



*Moving Forward*

**CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

June 2021

**SUNO**

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY *at* NEW ORLEANS**

ARTS • HUMANITIES • SOCIAL SCIENCES

6400 Press Drive • New Orleans, LA 70126 • (504) 286-5000 • [www.suno.edu](http://www.suno.edu)

## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

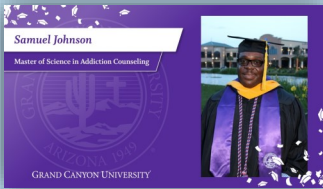
*Dr. Evelyn Harrell, Dean*

The College of Arts and Sciences congratulates the College members for their appointment as faculty in the LOUIS Interactive OER for Dual Enrollment Program. Eight faculty members were selected to develop nine of the 25 courses for this program designed to reduce costs and improve outcomes for students.

### The members of the College are as follows:

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| • Elementary Spanish I (3-4 credit hours)           | Dr. Chester H. Mills  |
| • English Composition II                            | Dr. Adam Falik        |
| • Fundamentals of Communication                     | Dr. Douglas Marshall  |
| • General Biology I (Science Majors)                | Dr. Illya Tietzel     |
| • General Biology I Lecture + Lab (Science Majors)  | Dr. Christian Clement |
| • General Biology II Lecture + Lab (Science Majors) | Dr. Lisa Mims-Devezin |
| • Introduction to American Government               | Dr. George Amedee     |
| • Introduction to Psychology                        | Dr. Ashley Ojo        |
| • Public Speaking                                   | Dr. Douglas Marshall  |

### ADDICTIVE BEHAVIORS COUNSELING AND PREVENTION (ABCP)



The Addictive Behaviors Counseling and Prevention (ABCP) Program congratulates Mr. Samuel Johnson, 2016 graduate of ABCP Program. Mr. Johnson completed the Master of Science Program in Addiction Counseling at Grand Canyon University, Spring 2021. He is currently enrolled in the Doctoral Program at Walden University.

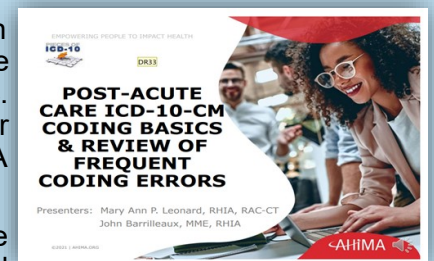
### DEPARTMENT OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

**Dr. Douglas Marshall**, Chair of Arts & Humanities, was selected to participate in the LOUIS Interactive OER for Dual Enrollment Grant. Dr. Marshall was the only participant to develop two courses: Introduction to Communication and Fundamentals of Public Speaking.

### HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS PROGRAM

**Mr. John Barrilleaux** will have a webinar published by the American Health Information Management Association. This webinar is on coding in post-acute care, which is an area that has been highly impacted by the COVID pandemic. The webinar is presented for those working in the post-acute environment for coding and documentation issues and will be available to members of AHIMA and to those outside of AHIMA.

On May 6, 2021, Mr. John Barrilleaux presented a presentation on Coding of the Inpatient Rehabilitation Patient Assessment Instrument to a group of nurses and staff. The presentation focused on the coding challenges and compliance for stroke patients in the IRF level of care.



In the role of president for the Louisiana Health Information Management Association, May 17th & 18th, 2021, Mr. John Barrilleaux met with legislative offices in virtual meetings. This advocacy group meets with legislators and staff to discuss AHIMA's stance on Improving Social Determinants of Health Act, Telehealth Act and Public Health Infrastructure Saves Lives Act. These meetings were with the staff of Senators John Kennedy and Bill Cassidy as well as the office of Steve Scalise. LHIMA advocacy council encourage support for this act and offered informational resources and communication support.

On May 26, 2021, Mr. John Barrilleaux met with the AHIMA practice council for Coding and Classifications for Strategic Planning. This planning meeting explored the areas that will be the focus in coding and classification in the coming years. Among those topics are social determinants of health, telehealth, artificial intelligence and ICD -11. ICD-11 is the international classification system used for public health across the world. AHIMA is among the cooperating partners in this system.

On May 26, 2021, CAHIM, the HIMS accrediting body sponsored a webinar on publishing and presenting as Components of Academia. This presentation was done by Dr. Anita Hazelwood of ULL. Mrs. Sharon McGee and Mr. John Barrilleaux attended this presentation to gain more information on opportunities in HIM.

## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

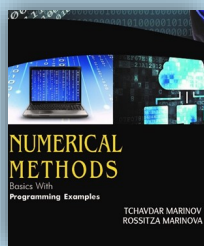
*(Continued)*

On May 26th, Mrs. Sharon McGee participated in AHIMA Revenue Cycle Practice Council meeting. The meeting was held virtually. The practice council works to monitor and provide AHIMA with expertise related to revenue cycle management processes. This Practice Council will be comprised of subject matter experts that will participate in evaluating, recommending, and potentially lending their expertise in the creation of AHIMA domain-specific educational resources.

