



PRESS RELEASE

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Southern University at New Orleans Partners with Knack to Expand Access to Academic Support and Strengthen Student Success

New Orleans, LA — Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) today announced a new partnership with Knack, a leading provider of peer tutoring solutions for higher education institutions. This collaboration reflects SUNO’s continued commitment to advancing student success through expanded, accessible, and high-impact academic support.

Through this partnership, SUNO will leverage Knack’s strategy to connect students with trained peer tutors, enabling more flexible and timely access to academic assistance. The initiative is designed to increase capacity within SUNO’s tutoring labs, enhance student engagement, and support the university’s broader retention and completion goals.

“Southern University at New Orleans is pleased to partner with Knack as part of our continued commitment to strengthening student success,” said Dr. Bree Cook, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs at SUNO. “This partnership will help expand academic support, increase capacity in our tutoring labs, and advance our retention efforts by connecting students with timely, effective assistance. Through this collaboration, we aim to create stronger conditions for persistence, achievement, and degree completion.”

Knack partners with colleges and universities to deliver scalable peer tutoring models that improve academic outcomes. By recruiting, training, and supporting student tutors, Knack enables institutions to expand their support networks and ensure more students receive the help they need, when they need it.

At SUNO, the partnership will complement existing academic support services by introducing a flexible model that meets students where they are. With options for both in-person and online sessions, students can access support in ways that align with their schedules and learning preferences.

“We are excited to partner with Southern University at New Orleans to support their mission of student success,” said Megan Dusenbery, CEO of Knack. “Together, we are building a more accessible and connected academic support system that empowers students to succeed both inside and outside the classroom.”

This collaboration underscores a shared commitment to removing barriers to academic support, fostering peer-to-peer learning, and creating a more inclusive and effective educational experience for all SUNO students.

About Knack

Founded in 2015 by Forbes 30 Under 30 Entrepreneur Samyr Qureshi, Knack has developed an award-winning student success strategy designed to modernize the way students connect with and support one another — ensuring no student is left behind. Knack’s innovative approach has been implemented at 100+ campuses nationwide,

offering a scalable solution that supplements and enhances existing student success programs and fosters a stronger, more connected campus community.

As a recipient of the Lumina Foundation Education Innovation Prize, Knack is proudly supported by George Kuh (Founder of High-Impact Practices & NSSE), Esther Wojcicki (global educator and best-selling author), ETS (creators of GRE), and Arizona State University Enterprise Partners. For more information, visit joinknack.com.

About Southern University at New Orleans:

Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO), founded in 1956, is a public historically black university committed to providing quality educational opportunities for the diverse populations of the Greater New Orleans region. As part of the Southern University System, SUNO offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate programs designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary for personal and professional success.

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