



Southern University and A&M College  
**CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**  
to the  
Southern University Board of Supervisors

October 2020

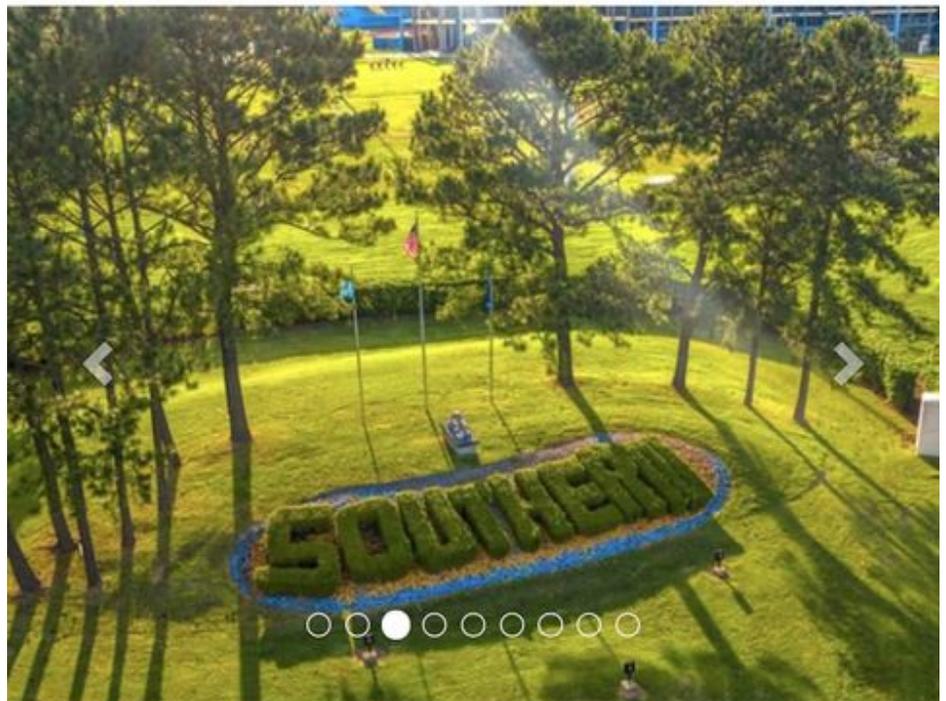
"We Are Southern"

Report No. 2

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# HOMECOMING 2020



**\$5,026,559.52** Total Raised

**\$5,000,000** Goal ↗

# Southern Raises \$5 Million During Homecoming 2020

ExxonMobil was the presenting sponsor for the day of giving, which was also declared the university's official Homecoming event by System President Ray L. Belton.

Traditionally an in-person event where hundreds of alumni and other supporters flock to campuses with gifts, this year's Give Day took place on the front page of the Southern University Facebook page.

The virtual event featured panel discussions and presentations, and a socially distanced student/alumni staffed call center at the Valdry Center for Philanthropy, located on the Southern University Baton Rouge campus. Supporters were able to make donations for Give Day online.

At the end of the day, Southernites and supporters exceeded the goal of \$5 million for students and programs across the system. The gifts will serve thousands of students.

Chevron donated \$1 million and the Greater Baton Rouge Pan-Hellenic Council also made a significant gift.

Chevron will provide payments of \$200,000 annually over a five-year period. According to Patrick Carriere, dean of the College of Sciences and Engineering, the award will provide the College with the opportunity to attract high caliber students to the STEM programs.

Carriere is also exploring other options for the Chevron funding, including scholarships and enhancing the college's laboratories.





## Southern to Support Mission to Mars

Boeing will provide tactical business and technical support to Southern University to improve its ability to win NASA contracts and subcontracts. The university already supplies alumni engineering skills to Boeing for Space Launch System (SLS) at NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans.

The SLS is the world's most powerful rocket. It will launch NASA's Artemis missions to the moon, Mars and beyond.

"We are honored to be the first HBCU [historically Black colleges and universities] to enter into a Mentor-Protégé agreement with Boeing," said Ray L. Belton, president of the Southern University

System and chancellor of Southern University and A&M College. "We are also excited about supporting the Artemis program and its goal of landing the first woman and the next man on the moon in 2024. We look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship with Boeing and NASA."

The NASA-sponsored Mentor-Protégé Program pairs large companies with eligible small businesses and minority-serving institutions to enhance the protégés' capabilities and enable them to successfully compete for larger, more complex contracts. During 2019, Boeing subcontracted approximately

\$5.3 billion to small and diverse businesses.

"Boeing has enjoyed a productive relationship with Southern University that will only be enhanced by this NASA Mentor-Protégé agreement," said John Shannon, Boeing SLS vice president and program manager. "The Mentor-Protégé program allows Boeing to promote the growth of small suppliers and strengthen the NASA industrial base."

Boeing is the prime contractor for the design, development, test and production of the SLS core stage, as well as development of the flight avionics suite.

