

SUND
YESTERDAY
TODAY
forever!

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

MARCH 2026

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
AT NEW ORLEANS

A MESSAGE FROM

Dear Southern University System Board of Supervisors,

Welcome to the March 2026 Chancellor's Report. It is my distinct honor to share with you the continued progress and momentum at Southern University at New Orleans as we advance our mission of access, excellence, and community impact.

This month's report highlights the strength of Knight Nation—demonstrated through student achievement, faculty scholarship, strategic partnerships, and transformative campus developments. From the grand re-opening and renaming of our Counseling & Psychological Services Center in honor of Dr. Kimberly Paige, to impactful research publications and dynamic academic programming, our university community continues to lead with compassion, innovation, and purpose.

We proudly celebrate milestones across our colleges and institutes. Our students are publishing in peer-reviewed journals, securing internships, earning scholarships, and engaging in meaningful research and civic dialogue. The Small Business Development & Management Institute is experiencing renewed momentum through strategic partnerships and brand revitalization, while our Renewable Energy Management Program is expanding industry collaboration and investing in enhanced academic technology to support student success.

Our commitment to career readiness and economic empowerment was on full display through the Spring 2026 Career Fair and the Young Economists Summit, both of which strengthened pathways between education and industry. These initiatives affirm our dedication to preparing scholars who are workforce-ready and globally competitive.

A defining highlight of this season is the opening of the Southern University at New Orleans Museum of Art and its historic exhibition, *From the Nile to the Mississippi: King Tutankhamun and the Giovanni Amin Collection*. This landmark moment reflects our role as a cultural and intellectual anchor—honoring global history while connecting it meaningfully to the heritage of New Orleans and the broader African diaspora.

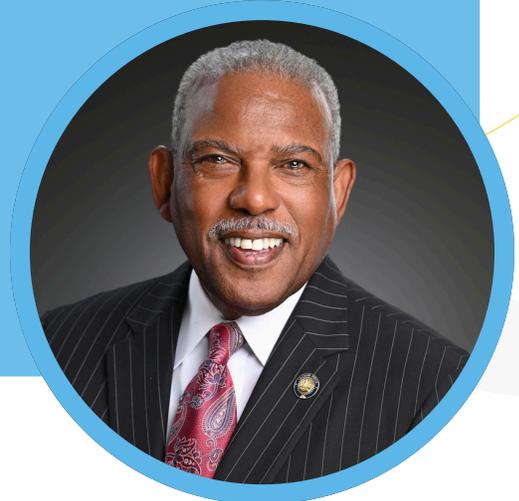
As you review this report, I hope you feel the energy, resilience, and forward-thinking spirit that define our institution. Together, we continue to build upon our legacy while boldly shaping the future of SUNO.

Thank you for your steadfast leadership and continued support.

With gratitude and respect,

DR. JOSEPH BOUIE, JR.

Chancellor, *Southern University at New Orleans*



In the Know AT SUNO

RE-OPENING OF THE COUNSELING CENTER

Southern University at New Orleans Celebrates the Grand Re-Opening of the Counseling & Psychological Services Center

We are thrilled to announce the Grand Re-Opening of our Counseling & Psychological Services Center, now officially renamed in memory of our former director, Dr. Kimberly Paige, who passed away in the summer of 2025. This renaming honors her compassion, leadership, and profound impact on our campus community.

Paige was a mentor, advocate, and a source of support who touched countless lives. We are grateful to have gathered with her family, friends, faculty, and staff to celebrate her legacy and tour the center that proudly bears her name.



Full Circle: Knights Capture First Title Since 2012

In one of the most dramatic finishes in HBCUAC history, Southern University at New Orleans captured its first conference championship since 2012 with an 84-81 overtime victory over top-seeded Tougaloo on March 1, 2026. The Knights, overcoming an early 0-7 deficit and battling back from double-digit deficits in regulation, forced overtime at 72-72 before taking control in the extra period.

In a fitting full-circle moment, SUNO beat Tougaloo to win the championship—the exact same opponent they defeated for the title fourteen years ago. This championship marks the culmination of a stunning four-year journey from uncertainty of the program’s resurgence to HBCUAC supremacy.

The university held a campus-wide watch party in support of the men’s basketball team finding out where they are headed to take vie for the title of NAIA Champions.



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Dr. Patrice Sentino and Dr. Derrick Freeman welcomed back research students as they prepare to present their final Capstone projects. The session provided an opportunity to reconnect, offer guidance, and encourage scholarly excellence as students finalize and showcase their research contributions.



Celebrating Black History

In recognition of Black History Month, Rev. Dr. Torin Sanders and Dr. Adrian Rolle presented scholarship from their recent book chapters in *Persisting Challenges of Racism in Contemporary Society*. The event engaged students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members in dialogue on the historical and contemporary impacts of racism across social systems. The program also featured poetry, a performance of *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, and remarks from Chancellor Bouie and Dean Sentino, with student Treyton Burley serving as Master of Ceremonies and Dr. Clyde Robertson moderating.