As a Community volunteer for the Alzheimer's Association, on May 26th, Mrs. Sharon McGee served as a presenter at a forum held by the Association. The forum aimed to provide information on important topics relating to Alzheimer's detection, diagnosis, care, treatment, research and advocacy.

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL SCIENCES**

Two of **Dr. Murty S. Kambhampati's** mentees, Ms. Amber Foucha and Mr. Donzell Williams, were selected by the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI) program, sponsored by the US Department of Energy. These two interns will work under the direct supervision of Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) staff/scientists - Drs. Timothy Green and Crysten Blaby. They will conduct research on data analysis of 4-Poster' data and bioinformatics/biotechnology related projects for ten weeks (June 7 - August 13, 2021).



**Dr. Tchavdar Marinov** recently had a new book, "Numerical Methods Basics with Programming Examples" published (see <https://linuslearning.com/product/numerical-methods-basics-with-programming-examples/>). Authors: Tchavdar Marinov & Rossitza Marinova, ISBN 13: 978-1-60797-936-4, ISBN 10: 1-60797-936-5, Publisher: Linus Learning. The book covers the topics included in our "Numerical Analysis" course (Math392) and can be used as a textbook in this class.

**THE INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES PROGRAM**

The Interdisciplinary Studies Program graduated 22 students. Kristen Brown and Nicole Washington graduated with Latin Honors. Kristen Brown graduated Cum Laude and Nicole Washington graduated Magna Cum Laude. The Program's online component has received approval by the Board of Supervisors. Faculty and Staff are receiving training for the launch of the fully online component of the Program in Fall, 2021.

**MUSEUM STUDIES PROGRAM**

The MA Museum Studies program has graduated five students in May 2021, all of whom are working professionals in the field. The graduates are Ms. Pamala Bishop, Mr. Christopher Fountain, Trai Thomas, Paris Anne Willoughby, and Sydney Wessinger.

On May 3, 2021 Dr. Eid served as a keynote speaker for the National Arab American Heritage month celebration at the International High School of New Orleans.

Dr. Hollis published an interview with Artist Ted Ellis in the New Orleans Tribune. Mr. Ellis is also a graduate of SUNO MA Museum Studies Program. The article is available online through this link <https://theneworleantribune.com/the-growing-national-career-of-artist-and-scholar-ted-ellis/>.

Dr. Eid published a book chapter, Experimental innovation in museums: Encouraging creativity, building confidence and creating social value in the book Experimental Museology, co-edited by Marianne Achiam, Michael Haldrup, and Kirsten Drotner at the University of Copenhagen. The book is available for pre-order through this link <https://www.routledge.com/Experimental-Museology-Institutions-Representations-Users/Achiam-Haldrup-Drotner/p/book/9780367406776>.

Dr. Eid published a journal article (co-authored with Ahmed Sallam, Yoko Tanigushi, Farag Khodary, Ebnalwaled, A., Mona F. Ali and Sayed Hemeda) Non-Destructive Technique for Sandstone Diagnostics and Conservation in Avenue of the Sphinxes in Luxor: Case Study at the Journal of Design Engineering. <http://www.thedesignengineering.com/index.php/DE/article/view/1432>.

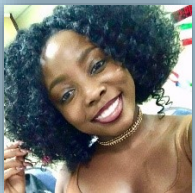
## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

*Dr. Igwe Udeh, Dean*

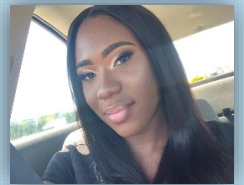
### Academic Excellence Initiatives

#### **Four CBA Students Commence The HBCU Startup Internship Sponsored by GNO, Inc.**

GNO, Inc. initiated The HBCU Startup Internship with Xavier, Dillard, and SUNO in the Fall of 2020. The goal of the program was to increase startup activity of HBCU students in New Orleans Metro Area by providing real time experience to foster entrepreneurial ideation and development. The HBCU Startup Internship intends to pair 12 selected Juniors and Seniors from the partnering institutions with startup companies in the region who are seeking qualified, diverse talent. The goal of the program is to train the next generations of successful entrepreneurs of color, inspire students to become innovative change makers, and increase the innovation capacity of regional startup firms. The internship will introduce the students to the entrepreneurial mindset and provide hands-on training in high impact, real-world entrepreneurship settings. Participants will develop creative capacity, entrepreneurial confidence, mentorship, and acquire the necessary skills to build scalable startups that solve real problems. Successful intern candidates will be expected to be eager to learn and work in a startup environment; proactively identify opportunities to expand or enhance the startup's business model; fulfill tasks and assignments timely and accurately; and develop positive and productive relationships with the startup's staff.



