Johnny C. Taylor Jr., President & CEO of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF), not only delivered the keynote address Saturday, May 10 at the Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) 2014 Commencement, but he also delivered a $100,000 donation.

The TMCF gift, which will provide scholarships to deserving SUNO Students, capped off a year in which the University made tremendous progress in renovation projects on buildings damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

“We all know that getting to college is half the battle,” Taylor said. “However, education only pays off for those who actually graduate and TMCF is proud of the 498 SUNO graduates.”

During his speech at the Lakefront Arena, Taylor told the graduates that the degrees they received are not theirs. “At the end of the day, that degree belongs to a whole group of people who brought you here. You may possess it, but the state of Louisiana helped pay for your education. Then there were the people who prepared you: your K-12 teachers … the SUNO faculty and staff … and your families,” he said. “I want you to use ‘our’ degree to make this world a better place.”

SUNO’s Class of 2014 consists of 54 honor graduates: five Suma Cum Laude, 10 Magna Cum Laude, 27 Cum Laude and 12 Honors. Business Administration Major Bruce O. McLean graduated with the highest grade-point average of 3.975.

Hoang-Minh Nguyen receives his hood Friday, May 9 for earning a Master of Social Work during the Hooding and Medallion Ceremony in the SUNO Gymnasium. 181 graduate students received their master degrees in Social Work, Criminal Justice, Museum Studies and Computer Information Systems.
College of Arts and Sciences  
Dr. Henry E. Mokosso, Dean

Arts & Humanities
Norbert R. Davidson, Interim Chair for the Department of Arts & Humanities, attended the Louisiana Board of Regents’ Statewide Workshop on Developmental Education Outcomes in Baton Rouge at the end of March, and participated in a two-part webinar entitled “Moving Beyond Memorization: Advance Thinking Skills Training,” which followed on April 2 and 3.

Associate Professors of English Dr. Chester St. H. Mills and Dr. Xiongya Gao attended a conference of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) in Indianapolis, ID, April 19 – 22.

Assistant Professor of Music Michael Pierce performed at the 2014 New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival (‘Jazz Fest”), participating in sessions with Dr. John and with the gospel group Shades of Pride.

Assistant Professors of Communication Dr. Douglas Marshall and Dr. Sarah Jackson both presented papers at the April 5 conference of the Southern States Communication Association, which was in New Orleans April 3 – 6. Dr. Jackson successfully defended her dissertation at Louisiana State University and was officially awarded her Ph.D. in May.

Natural Sciences
Murty S. Kambhampati, PhD: Department of Natural Sciences celebrated 2013-14 Annual Student, Faculty and Staff Awards Day. Mr. Terrell Brumfield (President of BKG Chapter), Mr. Samuel Okpechi (NIS President), Ms. Sonya Hill (Treasurer, BKG and NIS Chapters), and Ms. Anne Marie-Neba (NIS-BKG Chapter’s Secretary) received awards for their service in their respective chapters on recruitment, fund raising, attending seminars, etc. Following are the members of faculty who received awards: Dr. Mostafa Elaasar (Department of Natural Sciences Award for his seven years of service as the Chairperson); Dr. Joe Omojola (Mentoring and Service Award); Drs. Illya Tietzel and Belmasrour (Outstanding Service Award); Drs. Cynthia Singleton, Joseph Olubodewo, Alvin Bopp, and Carl P. Johnson (Service Awards); Ms. Phyllis Okwan (Outstanding Service Award); and Ms. Polly Richter (Service Award).
Department of Natural Sciences continued

On April 25, Drs. Joe Omojola, Murty S. Kambhampati, Carl P. Johnson and Phyllis Okwan participated in an annual E\MaS Advisory Committee meetings and evaluations of the program with external advisory committee members.

NIS and BKX Chapters, under the sponsorship of Drs. Kambhampati and Omojola, initiated “Recycling of Plastic Bottles” in NSC and BRN buildings on the eve of Earth Day.

Dr. Kambhampati engaged actively in Faculty Handbook revisions and Post-Tenure Review process along with colleagues on campus and submitted his reports to Dr. Mokosso, Dean-CAS and shared the same documents with all faculty of CAS and Dean Udeh, College of Business.

Dr. Illya Tietzel: Dr. Tietzel’s and Dr. Elaasar’s undergraduate research mentee Ms. Janice Carter was accepted in the LSUHSC Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program, a 10-week program beginning May 27 and ending August 1.

Dr. Tietzel’s undergraduate research mentee Mr. Keith Perkins was accepted in the LSUHSC Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program, a 10-week program beginning May 27 and ending August 1.

On April 24, Dr. Illya Tietzel, Associate Professor of Biology, received the SUNO campus award as Most Outstanding Researcher at the Southern University System 2013-2014 Faculty and Staff Research and Academic Achievement Awards Program event.

