



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

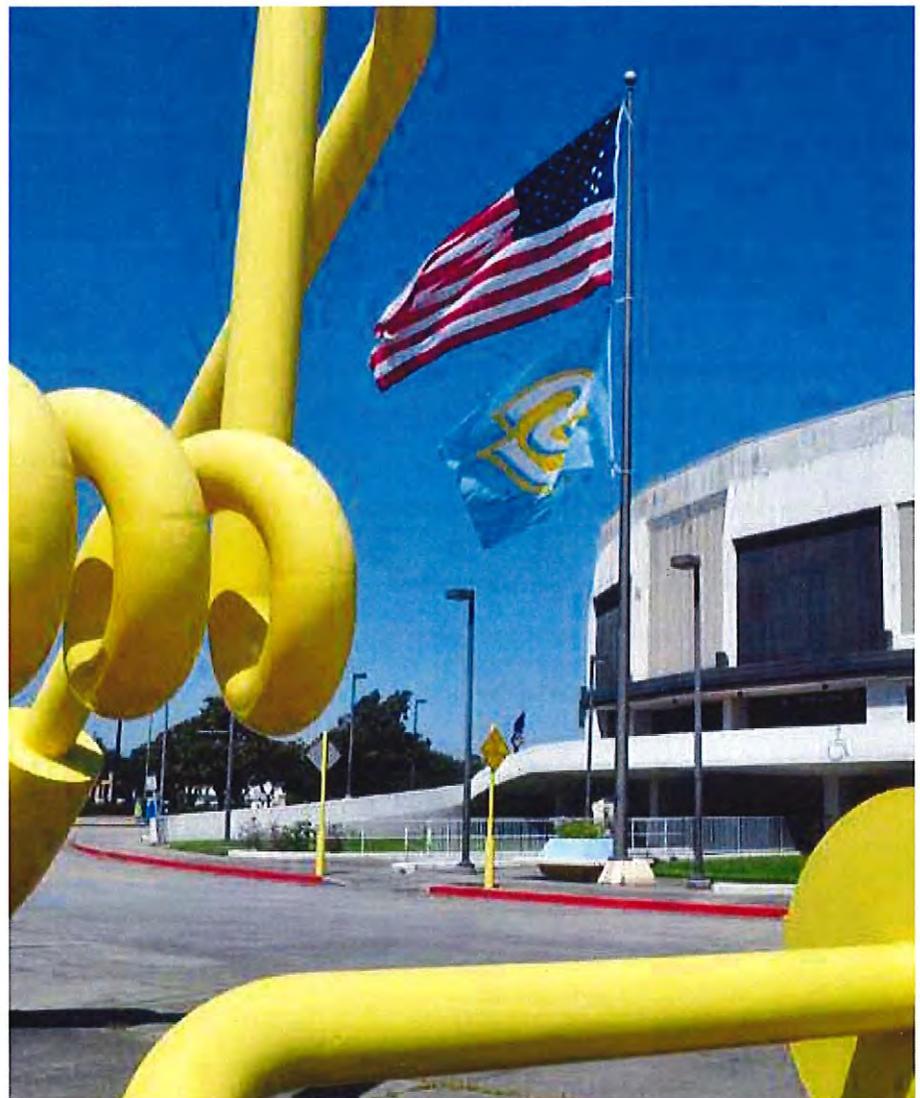
April 2019

*"We Are Southern"*

Report No. 9

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## Nursing Professor Selected as 2019 Educator of the Year

Cheryl Taylor, PhD RN FAAN, chair of Graduate Nursing Programs, is the 2019 recipient of the Nursing Educator of the Year Award presented by the Louisiana Nurses Foundation and the Louisiana State Nurses Association.

She is the Jewell L. and James Prestage Endowed Professor within Southern University's College of Nursing and Allied Health. In 2017, she was selected as an ambassador for the Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research.

Beyond the classroom, Taylor has served on various boards and committees for statewide and national organizations, including the American Academy of Nursing, National League for Nursing, and National Student Nurses Association Inc. She is also a member of the Louisiana Action Coalition Diversity Steering Committee and a gubernatorial appointee to the Louisiana Department of Health

and Human Services Institutional Review Board.



Cheryl Taylor



## Chief of Staff Selected as 2019 Protégé for Millennium Leadership Institute

Katara Williams, Southern University System chief of staff, has been selected from a national pool of applicants as a 2019 protégé for the Millennium Leadership Institute. Cosponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and the Association of Public Land Grant Universities, the institute is a year long commitment which enhances the skill sets of leaders, affording them the opportunity to gain a philosophical overview of higher education leadership, while bridging the network to compete for, and attain, the position of a university president or chancellor.

Through the MLI Institute, protégés will interact with presidents and chancellors from across this country in areas such as media relations, advancement and fundraising, executive contract negotiation, fiscal management, accreditation and the executive search process. Protégés experience both theoretical and practical experience through interactive sessions, media interviews, visits with representatives on Capitol Hill and monthly interactions with sitting presidents and chancellors, who will serve as yearlong mentors for the protégés. Williams will also be tasked with working with the Strata Group on a college value project which will address the value proposition of present day higher education.



**ALUMNI NEWS:** Devon Gales, ex-Southern Football Player, was hired as the assistant high school coach at Jefferson High School in Georgia. (Photo taken by April Buffington of the Advocate staff.

# SU Celebrates 139th Anniversary



Employee Wilbert Jones is honored for 50 Years of Service.



Southern University celebrated its 139 Founders' Day by reminiscing on its founders' vision and duty to continue to carry out its mission. This year's theme was "Fulfilling the Promise." The commemoration was filled with traditional events that allowed the campus

community to engage and participate.

The celebration started with the annual Southern University Laboratory School pilgrimage to the Clarks gravesite located on the Bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. Ray L. Belton, president-chancellor

of the Southern University System, offered words of wisdom and encouragement to the group of gathered students and faculty.

Following, students, faculty, alumni, and the community filled the F.G. Clark Activity Center for the morning convocation. Selections from the University's wind ensemble, concert choir, and gospel choir highlighted the program. Domoine Rutledge, Southern University System Board of Supervisors chairman and vice president and general counsel at CSRS, Incorporated, was the keynote speaker.

"When we walk the hallowed ground of this campus, we should honor that very soil for which the buildings stand," said Rutledge. "We must remember that the promise was costly."

He went on to take a journey through past memories before the SU System was officially pulled together. From a plantation with slave quarters to five thriving campuses, the speaker pointed out the founders may have had a vision, but the system has surpassed the vision and mission and continues to fulfill the promise of providing a quality educational environment for all.

"Yes, we started with 70 students and \$10,000, but today we stand as an unique system of higher learning that welcomes thousands of students from over 20 countries," said Rutledge. "Today, 139 years later, our star still shines brightly."

Rutledge ended his speech with varying visions that the founders and notable past campus administrators and leaders would have set in motion for the future of the System.

To end the festivities, students held a birthday party in the courtyard of the Smith-Brown Memorial Student Union. Local fanfare, cake, and ice cream were served to celebrate the occasion.

## Integrating Restorative Justice and Student Learning

Since 2005, traditional student conduct practices have changed to be more educational and reflective of restorative justice practices within traditional college and university settings.

Student Affairs, the Dean of Students, Residence Life and Housing and University Police are teaming together to reengineer responses to violations of the student code of conduct to integrate six student development goals:

- A focus on just community
- Teaching self-authorship and ownership for life experiences
- Active accountability
- Self-love, self-esteem and Interpersonal competence
- An affinity for the institution
- Procedural fairness and closure

Engaging students in learning about themselves and how to take responsibility for any harm they have caused to the community is the most influential factor in student learning. Restorative justice, at its most basic level, is a way for an individual to take responsibility for any harm they may have caused to another individual or the community.

The new model for addressing student conduct will focus on education as we move away from a more punitive structure. Instead of fines, removal from residence halls and arrest as the only response, the Division has implemented educational modules that focus on personal decision making, learning how to manage conflict, and/or addressing mental health and wellness. Students are also engaged in 30 hours of community services which gives them the opportunity to connect with other students and get involved in the greater Baton Rouge area through community service. The Division also engage students in a Total Wellness, Well-Being Workshop that is gender specific to bring about greater focus of questions, concerns and student issues.



The first series was held on Saturday, March 23 with 12 participants. The Confident Woman Workshop: Taking Ownership of the Power of Me was a five (5) hour workshop with a licensed clinician who focuses on college student wellness, well-being and flourishing. The workshop was designed to focus on supporting young women to live true to who they are--no matter what their

circumstances. Students engaged in black mindfulness by focusing on identity exploration, mental health and well-being, relationships and interpersonal skills, managing life's pressures and stress, and how to flourish in times of change and adversity. Students say they learned that they are the author of their story and life's journey and are responsible for living happy, meaningful and fulfilling lives.



Students welcomed President-Chancellor Ray L. Belton, along with SGA President Anthony B. Kenney, at the fireside chats March 19 in Shade Residence Hall. A general session of the Fireside Chats is scheduled for April 23 in Smith-Brown Memorial Union.



## Freshman Class Pinning Ceremony

On March 22, the D.M.R. Spikes Honors College held its annual Freshman Class Pinning Ceremony. More than 100 students were pinned and welcomed to the program. Remarks were given by James H. Ammons, executive vice president/executive vice chancellor; Bijoy Sahoo, senior associate vice Chancellor for academic affairs and Diola Bagayoko, dean of the D.M.R. Spikes Honors College.