There were over 40 applicants for the 12 available slots, of which 15 were from SUNO's College of Business & Public Administration (CBA). Five CBA students were interviewed for the positions and 4 were offered a position: Brandon Smith, a Business Administration major, is interning at Upriver Solutions. Tiandra Kaufman, a Public Administration major, is interning at Catalyst:Ed.



Ariel McGruder, a Business Management (Entrepreneurship) major, is interning at Lucid. Keandra Darjean, a Computer Information Systems major, is interning at Look Far. Upriver Solutions operates the Skillz Academy which focuses on bringing a better experience to the learning process. Catalyst:Ed empowers leaders and amplifies impact. The company believes that leaders know their organizational contexts and needs best - and they empower them with the information and supports they need to identify and connect with the right providers for their mission-critical needs. Lucid operates a questions-and-answers ecosystem through its Marketplace where agencies, brands, or any other organization that needs survey responses can connect directly with suppliers who provide respondents. LookFar is an innovation collective in New Orleans. The company designs and builds software, celebrates women in technology, promotes startup activity, incubates businesses, and invests in and consults with early stage startups. This paid internship opportunity will officially start with their startup on Monday, June 7, 2021 and will end on July 9, 2021. The program kicks off on June 4, 2021 with an in-person startup intensive boot camp presented by Idea Village, which will be held at The Shop, 900 Camp Street in New Orleans. On June 25, 2021 Phelps Dunbar, LLP, a New Orleans-based law firm, will sponsor a workshop entitled, The Nuts and Bolts of Launching a Startup in their office. This workshop will dissect how to legally establish a startup, how to brand and market products/services, and how to legally protect a startup's intellectual property.

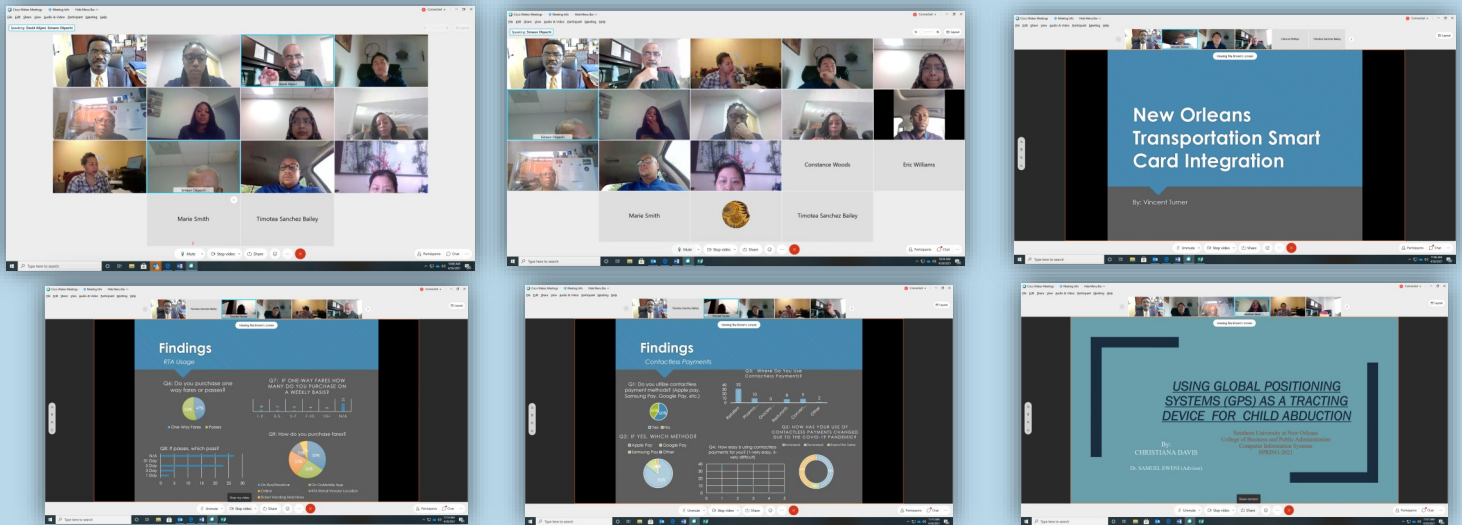
#### **Computer Information Systems Graduate Students Present Final Research Project**

On Monday, April 26, 2021, six MS-Computer Information Systems candidates for May 2021 graduation presented findings from their final research project (CMIS 698- Research and Application Development) to a virtual audience of their peers, faculty, staff, and members of the community. The presenter were Farhana Shaheen, Clarissa Phillips, Patrick Walker, Christiana Davis, Jazzmine Williams, and Vincent Turner. CMIS 698 introduces students to research methods and provides an opportunity for students to develop individual problem-

