

# SUNO

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY *at* NEW ORLEANS



# CHANCELLOR'S REPORT JULY 2023





## SUNO MILLIE M. CHARLES SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK HOSTED DR. DIXON CHIBANDA!



The SUNO Millie M Charles School of Social Work Grief and Trauma Center and the Community Healers Collaborative recently hosted Dr. Dixon Chibanda, founder and CEO of the Friendship Bench program, for a two-hour session.

Dr. Chibanda is recognized for his work in mental health, specifically his development of the Friendship Bench program in Zimbabwe. This program involves trained community grandmothers delivering talk therapy based on principles of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) from wooden park benches. In 2022 alone, over 100,000 people received therapy via this method.

During the session, Dr. Chibanda provided an in-depth explanation of the Friendship Bench program, detailing how it works, its success in Zimbabwe, and its potential for adaptation and implementation in other cultural and societal contexts. He emphasized the importance of integrating indigenous knowledge with western models of care, which forms the foundation of the Friendship Bench.

The faculty and staff showed keen interest in Dr. Chibanda's presentation, particularly in understanding how principles from the Friendship Bench program could be applied to further the work of the SUNO grief and trauma center. The discussion was interactive, with Dr. Chibanda responding to numerous questions, providing further insights into his work.

The event concluded with a discussion on potential collaboration efforts, with the idea of implementing a similar approach at the SUNO center being well-received. The visit by Dr. Chibanda provided valuable insights that could enhance the center's future work, making it a significant milestone for the SUNO Millie M Charles School of Social Work Grief and Trauma Center and the Community Healers Collaborative.



**Congressman Troy Carter hosted Dr. Eurmon Hervey, Interim Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, at the first annual HBCU Cares Symposium with several presidents about the importance of students' mental health at Martha's Vinyard.**

**The event focused on themes including reducing isolation, improving campus safety, and increasing access to health care providers.**

### STUDENT VOLUNTEER PICS FROM ANNA'S PLACE

SUNO scholar Ms. Dejuanna Beaulieu, a Business/Entrepreneurship major, dedicated her summer to volunteering at Anna's Place. Anna's Place NOLA was established in 2009 to address community needs after Hurricane Katrina and offers arts-based activities and academic support to the Tremé community. Ms. Beaulieu completed her 60 hours of service learning, enjoying her time working with children and contributing to her community through Anna's Place.





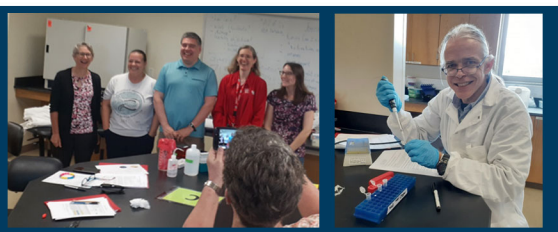
# COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL SCIENCES

Dr. Illya Tietzel participated from July 18-27, 2023, in the "CRISPR-Cas9 in the Classroom Workshop 2023" at the University of Houston in Texas. This workshop was organized by the steering committee members Drs. Donna Pattison, Michael Wolyniak, Tiffany Hoage, Anil Challa, Dawn Carter, Jay Pieczynski, Latanya Hammonds-Odie, Maria Santisteban, Nicholas Ruppel, and Sara Olson. Participants received hands-on training and theoretical background to initiate and implement the modern DNA technology of CRISPR-Cas9 in the classroom as a lab technique.

The National Science Foundation funded the workshop, award RCN-UBE: Bringing CRISPR-Cas9 technologies to the undergraduate classroom: an undergraduate instructors' network.

Dr. Illya Tietzel pipetted reagents for the CRISPR-Cas9 DNA technology at the "CRISPR in the Classroom Workshop 2023" from July 18 -21, 2023, at the University of Houston, Texas.



The steering committee members Drs. Dawn Carter, Sara Olson, Michael Wolyniak, Donna Pattison, and Tiffany Hoage (shown from left to right), at "CRISPR-Cas9 in the Classroom Workshop 2023" at the University of Houston, Texas, and other participants.

Dr. Illya Tietzel was invited and accepted to serve as a Review Editor on the Editorial Board for *Frontiers in Cellular and Infection Microbiology*. Review editors review manuscripts submitted for publication. The journal has an impact factor of 5.7, and the publisher Frontiers was 2022, the third most cited publisher.

Dr. Illya Tietzel served in July 2023 as a visiting Scientist during the Healthy Mind Healthy Body summer camp at SUNO, which Dr. Celina Carson of the College of Education & Human Development is leading.

Dr. Tietzel introduces hands-on biology to different age groups. One group is elementary school kids; the other cohort is middle school kids.



Dr. Bashir Atteia submitted the NIH PAR-23-138 application for the Instrumentation Grant Program for Resource-Limited Institutions (S10) on Monday, July 3, 2023. The application is titled "A Cell Sorter for Advancing Biomedical Research and Education" and is directed to the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health.

