

Chancellor's Report



VOLUME 5

ISSUE 24

MARCH 2021

SUSLA CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH THIS 2021'S THEME: THE BLACK FAMILY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION



**THEME: THE BLACK FAMILY
REPRESENTATION, IDENTITY & DIVERSITY**



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
SGA Black History Spotlight on SUSLA Social Media
Weekly on Instagram & Facebook

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART SHREVEPORT
SUSLA Homecoming Exhibit
Mondays & Thursdays 10 AM-5 PM; Fridays 9 AM-12 PM
Metro Campus, 610 Texas St., Ste. 110

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART SHREVEPORT
SUSLA Homecoming Exhibit Intimate Reception with
Alumni Artists (Invitation Only)
Featuring Special Performance by Brenda Wimberly
Metro Campus, 610 Texas St., Ste. 110

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART SHREVEPORT
SUSLA Homecoming Documentary Virtual Screening & Artist
Talk, 3 PM-4 PM
Moderated by Dr. Sharron Herron-Williams featuring resident &
master class artists Roshanda Spears, Eric Francis &
Brenda Wimberly
via Zoom, Meeting ID: 987 0696 2857

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

JAGUAR COURTYARD
Black Culture Game Night, 7 PM

THURSDAY-FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11-12TH

2021 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN
AMERICAN STUDIES, INC. Virtual Conference:
Black Lives Matter and Social Justice, 9 AM EST & 8 AM CST
via Zoom, Meeting ID: 961 3127 7531 Passcode: 683779

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART SHREVEPORT
SUSLA Homecoming Film Live & Virtual Screening, 7 PM
Jackson Building Auditorium, Main Campus or via Zoom
Meeting ID: 966 2658 4770

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT
Black Culture Week, Wear All Black

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT
Black Culture Week, Second Line
Wear Mardi Gras beads & attire to commemorate of Krewes of
Zulu, Harnabee & Sobek

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT
Black Culture Week, Welcome to Wakanda
Wear traditional African garments/prints

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT
Black Culture Week, Shreveport Black History Trivia, 11 AM
via Zoom

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
Black History Month Convocation, 11 AM
via Zoom, Meeting ID: 701 733 9785

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT
Black Culture Week, Rep Your HBCU Fraternity or Sorority

Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) celebrates Black History Month. This year's national theme is the Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity. The Faculty & Staff developed activities that the university's campus and Shreveport-Bossier community could enjoy as one.

This year's celebratory activities included the Student Government Association (SGA), Southern University Museum of Art Shreveport (SUMAS), the Library Department, and the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences. The events occurred all month long, and the school plans to continue the tradition with even more possibilities for the city to enjoy.

For more information, please contact, LaTari Fleming, Dean of Students and Campus Life at lfleming@susla.edu, Angelique Feaster Evans, Museum Coordinator at afeaster@susla.edu, and Marquel Nicol Sennet, History Program Coordinator at msennet@susla.edu.



CONGRATULATIONS DR. ELLIS ON BECOMING AN EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION REGION AMBASSADOR FROM THE NJCAA

