

Southern University Agricultural Land-Grant Campus

# THE chancellor's REPORT

MAY 2018

The cover features a dark blue background with a shower of colorful confetti. Several blue balloons are scattered throughout. In the center, the year '2018' is written in large, shiny gold foil balloons. Below the balloons, the word 'Graduate' is written in a white, elegant cursive font, with the word 'EDITION' in a smaller, gold, sans-serif font underneath it.

2018

*Graduate*  
EDITION

*A dedication to our Spring 2018 graduates!*

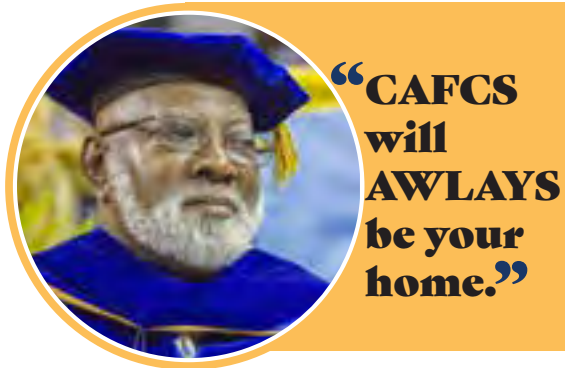
**Bobby R. Phills**  
Chancellor-Dean

**Retia Walker**  
Vice Chancellor for  
Academic & Student Support  
Services/Associate Dean

**Andra Johnson**  
Vice Chancellor for  
Research & Technology  
Development

**Dawn Mellion-Patin**  
Vice Chancellor for  
Extension & Outreach





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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Dear Graduates,


First, let me say congratulations on this major accomplishment. You and your family certainly have much to be proud of. Whether this is your first degree or your last, I encourage you to never stop learning. From the classroom and beyond, continue seeking opportunities to expand your horizons through education.

Our Alumni are one of our most powerful entities in the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumers Sciences (CAFCS) as well as throughout the Southern University System. We look forward to partnering with you as we continue to grow and strive towards our mission of excellence in teaching, research and service. We can't do it without our students and we certainly can't do it without you.

We at the Agricultural Land-Grant Campus are extremely grateful that you entrusted your educational experience to us. Hopefully you will take what you have learned and share with others. George Washington Carver said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Over my lifetime and career, I have found this to be true indeed. As you reach for new heights, remember to take time help others when you can. There is perhaps nothing more paramount to success than having an attitude and action of service.

Remember that CAFCS will always be your home and we look forward to your return and your support as you grow in your professional career. If there is anything we can do to help you moving forward, please don't hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,



Bobby R. Phillips

# *Congratulations* **2018 GRADUATES**



College graduation ceremonies date back to the 8th century and originate from an ancient Islamic tradition, Ijazah. Ijazah awarded certificates to students who successfully completed Islamic religious studies and also signified that students with certificates possessed the knowledge to teach. In 1432, the first baccalaureate ceremony as we know it today, was held at Oxford University.

While education has evolved significantly over the centuries one this remains the same; access to education and successful degree completion is still quite challenging for students, especially those of underserved and underrepresented populations. Southern University has been at the forefront of providing access to quality education for those populations since 1880, a decade before the passing of Second Morrill Act.

In 1890, second Morrill Act called for states to eliminate race as a criteria for admission or designate a separate institution for persons of color. As a result, new public institutions were established as what are now known as Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). HBCUs have become the principle institutions from which blacks receive a post-secondary education. It is within their halls that some of the world's greatest minds across numerous nationalities and disciplines are developed and nurtured, and they remain an integral part of the Black Community today.

The Southern University and A&M College has produced an array of the nation's top professionals. This semester we are proud to announce the graduates from the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences who will soon join these ranks.

***'This is not the end, this is not even the beginning of the end, this is just perhaps the end of the beginning.'* -Winston S. Churchill**



## Agricultural Science Graduates



Ashley, Christol  
Baton Rouge, La  
Agricultural Economics



Bivins-Ammons, Jordan  
Baton Rouge, La  
Animal Science



Brown, Tamra  
Richardson, Tx  
Animal Science



Clark, Jonthan  
Waterproof, La  
Animal Science



Jones, Adonte  
Houston, Tx  
Animal Science



Lavergne, K'Darius  
Baton Rouge, La  
Animal Science



Leday, Jeremy  
Opelousas, La  
Baton Rouge, La

### REFLECTIONS

Jeremy Leday is an Animal Science major from Opelousas, LA. Growing up on a farm, Leday was always surrounded by animals which prompted his interest in pursuing education in the Animal Science discipline. After graduation, he plans to seek a career with USDA and later start his own beef cattle business.



