



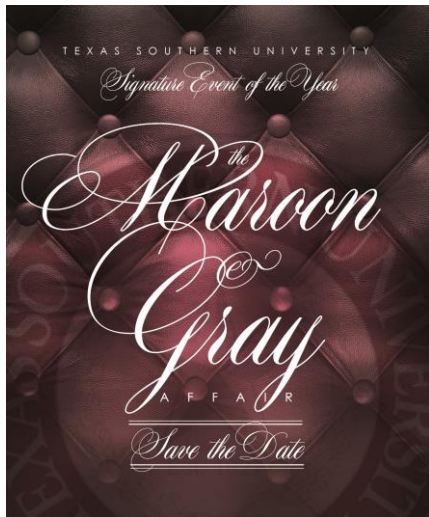
TSU E-News

YOUR WEEKLY TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY ELECTRONIC NEWS & INFORMATION SOURCE
FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS – (713) 313-4205

February 20-26, 2017

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Texas Southern University Gala – A Maroon & Gray Affair to Raise Money for Student Scholarships



Texas Southern University (TSU) is launching a fresh tradition with the premiere of *The Maroon & Gray Affair*. This black-tie gala will be held at 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 29 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel Houston. Proceeds from the event will benefit the student scholarship fund.

TSU First Lady **Loren Lane** saw an immediate need for scholarships among bright and talented students. It did not take long for her to transform her idea into action. Working in concert with the University she created *The Maroon & Gray Affair* — an event sure to become a time-honored TSU tradition. *The Maroon & Gray Affair* draws inspiration from the University’s hallmark colors to present an evening of elegance in support of student scholarships and programs.

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others,” is Mrs. Lane’s personal motto – a quote from Mahatma Gandhi.

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TSU's Waller named SWAC Bowler of the Year



Sophomore **Denisyha Waller** was named Bowler of the Year at the 2017 Southwestern Athletic Conference Bowling tournament on February 19 in D’Iberville, Mississippi. Waller was the only bowler with a 200 average for the regular season, knocking down 206.9 pins per contest. The Lady Tigers finished just one game shy of winning the 2017 SWAC

bowling title, and just a few pins short of claiming second place behind Prairie View and Jackson State.

Local author sparks FBI investigation of Russian hacking



Dr. **Bobby Mills**, author of *American Society: upside down*, will hold a discussion and book signing event at the TSU Bookstore on February 23 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The book of sociological essays on the 2016 presidential election has led to an FBI investigation into the hacking of Mills’ e-mails with Russian links.

According to Dr. Mills, “the 2016 Presidential election flipped American society ‘up-side down’ and inside-out spiritually, morally and above all, exposed America’s white privilege-oriented underbelly. Moreover, the world community witnessed the good, the bad, and the ugly side of America’s historic struggle to live up to the true spiritual meaning of the Preamble as well as the U.S. Constitution.”

Dr. Mills will discuss several essays from the book, including the *Trump Phenomenon*, *Missing Moral Links in our Political Dialogue*, *The Aftermath: A Nation Divided* and more.

COE honors top educators at Excellence gala



Texas Southern University’s College of Education honored exemplary alumni February 16 at its Excellence in Education Gala. Honorees are (front row, from left) Dr. **Nicole McZeal Walters**, Dr. **Emma Amacker**, Dr. **Cherry Gooden**, Dr. **Quinella A. Minix**, **Tailis Grant**, Dr. **Melanie Johnson**; (back row, from left) Dr. **Christopher Pichon**, Dr. **Jennifer Roberts**, **Danielle Robinson** (representing Dr. **Rod Paige**), **Sonja Dixon**, **Felicia Ceaser-White**, **Lorena Marie Barker** and **DeAndra Waters**.

Texas Southern University’s College of Education (COE) honored outstanding alumni educators February 16 at its Excellence in Education Gala.

Two graduates from COE’s disciplines including Counseling, Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Administration and Foundations, and Health and Kinesiology, along with four

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TSU News

The **deadline** to submit news or information for **TSU E-News** is Thursday’s at noon for the following week’s edition. Submissions may be sent to calliskd@tsu.edu or pickensek@tsu.edu.

For any questions or comments, call Eva Pickens at 713-313-4205.

TSU E-News NOW Credits:

Andrew McCray-Media Writer/Graphics; Earlie Hudnall-University Photographer; Karen Celestan-Executive Writer/Editor; Kendrick Callis-Communications Specialist; Rodney Bush Marketing/Communications; Tiffany Asberry-Administrative Assistant; Eva Pickens-VP of University Advancement



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These words encapsulate her commitment to securing the financial support necessary for these promising young minds.