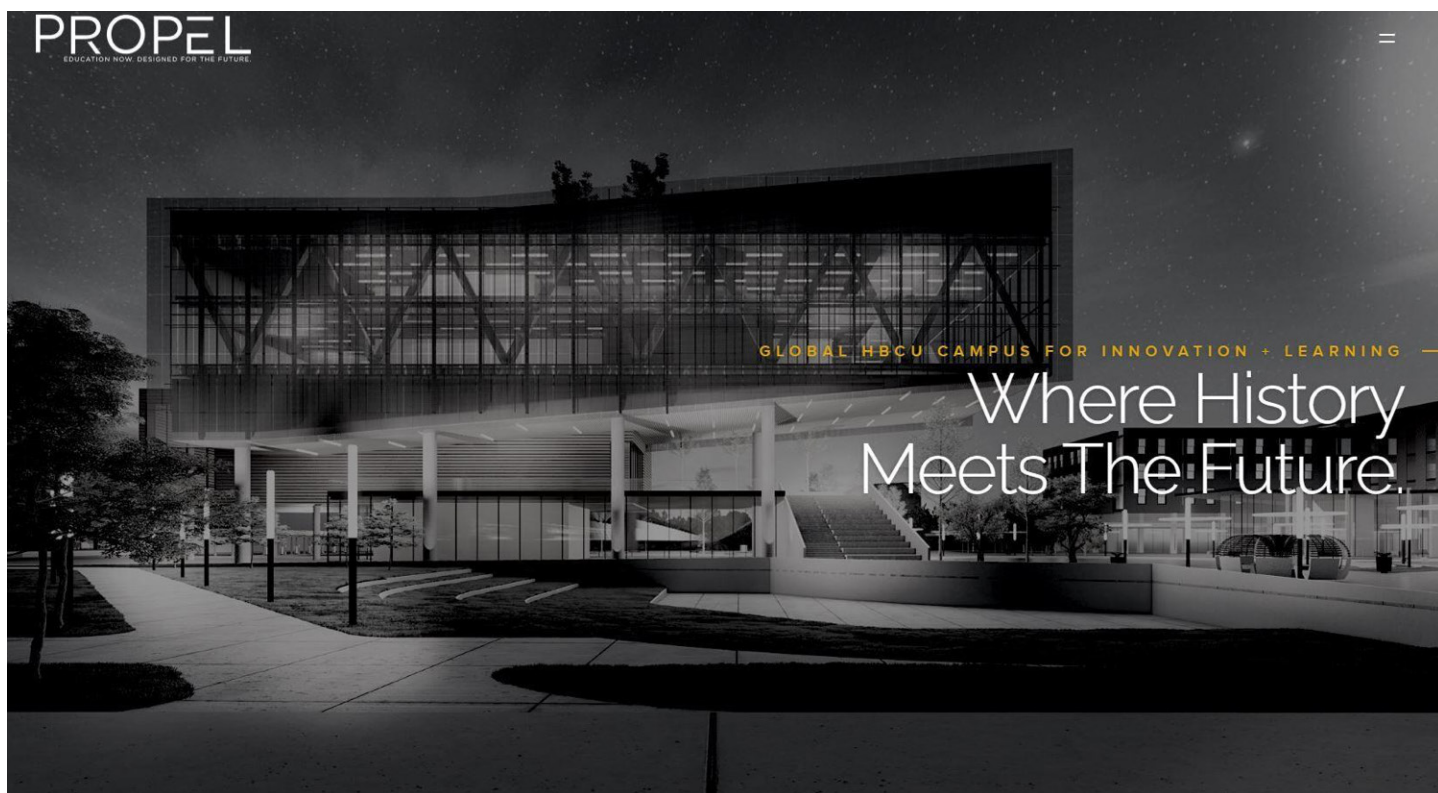


Congratulations, Dr. Ellis! Our Chancellor of Southern University at Shreveport has been selected to the position of EDI Region Ambassador. The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) is excited to collaborate with him, share ideas, and get to work. Ambassadors will develop a working framework to form EDI Region Committees and lead their respective regions in EDI initiatives. Region Ambassadors will fill an especially important role the Region EDI Committees will play on a regional and national level. Intentional focus will be to educate, empower, and engage their student-athletes, coaches, and athletic directors.

Congratulations again! We are happy the NJCAA Council recognizes your demonstrated commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion and look forward to beginning your collaborative efforts!



SUSLA PARTNERS WITH APPLE FOR NEW PROPEL CENTER



Southern University Shreveport has partnered with Apple for a project specific to historically black colleges and universities (HBCU). The new digital learning hub hopes to help combat systemic racism, and to advance racial equity in the educational space. They call it the Propel Center.

SUSLA's Chancellor, Rodney Ellis says, "Currently, minorities, Blacks, Browns and other people of color aren't represented the way they are represented in the totality of the community in the tech industry."

