

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

(Following the Governance Committee)

Friday, August 24, 2012

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A & M College
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

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 June 29, 2012 regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors
 - b. Committee Reports and Recommendations
 - 1.) Academic Affairs Committee
 - 2.) Athletics Committee
 - 3.) Facilities and Property Committee
 - 4.) Finance and Audit Committee
 - 5.) Governance Committee
 - 6.) Personnel Affairs Committee
 - c. Resolutions
6. Informational Items
 - a. Bayou Classic Update
 - b. System President's Report - Transformation Assessment Process
 - c. Campus Reports
 - d. SUS Small Business Development Initiative Strategic Plan (Draft)
 - e. SUS Trademark and Licensing Website
7. Other Business
8. Adjournment

Southern University Board of Supervisors
Friday, June 29, 2012
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A & M College
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 Fr. Daniel Krutz.

PRESENT

Mr. Darren G. Mire, Chairman
Atty. Murphy F. Bell, Jr. – Vice Chairman
Mr. Patrick W. Bell
Atty. Tony M. Clayton
Atty. Warren A. Forstall
Mr. Marc A. Guichard
Dr. Eamon M. Kelly
Mr. Myron K. Lawson
Mrs. Ann A. Smith
Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert, Jr.

ABSENT

Atty. Bridget A. Dinvaut
Atty. Walter C. Dumas
Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr.
Mr. Willie E. Hendricks
Atty. Patrick D. Magee

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL

System President Ronald Mason, Jr.
Evola Bates, Chief of Staff
System Vice Presidents Kevin Appleton and Tony Moore
Chancellors Victor Ukpolo (SUNO), Freddie Pitcher (SULC), Ray Belton (SUSLA),
Leodrey Williams (SUAREC), and James Llorens (SUBR)

BOARD COUNSEL

Attys. Winston DeCuir, Jr. and Tracie Woods

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS

A. Minutes of the May 24, 2012 regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors

On motion of Rev. Tolbert, seconded by Mr. Bell,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the minutes of the May 25, 2012 regular meeting of the Board be and they are hereby approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Committee Reports

On motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Lawson, the Board approved, by way of a resolution, Committee reports and recommendations below:

Motion carried unanimously.

-ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the request from Southern University – Baton Rouge to offer the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies Degree be and it is hereby approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the request from Southern University – Baton Rouge to offer an existing academic degree program (Executive Master of Criminal Justice Administration) through distance learning technologies be and it is hereby approved.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the promotion of Ms. Regina Webb from Instructor to Assistant Professor in the Department of Business Management at SUSLA be and it is hereby approved.

Informational Items

- SUBR Recruitment Update
- SUNO Act 419 Response Management Plan

-FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, upon the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee, that the Committee's informational report be and it is hereby received.

-FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, upon the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, that BA-7#3, reflecting the end-of-year budget cut for the Southern University System entities in the amount of \$1,203,879, be and it is hereby approved.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisor for Southern University, upon the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, that the Projected Mandatory Tuition and Fees for SU Campuses, representing a 10% increase in tuition and fees for the 2012-13 academic year as indicated below be and they are hereby approved.

<u>CAMPUS</u>	<u>FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE</u>	<u>FULL-TIME GRADUATE</u>
SUBR	\$13,128	\$13,390
SUNO	\$9,657	\$9,604
SUSLA	\$4,600	
SU Law Center	FULL-TIME DAY \$9,295	PART-TIME DAY \$7,839
	EVENING DIVISION \$8,491	

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, upon the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, that the resolution granting authority for the issuance of an aggregate principal amount not to exceed eighteen million dollars (\$18,000,000) of Board of Supervisors for SU and A&M College System Revenue Bonds (Southern University – New Orleans Dormitory Project) in one or more series; and, to authorize application for said bonds to the Louisiana Bond Commission and are other actions necessary for the issuance of said instruments be and it is hereby approved.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, upon the Settlement Agreement between the U.S. Department of Education and SUSLA to reduce SUSLA's liability to the negotiated amount of \$1,282,490 be and it is hereby approved.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the 2012-13 Student Injury and Sickness Rates, reflecting an increase over 2011-12 rates.

Informational Items

- Financial status of S.U. System entities, as of May 30, 2012
- 2012-2013 State Funding for SU System entities

AGENDA ITEM 5B-4: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE'S REPORT

On motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Lawson,

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, upon the recommendation of the Personnel Affairs Committee, that the appointment of Dr. Carlos A. Thomas as Chief Information Officer at SUBR, effective July 1, 2012 at annual salary \$110,000 be and it is hereby approved.

Motion carried. Roll Call Vote: 9 yeas: Mire, M. Bell, P. Bell, Forstall, Guichard, Kelly, Lawson, Smith, and Tolbert; 1 nay: Clayton; 0 abstentions

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors, that the revision to the Presidential Evaluation Procedure to change the month of the annual Presidential Evaluation from March to June, be and it is hereby approved.

AGENDA ITEM 5C: RESOLUTIONS

On motion of Rev. Tolbert, seconded by Mr. Bell, the following resolutions were approved.

Motion carried.

Congratulations

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that commendations be and they are hereby extended to Dr. Sudhir Trivedi on his receipt of the AAUP's J. Thomas Hamrick Award for exemplary efforts on behalf of academic freedom.

Condolences

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that condolences be and they are hereby extended to the families listed below:

- The Thornton Clark Family
- The Alfred Earl "Bust" Simpson, Sr. Family
- The Logan Wright Family
- The Ronald Pedro Family
- The James Christy Family
- The Joshua D. Thomas Family
- The Carrie D. Jordan Family
- The Elsie Cyrus Family
- The Theresa Fontaine Family

AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATIONAL ITEM

A. Southern University System Model

President Mason announced his intent to seek input from the Southern University Family relative to the document entitled, "Things to Consider when Deciding Southern's Future." Based upon the information garnered, the Southern University System Model will be recommended to the Board at its July meeting.

B. Campus Monthly Update

The Campuses' written reports are available for review on line and in the files in the Board's Office.

AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS

A copy of the Board of Supervisors' July-December 2012 Calendar was distributed.

AGENDA ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Mrs. Smith, the meeting was adjourned.

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Academic Affairs Committee

9:00 a.m.

Friday, June 29, 2012

2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building

Southern University and A & M College

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

MINUTES

The meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Dr. Eamon M. Kelly.

The invocation was given by the guest Chaplain, Fr. Daniel Krutz, Executive Director of the Louisiana InterChurch Conference. Fr. Krutz was introduced by Board Member Samuel Tolbert, the Conference's President.

PRESENT

Dr. Eamon M. Kelly, Chairman

Mrs. Ann A. Smith, Vice Chair

Atty. Tony M. Clayton

Mr. Marc A. Guichard

Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert, Jr.

Mr. Darren G. Mire, Ex Officio

APPOINTED TO THE COMMITTEE TO EFFECT A QUORUM

Atty. Murphy F. Bell, Jr.

Atty. Warren A. Forstall

ABSENT

Mr. Calvin W. Braxton, Sr.

Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr.

Mr. Willie E. Hendricks

Atty. Patrick D. Magee

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

System President Ronald Mason, Jr.

Evola Bates, Chief of Staff

System Vice Presidents Kevin Appleton and Tony Moore

Chancellors Victor Ukpolo (SUNO), Freddie Pitcher (SULC), Ray Belton (SUSLA),

Leodrey Williams (SUAREC), and James Llorens (SUBR)

BOARD COUNSEL

Attys. Winston DeCuir, Jr. and Tracie Woods

Atty. Winston DeCuir, Jr. administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Marc A. Guichard, newly elected Student Board Representative for 2012-13 and current President of the Student Government Association at SUNO.

Mr. Guichard introduced to the Board his mother, Mrs. Janice Johnson and grandmother, Mrs. Melva Broussard. He expressed his appreciation for having the opportunity to serve on the Board and pledged his best efforts toward fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of the position.

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Atty. Forstall, and seconded by Atty. Clayton, the agenda was adopted, as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS

A. B.A. DEGREE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES, SUBR

On motion of Atty. Bell, seconded by Atty. Forstall, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies Degree at Southern University – Baton Rouge.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. ON-LINE EXECUTIVE MASTERS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION, SUBR

On motion of Atty. Forstall, seconded by Mrs. Smith, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the request from Southern University – Baton Rouge to offer an existing academic degree program (Executive Master of Criminal Justice Administration) through distance learning technologies.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. LETTER OF INTENT FOR B.S. DEGREE IN FORENSIC SCIENCE, SUNO

On motion of Atty. Forstall, seconded by Atty. Bell, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the Letter of Intent by Southern University-New Orleans to establish the Bachelor of Science Degree in Forensic Science.

Motion carried unanimously.

Citing with a growing need for the above expertise in the local Criminal Justice Systems, Atty. Clayton suggested that the Administration consider establishing a similar program in Forensic Science at Southern University – Baton Rouge.

In response, Dr. Llorens said that he will meet the faculty and staff in the Ph.D. in Toxicology program at Southern University – Baton Rouge and also with Faculty Senate representatives to determine the investment that will be needed to offer this service.

Dr. Llorens was asked to report his findings to the Board.

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR PROMOTION, SUSLA

On motion of Rev. Tolbert, seconded by Atty. Forstall, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the promotion of Ms. Regina Webb from Instructor to Assistant Professor in the Business Management Department at Southern University – Shreveport.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. RECRUITMENT REPORT, SUBR

Chancellor Llorens presented the recruitment update for Southern University – Baton Rouge. He announced the merger of the Office of Admissions and the Office of Recruitment to form the Office of Recruitment and Admissions. First-time freshmen will be admitted through the Office of Admissions; transfer and re-admit students will be admitted via the Registrar's Office.

B. ACT 419 MANAGEMENT PLAN, SUNO

Chancellor Ukpolo presented SUNO's plan to effect a collaborative recruitment and admission process with Delgado Community College and the University of New Orleans. The plan was developed for implementation, in response to Legislative Act 419.

AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS

None

AGENDA ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Atty. Forstall, seconded by Rev. Tolbert, the meeting was adjourned.

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Facilities and Property Committee
Friday, June 29, 2012
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A & M College
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

MINUTES

The meeting of the Facilities and Property Committee of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Atty. Murphy F. Bell, Jr.

