O n Monday, January 13, 2020, Student Government Association President Pat-
rick Shaw and his cabinet addressed the freshman assembly held in the Leonard
Memorial Library on the first day of class for the spring 2020 semester. Queen Tyjah
Greenup, Business Entrepreneurship major and the 60th Miss SUNO, first acknowl-
edged the uncertainty and changes that the SUNO community is currently facing
before offering the students the following words of encouragement:

"Understand that everything happens for a reason and its divine order. If it's good,
celebrate it! And if it's not so good, get the lesson that you [should take away] from it
and see how it helps make you better."
- Queen Tyjah Greenup, Reigning Miss Southern University at New Orleans

"Give the consolidation time and patience" said Shaw. The Banner consolidation isn't
going smoothly. Students returned to campus on the first day to find that not
only were Banner and Moodle down, so were campus internet and email. Still true
to his campaign promises of helming an informed and transparent administration,
President Shaw addressed those and other concerns that had already been posed
throughout morning including:

- There will be no penalties for “missing” online classes in light of the technical
difficulties with the Moodle system.
- Students may use state identification card or old SUNO identification along
with a new U-number to eat in the Cafe.

The tone quickly changed as one student brought up the University Support Fee.
The fluctuating fee has been an area of contention for years as students have voiced
concern over the ambiguous policies governing the allocation of these funds. A re-
quest for an assessment of student fees for Fall 2019 remained unfilled by the University
Purchasing department at the time of printing.

Vice President Jamaal Williams left the students with a freshman survival tip of his
own. While gesturing to the front row of seats, Williams urged the students to oc-
cupy the bare desks. His theory is that students who sit closer to the professor and
make an earnest effort to participate in class discussions earn higher grades. A 2005
study by Katherine K. Perkins and Carl E. Wieman supports his hypothesis. In “The
Surprising Impact of Seat Location on Student Performance,” college students were
assigned random seating in a large introductory physics course and observed over
the course of a semester. The study found students who sat in the back of the
classroom scored an average of 7 points lower than those who sat closer to the front.

Continued on pg. 3

By: H. Francis
Greetings Knights,

I’ve taken on a labor of love by accepting this appointment from President Patrick Shaw. I’m committed to rebranding and reintroducing the idea of what a news hub could be in this age of multimedia. I vow to provide interesting content that is pertinent to the SUNO community. I vow to upgrade the platforms offered by our beloved Observer. My overriding vow however, is to give the Voice of SUNO back to Southern University at New Orleans. I vow to listen.

H. Francis
Helena Francis, Editor-in-Chief

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Chancellor’s Corner

I hope all is well and that you are reaching your Spring 2020 goals. As the semester progresses, we are thrilled to support your academic journey. Whether you are a returning, first-year, or transfer student, you will find many opportunities to enjoy campus life by learning, exploring, and engaging with one another.

I want to thank you for your patience as the University addresses challenges that will ultimately transform the connectivity and reach of the SUNO community. As we work to continuously improve your student experience, please know that we appreciate the dedication you all have to academic excellence. Together, we will continue to strive for distinction, creativity, and innovation.

I am committed to and confident in a future full of rewarding experiences for us. I look forward to seeing you around campus. Thank you for being an esteemed member of the SUNO Knights Family!

I wish you the very best in the 2020 Spring Semester!

Warmest regards,
Dr. James H. Ammons, Jr. Ph.D
Interim Chancellor

Volunteer with ArcGNO

ArcGNO welcomes community members, professionals, and skilled labor to help us advocate for and empower individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Mardi Gras Recycle Center
- Community Integration
- Facilities and Administrative Supports

For more info: arcgno.org/volunteerism

Student Activities
Organizations

The SUNO Observer operates under the advisement of the Office of Student Activities. We are a student publication. Although we are an entity of the Student Government Association, we operate independently.

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“ArcGNO Bead Team”

Courtesy of arcgno.org
Do U C the Difference?

Have you noticed a difference in the University Center this year? It’s almost as if the air is charged. I can feel it when I walk into the front door each day. It starts with the group of sophomores that hang out on the round, blue sectional sofa near the front door. Those guys have been holding down that corner since their freshman year. They have unofficially assigned seats in one of the most desirable areas on the first floor. Besides being able to see everything happening on the Quad, almost everyone coming through the UC has to pass that spot. Especially if they want to shoot pool or hang out in the bowling alley. Jeez! Do you guys remember when bowling was the only thing to do in the UC? I remember being excited about the opening of the Pod just because it changed the landscape of the first floor. Now -- along with bowling -- we have pool tables on the first floor and a new student lounge on the second floor. Our UC has closed-circuit televisions, charging stations, and we even have a D.J. on Fresh Fridays! And we even have an Olympic sized swimming pool! Actually, we don’t talk about that. We decided to leave our perch on the third floor in order to ask the burning question on everyone’s mind:

"When did the University Center become the new #hotspot on campus?"

