SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY ALUMNI FEDERATION
POST OFFICE BOX 9746
BATON ROUGE, LA 70813-9746

E LinkedIn: http://linkedin.com/in/preston-castille-50527613
E-Mail: Preston.Castille@TaylorPorter.com
Twitter: @PrestonCastille
Direct Dial: 225-381-0217
Mobile: 225-317-3363

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January 19, 2018

Dear Southernites and Friends:

A month ago, we were exclaiming, "Let It Sneaux!" However, the weather outside this week has been frightful here in Louisiana. The University has been shut down all week, and only resumed normal operations today in Baton Rouge. The weather has wreaked havoc throughout the city, and a main water line broke at the John B. Cade Library and flooded the building. In the meantime, many of our Alumni Federation officers and chapters have used this week of winter seclusion to work on Federation initiatives for the remainder of this fiscal year.

The 2018 National Alumni Conference Committee has been hard at work finalizing the details for our conference that will be held here in Baton Rouge July 19-22, 2018. I am looking forward to some of the new conference activities that have been added that will feature both our Baton Rouge campus in North Baton Rouge, as well as exciting events at the Manship Theatre and Old Governor's Mansion in downtown Baton Rouge. I think you will be pleased with some of the new changes. We expect to release conference registration and pricing information very soon. If you haven't already booked your hotel, please do so at your earliest convenience. Hotel information is included here in *News and Notes.*

I also attended three different Entertainment and Education Chapter meetings this week, as this new chapter is working on details with its partnership with Aperion Global Institute. I believe this collaboration will truly be a revolutionary undertaking for the Federation and our new alumni chapter. Members of the Alumni Center Committee also spent much of the week working with corporate partners and consultants to finalize the due diligence for our new Center for Alumni and Economic Development. Today, our Student Retention Committee will begin its work for 2018.

Last week, I had an opportunity to visit several of the classes being offered at the Southern University downtown location. I am excited about the engagement of the local judges and practitioners who have truly stepped up to offer a high-level practical experience to many of our students. The addition of the new Patent Prosecution course has been a nice complement to prior course offerings. During the holidays, I spent several weels developing a new audiovisual component to my Trial Advocacy and Pretrial Litigation classes to provide my students more intensive feedback as they develop their litigation skills. I think they will like this new course feature.

Stay warm, Jags and Knights. Winter is not over, but our work on behalf of our University continues.

Sincerely,



Preston J. Castille, Jr., Esq.
National President

Making a Great University Greater!

1782956v.1