

Division of Academic Affairs Updates

April 9-10, 2025

Carl B. Goodman, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs



TIGER ADVANTAGE

FIRST-TIME FRESHMAN

- Enrollment and Completion Advisors
- Degree Works
- Leveraging Technology
- Comprehensive Programming

PEER MENTORS

- Campus PALS
- Maroon & Gray Achievement Society

CAREER PATHWAYS

- Advocacy U
 - Internships & Certifications
- Chase Financial
 - Literacy & Certification
- IBM Badges
 - Cybersecurity
 - Artificial Intelligence
 - Data Analysis
- Career Exploration
- Resume Writing
- Dress for Success
- Interviewing
- Internships

FRESHMAN SEMINAR

Redesign FS 102 to encompass three central themes:

- Civic Engagement
- Entrepreneurship Mindset
- Career Pathways

CELEBRATING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

- Academic Coaches
- 24/7 Tutoring
- Supplemental Instruction for Barrier courses

TIGER CARE TEAM

- Project ROAR
- Reboot Program
- Mental Health Resources

EARNING YOUR TIGER STRIPES

EARNING YOUR TIGER STRIPES 2025



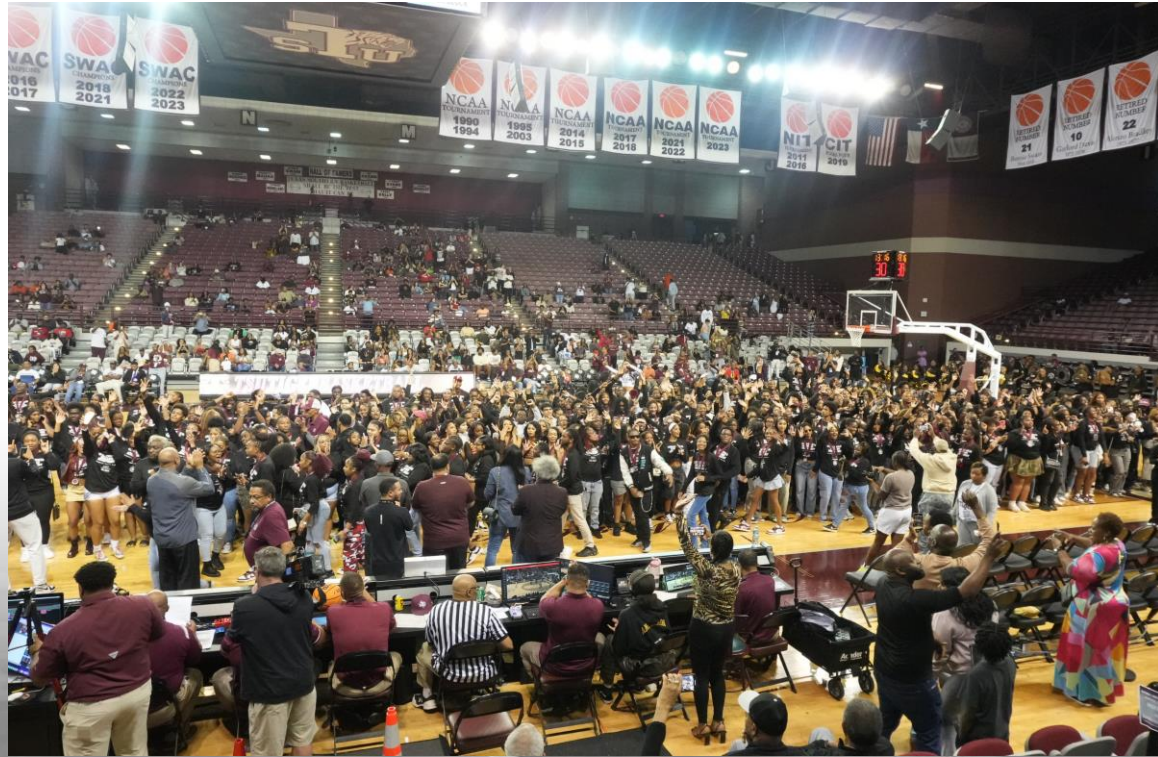
SAVE THE DATE
EARN YOUR
**TIGER
STRIPES**
AND WEAR THEM
WITH PRIDE

Join us to celebrate our amazing students who have successfully completed their first 30 hours toward their degree! On February 3rd 2025, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Sawyer Auditorium, we'll honor their achievements with customized Tiger Backpacks, tiger stripes, and exciting prizes. Don't miss this special event as we come together to celebrate "Earning Your Tiger Stripes!"

