

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY
Open-House Alumni and Partnership Luncheon

FALL 2024



Thursday, December 5, 2024
11:30 AM - 3:00 PM



TSU Science Center Atrium
3100 Cleburne Street
Houston, Texas 77004

Order of Program

Viewing of Posters and Networking

Opening – Lunch is Served

Dr. Desiree Jackson, Assistant Dean

Recognition of COSET King and Queen

Ms. Sharon Hudson / Ms. Tioka Freeman

Welcome and College Updates

Dr. Wei Wayne Li, Acting Dean

Provost Remarks

Dr. Carl Goodman, Provost

COSET Board of Advisors Update

Mr. Roderick Haynes

TSU Career Pathways Center Update

Ms. Shawndra Harmon, Director of TSU Career Pathways Center

Academic Program Spotlight

Sydnee Johnson, Aviation Science Management

Jemima Allagoa, Civil Engineering

Michael Vouffo, Chemistry and Mathematics Double Major

Euriah McQueen, Maritime Transportation Management and Security

COSET Alumni Update

Mr. Keith Scott

Closing Remarks

Dr. Wei Wayne Li, Acting Dean

Lab Tours

Dean's Welcome and College Update



Dr. Wei Wayne Li

Acting Dean, College of Science,
Engineering and Technology
Texas Southern University

On behalf of the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology at Texas Southern University, it is my distinct honor and privilege to welcome you to our Open-House Alumni and Partnership Luncheon. Today, we gather not only to celebrate our achievements but also to envision a future driven by innovation, collaboration, and excellence.

First, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and commitment to our college. To our alumni: your remarkable accomplishments are a testament to the transformative education offered at TSU. Your successes inspire our students and uphold the legacy of excellence that defines COSET. To our partners: your collaboration enhances our ability to innovate, educate, and address society's most pressing challenges. Together, you form the foundation of our growth and impact.

This past year has been one of extraordinary progress for our college. Our faculty secured millions in competitive grants from leading federal agencies, including the NSF, NASA, the Department of Transportation, and the Air Force. Highlights include a \$2.5 million LSAMP grant from the NSF in 2024 and a \$2.2 million research center grant from the Air Force in 2023. Faculty accolades are equally noteworthy. In 2024, one of our faculty was appointed Chairperson of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's (NASEM) Transportation Research Board (TRB) Executive Committee. Another received an honorary doctorate, Doctor Honoris Causa, from the University of Oslo (Norway) and the prestigious title of Institute of Advanced Studies Fellow at the University of Loughborough (UK). Additionally, a faculty member joined the United Nations (UN) Office of Legal Affairs Pool of Experts in 2024, while another was a distinguished guest speaker at the UN General Assembly Science Summit in New York in 2023. Our students also continue to excel, earning national accolades and securing opportunities with top organizations such as NASA and IBM. Several have been accepted into prestigious Ph.D. programs, including Yale University and the University of Nevada. These successes highlight the synergy between our alumni, industry partners, and the university community.

Dean's Welcome and College Update

Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our pursuit of even greater aspirations. We aim to establish cutting-edge research initiatives and foster a state-of-the-art, multicultural, and inclusive environment that will profoundly impact economic, scientific, and social development locally, nationally, and globally. Our vision includes positioning TSU as a leader in STEM research and innovation, transitioning from R2 to R1 status with research expenditures exceeding \$50 million and over 70 doctoral graduates annually. We also plan to expand interdisciplinary programs, launch new Ph.D. offerings, create more opportunities for student engagement in advanced research, and strengthen collaborations with industry.

Your continued partnership is vital to preparing the next generation of STEM leaders who will shape the future. Today, I encourage you not only to reconnect but to actively reengage with COSET. Share your expertise, mentor a student, support scholarships, or collaborate on groundbreaking research. Together, we can elevate TSU's College of Science, Engineering, and Technology to new heights.

Thank you for your steadfast support, belief in our mission, and dedication to empowering the next generation. Your presence here reaffirms that the strength of COSET lies in its community - a community built on passion, innovation, and a shared commitment to excellence.

Let us continue to build, dream, and achieve together.

Provost's Remarks



Dr. Carl B. Goodman
Provost and Senior Vice President
for Academic Affairs
Texas Southern University

Dear Honored Guest,

I am delighted to welcome you to the Open House Alumni and Partnership Luncheon for the College of Science, Engineering and Technology (COSET). This event represents our sincere gratitude for allowing Texas Southern University to honor and celebrate our distinguished alums and generous sponsors whose unwavering support has been instrumental in our successes.

