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125 Years of Providing Access
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CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Dr. Adell Brown, Jr.

Presented to:

Board of Supervisors

Southern University and A & M College System

"Linking Citizens of Louisiana with Opportunities for Success"

Interim Chancellor of SU Ag Center

The Southern University Center's Interim Chancellor Dr. Adell Brown, Jr., is poised to uphold the vision of the Center as a premier provider for practical new discoveries, outreach education and technical assistance in the food, agricultural and human sciences. Subsequent upon that, since taking office on July 1, 2015, Dr. Brown has met with his executive council, faculty and staff to strategize and provide direction for the future. He has also visited some clients in the state to assess their needs, and found that they want to see more done in their communities to help citizens



Dr. Brown, Jr.

grow and prosper. In July, the SU Ag Center administrators, accompanied by the SU System President Dr. Ray Belton, made their third visit within the year to Capitol Hill. The visit was to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Second Morrill Act with other 1890 institutions. The outcome of this visit was encouraging since federal funding remains flat for the rest of the year, compared to other 1890 institutions. In light of the stated activities during the month of July, following are some highlights from the SU Ag Center.

SU Ag Center Bids Farewell to Inaugural Chancellor

The Southern University Ag Center's first chancellor, Dr. Leodrey Williams said goodbye after 14 years of esteemed service. June 30, 2015 marked the end of an era with Williams as SU Ag Center chancellor, part of his 50 years as outstanding figure in the Cooperative Extension arena at the national, state and local levels. During his tenure at the SU Ag Center, Williams was assisted by Adell Brown Jr., vice chancellor for

research and Gina E. Eubanks, vice chancellor for extension. On June 30, the SU Ag Center family gathered around the chancellor with a cake to offer him best wishes on his retirement. Effective July 1st, Dr. Brown stepped up as Interim Chancellor of the Southern University Ag Center.

SU System Celebrates 125 Years of Signing of the Second Morrill Act in DC

Southern University System President/Chancellor Ray Belton and several members of the SU Ag Center and Baton Rouge campus participated in the Capitol Hill celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the Signing of the Second Morrill Act of 1890. This Act created land-grant universities for African-Americans. Officials participating from the SU Ag Center included Interim Chancellor Adell Brown Jr.; Vice Chancellor for Extension Gina E. Eubanks; and Director of Technology Services Chris Rogers.



President Belton among others from 1890 institutions in the House Ag Committee

The celebration, which was held in Washington, D. C. from July 14 – 16, 2015, provided an opportunity for the presidents of the 19 Historically Black land-grant universities to testify before congress on the accomplishments and importance of each institution. The universities also participated in displaying exhibits of their campus academic, research, and outreach program offerings. The event concluded with a convocation in the Coolidge Auditorium of the Jefferson Building in the Library of Congress. Convocation speakers included U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas Vilsack, U.S. Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, and U. S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service Administrator Audrey Rowe.

Ag Secretary Vilsack Gives Remarks on Commemoration of the 125th Anniversary of the Second Morrill Act

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack gave remarks at the Library of Congress to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the signing of the Second Morrill Act. During his remarks, he discussed USDA's longstanding partnership with the 1890 Land-Grant Universities and their investments in the field of agriculture.



Tom Vilsack

With 125 years of history, 1890 Land-Grant Universities have provided access to economic mobility through educational opportunity, cultivated leadership across diverse communities, and excelled in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and agriculture.

Southern University Ag Center Participates in 4-H National Conference

Six students and two chaperones received \$10,000 in scholarship monies while the Ag Center supplemented the additional funds to cover the costs of the trip. Tiffany Franklin, a 4-H state Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) coordinator at the SU Ag Center accompanied a delegation of six youth to the 2015 CWF in Washington DC, July 12-18. Four of the youth represented East Baton Rouge Parish and two from St. Landry Parish. The National 4-H youth who attend the CWF program are usually selected by 4-H state or county coordinators.



Youth meet David Scot, center, House Ag Committee Member

Citizenship Washington Focus is the premier 4-H national summer conference that gives 4-H youth the opportunity to explore, develop, and refine the civic engagement skills they need to be outstanding leaders in their community, country and world.

