



# SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

## MEETINGS

1:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 21, 2019

and

9 a.m.

Friday, February 22, 2019

Jesse N. Stone Lecture Hall  
3050 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive  
Shreveport, Louisiana 71107

# Campus Reports



Southern University and A&M College

# CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

to the  
Southern University Board of Supervisors

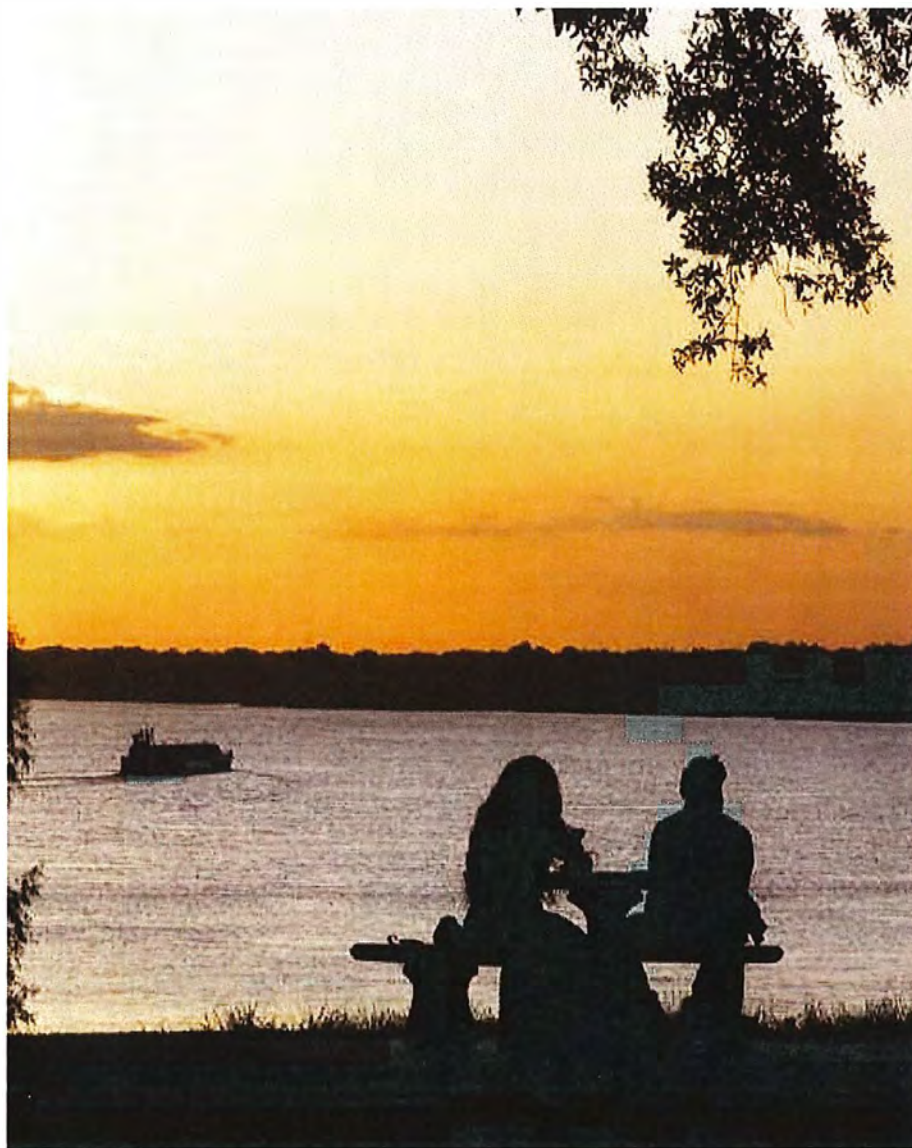
February 2019

*"We Are Southern"*

Report No. 7

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## New Board Chair Emphasis: Growth, Quality of Academic Experience and Meeting Workforce Needs

The Southern University System Board of Supervisors today convened for its first meeting of the new year at Southern University and A&M College (SUBR). Atty. Domoine D. Rutledge and Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert Jr. were installed as the new chair and vice chair, respectively.

“We have been entrusted with a tremendous responsibility by way of Southern and I approach it with a seriousness of purpose that it warrants,” Atty. Rutledge said.

Atty. Rutledge, the two-time Southern alumnus, said he has three major objectives for himself and his fellow board members of the system of five campuses — increased attention and focus on enrollment management, a quality academic experience for students and the alignment of academic inventory with workforce needs.

Atty. Rutledge’s experiences consist of a combination of local, state, and federal government experience. On the state level, Atty. Rutledge served as a legislative assistant in the Louisiana Senate. He also served as a legislative assistant and communications director in the U.S. House of Representatives. Locally, Atty. Rutledge served as an assistant district attorney in East Baton Rouge Parish. From 2003 to 2018, Rutledge served as general counsel of the East Baton Rouge Parish School System and chief legal adviser to the school board. Currently, he is vice president and general counsel at CSRS.

Rev. Tolbert is pastor of Greater Saint Mary Missionary Baptist Church in Lake Charles and president of the National Baptist Convention of America International Inc. He holds degrees from Bishop College in Dallas, Texas; Payne Theological Seminary in Wilberforce, Ohio; and Union University in Jackson, Tennessee.



Atty. Domoine D. Rutledge



Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert



Patricia Coleman (center) receives Exemplary Employee Service Award.

Rev. Tolbert serves on several Board committees, including technology, student affairs, legislative, legal affairs and governance.

Also installed to the 16-member board were Raymond Fondel and Leon R. Tarver II — both reappointed by Gov. John Bel Edwards. New appointees, Sam Albert Gilliam and Arlanda Williams, were installed as well.

The Board and others presented tokens of appreciation to Ann A. Smith, outgoing chair, and the Rev. Donald R. Henry, outgoing vice chair, as well as immediate past members Michael Small and Rev. Joe R. Gant. The Board’s “Above and Beyond” award for Southern University System exemplary employee service went to Patricia Coleman, a payroll accountant at SUBR.





## SU Alum Delivers Keynote at Area MLK Celebration

Southern University and A&M College, in partnership with Louisiana State University and Baton Rouge Community College, hosted the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Commemoration Thursday, Jan. 24 at the Smith–Brown Union Cotillion Ballroom.

Shawn Wilson, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development Secretary, keynoted the event. Wilson received his Ph.D. in Public Policy from the Nelson Mandela School of

Public Policy and Urban Affairs at Southern University. Wilson spoke about unity as he also focused on the theme, “The Dreams: Peace and Unity.” The Unity event highlighted and memorialized the work, accomplishments, and legacy of Dr. King. The event also was designed to engage the greater Baton Rouge community on actualizing King’s ideals of social justice, non-violence, education and service. Josie Alexander, a senior majoring in psychology at SUBR, received the Unsung Hero Award.







## Convocation Focuses on Enrollment Growth Strategies

The Southern University academic community kicked off a new semester with the Spring 2019 Faculty Convocation. The two-day meeting was geared toward rolling out new initiatives and innovative technology. Ray L. Belton, president of the Southern University System and chancellor

of the Baton Rouge campus, presented an overview on the System's working strategic plan that includes goals and objectives for student success, facility improvements, partnerships and more.

"At the core of this plan is student success.

If we keep that in mind in everything we do — building up students — we build up everything else. We build on this campus and beyond the Bluff," Belton said. "Our promise is that when students walk through our doors, we will offer them an enriching educational experience that will make them competitive in the present workforce."

Other highlights of the convocation were presentations by faculty and staff on aligning the "Imagine 20K" strategic plan throughout the system, status of the university's SACS reaccreditation and research findings.

James H. Ammons, executive vice president/executive vice chancellor, ended the first session by delivering a charge to faculty to "recommit to every student at the university, regardless of test scores or grades."

"We have to look at our students as having huge potential," Ammons said. "We have everything at our fingertips to place Southern University on the map in highly represented disciplines. Our goal is to educate our students so that they can go out and not only compete, but win."





## Basketball is Underway!

Join the Southern University Basketball Team for its 2019 Season. Tickets are \$10 for general admission (blue seats and gold bleachers) and \$15 for reserved gold seats. The SU ticket office is offering a special group rate for 20 or more tickets.

Feb. 23 vs Alabama A&M: First Responders and Military Night

Feb. 25 vs Alabama State: Greek Night

Mar. 2 vs Alcorn: Senior and SU Legends Night

For all questions and ticket purchases, contact the SU ticket office at 225-771-3171.



## Precciely Starts First Semester at Southern

Elijah Precciely, the 11-year-old child prodigy and the youngest person ever to receive a full-ride scholarship to Southern University, completed his first semester on campus.

Majoring in physics, he is already making waves on campus. "I'm very excited," Elijah said. "I've been waiting on this for a long, long time."

Although he's much younger than traditional undergraduates, Precciely stands out on the social scene, but still blends in with other students.



SU Student Kambre Stewart served as one of the team members assisting a patient during his recovery. From left to right are: Lorena Pete, Catty Straatmann, Stewart and Penny Brooks.

## Student Gaining Valuable Experience as Intern

In October 2018, a 37-year-old paraplegic man was hospitalized in the Inpatient Rehabilitation Department for approximately three weeks. Residing in Gibson with his elderly mother and 12-year-old daughter, he had been house-bound since the previous December due to the exits of his home being unsafe for normal wheelchair transport. To ensure the patient had a smooth and safe transition back to home after his release, Penny Brooks, licensed clinical social worker, worked relentlessly, utilizing her years of experience and many community contacts, and expedited the process of building a ramp at the patient's home so he would have entrance and exit accessibility. In addition to Penny's efforts, Lorena Pete, recreational therapist, Kambre Stewart, recreational therapy intern, and Caty Straatmann of the TGMC Foundation, took an active role in facilitating resources and amenities to assist the patient with any future support he needed.

"This is my environment," he said. "I love to be up here on campus. I love to learn. But what really strikes me is when some people think I'm 15. Either I'm a tall 11-year-old, or a short 15-year-old," he joked.

News articles about Precciely appeared on "Good Morning America," in newspapers and in online publications. He is getting involved in campus activities. He delivered the closing remarks during the recent MLK Unity Commemoration.



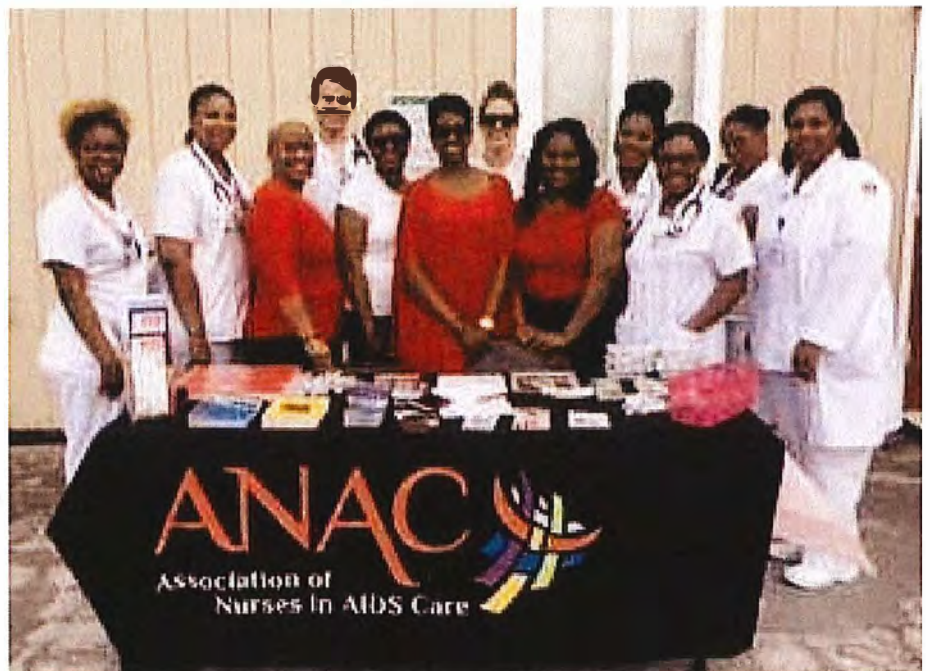




## Student Nurses Association Provides Service and Leadership Opportunities

Students in the School of Nursing program are gaining valuable leadership experiences through its Student Nurses Association (SNA). From its inception in 1986, the SNA at Southern University School of Nursing (SUSON) has been a very active organization. With the support of the School of Nursing's administration and faculty, students have been encouraged to participate at local, state and national conventions. To that end, SUSON has had several students in leadership positions at the state and national level.

At the Louisiana Association Student Nurses' (LASN) recent convention, SUSON was recognized. Jimmie Miller, a junior, was elected as the Regional III director for the association. As a result of SNA's and SUSON's assistance following "The Great Flood of 2016", SNA won the disaster preparedness award at the LASN Convention in Marksville, LA. In previous years, another SU nursing



student, Steven Jackson, served at the national level of the National Student Nurses Association. Steven Jackson, Jr. was

the only student nurse appointed to the Resolutions Committee by the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA)





President, Dr. Diane Mancino. Also of note is the role Dr. Cheryl Taylor, Graduate Chair of Graduate Nursing Programs has played at the national level with student nurses. Dr. Taylor is one of two National League for Nursing (NLN) consultants in the United States to the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA). Dr. Taylor serves as a mentor to all SNA members at SUSON, especially the executive board members. As consultant, she attends all conventions, provides counseling nationally to SNA nursing students, and serves as a liaison with the SNA while also mentoring Dr. Juanita Garner as faculty advisor.

