## SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

(Following the Facilities and Property Committee)

Friday, February 25, 2011

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building

Southern University and A & M College at Baton Rouge

## **AGENDA**

- 1. Call to Order and Invocation
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Adoption of the Agenda
- 4. Public Comments
- 5. Action Items
  - A. Minutes of the January 7, 2011 regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors
  - B. Board Resolution opposing proposed merger of SUNO and UNO
  - C. Committee Reports and Recommendations
    - 1.) Academic Affairs Committee
    - 2.) Athletics Committee
    - 3.) Facilities and Property Committee
    - 4.) Finance and Audit Committee
  - D. Medical Leave of Absence for Professor O. Oko, SULC
  - E. Resolutions
- 6. Informational Reports
  - A. System Report: Project Positive Direction
  - B. Chancellor Reports
- 7. Other Business
- 8. Adjournment

## **Southern University Board of Supervisors**

9:00 a.m.

Friday, January 7, 2011 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building Baton Rouge, Louisiana

### Minutes

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Mr. Darren G. Mire. The invocation was given by Mr. Patrick W. Bell.

### **Present**

Mr. Darren G. Mire, Chairman

Atty. Murphy F. Bell, Jr., Vice Chairman

Mr. Patrick W Bell

Mr. Richard J. Caiton

Atty. Tony M. Clayton

Atty. Walter C. Dumas

Atty. Warren A. Forstall

Atty. Randal L. Gaines

Mr. Walter Guidry

Atty. Patrick D. Magee

Mr. Murphy Nash, Jr.

Mr. Randale Scott

Mr. Achilles Williams

### **Absent**

Atty. Patrick O. Jefferson Mr. Myron K. Lawson Mrs. Lea P. Montgomery

## **University Personnel**

System President Ronald Mason, Jr.

Evola Bates, Chief of Staff

System Vice Presidents Kevin Appleton and Tony Moore

Chancellors Ray Belton (SUSLA), Victor Ukpolo (SUNO), and Leodrey Williams (SUSLA)

Dr. Mwalimu Shujaa represented Chancellor Kofi Lomotey

Prof. Roderick White represented Chancellor Freddie Pitcher

\*\*\*

#### **Board Counsel**

Attys. Winston DeCuir, Sr., Atty. Winston DeCuir, Jr., and Tracie Woods

### **AGENDA ITEM 3: INSTALLATION OFFICERS**

Incoming Vice Chairman of the Board, Atty. Murphy F. Bell, Jr., was administered the oath of office by Atty. Winston DeCuir, Jr.

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Incoming Chairman of the Board, Mr. Darren G. Mire, was administered the oath of office by Mrs. Carmel Mire.

## **AGENDA ITEM 4: SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Immediate past Board Chairman, Antonio M. Clayton was recognized for his service as Board Chairman for the past two years. A token of appreciation was given to Atty. Clayton from the Board of Supervisors and the Southern University at New Orleans. An official photo of Atty. Clayton was hung on the wall of the Board Room.

### **AGENDA ITEM 5: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On motion of Atty. Magee, seconded by Mr. Williams, the agenda was adopted, as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### AGENDA ITEM 6: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Thomas Miller, Vice President of the SUBR Faculty Senate, registered concern regarding what he perceived to be faculty and gender inequities in the membership of the SUBR Chancellor Search Committee.

Dr. Sudhir Trivedi, President of the SUBR Faculty Senate, echoed Dr. Miller's comments and also tendered appreciation to Atty. Clayton for his past service as Board Chairman.

### **AGENDA ITEM 7: ACTION ITEMS**

A. Minutes of the December 10, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors

On motion of Atty. Forstall, seconded by Atty. Bell,

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the minutes of the December 10, 2010 regular meeting of the Board be and they are hereby approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Proposed Amendments to Board's Bylaws

On motion of Atty. Dumas, seconded by Mr. Bell,

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the addition of the sub-sections indicated below to the Bylaws of the Board of Supervisors, be and they are hereby approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Article VII: Section 6. Chancellors**

## **Sub-sections**

- I. The Chancellor shall have responsibility and oversight over all fundraising activities.
- J. The Chancellor shall have responsibility and authority to exercise administrative and fiscal control.
- C. Mineral Lease Sale, SUSLA

On motion of Mr. Guidry, seconded by Atty. Forstall,

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Southern University and A&M College has determined that it is the owner of mineral interests in and under immovable property in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, which constitutes the Shreveport campus of Southern University described in Exhibit "A", attached hereto and made a part hereof.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Southern University and A&M College has determined that it desires to take advantage of LSA R.S. 30:152(A), et seq, to authorize the Louisiana State Mineral and Energy Board to nominate the property described in Exhibit "A" for state agency mineral lease.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Southern University and A&M College, in legal session convened, that it does hereby direct and authorize the Louisiana State Mineral and Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources to accept nominations, advertise for, accept and award bids, and execute all oil, gas and mineral leases pertaining to the immovable property listed on the attached Exhibit "A", and additional conditions, minimum bonuses and rental on attached Exhibit "B".

Motion carried unanimously.

### D. Resolutions

None

## **AGENDA ITEM 8: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

## A. System President's Report

A report on the first meeting of the Southern University Baton Rouge Chancellor Search Committee on Thursday, January 6 was reported by Dr. Mason. He advised that the Committee acted to approve the hiring on an executive search firm to aid in the Chancellor search and selection; and, to raise funds through private sources to pay this expense.

Continuing his report, Dr. Mason advised the Board that the first phase of Project Positive Direction had been implemented in an effort to enhance the University's business operations and technology infrastructure. Phase I includes the System administrators working

with the Chancellors to review campus operations relative to structure, processes and personnel. Additionally, campus Internal Auditors and Institutional Research personnel will now be required to report to persons holding these positions at the System level.

## B. Chancellors' Reports

The information below was submitted to the Board in addition to the written reports furnished by the Chancellors.

### **SUBR**

- -The Campus will be the venue for ESPN2's SportsNation show which will broadcast live on ESPN2.
- -Free ACT Workshops will be conducted on the Campus, beginning Spring 2011.

## **SUNO**

- -The Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new Information Technology Building will take place in February.
- -The SUNO Foundation was awarded a \$25,000 Grant from the Coca Cola Foundation to be used to provide First Generation College Scholarships to 20 full-time students at SUNO, who meet the criteria.

#### **SUSLA**

-Closing on the purchase of the Allen Building in downtown Shreveport is expected to be completed by the end of January.

### SULC

-The American Association of Law Schools voted unanimously on January 6, 2011 to admit the SU Law Center to its membership.

#### **SUAREC**

-No additional report.

## **AGENDA ITEM 9: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

SU Board of Supervisors Minutes, January 7, 2011 Page 6 of 6

## AGENDA ITEM 10: ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Atty. For	stall, the meeting was adjourned.
Secretary, S.	U. Board of Supervisors
 Chairman, S	S.U. Board of Supervisors



## SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

261 A. A. LENOIR HALL
POST OFFICE BOX 9294
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70813-9294

February 10, 2011



## **VIA EMAIL AND HAND DELIVERY**

Dr. Ronald Mason President Southern University System J.S. Clark Administration Bldg. Southern University Baton Rouge, LA 70813

Re: Request for Leave of Absence

Dear Dr. Mason:

Professor Okechukwu Oko, a 15 year employee of the Southern University Law Center, has requested medical leave with pay from January 1, 2011, with an anticipated date of return on May 31, 2011. He has provided two confidential medical reports to Human Resources in support of his leave request. His paperwork was submitted timely for consideration by the Board of Supervisors at its December meeting, but inadvertently did not make it to the Board's agenda for approval.

I am, therefore, requesting that Professor Oko's leave request be submitted to the Board of Supervisor's at its February meeting for final approval. Moreover, I ask that his leave be made retroactive to the January 1 effective date as originally requested.

I thank you for your assistance and with kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

Freddie Pitcher, Jr. (Judge Ret.)

Chancellor - SULC

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**Attachments** 

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## SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Personnel Action Form POSITION NUMBER

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X Academic Non-Academic	Civil Service
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Tenured Undergraduate Student	Job Appointment
Tenured Track Graduate Assistant	Probationary
Other (Specify) Retiree Return To Work	Permanent Status
Previous Employee Okechukwu Oko	Reason Left FML
Date Left 12/31/2011	Salary Paid \$121,563
Profile of Person Recomm	nended
Length of Employment August, 1995	To Present
Effective Date 01-01-2011	-
Name Okechukwu Oko SS# xxx-x	x-3206 Sex M Race* B
(La	et 4 digits only)
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This information is requested solely for the purpose of and does not affect employment consideration.			
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Russell Jon	12/3/2010 Date	Chancellor	total 1)	<u> </u>	Date
Director/Porsonnel	Date	Vice President/Fir Business Affairs/		· · ·	Date

Chairman/S.U. Board of Supervisors Date

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RACE (Please check all that apply):	· ·		
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Black. not of Hispanic Origin. A person having origins in any			ole East.
Hispanic. A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or regardless of race.			or origins.
Asian or Pacific Islander A person having origins in any of the or Subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example,	China, Japan, Korea, th	e Philippine Islands, a	nd Samoa.
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## REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE FORM SULC SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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APPLICATION FOR LEAVE	SOUTHERN UN	IVERSITY SYSTEM		<i>:</i>
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Date	DUMOW Proflesor	Approved By President and for Cl		——————————————————————————————————————
	PHYSICIAN	'S CERTIFICATION		
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11 09 20	Doctor's Signature Janet	Cookino		



## SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70813-9294



## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

Chancellor Freddie Pitcher, Jr.

Southern University Law Center

From:

Professor Okechukwu Oko

Date:

November 30, 2010

Subject: Sick Leave

Attached is my sick leave application and all necessary forms for FMLA leave. My two medical reports have been submitted to the Human Resources office guided by the confidential privacy act.

Thank you for your support.

