TSU expands online learning capability with new high-performance network service

Texas Southern has partnered with Comcast Business to expand the University’s network. Comcast’s high-performance Ethernet services will increase bandwidth to support TSU’s growing student population and aid online learning. The updated service will provide advanced technology services to improve campus-wide communications and strengthen network access, mobile device management and security.

“Our mission is to offer innovative programs that help our students develop into lifelong learners, engaged citizens and creative leaders in their local, national and global communities,” TSU President Austin Lane said. “Today, this just isn’t possible without high-speed internet.”

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Home Depot campus improvement competition returns to TSU, voting begins February 24

The Home Depot is back with its 2017 Retool Your School program. Texas Southern has been nominated and is now eligible to move into the voting phase of the process. The University has the opportunity to win up to $50,000 in campus improvement grants from the corporation. This is the eighth year that TSU has participated in the competition.

Online voting begins Friday, February 24 and ends Sunday, April 16, 2017. Faculty, staff, alumni and TSU supporters are encouraged to vote daily by using our designated hashtag/handle via social media and through online voting at retardoolyourschool.com. TSU’s Instagram hashtag is #TSU_RYS17 and our Twitter handle is @TeamTSU.

Gridiron Glory update

Gridiron Glory: The Best of the Pro Football Hall of Fame exhibit was busy with patrons last week. More than 200 students and visitors from various schools and community centers visited the Museum and celebrated Diane Nicholson Jones’ birthday with a party and tour. The Madison High School entourage included 80 students, Northside had 35 students, while

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TSU professor, alumni edit national criminal justice journal


This special issue – described as Criminology for the Oppressed – provides a space for critical, revolutionary thought informed by nontraditional theories, including ideas drawn from Critical Race Theory, Marxist Criminology, Historical Criminology, Queer Studies, and a range of Critical Feminist theoretical perspectives.

Articles in the journal identify the State as the central force for constructing oppression through mechanisms of criminalization. Criminology and Criminal Justice studies often have a narrow scope of analysis, disregarding socio-economic factors contributing to criminality and victimization, intentionally constructed to reproduce systemic oppression by defining what crimes and which people are criminal. The concept of this issue was designed to promote transformative social change from

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TSU presence sought for biannual legislative summit

Show your support for Texas Southern University by volunteering on February 27 to attend the Texas Legislative Black Caucus Biannual African-American Legislative Summit in Austin. TSU administrators, alumni, students, faculty and staff will travel to the State Capitol to meet with legislators to discuss the University’s priorities and demonstrate support for TSU’s legislative agenda. The delegation will be recognized in the chamber during the legislative session.

Buses will leave campus at 5:15 a.m. to transport the TSU contingent. Check-in begins at 4:45 a.m. in the lobby of Sterling Student Life Center. Buses will depart Austin at 3:30 p.m. Registration is required to attend. Snacks and lunch will be provided. Participants are required to wear business professional attire with maroon and gray accents. Seating is limited and registration is required by February 23. Register at https://2017tsudayfeb27.eventbrite.com.

For more information, call Dominique Calhoun, director of Government and Community Relations, at (713) 313-7640.

Madison High School students surround Diane Nicholson Jones (center) at the exhibit.
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and cutting-edge network services. Our partnership with Comcast Business enables us to provide our students with the technological advantages they need to succeed – not only here at the university, but in the real world as well.”

TSU turned to Comcast Business to bring a high-performance network to nearly 40 buildings across campus. The University significantly upgraded its available bandwidth with a 10 Gigabit-per-second (Gbps) Ethernet Dedicated Internet connection from Comcast. TSU’s previous capacity from a different supplier was only 1 Gigabit-per-second. Now, one building has the same amount of bandwidth that was previously designated for the entire campus and has significantly faster internet speeds.

The powerful combination of added capacity and lightning-fast internet enables TSU to improve network access and mobile device management; enhance overall communication between students and faculty; and provide students with high-performance network services, including live streaming video and audio for digital classrooms and other online education initiatives. TSU’s IT department also has enhanced network security and fewer user complaints about the internet connection.

Gridiron...continued from page 1

20 students visited from Booker T. Washington High School. The Shape Community Center and the Positive Black Male group also brought students. Nicholson Jones’ birthday celebration raised $7,000...and counting for student scholarship. She challenges others to create a giving opportunity while the exhibit is still fresh on the campus.

Young people said they had a blast along with their chaperones, coaches and teachers. TSU students also visited the exhibit, including classes led by professors Lacey Reynolds and Serbino Sandifer-Walker, the Sports Blog team, Radio and TV classes, and music classes. The exhibit is still receiving media attention, including a segment on KPFT radio last Sunday.