Through sightseeing tours in Washington, D.C. and hands-on educational workshops, youth learn about the history of our nation and how they can apply their leadership and citizenship skills when they return home. Full details of the CWF are available online at www.4HCWF.org

On July 15, the SU System President Ray Belton along with SU Ag Center Interim Chancellor Adell Brown, Jr., Vice Chancellor for Extension Gina E. Eubanks, and Associate Dean, Division of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences Doze Butler joined other 1890 presidents to testify before Congress. The SU administrators interacted with the CWF participants as well as SU agricultural student Perez Pickney who is serving as an intern at Capitol Hill.

Citizenship Washington Focus 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; Exchange ideas, practice respect and form friendships with other youth from diverse backgrounds.

Annual Black Farmers Field Day Held in Morehouse Parish

On July 24, 2015, growers and interested community members attended the annual Black Farmers Field Day in Collinston.

For the past 14 years, members of the Morehouse Parish Black Farmers Association and the National Black Growers Council have sponsored the field day as a way to get young people in the area interested in agricultural careers and providing research-based information to landowners and growers.

Dr. Gina E. Eubanks, program leader for nutrition and food sciences in the LSU AgCenter and vice chancellor for extension in the Southern University Ag Center, said the purpose of the field day is to show the value of agriculture.

“This event is providing information to the youngest through the oldest of how technology is being applied in agriculture,” Eubanks said.

Young people can see you don’t have to spray these crops by hand, and you can use drones to survey the crop acreage, she said.

Southern University extension agent Odis Hill, coordinator of the field day, said this event is a way to let young people know that farming is not just a lot of hard work.

“We want these young people to see that there is a lot of technology involved in farming, which requires an understanding of science and various forms of technological understanding,” Hill said.

A new feature of the event was the drone display by LSU AgCenter engineer Randy Price, who showed what two of his models can do that is helpful to farmers. Price told the group that rules are currently being written to determine the way drones can be used commercially, but he explained a number of current farm uses before putting on a show for the participants.



Curtis Payton Jr., receives his farm sign from SU extension agent Odis Hill

what’s going on there,” he said. “Cattle producers also are now using the equipment to check on their herds.”

This year’s program was a rolling field day that made stops on four member farms to look at different production systems for corn, cattle and soybeans and an irrigation system demonstration.

At Harper Armstrong’s farm, his daughter demonstrated the use of GPS technology that monitors the spray rig and won’t allow it to overlap rows, which reduces the waste of chemicals.

Armstrong said his crop looks good despite the lack of rain in the area. “The use of irrigation during this dry spell has really kept the crop looking good.”

Armstrong hopes to average between 170 and 180 bushels of corn per acre and 50-plus bushels per acre of soybeans.

“I would like to see 100 bushels, but I try to stay on the low side, so if they surprise me, I’m happy,” he said.

Dewayne Goldmon, director of stakeholder relations for the Monsanto Company, also serves as the advisor to the Black Growers Council.

“In that capacity I try to make sure the growers get the information they need, which a lot of times is technical information that can help them to be more efficient on their farms,” Goldmon said. “But the council has a network of activities and people that can help spread that out among the black-grower community.”

About 95 percent of the National Black Growers Council members are located in 17 states that are comprised of the old cotton-growing states, Goldmon said.

At Curtis Peyton’s cattle farm, Southern University Ag Center veterinarian Renita Marshall discussed modern cattle-handling techniques.

The article entitled [North La. farm tour informs youth, community about ag technology, research](#) is

available at <http://www.LSUAgCenter.com> in the news section.

Record-breaking Family and Youth Expo held in Baton Rouge

The Southern University Ag Center's annual Family and Youth Exposition successfully concluded on June 20 with an awards ceremony. The culminating event for the 2015 youth development program activities statewide, brought nearly 600 youth together for a two-day educational, fun-filled experience. Each year, Southern University Ag Center specialists, agents, and researchers deliver a memorable program. This year was different in the number of participants topping the 500 mark with Avoyelles Parish leading with a record-high of 256 students.



12-year old Miracle Styles competes in public speaking

This year's Expo was themed "Discover the Reward of Educating & Advancing Minds." The youth made a strong connection with the agricultural sciences and beyond.

The youth competitions were outstanding. In the Quiz Bowl contest, Iberia Parish took first place in the junior category and Morehouse Parish came in first among the senior teams. The second place in the junior category went to East Baton Rouge Parish while St. Helena/Tangipahoa placed third. In the senior category, St. Landry Parish placed second and Calcasieu was third.

