

SUSLA E-NEWS

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SHREVEPORT LOUISIANA

Excellence • Integrity • Accountability • Service • Diversity

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JUNE 2018

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT SPRING 2018 GRADUATES



Hundreds of friends and family filled the Shreveport Convention Center for Southern University at Shreveport's spring 2018 Commencement on Tuesday, May 15, 2018. SUSLA awarded 300 certificates, technical diplomas and associate degrees in various disciplines, including completers for summer 2017, fall 2017, and spring 2018 during the ceremony.

Patricia Russell-McCloud, J.D., nationally recognized author and motivational speaker, gave an enthusiastic keynote speech. Her address to the graduates emphasized the importance of gratitude, and she dared the students to continue to work hard in life to overcome challenges in the pursuit of their dreams. She received a standing ovation for her remarks.



Patricia Russell-McCloud and Dr. Ellis during award presentation

SUSLA Chancellor, Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, delivered a special video message that highlighted several of the most notable accomplishments graduates and the university have made this year. Major accomplishments in the area of academics included the creation and expansion of dual enrollment offerings, teacher education programs, and expanded mass media and film programs. He went on to congratulate Allied Health on their 100% pass rate for Dental Hygiene, Licensed Practical Nursing, and Radiologic Technology programs.

"We are so proud of what our students have accomplished, and we are confident that the skills and education they obtained at SUSLA have given them the foundation they need to be successful in their career and in life," said Dr. Ellis. *"Our students are great examples of academic achievement in our community; this is their day to be recognized for their hard work and determination. We wish them all the best."*

Dr. Melva Williams, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management also acknowledged the select candidates that received Adult Education Completion Certificates, and Community Education for Life Transitions (CELT) Certificates.

The ceremony concluded with the induction of the new graduates into the Jaguar Nation as SUSLA alumni.

Congratulations 2018 Graduates!



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT 50th GOLDEN GALA RAISES THOUSANDS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

On Saturday, May 5, 2018, Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) hosted its 50th Anniversary Golden Gala, at 421 Texas Street in downtown Shreveport. The Gala was the final event in a year-long series of anniversary celebrations and was the crowning jewel befitting the campus's 50th milestone.

Hundreds of local and state dignitaries, corporate stakeholders, faculty, staff, friends, and alumni chapter members joined to celebrate SUSLA's success and 50 year legacy in Shreveport.

It was a very special night, as SUSLA celebrated five decades of excellence in education and transforming dreams into reality for its graduates. Dr. Ellis, joined by SU System President Dr. Ray Belton and Board of Supervisors Chair Ann Smith, recognized the following Honorees for their service to SUSLA:

THE PARISH OF CADDO



(L to R): Commissioners: Matthew Linn, Stormy Gage Watts, Lyndon Johnson, SUS President, Dr. Ray L. Belton, Commissioner, Steven Jackson, SUSLA Chancellor, Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, and SUS Chair, Ann Smith

THE CITY OF SHREVEPORT



(L to R): Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Mayor Ollie Tyler, City of Shreveport, Dr. Ray L. Belton, and Chair, Ann Smith

THE FAMILY OF ALPHONSE JACKSON, JR.



(L to R): Lydia Jackson, Former Sentaor, State of Louisiana, Dr. Ray L. Belton, Chair, Ann Smith and Dr. Rodney A. Ellis

SENATOR GREGORY W. TARVER, SR., DISTRICT 39



(L to R): Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Senator Gregory W Tarver, Sr. Chairlady, Ann Smith, Dr. Ray L. Belton and Mr. S. Albert Gilliam



Guests enjoyed a delicious dinner in a beautiful atmosphere, had good conversations with friends old and new, and took a “Journey Through the Decades”. According to the Office of Institutional Advancement, gross receipts for funds raised during the 50th Golden Gala total over \$102,000.

TOP DONORS WHO WERE HONORED DURING THE GALA INCLUDED:

PRESENTING SPONSOR

McDONALD'S - GRIGGS ENTERPRISES, INC.