# **THE** chancellor's **REPORT**

APRIL 2019

**C.Reuben Walker**  
Interim  
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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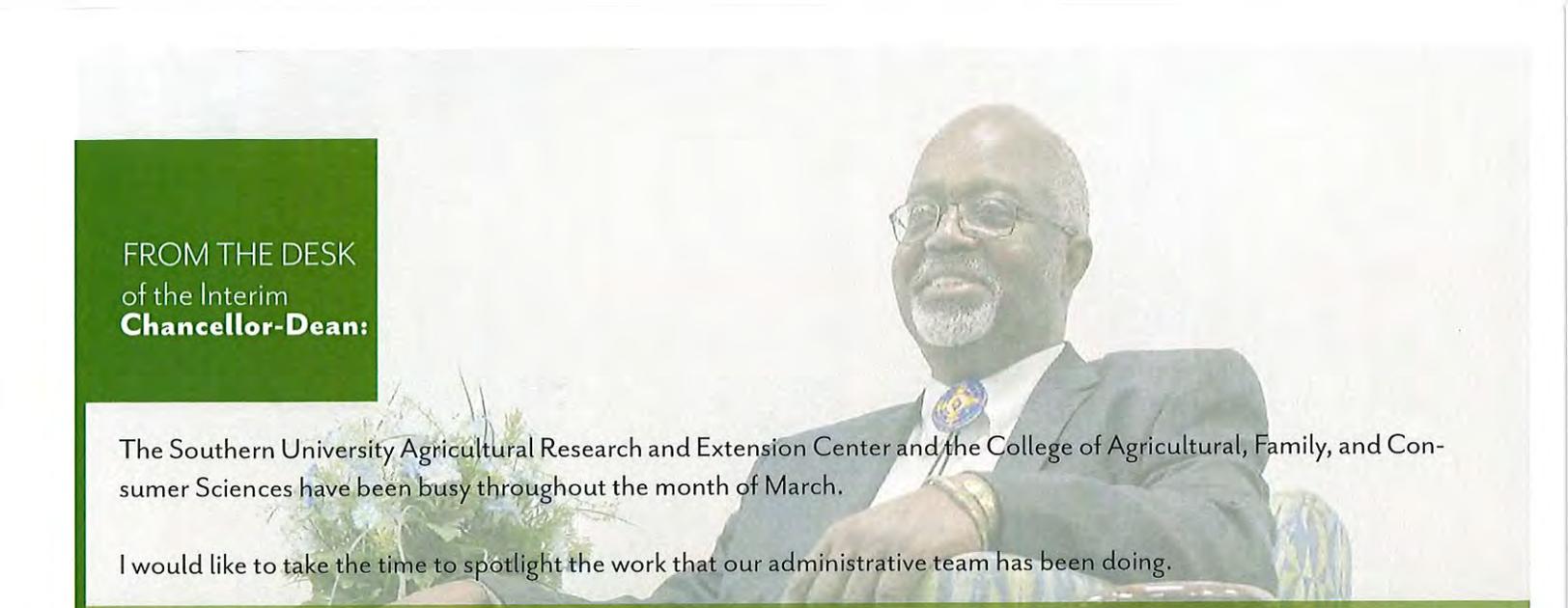
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FROM THE DESK  
of the Interim  
**Chancellor-Dean:**

The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the College of Agricultural, Family, and Consumer Sciences have been busy throughout the month of March.

I would like to take the time to spotlight the work that our administrative team has been doing.

Vice Chancellor for Extension and Outreach, Dr. Dawn Mellion-Patin continues to provide excellent extension programming to the citizens of Louisiana. The “Living Legends Banquet” held during the 9th Annual Louisiana Small Farmers Conference on Friday, March 15, 2019, was marvelous. The banquet honored Mr. Terrance Marshall for his extension service over three decades and Dr. Gary C. Simon for his teaching prowess over the last 25 plus years.

Dr. Retia Walker, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Support Services – Associate Dean, has been named the 2019 recipient of the College of Human Sciences Alumni Achievement Award by Iowa State University. This is the 3rd time that Dr. Walker has been recognized by her alma mater for her stellar career.

Dr. Andra Johnson, Vice Chancellor for Research and Technology Development, is leading the effort to ensure that the campus’ faculty/researchers are primed to submit quality grant proposals for the upcoming 2019 USDA 1890 Capacity Building Grant Program.

Dr. Lynda Batiste, Director of Finance, earned her Ph.D. from Jackson State University this month. Drs. Renita Marshall and Harold Mellieon are constantly bringing about great changes and substance to the growth of the Department of Agricultural Science. I am very proud of them. Dr. Yadong Qj has tirelessly worked to ensure that our Department of Urban Forestry and Natural Resources is the premier Urban Forestry Program in the nation. Dr. Cheryl Atkinson is bringing great leadership to the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. Dr. Janana Snowden is anchoring our medical marijuana program. Dr. Fatemeh Malekian and Mr. Antonio Harris are doing wonderful activities as well in their respective institutes.

Somberly speaking, we are asking you to continue to pray for the family of Dr. Bridget Udoh, who recently passed away. She was the former Communications Specialist for the SU Ag Center/ CAFCS and Dr. Oscar Udoh’s wife. Oscar is the glue to our compliance connections to the USDA. We loved Bridget and we’ll miss her kind smile and sound wisdom. Heaven truly has gained an angel.

As I walk the hallways of Fisher Hall, I am so excited to see second generation agricultural sciences students such as Sara Dixon and Naila McCartney; I taught their fathers.

The SU Ag Center and the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS) are quietly moving along with a greater purpose. As a servant leader, I am impressed by the high sense of optimism in both the Ag Center and CAFCS in recent weeks. Please view our schedule of events to see the upcoming activities that we want you to be a part of on our journey to continue linking the citizens of Louisiana with opportunities for success. **WE ARE SOUTHERN!!!**

## from Dawn Mellion-Patin

Vice Chancellor for Extension and Outreach:

As Vice Chancellor for Extension and Outreach, my primary focus has been making the resources of the university available to all people across the state of Louisiana, with a special interest of reaching those just outside the gates of Southern University. I have always felt, that we needed to engage the residents in East Baton Rouge Parish, just a little more and truly make this their university. We recently celebrated the 76th Annual State Livestock and Poultry Show and hosted over 300 elementary, middle and high school children from Baton Rouge and surrounding areas. For the majority of these kids, this is the first and only opportunity they have had to see farm animals up close and personal and it also serves as an introduction to where food comes from. The petting zoo, featuring farm animals, is always a big hit, and when a chicken lays an egg or a chick is hatched, in front of the kids, lives change forever. As a side note, this year 120 Louisiana youth exhibitors from 31 parishes across the state, showed 204 animals.

The Louisiana Living Legends Award program was started in 2005, when Zanetta Augustine, Extension Associate, and I created an opportunity for the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center to honor those “heroes with ties and connections to Southern University” for their years of selfless service. This recognition is bestowed annually to three outstanding individuals in the areas of teaching, research, and extension, the mission areas of a land-grant university. The 2019 recipients are: Teaching – Dr. Gary C. Simon, Professor in Animal Sciences and Staff Veterinarian and a 30 year Southern University employee; Research – Dr. C. Reuben Walker, Professor in Animal Sciences and Interim Chancellor – Dean of the Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the College of Agricultural, Family, and Consumer Sciences, a 34 year employee; and Extension – Terrence S. Marshall, former Agriculture & Natural Resource agent in

East Baton Rouge Parish, who retired in 2015 after 38 years of service. The legends are nominated by the faculty and staff and selected by a vote of members on the Louisiana Small Farmer Conference committee. Nominations are open to anyone in the agricultural and food sciences with ties to Southern University, not just alums.

The Louisiana Living Legends Banquet is held annually as a part of the Louisiana Small Farmer Conference. The theme for this year’s conference was, “Unlocking Your Potential,” and all the sessions and presentations focused on how small farmers could use the resources available to them to create additional opportunities. The banquet speaker was Mrs. Alisa Welsh, Principal of Madison Preparatory Academy, a local charter school and a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School. Mrs. Welsh captivated the audience sharing how she and her team were able to turn this F rated school into a nationally recognized charter school within five years of its existence.

The March 7th issue of County Roads magazine (<https://countryroadsmagazine.com/cuisine/Louisiana-food-ways/thrive-academy-garden/>) featured the work of our very own Stephanie Elwood, Extension Associate (Horticulture) and her efforts with the USDA funded Fast Track Grant Gardening Program at Thrive Academy. This story highlights the impacts of gardening at the school.

Three major events are on the horizon for April. On the 5th, we are hosting the 4th annual Personal Health History Workshop. This year’s workshop will focus on Heart Health and a local cardiologist, Dr. Jay Hollman will serve as the keynote speaker. On the 16th, we host the annual Procurement Conference. We are expecting over 400 local business owners, government contractors and those interested in securing government contracts to attend this conference. We partner with several local and state agencies to offer this opportunity to small business owners. On April 24th, we will partner with the Flowers Lovers Guild of Scotlandville to offer the Spring Garden Workshop.

Additionally, we are continuing to offer free certification training courses in Small Business Development, Sustainable Urban Agriculture, Food / Farm Safety and Small Ruminants. Currently, members of this team are conducting weekly trainings in Alexandria, Folsom, and Greensburg, La. We hope to begin conducting classes in Opelousas and New Roads within the next couple of weeks. Stay tuned!



**collaborate**

## Association of 1890 Research Directors Project

Faculty and students from Alcorn State University visited Southern University on February 1 to discuss and conduct a field study for the upcoming Association of 1890 Research Director (ARD) Conference. Students from both Universities collected soil samples, installed insect traps and tree measurements during the visit. Faculty and students from Southern University also visited Alcorn State University on February 21 to repeat the project. Results from this research will be presented by students at the ARD Conference in Jacksonville, Florida from March 30 – April 3, 2019.