According to Dr. Garner, PhD, RN, who has been the SNA Faculty Advisor for the past three years, the SNA members are trailblazers in their own right. She noted the members of SNA have positively impacted this community and nursing students by creating and organizing a community service scholarship in honor of the late immediate past faculty advisor and assistant professor, Kimberly Vincent-McCoy. Professor McCoy lost her battle with breast cancer in the Summer of 2015, and in her honor, the executive board for Fall/Spring 2015-2016 developed

the Kimberly Vincent-McCoy "Heart of Gold" Service Award Scholarship. The scholarship is presented to a deserving graduating senior nursing student who has demonstrated service in their community. SNA nursing students have also organized events for bone marrow donors, and a campus-wide breast cancer awareness walk for the past three years with the support of WAFB television station's former news anchor, Mrs. Donna Britt. Ms Britt has supported the School of Nursing and the members of the Student Nurses Association (SNA) involvement with the

Breast Cancer Awareness Walk since its inception. In an effort to continue to recruit students to SUSON's undergraduate nursing program, the SNA and faculty volunteers have participated with the School of Nursing in organizing "Simulation Day for High School Students" as a means of recruiting potential nursing students. This event involves hosting various high schools from the surrounding area and sharing with them information about the nursing program at Southern University.



# Southern University Students Awarded Scholarship to Pursue Eco-friendly Studies



Three students at Southern University and A&M College (SUBR) have been awarded the Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship. The scholarship is for students pursuing a degree in forestry, wildlife or marine science at a Louisiana public college or university. The recipients are: Asija Rice, senior majoring in urban forestry; Sim Major, graduate student at SUBR; and Wilbert Thomas, graduate student at SUBR.

Last year, 22 students from LSU, Louisiana Tech, UL-Lafayette, Nicholls State University and Northwestern State University were awarded the Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship. This is the first

time in several years that students were awarded from Southern University.

“Certainly, their academic financial need is lessened or has dissipated with this award. It is a milestone in their forestry career path,” said Dr. C. Reuben Walker, associate vice chancellor to Strategic Initiatives, Auxiliary Services, and External Engagements.

Walker encouraged several students at Southern University to apply.

“Gratitude goes to the Honorable Ann Smith (Southern University Board of Supervisors) and Mrs. Deborah Paul (Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance) for their total commitment to students. Ann Smith often says ‘it is all about the students’. My efforting could not have been done without these two individuals sharing the opportunity and benefits for forestry students at Southern University to apply for this award,” Dr. Walker said.

Undergraduate students who receive the scholarship are awarded \$2,000 annually; graduate students receive \$3,000 annually. The cumulative maximum award is \$12,000 for three years of undergraduate study and two years of graduate study.

To be eligible to receive the scholarship, undergraduate students must have at least 60 earned college credit hours and at least a 2.50 cumulative college GPA. Graduate students need at least a 3.00 cumulative GPA on all credits earned in grad school.

## SU Nursing Selected to Participate in National Research Program

Southern University College of Nursing and Allied Health was selected by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) as one of nine institutions to receive a mini-grant to educate diverse communities about the All of Us Research Program. Southern University Baton Rouge, which was awarded \$9,000, will work in collaboration with Northwestern State University and the University of Louisiana Lafayette.

“We are honored to be a part of this initiative,” said Jacqueline Hill, interim dean of the College of Nursing and Allied Health. “Through this program, participants may be able to learn more about their own health and contribute to an effort that may advance the health of generations to come.”

Launched by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the All of

Us Research Program seeks to build a national research group of one million or more participants reflecting the diversity of the United States. This initiative uses collaboration between

established community partners and nursing schools to disseminate information on the All of Us Research Program. This grant focuses on including historically underrepresented communities in biomedical research. The All of Us program is a historic effort to gather data over many years from one million or more people living in the United States, with the ultimate goal of accelerating research and improving health. Researchers will use data from the program to learn more about how

individual differences in lifestyle, environment, and biological makeup can influence health and disease. It is a highly interactive research model, with participants as partners.







**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**  
AND AGRICULTURAL & MECHANICAL COLLEGE

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**  
**SPRING HIGH SCHOOL DAY**

**FEBRUARY 23**  
**1:00 P.M.**  
F.Q. CLARK ACTIVITY CENTER  
ADMISSION: \$5  
**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY vs.**  
**ALABAMA A&M BASKETBALL**

CAMPUS TOURS  
SGA & ROYAL COURT  
ON-SITE DOCUMENT SUBMISSION  
[www.subr.edu/jaguarpreview](http://www.subr.edu/jaguarpreview) | 225-771-7827

## Admissions Ramps Up Effort for Spring

In preparation for a strong class for Fall 2019, Admissions and Recruitment under the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at Southern University and A&M College has ramped up efforts for attracting some of the best and brightest students from our local community and around the country.

Recently, the Admissions and Recruitment team traveled to Georgia and California to do a “Blitz” in high schools. Partnering with alumni chapters from each area, recruiters were allowed to “take over” schools

with admissions information and on-site application and submissions.

Local High Schools and beyond have also been invited to participate in a Spring Preview Day scheduled for February 2019.

The event will give students an opportunity to take a campus tour, meet the Student Government Association and the Royal Court, submit documents on-site to complete enrollment, and attend the Southern University vs. Alabama A&M Basketball game.

## Fraternities and Sororities Unite in Community Service

Fraternity and sorority members from Southern University and A&M College united to provide service by volunteering at the Baton Rouge Food Bank. Over 50 members from various chapters volunteered time by unpacking, sorting and organizing donations. The Baton Rouge Food Bank plays an important role in our area through client network and outreach programs, they distribute donated food to more than 115 member agencies in our 11 parish service area, completely free of charge.

Community service is one of the key elements of civic engagement and a core value of fraternity and sorority chapters at Southern University. Each chapter provides support to various charitable causes throughout the year.

New member recruitment and selection runs through March 2019. Students will participate in information sessions and activities designed to help students understand the history and traditions of the organizations and core values of leadership, scholarship and civic engagement.





**Southern University Law Center  
Chancellor's Report  
February 2019**





## SULC Mobilizes Support to Defeat Controversial ABA Proposal

Last month, the American Bar Association’s House of Delegates voted on a proposal that, if passed, would have severely impacted HBCU law schools as well as minority students attending law schools across the country. The Southern University Law Center did exactly what we train aspiring lawyer leaders to do every day, fight. Chancellor John Pierre composed letters on behalf of SULC as well as all HBCU law schools. The SULC Office of External Affairs likewise circulated a letter and mobilized support from every law school in the United States.

By the eve of the vote, Chancellor Pierre had met, in person or by phone, dozens of law school leaders, and SULC, through our electronic advocacy efforts, had sent correspondences to the hundreds of members that make up the House of Delegates in addition to several communications to the more than 200 law schools across the country. In the end, almost 40 law schools publicly took a stand by signing on to our letter in opposition. Our efforts helped to secure a defeat of the proposal by a vote of 88 to 334.

Although the measure failed in the House of Delegates, the measure can be revived through other procedural rules of the full ABA. However, before the ABA revisits a proposed standard revision to tighten bar passage requirements for accredited law schools, some say an in-depth diversity study should precede any changes made.

This article, for which Chancellor Pierre was interviewed, explains further:

Language for the proposed revision to Standard 316—which calls for a bar passage rate of at least 75 percent within two years—is unchanged from what was submitted to the House of Delegates at the 2017 February midyear meeting. The body rejected the proposal, which is listed as Resolution 105 for the 2019 ABA Midyear Meeting. Under ABA rules, the House of Delegates can send a proposed standard revision back to the council twice for review with or without recommendations. But the council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, which submitted the proposed revision, has the final decision on matters related to law school accreditation.



No accredited law school has ever been out of compliance with the current version of Standard 316, and there are various ways to meet its current requirements. One is that at least 75 percent of graduates from the five most recent calendar years have passed a bar exam, or there's a 75 percent pass rate for at least three of those five years.

Also, a school can be in compliance if just 70 percent of its graduates pass the bar at a rate within 15 percentage points of the average first-time bar pass rate for ABA-approved law school graduates in the same jurisdiction for three out of the five most recently completed calendar years.

In 2018, the council released a memo addressing diversity concerns about the proposed revision, as well as what it would mean for law schools in California, where the cut score of 144 is the nation's second highest. The memo mentioned a voluntary survey, which had responses from 92 law schools.

"The memo in support of the resolution in the House materials makes clear that the council concluded that it had sufficient data to support the revised standard that is before the House. The action was taken after considerable process and study by a distinguished group of council members, whose service and judgment merit respect," said Barry Currier, the ABA's managing director of accreditation and legal education, in a statement. "The revisions to Standard 316 are driven by the council's objective of serving the interests of students and the public. Certainly, the council is not asking too much of a law school that charges significant tuition to require it to demonstrate that its program leads to success on a required licensing exam by at least three-fourths of its graduates who sit for that exam within two years of graduation."

Within the ABA, chairs of the Goal III entities, which work to eliminate bias and enhance diversity, sent a letter to Jeffrey E. Lewis, who chairs the council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. The Jan. 11 letter asks that before the revision goes forward, more be done regarding what the change would mean for diversity in the profession. Requests for a more thorough study also were made in 2013 and 2017, according to the letter, which mentions the council's November 2018 memo.

"In conclusion, we appreciate the memo and data provided by the council in support of the revisions to Standard 316. But the data is incomplete and does not provide sufficient rationale for the revisions. Implementation of the proposed standard would provide a very uncertain future for schools with large populations of diverse students—especially the HBCUs and those schools in Puerto Rico and California. The proposed standard continues to threaten attempts to diversify law schools and ultimately the legal profession," the letter reads. It requests a disparate impact study, taking into account future trends of bar performance.

Disparate impact studies are common for professional licensing exams and are a reasonable starting point for further discussion, says Chad Buckendahl, a partner at ACS Ventures in Las Vegas who conducted the State Bar of California's 2017 standard setting study. However, he thinks people often overinterpret that a standardized test is bias.

"If you're just looking at different pass rates, you're starting with the assumption that there's the same kind of ability distinctions to make that sort of comparison," Buckendahl says. "We know that is not the case. People through socio-economic factors have different pathways that get them to where they were

before they get to law school, and each school is different in its level of selectivity.” He adds that licensing exams aren’t designed to evaluate the effectiveness of a school’s curriculum or instruction.

Syeeda Amin, a partner at the Dallas office of Littler Mendelson, says a good disparate impact study regarding diversity and the proposed standard revision would need a variety of topics analyzed, such as regional trends in bar passage and pull data through random samples, rather than volunteers. She estimates that the cost for such a disparate impact study would be in the five-figure range.

“You have to have the right statistical tools and data statisticians,” says Amin, who conducts damage calculations for nationwide class actions.

Besides the Goal III chairs, criticism about the proposed resolution has come from the Society of American Law Teachers in a Jan. 21 letter and Western Michigan University’s Thomas M. Cooley Law School, where a committee wrote a paper opposing the proposal.

In addition to diversity, the paper mentions concerns about a lack of public notice and discussion when the council resubmitted the proposal for House of Delegates consideration. Cooley Law’s ultimate bar passage rate for 2015 was 69.75 percent.

If the proposed revision was implemented in 2017 or 2018, 19 law schools would not have been in compliance, says John Pierre, the dean of the Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. According to ABA data, the school had a 2015 ultimate bar passage rate of 76.76 percent.

“I’ve thought that the resolution was not needed and will have some unintended consequences with the ability of the profession to give access and opportunities to underrepresented groups,” says Pierre, whose law school is associated with an HBCU.

Alternatively, others support the proposal, including Daniel B. Rodriguez, a professor and the former law school dean at Northwestern University’s Pritzker School of Law in Chicago. The school’s 2015 ultimate bar passage rate was 94.93 percent.

“There are, to be sure, a number of important concerns raised by various groups, especially those principally involved with diversity in law schools. These concerns make the issue more difficult than it would be otherwise,” Rodriguez says in an email to the ABA Journal, adding that he hopes there will be growing attention to “the efficacy of the bar exam as a test of competency and, as well, the serious matter of disparate cut scores. It is only by solving all three of those issues that we can really get to the heart of these access and accountability issues once and for all.”

## New Semester, New Oath: Student Attorneys Sworn In



It's a new semester filled with fresh faces for the Southern University Law Center Clinic. On Thursday, January 31, 2019, a new group of students were sworn into clinic practice by Judge Duke Welch of the Louisiana First Circuit Court of Appeals.

"Experiencing a glimpse of what practicing in the real world feels like has always excited me, and being sworn in just sealed the deal," says Ashley Johnson (3L).

These students will now have the opportunity to work under licensed attorneys and assist real clients in real world cases falling under the eleven subject matters. As a member of the clinic, students are expected to contribute a valuable amount of their legal studies understanding in efforts to adequately serve underrepresented members of the local community. The SULC Clinic offers students experience in: Bankruptcy, Civil and Administrative, Disaster Recovery, Divorce and Domestic Violence, Elder and Successions, Juvenile, Low-Income Taxpayer, Mediation, Tech and Entrepreneurship, and Worker's Compensation.

Johnson continues, "I think being in the clinic is going to expose me to the realities of the practice. [Clinic] will help me to see that no one is going to walk me through a case, whether I am at a firm or in solo practice."

Students must complete three prerequisite courses (Professional Responsibility, Evidence and Trial Advocacy) before they can participate in the opportunities afforded through the Clinic.



## Student Bar Association Holds Competition to Promote Bar Prep



Over the course of the 2018-2019 Christmas break, the Student Bar Association at Southern University Law Center announced an important opportunity for three studious third year law students to receive a \$250 scholarship by simply turning in their bar preparation binders.

The wonderful idea launched as an incentive to encourage bar preparation in the graduating class of 2019. If you are unfamiliar with the concept of a bar binder, students are encouraged to compile the necessary materials for successful completion of their desired state's bar exam into a multitude of binders. These binders can be organized by subject or code, and may include previous years' bar exams, commercial and personal outlines, notes and more. The binders entered were judged by a panel of supplemental bar review fellows.

The winners for SBA's first ever Bar Prep Binder Scholarship are Zach Harris (3L), Jasmine Louis (3L) and Whitney Antoine (3L).

Congratulations lawyer leaders!

## SULC Alum Joins COURT TV Anchor Team



Alum Yodit Tewolde has been tapped to fill Court TV's fourth and final anchor position, joining Vinnie Politan, Seema Iyer and Julie Grant at the network desk. All four are seasoned journalists and lawyers who have successfully blended television and legal careers.

