

# **SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

(Following the Legislative Committee)

Friday, April 24, 2009

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building  
Southern University – Baton Rouge, LA

## **AGENDA**

1. Call to order and Invocation
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of the Agenda
- 3A. Public Comments
- 4A. Update and discussion regarding the following legal actions (Executive Session may be required)
  1. Dr. Ralph Slaughter versus Southern University Supervisors Board (Number C577011, Section "24," 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, East Baton Rouge Parish, State of Louisiana) Petition for Injunction and Judgment Rendering the Vote taken March 27, 2009 void.
  2. Dr. Ralph Slaughter versus Board of Supervisors of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College (19<sup>th</sup> JDC, East Baton Rouge Parish, State of Louisiana, Docket No. 577092, Section "D").
  3. Dr. Ralph Slaughter versus Dale Atkins, Johnny Anderson, Tony Clayton and Lea Polk Montgomery, U.S. District Court, Middle District of Louisiana, Civil Action No. 09-190-FJP-CN
- 4B. Any action that may be required regarding Litigation 1, 2, and 3 under 4A above.
5. Action Items
  - A. Minutes of the March 27, 2009 regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors
  - B. Committee Reports and Recommendations
    1. Academic Affairs
    2. Athletics
    3. Facilities and Property
    4. Finance and Audit
    5. Legal Affairs

- 6. Legislative
  - 7. Personnel
  - 8. Student Affairs
- C. Resolutions
- a. Condolences
  - b. Commendations
6. Informational Items
- A. System and Campus Reports
7. Adjournment

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Friday, March 27, 2009**

**Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J. S. Clark Administration Building**

**Southern University-Baton Rouge**

**MINUTES**

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Atty. Tony M. Clayton. The invocation was given by Atty. Jefferson.

**PRESENT**

Atty. Tony M. Clayton, Chairman  
Mrs. Lea P. Montgomery, Vice Chairman  
Atty. Murphy Bell, Jr.  
Mr. Patrick W. Bell  
Mr. Richard J. Caiton  
Atty. Walter Dumas  
Atty. Warren A. Forstall  
Atty. Randal A. Gaines  
Mr. Walter Guidry  
Atty. Patrick O. Jefferson  
Mr. Myron K. Lawson  
Atty. Patrick Magee  
Mr. Darren G. Mire  
Mr. Murphy Nash, Jr.  
Mr. Jamal A. Taylor  
Mr. Achilles Williams

**ABSENT**

None

**UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL IN ATTENDANCE**

System President Ralph Slaughter  
Vice Presidents Kassie Freeman, Napoleon Moses, and Tolor E. White  
Chancellors Ray Belton, Kofi Lomotey, Freddie Pitcher, Victor Ukpolo, and Leodrey Williams

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Atty. Winston Decuir, Sr. - Board Counsel

**AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On motion of Mrs. Montgomery, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the agenda was adopted, as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Minutes of the February 27, 2009 regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors**

On motion of Mr. Lawson, seconded by Atty. Forstall,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the minutes of the February 27, 2009 regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors be and they are hereby approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

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**B. Report from the Personnel Affairs Committee regarding the Annual Performance Evaluation of Southern University System President Ralph Slaughter**

Chairman Clayton noted that the Personnel Committee's report on the President's evaluation had been received by him on behalf of the Board and the Committee had discussed the results with Dr. Slaughter.

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On motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Lawson,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the Southern University System that the Committee's report be and it is received into the record.

Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 5C: CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING THE RENEWAL AND/OR EXTENSION OF SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM PRESIDENT RALPH SLAUGHTER'S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT WHICH EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2009, AND HIS EMPLOYMENT BEYOND JUNE 30, 2009.**

On motion of Atty. Magee, seconded by Mrs. Montgomery,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the employment contract of Southern University System President, Dr. Ralph Slaughter, which expires on June 30, 2009, not be renewed nor extended; and, Dr. Slaughter's employment as System President cease on June 30, 2009.

Motion carried. ROLL CALL VOTE: 11 yeas: Montgomery, M. Bell, Caiton, Dumas, Forstall, Guidry, Jefferson, Magee, Mire, Nash, and Clayton; 5 nays: P. Bell, Gaines, Lawson, Taylor, and Williams; 0 abstentions.

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Board Chairman Clayton announced that a Special Board Meeting would take place on April 15, 2009. At that time, the Board will decide whether Dr. Slaughter would be placed on administrative leave with pay and an interim System President appointed.

Continuing, Mr. Clayton advised that a focused search committee appointed by the Board would be utilized to fill the President's position. Persons listed below were named as members of the System President's Focus Search Committee:

Mr. Matthew Butler, Shaw Group, business community

Mrs. Gloria Moultrie, SUNO Campus

Mr. Theron Jackson, Shreveport Campus

Dr. Raymond Lockett, Baton Rouge Campus, faculty representative

Mr. Jamal Taylor (*or his successor on the Board*), student representative

Mr. Donald Wade, retired employee

Atty. Murphy Bell, Jr., 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Board representative

Atty. Domoine Rutledge, Chairman, Southern University National Alumni President

Atty. Clayton asked Mr. Rutledge to get in contact with the committee members to have a meeting by Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> to layout the platform for the focus search.

**AGENDA ITEM 5D: COMMITTEE REPORTS**

On motion of Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mrs. Montgomery, the following resolutions and committee reports were approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

*1.) Academic Affairs Committee*

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, upon the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee, that Southern University-Baton Rouge Administration's request to posthumously award a Bachelor of Science degree in Management to Ms. Delonda Jean Batiste during the Spring 2009 Commencement Exercises be and it is hereby approved.

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RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, upon the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee, that the Southern University-Baton Rouge Administration's request to rescind the September 2008 Board action on the tenure application for Dr. Anitra Wilson and that it be officially withdrawn, be and it is hereby approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary to the Board is authorized to note this action in all records of the Board affected by it.

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RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, upon the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee, that the Southern University at

Baton Rouge Administration's request to rescind the September 2008 Board action to deny Dr. Riad Yehya's application for tenure and promotion; and, to approve Dr. Yehya's application for promotion to Professor with tenure, effective Fall 2008, be and it is hereby granted.

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RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, upon the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee, that the Southern University-Baton Rouge Administration's request to establish the endowed professorships listed below, be and it is hereby approved.

- Formosa/Prince Hall Endowed Professorship in Chemistry, SUBR
- Tolor E. White/Casino Rouge Endowed Professorship in Accounting, SUBR
- Leon R. Tarver/Casino Rouge Endowed Professorship in Public Policy, SUBR
- Louisiana Outside Counsel/Vanue B. LaCour Endowed Professorship in Law, SULC
- Kleinpeter Family/College of Education Endowed Professorship, SUBR

## ***2.) Facilities and Property Committee***

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, upon the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee, that the Administration's request to proceed with the installation of elevators and an air conditioning and heating system in the Health and Physical Education Building on the Southern University at New Orleans campus, be and it is hereby approved.

## ***3.) Finance and Audit Committee***

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, upon the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, that the Southern University-Shreveport Administration's request to increase the fee for student insurance by an amount of \$20.00 for a total per semester fee of \$35.00 to align with the actual rate of the insurance benefit, effective Fall 2009, be and it is hereby approved.

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RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, upon the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, that BA-7 #3 which reflects a decrease in spending authority and self-generated funds for the Southern University-Baton Rouge campus and an increase in spending authority and self-generated funds for the Southern University Law Center for fiscal year 2008-2009 be and it is hereby approved.

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**4.) Governance Committee**

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, upon the recommendation of the Governance Committee, that language changes to the Bylaws - Article III: Committees, Sections 1, 7, 10, 13, 15 and 16 be and they are hereby approved.

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**5.) Legislative Committee**

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, upon the recommendation of the Legislative Committee, that the Committee's report be and it is hereby approved.

The report included updates on: 1.) anticipated budget cuts for FY 2009-10, by System; 2.) SU campus visits by local, state and federal delegations; 3.) the 2009 State of Black Louisiana Conference which was held on March 21; 4.) a summary of the University's legislative priorities at the federal and state levels; 5.) pre-filed bills (as of March 26) affecting higher education; and 6.) the Schedule of Southern University's 2009 Legislative Activities. Note was taken that the Schedule did not include May 15, 2009 – the due date for Financial Disclosure Reports.

Mr. Bell requested the Board Chair to schedule a date on which Board members could receive a refresher session on Governmental Ethics.

**AGENDA ITEM 5E: RESOLUTIONS**

On motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Mire, the following resolutions were approved:

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that Board commendations be and they are hereby extended to Dr. Joe Leonard, Jr., an alumnus of Southern University-Baton Rouge and Senior Advisor to U.S. Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, on his nomination for Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the Board's Condolences be and they are hereby extended to the families of persons listed below:

- Abeeku Nyamekye
- Nyoka Bethley-Broussard
- Beverly Robinson-Downs



- Shanell Fontenot
- Cecilia Clara Ordone
- Mary Larche'
- Marie A. Baham
- James Samuel Reed
- Effie Vidrine Arvie
- Venice Holliday-Robins

Motion carried unanimously.

## **AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### ***A. System and Campus Reports***

The System President and Campus Chancellors provided a monthly report of activities related to their respective entities.

### ***B. SU-ULL Golf Tournament Presentation***

Mr. Curtis Hollinger, Hollinger Serveology Clinic, LCC, requested the Board's support of the Louisiana Athletic Student Fest activities on September 4-5 in Lafayette, LA that are planned in conjunction with the 2009 Southern University game with the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Mr. Hollinger specifically noted the scheduled Golf Challenge between supporters of the two universities.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Atty. Bell, the meeting was adjourned.

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Ralph Slaughter, Secretary  
Board of Supervisors  
Southern University System

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Tony M. Clayton, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors  
Southern University System

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

9:00 A.M.

Friday, March 27, 2009

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J. S. Clark Administration Building  
Southern University-Baton Rouge

**MINUTES**

The meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by Chairman, Atty. Patrick O. Jefferson. The invocation was given by Atty. Jefferson.

**PRESENT:**

Atty. Patrick O. Jefferson, Chairman  
Mr. Walter Guidry, Jr.  
Mrs. Lea P. Montgomery  
Mr. Jamal A. Taylor  
Mr. Achilles Williams  
Atty. Tony M. Clayton, Ex-Officio

**ABSENT:**

Mr. Myron K. Lawson, Vice Chairman  
Atty. Walter Dumas

**UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING:**

System President Ralph Slaughter; System Vice Presidents Kassie Freeman, Napoleon Moses and Tolor E. White; Chancellors Ray Belton, Kofi Lomotey, Freddie Pitcher, Victor Ukpolo and Leodrey Williams

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Atty. Winston Decuir, Sr., Board Counsel

**AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Guidry, the agenda was adopted, as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

## **AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Awarding of Bachelor of Science Degree posthumously, SUBR**

On motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Guidry, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the SUBR Administration's request to posthumously award a Bachelor of Science degree in Management to Ms. Delonda Jean Batiste during the Spring 2009 Commencement Exercises.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Batiste was a candidate for graduation in good standing at the time of her untimely death resulting from a vehicular accident on December 24, 2008.

### **B. Correction/Revision of Tenure and Promotion Recommendations, SUBR**

#### **1.) Dr. Anitra Wilson**

On motion of Mr. Guidry, seconded by Mrs. Montgomery, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the Administration's request to rescind the September 2008 Board action on the tenure application for Dr. Anitra Wilson (SUBR), that it be officially withdrawn; and that the records be updated to reflect this action.

Motion carried unanimously.

Recent information brought to the Administration's attention revealed that Dr. Wilson was no longer a University employee at the time her tenure application was submitted for Board action.

#### **2.) Dr. Riad Yehya**

On motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Williams, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the SUBR Administration's request to rescind the September 2008 Board action on Dr. Riad Yehya's tenure and promotion application and to approve Dr. Yehya's application for promotion to professor with tenure, effective Fall 2008.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Yehya's application denial was under appeal at the time the recommendation was submitted by the administration for Board action.

### **C. Endowed Professorships**

On motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Montgomery, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the establishment of the following endowed professorships.

Motion carried unanimously.

- Formosa/Prince Hall Endowed Professorship in Chemistry, SUBR
- Tolor E. White/Casino Rouge Endowed Professorship in Accounting, SUBR
- Leon R. Tarver/Casino Rouge Endowed Professorship in Public Policy, SUBR
- Louisiana Outside Counsel/Vanue B. LaCour Endowed Professorship in Law, SULC
- Kleinpeter Family/College of Education Endowed Professorship, SUBR

**AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Guidry, the meeting was adjourned.

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Secretary, SU Board of Supervisors

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Chairman, SU Board of Supervisors

**FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE**  
Friday, March 27, 2009  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building  
Southern University – Baton Rouge

**MINUTES**

The meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chair, Mrs. Lea P. Montgomery.

**Committee Members Present**

Mrs. Lea P. Montgomery, Chair

Mr. Richard J. Caiton

Atty. Warren A. Forstall

Atty. Patrick O. Jefferson

Mr. Myron K. Lawson

Mr. Darren G. Mire

Atty. Tony M. Clayton, Ex-Officio

**Committee Members Absent**

Atty. Walter C. Dumas, Vice Chairman

Mr. Myron K. Lawson

**University Personnel Attending**

System President Ralph Slaughter; System Vice Presidents Kassie Freeman, Napoleon Moses and Tolor E. White; Chancellors Ray Belton, Kofi Lomotey, Freddie Pitcher, Victor Ukpolo, and Leodrey Williams

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Atty. Winston DeCuir, Sr. – Board Counsel

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**AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On motion of Atty. Jefferson, seconded by Mr. Mire, the agenda was adopted, as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEM**

**A. Student Insurance Fee Increase, SUSLA**

On motion of Atty. Jefferson, seconded by Mr. Mire, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the SUSLA Administration’s request to increase the fee for student insurance by an amount of \$20.00 for a total per-semester fee of \$35.00 to align with the actual rate of the insurance benefit. The increase will become effective Fall 2009.

Motion carried unanimously.

**B. BA-7# 3, SUBR and SULC**

On motion of Atty. Jefferson, seconded by Mr. Mire, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, BA-7 #3 which reflects a decrease in spending authority and self-generated funds for the Southern University - Baton Rouge Campus; and an increase in spending authority and self-generated funds for the Southern University Law Center for fiscal year 2008-2009.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mr. Mire, seconded by Atty. Jefferson, the meeting was adjourned.

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Secretary, SU Board of Supervisors

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Chairman, SU Board of Supervisors

## **FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

Friday, March 27, 2009  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building  
Southern University – Baton Rouge

### **MINUTES**

The meeting of the Facilities and Property Committee of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Mr. Walter Guidry.

#### **Committee Members Present**

Mr. Walter Guidry, Chairman  
Mr. Murphy Nash, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Mr. Richard J. Caiton  
Atty. Walter C. Dumas  
Atty. Warren A. Forstall  
Atty. Tony M. Clayton, Ex-Officio

#### **Committee Members Absent**

Mr. Patrick W. Bell  
Mr. Myron K. Lawson

#### **University Personnel Attending**

System President Ralph Slaughter; System Vice Presidents Kassie Freeman, Napoleon Moses and Tolor E. White; Chancellors Ray Belton, Kofi Lomotey, Freddie Pitcher, Victor Ukpolo, and Leodrey Williams

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Atty. Winston DeCuir, Sr. – Board Counsel

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**AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On motion of Mr. Nash, seconded by Atty. Forstall, the agenda was adopted, as printed.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEM**

**A. Installation of Elevators; Air Conditioning and Heating System - Health and Physical Education Building, SUNO**

On motion of Mr. Caiton, seconded by Atty. Forstall, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, approval of the Administration's request to proceed with the installation of elevators and an air conditioning and heating system in the Health and Physical Education Building on the Southern University at New Orleans.

Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Guidry reported that the project to replace hot water piping on the SUBR Campus was successfully bid.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mr. Caiton, seconded by Atty. Forstall, the meeting was adjourned.

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Secretary, S.U. Board of Supervisors

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Chairman, S.U. Board of Supervisors



**GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**  
Friday, March 27, 2009  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J. S. Clark Administration Building  
Southern University-Baton Rouge

**MINUTES**

The meeting of the Governance Committee of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by Chairman, Mr. Murphy Nash, Jr.

**PRESENT:**

Mr. Murphy Nash, Jr. Chairman  
Mr. Richard J. Caiton, Vice Chairman  
Atty. Randal L. Gaines  
Atty. Patrick O. Jefferson  
Mrs. Lea P. Montgomery  
Mr. Jamal A. Taylor  
Atty. Tony M. Clayton, Ex-Officio

**ABSENT:**

Mr. Patrick W. Bell  
Mr. Myron K. Lawson

**UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING:**

System President Ralph Slaughter; System Vice Presidents Kassie Freeman, Napoleon Moses and Tolor E. White; Chancellors Ray Belton, Kofi Lomotey, Freddie Pitcher, Victor Ukpole and Leodrey Williams

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Atty. Winston Decuir, Sr., Board Counsel

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**AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On motion of Mrs. Montgomery, seconded by Atty. Jefferson, the agenda was adopted, as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS**

**D. By-Laws Changes**

On motion of Mrs. Montgomery, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, changes to the following sections of the Board's Bylaws, **Article III: Committees**, as follows.

- **Sections 1, 7, 10, 13, 15, and 16**

Motion carried unanimously.

The changes were necessary to ensure that the Bylaws provisions are current and accurately reflect Board approved revisions of its policies and procedures. The changes to the Bylaws are attached to these minutes and on file in the Office of the Board.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mr. Caiton, seconded by Atty. Jefferson, the meeting was adjourned.

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Secretary, SU Board of Supervisors

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Chairman, SU Board of Supervisors

## ARTICLE III

### COMMITTEES

#### Section 1. Standing Committees.

Unless and until otherwise decided by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Board, the standing committees of the Board shall consist of the following:

- A. Academic ~~and Student~~ Affairs Committee
- B. Athletics Committee
- C. Executive Committee
- ~~D.~~ Facilities and Property Committee
- ~~E.~~ Finance and Audit Committee
- ~~F.~~ Governance Committee
- ~~G.~~ Personnel Affairs and Policy Committee
- ~~H.~~ Legislative Committee
- ~~I.~~ Legal Affairs Committee
- J. Student Affairs Committee (1-7-00) (3-27-09)

~~The Board may create an executive committee in accordance with the provisions of Section 6 of this Article.~~

~~All Board~~ Only members of a Committee shall have the authority to vote during committee its meetings. (3-27-09)

#### Section 2. Appointment and Term.

The Chairman of the Board, at the time he assumes office, shall appoint the chairmen, vice-chairmen, and members of all standing committees, except as indicated in Article III, Section 3 below. The terms of chairmen, vice-chairmen, and members shall be concurrent with that of the Chairman of the Board. The Chairman of the Board shall serve as ex-officio voting member of all committees.

Vacancies occurring in the membership of any committee shall be filled by appointments made by the Chairman of the Board for the remainder of his term.

#### Section 3. Officers of Standing Committees.

It shall be the duty of the chairman of each committee, with the concurrence of the Chairman of the Board, to call and to preside over committee meetings. The minutes of the meeting of the committee, documenting its actions and recommendations, shall be deemed in compliance with the provisions of Article V, Section 3, hereof, concerning the written recommendations of the committees.

In the absence of the chairman of the committee, the vice-chairman shall preside. In the event both the chairman and the vice-chairman of the committee are absent from a meeting, the committee shall elect a temporary chairman from those present, provided a quorum is present.

#### Section 4. Quorum of Committee Meetings.

A majority of the members of any committee of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. When a quorum is not present, the chairman of the committee, or vice-chairman, in the chairman's absence, may designate a member of the Board to serve as a substitute member of the committee.

#### **Section 5. Authority of Committees.**

The authority of committees of the Board shall be subject to these bylaws and to the policies and direction of the Board. Ordinarily, matters shall be referred to the appropriate standing committee; however, nothing shall prohibit the direct consideration of any matter by the Board.

#### **Section 6. Executive Committee.**

- A. Membership, Duties.** The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board, the Chairmen of the Board's standing committees, and one member-at-large to be designated by the Chairman of the Board. The Chairman and the Secretary to the Board shall be chairman and secretary, respectively, of the Executive Committee. It shall consider such matters as are referred by the Board, and shall execute such orders and resolutions as shall be assigned at any meeting of the Board. It shall also take such action as is necessary when an emergency requiring immediate action arises during an interim between Board meetings.

An affirmative vote by a majority of the full membership of the committee shall be required for all transactions.

- B. Ratification of Action.** All acts of the Executive Committee shall be submitted to the Board for ratification or rejection at the Board's next meeting, except in matters where the Board has delegated to the Executive Committee full power to act.
- C. Meetings.** Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held in the month in which the full Board does not meet, for the consideration of matters set forth in Section 6(A) above. The Executive Committee shall also meet at other times designated by the Chair or action of the Board. (4-23-99)

#### **Section 7. Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee shall consist of at least five members, ~~one of whom shall be the student member of the Board.~~ Matters concerning academic organization, curricula, faculty affairs (except personnel policy), scholarships, admissions standards, matters concerning the academic welfare of students, other academic affairs, ~~and matters of policy in the non-academic area pertaining to student welfare and affairs shall ordinarily be referred to this committee.~~ (1-7-00) (3-27-09)

#### **Section 8. Athletics Committee.**

The Athletics Committee shall consist of at least five members. All matters concerning athletics programs shall ordinarily be referred to this committee. (10-26-01)

### **Section 9. Facilities and Property Committee**

The Facilities and Property Committee shall consist of a least five members. All matters relating to health and safety standards, the physical plant, and the property and grounds of the University System shall ordinarily be referred to this committee. (1-7-00)

### **Section 10. Finance and Audit Committee**

The Finance and Audit Committee shall consist of at least seven members. All matters concerning financial and budgetary operations of the University System shall ordinarily be referred to this committee. (1-7-00) (3-27-09)

### **Section 11. Governance Committee**

The Governance Committee shall consist of at least seven members. All matters relating to amendments or changes to the Board's Bylaws and Regulations, development of a policy and procedures manual which will include procedures for presidential and chancellor selection, presidential evaluation, orientation, and a code of ethics for Board members, grievance policies and procedures and other duties assigned by the Board shall ordinarily be referred to this committee. (4-23-99)

### **Section 12. Legislative Committee**

The Legislative Committee shall consist of at least five members. All matters relating to the State Legislature shall ordinarily be referred to this committee. (1-7-00)

### **Section 13. Personnel Affairs and Policy Committee**

The Personnel Affairs ~~and Policy~~ Committee shall consist of at least five members. All matters relating to the evaluation of the System President, non-academic personnel policy, and all personnel action forms requiring Board action shall ordinarily be referred to this Committee. (4-23-99) (3-27-09)

### **Section 14. Legal Affairs Committee**

The Legal Affairs Committee shall consist of at least five members. The Board's legal counsel and university officials shall present to this committee all major legal matters requiring Board action, information pertaining to major litigation (except the higher education desegregation lawsuit), discussions relative to proposals for the settlement of lawsuits requiring Board approval, the occurrence of incidents of a high profile nature that have the potential for litigation and/or which present major liability exposure for the University. (1-7-00)

### **Section 15. Student Affairs Committee.**

The Student Affairs Committee shall consist of at least five members, one of whom shall be the student member of the Board. All matters of policy in the non-academic area pertaining to student welfare and affairs shall ordinarily be referred to this Committee. (3-27-09)

### **Section-15 16. Special Committees.**

Special committees may be created with such functions, powers, and authority as may be designated by the Board Chairman or authorized by the Board. Unless otherwise provided in the action creating such a committee, the Chairman of the Board shall determine the number of its members and designate the chairman and vice-chairman thereof. The Chairman may also appoint ad hoc committees with special assignments for specified periods of existence, not to exceed the completion of the assigned tasks. (4-23-99) (3-27-09)

**ARTICLE IV MEETINGS**  
**No Proposed Changes**

**ARTICLE V**

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Section 1. Rules of Order.**

Robert's Rules of Order (latest revision) shall constitute the rules of parliamentary procedures applicable to all meetings of the Board, when not in conflict with any of the provisions of these bylaws.

**Section 2. Order of Business.**

In regular meetings of the Board, the order of business shall include the following:

- A. Roll Call
- B. Approval of the Agenda
- C. Public Comments
- ~~E~~D. Approval of minutes of the preceding regular meeting and all special meetings held subsequent thereto.
- ~~D~~E. Reports and recommendations of standing and special committees.
- ~~E~~F. Reports and recommendations of the President.
- ~~F~~G. Other business. (10-26-01)
- ~~G~~H. Reports for Board information. (3-27-09)

**Section 3. Reference to Committees.**

In cases where feasible and desirable, before the Board takes action, any subject or measure should ordinarily be referred to the standing or special committee(s) in whose purview the matter falls. The committee to which the matter is referred should act on it and submit to the Board its recommendations in writing, together with any resolutions necessary to support such recommendations. However, this provision is not to be construed as preventing the Board from considering directly any matter which it judges could be more expeditiously and amicably handled by the Board. (4-23-99)

(10-26-01)

**Section 4. Meetings.**

In order that all interested parties and the public may be informed of all activities of the Board, it shall be the policy of the Board that all meetings be open to the public. Only when personnel or equally sensitive matters (e. g., litigation) are under consideration shall the Board enter into closed or executive session; provided, however, that no final or binding action shall be taken in conformity with

R.S. 42:6. Public notice of all meetings shall be given at least ten days prior to the meetings.

The Board's Secretary, in consultation with the Chairman of the Board, shall prepare a tentative agenda and shall forward the agenda with its supporting data to each member of the Board at least ten days prior to a regular meeting of the Board. Particular items shall be included on the agenda by the Secretary, at the request of a member of the Board. (4-23-99)

Each recommendation submitted to the Board shall be accompanied by an appropriate resolution for Board action. (4-23-99)

All official actions of the Board shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the members. The Chairman shall have the right to vote. (4-23-99)

**Section 5. Minutes.**

The minutes of Board meetings shall record official actions taken upon motions or resolutions which are voted upon by the Board, and may contain a summary of reports and discussions pertinent to the official action. When the Board's action is not by a unanimous vote, the "yeas," "nays" and abstentions of the individual members shall be recorded. The remarks, personal views, or vote explanations of an individual Board member shall be included in the minutes only upon request. The foregoing provisions relative to contents of the minutes shall, in general, also apply to minutes of committees of the Board. The minutes of meetings of the Board become official only when completed and approved by the Board.

Copies of all minutes, papers and documents of the Board, or its several committees, may be certified to be true and correct by either the Chairman or the Secretary to the Board.



## ARTICLE VI

### COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

**Section 1.** All communications to the Board, or to any committee thereof, from persons having official relations with the University System shall be filed in writing with the President and duly transmitted by him to the Board; but all communications from a student organization, teacher, officer, or employee of any campus or systemwide unit shall be transmitted to the President through the appropriate Chancellor, and transmitted by the President to the Board. With the concurrence of the Chairman of the Board, the President may transmit such communication to the appropriate committee of the Board. The President or the Chancellor shall have the authority to read and comment upon the communication, but shall not delay or withhold such communication, except as hereinafter provided. Such communications shall be filed with the Chancellor at least fifteen days before the meeting of the Board or Committee, and with the President at least twelve days before such meeting. In the event a Chancellor elects to withhold any such communication until the next meeting, such communication, or a true copy thereof, shall be promptly forwarded to the President with the notation from the Chancellor explaining such withholding. The author of any communication shall be notified of its disposition within five days of the action by a University Officer or the Board. Depending on the nature of the communication, the Chancellor or President may elect to seek a resolution to the concern. In this case, the communication, or a true copy thereof, along with a copy of the results of such involvement shall be transmitted by the President to the Board. (10-26-01)

**Section 2.** The above communication procedure shall be followed unless the Chairman of the Board requests information from persons having official relations with the University System, or any student organization, teacher, officer, or employee of any campus. Then, the aforementioned individuals may communicate directly with the Board of Supervisors. Additionally, if any of the aforementioned individuals, having information that, in their view, should be brought to the direct attention of the Board of Supervisors, they may do so. If the Board believes that such information should be directed through established procedures, then the Board shall so advise the individual.

**Section 3.** Public Comments. A period shall be set aside ~~prior to~~ **during** each meeting of the Board of Supervisors and **its Committees** for public comments on matters to be addressed on the agenda of the Board. (7-13-01) (3-27-09)

----- Deleted Language

**Highlighted** ---- New Language

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**  
Friday, March 27, 2009  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building  
Southern University – Baton Rouge

**MINUTES**

The meeting of the Legislative Committee of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Mr. Patrick W. Bell.

**Committee Members Present**

Mr. Patrick W. Bell, Chairman

Atty. Patrick O. Jefferson, Vice Chairman

Atty. Warren A. Forstall

Mr. Myron K. Lawson

Atty. Patrick D. Magee

Mr. Darren G. Mire

Mrs. Lea P. Montgomery

Atty. Tony M. Clayton, Ex-Officio

**Committee Members Absent**

None

**University Personnel Attending**

System President Ralph Slaughter; System Vice Presidents Kassie Freeman, Napoleon Moses and Tolor E. White; Chancellors Ray Belton, Kofi Lomotey, Freddie Pitcher, Victor Ukpolo, and Leodrey Williams

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Atty. Winston DeCuir, Sr. – Board Counsel

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### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On motion of Atty. Magee, seconded by Mr. Mire, the agenda was adopted, as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **AGENDA ITEM 5: INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

#### **A. Status Report on Legislative Priorities, System and Campuses**

On motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Montgomery, the Committee meeting was recessed for five minutes to allow for the dissemination of support documents relating to this item.

**-RECESS-**

**-RECONVENTION-**

A roll call vote established the presence of a quorum: 5 present, 1 out - Atty. Forstall.

\*\*\*

The Committee reviewed SU's scheduled 2009 Legislative Activities that was provided by the Administration. The document also included updates on: (1) anticipated cuts to higher education in the 2009-10 budgets, by System; (2) Southern University campus visits by local, state and federal delegations; (3) the 2009 State of Black Louisiana Conference which was held on March 21; (3) a summary of the University's legislative priorities at the federal and state levels; and (4) pre filed bills (as of March 26) affecting higher education.

The Committee was advised by Vice President Moses of the University's request for \$42 million in federal appropriations to repair the ravine on the Baton Rouge Campus.

The Administration was requested to provide the following information to the Committee:

- A listing of all proposed legislation that affect Southern University and higher education (Atty. Dumas)
- The University's position on all higher education - related legislation; bills sponsored and/or supported by the institution delineated.
- The University's position relative to the proposed implementation of the Board of Regents performance-based formula funding to allocate higher education appropriations.

Mr. Mire reminded the Committee of the need for SU Board Members to aggressively lobby the Legislature in support of the University during the upcoming session.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mr. Mire, seconded by Atty. Magee, the meeting was adjourned.

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Secretary, S.U. Board of Supervisors

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Chairman, S.U. Board of Supervisors

**PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Friday, March 27, 2009  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J. S. Clark Administration Building  
Southern University-Baton Rouge

**MINUTES**

The meeting of the Personnel Affairs Committee of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Atty. Walter C. Dumas.

