

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT NEW ORLEANS

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

JULY 2025

PATHWAY TO KNIGHTHOOD

ENROLLMENT



RETENTION



GRADUATION



PERSISTENCE



GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL
STUDIES/PLACEMENT



A MESSAGE FROM CHANCELLOR AMMONS

It is with immense pride that I welcome you to this edition of the Chancellor's Report—an opportunity to reflect on our collective progress and the bold strides we continue to make as a university community. At Southern University at New Orleans, we remain committed to the success of our students, the advancement of our academic programs, and the uplift of the Greater New Orleans region.

This spring, we celebrated several landmark achievements. Our 2025 Commencement honored more than 300 graduates, including the historic first cohort from our School of Nursing. The ceremony was further elevated by a powerful keynote address from U.S. Congresswoman Jasmine Crockett, who challenged our graduates to lead with courage, purpose, and integrity. We also welcome Dr. Adrian Rolle as the new Dean of the School of Nursing—a transformative leader dedicated to fostering equity, innovation, and academic excellence.

Student success remains at the heart of all we do. Our approval for a \$100,000 award from the Louisiana Board of Regents to launch new initiatives that demonstrate our commitment to transparent teaching and high-impact learning.

This summer, we continue expanding access and engagement through initiatives like the Cybersky Drone Camp, introducing middle and high school students to cutting-edge technology and cybersecurity, and by hosting the Anthony Bean Community Theater Summer Camp, nurturing the next generation of creative talent on our campus.

As we look ahead, we remain anchored in our mission and motivated by our motto that everyone can **“be a part of something great”** at SUNO.

With kind regards,
James H. Ammons, Jr., Ph.D.
Chancellor, Southern University at New Orleans



In the Know AT SUNO

COMMENCEMENT WEEK 2025

Commencement Week at Southern University at New Orleans was a spirited celebration of achievement, tradition, and community. The week kicked off with the Faculty and Student Appreciation Crawfish Boil, where the SUNO family came together over food, music, and fellowship to honor the hard work of the academic year.

The momentum continued with the annual Honors and Awards Day, recognizing students for their academic excellence and leadership. Departmental pinning ceremonies across disciplines offered meaningful, intimate moments for students to be recognized by their faculty and peers.

The Graduate Hooding Ceremony added a special layer of pride, as master's degree candidates were formally honored for reaching this significant academic milestone. Each event led up to Saturday's Commencement Exercises, where the SUNO community gathered to celebrate the Class of 2025 and honor their resilience, excellence, and the bright futures ahead.



INAUGURAL NURSING PINNING CEREMONY

Southern University at New Orleans proudly hosted its inaugural Nursing Pinning Ceremony, honoring the first graduating cohort from the School of Nursing. This milestone event celebrated the students' dedication, resilience, and transition into the nursing profession.

Surrounded by family, faculty, and the SUNO community, each graduate received the official SUNO nursing pin—symbolizing their commitment to compassionate care and professional excellence.



SPRING COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES



On May 10, 2025, SUNO held its Spring Commencement Ceremony at the Lakefront Arena, honoring over 300 graduates, including the inaugural cohort from the School of Nursing. The event featured U.S. Congresswoman Jasmine Crockett as the keynote speaker, who delivered a powerful address emphasizing the importance of resilience, education, and the ongoing pursuit of freedom. Drawing from SUNO's history and her own experiences, Rep. Crockett inspired graduates to embrace their roles as leaders and changemakers in their communities.



The ceremony also included remarks from Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, Louisiana Commissioner of Higher Education, and members of the Southern University System Board of Supervisors, underscoring the significance of this milestone for SUNO and its commitment to advancing higher education and health equity across the state.



SUMMER ENRICHMENT

CYBERSKY DRONE CAMP

Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) is excited to host the Cybersky Drone Camp, a free, week-long summer program, designed for students in grades 8–12. Led by SUNO's Cybersecurity Department, this immersive camp offers hands-on experience in drone operation, flight simulation, and an introduction to cybersecurity principles. Participants will explore the intersection of technology and security, gaining insights into the economic and practical applications of drone technology. The camp aims to ignite interest in STEM fields and equip students with skills relevant to today's digital landscape.

