

# President's Newsletter

Fall - 2017

### President's Message



Our doors first opened in 1898 when there was a need to prepare young girls in our community for skilled employment. Our doors have been continuously open and through them, we fulfill

all manner of dreams!

We recently reopened the doors to two buildings. The renovation of the old Good Samaritan Hospital has revitalized it to serve a new purpose on the Eastside. The Good Samaritan Veterans Outreach and Transition Center provides services for all area veterans and their families.

The renovation of the E.L. Turbon Student Center, originally built in 1953, has tripled the space available to students for recreation, governance and study from 9,000 sq. ft. to 28,000 sq. ft.

With the start of the fall semester, we've opened our doors to thousands of new students. We ask our students to hold the doors open so that others may pass, and many of our grads exit to great and successful careers. Some return as educators, others return as mentors, advocates or donors.

Tech writer Francisco Armstrong gave back in the form of a \$7 million turbofan jet engine donation from Southwest Airlines. Ashley Narvez gives back each year by mentoring women interested in nontraditional careers. David Uminski gives back to San Antonio's tourism industry.

Our students benefit from the giving spirit of others. The contributions and continued support of scholarships help us open doors and show them the way to make their dreams come true.

Adena Williams Loston, Ph.D. President

Udens Hilliam Poster

#### **Grand Openings: GSVOTC, Turbon Student Center**



Community partners — officials from college and local governments — came together to celebrate the long-awaited grand opening of the GSVOTC, a service center for all Veterans and their family members; whether they are students on not. Left to right are VP Dr. Brownlee, Rev. Stanley Sparrow, Bill Moseley, Ivy Taylor, Congressman Lloyd Doggett, Dr. Morris Stribling, Board Trustee Denver McClendon, Board Chair Dr. Yvonne Katz, Board Trustee Klint Kingsberry, Dr. Loston, Councilman William "Cruz" Shaw, Tomas Larralde, Mayor Pro-Tem Clayton Perry, Pastor Jesse Hamilton and VP Lacy Hampton.

Guests attended two facility grand openings Aug. 9 at SPC---one indoor ceremony commemorating a renovation and one outdoor ceremony for a repurposed building---both designed by architect Aline Yoldi of Pfluger Associates Architects.

Designed by Pfluger and constructed by Texas-based general contractor SpawGlass, the college's Good Samaritan Veterans Outreach and Transition Center at 202 Connelly St. is a repurposed building opened in partnership with the City of San Antonio. The grand opening highlighted how corporate transition experts within the Military City USA community work as one team to connect veterans with their human services benefits, explained center director William Moseley.

As a business unit, the center is unique in both concept and operation as the first of its kind among college-city-veterans organization partnerships nationwide. Most centers at colleges are primarily for college students who are veterans; the GSVOTC



Dr. Loston greets representatives from the U.S. Army Office of the Chief of Staff in Washington, D.C.: Lt. Col. Dewin Brown, center, and MSgt. Matthew Black.

is primarily a service point for non-student veteran and their families.

Designed by Pfluger and constructed by Sweden-based general contractor, Skanska, the college's Turbon Student Center is a renovated, on-campus building. The diverse focus of this college business unit is informal education and college services, college student success director Dr. Angela McPherson Williams explained.

From ribbon cuttings to building tours

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#### Inside this issue...

Remebering Dr. Stephen R. Mitchell Dr. Erick Akins named HBCU leader

College earns Quality Texas Foundation award Student orgs earn honors for community service

#### **Southwest Airlines** donates \$7 million engine

One used turbofan jet engine valued at \$7 million and donated to the aviation technology program arrived for classes on Southwest Campus in the spring. The 5,000-pound engine will be used for ground training in Federal Aviation Administration competencies that prepare students for employment or advanced training in the commercial and general aviation industry.

A Dallas-based aviation technology alumnus Francisco Armstrong---a technical writer for Southwest Airlines---approached the college when he learned that Southwest Airlines planned to give back by donating ten engines to strategically enhance the state of college-level aviation technology programs nationwide, explained aircraft technology program director Rod Cotter.

"Few colleges have this engine," Cotter said. "Our students will see more of what they are working on in the field when they leave here. Standard Aero employees work on this engine and we might end up using this engine to train their people."

