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Agricultural Research & Extension Center



Leodrey Williams

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

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Back-to-School Summit Encourages Youth

Southern University Ag Center

Leodrey Williams
Chancellor

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

Gina E. Eubanks
Vice Chancellor for Extension

Linda Batiste
Director of Finance

Christopher Rogers
Director of Technology Services

Editors
Bridget Udoh
Donna C. Badon

A. O. Williams Hall
P.O. Box 10010
Baton Rouge, LA 70813

Tel: (225) 771-2242

Fax: (225) 771-2861

Website:
www.suagcenter.com

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On September 11, 2014, the Southern University Ag Center welcomed students, faculty and staff from schools in Acadia, Allen, Avoyelles, Evangeline, Lafayette, Pointe Coupee, St. Landry, St. Martin and Vermillion Parishes to its 14th Back-to-School Summit for 8th graders at the Blackham Coliseum in Lafayette. The event themed “Healthy Actions Produce Positive Youth” had Danna Andrus “Dr. Truth” serving as Keynote speaker. Special appearances featured Cadet Cody LeBlanc, ULL Army, for the Presentation of Colors, and speech by Lt. Gen. Russell Honore (Retired), United States Army, in commemoration of 911. Speakers included Byron Starks, Coach and Mentor, and Den Hussey, Motivational Speaker/MC. Shalyric Self provided entertainment. Also prominent were Senator Elbert Guillory, LA State District 24; and ChancellorLeodrey Williams, SU Ag Center, with welcome greetings.

Isiah Marshall, 8th grader from St. Martinville Junior High said he was happy for



Event sessions

the opportunity to be there, and his take home message was to develop self-confidence, have a goal and stick to it.

“My brother is now in high school, and he told me about it because he attended this event in 8th grade,” Isiah said.

Mystique Dufort, 8th grader from Catahoula Elementary School said the main lesson she took home from the summit was to believe in herself and not get misled by peers.

The Lafayette *Daily Advertiser* covered the

event. Click [here](#) to read article.

Nearly three thousand student attendees received informational brochures along with school supplies from various agencies while learning from motivational speakers and video presentations. Topics of discussion included a wide range of healthy living tips, from sexual conduct to drug abuse. The goal of the program is to give young people health alternative choices in life.

The program targets eighth-graders because they are on the edge of becoming teenagers. Also in attendance were participating agencies and programs from surrounding parishes to show their support.

This annual summit is organized by the Southwest Center for Rural Initiatives, the satellite arm of the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, under the leadership of Dr. Wanda Burke who can be reached at 225-771-5184 or (337) 943-2410; via email at wanda_burke@suagcenter.com

SU Ag Center Administrator Recognized at Economic Summit



Dr. Gina E. Eubanks, Vice Chancellor for Extension, SU Ag Center/Program Leader/Associate Vice

Chancellor, LSU Ag Center, received an award at the 19th Annual Booker T. Washington Economic Summit at Tuskegee University, AL. The 2014 summit themed “Revitalizing Small Towns

and Rural Communities through Entrepreneurship and Procurement Opportunities,” took place at the Tuskegee University Kellogg Conference Center September 24 - 26.

The leadership award was presented to Dr. Eubanks during the Leadership Award and Business Success Story Luncheon on September 26.

[The Booker T. Washington Economic Summit](#) is a part of the Tuskegee University Cooperative Extension program in Community Resources and Economic Development. This program area primarily focuses on community resources and leadership development, business and entrepreneurial development, individual and family financial management, and job preparedness in rural Alabama.

SU Ag Center to Collaborate on E-Fuel Research with Tanzanian University

E-fuels enthusiasts gathered at SU Ag Center for an international conference with Bagamoyo University in Tanzania via skype. On Friday, September 26, members of Green Solar Louisiana, 360 Systems, E-Fuel System Technology and members of University of Bagamoyo held a virtual collaboration planning meeting on the SU Ag Center campus.

