



Southern University and A&M College  
**CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**  
to the  
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"We Are Southern"

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The 47th Annual Bayou Classic is set to take place on April 17, 2021 at the Independence Stadium in Shreveport.

# Southern University Elementary Teacher Prep Program Named as One of Top in the Nation

Southern University and A&M College's undergraduate elementary teacher preparation program has been named among the top in the country by the National Council on Teacher Quality, a nonpartisan, not-for-profit research and policy organization, for strong commitment to quality clinical practice experiences aimed at preparing aspiring teachers for the realities of the classroom.

"These top programs are to be commended," observed Kate Walsh, president of NCTQ. "Too many teacher prep programs struggle to make clinical practice a meaningful learning experience for aspiring teachers – especially when it comes to selecting effective mentor teachers, often due to lack of quality control by their partner school districts. The effort that these top programs have made to ensure alignment with their local districts so they can offer strong clinical experiences will have lasting positive impacts on their teacher candidates, and more importantly, their candidates' future students."

This month, NCTQ released its 2020 Teacher Prep Review: Clinical Practice and Classroom Management, which finds little national progress in the adoption of quality control metrics of clinical experiences (including student teaching and residencies), particularly in the process for selecting mentor teachers which is managed not only by teacher prep

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programs but also their partner school districts.

Southern's program stands out as among only 33 traditional elementary programs that earned an A (of more than 1,100 evaluated) due to strong clinical experience requirements and serves as a model of excellence for others. These top-performing programs are recognized for:

- Requiring candidates to spend 10 or more weeks in an experienced teacher's classroom, including at least four days per week or the

equivalent in the classroom each week

- Screening mentor teachers for mentorship skill and/or instructional effectiveness as measured by student learning, among other skills
- Requiring program supervisors to give student teachers written feedback based on observations at least four times during the clinical practice experience

The evidence for the importance of high-quality clinical experience is undeniable. A National Research Council report said that clinical practice experience is one of three "aspects of preparation that have the highest potential for effects on outcomes for students," and recent research has found that having a high-quality clinical practice experience can mean a first-year teacher starts out as effective as a typical teacher in her third year.

Now in its fourth edition, the Teacher Prep Review assigns a team of experts to evaluate teacher preparation programs on three elements of clinical practice: 1) the length of the experience, 2) the frequency of observation and feedback from a program supervisor, and 3) that the program requires that mentor teachers are effective and have the skills needed to mentor another adult.



## Southern One of First HBCUs to Partner with Google for Digital Skills Training

Google on Oct. 14 announced the Grow with Google HBCU Career Readiness Program, a new initiative to help Black students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) prepare to enter the workforce through digital skills training. Through a \$1 million investment in the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCFF), Grow with Google will provide digital skills workshops in the career centers of 20 HBCUs, reaching 20,000 students over the next school year. The program will be available to all HBCUs by fall 2021. Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana is one of the first four schools in the program, along

with Virginia State University, Winston-Salem State University, and Bowie State University.

"Today, nearly two-thirds of all jobs in the U.S. require medium or advanced digital skills, but 50 percent of Black jobseekers lack digital skills," said Bonita Stewart, Vice President for Global Partnerships at Google and Howard University alumna. "To address this skills gap and help Black students obtain the digital skills they need to succeed in the workforce, we're proud to partner with the Thurgood Marshall College Fund to launch the Grow

with Google HBCU Career Readiness Program."

"Digital skills are essential to landing a job and succeeding in today's workforce. I'm proud of the partnership with Thurgood Marshall College Fund and Google for investing in HBCUs by bringing the Grow with Google HBCU Career Readiness Program to Southern University and A&M College," said Congressman Cedric Richmond. "I look forward to seeing this program grow to reach all HBCUs and the leaders that develop from it for years to come."

# ON CAMPUS...



## Nuring Student Awarded P. Morgan Scholarship

Marlaisha Harris (center) is the recipient of the P. Morgan Scholarship — a need-based scholarship which offers financial assistance to a full-time school of nursing student who is currently enrolled in the Southern University School of Nursing Program pursuing an undergraduate degree.

## SU MBA Students to Co-Author Article on Black Lives Matter and the Workplace

Four students from the Southern University MBA Human Resources program will be joining Human Resources graduate students from Morgan State University and North Carolina A&T University to author an article for Human Resources Executive magazine on the impact of Black Lives Matter on the workplace from the perspective of emerging Black human resources leadership. The authors will be guided by fellows from the

National Academy of Human Resources (NAHR) as well as faculty advisors from each institution. Samantha Booker, Peter Brooks, Rashad Hicks, and Jalen Hudson have been tapped for the project from Southern University with Dr. Ron Jackson, Professor of Human Resources serving as faculty advisor from the Southern University College of Business.



## Redstick Battalion Giving Back in Hurricane Ravaged Lake Charles

The Redstick Battalion kicked off this semester by giving back to the community with a volunteer project in Lake Charles. After Category 4 Hurricane Laura made landfall in Louisiana, Lake Charles suffered massive damage, including six deaths. Together with the LSU Corps of Cadets—which is composed of the Air Force, Army, and SU Navy ROTC programs—everyone spent the entire day helping the residents of Lake Charles. The Battalion also worked with Samaritan's Purse, an organization that provides disaster relief internationally. Tasks varied from picking up broken shingles to cutting and removing trees.

