



Moving Forward



Dr. James H. Ammons, Jr., Ph.D.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

January 2020

SUNO

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY *at* NEW ORLEANS

ARTS • HUMANITIES • SOCIAL SCIENCES

6400 Press Drive • New Orleans, LA 70126 • (504) 286-5000 • www.suno.edu

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

*Dr. Evelyn Harrell, Dean*The Addictive Behavior Counseling and Prevention Program (ABCP)

Mr. Ronald Delaune, a 2017 magna cum laude graduate of the Addictive Behaviors Counseling and Prevention (ABCP) Program completed his studies for the Masters in Counseling degree from Holy Cross College in December 2019 with a 3.9 GPA. The attainment of the degree was the final criterion which made him eligible to test for licensure. Mr. Delaune completed the test and has upgraded his credentials from a Certified Addiction Counselor (CAC) made possible with the attainment of the Bachelor's Degree in ABCP to a Licensed Addiction Counselor (LAC). In February, he will test to become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC).



Center for African And African American Studies

Dr. Clyde Robertson, Director



AKOBEN (vigilance) Calling the Students of SUNO To Educational, Civic, Cultural & Social Action!

The Center for African and African American Studies held its *Annual Living Legend Program* on **January 17, 2020**. This year the center honored and recognized Louisiana's own **Anthony Bean**. The Living Legend Award is presented to a grassroots member of the New Orleans African American community for exemplary and lifelong service. The award focuses on the area of education, youth development, community activism, community-based health & wellness, cultural enrichment, and small business development. Mr. Bean was selected because of his life-long commitment and contribution to Black Community Theater and cultural education. This event was held in the Millie M. Charles-School of Social Work Auditorium.

The Center established an Africana Literary Center at McDonough No. 35 Senior High School, 4000 Cadillac St, New Orleans, LA 70122, under the guidance of Mr. Donald Hess, African Studies Instructor. Mr. Lee Green, Principal.

Museum Interior Buildout Organizing Committee

Construction Documents review on Project No. 01-107-05B-13 Part No. F.010038890 *Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Building – Southern University at New Orleans*

The Archival administration plan proceeded through the Project Manager Tracey Webster. Ms. Hill's office fulfilled a protocol for the Archive buildout for Room 207, which includes a floor plan, furniture and equipment (computer, printer/scanner) as well as, preparation for products and supplies. In addition, an upgraded computer system will provide storage accommodation, additional software workshops, and scanning techniques that yield state of the art archive reception and maintenance.

The Mellon Grant Initiative: Ms. Hill collaborated with Syracuse University, Princeton University, SUNO Forensic Science and SUNO-CAAAS, grant initiative classified original techniques to embolden cultural heritage and secure teaching and preservation by a plan to:

- ◆ Establish best alliance practices and identifying opportunities amongst cohorts
- ◆ Share resources such as space and tools (including administration and personnel
- ◆ Share archive and collection policies for protocols and procedures
- ◆ Coordinate undergraduate and graduate training programs
- ◆ Coerce collaborative cost sharing
- ◆ Compile an adjoined bidding and funding associated interest
- ◆ Share, enrich, and broaden professional traditions and expertise



Health Information Management Systems

Dr. John Barrilleaux, Director

Professor Sharon McGee has been approved to be a Subject Matter Expert to participate in AHMA Exam Development Projects. Sharon has also completed the requirements to become a AHIMA Approved Revenue Cycle Trainer.

On Saturday January 18th, SUNO Health Information Management Systems (HIMS) Program hosted a Certified Coding Specialist (CCS) Exam Preparation Workshop here on campus. This event was sponsored jointly by Louisiana Health Information Management Association (LHIMA) and Mississippi Health Information Management Association (MHIMA). The six (6) hour interactive workshop provided participants with key information on how to successfully prepare and pass the certification exam. Certified coders are a high demand profession with well-paying jobs. The attendees were HIM professionals from across Louisiana and Mississippi including some SUNO alumni. HIMS faculty members Professor Sharon McGee and Professor John Barrilleaux attended and assisted in facilitating the workshop.



Department of Natural Sciences

Dr. Carl Johnson, Chair

The president of the faculty senate, Dr. Mostafa Elaasar, and the vice president of the faculty senate attended the Board of Supervisors meeting of the Southern University System January 10th 2020 in Baton Rouge. Dr. Tietzel briefly stated the outstanding dedication of the faculty of Southern University at New Orleans to the Board of Supervisors.

The attendees were HIM professionals from across Louisiana and Mississippi including some SUNO alumni. HIMS faculty members Professor Sharon McGee and Professor John Barrilleaux attended and assisted in facilitating the workshop.



On January 22nd of 2020, Professors of the LSU HSC New Orleans presented to interested students and faculty internship and educational opportunities at LSU Health Sciences Center. Dr. Allison August-Wallace presented details about the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) including the inaugural neuroscience research experience. Student Shana Littleton, explained the one year Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP) s. Dr. Basha explained the graduate school programs (MS, PhD, MD/PhD).

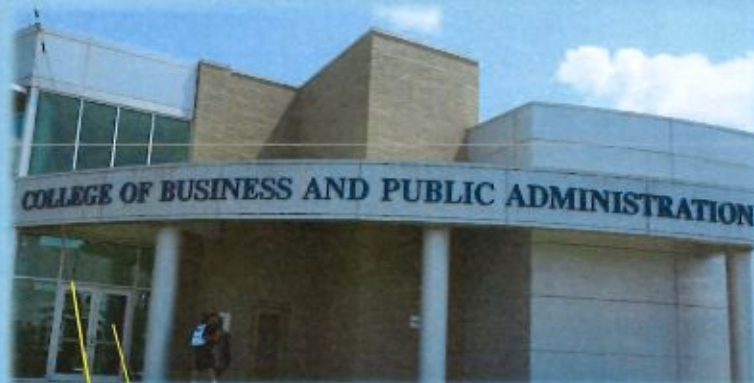
One of the LaSPACE HIS scholars of SUNO, Ms. Mitchell-Cleveland, won a travel award for the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) November 13th to November 16th 2019 to give a talk about her research of "Using *Caenorhabditis elegans* as a Bio-detector for Radiation."



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION*Dr. Igwe Udeh, Dean***Academic Excellence Initiatives**

Ms. Christina Clark, a Business Administration major, received the 2019-2020 Greg DeBose Family Scholarship for business majors. This scholarship was made possible by Mr. Gregory DeBose, who earned his BS in Business Administration with a minor in Economics from the College of Business in 1992.. This scholarship was established in recognition of the difference that SUNO made in the life and career of Mr. DeBose whose famous quote is

"the life you see today was made possible by God and SUNO, in that order." Mr. DeBose and his wife, Louise, established the scholarship to encourage students to major in Business Administration, which he considers one of the most useful academic discipline in any college. This is the third year that this \$1,000 scholarship has been offered. To be eligible for the scholarship the student must be a business administration major, at least of junior standing, and with a GPA of 3.00 or better. Applicants must submit three letter of reference, a resume', academic transcripts, and a letter explaining their career goals and how the scholarship will enable them to achieve those goals to the College of Business Office of Student Services no later than June 30 of each year. A College of Business committee is charge with reviewing and recommending a candidate to the Office of the Dean of the College of Business & Public Administration.

**SUNO Team Meets to Map Out Study GNO Inclusion Strategy**

Interim SUNO Chancellor, Dr. James Ammons, Jr., set up a taskforce headed by the Interim SUNO Chief Administrative Officer, Ms. Laverne Toombs, to map out a strategy for the university's participation in the Study GNO project. Other members of the taskforce are Dr. Igwe E. Udeh, Dean, College of Business & Public Administration, Prof. Harry Doughty, Executive Associate to the Chancellor, and Ms. Ada Kwanbunbumpen, Director, Office of Institutional Effectiveness. Study GNO is a marketing campaign that highlights all higher education institutions in the region and the advantages they offer to prospective students while in college and after graduation. Study GNO is one of the initiatives made possible from an Economic Development Association (EDA) grant awarded to GNO, Inc. The Study GNO marketing campaign will include the creation of a website and regional communication resources for GNO regional partners to utilize. The SUNO team, which held its first meeting on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at the Bashful Administration Building, is responsible for providing data, images, narratives, and oversight requested by Development Counsellors International (DCI), which has been retained by GNO, Inc. to shepherd the creation of the Study GNO website and regional communication resources.

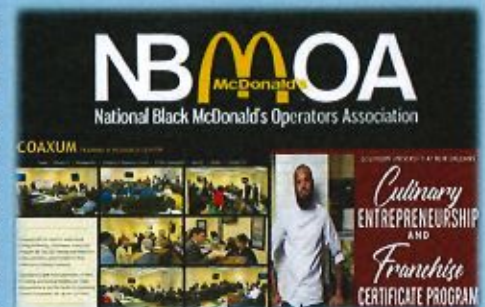
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (Continued)

Computer Information Systems Opportunities with IBM Global University Programs

Four Computer Information Systems (CIS) faculty members and Dr. Igwe E. Udeh, College of Business Dean, participated in a conference call with Valinda Scarbro Kennedy, Global Academic Programs Manager for US Midwest at IBM, on the 27th of January 2020, to explore opportunities for participation in the program. The **IBM Academic Initiative** is the program IBM uses to provide access for faculty and students at accredited academic institutions to use IBM resources for free for teaching, learning and non-commercial research purposes. The topics include data science, cloud computing, security, blockchain, artificial intelligence, systems and more. This is a self-driven, self-directed site and each faculty and student enrolls with their institution issued email address. The **IBM Skills Academy** is the integrated program incorporating a week of faculty training, pre-built and maintained curriculum, hands-on cloud based labs, use cases, quizzes, exams and badges. The critical skills tracks are: artificial intelligence, blockchain, cyber security, data science, IOT, cloud computing, design thinking and quantum computing. The requirement is for faculty who attend the workshop to return to their campus and using the same assets they were trained on begin teaching within a matter of weeks/months building those skills with their students and community. This is designed for all students to leave the campus with a basis understanding of critical technology areas and to be able to apply it to their disciplines. Dr. David Alijani will coordinate subsequent meetings on this after due consultation with departmental and college faculty.

