

Chancellor's Report



SUSLA
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SHREVEPORT LOUISIANA
Excellence • Integrity • Accountability • Service • Diversity

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT HOSTED ITS OPEN HOUSE, JAGUAR PREVIEW DAY



PICTURED (L TO R): DR. MELVA WILLIAMS WELCOMING FUTURE JAGUARS TO PREVIEW DAY (TOP LEFT), PROFESSOR FRED MOSS IV SHOWCASES EQUIPMENT FROM THE MASS COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT (TOP RIGHT), RURAL RECRUITER ALANA STEVENSON HAS HER GROUP OF STUDENTS ENJOYING SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS FROM THE DIVISION OF BSTEM (MIDDLE), PROFESSOR ALLEN DISCUSSES THE FINE ARTS PROGRAM TO STUDENTS (BOTTOM LEFT), THE ALL OF US RESEARCH PROGRAM HOSTED A CROCS PARTY FOR THE UNIVERSITY FEATURING THE SB LINE STEPPERS (BOTTOM RIGHT)

Southern University at Shreveport hosted its Jaguar Preview Day on Thursday, April 21, 2022, from 9 AM to 2 PM on the main campus. The invitation to explore all that the institution offers were open to anyone interested in enrolling in college, ranging from local area high school students to working adults.

Jaguar Preview Day offered campus tours, giveaways including a drone from the Department of Engineering and Technology, 3D demonstrations, and meeting with each department to inquire about degrees, certificate programs, and career paths. Our future jaguars were able to explore student life and activities, including the Student Government Association, athletics, band, and Greek life. They were even allowed to enroll on the spot for the Summer and Fall 2022 semesters.



HAPPY FOUNDERS' DAY TO SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT — 142 YEARS IN THE SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM



Southern University celebrated the 142nd year of the SU system on March 30th, 2022 with a Commemoration in the Jessie Stone Lecture Hall. This year's theme was "Honoring History, Celebrating Excellence, Embracing Vision." Professor Marci Siglar Collins of the Mathematics Department was the featured speaker for the event. Campus employees who had reached 10, 20 and 30 years of service from 2019-2022 were recognized with pins and plaques.



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT ATTENDS SU DAY AT THE CAPITOL



Southern University at Shreveport had the opportunity to participate in SU Day at the Capitol. SUSLA utilized the opportunity to showcase the myriad of programs offered at the school. The House of Representatives and the Senate recognized the Southern University system in their chambers as part of the events of the day.

AVIATION MAINTENANCE PROGRAM PARTICIPATES IN THE JACK & JILL OF AMERICA PROGRAM



Founded in Philadelphia, PA in 1938, Jack & Jill of America is the oldest African American family organization. We are comprised of approximately 10, 000 families in 220 communities around the country. The core of the Jack & Jill of America philosophy is that every child – if given the proper guidance and opportunity – can be developed into a leader. It is this commitment to youth that drives the organization. They dedicate their resources to improving the quality of life for children, particularly African American children 2-19 years old.

The Jack & Jill of America objectives and aims are to: to create a medium contact for children which will stimulate growth and development, to provide children a constructive educational, cultural, health, recreational and social program, to aid mothers in learning more about their children by careful study and to see for all children the same advantages which we desire for our own and to support all national legislation aimed at bettering the condition of all children. The local programming focuses on leadership development, healthy living, civic responsibility, financial literacy, STEAM (Science, Technology, Education, Arts and Math) and community service. Locally, we work with the Boys & Girls Club, Providence House, Susan G. Komen, March of Dimes, and the Lupus Foundation to name a few. Jack & Jill of America has had a presence in the greater Shreveport/Bossier area since the 1980s. Currently, the Red River Chapter is comprised of families from Caddo, Bossier, Webster, DeSoto, Red River & Bienville parishes.



