Unlocking Your Keys to Success

How to Find the Right Mortgage for You
By Ige Johnson
When you're planning to buy a home—whether as a first-time homebuyer or as a seasoned pro—deciding how much you can afford is a critical initial step.

“Demystifying Success!”
By Noel Pinnock
“Leadership begins with you and success rests in the arms of those who you lead, inspire and develop.”

Texas Southern University Points of Pride

In the Business Community
City of Houston Office of Business Opportunity Hosts Meet the Buyer

Look Within Yourself to Find the Keys to Success

Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other.

- Abraham Lincoln
DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

TSU Aviation Students are trained by professional airline pilots. Students will prepare for the FAA written exams, train in State of the Art Flight Simulators, log countable flight hours at Ellington Field and Hobby Airport and earn a commercial pilot license. The TSU Pilot Program is certified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

AVIATION SCIENCE PROFESSIONAL PILOT DEGREE

For more Information, contact TSU Aviation Science at
713-313-1846
Texas Southern University
Points of Pride

Texas Southern University is a comprehensive metropolitan university. Building on its legacy as a historically black institution, the University provides academic and research programs that address critical urban issues and prepares an ethnically diverse student population to become a force for positive change in a global society. In order to achieve this mission, Texas Southern University provides:

• Quality instruction in a culture of innovative teaching and learning;
• Basic and applied research and scholarship that is responsive to community issues;
• Opportunities for public service that benefit the community and the world.

Source: tsu.edu
TSU Received Approval from Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for Two New Degree Programs in Engineering: Civil Engineering and Computer/Electrical Engineering

Texas Southern University’s (TSU) College of Science and Technology (COST) has been authorized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to begin offering bachelor’s degree programs in Civil Engineering in the spring of 2015 and in Electrical and Computer Engineering in the fall of 2015.

“TSU’s partnerships with Houston Community College and Lone Star College (LSC) proved to be successful this fall with 337 students transferring to TSU from HCC and 56 from LSC. The Presidential high school bus tour paid off as well. DeSoto High School was the top recruited school in the state with 38 first-time freshman students enrolling at TSU, followed by Houston’s James Madison High School with 35 and Energized STEM Academy-West High School with 32. The President plans to lead another high school bus tour across Texas during this school year.

The TSU Summer School Program was another successful venture for the university. Students were given an opportunity to jumpstart their college experience by strengthening their Math, Reading and English skills. A total of 153 students successfully completed the academy. "This is part of our mission, to give people an opportunity to attend college," Rudley said. “We are not here to give people a free ride, but an opportunity to better themselves if they are willing to work hard.”

The College of Science and Technology was the most attractive of the university’s schools and colleges. They had the largest overall increase with 20.5%. The School of Business and School of Communication also experienced double digit increases.

TSU saw a 12.6% increase in Hispanic students and a 30.3% increase in International students with the country of Saudi
Kevin Hart Becomes Honorary Member of “Ocean of Soul” Band at Texas Southern University in Houston

For Texas Southern University’s famed Ocean of Soul Marching Band, the year is ending pretty much the same way it began—with a big band Bang! The famed band was on hand to play for the premiere opening of popular entertainer/comedian Kevin Hart at his opening at the Edwards IMAX off Katy Freeway in Houston, Texas. Hart got into the groove and made a few cool moves to the sounds of the Ocean. Band Director Richard Lee made it official—Kevin Hart is now an official member of the famed and popular Texas Southern University Marching Band, “the Ocean of Soul.” Making Hart an honorary member is the university’s way of thanking Hart publicly for his support of the band’s trip to the Pro Football Hall of Fame for the enshrinement of their alumnus Michael Strahan during the summer. Hart donated $50,000 in support of the student musicians. Hart has also been asked to return to the campus of Texas Southern University next year. It’s a surprise, you’ll have to wait and see what’s being planned.

Rudley Plans a 30-School Presidential Bus Tour

He will offer scholarships to high-performing students on the spot. He personally recruited 600 students last year.