PRESENT

Mr. Myron K. Lawson, Chairman
Atty. Warren A. Forstall
Mrs. Ann A. Smith
Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert
Mr. Darren G. Mire, Ex Officio

ABSENT

Mr. Willie E. Hendricks, Vice Chairman
Atty. Walter C. Dumas
Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr.

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

System President Ronald Mason, Jr.
Evola Bates, Chief of Staff
System Vice Presidents Kevin Appleton and Tony Moore
Chancellors Victor Ukpolo (SUNO), Freddie Pitcher (SULC), Ray Belton (SUSLA),
Leodrey Williams (SUAREC), and James Llorens (SUBR)

BOARD COUNSEL

Attys. Winston DeCuir, Jr. and Tracie Woods

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Mr. Lawson, and seconded Rev. Tolbert, the agenda was adopted, as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM 5: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. System Facilities Report and Projects Update

The Committee received an update on the following SUBR and SU Ag Center Campus projects:

SUBR

- Baseball Support Facilities
- SU Lab School
- Chill Water Project
- F.G. Clark Parking Lot Resurfacing
- T.H. Harris Hall
- Student Health Center
- University Place
- Intramural Athletic Complex

SU AG CENTER

- A.O. Williams Building

B. Steps to expedite Dormitory Demolition Projects

Completion of the project will be slowed due to the need for environmental abatement. The anticipated project completion date is now set for April 2013.

C. Update on AT&T Project, SUBR

The initial field work has been completed. The agreement is now being reviewed by Board Counsel.

AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Atty. Forstall, seconded by Mrs. Smith, the meeting was adjourned.

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Finance and Audit Committee
Friday, June 29, 2012
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A & M College
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

MINUTES

The meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Mr. Myron K. Lawson.

PRESENT

Mr. Myron K. Lawson, Chairman
Atty. Warren A. Forstall, Vice Chairman
Atty. Murphy F. Bell, Jr.
Mr. Marc A. Guichard
Dr. Eamon M. Kelly
Mr. Darren G. Mire, Ex Officio

ABSENT

Atty. Bridget A. Dinvaout
Atty. Walter C. Dumas
Mr. Willie E. Hendricks

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

System President Ronald Mason, Jr.
Evola Bates, Chief of Staff
System Vice Presidents Kevin Appleton and Tony Moore
Chancellors Victor Ukpole (SUNO), Freddie Pitcher (SULC), Ray Belton (SUSLA),
Leodrey Williams (SUAREC), and James Llorens (SUBR)

BOARD COUNSEL

Attys. Winston DeCuir, Jr. and Tracie Woods

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Atty. Bell, and seconded by Atty. Forstall, the agenda was adopted.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS

On motion of Atty. Forstall, seconded by Atty. Bell, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the items listed below:

Motion carried unanimously.

- BA-7#3, reflecting the end-of-year budget cut in the amount of \$1,203, 879, per Legislative Supplemental Appropriation Bill 1059.
- Annual Project Mandatory Tuition and Fees (2012-13) for SU Campuses, reflecting a 10% increase in tuition and fees, per the GRAD Act.

<u>CAMPUS</u>	<u>FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE</u>	<u>FULL-TIME GRADUATE</u>
SUBR	\$13,128	\$13,390
SUNO	\$9,657	\$9,604
SUSLA	\$4,600	
SU Law Center	FULL-TIME Day \$9,295	PART-TIME DAY \$7,839
	EVENING DIVISION \$8,491	

- Resolution granting authority for the issuance of an aggregate principal amount not to exceed eighteen million dollars (\$18,000,000) of Board of Supervisors for SU & A&M College System Revenue Bonds (Southern University – New Orleans Dormitory Project) in one or more series; and, to authorize application for said bonds to the Louisiana Bond Commission and all other actions necessary for the issuance of said instruments.
- Settlement Agreement between the U.S. Department of Education and Southern University – Shreveport to reduce SUSLA’s liability to the negotiated amount of \$1,282,490.
- 2012-2013 Student Injury and Sickness Rates, reflecting an increase over 2011-2012 rates

AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

The Committee received updates on the following items:

- Financial Status of SU System components, as of May 30, 2012
- 2012-13 State Funding for SU System entities

AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Atty. Forstall, seconded by Dr. Kelly, the meeting was adjourned.

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Personnel Affairs Committee
Friday, June 29, 2012
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A & M College
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

MINUTES

The meeting of the Personnel Affairs Committee of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Atty. Warren A. Forstall.

PRESENT

Atty. Warren A. Forstall, Chairman
Mr. Patrick W. Bell, Vice Chairman
Atty. Tony M. Clayton
Mr. Marc A. Guichard
Dr. Eamon M. Kelly
Mrs. Ann A. Smith

ABSENT

Mr. Calvin W. Braxton, Sr.
Atty. Bridget A. Dinvaut
Mr. Willie E. Hendricks

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

System President Ronald Mason, Jr.
Evola Bates, Chief of Staff
System Vice Presidents Kevin Appleton and Tony Moore
Chancellors Victor Ukpolo (SUNO), Freddie Pitcher (SULC), Ray Belton (SUSLA),
Leodrey Williams (SUAREC), and James Llorens (SUBR)

BOARD COUNSEL

Attys. Winston DeCuir, Jr. and Tracie Woods

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Dr. Kelly, the agenda was adopted.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Atty. Clayton voiced concern regarding a recent article appearing in the local newspaper about the employment by SUBR of a former student member on the Board of Supervisors. The concern was shared by Board Members Kelly and Tolbert and President Mason.

Chancellor Llorens reported that the personnel action has not been finalized, but provided the rationale for seeking to employ the individual.

Following the discussion on this matter, several members agreed that the Board should be asked at the July Meeting to consider tabling new hires as well as creating new positions System-wide during the University's current period of financial austerity. The Board should also be asked to strengthen its Bylaws as relative to personnel actions.

Mr. Lawson spoke in support of the Administration's creation of new University positions, when the situation warrants. Responding, Atty. Forstall noted that the Administration should obtain the approval of the Board before creating a new position.

Dr. Thomas Miller, President of the SUBR Faculty Senate, expressed concern relative to the hiring of the former Student Board Member; and, the SUBR Administration's recommendation of the Chief Information Officer (Item 5A).

Dr. Sudhir Trivedi, SUBR Faculty Member and Vice President of the Louisiana Chapter of the AAUP Conference, spoke about the Board's delegation of its authority for certain personnel actions to the System President and Chancellors.

Ms. Linda Mosley commented on receipt of a letter from the SUNO Chancellor terminating her current position with the 1st Year Experience Center at SUNO. She requested the Board and System President to look at the SUNO Administration's decision to reduce staffing for the Center.

AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS

A. APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER, SUBR

On motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Dr. Kelly, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the appointment of Dr. Carlos A. Thomas as Chief Information Officer at SUBR, effective July 1, 2012, at an annual salary of \$110,000.

Motion carried. Atty. Clayton voted nay.

B. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF SYSTEM PRESIDENT RONALD MASON, JR.

On motion of Dr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bell, the Board convened into an executive session to discuss with Mr. Ronald Mason the evaluation of his performance as President of the SU System for the period of July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

Motion carried unanimously. 6 yeas: Forstall, P. Bell, Guichard, Kelly, Smith and Mire; 0 nays; 0 abstentions; 1 out; Clayton.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

OPEN SESSION

On motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Atty. Bell, the Committee reconvened into open session.

Motion carried unanimously. 7 yeas: Forstall, P. Bell, Clayton, Guichard, Kelly, Smith and Mire; 0 nays;
0 abstentions

C. REVISED PRESIDENTIAL EVALUATION PROCEDURE

On motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Atty. Clayton, the Committee approved, and so recommends to the Board, the revision to the Presidential Evaluation Procedure to change the month of the annual Presidential Evaluation from March to June.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS

The Administration was requested to place on the Committee's July meeting agenda an item to "table all future employment and the creation of new positions."

AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Dr. Kelly, the meeting was adjourned.

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SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

TRANSFORMATION ASSESSMENT PLAN FOR ENROLLMENT SERVICES

AUGUST 27, 2012—DECEMBER 15, 2012

Plan Prepared by:

**Michelle L. Hill, MPA
Director of Recruitment and Admissions
Southern University - BR**

Southern University System

Student Services Automation Project Plan

August 27, 2012—December 15, 2012

Overview

The Student Services Automation Project is a critical initiative designed to automate, standardize and synchronize all aspects of student services within the Southern University System. This project plan is designed to set attainable targets for the startup of the interactive online Student Services function within Banner by the Spring 2013 semester. Executive leadership has developed goals for the project with action steps, responsible parties, deadlines and resource allocations. This project will create a virtual one stop for Southern University System current and prospective students and position Southern University as a worldwide provider of online education.

Project Plan

Goal 1: Analyze the current organizational capacity within Student Services to meet current and future demand for campus and online education.

Action Step	Personnel Resources	Deadline	Resource Allocation
1. Review job descriptions of all current positions within Admissions, Recruitment, CTLE, Financial Aid, Registrar's Office and Bursar's Office	Michelle Hill Student Services Work Group Human Resources Manager	8/27/12	16 hours
2. Review standard operating procedures within Admissions, Recruitment, CTLE, Financial Aid, Registrar's Office and Bursar's Office	Michelle Hill Student Services Work Group	8/31/12	32 hours
3. Develop workflow diagrams for all current processes within Admissions, Recruitment, CTLE, Financial Aid, Registrar's Office and Bursar's Office	Michelle Hill Student Services Work Group Technology Workgroup	9/9/12	80 hours

4. Provide information to Chancellors regarding organizational structure and processes within Student Services to meet the virtual needs of students and increased demand for student services	Michelle Hill Vice Chancellors Student Services Work Group	9/14/12	16 hours
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Goal 2: Research coordinated, standardized processes for Student Services on a system-wide level.