SUSLA'S FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUEST TOTALS \$30M: \$9M FOR A NEW HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION BUILDING/GYMNASIUM AND \$20M FOR A NEW WORKFORCE TRAINING AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER



A key priority of SUSLA's Interim Chancellor Dr. Vladimir A. Appeaning's administration is strengthening the institution's physical plant – facilities and infrastructure. During his initial meeting with campus stakeholders in November 2021, Dr. Appeaning discovered, during his extended meetings with the student leaders, that SUSLA's Gymnasium/Health and Physical Education Building had been shut down for almost three (3) years due to mold issues. After conferring with state officials, Dr. Appeaning was informed that the current SUSLA Gymnasium that was dedicated in 1999 by then Louisiana Governor MJ "Mike" Foster was scheduled for demolition in late summer/fall of 2022 with no prospect of a replacement building.

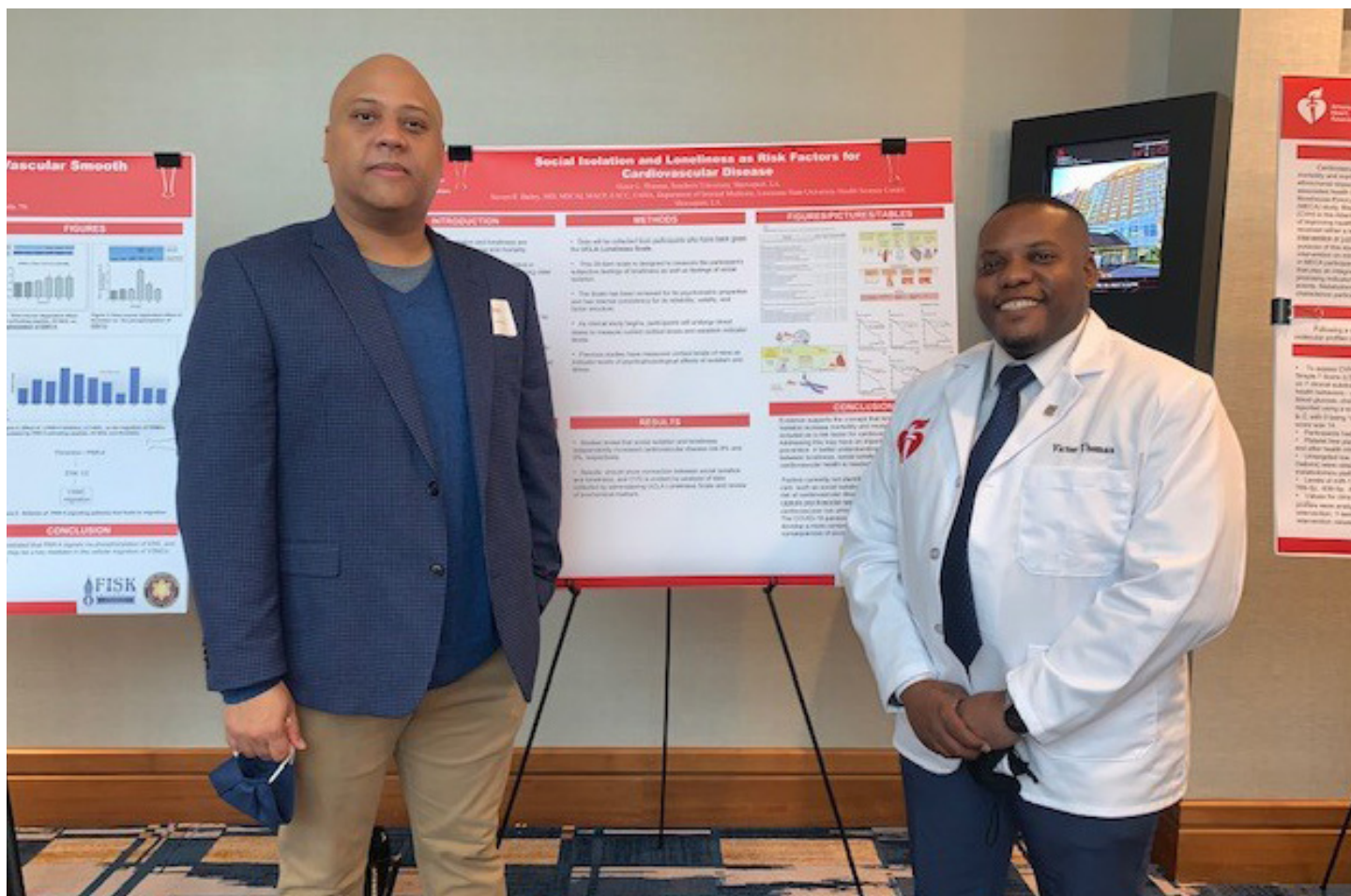
Dr. Appeaning and his administration went to work immediately working closely with the Southern University System's Facilities Team led by Mr. Maurice Pitts and Mr. Ken Dawson, with support from Dr. Ray L. Belton, President-Chancellor for the Southern University System; as well as staff from the Louisiana Board of Regents and Division of Administration.