Today, we gather to reflect on COSET's achievements and express our profound appreciation for your invaluable contributions. Your dedication and generosity have enabled us to cultivate an environment of transformative learning where outstanding faculty, dedicated staff, and exceptional students can thrive.

Our strategic partnerships, which incorporate the private and public sectors, our community, and the University, are critical components in developing successful outcomes for our students and the academic departments within COSET. These collaborations empower us to create innovative programs and provide unique opportunities that enhance the educational experience.

This luncheon is a testament to the collective efforts that have propelled COSET forward. It is a moment for us to come together, give thanks, and acknowledge the remarkable impact that each of you has made in shaping TSU's future.

As we look ahead, we are filled with excitement and optimism, knowing that with your continued support, we will build upon our successes and reach even greater heights. We are profoundly grateful for your partnership and the trust you have placed in COSET and Texas South University overall.

Thank you for being a part of our journey and for helping us create a brighter future for our students.

COSET Board of Advisor's Update



Roderick Haynes

Director, State Local Government

Microsoft

Chair, COSET Board of Advisors

Texas Southern University

Texas Southern University – The Advisory Board of the College of Science, Engineering and Technology (COSET) welcomes you to our Annual Open Houston and Alumni & Partnership Luncheon. Our Advisory Board, led by a new Chair and Vice Chair, along with new corporate partners and the Dean of the College, is eager to make an immediate impact on COSET. The board, which also includes faculty leadership, is working diligently to enhance opportunities for our students, empowering them to compete for a wide range of prospects. The Advisory Board's diverse membership brings a breadth of experience spanning research, science, engineering, and emerging technologies.

Establishing strategic partnerships with private and public organizations, the local community, and the University is crucial for our students' and College's success. These alliances create a foundation that enables our students and graduates to excel, whether they pursue academic or professional paths.

The Advisory Board has been and will continue to be a strong advocate for the growth and development of the College's newest programs in Civil and Electrical Engineering. The College's nationally recognized Transportation Studies and Airway Science programs produce graduates who immediately take on leadership roles. Our Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Physics programs prepare students for post-graduate study opportunities, while the Computer Science program stays at the forefront of emerging technologies.

The COSET Leonard H.O. Spearman Technology complex is a cutting-edge hub for engineering and technology innovation. Constructed just two years ago, the state-of-the-art Technology Building boasts over 35 advanced laboratories, multiple high-tech computer network platforms, and fully integrated classrooms equipped with Smart Boards and other innovative teaching tools. The building also offers both private and public workspaces designed to enhance student-faculty engagement. We highly encourage you to tour our impressive facilities today to experience the College's renowned capabilities firsthand.

COSET Board of Advisor's Update

We are grateful to our long-standing industry partners for participating in today's Open House. To our first-time industry visitors, we encourage you to take a comprehensive tour of our facilities, meet our faculty and advisory board, and engage with our students. We are confident you will be impressed with COSET and see us as an ideal fit for a valuable partnership. Whether through sponsorships, executive-on-loan opportunities, collaborative research, faculty endowments, student scholarships, internships, or permanent employment, we welcome your involvement with the College in any capacity. Once again, thank you for participating in today's activities, and we hope you will consider COSET as the smart choice.

COSET Alumni Association President's Update



Keith Scott

Senior IT Director TISTA
President, COSET Alumni Chapter
TSUNAA

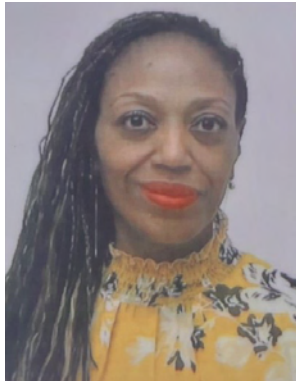
Welcome, my name Keith Scott, I am the College of Science, Engineering and Technology (COSET) Alumni Chapter President, 1983 Graduate of the COSET in Computer Science with a minor in Mathematics. I am a Senior IT Director with TISTA Sciences, a Small Business Owner, a proud TSU Alumna and the immediate past National Alumni President.

As members of the TSUNAA (over 80,000 Alumni), we have an opportunity to give back to our alma mater in meaningful ways, whether through mentorship, financial support, or simply by staying connected and sharing our successes with one another. By participating in our online community, you will have access to a wealth of resources, including networking opportunities, career development workshops, and social events that will help you stay connected to your fellow alumni and to the university as a whole.

On behalf the Texas Southern University Alumni Association, it is a pleasure and a privilege to welcome you into the Texas Southern University Alumni community. We look forward to seeing you on campus and offer you nothing but best wishes in the semester ahead.