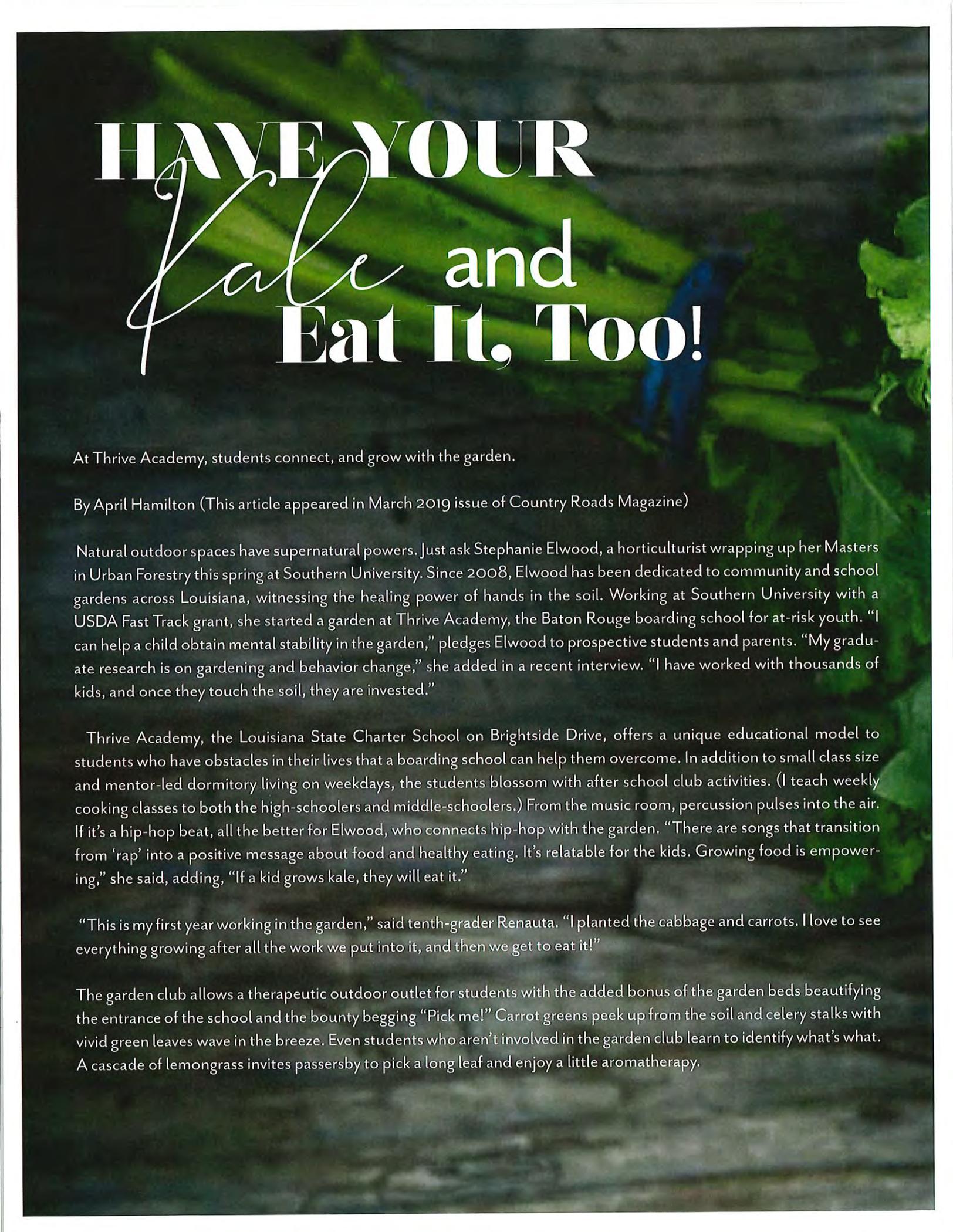


## Animal Science Department Receives Donation from

# Four Paws Cremation Services



Four Paws Pet Cremation Service has donated a distal horse limb to the Department of Agricultural Sciences in Southern University's College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences. Lorenzo Bennet, an alum of the College and owner/-CEO of the cremation service, presented the limb to Renita Marshall, DVM, Chair of the Department of Agricultural Sciences. Marshall said the limb will be used for student instruction. "We have a veterinary sciences course that we will use to show the students a real-life picture into how the bones and the limbs of animals work," said Dr. Marshall. "Whether or not the students go into animal science or veterinary medicine they will need to know how the bones work to be able to assist with any type of surgery or anything that has to do with the medical condition of a horse's limb." The department offers Bachelor of Science degrees in Agricultural Sciences with concentrations in Agri-business, Agricultural Economics, Animal Science, Plant and Soil Sciences, or Pre-Veterinary Medicine.



# HAVE YOUR *Fale* and Eat It, Too!

At Thrive Academy, students connect, and grow with the garden.

By April Hamilton (This article appeared in March 2019 issue of Country Roads Magazine)

Natural outdoor spaces have supernatural powers. Just ask Stephanie Elwood, a horticulturist wrapping up her Masters in Urban Forestry this spring at Southern University. Since 2008, Elwood has been dedicated to community and school gardens across Louisiana, witnessing the healing power of hands in the soil. Working at Southern University with a USDA Fast Track grant, she started a garden at Thrive Academy, the Baton Rouge boarding school for at-risk youth. "I can help a child obtain mental stability in the garden," pledges Elwood to prospective students and parents. "My graduate research is on gardening and behavior change," she added in a recent interview. "I have worked with thousands of kids, and once they touch the soil, they are invested."

Thrive Academy, the Louisiana State Charter School on Brightside Drive, offers a unique educational model to students who have obstacles in their lives that a boarding school can help them overcome. In addition to small class size and mentor-led dormitory living on weekdays, the students blossom with after school club activities. (I teach weekly cooking classes to both the high-schoolers and middle-schoolers.) From the music room, percussion pulses into the air. If it's a hip-hop beat, all the better for Elwood, who connects hip-hop with the garden. "There are songs that transition from 'rap' into a positive message about food and healthy eating. It's relatable for the kids. Growing food is empowering," she said, adding, "If a kid grows kale, they will eat it."

"This is my first year working in the garden," said tenth-grader Renauta. "I planted the cabbage and carrots. I love to see everything growing after all the work we put into it, and then we get to eat it!"

The garden club allows a therapeutic outdoor outlet for students with the added bonus of the garden beds beautifying the entrance of the school and the bounty begging "Pick me!" Carrot greens peek up from the soil and celery stalks with vivid green leaves wave in the breeze. Even students who aren't involved in the garden club learn to identify what's what. A cascade of lemongrass invites passersby to pick a long leaf and enjoy a little aromatherapy.

Elwood mentally inventories the abundance of the Thrive garden beds: “There’s dinosaur kale, Red Russian kale, and ornamental kale that adds beautiful color to the beds and makes a pretty garnish. I like to grow things they can pick and eat raw, straight from the garden. It will be fun to partner with the cooking club so we can cook up some of our harvest,” she said. The current crop of broccoli and purple cauliflower will make its way to the kitchen where cooks and gardeners will collaborate on a “Mardi Gras Mac and Cheese,” festive with the green and purple vegetables dancing in a golden cheese sauce. Elwood’s devotion to gardening with kids is infectious. “I started the garden at Thrive in their previous location [at the Family Youth Services Center on Government Street] and a seed was planted in each student. A sixth grader from back then is a junior now and continues with the program. Watching them discover the beauty of the garden, it is magic. It’s why I’m here on this earth.” Teachers at Thrive tell Elwood how they value the garden as a calming space for students. “I’ve heard about students getting sent out to the garden to work out their emotions. It’s really beautiful.”

“One of my Thrive students lives with his grandparents. They had a communication gap, as in he would not communicate with them. When he learned to garden, he was able to establish a connection with them and started helping in their home garden.”

In the fall, the first crop of citrus will be ready for picking from the trees that line the courtyard of the residential building. Students can help themselves to a tasty homegrown snack, peeling back the fragrant skin and diving in to juicy segments that can be shared with a friend. As the Thrive campus expands to include a new academic building, Elwood will scale up food production to grow for the cafeteria. “Thrive is very open to growth. Having an onboard administration is a dream! The kids are learning to grow and also eating from the garden. Horticulture and health consciousness go hand in hand.

“Louisiana is a great place for agriculture. We can grow 365 days a year. We would love to see these students come to Southern (University) to study agriculture. There are so many careers—farming, research, veterinarian, ag-economics, horticulture florist, forestry.”

“It’s really interesting how much [agriculture] touches our daily lives,” added Elwood, citing sixty plant varieties that can be used for flood mitigation. “Green infrastructure is the future of our world!”

Elwood’s gusto for gardening spreads easily to other schools and communities. She partners with committed groups to help them implement a flourishing garden. “At Southern, we developed a 14-lesson community garden curriculum, including how to choose a garden site. With the Growing Healthy Nutrition Education Program we contract with selected sites so they realize what it takes to keep it going.”

Sustainability is key in any gardening endeavor. “We will help with a build day and turn it over to them to maintain,” said Elwood. “You can’t start a garden on just an idea, it takes commitment.”

  
COUNTRY ROADS  
MAGAZINE

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AG CENTER CONDUCTS

# FOOD SAFETY

CERTIFICATION TRAININGS THROUGHOUT THE STATE

The Southern University Ag Center has been conducting Food Safety Certification trainings in several cities throughout the state. The team, consisting of Dr. Fatemeh Malekian, L'Asia George, Emily King, and William Augustine, recently completed a training in Alexandria, and are currently conducting a training in Folsom, La. The five-session training consists of food handling information and a cooking demonstration which provides participants with a visual concept of the five chapters presented during the program. The demonstration also shows participants the proper way of implementing food safety practices while preparing a meal. At the end of the training, each participant is presented with a certificate of completion in Food Safety. Funding for the training is provided through a grant from the Louisiana Office of Community Services titled, "Enhancing Capacity of Louisiana Small Farms and Businesses." In addition to the Food and Farm Safety Certification Program, the SU Ag Center also offers certifications in Sustainable Urban Agriculture, Master Small Ruminant and Small Business Development.