CBA's Culinary Entrepreneurship and Franchise Certificate Program Instructor Presents to NBMOA

Mr. Omar Aziz, the facilitator of the Culinary Entrepreneurship and Franchise Certificate program at SUNO's Small Business Development & Management Institute (SBDMI) attended a meeting of the New Orleans Chapter of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association (NBMOA) on January 23, 2020. Mr. Omar used the opportunity to showcase the numerous benefits that the franchise operators would derive by supporting the certificate program for their employees and potential successors. He reminded the participants that some are aging and with no apparent heir to take over the business, and as such should be in serious hunt for potential buyers of their business or for savvy operators to continue their legacy. NBMOA held a meeting at the SUNO College of Business Building in 2019 and a larger meeting to be hosted by the College of Business is planned for summer 2020.



Small Business Development & Management Institute

Interim SUNO Chancellor, Dr. James Ammons, Jr., set up a taskforce headed by the Interim SUNO Chief Administrative Officer, Ms. Laverne Toombs, to map out a strategy for the university's participation in the Study GNO project. Other members of the taskforce are Dr. Igwe E. Udeh, Dean, College of Business & Public Administration, Prof. Harry Doughty, Executive Associate to the Chancellor, and Ms. Ada Kwanbunbumpen, Director, Office of Institutional Effectiveness. Study GNO is a marketing campaign that highlights all higher education institutions in the region and the advantages they offer to prospective students while in college and after graduation. Study GNO is one of the initiatives made possible from an Economic Development Association (EDA) grant awarded to GNO, Inc. The Study GNO marketing campaign will include the creation of a website and regional communication resources for GNO regional partners to utilize. The SUNO team, which held its first meeting on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at the Bashful Administration Building, is responsible for providing data, images, narratives, and oversight requested by Development Counsellors International (DCI), which has been retained by GNO, Inc. to shepherd the creation of the Study GNO website and regional communication resources.

Small Business Development & Management Institute

Cynthia Beaulieu, Director

SBDMI Workshops/Seminars/Trainings/Meetings (December 2019 & January 2020)

- ♦ CBA Monthly Meeting; December 4, 2019; CBA Faculty & Staff.
- ♦ Peer-To-Peer Virtual Quarterly Meeting; December 9, 2019; Best Practices and shared experiences for all Intermediaries participating in the Peer Prospective Model; Nation-wide trainers; Ms. Irma Dixon and Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.
- ♦ Holiday Gathering for "Call Forward Group"; Saturday, December 14, 2019 participants of Group enjoyed group fun and information on Starting a Business and being a First-Time Home; Ms. Shametria Gonzales & Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.
- ♦ "SBA Counseling Friday"; partnership with SBA to come to Small Business Incubator building every Friday to meet with business owners as well as our clients that may have difficulty going downtown to SBA office on Canal Street; Ms. Gail Brogan and Mr. Gerald Brooks, SBA Counselors.
- ♦ Louisiana Economic Development (LED) Peer-to-Peer Roundtable; December 19, 2019; 5th of 10 sessions 13 participants; Business owners met for peer-to-peer learning, brainstorming and problem solving. The Business owners safely explored business and personal issues in a supportive, confidential and trusting environment. The roundtables are problem-solving sessions that address issues important to the business owner. Invited Industry guest discuss access to new and innovative business and business growth; Ms. Irma Dixon, Facilitator, the Peer-to Peer Guest Speaker was Mr. Craig Duronslet; Ms Irma Dixon.
- ♦ University Conference; January 6, 2020, welcome faculty and staff to new Semester; SUNO Conference Center; Ms. Thien-Nhi Tran, Ms. Diana Thomas and Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.
- ♦ Tour of Small Business Incubator for future tenants; January , 2019; Several tours of incubator and what we have to offer potential tenants; Ms. Mary Thomas, Mary & Company, Ms. Diana Thomas, Ms. Thien-Nhi Tran & Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.
- ♦ Ongoing discussions with program vendors to discuss implementation of the Louisiana Department of Corrections and Public Safety (DPC&S) Prisoner Reentry Initiative Grant; Ms. Angel Von Der Pool, Ms. Thien-Nhi Tran and Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.
- ♦ Meeting to Develop SBDMI/Incubator upcoming schedule of Seminars/Workshops; Ongoing; Ms. Diana Thomas & Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.
- ♦ Small and Emerging Business Development (SEBD); (Ongoing); 2 Assessments; Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.



Office of Student Services

Mrs. Timotea Bailey, Director

- ♦ Pre-advised students for Spring 2020
- ♦ Monitoring the progress of graduating class, particularly 2014 cohort. 20 CBA students completed the requirements for graduation Fall 2019
- ♦ In collaboration with DXC monitoring progress of inaugural AWS Cloud Computing class, in which 23 students have completed the course and have been issued testing vouchers for AWS Foundation Certification
- ♦ CBA leadership and OSS/DXC met with IT Director to establish relationship which would allow CBA students completing CISP 166 course to become Microsoft Office Certified.
- ♦ CBA/OSS honored and paid tribute to Mrs. Gloria Bartley Moultrie, a loyal SUNO daughter and CBA alumni and supporter, upon her retirement after 35 years of service.
- ♦ OSS/DXC hosted a "Wrap-Up" session for Fall CBA graduates
- ♦ OSS/DXC reached out to 53 Delgado graduates and transfer admits in business and technology with offers of scholarship upon admission to SUNO for Spring 2020
- ♦ OSS continued to advise and register continuing and new admit students over the holiday break



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT*Dr. Willie Jones, Interim Dean***Grants**

Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS). Dr. Willie Jones received funding on behalf of the University from the U.S. Department of Education for the CCAMPIS Grant. CCAMPIS is a federally funded competitive grant program, administered through the U.S. Department of Education, intended to support the participation of low-income parents in postsecondary education through the provision of campus-based childcare services. CCAMPIS Program funds may be used either to directly provide childcare services or contract for the provision of childcare services. Grants may be used for before- and/or after-school services. The grant is a four-year grant in the amount of \$226,572. In collaboration with Office of Retention, applications will be accepted through the College of Education's Retention Counselor for assistance with childcare. The goal of this program is to not only increase enrollment and retention at Southern University, but to also provide access to quality childcare close to the University.

Marketing/Recruitment

In the fall 2019 semester, Cordeen Hudson, Coordinator of Certification & Teacher Programs attended a Tuition Reimbursement Meeting for non-certified teachers currently employed with Jefferson Parish Schools. The goal of attending the meeting was to increase enrollment in SUNO's Alternative-Certification Only Program and to highlight our Praxis Preparation Workshops. As a result:

- ♦ Six teachers from Jefferson Parish Schools attended the Praxis Prep Math Workshop that was held at SUNO the following day
- ♦ Seven non-certified teachers from Jefferson Parish Schools enrolled in SUNO's Alternative-Certification Only Program

Professional Development

The College of Education and Human Development has released their spring 2020 Workshop calendar. The workshops titles are as follow;

- ♦ Praxis Preparation for Praxis II PLT,
- ♦ Praxis I and II Math (focus on Geometry)
- ♦ Differentiated Instruction and Learning Styles
- ♦ Madeline Hunter Lesson Design
- ♦ Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)
- ♦ Supporting Students Living with Trauma, Violence and Chronic Stress
- ♦ Depth of Knowledge

The Classroom Readiness Workshops are designed to provide attendees with knowledge, skills and competencies that will aid them in becoming reflective practitioners.

The Praxis Workshops are designed to provide key subject matter knowledge needed to successfully pass Praxis exams. Presenters provide detailed explanations and teach strategies to apply to specific question types most likely to be encountered when taking Praxis.

Mr. Morkeith Phillips attended the annual AFP conference. He also completed a course on "Making the Ask" at Valdry Center for Philanthropy.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (Continued)

Dr. Bordenave attended the 2019 SACSCOC Annual Meeting "The New Moonshot: A Giant Leap for Education", December 7th to December 10th at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas. The sessions provided information and direction for accomplishing the duties of Chair of the Quality Enhancement Committee and Standard 7 Committee.

January 28, 2020, Drs. Jones, Bordenave, and Hegwood participated in a Zoom conference training with Via by Watermark. VIA by Watermark is a learning assessment platform that will provide our college with a more effective way to engage students in their learning journey. VIA will allow students to author and reflect on coursework and learning experiences, visually track their academic growth, store work, showcase what they've learned, and share their best work with others, including potential employers. This system will allow the Teacher Education Department to demonstrate the quality of our academic programs and gather data on learning to make change that supports continuous improvement in our quality assurance process.

MOU/Partnerships

To meet the workforce needs of the largest school system in the state of Louisiana, Southern University at New Orleans and Jefferson Parish School entered into a MOU to establish a Tuition Reimbursement partnership. Jefferson Parish will provide tuition assistance to non-certified teachers who need an endorsement to work in a critical shortage area. The partnership allows teachers to begin the certification process without excessive fees at the beginning of the semester. This MOU will provide a mechanism whereby JP School agrees to pay SUNO for tuition and selected fees each academic year for teachers actively employed with JP Schools.

On January 28, 2020, Dr. Jenita Hegwood met with Stephanie Hall Powell, Superintendent/CEO, and Dr. Samuel Byndom, Deputy Superintendent, of San Antonio Preparatory Charter School to discuss a partnership with the College of Education & Human Development to recruit teachers/staff and to increase professional development for faculty and teachers.

In fall 2019, Jefferson Parish Schools invited SUNO's College of Education and Human Development to attend a tuition reimbursement meeting for non-certified teachers in the school district. At the meeting, college/university representatives were given an opportunity to share information about their respective Alternative Certification-Only Programs with attendees. As a result of that meeting, an MOU was established for the spring semester with Jefferson Parish Schools and SUNO.

Fundraising Activities

Honoré Center produced its Inaugural golf tournament in fall of 2019 with 44 golfers and NFL players, Hall of famer Rickey Jackson, Deuce McAllister, and Tyrone Hughes, Congressman, State Reps, and Community leaders.



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (Continued)**Curriculum Development**

Dr. Celina Carson developed the Nutrition and Wellness Certification curriculum which was approved by the SUNO Curriculum Committee. The courses offered in this certification align with the Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS), the accreditation agency for the Child Development and Family Studies program in the College of Education and Human Development, FCS Standard 4 – Nutrition, Wellness, and Food Science competencies. These courses will cover STD 4:12 competencies set forth in the Family and Consumer Sciences Examination Series to ensure students successfully complete the AAFCS credential examination.