The Propel Center's physical campus is located at the Atlanta University Center, but the digital platform is available to Southern University at Shreveport's students. The center is designed to provide HBCU's with shared resources. The goal is to help support and prepare the next wave of technology students. According to Dr. Ellis, the digital hub and regional facility in Shreveport are expected to be available during the summer.

Source: *KTBS News* (ktbs.com)

#ComeBeSouthern

SUSLA EMPLOYEES RECEIVE COVID-19 PERSONAL SAFETY KITS



Dr. Rodney A. Ellis
Chancellor

TO: Faculty and Staff
From: Chancellor Rodney Ellis
Date: January 18, 2021
Subject: SUSLA COVID-19 KITS

Hello Jaguars,

It's been a long time since we have actually seen each other. I pray you and your families are in great spirit and good health. Thank you for your continued working relationship and support to the Southern University at Shreveport Office Of The Chancellor. I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with a small token of appreciation. It is my pleasure to offer you a **SUSLA COVID-19** personal safety kit. The kits will include a SUSLA mask, wipes and other items needed to assist in protecting yourself during this pandemic.

Ms. Linzola Winzer and Mrs. Marlo Miller will assist in making sure all employees receive your kit. The schedule for dissemination is as follows:

MLK Campus starting

Thursday January 21, 2021 from 10:00am – 2:00pm at the Welcome Center (second floor) Administration Building.

Metro Campus

Monday January 25, 2021 from 2:00pm – 6:00pm, Metro Lobby

To be properly identified and assisted, please bring your ID.

With great appreciation

Sincerely,

Chancellor Rodney A. Ellis

RAE/lw

3050 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DRIVE, * SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA 71107
PHONE: (318) 670-9312 * FAX (318) 670-6374
TOLL FREE: 1-800-458-1472, EXT 6312
www.SUSLA.EDU

"Southern University at Shreveport does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, national origin, gender, disability or any other protected class in its programs and activities". The following person(s) has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Title IX Coordinator: Dr. Tuesday Mahoney, College Success Ctr. (318) 670-9201. Section 504 Coordinator: Jerushka Ellis, Behavioral Science, (318) 670-9367



SUSLA HOSTS HBCU C2 REGIONAL HUB: A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES SPONSORED BY APPLE



SUSLA employees joined Apple Professional Learning for virtual conferences throughout the month of January. They covered a range of topics, all designed to provide educators time-saving tips and features to support teaching and learning. The conferences lasted one hour and held twice daily Monday through Thursday, to support educators after school.

One-to-One or Small Group Coaching Sessions

Apple Professional Learning Specialists were ready to help faculty learn new skills and answer questions about remote learning. To schedule a free personal coaching session, email your request to AppleProfessionalLearning@apple.com.

Virtual Conferences

They explored helpful resources, practice new skills, and reflect on ways Apple technology could support great learning and teaching. Hosted by Apple Professional Learning Specialists, these hands-on sessions ran for approximately 60 minutes and offered twice daily.

Session Topics

- Getting Started with Mac
- Getting Started with iPad
- Create Content with iPad
- Create Instructional Resources
- Promote Active Learning with iPad
- Create Videos with Clips
- Organize Resources with iPad
- Quick Start to Code
- Start your Apple Teacher Journey

For more information, contact Dr. Sharron Herron-Williams at shwilliams@susla.edu or 318-670-9731.

SUSLA EARNS 2021-2022 MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL DESIGNATION



Southern University at Shreveport announced today that it has earned the 2021-2022 Military Friendly® School designation. Institutions earning the Military Friendly® School designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey. Over 1,200 schools participated in the 2021-2022 survey with 747 earning the designation. The 2021-2022 Military Friendly® Schools list will be published in the May issue of G.I. Jobs magazine and can be found at www.militaryfriendly.com.

