



# ***HBCU* ADVISORY COUNCIL**

## ***2023 REPORT***

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**IMAGE SOURCES (Covers):** Dillard University, Grambling State University, Louisiana Board of Regents, Southern University Ag Center, Southern University and A&M College, Southern University Law Center, Southern University at New Orleans, Southern University Shreveport, Xavier University of Louisiana.

**IMAGE SOURCES (Interior):** Dillard University, Grambling State University, Louisiana Board of Regents, Southern University Ag Center, Southern University and A&M College, Southern University Law Center, Southern University at New Orleans, Southern University Shreveport, Xavier University of Louisiana.



# **Advisory Council Welcome**

As home to six Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), as well as the only HBCU law school in the state and HBCU system in the country, Louisiana is uniquely positioned to host, support, and coordinate a robust HBCU Advisory Council. Act 236 of the 2018 Regular Legislative Session established the Council as a mechanism to focus attention on Louisiana's public and private HBCUs, amplifying their unique missions, programs, and initiatives.

Housed at the Louisiana Board of Regents (Regents), the Council meets regularly to identify strategies to strengthen the capacity of HBCUs, increase opportunities for these institutions to benefit from state and federal programs, and enable campuses to promote strong student success as part of the state's talent development agenda. Dillard University, Grambling State University, Southern University and A&M College (including its Agricultural Research and Extension Center and Law Center), Southern University at New Orleans, Southern University Shreveport, and Xavier University of Louisiana join forces annually at a signature event, HBCU Day at the Capitol, to spotlight campus successes and share their music, food, student culture and spirit with legislators and the larger community.

Throughout the year, each institution continues to celebrate its outstanding achievements and numerous alumni for their contributions to their local communities, the state, and the world. As a result of the work of this body, the legacy and history of Louisiana's HBCUs have, for the first time, been permanently installed in the Capitol Park Museum in Baton Rouge.

This report details the activities of the Council and the topics of interest discussed by its membership and stakeholders. Universally members of the Council attest to its value and have vowed continued participation as a collective to advance attainment and prosperity across Louisiana. Regents looks forward to its ongoing role in coordinating the HBCU Advisory Council and thanks the campus leaders and all participants who have contributed to its success.

# Advisory Council Charge & Goals

Per Act 236, the Council is charged to take several actions relative to HBCU performance and capacity. The Act states that the Council shall:

## **1 Advise the Commissioner of Higher Education regarding methods to enhance the capabilities of HBCUs to serve the needs of their students and the state and methods whereby the state can better serve HBCUs. The Council shall also help identify methods to:**

- a. Improve the identity, visibility, distinctive capabilities, and overall competitiveness of HBCUs’
- b. Provide the highest quality education to the greatest number of students;
- c. Promote centers of academic research and programmatic excellence.
- d. Strengthen the fiscal stability of HBCUs;
- e. Increase HBCUs contribution to the state’s educational and workforce goals;
- f. Elevate public awareness of the contributions and values of HBCUs;
- g. Encourage public-private investments in HBCUs;
- h. Engage the philanthropic, business, government, and education communities in a dialogue regarding current and future HBCU programs and initiatives;
- i. Foster enduring private-sector initiatives and public-private partnerships;
- j. Inform public policy discussions and practices by improving the availability and dissemination of high-quality information concerning HBCUs to elected officials and the public; and
- k. Share best practices regarding administrative and programmatic processes.

## **2 Strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to participate in federal and state programs by:**

- a. Working with state and federal departments, agencies, and offices to:
  - i. Identify programs and initiatives in which HBCUs may be either underserved or underused as a resource;
  - ii. Encourage HBCUs to participate in state and federal programs and initiatives;
  - iii. Establish methods to increase the capacity of HBCUs to effectively compete for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements; and
  - iv. Encourage public-sector and private-sector involvement with HBCUs on such initiatives.

## **3 Strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to fully participate in Louisiana’s workforce and economic development activities by:**

- a. Working with the Department of Economic Development to ensure full participation and inclusion of HBCUs at the inception stage and throughout implementation of economic development activities.
- b. Working with the Louisiana Workforce Commission to help identify educational programs to address workforce gaps.
- c. Requesting the Department of Economic Development and the Louisiana Workforce Commission to provide periodic updates to the council on their activities and initiatives.



# **Executive Summary**

The Louisiana Legislature established the HBCU Advisory Council in 2018 to foster collaboration and the achievement among the institutions and the student populations they serve. Louisiana's HBCUs, both public and private, collectively enroll more than 23,000 students annually. The Council, chaired by the Commissioner of Higher Education, is comprised of 24 members including representatives of both K-12 and postsecondary education, state agencies, business and industry, professional organizations with links to higher education, training, and workforce, and economic development entities (**See Appendix A**).

In 2023, the Council met three times (February 2023, April 2023, and October 2023) to strategize and continue to work toward priorities and objectives as outlined in Act 236 (**See Appendix B**). The Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities created four committees that are designed to identify and address topics of shared importance. The four committees are: (1) Academic Affairs, (2) Public Relations and Outreach, (3) State and Federal Programs, and (4) Workforce and Economic Development. Over the past year, these committees have diligently worked to better the HBCU community through opportunity development. The following report provides an update on the major achievements of the Council, emerging initiatives, and campus highlights reflecting significant progress in 2023.