In April 2014, Dr. Tietzel received a departmental award for Outstanding Service of the Department of Natural Sciences.

Dr. Tietzel submitted on April 3 a grant proposal “Modeling the impact of oil spill microbe on intestinal microbes and invertebrates” to the LA Board of Regents Supervised Undergraduate Research Experiences (SURE) program that will support undergraduate research of Mr. Donald Brown with Dr. Tietzel’s oil spill research.

Mr. Sheldon Williams, mentee of Dr. Tietzel, won 2nd place for oral presentation at Dillard University’s LAMP conference undergraduate research day on April 1 for his research about “Biological Characterization of the Alphavirus nsP1 Guanylyltransferase Enzyme” done in the lab of Dr. Geiss at Colorado State University.

Dr. Tchavdar Marinov: Dr. Marinov became a member of the editorial board of the Universal Journal of Computational Mathematics (an international peer-reviewed journal that publishes original and high-quality research papers in all areas of Computational Mathematics). (Please visit http://www.hrpub.org/journals/jour_editorialboard.php?id=24)

A paper titled “Behavior of the Numerical Integration Error,” from Tchavdar Marinov, Joe Omojola, Quintel Washington (SUNO student) and LaQuinia Banks (SUNO student), was accepted for publication in Applied Mathematics Journal.

Dr. Marinov’s review of the Bormotin K. S. paper “Inverse optimal control problems in creep theory,” was published in AMS Mathematical Reviews. Dr. Marinov also prepared a referee report for a paper submitted for publishing in Applied Mathematics Journal.
**Museum Studies**

**GENERAL:** Dr. Sara Hollis is an At-Large-Senator on the Faculty Senate. She attended both Senate Meetings in April, as well as several meetings for the 2014 Commencement Program. Dr. David Riep attended meetings for the Council of Deans and Directors.

Both Dr. Hollis and Dr. Riep participated in the defense of written theses for several 2014 MA Museum Studies graduates and have attended all of their exhibitions. Dr. Hollis is now a member of the National Women’s Caucus on Art, the New Orleans Chapter of the Women’s Caucus on Art, and the New Orleans Art Association. She has been attending exhibitions of both groups. She is also a member of the Louisiana Watercolor Society and regularly attends their exhibitions. She is a member of the international quilt group, the Studio Art Quilt Association, and a half dozen other quilt organizations. She is a co-op member of the Second Story Gallery in the Healing Center and shows her art regularly there and at Le Boulevard Marketplace.

**RESEARCH:** Dr. Riep has been editing his article proofs for his essay on East African trade routes and South Sotho cosmology for a new publication under the Africa Meets Africa banner. He is also completing final edits for the Fall publication of his article “Hot Women” in African Arts Magazine. In addition, he has been developing exam questions for the College Board AP art history test.

Dr. Hollis researched and wrote an article for the *New Orleans Tribune* about the 30 Americans exhibition of African American art at the Contemporary Arts Center. She is now writing an article on the Talladaga Murals that are going to be shown from May to September at the New Orleans Museum of Art, also for *The New Orleans Tribune*. She attended the preview of the exhibition that was held for educators in the New Orleans area. She has visited the exhibition several times since, and attended the field trip to it with her students and those in Dr. Sarah Clunis’s Curatorship Class. Dr. Clunis lead the tour of the exhibition that day. Dr. Hollis also assisted Ms. Jane Coleman in hanging her Master’s Project Exhibition at the McKenna Museum.

Graduating Museum Studies student Ms. Renae Friedley researched the community of Breaux Bridge while in the Program and her research has been published. More than 500 of the book have been sold. She has done several book signings.

**COMMUNITY:** Museum Studies students opened a number of exhibitions in April. On April 5, Museum Studies student Ms. Jessica Jenkins presented her graduating exhibition on the subject of African American Weddings at the McKenna Museum. An article on her exhibition, as well as her experience in the Museum Studies program was featured in the April 7 edition of *The New Orleans Advocate*. Ms. Jeanne Johnson held her exhibition of the work of a self-taught artist at LeMusee April 12. Ms. Amrit Moore, installed her final exhibition at the East Jefferson Public Library in early April, and gave a lecture there on April 23, documenting her trek through the Amazon to draw and photograph plants used for weaving and dyes. She will continue this project with the Field Museum in Chicago. Graduating students Ms. Belinda Johnson and Ms. LuChana Keller defended their theses.