The demand for culturally competent health and nutrition professionals remains strong as health care reform has led to a continued emphasis on disease prevention and wellness promotion, and as the elderly and multicultural populations continue to age and expand. Meeting this need by developing students' understanding of the human body regarding health and disease, exercise, nutrition, and stress management is critical. In addition, this certification will build students' awareness of ways to link careers and graduate level training to the growing health and wellness profession. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2018), employment in the field of nutrition and dietetics is expected to grow by 16% by 2021 (*Job outlook, 2016-26 at 15%, much faster than average*). The Nutrition and Wellness certification will prepare students for careers in private and public health nutrition organizations, State and Federal government agencies such as USDA, FDA, WIC (Women, Infants, and Children), Center for Food Safety, and Congregated Meals programs as Consultants (e.t., Weight Management, Diabetes Management, Eating disorders, Sport nutrition), Food and Nutrition managers, Nutrition Educators, and Consumer Educator.

From an interdisciplinary perspective, Educational Studies majors would be highly qualified in the Public Health Educators profession with a HN certification. The HN certification could equip Forensic Science majors with supplemental knowledge leading to careers in Environmental Forensics. With an HN certification, Business and Public Administration majors could strengthen opportunities to competently expand their career options into a growing industry striving to meet the increasing health-conscious population demand.

Community Outreach

After her presentation to Dr. Bordenave's CDFS 470 Special Topics class in Summer of 2017, Ms. Cashauna Hill, Executive Director of Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center, has continued to provide the College of Education and Human Development with opportunities to attend community-related events. Faculty, staff and students were invited to attend the Fit for a King 2020 summit, Geographies of Change: 25 Years of Fair Housing Advocacy, on January 16th, 9:00am-3:00pm at the New Orleans Jazz Market (1436 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd.). In her invitation to Dr. Bordenave, Ms. Hill states, "I'm reaching out to invite you and your students to a couple of events that my office is hosting in mid-January. Your students are always so bright and insightful - I would love to have some of them join us! Please note that if you have students who want to attend the reception, but the price is too steep, I would be happy to work something out - you can just put them in touch with me and we'll go from there."

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (Continued)

Renee Corrigan, Education and Outreach Director of The Fair Housing Action Center, upon recommendation of the Executive Director, requested a meeting on January 24, 2020 via email, to set up a partnership with SUNO to apply for funding from HUD to conduct education and outreach activities across Louisiana to inform housing consumers about their fair housing rights. A particular area of focus of this project is reaching those who are especially vulnerable to sexual harassment by housing providers, which is illegal but unfortunately quite common, particularly lower-income women and women of color, are often targeted for this sort of harassment. The Fair Housing Action Research Center would like to work with SUNO to distribute fair housing information to students that could take the form of a brochure, information that could be emailed to students or shared on social media, training for staff, and/or Fair Housing Action Center staff tabling at student events.

A meeting to discuss next steps has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 4, 2020 with Dr. Jones, Dean of the College of Education and Human Development, Dr. Bordenave and Ms. Corrigan.

Early Childhood/Head Start Center

An RFP for the leasing of the Early Childhood Center/Head Start has been posted on the Louisiana Procurement and Contract Network (LaPAC) website. SUNO requests proposals from qualified early childhood providers desiring to manage the operation of an Early Childhood/Head Start Center on an exclusive basis. The proposal open date is March 31, 2020. The successful respondent shall be granted the privilege of leasing the 6175 square foot for the Head Start and 6997 square foot for the Early Childhood Center. Early Childhood/ Head Start Center for the purposes of offering nurturing and educational programs that ensure the optimal physical, social, emotional and intellectual development of each child enrolled. Proposers responding to this RFP must describe in detail Early Childhood Center/Head Start Center operational plans and other solutions offered by the vendor that would enable SUNO to offer a state-of-the-art childcare facility environment for the community, students, faculty and administration. SUNO seeks to conduct business with an established provider that can demonstrate experience in early childhood operations and management that is recognized by the Louisiana Department of Education as a Type III childcare provider. Provider must demonstrate clear and measurable evidence that it has a corporate philosophy that reflects best practices in early care and education.

SUNO requires that the program:

- ♦ provide a safe, healthy and nurturing environment;
- ♦ assist each child in the development of positive self-worth through personal success and positive environment;
- ♦ develop partnership with families and communities;
- ♦ provide representation of children and adults of differently ethnicity, ages, cultures, languages, socioeconomic groups, and abilities through enrollment, hiring procedures and programming;
- ♦ adhere to quality and environmentally responsible standards in the design and construction conducive to a code compliant, high quality building and childcare program;
- ♦ Plan and manage the center operations autonomously; and provide ongoing services and demonstrating high quality care aligned with the mission of the University and College of Education & Human Development.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Dr. Rebecca Chaisson, Dean

The focus of work this month is on the self-study process for the upcoming reaffirmation visit by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Dean Chaisson, Dr. Russell, Professor Montegut, and the Director of Internships/Field, Catherine Kalob, are working collaboratively to complete Volume I of the study. Two consultants paid for by Title III, Dr. Beverly Favre and Dr. Ronald Mancoske are reviewing documents and providing critical feedback. The reaffirmation visit is scheduled for this fall.

In addition, the School of Social Work is recruiting students for the spring, summer and fall semesters while revising policies for the BSW and MSW programs. Dr. Russell reports a slight decrease in numbers for the MSW program for the spring however, ten new students are accepted for the Spring Semester which brings the number to more than 200 MSW students. The School continues to work on the BSW program, under Professor Claude Montegut with a number of changes forthcoming.

Dean Chaisson is also working with the Inter-organization Committee (IOC) for the State of Louisiana and the rules committee of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners (LABSWE) to examine the need for changes in the rules and regulations of state licensing law. Both organizations are engaged in the regulation of social work practice in the state of Louisiana.

Donations

The School is grateful to the local FBI and especially Mrs. Elnora Fournier for facilitating the donation of beautiful poinsettias that graced the lobby area over the holidays and six lovely chairs that will be used for students, faculty, and staff. The FBI is able to donate some items that are considered surplus in their office.

Graduate Admissions

The School of Social Work welcomed ten (10) new students in the MSW program for spring 2020. The applicants in the Spring semester are part-time enjoying foundation course work before entering the internship program. The School is currently accepting and reviewing applications for summer/fall 2020 semesters until March 31, 2020.

Derrick Freeman, Ph.D.

The Social Work Healthcare Education and Leadership Scholars (Social Work HEALS) program educates and trains social workers from the Social Work schools across the country to strengthen the delivery of health care services in the United States. The Southern University at New Orleans School of Social Work was awarded this five-year grant to aid in creating a cohort of health care social work leaders at every professional level (including BSW, MSW, and Ph.D./DSW students and post-doctoral graduates) together with practice, research, and policy mentors, and leaders. SUNO is one of ten Universities selected for this award. The Council on Social Work Education and the New York Community Trust provides funding for this project.



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK (Continued)

The following scholars are the recipients of scholarship funds for the 2019-2020 academic year: Trinette Bolding, MSW student; Tremeka Coleman, MSW student; Amy Flesh, BSW student; and Tiawana Jones, BSW student.

As part of the program, HEALS Scholars take part in a student summit each year in Washington, D.C., to learn about and take part in the policy-making process. At the previous Student Summits, scholars heard personal stories from social workers in healthcare and social workers who work on Capitol Hill about the critical role of social work in shaping and implementing health policy.

These four scholars and Dr. Derrick Freeman (Assistant Professor of Social Work and the Grant PI pictured above) will be attending the Student Summit on March 17-18, 2020, in Washington, DC. The two-day summit will conclude on Capitol Hill, and the students will meet with their representatives to discuss various policies and bills – such as *The Improving Access to Mental Health Act*, the *Social Worker Safety Act*, and *Public Service Loan Forgiveness*, etc.

Each year, the HEALS Scholars have rated the Summit as one of the most beneficial experiences of the program. The HEALS scholars who were recipients over the past years have expressed the group's interest in the possibility of publishing a scholarly journal article covering various aspects of Social Work HEALS. Dr. Freeman and the HEALS scholars are exploring options and plan to continue this conversation at the Summit in Washington, DC.

Harry Russell, Ph.D., Director of MSW Program

The MSW program had 196 students enrolled. A spring enrollment was added, late into the fall semester attracting 10 students who registered during this semester. We now have 16 full time faculty for this semester, and 18 adjunct faculty members. These numbers help us to sustain accreditation standards. Preparation for accreditation continues with syllabi revisions that are forwarded to faculty who have been working to adjust them accordingly. Dr. Russell continues to coordinate with Dr. Belisle to identify and apply for grant funding to support the mission of the School of Social Work. Discussions to revisit a certificate program and to establish a new certificate program are in progress.

Highlights in Social Work January 2020

- ♦ Ten (10) new MSW students in SSW
- ♦ Washington DC Conference for HEALS Scholars at SUNO (SUNO one of ten Schools nationwide selected for HEALS) Four (4) HEALS Scholars at SUNO.
- ♦ Director of HEALS, Dr. Derrick Freeman awarded travel scholarship to attend HEALS in Washington D.C.
- ♦ 206 MSW students spring 2020
- ♦ Title IV-E to develop on-line Certificate program
- ♦ Title IV-E recruiting BSW and MSW students for fall tuition scholarships
- ♦ Eight (8) School of Social Work faculty members donate to SUNO
- ♦ Local FBI donates to School of Social Work-ten (10) plants and six (6) chairs

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK (Continued)**Monique Hurst, MSW & Camille Alexander, MSW- Title IV-E**

The Title IV-E Scholar recruitment process is underway. Four students are interested in applying for this award, which pays tuition (see student below at the table). The Program Assistant, Monique Hurst met with four individuals who expressed interest in this program. The application deadline is February 14, 2020. This internship and training program prepares students for work in the Child Welfare system while paying tuition to students who are required to work in the state's child welfare agencies. The program provides additional training on SUNO's campus and recently, Ms. Hurst facilitated a workshop



lead by Patricia Thompson and Lynette Caldwell, Social Workers from the Louisiana Division of Children and Family Services Office. The workshop "The Use of your senses for Observation, Assessment and Documentation when working with Families" was conducted on January 24, 2020 at the Millie M. Charles School of Social Work.

The quarterly Title IV-E Alliance meeting took place on Friday, January 24th in Opelousas, LA. The group discussed current goals and program outcomes as well as budgetary needs and programmatic plans for the upcoming renewal for 2020-23 funding cycle. In addition to representation from SUNO, faculty, administrators, and staff members from Northwestern, ULM, Grambling, SUBR, Southeastern, LSU, Department of Children & Family Services, and the Louisiana Child Welfare Training Academy participated in this planning meeting. Andrew Fultz, LA Title IV-E Child Welfare Program Manager and Kay Casey, Title IV-E grant consultant, conducted the meeting..



