



# TSU E-News

YOUR WEEKLY TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY ELECTRONIC NEWS & INFORMATION SOURCE  
FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS – (713) 313-7933

April 2-8, 2018

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## Honors Convocation commemorates academic achievement



Clare Bailey (TSU '05, Valedictorian), urges Tigers to be strong national and global citizens. Students join in singing the Alma Mater at the close of the Convocation.

Texas Southern University celebrated top students from each of the 10 colleges in the annual Honors Day Convocation on April 5 in the H&PE Arena. Academic distinction was heralded, including a strong showing of students with a GPA of 4.0.

President **Austin A. Lane** and Provost **Kendall Harris** awarded citations with the assistance of deans in each of the respective colleges.

**Clare Bailey** (TSU '05) delivered the address urging students to focus on academics, but remain engaged in society. She listed hashtags from most of the current social movements to illustrate the necessity of being aware and involved.

“Be eager to demand justice, we must seek justice for all. The justice that I speak of is inclusive, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender expression,

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## On The Road for TSU: An Interview with Brian Armstrong



He's the man seen across campus with the black bag filled with information about Texas Southern University. While in between flights to recruit outside the Houston area, Armstrong shared why he loves identifying new Tigers.

*What do you like most about your position?* I help recruit students to attend Texas Southern University. I also work in outreach to school systems and work with alumni at college fairs and to set up visits to high schools to showcase TSU's academic programs and students.

*Where do you think TSU has the most success regarding its recruitment efforts?* All over Texas, TSU is having success with recruiting new students, but the Dallas-Fort Worth area is showing the most success with our recruitment efforts. Our community partners, school administrators and counselors offer invaluable assistance.

*Are there any other areas that are having success?* We are showing success in the Beaumont/Port Arthur area, Austin and San Antonio. We have set aggressive goals from these areas and our alumni are making a huge difference in helping us to be successful.

*How critical are partnerships to our recruitment efforts?* Partnerships are paramount to our recruitment efforts. We have started to partner with organizations across the nation to formalize our efforts and we are seeing success with our partnerships and are actively seeking new

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## Colorful event launches *For the Sake of Art* fundraiser



Dr. Alvia Wardlaw greets the audience at the *For the Sake of Art* kick-off in the University Museum. A model (right) showcases a piece of wearable art at the event

The *For the Sake of Art* wearable art competition set the stage for its 2018 event with a few stunning pieces on display during a reception on March 29 with 150 guests at TSU's University Museum. This year's competition received a record number of applicants from across the country and their work will be inspired by the art of Radcliffe Bailey.

*For the Sake of Art* will be held June 9, 2018 at the Hilton Americas Hotel. Co-chairs are Mary Auzenne, Gaynell Drexler and Evelyn Washington. The event is a biennial fundraiser to showcase the art of emerging

designers and distinctive artists, and supports TSU's permanent collection of African-American art. Dr. **Alvia Wardlaw** is the curator and director of the University Museum.



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partnerships to help connect students with our services.

*How significant are alumni to helping TSU recruit new students?* Alumni play a major role in our recruitment efforts. We are limited in our ability to visit every high school and community college, but our vast network of alumni can help us to develop and sustain a strong local presence. Through the Office of Alumni Relations, we are able to connect with alumni all over the country who volunteer numerous hours to serve their alma mater.

*What are the questions students are asking as they consider attending TSU?* Students always ask about our athletic programs, the debate team and the Ocean of Soul Marching Band. These areas help to promote the university throughout the nation. Other popular questions from prospective students involve campus life and scholarship programs.

*What new areas are being considered for recruitment efforts?* We are researching areas including Memphis, Denver, Phoenix, Cleveland, Miami, Kansas City, Oklahoma City and New York for recruitment efforts.

*How important is your role in helping students understand the admission process?* My role is very important to help new students connect with our services and resources. Students have a central point of contact to help navigate their new student experience.

*What are some ways alumni can help with recruiting new students?* Alumni can help the university connect with potential students by attending local college fairs, visiting area high schools and community colleges, and providing information through civic groups, churches, and organizations. Every city has some type of recruitment activity, almost monthly, and these events are ideal opportunities for our alumni to help us promote our brand and services.

*What are you most looking forward to in this new role?* In my Outreach Services role, I am looking forward to establishing new relationships in communities and school systems across the country where Texas Southern becomes a permanent fixture. I look forward to continuing to work with alumni to help them understand the admission and enrollment process and connect them to our students. I am very excited to serve in this role and look forward to the new relationships we will build. Alumni all over the state and nation are responding to our requests to assist with recruitment and we are grateful for their support and volunteering their time.

## TSU commemorates Autism Awareness Month at University Museum



April is Autism Awareness Month and TSU's University Museum will display works created by artists with autism. "Faces of Autism" is the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Art Exhibit at the university that will be available for viewing through April 15. Autism Awareness Month at TSU is sponsored by the Department of Human Services and Consumer Sciences and facilitated by Dr. **Kimona Dixon**.

There will be a Gallery Talk and reception for artists Celestine Pollard, daughter of Dr. **Dianne Jemison Pollard**, and Noah Dixon, son of Dr. Dixon on Monday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the museum. Drs. Dixon and Pollard will detail their journey as mothers of autistic

children and share how the arts can improve both social skills and verbal development in children diagnosed with autism. Both the exhibit and Gallery Talk are free and open to the public.