Tewolde is currently Associate Judge for the City of Dallas, Texas, and has also served as Assistant District Attorney in the Dallas County DA's office for several years. She founded and is currently managing her own law firm.

With an established career as a trial attorney and staunch advocate for criminal justice reform, Yodit has provided legal expertise and analysis for multiple national news outlets including CNN, HLN, MSNBC, Fox News and Fox Business.

For nearly two decades, Court TV brought high-profile courtroom dramas into American living rooms. Continuing that legacy, Katz Networks is relaunching one of the most iconic brands in television history in May. The new Court TV will be devoted to live, gavel-to-gavel coverage, in-depth legal reporting and expert analysis of the nation's most important and compelling trials.

Tewolde was born in Sudan where her parents were refugees from the Eritrean/Ethiopian war. Her family then moved to the U.S. where she subsequently attended Texas A&M for undergrad and Southern University Law Center. She enjoys serving her community through mentoring.

## Professor Adam Creppelle Appointed to Tribal Court of Appeals



Visiting Professor Adam Creppelle has been appointed as a judge on the Court of Appeals for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe was one of three initial tribes selected by the U.S. Department of Justice to pilot enhanced criminal court jurisdiction pursuant to the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA) of 2013. This law vested tribes with the authority, subject to certain conditions, to arrest, and prosecute non-Indians who commit certain domestic violence crimes within their territory.

The tribe began exercising Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction under VAWA in February of 2014 and prosecuted the country's first criminal domestic violence case against a non-Native offender under this law. With the law fully implemented, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe now has the ability to protect adult victims within its reservation from non-Indian domestic violence offenders. (see [tribaljustice.org](http://tribaljustice.org))

Professor Creppelle, an SULC alum, leads the Law Center's new Indian Law Program which, in partnership with the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, will hosts an economic development conference on March 13 – 15, 2019 in Kinder, LA.

## SULC Honors Malik Rahim



The Center for African and African American Studies (CAAAS) at Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) partnered with Southern University Law Center's Louis A. Berry Institute for Civil Rights & Justice (SULC's Institute) to honor and recognize Louisiana's own Malik Rahim (formerly known as Donald Guyton) at an inaugural Living Legend Award Celebration Friday, Jan. 18, 2019, at the Millie M. Charles School of Social Work on SUNO's Lake Campus (6801 Press Drive, New Orleans, LA 70122).

The evening will begin with a 6 p.m. reception, which included a Vendor's Village where an array of goods will be sold. The 7 p.m. program featured distinguished speakers, artists, performers and a historic address by Mr. Rahim.

According to Dr. Clyde Robertson, CAAAS Director and creator of the Living Legend Award, the Living Legend Award is presented to a grassroots member of the New Orleans African American community for exemplary and lifelong service in the following areas: education/youth development, community activism, community-based health & wellness, cultural enrichment and collective economics (small business development). "Mr. Rahim was selected because of his lifelong commitment to community activism," Dr. Robertson said.

Mr. Rahim has lived a life of service, starting from his youthful enlistment in the United States Navy. After his honorable discharge, he worked in vulnerable communities in New Orleans as a founding member of the Louisiana Black Panther Party. Mr. Rahim later served as a founding member of Sister Helen Prejean's anti-death penalty ministry, Pilgrimage for Life, as a founding member of the Fisher Projects Health Clinic and GED studies program and as the founder of the Angola 3 Support Committee.



When Hurricane Katrina made its cataclysmic presence known, Mr. Rahim did what was instinctive. He served Louisiana citizens in need through immediate rescue efforts and later founded Common Ground Collective (CGC), which offered free healthcare, legal, rebuilding and clean-up services in homes, schools and commercial buildings in nine parishes. By the time his work with CGC ended, approximately half a million Louisiana citizens had been served at no cost. From the 1970s until the present, Mr. Rahim has been a fierce and committed advocate for environmental and social justice, housing and prisoner rights and civil and human rights.

“The late civil rights attorney Louis A. Berry once referred to the Equal Protection Clause as a platitude,” said Professor Angela A. Allen-Bell, director of SULC’s Institute. SULC’s Institute seeks to rectify that lapse by working to ensure that constitutional protections are realized for all citizens, particularly racial and ethnic minorities, the poor, vulnerable, underrepresented and neglected. In Allen-Bell’s view, “Mr. Rahim’s pursuits have been toward this noble end. The conferment of this award is a tribute as much as it is a necessary act of restorative justice in that it counters the historical harm done when acts of leadership and heroism are suppressed in minority communities.”

# THE Chancellor's

DEC 2018/JAN 2019



 **SUALGC**  
Students  
rack up  
scholarships

**MENTAL  
HEALTH**  
the elephant in  
the room 

WHERE  
IS THE

**LOVE?**

**Bobby R. Phills**  
Chancellor-Dean

**Retia Walker**  
Vice Chancellor for  
Academic & Student Support  
Services/Associate Dean

**Andra Johnson**  
Vice Chancellor for  
Research & Technology  
Development

**Dawn Mellion-Patin**  
Vice Chancellor for  
Extension & Outreach





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# the ORIGINS Love



February 14th is a day that love is in the air for many races, religions, social backgrounds and economic classes. Valentine's Day as we know it in modern context is a happy and festive day where love and feelings are professed, even to the point of some tying the knot on this very day.

The capitalistic society we live in has cashed in on this special day by offering a wide variety of gifts such as flowers, candy, jewelry, fancy dinners and even new cars! Regardless of the great feelings and gifts this day brings in todays time, the origins of this day are all but festive.

In 3rd Century AD there was a Priest by the name of Saint Valentine. The Emperer of the time, Claudius II, banned marriage. The Emporer believed marital bliss weakened his military and made his soldiers unproductive. Choosing to defy the order, Saint Valentine married couples in secret. He was later jailed and sentenced to death after being found out.

While awaiting his impending doom, Saint Valentine fell in love with the jailers daughter. On the 14th of February, he was executed but sent a letter to her and signed it "from your Valentine".





# STUDENTSPOTLIGHT

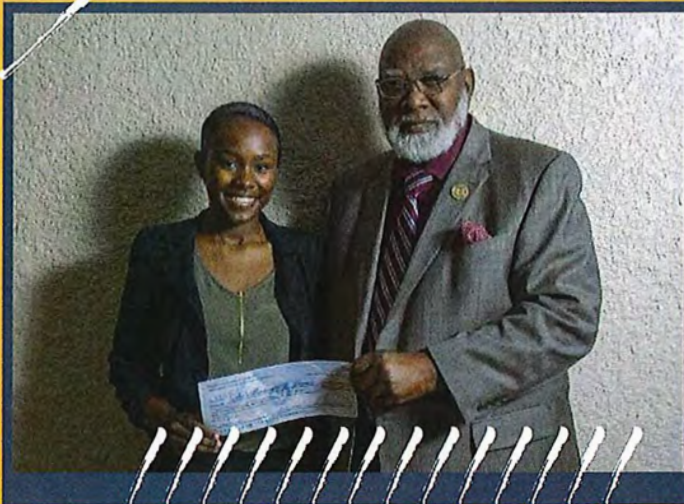
Macy Caesar was the recipient of the Justin Smith Morrill Scholarship. Caesar is very grateful to receive such an honor due to the fact that she is staying an extra semester and needed the funding to continue her education. Hailing from Eunice, LA, Macy always loved animals. At age 10, she rode horses and spent lots of time with them. The intrigue was the fact that these big animals act on their own will but chose to trust her and build a bond. The SUALGC senior stated that being a young black pre-vet major is important to her, as she wants to pave the way and have representation for other minority women in the future. Long term, Caesar plans to go to Vet school while also doing research. Afterwards, she is torn between opening a practice and traveling to help wildlife and shelters. She also emphasized the need to spay and neuter since so many animals are already without homes and adequate care.



*Macy Caesar*





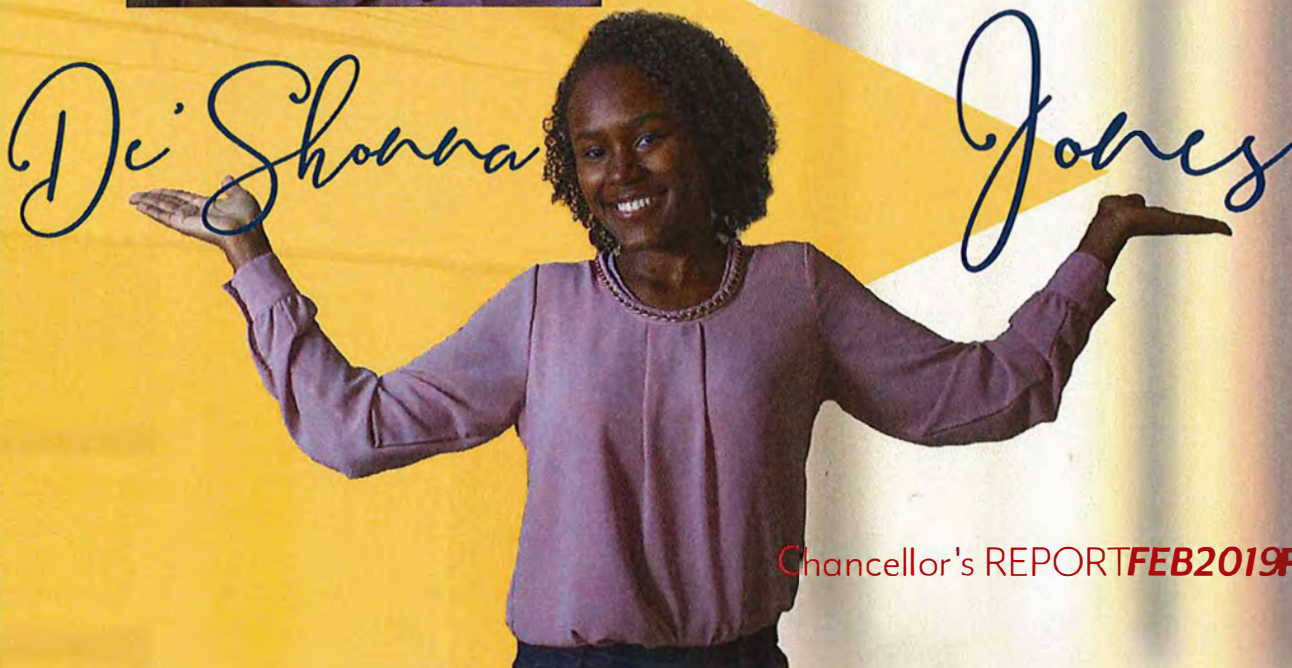
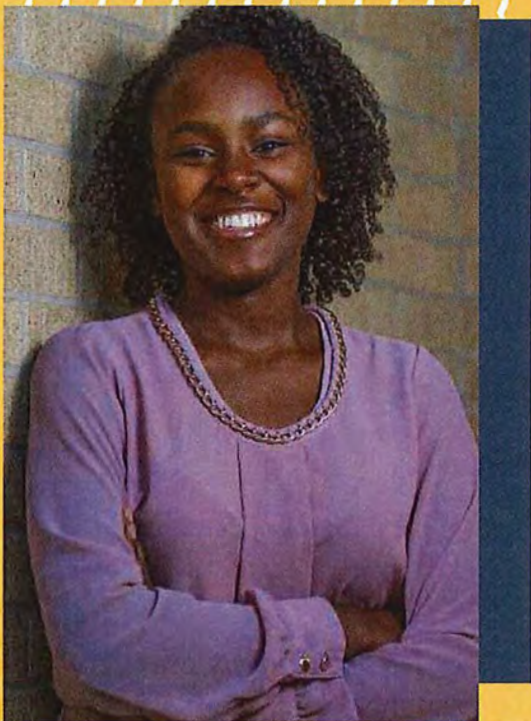


De'Shonna was awarded the 2018-19 Chancellor-Dean Scholarship. De'Shonna moved around due to her dad's coaching career and when she finally landed at Dutchtown High School, she excelled in math and science. Her career aspirations were between engineering and medical. Her love for animals, involvement in 4H and distaste of calculus pushed her to develop an interest in Vet Science.

Southern University sought De'Shonna for her academic excellence and awarded her acceptance into the Honors College. The Pre-Vet Senior credits her path of agriculture to her love for animals and her dad, Sheldon Jones. It was him who encouraged her to come to Southern and pursue a future as a veterinarian and aim to get into the Honors College Scholarship. She also credits her dog Ayce, who never fails to keep her interested in her passion for animals. Lastly, Jones expresses deep gratitude to Dr. Retia Walker and Chancellor-Dean Bobby Phillips.

After graduation, De'Shonna plans to get her MBA and maybe pause it to get into vet school.

When asked what motivates her to strive forward, Jones stated that "being great to people will always be remembered and putting my best foot forward always gets me where I need to be. And if not, it wasn't the best place for me anyway."





**•Pay attention to warning signs**

Do not suppress your feelings or changes you see within yourself! Make an effort to fix or seek help before things progress.

**•Get routine medical care.**

Regular checkups with your doctor can combat mood or behavioral changes that can lead to worse issues.

**•Get help when you need it**

Talk to someone! Whether a therapist or a religious figure, counseling can alleviate a lot of triggers.

**•Take good care of yourself.**

Find outlets to relieve stress. Spend time doing things you love with people you love.

**SPEAK  
UP!**

If you or someone you know is suffering from mental health issues and become suicidal, call

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline  
1-800-273-TALK (8255)**



43.8 Billion adults (1 in 5) were diagnosed with mental health issues in 2018.



20% of state prisoners and 70% of youth juvenile offenders have mental health issues.

