Leading the Way
President’s Leadership Scholars inspire their peers

As the spring semester ended, many students left campus grateful that the term had finally come to a close. But for a select few, that gratitude was also for a gift that afforded them the opportunity of a lifetime: the President’s Leadership Scholarship. Established by Dr. John Rudley in 2009, the university’s signature matched-gift scholarship program allows TSU’s most promising students to benefit not only from the generosity of private donors, but also through a gift from the university. Rudley feels that the program is critical to TSU’s ability to compete successfully against other universities for top-notch students. “It gives us the financial wherewithal to attract and enroll the nation’s best and brightest young minds,” he states.

Rudley also feels strongly that the program offers an opportunity for the community at large. It is a dynamic fashion. Moving forward in an even more profound paradigm shift; a shift in the overall collegiate experience available at Texas Southern University. The abounding optimism radiating from these scholars and the general campus, however, suffered a heart-wrenching blow. The untimely and unconscionable death of TSU freshman Joshua McMackle served as a sobering reminder to all that tomorrow is not promised. Still, members of the Texas Southern community to a person, continued to make the most of each day by giving generously of their talents in their respective spheres of influence, earning awards and accolades along the way. In this way students, faculty and alumni alike have been honoring the memory of the fallen student by maximizing their pledge to pay tribute to our alma mater proudly by raising their Alma Mater to new heights.

This past March, Dr. Rudley and his cabinet hosted a scholarship awards reception for the President’s Leadership Scholars and their donors. It was a unique opportunity for the awardees to meet the individuals who have offered financial assistance on their behalf.

“I really appreciated meeting my donor at the scholarship reception,” says Chinonso Ezeudu, a pharmacology major. “It allowed me the chance to thank him in person.”

Chinonso’s community service in his native country made him an ideal candidate for the award. Today, he still continues to give back. Most recently, Chinonso spent time in the community as a volunteer at the Houston Children’s Festival, that benefits victims of child abuse. He is also a member of the soccer club, the Honors College, the Debate Team, and even plans to run track this fall.

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scholarships. Others focused their efforts on recruiting high-achieving students in their respective cities to attend Texas Southern University. And alumni from near and far came together at Minute Maid Park April 8-10 for the 2nd Annual TSU Alumni Summit, reconnecting to their university by pledging their support in innumerable ways. Still others enhanced the reputation of the university by achieving excellence in their fields as did alumnus Kermit Crawford, who was recently named the new executive vice president of the Walgreen Company. Yet, alumni were not the only ones enhancing the Texas Southern brand. Students, faculty and staff of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law played a major role in the TSU Law Library being named one of the best law libraries in the nation by the National Jurist (March 2010 edition). As well, members of the Harris County Commissioner’s Court offered their final vote of approval for the long-awaited Houston Dynamo/TSU Stadium that will serve as home to TSU football in the very near future. In addition, the university’s aviation science program is preparing to take the name and reputation of Texas Southern University to new heights in 2011 by housing the only university-based virtual facility and a world cup game. Both plan to utilize the trip and experience to continue to increase awareness of the RAIN movement and aid students who want to attend TSU,” she says. “It’s worth it not to give up.”

Lawrence Danner
Sophomore
Detroit, Michigan

It didn’t take long for Lawrence Danner to notice the differences between Houston, Texas and Detroit, Michigan, where he was born and raised.

“Everyone here is really polite, everyone speaks here. At home, it isn’t really like that.”

Lawrence says that it was his mother’s influence coupled with a visit to campus during his senior year of high school that prompted him to choose TSU.

“It just felt like a great fit,” he says. “My mom went to an HBCU and wanted me to go to a school like TSU and experience the culture,” he says. “I didn’t know what she meant at first, but when I got here I knew why. There’s so much tradition here.”

Living on campus allows Lawrence to experience campus life in its entirety. He eats meals on campus with his teammates and attends university functions. Being an active part of campus life has allowed him to form great friendships both on and off the basketball court.

“With the tangible manifestations of excellence continuing to mount, the hard work we have invested is paying off in the present as well as fueling our progress toward future greatness. Whether by attracting global movers and shakers like Dr. Rod Paige, Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole and others to our campus to share their insights, or by sending our students, faculty and alumni abroad, more and more individuals and communities are learning what we already know—there are great things taking place at TSU NOW!”