MONDAY
2.3.2025



TSU CELEBRATING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE STORM THE COURT 2025



SMITHSONIAN CONSORTIUM



- 2 - TSU Scholar Interns
- 1 Alum - Smithsonian fellow
- Most Art of All the HBCUS



Academic Affairs - Faculty Approval Items

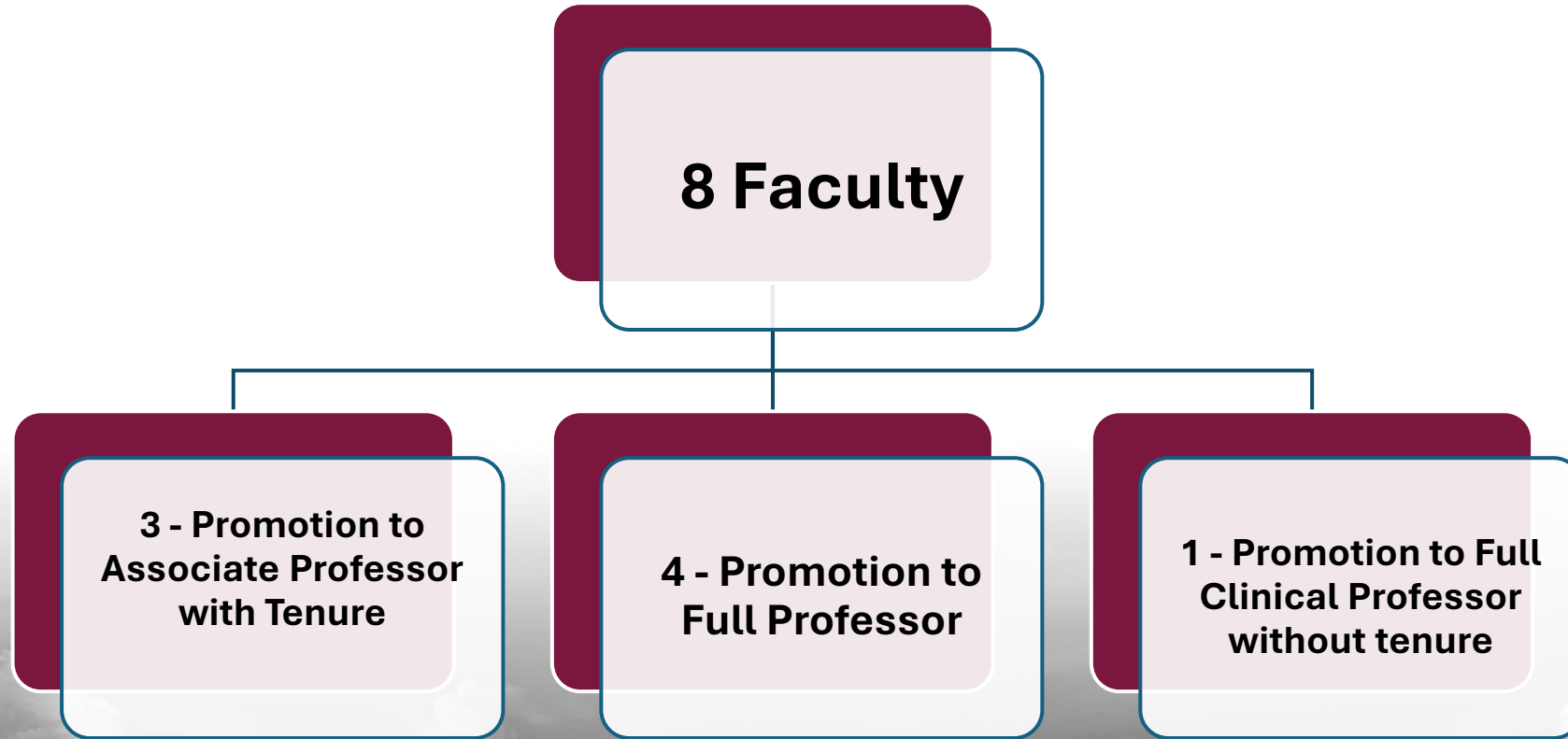
8 - Rank, Promotion, & Tenure

4 - Faculty Development Leave

1 - Professor Emeritus

1 - Honorary Doctorate

2024-2025 Rank, Tenure, & Promotion



NASPAA Site Visit

March 6-7, 2025





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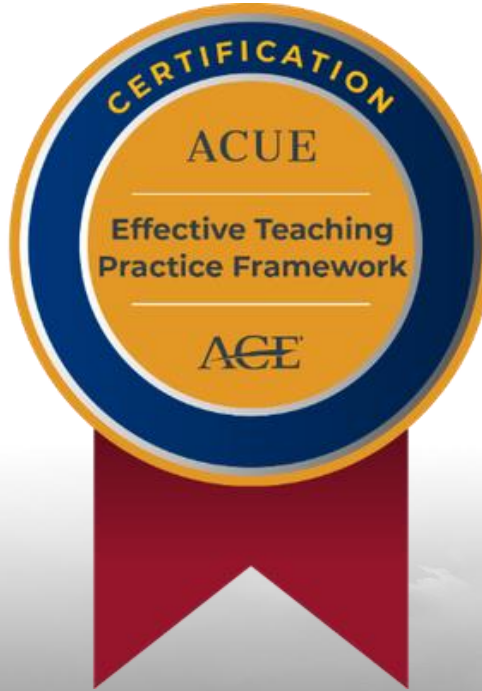
ACUE



49



23/33



23



23



23



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION



Est. 1927

Professor Emeritus

Dr. Lei Yu, Ph.D., P.E.

Professor, Department of Transportation Studies

*Former Dean for the College of Science,
Engineering & Technology (COSET)*



TSU FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Texas Southern University

Office of the Provost

Great Things Are Happening in Academic Affairs Every Day



Dr. Gloria Batiste-Roberts – A Champion for Texas Southern University's Debate Team

Texas Southern University is incredibly proud to celebrate the outstanding leadership and unwavering dedication of Dr. Gloria Batiste-Roberts, the head debate coach of our world-renowned debate team. Under her expert guidance, the team has achieved extraordinary success, culminating in their *fifth world championship* win at the Annual International Forensics Association's Speech and Debate Tournament in Incheon, South Korea. This remarkable victory not only highlights the team's exceptional talent but also reflects Dr. Batiste-Roberts' commitment to excellence and the legacy of Dr. Thomas Freeman, the team's legendary founder.

Dr. Batiste-Roberts has been an instrumental force in the team's resurgence, leading them to win first place in all four tournaments this season and bringing home 21 individual prizes, the most of any of the 27 competing teams. Her leadership not only builds champions in debate but fosters personal growth, resilience, and discipline in her students. The debate team's victory this year, beating out Bradley University for the top spot, was a testament to their hard work and dedication—qualities Dr. Batiste-Roberts instills in her students every day.