ANTHONY BEAN COMMUNITY THEATRE PERFORMING ARTS SUMMER CAMP

The Anthony Bean Community Theater & Acting School (ABCT) invites aspiring young performers to its 2025 Performing Arts Summer Camp, a transformative six-week program running from June 2 to July 11. The camp is open to students aged 7–17, and offers immersive training in acting, playwriting, stage production, costuming, lighting, and set design. Each week culminates in a live performance, allowing campers to showcase their creativity and growth.



MEAUXMENTUM PROJECT AWARD RECIPIENT

SUNO's TILTed for Success and Knights GPS project proposal was recently approved by the Louisiana Board of Regents through its *Meauxmentum* initiative, awarding the university \$100,000 to support student success and instructional innovation. This investment strengthens two key programs: Knights GPS and TILTed for Success.

Knights GPS provides a structured academic roadmap from enrollment to graduation, incorporating proactive advising, career-aligned course selection, and early alerts for timely intervention.

TILTed for Success focuses on faculty development and course redesign using the TILT framework to enhance clarity, relevance, and equity in teaching. Together, these initiatives create a student-centered environment that boosts engagement, retention, and degree completion—particularly for SUNO's diverse, first-generation student population.



WELCOME DR. ROLLE DEAN, SCHOOL OF NURSING

Southern University at New Orleans proudly welcomes Dr. Adrian Rolle as the new Dean of the School of Nursing. A visionary leader with over a decade of experience in healthcare and higher education, Dr. Rolle brings a passion for equity, innovation, and student success.

With clinical roots in cardiac care and advanced training in nursing practice and leadership, he is known for fostering inclusive academic environments and building strategic partnerships. His research focuses on health equity, community resilience, and addressing disparities affecting African-American college students.

Dr. Rolle's appointment marks an exciting new chapter for SUNO Nursing, as the program continues to grow and serve the region with excellence.



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The College of Business & Public Administration at SUNO celebrated ten entrepreneurs who completed a four-week, 30-hour business acceleration program titled "Beyond the Blueprint: Scaling Your Business Like a CEO," hosted by Phoenix Prodigy Enterprise at SUNO's Business Incubator.

Led by Latasha Glass, the program offered personalized support to help small business owners overcome challenges and scale successfully. Funded by a Louisiana Economic Development (LED) grant, the training provided technical, networking, and business skills. The graduation ceremony featured remarks from City Councilman Eugene Green and SUNO Dean Dr. Igwe Udeh, who encouraged ongoing collaboration with SUNO students and faculty. Graduates shared testimonials highlighting the program's immediate impact on their businesses and expressed gratitude for the guidance received.



GRADUATE PLACEMENT OUTCOMES

At Southern University at New Orleans, student success doesn't stop at graduation—it begins a new chapter. SUNO graduates are making meaningful strides in the workforce and continuing their academic journeys at top graduate and professional schools across the country. Whether launching careers in healthcare, business, education, public service, or tech, or pursuing advanced degrees in law, medicine, or social work, our alumni are prepared to lead with purpose, resilience, and excellence.

Their achievements reflect SUNO's commitment to providing a transformative education that equips students to rise, thrive, and make an impact wherever they go.

2024 - 2025 GRADUATES:

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

12 Attending Graduate School
1 Attending Law School

PSYCHOLOGY

11 Attending Graduate School

MUSEUM STUDIES

3 Attending Graduate School
4 Employed

FORENSIC SCIENCE

3 Attending Graduate School
2 Employed

PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT

Ashe Cultural Arts Center
Delgado Community College
George Chamberlain House and Museum
Gretna Police Department
Jefferson Parish School System
Louisiana Health Solutions
Ogden Museum of Art
Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office
Savista
St. John Parish School System
University of South Alabama Hospital

HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEMS

1 Attending Graduate School
2 Attending Nursing School
7 Employed

BIOLOGY & CHEMISTRY

9 Attending Graduate School

EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

1 Attending Nursing School
3 Employed in Education Field

POST- BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS

Arizona State University
Capella University
Clark Atlanta University
Indiana University
James Dunn Fellowship
Louisiana State University HSC
Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine
Loyola University
Morehouse Medical School
Southern University and A&M College
Southern University at New Orleans
Southern University Law Center
University of Holy Cross
University of Louisiana Monroe
University of Ottawa
Xavier University Pharmacy School

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