# University Enhances Learning Experience with Technology Upgrades for Classrooms

Southern University and A&M College has upgraded classroom technology in nine buildings and has worked through the assistance of the Divisions of Academic Affairs and Information Technology to prepare faculty and students for the new technology.

Ceiling projectors, computer workstations and screens are now available in some of the larger meeting rooms. Other equipment in the classrooms rooms may include a sound system with freestanding microphones, PCs and laptop

connections. In addition, all faculty received computers for use with the new technology and for the delivery of hybrid and online classes.

Multi-media classrooms are currently available in Fisher Hall, James Hall, Lee Hall, T.H. Harris Hall, W.W. Stewart Hall, Blanks Hall, the School of Nursing Building J.K. Haynes Hall, Rodney G. Higgins Hall and T.T. Allain. The Division of Academic Affairs scheduled a Faculty Meeting and a Fireside Chat with students to

address any concerns they were having during the 2020 academic year and to prep them for the rollout of use of the new technology.

In addition, an all-day training session was conducted by Marcus Brown in the Department of Information Technology on the new equipment installed a week prior to the University's return to the original modes of instruction on September 28. Prior to the return, faculty used remote learning options for hybrid courses.

## Navigating the Library During COVID-19



The COVID-19 pandemic has dictated that librarians become even more creative in providing the support that learners need.

The John B. Cade Library is exposing students to an array of techniques and technologies to aid in their development as scholars through the library's information literacy instruction sessions.

All librarians at John B. Cade Library serve as liaisons to academic departments and they

all are actively involved in information literacy instruction.

For example, Eddie Hughes, is liaison to the Department of History and to Student Support Services for first-year and second-year students. Hughes has transformed in-person instruction sessions with several recorded instructional sessions.

"I have been able to take several portions of my usual instruction session with students and separate them into smaller chunks

of information that are easier to digest," says Hughes.

Emerging Technologies Librarian Maletta Payne developed a collaborative relationship with School of Nursing faculty and students as an embedded librarian. An embedded Librarian has the opportunity to provide more consistent and personalized assistance for students. Embedded librarians are especially useful for online classes that involve a research component.

## 13 HBCUs Chosen for IBM Education and Research Initiative

Southern University was chosen as one of 13 Historically Black Colleges and Universities for IBM's first Quantum education and research initiative for HBCUs. Aimed at driving a diverse and inclusive quantum workforce, the IBM-HBCU Quantum Center will offer access to its quantum computers, as well as collaboration on academic, education, and community outreach programs.

In addition, as part of the company's continued efforts around diversity and inclusion, IBM will make a \$100M investment in technology, assets, resources and skills development through partnerships with additional HBCUs through the IBM Skills Academy Academic Initiative.



"We believe that in order to expand opportunity for diverse populations, we need a diverse talent pipeline of the next generation of tech leaders from HBCUs," said Carla Grant Pickens, Chief Global Diversity and Inclusion Officer for IBM.

"Diversity and inclusion is what fuels innovation and students from HBCUs will be positioned to play a significant part of what will drive innovations for the future like quantum computing, cloud and artificial intelligence," she said.

## Virtual Leadership Training Program Launched Focusing on Times of Crisis

The Southern University-Baton Rouge College of Business and the Southern University Law Center are jointly launching a virtual leadership training program titled "Strategic Leadership in Times of Crisis."

The program started in September and will extend through November 9, 2020

"For any organization public or private to be successful, it requires effective leadership which can only be delivered by qualified and farsighted leaders" said Donald R. Andrews, dean of the Southern University-Baton Rouge College of Business. "The strategic leadership short course training program is designed to give individuals a

convenient way to advance their leadership skills and improve their competitiveness in the changing world."

During the seven-week virtual course, participants will have an unique opportunity to gain immense knowledge and skills on leadership in times of crisis. The course will be taught by thought leaders on leadership issues including James A. Joseph, former United States Ambassador to South Africa and author; Russel Honoré, retired United States Army lieutenant general and author; John Butler, professor at the University of Texas at Austin and author; and Ronald Jackson, professor at Southern University-Baton Rouge.

"In today's rapidly changing, uncertain and turbulent times, leadership plays the most vital role in the achievement of organizational and institutional mission and vision" said John Pierre, chancellor of the Southern University Law Center. "It is imperative to train and guide professionals on crisis management in preparation for critical disasters and confrontations."

Outcomes for the course are to develop leadership skills with a focus on crisis situations. The program will also teach participants how to engage in partners enterprises to leverage cross-functional capabilities; and to stimulate innovative thinking.

## CAMPUS NOTES...



### **Athletic Department Donates Essential Goods to Victims of Hurricane Laura**

Jaguar Nation helped support the Department of Athletics by donating essential items recently for the victims of Hurricane Laura. The truck was filled to capacity.

### **Creating Sustainable Neighborhood Developers Program**

The College of Business is working together with EDA University Center for Economic and Entrepreneurial Development as well as ComNet, LLC to offer a six-week “Virtual Mentorship Program” in the area of economic development.