Her commitment to carrying on the legacy of Dr. Freeman—who founded the debate team in 1949 and coached until his retirement in 2013—is evident in the success and spirit of the team. Dr. Freeman's influence continues to live on in the ethos of the team, and Dr. Batiste-Roberts has honored his teachings by ensuring that every student is given the tools to excel, not only in debate but in their broader personal and professional lives.



Dr. Gloria Batiste-Roberts
Debate Coach and Director
Thomas Freeman Center for Forensic Excellence,
Adjunct Professor of Social Work

As a proud member of the Texas Southern University community, Dr. Batiste-Roberts has shown time and time again her dedication to nurturing students from diverse academic backgrounds. Whether they are communications, political science, theater, or even science majors, she has helped them discover their voices, develop their arguments, and compete at the highest levels of academia.

Texas Southern University is proud of Dr. Batiste-Roberts and the debate team for this incredible achievement. Their hard work, determination, and passion continue to elevate our university's reputation on the global stage. This world championship victory serves as a reminder of the impact of strong leadership, the power of education, and the unwavering commitment to excellence that defines our institution.

Texas Southern University

Office of the Provost

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Honoring Dr. Alvia Wardlaw: Advancing the Legacy of TSU's Artistic Heritage

Texas Southern University is proud to recognize Dr. Wardlaw for securing new funding from Humanities Texas and the National Endowment for the Humanities for the groundbreaking project, *"HBCU Art Legacy: Continuing the Digitization of Hannah Hall Murals."* This funding marks a significant step forward in the preservation of TSU's artistic heritage and ensures that the legacy of our talented former students continues to inspire future generations.

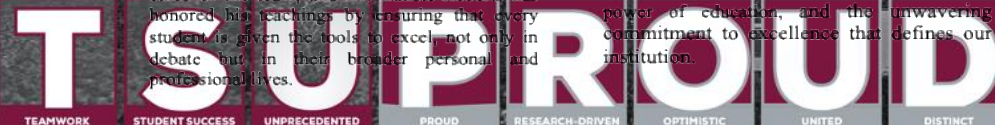
The murals in Hannah Hall are more than just artwork; they are a visual representation of TSU's rich cultural history, creativity, and the powerful voices of past students who used art to tell their stories. Through this project, these murals will be digitally preserved, allowing a broader audience to experience their beauty and historical significance. By leveraging modern technology, Dr. Wardlaw's work ensures that these masterpieces remain accessible for scholars, students, and art enthusiasts for years to come.