Action Step	Responsible Party	Deadline	Resource Allocation
1. Develop workflow diagrams for online processes for Student Services within Banner	Michelle Hill Student Services Work Group Technology Workgroup	9/28/12	160 hours
2. Provide information to Chancellors regarding workflow diagrams for Student Services within Banner	Michelle Hill Vice Chancellors Technology Workgroup	10/5/12	
3. Revise standard operating procedures for Student Services in accordance with approved recommendations and workflow diagrams	Michelle Hill Student Services Work Group	10/12/12	80 hours
4. Revise job descriptions for Student Services in accordance with approved recommendations, workflow diagrams and standard operating procedures	Michelle Hill Human Resources Manager	10/19/12	80 hours
5. Develop workflow diagrams and standard operating procedures for an online student communication function within Banner to maintain close online contact between Student Services staff and students within the system	Michelle Hill Student Services Work Group Technology Workgroup	10/26/12	80 hours

Goal 3: Access the benefits of standardized processes for Student Services on a system-wide level within Banner.

1. Coordinate the analysis of current Student Services Banner Systems at each campus	Michelle Hill Student Services Work Group Technology Workgroup	9/7/12	160 hours
2. Provide information to Chancellors regarding the Student Services Banner Systems based on initial analysis	Michelle Hill	9/14/12	
3. Coordinate the development of programming functions within Banner for Student Services in accordance with workflow diagrams	Michelle Hill Student Services Work Group Technology Workgroup	TBA	160 hours
4. Coordinate beta testing of programming functions within Banner for Student Services	Michelle Hill Technology Workgroup	TBA	80 hours
5. Review programming functions within Banner for Student Services	Michelle Hill Student Services Work Group Technology Workgroup	TBA	160 hours
6. Evaluate programming functions within Banner and facilitate adjustments and corrections as warranted	Michelle Hill Student Services Work Group Technology Workgroup	TBA	80 hours
7. Present the findings of the Student Services Automation Project to the System President and Stakeholders	Michelle Hill Chancellors Student Services Work Group	TBA	

Targeted Processes:

The following processes have been targeted by executive leadership for review and automation within designated functional areas of the Southern University System:

Functional Areas:

- Admissions/Recruitment
 - Undergraduate
 - Graduate
- Academic Advising
 - CTLE
 - Academic Departments
- Bursar's Office
- Financial Aid
- Registrar's Office

Processes:

- Application Submission
- Application Processing
- Application Decision
- Transcript Request
- Diploma Request
- Graduation Application
- Academic Advising
- Financial Aid Submission
- Financial Aid Processing
- Financial Aid Award
- Tuition and Fees Payment
- Out of State Fee Waivers
- Student Communication (Current and Prospective)



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

**TRANSFORMATION ASSESSMENT
FOR FINANCE AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS
AUGUST 27, 2012 - DECEMBER 15, 2012**

Plan Prepared By:

**Kevin Appleton
Vice President for Finance & Business Affairs
Southern University System**

Southern University System
Transformation Assessment For Finance & Business Affairs
August 27, 2012 - December 15, 2012

Overview

The objective of this activity is to refine and improve the System's capabilities and performance with regard to business and support operations, to enable future success. These efforts are an essential element of renewing our commitment to continuous improvement based on our core mission of instruction, research and service, and include the following:

- Respond to financial challenges
- Improve service quality, availability and accountability to achieve operational excellence in administration
- Inculcate High Performance Culture throughout support operations
- Instill an environment of continuous improvement
- Identify where to invest so as to reduce the long term administrative operating costs

Plan

Goal 1: Evaluate personnel, customer service needs and satisfaction, organization structure, policies, procedures, and contracts.			
Action Step	Personnel	Deadline	Resource Allocation
1. Communicate with senior campus officials to outline charge, purpose, goals, and expected results of review and assessment activities	System Chancellors Business and Finance Administrative Staff	11/15/12	40 hrs
2. Gather information, conduct interviews, compare and assess operations.	Business and Finance Staff	11/15/12	80 hrs
3. Conduct intercampus retreat for Business and Finance with Information Technology & Management staff.	IT, Finance and Business Teams	Complete	40 hrs

Goal 2: Evaluate shared center of excellence within the Finance and Business operations of the Southern University System.

Action Step	Personnel	Resource Allocation	
1. Identify the areas to be reviewed, analyzed, and improved.	Business and Finance Staff	Complete	40 hrs
2. Identify Inter-Campus teams to oversee implementation of operational and process improvement.	Business and Finance Staff Campus CFOs	11/15/12	40 hrs
3. Develop and implement a unified chart of accounts for the Banner Finance application as a pre-condition for migration to a single chart of accounts from multiple charts.	Information Technology Intercampus Unified Chart Team	Complete	300 hrs
4. Conduct job audits, workload deliberations and assessments. In-depth evaluations of skills and capabilities of staff	VP of Finance and Business Affairs	11/15/12	80 hrs
5. Post key positions and recruit qualified and capable management and support staff to lead critical operations. Assemble leadership team to plan, manage, and implement process improvements.	VP of Finance & Business Affairs	11/30/12	8 hrs
6. Progress and track updates at committee and cabinet meetings.	VP of Finance and Business Affairs	11/30/12	8 hrs

<p>7. Develop detailed budgets and organizational structures to facilitate long-term stability and operational excellence in business and support operations. Reduce recurring personnel costs, duplication and redundancy, and enhance operational efficiency while improving inter-campus services and customer satisfaction.</p>	<p>VP of Finance and Business Affairs Intercampus Teams Campus CFOs</p>	<p>11/15/12</p>	<p>24 hrs</p>
<p>8. Develop and present final recommendations to System President.</p>	<p>VP of Finance and Business Affairs</p>	<p>11/30/12</p>	<p>24 hrs</p>



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

TRANSFORMATION ASSESSMENT PLAN FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AUGUST 27, 2012 - DECEMBER 15, 2012

Plan Prepared By:

**Tony A. Moore
Vice President for Information & Technology Management
Southern University System**

Southern University System
Transformation Assessment For Information Technology
August 27, 2012 - December 15, 2012

Overview

The Transformation Assessment for Information Technology is a critical, strategic initiative essential to efficient IT delivery of services to all constituents and promotion of innovative uses of IT resources. This assessment develops a centralized approach technology support services consortium by utilizing a reliable infrastructure that is scalable, robust, and efficient. By creating a unified team focused on innovation, coordination and advancement, we will build partnerships that will enhance our presence locally and internationally.

Plan

Goal 1: Evaluate alignment of governance by consolidation and standardization of reporting relationships and responsibilities.			
Action Step	Personnel	Deadline	Resource Allocation
1. Establish IT Steering Committee with senior technology representatives from each system campus.	Office of Information & Technology Management Campus CIOs System Chancellors	8/27/12	8 hrs
2. Review job descriptions of all current IT positions system-wide both administrative and academic.	IT Steering Committee Human Resources	9/4/12	40 hrs
3. Review segregation of duties for alignment and job responsibility matrix.	IT Steering Committee	9/11/12	40 hrs
4. Develop task-force committees to review policies and procedures; including risk assessment, audit and controls, and education and awareness.	IT Steering Committee IT Working Groups	9/25/12	80 hrs

5. Review centralized procurement procedures and contract management processes for all campuses.	IT Steering Committee Campus Procurement Officers	10/2/12	40 hrs
6. Develop IT Governance model detailing organization structure, guidelines, roles and responsibilities, performance management, resource allocation, and collaboration and communication.	IT Steering Committee	10/16/12	80 hrs

Goal 2: Evaluate Shared Services center to allow all institutions to leverage the latest in best-of-breed technologies and provide efficient and effective customer-focused services.

Action Step	Personnel	Resource Allocation	
1. Review current IT academic and administrative services delivered by the campus technology departments.	IT Steering Committee	10/23/12	40 hrs
2. Establish cost structures, service metrics and quality, and the evaluate technologies for shared delivery.	IT Steering Committee	10/30/12	40 hrs
3. Assess customer relationships with stakeholders and consumers of current services.	Campus Administrative Leadership Teams	11/2/12	24 hrs
4. Estimate benefits from implementing services	IT Steering Committee VP of Finance & Business Operations Vice Chancellors for Admin & Finance	11/6/12	16 hrs

5. Develop organizational roles, define processes, service-level agreements, and select technologies for shared service delivery.	IT Steering Committee	11/12/12	40 hrs
6. Establish an Enterprise Service Desk for customer support utilizing common procedures for trouble reporting, tracking, and resolution.	IT Steering Committee	11/15/12	24 hrs

Goal 3: Analyze business efficiency and effectiveness to reduce costs and complexity while optimizing and the utilization and existing staffing levels.

Action Steps	Personnel	Resource Allocation	
1. Develop organizational structure of SUS Center of Excellence for Information and Computing Technology a. Develop a new business model. b. Define new leadership positions.	IT Steering Committee	11/16/12	8 hrs
2. Review of IT initiatives, budget allocations, and strategic priorities on all system campuses.	IT Steering Committee VCs for Finance and Administration	11/20/12	16 hrs
3. Review data center management, computing labs, print management, and infrastructure costs system-wide.	IT Steering Committee	11/22/12	16 hrs
4. Review current software licenses, professional service contracts, hardware maintenance, and service agreements system-wide.	IT Steering Committee	11/26/12	24 hrs

<p>5. Assess cost savings for consolidation of software and hardware licenses, managed print services, enterprise telecommunications services and systems, and virtualization systems and storage.</p>	<p>IT Steering Committee</p>	<p>11/28/12</p>	<p>16 hrs</p>
<p>6. Recommend comprehensive cost saving initiatives to System President and Chancellors.</p>	<p>IT Steering Committee</p>	<p>12/7/12</p>	

Southern University and A&M College at Baton Rouge

Chancellor's Report



Significant Accomplishments/Achievements

SUBR Student Receives ETS Presidential Scholarship

Desmond J. Fernandez has once again been declared a “winner.” This outstanding SUBR student has been chosen as a recipient of the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Presidential Scholarship Award for HBCU Students for the 2012-2013 academic year. Desmond is one of only eight students chosen from a large pool of talented students whose applications received a thorough evaluation by a review committee.

The award is for tuition for the 2012-2013 academic year. Acceptance of this award means that the recipient agrees to write a paper about a problem of his choice in his major field. The paper will be presented at a forum to be held in early 2013 at ETS in Princeton, New Jersey. ETS will cover all expenses for participating in the forum.

Desmond Fernandez is currently classified as a senior majoring in Physics. He is also a member of the Dolores Margaret Richard Spikes Honors College.