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

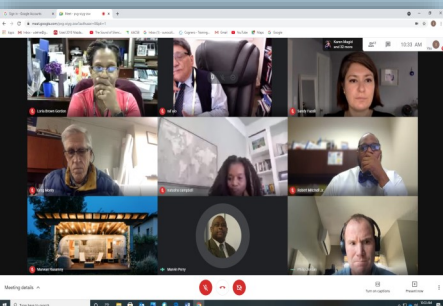
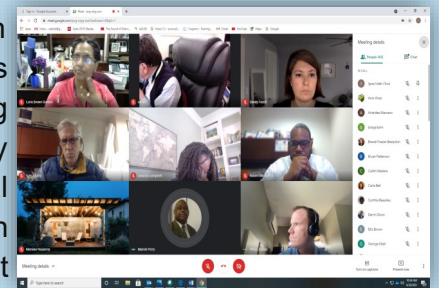
(Continued)

solving applications. The research methods component provides a solid foundation for conducting literature reviews, identifying problems, developing applications, and reporting findings. Students develop applications in their area of interest based on current technology trends. Dr. David Alijani supervised Ms. Farhana Shaheen whose project focused on **Cost Effective Breast Cancer Diagnosis using Data Visualization and Machine Learning**; Clarissa Phillips whose research focused on **Facilitating Small Businesses in Minimizing Operation Security Risks during a Pandemic**; and Patrick Walker whose project focused on developing **The DJ Connect Application**. Dr. Samuel Eweni supervised Ms. Christiana Davis whose project focused on **Using Global Positioning Systems (GPS) as a Tracking Device for Child Abduction**. Dr. Yanjun Yu supervised Ms. Jazzmine Williams whose project focused on comparing the **Social Media Influence on Consumer's Purchase Decision between SUNO and DCC Students**. Dr. Obyung Kwun supervised Mr. Vincent Turner whose research project focused on how to improve **New Orleans Transportation Smart Card Integration System**.



Dean Udeh Participates in Energy Workforce Research Project Meeting

Dr. Igwe E. Udeh, Dean of the College of Business & Public Administration participated in the HBCU-CEI Historically Black Colleges and Universities Stakeholder Engagement - Energy Workforce Research Project Update Meeting on April 20, 2021. The virtual meeting was a continuation of the national energy workforce diversity research project which is being conducted by the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) in partnership with HBCU-Clean Energy Initiatives (HBCU-CEI). The project is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy and seeks to increase energy sector opportunities for minorities through data-driven stakeholder



engagement of HBCU faculty and students. Previously, the HBCU leadership was sent a questionnaire concerning their about their institution's existing energy and energy-related academic programs and resources. This information was to support raising awareness, visibility, and understanding of programs currently offered by HBCUs to support the U.S. energy workforce. This meeting was devoted to sharing findings from the survey. The findings will also be shared during NASEO and other energy-related meetings in the future.

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

(Continued)

### Journal Publication; Papers Under Review; Conference Paper Submissions:

Ghasem S. Alijani, Obyung Kwun, Louis C. Mancuso, & Kalese D. Jefferson. Design and Implementation of A Resource Management System for Assisting Internees' Families. International Journal of Research in Business and Management, Vol. 3 No. 1, June 30, 2021.

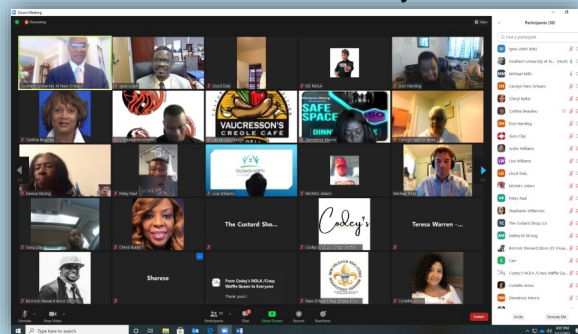
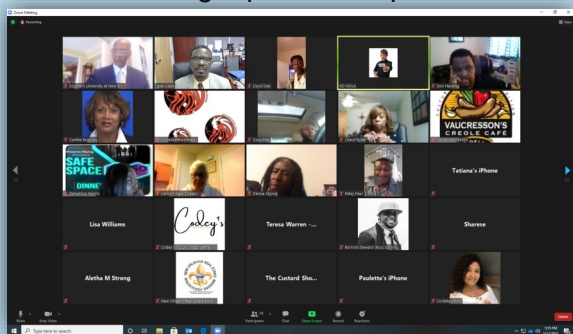
### Professional Conference Attendance & Papers Presentation:

Dr. David Alijani attended the P-TECH and Open P-Tech virtual meeting on Tuesday, June 1, 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to share high-level details on P-TECH and Open P-Tech, an innovative technology program offering free technical and professional skills training to K-12 on the jobs of tomorrow.

