



SUND
YESTERDAY
TODAY
Forever!

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

APRIL 2026

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
AT NEW ORLEANS

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Dear Southern University System Board of Supervisors,

It is my honor to welcome you to the April 2026 edition of the Southern University at New Orleans Chancellor's Report.

At SUNO, our story continues to be one of resilience, commitment, and progress. Each day, we reaffirm our mission to provide transformative educational opportunities while strengthening our impact across the New Orleans community and beyond. This report reflects not only our accomplishments, but the collective determination of our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and partners who move our institution forward.

This semester, we have remained focused on enhancing the student experience, expanding academic excellence, and strengthening the infrastructure that supports teaching, learning, and innovation. From advancements in our academic programs to increased visibility through strategic partnerships and community engagement, SUNO continues to position itself as a catalyst for opportunity and upward mobility.

Our students remain at the heart of everything we do. Their perseverance, talent, and ambition inspire us to create pathways that lead to meaningful careers and lifelong success. As we invest in their futures, we are also investing in the future of our city, our state, and our global society. While we celebrate progress, we also recognize that our work is ongoing.

We remain committed to building a stronger, more innovative SUNO—one that meets the evolving needs of higher education while staying true to our legacy of access, excellence, and service.

Thank you for your continued support and belief in the mission of Southern University at New Orleans. Together, we are not only shaping scholars—we are shaping the future.

SUNO is a place... *Where Champions Rise!*

With knightly pride,

DR. JOSEPH BOUIE, JR.

Chancellor, *Southern University at New Orleans*



In the Know AT SUNO

INAUGURAL QUEENTESSENTIAL WOMEN'S SUMMIT

The 66th Southern University at New Orleans and Her Royal Court Present the Inaugural Queentessential Women's Summit

The SUNO Royal Court proudly commenced Women's History Month by honoring the power, beauty, and brilliance of all queens during Queens Week. They concluded the week on a high note with the "Crowned in Purpose. Stamped in Legacy." Women's Summit, which united inspiring voices, meaningful dialogues, and a community dedicated to uplifting women.

The conference featured:

- Keynote Address from Primetime News Anchor Gina Swanson
- Panel discussions with women leaders, including Judge Kimya Holmes, Dr. Dionne Nichols, Dr. Cassandra Sheppard, and State Representative Delisha Boyd
- Etiquette seminars
- A panel discussion showcasing HBCU Queens from across the Southern University System and sister institutions in New Orleans.



SPRING FEST



Spring Fest Week Hosted by the Office of Enrollment Management and Student Success

Following mid-terms and leading up to Spring Break, SUNO Knights celebrated a well-deserved break during the annual Spring Fest Week, hosted by the Office of Enrollment Management and Student Success. Throughout the week, students engaged in a variety of enjoyable activities, starting with a comedy show featuring local comedians, providing a perfect opportunity to unwind after the previous week.

Events of the Week Included:

- Silent Party
- Voter Registration Drive
- Midnight Breakfast
- Pit Masters: Greek BBQ Cook-off
- Glow in the Dark Bike Ride
- Financial Literacy Seminar
- Campus Wellness Fair



COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

The 2026 FUEL Coalition Meeting was held at LSU's Center for Coastal & Deltaic Solutions in Baton Rouge. SUNO STEM faculty members—Dr. Murty Kambhampati, Dr. Joe Omojola, Dr. Lisa Mims-Devezin, and Dr. Christian Clement—attended the meeting, which included mentoring five undergraduate students during the 2025-2026 academic year.

The event began with a greeting from Dr. Robert Twilley, followed by a plenary session led by FUEL CEO Michael Mazzola. FUEL's directors presented highlights on various initiatives, including Use-Inspired Research, Technology Commercialization, Strategic Partnerships, and Workforce Development.



