

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT NEW ORLEANS

# CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2025

# A MESSAGE FROM Chancellor Bouie

Dear Southern University System Board of Supervisors,

It is with profound pride and unwavering enthusiasm that I welcome you to this edition of the Chancellor's Report. As we commence the Fall 2025 semester, I reflect on my first month as Chancellor with a deep sense of purpose, resilience, and determination to position Southern University at New Orleans for enduring success.

From day one, we have taken decisive action to stabilize institutional operations and strengthen fiscal accountability, implementing robust financial controls to ensure strategic stewardship of all resources. These measures safeguard the integrity of public and private funds while advancing the University's mission.

To reinforce leadership and operational continuity, we appointed a new Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management & Student Success and designated an interim Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, ensuring that critical areas receive consistent oversight and strategic guidance.

Our commitment to student welfare remains paramount. We remediated pressing residential life and housing issues, securing safe and supportive environments for our students. Concurrently, we established several task force to optimize processes, enhance communication, and ensure timely fulfillment of financial obligations.

Engagement with the campus community is a priority. Through structured listening sessions, we have identified key opportunities for improvement, streamlined communications, and initiated a strategic review of the Evening & Weekend College to broaden access, attract non-traditional learners, and elevate enrollment.

These efforts mark the beginning of a transformational journey. Together, we will advance SUNO as a model of academic distinction, operational excellence, and meaningful community impact, ensuring every student thrives in a dynamic and supportive environment because SUNO is *where champions rise*.

With gratitude and respect,
DR. JOSEPH BOUIE, JR.

Chancellor, Southern University at New Orleans

# In the Know AT SUNO

#### **FIRST-TIME STUDENT ORIENTATION**

On Friday, August 8th and August 15th, Southern University at New Orleans conducted its Athletic New Student Orientation and Freshman Orientation for the upcoming Fall semester. This event brought together over 200 newly registered first-time freshmen, transfer students, and readmitted students, along with faculty, staff, and student leaders who generously volunteered their time to create a meaningful experience.

This year, the orientation took place in both the Millie Charles School of Social Work auditorium and the Knights Castle (commonly referred to as the Gym). The atmosphere was filled with excitement, nervousness, and hope. Students were warmly welcomed by the University College team, student leaders, and advisors, all eager to assist and embrace them as part of SUNO's Knights Nation.

The morning featured a heartfelt welcome from Chancellor Bouie, along with greetings from our Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Dr. Cook, and the deans of our various Schools and Colleges. Students also received warm welcomes from the Student Government Association (SGA), student leaders, and representatives from student support services, our athletic director, and other essential personnel. Additionally, we offered a dedicated session for parents, equipping them with information on how to best support their students during their time on campus. This effort highlighted SUNO's commitment to nurturing not only the students but also the entire community that surrounds them.

Hosting the orientation was more than merely disseminating information; it aimed to establish a robust foundation of belonging and success. Students were introduced to valuable resources that will guide them throughout their journey here, welcoming them into the SUNO family.

As we look back on this day, it serves as a reminder of the significance of orientations—they set the tone for an exceptional college experience. We demonstrated to the students that SUNO is not just an institution for learning; it is a place where they can be seen, valued, and encouraged to flourish into something extraordinary.







#### **KNIGHTFLIX: WELCOME WEEK 2025**

Southern University at New Orleans is rolling out the red carpet for new and returning students with Welcome Week 2025, a week-long celebration designed to introduce students to campus life, build community, and ignite Knight Pride.

Branded as part of the KnightFlix Series, this year's theme — "SUNO Yesterday, SUNO Today, SUNO Forever" — highlights tradition, unity, and the excitement of the journey ahead. Students won't just be arriving on campus; they'll be making an entrance into a legacy where champions rise.

The week kicked off on Monday with the Who's Who? Ice Cream Social, giving students a chance to meet peers and leaders while enjoying a sweet treat. Tuesday brings double the fun with Tacos & Line Dancing followed by a Movie Knight Event under the stars.

Wednesday, a student favorite, features the Campus Resource Fair and the lively Block Party & Greek Stroll Off, bringing together SUNO's vibrant community organizations. On Thursday, students can gain insight into their future at the Career Center Informational & Pep Rally.

As the week builds momentum, the spotlight shines on two "Top Pick" events: the much-anticipated Pool Party on Friday, and a practical yet engaging Walmart Resource Trip on Saturday, ensuring students are ready for the semester ahead.

