



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

June 2022

“We Are Southern”

Report No. 20

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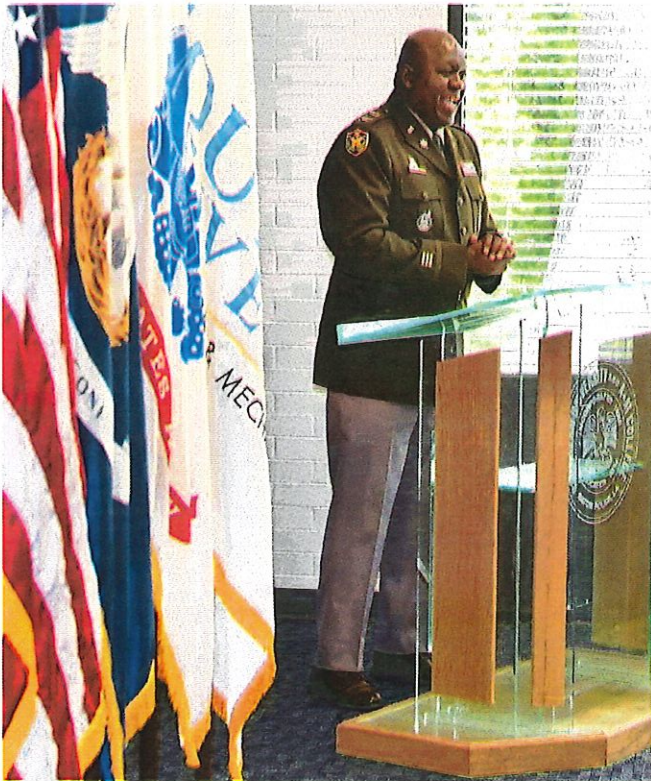
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SU Commissions New Officers

The Southern University and A&M College Army Senior ROTC Department conducted its Spring 2022 Commissioning Ceremony on May 12, 2022 at The Mayberry Magnolia Room. Three cadets from the Jaguar Battalion were commissioned as second lieutenants in the United States Army.

2LT Caleb Washington, 2LT Faith Placide, and 2 LT Jack Tucker (Southeastern Louisiana University-Crosstown-Affiliate) are officially service members of our nation. These second lieutenants will now join the total Army force and move forward in the profession of arms as future leaders. The guest speaker for the ceremony was **Col. (Ret.) Erik Keys**, who serves as the Senior Army Instructor for Woodlawn High School, a feeder school of the Southern University Army ROTC Program. His message to the newly commissioned second Lieutenants was to focus on taking care of soldiers and families, and to continue being lifelong learners in all facets of professional military education. He also discussed the importance of having integrity and possessing the Army's attributes.



On Campus...

Office of Academic Affairs

Dr. Bijoy K. Sahoo, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost led the Office of Academic Affairs during a recent volunteer community service event at the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank May 21, 2022. The Food Bank is a nonprofit organization that distributes food to a variety of community agencies including pantries, meal sites, homes, shelters and soup kitchens. Team Academic Affairs helped construct more than 600 boxes and filled each of them with 15 pounds of food items that the Food Bank will use to package and distribute food for use by children throughout the metro Baton Rouge community.

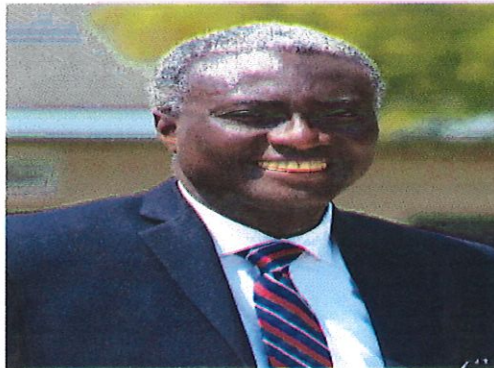


On Campus...