Methodology, criteria, and weightings were determined by Viqtory with input from the Military Friendly® Advisory Council of independent leaders in the higher education and military recruitment community. Final ratings were determined by combining the institution's survey response set and government/agency public data sources, within a logic-based scoring assessment. We measure the institution's ability to meet thresholds for Student Retention, Graduation, Job Placement, Loan Repayment, Persistence (Degree Advancement or Transfer) and Loan Default rates for all students and, specifically, for student veterans.

Chancellor Rodney Ellis states, "I attribute the Military Friendly designation to the outstanding work and efforts of our team to enhance support for military members, veterans and their families. In 2019, under the leadership of Governor John Bel Edwards, Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) established the LaVet Corps Center, a student resource center established for veterans returning from active-duty military service to successfully transition home to college and their local community. Also, SUSLA has one of five Department of Education, Veterans Upward Bound Programs (VUB) that assist veterans in transitioning from military to civilian life by achieving their academic goals. SUSLA has the only VUB program in the region."

"Southern University at Shreveport is proud to have attained its designation as a Military Friendly Campus", says Dr. Terry Kidd, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Workforce Development. "Our goal is to continue to develop and enhance programs and services that will exceed our veterans' expectations for them and their family's educational needs. They've given us their very best and we intend to give them ours."



NEXT PAGE

SUSLA EARNS 2021-2022 MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL DESIGNATION (CONTINUED)



“Military Friendly® is committed to transparency and providing consistent data driven standards in our designation process. This creates a competitive atmosphere that encourages colleges to consistently evolve and invest in their programs. Schools who achieve designation show true commitment and dedication in their efforts. Our standards assist schools by providing a benchmark that promotes positive educational outcomes, resources, and support services that better the educational landscape and provide opportunity for the Military Community.” - Kayla Lopez, National Director of Military Partnerships, Military Friendly®

For more information about Southern University at Shreveport’s student veteran programs, visit the University’s website at www.susla.edu/page/veterans-upward-bound.

About Military Friendly® Schools:

The Military Friendly® Schools list is created each year based on extensive research using public data sources for more than 8,800 schools nationwide, input from student veterans, and responses to the proprietary, data-driven Military Friendly® Schools survey from participating institutions. The survey questions, methodology, criteria and weighting were developed with the assistance of an independent research firm and an advisory council of educators and employers. The survey is administered for free and is open to all postsecondary schools that wish to participate. Criteria for consideration can be found at www.militaryfriendly.com.

MILAM STREET KITCHEN INCUBATOR & COMMUNITY KITCHEN (MS KICK) TENANT, TAYLOR'D EATZ, HOSTS RELAUNCH EVENT —“TASTE OF JAMAICA”



Taylor'd Eatz, a tenant of MS KICK, hosted a sold-out event, Chef Robyne's "Taste of Jamaica" on Saturday January 30th. The Shreveport Bossier area residents were invited to taste Authentic Jamaican food samples such as Jerk Chicken, Brown Stew Beef, Saltfish Fritters, Jerk Shrimp, Chef Robyne's Jerk Rolls, and Rum Cake. Chef Robyn's Creations also featured Handcrafted Sauces, Spice Blends along with her new Heat & Eat Meals. They were able to take their guests' tasting preferences and deliver food curbside to ensure all COVID-19 safety protocols were followed.

Taylor'd Eatz serves Authentic Jamaican Cuisine made with Chef Robyne's hand-crafted sauces and seasonings. She strives to use local, organic/natural and GMO-free ingredients in all of her menu items. While growing up in New Jersey and experiencing a variety of cuisines through her travels, Robyne developed a fondness for Caribbean food. This includes Jamaican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and Trinidadian delicacies. When asked about the daunting daunting time, energy and efforts required to start her own business, Chef Robyne replied, "Knowing that I am working hard to see people enjoying my food, solidifies that I made the right decision to follow my passion for cooking."

Taylor'd Eatz is currently open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at MS KICK 1210 Milam St, Downtown Shreveport for Lunch and Dinner. Orders can be placed online for Curbside Pickup, and Delivery is also available. Come experience the Authentic Taste of Jamaica with Chef Robyne's dishes!