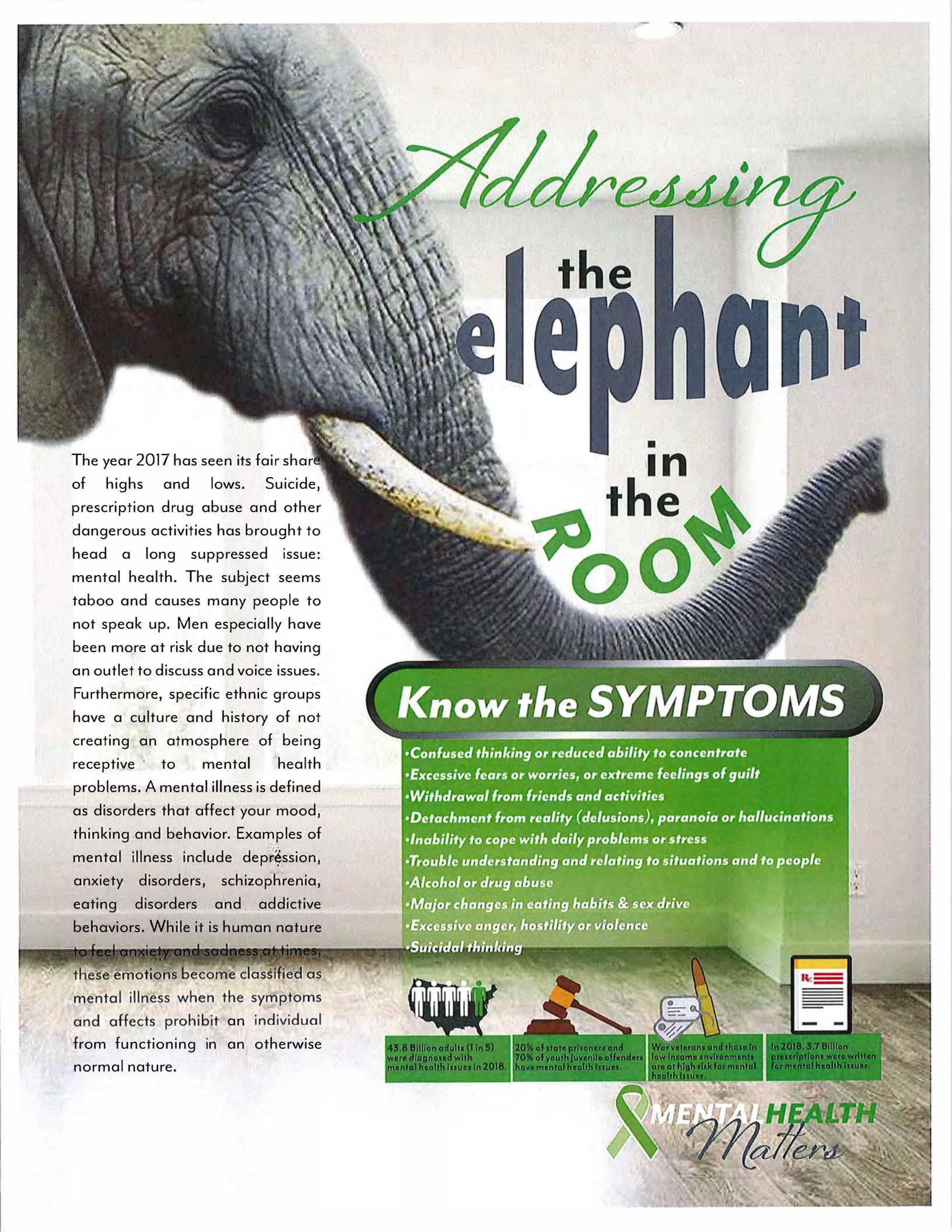


War veterans and those in low income environments are at high risk for mental health issues.



In 2018, 3.7 Billion prescriptions were written for mental health issues.



A large elephant is shown in profile, facing left, with its trunk curled upwards. The elephant is in a room with white walls and a light-colored floor. The text 'Addressing the elephant in the ROOM' is overlaid on the image. 'Addressing' is in a green cursive font, 'the elephant' is in a large, dark blue, bold sans-serif font, and 'in the ROOM' is in a green, bold sans-serif font.

# Addressing the elephant in the ROOM

The year 2017 has seen its fair share of highs and lows. Suicide, prescription drug abuse and other dangerous activities has brought to head a long suppressed issue: mental health. The subject seems taboo and causes many people to not speak up. Men especially have been more at risk due to not having an outlet to discuss and voice issues. Furthermore, specific ethnic groups have a culture and history of not creating an atmosphere of being receptive to mental health problems. A mental illness is defined as disorders that affect your mood, thinking and behavior. Examples of mental illness include depression, anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, eating disorders and addictive behaviors. While it is human nature to feel anxiety and sadness at times, these emotions become classified as mental illness when the symptoms and affects prohibit an individual from functioning in an otherwise normal nature.

## Know the SYMPTOMS

- *Confused thinking or reduced ability to concentrate*
- *Excessive fears or worries, or extreme feelings of guilt*
- *Withdrawal from friends and activities*
- *Detachment from reality (delusions), paranoia or hallucinations*
- *Inability to cope with daily problems or stress*
- *Trouble understanding and relating to situations and to people*
- *Alcohol or drug abuse*
- *Major changes in eating habits & sex drive*
- *Excessive anger, hostility or violence*
- *Suicidal thinking*



43.8 Billion adults (1 in 5) were diagnosed with mental health issues in 2018.



20% of state prisoners and 70% of youth juvenile offenders have mental health issues.



War veterans and those in low income environments are at high risk for mental health issues.



In 2018, 3.7 Billion prescriptions were written for mental health issues.

 **MENTAL HEALTH**  
Matters



# AWITX

displays newspaper

## Wedding Dresses



Armed with newspaper, glue guns and determination, the 497 Section of FCSC unlocked their creativity for a wedding dress exhibit. The essence of this project was to make wedding dresses out of newspaper in an effort to help students unlock their critical thinking skills and be more responsible with resources.

The dresses were displayed in the lobby of the library and were a big headturner for students, staff and administrators. The dresses exhibit not only the great knowledge the FCS Department is pouring into our students but also the commitment to detail and passion our students have for their craft.

Students enrolled in the course are as follows:

- Danielle Dubriel – Baton Rouge, Junior*
- Robyn-Nicole Faulcon – New Orleans*
- Autumn Hamilton – Colfax, Senior*
- Jordan Johnson – Baton Rouge, Senior*
- Eric Jones – New Orleans, Junior*
- Brandon Julien – Vacherie, Senior*
- Carlton Knighten – Baton Rouge, Sophomore*







"I wanted to go modern but still stick to the traditional foundation. A large majority of women love the mermaid style so I wanted it to be slender at the top and have a special bottom. It is very important that design is diverse so adding simple elements can achieve that. As a business owner as well as a student, I see everything as synonymous and I give it my all with each aspect. Owning my own store and being a buyer for a major company is definitely one of my top goals but it all starts here with projects such as these."

## Jordan Johnson



"The end result is very satisfying. It was difficult getting the paper to line up at the bottom of the mannequin since there is no support and the newspaper is so fragile. Time and detail are also critical since the dress has to form to the shape of the mannequin. Lots of folding and cuffing. My dress took three 3hour class days to complete. The dress, veil and train were all done deperate. The rain was the hardest part because it had to be glued under the veil and be strong enough to hold its on weight. My mother is a teacher and uses pin wheels for her class so I was real inspired by those and chose to use them for the design of the dress."

## Robyn-Nicole Faulcon



# KELLI

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



# Hollins

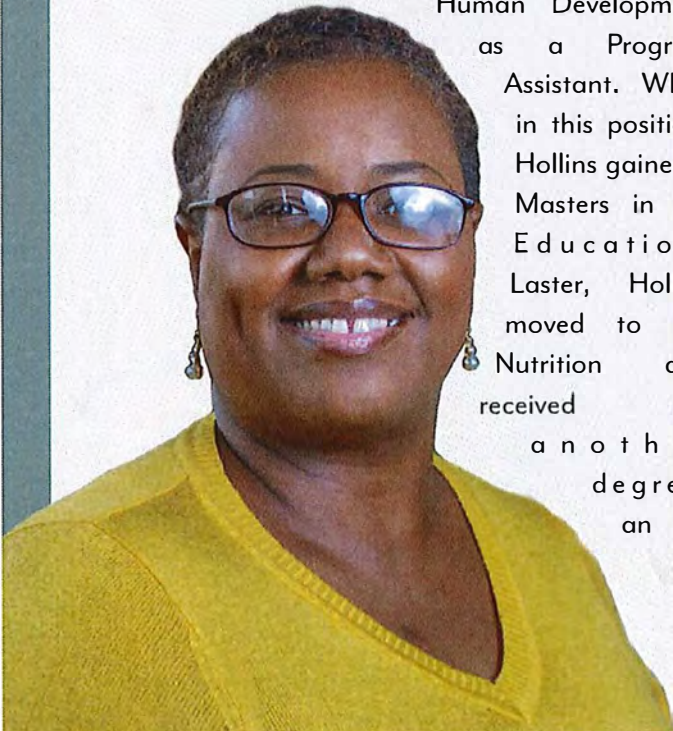
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna



Kelli Hollins grew up in Scotlandville, LA, right outside the gates of Southern University. Her grandparents had a garden and they would share with the community, which sparked her love for agriculture. She started at SUALGC as a receptionist while attending the University of Phoenix for accounting. Being around her first love of agriculture sparked Hollins to switch majors and receive her Bachelors in Agricultural Business Management from LSU. Shortly after, Hollins moved on to working in Family and

MBA in Family Enterprise and Entrepreneurship. This is when Hollins landed in her current position of Ag and Natural Resources Programs (ANR). Her pride is working with farmers and building a bridge to assist and make their processes easier and more efficient. ANR sector provides many resources for small farmers but lends a hand to several other programs and initiatives under the Agricultural Extension umbrella. In August 2018, Kelli was elected the 1890 Representative for ANR for the Program Leadership Committee. When asked what her motivation was, Hollins stated “the farmers. We are called to serve people in our positions at SUALGC. As long as I am helping and assisting people into their success, that’s what really matters.” Hollins also believes it is vital to stay humble and keep a great heart while performing service and working in your capacity.

Human Development as a Program Assistant. While in this position, Hollins gained a Masters in Agriculture. Later, Hollins moved to the Nutrition and received yet another degree, an







“

Faith  
without  
works is  
**DEAD.** We  
have to get  
up and put  
our hands to  
the plow.

”



# SU Ag Center hosts LOUISIANA INDUSTRIAL HEMP ALLIANCE inaugural meeting.



Baton Rouge, La. – The Southern University Land-Grant Campus hosted the inaugural meeting of the Louisiana Industrial Hemp Alliance (LIHA) on Monday, January 14, 2019. The meeting, which was held in Fisher Hall on Southern University's Campus, was convened to address new legislation regarding Industrial Hemp.

"Industrial HEMP has been around for millennia," said Arthur Walker, Chair of the LIHA. "It is a grain in the family of Cannabis Sativa L. The difference between it and other versions of the cannabis plant is in the tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) levels. It has a level of .3% and below. Marijuana, its cousin, has THC levels of 5 and above," he add.

THC is the psychotropic component of the plant that can cause individuals to experience a "high." Making it virtually impossible to get high from the Industrial Hemp plant. However, it was still classified as a schedule I drug, along with marijuana, by the Nixon administration in the 70's. Making it illegal to be grown in the United States, but, the purchase of imported raw materials to manufacture products from the plant was legal.

Many of these products include clothes, soap, fiberboard and insulation. "For a number of years the US has spent over \$150 million per year on importing Industrial Hemp products just from China alone," said Joe Lavigne, LIHA member. "We feel that Louisiana is the perfect safe space to take a fraction of that market and really drive the Industrial Hemp economy."

"The small farmers and the small business owners of Louisiana need that infusion of opportunity," expressed Walker. The 2018 Farm Bill officially removed Industrial Hemp from the schedule I classification. Industrial Hemp is now classified as a commercial commodity like corn, sugarcane, and rice. "Now farmers can get crop insurance and receive financing opportunities from the federal government to start growing Industrial Hemp," said Walker. "The whole commodity designation and moving Industrial Hemp from the Department of Justice, where it was a schedule I drug, to the control of the Department of Agriculture is a game changer."

-Department of Agriculture is a game changer."



# ANNUAL STATE LIVESTOCK SHOW

February 28-March 2, 2019 (Special Junior Auction Sale on Saturday March 2nd)

## MEAT ORDER FORM

ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE <small>(Non-Processed)</small>	QUANTITY	TOTAL COST
One Whole Beef	\$2,000.00		
One-Half Beef	\$1,000.00		
One-Fourth Beef	\$500.00		
One Whole Pork	\$225.00		
One Whole Lamb	\$200.00		
One Whole Goat	\$175.00		
Total Cost for Order:			

Customer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address (City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Bill Me \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to: Southern University Ag Center Livestock Show*

**PLEASE NOTE:** Processing fees are not included in these prices. The show office will deliver your animal to the processing plant selected below.

- Cutrer Slaughter House** (Beef and Pork **ONLY**) in Kentwood (985) 229-2478
- Rouchers** (Beef, Goats and Lambs **ONLY**) in Plaquemine (225) 687-4258

**\*\*YOU MUST CONTACT THE PLANT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SHOW!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: (225) 771-6208**

## Livestock Show Office Payroll Deduction Form

*Payments Due by April 1, 2019*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ University Department \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

I \_\_\_\_\_, hereby authorized the payroll department to deduct a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ from my salary in \_\_\_\_\_ payments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ each.

(Please check one)  bi-weekly  monthly  quarterly  one-time payment

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please complete the back side)*



A portrait of Lt. General Russell Honore, a man with a mustache and glasses, wearing a tan cap with "ARMY" written on it and a dark jacket. He is sitting and looking slightly to the right. The background is dark and out of focus.