Dr. Alvia Wardlaw
Professor of Art/University Museum Curator
Department of Visual and Performing Arts, COLABS

TSU remains deeply committed to celebrating and protecting its artistic and cultural contributions. The digitization of the Hannah Hall murals not only honors the skill and vision of our former students but also reinforces TSU's role as a leader in preserving African American art and history.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Dr. Wardlaw for their dedication and leadership in this initiative. This achievement reflects a profound commitment to ensuring that TSU's legacy in the arts remains vibrant and influential. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!



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Dr. Yi Qi was honored with the Most Cited Paper Award by the International Journal of Transportation Science and Technology

Dr. Yi Qi is a professor and Department Chair of the Transportation Studies Department at the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology (COSET). Recently, her research paper, "Impacts of COVID-19 on Public Transit Ridership," has been awarded the prestigious Most Cited Paper Award by the International Journal of Transportation Science and Technology during the 2025 Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting.

The International Journal of Transportation Science and Technology (IJTST) is a peer-reviewed academic journal that publishes high-quality research on transportation systems, technologies, and policies. It focuses on innovative and multidisciplinary studies that advance knowledge in transportation science. Its 2022 Impact Factor was 6.692, considered high in the transportation domain. It ranks among the top journals in transportation science and technology.



Dr. Yi Qi
Professor and Department Chair,
Transformation Studies



Published in November 2021, Dr. Qi's paper explores transportation equity issues and identifies key socioeconomic factors contributing to the decline in public transit ridership during the COVID-19 pandemic. With over 100 citations to date, this research has garnered significant recognition for its valuable insights and contributions to the field of transportation science.

Dr. Qi's research exemplifies Texas Southern University's commitment to excellence in transportation studies and research innovation. Her contributions continue to elevate TSU's reputation as a leader in addressing contemporary transportation challenges through rigorous scholarship and impactful findings. The university applauds Dr. Qi for this well-deserved recognition and looks forward to her continued success in advancing transportation science.

Texas Southern University

Office of the Provost

Great Things Are Happening in Academic Affairs Every Day



Thomas Meloncon, Associate Professor, honored with Internship Program at Fade to Black Arts Festival

Texas Southern University is proud to highlight that the *Fade to Black Play Festival*; a non-profit performing arts organization that celebrates and recognizes African American Playwrights, locally and nationally has named in honor of Associate Professor Thomas Meloncon, the Thomas Meloncon Intern Program.

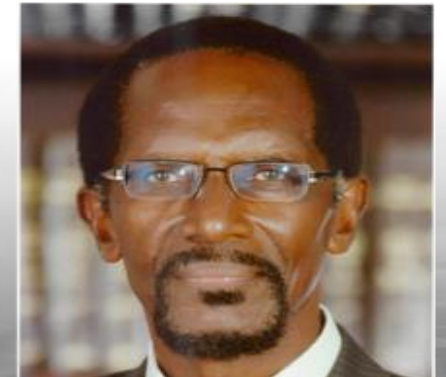
This will be a training component of the upcoming Fade to Black Arts Festival to be held in downtown Houston, June 8-14, 2025. The purpose of the Intern Program is to improve and enhance marketable artistic skills set among college students majoring in Theatre.

Two students each from local colleges, Texas Southern University, University of Houston, Prairie View A&M University, and St. Thomas University will receive \$2000.00 Intern Scholarships for working as interns under the guidance of professional artists during the run of the Festival. The internship is approximately 1 month.

Professor Meloncon, known for his hard-hitting plays, prose and poetry was recognized for his latest stage play, *Stagolee and the Funeral of a Dangerous Word*, which premiered at Main Street Theatre.

The Houston Press 2024 Houston Theatre Award named this play as one of two Best

New Play Productions; and its main character with the Best Actor Award, played by Texas Southern University Alumnus, Timothy Eric; and was directed by Texas Southern University Alumnus Erroll Anthony Wilks.



Thomas Meloncon
Associate Professor, College of Liberal Arts and
Behavioural Sciences/Visual Performing Arts

We congratulate Associate Professor, Thomas Meloncon, on these achievements and look forward to our students' successful participation in the upcoming Houston Fade to Black Arts Festival 2025.