Participants strengthened their understanding of systemic racism's enduring influence, particularly within education and healthcare, while fostering reflection and cross-disciplinary engagement aligned with the university's mission of social awareness and civic responsibility.



Community Engagement

On January 15, 2026, Dr. Damekia Morgan facilitated a civic dialogue with community activists and visiting Macalester College Bonner Community Scholars exploring the post-Katrina educational landscape in New Orleans. The discussion examined policy shifts toward charter governance, community voice, and access to educational opportunity, with participants analyzing system challenges, innovation, and the role of organizing in advancing accountability and equity.



The engagement promoted cross-regional learning, deepened understanding of policy and structural change in education reform, and strengthened partnerships between community leaders and emerging civic scholars committed to public service and social justice.

PUBLICATIONS

- **Dr. Murty Kambhampati**
 - Student Charrel Williams' manuscript has been published in Springer Nature's **Discover Toxicology**, a peer-reviewed journal.
 - This achievement is a milestone, demonstrating dedication to research, scholarly activity, and a focus on STEM by our Natural Sciences faculty and students, who are always eager to learn and enhance their skills.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS



The Spring 2026 Gregory A. DeBose Business Administration Scholarship was awarded to Coy Guillory, a junior from Baton Rouge majoring in Business Administration, aiming to graduate in 2027. A member of the SUNO Baseball Team since 2023, Coy values discipline, time management, and a strong work ethic from being a student-athlete. He engages in campus organizations to enhance his leadership skills and give back to the community. His motto, "Discipline over Motivation," reflects his commitment to perseverance. Influenced by his father, Coy aims to own a personal training business and mentor youth on physical health and self-discipline.

Gregory A. DeBose, a New Orleans native and SUNO graduate (1992), sponsors the scholarship since Spring 2017. A Vietnam War veteran, he emphasizes the importance of affordable higher education in shaping his life and career.

Small Business Development & Management Institute (SBDMI)

Shaddai Livingston, new Director of the Small Business Development & Management Institute (SBDMI), reported on significant activities and achievements.

Key highlights include:

Livingston's background: an alumna of Southern University at New Orleans with a BS in Business Administration and a Master of International Business, she has a decade of entrepreneurial experience, including starting an online beauty company in China and founding the Louisiana Afro-Indigenous Society.

Strategic advancements:

- A partnership with Propeller was launched, enhancing operational efficiencies through online tools and targeted technical assistance for tenant growth.
- Brand revitalization efforts included reactivating the SBDMI Instagram account, updating marketing materials, and launching a weekly newsletter, The Incubator.
- Planning for events such as Black History Month, 2026 courses, a NASA business conference, and industry workshops is underway.

Active leadership participation in statewide meetings and professional development showcases strong operational momentum and partnership development.



Renewable Energy Management Program

Natalie Hollingshed, Coordinator of the Renewable Energy Management (REM) program,

In January 2026, the Renewable Energy Management (REM) Program at Southern University at New Orleans reached several important milestones that bolstered student support, infrastructure, and industry collaboration. The program successfully secured active internship placements for four REM students, offering them valuable hands-on learning experiences with external partners.

Moreover, over \$100,000 was invested in the installation of brand-new computers in two College of Business labs and the Accounting Tutoring Lab, significantly improving academic technology resources and learning environments for students.

During this same timeframe, the REM Program also managed and coordinated stipend payments for 56 students, ensuring financial assistance to enhance participation, retention, and academic achievement.

College of Business Hosts the Fall 2025 Young Economists Summit (YES) Competition

The College of Business hosted the Fall 2025 Young Economists Summit (YES) on December 13, 2025, in partnership with The Wall Street Connection (WSC). The event, focused on "Shaping the future of finance and innovation," featured local educator Mr. Donald Hess and aimed to bridge the wealth gap through financial education.

Participants from four high schools presented solutions to economic issues like homelessness and child hunger to a panel of judges, including news anchor Gina Swanson and venture capitalist Kim Redding. Each team received a trophy, and the event garnered positive feedback for its educational impact while promoting CBA's academic programs.



SPRING 2026 CAREER FAIR

The Spring 2026 Career, Internship & Graduate School Fair was a success, featuring 40 companies and over 65 industry leaders. Nearly 90 students attended, marking a 15% increase from Fall 2025, indicating growing student engagement in career readiness.

The increase in student participation reflects confidence in Career Services and the university's commitment to preparing scholars for post-graduate success. Overall, the event showed progress in employer engagement and student turnout, affirming SUNO scholars' readiness for career advancement. Continuous improvement in employer initiatives is a priority.