**PRESENT:**

Atty. Walter C. Dumas, Chairman  
Mr. Jamal A. Taylor, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Richard J. Caiton  
Mr. Myron K. Lawson  
Atty. Patrick D. Magee  
Mr. Darren G. Mire  
Mrs. Lea P. Montgomery  
Atty. Tony M. Clayton, Ex-Officio

**ABSENT:**

None

**UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING:**

System President Ralph Slaughter  
System Vice Presidents Kassie Freeman, Napoleon Moses and Tolor E. White  
Chancellors Ray Belton, Kofi Lomotey, Freddie Pitcher, Victor Ukpolo and Leodrey Williams

\*\*\*

Atty. Winston Decuir, Sr., Board Counsel

\*\*\*

**AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Atty. Magee, the agenda was adopted, as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

\*\*\*

**AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

\*\*\*

**AGENDA ITEM 5: ANALYSIS OF THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF DR. RALPH SLAUGHTER AS PRESIDENT OF THE SU SYSTEM (EXECUTIVE SESSION)**

On motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Montgomery, the Committee convened into an executive session to analyze the results of the Board's annual performance evaluation of Dr. Ralph Slaughter as President of the Southern University System.

Motion carried unanimously. ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Mr. Lawson out.

**---EXECUTIVE SESSION---**

**---RECONVENTION---**

On motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Montgomery, the Committee returned to open session.

Motion carried unanimously. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

\*\*\*

Committee Chairman Dumas announced that the Committee had looked at the annual evaluation of Dr. Slaughter. He requested permission from Chairman Clayton to forward the results to the Board at a later time.

Mr. Clayton noted that the Board would receive the results later. He also stated that the President was invited into the executive session for a colloquy with the Board and that the President's evaluation was done successfully. He stated that the evaluations ranged from satisfactory to excellent.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mrs. Montgomery, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the meeting was adjourned.

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Secretary, SU Board of Supervisors

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Chairman, SU Board of Supervisors

# The Chancellor's Report to the Southern University Board of Supervisors

Kofi Lomotey, Chancellor

April 2009



## Significant Achievements/Accomplishments

### Academic Affairs

#### SUBR Holds 2009 Strategic Planning Task Force Retreat

On March 20-21, 2009, the Baton Rouge Campus engaged in a two-day strategic planning retreat. Approximately seventy-five administrators, faculty and staff constituted a task force appointed by the Chancellor to engage in a two-day intensive strategic planning process that would essentially yield a draft of a strategic plan to cover the next three years for SUBR.

The two-day activity began at ExxonMobil, Inc. located on Scenic Highway (first day) and the retreat sessions were held in the P. B. S. Pinchback Engineering Building on the SUBR campus the second day.

All participants were assigned to one of five groups: Area A: Student Matriculation and Retention; Area B: Resource Maintenance and Development; Area C: Efficiency, Effectiveness and Accountability; Area D: Educational Programs; and, Area E: Research and Public Service.

The facilitator for the retreat was Emma Perry, Dean, University Library. On day one of the retreat, a retention status report was presented, and a SACS Status Report was presented in general session before the individual groups broke out for group sessions.

The first task for the five groups was to conduct a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) analysis and then present to the Strategic Planning Task Force in general session. The task force then selected those SWOT items that appeared on a recurring basis in the various group reports. These items will be included in the University's SWOT analysis as a component of the draft strategic plan.



The various groups then developed goals, objectives, proposed strategies/activities, timeline and responsible parties. This information was presented to the general task force body by each group.

The drafts of all group deliberations were submitted to the Chancellor and Provost for further refinement.

Prior to this retreat activity, the Chancellor, Provost and Vice Chancellors engaged in some preliminary planning in preparation for the March 20-21 retreat. A draft of the strategic planning document will be shared with members of the Strategic Planning Task Force shortly and feedback from task force members will be expected within approximately ten (10) days of receipt of same.

#### SACS Consultants Visit SU Baton Rouge Campus

External consultants, Dr. Leroy Davis and Dr. Virginia Caples, visited SUBR on April 6-9, 2009 for the purpose of reviewing and assessing where the campus was in terms of its preparation for its 2010 SACS re-affirmation of institutional accreditation visit. Joining the two external consultants was Dr. Napoleon Moses, SU System Executive Vice President.

The team spent considerable time with the Chancellor, the Provost and Chief Academic Officer, the Associate Provost, the SACS Steering Committee and other University officials and staff. The team also interacted one-on-one with Task Force Chairs, some committee members and with the Chair of the QEP Committee. The objective was to ascertain the extent of each task force's readiness relative to having compliance data on-line for review and evaluation.

Consultants also interacted with the chair of the Quality Enhancement Program (QEP) Committee. The QEP is a critical component of the SACS reaffirmation of accreditation process and SUBR has been giving this component much attention as reflected in the ongoing work of the QEP committee.

Upon receiving a report from the consultants following their visit, SUBR will share results of same with the Board.

#### Student Retention Task Force

The Student Retention Task Force continues its work. The task force met twice during the month of March for the purpose of reviewing relevant parts of the 2003-2008 Strategic Plan (retention indicators) and preparing recommendations for consideration at the March 20-21 Strategic Planning Retreat. A presentation was made during the retreat by one of the Retention Subcommittee members. More information on retention is being submitted in a separate report requested by the Board.

## **Division of Student Affairs**

### Student Elections

The campus was "buzzing" during the week of April 6-13 with campaign activities associated with student elections. Signs appeared throughout the campus and a variety of activities were held, including debates, as students competed for votes. The election will take place on Monday, April 13, 2009. At that time, students will elect: (1) SGA President, (2) SGA Vice President, (3) Miss Southern, (4) Miss Sophomore, (5) Miss Junior, (6) Miss Senior, (7) Association of Women Students President, (8) Men's Federation President. The results of the election will be shared in the next Monday Morning Memo and in the next Chancellor's Report.

### Student Wellness Fair to be Held in Conjunction with Spring Fest

Spring Fest will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2009. The Office of Student Programs is coordinating and facilitating this effort in collaboration with the Student Government Association. This year, in addition to the food, music and games, the Student Health Center will sponsor a Student Wellness Fair. Since Spring Fest will provide a captive audience, this will be a great time to engage students in some activities that will raise their level of awareness and their level of appreciation for the importance of adopting a healthy life-style. The University Counseling Center will also participate in the Student Wellness Fair.

This activity (Spring Fest) is usually well attended and enjoyed by all.

### Student Media Activities

On March 2-6, 2008, Student Media began photographing students for the Jaguar Yearbook. Members of the Student Media staff are currently interviewing students for staff positions.

Four members of the current Student Media staff attended the College Media Advisers Conference in New York City.

### Intramural Sports

Intramural Sports continues to provide some activities for students in spite of the fact that the program has been relocated temporarily. On March 14, 2008, the Intramural Program sponsored a fitness walk. Due to an increase in attendance for its Aerobics classes, the classes have been increased from two to four.

Review Board Initiates Process to Update Student Affairs Publications

The Student Handbook and the Student's Code of Conduct are now both in the hands of the Student Affairs appointed Review Board. This body has already started to review and update both documents.

**Office of Research and Strategic Initiatives**

Research Awards for March/April 2009

Principal Investigator	Title	Agency	Amount
Bagayoko, Diola Dept. of Physics and Timbuktu Academy	ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp (EMBSSC) 2009	The Harris Foundation	\$79,956.35
Borskey, Erma Dept. of Social Work	Full Time Fathers Will Provide Employment Assistance & Job Placement, Child Support Connections...	US DHHS	\$249,548.00
Claville, Michelle Chemistry Dept.	CAREER: Generation and Fate of Distonic Radicals Derived from Methionine-Containing Peptides	NSF	\$400,000.00
Diack, Moustapha Ph.D. Program in Science and Math Education	A LA Model of K-20 Online Professional Development: Integrating Open Source Software & Open Content Repositories	BOR	\$42,000.00
Flowers, Greta Center for Energy and Environmental Studies	Earth Tech, inc.'s Remedial Activities at Pearl City Peninsula Landfill...	Earth Tech, Inc.	\$7,185.42
Perry, Huey School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs	An Analysis of State Child Poverty Reduction Policies	LA DSS	\$49,982.00
Spann, Gregory College of Business	LA Small Business Development Center	LA Small Business Development Center	\$161,500.00
Thornton, Alma Dept. of Sociology	Individual Development Account	Foundation for the Mid South	\$25,000.00
Thornton, Alma	Path to Financial Independence	Kellogg Foundation	\$300,000.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,315,171.77</b>

**Media Relations**

The following information includes most of the media coverage in the past month devoted to the Southern University-Baton Rouge campus.

**The Advocate/March 15:** Story announcing that renowned poet Sonia Sanchez would be the featured speaker at the SU Chancellor's Lecture Series.

**The Advocate/March 23:** SUBR conducting study to see how grandparents can battle obesity in the grandchildren whom they are rearing.

### **Battling obesity**



### **SU program aims to educate grandparents raising grandchildren**

- By [DEBRA LEMOINE](#)
- Advocate staff writer
- Published: Mar 23, 2009

Gloria Jones cooked scrambled eggs with rice and hot dog wieners for a quick breakfast for two of her grandchildren on a recent morning.

Her 7-year-old granddaughter Jada Jones ate her bowlful quickly.

Her 18-month-old grandson, Reginald "Pee Wee" Selders, used this time to assert his growing independence. As his grandmother blew on his food to cool it, Selders shouted "no."

He grabbed his spoon and mixed up the meal himself.

"It's hot, Pee Wee," Gloria Jones warned. "You've got to blow."

In the end, the toddler decided he was finished and threw half of the food into the kitchen garbage can himself.

"Everything they want is junk food," Jones said. "They don't want to eat what you cook. They say: 'Can I have a peanut butter sandwich?'"

When Gloria Jones saw a flier about a Southern University program to help grandparents raising their grandchildren to combat childhood obesity, she signed up to learn how to be a better parent to her grandchildren.

In her case, her grandchildren are a normal weight for their age but are picky eaters, she said.

"I'm going to learn with it," Jones said. "I'm going to experience different situations than my own."

Jones, 49, is raising two of her daughter's children: 9-year-old Jeremy Jones and 7-year-old Jada Jones. She also keeps her daughter's 18-month-old son Reginald "Pee Wee" Selders most of the time.

"When you're in a situation, there's nothing you can do but pray and ask God for help," Jones said. "Sometimes it brings peace."

When she was raising her son and daughter, now 26 and 24, things were different, Jones said. She was younger then and had the energy for the demands of small children.

Her previous experience, however, has given her insight into childrearing, and she said she parents her grandchildren differently than she did her son and daughter.

For example, Jones said she is more protective of her grandchildren and will chastise more often. "I didn't think about the things (then) I think about now," she said.

A myriad of problems, from stress to limited financial resources, make it challenging for grandparents to raise their grandchildren, said Bernestine McGee, a registered dietitian and professor of family and consumer sciences at Southern University.

Yet, there are limited health studies on these family situations, including the link between childhood obesity and being reared by a grandparent, McGee said.

Childhood obesity, however, is a known problem. A third of Louisiana's children are overweight or obese with a higher prevalence of weight issues among minority populations and economically disadvantaged families, according to a Louisiana child health report card issued by the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in 2008.

McGee said the study, funded by a \$100,000 U.S. Department of Agriculture grant, will look at specific health interventions, such as nutrition classes, on the children being raised by their grandparents.

This initial study will have 100 grandparents enrolled, of which 50 will receive 12 weekly sessions on topics including exercise, nutrition, cooking lessons, food budgeting and family coping skills. The other 50 will be used as a control group for comparison, McGee said.

Target grandparents will be between ages 45 and 65 with a grandchild ages 6 to 11 living with them, McGee said.

Study participants also will receive health screenings, such as a test for high blood sugar, and occasional health promotion items.

Depending on the outcome of this first study, the university may apply for another grant to do a larger study of more grandparents and longer interventions, she said.

McGee anticipates having enough participants by the end of the month, but anyone interested in the study can call Southern at (225) 771-4660, ext. 209 or 212.

**Television/March 23: Bob René**, a recruiter with SU's Office of Admissions and Recruitment, and **Michelle Hill**, Executive Associate to the Chancellor, were interviewed on WAFB-TV's Morning Show. René discussed the March 26 College Night on The Bluff recruiting event. Hill talked about the special effort the university is making to get students to deal with their registration and financial aid applications. It is the school's approach to reduce the long lines that occurred during fall 2008 registration.

**Television/March 24:** Media Relations Director Ed Pratt appeared on WBRZ-TV Ch. 2's 2une-In Morning Show to talk about College Night.

**The Advocate/March 29: Published story on lynching photo exhibition at the Southern University Museum of Art.**

**The Advocate/April 3: Story on SUBR engineering students building moonbuggy racers to compete in NASA contest.**



**Radio/April 7:** Southern University's Margaret Ambrose and Herman Jackson were guests on the Jim Engster Radio Show (WRKF-FM 89.3) at 9 a.m. to discuss Southern's upcoming musical tribute in honor of the late Alvin Batiste.

#### Faculty Receptions Continue

The Chancellor and First Lady continue to host faculty receptions in their home. Since the last Board meeting five additional receptions have been held. These receptions provide an opportunity for faculty to get to know the Chancellor and First

Lady and vice versa. The receptions also provide an opportunity for faculty to get to know one another better.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
NEW ORLEANS

50  
YEARS

## Chancellor's Monthly Report

*The team  
toured the  
first floors of  
the SUNO  
Park  
Campus...*

April 2009



### **New Louisiana FEMA chief visits SUNO**

NEW ORLEANS, LA – Recently, Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) welcomed Tony Russell, the Acting Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Louisiana office. Dr. Victor Ukpolo, the Chancellor of SUNO, toured several buildings with Russell as well as representatives from the offices of Senator Mary Landrieu and Congressman Anh "Joseph" Cao. Representatives from the Louisiana Office of Facility Planning and Control were also on hand for the tour.

The team toured the first floors of the SUNO Park Campus Administration Building, Education Building and library. The group also took a look at the upper floors of the New Science Building.

"We are appreciative of the visit by Mr. Russell, and the presence of representatives for Senator Mary Landrieu and Congressman Cao, who are working hard to address several needs regarding totally rebuilding our infrastructure. This kind of attention bodes well for the progress of our Park Campus," says Ukpolo.

The visit is a follow-up to an early March visit from U.S. Homeland Security chief Janet Napolitano and HUD chief Shaun Donovan.



## Academic Affairs Highlights

### College of Arts and Sciences:

The College of Arts and Sciences just completed almost a month of Program Reviews by scholars from other institutions in the country. The following programs were evaluated: Criminal Justice (graduate and undergraduate), General Studies, Museum Studies, Psychology and Sociology.

### Department of Arts and Humanities

The Department of Arts and Humanities won first place in the Departmental Multicultural Contest. Dr. Sudipta Das, Dr. Romanus Ejiaga, Dr. Anderson Tate, Dr. Xiongya Gao, Ms. Cynthia Ramirez, and Mr. Gary Oaks arranged an international cultural artifact exhibition in celebration of International Week at SUNO on Wednesday, March 18, 2009, in MPA #234. Many SUNO students and visitors including Ms. Josephine Okoronkwo, Ms. Linda Hill, and Dr. Pamela Wanga graced the exhibition.

Dr. Lora Helvie-Mason was accepted to present at the National Communication Association in two forums: First, a Great Idea for Teach Speech (GIFTS) presentation entitled "Living Model of the Interactive Process of Communication" and secondly, as part of a panel presenting her paper, "Discourses of stability and change?: Exploring complexities of women faculty experiences in Academia." Lastly, in March, Dr. Helvie-Mason and the Center for African and African American Studies held the second annual Women's Global Forum: Women tak-

ing the lead to save the planet on March 19.