More information can be found on the Taylor'd Eatz Facebook page or www.taylordeatz.com.



MILAM STREET KITCHEN INCUBATOR & COMMUNITY KITCHEN (MS KICK) TENANT, VEGANS ON THE RUN, FEATURED AS SHREVEPORT BUSINESS OF THE WEEK



Dr. Joslin Mar-Dai Pickens, Communications and General Studies Department Chair and Associate Professor of Communications and Mass Communications at SUSLA, is one of the Owners of Vegans on the Run and is a foodie at heart who puts all of her passion and more into her Vegan dishes served weekly at MS KICK, a SUSLA program for budding Culinary Entrepreneurs. Although this family owned business is just a year old, it brings years of experience to area Vegans while putting a healthier lifestyle within their grasp. They tout their Vegan Dishes as comfort food, which offers great delight to all of their customers.

This family owned and operated company is a generational business comprised of two sisters, Dr. Joslin and Dr. Kimberly, Mother Linda Pickens and Daughter Jaylynn. They specialize in presenting traditional favorites with a Vegan twist.

The genre of meals ranges from American, Mexican, and even Soul Food! All meals are 100% Vegan and 100% organic. The company is very unique and brings all your favorite foods to your table. During the pandemic, they are offering contactless orders and adhering to all COVID safety precautions.

Their advice for small business owners is to continue to learn and reach out to the available resources such as MS KICK to get lessons, skills, and certifications to help you along the way. They can be found on Facebook and Instagram where they post their weekly menus and times of operation.

Congratulations to Vegans on the Run for being highlighted as Shreveport's Business of the Week!

ADMISSIONS & RECRUITMENT COUNSELORS SHIFT TO VIRTUAL COLLEGE FAIRS



The Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) Jaguar Scholars hosted its first Cohort “Kick-Off” Session on January 22, 2021 with scholars at Newton Smith’s Career & Technology Center (CTC). The cohort is designed to allow students to learn about each other’s talents and strengths while also encouraging students to bond and share their experience on their first day of college. More importantly, Jaguar Scholars provide students with a solid network of peers while also providing a highly positive and successful entry into the post-educational world.

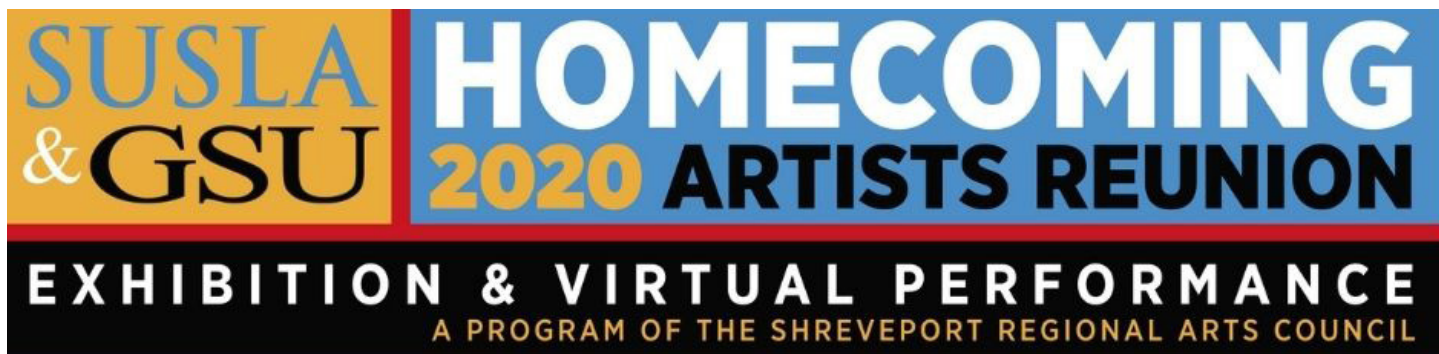
The SUSLA Jaguar Scholars program is a U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) project that provides Job Corps-eligible youth age 16-24 the opportunity to enroll in a career technical training program to learn in-demand job skills at accredited public colleges. The project is expected to serve 80 students during the 39-month period of performance.