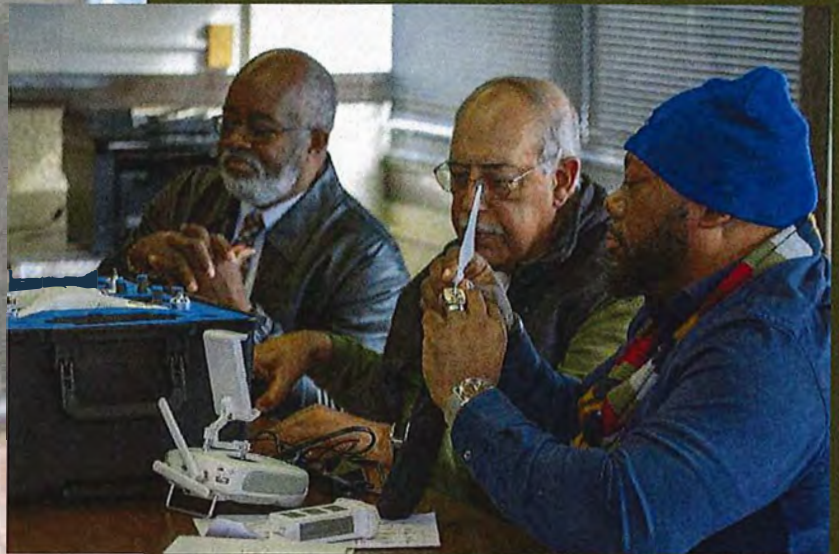
a TRIP  
down  
*Russell Honore*  
lane

Lt. General  
**Russell**

Returned to the Land-Grant Campus a more accomplished and renowned man than the student he was when he first stepped foot in Fisher Hall many years ago. The Lankeland, LA native is the youngest of 12 and received his Bachelors of Science Degree in 1971. His military career is quite extensive and boasts a very long list of staff and leadership positions. Most notable were his appointment as the Commander of the 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea and the Commander of Joint Task Force Katrina during the storm that devastated New Orleans and the southern Louisiana area. General Honore soared into national and global attention for his response methods to natural disasters. His agricultural background and time at Southern University equipped him with the knowledge and consideration for mankind and the belief that no human being should go without basic needs. He utilized his platform and position to speak on behalf of the population and constantly advocates for better efficiencies and way of living for the citizens of the state of Louisiana.



When asked what words of wisdom he can offer to the younger generation of professionals in agriculture and other professions, Lt. Gen. stated that work is a blessing and you shouldn't let anyone outwork you. People don't see the work that goes into being great but that is vital. He also said not being "stuck on stupid" goes a long way. Being coachable and learning from mistakes will yield results.



Lt. General Honore generously donated a Phantom 3 Drone manufactured by DJI and a newly developed weather monitor to the Land-Grant Campus. The purpose of adding this new technology is to get live looks and constant real-time data capturing to improve quality of life. This data can also be passed on to rural and urban farmers to enhance their processes. Lt. Gen. Honore believes with this technology and partnering with his alma mater, Louisiana will take a step into eliminating waste and developing more efficient ways to utilize our resources.

**“As a good friend of mine once said, I believe work is SCARED of me.”**





# with love.

**-Southern University  
Agricultural Land-Grant Campus**



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL LAND-GRANT CAMPUS  
**Fisher Hall** • P.O. Box 10010 Baton Rouge, LA 70813  
(225) 771-2152 • [WWW.SUAGCENTER.COM](http://WWW.SUAGCENTER.COM)





**CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

**Honoring a Living Legend**



PHOTOS BY MARK FORD

The Center for African and African American Studies (CAAAS) and Southern University Law Center's Louis A. Berry Institute for Civil Rights & Justice (SULC's Institute) honored Malik Rahim at an inaugural Living Legend Award Celebration Jan. 18. According to Dr. Clyde Robertson, CAAAS Director and creator of the Living Legend Award, Mr. Rahim was selected because of his lifelong commitment to community activism. Above left, Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin stands with Mr. Rahim. In right photo, Mr. Rahim enters the Millie M. Charles School of Social Work Auditorium.

*Amazing Knights*



PHOTOS BY TAMMY C. BARNEY

Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin presented "An Amazing Knight" awards Jan. 7 to Monique Crosby Holmes (far left), administrative coordinator/ Admissions Specialist, and Peter Bonnee III (far right), information technology liaison, for their dedicated and unselfish service to Southern University at New Orleans.



## SUNO Track Freshmen Win at KMS Indoor Invitational



Stacey Ann Williams



Twayne Crooks

Southern University at New Orleans Track Team members Stacy Ann Williams and Twayne Crooks finished first in the women's and men's 400 meters at the KMS Invitational 2019 Jan. 27 in Birmingham, AL.

The freshmen, both from Kingston, Jamaica, won their events comfortably with Stacy Ann clocking in at 53.02 seconds and Twayne with 46.88 seconds.

Stacy Ann's mark smashed the previous meet record of 53.39 seconds by compatriot and fellow SUNO athlete Shadae Hylton. It is the fifth fastest time in all of college athletics.

The former St. Elizabeth Technical High School standout won by more than a full second, improving significantly on her indoor debut at the UAB Vulcan Invitational two weeks ago, where she placed 5th in 56.03.

A former Kingston College standout, Twayne also improved on his third-place finish (48.30) at the same meet. Both marks also lead the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference (GCAC) and are automatic National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Indoor Championships qualifiers.

As result of their success at the KIMS Invitational, Stacey Ann and Twayne were named the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Women's and Men's Indoor Track Athletes of the Week Jan. 30 for the third week of the season.



## SUNO Alum Named New Orleans Police Chief

An alumnus of Southern University at New Orleans, Shaun Ferguson, was named as the new superintendent of the New Orleans Police Department Jan. 14. Ferguson received his bachelor's degree in Business Administration from SUNO in 2002. He received his master's degree in Criminal Justice in 2017.



# College of Arts & Sciences

## Dr. Evelyn Harrell, Dean

### ► ADDICTIVE BEHAVIORS COUNSELING AND PREVENTION (ABCP)

Drs. Evelyn Harrell and Raymond Delaney attended the New Orleans Addiction Professional Association (NOAPA) Jan. 26. The topic of the workshop was STAR: Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response.

ABCP congratulates Fall 2018 graduate Monique Senette, who accepted a position with Metropolitan Human Services District as a Mental Health Specialist in the Hospital Coordination and Transition Program.



Monique Senette

### ► NATURAL SCIENCE

Dr. Bashir M. Rezk Atteia, his SUNO students Myles Masters (Forensic Sciences major) and Geoffroy E. Sanga Pema (BIOLOGY major) and his Tulane University collaborators published an editorial letter entitled "*Environmental Toxicants in Forensic Entomology*" *Toxicology and Forensic Medicine: Open Journal*. 2018; (1): e1-e2. doi: 10.17140/TFMOJ-3-e008.

Dr. Atteia reviewed a manuscript entitled "Alleviating impact of taurineon renal lipid peroxidation and oxidative stress in lambda-cyhalothrin exposed rat" that was accepted for publication in *Toxicology and Forensic Medicine: Open Journal*. January 2019. He also attended the 17<sup>th</sup> LNRN annual meeting in Baton Rouge Jan. 18 -20. At this meeting, Dr. Atteia presented a poster entitled: "Roles of autophagy and angiogenesis in the human carotid artery plaque stability."

In addition, he attended talks on the *IDEA Program and Community: Priorities and Opportunities* (Dr. Ming Lei, Ph. D. Director Division for Research Capacity Building, National Institute of General Medical Sciences) and *Comprehensive Solution to Characterize and Treat Disease* (Dr. Ram Samudrala, PhD; Professor and Chief, Division of Bioinformatics Department of Biomedical Informatics, Jacobs School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences).

### ► HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Laura Douresseaux Collins participated in three AHIMA webinars and two LHIMA Board meetings in December and 2019 in her role as LHIMA Delegate and president-elect. The Dec. 6 webinar, AHIMA Transformation, focused on the future growth and transformation of the HIM profession under AHIMA. The Dec. 12 webinar, AHIMA House of Delegates Webinar - Grace Award, focused on organizations that are trailblazers in the HIM and healthcare innovation.

The two LHIMA board meetings were Dec. 14 and Jan. 25. The January meeting discussed hot topics that will be discussed at the LHIMA State Convention in March in Shreveport, LA. The Jan. 16 webinar, AHIMA House of Delegate HIMS Environmental Scanning, focused on identifying trending topics and changes in HIM as well as identifying areas of improvement in the HIMS profession.

On Jan. 17, the SUNO HIMS Student club hosted its first meeting of the Spring Semester. The group discussed planned activities for the semester and the upcoming LHIMA state convention.

In her role as LHIMA District Representative, Sharon McGee attended a LHIMA Board Meeting Dec. 14. On Jan. 16, Mrs. McGee participated in a CEU webinar sponsored by GNOHIMA. The topics included "Implementation of an Outpatient Clinical Documentation Improvement Program" and "2019 CPT Updates."

In his role as LHIMA Delegate, John Barrilleaux attended the AHIMA House of Delegates Webinar - Grace Award



## Arts & Sciences Continued

Dec. 12. This webinar focused on organizations that are trailblazers in the HIM and healthcare innovation. He also attended the LHIMA Board meeting Dec. 14.

On Jan. 16, Mr. Barrilleaux attended the CSA Webinar, Educator Engagement with AHIMA. He will attend the Ascension Parish School Board Career night Jan. 29 to recruit new students.

### ► MASTER OF ARTS IN MUSEUM STUDIES PROGRAM

Dr. Sara Hollis' Exhibition Design class is tasked with using SUNO's African Art Collection to design the first exhibition for the University's new museum, which will serve as a laboratory for the M.A. Museum Studies Program. The new museum is located on the second floor of the new Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Building.

### Research/ Presentations

Dr. Haitham Eid's book, *Museum Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship: A New Model for a Changing Era, 1st Edition* will be published in March 2019 by Routledge: London & New York. More information about the book is available on Routledge website: [www.routledge.com](http://www.routledge.com).

Dr. Eid's paper, "Digital Social Innovation and the Evolving Role of Digital in Museums" has been accepted for publication at MW19 Conference in Boston, MA. He also serves on the Program Committee for MW19 Conference, the largest international conference on the use of digital technology in museums.

The Museum Studies Program is working with local, national and international partners to organize "The Museum Innovation Forum: Building More Equitable, Relevant and Impactful Museums." The papers presented at the forum will be published by Routledge in an edited book.

The Catalogue for the Exhibition: "From A Black Perspective" at Stella Jones Gallery has been published. Dr. Sara Hollis wrote the Foreword for the publication.

### Campus

Dr. Eid's class, "International Museums and Cultures," is planning a trip to Egypt. Dr. Eid is currently working with the Comptroller Office and other units on campus to book the flights, hotels and guided tours.

During its January meeting, the Southern University System Board of Supervisors approved two MOUs between Southern University at New Orleans and two universities in Egypt, Aswan University and the Arab Academy for Technology, Science and Maritime Transport. Both MOUs will help the Museum Studies Program expand its international outreach and attract international students.

Dr. Ndubuisi C. Ezeoluomba, curator of African Art at the New Orleans Museum of Art, has joined the M.A. Museum Studies Program as an adjunct professor.

As Faculty Senate president, Dr. Eid presided over the the Faculty Senate General Assembly Jan. 7 and attended the SUS Board of Supervisors meeting Jan. 11.



Dr. Sara Hollis, Ms. Linda Hill, Dr. William Bertrand, Dr. Evelyn Harrell and Dr. Haitham Eid.

Dr. William Bertrand, an academic and art collector who donated a vast collection of African Art to SUNO, visited the new M. A. Museum Studies offices, classroom, lab and museum. He met with Dr. Eid, Dr. Hollis, Center for African and African American Studies Director Clyde Robertson, Curator Linda Hill, Dean Evelyn Harrell and Librarian/ Archivist Erika Witt. Ms. Alain Carter, a graduate student, has an internship with Dr. Bertrand at Egg Studios.



# College of Business & Public Administration

## Dr. Igwe Udeh, Dean

### ► ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE INITIATIVES

#### **Gregory A. DeBose Business Administration Major Scholarship**

Mr. Gregory A. DeBose, a December 1992 SUNO Business Administration graduate who had a successful career with the U.S. Department of Defense, created the Gregory A. DeBose Business Administration Major Scholarship to provide financial assistance each semester to a student majoring in Business Administration. The \$1,000 scholarship is available to students who :

- Submit a completed scholarship application annually
- Are classified as a sophomore or higher
- Are enrolled full-time at SUNO for two consecutive semesters
- Have and maintain a 3.0 or above cumulative and semester GPA for the two consecutive semesters
- Are U. S. citizens, Louisiana residents and African Americans
- Submit a typed profile that explains school and community involvement, influential person(s) in the applicant's life, a motto to live by, career goals and any other pertinent information.



*Dr. Igwe Udeh, Mr. Gregory A. DeBose, Ms. Hazel Pitts and Ms. Timotea Bailey.*

Two students – Clyde Montgomery and Bobbie Hardy (both Business Administration majors) – have received this scholarship over the past two years. Mr. DeBose was motivated to support business education at SUNO's College of Business because he insists that his excellent education at the College thoroughly prepared him academically, morally and mentally to take on the challenges of his career and win. He wants to support the next generation of learners to receive the same education and preparation he received so that they can join the workforce and make a difference.

#### **The SUNO Technology Workforce Group (TWG) Inaugurated**

The inaugural meeting of the Technology Workforce Group (TWG) for the DXC Technology project was Dec. 5, 2018 in the College of Business Executive Conference Room. Members of the workforce are Drs. David Alijani, Nabie Conteh, Robert Elliott, Adrine Harrell-Carter, Yun Doo Lee, Joe Omojola, Murty Kambhampati, Douglas Marshall, Yanjun Yu, Igwe E. Udeh, Mrs. Timotea Bailey and Mrs. Sheila Wood. The workforce chair is Ms. Yolander A. Smith, the Southern University System DXC Partnership Project Manager.

The purpose of the workforce is to create an environment on the SUNO campus that allows technology education and early adoption to thrive. The goal is to create a steady pipeline of technical and technology savvy graduates to fill current and emerging technology industry jobs and careers in the region. Some of the immediate tasks include recruiting faculty to become Amazon Web Services (AWS) certified so that they can permeate their courses and curricula with concepts and practices in high demand in the industry; conduct a gap analysis of current courses and curricular to determine when improvements could be made; arrange field trips to DXC and other high tech industry firms in the area; and develop a plan for financial incentives to attract more students into technology-related disciplines and internships.