College of Sciences & Engineering

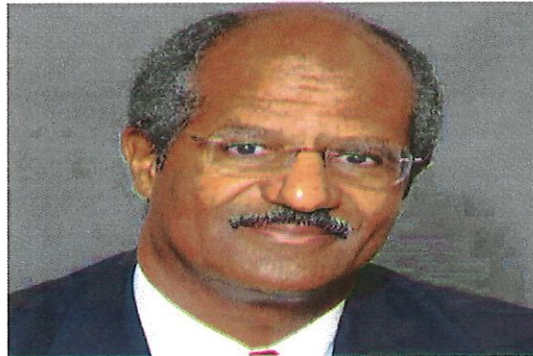


- **Dr. Toni Jackson, Director of Advancement for the SUBR College of Sciences & Engineering**, a 15-year SUS employee and current President of the SUBR Staff Senate earned a doctorate in Public Policy with a concentration in Education Policy and Advocacy during the SUBR Spring Commencement Ceremony on May 13, 2022. Jackson was also recently selected as a 2022-2023 Urban Leadership Development Initiative Fellows. Each year a select group of individuals are selected by MetroMorphosis who are highly regarded in their respective field to participate in the year-long program.



- **Dr. Patrick Mensah, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs in the College of Sciences and Engineering** was recently selected as the Spring 2022 Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) Outstanding Researcher. During a program hosted by OSP, Dr. Mensah was recognized for his exceptional contributions to University research. Dr. Mensah recently earned a prestigious NSF grant, totaling \$4 million and will serve as the Principal Investigator for the Consortium for Additive Manufacturing Qualification.

On Campus...



- **Dr. Luria Young and Dr. Albertha Lawson** of the SUBR **LIGO Research Team** gave a presentation at the LIGO Hanford Grand Opening on June 2, 2022 in Seattle, Washington. The SU ProBR LIGO research team has been pioneering research in LIGO since its inception in Louisiana. Also invited and in attendance was Louisiana legend and SUBR James and Ruth Smith Endowed Emeritus Professor of Physics and 2017 Nobel Prize recipient, **Dr. Stephen McGuire**.
- Three students from SUBR's College of Sciences and Engineering, **Victoria Rencher, Alex Spencer, and Sasha Taruberekera** are among 43 scholars from 15 institutions selected for the inaugural class of Apple's Engineering and Innovation Program as part of a Thurgood Marshall Fund Initiative. The Scholars were selected from engineering programs at America's publicly supported Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Predominantly Black Institutions. As a part of the program, students will gain exposure to engineering opportunities within Apple affiliated with their respective career paths. Each scholar will receive a \$15,000 merit-based scholarship and professional development. Apple Engineering and Innovation Scholars are also considered for full-time employment opportunities after graduation.
- The **Bee-Tech Program** led by SMED faculty member **Dr. Nastassia N. Jones** received the Public Choice award for the Exploring Virtual Reality with Secondary STEM Teachers video in the NSF funded 2022 STEM for ALL video showcase held May 10-17.

Navy ROTC

- Now 50 years old, **The Southern University Navy ROTC Program** has historically expanded its reach to at-risk students desiring service as Navy leaders. As such, a recently implemented scholarship facilitated by the **NROTC Preparatory Program (NPP)** sponsors at-risk youth through a transition year or preparatory year, funded by Southern University with a promise of a four-year Navy ROTC scholarship following completion of the preparatory year. The scholarship is in its third year of implementation and has achieved a 75 percent retention rate, thanks in-part to the NROTC strategic partnership with Upward Bound. NPP Scholarship recipients receive substantial resources in their preparatory year, including mandated tutoring, proctored study halls, intrusive mentorship and advising, and continuous development in physical fitness.

On Campus...

- **The SUBR Summer 2022 New Student Orientation** took place on June 3, 2022. Throughout the session the latest additions to Jaguar Nation were assisted with a wide range of topics ranging from financial aid, academic advisement, housing and other normalities of campus life. The Summer session which officially began on June 6, 2022, ends on July 29, 2022.