Texas Southern University President Dr. John Rudley, who now holds the esteemed title of “top recruiter” for TSU, is geared up and ready to roll on his 2014–2015 Presidential Bus Tour. Armed with admissions officers and faculty representatives, the TSU team will discuss degree programs and assist with college preparatory, financial assistance, scholarships, housing and career choices. According to Brian Armstrong, Office of Admissions, “Last year’s Presidential Tour was a tremendous success. We feel that it benefitted first-generational college students the most, because it gives them an opportunity to speak directly with us and directly with our President. There’s nothing like one-on-one attention. We find this method to be a win-win for our university.”

Dr. Rudley speaks to students about the university’s unique degree programs and college affordability during the visits.

At times, the team includes TSU students. Depending on the audiences, students share information about their college experience. They talk about life on campus, in the classroom and exchange ideas and cultural experiences with students from different countries and backgrounds.

Last year’s bus tour netted the university 205 first-time freshmen, with the largest number coming from Desoto High School, followed by Houston’s Madison High School and Energized STEM Academy-West High School, respectively. This year’s tour started with Davis High School in Houston and will include more than two dozen schools in six cities.

TSU Invests $1.2 million in a New World Class Forensic Lab to Train Students in Crime Scene Investigations

Equipment Better than Most in Crime Labs across the Country

Dr. Ashraf Mozayani, professor of Administration of Justice and executive director of the Forensic Science Learning Lab (FSLL), and Dr. Aybike Dip, visiting post-doctoral professor, hosted 10 international delegates from Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan for a five-day training course in TSU’s newly opened FSLL. Several TSU forensic science students and interns studied with the international delegates.

During the training, participants learned about the latest research in forensic toxicology theory, technical applications, instrumentation and computer applications.

TSU Named One of the Most Military Friendly School for Veterans

For the fifth time in six years, Texas Southern University has been designated a Military Friendly School by Victory Media, the leader in successfully connecting the military and civilian worlds. “This is a tremendous designation for the university,” said Taiwan Johnson, TSU’s Veterans Affairs coordinator. “This shows veterans, potential students and the community that Texas Southern values and honors America’s service men and women. To be designated as Military Friendly for the fifth year confirms that we are committed to meeting federal guidelines and initiatives concerning military veterans.”

The Military Friendly Schools designation is awarded to the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace military students and to dedicate resources to ensure their success in the classroom and after graduation. The methodology used for making the Military Friendly Schools list has changed the student veteran landscape to one much more transparent, and has played a significant role over the past six years in capturing and advancing best practices to support military students across the country.

For more information about Texas Southern University’s commitment to attracting and supporting military students, visit TSU’s website at http://em.tsu.edu/registrar/veteran.php

Register now by going to www.tsu.edu/admissions.
A New Definition of Winning in Athletics: TSU athletes are now graduating at a rate of 54%, a phenomenal increase from 29% 4 years ago

If ever an athletics program can be called the “Comeback Team” it is the revolutionary change that has occurred over the past five years at Texas Southern University in the success of their student athletes. The most notable aspect of this “comeback” is that it is in the classroom as well as on the field.

Athletics Director Dr. Charles McClelland brought in new coaches to bring the teams back to a competitive level. At the same time, he also brought in an outstanding compliance and academic support team to bring the academic performance and graduation rate up. The NCAA is releasing the latest graduation rates for Division 1 schools and Texas Southern University has risen from one of the worst in the country in 2008 at 29% to today in which better than 54% of TSU athletes are graduating in six years. Indeed this last May, 58 student athletes received their degrees, compared to 14 in 2009.

Even more encouraging is the projected student athlete graduation rate based on the most recent APR (Academic Progress Rate) data that was submitted to the NCAA in October. Although the NCAA won’t officially certify and release the APR numbers until May 2015, Texas Southern University’s 2013-2014 APR is 970 for the department overall (up from 833 in 2009). All 16 sports at TSU are above the NCAA mandated APR with football at 977, men’s basketball at 953, and four sports (women's basketball, women's golf, women's cross country track and women's volleyball) scoring a perfect 1000 APR.