#### **La. Department of Public Safety and Corrections Officials Visit**

The SUNO Small Business Development & Management Institute (SBDMI) in collaboration with the faculty and staff of the College of Business & Public Administration, the School of Social Work and various community partners, received a multi-year contract by the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections (LDPS&C) to join the fight in reducing recidivism through entrepreneurship, continuing education and psychoeducational intervention. The SUNO team visited the Department of Corrections Office in Baton Rouge Dec. 14, 2018 to work out



## Business Continued

details. On Jan. 10, three leading members of the LDPS&C team visited SUNO to familiarize themselves with the site of the contract implementation and the service providers. They were welcomed to the campus by Mrs. Cynthia Beaulieu, SBDMI director; Dr. Patricia Robertson, associate professor of Public Administration; and Dr. Igwe E. Udeh, College of Business & Public Administration dean. The LDPS&C team members in attendance were Robert Vehock, Office of Adult Services/Reentry program consultant; Lellard Broussard, program consultant; and Courtney Dickerson, program specialist. Three subcontractors, who are designated to provide specific technical services to the program participants, also attended the meeting. The recidivism reduction programs are expected to begin in February.

### ► CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE & RESEARCH PAPER SUBMISSION

Dr. Yun Doo Lee, assistant professor of Finance, *2019 American Finance Association Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA, Jan. 4-6, 2019

Dr. Yun Doo Lee, Assistant Professor of Finance, *23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on Financial Economics and Accounting*, New Orleans, LA, Nov. 16-17, 2018

Yun Doo Lee, Liaqat, Shilpa, and Hassan, "A review of perspectives of acceptance of IT-based services in banking," under review by the *International Journal of Banking Marketing*, January 2019

### ► SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (SBDMI)

Start-Up-Workshop; December 8 & 9, 2019; Small Business Incubator; Workshop to provide information to individuals wanting to start their own business; 3 participants; Ms. Angel VonDerPool and Ms. Diana Thomas

Meeting to discuss operation of a joint Radio Station housed in Small Business Incubator; Jan. 11; Incubator tenants, Mr. Moultrie and Cynthia Beaulieu

Louisiana Notary Prep Class Orientation; Jan. 10, 17, 2019; Ms. Suzan Jackson, Mr. Craig Duronslet, Diana Thomas & Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Meet the Scholars Initial Group presentation; Jan. 22; Delgado Community College, Student Life Center; Ms. Patrice William-Smith and Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.

Louisiana Economic Development (LED) Peer-to-Peer Roundtable; Jan. 31; 6 of 10 sessions; CBA Executive Conference Room; 11 participants; Business owners met for peer-to-peer learning, brainstorming and problem solving. The Business owners safely explored business and personal issues in a supportive, confidential and trusting environment. The roundtables are problem-solving sessions that address issues important to the business owner. Invited Industry guests discuss access to new and innovative business and business growth; Ms. Irma Dixon, Facilitator, Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director SBDMI. The Peer-to Peer Guest Speaker was Mr. Craig Duronslet.

Met with Johnson C. Smith University Dean of the School of Social Work Helen Caldwell and Vice President of Government Sponsored Programs and Research Diane Bowles Dec. 10, 2018 to discuss possible collaborations between the two HBCU's. SUNO's Dean of the School of Social Work Rebeca Chaisson and Cynthia Beaulieu also attended the meeting.

### ► OFFICE OF STUDENT SERVICES (OSS)

The Office of Student Services contacted all graduating seniors with graduation/registration issues to advise of status and recommend solution. The office also ensured that members of the 2013 CBA cohort had the courses required to graduate.



## Business Continued

OSS reached out to CBA alumni to provide information on available positions at DXC. The office also collected, screened and forwarded resumes of interested graduates to DXC Talent Acquisitions personnel for consideration. SUNO graduates are well represented among the recent DXC hires. See the following chart:

Row Labels	Count of University
Delgado Community College	6
Dillard University	1
Grambling State University	1
Louisiana State University	3
Louisiana State University (LSU)	13
Louisiana State University in Shreveport	1
Louisiana Tech University	1
Loyola University	6
Nicholls State University	1
Other	2
Our Lady of Holy Cross College - New Orleans	1
Southeastern Louisiana University	6
Southern University and A&M College	5
Southern University at New Orleans	12
Tulane	1
Tulane University	14
University of Louisiana - Lafayette	2
University of Louisiana - Monroe	1
University of New Orleans (UNO)	41
Xavier University of Louisiana	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>120</b>

Attended the CIS Departmental meeting to provide information and encourage CIS faculty interest and participation in the "Train the Trainer" certification program offered through AWS.

## College of Education & Human Development

### Dr. Willie Jones, Interim Dean

#### ► HIGHLIGHT

Dr. Deborah Darby attended the Teacher Preparation Providers meeting at the University of New Orleans to receive feedback from providers about the Teacher Quality proposal that the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) will consider in March. She also submitted an application to attend the "Educating with Empathy: Cultivating Kindness, Compassion, Cooperation, and Good Behavior" conference. She received information from Phi Delta Kappa regarding the initiating a Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa in the College of Education & Human Development.

Mr. Morkeith Phillips and the Honore' Men started the year off with health and wellness by participating in bonding activities and fitness exercises. They have been working out in the mornings starting at 6. The Honore' men also



## Education Continued

participated in a time management workshop and a radio interview at WHIV 92.3 FM.

### ► ACCREDITATION

As chair of Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Committee, Dr. Diane Bordenave presented an "Update on Progress of SUNO's Quality Enhancement Plan" to the administration, faculty and staff Jan. 7 at the University Conference.

Dr. Bordenave met with Dr. Douglas Marshall Jan. 8 to prepare for the launch of the QEP Pilot Study enhancing student oral communication skills. Dr. Bordenave distributed a student self-reflection survey to 25 students in Dr. Marshall's 9:30 a.m. COMM210 class Jan. 22. The student survey measures student's perceptions of their own oral communication skills and their opinion on the availability of resources at SUNO to assist in the development of these skills for future career success.

### ► ASSESSMENT

As Assessment Coordinator for the College of Education & Human Development, Dr. Bordenave participated in a webinar to learn how to access an online portal called the Louisiana Data Review system Jan. 18. The webinar featured a walkthrough of the portal and its functions. All preparation providers are required to complete the Louisiana Department of Education's data verification process between Jan. 21 and Feb. 14. The purpose of the data verification process is to ensure that SUNO's 2015-2016, 2016-2017, and 2017-2018 program completion data are accurate. These data will be used for the Quality Rating System and the performance profiles.

### ► RESEARCH

As a member of the International Bullying Association, Dr. Darby's action research goal is to create an anti-bullying campaign in the College of Education & Human Development to prepare educators to enter and/or remain in the field of Education. This campaign will provide information on resources, tools, strategies and scholarship opportunities to conduct such a campaign. In a wider scope, she hopes to create a University-wide anti-bullying campaign at Southern University at New Orleans.

### ► GRANTS

1. **Community Partnership Grant' - New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation** (2018-2019); Grant Award \$1,500 - with matching funds through the Corporation. This grant supports after-school and summer educational and arts programs offered by non-profit (tax-exempt) organizations in Louisiana. In addition to learning to play musical instruments, the goal of this grant is to enhance life-long math skills of participants (grades K-12). Such skills include, but are not limited to, counting, measurement, fractions, etc. Ancillary to these skills is the development of increased concentration, self-confidence and improvement in academic skills. The program presently operates weekly after school and continues during the summer.

2. **New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation - Community Outreach Award (Tickets)**

On-going Award Application. Award Years - 2014 - Present

The goal of this grant is to expose participants to the music/ arts festival and to reinforce the academic and social implications of this exposure. In addition, such activities provide an alternative to the many unsavory activities in many communities.

As co-PI on the development of an Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate Program with Drs. Willie Jones and Jenita Hegwood, Dr. Bordenave presented three new course proposals at the College of Education and Human Development faculty meeting Jan. 7. The Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate is a professional credential for teachers that are working in early learning centers. Beginning July 1, all lead teachers in publicly funded centers (Type III) will be required to have a current Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate or be in the process of earning one. Dr. Bordenave took and passed the K-3CLASS certification on Friday, January 18, 2019 demonstrating profi-



## Education Continued

ciency in observing and coding classroom interactions reliably using the CLASS measure that will allow her to conduct classroom observations as a Certified K-3 CLASS Observer.

Dr. Bordenave attended The EC Ancillary Certificate Program sessions at the LDOE Collaboration Meeting at the Baton Rouge Collaborative in the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center Jan. 28. These meetings are part of the LDOE Collaborative meetings that take place around the state. While many teachers, principals, district supervisors and teacher preparation programs attend these meetings, one specific set of sessions are specifically designed for Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate Programs. The sessions will provide updates on program operations, and most importantly, provide an opportunity for EC Ancillary Certificate Programs to learn effective strategies from one another.

### ► WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Dr. Bordenave and Dr. Lorraine McCune of Rutgers University submitted a manuscript titled " 'Natural' Vocal Responses in Children with Disabilities: Variation in Relation to Cognition and Language" to *Journal of Developmental and Physical Disabilities* in October 2018. The authors currently are working on revisions.

Dr. Bordenave reviewed a manuscript submitted by another author for publication in *The Journal of Developmental Disabilities*.

Dr. Celina Carson has been accepted to present papers at two national conferences in February:

The Research Association of Minority Professors 2019 National Conference:

*"Influence of an Agroforestry Method on Crop Yield as an Approach to Food Security in the Urban Community of the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans, Louisiana"*

The National Association of African American Studies & Affiliates 2019 National Conference

*"Minimizing Academic Loss and Reducing Health Disparities in Minority Youth through an Eight-Week Summer Integrated STEM, Behavior and Nutritional Program."*

### ► PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Darby attended webinars on teacher preparation, safe schools initiatives and counseling through the American Counseling Association and the Louisiana Counseling Association. Her participation in such webinars affords opportunities to learn skills and strategies that she can incorporate in courses.

### ► PROFESSIONAL OUTREACH TO STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY

Dr. Bordenave attended the 12th Annual Fit for a King Fair Housing Summit, hosted by the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center Jan. 17. The keynote speaker was Diane Nash. Cashauna Hill, executive director of the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center, was a guest speaker in Dr. Bordenave's CDFS 470 Special Topics in CDFS (Eviction: Impact on Children, Families and the Community) Summer 2017.

### ► OTHER UNIVERSITY-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Dr. Bordenave was selected to serve on the Southern University System Grievance Committee.

Dr. Darby conducted community/faith-based tutorial/enrichment activities, and as a Licensed Professional Counselor provided pro bono counseling/life coach activities in a community-based setting.

# School of Social Work

## Dr. Rebecca Chaisson, Dean

The School of Social Work is preparing for the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) reaffirmation while restructuring some programs, and revising and updating policies. CSWE accreditation is for both the BSW and MSW program. The dean and administrative team continues to work to obtain resources for this process.

In addition, the School continues to be engaged in the local and school community with a number of events, including the first Alumni Roundup. The School is working to continue a meaningful engagement with students outside of the classroom as students assist in assessing efforts to enhance their time in the School of Social Work.



On Dec. 14, 2018, the first "Millie M. Charles Alumni Roundup" featured local songstress Sharon Martin & Company. The guest of honor, Dean Millie M. Charles, had a grand time as she "chair danced" to her favorite tunes. More than 50 alumni gathered around her to take photos, talk and celebrate her life as well as thank her for her visionary leadership for the School of Social Work and the communities she has helped." This event developed by Dr. Karen Martin, Mr. Ronald Fletcher and Mr. Carl Segura. Donors include Dr. Derrick Freeman, Ms. Sheila Mason-Bailey, and Mr.

and Mrs. Bryson. The decoration committee members are Donna Bridgewater (BSW/MSW student), Kevanlynette Griffin (recent MSW graduate), Sheila Mason-Bailey, Ronald Fletcher and Karen Martin.

### ► CATHERINE KALOB AND ROBERT SEVALIA – FIELD EDUCATION LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Field Department is busy with various initiatives, all designed to increase responsiveness to students, faculty and field agencies. Mrs. Catherine Kalob and Mr. Robert Sevalia participated in the new student orientation programs organized by Mrs. Camille Alexander, MSW Admissions. Mrs. Kalob and Mr. Sevalia are excited to present the Field Education Program to students as they are just beginning their journey here at SUNO. Participation in these orientations will serve as a great relationship-building tool as students begin to prepare for all aspects of Field Education.





## Social Work Continued

The Field Seminar Instructors gathered in January for a “beginning of the semester” information-sharing and training meeting. The newly revised syllabi for Field 2 and 4 were rolled out, along with the revised and updated field documents. The field leadership team is pleased to have such a great group of caring and supportive field Instructors.

Finally, they conducted their first ever “All Field Seminar” meeting with field students Jan. 23, 24, and 26. They were able to interface with all Field 2 and 4 students and had productive and informative discussions regarding all aspects of Field education.

The Field Fair is April 24, 2019, Mr. Sevalia and Mrs. Kalob are working to build on the successes of past years along with innovative practice strategies that enhance field education. Mr. Sevalia is working closely with existing agencies, and continues to work tirelessly to develop new agency partners.

The field team also is reviewing survey results from MSW field students as a part of a new effort to engage students in enhancing the academic experience in the field internship.



### ► MRS. CAMILLE ALEXANDER -MSW PROGRAM ADMISSIONS

Mrs. Camille Alexander, director of MSW Admissions, organized three new student MSW orientation sessions. She welcomed 34 new part-time MSW students to the School of Social Work. At left, Dr. Harry Russell, director of the MSW program, welcomes and provides information to new students.

### ► MR. CLAUDE MONTEGUT - BSW PROGRAM

The BSW Program is collecting and processing Professional BSW Program Applications. Applications were disseminated during the fall 2018 semester to students enrolled in SOWK 211 - Social Welfare Policy and Service I. The application process requires a review of students’ academic transcripts, recommendation letters and personal interest statements by the BSW Committee for consideration of entry into the BSW Program.

