



SUBR CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Presented to:
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Board of Supervisors

Presented by:
John K. Pierre
Chancellor

#WeAreSouthern

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MESSAGE FROM...

Chancellor
PIERRE

Greetings Jaguar Nation...

We did it!

As we close out another remarkable semester, I want to take a moment to celebrate each and every one of you—our dedicated faculty, passionate students, and supportive alumni—for the incredible strides we've made together.

This semester wasn't without its challenges, but it was also filled with powerful triumphs that demonstrated the resilience, brilliance, and heart of our community. From groundbreaking research and innovative teaching to community service and global collaborations, we have shown what's possible when we come together with a shared vision.

To our faculty: Your unwavering commitment to academic excellence, mentorship, and innovation continues to shape minds and futures. You are the foundation of everything we do, and your contributions are seen and deeply appreciated.

To our students: Your curiosity, creativity, and determination are the lifeblood of Jaguar Nation. Whether in the classroom, the lab, or the community, you have inspired us all with your boldness and drive to make a difference.

To our alumni: Your ongoing support, leadership, and pride in our institution fuel our progress. Your achievements remind us of the lasting impact of an SU education, and we're grateful to have you as ambassadors of our mission.

Over the past month, I've had the honor of representing Jaguar Nation at conferences and partnership meetings that will help enhance our programs and create new opportunities for growth and collaboration. These moments reaffirmed what I already know: We are a force for good, for innovation, and for the future.

Let's carry this momentum forward. As we look ahead to a new semester, may we continue to break barriers, push boundaries, and ignite inspiration in everything we do.

Thank you for being a vital part of this journey. Here's to more milestones, deeper connections, and the endless pursuit of knowledge and impact. Together, we are Jaguar Nation. And together, we will continue to soar.

John K. Pierre



#WeAreSouthern

Southern University and A&M College

145 Years of Excellence, Legacy, and Leadership

To the Southern University and A&M College Community:

This year, we proudly celebrate 145 years of excellence, legacy, and leadership at Southern University — a testament to the strength, resilience, and spirit of our beloved institution.

Since 1880, Southern University has served as a beacon of hope, education, and progress. Through generations of students, scholars, and leaders, we have built a legacy that continues to inspire and uplift. Our journey is rooted in purpose, and our future is full of promise.

While I made the decision to postpone both my investiture and this year's Founders' Month events, please know this does not lessen the pride and joy we feel as we commemorate this remarkable milestone. This moment belongs to all of us — our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and supporters — who carry forward the mission and values of this historic university.

As we celebrate 145 years, we also look boldly to the future, reaffirming our unwavering commitment to academic and athletic success for years to come. Whether in the classroom, on the field, or in our communities, Southern University will continue to lead, inspire, and achieve.

I am deeply honored to serve this great institution, and I remain energized by the vision we are building together. Let us continue to stand Southern Strong, lead with purpose, and move forward — Jaguar Proud — into the next great chapter of our story.

With gratitude and respect,



John K. Pierre
Chancellor

Southern University and A&M College

Chancellor Pierre Participates in Thurgood Marshall College Fund HBCU Fly-In in Washington, D.C.

Chancellor Pierre joined fellow HBCU leaders at the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCf) Presidents & Chancellors HBCU Fly-In, held April 1–3 in Washington, D.C. The annual event brought together presidents and chancellors from historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs), historically Black community colleges (HBCCs), and predominantly Black institutions (PBIs) for high-level discussions with policymakers and corporate leaders.

The Fly-In serves as a vital platform for advocating federal policies that support the sustainability and growth of HBCUs and related institutions. Attendees engaged with members of Congress, executive officials, and industry partners to address pressing issues in higher education law, policy, and funding.

“This year will be our largest HBCU Fly-In, which illustrates the impact and value it brings to our member schools and their students,” said Dr. Harry L. Williams, President & CEO of TMCf. The event featured a networking breakfast, policy sessions, and TMCf’s signature Capitol Hill reception, offering direct interaction with lawmakers.

Chancellor Pierre’s participation highlighted his commitment to advancing the interests of Southern University and the broader HBCU community. The event also welcomed aspiring higher education professionals, including students from Howard University, for a firsthand look at institutional leadership and advocacy.

