

SUSLA E-NEWS

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SHREVEPORT LOUISIANA

Excellence • Integrity • Accountability • Service • Diversity

FEBRUARY 2019

VOLUME 4

NUMBER 2

FACULTY / STAFF INSTITUTE - SPRING 2019 “ON ONE ACCORD - COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE”



Mr. Johnathan Holifield appointed Executive Director of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, served as keynote speaker for the Spring 2019 Institute. He is a recognized expert in economic and education inclusion and competitiveness, focusing on public-private partnerships and community system-building.

Mr. Holifield’s interdisciplinary career includes serving as founding Vice President of Inclusive Competitiveness at NorTech, a leading regional innovation cluster and competitiveness organization, where he authored the Ohio Department of Higher Education statewide report, *Inclusive Competitiveness: Empowering Underrepresented Ohioans to Compete in the Innovation Economy*, and served on the Northeast Ohio Council of Regional Economic Policy Advisors. He was also founding Vice President of New Economy Enterprise at the Cincinnati USA Chamber of Commerce and founding Executive Director of CincyTech, a market-leading venture development organization.



During the Faculty-Staff Institute in January, Dr. Ellis introduced key components of the Plan of Action for moving SUSLA forward in 2019!

SUS BOARD INSTALLS NEW CHAIR, NEW SHREVEPORT MEMBER



With his family at his side, on January 11, Attorney Domoine Rutledge accepted the charge to lead the Southern University System and its five campuses into the future as the new Chairman of the Board. Rutledge replaces outgoing Chair Mrs. Ann Smith. Also installed as a new member of the Board was Mr. Sam Gilliam to replace outgoing member Pastor J.R. Gant, Jr. who was honored (in his absence) for his many years of service to the Jaguar nation and its students.



Mr. S. Albert Gilliam
Shreveport Board Member

Inside this Issue ...

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ELLIS APPOINTED TO NORTH LOUISIANA ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP (NLEP) NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

North Louisiana Economic Partnership (NLEP) announced its 2019-2020 Board of Directors and Officers. NLEP's new board members were elected by more than 200 investors for multi-year terms, and the Board in turn elects four board officers. The 2019 NLEP Board Chair is Mike Causey, Vice President of Sales for Hunt, Guillot & Associates. Adam Johnston, First Guaranty's Vice President & North Louisiana Regional Manager, is NLEP's new Chair-Elect. Chap Breard, President & CEO of MoeBiz, will serve as Treasurer; and Greg Lott, Progressive Bank's Executive Vice President, was chosen as NLEP's Secretary.

SUSLA's Chancellor, Dr. Rodney A. Ellis has been elected to serve as one of the newest members of the board.

The newest members to join NLEP's 52-person Board of Directors include:

Raymond Alley, Walker-Alley & Associates, LLC
Christian Burney, Magee Resource
Kevin Crosby, Lazenby & Associates, Inc.
Rodney Ellis, Ed.D, Chancellor (SUSLA)
Victoria Lemane, International Paper
Annmarie Sartor, Drax BioMass

Eric Barkley, CenterPoint Energy
Kevin Cook, Enterprise Computing Services
Jennifer Elliott, Capital One
Clay Hipp, First National Bank
Mayor Adrian Perkins, City of Shreveport

SUSLA CDC AWARDED \$300,000 COLLECTIVE IMPACT GRANT FROM BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF LOUISIANA FOUNDATION FOR MS KICK PROGRAM

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation announced that they will invest \$300,000 in Southern University at Shreveport, LA's (SUSLA) Milam Street Kitchen Incubator and Community Kitchen (MS KICK). The kitchen, located in the heart of Shreveport's Choice Neighborhood, will provide jobs, training and business mentorship, health education and a healthy restaurant in an effort to improve health in the Allendale and Ledbetter Heights communities. Shreveport's Mayor Adrian Perkins participated in the announcement. Also in attendance were state and local elected officials, along with regional business and community leaders.

Chancellor Dr. Rodney Ellis states that, "Southern University is excited about this partnership and appreciates the investment from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation. This area was once a vibrant, economically thriving community and we know it can be again. The Blue Cross Foundation's investment will not only help provide healthy options for residents, but it will help restore a healthy economic base as well."



MS KICK is located at 1201 Milam Street and is projected to open in spring of 2019.



