



Ancelous Services REPORT

Prezented by:

JOHN K. PIERRE

Chancellor

- 📂 john.pierre@sus.edu
- **(%)** 225.771.2360
- 🛞 www.subr.edu





TABLE OF CONTENTS



- Message from the Chancellor
- 2-3 Homecoming 2025
- 4-5 Shell Investment
- 6 National Medical Association



- 7 SU Receives Award
- 8 Board of Regents
- 9-12 The Cade Connection
- 13 Health Initiatives



- 14 CAHES
- College of Business
- **College of Sciences and Engineering**
- 29-31 Bayou Classic Safety



- 32-36 Campus News You Can Use
- 37 Chat with Chancellor
- 38 Connect with Us

MESSAGE FROM... PIERRE

Greetings Jaguar Nation,

It is a true honor to serve as Chancellor of Southern University and A&M College. As we conclude the Fall 2025 semester, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the remarkable progress we have achieved through collaboration, innovation, and transformational leadership.

Despite the disruptions and challenges we have faced, our community has remained steadfast, demonstrating the resilience, determination, and unity that define the Jaguar spirit. Our recent Homecoming celebration showcased the strength of that spirit and the deep pride that connects generations of Southernites.

As we prepare for the Bayou Classic and bring another successful semester to a close, let us take a moment to reflect on how far we have come together. This season is not only about the game itself, but about honoring the resilience, creativity, and excellence displayed daily by our students, faculty, and staff, and the unwavering spirit that unites Jaguar Nation year after year.

The Bayou Classic stands as a cherished tradition that highlights our shared purpose and unyielding pursuit of excellence, both in academics and athletics. It reminds us of the power of teamwork, the value of community, and the legacy of leadership we continue to build together.

I invite each of you to lean into the moments ahead as we close this semester together. Whether you're rallying in the stands, supporting a campus event, or engaging in academic discourse, your presence and participation matter. It is your dedication that strengthens our shared purpose and the bonds that unite us.

Let us continue to uplift one another, celebrate our accomplishments, and move forward with purpose and passion. Together, we will continue to shape a legacy of achievement, distinction, and pride that defines Southern University and A&M College.

Sincerely,





SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BATON ROUGE

Southern University Homecoming 2025:

A Historic Celebration of Pride, Progress, and Jaguars for Life

Dear Southern University and A&M College Community:

Homecoming 2025 will forever hold a special place in the history of Southern University and A&M College. A Milestone in Southern University History For the first time in our institution's proud history, the annual Homecoming Parade was held on the Sunday prior to Homecoming Week, a milestone decision that opened the door for greater community engagement and participation. This adjustment was made in part to help alleviate traffic congestion and improve access to campus on game day, allowing for a more enjoyable and efficient experience for all.

This historic shift helped kick off a full week of Homecoming activities that celebrated our pride, legacy, Balancing Tradition and Inclusion and the unbreakable Jaguar spirit. While some alumni expressed disappointment with the change, many others welcomed the opportunity to participate in new ways. We value and appreciate all feedback, and as we continue to evaluate the parade's success, we remain committed to ensuring that every member of Jaguar Nation, students, alumni, families, and community supporters, can fully share in this cherished tradition.

The response overall was overwhelmingly positive. Thousands of Jaguars from near and far gathered to A Spirit That Connects Generations celebrate the pride, legacy, and unity that define Southern University. The vibrant energy, creativity, and sense of togetherness displayed throughout the parade and the week's events captured the very essence of what makes our University so exceptional. From the students who showcased their talents to the alumni who returned home to reconnect, every moment reflected what it truly means to be Jaguars for Life.

Enhancing the Game Day Experience

Equally significant were the intentional efforts made to ensure that this year's celebration was both safe and forward-looking. Enhanced safety measures and upgraded technology were implemented to create a smoother and more enjoyable experience for all in attendance. These improvements strengthened event operations, enhanced communication and coordination, and ensured that the spirit of Homecoming could be experienced with comfort, security, and pride. While I understand that access to parking on game day remains a challenge, we are already developing plans for next year to identify and make additional parking available for our guests. The result was a seamless week of festivities that balanced tradition with progress... honoring our past while embracing the future.





From the excitement on The Bluff to the warmth of alumni reunions, the celebration showcased the A Celebration of Unity and Excellence enduring legacy and unity that define Southern University. The success of this year's Homecoming stands as a testament to the dedication of our fellow administrators, students, faculty, staff, alumni, and local partners who worked tirelessly to deliver an experience that both honored our cherished traditions and reflected our ongoing pursuit of excellence.

Homecoming 2025 was more than a week of events, it was a celebration of identity, progress, and collective purpose. It reminded us that Southern University is more than an institution of higher learning; it is a family bound by shared values, history, and purpose. The bonds formed here last a lifetime, and they continue to strengthen our University's foundation through every graduating class, every reunion, and every act of service. We are, and will always be... Jaguars for Life.

As we look ahead, let us carry forward the same sense of unity and momentum that defined this historic celebration. Together, we will continue to elevate the Jaguar experience, enhance student success, and advance the transformative mission that has made Southern University and A&M College a beacon of hope, pride, and excellence for more than a century.

PROUD TO BE A JAGUAR FOR LIFE!

John L. Pierre

Southern University and A&M College



SHELL INVESTS \$5 MILLION TO ADVANCE STUDENT SUCCESS

A Transformative Investment Driving Student Success and Institutional Growth

Southern University and A&M College proudly announced a transformative \$5 million investment from Shell, one of the largest corporate contributions in the University's recent history. This investment underscores Shell's long-standing commitment to supporting historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and advancing educational excellence in science, technology, engineering, and business disciplines.



The announcement, made during Homecoming Week, celebrates an enduring partnership between Southern University and Shell, one that continues to open doors for students while strengthening academic and workforce pipelines in Louisiana and beyond.