OO/tw Attachments

## Southern University System

SUBR	sus sulc_	SUNO	SUSLA	SUAREC
	Application for	Family or Me	dical Leave	<u>e</u>
Name: <i>(</i>	KECHUKWU OK	<u> </u>	Date:	11/30/2010
Current Addre	ess: 1303 MARCANT	HONY DR.,	B. R. 1	A 70816
Start Date of	Anticipated Leave:	4, 2011		
Expected Date	of Return to Work: MAY 3	1, 2011		
NOTE:	A leave request based on an employ an employee's spouse, child or pa from a physician by the completion	rent must be accom	panied by a ver	e serious health condition of rifying medical certification
	ONLY the Office of Human Resource All departments, supervisors are to stated on this application. If I information the employee will be as	maintain strict con Human Resources	fidentiality of an verifies any in	employees' illness, etc. as formation or needs more
	I understand that a failure to return resignation unless an extension had University.	n to work at the en as been agreed upo	d of my leave pon and approved	period may be treated as a d in writing by Southern
EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE	OwnTho		DATE:	Mr. 30,2010
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Spervisor/Depar	TUVI tment Heart		ecembe	r 3,200
Dear Vive Chanc	T. Herre	Da	ecam te	ber 3,2010
Director of Human	Resources Al Anthrope	Attler Pre	te ( sident/Appointi	ng Authority
	V	\\ \land \cdot \cd	••	Revision 10/2010

## **Southern University Law Center**

## **Personnel Action Form** January 24, 2011

## **Family Medical Leave**

Last	First	Salary Budget Amount	Period
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Paula Matthews

Received By:

Date: 1/24///

Southern University and A&M College at Baton Rouge

## Chancellor's Report





## SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS/ACHIEVEMENTS

## **Recruitment and Retention Efforts**

While there are some segments in this Chancellor's Report that are not directly related to recruitment and retention, a number of segments are related to our recruitment and retention efforts. Our aim is to magnify the intense effort that SUBR is exerting to address these two critical areas – recruitment and retention. We can think of no other initiatives that are more important. Accordingly, in this report, we share information related to (1) Parish by Parish Recruitment Round-Up, (2) foreign languages workshops, (3) free tutoring, (4) motivational speakers, and (5) special scholarship/financial assistance.

## **SUBR Closes Out Avoyelles Parish Recruitment Round-Up Visits**

Saturday, January 22, 2011 marked the third official visit of SUBR representatives as participants in the Avoyelles Parish Recruitment Round-up, an initiative led by the

Office of Admissions and Recruitment. three consecutive Saturdays, recruitment activities took place in Avoyelles

Parish.

Bunkie, Louisiana January 8, 2011

Moreauville, Louisiana January 15, 2011

Marksville, Louisiana January 22, 2011



University staff, recent Avoyelles Parish graduates, and current SUBR Avoyelles Parish students met with prospective students, some of their parents/guardians, and SUBR alumni who currently reside in the Avoyelles Parish area as specified above. Prospective students in all three locations were invited to attend the recruitment activity via a personal letter from the Chancellor. SU graduates from the community were identified as coordinators of the effort. They provided the list of prospective students, secured the place for the meetings, assisted with publicizing the activity and provided food. University representatives touched almost 50 prospective students through their participation in this activity. The University has already begun to follow up with these students through letters and telephone calls. Subsequent e-mails and text messages will also follow. Our

ultimate goal is to increase the number of qualified high school students from Avoyelles Parish who choose SUBR as their university choice.

The same plan of action will be implemented in other low enrollment parishes as targeted by the Office of Admissions and Recruitment. A copy of the Parish by Parish Recruitment Round-Up action plan is attached. (Attachment One)



## <u>Department of Foreign Languages Offers Student Development</u> <u>Workshops</u>

The Department of Foreign Languages faculty obviously believes that not only is recruitment everybody's business, but retention is also the responsibility of everyone. Thus, on February 1-15, 2011 the department hosted nine different workshops headed by Foreign Languages faculty and focused on paths to retention and success.

## February 1, 2011

- Effectively Maximizing the Power of the Internet in Foreign Language Learning
   Dr. Sybil Jackson-Carter
- Foreign Language Learning and Non-Traditional Students/Students with Special Needs – Dr. Irma Cobb

## February 3, 2011

- The World in your Classroom: Study Abroad with Southern University Professor Warner Anderson
- The National Student Exchange Program (NSE) Dr. Carmen Del Rio
- Seniors for Success Dr. Linda Lassiter

## February 8, 2011

- Write Path to Success (Writing strategies for intermediate Spanish for students enrolled in Spanish 200 and 219 – Dr. Fatima Chajia-Fahd, Dr. Irma Cobb
- Elementary Spanish students participating in the "Write Path to Success" workshop – Dr. Fatima Chajia-Fahd

## February 15, 2011

- Effective Approaches to Foreign Language Learning Dr. Thomas Miller
- How can we Improve as Language Learners? Dr. Phillip Elliott

A brief description of each of these nine listed workshops reveals that every workshop was specifically focused on implementing strategies that enhance the students' chances for success in learning and understanding the foreign language that they are studying or will study. The Department of Foreign Languages is to be commended for developing and implementing this excellent retention strategy that certainly enhances our students' chances for success.

## **English Department Grammar Workshops**

The Department of English in collaboration with the University's Living Learning Communities (LLC) is sponsoring a series of English Department Grammar Workshops. These workshops will focus on problems generally encountered by some students enrolled in English 110 or English 111. In addition, the workshops will focus on preparation for the Writing Proficiency Examination. The first three workshops concentrate on very specific problems. These workshops also support our QEP focus: Improving Student Learning through Writing Across the Curriculum: The WRITE Path to Success.

- ▶ February 8: Understanding and Utilizing and Past Tense Room 2024 Harris Hall 1PM
- ▶ February 18: Writing Topic Sentences Room 2024 Harris Hall 11AM
- ▶ February 24: Comma Errors: What are Commas Really Room 2024 Harris Hall 12PM

The faculty of the Department of English is commended for developing and implementing specific strategies to assist in our overall retention efforts.

## **Center for Student Success Peer Tutor Program**

Attached is a flyer which announces "Free Tutoring" sponsored by the Center for Student Success. This office provides free tutoring on a drop-in basis to individuals and to small groups of students. Biology, business, chemistry, computer science, engineering, English, foreign language, history, mathematics, physics, sociology and psychology are the disciplines/classes covered. The details and the schedule for this tutoring service are included on attachment two that is being widely disseminated.

## SU Business and Industry Cluster Presents Motivational Speaker

An organization that has, through the years, provided consistent support and assistance to the University, from both a financial and human resource perspective, is the SU Business and Industry Cluster. On Tuesday, February 8, 2011, the Cluster provided an opportunity for SUBR students to hear and interact with an outstanding motivational speaker, Mr. Calvin Mackie. Mr. Mackie addressed students, faculty and staff in a general assembly. He is an author, inventor, award winning mentor and a successful entrepreneur. The title of his presentation was "The Uninhibited Powers."

This activity was another example of SUBR's resolve to seize every opportunity to expose our students to successful and positive role models and to allow them to interact with others who have achieved the level of success to which they aspire.

## SUBR Continues to Focus on Registration and Enrollment Issues

Sunday, January 30, 2011, was a special day for some students who were assisted by the Chancellor and officials from the Office of Enrollment Management, Academic and Student Affairs and Financial Aid. The Chancellor, along with representatives from these offices, saw approximately 39 students who were in need of additional financial assistance in order to complete their 2011 spring registration. Over \$10,000 in scholarship funds was distributed during this time, and students were able to finalize their registration process. This is still another example of SUBR taking those extra steps to assist students whenever and however possible.

## **SUBR Host MLK Unity Program**

Every year, in celebration of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., SUBR, LSUBR and BRCC come together in the spirit of unity and in appreciation for the life and legacy of Dr. King. The Chancellors, the SGA Presidents, students, faculty, staff, alumni and the community-at-large assemble and present a wonderful program reflecting the collaborative, cooperative, joint and dual efforts of the three institutions and demonstrating their support of Dr. King's promotion of unity among all humans regardless of race, creed, color or religious beliefs.

The three institutions take turns hosting the program on their respective campuses. Each year, the chancellors of each campus or their designees participate on the program. The SGA presidents from each institution also participate. This year a new feature of the program was the presentation of an "Unsung Hero" from SUBR, BRCC and LSUBR. These are individuals who quietly and without fanfare serve the students, faculty and staff of their respective institutions faithfully, effectively and consistently year after year. This year's Unsung Heroes are:

Ms. Línda Wilkins, SUBR Travel Supervisor, Comptroller's Office

Dr. Sandra Williams, BRCC Associate Dean of Liberal Arts

Mr. Joseph Traigle, LSUBR Sterling Studios, Owner

## Chancellor's Lecture Series Features Dr. Julianne Malveaux

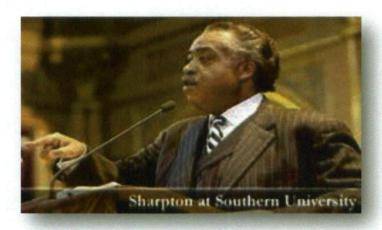
On Wednesday, January 19, 2011, as part of the Chancellor's 2010-2011 Lecture Series, Dr. Julianne Malveaux. Author. Commentator and President of Bennett College, was the featured speaker. During her distinguished career, Dr. Malveaux has worn many hats. She is an author, economist, commentator, committed activist and civic leader. Her writings have been published in numerous magazines and newspapers and she has been a participant in national political and social dialogue on both radio and television. Her positions on various issues have often been described as informed, provocative insightful.

Dr. Malveaux was the first speaker in the Chancellor's Lecture Series for the 2011 Spring Semester. Student, faculty, staff, alumni and members of the community listened as the speaker cautioned members of the audience,



especially students, to be aware of the shifting political landscape while also preparing themselves to deal with the realities of our current economy that, in many instances, is

still not color blind. She also emphasized that the election of President Barack Obama has not led to a "post-racial era" as some have claimed. She pointed to the rise of the ultra conservative Tea Party as evidence of this reality. Dr. Malveaux encouraged the audience of mostly students to guide their thoughts toward entrepreneurship and financial independence.



The next speaker in the Chancellor's Lecture Series was Reverend Al Sharpton on Wednesday, February 16, 2011.

## **SUBR to Host Spring Career Fair**

SUBR hosted its Spring 2011 Career Fair in the F. G. Clark Activity Center on Wednesday, February 9, 2011. This activity was sponsored by the Office of Career Services. Students were required to pre-register on-line at Jobs4Jags, <a href="https://www.subr.edu/careerservice">www.subr.edu/careerservice</a>. Students were also required to wear professional attire and a career fair badge. All participating students were asked to bring copies of their current/updated résumés.

This career fair represented still another effort of the University to assist students from the time that they enroll until they are prepared to exit the university with job possibilities or with actual employment.

## **Exciting Internship Opportunity for SUBR Students**

The Department of Economics and Finance and the University's Black Executive Exchange Program (BEEP), both housed in the College of Business, offered SUBR students still another invaluable internship opportunity. On Tuesday, February 1, 2011, the Economics and Financial Department and BEEP hosted a Scholars Program Seminar that informed and provided some details on a 10-week student internship program and other opportunities offered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Becoming aware of such opportunities and taking advantage of same often provide students with invaluable exposure, training and information and, in some instances, permanent employment.