The engine will join a five-seat aircraft and a six-seat aircraft donated by pro rodeo icon Larry Mahan (2010), and a Cessna 150 transferred from a defunct aviation training program in Floresville (2014).

Armstrong, now at Love Field, said when he came to us as a student, he knew nothing about screwdrivers and aircraft, but now he's making triple figures as a



Dean Christopher Beardsall and several aviation students receive the donated turbofan jet engine. The \$7 million equipment, donated by Southwest Airlines will increase learning opportunities and skills building for Southwest Campus students.An SPC alumnus ĥelped make the donation possible.

technical writer.

is likely to reach out to us for specialized training, because it's an up-to-date engine we can train our students on," aviation technology department chair John Haral said. "It's about seven-feet wide, seven-feet tall and 12-feet long---it's one you could stand up inside of, with a big fan that moves the plane."

Many graduates of the aviation technology program at SPC have found employment maintaining such airworthy aircraft engines as the CFM56. The college's aviation technology program is a leader in South Texas. Employers and partners in San Antonio include Lockheed-Martin, Boeing, Chromalloy, ST Aerospace, Cessna Citation, M-7, Standard Aero, 12th Flying Training Wing, and 433rd Airlift Wing.

# "The local industry that uses this engine

#### Quality Texas Foundation Honors SPC with Achievement Level Recognition

A foundation that builds the capacities and capabilities of businesses to serve has identified St. Philip's College among 15 organizations demonstrating strong and noteworthy dedication to quality and high performance.

The college recently received Achievement Level Recognition from the Quality Texas Foundation for the third time (2013, 2014). According to the foundation, SPC has "well-deployed, effective, systematic approaches to organizational management, with good performance levels and trends evaluated against industry standards." This award establishes St. Philip's as a consistent leader in student success, and a recognized state role model for achieving sustained performance excellence.



Quality Texas Foundation CEO Dr. Mac McGuire presents Dr. Loston and SPC leadership Achievement Level Recognition during the annual conference.

As a result of assessment against Texas Award for Performance Excellence criteria, important capacities at St. Philip's College are documented. St. Philip's College uses the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award criteria for performance excellence. The college was recognized in the areas of Leadership, Strategic Planning, Student/Stakeholder Focus and Workforce Focus.

#### Grand Openings: Turbon Student Center reopens after extensive renovation



A cornerstone ceremony was held in conjunction with the grand opening of the Turbon Student Center. A cornerstone ceremony for the GSVOTC was held earlier this year.



Sally Turbon, widow of E.L. Turbon, was presented an honory key to the building named to honor her husband.



Sally Turbon, unveiled the portait of her husband and cut the ribbon to celebrate the re-opening of the E.L. Turbon Student Center. In his honor, Sally Turbon, gifted the college a \$1,000 scholarship. Joining her in opening the facility are, from left, VPCS Lacy Hampton, ACD Student Trustee Alicia Moreno, SPC SGA President Angelia Jacobs, ACD Board member Ana Bustamante, Dr. Loston, ACD Board Chair Dr. Yvonne Katz, ACD Board member Denver McClendon, Title III Director Dr. Erick Akins, and VPSS Dr. Mordecai Brownlee.



Bowling balls, presented by Pfluger Architects and Skanska USA, commemorate the grand opening of the Turbon Student Center.

#### Continued from Page 1

statements by guests and civic leaders, the president hosted a full schedule of informative activities.

The Turbon Center was named in 1996 for college Professor/Director Of Counseling Emeritus Everett L. Turbon (1919-2002), an alumnus who entered the college at age 16.

A donation to the college's Masonic Lodges scholarship program by members of Masonic Lodge 44 of The Grand Lodge of Texas Ancient Free and Accepted Masons followed a cornerstone ceremony. A scholarship donation presentation by Skanska followed a presentation of commemorative bowling balls. After lobby guests viewed a newly commissioned portrait of E.L. Turbon that was unveiled by Turbon's widow, Sally Turbon, Dr. Loston presented Mrs. Turbon with a ceremonial key to the building.

Some features of the building include a six-lane bowling alley, communal spaces for student groups and a café. Flooring salvaged from the 1953 construction have been strategically repurposed to decorate the walls as a further reminder that tradition and excellence both run deep at the 119-year-old college.