COMMUNITY OUTREACH & UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

Ms. LaVerne Toombs, Interim Chief Administrative Officer

Planning Committee Highlights

On Thursday, January 16, 2020, SUNO Planning committee held its first meeting; it was very productive and promising as we work together to move Southern University at New Orleans forward. The committee is committed to in leading the University in the right direction to secure the necessary funds to provide scholarships to deserving students.

SUNO Day Worship for a Cause

Hosts: Reverends Torin Sanders and C.S. Gordon, Jr.

The Host Pastors are contacting pastors that are graduates of SUNO, as well as the Ministerial Alliances and members of the Louisiana Missionary Baptist State Convention.

Interim Chancellor James H. Ammons, Jr., Ph.D.
& New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell



Fundraising Mixer at Windsor Court Hotel

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Chancellor's Report

VOLUME 4

ISSUE 13

FEBRUARY 2020

2020 SPRING FACULTY/STAFF INSTITUTE



SUSLA Faculty and Staff present at the Spring Institute in the Jackson Building Auditorium.

Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) faculty and staff members are committed to the academic and professional success of every student. Collaboration is the surest path to SUSLA's forward progress, and for years, the Faculty and Staff Institute has served as the center point of teamwork and camaraderie on campus. On January 6, 2020, employees gained new perspectives and embraced opportunities for growth at the spring institute "20/20 Vision to Focus and Conquer".

In addition to discussing news concerning the university and engaging activities, this year's institute featured Dorian Waluyn as the keynote speaker. Mr. Waluyn currently serves as the Director of Admissions & Enrollment Management for Lawson State Community College, where he directs and coordinates the work of the admissions office to progressively recruit and enroll qualified newcomers, transfer, transient and international students. Dorian provided insightful opportunities for growth and future-focused views on initiatives.



Far left: Chancellor Ellis pictured with the Spring Institute's Keynote Speaker, Dorian Waluyn.

Left: Faculty and Staff being informed of the SACSCOC Reaffirmation for next year.

ENERGY-EFFICIENCY GRANT TOTALING \$367,225 AWARDED TO SUSLA



From L to R: Lesile McClellan, Public Service Commissioner, Foster Campbell, Chancellor Dr. Rodney Ellis, Dr. Atonius Pegues, and Donnie Wise.

Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) will receive an upgraded LED lighting system across campus thanks to a \$367, 225.00 grant. "This grant offers great opportunity to improve SUSLA. We have great potential to save on energy cost, freeing income for other expenses," stated Dr. Rodney Ellis, Chancellor.

The award comes from Louisiana Public Service Commissioner, Foster Campbell. Local governments and public institutions in Northwest Louisiana will receive more than \$2.5 million in grants to promote

energy efficiency. The grants will fund the installation of high-efficiency LED lights on streets and in buildings of universities, library and school systems, municipal governments and other public bodies. "These new fixtures will improve lighting and lower electric bills by thousands of dollars for these public institutions," said Campbell.

A competitive-bidding process will take place from licensed contractors, and projects will begin within the next six months.



TRIO UPWARD BOUND SOUTH WITH ZPHIB

It was a "so sweet" day for the female seniors of Trio Upward Bound South. They had the opportunity to meet with Zeta Iota Zeta & Beta Epsilon Zeta Chapters of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. The sorority held a scholarship workshop to share information on effective scholarship searching, essay writing, financial aid, and an opportunity to receive \$100,000 in scholarships.

To the left: Seniors pictured with Sorors Bobbie Lattier, Coordinator and Educational Advocate of Upward Bound South, and Marci Collins, Zeta Phi Beta Chapter President.

NEW AVIATION COMPANY PROMISES OVER 1000 JOBS AND WELCOMES NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH SUSLA



From L to R: Lesile McClellon, Chief of Staff & Special Assistant for Strategic Initiatives, Dr. Terry Kidd, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs & Workforce Development, Janice Sneed, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs & Workforce Development, Mike Anderson, President of Advanced Aero Services, Chancellor Dr. Rodney Ellis, Timothy Kaylor, Evertt Spells, Lottie E. Elias, Timothy Banks, and Stephanie Rogers, Chief Advancemet Office

On January 16, 2020, Advanced Aero Services (AAS) announced plans to launch maintenance, repair, and overhaul facility at the Shreveport Regional Airport. Southern University at Shreveport, along with several other businesses has chosen to partner with the company. SUSLA will help provide trained Aviation Maintenance Technicians (AMT).

The plan is to begin operations as soon as April 2020, bringing in more than 60 jobs during phase 1. By the end of phase 6 AAS plans to employ more than 1,000 people. Shreveport has the resources and infrastructures to support aviation training needs. The commercial airlines are challenged with that, and we think we have a good solution working with SUSLA to develop the programs that we need to supply the technical training to bring people on board", stated Mike Anderson, President of Advanced Aero Services, LLC. Mayor Adrian Perkins said, "when I talked to Dr. Ellis, I told him, I need you to grow Southern Program so everybody can get involved. When you combine our workforce and location with LED's incentives and Shreveport's low cost of doing business, we are a perfect fit for Advanced Aero Services."



Far left: Chancellor Ellis pictured with Mayor Adrian Perkins.

Left: From L to R: Professors Banks, Elias, Spells, and Instructor Kaylor of the Aviation Maintenance Technology Center.

SUSLA HOLIDAY FEEDING



SUSLA students receiving packaged goods during the holidays provided by MS KICK.

The Division of Community and Workforce Development MS KICK program provided meals for 25 students from the Jaguar Courtyard over the Christmas Holidays. These students were not able to make it back home for the Holidays and with the main cafeteria being closed, were offered free meals to assist them over the holiday break. The meals were served daily from Saturday, December 21st, 2019 to Wednesday, January 8th, 2020. The students were provided healthy home cooked meals from the MS KICK Executive staff and comfort food from the MSKICK tenant, Cajun Korner. Some of the meals the MS KICK Executive staff collaborated on included Turkey Tacos, Pizza made with Keto Crust, Turkey Burgers, and Mexican Lasagna prepared with wheat noodles. The MS KICK Executive staff also held demonstrations where students were provided with quick and easy dorm meals, eating healthy on a budget, and overall tips on eating healthier.

Special thanks to the SUSLA SGA, Southern University Shreveport Foundation, Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana, Panhellenic Council for their support and generous donations to facilitate the SUSLA Holiday Feeding program.



Far left: A plate of turkey tacos ready to be given out to a student during the holidays

Middle: Jaguar Courtyard's staff getting boxes to serve students.

Left: More students receiving packaged meals for the holidays.

SUSLA STUDENT SUCCESS STORY

Jaguar pride for Southern University at Shreveport runs deep within the family of Levi Brown. Attending the university turned into a family tradition for his aunts, uncles, and cousins. In 1987, his mother held the title of Ms. Freshman, and two of his cousins once held the title of Student Government Association (SGA) President.

Although Brown has a close family connection to SUSLA, enrolling in the university was not inevitable. After applying to multiple colleges, Brown graduated from high school in the spring of 2014, uncertain of where he would start his college career. In the summer of 2014, he made a last-minute decision to attend Southern University at Shreveport. This decision turned out to be his ticket to success.

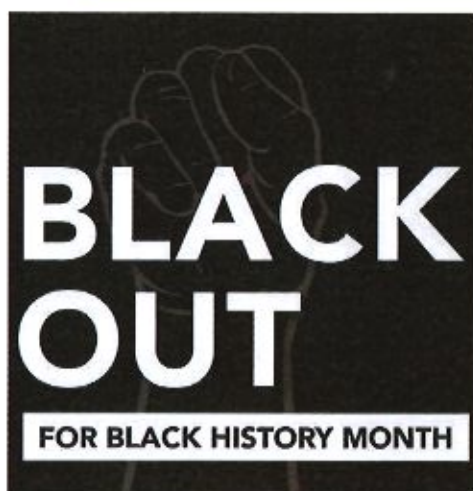
Brown enrolled at SUSLA majoring in Biology but later changed his major to Computer Science. The next two years brought on a whirlwind of experiences that would help shape his future. During his freshman year, Brown joined the SGA and sat on the cabinet for his freshman class. At the end of his freshman year, he won the title of SGA President. Levi later became a member of the Council of Student Body Presidents for the Board of Regents in the state of Louisiana.

After graduating from SUSLA, he went on to attend Southern University in Baton Rouge, where he continued a path of success. Brown became junior class president, and pledged Beta Sigma Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and graduated with a BS in Computer Science. He then started a one-year MBA program at Louisiana State University at Shreveport (LSUS), while working at IBM. Brown finished his Masters in August 2019 and he is currently working as a Systems Engineer for the Lockheed Martin Corporation in King of Prussia, PA.

Even though Levi is now miles away from the university that helped shape his future, he still uses lessons learned from some of his favorite professors in his professional life today. Southern University at Shreveport introduced Brown to an array of people who helped him throughout his career, and they have become lifelong friends. "SUSLA made a huge impact on my life! Just off saying I'll stay here for the summer, which turned into two years. It changed my life, so many opportunities came my way," Brown says.



Photo of SUSLA Alumni, Levi K. Brown, MBA.



BLACKOUT FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The Marketing & University Relations team is getting into the spirit for Black History Month as they prepare advertising and marketing materials to promote Black History Month. Various departments will be contributing into the celebration, such as the Southern University Museum of Art at Shreveport (SUMAS), History Department, and Veterans Upward Bound. The national theme for BHM is African-Americans and the Vote to explore 150 years of the struggle to ensure that African Americans were able to fully participate in American democracy.

To the left: Illustration of the Blackout banner for Black History Month.

SUSLA HOSTS SOUTHERN CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, INC.




Image of Downtown Shreveport-Bossier where the SCASSI Conference will take place.

Get ready for a fantastic conference take place in the Shreveport-Bossier area, hosted by your very own Southern University at Shreveport. The 2020 Southern Conference on African American Studies, Inc.'s Convention theme is "Quantum Leaps: Black Nationalism, Internationalism, Progressivism, and Power from Slavery through Freedom, 1619-2019." SCASSI's purpose is to interpret African American culture, and share intellectual feedback on its histories, which may sometimes include personal experiences. The conference will take place on February 6-8, 2020, at Sam's Town Hotel and Casino in Shreveport, Louisiana. Register now, by clicking [here](#). There will be additional events, such as presenting research papers, poetry readings, and quiz bowl challenges. One of the biggest events within the Conference is the "SCAASIGras" Mardi Gras Gala, which will take place Friday, February 7. Tickets are only \$50. For more information, please contact Dr. Sharron Herron-Williams, Conference Chair, at shwilliams@susla.edu or 318.670.9371.