The investment is dedicated to expanding opportunities that directly impact student achievement and success. Funding will support the creation of a Student Success Center, a comprehensive hub designed to provide academic advising, peer mentoring, and career readiness programs. The center will equip students with the tools, guidance, and support needed to thrive academically and professionally, ensuring that Southern graduates are prepared to compete and lead in the global workforce.

A portion of Shell's \$5 million gift will also be directed toward enhancing the College of Sciences and Engineering and the College of Business, providing critical resources to modernize technology, upgrade laboratory facilities, and expand experiential learning opportunities. These improvements will enrich the student learning environment, advance research capacity, and promote innovation across both colleges. "Shell's investment demonstrates confidence in the quality of our programs and the talent of our students," said Chancellor Pierre. "This partnership represents a shared vision for preparing the next generation of leaders, innovators, and problem solvers who will drive Louisiana's economic and technological future."



Shell has been a steadfast partner to Southern University for decades, supporting initiatives that promote diversity and inclusion in STEM and business fields. This renewed investment reaffirms Shell's commitment to cultivating a strong and sustainable talent pipeline from HBCUs while deepening its connection to the Baton Rouge community.





SHELL INVESTS \$5 MILLION TO ADVANCE STUDENT SUCCESS

A Transformative Investment Driving Student Success and Institutional Growth







The Shell partnership aligns directly with Southern University's strategic priorities of fostering academic excellence, expanding experiential learning, and advancing student success. It also supports Chancellor Pierre's broader vision for institutional transformation, one grounded in collaboration and opportunity. "This partnership is a model of how academia and industry can work together to create lasting impact," Chancellor Pierre added. "Through Shell's generosity, we are expanding access, elevating excellence, and empowering our students to thrive."

With implementation forthcoming, the Shell investment will have an immediate and measurable effect on the student experience at Southern University. From upgraded classrooms and laboratories to enhanced advising, mentoring, and career programs, this partnership represents a major milestone in the University's ongoing journey toward sustained excellence. As Southern University continues to forge relationships that strengthen academic programs and elevate student outcomes, this collaboration with Shell stands as a shining example of what is possible when mission meets momentum.





NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION REGIONS III & V CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, SPRING 2026

Southern University has been selected to host the National Medical Association (NMA) Regions III and V Conference in Spring 2026. This prestigious event will bring together physicians, healthcare professionals, and medical students from across the southern region to engage in dialogue, professional development, and community health initiatives.

The Leon R. Tarver II Cultural and Heritage Center will serve as



the primary venue for the conference, which will feature plenary sessions, networking events, and a reception celebrating excellence in medicine and service. The partnership between Southern University and the NMA underscores a shared commitment to education, research, and health equity.

"Southern University is honored to serve as host for the 2026 NMA Regions III and V Conference," said Chancellor Pierre. "This collaboration reflects our continued dedication to advancing health equity, strengthening professional pathways for underrepresented communities, and showcasing the excellence that defines our institution."

"The National Medical Association's partnership with Southern University is both historic and essential," said Derek Lewis, Regional Director, NMA Region V. "By working together, we are creating opportunities that connect academic excellence with medical leadership, expanding the pipeline for future physicians and advancing health equity across our communities."

This collaboration further elevates Southern University's leadership in promoting diversity and innovation in the health sciences while advancing its mission to educate and empower future leaders who serve with excellence and impact.



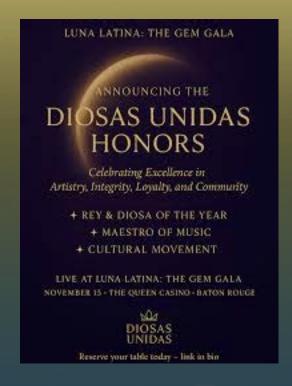


SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY HONORED WITH "THE LEGACY OF LIGHT AWARD" AT LUNA LATINA: THE GEM GALA

Southern University was honored to receive The Legacy of Light Award at this year's Luna Latina: The Gem Gala, presented by Diosas Unidas.

The Legacy of Light Award recognized institutions that illuminate the path for underrepresented communities through education, leadership, and cultural empowerment. This distinction celebrated Southern University's longstanding excellence in higher education and its unwavering commitment to equity, opportunity, and community advancement across generations.

The award was presented during Luna Latina: The Gem Gala on Thursday, November 13, 2025, at The Queen Casino in Baton Rouge. A member of Southern University's leadership team proudly accepted the recognition on behalf of the institution.



Diosas Unidas ("United Goddesses") a women-led cultural collective founded by Lannette M. Richardson and Mikekena Richardson hosted the gala to celebrate empowerment, community, and unity across Black, Latin, Caribbean, and multicultural communities. Through events such as Luna Latina, the organization honors individuals and institutions that bridge cultures and uplift underrepresented voices through art, business, education, and service.

The evening also recognized Mayra Pineda, President and CEO of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana, as one of the distinguished honorees.

Southern University's recognition as the recipient of The Legacy of Light Award reflected its enduring influence, not only in Louisiana but also across the broader landscape of higher education, leadership, and cultural excellence.





SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY HOSTS LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS FOR CAMPUS PRESENTATION & TOUR

Chancellor Pierre and SUS Leaders Highlight Capital Outlay and Deferred Maintenance Priorities



Chancellor John K. Pierre

Chancellor Pierre and representatives of the Southern University System recently welcomed members of the Louisiana Board of Regents to the Baton Rouge campus for a focused discussion on Capital Outlay and Deferred Maintenance projects across the Baton Rouge Landmass. The meeting served as a vital opportunity to outline infrastructure priorities, share progress updates, and reaffirm the University's commitment to providing safe, modern, and sustainable facilities that support student success.

The Capital Outlay and Deferred Maintenance briefing is a part of an ongoing partnership between the Southern University System and the Board of Regents to align facility investments with institutional goals for growth and innovation. The projects discussed represent both immediate

maintenance needs and long-term capital improvements designed to enhance learning environments, strengthen research capabilities, and expand academic offerings.

