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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Dear Southernites and Friends:

SU National Academic Signing Day was bigger and better than ever last weekend. Carlton B. Jones, Jr., the Federation's 3rd VP, led the planning for the event this year. Now in its third year, Carlton and his team took the event to another level. Unsung heroes like our very own, Khadijah Thompson, the Federation's Assistant Executive Director, worked her fingers to the bone to ensure every little detail was perfect. The participation by the University administration was exponentially better with President Belton, Interim Provost Luria Young, VP for Finance Flandus McClinton, Enrollment Management Director Dianna Gilbert Depron, and a host of other administrators attending. Here in Baton Rouge, the student participation was so great, Carlton and Khadijah had to move the Baton Rouge location from the Fieldhouse to the Event Center. Eldred Jackson with the TOP JAGS had an amazing number of students to attend. Nearly half the room was filled with TOP JAGS. Eldred and Patricia Deamer, you two deserve a standing ovation for the success you are having with this program!



Home Chapter gives out Scholarships at Academic Signing Day

	**Big turnout on the SUBR campus**
	**Atlanta Jags hosted new Jaguars on SU Academic Signing Day**

The chapter leaders around the country were incredible. Dallas Chapter President LaQuitta Thomas, Christopher Levy, Michelle Cross, and other Dallas Jags signed up lots of young Dallas scholars. Home Chapter President Cortny Jarrell fired up the crowd and gave scholarships to Louisiana students. Chicago Chapter President DuWarn Porter, Midwest Regional Recruiter Georgette Carter, and their chapter, not only hosted a great program, but also produced an entertaining YouTube video of their event. Check it out here in ***News & Notes***. The Federation Southern Regional Co-Director, Tammy Clark, Southern Regional Student Recruiter, Miranda Nixon, and the Atlanta Jags had a packed house of students and alums.

	**Federation 3rd VP and National Academic Signing Day Committee Chair, Carlton Jones, enjoying a successful event**
	**Dallas Chapter, looking great with new Jags and Federation 1st VP & Dallas Chapter President, LaQuitta Thomas**
	**Three of our new Jaguars preparing to sign their letters of intent, committing to attend SU!**

Houston Chapter President Tracey Taylor-Jarrell, Texas Regional Recruiter Vikki Berry, and the Houston Jaguars did a great job, as usual. We are expecting another big recruiting class from the state of Texas this Fall. Freddie Price, the Rapides Parish Chapter President and the Federation's new Louisiana Regional Co-Director, has been a warrior for students and alums. His chapter had a great showing and represented Central Louisiana well. I was so proud of Raymond Fondel, a member of the SU Board of Supervisors. He led the Lake Charles alums this year and hosted the event at a fellow board member, Dr. Samuel Tolbert's church. I really like seeing board members roll up their sleeves and get engaged with our alums and students.

	**SU Board Member, Raymond Fondel, led the charge in Lake Charles for National Academic Signing Day**
	**TOP JAGS Co-Chair, Eldred Jackson, spreading the good news about this successful alumni-led initiative**

This is truly a nationwide and systemwide recruiting campaign. Our sister campuses at SUSLA and SUNO have been wonderful partners in this event over the years, and did not disappoint us this year. We could not pull this off without them. One final shout-out to Clourth Wilson and the SU IT Department for managing the technology. Swinging from Chapter to Chapter around the country is a complicated technological undertaking, and we are getting better at it every year.

Finally, it's Crawfish Season, Jags and Knights. Good luck to the Houston Chapter tomorrow and the many other alums around the country who are bringing together Southern alumni and friends to celebrate our great University across this nation. These events are important to continue to keep the Southern Spirit alive.

Have fun "pinchin' tails and suckin' heads!" What a Louisiana tradition!!

Sincerely,

Preston

Preston J. Castille, Jr., Esq.
National President
HBCU Alumni Coalition President