Robinson, Donyelle  
Opelousas, La  
Agribusiness

## Family and Consumer Science Graduates



Bouie, Ashia E.  
Monroe, La  
Child Development



Bradley, Jesse J.  
Donaldsonville, La  
Child Development



Davis, Dervon J.  
Laplace, La  
Apparel Merchandising & Textiles



Dillahunty, Terani J.  
Baton Rouge, La  
Apparel Merchandising & Textiles



George, Jessica J.  
Baton Rouge, La  
Child Development



Gordon, Danielle D.  
Port Allen, La  
Child Development



Haynes, Tyler C.  
Memphis, TN  
Apparel Merchandising & Textiles



Henderson, Treneshia D.  
Baker, La  
Child Development



Miller, Shannon N.  
Baton Rouge, La  
Child Development

### REFLECTIONS

Shannon Miller is a Child Development major from Baton Rouge, La. Her love for helping and educating children is what inspired her to enter into this field. She believes her greatest achievement is attaining a degree from Southern while working part-time, and being a full-time mom. Her plans are to become an educator in preschool and to pursue a Master's in Education or Social Work.



Mire, Chandler A.  
New Orleans, La  
Child Development



Peters, Makayla R.  
Baton Rouge, La  
Human Nutrition and Food



Taylor, Brianna C.  
Chicago, IL  
Child Development



Toliver, Kiara D.  
Houston, Tx  
Apparel Merchandising & Textiles



Ward, Passion P.  
Houma, La  
Child Development

## Urban Forestry Graduates



Akrinrinwoye, Caroline  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry (M.S.)



Amenyo, Felicia  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry (M.S.)

### GRADUATE REFLECTIONS

Felicia Amenyo has a background in Forestry with a concentration in Ecotourism and Forest Recreation from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana, Africa. Amenyo is passionate about the conservation and sustainability of our natural resources and plans to eventually become an Environmental Scientist and Natural Resource Conservationist. In the future, Amenyo will pursue a Ph.D. in Urban Forestry and Natural Resources here at Southern University.



Benjamin, Brittany  
New Orleans, La  
Urban Forestry (M.S.)



Clayton, ReShon  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry (Ph. D.)



Dasari, Lakshmi  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry (M.S.)



Ejim, Onyekachi  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry (M.S.)



Evue, Sunday  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry (M.S.)



Haastrup, Temitope  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry (M.S.)



Hamilton, Tevin  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry

### REFLECTIONS

Tevin Hamilton is an Urban Forestry major from St. Louis, MO. Hamilton truly desires to help others however he can. As a student leader and USDA Scholar, he diligently sought opportunities that allowed him to do just that. Hamilton plans to eventually pursue a Master's degree and ultimately impact humanity through a career in natural resources with the USDA Forest Service.



Kiwale, Kelvin  
Ethel, La  
Urban Forestry (M.S.)





Lawson, RaHarold  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry (Ph.D.)



Mason, Kyron  
Independence, La  
Urban Forestry



Obiageli, Okwusi  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry (M.S.)



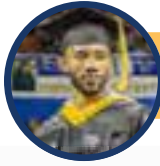
Paul, Oscar  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry



Provensal, Mitchell  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry (M.S.)



Ricard, Denzel  
Amite, La  
Urban Forestry



Smith, Christean  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry (M.S.)



Tripeaux, Kalaia  
Baton Rouge, La  
Urban Forestry

# SMILE!

*you're on*













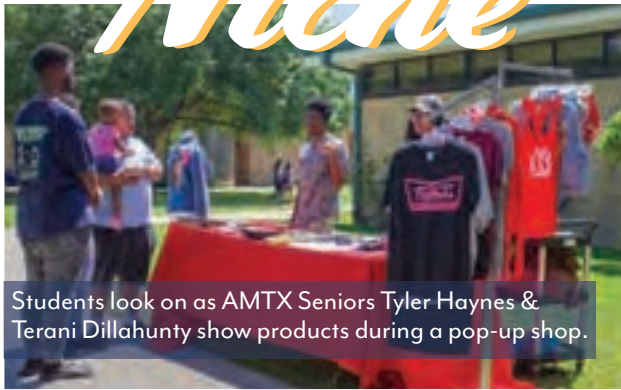




# Southern Niche



Students prepare to open the doors for the last time of the 2018 Spring semester.



Students look on as AMTX Seniors Tyler Haynes & Terani Dillahunty show products during a pop-up shop.