The Illustrated Talk and Public Speaking competitions centered on diverse topics and comprised of three categories respectively. In the ages 9-12 group, Isaiah Bonner of Caddo Parish took first place and Joseph Goodbear & Makhi Carnell of St. Martin Parish placed second. Among the 13-15 year olds, Taylor Threats & Chardai Burks of West Carroll Parish placed first, Jasmine Owuamanam of St. Martin second, and Jordan Curry of Madison Parish third. In the 16-18 year category, the lone contestant, Seth Portier of St. Martin took first place.

Among the Public Speaking contestants, in the ages 9-12 category, Marqus Maitland of Desoto Parish took first place, Miracle Styles of Madison Parish, second and Quinn Jean-Batiste of St. Martin third.

In the 13-15 age group, Kayla Hawkins of Orleans Parish won first place, while Jon'Terrinee Lewis of St. Landry Parish, second and Amaiya Bickham also of St. Landry third. The 16-18 year old winners were first, Kanessia Crouthers of Madison Parish and second Aerial Anderson of Orleans Parish.

Youth arrived on Thursday, June 18, got acquainted and enjoyed fun activities on the grounds of the Southern University Ag Center despite scattered showers. The next two days, they participated in educational seminars, workshops, illustrated talk, public speaking, and quiz bowl competitions. The event concluded on Saturday, June 20 with awards and recognitions.

Our retiring Chancellor Leodrey Williams was present for his final Youth & Family Expo and bid farewell to the youth with parting advice. "Life is about helping somebody else better their lives," said Dr. Williams. He concluded with an expression of thanks to all. Dr. Wanda Burke serves as Youth Development Specialist and Expo event chair.

Petting Zoo/Graduation held during One Day with Kids Event

The Southern University Ag Center's Second Chance 2 Recovery (SC2R) Program held a petting zoo and a graduation ceremony during the 7th Annual One Day with Kids at the East Baton Rouge Parish Prison on June 2. Sixteen incarcerated mothers were presented with certificates of completion for participating in the six-week course which addresses critical family, social health and environmental and economic issues.

The One Day with Kids allowed mothers to physically interact with their children for a full day in a relaxed, fun environment.

During the program, several SC2R participants expressed how the program helped them with their parenting skills and has prepared them for their re-entry into mainstream society.

Judge Pam Taylor Johnson, East Baton Rouge Juvenile Court, served as the keynote speaker for the program. She encouraged the inmates to use

what they learned in their classes and their incarceration time to help them become better citizens.



Families at petting zoo

The SC2R program provides incarcerated individuals with training on the topics of family communication, parental involvement, anger management, addictive behaviors, co-dependency, resume writing and interview skills.

The inmates must have good behavioral record at the jail to participate in the SC2R Program and cannot be accused of crimes against children.

For additional information on the S U Ag Center's Second Chance 2 Recovery Program, contact Tiffany Franklin at 225.771.2242.

A video on the event from WAFB News Channel 9 can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

To read the article on the event in *The Advocate Newspaper*, please click [here](#).

Staff Present a Session to Baton Rouge Master Gardener Association

Employees of the Southern University Ag Center made a PowerPoint presentation during the East Baton Rouge Master Gardener Association meeting at the Burden Conference Center on June 2. Mila Berhane, Senior Research Associate and Stephanie Elwood, Assistant Extension Specialist, shared information on the potential of edible landscapes and community gardens in the Baton Rouge area.



Elwood teaches about gardening

The gardening program at the SU Ag Center assists with establishing gardens in communities, schools, and backyards. Edible plants discussed at the meeting included herbs, vegetables, some tropical crops like Roselle Hibiscus and a few trees.

These can serve as ornamentals for beautifying the landscape while providing food. The Master Gardener Program enables volunteers interested in horticulture to be trained in basic horticultural topics by Extension Service personnel and then answer questions about gardening problems and promote horticultural understanding

in the community. Louisiana Master Gardeners include EBR volunteers who have a desire to learn and a willingness to help others in the community.

For further detail or help to set up a garden, contact Stephanie Elwood or Mila Berhane at (225) 771-2242.

Youth from Newman Community Center tour Model Garden

The Southern University Ag Center opened its door to summer campers from the Jewel Newman Community Center for a tour of the model garden on July 10, 2015.

Chaperons from the Community Center brought 21 youth enrolled in their summer camp, ages 5-13, for a visit to the Southern University Ag Center's Sustainable Urban Agriculture Demonstration Farm. The youth enjoyed the model garden with a show and tell tour presented by Zanetta Augustine, associate extension specialist. An excited group of young boys and girls explored, touched and talked about vegetables, chickens, rain water tanks, composting bins and even tried their hands at planting seeds in the greenhouse, among other educational questions and discussions. They went home with a bag of informational goodies from the SU Ag Center.