The BSW Committee also has proposed changes to the BSW curriculum that will include the addition of a new course (SOWK 343 - Direct Service III); participation in writing lab, and a rearrangement of other courses in the curriculum that will allow students to complete 88 percent of the required University course work before entering the BSW Program. The addition of the new course increases the number of hours required to complete the BSW curriculum from 120 to 123.

# Community Outreach/University Advancement

## Mrs. Gloria B. Moultrie, Chief Administrative Officer

### ► ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Steven Byrd is a licensed clinical social worker with more than 20 years of school social work experience in public and private school settings. He has served as a central office administrator for the New Orleans Public Schools System Safe and Drug-Free Schools, and Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters. He also was the executive director for St. Thomas Irish Channel Consortium Self-sufficiency Program.

Dr. Byrd's work reputation with young people and mental health professionals is one of excellence and sound practice.

He received a Doctorate of Behavioral Health from Cummings Graduate Institute. He received his undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge and his Master of Social Work from Southern University at New Orleans. He has completed post-master certificate programs in Forensic Social Work and Child Custody, Mediation and Disputes from Tulane University and Loyola University New Orleans respectively. He is a member of the School Social Worker of America Association, National Association of Social Workers and New Orleans Association of Black Social Workers.

He participates in many local civil activities promoting mental health services for children and families. Dr. Byrd is a native of Louisiana, and currently lives in New Orleans. He enjoys Mardi Gras and cooking Creole, French, and Cajun foods. Dr. Byrd has traveled extensively across Europe and the Caribbean. He is one of 10 children, a husband, father of Cammi and Andrew Byrd, and the Grand buddy of Joi-Camille.



### ► GREAT DAY LOUISIANA



Public Relations Director Tammy C. Barney, from left, and Chief Administrative Officer Gloria B. Moultrie stopped by the WWL-TV Station in New Orleans to chat with "Great Day Louisiana" Host Jacqueline Mazur about the 60th anniversary of the University's opening.

During the segment that aired Jan. 23, Mrs. Barney and Mrs. Moultrie discussed the University's history, its impact on the community, the various programs on campus and the recent construction for four new buildings.

Watch the segment on the Great Day Louisiana Facebook page.

# Center for African & African American Studies

## Dr. Clyde Robertson, Director

Dr. Clyde Robertson was interviewed about the reality for the black community pre- and post-Katrina for a new TV series, "Gonzo." Currently in its first season, the show features reporters who travel across America covering a wide range of topics, speaking with knowledgeable people and experiencing the different parts of the U.S. that make it unique from the rest of the world.





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**FEBRUARY 2019**

**CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**





# Chancellor Report 2019

February • Vol. 4 • No. 2

## FACULTY / STAFF INSTITUTE - SPRING 2019 “ON ONE ACCORD - COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE”



Mr. Johnathan Holifield appointed Executive Director of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, served as keynote speaker for the Spring 2019 Institute. He is a recognized expert in economic and education inclusion and competitiveness, focusing on public-private partnerships and community system-building.

Mr. Holifield's interdisciplinary career includes serving as founding Vice President of Inclusive Competitiveness at NorTech, a leading regional innovation cluster and competitiveness organization, where he authored the Ohio Department of Higher Education statewide report, *Inclusive Competitiveness: Empowering Underrepresented Ohioans to Compete in the Innovation Economy*, and served on the Northeast Ohio Council of Regional Economic Policy Advisors. He was also founding Vice President of New Economy Enterprise at the Cincinnati USA Chamber of Commerce and founding Executive Director of CincyTech, a market-leading venture development organization.



*During the Faculty-Staff Institute in January, Dr. Ellis introduced key components of the Plan of Action for moving SUSLA forward in 2019!*

## SUS BOARD INSTALLS NEW CHAIR, NEW SHREVEPORT MEMBER



With his family at his side, on January 11, Attorney Domoine Rutledge accepted the charge to lead the Southern University System and its five campuses into the future as the new Chairman of the Board. Rutledge replaces outgoing Chair Mrs. Ann Smith. Also installed as a new member of the Board was Mr. Sam Gilliam to replace outgoing member Pastor J.R. Gant, Jr. who was honored (in his absence) for his many years of service to the Jaguar nation and its students.



Mr. S. Albert Gilliam  
Shreveport Board Member

### Inside this Issue ...

- Dr. Ellis Appointed to NLEP Board of Directors
- Blue Cross Blue Shield \$300,000 Award
- Institutional Advancement Mid-Year Update
- CWD Prepares for Successful Year
- Dr. Joseph O'ban Presents Paper in Singapore
- Students in the News
- Jaguar of the Month
- Student of the Month
- Campus Announcement / Events
- SUSLA Black History Month Events





## ELLIS APPOINTED TO NORTH LOUISIANA ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP (NLEP) NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

North Louisiana Economic Partnership (NLEP) announced its 2019-2020 Board of Directors and Officers. NLEP's new board members were elected by more than 200 investors for multi-year terms, and the Board in turn elects four board officers. The 2019 NLEP Board Chair is Mike Causey, Vice President of Sales for Hunt, Guillot & Associates. Adam Johnston, First Guaranty's Vice President & North Louisiana Regional Manager, is NLEP's new Chair-Elect. Chap Breard, President & CEO of MoeBiz, will serve as Treasurer; and Greg Lott, Progressive Bank's Executive Vice President, was chosen as NLEP's Secretary.

SUSLA's Chancellor, Dr. Rodney A. Ellis has been elected to serve as one of the newest members of the board.

The newest members to join NLEP's 52-person Board of Directors include:

Raymond Alley, Walker-Alley & Associates, LLC  
Christian Burney, Magee Resource  
Kevin Crosby, Lazenby & Associates, Inc.  
Rodney Ellis, Ed.D, Chancellor (SUSLA)  
Victoria Lemane, International Paper  
Annmarie Sartor, Drax BioMass

Eric Barkley, CenterPoint Energy  
Kevin Cook, Enterprise Computing Services  
Jennifer Elliott, Capital One  
Clay Hipp, First National Bank  
Mayor Adrian Perkins, City of Shreveport

## SUSLA CDC AWARDED \$300,000 COLLECTIVE IMPACT GRANT FROM BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF LOUISIANA FOUNDATION FOR MS KICK PROGRAM

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation announced that they will invest \$300,000 in Southern University at Shreveport, LA's (SUSLA) Milam Street Kitchen Incubator and Community Kitchen (MS KICK). The kitchen, located in the heart of Shreveport's Choice Neighborhood, will provide jobs, training and business mentorship, health education and a healthy restaurant in an effort to improve health in the Allendale and Ledbetter Heights communities. Shreveport's Mayor Adrian Perkins participated in the announcement. Also in attendance were state and local elected officials, along with regional business and community leaders.

Chancellor Dr. Rodney Ellis states that, *"Southern University is excited about this partnership and appreciates the investment from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation. This area was once a vibrant, economically thriving community and we know it can be again. The Blue Cross Foundation's investment will not only help provide healthy options for residents, but it will help restore a healthy economic base as well."*



**MS KICK is located at 1201 Milam Street and is projected to open in spring of 2019.**



Janice Sneed, SUSLA's Vice Chancellor for Community and Workforce Development said, *"We are encouraged by this new partnership with the Blue Cross Foundation to improve health and wellness in Allendale and Ledbetter Heights through a comprehensive education and training system. I think it's vital that we become familiar with health information about the food we eat and serve our families, and that is one of the main functions of the Milam Street Kitchen Incubator."*

For more information about the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation of Louisiana grant, contact: Stephanie Rogers, Chief Advancement Officer at [srogers@susla.edu](mailto:srogers@susla.edu) or Darrin Dixon at [ddixon@susla.edu](mailto:ddixon@susla.edu)



## FROM THE DIVISION OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT: MID-YEAR UPDATE

### Purpose Statement:

The Office of Institutional Advancement seeks to advance the mission of the University by fostering a culture of philanthropy on and off-campus for the purpose of generating revenue to sustain SUSLA and to expand opportunities for its students, business and industry partners, and the community it serves.



Stephanie K. Rogers

### MEET OUR TEAM

- Advancement, Alumni & External Partnerships, Stephanie Rogers, Chief Advancement Officer
- Graphic Services, Barbara Austin, Coordinator
- Southern University Museum of Art (SUMAS), Angelique Feaster-Evans, Coordinator
- Welcome Center (late spring 2019), Marlo Miller, Service Engagement Specialist
- Marketing and University Relations

### FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT OF PRIVATE PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

GROUP	PLEGGED	SECURED	TARGET
External Partners	\$479,500	\$337,850.00	Spec. Prog.; Scholarships
Alumni Memberships	\$22,050	\$18,850	SUSLA
Family Campaign (SUSLA)	\$12,899	\$8,645	Schol/Prof. Dev/Stud. Success.
Total at 1/29/18	\$514,449	\$365,345	

Other Private Program-specific Income rec'd at department level: Athletics: \$1,500 (Secured by Athletic Director Stephen Latson)

### ALUMNI AFFAIRS: New SUSLA Alumni Association Welcomes 48 Lifetime Members and 8 Annual

**(OFFICERS AND LIFETIME MEMBERS)** Anthony "Tony" Williams, President; Charles Johnson, Exe. VP; Tina Williams, VP Finance, Wanda P. Rachel-Mullone, Treasurer; Pamela Nash, VP Memberships; and Tichina Williams, V.P. Alumni Affairs.

**LIFETIME MEMBERS:** Jeremy M. Alexander, Anneka Alexander, Charles Anderson, Jr., Charles Anderson III, Jencan Aubrey, Jesse Aubrey, Lynn Braggs, Sharon Braggs, James E. Brown, Betty Brown, Erica Bryant, Willie Bryant, Xrevette, Dabney, Fefee G. Franklin, Tryndall Franklin, Rebecca Gilliam, LeShawn Goodwin, Roosevelt Hicks, Sharon Hill, Earline Jackson, Shona James, Tommy Jones, George Lewis, III, Calvin Lymons, Demetria Marks, Wanda Martin, Tony L. McLeod, William Minix, Tracey Moon, Carl Moore, Marvin T. Muhammad, Al Nash, Travis Otis, Gregory Sanders, Yvonnana Sam, Don D. Taylor, Steve Thomas, Derek Washington, Anthony Williams, Patrick Williams, Brenda Wimberly, Frank B. Wright, Raquel D. Wright.

**ANNUAL MEMBERS:** Yvette Allen, Bernice Franklin, Rasheema Smith, Charles Patterson, Adolphus French, Daphne Thibeaux, Henrietta Harris, Yolanda Williams. To learn more about the SUSLA Alumni Association or to become a member, go to [www.susla.edu/page/alumni-friends](http://www.susla.edu/page/alumni-friends)

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# BankMobile

## SALUTES SUSLA WITH ACE AWARD

Last year, BankMobile, SUSLA's partner in refund management and online direct-deposit refunds, introduced a new industry benchmark recognizing top performing institutions for embracing and promoting online disbursements with the. This year, SUSLA was recognized with the coveted ACE Award for issuing 4,939 disbursements totaling \$9,594,120. We salute SUSLA Finance, Financial Aid, and SUSLA IT for this team win for SUSLA students.

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### THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PREPARES FOR A SUCCESSFUL YEAR



As part of the 2019 Spring Faculty/Staff Institute, the Division of Community and Workforce Development (CWD) held its divisional meeting to strategize on the top priorities for the year. Janice Sneed, Vice-Chancellor for Community and Workforce Development set the tone by implementing the Chancellor's theme from the Institute that, *"This year we will be on One Accord... in delivering excellence to internal and external stakeholders."*

A few of the key priorities identified by the group for 2019 include: (1) development of new short-term certifications based programs and other training strategies (internships, apprenticeships, etc.) based on current workforce needs through enhanced employer engagements; (2) diversification of grant funds and new revenue strategies; (3) increasing and enhancing internal and external partnerships; (4) establishing a comprehensive office of Career Service and expanding (our) effectiveness and role with the One-Stop and; (5) a commitment to refocusing on the Minority Supply Diversity Programs.

The Division is also excited about the completion of the Milam Street Kitchen Incubator and Community Kitchen (MS KICK) project. *"Now that we are nearing completion of the first phase of the project, we will be focusing on staffing,"* says Darrin Dixon, Executive Director of Small Business Development and Project Director of MS KICK.

CWD units include; Continuing Education, Workforce Development, Career Services, Small Business Development and Community Development, which plans to increase marketing and visibility by creating a biannual newsletter and increase presence on social media and other media outlets.



For more information regarding CWD, contact:  
Shannon Levingston-McCowan at [slevingston@susla.edu](mailto:slevingston@susla.edu)





## SUSLA PROFESSOR PRESENTS SCIENTIFIC PAPER IN SINGAPORE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF QUAIL EMBRYOS IN SPACE

Dr. Joseph Orban, a Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Sciences from Southern University at Shreveport Louisiana, who is currently serving as U.S. Fulbright Scholar at Benue State

University Nigeria presented a scientific paper on "Development of Japanese Quail Embryos in Space" in Singapore. Dr. Orban was invited by World Gene Convention to make the presentation as well as serve as the Co-Chair of the Symposium on Agriculture, Food and Biotechnology at the 2018 World Gene Convention held November 13-15 in Singapore.



Dr. Orban seated with participants during World Gene Convention

According to Dr. Orban, space biology research over the years has involved the study of microgravity on plant species, life support systems and animal species. Animals were first used in space to test the survivability of space. Later, animals were flown to space to study the effects of microgravity on biological and physiological processes. Since 1949, many animal species and insects have been flown to space including monkey, chimp, mouse, tortoise, dog, guinea pig, rat, frog, cat, fish, shrimp, snail, nematode, spider, beetle, cricket and avian species. Among the avian species, the chicken and Japanese quail made their debut as birds in space in the late 1980s. Chicken studies in space were not very successful; however, the Japanese quail due to its smaller size seemed promising.

Thus more studies have been conducted using the Japanese quail as space bird for research and possible food supplement in space during prolonged space missions.

