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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

August 4, 2017

Dear Southernites:

Thank you for your responses to our survey regarding *News & Notes,* the Federation's electronic newsletter. Your feedback is very helpful as we continue to enhance our modes of communication. Overall, you, the respondents, indicated we are doing a very good job with this newsletter. There were also some helpful suggestions regarding things we could do better, and we are working to make some improvements. 84.5% of you indicated you were overall "satisfied" with *News & Notes*, and another 12.8% said you were "neutral." 81% of you said you were also satisfied with the ***President's Message*** as a feature of *News & Notes,* and 9% of you stated your satisfaction was "neutral." I greatly appreciate the constructive feedback from so many of our subscribers. While I realize we can't satisfy everyone and 80 – 90% approval ratings are pretty high, we will do our best to continue the features you enjoy and make improvements, where possible. Please be on the lookout for some minor changes in the near future.

The start of the new academic year is just around the corner. Thank you to all of our chapters and alumni from around the country who have recruited students all year long, and have recently held send-off parties for students in their particular state and around the country. I've enjoyed seeing the wonderful pictures on Facebook by the Memphis and Dallas Chapters. Please continue to post them and tag me to keep me in the loop. The scholarship money you have raised and awarded to so many students will be extraordinarily helpful as they begin this new era of their lives. Preliminary indications are that enrollment numbers will be strong on the Baton Rouge campus, and we are looking forward to equally robust numbers from our SULC, SUNO, and SUSLA campuses as well.

On the chapter front, I had an opportunity to attend the Lake Charles Alumni Chapter meeting last night and swore in the new officers. Thank you to Chapter President, Chester Senegal, for the invitation and your commitment to reinvigorating this chapter. Among the new officers are SU Board member Raymond Fondel, and former Board member, Walter Guidry. Congratulations to all of the new officers! The chapter also hosted Lake Charles students who are attending or planning to join the Jaguar Nation this Fall or in the near future. We are also excited about the new calls we have been receiving recently from alumni who want to restart or charter new chapters. Keep them coming!

This weekend, I am traveling to Atlanta to join the Jaguar Foundation of Atlanta (JFA) President, Kenneth Davis, and Atlanta Chapter President and Federation Parliamentarian, Patricia Johnson, as the JFA hosts its annual Atlanta Achievement Awards. Our Atlanta alums always do a fantastic job organizing this event. Most importantly, the scholarships that are awarded at the Achievement Awards continue to help Atlanta-area students pay for a Southern University education. Congratulations, Atlanta Jaguars & Knights, on what I know will be a fantastic weekend of events.

Sincerely serving Southern,

Preston

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