



## OFFICE OF MARKETING & UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) and Louisiana State University Shreveport (LSUS) Chancellors sign Memorandum of Understanding for College Connect Program**

SUSLA Chancellor Rodney Ellis and LSUS Chancellor Larry Clark will have a formal signing of a Memorandum of Understanding of the College Connect Program (CCP). The College Connect Program enables students to attend 4 year campuses while being enrolled at SUSLA. Four year Colleges and Universities have mandatory requirements for students to enroll. The CCP offers students an opportunity to take courses that will help in reaching the required number of class hours and coursework to transition into the 4 year college or university.

LSUS Chancellor Larry Clark stated, "We are committed to helping our students overcome obstacles and create new pathways for success. This agreement demonstrates another way we are working in the community to make sure that the needs of both students and the Shreveport-Bossier area are met." SUSLA Chancellor Rodney Ellis, with regards to signing the SU Connect MOU with LSUS Chancellor Larry Clark, stated, "This agreement is an obvious recognition that North Louisiana's postsecondary education sector is stronger when everybody works together. It also reflects the fact that postsecondary education doesn't happen in discrete silos and that there is strong collaboration between SUSLA and LSUS. Relationships between colleges and universities can be beneficial for everyone, especially when there is respect for the skills, contributions, and needs of everyone involved. We look forward to this partnership and hope that the students that choose to participate find value in this collaboration."

The SU College Connect Program is for first time freshmen, and in some rare instances, transfer students. To be accepted into the Program, a student is to do the following:

- 1) Apply to be a regular student at Louisiana State University at Shreveport (LSUS), Southern University Baton Rouge (SUBR) or Southern University New Orleans (SUNO).
- 2) If the four year institution states that the student does not meet the criteria for admission, then the four year institution would review the student's file and if he/she is eligible for enrollment, THEN the four year institution will REFER the student to our program.
- 3) When the four year institution sends the letter to refer the student to our Program, there are two links in the email or letter. One of the links provides more information about the Program. The second link is to be used to APPLY for the Program.
- 4) The SUSLA Office of Admission reviews the student's file, and if the student is eligible for the Program, then an email goes out to the student welcoming him/her to the Program.

Students are actually SUSLA students, but they are allowed to stay in the campus apartments at LSUS; however, the student has the right to stay off campus if he/she desires to do so. The student attends classes located on the site chosen, but is taking SUSLA courses. The instructors are hired by SUSLA, and they will use SUSLA syllabi and textbooks. Our Program is a "bridge" Program. Upon successful completion of the Program, the student is able to transfer into the four year institution and become a regular four year student. While on the four year campus, the student is able to attend all activities; however, he/she is not allowed to participate in the band, sororities, fraternities, or play sports for the "host" institution. The student will be assessed fees from BOTH institutions but pays the tuition of SUSLA. ALL students are to adhere to the rules and regulations of the four year institution.

The Coordinator on each campus reviews students' records to determine who is eligible for transfer. Every student is different. Some students may be able to transfer into the four year institution after one semester. Other students may require two or three semesters. The number of Developmental Education courses determines the number of semesters that a student would be in our Program to transfer. When the student meets the criteria for transfer, his/her transcript is sent to the four year institution. It is reviewed by the Admissions Office on the four year campus. Once the four year campus states that the student is eligible for transfer, he/she receives a welcome letter from the four year institution at that time.