# Committee Updates

## Academic Affairs

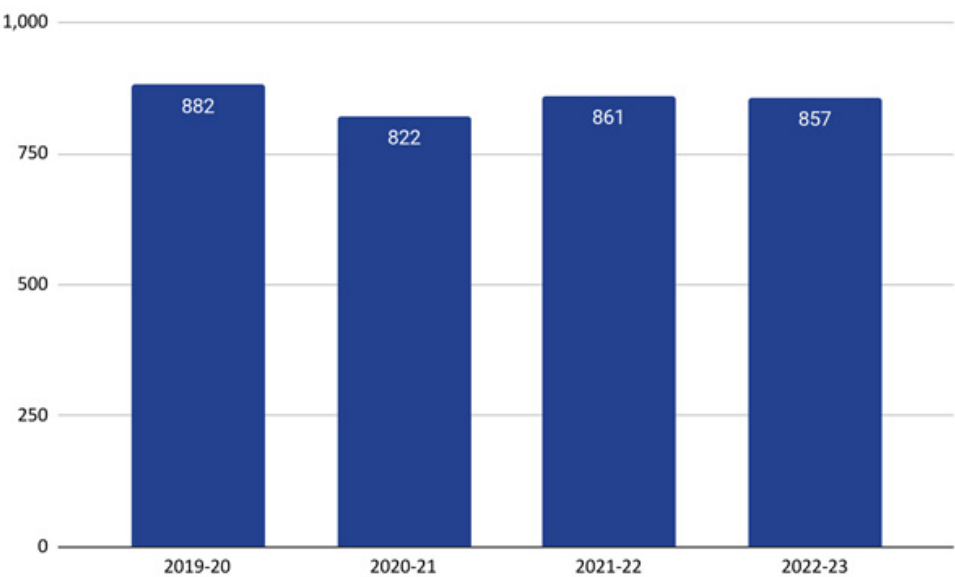
The Academic Affairs Committee focuses on (1) promoting centers of academic research and programmatic excellence; (2) increasing HBCUs’ contributions to the state’s educational and workforce goals; and (3) helping identify educational programs to address workforce gaps.

### ► Teacher Preparation

The Teacher Recruitment, Recovery, and Retention Task Force (legislatively created by HCR 39 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session) included as one of its 2021 recommendations implementing strategies to recruit diverse candidates into the educator workforce.

Statewide, Louisiana is experiencing declining enrollments in Educator Preparation programs. Enrollment has declined by approximately 8% in the last four years in traditional educator preparation programs, yet enrollment at Louisiana’s HBCUs has seen growth over the past few years, with a slight decline in 2022-23.

**Table 1.** Educator Preparation Program Enrollment at HBCUs (2019-2023)



**Source:** Louisiana Board of Regents Student Data System, 2023



This Committee will continue to investigate the various factors that affect enrollment in educator preparation programs, teacher career longevity, changes in school culture, teacher retirement, and more.

### ► **Expand Dual Enrollment**

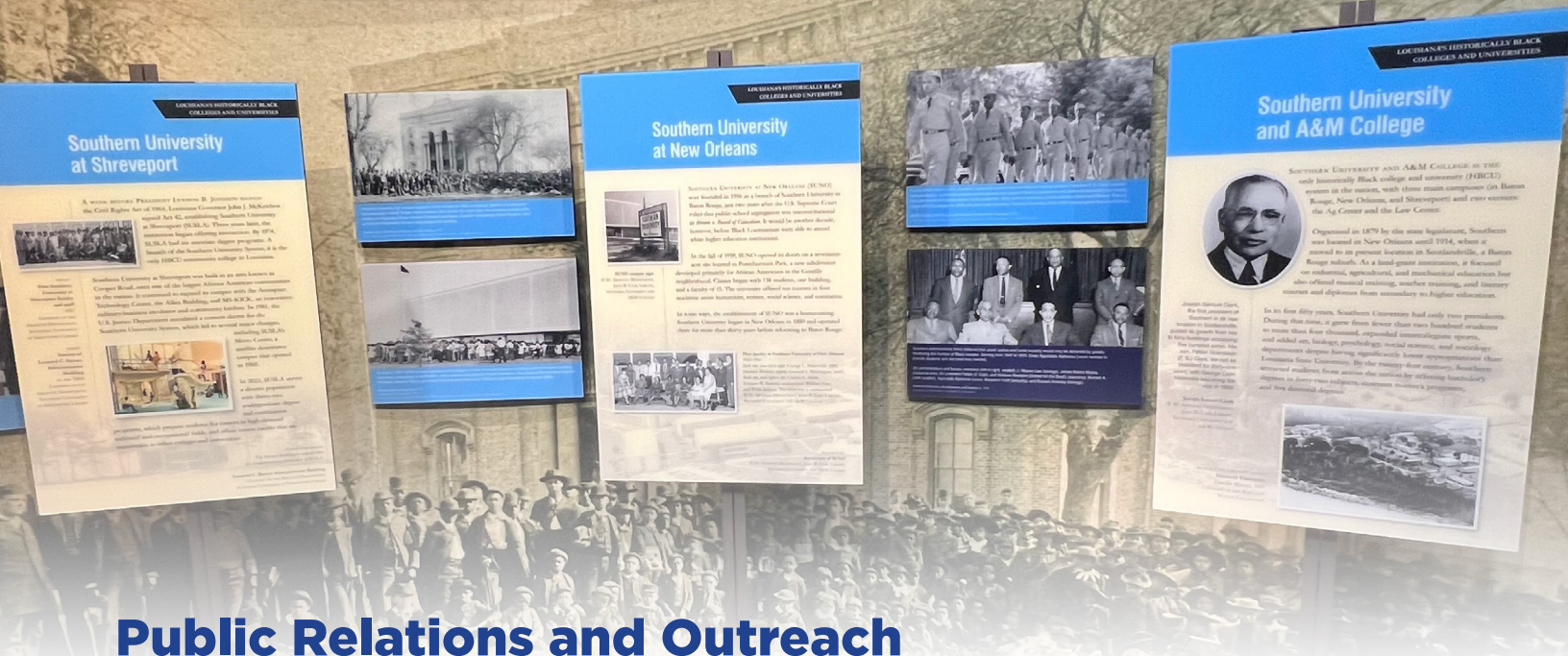
Annually, since 2022, Regents and the Louisiana Department of Education have produced a report on dual enrollment participation in Louisiana. The third annual report will be released in February 2024. Preliminary analysis of dual enrollment participation in academic year 2022-23 reveals a 13% increase in students taking these courses since 2021-2022. This growth in participation in 2022-23 is driven in part by students identifying as African American, Hispanic, or Multi-Racial, at 18% growth.

