### CHANCELLOR'S REPORT October 2020





### **PRODUCING LAWYER LEADERS**

# NEWS

### Sports and Entertainment Symposium



In September, the Law Center's Continuing Legal Education department hosted a virtual Sports and Entertainment Symposium. The two-day event included panels on various topics. "Music

Industry 101", "Brand Protection" and "Sports, Entertainment, and Intellectual Property" to name a few. Attendees gained knowledge about the sports and entertainment industry from influencers like Zandria Conyers, deputy general counsel of the NCAA; Butch Hartfield, senior national director of promotion of Epic Records; Dominique Lee, brand management executive at 8th Wonder; Jennifer Duval, vice president of business affairs at NBCUniversal Media, LLC; Niya Fleming, artists and repertoire (A&R) for Def Jam Recordings, and more.



### SULC LAUNCHES STUDENT SUCCESS INITIATIVE BASED ON EQUITY AND INNOVATION

As students adjust to virtual and hybrid courses, it is vital that they have access to course materials and research guides to ensure success along their law school journey. Gone are the days of law students toting large books to class. To coincide with its mission, the Southern University Law Center has launched Urban Law and Technology Research Academy (ULTRA), a student success initiative that seeks to provide accessibility, innovation, and equity.

"At the Law Center, we want to ensure that our students have access to cutting-edge technology that will enhance their legal educational journey," said John Pierre, chancellor of the Southern University Law Center. "Our new digital initiative, ULTRA, is transforming the Law Center's educational environment from not just focusing on quality but innovation, sustainability, and equity. By implementing Apple solutions, we can provide a rich, diversity-related campus experience, even in an online environment."

In the most recent phase of the initiative, all first-year law students received an iPad and Apple Pencil. These devices will allow faculty and students to collaborate in ways that are meaningful, purposeful, and creative, regardless of their physical location to the campus. The iPad and Apple Pencil were coupled into the student's tuition and fees which allow for the purchase and usage of the institution's technology resources.

"Receiving the iPad devices was a relief," stated Theo Kadia, a first-year law student. "Now, I do not have to worry about securing equipment for class. Also, because I am an Apple user, my iPad can connect with my other devices."

### STUDENT SUCCESS (CONT'D)

"We chose the iPad because it is the most secure device, as well as the best tool for learning with our students," said Pierre. "They have the ability to integrate the devices for online learning, collaborate with classmates to create study groups, or connect them with other Apple devices if they have them available."

In an ever-increasing mobile world, the iPad and Apple Pencil enable our students the ability to tap into a vast ecosystem of content. These features and apps allow law students to work within, and service, clients in the Law Center's law clinics. Moreover, the law students will be able to apply these new techniques during their trial advocacy courses. In addition to many free productivity apps, students will be utilizing the popular litigation software, TrialPad. It is an easy-to-use iPad app to organize client meetings, annotate documents, and present evidence.

As the Law Center continues to unfold ULTRA, Pierre sees the initiative opening doors for students in every specialty of law. In the near future, his goal is to create additional apps and software that can be placed on the market.



### **BECOMING FIERCE CLE**

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY L A W C E N T E R Continuing Legal Education

#### BECOMING FIERCE IN THE PRACTICE OF LAW

#### WEEKLY SESSISONS

September 25<sup>th</sup> Building Your Practice Attorney Genara Morris October 2<sup>ND</sup>

I HAVE A CASE. NOW WHAT? JUDGE SHEPPARD AND ATTORNEY DWAZENDRA SMITH

October 9<sup>th</sup> Legal Research

Director Phebe Huderson-Poydras October 16<sup>th</sup> Professionalism

Attorney Koshaneke Gilbert

October 23<sup>40</sup> Discovery Attorney Christopher Washington October 30<sup>74</sup> Ethics Assistant Secretary Tavares Walker November 6<sup>714</sup> Personal Wellness Attorney Gina Signorelli November 13<sup>714</sup> Criminal Law Attorney Harry Daniels

For more information, contact Marla Dickerson at mdickerson@sulc.edu

The Continuing Legal Education program has launched a series called, "Becoming Fierce in the Practice of Law." The purpose of this educational series is to further prepare our budding lawyer leaders for the legal world. Eight sessions will take attendees through the different steps to sharpen their professional skills and help them stand out amongst their peers to be a successful legal professional.