For additional information on our four certification programs,  
visit <http://www.suagcenter.com/page/food-safety-certification-program>.

# THANK YOU

for your years of service, dedication and expertise!

**Dr. Bernestine McGee**

**40**  
**YEARS**  
of Service

Endowed Professor and Program Leader in the  
Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

**Terry Washington**

**40**  
**YEARS**  
of Service

County Agent for the Southern University  
Ag Center in Rapides Parish

**Dr. Gary Simon**

**30**  
**YEARS**  
of Service

University Veterinarian and Professor in the  
Department of Animal Science

**Angell Jordan**

**10**  
**YEARS**  
of Service

Assistant Area Agent for the Southern Univer-  
sity Ag Center in Acadia and Lafayette Parishes

# Nearly 200 Small Farmers attend



LOUISIANA  
**S M A L L**  
**F A R M E R S**  
CONFERENCE 2019

## UNLOCKING YOUR POTENTIAL

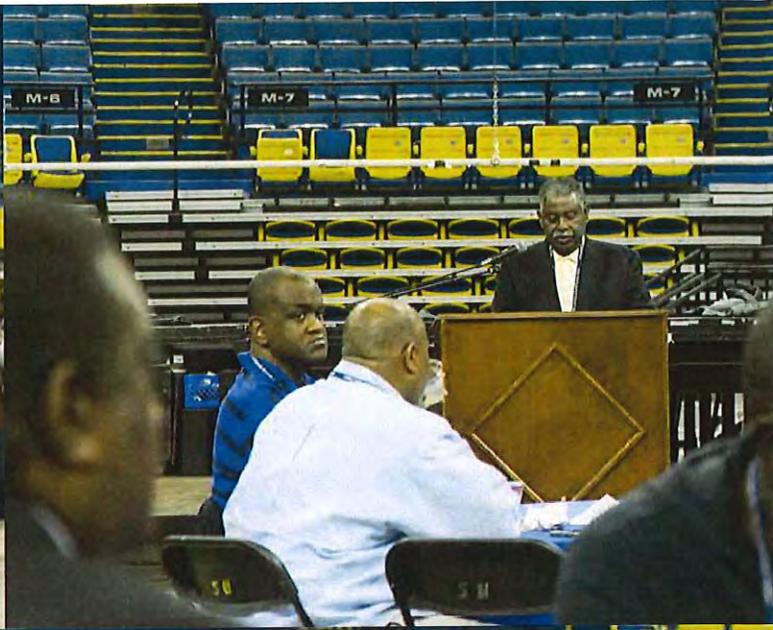
Grant Writing, Backyard Birds for the 21st Century, Value Added Products, Small Ruminant Reproduction, and Ag Technology...There's an App for That: Staying Connected were among the topics covered during the 9th Annual Louisiana Small Farmer Conference. One hundred and seventy-three small farmers from throughout Louisiana attended the three-day conference themed, "Unlocking Your Potential." The event was held March 14-16, at the Felton G. Clark Activity Center on Southern University's campus.

The first day of the conference provided small farmers with information on grant opportunities available to them through the Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, as well as information on the Southern University Ag Center's four certification courses. The second day of the conference began with an address from Louisiana's Department of Agriculture and Forestry Commissioner Mike Strain, DVM. The conference's keynote address was delivered by Randolph Joseph, Jr., the Assistant State Conservationists for the United States Department of Agriculture's National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

The day's session included Aquaponics and Vertical Gardening, Raised Beds and Conventional Soil Amendments, Sustainability: Self-Sufficient Farming Practices, and Soil Health for Better Crops and Livestock. There was also a USDA Round Table Discussion which provided small farmers an opportunity to ask questions and learn about the programs available through the USDA.

The Louisiana Living Legends Banquet was held on the evening of March 15 following the conference's sessions. This banquet honors individuals who have made significant contributions to Southern University in the areas of teaching, research, and extension. The 2019 honorees were Dr. Gary C. Simon, Southern University Veterinarian and Professor of Animal Science (Teaching); Dr. Calvin Reuben Walker, Interim Chancellor-Dean of the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the College of Agricultural, Family, and Consumer Sciences and Professor of Animal Science (Research); and Terrence S. Marshall, retired County Agent for the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center (Extension). The three join 27 others who have been honored with this recognition since 2005. Alisa Welsh, Principal of Madison Preparatory Academy, served as the speaker for the banquet.

The conference concluded with a Pasture Walk at Redwood Creek Cattle Farm in Ethel, La. During the walk, participants learned about electric fencing with a combination of barb wire, pasture management, cattle handling, cattle health and vaccination, record keeping, and toured the farmer's calf daycare.



## ALUMNISPOTLIGHT

**Terani Dillahunty** is in her second semester pursuing her MBA in the College of Business at Southern University (May 2018)

**Xavier Robinson** is a Visual Merchandiser for Forever 21 in Atlanta, GA (December 2018)

**Autumn Taylor** is Co-Manager of Ann Taylor Loft in Towne Center at Cedar Lodge in Baton Rouge (December 2018). Autumn has already begun to give back to the program by donating a number of mannequin dress forms which will be used in several of the classes.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



15th Annual  
**BUSINESS**  
PROCUREMENT  
& DEVELOPMENT  
**CONFERENCE**

APR  
16TH 2019

E.G. Clark Activity Center  
Southern University

CONNECTING BUSINESSES WITH CONTRACTS

For more information on being an exhibitor or attendee, please contact **Eual Hall** at 225-771.4105,  
**Krystle Washington** at 225-771.3902 or email [jo.lawrence3@sba.gov](mailto:jo.lawrence3@sba.gov) • [www.suagcenter.com](http://www.suagcenter.com)



# PERSONAL HEALTH *History* Workshop

Southern University Agricultural Land-Grant Campus

**April 5, 2019 / 9:00am-2:30pm**

Southern University Smith-Brown Memorial Union

500 Jesse Stone Ave, Baton Rouge, LA 70813

**General Session: Understand Your Risks to Prevent a Heart Attack**

\*Warning Signs of a Heart Attack in Men and Women

\*Exercise for a Healthy Heart

**Breakout Sessions:**



**Mental Health  
& Well-Being**



**Eating for a  
Healthy Heart**



**Harmful Effects  
of Smoking**



**Medicaid  
& Medicare**



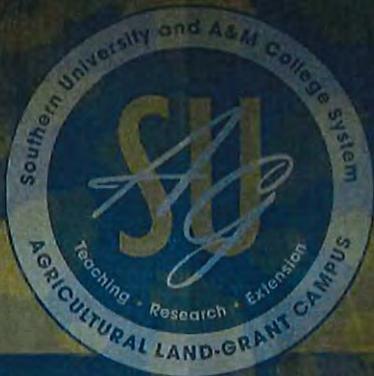
**Healthy Tactics for  
Personal Safety  
& Security**



**Power of Attorney  
& Living Wills**

**For more information, contact:** [delores\\_johnson@suagcenter.com](mailto:delores_johnson@suagcenter.com), 225-771-3704  
[SUAGCENTER.COM](http://SUAGCENTER.COM) [milissia\\_jbaptiste@suagcenter.com](mailto:milissia_jbaptiste@suagcenter.com), 225-771-2583

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL LAND-GRANT CAMPUS



Jaguar



HOWLERS & trailride



FEATURING **Lil NATE**

**APR 12-13, 2019**

**M.A. EDMOND LIVESTOCK ARENA**  
14600 Scenic Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70807

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
C. REUBEN WALKER 225-771-2242 OR VISIT [SUAGCENTER.COM](http://SUAGCENTER.COM)





## Chancellor's *Report*

APRIL 2019

VOLUME 4 \* NUMBER 4

### SUSLA A HOST SITE FOR NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES ANNUAL CONFERENCE: "COLOR OF JUSTICE"

In March SUSLA was honored to serve as one of three host sites for the National Association of Women Judges Annual Conference. The theme for the conference was "Color of Justice". The event drew a large attendance from throughout the city, region and state. Students from SUSLA's Criminal Justice Program were also present to hear from and be inspired by women judges from a broad range of knowledge, experience, and work in the justice field.

National Association of Women Judges



# NAWJ



**COLOR OF JUSTICE**  
**Southern University-Shreveport**  
TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 PM  
DATE: MARCH 21, 2019



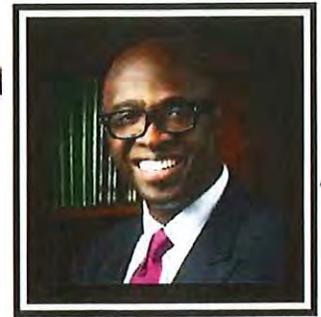
JUDGE YVETTE M. ALEXANDER  
Baton Rouge City Court, Baton Rouge, LA



JUDGE PAULA BROWN  
Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, New Orleans, LA



JUDGE REGINA BARTHOLOMEW-WOODS  
Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, New Orleans, LA



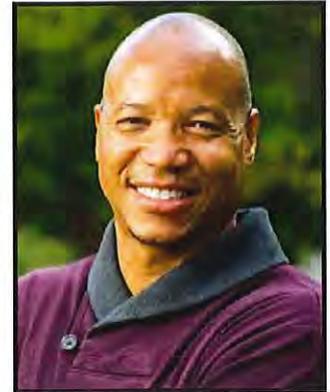
ATTORNEY CURTIS JOSEPH, JR.  
Winchell & Joseph, LLC, Law Firm

Judge Sheva M. Sims serves as the District 6 Director and Judge Aisha Clark served as the 2019 Conference Chairperson.