Jaguar Scholars provide eligible students with career technical training and intensive counseling services to support and facilitate each student’s employment and career success. This is a free program for students and offers a unique opportunity to gain valuable education, as well as skills employers are seeking for today’s workforce. For more information about the Jaguar Scholars program, call (318) 670-7850 or visit <https://www.susla.edu/page/jaguar-scholars>.

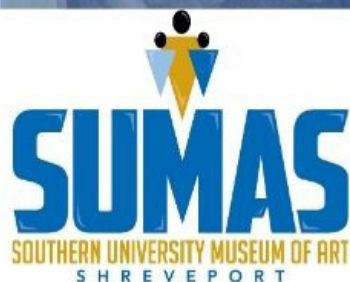


OPPORTUNITY STARTS HERE.

SUMAS HOSTS BLACK HISTORY MONTH EXHIBITION 'MUSEUM FEATURES ALUMNI ARTISTS IN HOMECOMING EXHIBIT'



SUSLA & GSU **HOMECOMING 2020 ARTISTS REUNION**
EXHIBITION & VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE
A PROGRAM OF THE SHREVEPORT REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL



BLACK HISTORY MONTH EXHIBIT
FEATURING ARTWORK FROM SUSLA ALUMNI ARTISTS
FEBRUARY 1-28, 2021
610 TEXAS STREET-DOWNTOWN SHREVEPORT, LA
MONDAYS & THURSDAYS: 10AM-5PM; FRIDAYS: 9AM-12 NOON

Southern University Museum of Art Shreveport (SUMAS) hosted the opening reception for the Black History Month Exhibit 'SUSLA-GSU Homecoming 2020 Artist Reunion' featuring the artwork of SUSLA alumni artists. This event was held on Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at the Downtown Metro Center campus located at 610 Texas Street, Ste. 110, Shreveport, Louisiana.

"SUMAS is honored to feature an exhibition of SUSLA alumni artists, curated by Eric Francis, SUSLA alumnus, as part of the National Endowment for the Humanities funded project presented by the Shreveport Regional Arts Council in partnership with Southern University at Shreveport and Grambling State University.

This landmark event highlighted the rich tradition of visual, performing, and cultural arts as well as the artistic contributions made by graduates of these esteemed HBCUs in Northwest Louisiana" said Angelique Feaster Evans, Museum Coordinator. The exhibition includes the works of Daphne Coleman (SUSLA/SU, 1975), Terry "TJ" Coleman (SUSLA/SU, 1971), Woodrow Evans (SUSLA, 1984), Eric Francis (SUSLA, 2001), Raymond Love (SUSLA, 1974), Henry Price (SUSLA, 1967-69; SU, 1971), and Wendell Wilson (SU, 1977; GSU, 1988).

The exhibit will be on display through February 28, 2021. Modified Hours—Mondays & Thursdays, 10 AM-5 PM; Fridays, 9 AM-12 Noon. This event is free and open to the public.

WELCOME OUR FEBRUARY 2021 NEW HIRES AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT



Jacqueline Yarbrough
Online Associate
E-LEARNING

Lateef Leffall
Instructor of English
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & CWD

John Thompson-Curtis Roberts
Online Associate
E-LEARNING

Angela Helm
Business Consultant
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & CWD

Johnita Tisby
Employment Counselor
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & CWD

Patrick Wesley
Interim Athletic Director
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & CWD

Brandon Keith Lacey, SR
Distance Education Technology Support Specialist
E-LEARNING

Shanitha Glover
Clinical Coordinator/ Instructor Surgical Technology
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & CWD

TRANSFER/PROMOTION

Dr. Chyrl Jackson
Tutorial Coordinator
STUDENT AFFAIRS & ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

SUSLA LADY JAGS ARE UNDEFEATED: OUR WOMEN'S BASKETBALL MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS



The SUSLA Lady Jags are undefeated (3-0) this season. Also the lady Jags are #1 in the country for the best free throw percentage in the nation and are also #12 in the country for scoring. Another key stat is that the SUSLA lady jags are #5 in the nation for the least amount of turnovers per game. The sophomores #23 Diamond Hawthorne (Eldorado H.S.) and #21 Brianasia Owens (Ruston H.S.) are leading the team in points and rebounds per game. The local recruits are also helping the SUSLA lady jags to perform above expectations. #10 Raven Johnson (Southwood H.S.) is averaging 13 points per game and is leading the team in assist.