TSU FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

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Great Things Are Happening in Academic Affairs Every Day



Dr. Cassandra Black – Sieglinde in Wagner's *Die Walküre*, a performance with the renowned Siam Sinfonietta in Thailand

Texas Southern University proudly highlights the outstanding achievements of **Dr. Cassandra Black**, a celebrated soprano and esteemed faculty member who serves as **Assistant Professor, Voice Area Coordinator, and Opera Workshop Director** in the Department of Music.

This past summer, Dr. Black captivated audiences with her powerful portrayal of *Sieglinde* in Wagner's *Die Walküre*, a performance she delivered with the renowned Siam Sinfonietta in Thailand. Her commanding stage presence and vocal artistry brought the character to life, earning high praise from audiences and critics alike. She also starred as *The Mother* in Lone Star Lyric's acclaimed production of *Breath of Life*, showcasing her remarkable dramatic and vocal versatility.

Dr. Black continues to share her talent and expertise with the community this semester, performing as the soprano soloist in Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with a full orchestra, demonstrating the depth and beauty of her vocal expression. Additionally, she will take on the role of *Hilde* in Hoper's vibrant production of *The Producers*, further showcasing her adaptability across both classical and contemporary repertoire. In addition to her impressive performance career, Dr. Black is a dedicated educator and mentor at TSU.



Dr. Cassandra Black
Assistant Professor, Voice Area Coordinator, Opera Workshop Director

As **Voice Area Coordinator and Opera Workshop Director**, she plays a vital role in shaping the next generation of vocalists, guiding students in both technical mastery and artistic interpretation. Through her leadership, the opera program at TSU continues to thrive, providing students with invaluable performance opportunities and professional development.

We celebrate Dr. Cassandra Black's many accomplishments and look forward to her continued success on stage and in the classroom!

Texas Southern University

Office of the Provost

Great Things Are Happening in Academic Affairs Every Day



"Light Beyond Shadow": Showcasing the University Choir's Fall Concert Success

The Fall Concert, *Light Beyond Shadow*, was a shining example of how exceptional faculty leadership and student dedication can come together to create a truly unforgettable musical experience. Under the visionary guidance of Ashton Jones, Director of Choral Activities, the University Choir delivered a captivating program that celebrated diversity, artistry, and community. The eclectic repertoire included sacred choral works, African American spirituals, Latin compositions, and pieces by African American male and female composers, as well as contributions from African and Norwegian composers.

This thoughtfully curated program not only showcased the choir's remarkable versatility but also celebrated cultural and musical diversity, bringing audiences on a journey through various traditions and styles. Highlights included a heartfelt tribute to graduating seniors and a festive community sing-along featuring classic Christmas carols. The concert also paid homage to TSU's rich history by engaging alumni, current students, faculty, and staff in a stirring performance of the alma mater.

Ashton Jones's leadership went beyond musical direction, fostering an environment where students were challenged to master a wide range of musical styles in just one semester. The rigorous rehearsals, held during both regular class times

with additional evening sessions—demonstrated the choir's commitment to excellence.

The impact of the concert was immediate and profound. Following the performance, Jones received an outpouring of interest from students eager to join the ensemble, inspired by the choir's vibrant energy and undeniable talent. This enthusiasm underscores the powerful role that faculty leadership and a shared passion for music play in shaping a dynamic and inclusive university community.



Ashton Jones
Instructor of Music/ Director of Choral Activities

The University Choir's Fall Concert was not just a performance; it was a celebration of collaboration, cultural exploration, and artistic achievement, shining a light on the transformative power of music under inspired guidance.



CRITICAL STAFF & FACULTY POSITIONS



SENIOR ASSOCIATE PROVOST FOR FACULTY AFFAIRS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



DIRECTOR FOR TRANSITION AND TRANSFER STUDENT SUCCESS



DIRECTOR FOR STUDENT ADVISEMENT AND MATRICULATION



DEAN, BARBARA JORDAN MICKEY LELAND SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS



DEAN, JESSE H. JONES SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



DEAN, HONORS COLLEGE



ACADEMIC ADVISOR, TRANSFER STUDENTS



CHAIR, ENGINEERING



CHAIR, MATHEMATICS



CHAIR, CHEMISTRY

ALL SEARCHES HAVE BEEN LAUNCHED



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
Division of Academic Affairs



T **S** **U** **P** **R** **O** **U** **D**

TEAMWORK STUDENT SUCCESS UNPRECEDENTED PROUD RESEARCH-DRIVEN OPTIMISTIC UNITED DISTINCT