Augustine teaches youth about growing vegetables

The Jewel J. Newman Community Center functions as the focal point of social, medical and recreational activities for citizens in the North Baton Rouge area.

The Southern University Ag Center's Sustainable Urban Agriculture Demonstration Farm is a show-and-tell garden is open to the public. This educational garden gives information on vegetable varieties, planting instruction, composting techniques, and other relevant information. Farm tours are available throughout the year.

The garden is maintained and nurtured by Dawn Mellion-Patin, PhD, Extension Specialist, and Zanetta Augustine, Associate Extension Specialist. To schedule a tour, please contact Dawn Mellion-Patin or Zanetta Augustine at the SU Ag Center by calling 225-771-2242.

Teaching Nutrition Education to seniors through Herb Gardening

Southern University Ag Center Nutrition Educator Camellia Brown; Nutrition Assistant Salette Tennie, and Extension Associate Stephanie Elwood came together to teach nutrition education greenhorns how to make healthier food choices by using more herbs in their foods.

Brown and Tennie taught the nutrition education classes in May at Chateau des Amis,



SU staff pose with workshop participants

Village De Memoire and Savoy Heights Senior Residential sites in Ville Platte, LA.

To enhance the nutrition education and incorporate some hands-on activity, the seniors participated in a workshop conducted by Elwood, on how to grow their own culinary herbs. Each senior participant took home personal herb bowls for their apartments.

The herbs included parsley, mint, thyme, green onions, sage and more. These herbs are perennials, which means they will come back year after year and don't need to be repurchased or replanted, and can be grown in small spaces.

With each senior planting and maintaining their own herb bowl, this ensures constant availability to healthy fresh herbs that can be used in meal preparation.

For more information about the SU Ag Center's Nutrition Education Program in Evangeline Parish contact, Camellia Brown at (318) 964 2249 or camellia_brown@suagcenter.com.

Parents Learn about Second-Hand Smoke & Teen Stress Factors

Southern University Ag Center employees, Frankie Poland and Dana Isaac made presentations during the Monthly Parents' Meeting of the YWCA Prescott Early Head Start, 5262 Prescott Rd., on June 24.

Poland, who is the Regional Coordinator of the SU Ag Center's Communities of Color Network, discussed the dangers of second-hand smoke and provided examples of how non-smokers come in contact with it; such as being in a room with someone who is smoking or in a vehicle. She also listed all the harmful chemicals found in cigarettes and explained how smoke can linger in carpets, drapes, clothing, hair and other items.

Isaac, who is an Extension Assistant at the SU Ag Center, made a presentation on the Youth Organizing Leadership Opportunities (YOLO)

Program, which helps young people make better choices; teaches parents stress triggers for youth; behaviors parents should be aware of and tips for teens on how to cope with stress.

Parents and staff in attendance were very engaged and asked many questions. They also received information on second hand smoke and tips on how to help teens cope with stress.

Both Poland and Isaac were presented with Certificates of Appreciation by the YMCA staff.

Frankie Poland can be contacted at 225.771.6237 for information on the Southern University Ag Center's Communities of Color Network. Dana Isaac can be reached at 225.771.3902 for information on the Youth Organizing Leadership Opportunities Program.

The 4-H LIFE CHILL group Meets in Baton Rouge

The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center's 4-H LIFE CHILL group meeting included youth, parents, mentors, volunteers and staff who had the opportunity to witness a true success story. CHILL is an acronym for Changing How I Live Life. CHILL is a group mentoring session, bringing mentors/mentees together each month to participate in fun activities that develops and/or strengthens their relationships.

The 4-H LIFE staff engages individuals who have a more direct and relatable connection with the youth.



Mentors interact with mentees through art

The overarching objective in doing this is so that youth, regardless of their age, can interact with someone who has shared similar past experiences. The month's theme was "Choices," signifying the responsibilities we have to make positive decisions, regardless of the circumstance or situation. Jacobe M. Paul is the youngest of five children, and was glad to share his personal story during the July CHILL meeting. Mr. Paul spoke of his troubled past and how growing up in South Baton Rouge was a struggle, as the area was considered a high crime, drug infested area.