Faculty-Staff Fundraising Campaign a Success

A significant milestone was achieved during this year’s 2010 Faculty and Staff Annual Fundraising Campaign that raised more than $106,000 with 833 donors representing 69% employee participation. A total of 15 schools and departments reached the 100% participation level. The average gift reported was $128 per em-

While some students might have difficulty balancing their extra-curricular activities with school work, Chinnonso (who recently returned from Berlin, Germany with the Debate Team) says that he has no problems making time for the things he enjoys most while maintaining eligibility for his President’s Leadership Scholarship. “There is time for everything if you allocate your time correctly,” he says. “I have a 3.93 G.P.A. and I still travel with the Debate Team,” he says. “It can be done.”

Kiara Taylor
Junior
Tulsa, Oklahoma

For Kiara Taylor the Presidential Leadership Scholarship was a light at the end of the tunnel after a long, exhaustive search for financial aid.

“No one looked for me for scholarships,” she shares. “I had the grades, but my family didn’t qualify for financial assistance.”

So in order to pursue her dreams of becoming a forensic pathologist, the chemistry major took it upon herself to look for scholarships. Eventually, she found the President’s Leadership Scholarship Program and applied for it. Her acceptance came shortly thereafter.

Kiara is now involved in the Chemistry Club and the Louis Stokes Alliances Minority Participation Program (LSAMP), of which she will serve as treasurer this coming fall. She feels that the opportunities available to her at TSU would not have been possible without the President’s Leadership Scholarship Program coupled with her own sense of unwavering determination.

“There are so many opportunities available for
Dwah Fisher’s Volleyball Camp  
When: June 21-25 (basic skills)  
July 5-9 (specialty skills)  
Ages: Girls 8-17  
Information: 713.313.7272  
Open to all girls who are interested in learning volleyball, this camp will help elementary and high school girls learn and perfect their volleyball skills.

Houston National Summer Transportation Institute  
Grades: 9-12  
Contact: godazi_kx@tsu.edu  
This annual four-week program is designed to encourage secondary students’ interest in careers in transportation and improve math, science and technology skills.

Lady Tiger Basketball Camp  
When: June 7-11 (Kids Camp)  
June 16-17 (Position Camp)  
Ages: Girls 6-12  
Information: 713.313.1951  
9-4pm (Mon-Fri)  
Fees: Kids camp is $75 per player. Position camp is $35 per day - $60 for both days.

Summer Arts Camps  
When: June 7-11 (strings)  
June 21-25 (piano)  
July 6-30 (children’s theater)  
July 6-30 (musical theater)  
Grades: K-12  
For more information, call 713.313.7334 (string camp), 713.313.7529 (piano workshop), or 713.313.7157 (theater camps).

By 2011, Texas Southern’s Department of Aviation Science will be home to the only university-based virtual airport in the nation. Students will have access to a new research library, as well as several labs where students can take courses in subjects ranging from airport management to aerospace engineering. The labs will allow students to receive training in the latest techniques in airport management, planning, operations and security. They’ll also be able to design and test “aircrafts” within a simulated wind tunnel.

This summer, the business community, government, Boy Scouts of America and over five school districts in the greater Houston area will launch a program within the aviation department that will expose students to careers in airport management/operations, air traffic control, piloting and much more.

The vision of the program is to extend its operations to a year-round, after-school aviation enrichment program that supports science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) initiatives.

In September 2010, Texas Southern will be featured as one of the Tom Joyner Foundation Schools of the Month. Each morning of the month, TSU will be promoted by the “Fly Jock” himself on the Tom Joyner Morning Show to raise funds from listener donations.

“All we’re excited to announce this year’s schools,” said Joyner, a graduate of Tuskegee Institute and the foundation’s chairman. “All of these schools have wonderful histories and traditions, and we want to make sure their students are able to stay in school and have the great experience, as I did, graduating from a HBCU.”