In 2022, the increase in dual enrollment participation by African American students was driven largely by programs at Southern University and A&M College, Southern University at New Orleans, and Southern University Shreveport, which partnered with many high schools with large African-American student populations. It is through these targeted efforts to drive partnerships and collaboration among Louisiana's secondary and postsecondary institutions, along with the expansion of dual enrollment offered by Louisiana's HBCUs, that gaps in access to and successful participation in dual enrollment will continue to be closed.

### ► **Growth in Postsecondary Inclusive Education Opportunities**

Act 682 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session created the Louisiana Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council (PIEAC). Under the jurisdiction of the Regents, PIEAC is charged to identify opportunities to expand existing or establish new inclusive programs serving students with special needs, as well as to develop and manage an application process for public postsecondary institutions to request funds from the Louisiana Postsecondary Inclusive Education Fund.

As part of the 2023 Postsecondary Inclusive Education Fund award cycle, Southern University at New Orleans was awarded \$80,000 to establish a new postsecondary inclusive education program on its campus. This program, now known as the Exceptional Knights Academy, is the state's first postsecondary inclusive education program to be developed at an HBCU.



## Public Relations and Outreach

*Public Relations and Outreach Committee works to improve the identity, visibility, distinctive capabilities and overall competitiveness of HBCUs in Louisiana. By informing public policy discussions and practices, this Committee helps to enhance the availability and dissemination of high-quality information concerning HBCUs to the public. The Committee also helps to develop and execute an annual HBCU Day at the Louisiana State Capitol, which seeks to highlight the success and talent of Louisiana HBCUs students, faculty, and alumni.*

### ► 2023 HBCU Day at the Capitol

Louisiana's HBCUs held their annual HBCU Day at the Capitol on Tuesday, April 18, 2023. The day began with the Regents hosting the HBCU Advisory Council meeting at its offices in the Claiborne Building. Later in the day, HBCUs were recognized in both the House and Senate chambers before concluding with a signature event at the Capitol Park Museum. This event celebrated the opening of a new exhibit at the Capitol Park Museum celebrating Louisiana HBCUs' unique history and contributions to postsecondary education. HBCU presidents, legislators, student leaders, Regents, and management board officials were on hand for the festivities. More than 500 people attended the ribbon-cutting reception at the Capitol Park Museum.



### ► HBCU Day Earns Two Public Relations Awards

The Louisiana Board of Regents and the HBCU Advisory Council were recognized for their outstanding work to host the 2022 and 2023 editions of HBCU Day at the Capitol. In April 2023, Regents received a Red Stick Award from the Public Relations Association of Louisiana's Baton Rouge Chapter for its work on the 2022 HBCU Day at the Capitol, the first in-person convening since the pandemic. In November 2023, Regents was one of only four organizations to receive the prestigious Anvil Award from the Public Relations Society of America's New Orleans Chapter for its work in orchestrating the 2023 HBCU Day at the Capitol and the successful unveiling of phase one of the new HBCU exhibit at the Capitol Park Museum.

## State and Federal Programs

*The scope of the State & Federal Programs (S&FP) Committee encompasses expanding the capacity of Historically Black Colleges & Universities in Louisiana to participate in federal and state programs and to contribute to innovation and economic development of the region. The specific deliverables in Act 236 addressed by the S&FP Committee are to work with state and federal departments, agencies and offices to identify programs and initiatives in which HBCUs may be either underserved or underused as a resource; encourage HBCUs to participate in state and federal programs and initiatives; establish methods to increase the capacity of HBCUs to effectively compete for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements; and encourage public-and private-sector involvement with HBCUs on such initiatives.*

### ► Federal Support for Capacity-Building

HBCUs have received significant infusions of support from the federal government in recent years, including \$2.7 billion specifically for HBCUs in the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) in 2021, to assist with pandemic-related costs and general expenses. Of these funds, Louisiana HBCUs received \$211 million, awarded to six institutions. In addition, the U.S. Department of Education discharged \$1.6 billion in HBCU debt for capital improvements and awarded \$500 million for HBCU academic capacity-building and fiscal stability. These funding opportunities and competitive awards available through federal funding agencies were featured during HBCU Week in Washington, DC. Demonstrating Louisiana leadership at the highest level, Dr. Walter Kimbrough, former president of Dillard University, participated in the White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity through Historically Black Colleges and Universities. This is a government-wide effort to eliminate barriers faced by HBCUs in providing the highest-quality education possible to their students. This group is expected to release a report and recommendations to government agencies, focused on better resourcing to advance education, research, and service provided by HBCUs.