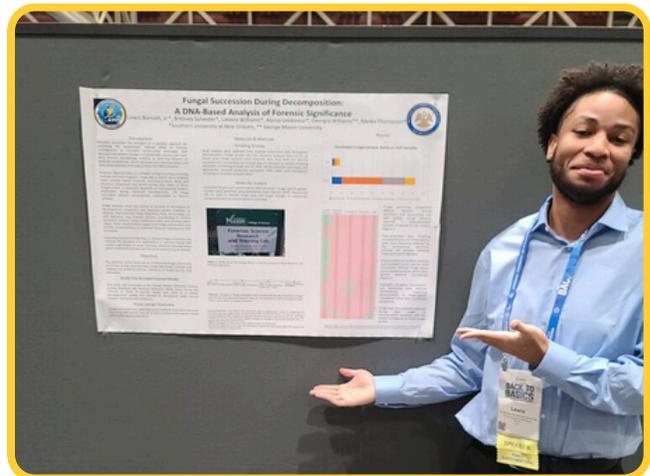
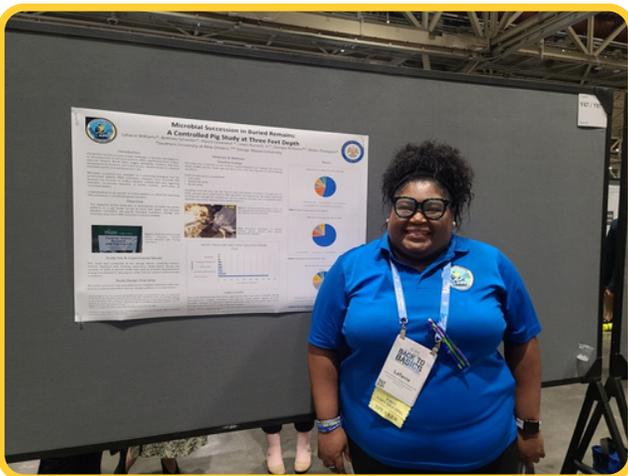
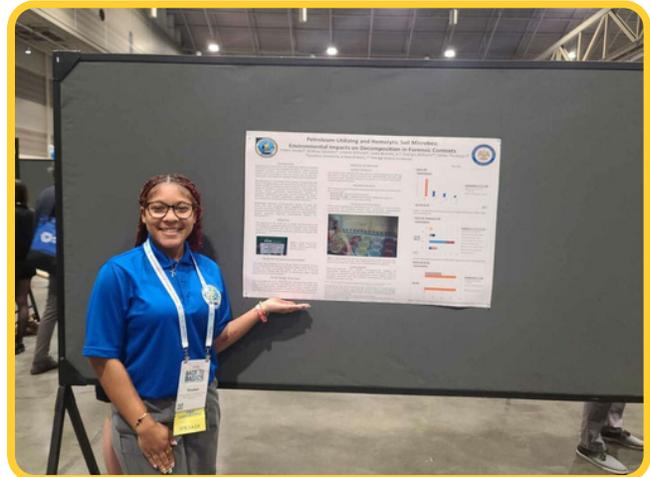
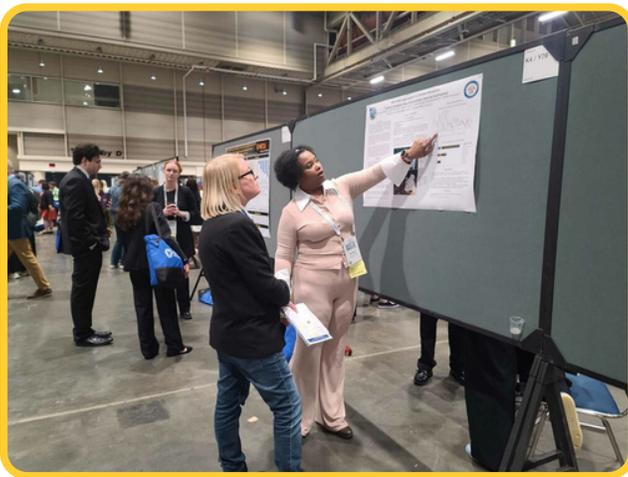


FORENSIC SCIENCE

Six undergraduate students from Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) showcased their research at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Annual Conference in February 2026, focusing on forensic microbiology and environmental forensics. The presenters included:

- Lewis Burnett, Jr.: Fungal Succession During Decomposition
- Tristen Howell: Environmental Impacts on Decomposition
- Diamon Raymond: Microbial Succession for Postmortem Interval Estimation
- LaTavia Williams: Microbial Succession in Buried Remains
- Alyssa Levasseur: Microbial Succession in Carpet-Wrapped Remains
- Brittney Sylvester: Microbial Succession in Clothed Remains

Andria Nelson attended as a research assistant, while Dr. Meiko Thompson presented on soil microbiomes and postmortem interval estimation. Students also toured the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory and met with officials about career opportunities. Alyssa Levasseur and Brittney Sylvester received the SURE grant for new research projects with Dr. Thompson. These achievements underscore SUNO's commitment to undergraduate research and career preparation in forensic science.



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