



CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Judge D. Nicole Sheppard: 'Give Back. Give Strong and Give Hard'



Orleans Parish Judge D. Nicole Sheppard, left, and Bartek West, the graduating senior with the highest cumulative average.

New Orleans Judge D. Nicole Sheppard urged students at Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) to give back to those people and institutions that helped them along the way as they worked to achieve their dreams. Judge Sheppard was the keynote speaker at the Honors and Awards Day Ceremony April 11 in the SUNO Gym.

Honors and Awards Day recognizes academic excellence among students. More than 1,000 students received awards for exceptional scholarship, outstanding service and excellent leadership. The 2018 graduating senior with the highest cumulative average is Bartek West, a Social Work major with a 3.99 grade point average.

Recently elected to the Orleans Parish Civil District Court, Sheppard earned an undergraduate degree from SUNO and a J.D. from Southern University Law Center.

"Many sacrifices have been made for you to be here," Judge Sheppard told the students. "You stand on the shoulders of giants. Don't forget this foundation. Pass your benefit, your knowledge to those who are coming behind you. Give back. Give strong and give hard. We need you."

MLK Documentary Shown in Conference Center



Sybil Haydel Morial (left), wife of the city's first black mayor, Ernest N.

Morial, talked about her friendship with Civil Rights icon Martin Luther King Jr. at the April 4 presentation of the 2008 documentary short film "The Witness: From the Balcony of Room 306" in the SUNO Conference Center.

Co-presented by the Amistad Research Center and Southern University at New Orleans, the film was shown on the 50th anniversary of King's assassination at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, TN. Nominated for a 2008 Academy Award, the 32-minute film describes the weeks and days leading up to King's return to the city to assist striking sanitation workers, as seen through the eyes of Samuel "Billy" Kyles who was on the same balcony when King was shot.

College of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Evelyn Harrell, Dean

The College of Arts & Sciences Community Service Committee provided a Health Workshop entitled "Promoting Healthy Bodies, Habits, & Practices" April 14. Popeye's was the primary donor for this event. Faculty members of this committee also supplied various donations for the success of this event.

► ADDICTIVE BEHAVIORS COUNSELING AND PREVENTION

Dean Evelyn Harrell and Dr. Travis Johnson attended a National Conference on Alcohol and Addiction Disorders Panel Series April 19. The event was at Galatoire Restaurant on Bourbon Street in New Orleans, LA. The topic of discussion was, "Opioids and Stimulants: Addressing These Complex Cases." The panel consisted of a medical physician, a psychiatrist and a mental health professional, discussed trends in cocaine, meth and other stimu-



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lant use. The panel series is an annual local event that brings together addiction professionals for a workshop and networking opportunity.

► DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL SCIENCES

Numerous forensic science students were honored at the annual SUNO Honors & Awards Day. Academic recognition went to Chikaodili Osunji, Biology; Jacy Haynes, Forensic Science; and Sherron Bates, Mathematics

The campus-wide Master Articulation Matrix was revised for the 2018-2019 academic year and submitted to the state officials for the review and updates. The LCCN's for all common courses have been updated and a copy was submitted to the Office of Academic Affairs for updates in the 2018-2020 SUNO Catalog. **Dr. Kambhampati** serves as the Articulation Officer for the University.



City of New Orleans' Proclamations for STEM Impact at SUNO and Beyond

On April 19, Dr. Joe Omojola and Dr. Murty Kambhampati were invited by the New Orleans City Council to give a presentation about the impact of STEM programs at SUNO and beyond. Also in attendance were three SUNO STEM students – Trevor McIntosh, Chaz Tyler and Dulaine Vining. After the presentation, Council Member James Gray gave an impassioned speech about the value of a Southern education. He stated that members of his family earned 13 degrees from Southern University and those degrees led to two degrees from Stanford, one from Harvard, one from Princeton and two from Columbia. After the presentation, Dr. Kambhampati and

Dr. Omojola were awarded with Proclamations by the City Council for their accomplishments in STEM programs at SUNO for the past 20-plus years. Complete coverage of the presentation and awards can be found at: http://cityofno.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=3&clip_id=2959&meta_id=407946.