Janice Sneed, SUSLA's Vice Chancellor for Community and Workforce Development said, "We are encouraged by this new partnership with the Blue Cross Foundation to improve health and wellness in Allendale and Ledbetter Heights through a comprehensive education and training system. I think it's vital that we become familiar with health information about the food we eat and serve our families, and that is one of the main functions of the Milam Street Kitchen Incubator."

For more information about the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation of Louisiana grant, contact: Stephanie Rogers, Chief Advancement Officer at srogers@susla.edu or Darrin Dixon at ddixon@susla.edu

Purpose Statement:

The Office of Institutional Advancement seeks to advance the mission of the University by fostering a culture of philanthropy on and off-campus for the purpose of generating revenue to sustain SUSLA and to expand opportunities for its students, business and industry partners, and the community it serves.



Stephanie K. Rogers

MEET OUR TEAM

- Advancement, Alumni & External Partnerships, Stephanie Rogers, Chief Advancement Officer
- Graphic Services, Barbara Austin, Coordinator
- Southern University Museum of Art (SUMAS), Angelique Feaster-Evans, Coordinator
- Welcome Center (late spring 2019), Marlo Miller, Service Engagement Specialist
- Marketing and University Relations

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT OF PRIVATE PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

GROUP	PLEDGED	SECURED	TARGET
External Partners	\$479,500	\$337,850.00	Spec. Prog.; Scholarships
Alumni Memberships	\$22,050	\$18,850	SUSLA
Family Campaign (SUSLA)	\$12,899	\$8,645	Schol/Prof. Dev/Stud. Success
Total at 1/29/18	\$514, 449	\$365,345	

Other Private Program-specific Income rec'd at department level: Athletics: \$1,500 (Secured by Athletic Director Stephen Latson)

ALUMNI AFFAIRS: New SUSLA Alumni Association Welcomes 48 Lifetime Members and 8 Annual

(OFFICERS AND LIFETIME MEMBERS) Anthony “Tony” Williams, President; Charles Johnson, Exe. VP; Tina Williams, VP Finance, Wanda P. Rachel-Mullone, Treasurer, Pamela Nash, VP Memberships; and Tichina Williams, V.P. Alumni Affairs.

LIFETIME MEMBERS: Jeremy M. Alexander, Aneka Alexander, Charles Anderson, Jr., Charles Anderson III, Jenean Aubrey, Jesse Aubrey, Lynn Braggs, Sharon Braggs, James E. Brown, Betty Brown, Erica Bryant, Willie Bryant, Xrevette, Dabney, Fefee G. Franklin, Tryndall Franklin, Rebecca Gilliam, LeShawn Goodwin, Roosevelt Hicks, Sharon Hill, Earline Jackson, Shona James, Tommy Jones, George Lewis, III, Calvin Lymons, Demetria Marks, Wanda Martin, Tony L. McLeod, William Minix, Tracey Moon, Carl Moore, Marvin T. Muhammad, Al Nash, Travis Otis, Gregory Sanders, Yvonnana Sam, Don D. Taylor, Steve Thomas, Derek Washington, Anthony Williams, Patrick Williams, Brenda Wimberly, Frank B. Wright, Raquel D. Wright.

ANNUAL MEMBERS: Yvette Allen, Bernice Franklin, Rasheema Smith, Charles Patterson, Adolphus French, Daphne Thibeaux, Henrietta Harris, Yolanda Williams. **To learn more about the SUSLA Alumni Association or to become a member, go to www.susla.edu/page/alumni-friends**

- Online or On-Campus
- Low Tuition
- Campus Housing

ENROLLING NOW!

- Aviation Maintenance
- Criminal Justice
- Paramedic / EMT
- Business Management
- Medical Lab Technology
- Web Development





SALUTES SUSLA WITH ACE AWARD

Last year, BankMobile, SUSLA's partner in refund management and online direct-deposit refunds, introduced a new industry benchmark recognizing top performing institutions for embracing and promoting online disbursements with the. This year, SUSLA was recognized with the coveted ACE Award for issuing 4,939 disbursements totaling \$9,594,120. We salute SUSLA Finance, Financial Aid, and SUSLA IT for this team win for SUSLA students.

THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PREPARES FOR A SUCCESSFUL YEAR



As part of the 2019 Spring Faculty/Staff Institute, the Division of Community and Workforce Development (CWD) held its divisional meeting to strategize on the top priorities for the year. Janice Sneed, Vice-Chancellor for Community and Workforce Development set the tone by implementing the Chancellor's theme from the Institute that, *"This year we will be on One Accord... in delivering excellence to internal and external stakeholders."*

A few of the key priorities identified by the group for 2019 include: (1) development of new short-term certifications based programs and other training strategies (internships, apprenticeships, etc.) based on current workforce needs through enhanced employer engagements; (2) diversification of grant funds and new revenue strategies; (3) increasing and enhancing internal and external partnerships; (4) establishing a comprehensive office of Career Service and expanding (our) effectiveness and role with the One-Stop and; (5) a commitment to refocusing on the Minority Supply Diversity Programs.

The Division is also excited about the completion of the Milam Street Kitchen Incubator and Community Kitchen (MS KICK) project. *"Now that we are nearing completion of the first phase of the project, we will be focusing on staffing,"* says Darrin Dixon, Executive Director of Small Business Development and Project Director of MS KICK.

CWD units include; Continuing Education, Workforce Development, Career Services, Small Business Development and Community Development, which plans to increase marketing and visibility by creating a biannual newsletter and increase presence on social media and other media outlets.



**For more information regarding CWD, contact:
Shannon Levingston-McCowan at slevingston@susla.edu**



SUSLA PROFESSOR PRESENTS SCIENTIFIC PAPER IN SINGAPORE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF QUAIL EMBRYOS IN SPACE

Dr. Joseph Orban, a Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Sciences from Southern University at Shreveport Louisiana, who is currently serving as U.S. Fulbright Scholar at Benue State

University Nigeria presented a scientific paper on “Development of Japanese Quail Embryos in Space” in Singapore. Dr. Orban was invited by World Gene Convention to make the presentation as well as serve as the Co-Chair of the Symposium on Agriculture, Food and Biotechnology at the 2018 World Gene Convention held November 13-15 in Singapore.



Dr. Orban seated with participants during World Gene Convention

According to Dr. Orban, space biology research over the years has involved the study of microgravity on plant species, life support systems and animal species. Animals were first used in space to test the survivability of space. Later, animals were flown to space to study the effects of microgravity on biological and physiological processes. Since 1949, many animal species and insects have been flown to space including monkey, chimp, mouse, tortoise, dog, guinea pig, rat, frog, cat, fish, shrimp, snail, nematode, spider, beetle, cricket and avian species. Among the avian species, the chicken and Japanese quail made their debut as birds in space in the late 1980s. Chicken studies in space were not very successful; however, the Japanese quail due to its smaller size seemed promising.

Thus more studies have been conducted using the Japanese quail as space bird for research and possible food supplement in space during prolonged space missions.

The objective of the research presented in Singapore was to evaluate calcium uptake from the eggshell and assimilation by quail embryos incubated in space and compare results with quail embryos incubated on earth during the same experimental period. Forty-eight fertile Japanese quail eggs were launched to space to the former Russian Orbital Space station Mir under the supervision of Dr. Shannon Lucid, the first American female to spend six months in space. The eggs were incubated at the space station for 16 days. Developing embryos from the eggs were fixed at 3, 7, 10, 14, and 16 days of incubation. On earth, two sets of quail eggs were incubated at the same time interval as space eggs. They included 48 fertile eggs as control under normal earth incubation conditions and 48 other quail eggs incubated as synchronous control mimicking incubation under space conditions. Results of the study showed 60% of normal development from embryos incubated in space. Eggshells retrieved from the study were analyzed for calcium content to evaluate uptake of calcium from the eggshells. The higher the amount of calcium found in the eggshell, the lower it was used or assimilated for growth and organ development. Results showed that calcium uptake from the eggshell by embryos improved with age (incubation period) both in space and on earth. However, calcium content (312 mg/g) from eggshells of quail embryos incubated in space was higher than in eggshells (277 mg/g) of quail embryos incubated on earth indicating that calcium use or assimilation from the eggshell by space embryos was 12.6% less than earth control embryos. Calcium content (298 mg/g) in eggshells of embryos from synchronous control (space-like condition) incubated on earth was similar to eggshells (312 mg/g) of embryos incubated in space. Results from the study provided information that can be evaluated along with other metabolic, developmental and physiological functions to determine the feasibility of quail growth and development in space ecosystem.

STUDENTS IN THE NEWS ...

ANOTHER PRODUCT OF THE SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT (SUSLA) FAMILY MAKES GREAT STRIDES AS ARMY WEST POINT SIGNEE

Another product of the Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) family is making great strides. This time in football.