The objective of the research presented in Singapore was to evaluate calcium uptake from the eggshell and assimilation by quail embryos incubated in space and compare results with quail embryos incubated on earth during the same experimental period. Forty-eight fertile Japanese quail eggs were launched to space to the former Russian Orbital Space station Mir under the supervision of Dr. Shannon Lucid, the first American female to spend six months in space. The eggs were incubated at the space station for 16 days. Developing embryos from the eggs were fixed at 3, 7, 10, 14, and 16 days of incubation. On earth, two sets of quail eggs were incubated at the same time interval as space eggs. They included 48 fertile eggs as control under normal earth incubation conditions and 48 other quail eggs incubated as synchronous control mimicking incubation under space conditions. Results of the study showed 60% of normal development from embryos incubated in space. Eggshells retrieved from the study were analyzed for calcium content to evaluate uptake of calcium from the eggshells. The higher the amount of calcium found in the eggshell, the lower it was used or assimilated for growth and organ development. Results showed that calcium uptake from the eggshell by embryos improved with age (incubation period) both in space and on earth. However, calcium content (312 mg/g) from eggshells of quail embryos incubated in space was higher than in eggshells (277 mg/g) of quail embryos incubated on earth indicating that calcium use or assimilation from the eggshell by space embryos was 12.6% less than earth control embryos. Calcium content (298 mg/g) in eggshells of embryos from synchronous control (space-like condition) incubated on earth was similar to eggshells (312 mg/g) of embryos incubated in space. Results from the study provided information that can be evaluated along with other metabolic, developmental and physiological functions to determine the feasibility of quail growth and development in space ecosystem.



## STUDENTS IN THE NEWS ...

### ANOTHER PRODUCT OF THE SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT (SUSLA) FAMILY MAKES GREAT STRIDES AS ARMY WEST POINT SIGNEE

*Another product of the Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) family is making great strides. This time in football.*



SUSLA Upward Bound (Sabine Parish) Participant Shacori Williams is all the buzz, regionally and nationally, with his announcement as one of Army West Point's newest football signees.

Williams has been with SUSLA's Upward Bound Program since the ninth grade. He serves as the program's student worker and TRIO Student Leader (LASAP). An honor student, Williams is also District 3-2A MVP, All-State (Honorable Mention), and a Sunday School Teacher. West Point's official sports website, GoBlackKnights.com, made the formal announcement of his commitment, posting a photo from his signing reception with his Upward Mentor and Director, Cheryle Wheeler-Johnson of SUSLA.

Also, according to Louisiana Football Magazine, the Many High School Senior Running Back is among one of four Many seniors who committed last month to collegiate football programs on the first day of The Early National Signing Day Period.

SUSLA Chancellor Dr. Rodney Ellis says, *"This young man's efforts in our program, and in life, are admirable and we're proud to be associated with him."* Dr. Melva Williams, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment, adds, *"It's an achievement like Shacori's that reminds us each day of our commitment to making education equally accessible to everyone, everywhere, particularly those*

*from rural and diverse socioeconomic backgrounds."*

Shacori noted on his signing to West Point via his social media feed that, *"Now, I would proudly like to announce that I am 110% committed to Army West Point! Thank you Coach Monken, Coach Viti, and the rest of West Point coaching staff. I am truly EXCITED to continue my academic and athletic career as a Black Knight!!!"*

Williams is scheduled to enter West Point in the Fall of 2019.

### SUSLA BAND RECOGNIZED AT SUS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING

On Friday, January 11, 2019, SUSLA's new marching band, the Soundwave, was recognized at the first meeting of the Board of Supervisors. Under the direction of Dr. Albert Jackson, the band made its debut performance at the 2018 Bayou Classic, wowing the crowd with its electrifying rhythms as a prelude to the SU A&M's Human Jukebox appearance.

The program is a new addition to SUSLA's Student Services Division under the direction of Dr. Melva Williams, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.





## CONGRATULATIONS! MLA THESIS AWARD INAUGURAL WINNER

As a young child, Sherman Houston Jr. fell in love with Mahalia Jackson's music. That love carried him into the Master of Liberal Arts Program at Louisiana State University Shreveport, where he had the opportunity to develop his knowledge of Mahalia as he wrote his thesis.

He discovered that she was more than an extraordinary singer: she was also a key figure in the Civil Rights movement.

*"I was surprised to learn that she had such deep involvement in the movement. I didn't know her home was like a headquarters for the movement in Chicago," Houston, who now teaches as an Adjunct Instructor of History at Southern University in Shreveport, admits. "I was amazed to see how she spoke out so passionately about these issues at her concerts and how she tirelessly raised money to support the cause."*



Now Houston's thesis, *Moving On Up A Little Higher: Mahalia Jackson, Champion of Freedom through Song*, has been selected as the inaugural winner of the MLA Thesis Award. Houston will receive a \$500 cash prize and be guided through the process of editing his thesis to publish it as a book.

Many people think of Mahalia primarily – or only – as a soulful voice. But her role in the Civil Rights Movement went far beyond her singing at events like the March on Washington. Houston's work helps redefine her legacy for a new generation. Once his book is published, he plan to give a series of public talks and readings throughout the Shreveport-Bossier community.

*"I believe my thesis was chosen [for the award] because it is one that needs to reach this generation," says Houston. "I think that it offers the wider community a chance to see what you can achieve if you speak out. There are so many issues in today's world such as water for Flint, literacy rates, Black Lives Matter, Blue Lives Matter, poverty, the Border wall issue. If Mahalia were alive today, I believe she would speak out about all these topics."*

A schedule of readings will be announced later in the spring. The Noel Thesis Award is sponsored by an LSUS Faculty Research and Development Grant and by the Noel Foundation to share the best Master's Theses with the regional community.



**A QUICK  
Snapshot**

**2018 ANNUAL PRAYER VIGIL AT  
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**





# JAGUAR of the Month

*Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Chancellor is pleased to announce  
Mrs. Linzola Winzer  
as Jaguar of the Month for February 2019.*



Every campus has a key person or people that everyone knows and goes to for information. This month, one of those key people for SUSLA is Mrs. Linzola Winzer! Mrs. Winzer has worked at SUSLA for twelve years as the Executive Assistant to the Chancellor. Prior to SUSLA, she worked in banking and for a local casino. A regular song bird, Mrs. Winzer has lent her voice on behalf of SUSLA at various events. The daughter of a pastor, she has been a devoted member of Lake Bethlehem for the past thirteen years where she also sings in the choir. Mrs. Winzer is the mother of three sons and five grandchildren. Her greatest personal story is that she is a breast cancer survivor. This has allowed her to be a guiding light for her entire family, as well as, SUSLA.

Always willing to assist in making SUSLA the best it can be, Mrs. Winzer is a key person that all employees go to for help. One of the great joys of her position is the reason we are all here.....to assist students! *"Mrs. Winzer always makes time to help others whether she's working her job responsibilities, decorating for an event, assisting students and stakeholders, or offering a listening ear"*, stated Leslie McClellon.

Perhaps her most important role on the campus is managing the chancellor's office.....and the chancellor! Having worked with three chancellor's, Mrs. Winzer's role is vital for the college. Dr. Rodney Ellis had this to say, *"Mrs. Winzer is the hardest working woman at SUSLA. She never stops working day and night, is conscientious and always ensures the job gets done!"*

*Congratulations Mrs. Linzola Winzer, Jaguar of the Month*

# Jaguar Student of the Month




Mr. Detrius Adams is a native of Shreveport and graduated from Captain Shreve High School. He has maintained an above 3.0 GPA at SUSLA and has been selected to be a member of the distinguished Williams Center for Undergraduate Student Achievement Program, where he receives special mentoring and financial support in his pursuit of an undergraduate degree.

Mr. Adams will be expected to learn how to *"Give back"* to others like him so that they can realize their hopes and dreams of a successful life. He demonstrates that he is focused, resilient and responsive to the needs of others.

*We are proud of Mr. Detrius Adams and gratefully recognize him as Jaguar Student of the Month.*



# Announcements and Upcoming Events



dentistry from the heart

## smile. it's free.

### February 16, 2019

#### 2nd Annual Free Dental Event

This is the day when we give back to a community that has been so wonderful to us. Patients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis and may choose ONE of the following treatments **FREE!** Cleaning, Filling or Extraction. Must be 10 years and older.

Hosted By:

**Southern University  
Dental Hygiene School**  
in collaboration with  
**Miles For Smiles**

First 40 patients are guaranteed to be seen!

For more information please contact:  
318-670-6000 | [www.susla.edu](http://www.susla.edu) | [www.milesforsmiles.com](http://www.milesforsmiles.com)  
3050 Dr. Martin Luther King Dr. | Shreveport, LA 71107  
Event Hours: 9:00am until 3:00pm

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY at SHREVEPORT**  
*partners with*  
**GAMBINO'S BAKERIES**

## ATHLETIC FUNDRAISER

(ALL proceeds benefit SUSLA's Athletics, Cheer and Dance Teams)

### Mardi Gras King Cakes

Traditional: \$25 + • Praline: \$27 + • Cream Cheese: \$27

**Place your order TODAY!**  
(MUST be PAID for at the time of order)

Stephen Latson, 670-9760  
Marak Hall, 670-9450





*Be My Valentine*

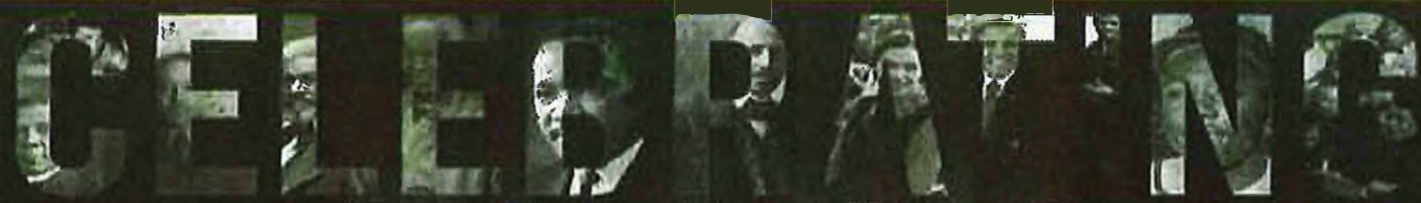
## Valentine's Day Social

February 14, 2019  
11:30 am - 1:30 pm  
Johnny L. Vance Student Center

For more information, contact:  
Rebecca Gilliam, (318) 670-9333

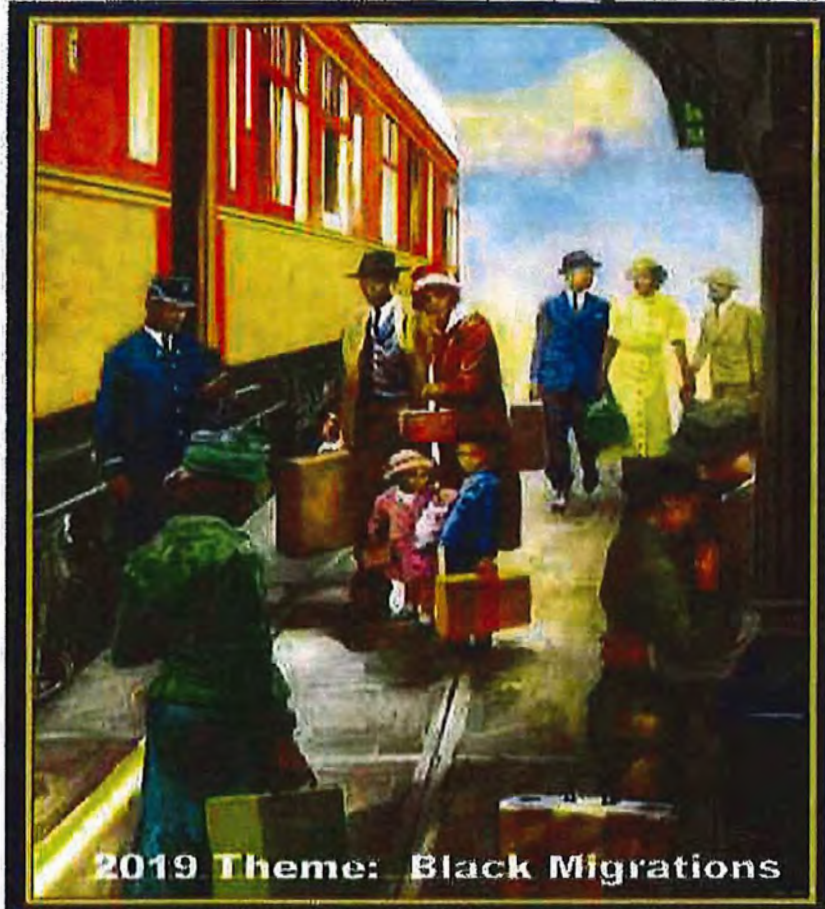






# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## FEBRUARY 2019



2019 Theme: Black Migrations

### BLACK HISTORY EVENTS AT SUSLA

- Feb. 1: *Daily "Black History Facts" Posts (SUSLA Social Media)*
- Feb. 5-7: *3-part Documentary Series "The Promised Land" Part 1: 9am, Part 2: 1pm, Part 3: 3pm (SUSLA Library)*
- Feb. 6: *SUMAS - Exhibit - 5-8pm "Reflections Work of Bennie Dotle"*
- Feb. 9: *History Club City-wide bus tour of Shreveport*
- Feb. 16: *Dentistry from the Heart FREE Dental Clinic 9am-3pm Alphonse Jackson, Jr. Hall*
- FEB. 28: *"Black in Shreveport" Forum Location / Time TBA*

### OTHER OUTSIDE EVENTS

- Feb. 2: *Black History Month Parade*
- Feb. 26: *Northside Elem. Music Recital / Reception 6pm - 8pm*

Contact: Marquel Sennet, Assistant Professor of History Program Coordinator  
Black History Events Coordinator - msennet@susla.edu







Excellence • Integrity • Accountability • Service • Diversity

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Larry Ferdinand, Chief Administrative & Operations Officer

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Units of the Division of Institutional Advancement / University Relations  
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Johnny L. Vance, Jr. Student Activity Center, Room 208, (318) 670-9201  
Section 504 Coordinator: Jerushka Ellis,  
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