### Social Justice Table Talk

Award-winning attorney and entrepreneur Brittany K. Barnett shared with attendees her experience with the fight for social justice. Barnett shared her story as a daughter of a formerly incarcerated mother and an abusive drug dealer's once-girlfriend. This open forum provided an opportunity to progress the conversation of change needed in the justice system.

### Southern University Law Center, Baton Rouge campus launch leadership institute

At its September meeting, the Southern University System Board of Supervisors approved the Southern University Strategic Leadership Institute (SUSLI). The institute will host seminars, coaching and short courses related to the development of leaders in the public and private sectors.

"Southern University has a long history of preparing and producing transformative leaders and advancing leadership skills their educational programs," said John Pierre, chancellor of the Southern University Law Center. "The need for the Institute is based upon the fact that leadership plays a vital, if not most important role in the achievement of organizational excellence."

"Skills, such as leadership, crisis management, and professionalism, are crucial in today's workforce," said Donald Andrews, dean of the College of Business at Southern University- Baton Rouge. "Through this institute, we plan on honing-in on these skills to develop dynamic leaders that will impact future generations."

The institute's first event, "Strategic Leadership in Times of Crisis", is a seven-week virtual course that uses real-world case studies, lectures, and small group discussions to guide participants through a variety of concepts and scenarios examining practical challenges ranging over public and private sector leadership problems and dilemmas such as natural disasters, business ethics and reputation threatening organizational incidents.

Presenters include James A. Joseph, former United States Ambassador to South

### Strategic Leadership (cont'd)

Africa and author; Russel Honore', 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.

The vision and mission of SUSLI is to develop private and public sector leaders to become ethical, innovative, responsible and competent leaders that can thrive within the local, national and global arenas.



Dr. Ron Jackson welcomes attendees to the first session of the "Strategic Leadership in Times of Crisis" course.

## PARTNERSHIPS

### RAWLE & HENDERSON LLP. PARTNERSHIP

The Law Center recently partnered with the oldest law firm the nation, Rawle & Henderson LLP. The Philadelphia based law firm has committed to a creating a mentorship program along with hosting a monthly webinar series. Ten students will be selected every academic year to participate in the mentorship program. Each student will receive a mentor that will guide them through law school and guide them on becoming members of the bar.

# Student Highlights



### DANIEL BANGUEL

Daniel Banguel was voted vice chairman of the Louisiana Democratic Party.

# Alumni Highlights



### JIMMIE HERRING

Herring, '19, was selected as an attorney and honors judicial law clerk for the Executive Office of Immigration Review in the Oakdale Immigration Court. He previously served as the law clerk for Judge Robert P. Waddell at the First Judicial District.

# Alumni Highlights

### Mark Crawford

Alumnus Mark Crawford has been appointed to the role of senior vice president, global diversity and inclusion. Crawford is currently senior vice president, legal, people & culture, as well as United States general counsel. He will retain these roles and continue as a member of both the legal and people & culture leadership teams.





### **Candace Ford**

Ford, '17, has joined the Baton Rouge office of Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLP as an associate in the Commercial Litigation practice group. Her principal areas of practice include litigation involving unfair trade practices and unfair competition, contract disputes, and general business and commercial litigation issues.

### LATOYA BURRELL

Recently, alumna Latoya Burrell published a new book entitled, "Be Bold: How To Prepare Your Heart and Mind For Racial Reconciliation".



# Alumni Highlights



### DONALD CRAVINS

Alumnus Donald Cravins Jr. was recently elected as a judge for the 19th Judicial Court. In addition, he was chosen to be recognized by the National Bar Association for his advocacy among the community.

### VICTOR SUANE

Victor Suane was recently selected as a part of The National Black Lawyers Top 100, an honor that celebrates legal excellence by promoting attorneys as subject-matter experts, developing a strong national network of top African American attorneys, and facilitating the exchange of timely information to enable our members to maintain their status as leaders.



# Upcoming Events











Southern University Law Center P.O.Box 9294, Baton Rouge, LA 70813 (225)-771-2552 | www. sulc.edu

The Southern University Law Center is a unit of the Southern University System

Domoine D. Rutledge, Esq., Chairman, Board of Supervisors Dr. Ray L. Belton, Southern University and A&M College System President John K. Pierre, SULC Chancellor

Produced by the SULC Office of External Affairs | Photography by Steve Jarreau