The Maroon & Gray Affair will build on TSU's historic success in supporting students, particularly those who are first in their family to attend college, which represents more than 60% of our student population. Nearly 90% of TSU students receive some form of financial assistance. Funds from the gala will be designated to close the gap for students and prevent them from dropping out due to a lack of finances. President Lane and TSU administrators want students to focus on their education — not on holding multiple jobs just to make it to the baccalaureate finish line.

"Our students don't drop out due to lack of ability, they stop out due to a lack of funds," said President Lane. "We can drastically improve our annual graduation and retention rates by providing our students with a bridge over their financial challenges." The funds raised through The Maroon & Gray Affair will allow these incredible young people to matriculate unencumbered from the start of their freshman year to the moment they walk across the graduation stage.

One such student is **Tramauni Brock**, the University's current student regent. Brock was in a situation many of our students find themselves in. She had taken out all the loans and awards available, and her parents could not co-sign on another loan. She faced an outstanding balance with the University which prevented her from enrolling in school. It seemed she would have to "stop out." Thankfully, scholarship funds were made available just in time to insure her future remains bright.

"Without receiving that scholarship I would not have been able to stay enrolled in the University and could not have returned the following semester," Brock stated. "This scholarship allowed me to stay enrolled in school and therefore paved the way for me to be able to network and work hard." She continued, "This landed me in the pharmacy school where I am currently a P1. I also now have the opportunity to serve as the Student Regent for the 2016-2017 school year."

Mrs. Lane pointed out, "This is what we are all about at Texas Southern — taking our resources and providing one-on-one support to guide young people over the threshold and into a new life."

Mrs. Lane continued, "Once you know the story, it's just one more step to match the student with the right kind of help. It makes all the difference in the world."

A strong host committee has been formed – a virtual "Who's Who of Houston" – who are in line with Mrs. Lane's vision to aid young scholars who, in turn, will contribute to the city, the nation and the world.

The Maroon & Gray Affair will feature a prominent keynote speaker, a tribute to students and alumni who will be honored in presentation, as well as live entertainment and a lot more. For more information about sponsorships, VIP tables or individual tickets, contact TSU's Office of Development, visit www.tsu.edu or call TSU at 713-313-6844 or 713-313-1363.

Tiger Track and Field teams finish strong at SWAC



Texas Southern Lady Tigers Track and Field team finished in second place at the 2017 SWAC Indoor Championship and the TSU men's team finished third. Notable female competitors included **Miriam Pierre** (17.48m) and **Shamiya Blake** (17.02m), finishing second and third respectively in the women's weight throw; **Nikole Haroon** (56.49), who claimed the bronze in the 400-meter dash; **Mariah Stewart** (2:18.53), who won the silver in the 800-meter run; **Breana Dockery** (24.48), who finished third in the 200-meter dash; and the 4x400-meter relay team (3:47.79) finished second.

Notable male competitors included **Terrell Perry** (15.74m), who finished second in the men's weight throw; **Maliel Kendall** (8.01s),

who won the 60-meter hurdles; **D'Andre Lewis** (4:26.86), who successfully defended his conference championship in the mile run; **Tevin Kimble** (15.13m) took silver in the triple jump; and **Jawalyn Brooks** (4.65m) won bronze in the pole vault.

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 pm. 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**, allows the audience to 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.

WE CONGRATULATE The Following:



MEN'S - B-BALL TIGERS - #1 in SWAC

LADY TIGERS - #2 in SWAC

WOMEN TRACK & FIELD, 2nd PLACE AT INDOOR MEET IN BIRMINGHAM, ALA

MEN'S TRACK, 3rd PLACE AT INDOOR MEET IN BIRMINGHAM, ALA

DENISYHA WALLER, 2017 SWAC BOWLER OF THE YEAR

VISIT: WWW.TSUSPORTS.COM FOR UPCOMING GAMES AND EVENTS



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recognition exemplifying the characteristics of a caring, committed, competent and culturally responsive educator as outlined in the COE's conceptual framework.

Dr. **Rod Paige**, former TSU COE dean, football coach and athletic director, HISD superintendent, U.S. Secretary of Education and current Jackson State University interim president, along with Dr. **Cherry Gooden**, retired COE professor and department chair, Hero in Education and W.E.B. Dubois Higher Education Award recipient, and mentor to countless COE alumni, were each presented with Dean Awards for their trailblazing careers as educators and contributions to TSU.

"We were excited to honor our alumni who make a difference and are change-agents with America's youth", said COE Dean **Lillian B. Poats**. "As I visited with them and heard their stories, I was amazed by the work that they have done and the paths that they have traveled. From the halls of the Roderick R. Paige College of Education Building to the world at-large, they have excelled in their various environments and I could be more proud of all them and their accomplishments."