Chancellor Pierre emphasized the importance of maintaining facilities that reflect the University's mission and its evolving role as a leader in higher education and workforce development. "Our students deserve learning environments that are safe, functional, and equipped for the future," Pierre said. "These projects are not just about buildings, they are about creating spaces where innovation, collaboration, and excellence can flourish."

Among the priorities presented were infrastructure upgrades to academic buildings, laboratory renovations, roof and HVAC replacements, safety and accessibility enhancements, and the modernization of classroom technology. The Regents also received updates on key facilities and high-use spaces that anchor academic, cultural, and community engagement on campus.

Chancellor Pierre commended campus and System staff for their collaboration in preparing the presentation and expressed appreciation for the Board of Regents' continued partnership. "We are grateful for the Regents' commitment to supporting institutions like Southern University," Pierre noted. "Together, we are preserving the historic integrity of our campus while preparing for the future."

The University's presentation underscores Southern's broader vision of transformational leadership, one that invests in people, programs, and the physical foundation needed to sustain excellence. Through strategic planning, collaboration, and targeted investments, Southern University remains committed to building an environment where students, faculty, and staff can thrive for generations to come.





JOHN B. CADE LIBRARY CONTINUES TO EXPAND ACCESS TO SCHOLARSHIP AND CULTURE

Advancing Literacy, Research, and Community Engagement Under the Leadership of Dr. Dawn Kight



BOOKED AT CADE: AUTHOR SERIES EXPANDS ITS IMPACT



The John B. Cade Library's Booked at Cade Author Series continues to grow as a campus and community favorite, drawing students, faculty, staff, and local residents for meaningful conversations with authors. This fall's lineup has been especially impactful, featuring national scholars, Southern University faculty, and alumni authors.

Highlights of the Fall 2025 series include:

- Dr. Robert Livingston (Harvard University), who discussed leadership and race relations.
- Dr. Albert Samuels, Professor of Political Science at Southern University, who led a twopart discussion on Hurricane Katrina: A Disaster 100 Years in the Making, examining the storm's political and social consequences for Louisiana and the nation.
- Ms. Barbara Ruffin Robertson, author of Memoirs of a Southern Creole Woman, who shared personal reflections on civil rights, racial identity, and growing up in Lafayette.
- Dr. August Malveaux, who will close out the October sessions with a discussion of his upcoming publication.

In November, the series welcomes:

- Dr. Mona Lisa Saloy (Dillard University), presenting the anthology Hurricanes: Katrina and Rita at 20, co-edited with John Warner Smith.
- Dr. Dessie Sanders, Southern Faculty alumna, discussing The Black Girl Dialogues: Where Truth, Sass, and Spirit Collide (Vol. 1).
- Dr. Sandra K. Johnson, a pioneering computer engineer and author of Soft Power for the Journey: The Life of a STEM Trailblazer, who will appear in a fireside chat on November 13.

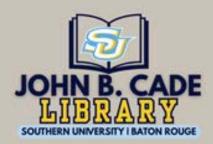
Now in its third year, Booked at Cade continues to create space for dialogue, storytelling, and scholarship while celebrating diverse voices and Southern University's legacy. A call for Spring 2026 author submissions will be announced soon.





JOHN B. CADE LIBRARY CONTINUES TO EXPAND ACCESS TO SCHOLARSHIP AND CULTURE

Advancing Literacy, Research, and Community Engagement Under the Leadership of Dr. Dawn Kight



SPECIAL SCREENING: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC'S HURRICANE KATRINA: RACE AGAINST TIME



On October 23, 2025, the John B. Cade Library hosted two public screenings—at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.—of Episode 3 of the National Geographic documentary series Hurricane Katrina: Race Against Time, titled "A Desperate Place." Students, faculty, staff, and community members attended.

The 50-minute episode offered a powerful and emotional depiction of the catastrophic conditions in New Orleans in the days following the storm. Viewers witnessed the fear, uncertainty, and resilience of residents who were left waiting for rescue as the city became overwhelmed and, in many ways, resembled a refugee camp.

The screening included a recorded Q&A session featuring the series director Traci A. Curry and National Geographic executive producer Sean D. Johnson, offering behind-the-scenes insights into the making of the documentary and the importance of preserving stories of survival and systemic failure.

Even 20 years later, A Desperate Place provided a sobering reminder of the storm's human toll and the consequences of failed leadership and delayed response—but also the courage of those who stepped in to help.







JOHN B. CADE LIBRARY CONTINUES TO EXPAND ACCESS TO SCHOLARSHIP AND CULTURE

Advancing Literacy, Research, and Community Engagement Under the Leadership of Dr. Dawn Kight





STUDENT LIBRARY ADVISORY COUNCIL **RELAUNCHES WITH NEW** LEADERSHIP AND VISION

After a brief pause last semester, the Student Library Advisory Council (SLAC) has returned stronger than ever, now operating under an elected executive board to enhance student engagement and library collaboration. SLAC works closely with Faculty Advisor Ms. Vanissa Gosserand, who also coordinates the Library's work-study program and service-learning/volunteer initiatives.

SLAC serves as the voice of the student body in library planning and improvement efforts. Members provide feedback to library administration, connect the Library with student organizations, and represent Southern University at on-campus and community events.

2025-2026 SLAC Executive Board:

- President: Tristan Smith
- Vice President: London Coleman
- Secretary: Dylan Gillie
- · Committee Chair: Naomi Beal
- Treasurer: Jai' Cole Warren
- Media Coordinator: Joi Jones

In addition to their leadership roles, Tristan Smith and Joi Jones were honored as Mr. and Ms. John B. Cade Library and now proudly represent the Library on the 2025–2026 Southern University Royal Court.

SLAC continues to grow its presence on campus and social media. Students interested in joining are encouraged to attend meetings or contact Ms. Gosserand or any council member. Follow their updates on Instagram: @subr_jbc_council.