Although, he made bad choices, following the wrong crowd, he decided to turn his life around. After losing many close friends to senseless street violence, he realized it was a matter of life or death for him if he didn't make positive changes. Since making his positive transition, he began a successful trucking business but, his greatest passion is helping other youth. Mr. Paul hopes that by telling his story, youth will think first and make the right choices before it's too late.

Within the past four years, the 4-H LIFE program has connected with over 500 families in the state of Louisiana. After seeing the need, Project Coordinator, Tiffany Franklin incorporated a component that focused more on the development of youth and mentor relationships. The program is

successfully implemented monthly by parent educators Milissia John-Baptiste and Delores Johnson. As a result, CHILL (Changing How I Live Life) was added. Through various local and national agencies, the CHILL component has been very successful. For the past program year, the 4-H LIFE program collaborated with the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge. Each month, the Arts Council provides hands on activities for the youth. Pictured below are the youth, mentors, Southern University student volunteers, and members from the Art Council showing off the creative paintings, which were designed during the July CHILL meeting. For more information about the 4-H LIFE or CHILL program, contact Tiffany Franklin at (225)-771-2775.

BOLD Project Participants hold Teen Summit in St. Tammany Parish

Self-confidence, empowerment and knowing your self-worth were the resounding themes of the 2015 Teen Summit held at the Historic St. James Baptist Church in Madisonville, La. on July 11.

More than 40 teens attended the summit, which was co-sponsored by the church and Rolemodels of Hope, a non-profit organization established to empower young women to make better life decisions through self-development trainings.

SU Ag Center's Building Opportunities through Leadership Development (BOLD) Project participants JaLesha and Leisha Cousin are the co-founders of the Rolemodes of Hope organization.

"BOLD has provided us with the skills needed to make the dream of starting a non-profit organization a reality," said JaLesha Cousin.

"The BOLD project has developed our leadership skills to enable us to positively impact the lives of both young women and young men in St. Tammany Parish," said Leisha Cousin.

Southern University Ag Center Extension Assistant Dana Isaac attended the summit and was awed by the presentation.



Teen Summit participants

"The Teen Summit was inspiring, heartfelt and uplifting. There were a number of speakers on the program; all of them did extremely well. The three that stood out the most were host, JaLesha Cousin, Rica Trigs and Meagan Callier. Their stories were powerful, insightful, useful to teens in high school as well as those entering their freshmen year in college," said Isaac.

"The teen summit was a blessing to me. I encourage the Cousins to continue their work with young people in the community. I was happy to be a part of their successful event," she added.

The BOLD Project is an evaluative and technical assistance project designed to develop teams of emerging leaders who work together across racial, class and community boundaries in innovative ways to promote community and economic development in rural and under-served communities throughout Louisiana. The project was developed by SU Ag Center's assistant specialist of community and

economic development, Dr. Kenyetta Nelson-Smith.

BOLD participants are required to develop new community projects or enhance existing projects throughout the duration of the course.

The Project is now accepting applications for the 2015-2016 session. Classes will begin on Saturday, October 17, 2015 for registered participants. All

interested candidates should submit an application form via email to kenyetta_smith@suagcenter.com or print and mail to: Building Opportunities through Leadership Development, P.O. Box 10010, Baton Rouge, LA 70813.

For additional information about the BOLD Project, visit <http://suagbold.org/insidebold.html>.

C.H.E.F. Summer Cooking Camp held in East/West Carroll Parishes

The SU Ag Center, in collaboration with the LSU AgCenter, sponsored youth cooking schools entitled, “Creating Healthy Enjoyable Foods” (C.H.E.F.), for youth in East and West Carroll Parishes. Carolyn E. Robinson, Area Extension Agent conducted each camp with the help of Tierra Lane, summer intern, and Nutrition Educators: Dorris Thompson, Sharron Wilder, Mary Reed Russell, and Patricia Johnkin.

The C.H.E.F. cooking school is designed to teach youth basic cooking principles and nutrition education based on the USDA’s, “MyPlate” food guidance system and the 2010 Dietary Guidelines.



Camp participants in the kitchen

Each day, participants worked together to create an entire meal while learning healthy eating and physical activity principles, food preparation, kitchen and food safety, common cooking terms, proper food handling, measuring techniques, critical thinking and team building skills, planning and time management.

“These camps are designed to teach children the basic principles of healthy eating and how to incorporate physical activities in their daily life... In many households the parents work and very often when kids get home from school they are home alone. Instead of choosing fast foods or frozen prepared foods, which may be high in fat or sodium, these cooking camps teach youth how to safely prepare nutritious snacks and meals, many of which do not involve the use of a stove.