On Wednesday, July 12, 2023, Dr. Bashir Atteia reviewed the manuscript titled "The Immune and Metabolic Treatment Approach of Testosterone on a Mice Model of Liver Injury" that has been submitted to the journal *Frontiers in Pharmacology*, specifically the section on Gastrointestinal and Hepatic Pharmacology. The authors

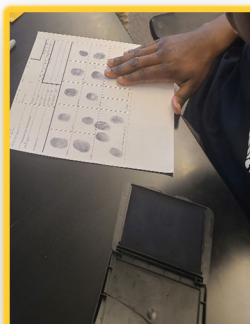
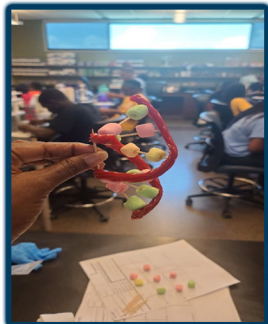
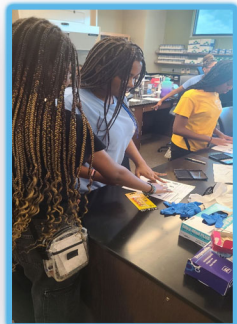
of the manuscript are Johnny Amer, Ahmad Salhab, Hadeel Snobar, and Yazan AlHabil from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at An-Najah National University in Nablus, Palestine.

Dr. Atteia and co-authors submitted a literature review manuscript titled "The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Prevalence and Severity of Internet Addiction: Current and Future Public Health Challenges" to the *Public Health Open Journal* on Thursday, July 13, 2023. The authors of the manuscript are Dr. Rachid Belmasrour, Ph.D.; Abdelmounaim Fillali, Mathematics Undergraduate Student; Naya Kendrick, Biology Undergraduate Student; Serene Stoudemire, Biology Undergraduate Student; Dr. Christian Clement, Ph.D.; Dr. Illya Tietzel, Ph.D.; Dr. Mostafa Elaasarm, Ph.D.; and Dr. Bashir M. Rezk, Ph.D.



## **FORENSIC SCIENCE PROGRAM**

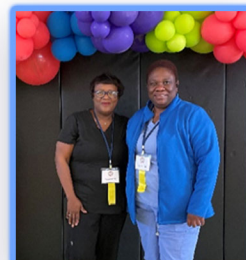
Dr. Meiko Thompson presented two workshops to the Teen College and Career Readiness HMHB Program, managed by Ms. Shatiqua Mosby-Wilson. Students made DNA molecules and did two types of fingerprint development. They also had the opportunity to discuss careers in Forensic Science.



Drs. Meiko Thompson and Lisa Mims-Devezin's manuscript was accepted for publication: Exploring the Intersection of Forensic Science Education: Bridging Forensic Anthropology and Archaeology. Arch & Anthropol Open Acc. 4(5). AAOA. 000617. 2023.

## **SCHOOL OF NURSING**

On Friday, July 21, 2023, SUNO School of Nursing, Sim lab Coordinator Abigail Glapion and student nurse Chikadoili Osuji participated in the International Dental Association conference. This convention provided nurses and students the opportunity to be a vital part of population health through NORD Community Centers for underserved school-aged children that may not have an opportunity to be a part of dental care in their environment. IDA ended the convention with a guided tour through its exhibition hall, presenting Oral Health as a Team Approach to population health.



## **HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS PROGRAM**



Mrs. Sharon McGee attended an AHIMA American Health Information Management Association Revenue Cycle practice council meeting on July 19, 2023. She serves as a member of the practice council.



Mr. John Barrilleaux attended the River Parishes Community College HEIT Advisory Committee meeting on July 20, 2023. Mr. Barrilleaux was invited to the board as a state leader in Health Information Management. He has been a member of this advisory committee for two years. This membership allows for developing relationships with potential students from the community college and the faculty in the medical coding and health information programs.



Mr. Jairus Ballard attended the Content Development Meeting for AHIMA on July 25, 2023. He's also working on the committee, preparing questions for the Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA) Exam.



# SUNO BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CYBERSECURITY



**APPLY  
TODAY**  
**CLICK HERE**

**CLASSES BEGIN**

**FALL 2023**



Exciting updates for the launch of the Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity Program at Southern University New Orleans!

- SUNO has been accepted as a member of the Minority Serving - Cyberinfrastructure Consortium (MS-CC), which will enable the university to secure funding for the cybersecurity program.
- SUNO has been formally accepted into the Cisco Networking Academy, joining only three other Cisco Academies in New Orleans - Herzing, City of New Orleans, and Herzing University. Being an HBCU, SUNO receives free benefits for content with no additional costs.
- SUNO has also established a corporate social responsibility (CSR) education program partnership with Cisco, which provides free curriculum and tools to SUNO, including the learning platform, instructor development, student career resources, and more. The cybersecurity and IT courses are focused on career skills and include industry certifications. There are free career resources through the Talent Bridge program to match students and alumni to over 650 employers, internships for students, and courses aligned with industry certifications that employers seek.



## CENTER FOR AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM



(July 21) Dr. Robertson submitted the revisions of the article, Pontchartrain Park Pioneers: An Oral History of New Orleans' Civil Rights Era Segregated Black "Suburb in the City" to the Oral History Yearbook, published by a major international oral history center in Wroclaw, Poland.

(August 1 & 3) Dr. Robertson will produce an Oral History Project featuring Professor Ron Bechet for the BOMB Magazine Oral History Project. The New York City-based publication features oral histories of several New Orleans area visual artists.

(August 2) Dr. Robertson is a panelist for the 2023 National Endowment for the Humanities, Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities

## MUSEUM STUDIES PROGRAM

On July 17, 2023, the Master of Arts in Museum Studies Program released a video about its upcoming trip to Egypt. The trip is open to all students, faculty, staff, and community members.





**WE LOOK  
FOWARD TO  
NEXT MONTH'S  
UPDATES!**

## **CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

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