### ► **Expanding Collaborative Efforts**

Committee work focused on the need for increased support for and collaborative efforts engaging HBCUs in Louisiana. To facilitate partnerships, the group asked all institutions to complete a survey on their research faculty, centers, and facilities, to build a one-stop list of research capacity at HBCUs. Once compiled, this list will be publicly available, allowing business, industry, and other research institutions to engage directly with HBCUs to locate the expertise they need.

### ► **Engagement with Federal Research Opportunities**

In addition, the Committee is seeking additional opportunities for HBCUs through the federal Established Programs to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), which target jurisdictions and states receiving fewer research dollars, helping them to build the capacity and capabilities to compete successfully in federal programs. Currently 28 jurisdictions, including Louisiana, are eligible for EPSCoR support, and Southern University A&M is a full partner in Louisiana's Track 1 research grant. To ensure HBCUs understand the opportunities and funding available through EPSCoR, the Committee has set a meeting for program officers from relevant federal agencies to address the Council.

## **Workforce and Economic Development**

*The primary focus of the Economic and Workforce Development Committee (EWD) of the HBCU Advisory Council is strengthening the capacity of HBCUs to fully participate in Louisiana's workforce and economic development activities. To accomplish this goal, the EWD Committee works with the Department of Economic Development to ensure full participation and inclusion of HBCUs at inception and throughout implementation of economic development activities. Additionally, the EWD Committee collaborates with the Louisiana Workforce Commission to help identify educational programs to address workforce gaps.*

The Economic and Workforce Development (EWD) Committee of the HBCU Advisory Council continues to play a pivotal role in advancing the mission and significance of HBCUs in the context of Louisiana's economic and workforce development. This committee is instrumental in recognizing and addressing the critical connection between HBCUs and the state's economic prosperity.

By collaborating closely with the Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED) and the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the EWD Committee ensures that HBCUs are included in all workforce discussions as essential stakeholders, contributing their expertise, resources, and talent to the growth and success of Louisiana's economy and evolving 21st-century workforce.

The Committee's 2023 progress includes:

### ► **LED Entertainment Opportunity**

LED's Office of Entertainment Industry Development leads business recruitment activities and manages incentive programs focused on film production, digital media, sound recording and live performance. In February 2023, Louisiana's HBCUs were presented with the opportunity to take advantage of the funding and programming opportunities made available through the Louisiana Entertainment Development Fund. To date, leadership and staff from Dillard University and the Southern University Law Center have met with LED individually to explore future options and opportunities for their institutions to participate in this work.

## ► In the Pipeline, Making Connections

The act of making connections between various entities is a powerful tool for driving progress and innovation, particularly for our state's HBCUs.

In September 2023, Southern University's Nursing Department partnered with Ochsner's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Division to host a HBCU Healthcare Careers Summit. Through the EWD Committee, LED, recognizing the mutually beneficial opportunities it presented, facilitated this vital connection. Ochsner's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion aligns with their mission to provide inclusive healthcare and a welcoming workplace. The partnership is natural for Southern University, one of the largest producers of African American nurses in the nation. Its Nursing Department is a leader in preparing graduates to meet the demands of a culturally diverse healthcare workforce.

This healthcare-focused HBCU Summit serves as a prime example of how EWD initiatives can bring together diverse stakeholders to address critical issues.

## ► Internship Opportunity for HBCUs through the Career Immersion Leadership Institute (CILI)

As noted in the 2022 Report, the EWD Committee invited Perry Sholes, founder of the CILI, to address the EWD Committee. CILI seeks to find, create, and strengthen pathways for college students of color to access employment opportunities and earn competitive wages. The EWD continues to promote the progress that CILI is making related to unemployment and underemployment of degree students of color.

CILI's flagship fellowship program connects BIPOC students to paid internship opportunities in Louisiana. Over the course of three years, the CILI Fellowship Program has served over 100 college students of color by utilizing a team of dedicated coaches to teach and engage fellows in competency development programming, working in tandem with internship experiences to create a pipeline of diverse high potential talent within companies throughout the state.

In 2024, the EWD has scheduled CILI to present its Talent Pipeline Strategy to the full HBCU Advisory Council, to address the EWD goal on work-based learning.

## ► Second Chance: Untapped Talent Opportunities

The FASFA Simplification Act, passed in December 2020, amended the Higher Education Act to eliminate provisions that prohibited students from receiving Pell Grants if they were incarcerated at the state or federal level. This would allow all eligible offenders to leverage Pell Grant dollars and enroll in postsecondary programs, with the Department of Corrections' (DOC's) approval. The U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) has until 2023 to establish regulations and policies to authorize these changes. Over the next two years, the DOC will work with Louisiana colleges and universities to implement Pell-funded programs in all state facilities, which would allow any DOC-approved school to provide postsecondary education opportunities within the prison system.