Dean Dawn Kight commends SLAC's renewed energy and leadership and looks forward to advancing student-centered initiatives in partnership with the Council.







JOHN B. CADE LIBRARY CONTINUES TO EXPAND ACCESS TO SCHOLARSHIP AND CULTURE

Advancing Literacy, Research, and Community Engagement Under the Leadership of Dr. Dawn Kight





The John B. Cade Library partnered with actor and musician Brian Jordan Jr.—star of Tyler Perry's Sistas to host the first stop of his national HBCU Listening Tour for Riley: The Mixtape, the soundtrack to his upcoming musical. Held in October in the Library's Music Listening Center, the program drew an enthusiastic student audience, including members of SGA.

A panel discussion followed the premiere, featuring Brian Jordan Jr., several contributing artists, and Southern University's own librarian, Marilyn Anderson, who represented the library with excellence. Panelists encouraged students to pursue their dreams with persistence, mirroring Jordan's own journey of developing the musical since 2017 and now preparing it for Broadway production.

This event marked the beginning of efforts to revitalize the Library's Music Listening Center with future listening parties and creative programming designed to engage students and celebrate the arts.







Panels, Miss Southern, and guests-oh myl just a glimpse of the students and visitors who came out to share in this melodic experience.





COLLABORATION IN ACTION: STRENGTHENING HEALTH, COUNSELING, AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

Office of Health Initiatives and the Department of Rehabilitation, Disability Studies, and Counseling
Announce \$2.87 Million in Federal Awards



Dr. Sandra C. Brown



Dr. Susan Flowers Benton

Working collaboratively across colleges and departments, Dr. Brown is advancing Southern University's mission to promote equitable access to quality healthcare and expand opportunities for students pursuing health-related professions. Through her vision, the Office of Health Initiatives continues to build partnerships that enhance student success and address critical health needs across Louisiana and beyond.

As part of these ongoing efforts, Dr. Brown is proud to announce a significant achievement from the Department of Rehabilitation, Disability Studies, and Counseling. Under the leadership of Dr. Susan Flowers Benton, Chair of the Department, faculty members submitted three competitive grant proposals to the U.S. Department of Education, and all three were successfully funded. The Undergraduate Program received \$875,000 over five years, while two Graduate Programs were awarded \$1,000,000 each over five years. Together, this represents an impressive \$2.87 million in federal funding.

These grants will strengthen the Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling Program and enhance initiatives designed to prepare professionals who support individuals experiencing mental health challenges. Chancellor Pierre commended Dr. Flowers and her team for their collaborative approach and lasting impact, noting that this accomplishment reflects what is possible when faculty unite around a shared mission of service, scholarship, and student success.

Dr. Brown praised the department's achievement as a model of excellence within the University's growing health ecosystem. She emphasized that such success illustrates how strategic collaboration and academic innovation can drive real-world impact. "Together, we are shaping a stronger, more responsive health workforce for the future," she said.

Through initiatives like these, the Office of Health Initiatives continues to foster a culture of collaboration that links faculty research, student development, and community engagement. Under Dr. Brown and Dr. Benton's leadership, Southern University remains committed to building programs that strengthen Louisiana's health systems, expand access to care, and uphold the University's mission of excellence and service.



CAHES PROFESSOR DR. RAO M. UPPU ELECTED FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF BIOLOGY

Southern University and A&M College proudly celebrates the election of Dr. Rao M. Uppu, Professor in the Department of Environmental Toxicology within the College of Agricultural, Health, and Environmental Sciences, as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology (RSB). The Royal Society of Biology, based in London, is one of the world's foremost organizations recognizing individuals who have made exceptional and sustained contributions to the biological sciences.



Dr. Rao M. Uppu

Dr. Uppu's election marks a significant milestone in a distinguished career that continues to bring international recognition to Southern University. This honor adds to his earlier elections as Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry

(FRSC), Fellow of the Royal Society for Public Health (FRSPH), Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (FAAAS), and Fellow of the Academy of Toxicological Sciences (FATS), making this his fifth fellowship with internationally recognized scientific societies.

In addition to these honors, Dr. Uppu holds board certifications from the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists (BCES) and the American Board of Toxicology (DABT), along with licensure as a Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS/RS) through the National Environmental Health Association.

Reflecting on this achievement, Dr. Uppu expressed deep gratitude to Southern University, sharing that what began as a simple academic career has evolved into one of global recognition and impact. "These accomplishments were made possible through the continued support and encouragement of Southern University and A&M College," he said.

Chancellor John K. Pierre commended Dr. Uppu for his exemplary scholarship and contributions. "Dr. Uppu's achievements reflect the spirit of innovation and excellence that define Southern University," Pierre noted. "His recognition by the Royal Society of Biology further elevates our University's reputation for producing world-class educators and researchers."



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS: EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF BUSINESS LEADERS

October was an exciting and impactful month for the College of Business, marked by signature events that celebrated student leadership, strengthened community partnerships, and advanced the College's commitment to academic excellence and engagement. The College continues to expand partnerships, promote student success, and engage alumni through initiatives that prepare globally competitive and socially responsible business leaders.

Risk Management and Insurance Professor, Mr. Sherman Pittman, represented the College of Business at the Baton Rouge Community College Transfer Fair, held on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at the BRCC Mid-City campus from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This event provided an excellent recruitment opportunity to promote the five academic programs of fered within the College of Business.

Participation in the fair strengthens pathways for transfer students and underscores the College's commitment to expanding access to quality business education for students throughout the Baton Rouge community and beyond.











COLLEGE OF BUSINESS: EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF BUSINESS LEADERS

On Thursday, October 9, 2025, the College of Business proudly crowned its 2025-2026 Mr. and Miss College of Business, Keelan Caldwell and Jamirah Parker, during a celebratory ceremony held in T.T. Allain Hall. The event brought together faculty, staff, students, and alumni to honor the new student leaders who will serve as ambassadors for the College throughout the academic year.