SUMAS
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART
SHREVEPORT

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EXHIBIT
FEATURING VISUAL ARTIST



FRANK KELLEY JR.
FEBRUARY 1-29, 2020
610 TEXAS STREET-DOWNTOWN SHREVEPORT, LA

Life, Landscapes & Abstracts
the art of Frank Kelley, Jr.



Exhibit Opening Reception
Thurs. February 6, 2020, 5:30 pm-7:30 pm

SUMAS CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY

Southern University Museum of Art Shreveport (SUMAS) will celebrate Black History Month with an exhibition featuring the artwork of visual artist, Frank Kelley, Jr. The opening reception for the exhibit entitled 'Life, Landscapes & Abstracts' will be held on Thursday, February 6, 2020, at 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at the Downtown Metro Center campus located at 610 Texas Street, Ste. 110, Shreveport, Louisiana. The exhibit will be on display through February 29, 2020. The opening reception on February 6th is free to the public.

Left: Image of Frank Kelley, Jr.'s exhibition that will take place at SUMAS.

MISS SUSLA CELEBRATES WITH THE KREWES

Michael La'Fitte II from Orr BMW in Shreveport escorted Miss SUSLA, Ajacia Tyne Butler, through the streets of Shreveport for the Krewe of Sobek and Krewe of Harambee Parades. The Krewe of Sobek Parade held on Saturday, January 18, 2019, rolled through the Queensborough neighborhood with a theme of Harlem Knights.

On Monday, January 20, 2019, the Krewe of Harambee celebrated 20 years with a parade in downtown Shreveport honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Legacy.

Top right: Miss SUSLA, Ajacia Tyne Butler at the Krewe of Harambee parade.

Bottom right: Miss SUSLA preparing with Mr. La'Fitte II from Orr BMW at the Krewe of Sobek parade.



STUDENT JAGUAR OF THE MONTH

Ardisa Mitchell is a graduate of Fair Park High School. She enrolled at Southern University at Shreveport a few years ago and graduated in 2017. Now she has returned as a freshman with a desire to further her education in Business. She chose SUSLA because she has dreams in starting her own clothing line, and she believed Southern University at Shreveport could help her accomplish that goal. She also said she loves helping the students within the Community Education Life Transition (CELT) Program. She maintains a positive attitude and loves volunteering at campus events here at SUSLA.

Congratulations, Ardisa Mitchell — Student Jag of the Month!



Student Ardisa Mitchell pictured for her recognition as Student Jaguar of the Month.

JAGUAR OF THE MONTH

Mr. Jorge Sousa III is the Director of Admissions & Recruitment. He has been a member of the SUSLA community for a year and five months so far, and he has definitely enjoyed his time here. He stated, "In my time here at Souther University at Shreveport, I have enjoyed the culture the state of Louisiana has to offer and the many sites within the city of Shreveport to explore."

Congratulations Mr. Jorge Sousa — Jaguar of the Month!



Staff member, Mr. Jorge Sousa, pictured for his recognition as Jaguar of the Month.

2020 SPRING REGISTRATION





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

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chancellor's

FEBRUARY 2020

McReport



ILERA
HEALTHCARE

SU Ag & Ilera
partner to
launch CBD

CAFCS Students
FLOURISH

UPCOMING
EVENTS

ORLANDO F. McMEANS | RENITA MARSHALL | ANDRA JOHNSON | DAWN MELLION-PATIN | CALVIN WALKER
Chancellor-Dean Vice-Chancellor Vice-Chancellor Vice-Chancellor Executive Vice-Chancellor and
for Academic and Student Services for Research & Technology Development for Extension & Outreach Director of SUAREC Special Projects
/Associate Dean

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- 5 LIVESTOCK SHOW
- 6 SMALL FARMERS CONFERENCE
- 7 L.E.A.D. SUMMIT
- 8 4-H ETIQUETTE





RIBBON CUTTING

Ceremony for the Ilera Holistic and Southern University
Ag Center release of New CBD Line

On January 30, the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SUAREC) and Ilera Holistic Healthcare jointly released a CBD line to licensed pharmacies located in the state of Louisiana.

This is a historical milestone for the Southern University's Medical Marijuana Program because it is the first HBCU, that is Historically Black College and Universities (Minority Serving Institution), to release a CBD product nationally.

Moreover, the SU Ag Center is working with the Southern University Law Center to better understand the laws and policies governing this new space that is medicinal cannabis. Southern University is developing a comprehensive (research, outreach, educational and economically impacting) model, a template even, for the establishment of medicinal marijuana programs at other HBCUs and minority-serving institutions.

Working with our clientele and stakeholders small and minority businesses, growers and farmers (specifically black farmers), and producing an end product, a quality medicine that increases the quality of life for the clients, it all ties back to SU's land-grant mission. That is the use of the tripartite mission of teaching, research and outreach to advance the scientific, technological, social, and economic needs of the citizens and communities we serve with the end goal of enhancing the overall quality of life. This historical event and the SU Medical Marijuana Program's potential impact on Louisiana speaks to that mission as well as began a new phase in this true and essential endeavor and partnership.

FROM THE DESK OF
CHANCELLOR-DEAN
ORLANDO F. McMEANS



The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center along with its medical marijuana partner, Ilera Holistic Healthcare, held a press conference and ribbon-cutting January 30, 2020 to mark the launch of its hemp-derived CBD product line, Alafia Healthcare.

"This is a historic milestone for the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center in that today, we have become the first HBCU, in partnership with Ilera Holistic Healthcare, to release CBD products to be sold to licensed pharmacies throughout the state of Louisiana," said Orlando F. McMeans, Ph.D., Chancellor-Dean of the SU Ag Center and the College of Ag.

The event was held at the New Orleans area H&W Drug Store Dispensary, one of the state's nine marijuana licensed pharmacies. The over-the-counter CBD products will be sold in eight of Louisiana's nine licensed pharmacies as well as to pharmacies throughout the nation.

Alafia, which means 'inner peace' in the Yoruba language, is lab tested, pesticide-free and scientifically formulated. There are currently two formulated PURE CBD tinctures available:

SU Ag Center launches CBD PRODUCT LINE



"we have become the first HBCU, in partnership with Ilera Holistic Healthcare, to release CBD products to be sold to licensed pharmacies throughout the state of Louisiana,"

Isolate CBD with 500mg (\$40) and 1,000mg (\$80) and Full Spectrum CBD with 500mg (\$40) and 1,000mg (\$80). Additional CBD products will be released soon.

CBD is derived from the hemp plant, which was legalized for sale and distribution in all 50 states in the 2018 Farm Bill. Ilera's products contain 0.3% or less of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the psychotropic component in plants that can cause individuals to experience a "high." This means users will not obtain a "high" from using the products.

"This program aims at improving the quality of lives for the individuals served via the vehicles of education, research, and outreach, all of which are in line with the mission of the Southern University Ag Center," added McMeans.

The products are expected to be on the shelves of local and national retailers and distributors by the end of February 2020. For additional information on distribution and retail locations, visit www.alafiahealthcare.com.

H&W Drug Store, which is the oldest Black-owned pharmacy in New Orleans, is owned by Ruston Henry. Wesley J. Watkins and Sterling Henry, Sr., the father of the current owner, opened the pharmacy more than 50 years ago. The younger Henry took over the business in 1999.



College of Ag, Family and Consumer Sciences holds Spring Convocation

The College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences held its Spring 2020 Convocation on January 14 at 10 a.m. in Pinkie Thrift Hall.

The faculty and staff of the College were greeted by Dr. Renita W. Marshall, Vice Chancellor-Associate Dean, followed by an address from Chancellor-Dean Dr. Orlando McMeans.

Dr. Harold Mellicon, Chair of the Department of Agricultural Sciences; Dr. Cheryl Atkinson, Chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences; and Dr. Yadong Qj, Chair of the Department of Urban Forestry provided updates from their departments.

Dr. Oscar Udoh, Coordinator for Planning and Evaluation also provided information and updates from his area.

A presentation on the College's Grow Jags Student Recruitment Campaign was presented to faculty and staff by LaKeeshia Lusk and D'Andre Lee, members of the SU Ag Center's Office of Technology and Communications Services. The campaign aims to grow the number of students enrolled in the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences by 300 students. A soft launch for the two-year campaign will begin on February 3, 2020 and will include a general brochure for the College, billboards, posters, and a recruitment webpage.

Closing remarks for the convocation were given by Dr. Calvin Walker, Executive Vice Chancellor and Director of Development; Agriculture, Research and Extension Center.

**#GROW
JAGS!**

Two Urban Forestry students named SAF 2019 Diversity Ambassadors



Baton Rouge, La. – Southern University Urban Forestry and Natural Resources students Simbrey Major and Asija Rice were named Society of American Foresters (SAF) 2019 Student Diversity Ambassadors for the organization's national convention in Louisville, Kentucky during October 30 - November 3, 2019. The SAF Student Diversity Ambassador Scholarship Program is designed to promote leadership skills, engagement, and understanding of the value of the forestry profession. The scholarship included the convention's registration, an opportunity to participate in an exclusive networking luncheon, and a \$450 stipend. The students were also paired with a career natural resource professional who served as a mentor throughout the convention.

To apply for the scholarship, the students had to submit an application; be interested in forestry, natural resources, terrestrial ecosystems and/or other related fields as a career; and interested in encouraging and promoting a culture of inclusion within the profession.

Major, a graduate student, and Rice, a senior undergraduate student, competed against nearly 40 applicants from the nation's top universities - such as Yale and Penn State - and were selected as two of the top 10 students who received the scholarship. Major is conducting her master's degree thesis research through a NASA funded competitive project that quantifies the carbon flux of the forests and wetlands in coastal Louisiana. Rice serves as the SAF SU Student Chapter President. She demonstrated her leadership skills by organizing the chapter's activities such as workshops, community service, fundraising, and training events.

Major and Rice were joined by twenty-two other participants from within the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences' Department of Urban Forestry and Natural Resources. Southern University's largest participation to date at the SAF National Convention.

FCS Students and Faculty Present Research during Fall Undergraduate Research Invitational

The Department of Family and Consumer Science faculty and students participated in the 12th Annual Fall Undergraduate Research Invitational. The Conference was held at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette on November 22-23, 2019.