SUBR Faculty and Student Selected for Participation in Summer Research Program

Dr. Conrad Jones of the Department of Chemistry and Ms. Danielle Duhe, a student in the Department of Chemistry, were selected to participate in the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Summer Research Team Program for Minority Serving Institutions. The team was assigned to work with the Center of Excellence for Awareness and Localization of Explosive – Related Threats at the Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. This Center

of Excellence is charged with developing new means and methods to protect the nation from explosive-related threats.

“The objective of the DHS Summer Research Team Program is to provide research opportunities to diverse and highly talented individuals in order to increase and enhance the scientific leadership at Minority Serving Institutions in research areas that support the mission and goals of DHS,” said Dr. Matthew Clark, director of the program. Each team has one faculty and one or two students. During the summer, the teams participate in a research project for ten weeks and conclude with a presentation to DHS researchers and program managers. Student participation in this program is an excellent example of the opportunities that SUBR students receive to participate in extraordinary learning experiences during their matriculation at SUBR!

Two SUBR Professors Participate in National Science Foundation (NSF) Project



Dr. Katrina Cunningham

Dr. Katrina Cunningham, Chair of the Department of Mathematics, and Dr. Karen Crosby, Associate Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, were recently selected to participate in the Preparing Critical Faculty for the Future (PCFF) Project.



Dr. Karen Crosby

The purpose of the project is to advance the professional careers of project participants through their work to influence the STEM transformation efforts at the institutions of all participants.

The hope of the Association of American Colleges and Universities is to advance the PCFF Project with a second broader set of activities and work. If NSF responds favorably in terms of continued funding, next year a subset of the 13 HBCUs that currently make up Cohort II will be asked to continue efforts to advance the STEM transformation action plans developed this summer by the current teams.

Commendations are extended to both Professors Cunningham and Crosby for representing themselves and SUBR in such an exemplary manner.

Urban Forestry Program Received Grant for USDA Forest Service

The Urban Forestry Program has received a grant from the USDA Forest Service in the amount of \$120,000. The \$120,000 match for this grant has been waived. \$60,000 of these funds will be used to implement a plan to use forest science and technology to manage SUBR's existing "Remnant Bottomland Forest Ecosystem" for utilization in urban forestry education, training, research and outreach. Funds (\$40,000) will also be used for Summer Urban Forestry recruitment and \$20,000 will be used to fund workshops, seminars and conferences for Faculty and students.

SUBR's Remnant Bottomland Forest Ecosystem has more than 60 tree species. Live Oaks, Black Willows, Azaleas and Magnolias are examples of some of these species.

Dean of University Library Recognized as Outstanding Mentor

Emma Bradford Perry, Professor and Dean of Libraries, was honored on July 27, 2012 in New York by Soledad O'Brien's Education Foundation for mentoring a Southern University student, Tyreiron (Terri) Segue, who is one of Soledad's Scholars. Dean Perry was the guest of Soledad at the fund raising gala, "New Orleans in the Hamptons"



(NY). Dr. Steve Perry of CNN and his family sat at the table with Dean Perry along with Pamela Ravare-Jones who is a Southern University graduate and serves on the Board of Directors for Soledad's Foundation.

In her comments to Dean Perry Soledad said, "We cannot and will never be able to thank you for being the incredible role model for what great mentoring should be. You have set the standards of mentoring for the foundation. We appreciate your hard work and service."

Thank you for all you do for us and for Terri.” Each scholar of the Foundation gets personalized help in whatever it is they need to succeed in college, including a mentor to navigate the bumps and hurdles on the road to a college degree.

Terri is an honor student, from New Orleans. She spent her freshman and sophomore year at Southern University with a major in Economics but will be transferring to Spelman this fall for her junior year. Soledad's Education Foundation will cover the cost of Terri's education at Spelman as the Foundation did while she was a student at Southern. This summer Terri did an internship in New York City (Manhattan) with CNN.

Dean Perry is to be commended for bringing such distinction to herself and to SUBR. Her extraordinary interaction with this student is a classic example of the type of relationships in which we hope many more faculty and staff will choose to engage.

SUBR Nursing Student Participates in Summer III Cardiovascular Surgery Progressive Care Unit

Being part of a team that helped patients recover considerable physical skills after suffering strokes has been an experience that Southern University's Fred Reed said he won't ever forget.



The senior nursing student was one of a group of students selected to participate this summer in the Summer III's program at the famous Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. Reed participated in the cardiovascular surgery progressive care unit.

The most rewarding experience, he said, was seeing a stroke patient unable to walk, swallow or eat, and then being able to see the patient relearn each of these things. Reed even helped the patient to take his first steps, a moment he will always remember.

Reed was selected for the program from an applicant pool of more than 900. The acceptance rate, a mere 12 percent, indicates how competitive and highly sought after the program has become. Amongst the Summer IIIs, 63 colleges and universities and 31 states were represented.

"Mayo Clinic was always something I saw on the news. I dreamed of working here, but I never imagined it happening," said Reed. "It's an honor to be here. I would never take it for granted."

Reed has had the opportunity to work with a variety of patients with a number of different health situations.

The Summer III Program allows participants to get the experience they want and need for their future. "It's one thing to see a question on an exam about medications, but it's another thing to actually see and learn about the medications," said Reed.

He recalled an experience when his clinical coach, Jennifer M. Pagel, RN, took him through the critical process of giving medication to a patient with an irregular heartbeat. Having come into the program very shy, Reed credits a newfound confidence to experiences like this at Mayo Clinic.

Pagel, Reed's coach, said the most rewarding part about being in her position is seeing Reed progress. "He's changed from following me to being the leader and saying 'This is what I think we should do,'" said Pagel, a first-time clinical coach.

SUBR Athletic Department Received NCAA Re-Certification

The NCAA Division I Committee on Athletic Certification recently informed SUBR of the Committee's determination that its Department of Athletics had been re-certified. The decision of the committee was publically announced on Thursday, July 26, 2012.

This re-certification means that the institution is operating its athletic program in conformity with operating principles adopted by the Association's Division I membership.

The Committee does expect SUBR to follow up on any plans included in its self-study designed to further improve the program.

Commendations are extended to the Department of Athletics for this very significant achievement.

SU to host Coca-Cola Football Fan Fest Aug. 25

Southern University athletics is partnering with Coca-Cola to hold the SU Football Fan Fest 2012 Refreshed by Coca-Cola on Aug. 25 at A.W. Mumford Stadium on the SU campus.

Football Fan Fest begins at 3 p.m. and precedes the Jaguars final preseason scrimmage scheduled for 6 p.m., one week before the Sept. 1 season opener at Football Bowl Subdivision member New Mexico.

Fans attending the 2-hour event will be able to meet SU football coach Stump Mitchell along with members of the 2012 team and take pictures with select players. Mitchell, along with Chancellor James Llorens and Athletics Director Dr. Will Broussard, is scheduled to address the fans during the program portion which features a performance by the SU cheerleaders.

The Southern women's volleyball and women's soccer teams will be available as well for pictures and autographs in the East side stadium parking lot located in the shadows of A.W. Mumford Stadium. Fans will also receive the 2012 Southern Fall sports posters with the #StandUnited theme.

In conjunction with Football Fan Fest, Southern's booster groups will also conduct membership drives and sponsor several fan giveaways.

Following Football Fan Fest, Coach Mitchell and the Jaguars hit the field inside AW Mumford Stadium to conduct their final scrimmage before the season opener at 6 p.m. Fans are encouraged to make the short walk to the West Side entrance to attend the scrimmage, which features a performance by the Southern University Human Jukebox at 5:30 p.m. during team warmups.

Prior to the 6 p.m. scrimmage, the 2012 women's volleyball and women's soccer teams will be acknowledged and members of the Class of 2016 will conduct a mock run of "Jaguar

Jamboree," a pregame event where the freshman class will form the tunnel for the football team to run through at the Sept. 13 home opener against Mississippi Valley on ESPNU.

Athletic Department Continues to make Progress

The following are positive activities that have or are taking place in the Department of Athletics:

- Athletic Director has now included visiting area churches and possibly churches outside the area as a part of the department's public relations campaign. The first church visited was Greater King David Baptist Church on Sunday, August 5, 2012. Other church visits will follow.
- There is a significant effort in progress to engage in an advertising campaign to positively promote the Athletic Department. For example, spots will be running on various T.V. networks; radio spots will also run; banner will also appear across the page of *The Advocate*.
- Sell of season book tickets is up by 11%.
- Track overlay process ready to begin.
- Basketball court will also start after August 13th.
- Department of Athletics has been reorganized to promote more effectiveness, efficiency and accountability.
- The number of corporate sponsors has increased from eleven to eighteen.
- Cash commitments are up by approximately 30%.
- The department will celebrate Church and Family Day at October 20, 2012 game.

Southern University has solid representation at research gathering

A Southern University alumnus won first place for a graduate student poster presentation at the recent Louisiana Alliance for Simulation-Guided Materials Applications (LASiGMA) research symposium in Baton Rouge.

A Southern mechanical engineering graduate student placed second in the same category.

The symposium featured presentations by LASiGMA investigators, post-doctoral fellows, and graduate and undergraduate students. LASiGMA is a collaboration of seven Louisiana institutions, including Southern.



LASiGMA is funded by the National Science Foundation with additional funding from the Louisiana Board of Regents. It is a five-year and \$20 million research project.

In addition to Southern, there were students and supervisors representing Grambling State University, Louisiana State University, Louisiana Tech University, Tulane University, University of New Orleans, and Xavier University.

Chinedu Ekuma, who earned his master's degree in physics from Southern, offered a presentation on sophisticated electronic property calculations. Ekuma is completing his Ph.D in physics at LSU. His research supervisor at LSU is Dr. Mark Jarrell.

Michael Benissan, a mechanical engineering graduate student at Southern finished in second place behind Ekuma, for his presentation on thermal barrier coatings. His research supervisor is Dr. Patrick Mensah in the mechanical engineering department at SU.

In other results from the symposium, Matthew Kornfield, an undergraduate physics major at Georgetown University, won first place for the statewide undergraduate student poster presentations. The research results he presented were on colossal magnetoresistance. His research supervisor is Dr. Laurence Henry in the department of physics at Southern.

Juan Arredondo, an undergraduate physics major at Coe College, presented his results on carbon nanotubes. Cole Vanderlick, who will be an undergraduate petroleum engineering major at LSU in the fall, made a presentation on intricate three-dimensional representations of complex molecules.