TMCf’s efforts have helped secure significant federal support for HBCUs, including \$5.5 billion in pandemic relief and critical funding through the HBCU Capital Finance Program. The Fly-In remains a cornerstone of the organization’s mission to empower Black colleges and the students they serve.



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Chancellor Pierre Attends HBCU/MI Entrepreneurship and Innovation Conference Focused on Building Future Business Leaders



Chancellor John K. Pierre joined fellow HBCU leaders, business executives, and policy makers at the 2025 HBCU Entrepreneurship and Innovation Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. The conference, held from April 1–3, brought together stakeholders dedicated to cultivating the next generation of Black entrepreneurs and innovators.

The initiative aims to help Historically Black Colleges and Universities develop comprehensive entrepreneurship curricula that equip students with an entrepreneurial mindset, leadership skills, and financial literacy. It also provides coaching for students and community members, fostering economic development both on and off campus.

“This conference is a powerful platform for expanding opportunity and closing the wealth gap,” said Chancellor Pierre. “By empowering our students with the tools to lead and innovate, we’re investing in long-term community growth.”

The program emphasizes hands-on experience, encouraging students to create and pitch business ventures while connecting with mentors and industry leaders. It also supports existing businesses in HBCU communities, offering training and resources to help them grow.

Each year, the conference selects a unique theme to drive progress, and over the last three decades, it has played a pivotal role in shaping HBCU entrepreneurship programs. The eight-part initiative continues to evolve, creating pathways for success in business and beyond.

Chancellor Pierre’s attendance reaffirms Southern University’s dedication to building a strong entrepreneurial ecosystem that benefits students, local communities, and the broader HBCU network.

Southern University Students Participate in Prestigious Hennessy Fellows Brunch

Southern University students recently joined a select group of changemakers at a special brunch celebrating the impactful partnership between Hennessy and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund. The event spotlighted the Hennessy Fellows Program — a bold initiative that provides high-achieving graduate students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) with financial support, executive coaching, and professional development opportunities.

In recent years, Hennessy has made meaningful investments in communities that have helped fuel its legacy. The Fellows Program is a testament to the brand's commitment to education, leadership, and the spirit of “Never Stop. Never Settle.”

This celebration, in collaboration with the New Orleans Pelicans, honored the resilience, ambition, and excellence embodied by HBCU students. Together, Hennessy and the Pelicans continue to uplift Black excellence and empower the next generation of visionary leaders.



The Cade Connection

CADE LIBRARY CELEBRATES NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

John B. Cade Library celebrated National Library Week with the national theme, "Drawn to the Library," highlighting the power of learning, dialogue, and community engagement. The week featured author talks by Dr. Chike Akua, award-winning educator and scholar of African-centered education, and student author Basia Mallet, a native of Inglewood, California, and an Economics major. Additional programming included lectures by Dr. Albert Samuels, Chair of the Department of Political Science at Southern University, and Professor Reginald Muhammad of Clark Atlanta University, as well as the inaugural OER Champions Luncheon.

Each program sparked conversations on education, democracy, and social change. Two students—Kelise Torrence, junior Nursing major, and Tristan Blow-Smith, freshman Civil Engineering major—received the John B. Cade Library Book Scholarship for essays on how the library supports their academic and personal journeys.

The OER Champions Luncheon recognized faculty who advance Open Educational Resources and promote access and affordability. Special thanks to Chancellor John K. Pierre, Dr. Luria Young (represented by Dr. Caronda Bean), Dr. Scott Wicker, and keynote speaker Dr. Elizabeth Hornsby, OER advocate, educational consultant, and adjunct professor at Southern University at New Orleans.

The celebration truly reflected the leadership of Dean Dawn Kight and the library's essential role in supporting teaching and learning at Southern University.



From top: **Dr. Chike Akua**, our keynote speaker for National Library Week; **Dean Dawn Kight** with student recipients of the John B. Cade Library Book Scholarship; group photo following the OER Champions Breakfast featuring **Dr. Christy Garrison-Harrison**, **Dean Dawn Kight**, **Dr. Akua**, **Chancellor John Pierre**, **Dr. Melanie Johnson**, and **Dr. Walton**; and **Dr. Albert Samuels**, Chair of the Political Science Department, offering powerful insights during his program, "From Coup d'État to Regime Change."