#10 Raven Johnson (Southwood H.S.) is averaging 13 points per game and is leading the team in assist. #3 Charneshia Collins (Green Oaks H.S.) is averaging 12 points and has the most steals on the team. #5 Jalia Redd (Captain Shreve H.S.) is averaging 8 points and has the second most assist on the team. #22 Kelcee Marshall is averaging 9 points and is the third leading rebounder on the team. The SUSLA lady jags are on track to make a big playoff run this season and continue to break records.



The Chancellor's Report is a monthly publication from the
Office of the Chancellor
Rodney A. Ellis, Ed.D., Chancellor

Contributing Editors

Leslie R. McClellon, Ed.D., Chief of Staff & Special Assistant for Strategic Initiatives
Linzola Winzer, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

Angelique Feaster Evans, SUMAS Coordinator
Yvette Allen, Advancement Program Coordinator & Alumni Ambassador

Articles provided through various campus units and
the Office of Marketing & University Relations
Rasheeda Simmons, Director of Marketing

Design & layout provided through the
Office of Graphic Services & Document Management Center
Dellanee Wade, Graphic Services & Multimedia Coordinator

Units of the Division of Institutional Advancement/University Relations
Stephanie K. Rogers, Chief Advancement Officer

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BOARD MEMBERS

Atty. Domoine D. Rutledge, Chairman
Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert, Jr., Vice Chairman
Mr. John L. Barthelemy
Ms. Arlanda Williams
Rev. Donald R. Henry
Dr. Leroy Davis
Christy Oliver Reeves
Mr. Myron Lawson
Mr. Raymond M. Fondell
Mr. Richard T. Hilliard
Mr. Sam Albert Gilliam
Mrs. Ann Smith
Rani G. Whitfield, M.D.
Atty. Edwin Shorty
Dr. Leon R. Tarver, II, At-Large
Mr. Bakari Garvey, Student Representative
Dr. Ray L. Belton, President & Secretary to the Board of Supervisors

ARE YOU FOLLOWING US ON SOCIAL MEDIA?



Southern University at Shreveport does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability, or any other protected class.

Title IX Coordinator: Dr. Tuesday W. Mahoney, Johnny L. Vance, Jr. Student Activity Center, Room 208
318.670.9201. Section 504 Coordinator:

Jerushka Ellis, Health & Physical Education Complex, Room 314, 318.670.9367.



Rodney A. Ellis, Ed. D.
CHANCELLOR

EXECUTIVE TEAM MEMBERS

Dr. Leslie R. McClellon
Wayne H. Bryant
Dr. Terrance Kidd
Dr. Antonius Pegues
Stephanie K. Rogers
Frank Williams, Jr.
Dr. Melva Williams
Janice Sneed
Brandy Jacobsen

CHANCELLOR'S CABINET MEMBERS

Sandra Bigham
Major Brock
Devonye Brown
JoAnn Warren-Brown
Darrin Dixon
Tobias Gardner (SGA)
Angelique Feaster Evans
Brandy Jacobsen
Stephanie Graham
Dr. Barry Hester
Sonya Hester
Sophia Lee
Janice Sneed
Dr. Tuesday Mahoney
Dr. Lonnie McCray
Dr. Veronica McEachin
Carolyn Miller
Chief E. Page Reynold
Dr. Lalita Rogers
Jorge Sousa
Regina Winn
Sheila Swift
Tiffany Varner
Linzola Winzer, Recording Secretary