# 2019 Spring Convocation

Each year, The Office of Student Activities hosts its Fall Convocation. The goal of this event is to provide words of empowerment and encouragement to members of the SUSLA student body and the surrounding community.

Convocation was held on March 20, 2019 the speaker for this event was Social Entrepreneur/Humanitarian Rev. Steve Miller, who is the Project Director and Founder of the HBCU Truth & Reconciliation Oral History Project and the United States Christian Leadership Organization, a comprehensive and Christian-based educational and humanitarian organization dedicated to achieving racial equality through spreading the love of Christ and building relationships across ethnic lines in order to promote more lasting and authentic spiritual and social change.



He opened up with encouraging everyone to forget about certain things in their past. He shared with the group, he grew up poor and there were times when he didn't meet the expectation that was set by himself or his family. He confessed that in his junior year of college he almost dropped out, but in order for him to be where he is today he had to forget about some of the bad times that he had gone through. Mr. Miller encouraged the audience to forget about those derogatory, personal slips in their past that has caused them to ignore or abandon their dreams.



Pictured l to r:

Leslie McClellon, Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Economic Development, Steve Miller, Convocation Speaker and Caitlyn Jones, Miss SUSLA - 2018-2019

He believes one of the silver lining of bad times is creativity, where one has to create their own joy from things that others view as “*Ways of the impoverished*” . He closed by giving three examples to determining your purpose,

- 1) do what you're talented at doing,**
- 2) do what you enjoy doing, and**
- 3) do what you crave to do, because everyone holds the key to their own success.**

# Rotary



# Club of Shreveport Foundation

## SUSLA STUDENT RECEIVES ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP

On March 19, 2019, the Rotary Club of Shreveport hosted a scholarship luncheon to acknowledge six deserving students at colleges in North Louisiana. SUSLA student, LaTreavin Black received a \$2,000 scholarship after submitting a brief summary of the Rotary International motto: **“Service Above Self”**.



Dr. Alan Jackson  
Assistant Director of  
Financial Aid

LaTreavin and his mother, LaTarsha Phillips are both majoring in Criminal Justice at SUSLA. LaTreavin stated that he plans to pursue a career in law enforcement as a police officer or FBI agent after graduation to help prevent young adults from arrests and serve his community. In addition to his community service activities, LaTreavin has a 3.75 GPA and is a student athlete on SUSLA's championship winning Men's Basketball team.



LaTarsha Phillips and LaTreavin Phillips

Mr. Black and his mother were accompanied by SUSLA representatives: Stephanie Rogers, Chief Advancement Officer (on behalf of Rotarian Dr. Rodney Ellis); Katraya Williams, Director of Financial Aid; and Dr. Alan Jackson, Assistant Director of Financial Aid.

The Rotary Club of Shreveport also mailed a \$350 check to the two runners-up, Calvin Coley and Beatrice Wright.



Katraya Williams  
Director of Financial Aid





**Southern Conference on African American Studies, Inc.**

**S.C.A.A.S.I.**

## **VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS RECEIVES AWARD FOR PROMOTING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**



Dr. Sharron Herron-Williams, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at Southern University at Shreveport was presented the Fannie Lou Hamer and Kwame Nkrumah Award for Academic Leadership and Service in the African World during the 43rd Annual National Council for Black Studies Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana on March 9, 2019. This award is the highest-level award given to an academic leader who is blazing trails and spearheading initiatives critical to the academic enterprise.

She currently serves as assistant editor of the International Journal of Africana Studies and will host the Southern Conference of African American Studies in February 2020.

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## **ONE STOP CENTER FOCUSES ON INTEGRATION OF SERVICES**

On Tuesday, March 6, 2019, Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) hosted the "Integrated Continuum Partner Meeting." During the meeting, One Stop Center partners participated in working sessions that focused on integration of services. Small groups of partners engaged in activities in which they ranked major programs of One Stop Centers (youth programs, basic career services, and employer services, etc.) on an Integration Continuum which included five levels: isolation, communication, coordination, collaboration, and integration. Groups will meet over the next year to work on increasing the level of integration of each focus area.

More than thirty employees of Louisiana Workforce Development Board 71 and Louisiana Workforce Development Board 70 attended the daylong event which was held in the Alphonse Jackson, Jr. Building on the campus of SUSLA. Participants included representatives from WIOA, Jobs for Veterans (JVSG), Wagner Peyser, Trade Adjustment, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Job Corps.

The One Stop Center, which is operated by SUSLA's Division of Community & Workforce Development and funded through the City of Shreveport, LA's Workforce Development Board 71, coordinates service delivery among partners and service providers. The integrated service model is based on the concept that strengthened partner connections and the enhanced delivery of services translates into improved outcomes for shared customers.



Picture below: Herman Vital, Bureau Chief of Workforce Development, City of Shreveport; Richard Bates, Northwest Louisiana Technical College; Garry Green, LWC

## SUSLA REPRESENTATIVES ATTEND GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING WORKSHOP

Dr. Regina Roberson, Vice Chancellor of Research, Sponsored Programs, and Institutional Effectiveness (RSPIE) and Darrin Dixon, Executive Director of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development attended the National Institute of Health's (NIH) HBCU Industry Day in Bethesda, MD. The conference gave insight to HBCU's around the country about contracting opportunities available to Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

The conference also gave insight on how HBCU's should prepare to take advantage of these opportunities through forming strategic alliances with businesses and other universities, as well as building an infrastructure for engagement.



Dr. Regina Roberson  
VC, RSPIE



Darrin Dixon  
Executive Director of Entrepreneurship /  
Small Business Development

*The opportunity is vast given the fact that the agencies in the federal government have goals for inclusion for HBCU's that they are not close to meeting. We need to be preparing ourselves to help them meet their goals", stated Dixon.*

Plans are underway to begin strategizing across the campus to build a contracting enterprise.



## BY THE NUMBERS! SUSLA CELEBRATES OUTSTANDING YEAR OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

# 100% *Pass Rate!*

***Radiologic Technology Students Pass Rates NCLEX Exams***

***Dental Hygiene Student Pass Rates State Exams***

***Accreditation LPN AND RN Programs***

*Congratulations to the Allied Health Division*

## JAGUAR of the MONTH



***Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Chancellor is pleased to announce Carolyn O'Neal as Jaguar of the Month for April 2019.***

**CAROLYN O'NEAL** have been employed at Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) since 1997. She has served in various departments during her employment at SUSLA. Ms. O'Neal currently serves as the Special Assistant for Academic Affairs and Research, Sponsored Programs and Institutional Effectiveness.

Dr. Sharron Herron-Williams and Dr. Regina Robinson has complete trust in Carolyn when it comes to the day-to-day office activities, as well as keeping them on schedule. Ms. O'Neal often goes "Above and Beyond" assisting other departments during scheduled activities and events on campus.. She demonstrates the true meaning of "Team Player" with pride and integrity. When called upon is always will to serve. There are many times when she sees something that simply needs to be done, when she steps up and says with a smile - "What can I do to help"? Ms. O'Neal consistently demonstrate true "Jaguar Pride" while taking her job responsibilities very seriously and working faithfully from her heart. Ms. O'Neal has a Bachelor of Business Administration with Concentration in Organizational Management from Wiley College.

**Ms. O'Neal really and truly deserves the distinction as "Jaguar Of the Month for April 2019".**

## JAGUAR STUDENT of the MONTH

**SAMBRISHA SHEPPARD** is a Nursing Major from Vivian, Louisiana who has attended SUSLA since 2017. During that time, she has maintained 3.8 and above GPA. She is a member of Beta Beta Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. Ms. Sheppard is the student worker for the Office of the Chancellor. In this position, she has demonstrated great customer service and professionalism in her work ethics on a daily basis. Per Ms. Linzola Winzer, her supervisor, *"She is very quick to catch on to any and every task assigned to her and completes them with little to no supervision. I am really going to miss her when she goes to SUBR in the Fall. I know she will do great on the SUBR campus."* Sambrisha is very active in her church, where she is the Praise Dance Leader and serves has a mentor to other youth. Her hobbies include reading and shopping. Sambrisha is the youngest of her siblings but, you can't tell that by her strong character and outgoing personality.



# SUSLA

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SHREVEPORT LOUISIANA

Excellence • Integrity • Accountability • Service • Diversity

The Chancellor's Report is a monthly publication from the  
Office of the Chancellor  
Rodney A. Ellis, Ed.D., Chancellor  
Larry Ferdinand, Chief Administrative & Operations Officer

Articles and editing provided through the  
Office of Marketing and University Relations

Design / layout / artwork and finishing services provided through the  
Office of Graphics Services / Document Management Center  
Barbara Austin, Coordinator / Editor

Units of the Division of Institutional Advancement / University Relations  
Stephanie K. Rogers, Chief Advancement Officer

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Dr. Ray L. Belton, President and Secretary to the Board of Supervisors

## ARE YOU FOLLOWING US ON SOCIAL MEDIA?



"Southern University at Shreveport does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability or any other protected class".

Title IX Coordinator: Dr. Tuesday W. Mahoney,  
Johnny L. Vance, Jr. Student Activity Center, Room 208, (518) 670-9201.  
Section 504 Coordinator: Jerushka Ellis,  
Health & Physical Education Complex, Room 314, (318) 670-9367.