SUSLA Upward Bound (Sabine Parish) Participant Shacori Williams is all the buzz, regionally and nationally, with his announcement as one of Army West Point's newest football signees.

Williams has been with SUSLA's Upward Bound Program since the ninth grade. He serves as the program's student worker and TRIO Student Leader (LASAP). An honor student, Williams is also District 3-2A MVP, All-State (Honorable Mention), and a Sunday School Teacher. West Point's official sports website, GoBlackKnights.com, made the formal announcement of his commitment, posting a photo from his signing reception with his Upward Mentor and Director, Cheryle Wheeler-Johnson of SUSLA.

Also, according to Louisiana Football Magazine, the Many High School Senior Running Back is among one of four Many seniors who committed last month to collegiate football programs on the first day of The Early National Signing Day Period.

SUSLA Chancellor Dr. Rodney Ellis says, "This young man's efforts in our program, and in life, are admirable and we're proud to be associated with him." Dr. Melva Williams, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment, adds, "It's an achievement like Shacori's that reminds us each day of our commitment to making education equally accessible to everyone, everywhere, particularly those

from rural and diverse socioeconomic backgrounds."

Shacori noted on his signing to West Point via his social media feed that, "Now, I would proudly like to announce that I am 110% committed to Army West Point! Thank you Coach Monken, Coach Viti, and the rest of West Point coaching staff. I am truly EXCITED to continue my academic and athletic career as a Black Knight!!!"

Williams is scheduled to enter West Point in the Fall of 2019.

SUSLA BAND RECOGNIZED AT SUS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING

On Friday, January 11, 2019, SUSLA's new marching band, the Soundwave, was recognized at the first meeting of the Board of Supervisors. Under the direction of Dr. Albert Jackson, the band made its debut performance at the 2018 Bayou Classic, wowing the crowd with its electrifying rhythms as a prelude to the SU A&M's Human Jukebox appearance.

The program is a new addition to SUSLA's Student Services Division under the direction of Dr. Melva Williams, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.



CONGRATULATIONS! MLA THESIS AWARD INAUGURAL WINNER

As a young child, Sherman Houston Jr. fell in love with Mahalia Jackson's music. That love carried him into the Master of Liberal Arts Program at Louisiana State University Shreveport, where he had the opportunity to develop his knowledge of Mahalia as he wrote his thesis.

He discovered that she was more than an extraordinary singer: she was also a key figure in the Civil Rights movement.

"I was surprised to learn that she had such deep involvement in the movement. I didn't know her home was like a headquarters for the movement in Chicago," Houston, who now teaches as an Adjunct Instructor of History at Southern University in Shreveport, admits. "I was amazed to see how she spoke out so passionately about these issues at her concerts and how she tirelessly raised money to support the cause."



Now Houston's thesis, *Moving On Up A Little Higher: Mahalia Jackson, Champion of Freedom through Song*, has been selected as the inaugural winner of the MLA Thesis Award. Houston will receive a \$500 cash prize and be guided through the process of editing his thesis to publish it as a book.

Many people think of Mahalia primarily – or only – as a soulful voice. But her role in the Civil Rights Movement went far beyond her singing at events like the March on Washington. Houston's work helps redefine her legacy for a new generation. Once his book is published, he plan to give a series of public talks and readings throughout the Shreveport-Bossier community.

"I believe my thesis was chosen [for the award] because it is one that needs to reach this generation," says Houston. "I think that it offers the wider community a chance to see what you can achieve if you speak out. There are so many issues in today's world such as water for Flint, literacy rates, Black Lives Matter, Blue Lives Matter, poverty, the Border wall issue. If Mahalia were alive today, I believe she would speak out about all these topics."

A schedule of readings will be announced later in the spring. The Noel Thesis Award is sponsored by an LSUS Faculty Research and Development Grant and by the Noel Foundation to share the best Masters Theses with the regional community.



A QUICK
Snapshot

2018 ANNUAL PRAYER VIGIL AT
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH



JAGUAR of the Month

*Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Chancellor is pleased to announce
Mrs. Linzola Winzer
as Jaguar of the Month for February 2019.*



Every campus has a key person or people that everyone knows and goes to for information. This month, one of those key people for SUSLA is Mrs. Linzola Winzer! Mrs. Winzer has worked at SUSLA for twelve years as the Executive Assistant to the Chancellor. Prior to SUSLA, she worked in banking and for a local casino. A regular song bird, Mrs. Winzer has lent her voice on behalf of SUSLA at various events. The daughter of a pastor, she has been a devoted member of Lake Bethlehem for the past thirteen years where she also sings in the choir. Mrs. Winzer is the mother of three sons and five grandchildren. Her greatest personal story is that she is a breast cancer survivor. This has allowed her to be a guiding light for her entire family, as well as, SUSLA.