The nationally syndicated radio show, aired in 115 markets around the country, reaches nearly eight million listeners every week.
In October of 2009, Texas Southern University was proud to honor Dr. Johnella R. Bradford for her ongoing commitment to excellence with a 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award.

Dr. Bradford (classes of ’69, ’89, ’96) is dean of workforce development at Houston Community College Southeast. Dr. Bradford has served as president of the Southeast College Faculty Association and as co-chair of the educational committee of the Houston Independent School District. She is an adjunct professor at the University of Phoenix, a member of the East End Chamber of Commerce, and a member of Texas Women in Higher Education.

An active community member, Dr. Bradford is a graduate of the United Way Project Blueprint, Future Business Leaders of America and member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Her major support to Texas Southern has been in the training, preparation, and employment of graduates at all levels to enter into the workforce in educational institutions in the Greater Houston area. Under Dr. Bradford’s exemplary leadership, the Business Technology program was rated “Exemplary” by the Higher Education Board. Dr. Bradford holds a Doctorate of Education in Higher Education Administration, Masters of Education and Bachelor of Science from Texas Southern University.

Distinguished Alumna: Dr. Johnella R. Bradford

Two accomplished alumni have been recognized for outstanding achievement in their chosen fields.

Dawolu Jabari Anderson, visual artist, was one of 35 recipients of the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award. From a list of more than 400, he was the only Texas-based artist selected for the coveted $20,000 prize. Anderson’s large-scale paintings on paper combine striking word play with the style and format of vintage movie posters and advertisements. His work critiques the oversimplification and commodification of African American history in contemporary culture.

Nikki Skinner, an Houston Independent School District educator, has been awarded the 2010 Texas Medical Association Ernest and Sarah Butler Award for Excellence in Science Teaching. Skinner is science teacher at Almeda Elementary School where she has been recognized by her peers as 2009 Teacher of the Year. A dedicated teacher, Skinner says that the award “is a very great honor not just for me, but for all of my students who are so very excited to come into my class every day.”

Alumni in Action

San Antonio’s Sixth Annual Scholarship Luncheon

TSUNAA Chapter members presented scholarships to students who have graduated from San Antonio area high schools and will attend TSU this fall.

(From left to right: Dorothy Collins, Marlene Teal, Delores Atkins, Joyce Lovenalty, Dr. Lawrence Williams, Harold Foster, Sr., Dr. Joseph Fierce, Jr., Representative Ruth Jones-McClendon, TSU President John M. Rudley, Barbara Young, San Antonio Chapter President Robert J. Warren, Joyce Gulley, Jereylene Williams, J. Clint Williams, and Evelyn Richardson)

Fort Worth Chapter 2010 Scholarship Luncheon

TSUNAA Fort Worth Chapter program chairwoman Delores Simmons and chapter president Jeff Davis honor President Rudley at the closing celebration of their fifth annual scholarship campaign.

Dallas Recruitment Reception

Alumni and the TSU recruitment team gathered for a reception in Dallas. (From left to right: TSUNAA president Marcus Davis, Dallas chapter president Bernard Clark, Regent Curtistene McGowan, Fort Worth, president Jefferson Davis, President John Rudley, Brian Armstrong, Allyson Guityy, and Sigmund Gilbreath)
“Calling on You... Counting on You,” the second annual Texas Southern University Alumni Summit, held April 8th-10th, went far beyond reaching out to alumni for support. It incorporated the value of informing graduates on the current state of the university and it’s promising future.

The three-day conference began with a “rededication reception” where alumni were presented with an opportunity to pledge both their time and finances to the growing institution. Other events included a leadership training session, designed to increase the effectiveness of alumni chapters and membership, as well as an outing to Minute Maid Ballpark to cheer on the Astros.

President Rudley emphasized the various methods of high quality standards that the university will now use to measure its progress, such as graduation rates, licensure and certification in various fields, research funding, scholarships and fellowships.

“The president’s report let us know that we’re continuing to experience success and can compete with other collegiate institutions both locally and nationally,” says Interim Alumni Director Sylvia Brooks.

The weekend’s festivities concluded with a symposium where Dr. Rudley solicited help to return TSU to its “glory days” of high-caliber students, strong, supportive alumni and a commitment to the community.