Students focusing on Child Development presented their research findings on the topic of the Necessity of a High-Quality Research-Based Child Development Laboratory in Southern Louisiana. The research investigated the importance of a quality, research-based laboratory that collects data and performs assessments to conduct research, which will adequately prepare children to enter kindergarten.

The creation of the center will strengthen and provide curriculum growth to the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences and prepare both undergraduate students and community child care providers with the skills needed to become proficient in the knowledge base, skills, and teaching techniques needed in an academic setting.

The overall goal of the research was to evaluate the need for a high-quality child development laboratory for young children in the state of Louisiana, more specifically on the Southern University Baton Rouge Campus within the Division of Child Development under the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Faculty in the Department of Apparel Merchandising and Textiles program and the Human Nutrition and Food program also presented research on College Female Students Perceived Body Shape and their Clothing Fit Issues and Internet Shopping Intention among College Students and College Students Eating Behaviors & Attitudes, respectively.



**SU Ag Center, Law Center
to host**

Cannabis & Hemp Education Symposium

SU Ag Center, Law Center to host
Cannabis and Hemp Education
Symposium

The Southern University Ag Center's Medicinal Plant Institute and the Southern University Law Center's Cannabis Compliance, Law and Policy Institute partnered to host a Cannabis and Hemp Continuing Education Symposium on December 12 and 13 at the SU Law Center.

The symposium will include panel discussions on the state's medical marijuana and hemp programs, the 2018 Farm Bill and its impact on the legality of industrial hemp, the impact of cannabis and hemp legislation on minority and underserved populations and much more.

For additional information about the symposium, contact Marla Dickerson, director of the Cannabis Compliance, Law and Policy Institute, at 225-771-4913 or via email at mdickerson@sulc.edu.

SU Ag Center now accepting meat pre-sale orders for 77th Annual Livestock Show

The Southern University Ag Center's Livestock Show Office is currently accepting pre-orders for non-processed choice beef, pork, lamb and goat meats. All proceeds from the meat sale go directly to the youth participants as a reward for their hard work and financial investment. The following meat choices and quantities are now available for pre-order:

MEAT ORDER PRICES

ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE (Non-Processed)
One Whole Beef	\$2,000.00
One-Half Beef	\$1,000.00
One-Fourth Beef	\$500.00
One Whole Pork	\$225.00
One Whole Lamb	\$200.00
One Whole Goat	\$175.00

There is a processing fee that is not included in the original cost of the meat. All purchases must be paid by money order or check and made payable to the Southern University Ag Center Livestock Show, prior to picking up the meat from the slaughterhouse. Southern University System employees are allowed to purchase meat through payroll deduction.

Individuals who don't pre-order their meat are invited to do so during the show's 'Special Junior Auction Sale' on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

The office will deliver the meat to either Cutrer's Slaughter House in Kentwood, 985.229.2478 or Rouchers in Plaquemine, 225.687.4258. *Donations to the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank are also welcome.*

Southern University has held an annual Livestock Show since 1943 and is the only 1890 land-grant institution currently continuing the tradition of providing an opportunity for the state's youth to showcase their animals, gain entrepreneurship skills and receive character and leadership training.



FEBRUARY 27-29, 2020

M. A. EDMOND LIVESTOCK ARENA
14600 Scenic Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70807

For more information on the SU Ag Center's Livestock Show, how to participate in the show or how to purchase meat; visit <http://www.suagcenter.com/page/2020-livestock-show> or contact the Livestock Show Office at 225.771.6208.



For a decade, the Southern University Ag Center's Louisiana Small Farmers Conference has provided the state's small agricultural producers with strategies and information on the latest educational tools and resources to help them stay in business.

This year's conference themed, "Investing In Your Small Farm Business," will be held at Southern University's Felton G. Clark Activity Center from March 18-21.

Two pre-conference sessions will be held on Wednesday, March 18. Participants will have the option of attending either a Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training or a Louisiana HEMP Summit on this day. The conference will officially begin on Thursday, March 19.

Natalie Baszile, author of the Louisiana based novel "Queen Sugar" will be the keynote speaker on Friday, March 20th.

Baszile is an award-winning author whose works have appeared in O, The Oprah Magazine; The Rumpus.net; the Lenny Letter; and The Best Women's Travel Writing, Volume 9. She is best known for her book, Queen Sugar, which writer/director Ava DuVernay and Oprah Winfrey have adapted into a television series for Winfrey's television network, OWN. The book was nominated for an NAACP Image Award, was listed on the Crooks Corner Southern Book Prize and was named one of the Best Books of 2014 by the San Francisco Chronicle.

Natalie has an M.A. in Afro-American Studies from UCLA and is a graduate of Warren Wilson College's MFA Program for Writers. The conference will also include a grant writing panel, networking opportunities, an exhibit hall, and the Louisiana Living Legends Luncheon, which honors individuals who have made significant contributions to Southern University in the areas of Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences.

Limited complimentary registration for small farmers is available until February 28, 2020. After this date, the registration fee for the conference will be \$75 for small farmers.

The fee for agricultural professionals is \$100. All fees should be made payable to the Southern University Foundation – ANR Programs in the form of a check or money order.



On-site registration will begin at 8 a.m. daily during the conference. Agricultural exhibitors are welcome to participate.

To register online, visit <http://www.suagcenter.com/form/smallfarms>. Exhibitors can register at <http://www.suagcenter.com/form/exhibitor-registration-for-the-10th-annual-louisiana-small-farmer-conference>.

For additional information contact Zanetta Augustine at 225-771-2591 or via e-mail at zanetta_augustine@suagcenter.com.





learning everyday about **DEVELOPMENT** **SUMMIT** 2020

L.E.A.D. Summit excels in Jonesville, Louisiana!

The Southern University Ag Center hosted its Learning Everyday About Development (L.E.A.D.) Summit in Jonesville, Louisiana on January 30 at the Classic Venue on the Bayou.



The goal of the Summit was to assist the Town of Jonesville in enhancing its community by providing mayors, stakeholders, citizens, members and other community decision-makers with the information on grants and initiatives.

The Summit was organized by Gerald Williams, SU Ag Center's Community and Economic Development Specialist. Williams partnered with Jonesville's Mayor Milton Ceasar to hold the event in the small town.

"I want to make sure all small towns receive the same information as big cities," said Williams. "Most small towns are overlooked. So I have made it my mission to get these resources to those hidden treasures throughout Louisiana," he added.

Topics covered during the Summit included Growing Your Small Community, Prospering Your Community through External Programs and Financing Rural and Small Communities.

Speakers included Pat Forbes, the State Director for Community Development; Pat Witty with Louisiana Economic Development; Brian Davis, the Executive Director of Louisiana's Historic Preservation, and representatives from several USDA Agencies and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

"We are beyond grateful that a summit of this caliber was brought to our town," said Joe Chapelle, who participated in the event. "This was needed. It is truly a catalyst to push our community forward."

The Town of Jonesville is looking forward to partnering with the Southern University Ag Center to have a community development site housed in their town.



SU Ag Center provides Etiquette Training to More Than 100 Youth

One hundred and eight students at Park Forest Middle School were introduced to proper table etiquette by Southern University Ag Center's 4-H educators.

The trainings, which were a part of the 4-H National Mentor Youth Futures Program (NMP), were held at the Baton Rouge middle school from October – December 2019.

During the sessions, each student was given a dining place setting board that described in detail the different types of place settings. This included a basic, breakfast, formal, and a soup and bread place setting. Many of the students shared that they didn't know a table could have so many different utensils. One student stated she never heard of a soup spoon until participating in the open class discussion on table settings. After a few weeks of reviewing the dining place setting board and proper phone etiquette, instructors Milissia John-Baptist Cole and Delores Johnson tested the students with a simple game of 'What Do You Know.' As expected, the youth did great.

Dealing with conflict was another major topic discussed. Students were given scenarios that challenged them to positively resolve conflict. One scenario centered around bullying. This sparked a major discussion. At that time, a middle school student in Baton Rouge Parish, commit suicide as a result of bullying. Many of the students shared that they had experienced bullying as recently as the current school year. Each youth took a pledge against bullying and vowed that if they saw something, they would say something.

For more information about the SU Ag Center's 4-H Mentoring Program, contact Tiffany Franklin, Ph.D, at tiffany_franklin@suagcenter.com.

SU Ag Center PROVIDES *Etiquette* TRAINING



4-H National
Mentoring
Program



Southern University System Celebrates 8 Years – 100% Tobacco-Free

The Communities of Color Network (CoC) and the Southern University Ag Center would like to congratulate the Southern University System as we celebrate eight years of being a tobacco-free entity.

After a five-year educational awareness campaign, the Communities of Color Network (a tobacco educational awareness initiative) strategically collaborated with Louisiana Public Health Institute (TFL), former Board President Darren Mire and the SU System Board of Supervisors to approve a 100% Tobacco-Free policy which went into effect January 2012. Southern University was the first college system in Louisiana to approve such a ground-breaking policy which is considered the "gold" standard.

Linda Early Brown serves as the Director for CoC with a TEAM of Statewide Regional Coordinators including Jamea Hart, Johnetta Rhone, Frankie Poland, and Ryan Sugulleh who are currently instrumental in providing tobacco educational workshops. Celebrations are held in Baton Rouge, Shreveport, and New Orleans to highlight and update the community on the current practices of Big Tobacco, serve as an enforcement tool and to continue the commitment in making a difference in creating healthier existences.



TM

Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences is an entity of Southern University System, Orlando F. McMeans, Chancellor-Dean, Ray L. Belton, System President, Domoine D. Rutledge, Esq., Chairman, Board of Supervisors. It is issued in furtherance of the Cooperative Extension Work Act of December 1971, in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. All educational programs conducted by the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences are provided to people of all ages regardless of race, national origin, or disability.