This program is design to accelerate the center’s recent Sustainable Developer’ Certification effort into a mentorship program for renovation or new construction. It will also focus on designated properties distributed by the local Municipality and the local Regional Development Authority or Landbank.

Once the emerging developer completes all of the courses, they will be knowledgeable in the following areas: acquisition of properties, provisional capacity, identifying secured funding, estimating and basic project management. The courses are offered on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with dynamic and experienced speakers each week.

### **LOUIS Consortium Funds Project**

Librarians Maya Banks and Maletta Payne will be working collaboratively with SUBR Political Science Professor Melanie Johnson to assist in developing Open Educational Resources( OERs) for two courses — Introduction to American Government and Introduction to State and Local Government.

The trio responded to a request for proposals for the LOUIS Consortium for the Textbook Transformation Project which supports faculty as they adopt, modify, or create OERs for their courses. The Textbook Transformation Project is another component of LOUIS’ Affordable learning LOUISiana initiative which is a statewide initiative to increase the affordability of textbooks in higher education.

### **Southern Partners on Year-Long Series on Racism**

The Nelson Mandela College of Government and Social Sciences is partnering with LSU's Reilly Center for Media & Public Affairs for a year-long series on racism. Other sponsors include the LSU's

Manship School of Mass Communications, LSU's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the Louisiana Budget Project, and the Louisiana State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). The series began with a panel discussion in September. Each episode will be uploaded to the Manship School's YouTube Channel. The series is titled "Racism: Dismantling the System." The first episode is entitled, "What is Race? Unpacking Racism in Our Structures & Institutions." The panel participants were:

- Michael McClanahan, Ph.D., NAACP Louisiana State Conference President, Moderator;
- Laura Adderly, Ph.D., Tulane University, Associate Professor, Department of History;
- Cassandra Chaney, Ph.D., Louisiana State University School of Social Work, J. Franklin Bayhi Endowed Professor;
- Andrew Jolivet, Ph.D., UC-San Diego Professor, Chair, Department of Ethnic Studies & Director of Native American and Indigenous studies;
- Albert Samuels, Ph.D., Southern University, Nelson Mandela College of Government & Social Sciences; Jewel L. Prestage-Kellogg, Professor of Political Science and Chair, Department of Political Science and History.

## CAMPUS NOTES....

### College of Business Exceeds Fundraising for 2019

The College of Business (COB) is more than \$40,000 ahead of last year's contributions for September. The Foundation reported this increase before the "Give Day" event. According to college officials, much of the college's success is attributable to the COB Advisory Council's hard work generally and specifically committees in the organization.

The Advisory Council's future projects include a Golf Tournament scheduled for March 26, 2021. A great deal of work has gone into this project already and looks to be a successful money raiser. The College of Business is deeply appreciative of the Advisor Council for diligence and commitment. We have contacted three students to make solicitation calls from a list of three thousand in addition to COB Alumni provided by the SUS Foundation. This project is going well and should produce some positive effects on our contribution totals. Once again, we are attempting to collect correct phone numbers and email addresses of all COB Alumni for future contribution calls.

### Marine and Navy Option Ensure Cadets Stay in Shape

In NROTC, there are two paths a Midshipmen can take; these are the Navy and Marine Option. Many do not know that in order to become a Marine Corps Officer, one can undergo ROTC alongside their Navy counterparts. But after commissioning, their jobs are

different in many ways. Therefore, their training must differ as well.

One of the differences lies in training—including the physical training tests. The Navy runs the Physical Readiness Test while the Marine Corps has the Combat Fitness Test (CFT) in the fall and the Physical Fitness Test in the spring. The Marine Corps has reinstated the requirement to run a Combat Fitness Test after much consideration given to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.



The CFT is acceptable to run during this pandemic because it does not require extensive close contact with other individuals. Two out of the three events can be run without any contact, while the third event can be done with face coverings and without being face-to-face. The CFT is designed to mimic tasks one might perform in a combat situation. It consists of an 880-meter sprint, a 2-minute maximum-effort test, which consists of 30-pound overhead ammunition can lifts. Next is the Maneuver Under Fire test which is similar to an obstacle course. The Marine Options at SUNROTC cannot wait to run their CFT; not

only to excel physically but to also resume in-person training events that add value to their development as future Marine Corps officers.



### Student Ambassadors in Financial Literacy

The Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics, College of Business will partner with the Society of Financial Education and Professional Development, Inc. to establish and develop a Student Ambassador Program on the campus of Southern University and A&M College. In this program students will train and prepare four College of Business students to become knowledgeable about financial literacy and empower them to become peer-to-peer trainers.

The Student Ambassadors will teach fellow students personal financial management concepts and develop new leadership skills. The primary goal is to infuse financial literacy training into college education; empower students to make sound financial decisions during and after graduation; and, increase college and university retention and graduation rates.