► FORENSIC SCIENCE

Dr Pamela Marshall's article on student attitudes on campus crime was published in the *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*. Patrick Webb, Kimberly Frame & **Pamela Marshall** "Correlates of campus crime: An exploration of minority attitudes at an HBCU," *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*, DOI: [10.1080/15377938.2018.1462284](https://doi.org/10.1080/15377938.2018.1462284) (2018)

Dr. Pamela Marshall has been invited to serve on the Council of Forensic Science Educators (COFSE) K-12 Committee.

The Forensic Science program will be graduating eight students at the upcoming commencement exercises. This number brings the total number of graduates to 16 in two years.

► BIOLOGY

Dr. **Christian Clement** presented and displayed a poster entitled "Infection Characteristic of HSV-1 Neuronal Viral DNA and Analysis of ICP4, ICP0 In Silico" at the 6th Annual Louisiana Conference on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics at the LSU Digital Media Center in Baton Rouge on April 6-7. This research involved the

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evaluation of two immediate early viral genes in the reactivation/replication of Herpesvirus 1 and its susceptibility to certain drugs in the presence of the human APOE4 gene. This virus is easily transmitted by physical contact, is widespread (over 90 percent) in human populations and is responsible for eye diseases and brain inflammation.

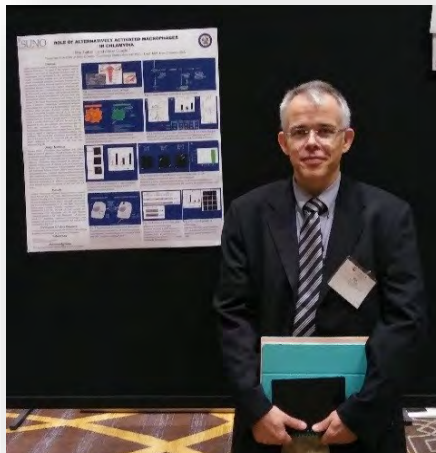
Ms. Chelsea Brown, a mentee of **Dr. Kambhampati**, has been accepted to participate in the summer 2018 Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internship program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), Upton, NY. The internship covers a 10-week stipend, housing on BNL site and air transportation.

The research abstracts (from summer 2017 projects) of three of **Dr. Kambhampati**'s mentees Ms. Octavia Allen, Mr. Trevor McIntosh and Ms. Precious Williams were accepted for oral presentation at the SUNO Research Day April 25-26 and will be published in the Research Day proceedings.

Students supported by **Dr. Ilyia Tietzel** also presented their research at the SUNO Research Day. The students, pictured at right, are Ms. Tonnette Washington, Ms. Roshaun Mitchell-Cleveland, Ms. Ayrian LeBeauf, Mr. Myles Masters, Ms. Troyionne Porter and Ms. Shona Machona. The co-mentors are **Drs. Pamela Marshall, Rachid Belmasrou, Mostafa Elaasar, Christian Clement** and **Yi Zhen**.



Dr. Tietzel presented his research on the role of alternatively activated macrophages in chlamydia at the 11th National Health Disparities Conference of Xavier University at the Sheraton Hotel April 19-20. **Dr. Tietzel** also co-authored a second presentation (with **Dr. Mostafa Elaasar** and **Roshaun Mitchell-Cleveland**, a biology undergraduate) on the effects of radiation on *Caenorhabditis elegans*.



►GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAM

Dr. Deneen Lewis is a member of the Community Service Committee in the College of Arts and Social Sciences. She attended the "Promoting Healthy Bodies, Habits & Practices" community service project April 14. Her presentation topic was Relaxation Techniques.