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CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

FEBRUARY 2020



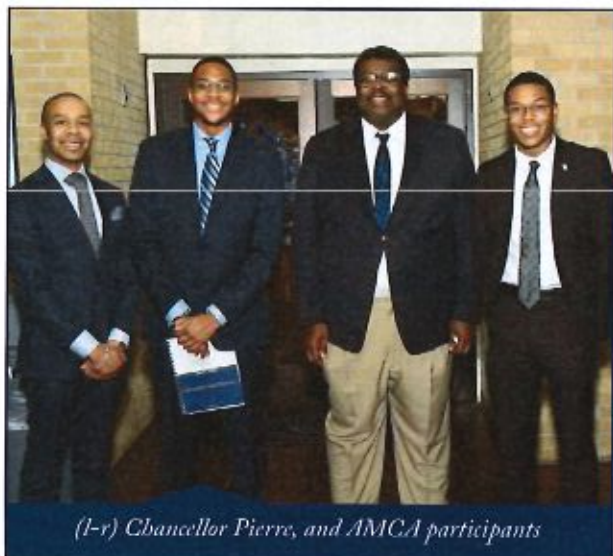
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

LAW CENTER

SERIOUSNESS OF PURPOSE

NEWS

AMERICAN MOOT COURT COMPETITION



(l-r) Chancellor Pierre, and AMCA participants

The Law Center and the Baton Rouge Bar Association hosted the American Moot Court Competition national tournament finals. The tournament consisted of 80 2-student teams competing ranging from institutions, such as Yale University, Duke University, Morehouse College, and others. Two Eastern Michigan University students, Kelsey Hall and Charles Graham, won as the top team in the nation. The guests enjoyed their time while on campus and praised the school's hospitality.

HOODING CEREMONY



Future lawyer leaders participating in Hooding Ceremony.

As a new semester commenced, the Fall 2019 Hooding Ceremony honored over 20 graduates. Grambling State University president, Richard "Rick" Gallot, was the keynote speaker. Gallot earned his Juris Doctorate from the Law Center in May 1990. He encouraged students to have a career that they enjoyed and could be proud of. In addition, he advised them to take on pro bono cases and work through the Louisiana Bar Association.

PARTNERSHIPS

PENN STATE LAW

Recently, the Law Center, in partnership with Penn State Law in University Park, was chosen as a winner in the second annual Leading Edge Prize for Educational Innovation, which rewards teams with \$10,000 for the best educational and professional solutions for law students and new legal professionals. The title of the project, "How Can We Educate 2L and 3L Students to be Better Equipped for Practice?", aims to educate, empower, and equip law students about the impact of artificial intelligence, legal process automation, data analytics, e-discovery, design thinking, and other technological innovations on the delivery of legal services.

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

The Law Center was selected to receive funding through a United States Department of Agriculture Distance Learning and Telemedicine (USDA-DLT) grant for a new high-definition teleconference studio. The news comes as a part of a recent partnership with North Carolina Central University's (NCCU) Virtual Justice Project. The Law Center will receive a Polycom RealPresence Immersive Studio, which will create a visual, audio, and collaboration experience. Faculty, students, and staff will be able to connect to webinars, clients, and the community. The studio seats up to twenty-one individuals.

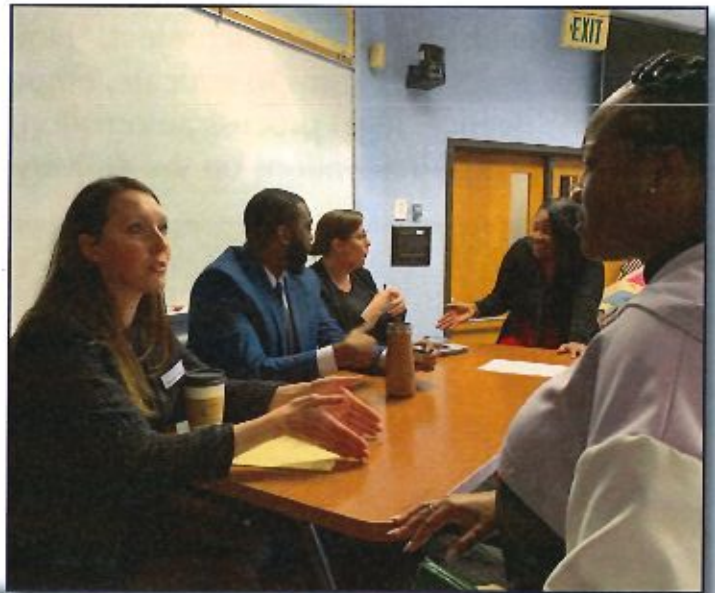
URBAN RESTORATION ENHANCEMENT CORPORATION

The Law Center continues its partnership with the Urban Restoration Enhancement Corporation by hosting the Pre-Law Institute. Established in 2017, the Pre-Law Institute introduces high school students to civics, law and criminal justice at SULC under the guidance of a pre-law instructor. In addition, pre-law scholars will also facilitate the signature mock-trial at SULC's moot courtroom and network with Baton Rouge attorneys and judges.

UNIVERSITIES STUDYING SLAVERY

The Southern University Law Center has been invited to join Universities Studying Slavery (USS), a consortium dedicated to organizing multi-institutional collaboration as part of an effort to facilitate mutual support in the pursuit of common goals. USS is an ancillary organization through the University of Virginia. Over 40 institutions, such as Davidson College, Georgetown University, Tougaloo College, and more, make up the alliance. Additionally, USS allows participating institutions to work together as they address both historical and contemporary issues dealing with race and inequality in higher education and in university communities as well as the complicated legacies of slavery in modern American society. They host semi-annual meetings to discuss strategies, collaborate on research, and learn from one another.

LUNCH N' LEARN



The Law Center's Career Services provides the "Lunch and Learn" series to connect our students with potential internship and fellowship opportunities, as well as potential mentors and advice from legal professionals. This month, the United States Attorney General's Office for the Middle District, along with law firms, Phelps Dunbar and Jones Walker, provided students with sound encouragement and words of wisdom they could use throughout their legal careers.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

RACHEL GENTRY



Third-year law student, Rachel Gentry, was named a 2020 New Leaders Council (NLC) Institute Fellow. The NLC Institute is a six-month training program focused on skills building for each cohort on issues such as goal setting, strategic communications, and digital outreach, economics, finance and fundraising, management and coalition building, progressive policy, and diversity and inclusion. Gentry's future career goals are to use her law degree to effectively impact the policy and governmental affairs arena in the country.

FACULTY NEWS



JOHN PIERRE

Chancellor Pierre was recently named as an honoree for the Lawyers of Color's Power List, presented by the Diverse Partners Network. Also, Pierre was honored at the 15th Annual Black Pre-Law Conference in New York. At the conference, he received the John Mercer Langston Legal Education Leadership Award along with over 25 law school deans.

ALUMNI NEWS



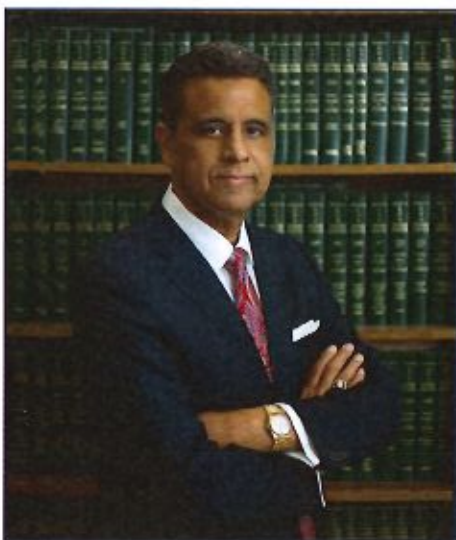
JIMMIE HERRING JR.

Jimmie Herring, '19, was recently selected as a junior member of the Louisiana State Law Institute. Since 1940, the Institute has declared its purpose "to promote and encourage the clarification and simplification of the law of Louisiana and its better adaptation to present social needs, to secure the better administration of justice and to carry on scholarly legal research and scientific, legal work."



DONALD A. SAUVIAC

Donald Sauviac, '90, has been appointed the supervising attorney for the Northwestern District of North Dakota. His position covers three state counties. Sauviac's admittance to the United States District Court of North Dakota allowed him to serve on the CJA panel handling federal criminal cases.



CHARLES CRAVINS

Alumnus and former adjunct professor, Charles Cravins, was recently sworn in as the St. Landry Parish's District Attorney.



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The Southern University Law Center is a unit of the Southern University System

Domoine D. Rutledge, Esq., Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Dr. Ray L. Belton, Southern University and A&M College System President
John K. Pierre, SULC Chancellor

Produced by the SULC Office of External Affairs | Photography by Steve Jarreau



Southern University and A&M College

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

to the
Southern University Board of Supervisors

February 2020

"We Are Southern"

Report No. 6

INSIDE

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Human Jukebox Top Performer During Rose Bowl Parade

Southern University's renowned marching band, the Human Jukebox, performed during the 131st Rose Bowl Parade.

The *Pasadena Star-News* listed the performance in its "Top 5 Moments" from the parade. While in Los Angeles, the band also performed during halftime at the Lakers game.

These were not the only stops in Los Angeles. The Jukebox performed at the historic First A.M.E Church in South Los Angeles before squeezing in a halftime performance at the Los Angeles Lakers

game. They made the journey, in part, through the help of American Airlines.

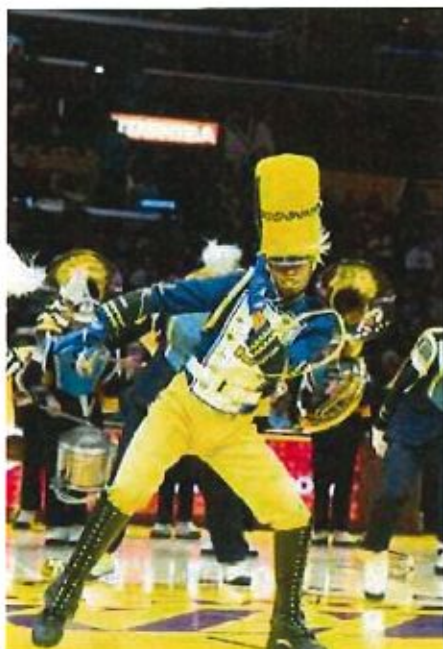
After agreeing to participate earlier in 2019, the band encountered an issue with the original travel plans. They turned to American Airlines, which helped facilitate their travel by discounting fares and waiving fees for checked bags and instruments.

Southern University is one of several historically black colleges and universities that American Airlines partners with

to recruit undergraduate and graduate students for careers with the airline. According to Christopher Yee, a reporter for the *Pasadena Star-News* and *San Gabriel Valley Tribune*, "the standout band was Southern University's 'Human Jukebox' marching band, which wowed those in attendance with its power and precision in playing a local favorite tune 'I Love LA' by Randy Newman.

The last time Southern University performed in the Rose Bowl Parade was in 1980.





Human Jukebox at LA Lakers game



Dancing Dolls spending time in Los Angeles with President-Chancellor Ray Belton and his wife, Norma



SU Dancing Dolls at LA Lakers game



Alumni Director Derrick Warren and Band Director Kedric Taylor with SU Alumni at First A.M.E. Church in Los Angeles

Walmart Strengthens Partnership, Brings Team to Campus

On February 4, Southern University and A&M College celebrated Walmart day on the campus as part of the company's effort to be more intentional about how they engage Southern University and other HBCUs.