Sonny Knox, Skanska Project Manager, left, and Ryan Aalsma, VP at Skanska USA, right, presented a \$10,000 donation to the Presidential Endownment Scholarship fund.



Area Masonic Lodges added \$14,300 to the Masonic Scholarship for Skilled Trades, a longtime source of funding for students pursuing careers and licensure in vocational trades.

#### VITA volunteers yield \$8 million in tax returns

Scholarship students operated San Antonio's most productive income tax prep site during the 2017 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) season. Students processed just over \$8 million in refunds for 4,152 clients, according to an authority at United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County. 21 local VITA sites generated a total of \$54 million.

# SPC, Project QUEST share 25-year partnership

St. Philip's College and a local nonprofit share a national reputation for their 25year best practice partnership in providing thousands of low-income alumni with access to education and occupational training. The partner organization symbolizing the enduring value of their program is Project QUEST Inc. According to the 2017 report, "Escalating Gains: Project QUEST'S Sectoral Strategy Pays Off" [http://allenartservices.com/resources/ client-resources/Escalating-Gains WEB. pdf], "The findings are among the most impressive of any rigorous evaluation of a workforce development program and are a strong endorsement of the potential value of long-term skills training for low-income job seekers." 2,893 SPC students are alumni of this program.

# District 2 early childhood training program held

St. Philip's College hosted the 2017
District 2 Early Childhood Training
program directed by staff from Voices for
Children of San Antonio. The professional
development event provided resources
for 240 early childhood professionals,
advocates and parents. SPC early childhood
students assisted guests with check-in, room
facilitation and lunch service.

#### Eat on the Beat cookies

Pastry students baked dozens of cookies that were distributed to San Antonio Police Department personnel at the East, South, West, North and Northwest sub-stations. This annual event is a partnership with SAPD and San Antonio Tourism Council. According to a City of San Antonio news release, "Eat on the Beat' is a program aimed at providing a nutritious meal to the men and women in blue who work tirelessly to protect and serve."



SPC, observing its 30th anniversary as a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) member institution, and the 30th anniversary of the college's Southwest Campus (SWC) at 800 Quintana Road, joins all in celebrating the life of Dr. Stephen Robert Mitchell (1931-2017), the former and seventh president (1985-1992), who passed Aug. 28 at his home in Cupertino, Calif.

Mitchell was in service when employees suggested to him that the college could supplement its operational budget by seeking a fair share of federal funding that 96 HBCU-designated institutions use to strengthen their capacities to serve.

Under Mitchell SPC became a multi-campus institution with the 1987 addition of the Southwest Campus and a bevy of programs that have provided college educations and middle class financial security for generations of San Antonio-based alumni.

SPC received its federal HBCU designation in 1987, two years into the leadership of Mitchell. A radiologic technology program faculty member suggested the HBCU designation as an institutional performance best practice upon returning from a field visit to the radiology program at Tuskegee Institute, an HBCU member institution. The construction of the 600-seat SPC Watson Fine Arts Center as a space for such civic events throughout the years as the 23-season San Antonio Symphony in Residence project (1988-2011) and San Antonio Police Department graduation ceremonies (2016-present) was part of the Mitchell legacy.

In 1987, SPC under the leadership of Mitchell added the SWC, a hub for technical training and degree programs, as a business unit. The campus was part of a former Kelly Air Force Base property that was transformed into the business known as Port San Antonio. SWC is one of the first college campuses located within a NAFTA Free Trade Zone, and today boasts the city's largest rooftop solar energy installation as a lab for study in the field. Many programs at SPC-SWC have traditionally been unique as the only available in the South Texas region, and now range from construction and aviation technology in Mitchell's era to advanced manufacturing and alternative energy in the modern era.

Mitchell started his career in academics teaching college-level political science in Washington and Calgary before assuming administrative employment in 1967 in positions at universities in Wisconsin, Washington, Michigan and Hawaii. Following his term as SPC president, Mitchell oversaw daily operations at SPC, Palo Alto College (PAC) and San Antonio College (SAC) in his capacity as district deputy chancellor of the Alamo Community College District (1992-1995) and the first president of Northwest Vista College (NVC) during its construction. He retired in 1996.