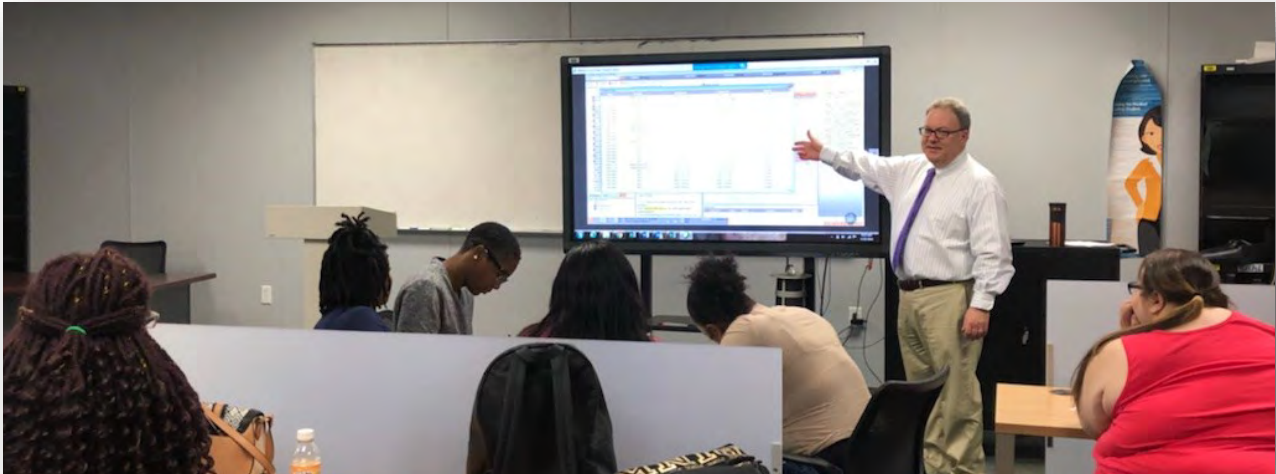
Dr. Lewis, Ms. Nyla Ceaser Noble and Ms. Karen Washington attended the "Mini Literature & Writing Fest," sponsored by the English 111, 112, 203 and Karr Early Start classes April 18.

Dr. Lewis presented "What a General Studies Degree Entails" at National Academic Signing Day April 22.

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Dr. Lewis and Ms. Ceaser-Noble attended a Big Times in the Big Easy workshop, entitled “Psychopharmacology for the Practicing Clinician April 28.

► HEALTH INFORMATION MANagements SYSTEMS PROGRAM



Mr. John Barrilleaux coordinated and led a data Computer Assisted Coding (CAC) demonstration April 30 with Optum, a big data health firm. Students were treated to experiential learning insofar as systems utilized in healthcare facilities are concerned.

Mrs. Sharon McGee attended the Health Care Compliance Association’s Regional Conference April 27 in New Orleans.

► MUSEUM STUDIES PROGRAM

Research

Dr. Haithim Eid attended Museums and the Web Conference in Vancouver, Canada April 18 – 21 and presented his paper, *Connecting the Dots: The Impact of Diversity in the Museum Workforce on Innovation, Relevance and Audience Engagement*.

In right photo, Dr. David Riep, assistant professor of African Art at Colorado State University (standing left), presented a lecture and workshop April 24 in the Leonard S. Washington Memorial Library.



Dr. Eid attended the Core Team April meeting for the New Orleans Preservation Coalition (NOPC). The Museum Studies Program will host the May meeting on SUNO’s campus.

Dr. Eid co-organized and attended the Emergency Preparedness & Planning for Arts and Cultural Organizations Workshop at St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church April 16. The event is part of the NOPC activities.

Dr. Sara Hollis attended the April 7 Opening Reception at Stella Jones Gallery, celebrating 300 years of Louisiana through the works of many African American Artists.