Chancellor Pierre Participates in SU Day at the Capitol

On Tuesday, April 22, Chancellor Pierre took part in SU Day at the Capitol, showcasing the university's academic successes and research contributions. The event, hosted at the Louisiana State Capitol, gathered students, faculty, alumni, and lawmakers to discuss the university's influence on the state.

Leading the university's delegation, Chancellor Pierre highlighted the significance of ongoing state support for Southern University, the nation's only Historically Black College and University (HBCU) system. "Southern University is essential in empowering students and fostering innovation in Louisiana," Pierre lamented.

The event included "Research in the Rotunda", displays of student and faculty research, presentations to the state legislature, and a post reception for lawmakers, alumni, and supporters. Chancellor Pierre's participation highlighted his dedication to enhancing the relationship between Southern University and the state government.

SU Day at the Capitol remains a crucial platform for advocating the university's vital role in shaping Louisiana's educational landscape.



The image features a promotional poster for "SU DAY AT THE CAPITOL" on Tuesday, April 22, 2025. The poster is light blue with white text and includes the Southern University logo. It lists three main events: "Research in the Rotunda" (1 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the Louisiana State Capitol Rotunda), "Chamber Presentations" (3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the House of Representatives Chamber and Senate Chamber), and "SU Day Reception" (5:30 p.m. at the Pentagon Barracks). The website sus.edu is listed at the bottom. To the right of the poster is a collage of four circular photographs: the top one shows a group of people in front of the illuminated Louisiana State Capitol at night; the middle one shows a woman in a blue shirt pointing at a display; the bottom-left one shows people at a table with a Southern University banner; and the bottom-right one shows a large "SU" logo on a lawn. The hashtag #WeAreSouthern is visible at the bottom of the collage.

SU DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Research in the Rotunda
Research and innovation throughout the SU System will be on display during "Research in the Rotunda" as part of SU Day at the Capitol. Faculty and students will share exceptional work and discovery that is transformative and meaningful for teaching and learning, and for the advancement of society.
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Louisiana State Capitol | Rotunda

Chamber Presentations
3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Louisiana State Capitol | House of Representatives Chamber and Senate Chamber

SU Day Reception
5:30 p.m.
Pentagon Barracks
sus.edu

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SU School of Nursing at Reception Hosted by Governor Jeff Landry and First Lady Sharon Landry



On Tuesday, April 22, Governor Jeff Landry and First Lady Sharon Landry hosted a reception at the Governor's Mansion to celebrate a historic milestone achieved by Southern University's School of Nursing (SUSON). The event recognized SUSON for graduating the most Black male nurses in the nation, with 33 Black male students currently enrolled—the largest cohort in the program's history.

Chancellor John K. Pierre, was in attendance, along with several campus representatives. Their participation underscored the university's commitment to fostering diversity and excellence in nursing education.

Earlier this year, SUSON was also recognized as the Best Nursing School in the United States by Nurse.org, highlighting the program's national prominence and the dedication of its faculty, staff, and students.

The reception at the Governor's Mansion served as a public acknowledgment of these significant accomplishments and a celebration of the positive impact that SUSON continues to have on both the local and national healthcare landscape.

Source: [WAFB.com](https://www.wafb.com)



Southern University Participates in HBCU Day at the Capitol



On Monday, April 28, Southern University was represented at the annual HBCU Day at the Capitol, which was held at the Capitol Park Museum. This event convened Louisiana's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to showcase their academic achievements, research progress, and cultural contributions.

In addition to Southern University, participating institutions included Grambling State University, Dillard University, and Xavier University of Louisiana. The event provided a valuable platform for students, faculty, alumni, and staff to engage with state lawmakers, showcase their research, network, and advocate for the importance of state support for higher education.

Chancellor Pierre has emphasized the critical role these institutions play in shaping the future of Louisiana's students and communities. "HBCUs continue to serve as a vital pipeline for higher education and workforce development in our state," remarked Chancellor Pierre. Southern University's participation further underscored its commitment to securing the resources necessary for the prosperity of both the University and other HBCUs.

HBCU Day at the Capitol represents a significant opportunity to advocate for the importance of these institutions and to ensure their continued growth and success in Louisiana.

Alumna Dr. Kim Hunter Reed to Serve As Speaker for Graduate Commencement Ceremony



Southern University and A&M College is proud to welcome back one of its most distinguished alumni, Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, as the Graduate Commencement Speaker for the Fall 2024 ceremony. The event will be held on Thursday, May 8 at 2:00 p.m. in the F. G. Clark Activity Center.