(H. Francis/SUNO)

"I come for the people! More people hang out here now. The U.C. was poo last year. Now we hang in here like it’s a class! Regardless of gender, race, sexuality, or religion… We all be in here LIT LIT!"

-Ed’Dijah Bridges Freshman/Mathematics

"There’s a been a change in the atmosphere. The groups that hang here are more friendly and diverse. Plus, there’s the convenience of the Pod!"

-Kieron Haynes Freshman/CISP

The University Center Fall 2019

"This is where everyone I know hangs out."

-Tabryn Virgil Freshman/Business

"I don’t like the library. It’s too quiet. and I like the convenience of having the Pod nearby."

-Hailey Washington Freshman/Business

"I come here to interact and I like shooting pool. But, I’m definitely NOT in here trying to hit on Haily!"

-Rob Davis Some Science and Math

"This is where everyone I know hangs out."

-The SUNO Observer

Concerns from pg. 1

Stop by the University Center and get to know the SUNO Alum behind the recent changes!

Mr. Christopher Smith
Class of 2016
Office of Student Development
2nd floor of the UC

(Maya Jackson/SUNO)
One of the hottest topics in higher education today is the growing population of the non-traditional (NT) students. Research indicates that the demographics in higher education has shifted from a growing traditional college student population to a faster growing non-traditional college student population. SUNO’s non-traditional population is identified as 25 years of age and over. The results of recent survey indicates that sixty-five percent of the NT students at SUNO are female. Unlike most colleges almost all of SUNO non-traditional students commute daily with less than 5 percent residing on campus. Only about thirty percent of the NT students are single parents.

According to a survey of 100 Nontraditional students conducted by the Evening and Weekend Division, there are several challenges that the non-traditional students at SUNO are facing. The primary challenges are the lack of sufficient finances, family problems, child care needs and the lack of motivation. It is worth noting that these challenges are virtually the same at other universities across the nation.

After more than a decade without an evening division, I was hired as director to head the reinstatement of the Evening and Weekend Division. Marchella Smith, the recently hired EWD Liaison, and I are tasked with ensuring that support services are available for the Evening and Weekend students. The EWD was instrumental in getting the CCC Lab opened during evenings and weekends, vending machines for Social Work, and other changes on campus. We still have a long way to go to bring equitable support services to evening and weekend. It will take the commitment of faculty, directors, deans and students to make it happen.

Call the Evening and Weekend Division at (504) 286-5027 and (504) 284-6020 or visit us, room 307, EBA bldg.

“A Message from Southern University at New Orleans Evening and Weekend Division

Did you know? Established as an open community of learners, classes began with 158 freshmen, one building and a motivated faculty of 15. The University offered 10 courses in four academic disciplines: Humanities, Science, Social Science and Commerce.

15 Baccalaureate Degrees were conferred to SUNO’s first graduating class in May of 1963.
“Southern University at New Orleans serves as a beacon for those looking for educational advancement in an environment that provides the personal attention students need for success. Our mission is to be one of America’s premier institutions of higher learning and to graduate students ready to contribute to the city and nation.”

A Review by an Anonymous Knight

The most underrated event of Welcome Week 2020 turned out to be Taco Tuesday. Students enjoyed tacos while being entertained by a live band accompanied by two different homegrown hip hop artists. The lights were down low in the UC and the atmosphere was lounge-like.

One student agreed to give us a light-hearted review, but ONLY under the terms that he remain anonymous!

Chicken or beef?
Beef.
Favorite topping?
Spicy salsa!
Soft or hard?
Both.
“I enjoyed hanging out with my peers.”
Pictured with Mirso Sophomore, Victoria Udechi, Sophomore Class President Jared Roark, and Darnell Charles.

SUNO DRESS CODE TIPS

SUNO’s 2019-2020 SGA members are not only proving themselves to be progressive minded student leaders, they are redefining the idea of professional attire on campus. Let’s discuss what to wear – and what NOT to wear – with a few of SUNO’s fashion conscious professionals.