Southern Niche has a wide variety of products and brands. Pictured here are books from a local author.

Southern Niche is a student operated, retail store-laboratory dedicated to selling merchandise produced by small-scale entrepreneurs and hobbyists. The store-laboratory was originally funded through a USDA/NIFA Capacity Building Grant received in 2010 by Dr Doze Y Butler, Apparel Merchandising and Textiles (AMTX) Professor and Program Leader. The original objectives were three-fold:

- To establish a university-housed, student-operated, retail store laboratory to provide experiential learning for students
- To increase human capital by training students for leadership positions in retail merchandising and related fields
- To enhance economic development by strengthening the University's linkages with small-scale entrepreneurs and other producers in the State of Louisiana

Since the store's initial opening, the objectives have expanded to include vendors from outside of the State of Louisiana. Senior-level students also

intern in the store and receive (3) academic credits.

The store sells various types of apparel, accessories and gift items. This semester, the most popular items were bath and body products as well as candles. Other items offered for sale included sorority and fraternity items, Afrocentric merchandise, jewelry, books, men's ties, wall art, t-shirts and hoodies. The boutique is located on the first floor of Pinkie Thrift Hall in Room 155 and is open in Spring semester. Pop-up shops are hosted during the Fall Semesters.

Students conduct a needs assessment or market scan to determine what items to sell in the store. Once the assessment has been completed, the students solicit vendors to sell their merchandise in Southern Niche. AMTX students often sell their own creations in the boutique. Future plans for Southern Niche include global sourcing and online sales.

The Southern University Agricultural Land-Grant Campus embraces a diverse and distinct body of employees. While they boast an array of different talents, skills, interests and backgrounds, the one thing that we all have in common is passion for our work. The monthly Employee Spotlight aims to highlight those employees who have set themselves apart in their workmanship, professionalism, positive and supportive attitude and overall commitment to the Southern University Agricultural Land-Grant Campus.

This month we would like to recognize Mr. Felton DeRouen II. A native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, he has served as Farm Research Specialist II for SUALGC for the past four years. Mr. DeRouen's commitment to Southern University is truly a family legacy as both of his parents were employees at the University from his childhood. In fact, Mr. DeRouen actually grew up in the system - the Southern University System, that is. He began his education at the Southern University Lab School and went on to earn a Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Science from the Southern University College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences.

Mr. DeRouen's love for animals and agriculture was cultivated from a young boy while showing animals in the Annual Livestock Show. He spent the larger part of his childhood admiring the workings of prestigious agro-men so it only seemed natural that he become one. As a college student, DeRouen understood the necessity for quality food and the extensive economic impacts of hunger on communities and individuals. His academic endeavors focused on finding ways to eradicate poverty and child hunger through sustainability practices.

Mr. DeRouen is the father of two beautiful children. They are eager to learn more about agriculture and are following in his footsteps, each showing animals in the past two SU Livestock Shows. One of Mr. DeRouen's favorite quotes is, "We all have dreams. In order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline and efforts," by Jesse Owens. Indeed he demonstrates all of these qualities in his service to SUALGC and we are truly grateful.

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

# FELTON DeROUEN



DeRouen collects from his "egg laying" totes. He says he was inspired to use totes after the Great Flood of 2016.



After collecting eggs, DeRouen expresses the need to secure the exit as there has been problems with unwelcomed animals eating our Poultry producers in the past.





The bigger producers are housed in a separate facility where they each have their own food and water supply as well as a cozy living space.



Some of our Poultry Producers strike a pose as we tour their home.



Once the eggs are washed, they are then crated and prepared for sale.



# Flower conference



Karen "Mimo" Davis, owner of Urban Buds in ST. Louis, MO gives live demonstration on floral arrangements.



Two Flower Conference participants collaborate on a floral arrangement during live demonstration.



Members of the Flower Lovers' Garden Guild pose for a photo with the guest speaker.

Women from the Greater Baton Rouge Area poured into the Southern University Agricultural Land-Grant Campus (SUALGC) Ag Center to attend the 2nd Annual Flower and Garden Conference on April 25, 2018.

The event brought together the Wisteria Alliance-Women in Agriculture program, SUALGC Research and Extension staff, the North Baton Rouge "Flower Lovers' Garden Guild" along with farmers, Ag professionals and university students to inform and educate women of opportunities in urban agriculture. The one day conference showcased urban agriculture by showcasing flower and gardening techniques skills and also featured a historical overview of one organizations' 60 year quest to spread beauty using plants and flowers.