### SBDMI Workshops/Seminars/Trainings/Meetings (May 2021)

Mrs. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director, Small Business Development & Management Institute, reported the following activities and achievements during May 2021:

- Business Systemization Training; April 12 to May 5, 10, & 11th; Virtual Touchstone Business Solutions for Business Transformation and Systemization: 21 Participants; six-week training sponsored by LED; will assist businesses in creating a process dependent business; Mr. Omar Aziz Instructor, Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.



- Live Broadcast of WBOK Radio Program; Show broadcast remotely; May, 6,13,20,& 27, 2021; "SUNO Small Business Institute Network," sponsored by SUNO Small Business Incubator and Louisiana Economic Development (LED); The show offers valuable tools and information designed to help New Orleans small business owners take their business to the next level as well as assisting those individuals wishing to start a business. The show provides resources and information essential to small businesses. The show broadcast every Thursday 12:30 to 1:00 pm on WBOK AM Radio; Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director Host.
- CBA Departmental Meeting; May 6, 2021; all CBA Faculty & Staff; Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu
- HBCU-CDAC Virtual Meeting; May 7, 2021; Discuss SUNO-SBDMI participation in the Wells Fargo Our Many Matters \$5 ½ M Grant with the CDAC; Ms. Temple Jackson & Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu
- Virtual NAACP Wealth Building Seminar, SBDMI Weekly Every Friday, Co-Host; May 7,14,21 & 28, 2021; Presented on Entrepreneurship as a wealth-building tool for minorities; Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director.
- Louisiana Notary Prep Training; May 5,12,19 and & 26, 2021; CBA Room 100; 17 participants; In-depth weekly training in preparation for Louisiana Notary Law Exam; Mr. Craig Duronslet, Instructor, Mr. Cedric Morgan, Instructor, Ms. Diana Thomas, and Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director.
- WBOK Radio Grand Opening at New Broadcast Studio on Xavier University Campus; May 21, 2021; Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.
- HBCU Agriculture Business Innovation Conference Webinar and Collaborative; May 25, 2021; Virtual meeting to discuss possible Grant collaboration on this initiative with HBCU from around the country; Ms.

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS &amp; PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

*(Continued)*

Cynthia Beaulieu.

- HBCU-CDAC Grant Assistance; May 25, 2021; Virtual Meeting; Discussion on the \$ 5 ½ M roll-out of the Funded grant awarded to the HBCU-CDAC Wells Fargo Financial Literacy Grant; Executive Board and Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director.
- Louisiana Economic Development (LED) Peer-to-Peer Roundtable; May 27, 2021, last sessions and graduation; Virtual Meetings; 14 participants; Business owners met for peer-to-peer learning, brainstorming, and problem-solving. Business owners safely explored business and personal issues in a supportive, confidential, and trusting environment. The roundtables are problem-solving sessions that address issues important to the business owner. Invited Industry guests to discuss access to new and innovative business and business growth; Ms. Irma Dixon, Facilitator, the Peer-to-Peer Guest Speakers.
- Young Audience Virtual Spring Convening; Archeology of the Self/Self Reflections; May27, 2021; Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.
- Digital Social Media & Marketing Training; May 28, & 29th; 12 participants; Two training to teach how to market your business online; Mr. Scott Hunter, Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.
- SBA Virtual Fridays; May 28, 2021; SBA Deputy Director, Ms. JoAnn Lawrence & Ms. Valarie Brumfield; Information on status of current and new funding with SBA; Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu & SBDMI Clients.
- Tour of Small Business Incubator for future tenants; May 2021; several Incubator tours and what we have to offer potential tenants; Ms. Mary Thomas, Mary & Company, & Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director. Incubator now has 11 Tenants in the Incubator.
- Meeting to Develop SBDMI/Incubator's upcoming Seminars/Workshops; Ongoing; Ms. Diana Thomas & Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director.
- Small and Emerging Business Development (SEBD); (Ongoing); 3 Assessments; Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director, Mr. Omar Aziz, Contractor.
- SEBD One-on-One; (3); Call-in Clients; Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director, Consultant Mr. Omar Aziz & Ms. Diana Thomas.
- Counseled; Incubator Clients; Mr. Omar Aziz and Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director.



## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

*Dr. Willie Jones, Interim Dean*

### Marketing/Recruitment:

- **Mrs. Kimberly Stanley** has been in previous discussions with Ms. Damona Barnes, Human Resource Director of Warren Eastern Charter High School, to develop strategies to increase The College of Education and Human Development student enrollment for the Certification-Only Program.
- **Mrs. Kimberly Stanley** has created electronic flyers as a marketing tool to inform external stakeholders on the Certification-Only Program, and the areas of concentration that are offered.