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Dr. Hollis attended the April Open Studios Event at the Joan Mitchell Center. She also attended a Steel Band Concert at the New Orleans Museum of Art April 20 and viewed the two Renaissance Paintings on loan to NOMA.

University Service

Dr. Eid served on the Research Day Committee.

Student Achievements

Ms. Ilyanette Bernabel presented her Masters' Project Exhibition, "Carnival in Puerto Rico: Connections to the Homeland" April 11 at SUNO's Library. The exhibition explores the African's influence on Puerto Rico's culture and compares it to New Orleans. The opening featured African and Puerto Rican Masks, videos of carnival drummers, dancers and craftsman, and music and dance.

On April 24, two students, Floyd Williams and Judy Lagarde, presented their Master's Projects: "Realism to Abstraction" and "Textiles in Bloom," respectively.

Four Museum Studies students presented their research at SUNO Student Research Conference April 25. They presented their pioneering work with confidence, honesty and originality.

College of Business & Public Administration

Dr. Igwe Udeh, Dean



► ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE INITIATIVES

CBA Accreditation Reaffirmed by AACSB International

A team of SUNO employees led by Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin, attended the AACSB International Conference and Annual Meeting (ICAM) in Honolulu, Hawaii, April 21-25, to receive the certificate of accreditation reaffirmation by AACSB International. The SUNO team included Dr. Igwe E. Udeh, dean, College of Business & Public Administration; Dr. David Alijani, professor and chair of the Computer Information Systems Department; and Mrs. Timotea Bailey, director, CBA Office of Student Services.

The certificate was presented to the SUNO team by Dr. Tom Robinson, president & chief executive officer, and Dr. Stephanie Bryant, executive vice president & chief accreditation of-

ficer, AACSB International, April 22.

Following the presentation of the reaffirmation certificate, the SUNO team attended a reception in honor of the attendees. The trip also provided the team members several opportunities to network with business school deans from around the world and meet with AACSB officials.

Additionally, team members participated in a number of important educational sessions on such topics as "Small Schools Network Affinity Group: Online Education in the 21st Century"; "Power, Politics, and Preparing Ourselves and the Next Generation of Workplace Leaders..."; "Emotional Agility"; "Engagement and Impact in Your School's Operations and Culture"; "Interdisciplinary Programs: Developing Better Leaders"; "Continuous Improvement Review Accreditation Q&A"; and "The Neuroscience of High-trust, High-performance Organizations." The sessions were led by deans of accredited schools and qualified professionals and corporate executives with knowledge of trends that will dominate commerce and management education in the future.

Business Continued

CBA Inducts Students to the Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society

Sixteen Business Administration and Computer Information System majors were inducted into the Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society April 6 in a ceremony at the Holiday Inn-Superdome in New Orleans. This invitation-only association is available to the top 10 percent of undergraduate and graduate business students enrolled in AACSB-accredited programs. The SUNO Beta Gamma Sigma chapter was inaugurated in 2014 following the successful achievement of Initial AACSB accreditation by the SUNO College of Business & Public Administration in 2012. The Spring 2018 undergraduate inductees are Cheryl Adams, Nathan Albert, Nathaniel Albert, Micah Brochard, Willie Davis, Omar Ebanks, Navis Hill, Daren Hubbard, Curstin Kaufman, Clyde Montgomery, Catrease Newsome, Danielle Richards and Master Woodfork. The Spring 2018 graduate inductees are Karem Abdullah, Tosin Ayantunji and Stanley Chidebe Ikegquonu. The guest speaker for the occasion was Ms. Karen-kaia Livers (in right photo), a widely acclaimed performer, director and producer who has appeared in many television shows and movies. Ms. Livers also is a member of the Business Advisory Board for the College of Business & Public Administration.



Two SUNO Students Shine at IOBSE Conference

Ivan Terrence Casby, a senior Computer Information Systems major, and Shantel Andrice Jones, a senior Forensic Science major, were standouts during the **International Organization of Black Security Executives (IOBSE)** Conference in Plano, TX, April 24-26.