As a result, two (2) SUSLA Capital Outlay Facilities Projects were prepared, submitted, approved and loaded into the state's ECORTS system for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

- [The Capital Outlay Request for a New Gymnasium/Health and Physical Education Building totals \\$9 Million with construction costs estimated at \\$7.5 Million – assigned State Project ID Number: 568510.](#)
- [The Capital Outlay Request for a New Workforce Training and Technology totals \\$21 Million with construction costs estimated at \\$17.6 Million – assigned State Project ID Number: 568501.](#)

Combined, both SUSLA Capital Outlay requests total \$30 Million, are supported by Senator Gregory Tarver, and are under consideration by the Louisiana Legislature in the 2022 Regular Legislative Session.

STUDENT STUDENT SHOWCASES STUDY AT THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION HBCU PROGRAM RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



PICTURED: DR. MCCRAY AND VICTOR L. THOMAS REPRESENT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT AT THE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

American Heart Association Historically Black Colleges and Universities Scholars Program Research Symposium. SUSLA student Victor L. Thomas successfully participated in the 2021-2022 program.

Victor Thomas is a second-year psychology major at Southern University at Shreveport. He participated in a year-long American Heart Association Scholars Program for HBCUs. The Community Foundation of Northwest Louisiana sponsored a stipend for Thomas' participation in the program.

As an American Heart Association HBCU scholar, Victor has worked under the mentorship of Dr. Steven R. Bailey (LSU Medical School), investigating "Social Isolation & Loneliness as Risk Factors in Cardiovascular Disease." Victor shared his research at the annual symposium held in Nashville, Tennessee, along with scholars from across the south, including two scholars from Southern Baton Rouge. Upon graduation, Victor hopes to pursue a career in clinical psychology.

SUSLA'S DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY PTEC PROGRAM HAS MAIDEN COHORT AND RECIEVES EXXON'S FOUNDATION GRANT



PICTURED (L TO R): STUDENTS USING MATRIX PROCESS CONTROL TRAINING SYSTEM DURING CLASS (LEFT), DR. VAHID ATASHBARI, PROGRAM COORDINATOR, DISCUSSES NEW ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM CONCENTRATIONS

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Engineering Technology with a concentration in Process Technology (PTEC) is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy with the aim of educating the next generation of technicians and operators for process industries in Louisiana and abroad. This program is housed on the Baton Rouge campus of Southern University and A&M College. The first cohort has been admitted in Spring 2022 semester, and there are currently six students enrolled in the program. To serve the educational objectives of this program, several lab instruments were purchased for \$210,000, of which a number has been delivered and other equipment is due for delivery by Summer 2022. In addition, five licenses of a virtual reality (VR) training software has been acquired for \$6,375.