Dr. Riep chaired a panel at the 2014 Louisiana Association of Museums Conference in Natchitoches April 28. The panel featured two MA Museum Studies students, Ms. Rachel Warner and Ms. Amrit Moore, who presented aspects of their work. Dr. Riep also was the featured art history speaker at the Annual Culture Day Celebration at Nicholls State University. He presented aspects of his work on South Sotho art and history in southern Africa. Finally, Dr. Riep met with representative from several area museums, including the Historic New Orleans Collection, to develop professional relationships with the MA Museum Studies program. Museum Studies students currently are completing internships in New Orleans and Baton Rouge Museums, including the Ogden Museum, the New Orleans Museum of Art, the McKenna Museum and LeMusee.
**School of Social Work**

**Dr. Beverly Favre, Dean**

**Harry J. Doughty**, LMSW, Assistant Professor, made a presentation on military families to Amy Riep’s Child Welfare Services class Wednesday, April 2. The presentation was a supplement to the text's chapter on military families and related issues.

**Bonnie Alston**, Field Director, attended the regular monthly University Faculty Development Meetings and met with Field Faculty and a group of Field Supervisors to discuss revisions to the BSW/MSW Field Evaluation Form (identifying what objectives are to be covered each semester).

**Dr. Ronald Mancoske** was approved for the Millie M. Charles Professor in Human Rights and Social Work endowed chair by the Southern University Board of Directors on April 11. He attended a three-day conference presented by the Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education (GADE) on “The Science of Social Work.” The conference focus was on fostering scientific methods in doctoral education, the management of programs, and trans-disciplinary research. Dr. Mancoske participated in a three-day National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect presented by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. The focus of the conference was on collaborations to prevent child maltreatment and support at risk families, and promoting child welfare.

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**College of Education & Human Development**

**Dr. Mwalimu Shujaa, Dean**

**Accreditation:**

*Child Development and Family Studies*

On Friday, April 4 at 11 a.m., Dr. Wanga and Dr. Bordenave participated in a Conference Call with Dr. Carol Anderson, Director of Accreditation at the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) to discuss ways to respond to factual errors and recommendations of the Site Visit Report. Dr. Wanga completed writing the response and garnered Dean Shujaa’s and CDFS faculty approval to submit the document.

Dr. Wanga, NCATE Coordinator, also developed and distributed, to all faculty in the College of Education & Human Development, a summary sheet for each NCATE standard, associated elements and committee assignments to expedite the writing of the NCATE Institutional Report due on February 25, 2015. Dr. Wanga provided accreditation updates for CDFS and NCATE during faculty meetings of the College of Education & Human on Tuesday afternoons of April 1, 8, 22, and 29. Dr. Wanga is Chair of the Overview and NCATE Standard 5: Faculty Qualifications, Performance, and Development. All faculty in the College of Education & Human Development, including CDFS faculty, are involved in the drafting of at least one NCATE Standard.

Dr. Mwalimu Shujaa, Dr. Bordenave, Dr. Jones, and Dr. Wanga prepared and submitted the 2014 CAEP Annual Report by the April 15 due date. Dr. Bordenave confirmed passage rates and prepared WESTAT Title II Report. Dr. Bordenave was appointed to Chair Standard 2: Assessment System and Unit Evaluation for the NCATE Institutional Report due February 25, 2015. Dr. Bachus is a member of the NCATE committees on Standards 3 and 5.

Dr. Delarious Stewart served as a member of the Committee to Review and Revise the Policies and Procedures Manual For Assessing Candidate Progression and Performance in the College of Education & Human Development. He was named Chair of Standard 4: Diversity, for the NCATE Institutional Report due February 25, 2015. He was also named to serve as a committee member for NCATE Standard 2: Assessment System and Unit Evaluation, the Conceptual Framework, and the State Supplement.
College of Education & Human Development continued

CoEHD:
Dr. Raquel Ezell started the process of updating and building the College of Education & Human Development’s new website.

Dr. Katherine Robinson, Dr. Jenita Hegwood, Mr. Charlie Johnson, Dr. Louise Kaltenbaugh, and Dr. Delarious Steward edited and updated the College of Education & Human Development’s Policy and Procedures Manual. The modifications were presented the faculty and approved.

Workshops, Conferences and Scholarly Activities:
Child Development and Family Studies
Ms. Celina Carson attended classes in alignment with the Program of Study for her doctoral degree at Southern University and A&M College, College of Science and Agriculture. She also attended the Promethean Workshop sponsored by the College of Education and Human Development and participated in the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Leaders webinar.

Dr. Diane Bordenave presented with Dr. Biruk Alemayehu on “Student Engagement in Online Learning at HBCUs” at The Sloan Consortium 7th Annual International Symposium April 10 and was Session Chair for two presentations at the same Symposium. Dr. Bordenave also attended the Promethean Workshop at the College of Education & Human Development on Friday, April 25. Dr. Wanga participated in the E-PAF training for SUNO supervisors and staff Monday, April 28 in the IT Building.

Dr. Stewart engaged in the following professional activities:

Keynote speaker, Franklinton High School Academic Signing Day for Seniors.