## Members of SU "Human Juke Box" Marching Band Travel Abroad



Members of the talented drumline of the SU Marching Band recently were given the opportunity to spread good music and goodwill abroad. These 14 SUBR talented students were chosen to travel to the North African countries of Morocco and Algeria. The students/ musicians performed theaters, at sporting events and conducted workshops for young drum students

while touring cities in the two countries. They are true ambassadors for their country, their state and, most of all, for Southern University.

The trip came at the invitation of the U.S. State Department through its performing Arts Initiative. The 14 band members left January 25, 2011 and returned February 5, 2011. They were accompanied by Director of Bands Lawrence Jackson and two other band administrators.





In a letter to Director Jackson. the U. S. consulate in Morocco said the "Performing Arts Initiative provides financial support to U. S. Embassies for presentations of American performing art and artists. They are an important way to foster goodwill, engage foreign audiences and provide insight into American culture values."

## **Media Relations Update**

The Sports section of *The Advocate* ran a story on Jan. 10 about ESPN preparing to film its **SportsNation** show live on the Baton Rouge campus.

On Jan. 13, Southern University was featured on the national ESPN SportsNation

Show. The show was shot live on the Bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. The hour-long show featured SU's band, cheerleaders, students and showed a crowd of several hundred people who participated.

**The Advocate's Sport's** section ran a story on the ESPN SportsNation live filming on the Baton Rouge campus on Jan. 14. The story points out the energy and enthusiasm of the crowd.

On Jan. 16, *The Advocate* ran a story on the History Department receiving a donation of classic African American films. The department received some 80 African-American films from 1915 to 1969 and will hold viewings of the films this month as part of the campus' Black History Month Celebration. The films feature stars such as Lena Horne and Eddie "Rochester" Anderson.

Another story announcing the donation also appeared in the **Diverse Issues in Higher Education's** online edition.

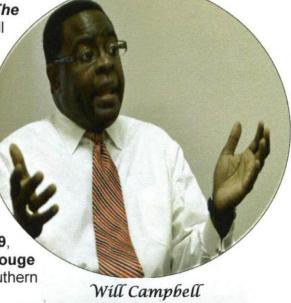
**The Advocate's** business section ran an announcement on **Dr. Ronnie Harrison** has been named director of the Southern University Laboratory School on Jan. 16.

On Jan 20, the Business section of *The Advocate* published a profile on Will Campbell becoming the new director of Southern University's Louisiana Small Business Development Center.

On Jan. 20, WVLA-TV Ch. 33 aired a story on the Baton Rouge campus' Dr. Martin Luther King observance and Dr. Julianne Malveaux's lecture.

On Jan. 21, The Associated Press, WAFB-TV's Neighborhood Notes, WAFB-TV Ch. 9, WVLA-TV Ch. 33, and WRKF Baton Rouge Public Radio ran stories on the Southern University March Band's Drumline traveling to Africa to perform in Morocco and Algeria.

On Jan. 22, The Advocate ran a story on the Band's Drumline going to Africa.



On Jan. 25, WBRZ-TV Ch. 2 aired a story about the Band's Drumline leaving for Africa.



## Southern University and A&M College Submitted and Funded Proposals/Contracts/Agreements November and December 2010

Grant Title	Agency	Proposal Request	Amount Funded	Dept./Unit	Project Description	PI	Submission / Award Date	Award Period (if applicable)
Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation Senior Alliance Statewide Office at Southern University - Baton Rouge	LA BOR		\$375,000.00	Physics	LS-LAMP is a statewide, comprehensive systematic mentoring program aimed at rapidly increasing the number and quality of minority students earning baccalaureate degrees in STEM disciplines.	Bagayoko, Diola	10/21/2010	9/1/2010- 8/31/2015
Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation Senior Alliance Institutional Agreement with Southern University - Baton Rouge	LA BOR		\$139,000.00	Physics	LS-LAMP is a statewide, comprehensive systematic mentoring program aimed at rapidly increasing the number and quality of minority students earning baccalaureate degrees in STEM disciplines.	Bagayoko, Diola	10/21/2010	9/1/2010- 8/31/2015
Louisiana EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement: Computational Materials SUBR Subcontract	LA BOR		\$386,205.00	Physics	The goal of this project is to transform materials science research and education throughout the State of LA by creating the LA-SiGMA.	Bagayoko, Diola	11/16/2010	9/1/2010- 9/30/2015
Southern University Childhood Obesity Prevention Study	USDA	i sv	\$299,503.00	Human Nutrition & Food	This joint, multidisciplinary project seeks to enhance faculty and student research capabilities through the undertaking of an obesity prevention study.	Johnson, Glenda	8/12/2010	9/1/2010- 8/31/2013
Utilizing E-Learning to Enhance Preparation of Food and Nutrition Graduates	USDA		\$150,000.00	Human Nutrition & Food	Improve the nation's nutrition and health.	McGee, Bernestine	8/12/2010	9/1/2010- 8/31/2013

Southern University and A&M College - IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE)	LSU		\$345,923.00	Physics	The proposed research will provide advanced computer science knowledge to biomedical research.	Miller, Robert	11/10/2010	5/1/2010- 4/30/2011
Value-Added Teacher Preparation Action Research Study Subgrant	LA BOR		\$25,000.00	Education	The goal of the subgrant is to provide effective teacher preparation programs that produce new teachers whose students demonstrate growth in student achievement.	Peoples, VerJanis	7/22/2010	6/15/2010- 6/30/2011
Nursing Capitation 2010-11	LA BOR		\$181,369.50	Nursing	The services provided will assist the State to address the increasing shortage of Nursing and Allied Health Professionals practicing in the State of LA	Rami, Janet	9/7/2010	7/1/2010- 2/28/2011
Entrepreneur Individual and Economic Development	LA Department of Economic Developme nt		\$50,000.00	Social Research	This TANF-funded program serves needy families.	Thornton, Alma	11/22/2010	9/1/2010- 6/30/2011
Minority Serving Institutions HIV/AIDS Demonstration Initiative and Capacity Building Projects	Abt Associates, Inc.		\$100,000.00	Social Research	S.U. is creating a women- centered HIV/AIDS Prevention Program to provide prevention education for the entire student body.	Thornton, Alma	11/15/2010	10/1/2010- 9/29/2011
HBCU-RISE: Research and Infrastructure for Science and Engineering Education in Energy Materials	NSF	***	\$999,999.00	Chemistry	The mission of this program will be the development of integrated and collaborative research based on sustainable energy and educational activities.	Walker, Edwin	9/28/2010	10/1/2010- 9/30/2013
Computational Design and Experimental Validation of New Thermal Barrier Systems	LSU		\$180,000.00	Computer Science	Target the next generation Thermal Barrier Coating systems which can be used for the future integrated gasification combined cycle power plants that capture and sequester carbon dioxide.	Yang, Shizhong	11/5/2010	10/1/2010- 9/30/2013
Predicting the Substrate- Protein Interactions in 8R- Lipoxygenase	LA BOR	\$10,000.00		Computer Science		Bai, Shuju	11/16/2010	TBD

Center for ECOsystem	National Oceanic & Atmospheri			students from underrepresented communities who are educated and graduate with degrees in sciences that directly support NOAA's			
Mapping, Modeling, and Monitoring (CECOM3)	Administrati on (NOAA)	\$14,832,211.00	Engineering	mission.	Carriere, Patrick		TBD
CAREER: Generation and Fate of Distonic Radicals Derived from Methionine-Containing Peptides	NSF	\$70,812.00	Chemistry	The proposed supplement will provide funds to hire a post-doctoral associate that will improve the rate and effiency of research.	Claville, Michelle	11/8/2010	TBD
Molecular Dynamics Simulation of Ta_2 O_5 Thin Films	LA BOR	\$10,000.00	Computer Science	The primary goal of the proposed project is to develop a predictive means for gaining insights into the microscopic mechanisms that lead to mechanical loss In LIGO optical coatings.	Finely, Rachel	12/3/2010	TBD
Molecular Simulation - Implementation and Analysis in a Reduced Basis	LA BOR	\$137,130.00	Computer Science	This project will focus on the development and analysis of a method for molecular simulation.	Finley, Rachel	10/25/2010	TBD

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Enhancement of Academic Research at Southern University Baton Rouge	NIH	\$189.600.00	Chemistry	The aim of this award is to identify and characterize different bioactive compounds in Kola Acuminate.	Gray, Wesley	10/14/2010	TBD
Development of Meta-Heuristic Algorithm System to Solve NP- hard Problems	LA BOR	\$10,000.00	Computer Science	The goal of this project is to solve efficiently NP-hard optimization problems by developing a meta-heuristic algorithm.	Gwee, Nigel	11/23/2010	TBD
Development of Heuristic Computational Solutions to NP-Hard Problems	LA BOR	\$146,796.00	Computer Science	This project will contribute to improved solutions to several NP-hard problems, thus setting new benchmarks for future algorithms.	Gwee, Nigel	10/25/2010	TBD
Synthesis and Investigation of the Magnetic, Transport Properties of Some Half- Metallic Oxide Nanoparticles	LA BOR	\$10,000,00	Physics	The proposal describes a project to examine relationships between synthesis routes and the electric and mangnetic properties of some nanoparticles and nanostructured materials.	Henry, Laurence	11/29/2010	TBD
RN-BSN: Gateway to MSN	LA BOR	\$25,000.00	Nursing	The RN-BSN option would be an addition to the degrees currently offered and would address the demands for more BSN prepared nurses.	Hill, Jacqueline	9/23/2010	TBD
Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship (AENT) Program	US DHHS	\$472,192.00	Nursing		Hutchinson, Sharon	12/16/2010	TBD
Research on Novel Composites: Energy and Structural Materials - Using Parallel Molecular Dynamics Simulation and Visualization in a CAVE	LA BOR	\$99,762.00	Mechanical	The goal of this proposal is to enable the PI to develop a research program in an area different than his current expertise in mechatronics and controls.	Jana, Amitava	11/3/2010	TBD