Mr. Ron Martin, a member of IOBSE who was instrumental in facilitating the inclusion of the SUNO students in that conference, reported the students' outstanding work during the conference, which resulted in each of them receiving a \$1,500 award. SUNO was the only HBCU in Louisiana that won double awards.

The students expressed appreciation to their advisors, the SUNO administration and Mr.

Martin for affording them the opportunity to compete. IOBSE was founded in 1982 to impart professional resources to aid in the integration of security management into business operations; provide education and training to keep practitioners and students abreast of current trends in security operations and technology; and assist in professional networking in order to facilitate the exchange of information, ideas, knowledge and experience.

Business Continued



CBA Senior Student Wins NBMBAA Scholarship

Members of the SUNO Chapter of National Black MBA Association (NBMBAA) participated in an April 7 awards banquet to raise funds for scholarship for local students. The banquet was at the Homer L. Hitt Alumni and Visitors Center on the University of New Orleans Campus. Ms. Catrease Newsome, a Business Administration major and the incoming president of the SUNO chapter of NBMBAA, received a \$1,000 scholarship from the NBMBAA New Orleans Professional Chapter based on her academic standing and the compelling content of her essay. Dr. Adrine Harrell-Carter, associate professor in the Department of Business Administration, is the SUNO NBMBAA chapter advisor.

► Professional Outreach to Students & Community

Entrepreneur Majors Provide Free Business Plan Services to Local Business Owner

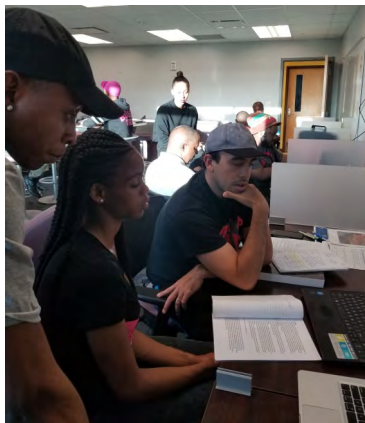
Students in Dr. Adrine Harrell-Carter's Entrepreneurship Project (ENTR 470) class assisted Ms. Tianne Brown, CEO of 50 Is the New Sexy by writing a business plan for her online business directory. 50 Is the New Sexy is a local business that caters to the needs of individuals 50 and older. The development Mrs. Brown's company Web site was assigned to students in the Computer Information Systems Department. The formal presentations of the findings of the Entrepreneurship Project were April 24 and 26 in at the College of Business Building.



CBA Students Provide Business Plan Writing Services Using the NxLevel Business Model

Students in the Managing a Growing Business (ENTR 400) class were afforded an opportunity to work with local

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business owners participating in the nationally recognized NxLevel business development program offered through the SUNO Small Business Development & Management Institute (SBDMI) during the 2018 Spring semester. The mostly senior business majors assisted NxLevel clients in writing business plans, especially the portions dealing with industry research and marketing strategy. Several clients expressed gratitude and satisfaction for the assistance they received from the students.

► Small Business Development & Management Institute (SBDMI)

Mrs. Cynthia Beaulieu, director, Small Business Development & Management Institute, reported the following activities and achievements during April 2018:

NxLevel Entrepreneurial Training Classes; April 2,4,9,11,16,18,23,25 & 30, 2018; 9 participants; The primary objectives of the course are to familiarize participants with the fundamental elements of forming a business, and provide new and existing entrepreneurs with advice on how to strengthen their business and gain access to capital for operations and expansion. Ms. Terrie Guerin, Dr. Adrine Harrell-Carter and Ms. Diana Thomas.

Louisiana Notary Prep Classes; April 3,5,10,12, 17, 19, 24 & 26, 2018; Class met twice a week, Tuesday and Thursday; participants prepare to sit for the Louisiana Notary Examination at LSU in Baton Rouge June 2, 2018; 21 participants; Ms. Suzan Jackson, Mr. Craig Duronslet, Diana Thomas & Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.