Dr. Carmelo Astilla attended the Colfax lecture at Loyola on March 19 with six of his students. On March 20 and 21, he attended the 51st Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Historical Association in Monroe, La., and visited the Poverty Point Historical site, which is the location of Louisiana's prehistoric mound builders.

### Department of Natural Science

Dr. Elaasar participated in the SANE (Spin Asymmetries on the Nucleon Experiment) at Jefferson Lab in Newport News, Virginia from February 10-17.

Dr. Elaasar traveled to Alexandria, Louisiana to participate in the Statewide Secondary to Post-Secondary Planning Meeting on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Tietzel, Dr. Chen and Dr. Kim all participated in a grant writing workshop hosted by Dr. Belisle at SUNO on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Tietzel presented a brief talk about "African Americans in Biological Sciences" on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> 2009 in the context of Black History Month activities organized by CAAAS. The biographical sketches were presented as positive role models in order to encourage students to pursue a career in biological sciences. Furthermore, the talk contributed to SUNO's mission to create an environment conducive to learning and growth.

Dr. Tietzel applied together with two students as a Faculty and Student Team at Pacific

Northwest National Laboratory for summer research.

Four of our Biology majors were selected to participate in SULI-Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (1) and FaST-Faculty and Student Team (3) programs this summer at Brookhaven National Laboratory. These students will work with Dr. Murty S. Kambhampati along with other scientists at BNL for a period of 10 weeks.

Dr. Kambhampati submitted a supplemental grant to the National Science Foundation for the amount of \$30,000 to support stipends and travel for this endeavor.

Drs. Omojola, Kambhampati, and Johnson submitted an HBCU-UP Implementation grant to NSF. Funds requested under this grant request a total of \$1.75 million for five years.

Dr. Kambhampati and one of his mentees Mr. Jeffery Ambrose visited the NSLS facility at BNL (February 24-27, 2009) to run soil samples under the supervision of Dr. Joseph Dvorak.

Dr. Mostafa Elaasar attended The Physics and Astronomy New Faculty Workshop & Reunion Meeting, Sunday, March 15, 2009 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Elaasar attended the American Physical Society March Meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, March 16, 2009.

## Academic Affairs

April 2009

Dr. Elaasar attended the Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network, National Science Foundation (NSF) Innovation through Institutional Integration (I3) Effort Regional Outreach Workshop for Minority-serving Institutions in Houston, Texas on March 27 – 28, 2009.

Dr. Illya Tietzel gave a conference talk about his own original research about "Alternatively Activated Macrophages as a Niche for Chlamydia and its Impact on Classically Activated Macrophages at the International 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Chlamydia Basic Research Society, March 20 – 23, 2009 in Little Rock, Arkansas. At the conference, Dr. Tietzel introduced SUNO to attending researchers from many countries including USA, Canada, Australia and Germany among others.

Dr. Tietzel was invited by the Program Director of the Cellular Systems Cluster of the National Science Foundation, Dr. Gregory W. Warr to serve as ad hoc reviewer of the grant proposal 0919681. The Program Director congratulated Dr. Tietzel for the timely, substantiated and successful review of the grant proposal.

Dr. Tietzel started communications with Assistant Professor Troy Skwor at Gannon University, Erie, Pennsylvania to exchange teaching experiences and syllabi that will improve teaching his class at SUNO.

Dr. Murty Kambhampati invited Dr. Tietzel to initiate student research activities about coastal research, science

and technology (CREST/LUMCOM). Dr. Tietzel designed experiments to investigate the presence of microbes in fish. As an initial step, two fish tanks, 24 zebra fish and one bacterium were ordered as a model system. Secondly, Dr. Kambhampati and the students retrieved wildlife fish to investigate microbial infection and compare the findings with the fish lab.

Dr. Kambhampati has received a travel grant for \$7,120.00 from the National Institute of Science to support two faculty (Drs. Kambhampati and Omojola) and eight undergraduate Biology students to participate in the 66<sup>th</sup> Joint Annual Beta Kappa Chi and National Institute of Science Meeting in Norfolk, Virginia from March 25 – 29, 2009. During this conference, Drs. Joe Omojola and Kambhampati received recognition awards for their mentoring and Ms. Carmen Maldonado received an award for being a role model student.

Drs. Heon Kim and Penny Heath attended the 21<sup>st</sup> annual International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics (ICTCM) in New Orleans, March 13-14, 2009.

The entire Department of Natural Sciences participated in International Week with a tasty spread of local and international food including Ants on the Tree, jambalaya, crawfish étouffée, Sichuan beef, baklava and many more delicious dishes. Two of the faculty and one staff member came in native dress and a there were displays from Egypt and Germany. The

judges tried all the dishes and after much deliberation, awarded Natural Sciences a trophy in a tie with the museum exhibit created by Dr. Das and her staff in the Department of Arts and Humanities. It was a fun way to celebrate International Week.

### Museum Studies

In the month of March, Dr. Sara Hollis, Director of M.A. Museum Studies attended the meetings of the following committees on campus: Dean's Council, Commencement Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, and the Faculty Development Committee Meeting. She also attended a number of presentations on campus including the March 30<sup>th</sup> Women's Month Workshop. Dr. Hollis also attended a number of exhibitions and art openings in the city.

M.A. Museum Studies hosted two Academic Review Consultants in March. The first, Dr. Eloise Johnson visited the Program from March 15<sup>th</sup> through March 17<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Hollis took Dr. Johnson out to dinner on March 15<sup>th</sup> after she arrived at the hotel to begin the discussions of the review. She received her formal charge for the consultant visit on March 16<sup>th</sup> from Associate Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs Mr. Wesley Bishop, Esquire and Dean of Arts and Sciences Dr. Henry Mokosso. She was able to attend an important presentation for International Week highlighting diversity.

## Academic Affairs

Dr. Jiang was on the program along with the first Vietnamese U.S. Representative Anh Cao. She had lunch with Director, Dr. Hollis, Assistant Professor of Museum Studies Dr. Yu Jiang, and Dr. Mokosso. Dr. Johnson then toured the campus with Dr. Yu Jiang. In the late afternoon, Dr. Hollis hosted a dinner attended by twenty-two Museum Studies students and some administrators, SUNO faculty members, community arts administrators, and Museum Studies faculty member Dr. Yu Jiang. Honored at the dinner were consultant Dr. Eloise Johnson and Museum Studies student Mr. Leonard Tapia whose exhibition entitled African Art Conservation Project Exhibition was visited by the dinner guests in Building 34 on the Lake Campus. A reception and program were held at the exhibition.

On March 23<sup>rd</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup>, M.A. Museum Studies hosted its second Academic Review Consultant, Dr. Erness Hill. Dr. Hill is in charge of the M.A. Museum Studies Program at our sister HBCU, Morgan State. She was able to visit a number of faculty offices and administrative offices. In the afternoon Dr. Hollis took her to the Library, Museum Studies Offices, the School of Graduate Studies and other campus areas. As for the former consultant, Dr. Hollis hosted a dinner for Dr. Erness Hill, with some eighteen participants including the Faculty Senate President, Dr. George Amedee, Dean Mokosso of Arts and Sciences, Associate Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Wesley Bishop, Esquire, local arts administrators, and a

number of M.A. Museum Studies students. As the week before, a reception and program were held at Mr. Leonardo Tapia's exhibition representing his work on the conservation of SUNO's African Art Collections damaged by the flood following Hurricane Katrina. Mr. Tapia presented not only framed photos of the pieces in their original condition when first donated and their condition after the storm, but he also displayed in show-cases, the objects in their current condition after conservation. Mr. Tapia worked with conservator Susie Seborg on the collection for over a year. Dr. David Adegbeye was able to attend this session, as did Ms. Linda Hill, Mr. Haitham Eid, and Dr. Yu Jiang, as well as a number of M.A. Museum Studies students. Dr. Hollis picked up consultant Dr. Hill on the last morning of her visit and took her by several of the museums and galleries where students have done internships in the program, including Stella Jones Gallery of African American and African Art, the McKenna Museum, the New Orleans African American Museum, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation Gallery, the Degas House, and the New Orleans Museum of Art. She had her final meeting with Academic Affairs Vice-Chancellor Mr. Wesley Bishop and Dr. Henry Mokosso.

### General Studies

The General Studies Program is housed in the College of Arts and Sciences and offers a Bachelor of General Studies degree. The degree is designed to provide students with a comprehensive liberal education with the flexibility

to adapt and combine courses from traditional curricula.

There were several staff meetings held during the month of March. The dates of the meetings were March 5, 6, 19 & 20, 2009. The agenda items were focused on the planning of the following activities:

### Student Motivational Seminar, April 16, 2009

(which has been expanded to include a professional development workshop) scheduled for March 17, 2009 and rescheduled for April 16, 2009 at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. A video of the seminar is to be posted on the web site "News" and also sent to the on-line students. A speaker has been confirmed for the dates and times scheduled. Ms. Alfreda Harris is the team leader for this activity.

In accordance with our Program *retention* efforts, announcements about the April 16, 2009 seminar will be sent to General Studies Program students that are non-active for about three years, from academic year 2007 to 2009 in an attempt to encourage their return to college.

### Graduating Seniors Exit Workshop, April 30, 2009-

An annual meeting to assist General Studies Program graduating seniors and other seniors in the College of Arts and Sciences has been scheduled for April 29, 2009 at 11 a.m. and at 6 p.m. Students are provided an opportunity in one setting and location to complete the University exiting requirements and obtain the appropriate signatures required for graduation clearance. Other College of Arts and Sciences graduating sen-

## Academic Affairs

iors are also invited to participate in the workshop. Two times have been scheduled to assist students who may not be able to meet at the 11 a.m. hour, but some may find it more convenient to meet after the customary work hour at 6 p.m. The Program office will sponsor a reception for the seniors following the workshop. Ms. Marina Dumas-Haynes is the team leader for this activity.

**Honors and Awards Day Program, April 15, 2009-** The staff is preparing certificates for the General Studies Program students who meet the criteria for recognition at the Honor and Awards Day Program. The Honors and Awards Day Program recognizes students who have met the Dean's List requirements published by the Record's Office for the Spring and Fall 2008 semesters. There were eleven (11) General Studies Program majors who made the list; five are Spring 2009 graduates. The students' averages range from 3.75- 4.0 for the respective semesters.

**Academic Program Reviews, March 9-11, 2009-** There are two program reviewers scheduled to review the General Studies Program. They are Dr. Peter Diplock, University of Connecticut and Dr. Robin Roberts, Louisiana State University. Dr. Peter Diplock reviewed the General Studies Program on March 9-11, 2009. All persons scheduled were in attendance with the exception of the Faculty Senate Chair. However, a follow-up meeting was held with the Faculty Senate Chair via telephone with Dr. Diplock.

**Academic Program Review,**

**March 26-27, 2009-** Dr. Robin Roberts is scheduled for review of the General Studies Program, March 26-27, 2009. A copy of the schedule is also attached.

Additionally, the General Studies Director and staff have been involved in the following operational activities during the month of March:

Revisions to program operating procedures are being implemented to enhance student retention and graduation. Student curriculum program reviews have been completed for all former teacher education majors and the GSP counselors are currently reviewing the remaining students in other area concentrations which should be completed by the end of March. This activity should result in identifying students who have significant hours for graduation next year and to also aid students in completing the application for graduation form during the University established dates (twice annually).

Counselors are currently conducting curriculum program study reviews for seniors and completing Application for Graduation forms for Summer 2009 Commencement. There are 45 students cleared for Summer, 2009 graduation with six (6) noted with participation only status (6 hours pending completion requirement) and one (1) (no waiver signed with 6 hours pending completion). There was one student who filed application for graduation but was not approved by the Records Office due to more than 15 credit hours needed by the student to

complete program requirements and that required an overload approval pending successful completion of the Spring 2009 semester grades and qualifying grade point average. An update on this student will be provided in the June Monthly Report.

A new procedures manual is being developed and is currently in draft form to be reviewed by General Studies Program staff. Delay in completing the procedures manual and rescheduling of the Motivational Workshop occurred due to the involvement of the General Studies Program staff in academic program review planning, retention activities, clearing students for graduation and program issues that required attention of the staff and the Director of General Studies involving other academic disciplines.

Pre-Registration announcements are being sent to all actively enrolled General Studies Program students for Summer and Fall, 2009 semesters.

### **Staff Activities**

Dr. Mary R. Vaughn served as a panelist for the "Preparing Students for the Global World" Internationalizing Courses and Students Abroad" session of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual TMCN Member Universities Professional Institute & Exhibition, "Preparing The Best of the Best", Thurgood Marshall Conference in New Orleans, March 15-18, 2009. Several members of the faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences, as well as, a representative from the SUNO administration attended the session. Ms. Harris of the General Studies Program Office also attended.

**College of Business**

## Academic Affairs

### Accreditation:

CBA received word from its Mentor, Dr. Mo Sarhan, Dean, School of Business at Savannah State University, that the AACSB Initial Accreditation Committee (IAC) has approved CBA's Accreditation Plan (AP). CBA now has the approval of AACSB International to carry out its quality improvement plan as approved.

CBA has invited its Mentor, Dr. Mo Sarhan, Dean, School of Business at Savannah State University, to visit the SUNO campus on April 29-May 1, 2009, to assist faculty and staff in operationalizing the approved AP.

The four CBA accreditation sub-committees have developed and sent a list of critical questions that they need the insight of the Mentor during his visit on April 29, 2009.

CBA hosted two assemblies for all its students (11:00 AM and 6:00 PM) on March 3, 2009, to update them on the progress made so far in the AACSB accreditation process and the critical roles that they are expected to play in the process.

CBA faculty and administration met to review, comment, revise, and approve architectural sketches of the proposed College of Business Building from Hewitt-Washington & Associates, Campo & Associates, and Ellen Jenkins of Louisiana Facilities Planning office, March 4, 2009.

CBA hosted its Business Advisory Board (BAB) on March 31, 2009, to update the members on overall accomplishments, especially in relation to

progress made in the AACSB accreditation process, new College of Business building, curriculum development, and assurance of learning.

### Journal Publications (under review)

Omar, A., Kalulu, D., Bhutta, M. K. S., *Assessment of Student Online Course Participation*, (Accepted for upcoming publication) ISECON Information Systems Education Journal.

### Student & Community Service Activities:

Igwe Udeh served as a National Judge in the 2009 *Miller Urban Entrepreneurs Business Plan Competition* in Chicago, Illinois (March 6-8, 2009)

Igwe Udeh and Frank Martin participated in another WEMX-FM radio talk show under the topic "*Preserving Black Economic Gains During a Time of Socio-Economic Uncertainty*," on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March, 2009.

Igwe Udeh, Frank Martin, and Adnan Omar participated in the 2009 George Washington Carver High School Career Day, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March, 2009

Ms. Mary Ann Francois, SUNO's Office of Development & Community Outreach, presented a *Career Development & Management Seminar* to CBA seniors in the Business Policy (BADM 490) class, on March 23, 2009

Frank Martin was invited by the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus (LLBC) to a panel discussion to shed more

light on his findings on Saturday, March 21, 2009, in Baton Rouge. Dr. Martin was selected by the LLBC to analyze and develop a report on the Economic and Wealth status of "Black Louisiana".

### College of Education:

The Policy Advisory Committee for Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction was constituted as suggested by external evaluators and is scheduled to meet March 31. The Committee consists of University representatives from the Library, Arts and Sciences, Education and Museum Studies and completers from SUNO's Initial Certification Programs. External representatives to the Committee consist of representatives from each of the Parish School Districts in Region I, the Archdiocese of Greater New Orleans, and representatives of National Board Certified Teachers.