Kornfield, Arredondo, and Vanderlick are participants in Summer 2012 LASiGMA Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program at SUBR.

Dr. Diola Bagayoko, LASiGMA principal investigator at SUBR, congratulated each of the students for their accomplishments. He said he will promote their research to future groups of LASiGMA students at SUBR.

SU's Small Business Center to hold non-profit startup workshop

The Louisiana Small Business Development Center at Southern University will hold a "Nonprofit Startups 101" workshop from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., Saturday, August 25 in the College of Business, on the first floor of T.T. Allain Hall.

The seminar is open to the public; however, early registration is required due to limited class size.

The workshop will provide information on how to transform ideas of starting a nonprofit into a viable, operational organization and to simplify the process. Those that complete the workshop will be equipped with the tools needed to form a non-profit organization.

Topics covered during the session will include: the steps for setting up a non-profit organization; the difference between a non-profit and a for-profit organization; the six components of non-profit infrastructure; and how the 990 form needs to be completed and filed.

The LSBDC at Southern University Baton Rouge is a partnership program funded, in part, through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, Louisiana Economic Development and Southern University.

Southern has launched GoJagsGear.com

Southern University Athletics has partnered with Dallas-based Advanced Online and has launched its online store, the department announced Thursday.

GoJagsGear.com will offer Jaguar fans a robust catalog of collegiate licensed apparel and specialty gifts which will directly impact the department's budget.

"Southern University Athletics is thrilled to enter into this agreement with Advanced Online as the provider of our online store, GoJagsGear.com," said Dr. William Broussard, Director of Athletics.

"The company is an industry leader in providing a wide array of products, excellent service to customers and clients. This also gives us an opportunity to generate revenues to support SU Athletics and give alumni across the nation an opportunity to purchase a wider array of products than have ever been made available to them."

Media Relations Updates

On June 25, *The Advocate* published a story about a representative from the federal government touring the Small Business Development Center under construction on the Baton Rouge campus. Mayor-President Kip Holden was part of the group.

On July 9, The Advocate published a story about the SUSLA to SUBR program on the local campus. The story outlined how the program would work to boost enrollment on the BR campus.

The Advocate ran a story highlighting how Southern University-Baton Rouge had come out of budget cuts, furloughs and exigency and was now ready to start the fall 2012 semester. There was an interesting quote in the story from the Commissioner of the Board of Regents who said that SUBR could be a role model for other Louisiana schools the might have similar financial situations.

NBC TV 33 followed that story with a story with interviews suggesting that Southern is moving forward after a tough year financially caused by state budget cuts.

In early July, Chancellor Llorens was a guest the WAFB-TV Ch. 9 morning show to discuss Southern-BR path now that the University had passed the GRAD Act and was free of exigency.

Chancellor James Llorens and President Ronald Mason, Jr. were on the Jim Engster radio show to discuss Baton Rouge campus' direction now that it had come out of financial exigency.

A story, published in August by Diverse Issues in Higher Education focused on SUSLA to Baton Rouge and New Orleans program. The reporter interviewed Chancellor Llorens, President Mason and SUBR SGA President Willie McCorkle.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

Seriousness Of Purpose



**THE CHANCELLOR'S REPORT
TO THE
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS**

August 2012

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

NAME OF CHANCELLOR: FREDDIE PITCHER, JR.

CAMPUS: SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

DATE: JULY 2012

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Chancellor Pitcher and SULC Recognized in Special Salute by Jaguar Foundation of Atlanta

Southernites in the Southeast, particularly the greater Atlanta region, paid special tribute to HBCU Law Schools at its annual Achievements Awards Ceremony and banquet. Chancellor Pitcher was recognized for his direction and stewardship given to SULC. Foundation President, Kenneth Davis, during the tribute, congratulated Chancellor Pitcher for "your dedication to provide quality education and training for attorneys at the Southern University Law Center. Because of your commitment, the Law Center is nationally recognized for excellence," he said.

The Jaguar Foundation of Atlanta, comprised of many members of the Atlanta chapter of the SU Alumni Federation, is a national nonprofit public foundation established to provide scholarships to Atlanta students attending SU, including the Law Center.

Mr. Davis, asserted, in honoring the five Historical Black College Law Schools, "At a time when smiles are accompanied with shrewd legal maneuvers to undermine the social, financial, and political progress of minorities, we must recognize those who equip our scholars to defend the Constitution". Concluding, he said, "Thank You to North Carolina Central University, Florida A&M University, Howard University and Texas Southern University for joining Judge Freddie Pitcher of Southern University in allowing all of us to celebrate your contribution to our society through the education of our future lawyers".

SULC Orientation Held August 16 315 Incoming Students Welcomed

Associate Justice John Wiemer, III, of the Louisiana Supreme Court; Richard K. Leefe, Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) president-elect; and Barry H. Grodsky of the LSBA Committee on the Profession addressed the 2012 incoming class of 315 students at the annual Southern University Law Center Orientation at 10 a.m., Thursday, August 16, in the Cotillion Ballroom of the SU Smith-Brown Memorial Student Union.

Chancellor Freddie Pitcher, Jr., SBA president LaKeisha Ford, and SULC faculty, staff, and alumni greeted the new students. Student Orientation on Professionalism was conducted by the LSBA Committee on the Profession. The 315 entering law students for fall 2012 were selected from a pool of approximately 1,000 applicants. The students are from 25 states and from 105 colleges/universities. The highest GPA is 4.00 and the highest LSAT score is 165. The average age is 28. The male/female ratio is 54/46 and the diversity is 48 percent African American; 40 percent Caucasian; 5 percent Hispanic, and 7 percent other.

School began August 21.

SULC Alumni Among New Officers of Region 5 of the National Bar Association



Elected during the National Bar Association Annual Conference, Tuesday, July 17, are Region 5 Officers--From left Chris Hebert, '03, deputy director; Michael L. Tyler, '04, assistant director; Cynthia N. Reed, '90, treasurer; Rachel Johnson, secretary, and Al Perkins, '04, past director.

Professor's Work on the Angola 3 Case Continues

The newly released issue of the Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly features an article by Prof. Allen-Bell titled "Perception Profiling and Prolonged Solitary Confinement Viewed Through the Lens of the Angola 3 Case: When Prison Officials Become Judges, Judges Become Visually Challenged and Justice Becomes Legally Blind."

The article is about The Angola 3 which involves three African-American men, Herman Wallace, Albert Woodfox and Robert King.

According to Prof. Allen-Bell, after arriving at Angola, the three men organized hunger and work strikes, and called for investigations into a host of alleged unconstitutional and extraordinarily inhumane practices in the prison. The men also organized the first prison chapter of the Black Panther Party with the hope of stopping the inmate-on-inmate violence and sexual assaults.

Wallace and Woodfox were charged with killing a correctional officer and King was charged with killing a fellow inmate. All three men were convicted, but steadfastly maintain their innocence, Allen-Bell said. Robert King was released in 2001, but Wallace and Woodfox remain in solitary confinement (also known as closed cell restriction), where they have been held for 23 hours a day for the past 40 years.

Convictions have been reversed and reinstated in each case,

Professor Allen-Bell stood along Amnesty International and community leaders recently as they called for an end to prolonged solitary confinement of Wallace and Woodfox. The delegation delivered 65,000 signatures from people in 150 countries to Governor Bobby Jindal.

In June, the Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights conducted a public hearing on "Reassessing Solitary Confinement: The Human Rights, Fiscal and Public Safety Consequences."

Professor Allen-Bell was among 65 others who submitted statements for the first-ever congressional hearing on solitary confinement.

An interview Allen-Bell had with the San Francisco Bayview National Black Newspaper on the eve of the hearing appears in its June 18, 2012 issue. You may read

this interview at <http://sfbayview.com/2012/solitary-confinement-on-trial-an-interview-with-law-professor-angela-a-allen-bell/>.

Professor Hosts Talk TV Program

The Legal Round Table is a new Baton Rouge television talk show which airs at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays, Cox, channel 21. The show is hosted by Professor Shenequa Grey and highlights updates on new and amended laws from the 2012 Regular Session of the State Legislature, as well as other legal topics. Visit www.thelegalroundtableshow.com.

Academic Support Programs and Academic Counseling

Pre Law 2012

Maximum enrollment in the pre law program was set at 60 participants, according to Associate Vice Chancellor Berryl Gordon-Thompson, program director. “This limit was set due to budget constraints and the ongoing economic environment,” she reasoned. Nonetheless, overwhelming interest in participating in the comprehensive summer program increased enrollment to 67, with 25 on the wait list, she said. Louisiana residents constitute more than 64 percent of the pre law class.

On the Go

Professor Herbert C. Brown, Jr., of the SULC Legal Analysis and Writing Program, and Adjunct Professor Jonathan “Jay” C. Augustine, participated in the Third Annual John Mercer Langston Black Male Law Faculty Writing Workshop, hosted by Suffolk University Law School, Boston, Massachusetts, on June 29. Brown’s presentation, “A Crowded Room or The Perfect Fit: Exploring Affirmative Action Treatment for LGBT Individuals in College and University Admissions,” explores the constitutionality of affirmative action treatment for individuals that self-identify as gay or lesbian during college and university admission processes. The presentation considered past, present, and future United States Supreme Court precedent relating to affirmative action to determine whether colleges and universities would withstand a constitutional challenge if they decide to consider sexual orientation during their admission processes.

Recruitment Services

The tentative recruitment schedule for September includes visits to the Atlanta Law Forum, University of Georgia, Louisiana State University, University of Louisiana-

Lafayette, Rust College, Alcorn State University, Jackson State University, Southeastern State University, Tougaloo College, Mid-Atlantic Conference-Washington, D.C., McNeese State University, Northwestern State University, Louisiana Tech University and the Houston Law Forum.

Alumni News

Derrick “Digger” Earles, ‘04, of Caubarreaux & Associates in Marksville, Louisiana, was recognized by the National Trial Lawyers Association as one of the “Top 40 under 40 attorneys in the nation.”