With events tailored to foster engagement, friendships, and a strong start to the academic year, Welcome Week sets the tone for student success both inside and outside the classroom. Backed by the spirit of Knight Nation, SUNO students are reminded that they are part of a story bigger than themselves — one rooted in purpose, powered by community, and destined for greatness.







#### **CAMPUS RESOURCE FAIR**

Resource Fair Connects Students with Essential Campus and Community Services

This year's Resource Fair, organized by the Office of Community Service-Learning, took place in the breezeway of the Arts and Humanities building from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event successfully united students with over 25 vendors representing both campus departments and community organizations. Ms. Erieal Perry provided an opportunity for students to discover a variety of support services, ranging from health and wellness resources to academic and career guidance, all conveniently located in one spot.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Aramark for generously sponsoring the event and supplying refreshments for attendees. Their ongoing support contributes to making events like this more inviting and enjoyable.

The fair featured exciting giveaways, engaging games, and a thrilling dunk booth, fostering a vibrant atmosphere. Students also savored delicious treats from local vendors, including Fresh Fruit Sensations, Kona Ice, and Louisiana's Best Kettle Corn.

The Resource Fair aims to ensure that students are aware of the numerous resources available to help them thrive both academically and personally. It reflects our commitment to supporting student engagement, well-being, and success.











#### **LEONARD S. WASHINGTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

Michelle Ochillo, Open Education Resources (OER) Librarian, is a member of the 2025 cohort in the Certificate in Open Education Librarianship. This eight-month online program mentors librarians, giving them the skills and knowledge needed to promote open education resources. She is near the end of the certificate program and working on her final project. She will complete the program in September 2025.

The library received 25 laptops from the SUNO Connects Program. The library's laptop checkout program supports the library's mission to support equitable access to technology, especially for students who may not own a personal computer or need a backup device.



#### **FALL 2025 LIBRARY HOURS**

Monday & Wednesday: 7:30am - 5:00pm Tuesday & Thursday: 7:30am - 7:00pm

Friday: 7:30am - 12:30pm

Saturday: By Appointment Only

\*Excluding Holidays







#### **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

## SUMMER INTERNSHIP LEADS TO PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR MORE SUNO STUDENTS

Kyce Vaucresson's Internship Experience

This Summer 2025 semester, Kyce Vaucresson, a senior majoring in Business Administration and a proud member of the Honoré Center for Undergraduate Student Achievement, completed a fulfilling internship with the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Aqua Agriculture Center of Excellence.

During his time there, Kyce acquired practical experience in:

- Sustainable project planning
- Renewable energy applications
- Community engagement

His professionalism and outstanding contributions left a lasting impression on the organization. As a result, at the end of his internship, Kyce was offered a part-time position with the Center.

The organization was so impressed by Kyce and the quality of SUNO students that they have requested a minimum of ten SUNO students each semester to take part in future internship opportunities, fostering a valuable pipeline for students into Louisiana's sustainability and entrepreneurship workforce.

## CBA FACULTY PARTICIPATE IN HARVARD UNIVERSITY BUSINESS SCHOOL CONTINUING ED. PROGRAM

Dr. Samuel Eweni and Dr. Krishna Poudel from SUNO College of Business & Public Administration attended Harvard Business Publishing Education's Teaching with Cases Seminar at Harvard Business School from July 30 to August 1, 2025. The course was facilitated by Harvard professors and included remote case assignments utilizing ChatGPT before the on-campus session.

The seminar aimed to enhance faculty skills to foster critical thinking and decision-making in students. Additionally, Dr. Igwe Udeh and Dr. Yun Doo Lee participated in a similar seminar in July-August 2024.

#### RENEWABLE ENERGY MANAGMENT PROGRAM

The Renewable Energy Management (REM) program continues to grow in popularity across campus. Over the past three semesters, students from diverse disciplines—including Business Administration, Computer Information Systems, Public Administration, and the Natural Sciences—have increasingly enrolled in REM courses.

This cross-disciplinary demand highlights both the relevance of renewable energy to multiple career paths and the importance of SUNO's forward-looking academic offerings. Kyce's accomplishment, along with the program's expanding enrollment, new partnerships, and growing workforce pipeline, reflects SUNO's commitment to preparing students for success in Louisiana's evolving energy economy.





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