Rodney A. Ellis, Ed.D.  
**CHANCELLOR**

## EXECUTIVE TEAM MEMBERS

Wayne H. Bryant  
Brandy Jacobsen  
Larry Ferdinand  
Leslie R. McClellon  
Dr. Regina Robinson  
Stephanie K. Rogers  
Janice Suced  
Frank Williams, Jr.  
Dr. Melva K. Williams  
Dr. Sharon Herrou-Williams

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Major Brock  
Devonice Brown  
JoAnn Warren-Brown  
Darrin Dixon  
Beatrice Wright (SGA)  
Angelique Fenster-Evans  
Rebecca Gilliam  
Stephanie Graham  
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Soutya Hester  
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SUNO  
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY of NEW ORLEANS

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT  
April 2019

ACADEMIC

# SIGNING DAY

**Welcome  
Class of 2023!**



Jada Williams



# *Celebrating* **WOMEN'S HISTORY**

The Center for African and African American Studies hosted two events in March to honor the accomplishments of women during Women's History Month. Attorney Janai S. Nelson, associate director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Inc., spoke March 18 on the topic: "The Social, Political and Legal Relevance of, and Challenges to, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Inc."



*Photo by Mark Ford*

*Vice Chancellor Brenda Jackson, from left, Attorney Janai Nelson and Dr. Clyde Robertson, director, Center for African and African American Studies*

Freddi Williams-Evans, author, independent scholar and arts educator, spoke March 25 on "Congo Square as a Unifying Institution: From the Late 18th Century to the Present" at St. Katharine Drexel Preparatory School.



*Photo by Tammy C. Barney*

# SUNO Signs New Students

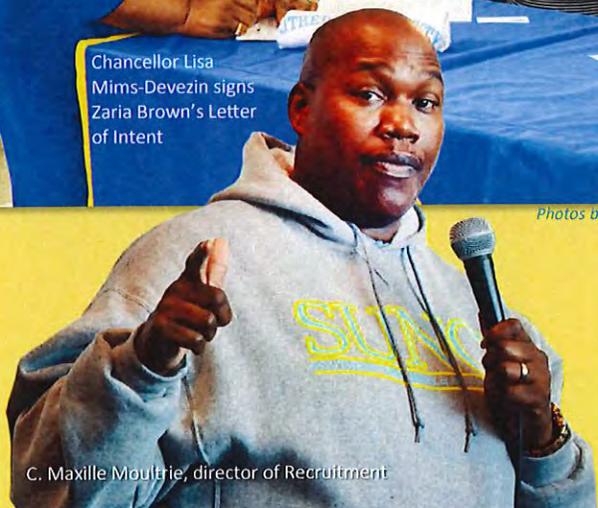


**Class of 2023:** Zaria Brown, from left, Jada Williams, Samyria Mills, Natizia Blaise and Karoline Delacruz-Humphrey



Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin signs Zaria Brown's Letter of Intent

Photos by Tammy C. Barney



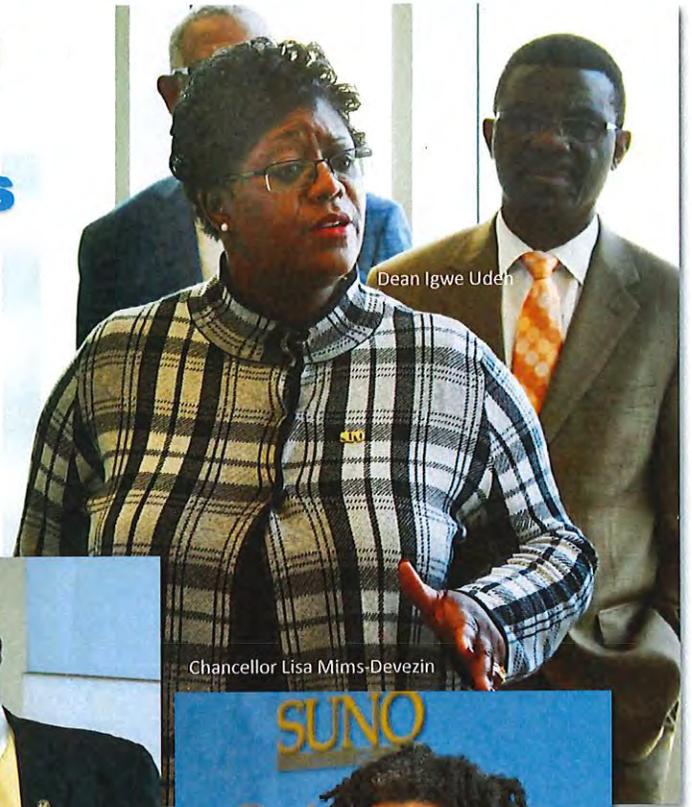
C. Maxille Moultrie, director of Recruitment

Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin welcomed about 30 incoming freshman to Southern University at New Orleans on Academic Signing Day March 30. The following students signed Letters of Intent: Louis Argueta, David Barry, Natizia Blaise, Joshua Brown, Zaria Brown, Ivayonne Cutno, Leyonce Davis, Karoline Delacruz-Humphrey, Aryanna Demery, Asia Foster, Kaitlin Franklin, Dyani Gilbert, Tyhonta Goeffner, Daisha Gusman, Tiea Lanaux, Jessie Marine, Shanaza Massey, Ariel Meyers, Samyria Mills, Akeia Moore, Ayana Mosley, Khalif Muhammad, Jermaney Mundy, Royanee Narcisse, Miguel Perrault, Janeia Phillips, Kendra Pierce, Angelina Sanders, Catherine Walker and Jada Williams.

# SUNO Hosts Reception For State Legislators & Distinguished Guests

Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin invited state legislators and other elected officials to campus March 27 for a reception in the new Natural Sciences Building.

The following legislators attended the event: Sen. Wesley Bishop, Rep. Joseph Bouie, Rep. Royce Duplessis. School Board Member Ben Kleban, N.O. City Councilmembers Jay Banks and Joseph Giarrusso, and Southern University System Vice President Robyn Merrick also attended.



Dean Igwe Uden

Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin



Sen. Wesley Bishop and Councilmember Jay Banks

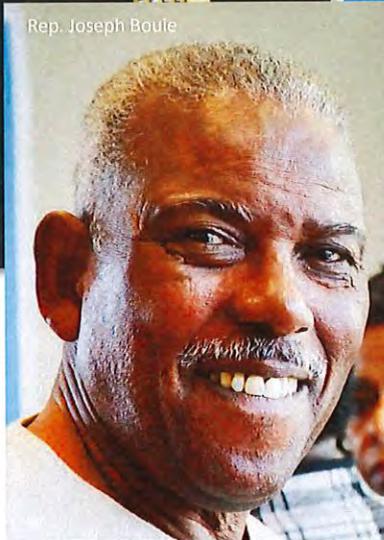


Vice President Robyn Merrick



Chief Administrative Officer  
Gloria B. Moultrie

Councilmember Joseph Giarrusso



Rep. Joseph Boule

## STEM Leadership Conference A Success



The University's first STEM Leadership Conference was March 9 in the Natural Sciences Auditorium. The conference was hosted by the student organizations of the National Institute of Science/ Beta Kappa Chi (NIS/BKX ) and Beta Beta Beta (BBB), an honor society for biology undergraduates.

The conference opened with greetings by Peace Ekpo, the SUNO-chapter president of NIS/BKX followed by Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin, Dr. David Adegboye, Dr. Evelyn Harrell, Dr. Alvin Bopp, and BBB President Dulaine Vining.

The main speakers were Dr. Allison C. Augustus-Wallace from the LSU Health Sciences Center and Dr. Carl P. Johnson, SUNO Chemistry professor. Dr. Augustus-Wallace spoke about taking



advantage of opportunities and Dr. Johnson addressed handling the academic journey ahead. After the keynote presentations, a student panel discussed the secrets to success at SUNO: faculty interaction, research experiences, conference presentations and other opportunities. In addition, student researchers gave poster presentations. Dr. Murty Kambhampati and Dr. Joe Omojola, student organizations chapter sponsors, gave closing remarks.

## Conference Focuses on Recidivism

The Public Administration Association partnered with the Peer Leadership Society, a local nonprofit organization, to host a conference to raise awareness about the challenges faced by formerly incarcerated people as they seek to re-integrate into society.

Mr. Rufus Johnson, president of Peer Leadership Society, and a graduating senior in the Public Administration program spoke about these challenges and how such pushback from society could lead to recidivism. Several speakers, some of whom had gone through the criminal justice system, gave testimonies on what works and what does not work.

The speakers emphasized that everybody makes mistakes and that society has a right to punish wrongdoing. However, society also should make provision for redemption for those who chose to change their lives. Otherwise, the correction system becomes a vicious cycle.

Examples were given about the enormous financial and human cost of incarceration and how society will be wise to pursue programs that keep people out of the correction system.

A portion of the conference proceeds will be donated to members of the PADM Association to cover the cost to attend of the 2019 ASPA/COMPA conference in Washington, D.C.



## Technology Work Group Visits DXC Technology

The SUNO Technology Work Group (TWG) visited the DXC Technology Office in New Orleans for to discuss the firms' expectations as it ramps up its New Orleans operations. The DXC visit was not only intended to educate the TWG members about the knowledge, skills and abilities essential to excel at DXC, but also about what is required to excel in any IT organization.

DXC Technology opened its New Orleans office less than two years ago with a goal of making the city one of the major technology hubs in the country. To achieve this goal, DXC needs many Information Technology professionals to provide services to its global client base. SUNO is one of seven higher learning institutions in the state charged with providing college-educated IT professionals for the growing DXC workforce.

Each institution is tasked with providing a number of qualified applicants for potential employment. Currently, SUNO has achieved 420 percent of the goal, the highest among participating institutions.