The Director for Child Development and Family Studies resubmitted the January Report which had not been received by the Board of Regents Staff. The College of Education submitted the Institutional Report to the Board of Regents, including the Excel spread sheet identifying teacher education completers for 2007-2008.

The Director for the Child Development and Family Studies was appointed as the Chair for the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for the SACS accreditation. The Director for Field Experiences and Student Teaching was appointed as Chair for the Student Learning Objectives Subcommittee. Faculty responded to a questionnaire regarding the topic selected for

## Division for Student Affairs

the SACS Study.

Faculty prepared or updated brochures for all programs offered by the College of Education in preparation for pre-registration. Faculty in the College of Education continues revisions of the proposal for the Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with concentrations in Early Childhood and Elementary Education. The Dean of the College will serve as the Program Coordinator until the package is submitted to the Board of Regents for review.

Faculty submitted to the Chancellor the recommendation for a change in the name of the College of Education (to the College of Education and Human Development) along with the corresponding proposed reorganization.

Faculty met with representatives from The Baltimore School District's Human Resources Office regarding efforts to strengthen relationships with HBCU's, development of teaching academies, and sharing of information. These representatives were exploring the possibility of establishing a partnership with SUNO for the purpose of recruiting student teachers to the Baltimore Area. This would provide another area for diversity (Standard IV of NCATE).

The Dean of the College met with the Louisiana Association of Colleges of Teacher Education and served on the Goal 3 Subcommittee for the development of the Strategic Plan. The CDFS Policy Advisory Committee held its second meeting on March 19. The first meeting

of this Committee was held on February 20, 2009.

### **B. DIVISION FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS**

#### **Outreach Activities**

Mr. Joseph Marion, Director of Career Counseling and Placement, participated at the Career Day Program at Xavier Preparatory School that was held on March 3, 2009 in New Orleans, Louisiana. His presentation focused on choosing careers and making the best of the college experience. On March 26, Mr. Marion also participated in Career Day at Carver High School. More than 43 presenters representing a broad range of profession also participated in the program.

#### **African American Male Initiative**

On March 10, 2009, Mr. Joseph Marion participated in an all male forum that is held on the SUNO campus each month. The focus of the forum at this meeting revolved around issues specific to men. Approximately 31 male students attended the forum. The forum was just one of the activities that will be held as part of the African American Male Initiative.

The Deep South Environmental Open House was held on March 27, 2009, in which Mr. Joseph Marion participated as an observer of students enrolled in the Deep South Environmental Training Program. Mr. Marion serves on the agency's Board of Trustees.

#### **Dr. Adrell Pinkney Serves a PERSIST Trainer**

Dr. Adrell Pinkney served as a trainer with the ECMC Found on PERSIST Team. The training was held in Honolulu, HI on March 5-10, 2009.

#### **Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) Visits New Orleans**

TMCF Member Universities Professional Institute & Exhibition was held in New Orleans on March 15-18, 2009. Ms. Jakia Clay, the TMCF Ambassador, six students, and Dr. Pinkney attended the conference with several other faculty, administrators and alumni. The seminar is designed to provide professional development and training for the key decision makers of America's public HBCU's through workshops, plenary sessions, and affiliation forum; bring together leaders from all departments of the 47 public HBCUs to share "best practices" and lessons learned; foster mutually beneficial partnerships between the academic and corporate and government arenas; and to provide an excellent opportunity for students interested in careers in Sales, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) to learn the key attributes and the necessary skills that will give them a competitive advantage in the global market place.

## Community Outreach University Advancement

### Winder Presents Self-Esteem Workshop

Dr. Janice H. Winder, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, was the facilitator at a workshop focusing on building positive self-esteem. The workshop was held at the New Macedonia Baptist Church in Gilbert, Louisiana on Saturday, March 28, 2009. More than 30 children ranging from age 9 to 18 and approximately 20 parents and other adults were present. Although the workshop is part of Dr. Winder's civic involvement, she also took this as an opportunity to recruit for the University by telling the students and parents about the offerings of Southern University at New Orleans. In addition, Dr. Winder encouraged students to complete interest cards and distributed SUNO paraphernalia to those in attendance.

### Sill Lai Abrams: Motivational Speaker

On March 31, 2009, the administrators, faculty, students, and guests of Southern University at New Orleans were in attendance for a motivational speech presented by Sil Lai Abrams, author and lecturer. Empowerment specialist and Men's Fitness magazine relationship expert, Sil Lai Abrams is the author of *No More Drama: Nine Simple Steps to Transforming a Breakdown into a Breakthrough* and creator of the "Self-Empowerment Principles in Action Process." Ms. Abrams' mission is to help others stop surviving from crisis to crisis and start living an authentic and empowered life. Her personal experiences of overcoming issues such as depression, addiction, sexual assault and domestic violence give her a unique

perspective into the hearts of those struggling with their own disempowering and self-destructive behaviors.

### Global week at SUNO

The week of March 16-20 was marked with an international flavor. This International Week was sponsored by Lyceum and the Student Development Center and emphasized the theme "Out of Many, We are one". Signs were placed all over the campus and around the community the weekend of March 16. On Monday, March 16, the campus was buzzing and looking forward with the visit of Congressman Anh "Joseph" Cao, U.S Representative for the Second Congressional District. Over three hundred students, staff, faculty, administrators and middle and high school students attended the event. *The Times-Picayune* reported this event on March 17, 2009 and has made three references to this event since Congressman Cao's visit. The departmental multicultural contest, a new and exciting event which is in its second year, attracted three departments for this year. The result was a first place tie between the Department of Natural Sciences and the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences. The Library received an honorable mention. The highlight of the event was the usual Food Fest where participants had the opportunity to taste dishes from many parts of the globe. Over three hundred SUNO family members and high school students enjoyed the festivity.

### SUNO Success Scripts

On March 9, 2009, Josephine Okoronkwo, Director of the Student Development Center, presented *SUNO SUCCESS SCRIPTS* to the freshman class of 2009. Tips were given to students on how to succeed in college using for example, their class syllabus for success. The evaluation report indicated that a majority of the students enjoyed the presentation and indicated that this should be presented to the freshman class at the beginning of their enrollment.



Sil Lai Abrams is the author of *No More Drama: Nine Simple Steps to Transforming a Breakdown into a Breakthrough* and creator of the "Self-Empowerment Principles in Action Process."

## Community Outreach University Advancement

### C.DIVISION FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH/UNIV. ADVANCEMENT

#### SUNO Day

Southern University at New Orleans will host its first "SUNO Day at the Legislature" Monday, May 4, 2009. Alumni, friends and other stakeholders of the University are expected to be a part of the SUNO family at the capitol that day. Enrollment Management and other components of the university will display campus offerings in the Rotunda.

#### Alumni Gala

The Southern University at New Orleans Alumni Association will host its "Show Your Love for SUNO Gala" Friday, April 17, 2009 at the Crystal Palace in New Orleans from 7:00pm until 10:00pm. Alumni president Avis White is inviting alumni and friends to attend. This event is being held as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the University's opening.

#### Student Life Complex Fund-raising

Chancellor Ukpolo, Michael Bruno, one of the co-chairs to raise \$100,000 for the design phase of a proposed student life complex, and Vice Chancellor Moultrie and Outreach Coordinator Francois met with alumni and friends in the Baton Rouge area to garner support for the endeavor. Alumni and friends of the University continue to complete pledge forms and send in monetary donations. August 2009 is the expected date to have all funds reported.

#### City Master Plan

The University has partnered with the City of New Orleans to host a City Master Plan meeting

during the month of April. Approximately 200 community leaders and citizens are expected to convene on the campus to share their thoughts and ideas about the rebuilding and repopulation of the city since the storm.

**Southern University at New Orleans  
Alumni Association**

**Cordially Invites You to Attend its**

**"SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR SUNO GALA"**



**WHEN: FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2009**

**WHERE: THE CRYSTAL PALACE  
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NEW ORLEANS, LA 70127**

**TIME: 7:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.**

**ATTIRE: DRESSY**

**TICKET COST: \$60 PER PERSON  
(No Tickets will be sold at the Door)**

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT NEW ORLEANS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**RSVP: BY FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2009**

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**FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Ms. Judy Boudreaux, Activity Chair, (504)248-0514  
Ms. Avis Lightfoot White, Alumni President, (225)995-4052  
Dr. Brenda Jackson, Treasurer, (504) 286-5274  
Mrs. Gloria Moultrie, Alumni Affairs, (504) 286-5341**





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# CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

**April 2009**

Office of the Chancellor

Ray L. Belton, Ph.D.

University Chancellor

(318) 670-6312

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**Chancellor's Report  
Dr. Ray L. Belton  
April 2009**

**SUSF Presents...The Return of the Cotton Club**



The Southern University Shreveport Foundation hosted the 5th Annual Cotton Club Gala Saturday, March 28, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Horseshoe Riverdome with an unforgettable night filled with songs made famous by Mr. Nat King Cole, tap dancing and a silent auction.

A V.I.P. reception hosted by Event Chair, Mr. John Hubbard of AEP Caddo Parish School Board, in the Red River scholarships for Southern University Shreveport SWEPCO, Harrah's Horseshoe Casino & Hotel, Capital TV-3, KSLA-TV-12, Lamar Signs, Libbey Glass,



for the scholarship gala was also held and Swepeco and Co-Chair, Dottie Bell of The District. All proceeds from this gala support students. This event was proudly sponsored by AEP/ One, Associated Printing, The Shreveport Times, KTBS-Gremillion & Pou and Associates, Inc., and AT&T Companies.



Pictured Above—Entertainers, volunteers, supporters, faculty and staff members who attended the Cotton Club Gala.

**Brother II Brother Campus Male Mentoring Program**



Chancellor Belton responds during Q & A.

"Are There Any Black Heroes and Role Models Today?," was the topic for the new campus outreach program. The seminar was held in the Jesse N. Stone Science Lecture Hall with over 100 male students from SUSLA and The Shreveport Job Corps Opportunity Center. Guest speaker, Dr. Ray L. Belton, challenged participants to be accountable and responsible men of integrity.

His lifetime



Young men are encouraged as they take note during the session.

accomplishments of being a father, the Chancellor of SUSLA and as a community leader provided the young men with a great example of true achievement. A question and answer session and lunch was also provided. The event was sponsored by the SUSLA Division of Student Affairs and the LBR Enhancement Grant.

## The 5th Annual Economic Development Forum 2009

The Department of Community Workforce Development hosted the 5th Annual EDF Friday, March 27, 2009, at the Shreveport Convention Center. This year's theme was *"Small Businesses and Non-Profits Surviving Today's Economy."* The morning sessions provided attendees with panel discussions on topics such as, "Non-profits Advertising Dollars". The afternoon session topic was "Package". Over 300 participants attended the event.



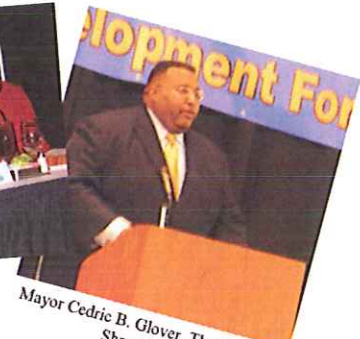
Coping With Cutbacks," and "Making the Most of Your luncheon speaker was State Senator Lydia Jackson. The titled "Preparing for Obama's Economic Recovery



Pictured Above—Forum attendees enjoy the luncheon and speech.



Pictured Directly Above—Dr. D. Piper, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs for SUSLA; Tari Bradford, Deputy State Director for US State Senator Mary Landrieu and Luncheon Speaker, State Senator Lydia Jackson



Mayor Cedric B. Glover, The City of Shreveport

## Exploring Cultures through Dance with Native Americans

The Division of Business Studies and Behavioral Science and Education has taken progressive steps toward increasing cultural awareness here at our SUSLA campus.



Associate Professor and Coordinator of Sociology, Mr. Clifford R. Collins organized this event, giving students and staff the opportunity to learn and experience two authentic Native American dances. Randy Solomon, who is indigenous to the Mississippi Choctaw Band Tribes, was the presenter of the first dance entitled Northern Traditional Dance. This dance was adopted from the Omaha Nation and was an imagery of a "warriors dance". Brittney Meshelle, who is a native of the Choctaw Apache Tribes, presented the second dance entitled Southern Cloth Dance. The room was open for a question and answer session allowing guest to share additional information about their native heritage. To enhance this experience even further Mrs. Linda Woods from the Choctaw Nation brought and shared various Indian artifacts.

## Celebration of Women's Month with Ebony Fashion Fair Commentator

In recognition of Women's Month, The Division of Student Affairs hosted a women's forum, Wednesday, March 18, 2009, at 11:30am, in the Jaguar Courtyard Student Apartments, featuring Ebony Fashion Fair Commentator, Jada Collins. The forum topics included issues affecting women and empowerment.



Pictured Above—Miss. SUSLA, Krystle Woods; Dr. Melva Turner, Director of Student Activities, and Guest Speaker, Jada Collins, Ebony Fashion Fair Fashion Show Commentator.

Collins was born in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she attended Contra Costa College while majoring in English and Communications. She also attended Emerson College in Boston majoring in Broadcast Journalism.

Jada is the co-founder of the Be-You! Foundation, Inc. which is a non-profit organization designed to educate, encourage and increase self esteem in battered and abused women and children. Jada, works tirelessly through self-empowerment conferences and workshops to give back to communities nationwide.



Jada Collins encourages the attendees to "just be you", during her speech.

Pictured To The Right -Attendees listen closely to the words of empowerment from Jada Collins.



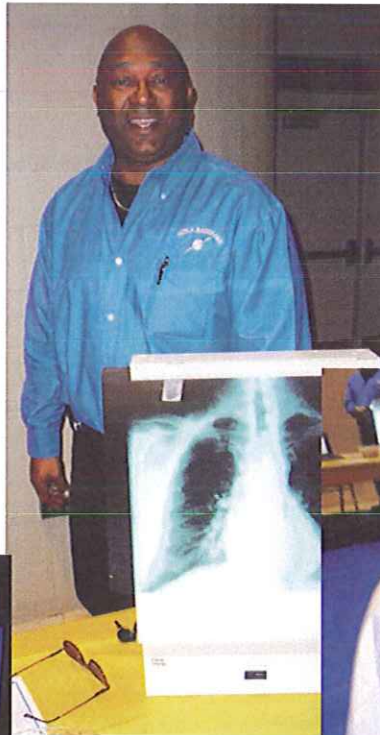
## SUSLA Hosts Annual Community Health Fair

Southern University at Shreveport and The David Raines Community Health Centers hosted a free community health fair Wednesday, April 1, 2009, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. in the Health and Physical Education Complex on SUSLA's main campus.

This 2009 Annual Health Fair is a service-oriented event that provides free glucose and cholesterol tests, weight, height and and dance and health information booths to its community. Representatives from the Philadelphia Center provided HIV testing site to collect blood donations.

Students in SUSLA's Allied Health Programs and testing procedures. Local Physicians conducted a

Sponsors include Zeta Phi Beta Sorority (Zeta Iota Zeta Chapter), National Association of University Women (Shreveport Branch), Brookshire's Food Store (North Market), Smart Health Care, Wal-Mart Supercenter (Pines Rd), SUSLA Carl Perkins Program, and SUSLA Student Activities and Services Department.



oriented event that provides free blood pressure screenings, exercise students, faculty, staff, and the phia Center provided HIV testing site to collect blood donations.

the Nursing Program demonstrated variety of health care seminars.