This week, Gridiron visitors will include TSU’s National Alumni Association with their “Ultimate Tailgate at the Gridiron” event, The Houston Texans, and Victory Prep Academy.

TSU Theatre hosts two productions in February

TSU Theatre will present The Door of No Return, a new play written and directed by Professor Thomas Meloncon. Performances in the Ollington Smith Playhouse are scheduled for February 23 at 3:00 p.m., February 24 at 3:00 and 8:00 p.m., and February 25 at 3:00 p.m. The production was written and designed to be performed during Black History Month.

A children’s play, The Poet and the Rent by David Mamet, will be performed in the Granville Sawyer Auditorium on February 28 and March 2 at 10:00 a.m. for public school audiences, and for the general public on March 3 at 7:00 p.m. and March 4 at 3:00 p.m.

The production, directed by Theatre Professor Rosarito Rodríguez-González, will make young and old laugh as they meet a poor poet named David. His $60 rent is overdue, so he is forced to recite poems for money in the park, look for a job, and become friends with thieves.

Tickets for The Door of No Return will be sold only at the door for all three shows. Call the theatre box office at (713) 313-7157 for more information. Tickets for The Poet and the Rent can be purchased online at www.poetandrent.brownpapertickets.com.

The Theatre program at Texas Southern University produces four plays every year that range from the classical to the experimental. This season opened with the beloved For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When The Rainbow is Enuf by Ntozake Shange and Tartuffe, a classic by Molière.

University Calendar 2017

TSU Events at a Glance for February 2017 - April 2017

Monday, January 30 - Sunday, April 30, 2017
Gridiron Glory: The Best of the Pro Football Hall of Fame
University Museum, 10:00 a.m - 8:00 p.m. M-S; 10:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sun.
Click Here for tickets

Friday, February 17, 2017
Casey Grant Book Signing - Meet and Greet
Stars in the Sky: Stories of the first African American Flight Attendants
TSU Bookstore, 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 18 - Sunday, February 19, 2017
TSU Jazz Ensemble and Houston Symphony collaborate on R&B Mixtape
Jones Hall 615 Louisiana St., 7:00 p.m. Sat.; 6:30 p.m. Sun.
For ticket information, contact Dr. Jason Oby at 713-313-7263

Saturday, February 18, 2017
Gridiron Glory Alumni Ultimate Tailgate Party
University Museum, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Reserve your spot at cochrancl@tsu.edu or 713-313-1363

Sunday, February 19, 2017
TSU Choir Concert
Latter Day Deliverance Revival Church, 4:00 p.m.
4036 Lyons Avenue, Houston 77020

Monday, February 20, 2017
President’s Day Holiday
Campus closed

Honoring and Celebrating Barbara Jordan's Birthday and Her Legacy at Work
A Discussion: Increasing the Quality of Life in Black America
Public Affairs Bldg., Room 114, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

More events on page 3
University Calendar 2017

TSU Events at a Glance for February 2017 - April 2017

Tuesday, February 21, 2017
Youth Drug Prevention and Seminar and Film Screening
Chasing the Dragon: Life of an Opiate Addict
School of Public Affairs Room 114, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Disability Awareness Day
Student Center Lobby, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The Ultimate Black History Month Program
Featuring David Banner and Stogie Kenyatta
Education Auditorium, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 22, 2017
Black History Luncheon and Talent Showcase
Student Center Dining Hall, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
To participate, call 713-313-5033 or 713-313-7587

The Honorable Kenneth M. Hoyt Lecture
Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Rooms 105-107, Noon

The Financial Aid Puzzle Seminar
Robert J. Terry Library - 3rd Floor Computer Lab,
Noon - 2:00 p.m.
Two participants may win one of two $1,000 scholarships

16th annual Barbara Jordan Memorial Lecture
Lecturer: James Michael Keller, News Editor, KRIV Fox 26
Education Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 23, 2017
Conversation with Ashton P. Woods - Black Lives Matter
and the Fight Against Anti-black Racism
School of Public Affairs Room 114, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
For more information, contact Dr. Jeffrey Lowe at lowejs@tsu.edu

Get the Love You Want
Student Health Center Conference Room, 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
For more information or to register call 713-313-6806 or 713-313-7804

Thursday, February 23 – Saturday, February 25, 2017
TSU Theater presents The Door of No Return
Ollington Smith Playhouse, 2/23, 3:00 p.m.; 2/24, 3:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.; 2/25, 3:00 p.m.
Limited seating - Tickets sold at the door - $5
Written and directed by Thomas Meloncon