Together we can make a difference!!! Go Tigers!!!!

TSU Career Pathways Update



Shawndra Harmon
Director, Career Pathways Center
Texas Southern University

Welcome to the Career Pathways Center at Texas Southern University!

We're thrilled to have you visit us on the second floor of the Student Center, Office 238! Our mission is to support and empower you as you navigate your career journey. Whether you're a current student, faculty member, staff, employer, or an esteemed alumnus, our doors are always open for you!

At the Career Pathways Center, we offer a variety of services designed to help you succeed, including:

- Personalized career counseling
- Resume and cover letter assistance
- Mock interviews
- Job search strategies
- Networking opportunities
- Workshops on industry trends and professional development

Our office is open Monday through Friday, from 8 AM to 5 PM. We invite you to stop by, say hello, and take advantage of the resources we have available just for you!

In today's fast-paced world, staying current with industry trends is more important than ever. Whether you're preparing to enter the job market or looking to advance in your career, understanding the latest developments can give you a competitive edge. Our team is here to help you keep your skills sharp and your knowledge up to date!

So come visit us! Let's work together to pave the way for your success. We can't wait to see you!

Office: 713-313-1374 | 713-313-7541 | Fax: 713-313-7842

Sterling Student Life Center, 2nd Floor - Suite 237

3100 Cleburne Street, Houston, TX 77004

University Website: www.tsu.edu

Career Pathways Center Email: placementservices@tsu.edu

Career Services Website: www.tsu.edu/careercenter

Academic Program Spotlight



Sydnee Johnson

Aviation Science Management - Professional Pilot
Department of Transportation Studies

Sydnee Johnson is a first-time freshman from Houston, Texas. A second-generation pilot, she is majoring in Aviation Science Management with a Professional Pilot concentration as well as a minor in Business Administration. Sydnee is an award-winning alto saxophonist as well as a national qualifier in VEX Robotics. In high school, she was a member of the National Honor Society and held various leadership positions such as Freshman Class President, and Treasurer of the Black Student Union. This summer, Sydnee was one of eight students across the country chosen for the Tuskegee NEXT program. Over those eight weeks, Sydnee earned her Private Pilot License as well as a Part 107 Drone License.

Since arriving on campus, Sydnee has joined a few campus organizations such as TSU Clean and OBAP. Additionally, she was selected to be the Treasurer of Women in Aviation for 2024-2025. Recently, she was appointed by the Transportation Studies department (Aviation) as the Student Safety Representative on behalf of the flight students for academic year 2024-2025. Sydnee plans to graduate from Texas Southern University after earning the remaining ratings and licenses and to become a Commercial Airline Pilot. Her ultimate goal is to become part of the first black father-daughter duo working at a major airline.

Academic Program Spotlight



Jemima Allagoa
Civil Engineering
Department of Engineering

Jemima Allagoa is a third-year Civil Engineering major, whose academic excellence and leadership inspire innovation in the field. She is the President of Texas Southern University's Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) chapter and serves as the External Vice President of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), where she leads efforts to strengthen industry connections and provide transformative professional development opportunities for her peers. Jemima is also a proud member of the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College, contributing to its mentorship committee, and an active member in the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

Jemima's professional journey includes her role as a Construction Management Intern at Jacobs Engineering Group, where she contributed to transformative infrastructure projects like the Ship Channel Bridge. Her research with the Honors College focuses on advancing sustainability in civil engineering through green practices and innovative materials. Driven by a passion for creating resilient and eco-conscious solutions, Jemima exemplifies the future of engineering leadership, blending technical expertise with a commitment to progress in her career.

Academic Program Spotlight



Michael Vouffo
Chemistry and Mathematics Double Major
Department of Chemistry

Michael Vouffo is a senior at Texas Southern University, pursuing a dual Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and Chemistry. He is an LSAMP scholar and has maintained a strong academic record with a 3.5 GPA. He recently was an Undergraduate Research Intern at MD Anderson Cancer Center, where he conducted radiation oncology research on patients with head and neck cancer, specifically studying osteoradionecrosis under the mentorship of Dr. David Fuller. His research contributions have led to a published poster on ResearchGate through the Fuller Lab. Previously, Michael served as a Summer Researcher with the Texas Southern University RISE program, focusing on air quality analysis in Houston to identify high-risk areas for air pollution. This project was presented at conferences, including NOBCCChE, ACS, and NAAHP. He also gained valuable experience through the Premedical Summer Institute at Baylor College of Medicine, where he trained in suturing, shadowed professionals at Texas Children's Hospital, and studied anatomy and physiology with expert faculty. In addition to his academic and professional pursuits, Michael is actively involved in leadership roles within his university and community. He serves as the Director of Educational Activities for the Delta Theta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Membership Chair of Collegiate 100, and Academic Coordinator for TSU Campus PALS. Michael is a Sigma Pi Phi Mentee and a recipient of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund's McDonald's Black and Golden Positivity Scholarship. Michael is committed to advancing health equity and addressing disparities within marginalized communities through his research, leadership, and mentorship roles. His aspirations to pursue a career in medicine are driven by a desire to contribute positively to public health and to serve as a trusted advocate within the healthcare system. Michael Vouffo is a native of Cameroon, he is bilingual in English and French.