Business Professional Attire

Business professional attire is the most conservative type of business wear. It is the attire choice for conservative industries.

What to WEAR
- a business suit or pants suit
- a blazer
- high heels or dress shoes
- a tie
- collar shirt and/or a sweater
- khakis or dress pants
- polo or dress shirt with no tie

What to TRY
- a dress jacket with an interesting design along the lining
- blue or yellow tie or scarf

Business Casual Attire

Business casual is the more relaxed version of Professional Dress, but it doesn’t mean you’re actually going to be ‘casual’!

What to WEAR
- jeans and tee shirts
- Greek paraphernalia
- tennis shoes or sandals

What to try
- customize your school spirit shirt
- using Sunset yellow and Carolina blue in your color palate

Campus Casual Attire

Business casual is the more relaxed version of Professional Dress, but it doesn’t mean you’re actually going to be ‘casual’!

What to WEAR
- collar shirt and/or a sweater
- khakis or dress pants
- polo or dress shirt with no tie

What to TRY
- matching a colorful shirt with a sweater
- statement pieces and spirit-themed accessories

source: collegefashion.net
I.C.Y.M.I: SUNO’s Fall 2019 Town Hall

By: Theresa Smith

On October 15, 2019, members of Southern University at New Orleans’ Student Government Association and Administration hosted a town hall meeting for students, faculty, and staff to address any concerns they may have. The Millie M. Charles School of Social Work building housed the meeting which was moderated by SGA President, Patrick Shaw, Faculty that spoke included Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. David Adegbuyi, Interim Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance, Justin James, as well as then-Chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans, Dr. Lisa Mims. The meeting provided information regarding the incoming changes of administration and addressed accreditation which is a recurring issue for SUNO.

Accreditation remains an important topic because, like many other HBCUs, SUNO has faced a long-term battle with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. SAC is the accrediting agency responsible for performing quality control assessments on institutions of higher learning for the southern region. Assessments are performed every five or ten years.

Dr. Adegbuyi gave light to many of the student’s concerns by explaining that SUNO has four years to raise money for the deficit and the issue with accreditation is purely financial. A student presented the question, “If we lose our accreditation, doesn’t that affect our diploma? Are we protected?” and it was responded to by Dr. Lisa Mims with an answer of, “when you receive your degree, your degree will be a valid certified degree.” Another student brought up a question of sustainability, which is indeed a requirement for SACS accreditation. An institution must prove the resources and programs to sufficiently accomplish and sustain its mission.

Justin James revealed that there is a fundraising committee in place to devise and implement efforts to ensure pledges and donations flow in during SUNO’s sixtieth anniversary. He emphasized, although the committee is leading the effort, everyone should help with fundraising as it should not be just an administration project. It is the responsibility of students, faculty, alumni, and anyone in the community that wants to see HBCUs win.

“Your degree will be a valid, certified degree.” - Chancellor Devezin-Mims
“I wanted something unique. Something ROYAL!”
- Tyjah Greenup, 60th Miss Southern University at New Orleans

Miss SUNO has traditionally worn white for coronation. However, Southern University at New Orleans 60th Queen made the bold decision to be crowned while draped in a rich, deep purple! Purple represents Royalty, beauty, and foundation.

“Coming to America by way of Southern University at N.O.”

photos courtesy of A Solid Photography
Dear Knights,

Did you know?
Sure, healing means stripping away layers from yourself that no longer serve you but it also means loving yourself through the process. You must love yourself throughout your healing journey because it can get ugly.

There may be times when your journey leads to the most sensitive, open parts of your inner self. The likelihood of relapse is high when those open wounds become activated. Yes, the ugly aspects of your inner self may work to become bondage during your healing process.

If and when triggers raise their ugly heads, how will you handle it?
Trust your body!
Experiencing a trigger warning may cause you to feel much more reactive in certain situations. This warning is your physical response -- anger, fear, anxiety, sadness, or feeling compressed -- when personal boundaries are crossed. Although words and opinions are the most common triggers, in effect almost anything has the potential to evoke these excessive emotions. However, triggers are specific to the individual. For example, you may feel triggered when dealing with ingenuine people. You may experience intense emotions in the company of people whose beliefs or values conflict with yours. Your life experiences may even cause you to feel a hot-button reaction in unfamiliar surroundings.

Ignoring the bumps along your journey will just allow unresolved issues to re-surface when you find yourself triggered again. Triggers will provoke you while on the path to embracing the healing that comes from doing inner work -- which includes confronting the good and bad parts of yourself -- but they should not deter you or who you are.