Allen C. Miller, ‘99, a partner with Phelps Dunbar, was recognized as one of the “2012 Nation’s Best Advocates: 40 Lawyers Under 40” by IMPACT and the National Bar Association (NBA). Nation’s Best Advocates honors individuals age 40 and under in the African- American legal community who have distinguished themselves for their outstanding professional and philanthropic work. Miller practices in the area of commercial litigation and is solely responsible for the litigation strategy and management of several institutional firm clients. When not in the courtroom, Miller volunteers his time with local nonprofit organizations. He has served as president of the New Orleans Court Appointed Special Advocates program (CASA) and serves on the boards of Odyssey House of Louisiana and WRBH Radio for the Blind and Print Handicapped.

Ophelia Renee Wells, ‘11, is a new partner of the Law Firm of Roach, McMillan, and Wells, McComb, Mississippi.

Maurice D. Gipson, ‘10, is development officer for community engagement goodwill of Greater Washington, 2200 South Dakota Ave NE, Washington, DC 20018. Gipson’s contact information is phone: 202-715-2654; email: maurice.gipson@dcgoodwill.org; web: <http://www.dcgoodwill.org>

Christopher Hebert, ‘03, Jade Brown-Russell, ‘03, and Michael Tyler, ‘04, joined a group of attorneys from around the U.S. as panelists for A Gaming Law Symposium, Sunday, July 15, during the 2012 National Bar Association Convention in Las Vegas.

Ashley Smith, ‘09, has been selected one of 16 attorneys for the Leadership (Louisiana State Bar Association) LSBA 2012-2013 Class.

IN MEMORIAM

Ray L. Waters, '93, passed away on Thursday, July 5. Memorial services were held Wednesday, July 11 in Chicago, Illinois.

Blaine Gerard "Breeze" Williams, '96, passed away in Alexandria, Louisiana on Thursday, May 24. Funeral services were held June 1 in Pineville, Louisiana.

Special Problems

None

Significant Administrative or Policy Changes

None

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER**



Leodrey Williams

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Presented to:

Board of Supervisors

Southern University and A & M College System

"Linking Citizens of Louisiana with Opportunities for Success"

AUGUST 2012

Number 243-69

SU Ag Center Proposals Receive USDA/NIFA Funding

Southern University Ag Center

Leodrey Williams
Chancellor

Adell Brown Jr.
Exec. Vice Chancellor/Vice Chancellor for Research

Gina E. Eubanks
Vice Chancellor for Extension

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Director of Finance

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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.

In the 2012 funding cycle of the 1890 Institution Teaching, Research and Extension Capacity Building Grants Program, the SU Ag Center has received high marks from the USDA/ National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), capturing more than 60% of the proposals submitted. The main goal of this funding program is to build and strengthen the research, teaching and extension capacity at the 1890 institutions. Therefore, the program requires that goals be aligned with NIFA's Challenge areas as well as with the institution's strategic plan as they relate to food and agriculture sciences.

Dr. Kit L. Chin, PD and Yadong Qi, Sebhatu Gebrelul, Renita Marshall, Fatemeh Malekian, Co-PDs, in collaboration with Rutgers University and West Virginia State University have tentatively received a research grant from USDA/NIFA Capacity Building Grants Program in the sum of 500,000 dollars to conduct research which will find alternative utilization for ro-

selle hibiscus as small farm and niche market crop.

The goals of the project are to: continue the screening of roselle hibiscus varieties best suited for small farm production in Louisiana; conduct research to develop high antioxidant functional food products to aid in the development of roselle hibiscus enterprises; and support product development and niche marketing, with emphasis on finished products that have health benefits such as reduction of high blood pressure, and marketability.

In collaborative work with West Virginia State University, the extract from roselle hibiscus will be evaluated for its effects on arresting the proliferation of animal and human cancer cells in vitro. Rutgers University and West Virginia State University will assist in quality control work with SU Ag Center scientists on developed hibiscus products. The project also strives to develop a roselle hibiscus business incubator by providing training and facility to jump start entrepre-

neurship development.

The funded project will also evaluate the roselle hibiscus foliage as nutritive forage for weight gain of goats as well as a natural dewormer for intestinal parasitic control.

Other recipients of this year's funding include: Zanetta Augustine, PD, - Dawn Mellion-Patin and Calvin R. Walker, Co PDs: Academy for the Academic Enhancement of High School Students in the Food and Agricultural Sciences, **\$243,979.00**; Wanda Burke, PD, - Willie Rawls, Aubrey Williams, Conrad Jones, Christopher Rogers, Edith Harris, and Calvin R. Walker, Co PDs: Development of Learning Modules for Assuring Academic Enrichment Support for Youth in Rural Louisiana, **\$247,737.00**; Tiffany Franklin, PD, - Andra Johnson, and Stephanie Elwood, Co-PDs: Eradicating Food Deserts in Neighborhoods through the Development of School Gardens, **\$250,000**;

Continued on page 2

NIFA Awards continued

Christie Monroe, PD, - Kasundra Cyrus, Yemane Ghebreiyessus, and Calvin R. Walker, Co-PDs: Using Agriculture as a Fast Track Vehicle for Change through Experiential Learning, **249,886.00**; Additionally, Renita Marshall serves as PD, while Willie Rawls, and

Kenyatta Nelson-Smith serve as Co-PDs on a teaching grant, JAGS in AG: Recruitment, Exploration and Retention that attracted **\$150,000.00**. Congratulations are in order.

SU Ag Center Team Holds Mock Job Interview for Inmates

SU Ag Center's Second Chance 2 Recover team traveled to Elayn Hunt Correctional Center (HCC) in St. Gabriel to conduct mock job interviews with select inmates. The team was asked to conduct these interviews by Amanda Dominique, mental health department staff at the Center. The team has been teaching classes at EHCC since 2007. The purpose of the Second Chance 2 Recover program is to provide self-sufficiency skills to inmates on topics regarding issues they will face upon release from prison. Classes include Addictive Behaviors, Developing Job Skills, Anger Management and Creating a Plan of Action.

Ms. Dominique requested the mock interviews after the team taught their "Developing Job Skills and Plan of Action" class. The class provides information on what to do and what not to do when searching for a job after their release. They are taught that finding employment will likely be a challenge once they return to their communities. The objective is to prepare the mindset of inmates and to teach them that it is not an overnight process to get out and immediately find employment. Not saying it is impossible, but may be unlikely because of their past history of offenses. The class also teaches inmates how and where to find decent, reasonably priced clothes for an inter-

view. They are taught how to utilize their resources and network to find employment.

The interviews were recorded for distribution to the general population to reference as needed to learn what to do during a job interview.

The SU Ag Center team consists of Tiffany Franklin, Program Coordinator and Delores Johnson, parent educator.

Animal Clinic Enlightens Local Producers

Parasite infestation is one of the biggest threats to the small ruminant producers in the southeastern region of the US. To help local producers tackle this issue, the SU Ag Center hosted a clinic for ruminant producers Saturday, July 28, 2012.

At the clinic, farmers learned how to test fecal samples collected from their farms for parasites; as well as how to identify and count the parasites present on their farms. Producers were encouraged to bring no more than 10 samples each from cattle, goat and sheep. Participants reported that the exercise was very helpful because it afforded them an opportunity to identify the animals that they may need to get rid of and/or treat aggressively. Participants, Robert and Mary Richard reported the clinic to be “a wonderful process, very educational, hands-on and beneficial.”

In preparation for clinic, produc-



Lisa Gray, right, teaches fecal sample

ers were urged to know the names of dewormers used on their farms; refrigerate fresh samples; bring samples on the morning of the clinic; keep samples separate and label each properly; have FAMACHA Scores, which was optional for producers with goat fecal samples.

“I am starting a goat production business and this clinic will benefit my family enterprise in stocking more goats,” said Rintha Simpson.

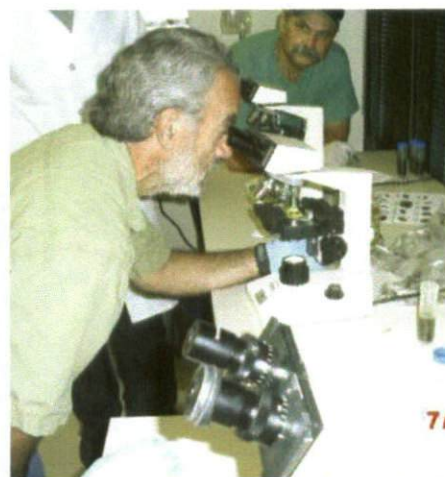


Shonta Manuel, left, assists farmers

The clinic was co-sponsored by the Louisiana Goat Cooperative, Louisiana Association of Cooperatives, Mixed Species Grazing Project at Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center. Participants came from across the south of Louisiana to bring samples for testing, some for the first time. After the clinic, Nic Girgenti of Lagniappe Kikos, Roseland, wrote, “Thanks for hosting the

clinic. I have read a lot about FEC's (fecal egg count) in goats and now know what the “hands-on” process is. FAMACHA is good, but this gives an actual count and the type of infestation.”

“Please keep me on your email list for future goat events,” Girgenti concluded.



Livestock producers busy analyzing fecal samples inside SU Ag Center lab

The clinic was organized and led by Renita Marshall, DVM and Lisa Gray, research associate.

Dr. Marshall plans to use this clinic as a pilot to apply for grants to acquire a diagnostic lab and a mobile clinic that will assist producers across the state.

C.H.E.F. Program Teaches Youth Healthy Cooking, Eating Habits

The Creating Healthy Enjoyable Foods or C.H.E.F. program engaged youth in experiential learning at the SU Ag Center. De'Shoin York-Friendship, Assistant Specialist, Nutrition and her LSU counterparts, taught kids to cook as a way of giving them power and responsibility. Participants in the second session concluded their week-long cooking experience on July 27, 2012. The camp focused on preparing and eating good, nutritious meals and exercising.

There were 17 participants in the first group and 12 in the second.



Students learn how to measure ingredients

"The best part of the camp for me has been the positive feedback from the parents. They are excited that their kids are now "Chefs" at home and are informing us that their kids are cooking the healthy recipes for their families," said Friendship, program coordinator.

The second session of the C.H.E.F. program began July 23 for youth ages 12-14. The program creator, De'Shoin York-Friendship, with help from Sharman Charles, Eva Davis, Karen Stevens and Kynisha Francois of the LSU AgCenter, taught participants a wide variety of recipes, exercise and food safety. Students learned how to prepare ingredients, gained



Participants prepare pizza for the oven

experience in the kitchen and knowledge on health and nutrition to share with their family members.