The purpose of the meeting was to strategically plan the best approach to introduce the University of Bagamoyo in Tanzania to 100% ethanol-based system while conducting research with Southern University on the full utilization of e-fuels. The long term plan includes establishing a train-the-trainer center in Louisiana for Tanzanians who will return home and train others in the commercial production of ethanol for diverse uses in an environmentally friendly and efficient manner. Private

sector entities will lead the research between the two universities.



L-r: panelists Butterfield, Quinn, Lawson, M. Johnson, Harris

Back row: Watson, Cain, Miles, S. Jonson

In attendance on the SU Ag Center campus were: Hon. Myron K. Lawson, Southern University Board of Supervisors; Reginald Miles, Phalanx LLC; Steve Johnson, Green Solar Louisiana/360 Systems; Jimmy Harris, H6 Energy; Tom Quinn, E-Fuel System Technology; Floyd Butterfield, E-Fuel System Technology; Kevin Cain, 360 Systems, LLC, CEO; Kevin Sanders Phalanx, LLC; Martin W. Johnson, President,

Green Solar Louisiana; Morgan M. Watson, PE MEL, INC. Chris Rogers, Director of Technology Services at the SU Ag Center coordinated the meeting. Attendees on the University of Bagamoyo in Tanzania included of Dr. E. G. Mtalo, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Bagamoyo; Godfrey Simbeye, Ana Matinde, Tanzanian Private Sector Foundation; Dr. Kamigisha, Unit Trust of Tanzania and Victor Akim, United Nations; Glenn E. Ford, Green Solar Louisiana, Chairman & University of Bagamoyo Board Member Designate; Bob Yona, Tanzania Manager, Green Solar Louisiana; Dr. Kasoga, Tanzanian Researcher, Green Solar Louisiana.

Dr. Kamran Abdollahi, professor and program director, Urban Forestry Program will coordinate the research at SU Ag Center and can be reached at 225-771-2242 or Kamran_abdollahi@suagcenter.com

Louisiana Students visit Nation's Capital for Citizenship Washington Focus



CWF 2014 Group before Delegation Day at the Capital. L-r: Ronjacoby Bell, John Zacharie; Dwayne Smith, Jr.; Maya Stevenson; Anthony Jack; Maya Sterling

Students from two Louisiana parishes visited our Nation's Capital for Citizenship Washington Focus 2014. July 6th -11th, six students from East Baton Rouge and St. Landry parishes attended Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) in Washington, D.C. Youth were accompanied by two chaperones, Ms. Tara Hollins and Mrs. Tiffany Wilkerson-Franklin. Ms. Hollins is a science teacher at Southern Lab School and Mrs. Wilkerson-Franklin is the Project Coordinator, SU Ag Center.

Students who were selected to attend CWF 2014 were Ronjacoby Bell, Maya Stevenson, Maya Sterling, Dwayne Smith, Jr., John Zacharie, and Anthony Jack. Youth enjoyed lodging at the well-known 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD. Prior to attending CWF, students studied 4-H lessons on stewardship, leadership, and citizenship. Citizenship

Washington Focus (CWF) is a week-long 4-H citizenship program for youth ages 14-19. CWF provides opportunities for young people to: strengthen communication, leadership and other citizenship skills on a national level; understand the importance of civic and social responsibilities as they relate to the development of better citizens and leaders; and exchange ideas, practice respect and form friendships with other youth from diverse backgrounds. Both being small delegations, Louisiana and Virginia were combined, which reinforced the goal involving diversity.