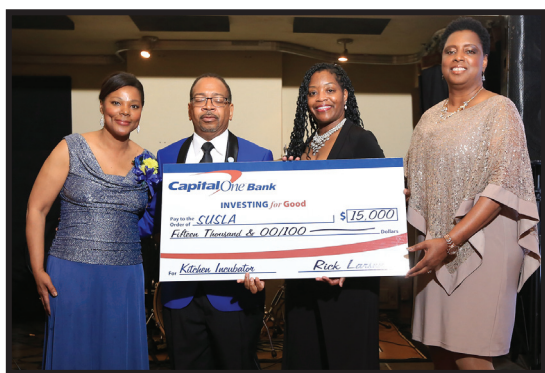
(L to R): Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Mrs. Jean Mosley, Pulic Relations Manager, Griggs Enterprises and Stephanie Rogers, SUSLA Chief Advancement Officer

WILLIAMS CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



(L to R): Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Mr. Tony Williams, Mrs. Tina Williams and Dr. Melva Williams, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

CAPITAL ONE BANK



(L to R): Stephanie Rogers, Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Neriffa Davis, and Janice Sneed



Rodney Giles, Dr. Alan Jackson, George Stiell
(Photo: Paul L. Schuetz/The Times)



Angelique Feaster Evans
Gala Chair

Christus Shreveport-Bossier Health System was a major Gala sponsor, donating \$10,000. The event would not have been possible without the support and efforts of all of our sponsors, friends, the Gala Committee, chaired by Angelique Feaster-Evans and the SUSLA Community.

Funds raised from the event will help support students by removing financial barriers to success with scholarships and stipends. For more information on how to support scholarship opportunities for future students, please visit us online at www.susla.edu or contact **Stephanie Rogers, Chief Advancement Officer** at srogers@susla.edu.

Just a few Snapshots

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT
50th
YEAR
1967-2017
Celebration

GOLDEN
Gala



DR. JOSEPH ORBAN RECEIVES FULBRIGHT U.S. SCHOLAR AWARD TO NIGERIA FOR TEACHING AND RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT



Dr. Joseph Orban, a Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Sciences at Southern University at Shreveport has received a Fulbright United States (U.S.) Scholar Program Award to Nigeria in Health Sciences. During the 10-month program, Dr. Orban will provide lectures in Human Anatomy and Physiology, Pharmacology, Nutrition in Health and Disease and conduct research in Health Sciences at Benue State University, Nigeria as part of a project to enhance Health Science Instruction and Research at the institution. Dr. Orban will also provide Grant Writing training to the faculty and staff at the University.



the United States and the people of other countries. The Fulbright Program is funded through an annual appropriation made by the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State. Participating governments and host institutions, corporations, and foundations around the world also provide direct and indirect support to the Program, which operates in over 160 countries worldwide.

Since its establishment in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late U.S. Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the Fulbright Program has given more than 370,000 students, scholars, teachers, artists, and scientists the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas, and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns. Fulbrighters address critical global issues in all disciplines, while building relationships, knowledge, and leadership in support of the long-term interests of the United States. Fulbright alumni have achieved distinction in many fields, including 57 who have been awarded the Nobel Prize, 82 who have received Pulitzer Prizes, and 37 who have served as a head of state or government.

Dr. Orban is one of over 800 U.S. citizens who will teach, conduct research, and/or provide expertise abroad for the 2018-2019 academic year through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program. Recipients of Fulbright awards are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement as well as record of service and demonstrated leadership in their respective fields.

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to build lasting connections between the people of

SUSLA CELEBRATES ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S DAY WITH ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE



Chancellor Dr. Rodney Ellis recognized the administrative support professionals at SUSLA for their hard work, with a special day of celebration and gifts hosted and organized through the Academy of Excellence. This year's conference theme was The Accelerated Assistant. The administrative staff both new and seasoned enjoyed a full day of workshops on teamwork, cross training, communication, and business etiquette. They were treated to a catered lunch, and ended the event with an awards and gifts ceremony.

SUSLA CAMPUS-WIDE MEETING PROVIDES UPDATES AND AWARDS

A recent campus-wide meeting provided a chance for division heads to announce their latest projects for the upcoming year and also reflect on the accomplishments of faculty and staff. One highlight from the meeting included a new Youtube video campaign by the Office of Financial Aid to help students better understand the process of receiving financial aid and guide them in using self-serve online tools. Awards were also presented to employees for their leadership in the Annual 50/50 Fundraising Campaign, 50th Golden Gala, and Dentistry From the Heart Event. Certificates of recognition were also presented in celebration of employee birthdays.