Development of Guidelines for Transportation of Prestressed Concrete Girder	Louisiana Transportati on Research Center	\$200,000.00	Mechanical		John, Manu	12/10/2010	TBD
Silicates as Alternative Catalysts for Biodiesel Production	LA BOR	\$81,812.00	Chemistry	The proposed study will attempt to answer many aspects of biodiesel production via silicates as catalysts and its impact on the environment.	Jones, Conrad		TBD
Leisure Instruction for Education (LIFE): Summer Program June 2011 and June 2012	Endbridge	\$20,000.00	Curriculum & Instruction	The proposed activity is to provide opportunities to 10, low-income children, for increased physical activity.	Jones, Kathryn	12/8/2010	TBD
Novel Metal Oxide Film Fabrication for Temperature Sensing	NSF	\$314,171.00	Engineering	This project wil be used to encourage underrepresented undergraduate students to pursue graduate school, as well as to equip them for success.	Lacy, Fred		TBD
Collaborative Research: Determine the Effectiveness of Melanin-Coated Nanoparticles in Blocking Ultraviolet Radiation	NSF	\$615,745.00	Electrical	This project will broaden the participation of underrepresented students in technical research.	Lacy, Fred		TBD
Statistical Physics of DNA Polymers	LA BOR	\$8,500.00	Physics	The purpose of this proposal is to study the statistical physics of single molecule biopolymers, including DNA.	Lam, Pui- Man		TBD
Multimedia for Educational Leadership	LA BOR	\$104,890.00	Educational Leadership	The purpose of this proposal is to request funding for installing necessary technological tools to enhance four classrooms in the Dept. of Educational Leadership.	Landor- Ngemi, Jarrett		TBD

Perceptions of Student Learning Across the Dimensions of Synchronous, Asynchronous, and Face-to- Face Instruction	LA BOR	\$10,000.00	Educational Leadership		Landor- Ngemi, Jarrett	12/6/2010	TBD
Predictive Computation of Electronic Properties of Materials	LA BOR	\$9,900.00	Physics	The aim of this project is to perform computations to determine the electronic properties of materials utilizing the linear combination of atomic orbitals formalism.	Malozovsky, Yuriy		TBD
BREAD: The Nexus of Information Technology and Agriculture: A Reflexive Design and Theory of Planned Behavior Approach for E- Agriculture in a Sub-Saharan Africa Settling	NSF	\$1,914,642.00	ICITD	This project will directly impact 1500 users and 500 agriculture workers using the proposed RadioNet eagriculture technologies.	Mbarika, Victor		TBD
A Theoretical Investigation of "Low-Tech" Information Technology Use for Healthcare Delivery in Resource-Poor Settings of Rural LA and Sub- Saharan Africa	LA BOR	\$10,000.00	ICITD	This project lays the foundation for a systematic continuation of the PI's prior NSF Funded research in information technology transfer and adoption resource-poor settings.	Mbarika, Victor	12/6/2010	TBD
A Theorectical Investigationof "Low-Tech" Information Technology Use for Healthcare Delivery in Resource-Poor Settings of Rural Louisiana and Sub-Saharan Africa	NSF	\$1,100,972.00	ICITD	This project will directly impact 1500 uses and 500 healthcare workers using mobile technologies for medical compliance domestically and internationally.	Mbarika, Victor	10/22/2010	TBD
Implementing an Artifact and Theorizing E-Democracy and Citizen Participation in Sub- Saharan Africa	NSF	\$603,177.00	ICITD	This project represents a collaboration of researchers in the US, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, and Kenya.	Mbarika, Victor		TBD

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LIGO Related Science					The focus of this project is to immerse participating inservice and pre-service teachers in inquiry-based teachin and learning experiences using exhibits and "snacks" that focus on LIGO science concepts.	Meyinsse,		
Professional Development	LA BOR	\$187,497.04		SMED		Joseph	11/10/2010	TBD
Technology Enhancement of the Mathematics Department Laboratory with Mathematics and MATLAB	LA BOR	\$52,323.00	2- 1	Mathematics	The proposed project is designed to enhanace teaching and research by enhancing the department's technological resources.	Munoz, Humberto		TBD
Strengthening Doctoral Research in Environmental Toxicology at Southern University	LA BOR	\$480,000.00		Environmental Toxicology	This proposal contains a request for four research fellowships per year to supports studnets pursuing the Ph.D degree in Environmental Toxicology.	Owens, John	11/2/2010	TBD
Physics Teaching and Learning Enhancement (PTLE)	LA BOR	\$67,209.00		Physics	The implementation of this project is directly aligned with the attainment of the goals and objectives of the BORSF program, as it fosters excellence in Physics teaching and learning at S.U.	Reese, Terrence	12/9/2010	TBD
Worm Algorithm Simulation of Para-Positronium	LA BOR	\$6,766.00		Physics	The final goal of this project is to use the worm algorithm to simulate a para-positronium atom in either a porous solid or a dense fluid.	Reese, Terrence Lee	12/14/2010	TBD
Enhancement of Energy- Efficient Data Aggregation Algorithm for Wireless Sensor Networks	LA BOR	\$10,000.00		Computer Science	The main objective of this project is to analyze three hierarchical-based routing protocols for wireless sensor networks.	Salam, Md Abdus	12/3/2010	TBD

Wireless Sensor Network Approach for Monitoring Home Security System	LA BOR	\$175,383.00	Computer Science	The purpose of this project is to develop a smart interactive user interface (SUIT) which will be real time and available over the internet.	Salam, Md Abdus	10/1/2010	TBD
Enhancement of Undergraduate Education in Astronomy and Astrophysics at SUBR: A Multi-Use Planetarium System	LA BOR	\$155,000.00	Physics	The primary objective of this proposal is to purchase a digital planetarium projector system with all associated hardware and software.	Stacy, Gregory		TBD
SU Curriculum Development and Health Promotion Program	BlueCross BlueShield of Louisiana	\$75,000.00	Social Research	The goal if this program is to reduce students and teachers health-related risks associated with low test performance.	Thornton, Alma	10/28/2010	TBD
Developing Low Input Methods for Drying Aquatic Waste into Useful Agricultural Products	US Environmen tal Protection Agency	\$14,998.00	Agricultural Sciences	The project promotes sustainable environmental protection, economic prosperity, and social benefits.	Walker, Calvin	12/16/2010	TBD
Studies of Lead-Free Ferroelectric-Piezoelectric Materials for Acoustic Transducers at High Temperature Applications	Office of Naval Research	\$451,159.00	Physics	The task of this proposed project is to carry out an experimental research and education program on elecronic materials.	Wang, J.T.	11/22/2010	TBD
An Integrated Study on the Novel Thermal Barrier Coating for Nb-based High Temperature Alloy	US DOE	\$200,000.00	Computer Science		Yang, Shizhong		TBD
Predictive Quantum Computation and Simulation of Elementary Catalytic Reaction Steps of New Catalysts for Fuel Cells and Related Applications	US DOE	\$417,660.00	Physics	The objective of this project is to develop an integrative ab initio quantum computation and molecular dynamics simulation method.	Zhao, Guang-Lin	11/29/2010	TBD
Wideband Microwave Absorbers from Carbon Nanotubes-Polymer Composites	LA BOR	\$10,000.00	Physics	The success of this project will enable an integration of nanotechnology with microwave technology.	Zhao, Guang-Lin	12/1/2010	TBD

	Synthesis of Highly Oriented	Thurgood Marshall College	\$5,000,00	Physics	This project will create a unique opportunity for graduate students to participate in nano-science research frontier at S.U.	Zhao,	12/20/2010	TBD	
- 1	Water Scale Graphene	Fund	\$5,000.00	Physics		Guang-Lin	12/20/2010	IBD	

TBD (To Be Determined):

Submitted proposals awaiting

funding notice.

Proposed Amt:

\$23,539,347.04

Funded Amt:

\$3,231,999.50

Funded Amt Since July 2010

\$9,997,323.24

## Parish by Parish Recruitment Roundup Action Plan

Southern University and A&M College at Baton Rouge (SUBR) continues to operate on the premise that "Recruitment is everybody's business." One of the latest recruitment strategies that the University has implemented is a "Parish by Parish Recruitment Roundup." The plan of operation for this strategy is outlined below.

- Office of Admissions and Recruitment identifies parishes that have low SUBR enrollment numbers.
- SUBR faculty, staff and students from each of these low enrollment parishes are identified and contacted by the Office of Admissions and Recruitment to solicit their participation in the planning and implementation of a recruitment activity at key locations in each designated parish.
- SUBR graduates who reside in the parish are also contacted and asked to assist in the planning and coordinating of recruitment activities in the parish.
- The parish residents/coordinators, in collaboration with the Office of Admissions and Recruitment, select a date, time and place for each recruitment activity to be held.
- A list is generated of African American juniors and seniors and, possibly, eighth graders in the parish. The list includes their names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers.
- A list of African American area churches in the parish is also generated.
- Letters are prepared and sent to each prospective SUBR student (juniors, seniors, eighth graders).
- Letters are also sent to each church on the generated list asking the pastor and congregation to support this effort.

- These letters announce the upcoming activity and invite and encourage prospective students and their parents/guardians to attend the meeting/activity.
- A calling post (telephone call) is also sent out to each prospective student whose name and telephone number appears on a list provided by the parish coordinators for a give area.
- A program is planned by the Office of Admissions and Recruitment in collaboration with alumni/parish resident coordinators.
- Basic features of the program:

Presiding Officer – Director, Office of Admissions and Recruitment Invocation

Greetings

The Occasion

Presentations -

- > From recently graduated alumni (from the parish)
- > From current SUBR students (preferably from the parish)
- > University representatives (sharing critical information)

Questions and Answer Period

Wrap-up and Acknowledgements

**Door Prizes** 

- Follow up letters to (1) prospective students who attended, (2) parish coordinators, (3) church that hosted event.
- Follow up by Admissions Director or staff with various campus units to ensure that contact with prospective students is on an ongoing basis by appropriate deans, chairs, students, etc.
- A file by parish on prospective students will be maintained. Results of recruitment efforts should be shared with parish coordinators and other parish residents/alumni, where possible.

## RETENTION IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS!

# LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITIES (LLC) take advantage of

# FREE TUTORING!

## **Center for Student Success Peer Tutor Program**

The Center for Student Success (CSS) Peer Tutor Program provides tutoring on a drop-in basis to individual and small groups of students in selected biology, business, chemistry, computer science, engineering, English, foreign language, history, mathematics, physics, sociology, and psychology classes.

A CSS tutor registration card is required for access to tutorial services. You may obtain the tutor registration card by coming to Room 107, Stewart Hall or call 771-4312.