Inter-campus Collaboration to Provide Business Training in Ferriday

On July 14, staff of the Center for Rural and Small Business Development at Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center continued to partner with the Southern University College of Business to meet and respond to requests for assistance to improve community and economic development in Ferriday, Louisiana. Mayor Gene

T. Allen, his staff, and council members expressed serious concerns about improving and changing the lives of Concordia Parish residents. Most individuals agreed that improving the economic

status would take an extended period of time. However, by providing assistance, training and education to parish residents, there is potential for progress. Improving economic conditions takes commitment from all parish government departments and residents which include: small business owners, middle and high school students, community leaders, and local government. Ferriday Mayor Allen and his staff and Council members will assess the needs of Concordia Parish residents. Indications are that the lack of drug prevention, job training, education, industrial and

technical training, and health care are among the top challenges.

On the July 22 meeting, the teams agreed that the 10-week training series, dubbed “small business track training,” will focus on small business development, record keeping and Microsoft Excel.

These training sessions are being proposed as a means to boost the economy of Ferriday and

Additionally, Mr. Hall responded to two clients who requested assistance and direction on USDA, Rural Development single family housing grant/loan application from the Center on July 6. One client is

surrounding areas. For additional information, contact Mr. Hall at 225.771.4105.

Members of the Southern University Ag Center, and the College of Business, who met with the Town of Ferriday’s leaders to introduce a Small Business Track Training were: Mr. Eual Hall, Drs. Ghirmay Ghebreyesus and Sung Chul No.

applying for a \$7,500 grant and \$20,000 loan to repair her home in New Roads, Pointe Coupee Parish.

Culminating Ceremony held for Small Business Trainees in Tallulah

The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the Southern University’s College of Business held a culminating ceremony on July 22, to mark the end of their Small Business Track Training series held in Tallulah, LA.

The ten-week series was aimed at boosting the economy of Madison Parish and surrounding areas.

Thirteen current and potential small business owners received certificates for completing and attending the trainings which covered the topic of Microsoft Excel, Entrepreneurship, QuickBooks, Target Markets, Contract Procurement, Project Management and Supply Chain Management.

Business Development Specialist Eual Hall at the Center for Rural and Small Business Development,



L-r: Dr. Ghebreyesus, Rev. Tommy Watson, Nikki Thomas, Dr. Patricia Candler, Dawn Kline, Vicki Gatherite, Patricia Thompson, Sarah Sims; second row, Chris Herring, Darrell Sims, Terrance Watson, Dr. Sung No, Sharon Rambo, Eual Hall; and on the third row Samuel Johnson.

under the auspices of the SU Ag Center, in collaboration with Drs. Ghirmay Ghebreyesus and Sung Chul No from the Economic Development Administration University Center (EDAUC) in the College of Business at Southern University’s Baton Rouge campus facilitated the training sessions along with several guest speakers.

The hope is that the participants will use the information from the trainings to assist them in expanding a current business or enable potential small business owners with the skills to start a small business in Madison Parish are within the surrounding area.

For additional information on the Small Business Track Training, or how to start a small business, contact Sarah Sims at 318-574-2465.

C.H.E.F. Camp held for youth in diverse state parishes

Ascension and St. James Parishes:

Youth from St. James and Ascension Parishes attended the Creating Healthy Enjoyable Foods (C.H.E.F.) camp held at the St. James Parish Housing Community Learning Center, July 6-10. The lessons were taught by nutrition educator, Lisa Weber, who serves St. James and Ascension Parishes. The week-long class session was held daily from 9:00 am-2:00 pm. There were five campers and two volunteer camp counselors



Weber, middle, guides students on cooking

participating in the program. The campers were: Da'jon Jones, Daries Wilson, Darren Braud Jr., Armani Braud, and Canajah Comery. Camp counselors were Quin'tashza Jones and Dai'shanae Jones. The campers enjoyed creating their own meals. They brought home samples each day to share with their parents. At the end of the camp they were awarded certificates.

Orleans Parish:

The Southern University Ag Center in collaboration with the LSU Ag Center sponsored the Creating Healthy and Enjoyable Foods (C.H.E.F) camp. This cooking school is de-signed to teach youth ages 9 -14 basic cooking principles and nutrition education. Chef Camp was hosted from July 13-July 17 for youth in Orleans Parish at the Goldring Center for Culinary Medicine, Tulane University. The goal of C.H.E.F is



Campers have a taste of their cooking

to promote healthy life-styles among youth by teaching them basic nutrition, food safety, food selection and food preparation skills. Staff participation included Nutrition Agents from LSU Ag Center and Southern University's Ag Center's Assistant Area Agent, Krystal Sugulleh and SU Ag Center's Summer Intern Daniel Leija. Southern University Ag Center's Extension Agent Krystal Sugulleh conducted the Etiquette Training, a healthy salad demonstration and table manners.