### Professional Development Activities:

- **Mrs. Kimberly Stanley** and Erika Hernandez attended the 2020-2021 Teacher Leader Summit at the Morial Convention Center sponsored by the Louisiana Department of Education. The professional developments attended were:
  - The Science of Reading in Action: Removing Opportunity Barriers
  - Utilizing Content Leaders to Support Peers
  - Universal Literacy Screener Round Table Discussion
  - Introduction to Assessment Literacy for School Systems
  - Using the Power of Story to Improve Student Outcomes
  - Using Data to Drive Improvement Planning
  - Finding and Using Assessment Moments for Instructional Decision Making in Science Grades K-12
  - Finding and Using Assessment Moments for Instructional Decision Making in Science Grades K-5
  - Please don't return to "normal"! Six shifts in practice for a better tomorrow
  - Teaching to Change the World: Using Social Justice Science Pedagogy to Empower Every Learner
  - Observing Instructional Shifts in Science Classrooms from STEM Library Lab
  - Why has science instruction changed?
  - Teaching with Equity and Cultural Responsiveness
  - LaSTEM Regional Service Centers-An Introduction

### MOU/Partnerships:

- **Mrs. Kimberly Stanley** strengthened partnerships with the Jefferson Parish School District Human Resource Director Evonne Mitchell to increase teacher candidate enrollment for the Certification-Only Program. Performed monthly check-ins to discuss the district's needs and increased opportunities for the College of Education and Human Development.
- **Mrs. Kimberly Stanley** is currently in the beginning stages of possible proposals regarding professional development opportunities sponsored by the Louisiana Department of Education to be presented at The College of Education and Human Development at Southern University at New Orleans by Danielle Ricks, Math Assessment Coordinator. The purpose of this professional development is to assist preservice teachers with becoming more affective in assessing student growth and outcomes.



## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

(Continued)

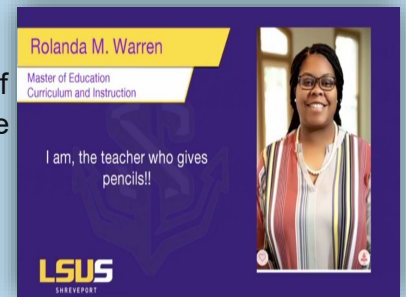
- **Mrs. Kimberly Stanley** is in current discussions with Alissa Kilpatrick, the Assessment Content Director of the Louisiana Department of Education, regarding the roll out and implementation of inclusive collaborations between the state department and university professors in the College of Education throughout the state of Louisiana regarding the best and effective assessment practices for preservice teachers. Currently there is no collaborations between the two, and future discussions will include ways to modify current practices to reflect inclusiveness.

### Community Outreach:

**Mrs. Kimberly Stanley** has worked with the community at city events to increase enrollment for the Honoré Program. There are current discussions with family members to potentially enroll three male students for the program.

### Student/Alumni Spotlight:

**Ms. Rolanda Warren**, a 2019 SUNO Graduate, was awarded Rookie Teacher of the Year at Paul Habans Charter School. Ms. Warren graduated with a double major in Educational Studies and Math and was a Robert Noyce Scholar.



**Ms. Anglea Goodly**, a 4th Grade Teacher at Hynes Charter School, was awarded the 2021-2022 Teacher of the Year at Hynes Charter School. Ms. Goodly was also recently named a finalist for the 2022 Louisiana State Teacher.

## STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

*Dr. Adriel Hilton, Vice Chancellor*

### INTRAMURAL SPORTS/UNIVERSITY CENTER

As we continue to address the issue of student enrollment and retention, a key focus to its success is student engagement. Offering more on campus activities for students during their leisure time is high on the priority list of the Intramural Sports and the University Center. Students can come and enjoy new arcade games which are housed in the University Center.



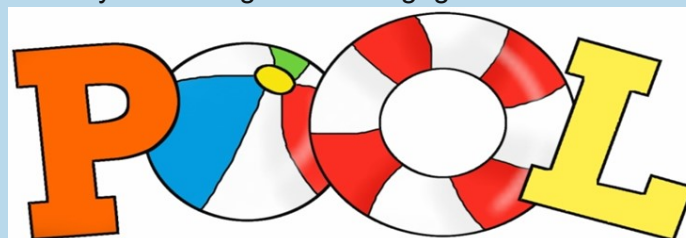
The SUNO Bowling Alley is open!!!! After surveying our students, we identified that having access to the bowling alley would be one way to garner student engagement on the campus. When things get back to normal, the bowling alley will be open and ready for our students to enjoy.

In the spirit of building relationships, the university is in the beginning stages of partnering with Gatorade affiliate **Bolt 24**. Through this endeavor, **Bolt 24** has donated 1,000 bottles of their sports drink to the university. As they continue to market their brand to the public, we hope to continue to develop this relationship. We look forward to **Bolt 24** sponsored programs within the university.

**The University Center has been approved for the Unity License Grant Program.** Unity Education licenses can be used for learning, teaching, training, research and developing activities that are part of the instructional functions performed by the institution. This also includes publishing restrictions. The program also provides software for students to create their own interactive, real-time content. This is something that will be an added benefit and used in conjunction with the university's Esports program.