Dr. Hunter Reed, a Southern alumna and Louisiana's Commissioner of Higher Education, has a storied career in education leadership. She is the only woman in the nation to have led higher education systems in multiple states and has also served in President Barack Obama's administration, including leadership of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

A proud Jaguar, Dr. Hunter Reed earned her doctorate in public policy from Southern University, and also holds degrees in public administration and broadcast journalism from LSU.

Her return to campus as commencement speaker is a powerful homecoming that reflects her enduring commitment to higher education and student success.

Join us as we celebrate our graduate students and welcome Dr. Hunter Reed back to where her journey began!

Retired Lieutenant General Dr. Nadja West to Serve As Speaker for Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony



Retired Lieutenant General Dr. Nadja West will serve as the keynote speaker at the upcoming undergraduate commencement on Friday, May 9, at 10:00 a.m. in the F. G. Clark Activity Center.

Dr. West made history as the first African American woman to be the 44th Surgeon General of the U.S. Army. She also broke barriers as the first woman and African American to lead the U.S. Army Medical Command, managing a vast healthcare network, and served as Deputy Surgeon General, influencing military healthcare globally.

Since retiring, Dr. West champions veterans, leadership, and healthcare initiatives, inspiring future leaders through speeches and programs.

Her achievements and dedication make her an outstanding choice for our commencement speaker. Her address will offer insights on leadership, resilience, and service, motivating graduates as they begin their journeys.

We look forward to her inspiring speech and celebrating our graduates' accomplishments!



Congratulations!

JAGUARS

Jordan Williams Earns Runner-Up Honors at LaTour Intercollegiate



Freshman Jordan Williams earned second-place honors at the La Tour Intercollegiate in Mathews, Louisiana with a 5-under 211 total score over 54 holes of competitive play.

Williams managed his way around the challenging La Tour Golf Club with three consecutive sub-par rounds of 71-70-71 to finish second to Nicholas Arcement of LSU.

Fifth-year senior, Michael Pimentel finished T-15 with a final round of -1 (71). SU had four student-athletes compete in the tournament, including freshman Thomas Reid, Isaiah Gold, and Sophomore Charles Watts.

Source: GoJagSports.com



Jaguars Clinch Series with Run-Rule Win Over Alcorn State



The Jaguars baseball team secured the weekend series with a dominant 16-6 win over Alcorn State at Lee-Hines Stadium. The Jaguars scored in six of seven innings, capping the game with Jacoby Radcliffe's walk-off single in the seventh to trigger the run-rule.

Jalon Mack led the offense with four RBIs, while Southern totaled 13 hits and 15 RBIs. Pitcher Nick Luckett (7-2) earned the win, striking out six over six innings. Despite Alcorn recording 10 hits, the Braves couldn't keep pace with the Jaguars consistent scoring and aggressive play.

Source: GoJagSports.com

#BIGVICTORY





Congratulations!

JAGUARS

Chancellor Pierre Congratulates Women's Tennis Team on Gritty Season

Chancellor John K. Pierre extends his congratulations to the women's tennis team for their resilience and strong finish to the 2024–25 season. The Jaguars, under the direction of Head Coach Jeffrey Conyers, battled through a challenging schedule and earned key victories in SWAC play, including a 4–3 win over Prairie View A&M and a dominant 4–0 sweep of Grambling State.

"I'm incredibly proud of our women's tennis team and their commitment to excellence," said Chancellor Pierre. "Their performance this season is a reflection of their determination, discipline, and Jaguar pride. They represented Southern University with class and competitiveness."

Led by standout players Jessica Hess, Shahd Habib, and Paris Washington, the team showed promise for the future and a strong foundation for next season. Chancellor Pierre praised the student-athletes for balancing athletics and academics while competing at a high level.

"Their hard work both on and off the court is something we celebrate. We look forward to supporting them as they continue to grow and compete."

For more on the women's tennis team and other athletics updates, visit gojagsports.com.