Dr. McClelland predicts that the 970 APR rate will result in a better than 70% graduation rate in the next few years, placing it among the Division 1 academic elite teams.

“This dramatically demonstrates that with the right leadership and a concerted effort, college athletes can be highly successful in the classroom as well as on the field,” said Texas Southern University President John Rudley. “Dr. McClelland and his team have focused on ensuring that our student athletes are winning in the classroom first, which will ensure that they will graduate and continue to be winners at whatever career they choose, whether it is in athletics or in the corporate boardroom.”

Tom Joyner Awarded Four Scholarships to TSU Students

Texas Southern University was the Tom Joyner Foundation’s School of the Month for June 2014. Radio personality Tom Joyner leads this effort to help keep students in historically black colleges and universities. For four weeks in June, a male student, who is a campus leader who is making a difference in the quality of life for his community with at least a 3.5 GPA, received a $1,500 scholarship grant announced live on the nationally syndicated Tom Joyner Morning Show.

Texas Southern University Hercules Scholarship recipients were: Knubian Gatlin, a sophomore Dietetics major from Spring, TX; Jared Artmore, a sophomore Pre-Pharmacy major from Beaumont, TX; Derrick Smallwood, a sophomore Finance major from DeSoto, TX; and Keilon Robinson, Jr., a sophomore double major in Chemistry and Mathematics from Houston, TX.
The National Science Foundation (NSF) named the Houston Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (H-LSAMP) project as a Senior Alliance for the 2014-2015 academic years. With this award, the H-LSAMP, now in its fourth five-year funding period, is one of the longest-running LSAMP programs in the nation. The project has been awarded approximately $750,000 for this year, with the potential to receive up to $3.75 million over the next five years.

H-LSAMP was assembled under the leadership of Dr. Bobby Wilson, an L. Lloyd Woods Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and Shell Oil Endowed Chaired Professor of Environmental Toxicology, with support from TSU President Dr. John Rudley. Wilson serves as a professor in the Department of Chemistry.

Dr. Divya Chandrasekhar recently received a three-year collaborative research grant from the National Science Foundation for $101,879 to study “Interdependency in Decision Making: A Holistic Approach to Understanding Community Recovery from Catastrophic Disasters.” This research proposal addresses how households and businesses make decisions to stay in place or relocate after disasters and focuses on four primary factors: their own capacity to recover; the influence of business decisions on households and vice versa; the influence of governmental recovery and mitigation aid; and the passage of time.

The National Institutes of Health/ National Institute of General Medical Sciences awarded Dr. Zivar Yousefipour $453,000 for four years to study “Molecular Mechanism of Acrolein-Induced Vascular Toxicity: Role of PPAR gamma and NAD(P)H.” This proposal will focus on Acrolein, a copious environmental pollutant and a major component of cigarette smoke that is involved in the development of chronic diseases such as cardiovascular diseases, asthma, lung cancer, Alzheimer’s disease and multiple sclerosis.

Dr. Christopher Tymczak and Dr. Daniel Vrinceanu are the proud recipients of a three-year research grant for $643,217 from the U.S. Army to study “Many Body Density Matrix Theory: Excitations and Time Dependent Response.” MBDMT is a Linear Scaling Method for calculating the correlations of atomic, molecular and condensed matter systems. According to Dr. Tymczak, the new Many Body Density Matrix Theory will allow him and his team to apply a more computationally simplified approach to compute easily the properties of atoms and molecules to an unprecedented level of accuracy.

TSU’s New 800-Bed Freshman Student Housing Becomes Reality

Construction is well underway on the $41.5 million, 215,000-square-foot New Student Resident Housing Complex.

Houston-based architectural firm Harrison Kornberg – in collaboration with Lord, Aeck, Sargent – were awarded the contract to design the seven-story building that will include social and study areas on all residential floors. Other amenities include: a dining hall, locker storage, a laundry on all residential floors, a convenience store, roof terrace and a gaming area. The rooms are double occupancy with a shared restroom.