“The summit was again a success, increasing alumni support in a number of giving levels,” states Brooks. “For those who were not able to attend, we look forward to having you with us at the next summit, and we will be ‘calling on you and counting on you’ again.”

Kermit Crawford named Executive Vice President of Walgreen Company

Texas Southern University alumnus Kermit Crawford has been named executive vice president of pharmacy for Walgreen Co., headquartered in Deerfield, Ill. While studying pharmacology at Texas Southern, he joined the Walgreen Company as a pharmacy intern in 1983.

Crawford believes in the importance of a diverse workforce, and brings this value to his new position. “At the beginning of my career with Walgreens in store operations, I was fortunate to work with a manager who understood the need for a diverse work force,” Crawford says. “[He] emphasized the need to have a variety of perspectives. As a result, this is a value I practice in my leadership.”

Before accepting his current position in January, Crawford was a store manager and a district manager for Walgreen Co. After several promotions, he was named Walgreens senior vice president and executive vice president of Walgreens Health Services in 2007.

“My personal and professional experience has shown that tolerance, respect and simply listening to different perspectives helps everyone better understand different viewpoints,” Crawford says.
Texas Southern University has appointed Tamura Crawley-Marigny as the new women’s soccer head coach.

“I’m extremely excited about the new opportunity and new challenge,” expresses Crawley-Marigny. “The program has lots of potential and I’m looking forward to bringing that potential to life.”

Crawley-Marigny comes to Texas Southern after spending four seasons as the women’s soccer head coach at Grambling State University. While at GSU, she won a SWAC Tournament Championship in 2006, played in the school’s first NCAA tournament playoffs, won the West Division four times, and competed in the SWAC Championship tournament each of her four seasons. She was also named SWAC Coach of the Year in 2006.

Crawley-Marigny was also a standout soccer player at Baylor University, with honors including four All-Big 12 selections, two All-Central Region selections by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) and Soccer Buzz Magazine and a selection to the Soccer America Team in 2002.

“I am very excited to have Coach Crawley-Marigny join our staff. She has a wealth of experience as a player and as a coach,” says Charles McClelland, athletics director for Texas Southern. “She is a proven winner with one SWAC championship under her belt and I look forward to her bringing that same success to Texas Southern.”

Crawley-Marigny graduated from Baylor University in 2003 with a bachelor of arts degree in communication sciences and disorders and earned a master’s in liberal arts with a concentration in history from Dallas Baptist University in 2006.

LAPTOPS NEEDED
Help TSU Athletics on their mission to raise $64,500 for new laptops and work stations for the Academic Enhancement Center. Your donation will help see to it that student athletes excel both on the court and in the classroom. Visit http://fanraiser.org/tusucause to help.

TIGER BASEBALL WINS SWAC
TSU ended the baseball season with a 30-26 record, the best since the university began competing in NCAA Division I sports. Despite capturing the SWAC Western Division Title and naming four players to the 2010 All-SWAC team, the season didn’t end exactly as planned. That said, the future looks bright for head coach Michael Robinson, his staff and team.
This issue is dedicated to the memory of TSU freshman Joshua McMackle, who lost his life near campus this past spring. McMackle exemplifies the values that Texas Southern University upholds; his commitment to achievement will not be forgotten.
President’s Leadership Scholars raise the bar

Summer Academy

Summer Academy II will take place July 12 – August 13, 2010, giving on-campus students the academic social adjustment skills needed for successful matriculation at Texas Southern.

The Summer Academy schedule is as follows:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 9</td>
<td>12pm – 5pm - Dorm move-in</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:30pm - Information Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 12</td>
<td>Summer Academy classes begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 13</td>
<td>10:00am - Closing Ceremony</td>
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For information please call: (713) 313-7958 or visit www.SummerAcademy2010.org

TSU Gospel Choir Concerts

The TSU Gospel Choir will lift their voices in song in two special concerts open to the greater TSU community.

- Aug. 8 – Lakewood Church
  3700 Southwest Freeway, Houston TX
- Aug. 15 – College Spirit Day at Brentwood Church
  13033 Landmark Street, Houston, TX