Healing Knights

- Goddess

Remember to be present.
The past cannot be revisited, but the experiences are there for the lessons to be comprehended.
The present and future are entwined.
The future already exists, but the fruition of your highest potential depends on the YOU now.
Be present, breathe and relax your shoulders.
I have included some herbs for tea brews or tinctures.

St. John’s Wort
Passionflower
Gotu Kola
Hawthorne
Ashwagandha
Blue Vervain
Holy Basil

Oshun, Goddess of fresh waters, beauty, love and fertility. She is beneficial in emotional healing such as depression and anxiety. Source: goddessroom.com

If you find yourself overwhelmed with emotions or possibly even beating yourself up asking “why” remember that these are the times that bring into focus our unresolved traumas that are in need of healing. Instead of feeling overburdened, use these experiences to confront yourself and your trauma.

- Goddess

Images courtesy of pintrest.com
Have you ever formed a ‘casual classmationship’ with someone at SUNO? A classmationship usually starts innocuous enough… You missed the notes from the last class so you exchange numbers with the person sitting in front of you. The two of you text back and forth a few times and start chatting before classes. And then it happens. You’re walking across campus when you hear someone call out your name. You try to place the voice while turning around. It’s her. The nice girl from bio lab. She looks at you expectantly but she doesn’t walk any closer. You wave and take a small step forward. She doesn’t budge. So you try to avoid making things more awkward. You call back loudly “HEY…” and then, lower “girl.”

I can’t be the only one on campus involved in multiple casual classmations. Surely you know someone at SUNO that you don’t KNOW know. Anonymity is the gift and the curse of social media.

I celebrate my classmates’ accomplishments and lament their losses right along with them. However, most of them have no idea that it’s me behind the online persona - until I say something that gives me away. “I was so happy to see @BennBallin tagged in your pics from the Corona- tion after all. I thought y’all were going to stay broken up until midterms this time. I knew @darealModdyDaBody was gonna come thru tho, Sis!”

Lately, I’ve even been worrying that I’m becoming a serial classmater! I speak to whole groups of people on a regular basis, yet I couldn’t tell you their names if I tried.

I guess I just know more people than I KNOW. Unless we met on social media. I KNOW our campus #instasnapsquad better than I know them.

No Shade, But…

Homecoming 2019 Edition

Homecoming was lit. Don’t debate me, clown. But why was there so much hating going on?
And, what’s the point in hating from the outside when you really could have just come in and had fun for free, clown?
Why was the Glow Party smelling like that, tho? #girlstop
And, didn’t it feel like overkill to have two law enforcement agencies and a private security company at a party for 100 or so college students?
But... I guess everybody gotta eat, huh? #whatev
All of the comedians were funny on Standup Knight but that dude that kept singing church songs was the real MVP, right?
And he wasn’t even on the flyer…
But I’d be down bad if I expose the comedian that was salty because his picture wasn’t at the top, huh?
But, why did our Queen have to plant her stilettos firmly in their necks for coronation?
Y’all aint know that she was going to do it like that with Coming to America theme, tho huh? #theyweretriggredonsocialmedia
But, I know yall aint think the Queen’s afterparty was safe from this medicine?
What y’all thought people wasn’t gonna be thirsty?
Doesn’t it seem like all the other HBCUs in New Orleans are jumping on the Silent Party wave that the twins from ΑΦΑ, Inc, started when they threw the first ever silent party on a college campus in N.O.?
And, if ours wasn’t first then that other one must of wasn’t poppin because ours was a hot topic, mmm’kay?
And that’s what has me wondering why were people saying that this semester’s Silent Party wasn’t going to be lit? #bowsway
What happened to the V.I.P tickets for the concert? #stillwaiting
Why didn’t Neno Calvin get to do his whole set?
But…
What I wanna know most is…
Why were they doubting us, SUNO?
Maybe they didn’t know it was gonna be that serious, huh?
Period, Pooh!

-SunO...
Our staff wants to welcome the newest crop of SUNO Knights to Southern University at New Orleans as well as to the Southern University System! For the rest of the student body, it is great to see that you all have returned safely for the Spring Semester of 2020. The semester is already off to a busy start. However, students are reporting that they are experiencing longer waits at the Financial Aid office and the Information Technology building. That's because this new decade is ushering in many changes here at SUNO, the biggest of which seems to be the effort to digitally consolidate SUNO into the Southern University System. One of our goals is to assist students. Our staff has compiled the following tips to help you through these first weeks of the semester.