## 2011 SPRING TUTORING SCHEDULE

SUBJECT(6)	DAY/HOURS OF AVAILABILITY	LOCATION
CMPS 105, 290; ENGL 110, 203; FCSC 230; HIST 114, 115; HUMN 242; MATH 130, 131; MCOM 202, 311, 315, 318, 319, 325, 400; POLS 200, 210, 351; PHIL 200; PSYC 210; SPAN 100, 200; SPTH 120, 210; SOCL 210	MW 11:00AM-1:00PM 3:30PM - 5:00PM T 8:00AM -12:00PM 2:00PM - 5:00PM TR 2:00PM - 4:00PM F 11:00PM -1:00PM 2:00PM - 4:00PM	Room 107 Stewart Hall
BIOL 209, 232; CHEM 112, 113, 132, 133, 220; CMPS 290; ENGL 110, 111, 203; HIST 114, 115; MATH 135, 140, 264, 265; MUPC 120, 121, 220; MUPE 124; MUSC 102, 104, 108; PHYS 141, 142; SOCL 210	T 8:00PM - 9:00AM 2:00PM - 4:00PM R 8:00PM - 9:00AM 3:00PM - 4:00PM F 1:30PM - 4:00PM	Room 107 Stewart Hall
AGSC 121; ARTS 200; BIOL 104, 105, 106, 107; MUSC 200	MW 12:00PM - 2:00PM TR 10:00AM- 2:00PM	Room 107 Stewart Hall
CMPS 105; ENGL 111, 203; HIST 114, 115; HLTH 110; HUMN 244; POLS 201, 411; PYSC 210, 274, 315, 342, 488; SOCL 210, 220, 434	MWF 3:00PM - 5:00PM TR 2:00PM - 5:00PM	Room 107 Stewart Hall
CMPS 290; ENGL 110; FRMN 115; HIST 114, 115, 311; MATH 135, 200; PHYS 101	MW 2:00PM - 5:00PM TR 2:00PM - 5:00PM F 2:00PM - 4:00PM	Room 107 Stewart Hall
ARTS 200; BIOL 105; ENGL 111, 203; HIST 114, 115; HLTH 110; PSYC 210, 315, 342, 468, 488; MATH 131; SPAN 100, 101, 200, 201; SOCL 210	MWF 12:00PM - 3:00PM TR 4:00PM - 5:00PM	Room 107 Stewart Hali
CMPS 290; ENGL 110; FRMN 115; HIST 114, 115, 311; MATH 135, 200; PHYS 101	TR 5:00PM - 8:00PM	3 <sup>RD</sup> Floor Classroom A John B. Cade Libra
ARTS 200; BIOL 105; ENGL 111, 203; HIST 14, 115; HLTH 110; PSYC 210, 315, 342, 468, 88; MATH 131; SPAN 100, 101, 200, 201; BOCL 210	W 5:00PM - 8:00PM TR 5:00PM - 6:00PM	3 <sup>RO</sup> Floor Classroom A John B. Cade Libra

Recruit, Retain, GRADUATEI

## The Chancellor's Report to the Southern University Board of Supervisors

NAME OF CHANCELLOR: FREDDIE PITCHER, JR.

CAMPUS: SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

DATE: FEBRUARY, 2011

#### SIGNIFICANT EVENTS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## <u>Chancellor Freddie Pitcher, Jr. tells Law Center Family, "New Year Brings Pride in Achievements and Opportunities for Even More Accomplishments"</u>

Year 2011 began on a high note for the Southern University Law Center. A number of faculty and administrative staff joined Chancellor Pitcher for the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Meeting in January. At this meeting in San Francisco, AALS's House of Representatives formally voted to receive the Law Center for full association membership.

"In congratulating the Law Center on its accomplishments, Susan W. Prager, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, made note that the AALS Executive Committee members were impressed by our continued devotion to our historic mission. Even as we work to further diversity in a broader sense, committee members found us to be steadfast in our focus on the societal need for access to legal education and for effective lawyers who will serve all segments of society, particularly those from groups that have been historically underrepresented in the legal profession," Chancellor Pitcher said.

Prager further wrote that the committee noted the ways in which the Chancellor and faculty have embraced other ideals represented in the core values of the AALS, such as the inter-related roles of teaching, research, and service and broadly shared engagement in scholarship.

As we now face the challenges of continuing our work with impeding state budget cuts, we appreciate that the AALS Executive Committee also noted our tremendous effectiveness in the use of the Law Center's resources. We pledge to continue in this vein as we work through the challenges that cuts in funding will bring, the Chancellor said.

He concluded, "Building on and celebrating the success thus far, we understand that we now have opportunities to accomplish even more."

#### SULC Faculty Members in Top Two Leadership Roles, Baton Rouge Bar Association

Preston Castille, Jr., a member of the SULC Adjunct Faculty, and Gail S. Stephenson, Associate Professor and Director of Legal Analysis and Writing, were recently sworn in as President and President-elect respectively of the Baton Rouge Bar Association. The oaths were taken at the group's monthly meeting on January 13. Their terms are for one year.

#### Earned Income Tax Credit Day Held Saturday, January 29 at SULC.

Free Income Tax Returns Preparation and Filing continue thru April 9.

Free income tax returns were prepared and filed on Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Day by trained tax preparers, on Saturday, January 29, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Southern University Law Center.

The returns were electronically filed and refunds expected in 7 to 10 days. This free service is an alternative to expensive fee paid tax preparation services for individuals and families. Taxpayers also learned about individual development accounts that can help them learn how to use their refunds along with matched savings programs to buy a home, complete their education, or start a small business.

These services are organized by the SULC Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, the Capital Area Asset Building Coalition, a local group of non-profit organizations, financial institutions, colleges and universities, social service agencies, and the Internal Revenue Service. All of the services were free, and available on a first-come, first serve basis.

EITC Day is a special day aimed at reaching a large group of people. EITC can be the needed financial boost for working people hit by hard economic times.

Anyone with income under \$50,000 from wages, self-employment or farming in 2010, should see if they qualify. Area residents can find more information at www.irs.gov, keyword EITC.

The VITA site at SULC will also be open every Saturday after January 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 4 to 7 p.m. until April 9. There are 12 other VITA sites open throughout the Baton Rouge area. For information on the locations for free income tax preparation sites, please call 211.

For more information on the SULC VITA site, call (225) 771-3333 or 771-2555.

#### Baton Rouge Bar Association Holds Memorial and New Member Recognition Ceremony

The Baton Rouge Bar Association held a Memorial and New Member Recognition Ceremony in the grand courtroom on the top floor of the new East Baton Rouge Parish Courthouse on Wednesday, January 19.

BRBA members who died in the past 18 months were eulogized as their photos were shown on a large screen in the courtroom. Among the members memorialized are Dean Vanue Lacour, Professor Ernest Easterly, Professor Washington Marshall '71, Charles Shropshire, '79, Brace Godfrey, '85, Yolanda Batiste, '91, Nathan Folse, '89, Jo Edna P. Roberts, '87, and Billy Robinson, '87.

Many of our recent grades were recognized as new members.

#### Southern University Law Review Articles to be Posted on National Websites

The Southern University Law Review has granted permission to two nationally prominent websites to reprint articles written by SULC students and published in the Law Review, according to Mekeisha Smith, 2010-2011 Law Review Editor-in-Chief.

Pet Parents – Fighting Tooth and Paw for Custody: Whether Louisiana Courts Should Recognize Companion Animals as More than Property," by Lucy Shuffield, will be posted on the Animal Legal and Historical Web Center based at Michigan State University College of Law. That website is an in-depth legal resource for practitioners, students, and the general public on animal law. Shuffield, a 2010 graduate of SULC, was the 2009-2010 Law Review Executive Editor.

"Used Car Purchases, Pitfalls, and Protections," by Hester Gloston-Hilliard will be posted on the Working Cars for Working Families section of the National Consumer Law Center website, which provides valuable auto-related resources. Gloston-Hilliard is a 2006 graduate of SULC. She was the 2005-2006 Law Review Editor-in-Chief.

"The Law Review students have been encouraged to write interesting and practical legal articles with the goal of gaining a wider audience and increasing citation to the Law Review by judges and authors," said Professor Gail Stephenson, the Law Review Faculty Adviser.

"The recognition generated by reprinting SU Law Review articles on these websites is an important step in reaching that goal," Stephenson said.

#### OFFICE OF CAREER COUNSELING AND DEVELOPMENT

#### OCI/OFF CAMPUS REFERRALS

Employer registration has begun for our spring 2011 On Campus Recruitment/Resume Collect program. To date, the following employers have registered for the program.

Lowe, Stein, Hoffman, Allweiss & Hauver (New Orleans, LA); Preis & Roy, (Lafayette); Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (Washington, DC); U.S. Magistrate Judge Kathleen Kay (Lake Charles); Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson; Chaffe McCall; Entergy Services, Inc.; Irwin Fritchie; Judge Alonzo Harris (27th JDC); Kean Miller;

Long Law Firm; Taylor Porter; Terry Butcher & Associates; and U.S. Army JAG Corps.

#### STUDENT COUNSELING

Since our Freshman Orientation on November 9, 2010, we have had 129 1L students register for career counseling services. In addition, 31 upperclassmen have also registered for career counseling services since that time. In total, there are 428 current students and 844 alumni registered in the career counseling Symplicity website.

#### PROGRAMMING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

<u>Spring OCI Orientation</u> was held on January 13, 2011. The session allowed the students in attendance to learn the process of participating in on campus recruitment and other job search strategies.

<u>A Day in the Life</u>: Anna Guerra of Thompson Reuters presented a session on Thursday, January 20, on "a day in the life" of a Westlaw Account Representative. Feedback from students was positive.

#### **MOCK INTERVIEWS**

During the weeks of January 17, 2011 through February 4, 2011, local attorneys conducted mock interviews, that students will be better equipped for on campus interviews. Twenty-six students received mock interviews. The following attorneys participated:

Herbert Brown-SULC; Anna Guerra –Thompson Reuters; Terry Landry – Acadian Ambulance Service; Ursula Ransburg – Solo Practitioner; Vernon Wesley Thomas – Solo Practitioner; Tavares Walker- Acadiana Legal Service Corporation and Peter Wanek-McCranie Sistrunk Anzelmo.

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Director Michelle A. Jackson has been elected to the 2011 Board of Directors of the New Orleans Legal Recruiters Association. She will serve as its membership Outreach Coordinator for Baton Rouge.

#### ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND ACADEMIC COUNSELING

In addition to conducting academic assistance sessions, the Office completed the initial academic assessment and study plan for 22 of the 50 students with academic probation status as of January 25, 2011. Students on probation were enrolled in the Academic Skills Exam Writing workshops, a progressive exam writing program,

Additionally, first, second, and third year law students were counseled and advised regarding study skills, course selection and time and stress management.

Materials for the 2011 Spring Academic Success Skills Program (a progressive exam writing program) were revised.

Forty-three (43) disability accommodation applicants were qualified and applications processed for the spring semester.

#### OFFICE OF PUBLICATIONS AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA

The staff of the Office of Publications and Electronic Media produced eight publications: three issues of SULC E-News; SULC folders and Information Cards; SULC 2010-11 Face Book; SULC 2010 Reflections; SULC 2011 Hooding Ceremony Program; and 2011 Joint SULC/LSU Minority High School Day Program Poster.

Three news releases were distributed: An Original SULC Faculty Member, Vanue B. Lacour, Dies (January 13, 2011); Earned Income Tax Credit EITC) Day, January 29, at SULC (January 24, 2011); and 2010-2011 SULC Speakers Series Closing Lecture, February 25 (January 24, 2011).