The university has been competing on a platform called HBCU Esports. As we continue to expand and look for more opportunities, we have recently added **Play VS** as another platform to compete in Esports events. This platform will allow SUNO to compete in nationwide tournaments as well as in Canada with as many teams as we would like.

**READY TO DIVE IN!!!!** Hands down, SUNO Aquatics and our beautiful pool is the most asked about asset on our campus. Students simply cannot wait for the pool to open. We have made great strides this month toward getting the swimming pool fully operable. We have found additional funding that will support this effort. It is our goal to have the pool up and running this summer in time to host a few camps and programs. This too will give our students yet another activity enhancing student engagement.



**INTRAMURAL SPORTS + UNIVERSITY CENTER = SUNO RECREATIONAL EXPERIENCE!!**

**STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**  
*(Continued)*

**STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES**

The SUNO Student Health Services Program continues to make sure the overall safety of students, faculty and staff is our top priority. Health Services was an integral part of this year's commencement exercises and ensured that temperatures were taken of every person that entered the Convention Center. This was a very well-crafted and coordinated effort. Thank you to everyone that assisted in making sure the event went smoothly. Until further notice, the university is still adhering to the mask mandate and we encourage all students, faculty and staff to understand the importance of receiving the COVID-19 vaccination. It not only protects you but everyone that you have contact with. We will continue to keep the campus community informed of any health and safety changes.

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

As the Spring 2021 semester comes to an end, we prepare for a new academic year with the installation of the 2021-2022 Student Government Association and Royal Court. Southern University Board Member, the Honorable Edwin Shorty presented the oath to our newly elected members. The newly elected Student Government Association President, Amber Foucha, was presented the Presidential ring, welcoming her as our new student leader. Our 2021-2022 Student Government Association and Royal Court members are:

**President - Amber Foucha**

**Miss SUNO - Jessica Thomas**

**Senior Class Senator – Alton Harris**

**Miss Senior – Brianna Brooks**

**Graduate Class Senator – Warren Thompson**

**Miss Junior – Hailey Washington**



The graduating seniors enjoyed a fun filled crawfish boil and received their commemorative graduation t-shirts. Student Activities and Organizations is looking forward to an event filled academic year. We are currently planning our "Welcome Week" activities, Fall elections and looking forward to a successful semester.

## STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT (Continued)

### RESIDENTIAL LIFE

It has been a productive and rewarding month at SUNO Housing and Residential Life. As we embark upon the summer term, we are making significant accomplishments within our department. We are excited to announce our renovation project is underway!! We will be diligently repairing and updating our housing units during the summer months. We expect to have the renovations completed before the Fall 2021 move-in.

The Housing Staff was honored to receive the 2021 “Celebrates The Essentials” Award from Dillard University. The award was presented in recognition of our support, partnership in serving the Dillard University residential community over the years and during the pandemic.



### STUDENT DEVELOPMENT CENTER

#### INTERNATIONAL CENTER

#### **SUNO Establishes Cultural Exchange with Congress Bundestag Youth Exchange**

Student Development Center, a Title III Program, is facilitating a cultural exchange program with Congress Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX). Southern University at New Orleans submitted a host college application, an initiative of Dr. Adriel Hilton, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

The Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange program (CBYX) is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Congress and German Bundestag and administered by YFU USA. This program places 75 German students annually in colleges and universities across The United States. The participants are on J-1 visas. They are expected to arrive in August to begin Fall classes. SUNO is expected to be assigned one student. The program pays tuition and provides stipends for a host family to host the participant for one semester. This is an opportunity for SUNO to open its visibility in the international education market.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Seniors made a mad dash to complete their community service hours in preparation for graduation. With many COVID-19 restrictions being lifted, we are diligently planning our annual Volunteer Fair. We look forward to reconnecting in person with our partnering agencies and allowing students the opportunity to speak directly with representatives.

#### STUDENT RESOURCES

The Student Development Center welcomes Imagine Moore, M.Ed. as the Student Resource Manager. As the Student Resource Manager, Ms. Moore works with students to identify resources for social, emotional, financial and academic challenges. Ms. Moore will help students develop strategies that will aid in their classroom performance and overall well-being. Serving as a support link between students, faculty and staff, this office is a nonjudgmental space for students to express themselves in order for their needs to be fully heard and resolved.

#### **SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office upon admission to the university and to provide official documentation regarding the nature of their disability. All information received is confidential and released only with the written consent of the student, except in emergency cases. The office continues to work with faculty to meet the needs and provide necessary accommodations to ensure a successful student experience.