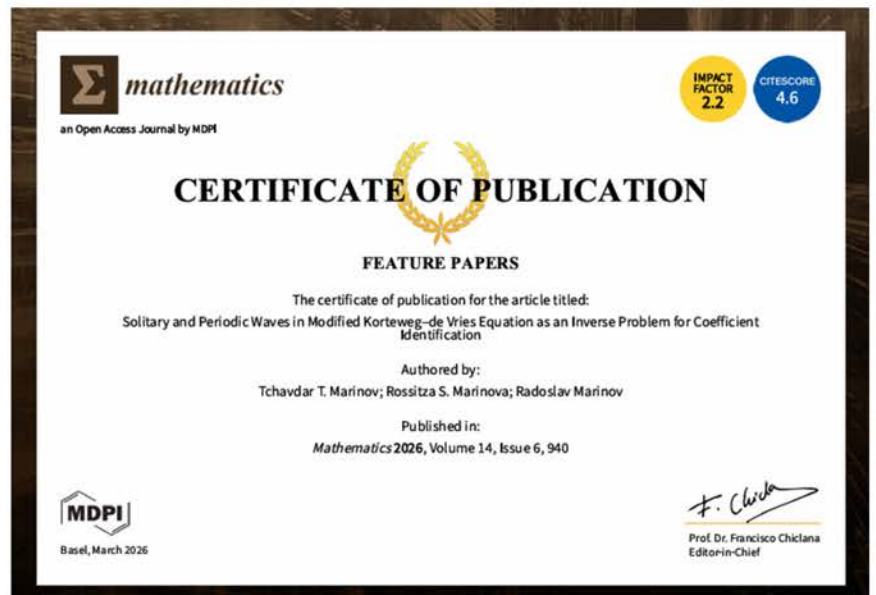
Community Mentorship

Lisa Mims-Devezin, a professor, was invited to speak to a group of young ladies at Morris Jeff High School on the topic of empowerment. This engagement proved to be a rewarding experience for Dr. Mims, who conducted the session on behalf of the Natural Sciences department at SUNO. She shared her insights with the faculty, emphasizing the importance of mentorship and empowerment in the community.



Publications

Marinov R. et al.,
MDPI mathematics: Solitary and Periodic Waves in modified Korteweg-de Vries Equation as an Inverse Problem for coefficient Identification



SUNO Criminal Justice Club visits Jefferson Parish Office Crime Lab

Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) Criminal Justice Club participated in a guided tour of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office Crime Lab and Training Facility. This experiential learning opportunity allowed students to observe the practical application of forensic science and law enforcement training.

Key highlights included:

- Insight into forensic processes like evidence collection and analysis.
- Understanding the rigorous training required for law enforcement personnel.
- Interactive engagement with agency professionals, providing mentorship and career guidance.

Special thanks were given to Commander Jason Rivarde, Sergeant James Chapman, and Ms. Elaine Schneida for their support in educating future criminal justice professionals. The tour was a success, aligning with SUNO's mission to enhance student engagement and strengthen community relationships, with hopes for future partnerships to expand learning opportunities.



At the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS), Dr. Delaney facilitated a roundtable discussion entitled "Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention Program: The Role of HBCUs." Special recognition was given to the panel, which was selected by the President and Chairs of ACJS.

The roundtable featured Assistant Professor Darryl Roberts from Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) and faculty members from Dillard University. The discussion centered on the responsibilities and strategies necessary for enhancing awareness and educating key stakeholders at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).



SUNO Strada Scholars Shine at the 2026 Strada HBCU Summit in Dallas

Southern University at New Orleans proudly participated in the Strada HBCU Summit held in Dallas, Texas. Strada Scholars—Amani Jenkins, Myles Bradford, Zekhi Settles, Jakhiya Smith, Kayla Whitfield, and Katelynn Wilson—as they embarked on an enriching and transformative professional development experience.

The three-day summit brought together HBCU students from across the nation for an immersive schedule focused on career readiness, leadership development, and network building. Scholars engaged in dynamic workshops, thought-provoking panel discussions, and interactive sessions led by industry professionals dedicated to supporting the next generation of diverse leaders.

Throughout the weekend, SUNO's scholars demonstrated exceptional professionalism, enthusiasm, and curiosity. They actively contributed to conversations exploring workforce trends, personal branding, purpose-driven career pathways, and the evolving landscape of opportunities available to HBCU graduates. Beyond absorbing valuable insights, our students built meaningful connections with peers and professionals—relationships that will continue to support them on their academic and career journeys.

The summit further highlighted the mission of the Strada Scholars Program: preparing students to become career-ready, confident, and connected. By participating in experiences like this, scholars not only expand their knowledge, but also cultivate the skills and networks essential for long-term success.



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