The office coordinated the January 11 appearance of the Chancellor, featured on the Jim Engster Show, 9 a.m. WRKF 89.3.

A total of \$4,050 was collected in annual fud gifts from SULC alumni. An additional \$1,000 as a corporate matching gift is expected from the Macy's Foundation.

#### RECRUITMENT SERVICES

**ON-GOING ACTIVITIES** 

\*Continue to enter application requests onto database for prospective law students for the Fall 2011 class

- \* Schedule tours of the Law Center
- \*Assist the Registrar's Office and Admissions as needed

#### RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES

- \*Mailed 2,202 Pre-Law Day Reminders to prospective law students
- \*Mailed invitations for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Law School Minority High School Day Program to 109 public schools in surrounding areas.

#### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY

- \*Southwestern Black Student Leadership Conference/Career Fair-College Station, TX
- \*Auburn University Auburn, AL
- \*University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, AL
- \*University of Houston Houston, TX

#### **ALUMNI NEWS**

Brandon Decuir, '02, has been elected a partner in the Baton Rouge law firm of DeCuir, Clark, & Adams LLP. Decuir practices in the area of successions, estates tax and litigation.

Andy St. Romain, '04, has been elected a partner in Jones Walker, Baton Rouge. St. Romain practices in the area of real estate.

Thomas W. Aycock, '01, has been named shareholder of the law firm of Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Aycock, a native of Lafayette, Louisiana, is a member of Smith Haughey's Litigation Department. He focuses his practice on the areas of corporate insurance litigation and personal civil litigation. He represents international corporations, national and regional insurance companies, and local individuals in areas such as contract law, personal injury disputes, and insurance coverage disputes. Since joining the firm, Aycock has successfully acquired very favorable case evaluation awards for multiple high damage cases on behalf of the firm's clients, and formulated, drafted, and argued numerous summary disposition motions resulting in the dismissal of numerous cases of behalf of clients in the areas of premises liability, breach of contract, and a wide range of insurance claims.

Monica Griffith-Braud, '09, an attorney with Derren S. Johnson & Associates, APLC, has been selected as Junior Honorary member of the Louisiana State Law Institute. The one-year term begins January 1, 2011, for the SULC honor graduate. The Louisiana Law Institute is an official, advisory law revision commission, law reform agency, and legal research agency of the State of Louisiana. It serves as an adviser to the legislature, provides research, recommends needed reforms and translates civil law materials.

C. Kevin Hayes, a partner in the Adams and Reese Baton Rouge office, was elected President of the Association of Louisiana Lobbyists (ALL) at its 2010 annual conference. The ALL, established in 1987 as the professional trade association for government relations professionals, is made up of more than 160 registered lobbyists. Hayes will serve a two-year term as president.

A former legislative staffer and lobbyist, Hayes previously served as general counsel to Louisiana State Senator Ken Hollis and the Louisiana State Senate Commerce Committee. At Adams and Reese, he focuses his law practice on governmental relations, administrative law, and regulatory matters. He has successfully represented professional and trade associations as well as clients in the health care and insurance industries. This former President of the Baton Rouge Bar Association serves the Louisiana State Bar Association as a member of its House of Delegates, member of the Bar Governance Committee, board liaison to the Public Information Committee, and member of the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education.

Rosalind D. Jones, '03, Louisiana State Representative, District 17, in Monroe, Louisiana, has been appointed Chairman of the Louisiana Legislative Judiciary Committee. Jones was elected to represent Ouchita Parish in 2007. Her other committee assignments include House and Governmental Affairs and Legislative Budgetary Control Council. She is a member of the Democratic Caucus, Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, Louisiana Legislative Woman's Caucus, and the Louisiana Rural Caucus.

Bill Shea, '04, has been elected to partnership in the Baton Rouge office of Adams and Reese. Shea, who joined Adams and Reese in 2004, is member of both Commercial Disputes and Casualty and Coverage teams. He focuses his practice on commercial clients in a wide variety of commercial litigation matters, including contract and lease disputes, claims for breach of fiduciary duty, and general business disputes.

M. Vin Shortess, Jr., '08, received his LL.M. in taxation from Southern Methodist University in May 2010 and is now a member of the firm Brice, Vander, Linden & Wernick, P.C., in Dallas, Texas.

#### <u>INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</u>

Lata Johnson, Director of Information Technology at the Law Center, has been elected President of the Council of Information Services Directors (CISD), a state-based IT organization to support the growth, advancement, and sustainability of information technology resources in Louisiana7

The organization, comprised of technology directors of Louisiana government entities and higher education institutions, promotes coordination among state information services organizations and serves as a primary advising group for the state decision makers on IT matters.

Johnson will serve a one-year term.

#### IN MEMORIUM

#### Funeral Mass Held for Member of SULC First Faculty

Longtime Baton Rouge resident Vanue B. Lacour, one of Southern University Law Center's original faculty members and a noted legal scholar, was remembered in a funeral mass January 14, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. Dean Lacour passed away on Friday, January 7, at the age of 95.

During this 24-year tenure at Southern, Lacour placed emphasis on faculty and student legal scholarship. He was the second dean of the school, serving from 1970-71.

SULC Chancellor Freddie Pitcher, Jr. expressed the tremendous loss to the Law Center and the legal community, stating that Dean Lacour was a stalwart in the legal profession, who followed the edict of his law school professors to become a "social engineer." "He not only practiced law to achieve civil rights and justice for all Americans, but also he was a legal scholar and mentor, who helped to train lawyers to serve all segments of society," the Chancellor said.

Lacour, a native of the Cane River community near Natchitoches, Louisiana, was graduated valedictorian from Central Colored High School in Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1933. He continued his education at Xavier University in New Orleans, where he was graduated summa cum laude and valedictorian of his class in 1938, and at Howard School of Law as salutatorian of his class in 1941. After law school, he and Louis Berry, a fellow Howard alum, entered private practice in Kansas City, Missouri. In early 1947, Berry persuaded Lacour to return to Louisiana to help start a new law school for African Americans at Southern University.

In his early years of teaching, Lacour formed a law partnership in Shreveport with one of his former students, Jesse N. Stone. One of the firm's most notable cases was <u>Byrd v. Brice</u>, the Bossier Parish voter registration case. In Byrd, Lacour and Stone alleged the identification clause of Section 37 of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statues of 1950 (Voter's Registration Law) was unconstitutional. The court held that the registrar could no longer use the identification clause of the statute to deny black residents the right to vote.

Dean Lacour's most renowned case, <u>Weber v. Aetna Insurance Company</u>, changed the way Louisiana law viewed acknowledged illegitimate children. Before the U.S. Supreme Court, he successfully argued that dependent illegitimate children were entitled to share equally with legitimate children in receipt of workers compensation benefits. He convinced the court that to deny acknowledged illegitimate children this right would be to deny them equal protection.

Among his professional and civil affiliations, Lacour was chairman of the Louisiana Commission on Governmental Ethics from 1973-1981; a member of the Louisiana Commission of Ethics for Public Employees in 1983; and a charter state officer, (corresponding secretary) of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, founded by the late New Orleans civil rights attorney Alexander Pierre Tureaud. He was inducted into the National Bar Association Hall of Fame in 2005.

Lacour lived to see many of his dreams and aspirations come true for the Southern University Law School. Through the efforts of his labor, the Law School has produced numerous venerable practitioners and scholars, as well as prominent elected officials and public servants.

He is survived by Arthemise Wilson Lacour, his wife of 69 years, seven children; 19 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

## Special Problems

None

## Significant Administrative or Policy Changes

None



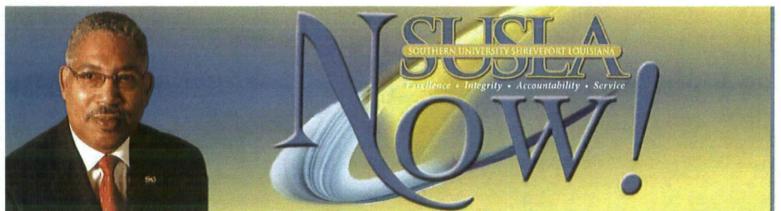
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# The Chancellor's Report

FEBRUARY 2011

SUBMITTED BY

Dr. Ray L. Belton, Chancellor



Dr. Ray L. Belton, Chancellor

### Chancellor's Report · February 2011

A Publication of the Office of the Chancellor . Published through the Office of University Communications

#### SU System President Mason Visits SUSLA

The Spring Semester at Southern University at Shreveport Louisiana (SUSLA) got off to a tremendous start with a visit from SU System President, Ronald Mason, Jr. The President delivered a well-received "State Of The System" address to members of the faculty and staff on January 24, in the Jesse N. Stone, Jr. Lecture Hall.

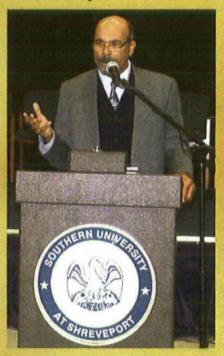
According to Dr. Mason, "There are things going on within the Southern University System that I think you need to know about". He added, "The number one purpose is to protect the SU System. We have a cause and a reason for doing the business that we do". His talking points, which, he said were partly from campaign "Progress Positive Direction", which the President implement some six months ago, is a regeneration process based on the following assumptions: The Southern System must survive as a system of higher learning; There will be a significant reduction in state funding...; The business support operations must be reviewed and implemented with expediency. Points included, but were not limited to, advancing distance learning and on-line degree programs; better coordinating with Alumni, the Black Caucus and the University Foundation "so one hand will know what the other is doing"; and "The Five Fifths Agenda for America", which is a plan to work with the national Historically Black Colleges and



University (HBCU) associates "to implement a higher education systematic initiative on reclaiming and developing black male human capital". To that end,

he said plans are in the works to meet with heads of the Thurgood Marshall and White House Initiative Programs, among others.

In addition to bringing the capacity crowd up to date on how the recessed economy is directly affecting the System, Dr. Mason shared words of encouragement and kudos to the "capable" SUSLA family for its "stability". He urged each to continue to strive



to adhere to Stephen R. Covey's "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People", and addressed each accordingly: Be Proactive; Begin With The End In Mind; Put First Things First; Think Win-Win; Seek First To Understand, Then To Be Understood; Synergize; and the last habit relating to self-rejuvenation, Sharpen The Saw.

A question and answer session allowed Dr. Mason to poll the audience, whose concerns included pleas for a more concise cross enrollment process for on-line programs, consideration of a better use of technology for automated processes and procedures, and a proposed System-Wide Convocation, to which the President responded, is already in the planning stages, adding he "envisions a more unified system".