Counseling honorees were Dr. **Jennifer Roberts** and Dr. **Quinella A. Minix**. Roberts earned her doctorate in Counselor Education from TSU and currently serves as the director of Student Support Services for Lamar Consolidated Independent School District where she provides professional support for counselors, social workers, and district at-risk initiatives such as the teen pregnancy program, Activities Supporting Adolescent Parents (ASAP) and the social-service resource center, Common Threads. Minix earned her master's degree in counseling and a Doctor of Education in counselor education from TSU. She is a licensed professional counselor supervisor, certified employee assistance professional, and board-certified coach with over 20 years of experience in health care and behavioral health.

Curriculum and Instruction honorees were Dr. **Emma Amacker** and Dr. **Melanie Johnson**. Amacker earned her doctorate of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with a program emphasis in Urban Education from TSU. She retired as an associate professor of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at TSU after more than 57 years teaching everything from kindergarten to higher education. Johnson earned her doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from TSU and is president and CEO of the John P. McGovern Museum of Health and Medical Sciences, also known as The Health Museum. She is the first African American to hold a senior position in the history of the Houston Museum District.

Educational Administration and Foundations honorees were Dr. **Nicole McZeal Walters** and Dr. **Christopher Pichon**. McZeal Walters has a master's and doctorate of Educational Leadership from TSU, and serves as the associate dean of Graduate Programs at the University of St. Thomas and is an assistant professor of Educational Leadership. Pichon earned his doctorate degree in Educational Administration from TSU. He serves as senior director for School Administration in Galena Park ISD and is an adjunct professor in TSU's COE Graduate Program. Health and Kinesiology honorees were Felicia Ceaser-White and Sonja Dixon. Ceaser-White earned her bachelor's in Human Performance from TSU and is the manager of Health and Physical Education in HISD where she oversees all Health/Physical Education curriculum and programs at the elementary and secondary level for all 283 campuses. Dixon earned her bachelor's in Physical Education and masters of Education in Educational Administration from TSU and is pursuing a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from TSU. Sonja has served HISD students for 26 years where she has worked as a teacher/coach, high school administrator, and her current position as assistant athletics director.

Exemplary Teachers honored were **Lorena Marie Barker** (Interdisciplinary Studies with concentration in Elementary Education), **BreSean André Cockrell** (Mathematics with a concentration in Secondary Education), **Tailis Grant** (Interdisciplinary Studies), and **DeAndra Waters** (Early Childhood Education). The sold-out event raised funds for student scholarships to help COE attract and educate high-quality candidates striving to be teachers, administrators, counselors, and health and sports professionals.

"Last night was an amazing event, so well executed and inspiring," said honoree Jennifer Roberts. "Events like that don't just happen, and when they look like they do, it means that the event was well thought out, planned and delivered. As I hung my plaque in my office this morning, I was reminded of the feeling I had when I sat in my first graduate course at TSU....my bar has been raised and I must rise to the occasion."

Regional Intramural Basketball Championships at TSU



TSU's Recreation Center in collaboration with the University of Houston's Campus Recreation Center will co-host the National Intramural Recreation and Sports Association (NIRSA) Region IV Intramural Basketball Tournament March 3-5, 2017. The 56-team tournament, dubbed the "Space City Shoot Out," will feature top men's and women's intramural basketball teams from around the country.

Games will begin at the "Rec" on Friday, March 3 at 5 p.m. and continue all day Saturday, March 4, beginning at 8:30 a.m. TSU will have several intramural and club teams competing in the tournament. Each champion from the men's and women's divisions will receive an automatic bid to the National Intramural Basketball Championships held at Ohio State University. Come out and support TSU teams during the tournament!

Both TSU and U of H campus rec centers will serve as a host site for the tournament throughout the weekend. The dual-host site concept was the brainchild of Jeremy Lewis, program coordinator of Rec Sports at TSU and Brian Mills, assistant director of Rec Sports at the University of Houston.

TSU is a founding member of NIRSA, established in 1950 by 22 intramural directors from 11 Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

University Calendar 2017

TSU Events for January 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 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sun.

[Click Here for tickets](#)

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

Young Women's College Preparatory Academy

TSU Information Meeting, YMCPA Auditorium, 6:00 p.m.

For more information, email recruitment@tsu.edu or call

713-313-7849

Frederick Douglass Lecture Series

Dr. Monica Rasmus - "Healthcare Quality"

Honors College Auditorium, 11:00 a.m.

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