"I learned to wash my hands every time I do something different," said Kerra Augustine of SU Lab School.

"We learned other ways of cooking than frying, like baking, grilling and also how to do aerobics exercise," said 13-year old Brianna Williams of Hosanna Christian Academy.

Participants reported learning a wide variety of new things to include keeping food separate to

avoid cross contamination, sources of calcium and daily requirements, [MyPlate](#), the value of fruits and vegetables in the diet.

"This has been a learning experience for me too," said Eva Davis, LSU AgCenter. "I learned that some of the participants will eat food that they usually would not eat; because they cook it, they will



Teacher/student team pose, bid farewell

eat it."

Sharman Charles, LSU AgCenter said the program was successful because "kids learned how to eat healthy, exercise and taste new foods."

The program was conducted in partnership with the LSU AgCenter's East Baton Rouge Parish Extension Office. The staff included Sharman Charles, Area Nutrition Agent; Eva Davis, Associate Area Nutrition Agent; Karen Stevens, Assistant Area Nutrition Agent/Parish Chair; and Kynisha Francois, Nutrition Educator.

Morehouse Black Farmers & Landowners Association Holds Field Day

Morehouse Black Farmers & Landowners Association, in collaboration with the SU Ag Center and LSU AgCenter had their annual Field Day at Mr. Harper Armstrong's Farm on July 20, 2012. More than 180 farmers from all across the south attended the field day to learn about Louisiana commodities.

Registration began at 7:30 along with distribution of goody bags and door prizes. Odis Hill, Extension Agent, Morehouse and Union Parishes, led a discussion on twin-row soybean planting. He demonstrated the difference between twin-row and single-row planting. The twin-row crops serve as better weed control than single-row. However, it produces lower yield.

The field day started with a demonstration by operators of John Deere tractor and sprayer equipment enhanced with auto-steer system.

The tour of Mr. Armstrong's farm consisted of participants riding on two trailers tractors around the facility and making pertinent stops. One of the stops was at a corn test plot during which Dr. John Kruse of LSU AgCenter talked about the production of corn.

After the farm tour, participants visited the Armstrong and Down grain bins. Mr. Downs talked about unloading a trailer of corn

into the grain bins, showing the procedures involved in storing grain for the market. Mr. Charles Bonner and Denim Hill, machine operators, demonstrated how to unload corn into the grain bin.

Both Armstrong and Down jointly own three steel grains silos with a capacity of 15,000 bushels each. They are also constructing three new similar silos, each costing about \$75,000.



Loading corn into the grain silos

Next on the agenda was a Cephas Bus Tour of Mr. Down's soybean plot, a partnership with the SU Ag Center, Monsanto and Terral Seed.

"The crop looked extremely good. There were many compliments about this field being one of the best soybean fields they had seen this year," said Odis Hill.

Dr. Gina Eubanks, Vice Chancellor for Extension, addressed the participants on the partnership of the SU Ag Center and LSU

AgCenter on a successful field day. She thanked those who worked hard in bringing the public a productive field day full of useful information for all attendees. Commissioner of Agriculture Mike Strain spoke to the public about opportunities for agriculture producers in Northeast Louisiana and throughout the state.



Participants on a hayride tour of field plots

After a long hot day in the field, the group returned to the Agriculture Building located at the LSU AgCenter Office for lunch prepared by Mr. Frederick Herrington and Mrs. Tammy Hill. Others volunteered their time in setting up the facility.

Media coverage of the event is available at <http://myarklamiss.com/fulltext?nxdid=153252>

Odis Hills is Extension Agent for Morehouse and Union Parishes.

SU Ag Center Holds Successful Summer Garden Program

The Southern University Ag Center's 2012 Summer Garden Program ended on July 20 with a graduation ceremony for its 16 participants. The graduation was held at A.O. Williams Hall and featured a welcome address from Chancellor Leodrey Williams.

"We are what we eat," said Williams. "If we eat well, we can live a long time and have a good quality of life with a foundation of healthy eating."

Stephanie Elwood, Extension Associate/Garden Instructor for the SU Ag Center, also gave an introduction to the program by showcasing a slide show, giving those in attendance a first hand opportunity to see the students at work within the summer garden program. Elwood and 2012 summer garden graduate Sariah Rogers also showcased a youth participant video.

"I like it because I learned how to plant," said summer garden participant Amare Coleman.

Learning to plant is one of the many aspects of the summer garden program, which is in its second year and sponsored by the SU Ag Center.

The purpose of the program includes teaching youth how to grow their own fruits and vegetables, utilize the garden for exercise and stress relief and encouraging healthier eating habits.

"In the 1800s, 97% of people grew their own food in this country, now less than 2% of the population is growing their own food," said Chancellor Williams to the graduating class.

With statistics such as this, programs offered at the SU Ag Center like the summer garden program, are increasingly important because it builds the foundation for healthy living that can translate into a healthy and long life.

The program was coordinated by Stephanie Elwood at 225-771-2134 or stephanie_elwood@suagcenter.com



Students sell their seedlings to the public



Peppers from the summer garden



Participants pose with Elwood and Chancellor Williams, far right, at graduation ceremony

CRSBD holds “How to Start a Business” training in Hammond

The Center for Rural and Small Business Development partnered with Pastor Lue Russell of the New Jerusalem at the Crossroads Ministries to hold a training on “How to Start a Business” on July 12 in Hammond, Tangipahoa Parish, using the E-Learning Center.

The repeat training was held at the request of Pastor Russell due to the large number of participants interested in starting their own businesses. Pastor Russell opened the training with a prayer and spoke about the impact that the Center for Rural and Small Business Development has made in the community. E-Learning Center Program Director LaKeeshia Giddens spoke to the attendees about the capabilities and services that are provided by the E-Learning Center. The train-

ing was conducted by CRSBD Business Development Outreach Specialist, Eual Hall.

and business cards for CRSBD staff members LaKeeshia Giddens and Eual Hall.



Trainees and Hall pose outside mobile unit



Eual Hall trains Hammond residents

The participants also received information on the registration forms and applications required to legally register a business, the SBA’s Small Business Resource Magazine, the CRSBD’s brochure

All participants expressed an interest in having the E-Learning Center conduct more business development trainings in their community.

The 4-H LIFE Project marks progress

The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center was afforded the opportunity to replicate the 4-H LIFE Grant in December 2010. In December 2011, the project director, Tiffany Franklin was awarded funds to operate for Year 2 activity.

The 4-H LIFE Project operates in two parishes, East Baton Rouge and St. Landry. The project targeted 60 youth of incarcerated in-

mates, ages 8-17. Since inception, the program has strengthened communication ties between 300 youth and 150 inmates.

The issues commonly faced in Louisiana are inmates being released or transferred to other facilities before completing the program and ineligibility to participate. The dilemma is that some inmates have kids who are under the required age limit, thus do not qualify for the program.

During the June 2012 4-H Life Family Visit, families put on their thinking caps as they worked to develop a family tree. One family was able to trace back to a paternal great-great grandmother, born in 1867. Coincidentally, two inmates realized their great grandparents had the same last name and were born in the same area of Mississippi in the early 1900s. This proved to be a rewarding and enlightening activity for all involved.

Urban Forestry Program Lauds Baton Rouge as Green City

Professor and program leader of the urban forestry at Southern University and researcher at SU Ag Center, Kamran Abdollahi and his graduate students recently completed a scientific study of the more than 1 million trees within Baton Rouge's city limits. Those trees compose a canopy that covers 44 percent of the city — a larger percentage than the professor can find in any other North American city. Atlanta's 36 percent coverage is second, according to data compiled by Abdollahi's urban forestry program.

The six-month study used the urban forestry community's standard method developed by the urban forestry community and software created by the U.S. Forest Service. Last summer, Abdollahi and his graduate students pinpointed 400 locations indicative of the city's forest, each measuring one-tenth of an acre, then counted and measured each tree at the location.

While some of the plots were heavily forested, others were developed and nearly treeless. The counting method resembles a scientific survey, where a percentage of the population can accurately account for the views of the entire country.

These plots will become permanent research locations where Abdollahi can return occasionally to search for changes — whether trees have grown or been cut down.

In his report, Abdollahi has attached a dollar value on Baton Rouge's trees — \$6.2 billion, a number reached using six separate measurements. For example, the urban forest removes 860 tons of pollution per year, he found, which Abdollahi said saves the city and its industry \$6.2 million a year in costs associated with capturing contaminants. Also, he calculated that residents and businesses save \$8 million a year because of shade created by trees — a figure developed by calculating the shade that covers homes and buildings on the survey sites.

These numbers prove that trees offer more than aesthetic value, Abdollahi said.

"It's more than just loving trees," he said.

Baton Rouge's fertile location along the Mississippi River allows for a greener landscape, but Abdollahi credits the city's interested residents with maintaining

and planting trees. And he said he hopes through more education the city can keep what it has.

"Of course we are blessed with the ecology of the land," he said, "but we have to take care of it."

Abdollahi has begun working closely with nonprofit Baton Rouge Green, a tree-planting and education organization that has planted 4,800 trees in a quarter-century. While that number is a small piece of the city's foliage, the organization's projects raise awareness of the positive attributes of trees, he said.

"Baton Rouge Green is doing the right thing by showing that trees are important," Abdollahi said.

"We have to appreciate what we have and build on it," Abdollahi said. "We can't say Baton Rouge Green is going to do it. We don't have to do it. Every citizen should get involved, get organized."

To read the full story, please visit the *Advocate* at <http://theadvocate.com/features/people/3448441-123/green-city>

CRSBD Takes Entrepreneurship Training to the People

The E-Learning Center in the Center for Rural and Small Business Development in the Southern University Ag Center held a “How to Start a Business” Training in Roseland at the Roseland Town Hall on Tuesday, July 17.

Roseland Mayor Wanda McCoy attended the training and provided a welcome to the participants. The participants toured the E-Learning Center, received a copy of the United States Business Administrations Resource Magazine and information on the USDA’s Rural Housing Loan and Grant Program.



Lakeeshia Giddens, left, trains Roseland residents

CRSBD Business Outreach Specialist Eual Hall conducted a presentation on the “Major Steps to Starting a Business” and provided one-on-one counseling for current and potential business owners after the presentation.