Dr. Mason's heartfelt closing remarks were "God Bless Southern University".

#### KEITH BROWN MOTIVATES



Motivational speaker Keith Brown spoke during the Work It Out Conference at Southern University at Shreve-port on Friday, January 21, 2011 and Saturday, January 22, 2011 to well over 500 middle, high school, college students, parents and community leaders.

Motor coaches and school busses arrived with students from Caddo.

Bossier, Red River, DeSoto, and as far away as Sabine Parish. Schools represented included: Newton Smith, J. S. Clark, Linear, Caddo Career and Technology, and M. J. Moore middle schools: Red River Junior High; Mansfield, Pelican Inn, North Desoto, Many, Zwolle,

Booker T. Washington, Woodlawn, Fair Park, Byrd, Captain Shreve, Huntington, Green Oaks, Northwood, Evangel, Caddo Magnet, University Christian Prep, Southwood, and Airline high schools along with Shreveport Job Corps. Principals, counselors, chaperones and other school personnel accompanied the eager participants. Community representatives included Caddo Parish Superintendent, Dr. Gerald Dawkins, School Board members,

Jasmine Green, District 2, and Dottie Bell, District 12 along with State Representative Roy Burrell and Shreveport

City Councilman Joe Shyne.

The purpose of the Work It Out Conference was to bring students, parents and the community together to "Create Cooperative Families, Classrooms and Communities."

Keith Brown's presentations were enhanced by music and dance that the entire audience could relate to and participate in. His message, through rap and stories, was the importance of education. His Motto is: Not Impossible, But I'm Possible.

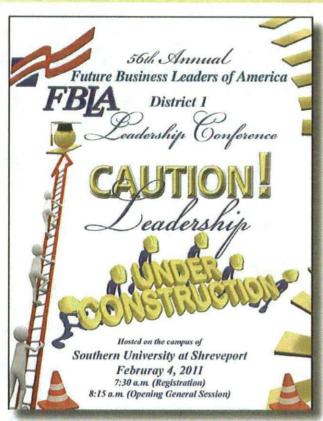
Throughout the presentation, he stated, "either I'm gonna make it or I'm gonna make it," failure is not an option!
In addition to his motivational message, Keith Brown awarded scholarships to two participants and incentives to others.

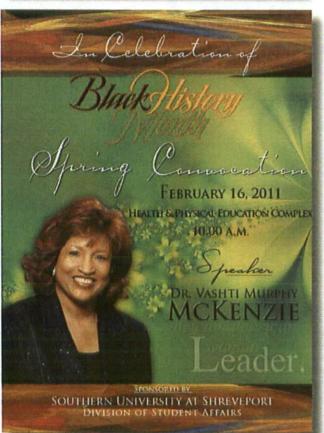


The program was under the auspices of the Division of Student Affairs, Dr. Sharon F. Green, Vice Chancellor in collaboration with Volunteers of America and TRiO Community Outreach Programs.

This activity was also in collaboration with the school systems to get the students energized and focused on the upcoming State Standardized tests.

## **Upcoming Events**









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## SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

## AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER



## Leodrey Williams

## CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Presented to:
Board of Supervisors
Southern University

"Linking Citizens of Louisiana with Opportunities for Success"

## Southern University Ag Center, USDA Partner on Mentoring Program

Southern University Ag Center

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Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, an entity of the Southern University System, Leodrey Williams, Chancellor, Ronald Mason, Jr., System President, Darren Mire, Chairman, Board of Supervisors. It is issued in furtherance of the Cooperative Extension Work Act of December 1971, and the Agricultural Research Program, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, All educational programs conducted by the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center are provided to all persons regardless of race, national origin, or disability. © 2008 SU Ag Center.

On January 31, the National 4-H Council announced that it has launched a nationwide mentoring initiative to increase youth social competency, family relationships, and academic success. The 4-H National Mentoring Program will provide funding to land-grant universities in states to replicate three evidence-based Extension 4-H programs in communities that have an increased risk for youth delinquency.

The Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delin-Prevention quency (OJJDP) awarded a \$5 million grant to National 4-H Council in support of the 4-H National Mentoring Program. The grant comes as a part of the OJJDP's national effort to strengthen, expand and implement youth mentoring activities nationwide to improve the lives of millions of young Americans.

The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center has been selected to implement 4-H LIFE - Living Interactive Family Education as a part of the 4-H National Mentoring Program. Staff members recently joined representatives from other

state 4-H programs for training at the National 4 -H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD. near Washington, DC. 2011. 10-15. January State 4-H programs selected from three of Cooperative Extension's proven mentoring programs to implement in their local communities: 4 -H Mentoring: Youth & Families with Promise (YFP), created by Utah State University: 4-H Tech Wizards, created by Oregon State University; and 4-H Living Interactive Family Education (LIFE), created by the University of Missouri.

The 4-H LIFE Program is a family strengthening program that addresses the needs of children of incarcerated parents. The overall objective of the 4-H LIFE Program is to promote a strong. healthy, and nurturing family environment for children of incarcerated parents, while helping incarcerated parents and trained 4-H volunteers become positive role models and men-

The program has three, interwoven components focused on parenting skills classes and planning meetings for the incarcerated parents and 4-H club meetings that unite children

with their families inside the prison visiting room. These components are designed to create stronger parentchild bonds, improve the quality of prisonbased family visits, and increase youth decision -making and communication skills. Incarcerated parents are required to participate in weekly parenting, leadership, and planning meetings in order to qualify for the program. Children of offenders who are involved in 4-H LIFE are also enrolled as members of county 4 -H programs and are mentored by 4-H volunteers.



Franklin addresses training group

Continued on page 2

## Mentoring program

Continued from page 1

It has been demonstrated that a trusting relationship with a caring adult can have a life-changing effect on a young person. The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center will implement, monitor, and assess program mentoring strategies to create positive outcomes for youth. Research data indicates that mentoring programs have reduced first-time drug use by almost 50 percent and first-time alcohol use by 33 percent. In addition, mentored youth displayed greater confidence in their schoolwork and improved their academic performance.

The SU Ag Center Family and Human Development team received a grant in the amount of \$82,000 to implement the program. Three SU Ag Center representatives traveled to Chevy Chase, Maryland for a weeklong training to on implementing the program.

Principal Investigator Tiffany Franklin, along with Delores Johnson and Stacev Nevills, who will serve as site coordinators, attended the training. The team of three will implement the 4-H LIFE (Living Interactive Family Education) program, which is a replication from the University of Missouri Extension. The program in Louisiana will be implemented in the East Baton Rouge and St. Landry Parish Prisons.

The objective of this program is to afford incarcerated inmates an opportunity to spend quality time with their children during supervised visits utilizing the 4-H meeting model. The team from the University of Missouri has utilized this technique for approximately 10 years. During these visits, parents will practice new parenting skills, obtained during mandated monthly sessions. The benefits of the 4-H LIFE program is intended to get children excited about meaningful visits through the 4-H experience and will help build their communication and leadership skills while they see their incarcerated parents in a positive leadership role.



Nevills, left, and Franklin in training

After being acquainted during a 3 -day tract and working with the team from the University of Missouri, Tiffany Franklin was asked to speak on behalf of the group during the closing ceremony. Franklin began by sharing with the audience, a quote she adopted

years ago, "if you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always gotten." Working with youth can be a challenge, but we can restore hope as change agents by calling our kids "atpromised" instead of "at-risk." This sends a more positive message by making it known that still thev have a chance. "Hopefully, with this program, we can slow down the revolving door of youth getting involved in the justice system because parents are incarcerated," said Franklin.

#### About 4-H

4-H is a community of six million young people across America learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. National 4-H Council is the private sector, non-profit partner of 4-H National Headquarters at the National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) within USDA. 4-H programs are implemented by 109 land-grant universities and the Cooperative Extension System through their 3,100 local Extension offices in every county across the country. Learn more about 4-H at www.4-H.org.

For further detail, please contact Tiffany Franklin at 225-771-2242 or (225)771-2775.

This project is supported by Award No. 2010-JU-FX-0016 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs

## SU Ag Center Faculty Participate in National Conference

The USDA/National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA/NIFA) held its First Hispanic-Serving Institution Grant Program/1890 Capacity Building Grant Program Project Directors' conference in Washington, DC November last fall. Also held in conjunction with this conference was the Competitive Grants Workshop hosted by Virginia Tech University. The theme of the conference was "Promoting Student-Centered Learning and Engagement." Educators, researchers, and other scientists from the agricultural and food industry participated in the conference "to share their unique and enriching scholarly experiences within their respective learning environments" said Drs. Ali Mohamed and Irma Lawrence, NIFA National Program Leaders. The conference brought together experts from 1862, 1890, Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), and the USDA to share ideas on building institutional capacity and partnerships in the 21st Century. Faculty members representing the SU Ag Center were, Kamran Abdollahi, Yadong Qi, Danielle Collins, Glenda Johnson, Bridget Udoh, and Oscar Udoh.

Several high ranking officials from USDA/NIFA including Dr. Roger Beachy, Director; Dr. Ralph Otto, Deputy Director; and Dr. Henry Doan, Program Analyst-Planning and Accountability addressed the participants. They stressed the need for scientists to address issues pertaining to the priority science areas which include: Global Food security and Hunger, Climate Change, Sustainable Energy, Childhood Obesity, and Food Safety.

Participants at this intense conference also discussed issues during breakout sessions relating to the following topics: Plant science: agricultural economics and rural communities; successful education projects; environment; international programs; logic model; coordinated agricultural projects; and capacity building for minority serving institutions. Altogether, twenty-five HSIs and thirteen 1890 Institutions were represented at the conference. The last day of the conference was devoted to poster presentations set up in the USDA South Building Jefferson Auditorium and a visit to the National Science Foundation (NSF). Several Southern University alumni from the College of Agricultural. Family and Consumer Sciences and USDA senior officials took time to visit the poster exhibits. Officials included Allison Thomas, Special Assistant to the Deputy Administrator; Daniel Whitley, Deputy Director, Trade and Biofuels Analysis Division; Arthur Neal, Director of Program Administration, Agricultural Marketing Service: and Garland Robertson, Program Specialist, NIFA.

Project presentations and representatives from the SU Ag Center were as follows: Application of Nanotechnology in Forest Health Management by Yadong Qi; Plant Biosecurity Short Courses to Enhance Urban Forestry Education and Training at Southern University by Danielle Collins; Enhancement of K-12 Pipeline in Family and Consumer Sciences Using an Innovative Recruitment and Retention Model by Glenda Johnson; Strategies to Improve Farm and Business Efficiency Through Integrated Communications by Bridget Udoh; Enhancing the Teaching Capacity of Urban Forestry Program at Southern University and A & M College by Kamran Abdollahi; and Academy for the Academic Enhancement of High School Students in the Food and Agricultural Sciences by Oscar Udoh.