Students had the opportunity to visit many well-known landmarks around Washington, D.C., which included: The Capitol, Mount Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, Presidential and War Memorials, Library of Congress, and Smithsonian Museums. One unique experience was that youth had to develop a realistic action plan that may be implemented at their school. The students chose a major on-going issue that many youth across the country are faced with, which is bullying. Citizenship Washington Focus gave youth the opportunity to explore, develop, and refine the civic engagement skills they need to be outstanding leaders in their community, country and world. The work-

shops, tours, and nightly check in sessions equipped them with the tools they need to return home to share their experience. Students had a full schedule from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. and for their participation, one student from each group was randomly selected to receive an Apple iPad Mini, provided by Farm Credit.

Mrs. Wilkerson-Franklin said, "the overall experience was one that the youth will tell their children about, as they have never been to our Nation's Capital before this opportunity."

"Their parents were very supportive of this opportunity and for that I am grateful. The expressions on their faces as they enjoyed this experience were memorable for me," said Wilkerson-Franklin.

"Ms. Hollins was a great support system and was great with the youth. I would like to thank Farm Credit for the scholarships, 4-H National Council, and the SU Ag Center Administration for their support in providing this "chance of a lifetime" for our youth in Louisiana!"

SU Ag Center Grant Recipients Attend Annual PD Conference in Washington

The USDA [National Institute of Food and Agriculture](#) grants awardees from 1890 institutions participated in the 2014 Project Directors' conference held September 15-17 in Washington DC. The goal of the conference was to showcase progress and impacts of programs with the funding agency, and network with peers on new proposals.

During the meeting, PDs from various 1890 land-grant institutions made oral presentations and poster presentations to representatives from numerous USDA agencies and related entities.

Seven participating PDs and Co-PDs represented the SU Ag Center at the conference with oral and poster presentations. **Zhu Ning**, Professor, urban forestry, made an oral presentation on "Strengthen Teaching and Learning in Urban Forestry through Climate Change Education." **Kamran Abdollahi**,

Professor and Program Director, urban forestry, also gave a talk on "Assessing Bioenergy Production Potential from Urban Forest Waste Biomass in Louisiana."



Dr. Ning gives oral presentation



Dr. Abdollahi makes oral presentation

Additionally, other PDs and co-PDs brought posters for display at the Waterfront Center from the SU Ag Center: **Kenyetta Nelson-Smith**, Assistant Extension Specialist - BOLD: Developing Leaders in Rural and Underserved Populations; **Zhu Ning**, Professor, urban forestry - Integrating Sustainability into Urban Forestry and Agriculture Education; **Christie G. Monroe**, Livestock Director - The Young Men's Garden That Thrives; **Tiffany Wilkerson-Franklin**, Extension Associate - Eradicating Food Deserts in Neighborhoods through the Development of School Gardens; **Bridget Udoh**, Communications Specialist and **Oscar Udoh**, Planning and Evaluation Coordinator - Strategies to Improve Farm and Business Efficiency Through Integrated Communication.

SU Ag Center Tests Pre-workout Eating Program at SU Lab School

On September 24, the Kittengizer Pre-Workout Eating Program, a healthy snack alternative for the student athletes that will foster better eating habits before workouts, was launched at Southern University Laboratory School. Dr. Fatemeh Malekian, Food Science/Nutrition, and Mfamara Goita, Research Associate, Southern University Ag Center, led the Taste-Testing Event to ensure food safety and to gather results.

The Taste-Testing Event, sponsored by Trader Joe's, will be a catalyst in creating awareness of healthy eating and hydration before workouts. The goal was to gauge the student athletes' preference.

The 98 student athletes had a variety of energy/protein bars ranging from Peanut Butter, Chocolate Chip, Fudge Brownie, Apple Cereal Bar, Granola Crunch. Bananas,

a key food choice in providing potassium to help in preventing cramps were also provided.

"The success of the program was due mostly to the coaches and volunteers who supported the program like Coach Brumfield, Ms. Flowers, Parent, students, and the athletes," Malekian said.

Full details are available at the [SU Lab School](#) website.