He is survived by his wife, Betty; his children, Sharon Mitchell, Laura Mitchell Brodniak and Stephen L. Mitchell; and his step-children, John Holmes, Mary Anne Save, Lisa Smiley, Bud Smiley and Casey Smiley.

#### Student organizations stand out in community service, engagement and leadership



Construction technology students' org were recognized in several categories for their community service. Shown here are, from left, Dr. Paul Machen, Dr. Mordecai Brownlee, members of the college's National Homebuilders Association Student Chapter Larry Coysdill, Mario Martinez, Luis Ortega and Ernest Patino, and Dr. Loston.

The 2017 Student Organization and Athletic Awards Luncheon recognized student organizations and athletes. In a season of giving back dominated by members of the college's National Homebuilders Association Student Chapter, the Student Organization Awards recipients were:

- Community Engagement and Service Award: National Homebuilders Association Student Chapter
- Best Event of the Year Award: I AM Woman: Speak Out Panel Discussion on Domestic Violence and Abusive Relationships
- Best New Student Organization Award: Texas Techs Automotive Club
- Best New Student Organization Award: Philosophy Club
- Most Creative Event/Activities Award: Muslim Student Association for Islam in America: Women's Perspective
- Most Creative Event Award: Spirit and Pride Crew for Black History Month Plinko Trivia Game
- Most Active Organization Award: National Homebuilders Association Student Chapter
- Tiger Spirit Award: Spirit and Pride Crew
- Outstanding Student Organization Award: National Homebuilders Association Student Chapter
- Outstanding Student Organization Leader Award: Mario Martinez, National Homebuilders Association Student Chapter
- Outstanding Advisor Award: Ross Lambeck, National Homebuilders Association Student Chapter
- Outstanding Advisor Award: Gilbert Noriega, National Homebuilders Association Student Chapter

St. Philip's College student athletes recognized with awards included Kim Tobias (Women's Basketball MVP), Monique Lipscomb (Women's Basketball Most Improved Player), Rylan Williams (Men's Basketball MVP), Shandon Hicks (Men's Basketball Most Improved Player), Passion Williams-Toomer (Volleyball MVP), Desiree Purnsley (Volleyball Most Improved Player), Kayla Watts (Cheer MVP), Gabby Cruz (Cheer Most Improved Player), Mohammad Mashal (Soccer MVP), and Genaro Gomez (Soccer Most Improved Player). Athletes with 3.0 or higher GPA earned certificates from the Texas Collegiate Club Sports League and Student Life. In all, 21 athletes earned academic recognition.



One highlight of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masonic Lodges (A.F. & A.M.) Scholarship Donor Luncheon was the ceremonial presentation of donations from lodge members totaling \$13,500 to fund scholarships for study in the applied science professions. Donors were Highland Hills Lodge No. 1373 (\$3,500), Triune Lodge No. 15 (\$2,000), Texas Masonic Lodge No. 8 (\$2,000), Alamo Lodge No. 44 (\$2,000) San Antonio Masonic Lodge No. 1079 (\$1,000), Kelly Lodge No. 1131 (\$1,000), Victory Masonic Lodge No. 1160 (\$1,000) and Perfect Union Lodge No. 10 (\$1,000).

#### **Baptist Health Foundation gives \$20,000 for students**



St. Philip's College and Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio recently celebrated student success when the foundation ceremonially donated \$20,000 that will allow SPC students to finance their educations in the fields of radiography technology (\$10,000), invasive cardiovascular technology (\$5,000) and physical therapy assistant (\$5,000). Foundation president and CEO Cody S. Knowlton (left) presented the ceremonial check that accompanied the generous gift to Dr. Sharon Crockett-Ray (at right), SPC's director of institutional advancement and development, at the foundation on Aug. 8. Incorporated in 2004 to fund not-for-profit healthcare services and education throughout Bexar County and contiguous counties in South Texas, the foundation distributes grants annually to not-for-profit organizations which provide healthcare services and health education throughout Bexar County and contiguous counties in South Texas. (Image courtesy Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio)

#### Student advocates march for college completion



SPC promoted college completion as participants in the 2017 City of San Antonio César Chávez March for Justice. Led by members of the college's Future United Latino Leaders for Change student organization, 20 SPC students and employees marched, honoring the ideals of the civil rights leader. The event aspired to raise awareness for basic American ideals and college completion, a strategic goal of both organizers and the college.