Calcasieu Parish:

From July 13 – 16, Carol Sensley, Assistant Agent in Calcasieu Parish conducted the CHEF Camp for the Southwest Louisiana Sickle Cell Kids. The participants gained



Campers have hands-on experience



Campers pose with Sensley, right

healthy recipes tips and skills while performing cooking demonstrations.

Caddo Parish:

A camp for Creating Healthy Enjoyable Foods (C.H.E.F.) was held June 22-25 for 15 youth at the Caddo Extension Office. Participating youth at the camp received certificates of completion at the end of the program, which was sponsored by the



Southern University Ag Center. Picture shows campers learning in the kitchen. The camp was organized by Patricia Lee, assistant area agent for DeSoto and Caddo Parishes.

East Baton Rouge:

Featured on Channel 33, WVLA -

Southern University and LSU Ag Centers teamed up to teach children how to cook this summer. The Creating Healthy Enjoyable Foods, or C.H.E.F. Camp, is a week-long camp that shows children the basics of cooking and healthy eating. Click [here](#) for

the article and video. *The Advocate Newspaper* published an article featuring how summer camp teaches the basics of healthy cooking entitled, “Young cooks learn the basics of healthy cooking at Chef Camp at the Southern University Ag Center.” The article is available online by clicking [here](#).

SU Ag Center’s Orleans Parish Intern Spotlight

Daniel Leija, majors in Urban Forestry/Plant and Soil Science and will become a graduating senior in spring 2016. This summer Dr. Eubanks granted him the opportunity to Intern in Orleans Parish with the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center. He worked closely with Extension Agent Krystal Sugulleh. He chose Orleans Parish because he knows the city is still in its rebuilding stage. Also, because he knows that besides the downtown business area, money isn’t being put into the areas outside of downtown.

“This Opportunity gave me the chance to give back and help in any way, form or fashion. I wanted to work mostly and closely with the less fortunate kids and communities. From the very first day at my internship I felt very welcomed and comfortable. The communication between Krystal and everyone else in the office was



Orleans Parish summer intern, Leija

awesome. They all pitched in to help. Krystal allowed me to work with great and very experienced people and develop a desire to serve others through community outreach efforts, said Daniel.

He also had the opportunity to coordinate and implement program events and activities. Daniel participated in programs that focus on areas such as nutrition, youth development, agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, and community development. Because of this opportunity Krystal and Daniel developed skills in leadership, teaching, motivating and communicating effectively. “She’s very professional and organized. Thanks Dr. Eubanks for the opportunity and Krystal for making my summer Internship phenomenal,” Daniel added.

St. Helena and Tangipahoa Parishes into Roselle Hibiscus cultivation

The SU Ag Center has conducted research on *Hibiscus sabdariffa* for years and found that the plant is packed with health benefits. The research findings have been shared with Extension staff across the state and through presentations, workshops and publications to create awareness.



Robertson examines plot for leaf spot disease

Increased interest in natural products to maintain good health has made Roselle hibiscus production a high cash-value functional crop for small farmers in Louisiana.

Farmers and school gardens in St. Helena and Tangipahoa Parishes have added Roselle Hibiscus to their gardens and landscapes. Roselle is a robust shrub-like annual that gets 4-7 ft. tall. The plant is considered to have anti-hypertensive properties.

The red calyces of Roselle are used to make tea, juices, sauces, jellies, wines, cookies and pies. The plant is propagated from seed and loves full sun light. Ahmad Robertson, Extension Agent serving St. Helena and Tangipahoa Parishes can be contacted in March for seed distribution.

Information for growing Roselle hibiscus and its uses are available on the Southern University Ag Center [website](#). The Tangipahoa Annual Spring Garden Day is also recommended as a venue to learn more about growing Roselle and all its health benefits.