During the visit, faculty and staff engaged with Walmart representatives and were provided with a first-hand view of

Walmart, and some of the skill sets that they have to leverage. In addition, the representatives shared with the campus community some of the technology the company uses.

Walmart is a retail corporation with more than 4,000 stores and 200 distribution centers across the U.S. The event was at the Valdry Center for Philanthropy.



QEP Plan Focuses on Undergraduate Students First-year Experience and Student Success

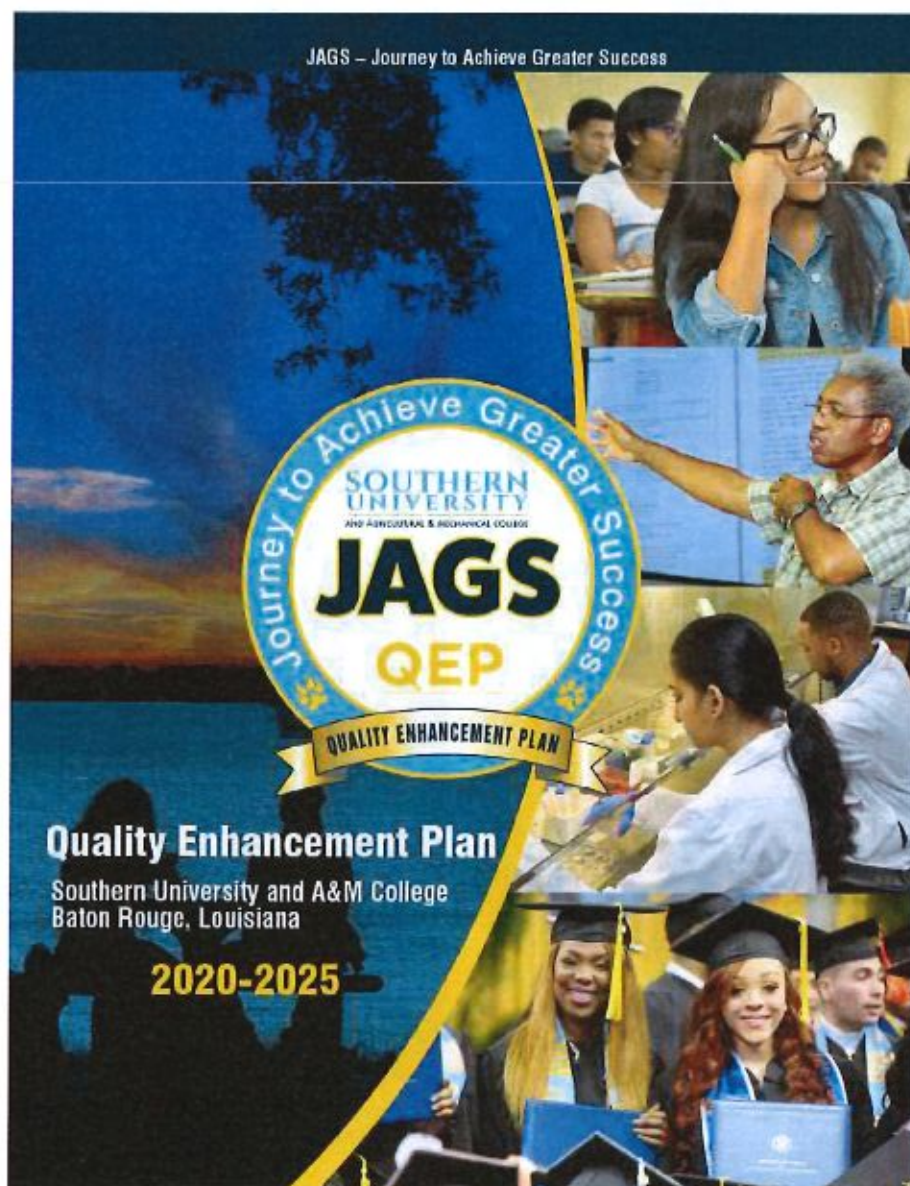
Southern University and A&M College recently submitted its Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) to the Southern Association of Colleges and School Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC). The plan focuses on the first-year experience of undergraduate students and how the university can work collectively to improve student success.

The effort was led by Bijoy K. Sahoo, interim executive vice chancellor and senior associate vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, and the QEP committee, chaired by Rachel Vincent-Pinley, interim mathematics program leader for the Department of Mathematics and Physics. Members of the QEP team include: Zackeus D. Johnson, executive director of the First and Second-Year Experience; Francesca Mellieon-Williams, associate professor; April Toadvine, instructor; Resheedah Jenkins, assistant professor; and Latrina Collins, executive director of the Center for Student Success.

In the spring of 2017, Southern University and A&M College began a broad-based process of planning for the Quality Enhancement Plan. The initial activities included review of institutional data and communication with stakeholders including faculty, students, administrative representatives, and the Board of Supervisors for input concerning potential topics.

The ongoing processes revealed common themes that centered on the first year experience of undergraduate students. During the fall semester of 2018, the university became aware of a disproportionate number of students who were likely to be placed on academic probation. These students, as further analyses of institutional data suggested, were not passing select general education courses.

As a result, the Southern University and



A&M College Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) was identified to focus on the first-year experience of undergraduate students and more specifically to address student success in English, mathematics, and biology gateway courses.

The objectives of the SU QEP, "JAGS – Journey to Achieve Greater Success," will be achieved through student success in three gateway courses and through student

learning outcomes aligned with SU General Education Program of Excellence (GEPE). "We encourage the Southern University community and its stakeholders to embrace this new innovative plan which will provide support to positively transform our students, how they learn and perform, in their Journey to Achieve Greater Success!," said Ray L. Belton, Chancellor of Southern University and A&M College.

ON CAMPUS....



New Pergolas Installed on Bluff

Students are enjoying new pergolas, complete with USB charging ports, as part of The Home Depot: 2019 Retool Your School Program project to beautify the Bluff.

Since 2009, The Home Depot's Retool Your School Campus Improvement Grant Program has invested more than \$2 million dollars to update, upgrade, and uplift HBCU campuses. Southern University was selected based on the number of votes received from its campus, supporters and friends.



Gov. Edwards Pledges Continued Support During Visit

Governor John Bel Edwards offers well-wishes and continued support to Southern during its first System Board meeting of the new year.

Edwards also gave an update on two major construction projects on the Baton Rouge campus. The bridge construction

and drainage management plan at the back of the campus are slated to continue with an end date slated for December of this year. Renovations to the academic building, Fisher Hall, will commence this year, with a \$6.5 million commitment.

Edwards praised Southern for consistently producing well-rounded professionals that are part of the workforce in the state and beyond while reflecting on his personal experience.

"While I am not an alumnus, I feel like I'm a product of SU," he said. "Half of teachers who taught me were educated at SU. It's the people you've educated who gave me the opportunities to do the things that I do. This is why it is important more than ever to invest in all levels of education."

Professor Taylor Honored as Role Model by The Links, Inc.

Cheryl Taylor, associate professor of nursing and chairperson of the Graduate Nursing programs at Southern University and A&M College, was honored as a role model during the 14th Annual New Orleans Style Jazz Brunch by the Baton Rouge Chapter of The Links, Inc.



The Links, Inc. honored her for providing the leadership for graduate nursing programs at Southern university. Dr. Taylor teaches Ph.D.-level research and health policy courses and chairs dissertations committees focused on chronic health conditions.

Judge Freddie Pitcher, Jr., the first African American elected to a judgeship in Baton Rouge, was also honored as a role model. Judge Pitcher earned his undergraduate degree in political science from Southern University and his juris doctor from the Southern University School of Law.

School of Education Hosts Mardi Gras Gala

The School of Education at Southern University recently hosted its Inaugural Mardi Gras Gala on Saturday, January 25, 2020. The gala was planned as a fundraiser to help ensure that academic success of students and faculty at Southern University.

It was a night of celebration and fun as supporters sought to expand and build capacity for the School of Education.



ON CAMPUS....



Travel Supervisor Honored by Board of Supervisor

University Travel Supervisor of 20 years, Linda Wilkins, received the "Above and Beyond Award" at the January Board of Supervisors Meeting. With a staff of two, Ms. Wilkins spends countless and extended hours to ensure Southern University travelers are taken care of when they travel.

Valdry Center to Host Program for Social Entrepreneurs

TrueBLUE
EDUCATION. PHILANTHROPY. COMMUNITY.

Over a 24-month period, a cohort of four social entrepreneurs will be provided with office space and a host

of resources that will be beneficial in turning their ideas into tangible outcomes that mutually benefit the entrepreneur and the demographic they serve.

These fellows will live on campus, attend Valdry Center seminars, take courses, and receive targeted assistance. Each Social Entrepreneur Fellow will receive a modest stipend in addition to having their living expenses, and tuition and fees covered.

The Center will also pursue financial capital to invest in those graduating from the program with a viable idea that would live well beyond the experience.

Only two fellows will be selected for the first cohort. The candidates will be Southern University students, live on campus and have completed between 30 and 70 hours. In addition, the students must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 grading scale.

Convocation Prepares Faculty to Implement QEP

Southern University had its 2020 Spring Faculty Convocation in January to bring administrators, faculty, and various units together to discuss effective ways to carry out the university's mission, strategic goals, and initiatives outlined in the University's new Quality Enhancement Plan.

During the Convocation, participants were provided with a Southern Association of Colleges and School Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC) Update. Latrina Collins, executive director of the Center for Student Success, provided an update and overview regarding Navigate, technology that helps keep students abreast of their academic progress.

The convocation focused on the University's Quality Enhancement Plan titled *JAGS: Journey to Achieve Greater Success*. Dr. Roberta Mathews, Senior Fellow for Foundations of Excellence at the John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education, was the special guests during the convocation.

According to Bijoy K. Sahoo, interim executive vice chancellor/senior associate vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, Mathews will be working with our faculty and campus over the next three years to enhance teaching and learning related to gateway courses. Mathews participated in a panel discussion with Rachel Vicent-Finley, chair of the QEP Committee; Collins; Instructor April Toadvine; Assistant Professor Rasheeda Jenkins; and Zackeus Johnson, executive director of the First-Year and Second-Year Experience.

During the Convocation, nearly 250 faculty were in attendance.