Students and employees march during the annual Juneteenth celebration on the Eastside of San Antonio. The parade was followed by a reunion at Comanche Park.

#### WINTO Conference: Alumna promotes jobs in nontraditional fields



Phoenix Program alumna Alexandra Marroquin

A St. Philip's College alumna recently spoke to a reporter in support of the college's annual Women in Nontraditional Occupations Conference program. During the KENS 5 report, "Students Learn About Nontraditional Jobs for Women," former student Ashley Narvez went on to be a jet engine mechanic. She now volunteers for the conference and said events like these inspired her.

"You have so much support here on campus," Narvez told participants. "You can do this." The 2017 Women's History Month lineup concluded with WINTO at the college's Southwest Campus. More than 300 local female high school students interested in career technical education and other nontraditional career fields attended. SPC program-specific information as well as laboratory tours for programs housed at Southwest Campus were offered. Danielle "Diva Q" Bennett, BBQ Pitmaster and television host, shared her journey to success. WINTO started in 2009 as a student organization. Today, students network with corporate mentors, guest speakers, alumni and career fair guests. Participants visit college advisors at academic departments that are the gateways to well-paying jobs in mechanical engineering, alternative energy, aircraft technology, automotive, information technology, manufacturing and welding.



The Palm General Manager Jon Edwards, left, and Dr. Loston, right, recognized graphic artists whose designs earned top honors: Lara Estrada, Elizabeth Luis and Alejandro Cabrera. The first place design by Cabrera became the official Palm Restaurant Fiesta medal.

#### The Palm Restaurant hosts 2017 Fiesta Medal Unveiling

Winners were announced as St. Philip's College and The Palm Restaurant celebrated the fifth anniversary of a Fiesta-themed scholarship fundraising partnership. Since 2013, The Palm and St. Philip's College conduct a Fiesta medal design contest, a culinary contest and a silent auction for scholarships for the St. Philip's College Presidential Scholarship Program. The winning recipe was featured on the event menu.

By order-of-finish, the results were as follows:

Palm Medal Design | Alejandro Cabrera (first place), Elizabeth Luis—Design 1 (second place), Lauren Estrada (third place), Elizabeth Luis—Design 2 (fourth place), Alicia Goolsby, Josie Carrillo and Zihan Zhao

Culinary Recipe | Yolanda Guerra (first place, Avocado Lime Mousse) Yolanda Guerra (second place, Chocolate Raspberry Cheesecake), Sabrina Garza (third place, Prosciutto Cups with Goat Cheese Mousse, Mostarda, and Arugula) and Ryan Harper (fourth place)



From left, Ryan Harper, Quila Polk, Jessi Ramón and Yolanda Guerra were among those Culinary Arts students who submitted recipes to The Palm. Guerra's Avacoado Lime Mousse was included in the evening fare.



Yolanda Guerra, center, was recognized for her award-winning mousse by Dr. Loston and The Palm General Manager Jon Edwards.



Jill and Mark Metcalfe, shown here with Dr. Loston and Jon Edwards, are SPC advocates and donors. Mark serves as the chair of the president's advisory council at SPC.



Miss NAACP Caiya Wiltshire was among Fiesta royalty in attendance.



Dr. Loston's jewelry, donations and Fiesta medals contributed to the \$7,500 raised in a single evening.

#### SPC employees take on major roles in community fundraising gala, dance-off

When three employees give back through the arts of theater, dance and philanthropy through the signature event of a local outreach fund, the community is sure to benefit.

Dr. Carmen Nava-Fisher, Vincent Hardy and Dr. Sharon Crockett-Ray played pivotal roles in this year's Renaissance with the Stars Gala fundraising dance competition, San Antonio Area African American Community Fund's signature event.

At SPC, Nava-Fisher is Natural Sciences Department chair, Hardy is the college's theater program coordinator and Crockett-Ray is director of institutional advancement. Hardy served as one of two event emcees. Crockett-Ray loaned her special event leadership to the organization as chair of the 2017 gala.