After the presentation, the TWG members toured the DXC facility, where they met nine SUNO alums working for the company, including Stanley Ikegwuonu, Aquil Hasan and Tolulope Okuboyejo. Most of the employees were graduates of the SUNO MS- Computer Information Systems program. The TWG members who attended the meeting were Drs. Joe Omojola, David Alijani, Nabie Conteh, Robert Elliott, Yanjun Yu, Obyung Kwun, Adrine Harrell-Carter, Samuel Eweni, Yun Doo Lee, Mrs. Timotea Bailey, Ms. Youlander Smith, Ms. Sheila Wood and College of Business Dean Igwe Udeh.



*Public Administration Club members and their first place trophies.*

## **Public Administration Club Wins First Place**

Student Rufus Johnson led the Public Administration Club to first place in a policy debate during the 2019 Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA) in Baltimore, MD March 5-8. They other club members who attended the conference are Andrea Brown, Tevin Butler, Phyllis Jason, Pamela Boyd, Danielle Boyd and Peggy Bickham.

Dr. Patricia Robertson, associate professor of Public Administration, received the Mentorship Award and was elected vice president of COMPA.

Following the conference, the students had the opportunity to visit Congressman Cedric Richmond's office. Congressman Richmond arranged free passes for the students to go to the floor of the U. S. House of Representatives to witness a bill being debated and passed.

## **Vice Chancellor Serves on Cross-System Panel at LSU Alexandria**



Dr. Brenda Jackson , vice chancellor, was one of eight women selected by their university leadership to serve on a cross-system panel entitled "Resilient Woman Working: Women Leading from the Middle/Upper Level Management" at the Louisiana Association of Women in Higher Education (LAWHE) Conference March 20 at LSU Alexandria. More than 100 women in higher education from around the state, including Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin, participated.

Dr. Jackson also was recognized and spotlighted in the New Orleans Mayor's Neighborhood Engagement Office Newsletter for her outstanding service and involvement in her community and throughout the city.

In February, Dr. Jackson was re-elect as the 1<sup>st</sup> vice president of the East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission.

# HIMS Professor Sworn In As LHIMA President



SUNO's HIMS Program  
is ranked **No. 7**  
in the **Top 25**  
HIM Degree Programs  
-2017-2018 Management Degree Guide

Assistant Professor Laura Douresseaux-Collins was sworn in as 2019-2020 president and Mr. Barrilleaux was re-affirmed as the Secretary-Treasurer at the annual meeting of the Louisiana Health Information Management Association (LHIMA) March 19-22.

In celebration of Health Information Professional's (HIP) Week, the HIMS department hosted the Greater New Orleans Health Information Management Association (GNOHIMA) meeting in the Natural Sciences Building March 29. Assistant Professor Sharon McGee is the past-president of this organization.

## School of Social Work Celebrates Social Work Month

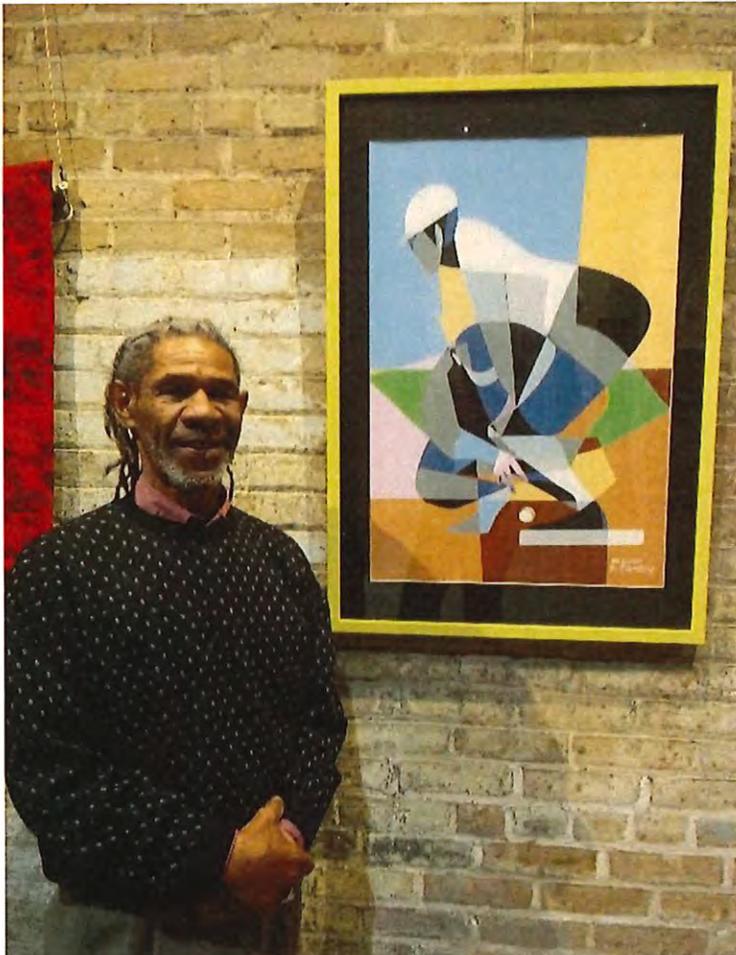
There were many activities scheduled in March to celebrate Social Work Month in the School of Social Work. Dr. Derrick Freeman and Professor Gladys Merrick conducted meetings for students. Dr. Freeman presented a professional Skills day for MSW students. He also invited numerous partner agencies, such as Kingsley House, Volunteers of America and the local Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) office to talk to students about employment Professor Merrick had an event for BSW students.

Several Social Work faculty and students attended the Louisiana National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Conference. A number of SUNO students volunteered for the conference while others were sponsored through the Title IV-E program.

The Rev. Edward Pinkney, a leader in the struggle for social and economic justice for residents of Benton Harbor, MI, spoke to students in a MSW Diversity and Empowerment course. Rev. Pinkney spoke about the importance of social work students in the support of social and economic justice in the American Judicial System.



◀ Dr. Sara Hollis' exhibition, *The Magical Line—A Drawing Retrospective*, opened at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Story Gallery in the Healing Center to a large crowd in March. Dr. Hollis invited four guest artists to show with her: Dr. Haitham Eid, Ms. Beryl Johns, Mr. Floyd Williams and Ms. Julie Romain. All were graduates of the M.A. Museum Studies program.

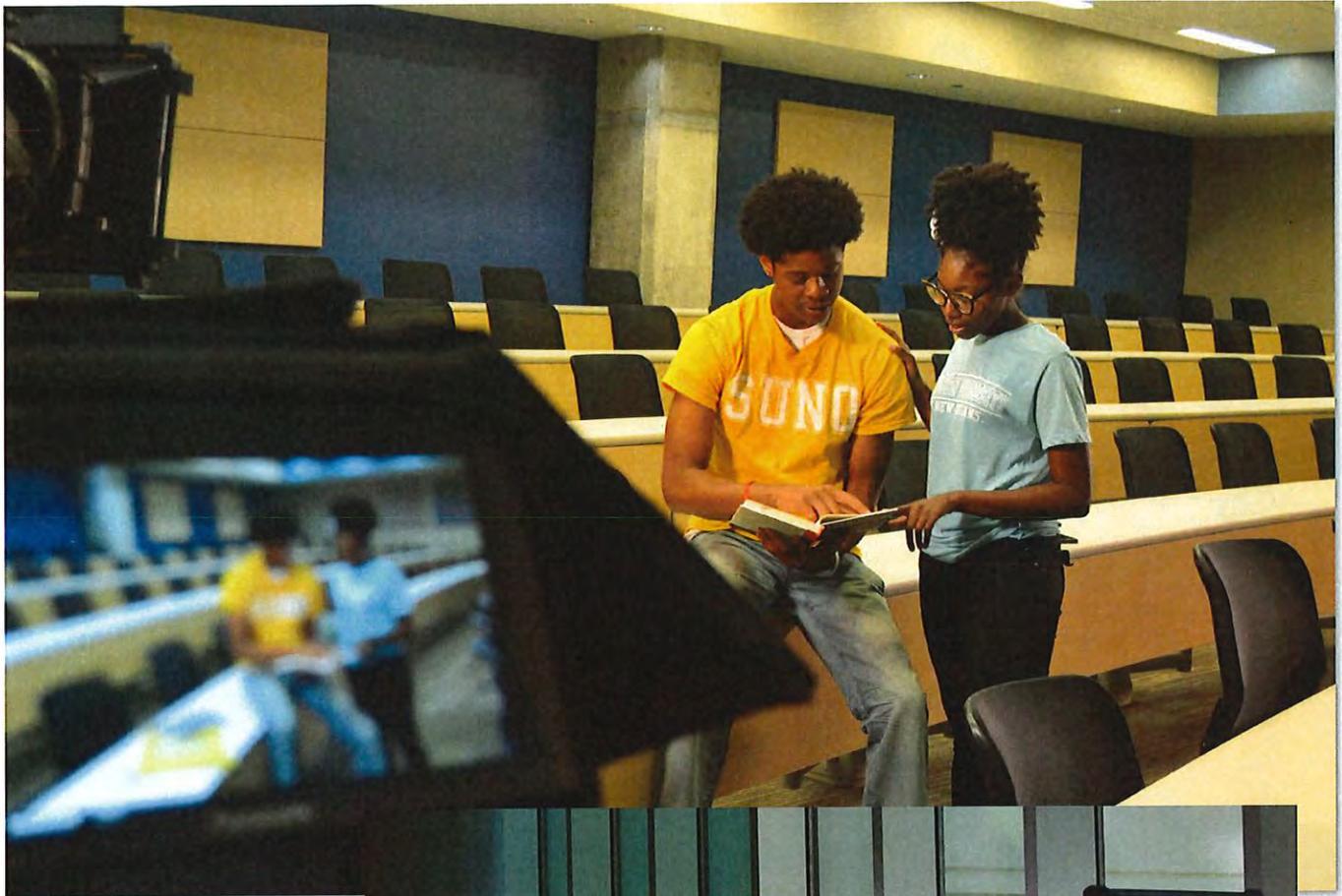


◀ Dr. Ira Neighbors, as the Millie M. Charles Endowed Chair, has collected resources that tell about African-Americans in Social Work. These resources are housed in his office. Dr. Neighbors also has one of the works of Lowe on display at the Ashe Powerhouse Theatre. At left, he is pictured with a painting of Lowe. This work was selected through a peer review process.