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Chat with Chancellor

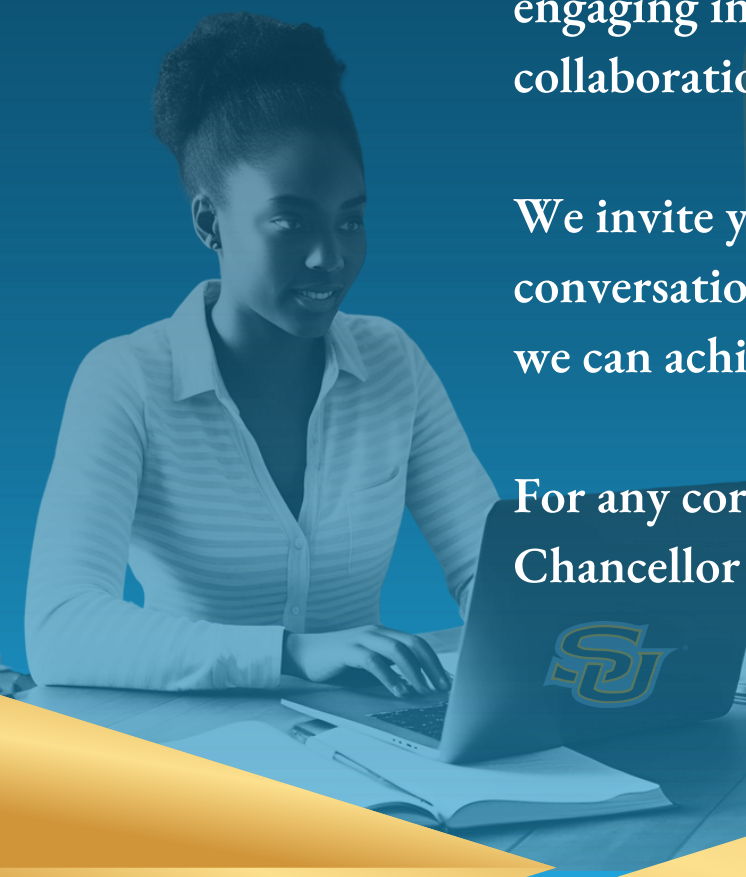
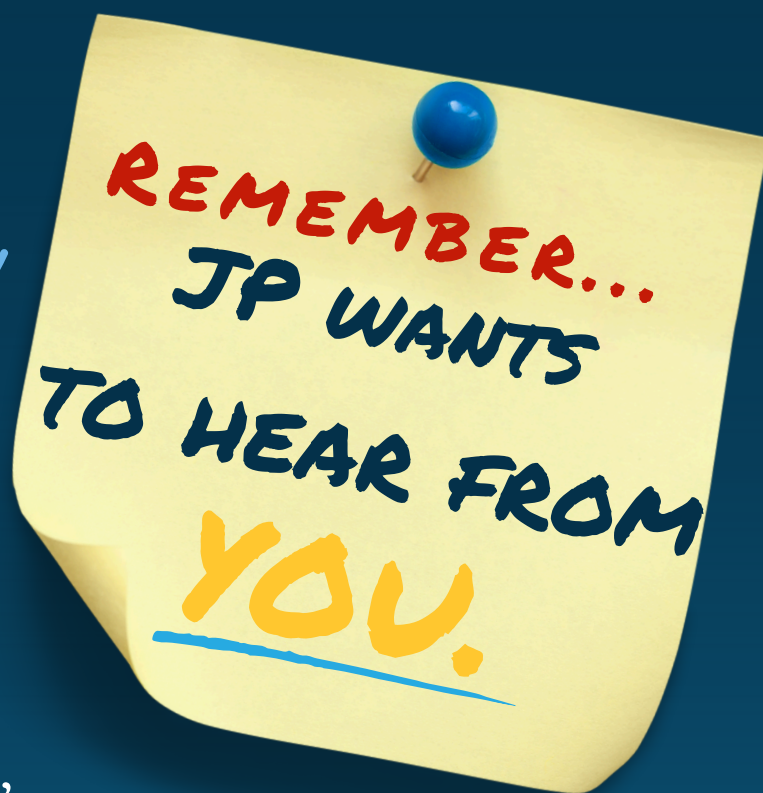
Chat with Chancellor is an initiative that encourages you to share your thoughts and insights.

Whether you have an update on recent developments or a creative idea to share, your perspectives are appreciated and can create meaningful impact.

Chancellor Pierre remains enthusiastic about engaging in constructive discussions, promoting collaboration, and inspiring positive change.

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





Thank You
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