Pictured Above—Students and community volunteers perform various health screenings.

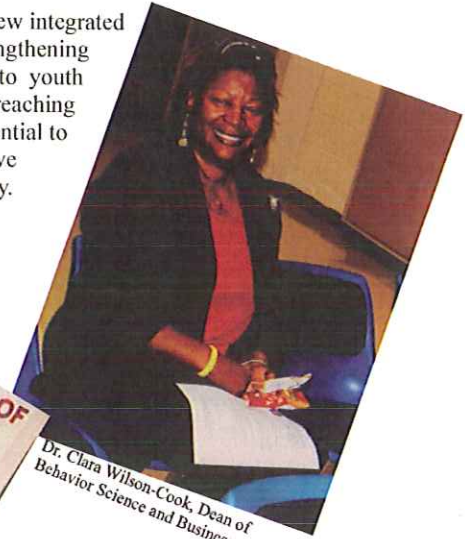
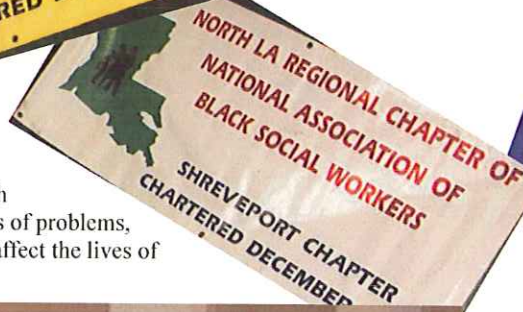
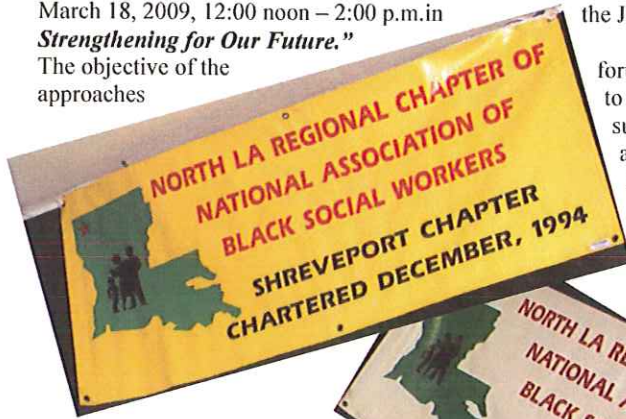


## North Louisiana Regional Chapter of Black Social Workers

The Fifth Annual Community Forum for the North Louisiana Regional Chapter of Black Social Workers was held Wednesday, March 18, 2009, 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m. in the Jesse N. Stone Science Lecture Auditorium. The theme, **“Family Strengthening for Our Future.”**

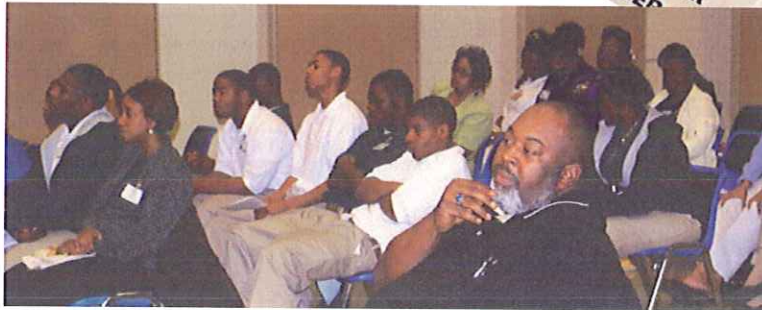
The objective of the approaches

forum was to discuss new integrated to offering family strengthening support and services to youth and young adults in reaching their maximum potential to becoming productive members of society.



Dr. Clara Wilson-Cook, Dean of Behavior Science and Business Studies

This year's forum presented a family setting scenario which demonstrated different degrees of problems, issues and concerns that may affect the lives of each family member.



Attendees look and listen to the panelist during the forum.

Guest panelist were from the following organizations: Families Helping Families of Northwest Louisiana, LA Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, Metropolitan Circles, LLC – Life Changing Solutions, LA Department of Social Services- Solutions To Poverty, City of Shreveport Neighborhood Assistance – Community Oriented Policing, Community Renewal International, Alliance for Community Development.

## Spring Motivational Seminar

On Wednesday, March 25, 2009, Student Support Services hosted its Annual “Spring Motivational Seminar,” for students. Caddo Parish Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Gerald Dawkins was the guest speaker.



From Left To Right-Valley Payne, Student Support Service Director; Caddo Parish Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Gerald Dawkins and Deloris Surlis, Counselor/Transfer Specialist

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March 22, 2009

## Funding targets salaries, student services

By Icess Fernandez  
ifernandez@gannett.com

Despite minimal increases from tuition and less state money, LSU-Shreveport, Southern University-Shreveport and Bossier Parish Community College are placing money into what they deem most important in their quest to cater to students.

A Times analysis of four years of budgets and employee salaries shows that while money from tuition and fees increased for local schools from the 2004-05 fiscal year to the 2007-08 fiscal year, so did services and scholarships for students.

At the same time, schools also have increased spending on instruction and employee salaries. For example, BPCC has spent 28.5 percent more on salaries over the four-year period.

But that was before universities underwent a radical midyear budget cut this fiscal year. Louisiana's higher education institutions absorbed a \$55 million budget cut in December. Locally, LSUS' budget was slashed by \$777,084, and Southern University-Shreveport's budget was cut by \$403,397. Schools in the Louisiana Community and Technical College Systems, like Bossier Parish Community College, were not touched.

As college officials prepare for more cuts next year, some rumored to be as much as 20 percent, penny pinching has become a new art form. Positions remain unfilled. Travel is frozen. Adjunct professors are not being rehired. Colleges and universities slashed where possible, while attempting not to interrupt student learning.

"We don't have a lot of luxuries and that allows us some leeway," said Tom Carleton, BPCC chancellor. "Let me tell you something; we don't get extra money because we have an academic center or a GED program. Next year, we could be hurting."

The largest part of a college's budget is employee salaries. As more programs and services for students are added, colleges and universities spend more money on salaries.



Shequitta Dixon, a freshman at Southern University-Shreveport walks along a sidewalk at the university where she is studying nursing. (Douglas Collier/The Times)

# Salaries

Of the three local universities, BPCC spent 28.5 percent more on salaries when comparing the 2004-05 school year to the 2007-08 school year. Carleton attributed the increase to changes during the college's transformative years.

It's part of the school's strategy — to do everything possible to make sure students not only graduate but are successful, too. Part of that strategy is the academic advising center and the learning assessment center. Both places help students when they need it most, before they sign up for class and while taking their classes. To make that happen takes people, Carleton said.

And that means money.

"We had to add people to serve students," he said. "We had an increase in student services, which has an effect on students and their needs."

BPCC bases its salaries on the College and University Personnel Association's national figures. The organization specializes in human resources for higher education. According to the Louisiana Board of Regents, the average annual pay for a full-time professor at BPCC is \$52,592; it's \$37,117 for an instructor.

The highest paid employees on the campuses are chancellors — Carleton, Vincent Marsala of LSUS, and Ray Belton of SUSLA. Carleton, who is retiring, is paid \$150,386 a year. Marsala gets \$192,927, and Belton gets \$129,373.

Following those at the top, vice chancellors and associate chancellors are typically the next group of highest paid employees, followed by deans and programs. A few professors, some of whom hold chair positions, also make it to the list of the schools' highest paid.

SUSLA increased its salary budget by about 16.3 percent due to legislative action, said Theron Jackson, special assistant to the chancellor.

The two-year university pays its employees about the average pay determined by the Southern Region Educational Board. According to information from the board of regents, the average annual pay for a professor at SUSLA is \$68,127, and it's \$40,564 for an instructor. SUSLA professors are not only among the highest-paid professors in the area; they are one of the highest paid among similar schools throughout the state.

Jackson said since Belton was a professor himself, he's worked to keep salaries competitive.

At LSUS, the 11.8 percent increase for salaries means something different. The university hires more employees with doctorate degrees, and they cost money. When an employee retires, the school must hire another person and sometimes, especially in the case of professors, at a higher pay rate than the previous person. Like BPCC, as LSUS has created new degree programs such as the master's in public health or the animation program, they've hired more personnel.

"Unfortunately, when you replace a Ph.D, you have to hire at a higher rate," he said. "We're going to have more (retiring), so that increases the salaries."

Since the school is a four-year institution, it also has to compete for qualified and specialized professors. According to information from the board of regents, the average professor annual pay for LSUS is \$67,474.

## Student services

Student services is a top priority for colleges, including BPC. From the 2004-05 school year to the 2007-08 school year, the college's student services budget increased by about 47.03 percent — the highest in the area.

"When we get a student in here, we do everything we can," Carleton said. "Why did we increase student services? We want to get students, and we want to keep them."

In addition to the advising and learning assessment centers, the college also has a program for incoming freshmen, which acclimates them to college life. The programs help the college retain students as well as graduate them.

"We have been more student-oriented. We are here for that. The day we forget that is the day we stop being an economic development engine."

But while the school spends money for student services, they have spent little over the years on scholarships — 4.63 percent. Carleton said to offset that the school has tried to keep tuition as low as possible.

"(Low tuition) provides an educational opportunity for people that can't afford four-year college. We tried to keep it low," he said. "A lot of students don't qualify for Pell (grants). We work hard to keep it affordable. Sometimes I think the cheap tuition is out of price for some people and that disturbs me."

SUSLA has increased money in its scholarship budget by 97.42 percent since 2004-2005 — the highest in the area. Jackson said there is a focus on awarding scholarships, because students who apply need more financial assistance than Pell Grants.

"Here's what you don't know about us, what's not in the numbers that's absolutely necessary," Jackson said. "For the kids that do get in, we have a pool of kids that don't because of money."

Jackson said that pool has been as much as 900 students. The university's current enrollment is 2,504, the highest it's had in 40 years.

"If we had a million-dollar endowment or even \$300,000 additional for scholarships, our enrollment would be over 3,000."

The school's student services budget has increased by less than one percent, but that is about to change, Jackson said. With the construction of the Jaguar Courtyard, the on-campus apartment complex, and the completion of the \$2 million student center at the end of the semester, the school is beginning to transform itself from a commuter school to a traditional university.

"We have to heighten our services because we have a group on campus who are residents here and we're new to that," he said. "Before we didn't have to worry about activities after dark, because no one was there after dark."

LSUS increased its scholarship budget by 91.26 percent and student services by 39.17 percent. Marsala said the increase comes from more students being on campus and giving them opportunities to go to school. Money from tuition also has increased by 13.94 percent. All of it helps students attend LSUS, Marsala said.

"As far as scholarships, we want to make an opportunity for students to go to school here," he said. "And let's admit it; it's cheap to go to school here."



Kariska Wheeler, 21, a student at BPCC, said there are services students would like worked on like a working change machine, but for the most part, she has no complaints.

"A lot of problems are little things," she said. "But other than that, things run really well."

What budgets will look like for local colleges and universities is in question. The latest state budget cuts, as proposed by Gov. Bobby Jindal, reduces spending on higher education by \$440 million. But the colleges expect to get about half of that money back in stimulus money.

How higher education is funded also will change. The Louisiana Board of Regents will distribute money based on its new performance-based formula. Usually, there is separate funding for colleges and universities.

School officials don't know how much that cut will be and are waiting until the end of the current fiscal year, June 30, to find out how bad the damage will be.

"We hope the budget cuts aren't so severe that we have to curtail things," Carleton said. "If that happens, we all lose the most important natural resource and that's human beings."

March 23, 2009

## Cotton Club to pay tribute to Nat 'King' Cole

By Sherry P. Shephard  
sshephard@gannett.com



For the past few years the Southern University at Shreveport Foundation has wowed residents with its rendition of performances from New York's Cotton Club era.

And this year's event promises to be unforgettable as the annual Cotton Club fundraiser pays tribute to Nat "King" Cole.

"The primary reason for the type of persons we choose is the name of the event itself," foundation President Winzer Andrews said. "When you think of the Cotton Club you think of New York City, you think of Harlem and you think of the types of people who performed there."

Inspired by pianist Earl Hines, Cole started his career in the mid-1930s. He began playing piano in jazz clubs in Los Angeles, where he formed the King Cole Trio.

Cole's first mainstream vocal hit was his 1943 recording of "Straighten Up and Fly Right," based on a black folk tale his father used as a theme for a sermon. It sold more than 500,000 copies. His last album, "L-O-V-E," was recorded in December 1964 and released just prior to his death in 1965.

In the past, the fundraiser has paid tribute to Ray Charles, Cab Calloway and Ella Fitzgerald.

"We were fortunate enough to have Cab Calloway's daughter come and perform the year we featured him," Andrews said. "And then we had Ray Charles' daughters come and sing the year we featured him."

But there was more to the Cotton Club than singers.

Local musician Dorsey Summerfield said, "There were comedians, tap dancers or hoofers, jazz players and big bands."

One of the tap dancing Nicholas Brothers performed at the fundraiser one year.

"He died shortly after that so we were very fortunate to have had him," Andrews said.

Summerfield said once they identify someone to pay tribute to, they then start looking for performers capable of perpetuating those Cotton Club moments to make the attendees feel like they are an actual part of it.

"Everybody can't deliver those songs with character," Summerfield said. "I've watched Otis Webster, out of Tyler, over the years and have had the chance to work with him. He wasn't a part of that era but he was certainly influenced by it by the way he entertains."

Summerfield said there's no way they can cover all of the songs Cole did.

"I started out with 12 tunes and ended up with more than 30," he said. "I backed off because it was going to be too long."

Cole's songs include "Mona Lisa," "Unforgettable," "Ramblin' Rose" and "Send for Me." In 1991, Cole's daughter, singer Natalie Cole, mixed her voice with her father's 1961 rendition of "Unforgettable" as a tribute to his music.

Summerfield said another draw to the fundraiser is the big band.

"This is probably the only event locally that features an 18-piece band and I've been very pleased to keep pushing that," he said. "These are some of the top musicians in the region."

Andrews said, "When you walk into the Riverdome and hear that band tuning up, you can shut your eyes and it's as if you're sitting in a theater in downtown New York because it has just that kind of effect on you."

The fundraiser also will feature a silent auction that will include jewelry, artwork and signature music. This year's honorees are Isaac Greggs, former director of the Southern University Marching Band; and Louis C. Wells Sr., retired Army band director. John Hubbard, SWEPCO government relations officer, is chairman; and Dottie Bell, Caddo School Board member, is co-chair.

This year's goal is \$50,000.

"Last year we had about 325 people to attend," Andrews said. "We're set up for 500 this time."

Andrews said one of the driving forces behind the fundraiser is the impact it has on the city.

"This event has brought communities together," Andrews said. "We have a very diverse audience and we pride ourselves on being a part of that in the city of Shreveport."

## **ADDITIONAL FACTS**

If you go

**WHAT:** Cotton Club Tribute to Nat "King" Cole.

**WHEN:** 7 p.m. Saturday.

**WHERE:** Horseshoe Casino Riverdome, 711 Horseshoe Blvd., Bossier City.

**COST:** \$100 per ticket, \$1,000 for reserved table of 10, \$1,500 for VIP reserved table of 10.

**ATTIRE:** Black tie or era.

**INFO:** (318) 670-6681.

## **PERFORMERS**

Otis Webster and the Metro Band, of Tyler, Texas.

Jazz trumpeter Tom Browne, of North Carolina.

Singer Jackie Greggs, of Monroe.

Tap dancer Glen Leslie, of Chicago.

Orchesis dance group, of Grambling State University.

The logo for shreveporttimes.com, featuring the text in a bold, white, sans-serif font against a dark purple rectangular background.