The PTEC program has also received a \$10,000 grant from ExxonMobil which will be used for purchasing additional VR training software. This grant supports the education and workforce development initiatives of the university, and aims to fund a virtual reality lab for the PTEC program concentration. E-Learning is an essential tool in complementing physical labs and assisting in conceptual learning experiences. Digitally enhanced VR or augmented reality software and associated equipment is an advanced form of virtual learning setups that enable students to experience real-life working conditions and hands-on activity in a plant-like virtual environment. With this grant, a virtual reality simulator with an outside operator view will be purchased that enable students to exercise various functions of pumps and valves and troubleshoot the associate problems.

Southern University and A&M College and its Department of Engineering provides significant assistance and collaboration for SUSLA's Department of Engineering & Technology's PTEC program concentration to succeed in endorsement and accreditation efforts where educational facilities and learning outcomes are assessed. We are also grateful for having a supportive industry advisory committee, of which ExxonMobil is a member and actively contributes to the success of the program.



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT EXPANDS THEIR PARTNERSHIPS IN THE CITY OF SHREVEPORT

A key focus of SUSLA's Interim Chancellor Dr. Vladimir A. Appeaning's administration is strengthening and expanding partnerships with local appointed and elected officials in the City of Shreveport. On March 15, 2022, Dr. Appeaning met with the City of Shreveport's Chief of Police, Wayne Smith and his senior administrative team to discuss ways to further strengthen the existing partnership between the City's Police Department and the University's Police Department. As an outcome of the meeting, Chief Wayne Smith pledged to donate several vehicles to the University's Police Department.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT JOINS COHORT 2 OF THE LEARNER SUCCESS LAB

Beginning October 2021, Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA), under the direction of former Chancellor Dr. Rodney Ellis and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Terry Kidd, joined Cohort 2 of the Learner Success Lab (LSL) conducted by the American Council on Education (ACE). The LSL guides colleges and universities through a structured strategic planning process to advance critical institutional priorities around learner success, with a particular focus on post-traditional and marginalized learner populations. The LSL model integrates higher education experiences and academic credentials with workforce-ready skills to support continuous learning and promote impactful life and career experiences for students. ACE has paired SUSLA with a lab advisor Dr. Annette Parker, President of South Central College, who will assist in preparing the institution's LSL Committee and lead an assessment of existing learner success activities and initiatives. The core of ACE's Learner Success Model comprises Career Readiness, Life Design, and Completion.



SUSLA's Leadership Team is Dr. Lonnie McCray, Dr. Wanda Waller, Dr. Devonye Brown, and Mr. Fred Moss. The ACE Learner Lab focuses on comprehensive institutional transformation via a self-assessment and planning process designed to improve retention, persistence, and completion. Its overall mission is fully aligned with our QEP and strategic plan. Moreover, the transformation includes enhancing the perceived relevancy of our institution to career and lifelong expectations of current and prospective students.

The LSL Committee is reviewing ways to institute Guided Pathways throughout the university's programs, policies, and processes.

Drs. McCray and Brown recently attended Milestone Meeting 2: Data Collection and Analysis on March 18, 2022. This was a hybrid meeting held in Washington, D.C. In addition to data collection and analysis, the conference focused on Carnegie Classifications, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Agility and Transformation, and Self-Assessment.

STUDENT STUDENT SHOWCASES STUDY AT THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION HBCU PROGRAM RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



Because of varying areas of authority, expertise and influence, Police Chief E. P. Reynolds requested the continuing support of SUSLA's Executive/Management team in serving on SUSLA's Emergency Notification List and/or SUSLA's Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee.

To assist all members of our team, Chief Reynolds and our University Police Department hosted an in-service training/table-top exercise (Presented by The Caddo Parish Sheriff - Homeland Security Team) for SUSLA's Executive/Management members and invitees on Thursday, April 21, 2022 – 9:30am to 12noon.

This training proved to be both enlightening and informative. The topics of the training covered our comprehensive response to a Campus-wide Crisis/Active Bomb Threat event.