Similar to the television show, "Dancing with the Stars," local entertainment, business and civic leaders such as Nava-Fisher train for a judged competition with professional dancers to raise funds and awareness about opportunities related to African Americans in San Antonio. Their objective: to help grow a fund that has raised more than \$300,000 to support the growing and critical needs of families, students, rising professionals, entrepreneurs, non-profit organizations and elderly in the community.

In the course of volunteering her time, Nava-Fisher shared her story. She was born in Mexico, but considers herself a citizen of the world. She is a natural sciences and technology educator, researcher, and developer with more than 30 years of experience in education, research and management.

"This year I was honored to be asked to represent my college at the Renaissance with the Stars Gala. This is a fundraising event for the African American community. St. Philip's College and the people who serve in this great community have given me so much for the last ten years that I was more than happy to accept the fund's invitation. I wish you could see the benefits this foundation brings to helping our community," said Nava-Fisher.

She has served as a natural sciences professor at graduate, undergraduate, and high school levels, with experience in instructing and developing academic programs. Dr. Nava-Fisher is is knowledgeable about resource conservation and environmental issues. She also participates on oceanographic research.



Five civic leaders partnered with professional dancers to raise funds for local charities during SAAAACF's signature gala. Event chairperson, Dr. Sharon Crocket-Ray, left, and Bobby Blount, fund chair, right, awarded Dr. Nava-Fisher and her dance partner for their performance.

Dr. Nava-Fisher instructs chemistry and earth sciences at the college level and integrates Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (S.T.E.M) education for middle and high school students.

She credits her father, a bright and compassionate cardiologist, for instilling a sincere and strong belief in God. Her mother was a housewife whose example and strength taught Nava-Fisher to share those attributes with others.

She has two brothers, but considers herself a sister to all. Nava-Fisher says her biggest fortune has been the outstanding opportunity to be a mother. Her two daughters have brought tenderness to her life. Her husband, David, is her strength and supports her in all that she determines to do. Dr. Nava-Fisher enjoys theater training, acting, and directing, and is bilingual in English and Spanish.

"My mission in life is to give and serve with my full potential, for eventual joy in the eternal life, while loving, forgiving and understanding others," she says.

The fund is one of three community outreach funds under the San Antonio Area Foundation, Each promotes philanthropy by and for under-represented or under-served communities. Volunteers at each fund give back to increase awareness, provide opportunities for involvement and raise funds for endowments.

#### Faculty member named San Antonio's Certified Tourism Ambassador of the Year

David Uminski, alumnus and faculty member, was recently named Certified Tourism Ambassador of the Year by Visit San Antonio. President and CEO Casandra Matej called Uminski, "a spotlight representative of the CTA program."

In San Antonio, the most popular tourism destination in Texas, the honor carries significant impact. Nearly 21 million overnight visitors descend on the metro area each year, generating \$13.6 billion in economic revenue. Of the more than 34 million annual visitors, many are repeat

arrivals, drawn by charm, attractions and familial atmosphere. Tourism ranks third among all industries in the city.

Uminski is one of more than 1,500 front-line hospitality employees and volunteers who take part in the CTA initiative.

Several guests cross paths with CTA ambassadors, who wear a signature gold pin on their lapels. In those moments, visitors get a sense of the pride and universal affection felt by San Antonians for their community.

Uminski received his CTA designation

in 2014 while employed with a destination management company. Understanding the importance of the program and spreading his passion for