Faculty and staff activities and accomplishments

Marlin Ford, Assistant Professor, SU Ag Center led a design project for the establishment of an Outdoor Adventure Challenge Camp for citizens in North Baton Rouge. The Advance Placement Students of the Master of Landscape Architecture at Louisiana State University developed and displayed designs that were influenced by agricultural practices, community enrichment, cultural diversity, and healthcare principles for a proposed challenge camp ground. The project focused on conceptual designs for the SU Ag Center Challenge Camp and

Experimental Station. Dr. Austin Allen of the Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture and his team worked in conjunction with Southern University Agricultural Research staff to design an area where the citizens of Louisiana can participate in, and learn about the natural benefits the state has to offer.

This federal/state funded project will benefit citizens in respect to wildlife and agriculture in a healthy way for pre-kindergarteners, youth, adults and seniors.



Above: SU/LSU design team
Below: Design presenters



Dr. Kenyetta Smith, Extension Assistant Specialist and Project Director BOLD Program has shared a video on YouTube in two parts. Follow the links: [2014 BOLD Program--SU Ag Center Part 1 of 2](#); and [2014 BOLD Program--SU Ag Center Part 2 of 2](#). There is also a tab at the bottom of the first video which will link you to part II. The Building Opportunities through Leadership Development (BOLD).



Fatemeh Malekian, Professor, Food Science / Nutrition, has

received a Lifetime Member Tribute from Phi Tau Sigma, the honor society of food science and technology.

2014 Newsletter of Phi Tau Sigma. See page 5 of the attached PDF file for full detail.

Her recognition is featured in the October

Katherine Ervin, Parent Educator, Bossier Parish conducted "Healthy Tips" Workshops at Harvest Temple and Martin Luther King Center.

Parents and grandparents that were looking for new ideas and new ways to improve their physical health as well as making a change in their everyday eating habits received pertinent information.



Ervin addresses audience

More than 75 individuals from the community participated and received information on healthy eating and physical activities.

Each of these individuals was encouraged to develop healthy eating habits immediately.

Workshops were held on August 25, September 8 and September 15.

Faculty and staff activities and accomplishments contd.

Orleans Parish Concludes Mini Grant Healthy Gardening Project

Krystal Sugulleh, Youth Development Agent in Orleans Parish led the “Gardening for a Healthy Community” grant which targeted the Gentilly area and Greater St. Stephens Church which are current food deserts in New Orleans. The program provided opportunities to youth and adults from low income areas that have little or no access to fresh produce. Community adults and youth learned basic essential gardening skills. The project goals are to expose 4-H youth members and adults to fresh fruits and vegetables through learning and hands-on experiences; increase community service, citizenship, environmental stewardship, responsibility and community pride through community gardening; raise awareness about the growing rate of obesity

and related health risks; encourage youth to make healthier food choices and increase physical activity by participating in gardening; and introduce healthier lifestyles options for youth and adults in Greater New Orleans and in designated areas.



**Community participants admire garden
With SU Ag Center staff**

The Gardening for a Healthy Community Project was utilized as an outlet to provide transferable skills, teach new productive

activities, and create healthy living habits in low income, low food access communities. The use of the SU Ag Center Community Garden Curriculum and 4-H curriculums and materials impacted youth and adults as they gained an increased knowledge in nutrition education, citizenship skills, gardening skills, and responsibility through program participation.

The grant which was funded by Southern University Ag Center ended in September after nine months and impacted 30 participants.

Sugulleh can be reached at 504-658-2900.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

October 22: National Food Day, McKinley GED Center, Baton Rouge, LA. Contact Tiffany Franklin or De’Shoin Friendship at 225-771-2242.

October 20-24: National Food Week, MCIO OAK GROVE HEAD START, Oak Grove, West Carroll, LA. Contact Tiffany Franklin or De’Shoin Friendship at 225-771-2242.

October 20-24: National Food Week: LSU/SU Ag Center, Mansura, Louisiana. Contact Camellia Brown at 318-253-7526.