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

*Dr. Rebecca Chaisson, Dean*

**Dr. Rebecca Chaisson**, Dean of the Millie M. Charles School of Social Work participated in a senate committee hearing of Senate Bill 155 authored by State Senator Joe Bouie, former Chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans and Professor in the School of Social Work. Senate Bill 155 seeks to enhance social work licensing reciprocity from other states while reducing the number of the supervision hours for the LCSW license in Louisiana. While the bill is being heard, the School of Social Work is involved in a dialogue that promotes another license category that supports independent practice for social work practitioners specializing in community practice. This month faculty, students and alumni are engaged in various media interviews and work in the community. More specific information is presented in this month's report. Finally, the School of Social Work continues to accept applications for admissions to the MSW program. To apply, contact Mrs. Camille Alexander at [calexander@suno.edu](mailto:calexander@suno.edu).

### **Social Work Graduates - Troy Delone and Chase Cassine - Featured on WDSU**

Two of our graduates were featured this month on the local WDSU-TV station and other media locations. Our recent graduate, Troy Delone was featured in an uplifting and inspirational story about his journey from Angola to completion of the MSW degree at SUNO. Members of the School Community are proud of Troy's accomplishment. The link for the story is at the end of this article. Another recent graduate, Chase Cassine '17 was featured on WDSU with his new book, *The Sweetest Therapy*, a book about healing grief through baking. Chase shared one of his sweet treats with the faculty several years ago before he completed the MSW degree. His book is being distributed through Amazon and currently has a five star rating on that site. The School is planning a book signing for Chase in the near future. The story about Troy Delone can be found at this website. <https://www.wdsu.com/article/from-angola-to-a-masters-degree-how-one-new-orleans-father-beat-the-odds-continues-to-succeed/36505743#>.

### **Dr. Derrick Freeman**

Dr. Freeman (PI) and four graduate assistants in Millie M. Charles School of Social Work (Andrea Clark, Kristina Darby, Angeletta Kimball, and Melissa Morrisset) and the All of Us Research Program are working to improve healthcare through research throughout the Metropolitan New Orleans area. Unlike research studies that focus on one disease or group of people, All of Us is building a diverse database that can inform thousands of studies on a variety of health conditions. This creates more opportunities to:



1. Learn the risk factors for certain diseases
2. Determine which treatments work best for people of different backgrounds
3. Connect people with the right clinical studies for their needs
4. Learn how technologies can improve health

The All of Us Research Program is inviting one million people across the U.S. to help build one of the most diverse health databases in history. The All of Us Research Program welcomes participants from all backgrounds. Researchers will use the data to learn how our biology, lifestyle, and environment affect health. The hope for the project is that this information may one day help health practitioners and researchers find ways to treat and prevent disease. Dr. Freeman and the four Graduate assistants have been actively networking with various communities, churches, healthcare organizations, and individuals during the past three weeks to ensure that the All of Us Research Team is engaged in recruitment of individuals. To join: <https://www.joinallofus.org/> or (844) 842-2855 or contact Dr. Freeman @ 504-905-9670 or [dfreeman@suno.edu](mailto:dfreeman@suno.edu).

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

*(Continued)*

In addition to the All of Us program, Dr. Freeman is PI on the SUNO HEALS a joint effort between the Council on Social Work Education and the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). The purpose of the HEALS program is to develop Social Work Healthcare Education and Leadership Scholars while implementing health care programs at SUNO and in the community. The program also aims to develop the next generation of health-care social work leaders who will stand ready to lead efforts to address system-level changes, heighten awareness of prevention and wellness, and address the issues of structural racism embedded in social institutions. The HEALS Scholars (Debra Braddock (MSW student), Dannielle Robinson (MSW student), and Matthew Comeaux (BSW student)) and Dr. Derrick Freeman participated in a three-day Virtual Student Policy Summit (March 17 - 19, 2021). BSW students, MSW students, and program advisors from across the country gathered virtually for educational sessions on health care, federal policies, leadership, and advocacy activities on Capitol Hill as part of the Social Work Health Care Education and Leadership Scholars (Social Work HEALS) Student Policy Summit.

**Dr. Holly McKenney**

On May 7 and May 10, 2021, Dr. Holly McKenney was interviewed for a two (2) part investigative report on Channel 4 WWL. Dr. McKenney responded to questions about the local female Mystic Krewe of Nyx with Mike Pearlstein. While the story centered on the Krewe's inappropriate and racist postings, and the abrupt resignation of over 1000 members, Dr. McKenney was able to discuss the need for equitable practices within the Krewe.

In the interviews, Dr. McKenney advocated for members who requested refunds, and were unemployed. These members also lost healthcare benefits as a result of changes in employment status due to the pandemic. Dr. McKenney spoke about the lack of insight, cultural awareness, and sensitivity in general. She also spoke about the grief stricken atmosphere following the murder of George Floyd along with the negative economic impact of the COVID-19 epidemic. Dr. McKenney spoke about the reproduction of classist practices that created fees and practices that marginalized vulnerable members of the group. She worked as an ally for those former members who were excluded from any benefits from group membership.

Dr. McKenney was one of several former members interviewed by WWL's Mike Pearlstein for these segments. The interview clips can be found on the WWL-Channel 4 website via a search of Krewe of Nyx.