Academic Program Spotlight



Euriah McQueen

Maritime Transportation Management and Security
Department of Transportation Studies

Euriah McQueen is a senior graduating in December 2024 with a Bachelor's degree in Maritime Transportation Management and Security. In the fall of 2023, Euriah transferred from the University of Texas at Arlington to Texas Southern University to complete her senior year. Despite the transfer, Euriah experienced the college life she had always envisioned. At TSU, she became a member of the TSU Tiger Sensations and served as a dance teacher and trainer at the TSU Recreation Center. Academically, Euriah joined the Maritime Student Association as a board member, became a member of the Propeller Club, and worked as a teaching assistant under Mr. Robert Morgan. In the summer of 2024, she completed an internship with Port of Houston, where she gained hands-on experience in the Port Security and Emergency Operations departments. During her time there, she contributed to emergency responses for incidents like Hurricane Beryl and a derecho (straight-line wind storm), earning the Safety Award for her exceptional commitment to port safety. As she prepares for graduation, Euriah is grateful to the professors and mentors at Texas Southern University who have gone above and beyond to support her success.



Michael Vouffo, COSET King
Chemistry and Mathematics Double Major
Department of Chemistry

Michael Vouffo is a senior at Texas Southern University, pursuing a dual Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and Chemistry. He is an LSAMP scholar and has maintained a strong academic record with a 3.5 GPA. He recently was an Undergraduate Research Intern at MD Anderson Cancer Center, where he conducted radiation oncology research on patients with head and neck cancer, specifically studying osteoradionecrosis under the mentorship of Dr. David Fuller. His research contributions have led to a published poster on ResearchGate through the Fuller Lab. Previously, Michael served as a Summer Researcher with the Texas Southern University RISE program, focusing on air quality analysis in Houston to identify high-risk areas for air pollution. This project was presented at conferences, including NOBCCChE, ACS, and NAAHP. He also gained valuable experience through the Premedical Summer Institute at Baylor College of Medicine, where he trained in suturing, shadowed professionals at Texas Children's Hospital, and studied anatomy and physiology with expert faculty. In addition to his academic and professional pursuits, Michael is actively involved in leadership roles within his university and community. He serves as the Director of Educational Activities for the Delta Theta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Membership Chair of Collegiate 100, and Academic Coordinator for TSU Campus PALS. Michael is a Sigma Pi Phi Mentee and a recipient of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund's McDonald's Black and Golden Positivity Scholarship. Michael is committed to advancing health equity and addressing disparities within marginalized communities through his research, leadership, and mentorship roles. His aspirations to pursue a career in medicine are driven by a desire to contribute positively to public health and to serve as a trusted advocate within the healthcare system. Michael Vouffo is a native of Cameroon, he is bilingual in English and French.

COSET Queen



Feria Nji, COSET Queen
Computer Science
Department of Computer Science

Feria Nji is a senior at Texas Southern University, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, where they maintain a 3.6 GPA. On campus, she currently serves as the President of the Computer Science Society here at TSU, where she leads initiatives to strengthen the academic and professional development of her peers, and she is also a member of the National Society of Black Engineers and the Data Science club. Feria's involvement extends beyond academics; she was part of a team that earned 2nd place in the Goldman Sachs Market Madness Program, securing \$500,000 for TSU through their strategic and analytical contributions and she is a current member of Nerdy Girl Success, a non-profit organization dedicated to mentoring and empowering young female leaders. Additionally, Feria is a two-time Microsoft intern where she gained hands-on experience in software development and product management and will be joining the company full-time as a Software Engineer upon graduation next May. Hailing from Cameroon, a country in Central Africa, Feria is bilingual in French and English and is currently learning Spanish to become trilingual. She is passionate about combining their technical expertise and leadership skills to inspire others and make meaningful contributions in every space she enters.



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