Johnson explains project to poster visitor, left



SU Ag Center conference participants, l-r: D. Collins, K. Abdollahi, B. Udoh, Y. Qi and O. Udoh

## SU Ag Center Conducts Successful Program in Orleans Parish

The 4-H/Y.E.S. Club at Thurgood Marshall Early College in New Orleans participated in a poultry project entitled "From Farm to Feast." The students raised broilers from one-day old to four months starting in September 2010 utilizing a 4-H curriculum under the supervision of Hendrix Broussard, Orleans county agent. The students and teacher built a brooder for the small chicks, and when the broilers were older, they built a pen for them.

During this project, students learned about the poultry industry, its impact on the state's economy, the incubation period of eggs, and career choices in the agricultural and food sciences.

As a result of this project, India Jackson became the first student from Orleans Parish to participate in the State Fair of Louisiana Youth Livestock Show held in Shreveport. "This was a great experience and I hope it continues after I graduate," said Jackson. She competed with 45 other youth from across the state and aspires to become a veterinarian.

On the business end of the project, students used chicken waste to make a compost mound. The compost was used to fertilize a sunflower garden on the northwest corner of the campus. The group cut the sunflower heads and harvested the seeds for roasting.

The highlight of the project was the opportunity for students to participate in the harvesting of the broilers. Some of the project participants were selected to visit the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Baton Rouge. Upon their arrival at the Southern University poultry unit, Curtis Chisley, Livestock and Meat Specialist, lectured on incubators, types of chicken breeds and their uses for meat, eggs or show. He also informed them that 40% of adults in the United Sates work in an agricultural related career.



Students harvest chicken on SU campus

Paul Thomas initiated the harvesting process by giving the students safety rules. Each student was encouraged to participate in the slaughtering of the broilers. The students also had an opportunity to visit the beef farm where

they participated in cattle branding under the supervision of Assistant Research Farm Superintendent Linus Harleaux and other Experiment Station employees. They learned about the purpose of branding, and the different types of livestock branding techniques,



Mr. Harleaux assists student with cattlebranding at SU Experiment Station

including hot and freeze. Renita Marshall, D.V.M., enlightened the students on herd rotation, parasite control, mixed species grazing of cattle and goats.

The day ended with a visit to the meat technology laboratory where students observed a real slaughter room. "This is an experience we will never forget and hope we get to do it again next year," they said.

## St. Helena Parish Receives Grant to Confront Childhood Obesity

The SU and LSU Agricultural Centers in St. Helena Parish have been awarded a "Confronting Childhood Obesity" grant. This grant from the Louisiana 4-H Foundation mini-grant program is designed to provide resources and opportunities for community partners as they work to develop and implement programs aimed at reducing childhood obesity.

The program objectives through this grant are to increase: youth, adult and community partnerships utilizing positive youth development practices in addressing health issues, in particular child-hood obesity; the number of youth/adults reached through learning experiences addressing childhood obesity; awareness of personal behaviors relative to obesity in youth/adults.

This grant will be incorporated throughout St. Helena Parish through the collaboration of community partners, including the St. Helena Parish school system, police jury, sheriff's department, Turner Chapel A.M.E. Church, the Council on Aging and nursing homes.



Students learn about leafy greens

Healthy Living Week, Multicultural Food Week and a Health Fair are types of programs anticipated in this grant. Schools will incorporate the grant into health classes in which students are taught to practice a healthy lifestyle.

Youth agent Angela Myles and the LSU/SU AgCenter staff look forward to partnering with the community in helping to reduce child-hood obesity and live better, healthier lifestyles.

## Broadmoor High School Students Experience Agriculture at SU Ag Center

The Broadmoor High School 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade business class visited the Southern University Ag Center on January 21. The students wanted to learn about agriculture and the impact it has made over time.

Robert "Bob" Rene, SU Office of student recruitment and admissions. The students learned that now is the time to prepare for the ACT exam and how to do so. They asked many questions that they would not normally be able to ask at recruitment nights.

Andra Johnson, associate professor of Urban Forestry, enlightened the students on educational career

paths in agricultural and food sciences. He also spoke about volunteering now in areas of interest in an effort to gain necessary experience.

The students participated in hands-on lab activities with Renita Marshall, D.V.M. in the area of animal science. The students had an opportunity to observe different parasites under the microscope while learning how these organisms affect the goat industry.

Daniel Collins, professor of Urban Forestry, guided students in diagnosing different diseases in trees.

The last activity for the day was a riding tour of the Southern Uni-

versity Campus. "I never realized how many different things you can do in agriculture without even going into a field or living on a farm. Mrs. Monroe and everyone here made it fun and exciting. It is something to really consider now," said LeTricia, one of the 9th grade students.

Christie Monroe, Livestock Show Manger/Assistant Specialist of animal Science, organized the event.

## Southern University Ag Center Nutritionist Certified



Nutrition Education Assistant Melody Coco of Avoyelles Parish was one of 12 graduates from the Master Nutrition class in Alexandria

on January 12. This achievement followed the completion of a program organized by the LSU Ag-Center.

The Master Nutrition program is modeled after the very popular Master Gardener program. After taking six five-hour sessions last fall, Master Nutrition volunteers were certified to teach basic nutrition and food safety lessons to the public. Many of the volunteers will work with head start programs, elementary schools and senior centers in the community.

LSU AgCenter faculty trained these volunteers in the areas of wellness, exercise and fad diets, the MyPyramid food guidance system, dietary guidelines, serving sizes, nutrients, food labels, meal planning, modifying recipes and food safety. Each volunteer also performed 15 hours of service and passed a competency

test to become certified.

LSU AgCenter Regional family and Consumer Sciences Coordinator Quincy Cheek said to participants, "The goal is a healthy Louisiana. I have big plans for you." Cheek also added that she'll offer continuing education to the Master Nutritionists quarterly.

For more details, please visit: http://text.lsuagcenter.com/en/ communications/news/ headline news/LSU-AgCentercertifies-12-Master-Nutritionyolunteers-.htm

#### Staff activities

Bridget Udoh, communications specialist, conducted a focus group session to launch a USDA project which seeks to study the best strategy to strengthen communications between limited resource clientele and the SU Ag Center. Limited resource producers and business owners in Louisiana will identify their preferred type and mode of information as they learn multiple ways to access accurate and timely information for decision-making and ultimately increase profit.

The three-year project will involve 100 participants from ten Louisiana parishes. The first focus group session which recruited eight participants was held in St. Martin Parish Library, January 25. Other team members who assisted in facilitating the focus group included, Oscar Udoh, coordinator for Planning and Evaluation, Andra Johnson, associate professor, Urban Forestry, Candace Semien, consultant, and Charles Butler, Jr., doctoral student, Urban Forestry.



Udoh, left, interacts with focus group participants

Sarah Sims, Extension Aide, Madison Parish, invited SU Ag Center County Agent Chris Robichaux, PhD. St. Martin/Iberia Parishes, and County Agent Terry Washington, Rapides Parish, to conduct an educational workshop for 56 Tallulah Elementary School gardeners in Madison Parish targeting the School Garden participants. Project The vouth learned about plant structure such as root, stems, leaves, flowers and seeds. They participated in an exciting activity of transplanting seedlings. Each student, under the direction of Washington and Sims, learned how to carry out the transplant. The student gardeners also held their first fall green sale which was a big success.



Washington interacts with students

Sims conducted the 1st Thursday Lunch & Learn Diabetes Awareness which attracted 39 participants to the monthly program. This educational program was sponsored by Southern University Ag Center, Dr. Ronal Wyche, M.D. of Outpatients Medical Center and Assistant LaKeisha William, Terri Crawford, and LSU Ag Center. Participants were made aware of the dangers of Diabetes. As a result of the program, a series of diabetes educational workshops will be held on every Tuesdays beginning January 18th, from noon-5:30 p.m. at LSU/Southern University Ag Center extension office.



Cross section of 1st Thursday meeting

She also held an in-service workshop on childhood obesity in which eight teachers participated. She used the "Healthy Me" Curriculum Munching & Reading through MyPyramid to teach the problems caused by childhood obesity; changes that can be made; ways to encourage classroom activities; ways to improve school health; and tips for parents. Each teacher participated in hands-on activities that they can use in the classroom to promote reading and fitness.



In-service training participants

## **Upcoming Events**

- February 1, parenting class on Family Stress, La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- February 5, Louisiana Small Farmer Agricultural Leadership Institute: Lafayette. Contact: Dawn Mellion-Patin at 225-771-2242
- February 8, parenting class on Family Stress, La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- February 15, parenting class on Family Stress, La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, parent educator, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- February 22, parenting class on Family Stress, La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, parent educator, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- March 1, parenting class on Family Stress, La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, parent educator, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- March 3-5, 68th Annual State Livestock Show, M.A. Edmond Livestock Show Arena, Baton Rouge. Contact: Christie Monroe at 225-771-2242
- Mar 5, Louisiana Small Farmer Agricultural Leadership Institute Graduation Ceremony, SU Ag Center, Baton Rouge. Contact: Dawn Mellion-Patin at 225-771-2242
- March 8, parenting class on Family Stress, La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, parent educator, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- March 15, parenting class on Family Stress, La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, parent educator, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- March 17—19, Louisiana Small and Minority Farmers' Conference, Baton Rouge. Contact: Dawn Mellion-Patin at 225-771-2242
- March 22, parenting class on Family Stress, La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- Mar 23 27, Ag Institute East Coast Tour and Graduation, North Carolina A & T State University/ Washington DC. Contact: Dawn Mellion Patin
- March 29, parenting class on Family Stress, La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- March 29, Seventh Annual Connecting Businesses with Contracts Procurement Conference. Contact: Gloria London, (225) 225-771-2242 or 771-4107

#### Upcoming Events contd.

- April 2, 39th Annual State and National Rabbit Show, M.A. Edmond Livestock Show Arena, Baton Rouge. Contact: Christie Monroe, 225-771-2242
- April 2, 66th Annual Broiler Show, M.A. Edmond Livestock Show Arena, Baton Rouge. Contact: Christie Monroe, 225-771-2242
- April 5, parenting class on Family Stress La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- April 8-10, 41st Annual State and Regional Horse Show, M.A. Edmond Livestock Show Arena, Baton Rouge. Contact: Christie Monroe, 225-771-2242
- April 12, parenting class on Family Stress La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- April 19, parenting class on Family Stress La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237
- April 22, parenting class on Family Stress La JET, Baton Rouge. Contact: Delores Johnson, (225) 771-2242 ext. 237