Always willing to assist in making SUSLA the best it can be, Mrs. Winzer is a key person that all employees go to for help. One of the great joys of her position is the reason we are all here.....to assist students! “Mrs. Winzer always makes time to help others whether she’s working her job responsibilities, decorating for an event, assisting students and stakeholders, or offering a listening ear”, stated Leslie McClellon.

Perhaps her most important role on the campus is managing the chancellor’s office.....and the chancellor! Having worked with three chancellor’s, Mrs. Winzer’s role is vital for the college. Dr. Rodney Ellis had this to say, “Mrs. Winzer is the hardest working woman at SUSLA. She never stops working day and night, is conscientious and always ensures the job gets done!”

Congratulations Mrs. Linzola Winzer, Jaguar of the Month

Jaguar Student of the Month



Mr. Detrius Adams is a native of Shreveport and graduated from Captain Shreve High School. He has maintained an above 3.0 GPA at SUSLA and has been selected to be a member of the distinguished Williams Center for Undergraduate Student Achievement Program, where he receives special mentoring and financial support in his pursuit of an undergraduate degree.

Mr. Adams will be expected to learn how to “Give back” to others like him so that they can realize their hopes and dreams of a successful life. He demonstrates that he is focused, resilient and responsive to the needs of others.

We are proud of Mr. Detrius Adams and gratefully recognize him as Jaguar Student of the Month.

Announcements and Upcoming Events



dentistry
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February 16, 2019

2nd Annual Free Dental Event

This is the day when we give back to a community that has been so wonderful to us. Patients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis and may choose ONE of the following treatments **FREE!** Cleaning, Filling or Extraction. Must be 18 years and older.

Hosted By:

Southern University
Dental Hygiene School
in collaboration with
Miles For Smiles

First 40
patients are
guaranteed
to be seen!

For more information please contact:
318-670-6000 | www.susla.edu | www.milesforsmiles.com
3050 Dr. Martin Luther King Dr. | Shreveport, LA 71107
Event Hours: 9:00am until 3:00pm

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY at SHREVEPORT

partners with

GAMBINO's BAKERIES

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(ALL proceeds benefit SUSLA's Athletics, Cheer and Dance Teams)

Mardi Gras King Cakes

Traditional: \$25 + Praline: \$27 + Cream Cheese: \$27

Place your order **TODAY!**

(MUST be PAID for at the time of order)

Stephen Latson, 670-9760

Marak Hall, 670-9450



SUSLA
Southern University at Shreveport



Be My Valentine

Be My Valentine

Valentine's Day Social

February 14, 2019

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Johnny L. Vance Student Center

For more information, contact:
Rebecca Gilliam, (318) 670-9353

CELEBRATING

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

FEBRUARY 2019



BLACK HISTORY EVENTS AT SUSLA

- Feb. 1:** Daily "Black History Facts" Posts (SUSLA Social Media)
- Feb. 5-7:** 3-part Documentary Series "The Promised Land"
Part 1: 9am, Part 2: 1pm, Part 3: 3pm (SUSLA Library)
- Feb. 6:** SUMAS - Exhibit - 5-8pm
"Reflections Work of Bennie Dotie"
- Feb. 9:** History Club City-wide bus tour of Shreveport
- Feb. 16:** Dentistry from the Heart
FREE Dental Clinic 9am-3pm
Alphonse Jackson, Jr. Hall
- FEB. 28:** "Black in Shreveport" Forum
Location / Time TBA

OTHER OUTSIDE EVENTS

- Feb. 2:** Black History Month Parade
- Feb. 26:** Northside Elem. Music Recital / Reception 6pm - 8pm

Contact: Marquel Sennet, Assistant Professor of History Program Coordinator
Black History Events Coordinator - msennet@susla.edu





The Chancellor's Report is a monthly publication from the
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Larry Ferdinand, Chief Administrative & Operations Officer

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Barbara Austin, Coordinator / Editor

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

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



Rodney A. Ellis, Ed.D
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