Alternative Certification
Dr. Kaltenbaugh conducted a workshop for Praxis II – Content English and a PLT workshop. She also had a guest workshop presenter for EDUC 110 and EDSN 350 classes.

Dr. Kaltenbaugh completed the Alternative Certification 80-hour workshop and presented completion certificates to five individuals.

Dr. Kaltenbaugh attended CoEHD meetings, two faculty development meetings, conducted seven intern observations and post conferences, and met with nine individuals interested in Alternative Certification.

Teacher Education Programs
Mr. Charlie Johnson hosted a Promethean Workshop on Friday, April 25 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. It was an interactive whiteboard workshop that was available to 40 SUNO faculty and staff and select students on a first-come-first-served basis.

Dr. Vincent Johnson was selected as a judge for the Student Government Association Presidential Debate and
College of Education & Human Development continued

the Miss SUNO Debate.

Participants participated in hands-on activities and requests were made for additional professional development opportunities on the Promethean Board.

Dr. Jenita Hegwood evaluated and conducted closeout activities on student teachers in the field. Cooperating teachers submitted evaluation forms and grade recommendations on these students.

Dr. Jenita Hegwood started accepting Student Teaching Applications for the Fall Semester.

Professional Outreach to Students and Community:

Child Development and Family Studies
Ms. Carson provided instruction in five courses, three campus-based, two on-line, and one independent study. She met with community partners, such as SU Agriculture Center and LSU Agriculture Center to discuss community and university collaborations on activities for the both HMHB program, SUNO student’s employment, and professional development.

Dr. Bordenave communicated via email with CDFS Alumni regarding Alumni Voices of SUNO for Commencement and sharing updates on alumni educational accomplishments. She met with approximately 25 students for pre-advisement for Summer and Fall 2014.

Dr. Wanga participated in SUNO’s International Fest Wednesday, April 24 and contributed a food item. On Wednesday, April 9, Dean Shujaa and Dr. Wanga presented awards to CDFS candidates during the SUNO Student Honors and Awards Day. Dr. Wanga also advised more than 30 students, including graduating seniors, current students, new and transfer students. On Thursday, April 24, Dr. Wanga volunteered to observe and evaluate six teachers at the Islamic School of Greater New Orleans in Kenner, Louisiana.

Praxis
The College of Education & Human Development hosted a Praxis II Workshop to examine several Secondary Content and All Grades Areas delineated by Louisiana Test Requirements for teacher licensure and certification. The sessions discussed each assessment’s format, content categories required for mastery and strategies to improve test performance. The workshop, conducted April 19 and April 26, was facilitated by Dr. Louise Kaltenbaugh and Ms. Gilda Jones.

On April 14, Dr. Raquel Ezell summited recommendations to the Chancellor for increasing the student passage rate on PRAXIS I.

Teacher Education Programs
Ms. Chanel Payne reinitiated the Education Club and had the first meeting in April. The club has more than 25 members. The club officers are: Olakunte Awagboo(President); Chante Gauman(Vice President); Sabrina Pierce (Secretary); Jessica Brown(Treasurer); and Joshua Brown(Alternate)

Dr. Willie Jones III submitted a proposal to the curriculum committee to reduce the number of required hours for completion in the Early Childhood Education degree program from 127 semester hours to 121 semester hours. The proposal was approved by the faculty of the College of Education & Human Development and the Curriculum Committee.
Child Development and Family Studies
Ms. Carson pre-advised CDFS students for both the Summer and Fall 2014 semesters, attended weekly CDFS Departmental meetings, and performed duties as Faculty Senate Secretary.

Dr. Wanga developed agendas and facilitated CDFS Departmental meetings on April 1, 8, 22, and 29, all on Tuesdays. Dr. Bordenave participated in the College of Education Departmental Meetings on April 1, 8, 22 and 29. She attended and prepared notes for the CDFS Departmental meetings of April 2, 23 & 30 and attended Faculty Status Committee on Post-Tenure Review convened by Dr. Evelyn Harrell on April 4, and the Faculty Senate Meeting on April 24.

Dr. Wanga attended the System-wide Faculty and Staff Research and Academic Achievement Awards Day at 6 p.m. Monday, April 28 and the Council of Deans and Directors Meeting at 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 29.

Teacher Education Programs
Dr. Willie Jones III submitted a proposal to the curriculum committee to remove the passage of PRAXIS prerequisite requirement for EDUC 311 (Children’s Literature & Media) and EDUC 357 (School and Family). The proposal was accepted and approved by the committee.

Dr. Jones submitted a research proposal to Jackson State University’s College of Education & Human Development School Leaders and Teachers Institute. The theme of the institute is: Embracing Leaders and Teachers with Strategies to Support Education in the Twenty-first Century. The proposal is entitled Highly Qualified Teachers Affect on Student Achievement in Preschool.