



Chancellor's Report



To the Southern University Board of Supervisors

January 2024

“We Are Southern”

INSIDE:

Southern University Laboratory School Football and Media Team

Amina Mitchell - 2023 Governor's Fellow

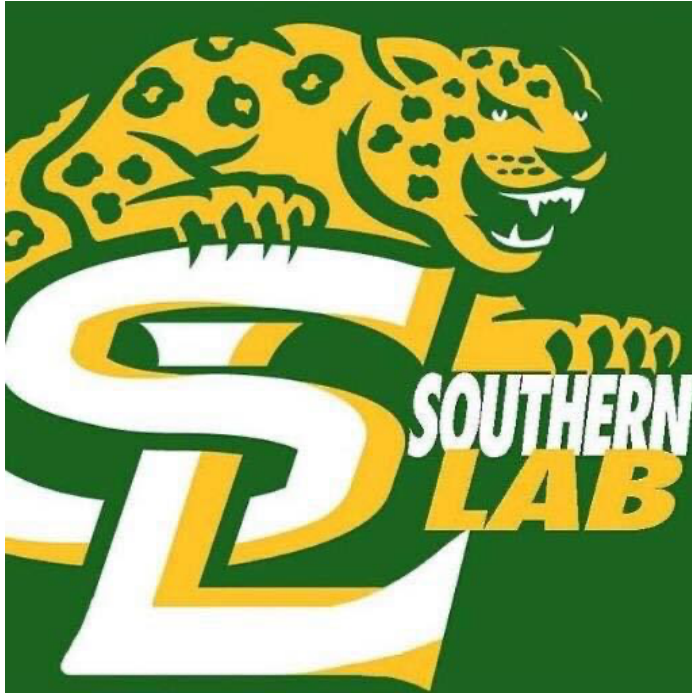
Southern University's Engineering Department awarded \$5 Million

School of Education receives funding from US Department of Education (USDOE) Education and Innovation (EIR)

Campus News



Southern University Laboratory School ~ Football and Media Team



Southern University Laboratory School won the LHSAA Division IV State Championship. The team's remarkable victory against Riverside Academy not only showcased their athletic prowess but also demonstrated their commitment to excellence on and off the field. This recent triumph marks the second championship in just three years for the Laboratory School's football team, a testament to the dedication, skill, and leadership fostered within the program under the guidance of Head Coach Darrell Asberry.

SU Laboratory Media Team, led by Willie Scott, captured the essence of the team's journey and opened doors for the young members of the team by allowing them to be involved in internships with ESPN and the Bayou Classic. This is a testament to their talent and the quality of education and mentorship they receive at Southern Laboratory School.

The accomplishments of both the football team and the media team are reflective of the unwavering commitment to excellence that is a hallmark of our institution. These achievements are a source of pride for the entire Southern University community. Support and encouragement have played a pivotal role in fostering an environment that encourages success in both academics and athletics.





Amina Mitchell ~ Named the 2023 Governor's Fellow

Amina Mitchell, a native of Dallas, Texas and a senior at Southern University majoring in Rehabilitation Services, was named the 2023 Governor's Fellow. Amina says being born hard of hearing has given her a unique perspective on the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities. To share her passion for the deaf and hard of hearing, Amina founded the American Sign Language (ASL) organization at Southern University and currently serves as president. This organization was established with the intent to provide both staff and students an opportunity to learn and have a newfound appreciation for American Sign Language.

This past summer, Amina had an opportunity to participate in the 2023 Governor's Fellowship Cohort under Governor John Bel Edwards. She was appointed to intern in the Office of Disability Affairs where she shadowed staff who assisted citizens of Louisiana by providing the necessary devices they needed. During her time interning, she had a chance to create a policy proposal of her choice. She chose to focus on how Historically Black Colleges and Universities in Louisiana disability services departments needed more funding to provide modernized accommodations and stay up to date on regulations that are needed on all campuses. Her proposal was passed after being presented to the Governor and his staff.



During the fall 2023 school year, Amina had the opportunity to present her policy again in front of the Louisiana Board of Regents and directors of disability services at different colleges. They plan to use her policy to help improve the efficiency of giving students their accommodations now and in the future.





Southern University's Engineering Department Awarded \$5 Million



The U S Department of Education awarded the College of Engineering \$5 Million for their Research and Development Infrastructure (RDI) application which will be used towards implementing goals for transforming Southern University and A&M College from R2 to R1 Carnegie classification. Dr. Patrick Mensah is the Principal Investigator, key Administrators (President Shields, Chancellor Pierre, Dr. Brand, and Ms. Honoree-Thomas) were instrumental in providing support and encouragement in the application process and Co-principal investigators (Drs. Albertha Lawson, Sanjay Batra, Guoqiang Li, Eduardo Martinez, and Shizhong Yang) contributed by assisting in the writing and reviewing of the proposal.

There are five central aims to expand research activities and doctoral education at Southern University:

- ~ Cutting-edge research infrastructure and instrumentation will be acquired to support innovative scholarship
- ~ Recruit 12 new tenure-track faculty over four years across STEM departments, strengthening instructional capacity
- ~ Establishing new lines of research funding that includes release time and seed funding for new and current faculty that will increase research productivity
- ~ Bolstering of grants administration to increase capacity for grants applications and awards management
- ~ Within two years, SU will establish PhD programs in key areas such as Engineering Materials and Computational Science, diversifying doctoral offerings.



Grants Awarded to the School of Education

Project Title: Engaging Science Learning with OpenSciEd EIR

Funding Agency: United States Department of Education (USDOE) Education and Innovation (EIR)

Award Amount: \$399,995

Project Overview: Southern University's School of Education and the Biological Sciences and Curriculum Studies (BSCS) was awarded a USDOE's Education and Innovation (EIR) grant titled Engaging Science Learning with OpenSciEd EIR project. This project supports the university's goals of improving science education for all learners. Our team will work with BSCS to recruit project participants and district partners, co-adapt and deliver the professional learning program, and participate in project planning and dissemination activities. The proposed project with BSCS Science Learning is an investment in the future of science education in Louisiana, and we look forward to working with BSCS Science Learning in this endeavor.

PI: Emily Jackson-Osagie, Ph.D.

Co-PIs: Misty Reed, Ph.D. and Erin Scott-Stewart, Ph.D.



Announcements & Upcoming Events



*You are cordially invited to the
Spring 2024 Faculty Convocation*

Thursday, January 11, 2024

8:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

Locations: SU Event Center

&

T. T. Allain Hall

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