## ABCP Program Hosts External Reviewer



The Addictive Behaviors Counseling and Prevention (ABCP) Program hosted Dr. Eugene Herrington (pictured above fourth from left), external reviewer for the ABCP Program, March 18-19. Dr. Herrington met with students in ABCP 494 Seminar for Majors and ABCP 325 Applied Counseling Techniques classes; SPESA members; ABCP, Social Sciences and General Studies faculty, as well as Academic Affairs. **TOP PHOTO:** SPESA Secretary Jacqueline Hurst presents Dr. Herrington with a token of appreciation.



## Commercial Focuses on New Buildings

Students Jared Roark (freshman business administration major), in top photo, and Amber Foucher (sophomore Biology major) rehearse in the Natural Sciences Building Lecture Hall for the upcoming commercial featuring the new buildings on campus. At right, Chicqunay Drew (junior Biology major) has her moment under the bright lights. The commercial is scheduled to start airing this summer.



Photos by Tammy C. Barney



## A 'Great Day' for Forensic Science

Dr. Paris Favorite (center), director of the Forensic Science Department, and student Jacy Haynes talked about the benefits of the bachelor's degree program during on "Great Day Louisiana" March 13. Dr. Favorite is the only African American woman who serves as director of a forensic science department in the Southern Region.

Forensic Science is the study of science as it pertains to the law. In this field, there are two tracks: the Crime Scene Investigator and the Forensic Scientist. The investigators are the scientists who go out to the crime scene, collect evidence and bring it back to the laboratory for testing. Once the Forensic Scientists receive the evidence, they will examine it and unlock the story by testifying in court about the test results, which will determine if the person is or is not responsible for committing the crime.

Dr. Hyacinth McKee participated in Social Work Day on the Hill at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. March 20. During the annual event, social work policy makers from institutions of higher learning, students from schools of social work, state and national legislators, and advocacy organizations gathered to take on the task of establishing strategies to actualize policy change for a just and equitable society.

This year's topic of discussion was "Asset Building for Every Child's Future: Putting Child Development Accounts on the Federal Legislative Agenda."

Representing SUNO's School of Social Work, Dr. McKee made connections with the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and the Association of Social Work Education (ASWB). CSWE accredits Schools of Social Work across the country and ASWB is the organization that develops and organizes national and local licensing examinations.



Dr. Darla Spence Coffey, president, CSWE;  
Dr. Hyacinth McKee; Mary Jo Monahan,  
chief executive officer, ASWB

Dr. Tchavdar Marinov, professor of Mathematics, hosted the Math Kangaroo in the Natural Sciences Building March 21. The Math Kangaroo is an international grade-level math competition for 1-12-grade students. Seven New Orleans students and one from Mobile, AL participated. Competition results are expected this spring.

Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin was named president-elect of the Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities (CLCU). This honor was bestowed upon her at the 80th Annual Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities March 21 at Louisiana State University of Alexandria.

Taylor Williams will represent SUNO, the Forensic Science Department and the Leonard S. Washington Memorial Library at Yale University this summer. She will receive travel, housing and a stipend.

"Adoption of Virtual Reality in Learning Among HBCU Students," by Obyung Kwun, Ghasem S. Alijani and Mohammed A. Khaleel (SUNO student), was accepted for presentation at the 2019 Institute for Global Business Research Conference in New Orleans April 24-26. This paper also is under review by *Global Journal of Business Pedagogy*.

Dr. Bashir Atteia, in collaboration with researchers at the Tulane University School of Medicine, submitted an abstract entitled "Interplay of Folate Receptors and Glucocorticoids in Human Prostate Cancer" to the 7th Annual LA Conference on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics Conference scheduled April 5-6 at the Louisiana State University Center of Computation and Technology in Baton Rouge. Dr. Atteia also submitted a Faculty Summer Research proposal to the Louisiana Biomedical Research Network for summer 2019 support entitled, "Roles of Mitophagy, Autophagy, and Neovascularization in the Pathogenesis and Development of Atherosclerotic Lesions in Human Carotid Arteries" He continues as a reviewer for the journal *Frontiers in Pharmacology*. In March, he reviewed a manuscript entitled "Research Progress on PARP14 as a Drug Target," which was accepted for publication.

Staff members from the Office of Recruitment met with delegates from the International Organization: Viet Nam Hieu Hoc, an international organization, to discuss expanding the footprint of recruitment for Southern University at New Orleans both locally and internationally. The Vietnamese delegation shared that SUNO could have access to 20 provinces in Vietnam as well as access to each of its contacts throughout China. Conversations have already taken place with SUNO students, faculty, staff and local community leaders of Vietnamese ethnicity in support of this international opportunity.



Pictured from left: C. Maxille Moultrie, director of Recruitment; William Truong, general director of Vietnam Hieu Hoc Group; Ada Kwanbunbumpen, director of Institutional Research, Effectiveness and Strategic Planning; Constance Woods, new freshman admissions counselor/recruiter



## Alumni Spotlight



Born in Brooklyn, NY, Dr. John Berry attended the New York Public School System, but dropped out. However, he eventually turned his education life around.

He says he is “most proud of obtaining his GED and attending Southern University at New Orleans!”

Once he started on his educational journey, Dr. Berry did not stop. He earned an associate degree in Applied Science from State University of New York at Farmingdale in 1978; a BSW in 1984 and a MSW in 1987 from SUNO; and a Ph.D. from the Union Institute & University in Cincinnati, OH.

Since 2016, he has worked as the chief executive officer/executive director of the Tri-County Child & Family Development Council Inc. in Waterloo, Iowa. The non-profit corporation implements the federal Head Start program in three Iowa counties. It was founded 30 years ago with hopes of keeping a viable Head Start program in the area.

He serves on the Waterloo Public Library Board Waterloo Schools Foundation Board, and as vice chair of the Cedar Valley United Way Board.

In addition, Dr. Berry is a guest columnist for the *Waterloo and Cedar Falls Courier*.

Chancellor's Report:  
April 2019



SOUTHERN  
UNIVERSITY

LAW CENTER

# Events

## When Lady Justice is Not Ladylike



Southern University Law Center's Louis A. Berry Civil Rights and Justice Institute hosted the *When Lady Justice is Not Ladylike: Narratives from Female Prisoners in Louisiana* presentation.

The interactive and educational exchange of information was introduced to challenge the assumptions about incarcerated people. Women who are in custody helped attendees gain a better understanding of the criminal justice system from the crime through pretrial, trial, sentencing, incarceration and reentry.

The discussion was moderated by 19<sup>th</sup> JDC Judge Trudy White and was open in the public.

# Partnerships & Collaborations

## All Roads Lead to Chaco Canyon



Southern University Law Center and the Coshatta Tribe of Louisiana held the 2nd Annual All Roads Lead to Chaco Canyon Conference at the Coshatta Pavilion in Kinder, Louisiana last month. The conference focused on creating business opportunities and trade partnerships in Indian Country.

The initial presentations were delivered by Dr. Raymond Austin, Professor Robert Miller, and SULC Visiting Professor Mark Roark covering topics such as Nation Building, Creating Private Sector Economies, and Business Transactions and Enforcing Agreements in Indian Country. The conference concluded with lecturers Professor Terry Anderson, Dean Stacey Leeds, and Attorney Joseph Austin covering the subjects of Historic Tribal Trading and Economic Practices, Tribal-State Economic Development Partnerships, and Native Nations and International Trade.

# Faculty Spotlight

**Professor Delseo Alford**



**Professor Jonathan Augustine**



## **Chancellor John K. Pierre**

Academia.edu, the world's largest platform for open-access scholarly work with almost 75 million registered users, and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund's Center for Advancing Opportunity (CAO) unveiled a new initiative to specifically highlight the academic work of professors from Historically Black Colleges and Universities, including from Southern University Law Center (SULC).

Among those recognized was SULC Visiting Professor Delseo Alford for her piece on Critical Race Theory and Professor Jonathan Augustine and Chancellor John Pierre for their joint effort entitled *The Substance of Things Hoped For Faith, Social Action and Passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965*.

# Student Spotlight

## Nicole Okeke-Oraeki



2L **Nicole Okeke-Oraeki** has been selected by United States Senator Bill Cassidy to intern in his office this summer. The Congressional Internship Program is an excellent opportunity to learn about the federal government and public policy issues. Nicole will have the opportunity to gain valuable experience conducting research research for constituent casework requests, assisting with Congressional events, and community outreach.

## Kennedy Lejeune



2L **Kennedy Lejeune** has been named a recipient of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) scholarship through the 2018-19 Denny's Hungry for Education program. Denny's Hungry for Education is a scholarship program that recognizes and rewards students who show initiative and creativity in the fight against childhood hunger.

# Remarkable Alumni



## Dr. Denise Wallace

Class of 1990 alumna, **Dr. Denise Wallace** is the newly appointed Vice President and General Counsel at Florida A & M University. She served in the same capacity at Dillard University in New Orleans and is licensed to practice law in Louisiana and Florida. Her appointment is effective on May 20, 2019.



## Attorney Tonya D. Jones

Class of 2011 alumna, **Tonya D. Jones** is among 17 African-American women to be elected Judge in Harris County, Texas. Prior to joining the bench, Jones was a legal fellow for the Travis County Juvenile Public Defender in Austin, Texas and also an associate at the Law Offices of Wilvin J. Carter.