During the ceremony, Dean Donald Andrews commended the honorees for their academic achievements, leadership, and commitment to advancing the College's mission. He encouraged them to continue serving as role models and to inspire their peers through service, scholarship, and professional excellence.



Keelan Caldwell and Jamirah Parker





Both Caldwell and Parker expressed deep gratitude for the opportunity to represent the College and shared their vision for engaging the student body through initiatives focused on professional development, business innovation, and community service. Their platforms emphasize collaboration, mentorship, and career readiness, ensuring that students are well-prepared to compete in a global economy.

Miss College of Business 2024-2025, Trinity Lane, also participated in the ceremony, delivering heartfelt remarks as she passed the crown to her successor. She reflected on her tenure with pride and expressed excitement about seeing the College continue to thrive under new leadership.





COLLEGE OF BUSINESS: EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF BUSINESS LEADERS



Keelan Caldwell and Jamirah Parker

The celebration of student leadership extended into Homecoming Week, as Mr. and Miss College of Business represented the College in Southern University's annual Homecoming Parade on Sunday, October 12, 2025. Joined by fellow business students, faculty, and alumni, Caldwell and Parker led the College's spirited contingent through the streets of Baton Rouge. The parade drew thousands of spectators and served as a vibrant kickoff to Homecoming festivities on "The Bluff."

Their participation reflected the College's strong sense of community and Jaguar pride, reinforcing its ongoing commitment to cultivating leadership, engagement, and excellence among its students. Together, these events showcased the College of Business's

enduring focus on empowering students to lead with purpose, both inside the classroom and throughout the Southern University community.







COLLEGE OF BUSINESS: EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF BUSINESS LEADERS



The College of Business, in collaboration with the Louisiana Small Business Development Center (SBDC), hosted a one-day Entrepreneurship and Leadership Summit on Homecoming Wednesday, October 15, 2025. The summit provided an engaging platform for alumni, business leaders, and current students to connect, share experiences, and explore strategies for success in an evolving business landscape.



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

HOMECOMING EXCELLENCE LEADING THE FUTURE: Innovation, Infrastructure & Global Growth

OCTOBER 15, 2025 S SBDC SOLTHERY 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM College of Business | T.T Allian Hall | 313 | CHASE 4 SBA









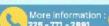


ENTREPRENEURSHIP & LEADERSHIP

MORNING SESSIONS

- Scaling Smart: Strategic Partnerships and Ecosystem Leverage Firechat
- Leveraging SBA Programs to Accelerate Innovation
- Innovation In Motion: Emerging Technologies for Small Business
- Commercial and Tech Sales: Students Breakouts
- DENAGE PIPER The Innovation Pipeline: How HBCUs Can Fuel the Next Wave of Businesses

- Building Bankability: Financial Infrastructure for Growth
- From Local to Global: Exporting Readiness, Tools, Funding and Manufacturing To Go Global!
- Digital Influence & Innovation: Content Creators Crafting Content for Business.
- Resource Partners Spotlights and Vendor Tables



HOST









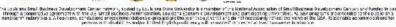












The event featured interactive discussions and networking sessions designed to inspire innovation, leadership, and entrepreneurial thinking. Alumni panelists shared real-world insights into business ownership, corporate leadership, and community impact, while faculty and staff emphasized the importance of lifelong learning and adaptability in today's economy.

The summit highlighted the College's continued commitment to fostering an entrepreneurial mindset among its students and strengthening relationships with alumni who serve as mentors and industry partners. By bridging academic learning with practical application, the event underscored the College of Business's role in preparing students to lead and innovate within their professions and communities.





COLLEGE OF BUSINESS: EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF BUSINESS LEADERS



On Friday, October 17, 2025, the College of Business proudly inducted 10 undergraduate and graduate students into Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS), the International Business Honor Society for AACSB-accredited schools, during its annual Homecoming Luncheon. Membership in Beta Gamma Sigma is one of the highest academic honors a business student can achieve and is extended by invitation only.

Eligible students include second-semester sophomores and above who rank in the top 10% of their class, as well as master's students who have completed at least half of their program and rank in the top 20% of their cohort. This year's inductees exemplify the College's commitment to academic excellence, integrity, and leadership in business education.

In addition to student inductees, the College recognized two distinguished honorees, Mrs. Lilian Gray and Mr. Anthony Montgomery, for their outstanding professional accomplishments and meaningful contributions to business, leadership, and community development.

The luncheon brought together faculty, staff, students, and alumni to celebrate these exceptional achievements and to reaffirm the College's dedication to cultivating excellence, leadership, and global competitiveness among its students.











COLLEGE OF BUSINESS: EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF BUSINESS LEADERS



Dr. Donald Andrews & Chancellor John K. Pierre

The College of Business continues to advance its mission of preparing globally competitive leaders through academic excellence, innovative partnerships, and strong community engagement.

The College hosted its signature annual fundraiser, the Gala on the Bluff (GOTB), on Friday, October 17, 2025, at the Crowne Plaza Executive Center in Baton Rouge. As the College's premier scholarship fundraising initiative, the Gala has awarded more than \$700,000 in scholarships over the past 23 years to deserving students who demonstrate academic promise and financial need. Each year, the event welcomes more than 600 guests, including alumni, corporate sponsors, faculty, staff, and community partners, who gather to celebrate student achievement and support the next generation of business leaders.



The success of the Gala is driven by the generosity of Southern University's alumni, partners, and friends, whose contributions help the College expand access, empower student success, and uphold its mission of excellence in business education.

The Pre-Gala on the Bluff Reception, held on September 19, 2025, served as a donor appreciation and engagement event to thank current supporters and encourage continued philanthropic investment. During both events, Dean Donald Andrews expressed gratitude to the College's network of supporters for their enduring commitment to student achievement and innovation. Guests enjoyed live

entertainment, networking, and recognition of donors whose contributions continue to transform opportunities for Southern University students.