March 28, 2009

## Conference focuses on small businesses

By *Bobbie J. Clark*  
*bobbieclark@gannett.com*

Difficulty accessing credit, the rising cost of health care and weakened consumer confidence are the three main factors behind the woes of the small business community, a state lawmaker says.

"Small businesses are the heart and soul of this country and the heart and soul of who we are as Americans," said state Sen. Lydia Jackson. "They are the enterprises that drive our economy."

The Shreveport Democrat stood in for Don Cravins Jr. as the keynote luncheon speaker Friday during Southern University at Shreveport's fifth annual Economic Development Conference. Cravins, head of staff for the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, was unable to make the trek from New Orleans because of inclement weather.

This year's conference focused on small businesses and nonprofits surviving in today's economy. Breakout sessions were held throughout the day. Representatives of local businesses, organizations and academic departments manned information booths.

Expanding access to credit is one of the surest ways to rejuvenate small businesses and the economy, Jackson said. "Without credit, businesses cannot expand, hire new employees or succeed."

The U.S. Small Business Administration traditionally has been one of the most abundant resources for small businesses. It provides loans, advice and more.

Over the past eight years, however, SBA funding has been cut by 26 percent, Jackson said. And it backed 70 percent fewer loans in October than it did in October 2007, she said.

But there is hope on the horizon.

President Obama's plan for small businesses includes provisions to eliminate fees for borrowers and lenders, making credit easier to obtain and more affordable, Jackson said.

The SBA also has been given temporary power to guarantee up to 90 percent of small business loans, up from 75 percent. Jackson said this will reduce banks' risk and encourage them to make more loans.

The Troubled Asset Relief Fund also will be a resource for small businesses. Part of the president's plan will allow the SBA to use \$15 billion in TARP funds to buy small business loans banks have made.

"(Banks) will now be able to sell those loans to the secondary market," Jackson said. "It will free up resources to make new loans."

This news was music to ears of many of small business owners who attended the forum Friday. Among them was Christella Jackson, who manages the telecommunications system at SUSLA and plans to start a telecommunications company. "I'm just now getting started. Funding is going to be my biggest issue."

## Additional Facts

### RELATED LINKS

Southern University at Shreveport: <http://www.susla.edu/>  
U.S. Small Business Administration: <http://www.sba.gov/>

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**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**

**AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER**



# **CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

**Presented to:  
Southern University  
Board of Supervisors**

**April 2009**

**Number 243-29**

## Researchers take findings to Atlanta

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Chancellor

**Adell Brown**  
Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration

**Kirkland Mellad**  
Vice Chancellor for Research

**Gina E. Eubanks**  
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Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, an entity of the Southern System, Leodrey Williams, Chancellor, Ralph Slaughter, System President, Tony Clayton, Chairman, Board of Supervisors. It is issued in furtherance of the Cooperative Extension Work Act of December 1971, and the Agricultural Research Program, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. All educational programs conducted by the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center are provided to all persons regardless of race, national origin, or disability.  
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Fifteen Southern University faculty, staff and seven students presented 28 research projects at the 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Association of Research Directors' Symposium. Students, faculty, and staff from the nation's historically black land-grant universities converged in Atlanta, Georgia, March 28-April 1.

Three presentations were made in the emerging technologies category, 11 in renewable resources, four in food safety, one in human nutrition and health, and

nine in small farms and rural development.

Robert Chambers, an M.S. graduate student in Urban Forestry Program at Southern University placed second in the graduate student oral competition. Chambers was mentored by Andra Johnson, Ph.D., urban forestry. Zhu H. Ning, Ph.D., urban forestry serves as Robert Chambers' academic advisor.

Chambers' research "Examining landscape transition that leads to hypoxia along Louisiana

coastal areas using satellite imaging" was presented during the renewable resources and environmental stewardship session. The judges were impressed by his presentation style and his thoroughness in answering questions. He has been an outstanding student in the urban forestry program.

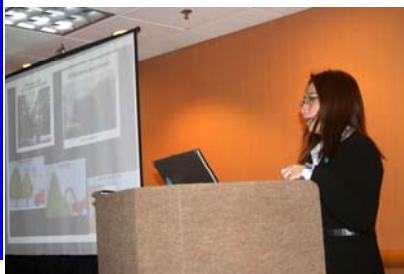
He was the recipient of the Diversity Scholarship from the Society of American Foresters last year and the Society of Wetlands Scientists Fellowship in 2005.



**Left:** Robert Chambers, left, poses with research advisor, Dr. Andra Johnson with second place plaque in graduate student oral competition. **Right:** Vice chancellor for research Kirkland Mellad visits graduate student Chris Chappell's poster.



**Left:** Robert Chambers poses with academic advisor, Dr. Zhu H. Ning with second place plaque in graduate student oral competition. **Right:** Vice chancellor for research Kirkland Mellad visits with Janet Gager by her poster.



**Left:** Dr. Yadong Qi makes oral presentation.



**Right:** Graduate student Thomas Legiandenyi makes oral presentation.



## Atlanta

Continued from page 2

Robert Chambers served as the President of the Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resource, and Related Sciences, Southern University Chapter in 2007-2008. He is a NASA Center for Coastal Zone Assessment and Remote Sensing Scholar.

Researchers from Southern University Ag Center made five oral presentations in two categories. In the Renewable Energy and Environmental Stewardship category were Lashunda Anderson, on “Cash for Conservation: Potentially Increasing Small Landowner Income via Wildlife and Native Grass Environmental Stewardship Educational Outreach,”; Daniel Collins, on “Training the Next Generation of Agricultural Scientists in Plant Biosecurity,”; and Yadong Qi, on “Application of Paclobutrazol Tree Growth Regulator into Urban and Utility Forest Management.”



**Dr. Gebrelul makes oral presentation**

In the Small Scale Agriculture and Rural Development category were Sebhatu Gebrelul, “Influences of Forage Quality and Quantity on the Performance of Goats and Cattle under Mixed-Species Grazing Systems”

and Yemane Ghebreyessus, “Effects of Joint Cattle and Goats Grazing System on Soil Physical Properties.”

Researchers also displayed posters in various categories including “GIS Analysis of Environmental Factors and Socio-climatic Factors Relating to Tapeworm Infection in the State of Bahia, Brazil from 2002-2005” by Fulbert Namwamba; “The Effect of Mixed Species Grazing in the Determination of Gastrointestinal Infections of *Haemonchus contortus* in Spanish Does” by Renita Marshall; “An Empirical Analysis of Nutritional Knowledge and Importance Rankings of the Dietary Guidelines for Sodium Intake” by Patricia McLean-Meyinsse; “Impact of Tree Based Mulch on the Growth and CO<sub>2</sub> Uptake of *Quercus nuttallii*” by Zhu Ning; “Application of Sonic Tomography Technology into Detection of Internal Decay in Water Oak (*Quercus nigra* L.)” by Yadong Qi; “Hibiscus, (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*) species grown in Louisiana” by Kit Chin; “The Performance of Brangus Calves under Mixed-Species Grazing Systems” by Sebhatu Gebrelul; “Improving UV protection of Cotton Fabrics Through Digital Textile Printing” by Grace Namwamba; “A Comparison between Regular

Sugar Cookies and Hibiscus Cookies” by Fatemeh Malekian”; “Mixed Species and Grazing Practices Effects on the Yield and Quality of Forage Crops Veera Bachireddy”; “Roselle Hibiscus (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*) Research at Southern University by Kit Chin”; “Assessment of Food Safety Knowledge, Beliefs, and Practices Among College Students” by Janet Gager; and “Nanotechnology Application in Forest Health Management” by Yadong Qi.



**Dr. Namwamba, left explains poster to vice chancellor Kirkland Mellad, right.**

The purpose of the symposium was to showcase the land-grant commitment to teaching and research by sharing research information, and highlighting research accomplishments.

All symposium attendees were sponsored by the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center.

# Second Class of Ag Institute Graduates

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack presided over the graduation ceremony of 26 minority farmers from the Southern University Ag Center's Small Farmer Agricultural Leadership Training Institute.



**Second Small Farmer Agricultural Leadership Training class to graduate in Washington, DC.**

The Institute is a two-year course of study that gives small, socially disadvantaged, limited resource and/or minority farmers the knowledge to become successful agricultural entrepreneurs. "President Obama recognizes that small farm operators are the custodians of about 48 percent of this nation's farm and ranch land," Vilsack said. "It's vital that we support programs such as this that provide the tools needed to promote the sustainability of small family farms."

This is the second class to graduate from the program with the first taking place in 2007.

Throughout the course, participants studied a broad range of agriculturally-important topics, including the effects of global agriculture on the U.S. economy; leadership and analytical skills; business management and mar-

keting, communications; and public policy.

The program is unique in that it is the only one in the country specifically targeting minority, socially disadvantaged and limited resource agricultural producers. Participants were from Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Kentucky, Texas, Missouri, Tennessee, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Maryland and North Carolina.

The most dynamic aspect of the Institute is the relationships that have been built. "Each session I sit back and watch the participants interact, assist and motivate each other as if they have known one another forever. The camaraderie is phenomenal," said **Dawn Mellion-Patin, Ph.D.**, Institute director and agriculture specialist.



**Leaders in DC**

The Southern University Ag Center has collaborated with the Southern University Law Center, Alcorn State University Small Farm Development Center, Prairie View A & M University Cooperative Extension Pro-

gram, and North Carolina A & T State University Cooperative Extension Program to bring the Institute to the farmers in various locations.



**Gina Eubanks, vice chancellor for extension, left, and Dawn Mellion-Patin, program director, far right, pose with graduates from Louisiana.**

The ceremony was held at the USDA headquarters, in the Jamie L. Whitten Building on March 27. USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service administers and funds the program through the Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Program, which teaches participants the enhanced decision-making skills and leadership development to become successful agribusiness managers and community leaders. Patin is currently pursuing multiple funding sources to sustain this unique institute. For more information, visit [www.aginstitute.suagcenter.com](http://www.aginstitute.suagcenter.com) or [www.csrees.usda.gov](http://www.csrees.usda.gov)

# Procurement Conference Excels

More than 400 small business owners and contractors convened at the Southern University Smith-Brown Memorial Student Union to participate in the Fifth Annual Connecting Businesses with Contracts Procurement Conference, March 24.

The conference continues to bring together potential and existing contractors, entrepreneurs and government agencies in position for business match-making. Small enterprises are providing an opportunity to meet contracting officers and purchasing agents.

Attendees received information on sources of assistance, the process of registering and obtaining licensing, methods of financing, and securing contracts. They also learned to sell products and services to private industry and federal, state, and local governments.

Representatives from the United States Small Business Administration were available to discuss SBA programs, guarantees, certification process, bonds and surety, GO Loans, and disaster loans. Likewise, the Louisiana State Contractor Licensing Department answered questions from individuals who wanted to become licensed or from existing contractors.

The concurrent breakout sessions included: obtaining bonds, knowledge about surety brokers, selling successfully to the government, contract licensing requirements for contractors, and the five key elements to get customers. The conference provided a great exchange among more than 450 participants, 35 exhibitors and presenters and at least 40 associates and service providers.

The conference was hosted by the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Center for Rural and Small Business Develop-

ment, Louisiana Small Business Development Centers in Baton Rouge and Lafayette, the U. S. Small Business Administration, Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center, and the Southern University College of Business.



**Southern University alumnus Matthew Butler of the Shaw Group gives keynote address at luncheon.**



**Mathew Butler (center), honored by SU System President Ralph Slaughter (left), Ag Center chancellor Leodrey Williams, conference organizer Eual Hall and Ag Center vice chancellor for extension Gina Eubanks.**



**Networking session at the conference.**



**Break out session at conference.**

## 1,300 future farmers compete at Southern

On March 25, future farmers of America from Louisiana high schools convened at the M.A. Edmond Livestock Arena and Southern University Meat Technology Laboratory for the Area IV, FFA Career Development Event (CDE).

Once again, the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center was privileged to host the Area IV, Career Development Event, coordinated by **Willie J. Rawls, Ph.D.**, associate research director, and **William Augustine**, research/technology associate. The CDE brings together 1,300 students

from 51 high schools in 14 surrounding parishes, not including teachers and parents who provide assistance each year.

The CDE consists of ten judging contests in livestock, beef, floriculture, dairy cattle, welding, small engine, meats, nursery and landscaping, dairy products, and poultry. This event develops students' leadership ability, provides them with the opportunity to visit an 1890 land-grant institution and enlightens them on careers that impact Louisiana agriculture. A photo of the event was featured in the *Baton Rouge Advocate*.



Contestants poised for meat cut identification, above, and small engines, below.



## City of Monroe excited about Cowboys, Horse Show

On March 14, the Horse Show Posse Board traveled to Monroe to meet with members of the Bayou State Trail Association. The meeting was to discuss plans for the seven-day ride from Monroe to Baton Rouge for the rodeo and trail ride scheduled for April 4. A *Monroe News Star* article, "Cow pokes hit the 'Bayou Trail' on Sunday," tells all about the trail ride in the paper's March 27 issue.

The purpose of the trail ride is to raise scholarship dollars for students enrolled in Southern University's agriculture program, said Christie Monroe, assistant livestock show programs director.

Sgt. Justin January, the Bayou Trail Riders Association founder and president, said the group over the past four years has given out more than \$5,000 in scholarship money.

This year's honorary trail bosses were Monroe mayor Jamie Mayo and Monroe native and Minnesota Vikings All-Pro defensive lineman Pat Williams.

"This is all about helping kids. We truly look forward to this event each year and we are excited to see that it continues to grow in popularity," January said. "Combining the pleasures of horse riding and the worthy cause of helping promote educa-

tion makes for a magnificent event."

January said the Trailriders' event has grown from seven riders the first year to 55 last year.



January interviewed

# Horse Show

Continued from page 6

“Young and old are always invited to the events. Each year, participants come from Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama and Florida. This year, it was a show to remember! The Southern University horse show team and livestock show staff worked very hard this year and it has paid off,” said Monroe.

The early Sunday trailride began the community’s preparation for the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual State and Regional Horse Show

and Rodeo held April 4. The show attracted more than 300 young and old horse ranchers, riders, and ropers. Activities in the event included gated horse show, ranch style rodeo, youth stick horse competitions and great food and entertainment.

Trailriders from as far as Texas, Mississippi, and North Louisiana traveled to the M.A. Edmond Livestock Arena for the event. Their authentic horse corale met at the Southern University F.G.

Clark Activity Center and continued around the campus and down Highway 61N to arrive at the arena with a parade of different horseriding associations.

Read the Monroe *News Star* article at:

<http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20090327/UPDATES01/90327031>



Young ladies get ready for the Easter egg hunt leading into the horse parade.



Youngsters set for stick horse race.



Horse corale leaving from the Southern University F.G. Clark Activity Center to the arena with a parade of different horse riding associations.



# Ag Center coordinators kicked ‘butts’

On March 25, the Southern University Ag Center’s Communities of Color Network joined the nation in celebrating Kick Butts Day. The day is set aside to celebrate youths standing out, speaking up, and seizing control against Big Tobacco marketing strategies. CoC Network regional coordinators engaged Louisiana’s youth in exciting, educational and interactive activities. They travelled to schools, conducted radio interviews, and distributed pledged cards and kick butts stickers across the state.