To this end, the EWD Committee will work to facilitate opportunities for the state's HBCUs to work with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections to position themselves to participate in Second-Chance Pell offerings.



### ► **LOCATION**

New Orleans, Louisiana



### ► **TOTAL ENROLLMENT**

1,224 students\* (Fall 2022)

**Undergraduate  
100%**

### ► **COMPLETERS**

2022-2023

Bachelor's Degrees

**222**

## Institutional Highlights

- Dillard University won a \$750,000 historical preservation grant from the U.S. Department of Interior to help restore Howard House. Built in the 1930s, it is a monument to Dillard's history.
- Dillard University and Opportunity Hub (OHUB), the nation's leading inclusive innovation, entrepreneurship, and investment ecosystem, have partnered. This work will allow Dillard to become an official opportunity hub as a part of H2 The Future, a new energy and climate technology initiative led by Greater New Orleans, Inc.
- Dillard University's Society of Physics Students (SPS) Chapter has achieved the esteemed title of a 2022-23 Distinguished Chapter by the National Council, a recognition earned by only a handful of chapters out of 890 physics departments across the nation.
- Dillard University received \$100k and recognition from the BeyGOOD Foundation to create scholarships specifically focused on Public Health.
- Dillard University received the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The \$1.3 million award is part of a five-year grant designed to provide support services and to encourage eligible undergraduate students to pursue graduate education.
- Dillard University secured a \$20,000 grant from the Keller Family Foundation. This grant funds the installation of refillable water stations, aligning with the commitment to sustainability and innovation.

\* SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics. (2023). College Navigator. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

## Institutional Highlights

- ▶ Grambling was awarded a \$2.2 million grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to enhance Wi-Fi and internet services across all campus buildings, ensuring reliable, high-speed connectivity.
- ▶ Nursing students achieved a 100% pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX) exam for the second consecutive year.
- ▶ Ten students were honored as recipients of \$10,000 scholarships from the BeyGood Foundation, established by Beyoncé Knowles-Carter.
- ▶ President Rick Gallot and Dr. Kingsley Agyemang, Registrar of the Ghana Scholarship Secretariat, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to facilitate the enrollment of Ghanaian students in graduate studies at Grambling, fostering educational collaboration between the two institutions.
- ▶ Grambling experienced a notable 10% increase in the number of new incoming freshmen, highlighting the growing interest and appeal of the university among prospective students.
- ▶ Grambling secured a substantial \$6.3 million Health Disparities Grant from the Louisiana Department of Health, championing statewide efforts to mitigate the impact of infectious disease outbreaks, including COVID-19.



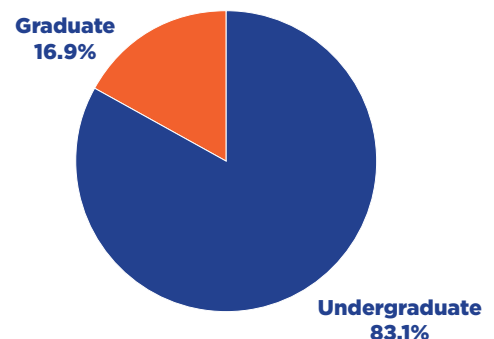
### ▶ LOCATION

Grambling, Louisiana



### ▶ TOTAL ENROLLMENT

5,058 students\* (Fall 2022)



### ▶ COMPLETERS

2022-2023

Bachelor's Degrees **670**

Graduate Degrees **140**

Professional **2**

\* SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics. (2023). College Navigator. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

# SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

AND AGRICULTURAL & MECHANICAL COLLEGE

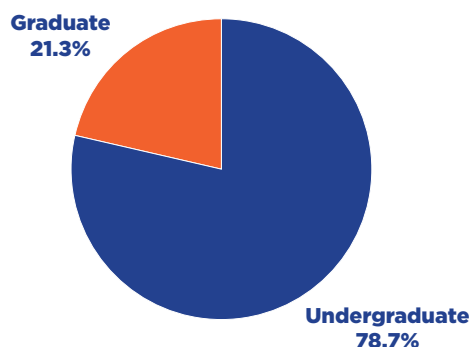
## ► LOCATION

Baton Rouge, Louisiana



## ► TOTAL ENROLLMENT

8,226 students\* (Fall 2022)



## ► COMPLETERS

2022-2023

Bachelor's Degrees **699**

Graduate Degrees **287**

Professional **12**

## Institutional Highlights

- The Southern University System entered into an agreement with the Ministry of Education of the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis to collaboratively provide residents of the Caribbean island with affordable higher education opportunities at Southern University and A&M College and Southern University at New Orleans, beginning in the fall semester of 2024.
- The Southern University School of Nursing was honored as the "2023 Nursing School of the Year, Graduate Degree Programs," by the Louisiana State Nursing Association and the Louisiana Nurses Foundation. This award recognizes a school of nursing offering formal education for registered nurses seeking a graduate degree for advanced clinical practice roles as well as in nursing administration, nursing education and research.
- Boeing and Southern University and A&M College won NASA's 2022 Mentor-Protégé Agreement of the Year for their combined work on NASA's Space Launch System (SLS) rocket. The award was presented at the NASA Small Business Industry Awards for fiscal year 2022. The NASA-sponsored Mentor-Protégé Program pairs large companies with eligible small businesses and minority-serving institutions to enhance the protégés' capabilities enabling them to successfully compete for larger, more complex contracts. In 2022, Boeing subcontracted approximately \$4.6 billion to small and diverse businesses.

\* SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics. (2023). College Navigator. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>



## Institutional Highlights

- ▶ In 2021, the Southern University Ag Center, in partnership with North Carolina A&T and Tuskegee University, was awarded funding to support the 1890 Center of Excellence for Nutrition, Health, Wellness and Quality of Life (COE-NWQL). To date, the Center has received \$6,843,100 to provide solutions to improve the health and wellbeing of underserved and minority populations, addressing health disparities through nutrition research, teaching, and outreach.
- ▶ The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is partnering with the Southern University Ag Center and its 1890 COE-NWQL to establish the first USDA Pilot Nutrition Hub. This Pilot Nutrition Hub will work to define a new architecture to better integrate and coordinate the collective work of Research, Education and Economic (REE) agencies to improve food and nutrition security and reduce the burden of diet-related chronic diseases, especially in underserved, at-risk communities.
- ▶ The Southern University Ag Center recently received awards associated with Urban Forestry, from the U.S. Forest Service, and Water Quality, from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, to address environmental justice in disadvantaged communities in Louisiana. The first endeavor will deal with the reforestation of urban forests in disadvantaged communities. The second project will focus on identifying ways to reduce water pollution by working with a few industries to reduce or eliminate water contaminants.



### ▶ **LOCATION**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana





## SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

### ► **LOCATION**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana



### ► **COMPLETERS**

2022-2023

Professional Degrees

**220**

## Institutional Highlights

- In November 2023, the SULC Tech and Entrepreneurship Clinic hosted Louisiana's inaugural Intellectual Property Summit. The summit created a platform to amplify Louisiana's potential as a thriving hub for innovation and to ensure that all segments of society can benefit from this growth.
- The Southern University Law Center's Mixed Reality Virtual Innovation Gaming and Esports Institute has launched the Esports Law and Management Certificate.
- Within the last two years, through grant funding from the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the Office of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives has filed over 470 motions for expungements.
- Since June 2021, the Louisiana Minority Business Development Agency Business Center has assisted more than 400 MBEs; offered more than 60 capacity-building events; offered four local, state, and federal matchmaking events; aided MBEs in obtaining contracts with local, state, and federal governments; helped MBEs secure contracts in the private sector with corporations like Exxon; helped MBEs get more than \$1M in bonds and small business loans; and formally established strategic alliances and partnerships with Folgers, Veolia, SBA, East Baton Rouge City Parish Government, National Coalition of 100 Black Women – Baton Rouge Chapter, and MBDA Federal Procurement Center.

## Institutional Highlights

- ▶ On August 21, 2023, SUNO kicked off its new Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity. In addition, the university was accepted into the CISCO Networking Academy.
- ▶ In February 2023, SUNO became the first public HBCU in New Orleans to partner with LCMC Health System. Through this partnership, SUNO was awarded \$1,050,000 (the largest private gift in its history) for its fall 2024 cohort of nursing scholars.
- ▶ In March 2023, SUNO was awarded \$3 million through the Connecting Minority Communities (CMC) grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to expand broadband Internet access, connectivity, and digital opportunity.
- ▶ In November 2023, the University Alliance (Title IV-E) awarded the Millie M. Charles School of Social Work a grant of \$1,359,492 to support the training of child welfare workers.
- ▶ In November 2023, the Department of Social Sciences was awarded a two-year subgrant of \$140,583 through the Orleans Parish Sheriff Department's Smart Reentry Program. The Enhance and Expand Reentry grant will allow SUNO students and research faculty to analyze and study recidivism data.
- ▶ SUNO, along with Xavier University of Louisiana and Dillard University, entered into Entergy's "The Power of Prosperity" project. Entergy will invest \$700,000 to support HBCU students and position them to build generational wealth.



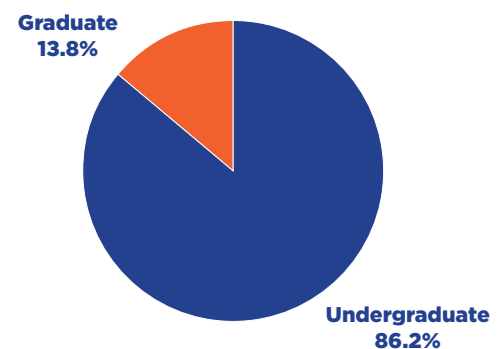
### ▶ LOCATION

New Orleans, Louisiana



### ▶ TOTAL ENROLLMENT

1,950 students\* (Fall 2022)



### ▶ COMPLETERS

2022-2023

Bachelor's Degrees	199
Graduate Degrees	89
Associate's	2

\* SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics. (2023). College Navigator. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>



► **LOCATION**

Shreveport, Louisiana



► **TOTAL ENROLLMENT**

3,154 students\* (Fall 2022)