For more information and seeds, contact the St. Helena or Tangipahoa Extension Service, 305 E Oak St., Amite, call (985) 748-5462, (225) 222-4136, or email ahmad_robertson@suagcenter.com

BOLD Youth Organizing Leadership Opportunities travels to St. Helena Parish

The Southern University Ag Center took the Building Opportunities through Leadership Development (BOLD) to n St. Helena Parish. A back-to-school informational session was held at the St. Helena Career & College Academy in Greensburg, LA on August 7.



L-r: Kelli Joseph, Eual Hall, Jennifer Grace, Frankie Poland, Nicolette Gordon, Dana Isaac, Reginald Douglas, and Ahmad Robertson

The Youth Organizing Leadership Opportunities (YOLO) is an entity of the BOLD project. The YOLO group works with youth in the area of leadership.

The event was facilitated by Dana Isaac, Extension Assistant, who collaborated with colleagues. Eual Hall, Business Development Specialist from the Center for Small Business and Rural Development presented information on youth entrepreneurship and the steps to start a small business. He also showed the video of the importance of an 1890 university.

FACULTY AND STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES



Dr. Fatemeh Malekian, Fatemeh Malekian, professor nutrition and food science, was interviewed at the Institute of Food Technologists Meeting.

As chair person for the Education and Extension Division at [Institute of Food Technologists](#) (IFT), she was interviewed by the IFT Student Association. The [article](#) entitled, “Science Meets Food” is available online at <http://sciencemeetsfood.org/a-chat-withfatemeh-malekian-education-extension-outreach/>.

The IFT Annual Meeting & Food Expo is the only annual event that brings together the brightest minds and the most respected food professionals from around the world in industry, government, and academia. Present at the meeting were trendsetters in product development, senior-level executives from the world’s top food companies, and department heads from leading universities. Participants gained technical and applied food science knowledge; connected with the who’s who in food science; discovered the latest global trends and the newest innovations; identified new suppliers and met with current ones, choosing from more than 1,000 exhibiting companies. This year’s IFT themed “Where Science Feeds Innovation,” was held July 11-14, 2015, in McCormick Place South Chicago, IL. The Institute of Food Technologists is an organization with over 20,000 members. The IFT Student Association (IFTSA) is a forward-looking, student-governed community of IFT members.



Dr. Kamran Abdollahi, professor and program leader, urban forestry, was mentioned in magazine article. He was prominently quoted as one of two tree experts from Louisiana in the summer 2015 [Arbor Age Magazine](#), the number one publication of the Arboriculture Industry. Dr. Abdollahi provided expert opinion about the impact of Hurricanes and Flooding in

forestry research for nearly 25 years. His research on Flooding was funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The [Arbor Age Magazine](#) is available online.

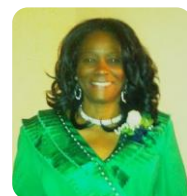


Dr. Andra Johnson, associate professor, urban forestry has been selected to serve as an advisory board member for the HBCU All-Star Alumni Association.

Johnson’s appointment was based on his experience, accomplishments, and leadership and will help lead the HBCU All-Stars Alumni Association in its efforts. Dr. Johnson has a great deal to offer in directing the future growth of the association in continuing to make an impact on society through empowering the institutions that provided the foundation for African-American advancement.



Mrs. Krystal Sugulleh Stewart, assistant area extension agent for Youth Development in Orleans Parish was recently recognized by her local radio station WBOK in New Orleans for participating in, and conducting Etiquette for Creating Healthy Enjoyable Foods (C.H.E.F.) campers. Mrs. Stewart can be reached at krystal_sugulleh@suagcenter.com or 504-658-2900.



Mrs. Carolyn Robinson, associate area agent of Family and Consumer Sciences in East and West Carroll and Morehouse Parishes, has been elected President of the Louisiana Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (LEAFCS).

Robinson was installed as president-elect of the association during its Annual Convention held at Hotel Mazarin in New Orleans, May 4-6.

The LEAFCS is a Louisiana State University organization which empowers Extension educators to enhance their leadership skills, effect change, and focus on professional development.

It is the Louisiana affiliate of the National Extension Associate of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS). Its mission is to educate and provide recognition to Extension professionals who positively impact the quality of life for individuals, families and communities where they live.

Robinson will serve a one-year term beginning in May 2016.

For additional information on the Louisiana Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, click on this [link](#).

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Upcoming Events

September 3: Annual Back to School Summit at the Blackham Coliseum in Lafayette. Contact Wanda Burke at 225-771-2242.

September 26: BOLD Class Completion Ceremony in Baton Rouge at the SU Ag Center. Contact Kenyetta Smith at 225-771-2242.