The Honor Society of Food Science and Technology

Phi Tau Sigma Newsletter *October 2014*

News Alerts:

Awards Committee:

The Awards Committee is accepting nominations for the following honors:

- Dr. Daryl B. Lund International Scholarship (deadline November 30)
- Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarships (deadline February 1)
- Phi Tau Sigma Special Recognition Award (deadline February 1)
- Dr. Gideon "Guy" Livingston Scholarship (deadline February 1)
- Phi Tau Sigma Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award (deadline April 1)

The purpose of all our awards/scholarships is to recognize and honor excellence. This can only be achieved with your help. We encourage you to seek out worthy nominees and develop their nominations by the deadline so that they may be considered for an award to recognize their contributions! More information, forms, and instructions can be found at: www.phitausigma.org, click on 'Awards' on the top toolbar, OR go directly to: <http://www.phitausigma.org/content.php/3-Awards>. Email completed forms to Elizabeth Boyle, Ph.D. at: lboyle@ksu.edu.

Membership and Qualifications Committee:

(Contributed by H. Russell Cross, Ph.D. – Chair, Phi Tau Sigma Membership and Qualifications Committee)

Nominations for Phi Tau Sigma Membership

Any active member of Phi Tau Sigma is encouraged to identify potential new members of the Honorary Society. Nominations are encouraged in two general categories.

Guidelines for Membership Eligibility 2014

A. General Requirements

1. Nominators should review the Model Chapter By-Laws to become familiar with the criteria used by the Membership and Qualifications Committee during evaluation of nominees.

- January 21: Deadline for Nomination and Elections Committee to submit slate of candidates to President
- February 5: Last date on which nominations by petition may be submitted
- March 1: List of candidates will be emailed to the Members for balloting
- April 1: Deadline for casting ballots
- April 8: Deadline for tabulation of ballots
- July 11: Phi Tau Sigma President will present the newly elected individuals to the Membership at the Annual Business Meeting of Phi Tau Sigma

->July 11-14 Institute of Food Technologists Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL 2015:

Dates and times approximate

July 11 (Saturday):

- 11:30am-1:00pm Phi Tau Sigma Leadership Council Meeting and Annual Business Meeting (Includes lunch for cost during pre-registration. Lunch ticket NOT required to attend the meeting.)
- 12:30pm-1pm Student Competition Poster Set-up
- 1:00pm-2:30pm Student Poster Competition Judging
- 1:15pm-2:30pm Phi Tau Sigma Executive Committee Meeting
- 3:00pm-4:15pm Phi Tau Sigma and IFT Division Competition Awards Ceremony (also called: Phi Tau Sigma Annual Recognition Event)
- 5:30pm-6:45pm IFT Awards Celebration, includes the presentation of the Carl R. Fellers, Ph.D. Award (Meet the Award winners at the IFT Networking Reception Immediately following.)

**Lifetime Member Tribute: Fatemeh Malekian, Ph.D.
Professor, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension
Center, Baton Rouge LA**



Why did you become a Lifetime Member?

I am proud to be a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, the Honor Society of Food Science and Technology, because it represents high commitment to excellence in academics, service and leadership in every area but specifically in the area of food science and technology. Phi Tau Sigma, with the support of its members, provides programs that stimulates the exchange of scientific knowledge through meetings, lectures and publications and also promotes exclusively charitable, scientific and educational programs. I belong to a number of organizations and societies but I can call Phi Tau Sigma my Society because I am a Food Scientist.

Education:

- 1972 B.S. in Biology, Tehran University, Tehran Iran
- 1992 M.S. in food science, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge LA
- 1998 Ph.D. in Food science, Louisiana State University (LSU) Baton Rouge LA
- 1990 ServSafe training instructor, nationally certified Food Safety Instructor
- 2011 Seafood HACCP training
- 2011 Sanitation Control Procedure Training
- 2012 Meat and poultry HACCP training