► **COMPLETERS**

2022-2023

Associate's Degrees

**192**

Certificates/Diplomas

**68**

## Institutional Highlights

- The 2023 class in Dental Hygiene earned a 100% pass rate on both regional and national boards. Graduates of this program have consistently earned 100% board passage rates every year since 2018.
- A partnership with Global Resource Solutions, Inc. (GRS) was developed to support improvements to the Cybersecurity Program Laboratory, bolstering equipment and other resources to provide enhanced training for students.
- The new mobile health unit will serve as a community health resource by providing health screenings to underserved populations in the community as well as a being a teaching tool providing experience to students in the Allied Health and Nursing Program at SUSLA. Deployment of the mobile unit will be in partnership with Ochsner/LSU Health Shreveport Hospital.
- SUSLA procured a \$1.3 million subaward from the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH). The purpose of the grant is to work with the Southern University and A&M College System to build the capacity of the minority healthcare workforce (i.e., nurses, social workers, healthcare educators, and community workers) and to support the development of a workforce that is equipped to address health disparities and engage in meaningful community work.

\* SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics. (2023). College Navigator. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

## Institutional Highlights

- ▶ In 2023, Xavier received renewal of the \$25 million Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) award. Funded through the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), the award allows the university to develop and strengthen the research infrastructure necessary to conduct state-of-the-art biomedical research and foster the next generation of researchers from diverse backgrounds.
- ▶ In 2023, as a part of the Louisiana Hub for Energy Resilient Operations (HERO) collaboration, Xavier received a \$5 million share of a \$250 million grant from the Department of Energy's Grid Innovation Program. Xavier's part of the grant will increase community and labor engagement, support microgrid workforce development, and create an integrated community energy planning process.



**XAVIER**  
UNIVERSITY of LOUISIANA

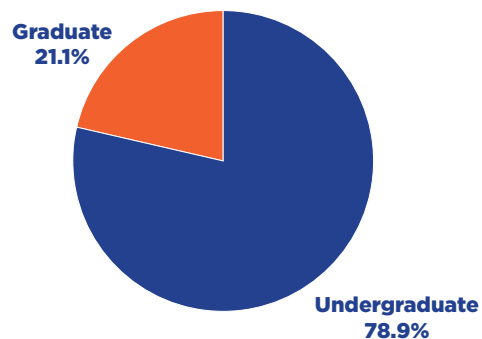
### ▶ LOCATION

New Orleans, Louisiana



### ▶ TOTAL ENROLLMENT

3,419 students\* (Fall 2022)



### ▶ COMPLETERS

2022-2023

Bachelor's Degrees **420**

Graduate Degrees **112**

Professional Degrees **136**

Certificate/Diplomas **12**

\* SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics. (2023). College Navigator. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

# Annual Report Conclusion

In 2023, members of the HBCU Advisory Council worked diligently to promote their institutions' rich histories and continued to create pathways to opportunity and educational excellence.

Through the Council's work with Regents, information-sharing continues, providing opportunities to promote education and workforce training, improve cybersecurity, promote safe and equitable communities, and advance federal research competitiveness.

As required by Act 236, the Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities will continue its work to advance opportunities for students and faculty at HBCUs throughout 2024 and beyond.



# Appendix A

## Council Membership

<b>Member</b>	<b>Seat Information</b>
Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, Chair	Commissioner of Higher Education, Louisiana Board of Regents
Dr. James Ammons	Chancellor, Southern University at New Orleans
Senator Joseph Bouie Jr.	Designee, President of the Senate
Senator Gerald Boudreaux	Senate Committee on Education
Mrs. Ava Cates	Secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission
Dr. Rochelle Ford	President, Dillard University
Mr. Preston Castille	Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
Mr. Ronnie Dyer	Student Member, Southern University at New Orleans
Mr. Rick Gallot, Jr.	President, Grambling State University
Senator Jimmy Harris	Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus
Dr. James Henderson	President, University of Louisiana System
Representative Jason Hughes	Designee, Speaker of the House of Representatives
Representative Patrick Jefferson	House Committee on Education
Ms. Makesha Judson	Louisiana Economic Development
Dr. Orlando McMeans	Chancellor, Southern University Ag Center
Mr. John Pierre	Chancellor, Southern University Law Center
Representative Vincent Pierre	Chairman of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus
Michael McClanahan	President, Louisiana State Conference of NAACP
Dennis J. Shields	President, Southern University System
Dr. Larissa Littleton-Steib	Louisiana Community and Technical College System
Dr. Toya Barnes-Teamer	Urban League of Louisiana
Ms. Stephanie L. Willis	American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana
Dr. Reynold Verret	President, Xavier University of Louisiana

# Appendix B

## Act 236 (2018 Session)

2018 Regular Session

### ACT No. 236

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 199

BY SENATOR BISHOP

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:3138.7 and R.S. 36:651(T)(7), relative to postsecondary education; to  
3 establish the Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities under  
4 the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents; to provide relative to the membership,  
5 powers, duties, and functions of the council; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:3138.7 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §3138.7. Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

9 A. The Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities  
10 (HBCUs) is hereby established under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents  
11 for the purpose of focusing on ways to strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to  
12 provide the highest quality education, increase opportunities for HBCUs to  
13 participate in and benefit from state programs, and ensure that Louisiana has  
14 the highest proportion of college graduates from HBCUs in the country. In  
15 consultation with the Southern University System and Grambling State  
16 University, the council shall provide guidance and advice to the commissioner  
17 of higher education and the Board of Regents regarding best practices to  
18 strengthen the capacity of Louisiana's HBCUs.