(L to R): Annqinette King, Carolyn Miller, Regina Winn, Rebecca Gilliam, Quiana Skidmore, Lt. Jeff Ivey, Judy McIntosh, Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Joslin Pickens, Karen Coco, Marlo Miller and Stephanie Rogers



(L to R): Mark Hall, Delores Surles, Dr. Regina Webb, Angela Thomas, Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Shannon Levingston-McCowan, Dr. Tuesday Mahoney, Dr. Melva Williams and Elijah Teh-Teh

DENTISTRY *from the* HEART AWARDS



(L to R): Cynthia Latin, Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Dr. Sharron Herron-Williams and Lynn Eatman

50th YEAR GALA COMMITTEE



(L to R): Angela Thomas, Dr. Tuesday Mahoney, Devoyne Brown, Urina F. Holt, Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Dr. Lonnie McCray, Angeliqe Feaster-Evans, Stephanie Rogers and Bobbie Dennis

TRAILBLAZERS AWARD

(Below L to R): Judy McIntosh, L, Jeff Ivey, Dr. Rodney A. Ellis and Stephanie Rogers



50th YEAR GALA CHAIR

(L to R): Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Chancellor and Angeliqe Feaster-Evans, Event Chair



UNITED WAY AWARD TO CWD JANICE SNEED RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE TO THE NWLA UNITED WAY

The United Way of Northwest LA collected more than \$2 million during the past year to invest back into the community. They celebrated their success at the annual Celebration of Impact on March 28, 2018, at Sam's Town Hotel in Shreveport, LA. Awards were given to area businesses and local philanthropist for their efforts in making this possible. They also recognized Outgoing Board Members, Janice B. Sneed (SUSLA), Judy Madison (Red River Bank) and Darlene Rossum (IberiaBank) for their effective leadership to the board and community. Sneed served in the areas of operational excellence and community impact during her three-year tenure on the Board of United Way.

United Way of Northwest Louisiana fights for the health, education, financial stability, and essential needs of the residents of our region. For more information about this organization and how you can support the goals of United Way, please visit <https://unitedwaynwla.org/>.



Bruce Wilson (President & CEO, United Way); Janice Sneed (SUSLA), Darlene Rossum (IberiaBank), Jerome Cox (Immediate Past Chair, United Way) and Judy Madison (Red River Bank)



CONGRATULATIONS



Student
of the **Month**

CORA HODGE

Cora Hodge is a highly dependable student-centered peer coach. On a regular basis, she managed the peer coach office in the Center for Student Success. As a peer coach and leader, she worked tirelessly to meet the needs of her fellow students. She excelled in her studies and maintained her honors academic standing. During the Spring 2018 Honors & Awards Convocation, she was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa honor society. She is a single parent who graduated this May with her Associate

Degree in Biology.

Congratulations Ms. Hodge

JAGUAR of the MONTH

*Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Chancellor recognizes Jasheika Dennis as
"Jaguar of the Month"*

Jasheika Dennis has been helping students achieve their dreams of going to school in her position as a loan coordinator here at SUSLA for the past 6 years. Over that time, she has continued to better herself and increase her value to the Office of Financial Aid and the University as a whole. She has earned several certifications in topics ranging from customer service to complex financial aid processes.

She is an active member of the Louisiana Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (LASFAA) and the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA).

Most recently, she was nominated for the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce Forty under Forty Awards. On a recent customer satisfaction survey one student wrote, "Mrs. Dennis is a very caring person who goes above and beyond for the students. If I could give her a million kudos I would!" She is truly an asset to the Jaguar Nation.



Congratulations Ms. Dennis!

Campus Announcements



Hosted by
Southern University Shreveport Foundation
19th ANNUAL
GENTLEMEN'S COOKING CLASSIC
Saturday, June 9, 2018

Shreveport Convention Center
400 Caddo St. • 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

For more information and to purchase tickets -
call, (318) 670-9681

Proceeds benefit the SUSF Scholarship Fund.



STEM SUMMER CAMP

IMAGINE
EXPLORE
DISCOVER!

DATES:
TIMES:

JUNE 4-29, 2018

Monday - Thursday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Friday, 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

LOCATION:

SUSLA CAMPUS (Rooms TBA)

3050 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Shreveport, LA

Seats are **LIMITED!**

K-5th Grade

Cost: **\$300** (per student)
\$25 non-refundable registration fee
\$40 Field trip fee

Registration fee includes
cost of liability insurance,
t-shirt, lunch snacks and
field trips.

Students are taught by certified teachers who specialize in STEM fields.

SCHOLARSHIPS are **AVAILABLE** for those who qualify.

Coordinator: Rufus Jackson - email: rgjackson@susla.edu or ce@susla.edu

REGISTRATION DEADLINE
Friday, May 18, 2018

All fees **MUST BE** paid by
Monday, May 28, 2018

For more
information, call -
(318) 670-9697





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