Through events like the Gala on the Bluff, the College of Business reaffirms its leadership in advancing business education and nurturing the next generation of innovative, ethical, and globally minded business professionals.







COLLEGE OF SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING ANNOUNCES "EXCELLENCE FIRST" UPDATES



Dr. Lealon L. Martin

This fall, Dr. Lealon L. Martin, Dean of the College of Sciences and Engineering (CSE) announced updates and leadership transitions within the college this fall. His announcement highlighted upcoming changes designed to strengthen academic programs, enhance student engagement, and expand opportunities for research and collaboration across disciplines.

Dr. Martin reaffirmed the college's commitment to the theme "Excellence First," emphasizing a continued focus on innovation, academic distinction, and student success. These updates reflect the college's dedication to fostering excellence in teaching, research, and service while preparing the next generation of scientists and engineers to lead with purpose and integrity.

College of Sciences and Engineering

Meet the Department Chairs and Program Leaders



Oswald D'Auvergne Biology and Chemistry Chair



Edward Doomes Chemistry Program Leader



Joseph Gaskin Mathematics and Physics Chair



Laurence Henry Physics Program Leader



Mathieu Kourouma Computer Science Chair



Nastassia Jones Science/Math Education Chair



Hakchul Shin Civil and Environmental Engineering Chair



Simone Whitmore Construction Management Chair



Fred Lacy Electrical and Computer Engineering Chair



Yasser Ismail Computer Engineering Program Leader



Hamid Majlesein Mechanical Engineering Chair







COLLEGE OF SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING ANNOUNCES "EXCELLENCE FIRST" UPDATES

Dr. Hakchul Shin Appointed Chair of Civil and Environmental Engineering



Dr. Alex Hak-Chul Shin, PE

Dr. Alex Hak-Chul Shin has been appointed Chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (SUCEE) within the College of Sciences and Engineering. A long-standing faculty member, Dr. Shin brings a wealth of expertise in structural engineering and materials science, along with a strong record of research, publication, and mentorship.

His leadership follows the retirement of Dr. Patrick Carriere, who served the department and college with distinction for more than 25 years. Under Dr. Shin's direction, the department will continue advancing innovation in civil and environmental engineering education, research, and professional preparation, reflecting the college's commitment to its guiding theme, "Excellence First."

Welcome to the CSE Team: Dr. James Holly, Jr.

The College of Sciences and Engineering proudly welcomes Dr. James Holly, Jr. as an Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Science/Math Education.

Dr. Holly earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Tuskegee University (2011), M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Michigan State University (2014), and Ph.D. in Engineering Education from Purdue University (2018).

He brings an exceptional interdisciplinary background to Southern University, uniquely integrating the social sciences (education and Black studies),



Dr. James Holly, Jr.

engineering science, and philosophy through his teaching and scholarship. His outreach efforts have centered on promoting culturally relevant and inquiry-based STEM education for urban Black students.

Dr. Holly's research explores the gap between engineering curricula and the complexities of real-world problem-solving, focusing on innovative ways to teach core content with attention to social and ethical impact. He has secured over \$1.5 million in research funding, including the prestigious NSF Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award, and has published 13 peer-reviewed journal articles.

His thought leadership has been recognized nationally and internationally. Dr. Holly has been an invited speaker at the Grainger Foundation U.S. Frontiers of Engineering Symposium (National Academy of Engineering), the University of Ghana, and numerous U.S. universities. He is also the recipient of the 2024 Provost's Teaching Innovation Prize at the University of Michigan and the 2021 Helen Plants Outstanding Conference Session Award. CSE is honored to welcome Dr. Holly to the Jaguar Nation, where his work will continue to advance excellence, innovation, and equity in engineering education.



COLLEGE OF SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE FIRST: CELEBRATING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, SCHOLARSHIP AND INNOVATION



Dr. Francesca M. Mellieon-Williams



This fall, the College of Sciences and Engineering hosted its inaugural Academic Excellence Celebration, recognizing students who achieved outstanding academic performance during the 2024–2025 academic year. The event honored students who maintained a 4.0 GPA for the entire year, as well as those earning a 3.75 GPA or higher.

The celebration served as a proud moment for the college, showcasing the dedication, discipline, and scholarly commitment of its students. Faculty, staff, and family members gathered to applaud these high-achieving scholars for setting an exceptional standard of excellence within their respective disciplines.

Dr. Oliver Myers, Associate Dean of the College of Engineering, Computing, and Applied Sciences at Clemson University, delivered the keynote address. He inspired attendees with remarks on perseverance, innovation, and the power of curiosity in scientific discovery, encouraging students to continue pursuing excellence both in the classroom and beyond.

The program was coordinated under the leadership of Dr. Francesca M. Mellieon-Williams, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, whose vision for the celebration centered on recognizing the academic excellence and leadership potential of CSE students. Through this event, the College affirmed its ongoing commitment to the theme "Excellence First", a reflection of its dedication to cultivating future scientists, engineers, and innovators who exemplify the Southern University standard of excellence.



CSE STUDENT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PROMOTES WELLNESS THROUGH ART

The College of Sciences and Engineering Student Leadership Council (CSE-SLC) collaborated with Southern Soul, a student art organization within the College of Humanities and Interdisciplinary Studies, to host a Relaxation Painting Event ahead of midterms.

The College of Sciences and Engineering Student Leadership Council (CSE-SLC) collaborated with Southern Soul, a student art organization within the College of Humanities and Interdisciplinary Studies, to host a Relaxation Painting Event ahead of midterms.

Designed to encourage balance and wellbeing during a high-stress academic period, the event invited students to take a creative pause through guided painting, music, and open conversation. Participants from across disciplines engaged in a supportive environment that blended artistry with mindfulness reinforcing the importance of self-care as part of academic success.

This cross-college partnership exemplified the spirit of collaboration and community at Southern University, fostering holistic student engagement and promoting wellness as a vital component of the student experience.







LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETINGS STRENGTHEN COLLEGE PARTNERSHIPS AND ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT



Dr. Rachel E. Vincent-Finley

The College of Sciences and Engineering (CSE) continues to advance collaboration and leadership through two key fall convenings, the SU STEM Alumni Leadership Council and the Dean's Executive Leadership Council (DELC).

The newly formed CSE Alumni Council, also known as the SU STEM Alumni Leadership Council, held its first formal meeting in September. Co-Chairs Arthur Jack and Wilbert Ferdinand led the council in reviewing and refining draft bylaws for future ratification. Members also discussed immediate priorities.

Later that month, the Dean's Executive Leadership Council (DELC) convened September 25–27, 2025, at the Valdry Center for Philanthropy.

Associate Deans presented updates on their respective divisions, while student leaders shared reflections on their academic experiences, including one-on-one sessions with corporate executives. Faculty and industry partners also presented on collaborative research and emerging initiatives, reinforcing CSE's commitment to innovation, partnership, and workforce development.

"The Division of Strategic Innovation and Transformation seeks to reimagine possibilities through high-level preparedness, enriched pathways, and synergistic partnerships," shared Dr. Rachel Vincent-Finley.

Special guest Melissa Dotson, Shell Manager and CSE Chemical Engineering Project Manager Lead, provided an update on the proposed Chemical Engineering Program, highlighting strategic industry collaborations and continued investment in STEM advancement at Southern University.

CSE & SHELL PARTNERSHIP: EXCELLENCE FIRST

In a groundbreaking milestone for the College, Katherine Nash, a sophomore Chemical Engineering student, will become the first Southern University student to work at Shell – Port Allen. This achievement marks an important step in expanding opportunities for CSE students to gain hands-on experience within Louisiana's thriving energy sector.

Katherine's selection reflects both her academic excellence and her leadership within the Southern University community. As a member of the Honors College and an executive board member of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Southern University Chapter, she continues to inspire her peers through her commitment to scholarship, service, and professional growth.



Katherine Nash

Her upcoming internship at Shell not only represents personal success but also reinforces the impact of CSE's partnership with Shell in developing a robust pipeline of diverse, well-prepared STEM talent. Through initiatives like these, the College continues to uphold its guiding principle of "Excellence First" while preparing students to become innovators and leaders in engineering and technology.



CSE & SHELL PARTNERSHIP: 2025 CAREER FAIR



Melissa Dotson, Shell Manager & CSE – Chemical Engineering Project Manager Lead

The College of Sciences and Engineering (CSE) and Shell continue to strengthen their longstanding partnership through shared commitment to student success, workforce readiness, and industry collaboration.

At the 2025 Southern University Career Fair, Shell demonstrated its ongoing support with a strong presence from its Campus Recruiting Team, engaging CSE students in conversations about career pathways, internships, and professional growth.

Layla Evans, an Honors College Mechanical Engineering student and Shell Summer Intern, spoke with students about her internship experience and the value of hands-on learning in the energy sector. Layla recently accepted an offer to return to Shell for Summer 2026, continuing her journey toward a successful engineering career.

Arthur Jack, CSE Director of Advancement, also stopped by to express appreciation for Shell's continued partnership. Melissa Dotson, Shell Manager and CSE Chemical Engineering Project Manager Lead, reaffirmed Shell's commitment to advancing STEM opportunities for Southern University students through internships, mentorship, and emerging workforce initiatives.



Shell Graduate & Assessed Partnership Team



Arthur Jack



DR. LYDIA DUBYTSKA'S RESEARCH FEATURED ON JOURNAL COVER



Dr. Lydia Dubytska

Dr. Lydia Dubytska, Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, was recently recognized for her groundbreaking research, which was featured on the cover of a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

The cover image illustrates the infection of head kidney-derived macrophage (HKDM) cells by the Edwardsiella ictaluri ΔeseG mutant, highlighting Dr. Dubytska's significant contributions to understanding host-pathogen interactions in aquatic species. The work is detailed in the related article (e00525-24) and published under Copyright © 2025 Dubytska et al.

This recognition underscores Dr. Dubytska's innovative research and its impact on advancing microbiological science and aquatic animal health, further reflecting the College of Sciences and Engineering's commitment to Excellence First in research and discovery.



DR. GLORIA THOMAS-FULLER NAMED AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY FELLOW

Dr. Gloria Thomas-Fuller, Professor of Chemistry in the College of Sciences and Engineering, was named a Fellow of the American Chemical Society (ACS) on Monday, August 18, 2025.

This prestigious honor recognizes Dr. Thomas-Fuller's outstanding contributions to the field of chemistry through her research, teaching, and service to the profession. Her induction as an ACS Fellow reflects both her scientific excellence and her enduring commitment to advancing chemistry education and mentorship within the Southern University community.

Through her leadership and scholarship, Dr. Thomas-Fuller continues to exemplify the college's guiding principle of "Excellence First," inspiring students and colleagues alike to pursue discovery, innovation, and impact.



Dr. Gloria Thomas-Fuller





COLLEGE OF SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING: EDGE: AWARENESS AND ACCOLADES

(Esports and Digital Gaming Ecosystem)

The Southern University Esports Program continues to gain momentum through the Esports and Digital Gaming Ecosystem (EDGE) initiative, designed to advance innovation, technology integration, and student engagement across academic disciplines.

"The Southern University Esports Program represents a unique opportunity to enhance our academic offerings, boost student engagement, and position our institution at the forefront of a rapidly growing industry," shared Christopher Turner, Director of the Esports and Digital Gaming Ecosystem. "By investing inthis program, we not only prepare our students for successful careers in technology and related fields but also contribute significantly to the local economy and community."



Christopher Turner

Through EDGE, Southern University continues to strengthen its leadership in the emerging field of digital gaming and esports, bridging academics, entrepreneurship, and technology to empower the next generation of innovators.