19 B. The council shall be composed of twenty-three members as follows:

20 (1) The commissioner of higher education, or his designee.

21 (2) The president of the Southern University System, or his designee.

22 (3) The president of the University of Louisiana System, or his designee.

23 (4) The president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College  
24 System, or his designee.

25 (5) The chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans, or his  
26 designee.

27 (6) The chancellor of Southern University at Shreveport, or his designee.

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- 1                   (7) The chancellor of the Southern University Law Center, or his
- 2                   designee.
- 3                   (8) The chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Research and
- 4                   Extension Center, or his designee.
- 5                   (9) The president of Grambling State University, or his designee.
- 6                   (10) The president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
- 7                   Education, or his designee.
- 8                   (11) The secretary of the Department of Economic Development, or his
- 9                   designee.
- 10                  (12) The executive director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, or
- 11                  his designee.
- 12                  (13) The president of the Louisiana State Conference of the National
- 13                  Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or his designee.
- 14                  (14) The president of the Urban League of Louisiana, or his designee.
- 15                  (15) The president of the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana,
- 16                  or his designee.
- 17                  (16) The president of the Senate, or his designee.
- 18                  (17) The speaker of the House of Representatives, or his designee.
- 19                  (18) The chairman of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, or his
- 20                  designee.
- 21                  (19) A member of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, appointed by
- 22                  the chairman of the caucus. If the chairman of the caucus is a member of the
- 23                  House of Representatives, the appointed member shall be a member of the
- 24                  Senate. If the chairman of the caucus is a member of the Senate, the appointed
- 25                  member shall be a member of the House of Representatives.
- 26                  (20) The president of Xavier University of Louisiana, or his designee.
- 27                  (21) The president of Dillard University, or his designee.
- 28                  (22) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, or his
- 29                  designee.
- 30                  (23) The chairman of the House Committee on Education, or his

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1 designee.

2 C. Members of the council shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing  
3 authority and vacancies shall be filled in the manner of the original  
4 appointment.

5 D. Members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed  
6 for expenses as provided by the appointing authority.

7 E.(1) The commissioner of higher education shall call the first meeting  
8 of the council no later than September 1, 2018, and a chairman and a vice  
9 chairman shall be elected from among the council's membership at this meeting.

10 (2) The council shall meet upon the call of the chairman, but not less than  
11 twice annually.

12 F. The Board of Regents shall provide staff support to assist the council  
13 in performing its duties and responsibilities.

14 G. The council shall:

15 (1) Advise the commissioner of higher education regarding methods to  
16 enhance the capabilities of HBCUs to serve the needs of their students and the  
17 state and methods whereby the state can better serve HBCUs. The council shall  
18 also help identify methods to:

19 (a) Improve the identity, visibility, distinctive capabilities, and overall  
20 competitiveness of HBCUs.

21 (b) Provide the highest quality education to the greatest number of  
22 students.

23 (c) Promote centers of academic research and programmatic excellence.

24 (d) Strengthen the fiscal stability of HBCUs.

25 (e) Increase HBCUs contribution to the state's educational and  
26 workforce goals.

27 (f) Elevate public awareness of the contributions and value of HBCUs.

28 (g) Encourage public-private investments in HBCUs.

29 (h) Engage the philanthropic, business, government, and education  
30 communities in a dialogue regarding current and future HBCU programs and

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1 initiatives.

2 (i) Foster enduring private-sector initiatives and public-private  
3 partnerships.

4 (j) Inform public policy discussions and practices by improving the  
5 availability and dissemination of high-quality information concerning HBCUs  
6 to elected officials and the public.

7 (k) Share best practices regarding administrative and programmatic  
8 processes.

9 (2) Strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to participate in federal and state  
10 programs by:

11 (a) Working with state and federal departments, agencies, and offices to:

12 (i) Identify programs and initiatives in which HBCUs may be either  
13 underserved or underused as a resource.

14 (ii) Encourage HBCUs to participate in state and federal programs and  
15 initiatives.

16 (iii) Establish methods to increase the capacity of HBCUs to effectively  
17 compete for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements.

18 (b) Encouraging public-sector and private-sector involvement with  
19 HBCUs on such initiatives.

20 (3) Strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to fully participate in Louisiana's  
21 workforce and economic development activities by:

22 (a) Working with the Department of Economic Development to ensure  
23 full participation and inclusion of HBCUs at the inception stage and throughout  
24 implementation of economic development activities.

25 (b) Working with the Louisiana Workforce Commission to help identify  
26 educational programs to address workforce gaps.

27 (c) Requesting the Department of Economic Development and the  
28 Louisiana Workforce Commission to provide periodic updates to the council on  
29 their activities and initiatives.

30 Section 2. R.S. 36:651(T)(7) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

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**SB NO. 199**

**ENROLLED**

1 §651. Transfer of boards, commissions, departments, and agencies to Department of  
2 Education; boards, commissions, and agencies within Department of  
3 Education

4 \* \* \*

5 T. The following agencies are placed within the Department of Education and  
6 shall perform and exercise their powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities as  
7 provided by law:

8 \* \* \*

9 **(7) The Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities**

10 (R.S. 17:3138.7).

Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_





BOARD *of* REGENTS  
STATE OF LOUISIANA