Activities included: tobacco workshops at Alexandria Home-

maker’s Club; display of 305 shirts at a local middle school to represent the number of students who smoked more than a pack of cigarettes a day in Alexandria; setting of flameless candles at Lebanon Baptist Church in remembrance of 47,000 African Americans who die annually as a result of tobacco-related illnesses in Lecompte; display of “Tobacco Kills” message at Peabody Magnet High School by utilizing Styrofoam cups; erecting pledge walls at Central Middle School to encourage students to remain tobacco-free in Lake Charles; providing students at Baker Middle School

with a lecture and opportunities to pledge to remain tobacco-free; providing students with literature and promotional giveaways to encourage tobacco-free existence in Baton Rouge; celebrating Kicked Butts Day at St. Mary Parish Alternative School through a series of activities emphasizing statistics regarding smokers in Franklin; holding a collaborative dinner to discuss efforts with Turning Point Services in Shreveport; and displayed a pledge wall at Sojourner Truth Academy in New Orleans.



Ms. Latricia Dixon, event coordinator (left, above) makes a presentation. Participants and displays (above and below)



# Aviation Clinic Soars to New Height

An age-old adage states that “when you put your mind to it, the sky is the limit”. For Pointe Coupee Parish youth who participated in a March 14<sup>th</sup> Aviation Clinic, their imaginations soared to new horizons as they were given exposure, access, and opportunity into a world of new career possibilities.

The event was coordinated by the Southwest Center for Rural Initiatives, with presentations by Albert Rutherford, private pilot, and Yvonne Chenevert, airport manager for the False River Regional Airport. Youth throughout Pointe Coupee

Parish between the ages of 12 and 17 gathered at the False River Regional Airport to listen to Rutherford and Chenevert speak on “How to Start Your Career in Aviation”.

Participants viewed a film documentary, entitled “Beyond Tuskegee: Closer to the Stars” that highlighted the accomplishments of African Americans in aviation.

Mr. Al Spann, retired airport administrator and original owner of Jet Blue Airlines, gave the young aspiring aviators a drop-in visit and emphasized, along with the other speakers,

that careers in aviation are in high demand and that participants could begin to pursue such opportunities even at an early age.

The program culminated with a tour of the False River Regional Airport and an opportunity for all youth to participate in a simulated flight availed through the Department of Transportation and Development.

Each youth received a ditty bag of aviation gifts and door prizes.



Sections from clinic event



## Faculty and staff accomplishments and activities



QuickBooks training session

**Gloria D. London**, director and **Eual Hall**, business development specialist, Center for Rural and Small Business Development, conducted three entrepreneurial training workshops; homebuyers training at Clinton High School; and QuickBooks training for the small business training, March 26 and March

30; and The Basics of Starting a Business workshop at Ever Increasing Life Ministry in Baton Rouge, April 1.

**Owusu Bandele, Ph.D.**, horticulturist, made a presentation entitled "Sustaining Healthy Production Practices," at Alcorn State University Cooperative Extension Program's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual

Small Farmers Conference 2009 on March 30. The presentation highlighted ecological, environmental, and economic advantages and challenges of producing and marketing organic pro-

duce. The lecture also included a short history of significant contributions of African Americans to sustainable agriculture.

**Terrence Marshall**, county agent, East Baton Rouge Parish, held a Pesticide Recertification Workshop where a total of 39 farmers and homeowners were recertified in the safe use of pesticides as mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Marshall also organized and executed the East Baton Rouge Parish 4-H Livestock Show. More than 35 exhibitors showed 95 Beef, Goat, Swine, and Poultry at the show.



Marshall congratulates EBR 4H Exhibitor Garrett Venable, left, on winning Grand Champion Beef Showmanship at the Southern University Livestock Show.



Marshall addresses pesticide recertification group.



EBR 4-H livestock show



Marshall poses with EBR 4H Goat Exhibitors in Parish Group Competition.



# Faculty and staff activities

*Continued from page 10*

**Sarah Sims**, extension aide, Madison Parish conducted the following: First Thursday, Youth Garden Project, Tallulah Beautification, Family Service health unit and home visits, COA/Seniors – Nutrition - Health, Relay For Life Team, Marine Institute, Southern University YES Training, Nutrition Summit LSU-SU, Delta 65, Madison High Health Fair, and DHS Family Health & Nutrition Training Emergency Preparedness.

More than 250 youth participated in Madison High Health Fair where they learned the dangers of smoking; 200 participants attended a training workshop on Delta Head Start Nutrition and Emergency Preparedness. Sims continues her ongoing fitness and quilting classes.



**Eual Hall**, business development specialist, and the Center for Rural and Small Business Development team organized a Personal Finance and Stewardship Training workshop to youth ages 7-17 and their parents at Discipline Baptist Church in Ville Platte, March 30. More than 80 youth participated in the training.

twenty-dollar savings bond were given away. The first presenter from a local credit union captured the youth's attention as he gave details on how simple it is to open savings accounts and college funds accounts with their parents' signatures.

One focus of the workshop was to increase participants' awareness of stewardship in managing their lives successfully. The workshop also focused on teaching youth how to manage their personal finances in relation to credit, charge cards, budgeting, savings, college savings fund accounts, bank savings accounts, purchases, mutual funds and other financial issues which affect adults' lives.

Hall discussed stewardship principles, personal finance, credit card usage, simple and compound interest, budget, family accountability to society, financing college, and many other critical topics. Youth and parents were excited and thankful for the information they received. As a result, the Center's staff has been invited back in the month of May to share personal finance and stewardship training with adults. The church leaders have committed to assisting parents with establishing savings accounts or college funds for any member of the congregation.

Door prizes including small cash boxes, small piggy banks, and a



**Sections of the personal finance and stewardship training workshop, above and below.**



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## Faculty and staff activities

*Continued from page 11*

**Glenn Dixon**, assistant area agent, East and West Carroll Parishes, co-authored an article published in the February 2009 issue of the *Journal of Extension*.

The article, "Strengthening Agricultural Entrepreneurship: A Grant Writing Tool for Agricultural Producers," presents a set

of grant writing guidelines used when working with agricultural producers in Louisiana.

Specifically, they applied these guidelines to help producers understand the grant writing and application process for the United States Department of Agriculture's Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) program.

The article was published online in Volume 47, number 1 of the *Journal of Extension*. To read the article, visit <http://www.joe.org/joe/2009february/tt4.php>

**Fatemeh Malekian**, Ph.D., food sciences and **Margarita Khachaturyan**, research associate, set up displays for nutrition and health education, at Livestock Show, providing handouts and locally grown fresh strawberries to event attendees on February 27. Malekian conducted a session on nutritional labeling at the Louisiana Food Processers' Conference at the LSU Lod Cook Center on March 19. The attendees were food processors, educators and regulators from around the state.



**Malekian gives out strawberries and literature at livestock show.**

Malekian and Ashley Weston, dietetic student from Southern University dietetic program, participated in the FFA contest event, helping with poultry judging, score keeping and tallying scores on March 25.

Malekian, **Erika Mitchell**, research associate and Chris Williams conducted diabetes training as a part of Louisiana Health Care Review Diabetes Empowerment Education Program at Southern University Ag Center on March 30. Forty three participants learned about the human body, risk factors in diabetes, understanding diabetes, monitoring the body, and managing diabetes through nutrition and physical activities.

**James McNitt**, PhD, animal science professor, made a presentation on Rabbit Production to the Introduction to Animal Science class at LSU; February 19, served as judge for the Livestock Quiz Bowl; February 27, organized and oversaw the Hands-on Farm Animal Display for the 1200 children attending the Livestock Show; March 12, participated in the "Growing the

Small and Minority Farmer" conference at LSU-Alexandria; March 14, McNitt, **Renita Marshall, DVM.**, associate professor animal science, and **Lisa Gray**, research assistant, provided a hands-on rabbit and chicken display for the Plantation Days at Magnolia Mound; March 25, McNitt organized and oversaw the poultry contest for the FFA Area IV Career Development

Event where 97 high school students from 27 teams judged three classes of live birds, two classes of eggs, and two classes of poultry meat.

## SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER



### *Upcoming Events*

Date	Event	Location	Contact
<b>April 25</b>	Annual Goat Field Day	Baton Rouge-Southern University Ag Center	Lisa Gray 225-771-2262 x 316
<b>April 29</b>	E-business training	Jennings-LSU Business & Technology Center	Latonia Morrison-Frank, 337-943-2410
<b>April 29</b>	Basic Excel training	Jennings-LSU Business & Technology Center	Latonia Morrison-Frank, 337-943-2410
<b>May 2</b>	Quick Books training	Opelousas-Southwest Center for Rural Initiatives	Latonia Morrison-Frank, 337-943-2410
<b>May 5-6</b>	Basic Word training	Opelousas-Southwest Center for Rural Initiatives	Latonia Morrison-Frank, 337-943-2410
<b>May 8</b>	St. Helena Parish 4-H Ag Day	St. Helena Middle School	Angela Myles 225-222-4136
<b>May 26-27</b>	E-Business training	Rayne-LSU Business & Technology Center,	Latonia Morrison-Frank, 337-943-2410
<b>June 2-3</b>	Basic Excel training	Opelousas-Southwest Center for Rural Initiatives	Latonia Morrison-Frank, 337-943-2410
<b>June 6</b>	Quick Books trainig	Ville Platte Disciple Baptist Church	Latonia Morrison-Frank, 337-943-2410
<b>June 16-17</b>	Basic PowerPoint training	Opelousas-Southwest Center for Rural Initiatives	Latonia Morrison-Frank, 337-943-2410

**The Chancellor's Report to the  
Southern University Board of Supervisors**

**NAME OF CHANCELLOR:** Freddie Pitcher, Jr.

**CAMPUS:** Southern University Law Center

**DATE:** April 2009



***SIGNIFICANT EVENTS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS***

***Chancellor to Receive McKinley High Honor***

*Chancellor Freddie Pitcher, Jr., will be recognized as the 2009 McKinley High School Alumni Academic Honoree, at 6 p.m., Thursday, April 9, at Capitol Middle. Chancellor Pitcher will also present awards to the Student Academic Honorees during the half-time ceremony.*

***Five Inducted in SULC Hall of Fame***

*Five alumni were inducted into the SULC 2009 Hall of Fame at a 7 p.m. banquet, Friday, April 3, at the Hilton Capital Center.*

*S.P. Davis, '73, of Shreveport, Louisiana; Isaac Henderson, '59, of Houston, Texas; Baton Rouge attorney Gail McKay, '78; Judge Wayne Salvant, '74, of Fort Worth, Texas; and Judge Zorraine "Zoey" Waguespack, '88, of Amite, Louisiana received this Law Center honor as part of the two-day annual Alumni Round-Up, April 2 and 3.*

*Other alumni recognized for their career distinctions at the April 2 opening night welcome reception for the 2009 Alumni Round-Up at the River Terrace of the Shaw Center for the Arts included: Monica Azare, '94, a senior vice president for corporate communications for Verizon Communications, New York, New York; Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, '89, senior vice president and chief tax officer at Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.; Timothy W. Hardy, '81, partner and chairman of the New Orleans headquartered law firm of Lemle & Kelleher, L.L.P.; and District Attorney Joseph L. Waitz, Jr., '86, of Terrebonne Parish.*

*Master and Mistress of Ceremonies for the Hall of Fame dinner was Louisiana State Representative Richard H, Gallot, Jr., '90, of Ruston, Louisiana, and Monique Edwards, '86, acting assistant secretary for the office of Mineral Resources, secretary of the State Mineral Board, and Executive counsel for the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.*

*Other events for the Alumni Round-Up were the CLE Seminar, Student Forum, and the*

*Chancellor's Scramble Golf Tournament.*

**Leadership Award Winners**

*The annual Chancellor's Award Winners for 2009 are Lacy Shuffield, Keith Cantrelle, Dwazendra Smith, Samuel Milledge, LaToya Jones, and Stephanie Robin. The winners have demonstrated and provided extraordinary service to the Law Center. They received their awards on Friday, March 27 at the SULC Barrister's Ball at the Lyceum Ballroom in downtown Baton Rouge.*

***LSBA Sponsors Program***

*The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) conducted a seminar on character and fitness for first and second year students at the SULC on Wednesday, April 8. The seminar will be held at all four Louisiana law schools as part of the Association's ongoing activities to streamline the process of becoming a member of the bar.*

**OFFICE OF CAREER COUNSELING AND DEVELOPMENT**

***EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION***

***Marcus DeLarge (1L)*** had received an offer for summer 2009 from Porteous Hainkel.

***Eugene Gouaux (1L)*** has received an offer for summer 2009 from the Louisiana Municipal Association.

***Maya Guntz (2L)*** has received offers for summer 2009 from Porteous Hainkel and Taylor Porter.

***Richard Harrison (1L)*** has received an offer for summer 2009 to serve as judicial intern for the Hon. Diana Saldana for the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Texas.

***Bobby Holmes (3L)*** has received an offer of a judicial clerkship from Judge John Ford.

***Ashley Jyles (1L)*** has received an offer for summer 2009 from Ken Miller.

***William Keaty (3L)*** has received an offer of a judicial clerkship from Judge Paul DeMahy.

***Cindy Manual (1L)*** has received an offer for summer 2009 from the Saint Landry Parish District Attorney's Office.

***Cindy McJimsey (3L)*** has received an offer of a judicial clerkship from federal Administrative Law Judge Marrero.

*Nicole Peair (2L) is working as a judicial extern to Judge Ralph Tyson for the spring semester and has received offers for summer 2009 from Bradley Arent (Birmingham, AL) and Breazeale Sachse & Wilson.*

*The Orleans Public Defender's Office has made offers for summer 2009 to Birdie Foster (1L); Senae Hall (1L); Richard Harrison (1L); Freddie King (2L); Nina Shephard (2L); Stephanie Strickland (2L); Samir Suri (2L); Dewanna Trask (2L); and Shalonda Wallace (2L).*

#### **PROGRAMMING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES**

*On March 7, 2009, SULC students participated in the first annual LSBA Minority Internship Job Fair. The fair featured employers willing to hire qualified and interested students without as much attention to academic rank. Twenty-five (25) SULC students were granted interviews at the fair.*

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

*The Thurgood Marshall College Fund held its annual member Universities Professional Institute and Exhibition from March 15-18, 2009 in New Orleans, LA. Michelle A. Jackson represented Southern University Law Center on the planning committee for this event.*

*The National Association for Legal Career Professionals (NALP) held its Annual Education Conference from March 31 - April 4, 2009 in Washington, DC.*

#### **LAW LIBRARY**

*Ruth J. Hill Director of Library Services and Associate Professor of Law, has just returned from attending the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southwest Association of Law Libraries in Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 26-28, 2009. In her capacity as an Executive Board Member and the meeting representative for the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), Hill spoke at the business meeting luncheon and gave her AALL update.*

#### **OFFICE OF PUBLICATIONS AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA**

*The staff of the Office of Publications and Electronic Media produced eleven publications: five issues of SULC E-News; the 2009 Joint Law School symposium for Minority High School Students Program and Poster; SULC 2009 Hall of Fame Program Booklet; SULC 2009 Alumni Round-Up Welcome Reception Program; SULC 2009 Distinguished Alumni Posters; and SULC 2009 Hall of Fame Inductees Poster.*

*Four press releases were distributed: Southern University Law Review To Host National Conference of Law Reviews; NCLR Conference Draws More Than 200—Special to The Advocate;*

*Five to be Inducted into the 2009 SU Law Center Hall of Fame April 3– Local, Louisiana, and Texas media; and Southern University Law Review Hosted National Conference of Law Reviews.*

*The office provided photography and/or editorial coverage for 2008-09 Speaker Series; Minority Student Recruitment Day; 2009 Law Week; CALI Awards Program; The Barrister’s Ball; and Alumni Round-Up and Hall of Fame Reception.*

*Reports on Law Center activities were published or experts were interviewed in the following media and/or legal publications(s): Legal minds, The Advocate, Progressive Lawyers.*

**Special Problems**

*None*

**Significant Administrative or Policy Change**

*None*