SAFETY AND SOLIDARITY: PROTECTING OUR HBCU FAMILY

Preparedness During the 2025 Bayou Classic Weekend



The Bayou Classic remains one of the nation's most celebrated Historically Black College and University (HBCU) traditions, uniting students, alumni, and supporters in a shared display of pride and excellence. As thousands of Jaguars prepare to travel to New Orleans for the annual festivities, it is essential that we prioritize safety and situational awareness in light of recent threats and security concerns directed toward HBCUs nationwide.

In recent months, several Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across the nation have experienced targeted threats that have prompted heightened security measures and investigations by federal and local law enforcement agencies. While there are currently no known or credible threats to the Bayou Classic or the Southern University System, the University continues to take all potential risks seriously. In coordination with the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD), Louisiana State Police, the Caesars Superdome security team, and other regional partners, enhanced safety measures are in place to support a secure environment for all students, staff, alumni, and guests. In this spirit of shared responsibility, we have compiled a few important tips to help keep our HBCU family members safe throughout the Bayou Classic weekend.





SAFETY AND SOLIDARITY: PROTECTING OUR HBCU FAMILY

Preparedness During the 2025 Bayou Classic Weekend



- Plan ahead. Review official Bayou Classic and Caesars Superdome security guidelines, including bag restrictions and prohibited items.
- Travel smart. Share your travel plans and lodging information with a trusted friend or family member.
- Pack light. Use a clear, small bag to speed up security checks and minimize distractions.
- Charge devices. Fully charge your phone and bring a portable charger for emergencies.
- Stay informed. Monitor updates from Southern University, the City of New Orleans, and local law enforcement.

DURING THE GAME AND EVENTS

- Arrive early. Allow extra time for traffic, parking, and security screenings.
- Be alert. Report any suspicious activity or unattended bags to law enforcement or event security immediately.
- Stick together. Attend events and travel in groups whenever possible there is safety in numbers.
- Stay hydrated and aware. Enjoy the festivities responsibly; avoid excessive alcohol consumption.
- Know your exits. Identify emergency exits and first-aid stations upon arrival at each venue.

AFTER THE GAME / AROUND TOWN

- Use safe transportation. Arrange designated drivers, ride-share pick-up zones, or hotel shuttles in advance.
- Avoid isolated areas. Stay in well-lit, populated locations when walking or waiting for rides.
- Protect your belongings. Keep valuables close and out of sight, especially in crowded areas.
- Check in. Send a quick text or call to let someone know you made it back safely.
- Trust your instincts. If something doesn't feel right, remove yourself from the situation and seek assistance immediately.





SAFETY AND SOLIDARITY: PROTECTING OUR HBCU FAMILY

Preparedness During the 2025 Bayou Classic Weekend



The safety of our Southern University and HBCU family members depends on each of us remaining alert and proactive. If you observe suspicious behavior, unattended items, or anything that feels out of place, report it immediately to local law enforcement, state police, campus police, or event security personnel.

- At the Caesars Superdome: Notify the nearest officer or security representative.
- In downtown New Orleans: Call 911 for emergencies or contact the New Orleans Police Department non-emergency line at (504) 821-2222.
- Traveling with University groups: Report concerns directly to the Southern University Police Department (225) 771-2770 or event staff.

Your awareness and quick action can prevent potential harm and help ensure a safe, enjoyable Bayou Classic experience for everyone. Together, we uphold the HBCU spirit of unity, pride, and protection—because when we see something and say something, we keep our community safe.











JAGUAR NATION

Non-Conference Games:

Aun 22 --- North Carolina Central

Aug 20 - Africaiscismi Wallow State

Sen 6 --- Alabama State

San 12

Conference Matchups (SWAC):

CARLO VII. VALAJUH STATE

Not 11 Dulliana Curlinson

Not 10

Not 25

No. 1

Non- O Texas Southern

Nov. 29 – vs. Grambling State (Bayou Classic in New Orleans)







The Louisiana Workforce Commission has current opportunities available for undergraduate students.

For more information, send your contact information (email and phone number) to the Southern University Office of International Affairs and University Outreach at oiauo@subr.edu.













"Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one."

- Anonymous

IT'S
NEVER
TOO LATE.
FINISH
STRONGER.













GREATER BATON ROUGE BROADCAST SCHEDULE

Saturdays:

8:00 AM on KQXL, 106.5 FM 10:00 AM on WXOK, 1460 AM and 95.7 FM

Sundays:

6:00 AM on WRQQ, 103.3 FM 10:00 AM on WEMX, 94.1 FM 6:00 AM on KMEZ, 102.9 FM

GREATER NEW ORLEANS BROADCAST SCHEDULE

Sundays:

6:00 AM on KKND, 106.7 FM 6:00 AM on KMEZ, 102.9 FM

STAY TUNED FOR ENGAGING CONVERSATIONS,
UNIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS, AND UPDATES FROM
JAGUAR NATION, ON AIR AND WITHIN YOUR COMMUNITY.



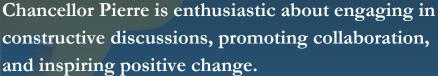
Chatywith

Your Voice. Your Campus. Your Future.

Chat with the Chancellor is a campus initiative led by Chancellor John K. Pierre that gives students, faculty, and staff the chance to connect, share ideas, and speak openly about what matters most at Southern University. Whether you're celebrating a recent achievement, raising a concern, or offering a fresh perspective, your voice matters.

This ongoing series creates a welcoming space for open dialogue, helping build a stronger, more connected Jaguar Nation...

Chancelle



REMEMBER...
JP WANTS
TO HEAR FROM

We invite you to connect and be a part of this vital conversation.

Your input is invaluable, and *together*, we can achieve extraordinary results for Southern University and Jaguar Nation.

For any correspondence, please reach out to Chancellor Pierre at ChancellorSubr@sus.edu.

37



INIVERSITY

BATON

COUGE



- john.pierre@sus.edu
- <u>(%)</u> 225.771.2360
- www.subr.edu





f

38