Attendees, were introduced to a flower farmer and florist whose humble beginnings started in a vacant lot and who has since grown to become one of the most successful florist in the urban St. Louis, MO area. The speakers consisted of: Juanita Horton, President of the "Flower Lovers' Garden Guild", with a historical overview of the organization. Karen "Mimo" Davis of St. Louis, MO, Flower Farmer and Florist and founder of "Urban Buds" served as the keynote speaker. Sara Woods of "Sunshine Tea Louisiana" from Elton, LA., gave a presentation on tea blending and provided samples for everyone to enjoy. Rita Stephens, Florist and member of the "Flower Lovers' Garden Guild", gave a corsage making demonstration. The conference concluded with a visit to the SUALGC greenhouses. As an added bonus, the ladies had the opportunity to participate in a flower arrangement class and the arrangements were given away as prizes for the winners. With more than 120 participants, SUALGC counts





Sara Woods, owner of Sunshine Tea Louisiana of Elton, LA shows different herbs she uses to make teas.



Flower Conference participants listen as Dr. Dawn Mellion-Patin introduces the guest speaker.



Stephanie Elwood, SUALGC Florist, answers questions during the conclusion of the 2018 Flower Conference.



# personalhealth

On April 26th, more than 60 participants attended the Southern University Agricultural Land-Grant Campus' Family and Human Development Department hosted its second Personal Health History Workshop at the SUALGC Ag Center. This workshop addressed risk factors and effects of Diabetes. It also provided information on diabetic care, such as proper foot care and diabetic diet, low impact exercises, protecting from mosquitoes, and gardening in the spring.

The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and American Diabetes Association stated that the number of Americans with diabetes continues to rise. This includes children, young adult and the senior population. Studies have shown that the rate of diabetes and obesity in Louisiana among those ages 50 to 64 have drastically increased between 1999 -2014. Due to the increase of diabetes and obesity, the Personal Health History Workshop is beneficial and much needed in the community.

The Family and Human Development Department will continue to provide educational information and services to individuals, families, communities and agencies through a series of health workshops. Past workshops taught participants how to create a personal health history journal for tracking the health history of themselves and their family. This included illnesses, medications, treatments and any past medical procedures, emphasizing the importance of having and sharing personal health history journal with their family members, caregivers and their physicians. Participants also learned the importance of a Power of Attorney and a living will.

Continue to visit the Southern University Agricultural Land-Grant Campus website for future Health History Workshop dates.

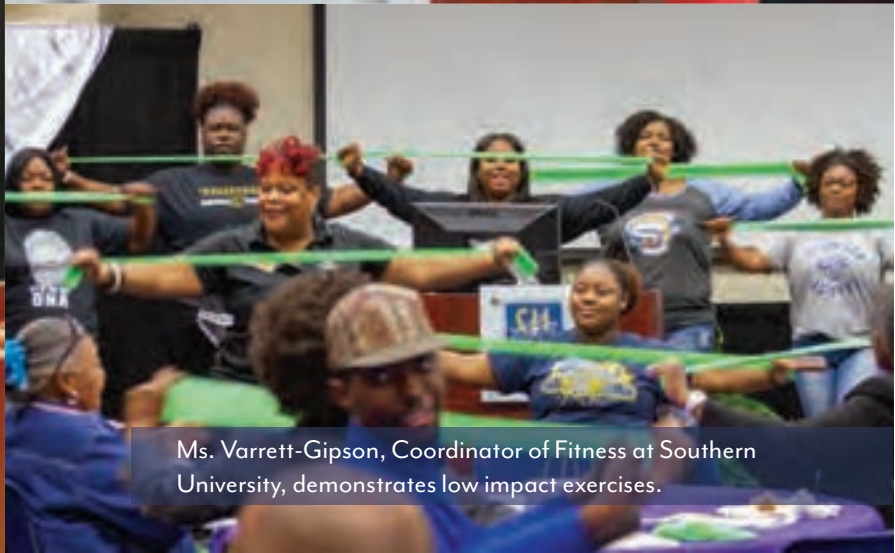
Mrs. Brittany George-Hall, NP-C gives speech on proper footcare for diabetics.