The kick-off program was held April 2 at the museum and featured artwork by students from Avondale House, The Westview School and Gardens Elementary, along with individual artists Noah Dixon and Celestine Pollard. Avondale House students also performed instrumental selections at the event. Joseph Dixon is Noah's father and the art and music teacher at all three schools. For more information, contact Dr. Dixon at ext. 7630.

## TSU Tigers swing for the fence in academics and on the diamond



Professor Austin James and baseball Head Coach Michael Robertson (center) work together to combine academics and athletics on the road.

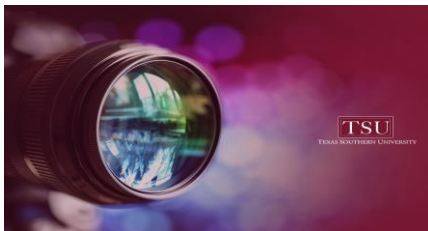
The TSU Tigers baseball team used downtime on the road get ahead in the classroom. The University's English Department partnered with student-athletes in a mobile classroom try-out. Professor **Austin James** traveled on the bus with the team in late March on their way to Louisiana for a three-game series with Grambling State.

James delivered two specialty lessons on the round trip – strategies for maximizing learning outcomes and communicating effectively with professors.

"I'm excited about this partnership and I know the student-athletes are too. These on-the-bus learning experiences will prove invaluable. Everybody hits, everybody gets on base, and everybody wins. Plus, learning's fun," James said.

The road trip was an opportunity for athletes and a professor to enjoy company, camaraderie, and learning in a distinctive environment.

## Submit an interesting story or idea to the Office of Communications



Texas Southern University's Office of Marketing and Communications wants to hear from you! Share information about yourself, a fellow student, fellow alum or fellow staff member.

Click here for the fillable form or send an email to [media@tsu.edu](mailto:media@tsu.edu).



## Honors ...

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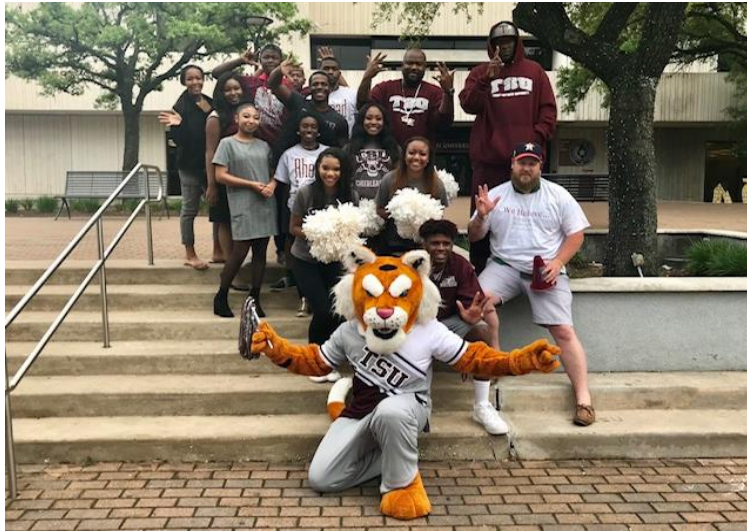
age, height, weight, physical or mental ability. Embrace the full intensity of the fight,” Bailey said.

She referenced the Civil Rights Movement in Houston and the 17 Texas Southern students who led a sit-in at Weingarten’s in March 1960. Bailey stressed that today’s students must be bold and committed.

“You are rooted in your mission, and like Tigers before you, history will tell your story,” she said.

Bailey is a business strategist for the Branson Centre of Entrepreneurship-Caribbean, developing progressive and diverse company solutions for Fortune 500 and start-ups in South Africa, Jamaica and the United States. She was valedictorian of her undergraduate class in 2005, SGA president and president of the renowned Debate Team. Bailey earned both a bachelor’s in Business Administration-Marketing and a master’s in Business Administration from Texas Southern.

**Kalifa Kelly**, a senior Chemistry major and Honors College member, delivered the invocation. **David Anderson**, a senior Finance major and Honors College member, introduced the Convocation speakers. **Destiny Riddle**, a freshman pre-Pharmacy major, delivered the announcements and **Kyle B. Spears**, a junior Music major, led the assembly in singing the *Alma Mater*. **Christopher Jones**, a freshman Entertainment and Recording Industry Management major and Honors College member, delivered the benediction. A musical selection from the cast of *Dido and Aeneas* was directed by **Jolie Rocke Brown**, director of the TSU Opera Workshop, and the University Wind Ensemble was led by interim Director **Clarence Gibson**.



Rex and our TSU Tiger community were on the Tiger Walk early in the morning on April 6 to show school spirit during three live segments on FOX26 with Nate Griffin. Dr. **Thomas Freeman**, Dr. **Merline Pitre**, Dr. **Charles McClelland**, Dr. **Raphael Moffet** and TSU head coaches **Mike Davis** and **Michael Haywood** gave on-camera interviews to boost Texas Southern during Fox’s morning show.

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
SAVE THE DATE

# MAROON & GRAY *Affair*

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018  
MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOTEL

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
[WWW.TSU.EDU](http://WWW.TSU.EDU) OR CALL US AT 713-313-7073.

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90  
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