Louisiana Economic Development (LED) Peer-to-Peer Roundtable; April 10, 2018; 9th of 10 sessions; CBA Executive Conference Room; 12 participants; Business owners met for peer-to-peer learning, brainstorming and problem solving. The 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 discuss access to new and innovative business and business growth; Ms. Irma Dixon, Facilitator, Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director SBDMI. The Peer-to Peer Guest Speaker was Ms. Lavon Burbank, WoodForest Bank.

FastTrac Claims Adjuster Training; April 13,14 & 15, 2018; 7 Participants; Become a Louisiana Licensed Claims Adjuster, 3-Day Fastrac - Louisiana Licensing Class including Property Inspection Training, Scoping, Intro to Xactimate 28/Sketch and Sample Test Questions; Taking the Course prepares individuals to take the Louisiana Claims Adjuster test and qualifies you for licensing in other states. CDAC; Board members & Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.



Attended HBCU-Community Development Action Coalition (CDAC) Strategic Planning Board Retreat; April 18, 19, 20, 2018; 10 member Board; Atlanta GA, at The Gathering Spot; Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.

First-time Homeowners Workshop; April 21, 2018; SUNO CBA Room 100; 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. Provided information for applicants interested in becoming homeowners — from credit, insurance to financing. Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu.

Throughout April, the SBDMI had ongoing meetings with clients to provide consultations on projects and prospective classes and workshops that will help to start and grow their businesses. Clients are also encouraged to

Business Continued

join Louisiana Economic Development, (LED) for continued support. Ms. Diana Thomas and Ms. Cynthia Beau-lieu.

► OFFICE OF STUDENT SERVICES (OSS)

The OSS coordinated with the department chair in the Business Division at Delgado Community College to arrange recruitment visits to the following classes: April 3 – Legal Environment of Business Class; April 5 – Legal Environment of Business – evening class; April 11 - Transfer Recruitment Fair – Delgado Westbank; and April 17 Transfer Tuesday, Delgado Westbank.

College of Education & Human Development

Dr. Willie Jones, Interim Dean

► HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Celina Carson delivered the oral presentation, “Developing a Sustainable Homegarden Agroforestry System in the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans, Louisiana,” at the Southern University 2018 One Health Symposium, “Promoting Sustainable Communities,” hosted by Southern University and A&M College System in Baton Rouge. Dr. Carson also participated in the SUNO Day recruitment at Higgins High School in Marrero.

► RESEARCH

As a member of the International Bullying Association, Dr. Deborah Darby’s action research goal is to create an “Anti-Bullying Campaign” in the College of Education & Human Development. This campaign will provide information on resources, tools, strategies and scholarship opportunities to conduct such a campaign.

Center for African and African American Studies

Dr. Clyde Robertson, Director



The Center for African and African American Studies (CAAAS) collaborated with Wendi Moore-O’Neal, founding guide of Jaliyah Consulting, to host the *Community Sing Revival*, featuring Dr. Ysaïe M. Barnwell, a prolific composer and former member of the African American cappella ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock from 1979 to 2013. This April 8 event was in the Millie M. Charles School of Social Work Auditorium.

Dr. Ysaïe M. Barnwell

On April 20, CAAAS collaborated with The African & Diasporic Religious Studies Association to host “Roots, Rocks, & Ring Shouts-A Symposium on African American Spirituality,” featuring Funlayo E. Wood, founding director of the African & Diasporic Religious Studies Association and a doctoral candidate (ABD) in African and African American Studies with a primary field in the Study of Religion.

During the event, scholars, practitioners, activists and artists discussed and celebrating African spirituality in America. At the end of the day, Ms. Linda Hill, CAAAS curator/archivist, led a group of delegates to view the SUNO artifacts housed in the Leonard S. Washington Memorial Library. The event was in the SUNO Conference Center.



Funlayo E. Wood