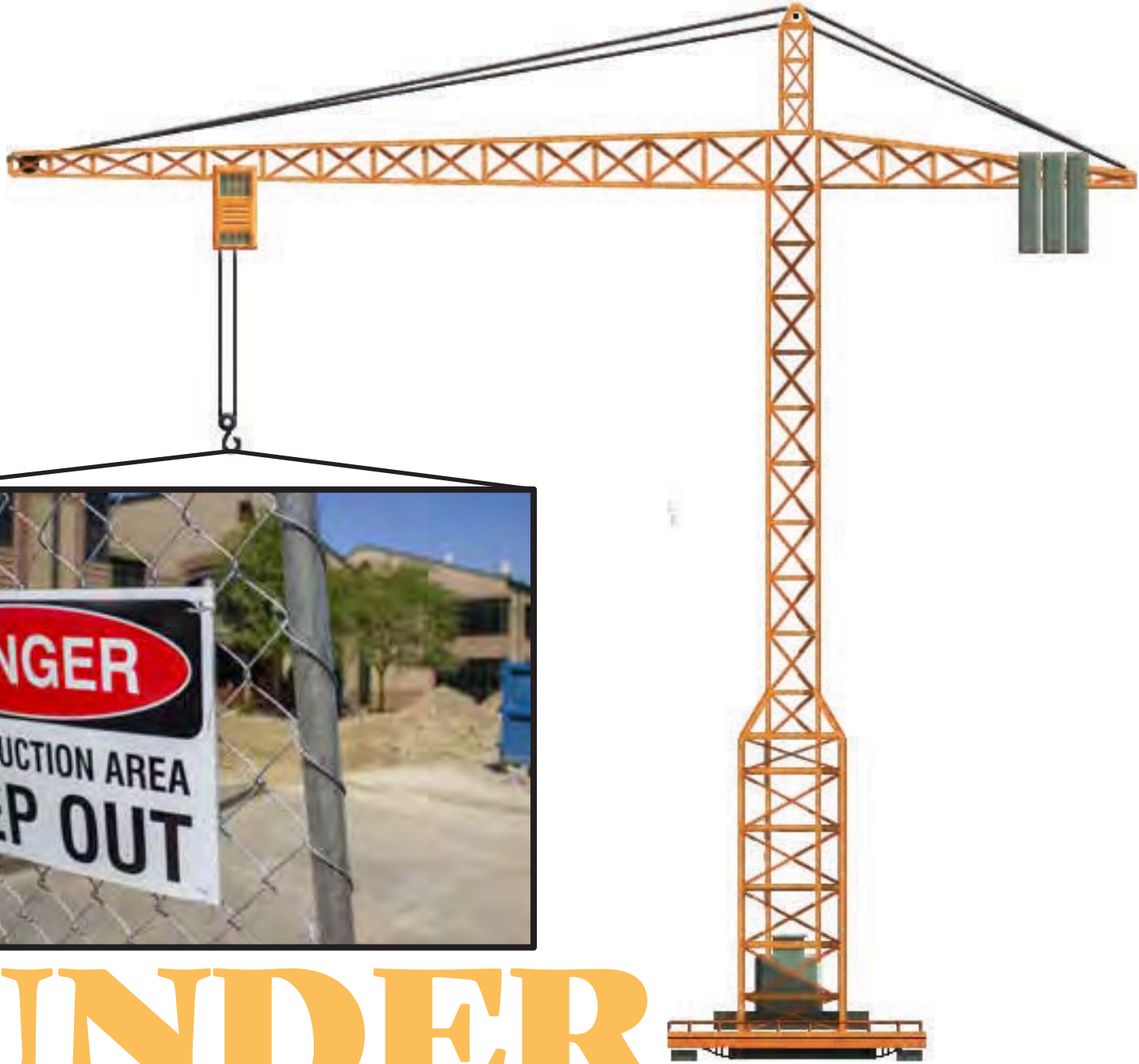
Dr. Cheryl Atkinson, Professor of Food and Nutrition gives a distinction between portions and servings.



Ms. Varrett-Gipson, Coordinator of Fitness at Southern University, demonstrates low impact exercises.







# UNDER construction

Over the past weeks you may have noticed A.O. Williams Hall is under renovation. The constant fire alarms, elevator delays, periodic heat and noise from the front parking area are pretty hard to miss throughout the work day. We would like to thank you for your continued support and understanding as we under-go these changes. Your commitment and dedication to the support of SUALGC makes this transition a smooth one. These changes will be complete in phases over the next few months but the Agricultural Land-Grant Campus will continue to uphold its standard of excellence and hardwork as we improve our structure and move forward.

# EGG Sale

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS • 1PM-4PM

**\$4 for 4 1/2 dozen** | 225-771-2152

Land-Grant Campus Poultry Unit

## Small Farmer

AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

*Graduation*

June 01, 2018 | 9:00 AM

S.U. Law Center



*Ashford O. Williams Hall  
P.O. Box 10010  
Baton Rouge, LA 70813  
225-771-2152  
suagcenter.com*



*Southern University Agricultural Land-Grant Campus*