation, English, and Portuguese, from *Universidade Federal de Ouro Preto* in Brazil.

Since her undergraduate program, Ms. Meros has dedicated most of her time to academia as researcher and instructor. Her field of study in teacher training includes topics in intercultural communication, language, curriculum, instructional resources, and program development. Ms. Meros has taught English in several private language schools, and in a public vocational high school where she continued to participate in community outreach programs.

Throughout her career, Ms. Meros has served as Chief of Staff and other roles in higher education management including overseeing different departments, such as Career Center, Alumni Relations, Student Services, and School of Language Studies. Her focus has always been on providing strategic support, implementing best practices, promoting student engagement, improving communication across the board, and giving back to the community whenever possible.

Camilla enjoys travelling, dancing, watching movies, learning about other cultures, and trying different cuisines. She speaks Portuguese as her native language. As she is improving her current knowledge of Spanish, she is also learning Italian.

#### **Featured Professor**



Dina Rady, Ph.D.

Professor Rady joined University of the Potomac in January 2019. She teaches variety of courses at different levels; (undergrad/grad). Professor Rady holds a Ph.D. (2000) and master's degree (1996) in Economics from Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt, and another master's degree in Development Economics from American University in Washington DC (2017). Professor Rady won several awards for her high-quality teaching, including nomination to the "Professor of The Year" at GWU for 2018.

#### **Featured Alumni Member**



Vicky Williams is aware that students who achieve their goals can become successful business career men and women. With over 25 years in both the public and federal sector, Vicky has extensive experience in Human Resources, as a Generalist, working in Staffing and Recruitment and Labor & Employment Relations.

It all began at the University of the Potomac September 2012. I enrolled at UOTP when I was a Homeless Veteran in a shelter. I knew my journey would not be easy and I wanted to fulfil my dream of someday completing my bachelor's degree. My University of the Potomac education in Human Resource contributed to my long-term

career in the federal government. It was the motivated staff at the University of the Potomac that provided me the knowledge and motivation I needed to pursue my dream. Prior to starting my education path, I created a 5-year plan to chart out my short- and long-term goals, which included: permanent housing, stable employment, and completing my bachelor's degree. Every day I would look at my plan before I left the shelter and start my day advocating for homeless veterans. That was now 5 years ago, I am now an honor graduate with a bachelor's degree in Government Contract Management. I also earned my Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Healthcare Administration and my second Masters of Business Administration with a concentration in Human Resources.

My true passion is inspiring veterans to take control of their future, obtain permanent housing and to secure gainful employment. I have had the opportunity to speak on Capitol Hill, attended numerous events throughout DC, MD, VA, and other states educating the Department of Veteran Affairs regarding homelessness among veterans. Prior to coming to DC, I worked for the Department of Labor and the City of Atlanta. Later I began my career with the federal government working for Department of Veteran Affairs and the Internal Revenue Service.

I am a U.S Army Serviced Disabled Veteran with four children and I now reside in Phoenix, AZ. I am an active member on the Board of Veterans' Affairs and I actively participate in the Big Sisters Program and provide motivational speeches.

#### **COVID-19 Safety Precautions**

- ✓ Wash your hands often
- ✓ Avoid close contact
- ✓ Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others

- ✓ Cover coughs and sneezes
- ✓ Clean and disinfect
- ✓ Monitor Your Health

# A Note from the Department of Academic Affairs



Dr Tony D. Johnson
Provost & Chief Academic Officer



Dr. Sergei Andronikov Dean, Academic Affairs



Yvonne Hood Associate Dean, Academic Affairs

University of Potomac Alumni, you are the heart and soul of the institution. You persevered to earn degrees in a variety of fields and you continue to make your mark on this nation and the world. We talk fondly about you to incoming students, partners and international groups. We are proud of your many accomplishments and we salute you as you work to achieve many more. Our current students are experiencing an unprecedented time in history with the devastation of the COVID-19 pandemic. We ask alumni to think positive thoughts of our current students, and when possible lend a hand so that they too can join your ranks as a University of the Potomac alumni. Again, thank you for providing the world a stellar blueprint of what a professional look like and what achievement embodies.

# A Note from the President of the University of the Potomac Alumni Association



Dr. David Kimble

It is my distinct honor that I bring you the next installment of the University of the Potomac Student and Alumni Newsletter. This newsletter captures highlights and important information that may be of interest to alumni. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the University and to your respective professions, passions, and communities. I am proud to say that collectively we are comprised of hundreds of professionals throughout the world. Continue to be great, and always know that you have a home here at the University of the Potomac. Be safe and I wish you and your family the very best.

### **Academic Calendar**

2020-08A Begins	Jun 29, 2020
Independence Day, UOTP is closed	Jul 4, 2020
2020-08A Ends	Aug 23, 2020
Summer Break – no classes	Aug 24 – 29, 2020
2020 -10A Begins	Aug 31, 2020
Labor Day, UOTP is closed	Sept 7, 2020
2020-10A Ends	Oct 25, 2020
2020-12A Begins	Oct 26, 2020
Veterans Day Holiday, UOTP is closed	November 11, 2019
Thanksgiving Break, UOTP is closed	November 28 – 29, 2019
2020-12A Ends	Dec 20, 2020
Winter Break – no classes	Dec 21, 2020 – Jan 2, 2021

**Contact Us:** 

**University of the Potomac** 

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