Classes will be purged on Monday, February 10, 2020

Important Dates

February
14th
LAST DAY TO PAY FEES/LAST DAY TO APPLY FOR SUMMER GRADUATION
24th/27th
MARDI GRAS BREAK

March
2nd-7th
MID-SEMESTER EXAMINATION PERIOD

April
6th-11th
SPRING BREAK
15th
HONORS AND AWARDS DAY
20th
FINAL EXAMS BEGIN FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

May
4th-9th
FINAL EXAMINATIONS
9th

Did YOU Know?

Classifications
- Freshman: less than 30 credit hours earned
- Sophomore: 30-59 credit hours earned
- Junior: 60-89 credit hours earned
- Senior: 90 or more credit hours earned

Matriculate
verb
to enroll as a member of a body and especially of a college or university

Did YOU Know?

Logging in to Banner and Moodle
Go to moodle.sus.edu
The log in box is located in the top right hand corner.
User Name
first name . last name + @sus.edu
eg. Jane.Does1234@sus.edu
Password
first 4 letters of your last name + the last 4 digits of your social security number.
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Spring Academic Calendar

Did YOU Know?

Writers and Photographers Wanted!
Do YOU have an interest in writing or photography?
WE ARE HIRING!!!
Come see us in room #314 on the 3rd floor of the University Center.

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Embrace The Change

Millennial New Era is an Athletic apparel brand that focuses on providing top quality Athletic and Casual wear.

Our mission is to inspire those just like us, the ones who had limited resources, the ones who were told they weren’t good enough, the ones from the streets and trenches, The Dream Chasers. We are Millennials, let’s walk this journey into this New Era together.

IG: @millennialnewera
Enroll in the SUNO Graduate Programs TODAY!

Financial aid, graduate assistantships and stipends available!

Looking for a way to advance your career and increase your earning potential? Well Southern University at New Orleans is the place for you.

With graduate degree programs in Social Work, Criminal Justice, Computer Information Systems, and Museum Studies, getting your master’s degree is now affordable and within reach! Opportunities for financial aid, graduate assistantships and stipends are available.

Get that graduate degree that you’ve always wanted!

Come be Southern...New Orleans style!

For more information, please contact: Southern University at New Orleans School of Graduate Studies (504) 284-5486

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Louisiana Go Grant Program - http://www.osfa.state.la.us/
- Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program - http://www.gilmanscholarship.org/

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is pleased to announce the availability of scholarships for undergraduate students majoring in disciplines related to oceanic and atmospheric science, research or technology, and supportive of the purposes of NOAA’s programs and mission. More than 100 students are selected each year for participation in the Ernest F. Hollings and Educational Partnership Program (EPP) scholarship programs. These scholarships include support for two years of undergraduate study and summer internship opportunities at NOAA facilities across the country. For information on program benefits and how to apply, visit Web site:

- Educational Partnership Program Undergraduate Scholarship: www.noaa.gov/eppschi
  o Application Deadline: January 31, 2020
- Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship: www.noaa.gov/hollings
  o Application Deadline: Jan. 31, 2020

Eligibility Requirements:

- US Citizen
- 3.0 GPA (Hollings) or 3.2 GPA (EPP)
- Full-time second year student at an accredited four-year undergraduate program or third year student at a five-year undergraduate program; community college or transfer students must provide proof of application to a four-year institution when applying for the scholarship and submit proof of acceptance prior to starting the program
- Majoring in NOAA mission disciplines, including but not limited to: atmospheric science, biology, cartography, chemistry, computer science, education, engineering, environmental science, geodesy, geography, marine science, mathematics, meteorology, oceanography, physical science, photogrammetry, physics, etc.
- Enrolled at a Minority Serving Institution (EPP Scholarship only)

For information, contact the Office of Education Scholarship Programs at: StudentScholarshipPro
grams@noaa.gov or 301-423-2414.

SOCIAL with Southern University at New Orleans

Have you seen CAAS on YouTube?

AKOBEN: Calling the Students of New Orleans to Cultural Action!
at McDonogh 35 College Prep
Presented by Southern University at New Orleans’ Center for African and African American Studies
Filmed by Dr. Michael Mehan

QR Codes for KNIGHTS
Keep up with your University on your mobile device!
Pictured:
Shona Machona  
Biology Major  
Miss Senior 'c/o 2020