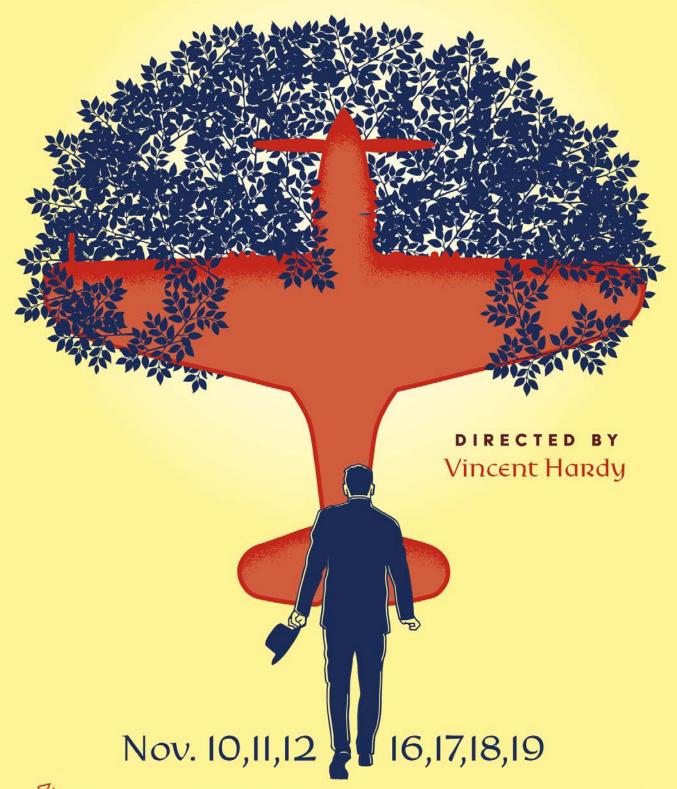


Jminski

San Antonio, Uminski incorporated the program into course curriculum at SPC so hospitality students complete CTA training as part of their first year coursework.

ARTHUR MILLERS

# ALL MY SONS



# SPC Recognizes Cybersecurity Partners – UTSA, Port San Antonio

SPC celebrated the success of two cybersecurity partners: UTSA announced its fall 2017 online cybersecurity degree program, and Port San Antonio broke ground on a \$20 million real estate development.

"We welcome UTSA to San Antonio's online cybersecurity degree cohort, and will inform our cybersecurity students of this excellent potential transfer opportunity," college business information solutions department chair Edith Orozco said.

Project Tech, a 90,000-square-foot technology anchor, will serve as the nation's second-largest cybersecurity cluster after Washington, D.C. The property is less than two miles from the college's Southwest Campus.

## Biomed student tour leads to clinical solution

A biomedical engineering student will always remember the practical clinical experience of modifying high-tech incubators used to transport at-risk infants.

"I talked to biotechnology program director Alberto Vasquez about places to practicum. He suggested University Health System. It was eye-opening for me," Rainier Stefan Bautista said. "We could all see that it was wobbling too much. The incubator had brackets that were loose, and we re-drilled to secure the brackets."

## New Book discusses historical warriors

Professor Alan Hamilton has a new book from Greyhouse Publishing, Encyclopedia of Historical Warrior Peoples & Modern Fighting Groups. Dr. Paul K. Davis is co-author. SPC faculty Cynthia Pryor and Matthew Fuller also contributed. This is Hamilton's sixth book, along with one novel and 26 published articles.



A St. Philip's College employee has been elected president of the National Association of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Title III Administrators, Inc.; a nonprofit association responsible for the stewardship and administration of a multimillion dollar annual federal appropriation to HBCUs.

Dr. Erick Akins is both the Title III director and an active corporate leader within the 17-year-old association that maintains a unified voice on behalf of 96 institutions of higher education receiving federal Title III Part B funding. Title III programs are a source of federal financial assistance that establishes or strengthens the physical plants, financial management, academic resources and endowment-building capacity of HBCUs.

Akins earned his bachelor's degree in music education (Southern University, 1981), his master of arts degree in urban studies (Trinity University, 1988), and his Ph.D. in human services (Capella University, 2015).

He has given back through four years of service as the Title III association's parliamentarian, working as an executive committee member with two previous association presidents and serving as chair of the association's bylaws committee. When the association held its annual business meeting in June, Akins was voted by his peers to succeed current president Ms. Helga Greenfield of Spelman College.

Akins assumes his new leadership role of president on Oct. 1, a few weeks following the installation of the association's newly elected executive board members in Washington, D.C. One of the association's

signature business activities is its Annual Technical Assistance Workshop where members and senior U.S. education officials convene to discuss higher education initiatives, funding and sponsored programs.

Akins conveyed the HBCU community college capacity-building experience when SPC hosted the 2015 technical assistance workshop themed The Changing Landscape of HBCUs: Implications for Title III.

In June of 2016 in Arlington, Va., Akins shared exemplary SPC best practices during the association's 2016 technical assistance workshop. Akins' presentation strategic steps that successful institutions ensure both continuity of service and sustainability from Title III funded projects, particularly best strategies and methods that have been used to transform projects from Title III funded projects and programs to institutionally-funded projects and programs.