Participants also received information on the registration forms and applications required to legally register a business and learned how to read a cash flow and profit and loss statement.

Mayor McCoy is also interested in have the CRSBD come back in the near future to provide more business development trainings in the rural community.

On July 25, the Center co-sponsored a “Marketing Your Business” Seminar with the Franklinton Louisiana Chamber of Commerce in Franklinton at the Franklinton Town Hall.

Franklinton Mayor Wayne Fleming, and several town council members were present to greet the seminar participants.

Center for Rural and Small Business Development Outreach Business Specialist Eual Hall provided greetings and an introduction to the group while the E-Learning Center Program Director



Lakeeshia Giddens conducts training in Franklinton

LaKeeshia Giddens provided the group with a tour of the E-Learning Center.

Desiree H. Young, Venture Walk Business Partners, LLC conducted a dynamic presentation on marketing a business.

“This was the best presentation that we have ever had,” said Linda Crain, Director of the Franklinton Chamber of Commerce.

The Center for Rural and Small Business Development and the Franklinton Chamber of Commerce are planning to co-sponsor more business development events together in the town within the coming months.

FACULTY AND STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Qi co-authors journal article



Dr. Yadong Qi, professor of urban forestry, has co-authored a refereed journal article entitled "Copper/

carbon core shell nanoparticles as additive for natural fiber/wood plastic blends," published in the August issue of *BioResources* 7 (3), 3213-3222.

The online version of the paper is

available at http://www.ncsu.edu/bioresources/BioRes_07/BioRes_07_3_3213_Wu_LLQ_Cu_C_CoreShell_NP_Wood_Plast_Compos_2766.pdf.

This paper a result of the USDA-NIFA funded joint research project on nanotechnology application in forestry health.

Dr. Qi serves as Principal Investigator while Dr. Qinglin Wu (LSU) and Dr. Kun Lian (SUBR) are Co-PIs on the project.

Bio Resources (ISSN: 1930-2126) is a peer-reviewed online journal devoted to the science and engineering of lignocellulosic materials, chemicals, and their applications for new uses and new capabilities.



Dr. Fatemeh Malekian, Food Scientist, has been promoted from Associ-

ate Professor to Professor by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University.



Dr. Kit Chin, professor, horticulture, has been invited to serve as a peer review panelist for the "European Journal of Medicinal Plants."

Terrence Marshall, East Baton Rouge Parish County Agent received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agriculture Agents during the 2012 Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference held recently in Charleston, SC. Marshall was one of several honorees who represent

the top two percent of the membership selected by their peers and the Director of Extension. Marshall was one of 59 state winners from across the United States who received the award.



L-r: Paul Wigley, association president, Terrence, and Sharon Marshall

FACULTY AND STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES CONTD.

Carol F. Sensley, Calcasieu Parish FCS Agent mentored students who emerged winners in two categories at the 2012 Youth and Family Exposition. The first win came from the Junior Quiz Bowl contestants who took 1st place. The team comprised of Lincoln Chambers, Laykin Chambers, D'Anthony Butler, Camryn Sensley, Alexia Charles. Alisa Stevens served as volunteer to assist Sensley. The other prize was in the public speaking category where Ariel Chapman placed first in the senior division.



L-r: Carol Sensley, Alisa Stevens, Ariel Chapman, and Wanda Burke.



Junior Quiz Bowl 1st place winners pose with Carol Sensley, Owusu Bandele and Wanda Burke.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 7, 14, 21, and 28: Second Chance training, 1pm – 3pm at the East Baton Rouge Parish Prison. For further details, please contact Tiffany Franklin at (225) 771-2775 or tiffany franklin@suagcenter.com

September 4, 11, 18, 25: Second Chance training, 1pm – 3pm at the East Baton Rouge Parish Prison. For further details, please contact Tiffany Franklin at (225) 771-2775 or tiffany franklin@suagcenter.com

September 18-22: National Small Farm Conference. Memphis, Tennessee. For further detail, please contact Dr. Dawn Mellion-Patin at 225-771-3532.

October 24 – 27: Session 5 Small Farmer Ag Leadership Institute, South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC. Contact Dawn Mellion Patin at 225-771-3532.

December 1 – 5: Session 6 Small Farmer Ag Leadership Institute, PAWC / Tuskegee, AL, Contact Dawn Mellion Patin at 225-771-3532.

*Southern University System Small Business Development Initiative
Strategic Plan WORKING DRAFT, 2011*

1. GOAL, Develop Comprehensive Delivery System of services.

- a) STRATEGY, Obtain approval/support of Administration/Board of Supervisors: FALL 2011.
 - i. Draft a proposal/strategy.
 - ii. Present proposal to respective campus Chancellors.
 - iii. Present proposal to Dr. Mason.
 - iv. Present proposal to Board of Supervisors.
 - v. Advocate for local and state support from elected official and other community leaders.
- b) STRATEGY, Institutionalize the initiative: FALL 2011.
 - i. Receive guidance from the Law Center concerning the best organizational structure.
 - ii. Obtain Administrative approval.
- c) STRATEGY, Develop comprehensive service menu: Spring 2012.
 - i. Conduct assessment of offered services through each campus to identify gaps and avoid redundancies.
 - ii. Research organizations and delivery systems currently at work in Louisiana.
 - iii. Identify affiliates to address gaps in offered services.

2. GOAL, Branding: Spring 2012.

- a) STRATEGY, Work with Southern University system to create branding/marketing plan.
- b) STRATEGY, Participate in conferences, networking events, etc. contingent on Administrative approval.
- c) STRATEGY, Produce informational/promotional materials.

3. GOAL, Increase revenue, capacity, and retention of underserved businesses in the state of Louisiana: 2011-2016.

- a) STRATEGY, Provide consistent quality delivery services based on system-wide criteria and resources.
- b) STRATEGY, Develop strategic alliances with business tech service providers/organizations to provide a "comprehensive menu" to clients.

- c) STRATEGY, Develop strategic partnerships with community organizations for outreach purposes.
- d) STRATEGY, Develop policy with Southern University system for minority participation in procurement opportunities.
 - i. Focus on black businesses.
 - ii. Develop/strengthen relationships with Latino and Vietnamese businesses.
- e) STRATEGY, Create research mechanism to collect *accurate* data on underserved Louisiana businesses.
- f) STRATEGY, Develop corporate partnerships to strategically align our clients with larger contracting opportunities.

4. GOALS, Diversify businesses types and encourage innovation among our clients: 2011-2016.

- a) STRATEGY, Partner with research organizations (e.g. Economic Gardening) to identify new and emerging markets.
- b) STRATEGY, Promote Innovation in small business development.
 - i. Expose our clients to innovative industries.
 - ii. Expand our clients' participation in innovative industries.
- c) Create opportunities for our clients and academicians to exchange knowledge and experience.
 - i. Outreach/site visits.
 - ii. Seminars/symposiums.
- d) STRATEGY, Educate clients on what is Innovation.
 - i. Outreach.
 - ii. Workshops.
 - iii. Educational materials.

5. GOAL, Expose Youth – age 11 through 17 -- to entrepreneurial ideas and methods: 2011-2016.

a) STRATEGY, Assessment of gaps in services for youth entrepreneurship in Louisiana.

i. Identify best practices.

a. National

b. State

c. Parish

ii. Identify stakeholders.

a. National

b. State

c. Parish

b) STRATEGY, Include a mechanism to accommodate youth clients' families.

c) STRATEGY, Consider youth in all program activities and objectives.

Southern University System Small Business Coalition in Action

*Five Campuses working together
to meet the needs and strengthen the
capacity of Louisiana's underserved
entrepreneurial communities.*



MISSION

Southern University System Small Business Coalition in Action (Louisiana Business Action), in partnership with our stakeholders, provides access to learning, technical assistance, research based data, and capital to aspiring and existing business owners in underserved populations throughout Louisiana to decrease the wealth gap within the state.



SU: Louisiana Business Action

IMPETUS

Currently, Southern University's five campuses have programs that work with entrepreneurs' business development needs – at times overlapping services and/or competing for funding/professional resources. Coordinating and managing a comprehensive menu of services and assistance to reach both rural and urban communities would strengthen the system's outreach efforts and successes.



SU: Louisiana Business Action

FIRST STEPS

The group began with a series of meetings, culminating with a retreat in Summer of 2011, at which a strategic plan was drafted. To remain on point, we applied three questions to the goals and strategies that came from the discussion.

- ✓ Does it fit within the larger strategic plan for the Southern University System?
- ✓ Is this a viable and sustainable undertaking?
- ✓ Will it better help us meet the needs of our constituents and clients?



SU: Louisiana Business Action

GOAL #1

Develop a Comprehensive Delivery of Services

Strategy: Obtain approval/support of Administration and Board of Supervisors, Summer 2011-Fall 2012.

- ✓ Draft a proposal/strategy. Summer '11
- ✓ Present proposal to respective campus Chancellors. Fall/Winter '11
- ✓ Present to Dr. Ronald Mason. Spring '12
- ✓ Present proposal to Board of Supervisors. Summer '12
- ✓ Advocate for local and state support.



SU: Louisiana Business Action

GOAL #1

Develop a Comprehensive Delivery of Services

Strategy: Institutionalize the initiative, Fall 2012.

- ✓ Receive guidance for the Law Center concerning the best organizational structure.
- ✓ Obtain Administration approval.



SU: Louisiana Business Action

GOAL #1

Develop a Comprehensive Delivery of Services

Strategy: Develop comprehensive technical service menu, Fall 2012/Winter 2013

- ✓ Conduct assessment of offered services through each campus to identify gaps and avoid redundancies. Fall '12 / Winter '13
- ✓ Research organizations and delivery systems already at work in Louisiana. Winter '13
- ✓ Identify affiliates to address gaps in offered services. Summer '12



SU: Louisiana Business Action

GOAL #2: Branding

GOAL #3: Increase revenue, capacity, and retention of underserved businesses in Louisiana.

GOAL #4: Diversity business types and encourage innovation among our clients.



SU: Louisiana Business Action

GOAL #5: Expose Youth – ages 11 through 17 – to business and entrepreneurial ideas / methods.

*We thank you for your attention,
and welcome any questions the Board
might have in regard to
Louisiana Business Action.*



SU: Louisiana Business Action