Pepper-Lawson Construction/ Horizon International Group started the project on February 28, 2014 and is expected to complete construction in August 2015. The 800-bed facility will allow Texas Southern to house nearly all of its incoming freshmen on campus.

Currently, the university has six student housing complexes: Urban Academic Village, Lanier East, Lanier West, University Courtyard, Tierwester I and Tierwester II. There are 1,300 students living in campus housing.
I n an effort to showcase Texas Southern’s facilities, programs and physical appearance, the university has had visits from high profile individuals. Additionally, the university’s leaders are visiting outside the campus to share news about TSU’s achievements and vision.

1. Recently, Admiral Paul Zukunft, 25th Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, visited the campus to observe and discuss the possibility of a partnership between TSU’s Maritime Transportation students and the Coast Guard’s officer recruitment program.

2. Representatives from United Airlines toured the College of Science and Technology (COST) Aviation program where students can earn their pilot’s licenses. United is looking to partner through scholarships and internships.

3. AT&T awarded Texas Southern University a $100,000 AT&T contribution to support the school’s Urban Academic Village (UAV), an innovative student support and workforce preparation program to help underserved, first-generation, minority freshmen students stay on track to successfully complete their college education.

4. Mr. Roosevelt Petry, owner of GP Industrial Contractors Inc. in Port Arthur, TX, is a major contributor to Texas Southern University. TSU leadership visited GP Industries to see the full effects of his operation. In turn, he recently toured Texas Southern and he’s looking for ways to become a full-fledged partner with the university. He will partner with TSU on the academic side as it relates to its two new engineering degrees - Civil Engineering and Electrical and Computer Engineering as well as lecture and serve in the Jesse H. Jones School of Business.

His Eminence Cardinal Daniel DiNardo Spoke During TSU Student Leadership Day

C ardinal Daniel DiNardo, the metropolitan archbishop of Galveston-Houston and spiritual leader to its 1.3 million Catholics, visited Texas Southern University October 22 to help the university celebrate Student Appreciation Day and kick off its Homecoming celebration. After hearing from student leaders and musical selections by the University Choir, Cardinal DiNardo spoke to the audience of students about ethics and leadership. His Eminence DiNardo implored upon the students to develop the selfless and giving character that is needed to lead effectively with compassion.

To close the ceremony, University Program Council president Jordan Morris presented His Eminence Cardinal DiNardo with a resolution on behalf of the University and Miss TSU LaShunda Barlow announced Gerrick Jiminez as the inaugural recipient of the His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo Leadership Scholarship.
In light of the October 9 shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, the Earl Carl Institute and its partners presented a timely discussion on overrepresentation and disparate treatment of minorities in various social systems. The Institute assembled an esteemed group of experts in the area of Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) to present a forum entitled “The Shooting of Michael Brown: Now What? Systemic Maltreatment: Dismantling Disproportionality through Strategic Partnerships” with the hope of bringing the community together to explore what we as a community of color can do to address the issue of disproportionate minority contact. The programming inquired into, “Do we wait on the majority population to act or for another protest following another shooting? What will we do before the next Michael Brown incident?”

The conference was held at Thurgood Marshall School of Law. The event provided more than 120 attendees with a statement of the problem of disproportionality through the use of statistical data, presentations from knowledgeable experts and public discussion.

The purpose of this community event was to provide attendees with information about inequities suffered by African Americans in the education, health care, foster care and criminal justice systems. The goal of the event was to help form strategic partnerships to try to reduce the overrepresentation of people of color in these systems.

As covered in the program, the criminal justice, juvenile justice, educational disciplinary, child welfare and health care systems all are systems in which the minority community is disproportionately represented.
Legends & Leaders
Texas Southern University has prepared students to become leaders in their respective fields. Visit www.tsu.edu to learn more about enrolling at TSU today.

For individuals who have attended and/or graduated from Texas Southern University – we invite you to join the alumni association. Find out how at www.tsu.edu/alumni, or call 713-313-1363.

For information about TSU’s online degree programs, visit www.tsu.edu/online or call TSU’s Tiger Talk Line at 713-313-1111.

Support Texas Southern University at www.tsu.edu/giving.