The National Association of HBCU Title III Administrators, Inc. represents the general concerns of Title III Administrators for Title III, Part B and Part F Projects. The purpose of the association is to provide professional development, information, technical assistance, and serve as an advocate to help advance and strengthen HBCU, Student Aid and Financial Responsibility Act (SAFRA), and Historically Black Graduate Institutions (HBGI) programs of the Higher Education Act at HBCU institutions. The association encourages professional relationships with the U.S. Department of Education and serves as a forum for discussion of regulations and policies relative to compliance and program implementation.

#### SPC honors historic ties to St. Philip's Episcopal Church with college report



SPC President Dr. Adena Williams Loston and several members of the campus leadership presented rector emeritus Rev. Milbrew Davis and senior warden Randy Mellen at St. Philip's Episcopal Church an annual scholarship to award for a church member during the St. Philip's Feast Day service.

#### SGA President, Army veteran named alternative student trustee for college district

Alamo Colleges District board of trustees student trustee alternate Angelia Jacobs is both a 2016 St. Philip's College alumna and a current student with many responsibilities at the college, including leadership as president of the college's Student Government Association. In addition to working hard on behalf of 13,000 St. Philip's College students, Jacobs represents the interests of more than 60,000 districtwide at board and other district meetings.



Jacobs

Jacobs began serving as student trustee alternate on May 1. The student trustee, Alicia Moreno, attends Alamo Colleges District board meetings and does not vote or sit in executive sessions. As alternate, Jacobs attends board meetings if Moreno is unable. In between time, the retired Army Master Sqt. outlined her leadership journey:

- The St. Philip's College experience has been part of my life story since January of 2014, three months after I retired from the military. They sent me to Fort Sam, on the other side of I-35. There, I was working for the Army Dental Command in training and operations, and as a dental hygienist. When it was time to transition, I was told, you need to be licensed, and that means returning to college.
- My college education continued after 23 years of honorable Active Army Federal Service. My plan was to complete the prerequisites for transfer to the University of Texas-San Antonio Health Science Center Dental Hygiene Program. At the time, I was thinking are my instructor and I going to be the senior persons in the class?
- I learned that St. Philip's College was an HBCU from an instructor in MathWorld. The cultural diversity is here

and the age groups are wonderful. I have high school classmates who helped me set my phone up, and I can laugh and talk with 65-year-old students, and with the veterans' community. It makes the SPC community of peers a good thing to be part of.

- I have seen the Board of Trustees meetings online, and I am thrilled, just being able to observe the ways the district is making efforts to actually support and help advance the students.
- I enjoyed the campus environment when I first arrived by spending several hours in two fabulous tutoring centers for science---MathWorld and the Bird Sanctuary. I accepted invitations to various campus activities, and later joined the Tiger PAWS student literary journal team. Through reading the poetry, short stories, and seeing the art and seemingly hidden talent on this campus... I began to see the faces of the students. I experienced their excitement, passion, their pain, and the deep questions they candidly shared with me.
- Being stopped by students while campaigning for various peer-elected positions showed me that there was more to this college than taking classes. As a peer mentor, I have the opportunity to hear the joys and headaches associated with gaining a quality education.
- Although I have a strong desire to see the SPC graduation rate increase, I also want to help celebrate and build students through initiatives that will enhance completion or graduation and fitness for entering the workforce. Students should be able to continue to connect their coursework with life skills and current or future employment.

Jacobs will lead the first student government team to serve from the renovated Turbon Student Center.



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Bowden Alumni Center Sutton Learning Center 3rd Floor All activities are free and open to the public.

#### Upcoming Events

Spirit Day - Every Wednesday

Homecoming - October 20

**Tiger Basketball Breast Cancer Awareness** - Oct. 25

President's Culinary Gala – Oct. 28

Employee Health Summit - Nov. 9

All My Sons – Nov. 10 -19

Tourism, Hopitality & Culinary Arts High School Culinary Competition - Nov. 3

Jazz Band Auditions – Dec. 6, 13

Graduation – Dec. 15

SAYWE Holiday Concert - Dec. 18

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