The training/table-top exercise covered some of the following:

- Know what to do if you receive the threat
- What are my designated responsibilities as an administrator
- Plans for a building and/or campus-wide evacuation
- Know the proper command structure to handle this type of incident
- Understand the plans for individuals with disabilities



DR. APPEANING REPRESENTS SUSLA AT THE SBBA HIGHER ED SUMMIT AT THE GREATER SHREVEPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Dr. Vladimir A. Appeaning joined our Commissioner of Higher Education, Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, as well as the LSU, UL, Southern and LCTCS system offices in a collaboration and engagement of the 9 institutions of higher education who serve our region: LSU Health Sciences Center, Louisiana Tech University, Grambling State University, Southern University at Shreveport, LA, Bossier Parish Community College, Northwestern State University, Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College - NLTCC, LSU Shreveport, and Centenary College of Louisiana. The event was held by the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce.

CONGRATULATIONS TO YUVETTE ALLEN ON BEING ONE OF THIS YEAR'S ALTERED NWLA: WOMEN OF INSPIRATION HONOREES

ALTERED NWLA is a nonprofit organization that provides a network for young women to access information, tools, and resources needed to ALTER their path in life and positively impact the community. On April 22, 2022, at East Ridge Country Club, ALTERED hosted the Break the Glass: Women of Inspiration Event, recognizing and awarding 17 women in the Shreveport-Bossier area that exhibits:

- A positive attitude and influence
- Demonstrates leadership and maintains a record of community accomplishments
- Displays integrity and portrays high ethical standards
- Values her community and is involved in organizations that give back
- Is an advocate for mentoring young women

Yvette Allen was one of the 17 women honored.





ALL OF US RESEARCH PROGRAM HOSTS CROCS-A-DAY PARTY FOR SUSLA FACULTY & STAFF

Southern University at Shreveport, All of Us Research Coordinators, Yvette Allen and Johnetta Rhone hosted events on SUSLA's Metro and Main Campuses to drive education and build awareness of SUSLA participation in the of the All of Us Research Program. Students, staff and faculty were invited to a CROC PARTY. These comfortable shoes are worn by many all over the campus. The invitation to adorn the shoes was too good to pass up. The educational and fun event was well attend on both campuses.



DEPARTMENT OF COLLEGE ACCESS HOSTS A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

On Friday, April 1, the College Access/TRIO Department hosted a professional development training. The training’s topic was “Polished for our Partners: We Are the Experts,” and it served as a cross-training opportunity to support SUSLA’s mission and core values. Dr. Tuesday Mahoney and the Committee held team-building exercises to increase employee morale and empower them. Dr. Mahoney invited Enrollment Management staff and students to discuss fundamental admissions and financial aid policies and procedures. Our staff is currently prepared to begin enrollment for Upward Bound bridging and Dual Enrollment Summer programs. We are prepared to collaborate with our partners and students!

SUSLA COLLEGE ACCESS PARTICIPATES IN READ ACROSS AMERICA 2022

TRiO Upward Bound North and South took students on a Black History college tour/cultural enrichment field trip March 21-24, 2022, to Kansas City, MO during spring break. We visited Union Station where, students visit Science City and the Planetarium. Staff at Union Station were impressed with the large group of participants and the implementation of STEM in the cultural enrichment tour.



CONGRATULATIONS TO SHARMAIN TALBERT AS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS (NASFAA) APRIL’S MOST VALUABLE PROFESSIONAL

The National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association that provides professional development and services for financial aid administrators, advocates for public policies that increase student success in postsecondary education, and conducts legislative and regulatory analysis related to federal student aid programs. For the month of April, Mrs. Sharmain Talbert, Interim Assistant Director of Enrollment Services, was recognized as NASFAA’s Most Valuable Professional (MVP), an occasional series that features a brief Q&A with a recommended NASFAA member. To read this feature, [click here](#).



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