

illuminator

a monthly publication of the batten college of engineering and technology

volume 1, issue 8

A hybrid, age-powered engineering. A robot that uses facial recognition to follow commands. An unmanned aerial vehicle able to avoid obstacles and hazards while navigating on its own. A student-built satellite that will soon orbit the earth. These are just some of the nearly 40 student designs and projects on display during the first-ever Engineering Student Projects Expo (ESPEX) in April.

"What stood out for me was the extraordinary use of technology," said



Electrical engineering senior, Kaylee Arceo, describes her team project, "Development of Ultracapacitors for Energy Sources" to an ESPEX visitor

to Team CubeSat, part of a multi-university collaborative project building a constellation of three cubic satellites that will soon be deployed into Low Earth Orbit (LEO) to study phenomena that influence the varying density of the thermosphere.

See more in this brief video:





To say Humberto Aguilar is an ambitious might be an understatement. As the award-winning scholar prepares to graduate from Old Dominion University with a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering, he is visualizing a possible future outside of engineering.

"Currently, I'm doing research for Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS). I was inspired to study this application program and the Medical Specialist service learning program and all the volunteer work I've done at the clinics," says Humberto. "If I could learn this art of medicine, I wouldn't have to work a day in my life, because every day I'd be helping someone else."

Born in Michoacán, Mexico, Humberto came to the United States eight years ago. He excelled academically despite often having to change schools as his family moved around the country, living in several different states, because of his father's work in construction.

"I didn't mind moving around. It gave me the opportunity to meet all kinds of individuals," he said.

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by Noell Saunders

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner and Tim Kaine recently announced the approval of \$1 million in federal funding from the National Science Foundation to help support high-achieving students with demonstrated financial need in Old Dominion University's cybersecurity program.

The National Science Foundation project is led by Chuanhui Xie, associate professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering; Wu He, associate professor in the Department of Information Technology and Decision Sciences; Brian Payne, Old Dominion's vice provost for Academic Affairs; Hongyi "Michael" Wu, director of the Center for Cybersecurity Education and Research; and Shihua Pibeshi, associate professor in the Department of Education Foundation & Leadership.

The funding will provide up to 18 scholarships as well as research and

program activities. Each student will be supported for four years.

Old Dominion President John R. Bodeick said, "This will help ensure Old Dominion attracts the best and brightest students to our important field with significant growth potential."

Hongyi "Michael" Wu, added: "The success of the project will substantially strengthen ODU's cybersecurity program attract top students and boost the student retention rate, leading to transformational changes in the state of cybersecurity workforce preparation."

In a joint statement, Warner and Kaine said: "Ensuring students have the support they need to pursue careers in cybersecurity is critical to building our federal workforce and defending the nation's economic and national security. We are thrilled that ODU and the National Science Foundation are partnering to help make that a reality for more students."



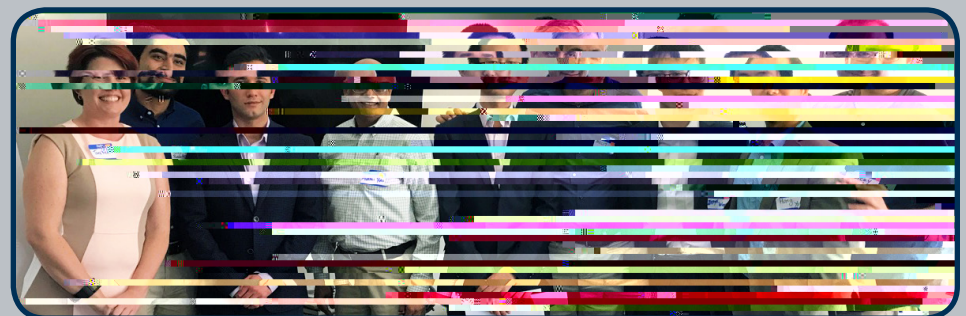
Warner is vice chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee and co-founder of the Senate Cybersecurity Caucus, where he's called for the protection of consumer's personal information and timely disclosure of data breaches. He also has written legislative seeking to hold credit reporting agencies accountable for breaches.

Kaine, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, co-chairs the Senate Career and Technical Education Caucus and has advocated policies to prepare students for careers in cybersecurity and increase scholarships for them.

Developers, planners, futurists, big data enthusiasts and problem solvers gathered to help address Virginia's greatest transportation issues through the use of open data sets, including Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) Smart Roads data portal.

Judged on everything from unique press and originality to approach and impact, Old Dominion University's Transportation Research Institute (TRI) team, made up of civil engineering as well as modeling, simulation and visualization engineering students, won awards in the "Safety" and "Vulnerable Road Users" categories. The team developed and demonstrated innovative applications addressing congestion safety, and transportation infrastructure challenges faced by VDOT.

The event seeks to engage the technology community, including developers, planners, big data, in two days of problem-



1. The first part of the text discusses the importance of the illuminator's role in the design process.