TITLE III NEWS

SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY
TITLE III DEPARTMENT

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Title III News

August 2018
Volume 10 Issue 2

Director's Corner

Dr. Dedra N. Andrews

Interim AVP of Enrollment Management & Title III Director

Greetings & Welcome to the second edition of Title III's Quarterly Newsletter for the 2017 – 2018 grant period.

The purpose of the Title III program is to provide financial assistance to establish or strengthen the physical plants, financial management, academic resources, and endowments of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs).

My mission as Title III Director is to fund new and innovative activities that will have an impact on the university as well as work with others on campus to ensure that our projects support student success.

Here in the Title III Office, we are committed to keeping SSU's campus community abreast of all the wonderful and exciting things happening with our funded activities.

In this newsletter we will introduce our new Title III Employees, share highlights from Title III funded projects and the work accomplished at SSU, and helpful reminders regarding the Title III Budget and approval process.

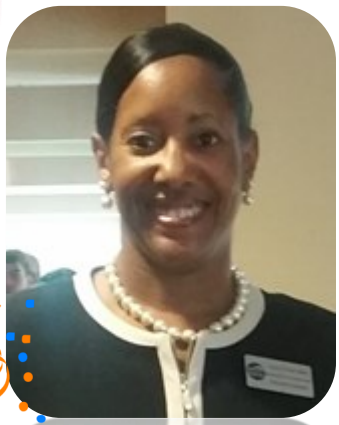
I hope you find this newsletter insightful and informative. Please stay tuned for more exciting things happening in Title III.

Additional Questions About Title III ?

Visit Us: www.SavannahState.edu/title-iii

Title III New Employees

Shaunte Frazier
Data Success Coach
Center for Academic Success



Jan'a Prater
Transition Coach
Center for Academic Success

Linnea Schrantz
Access to Success Specialist
Access to Success

Welcome to the Team!

We know that you all will be a tremendous asset to your Title III Funded Projects!

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

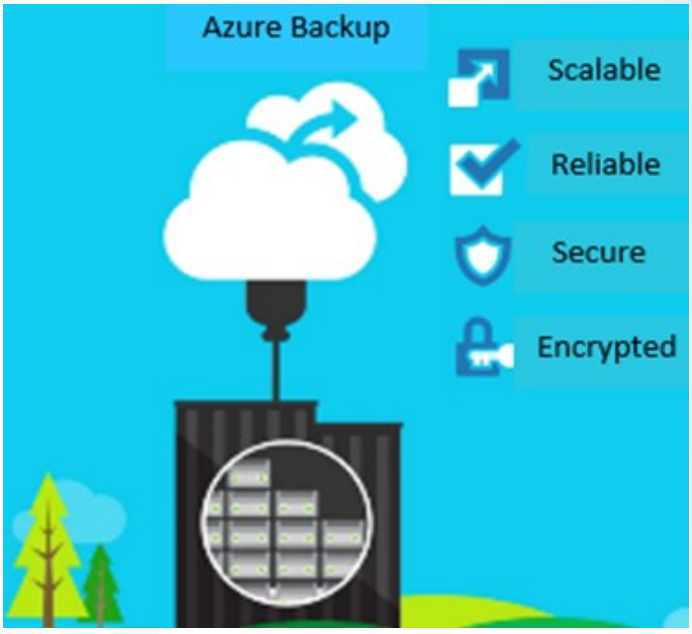
22nd Century Technological Integration & Student Support

Technically-Advancing the University Environment

Information Technology Services introduces integrative, interactive mobile technology and cloud backup services.

The new mobile technology quickly converts any standard space into a computer lab, academic classroom, or professional development space with the latest technology designed for greater interactivity and collaboration among classroom participants.

The Epson BrightLink Pro projector projects from any source and extends the whiteboard into a 100" tablet with the ability to add content or annotate with a stylus or your finger.



Fifteen classrooms and three open spaces for student use have been upgraded with interactive, integrative mobile technology to provide a technologically-advanced university environment. For more information and project updates, visit the ITS web page: www.savannahstate.edu/computer-services/epson-projector.shtml.

Information Technology Services has moved to Azure Cloud Services for data backups. Azure's robust backup solution increased our critical data retention period from one month to 180 months (15 years.) The majority of data recoveries can be pulled from a local staging server rather than accessing data sets in the cloud, further increasing the speed of recovery. The previous tape backup system limited the speed of the disaster recovery process. With Azure, the disaster recovery process can occur from any location with an Internet connection.

For more information on 22nd Century Technological Integration & Student Support, contact Ms. Naomi Singleton at SingletonN@SavannahState.edu.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

STEM Success Center

Summer 2018 Activities

For the first time, the STEM Success Center at SSU hosted its first class of summer interns. Eight students were chosen to conduct research and complete projects based around the Scholarly Activities that are offered as services.

The STEM Success Interns were composed of a variation of COST majors, all juniors and seniors. These students spent time between classes and after hours constructing six competition tables for the FIRST LEGO League Challenge. Interns had to dive deep into the structure LEGO competition, how to structure a team with elementary and middle school students, the roles and responsibilities of a competition volunteer, and much more.

The STEM Success Interns' research also had a second portion devoted to the VEX robotics competition. Students found that participation in VEX Robotics on the collegiate level can serve as a great extra-curricular activity that can set students up for post-collegiate success in the job market. Student interns also learned that VEX is a huge sponsor of engineering and robotics projects across the country and world. Lastly, the student interns began to envision and plan what a VEX competition team at Savannah State would look like and how it would function. The STEM Success Center will continue to help these students with their involvement with VEX and LEGO League.

(Continued)

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

The NASA Rover Challenge interns researched what it would take to be involved with the NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge. These interns held weekly meetings to learn and discuss the many intricate rules, guidelines, and regulations that come along with this experience. The interns also began to strategize on how to approach the competition. They developed a basic model that was inspired by a bicycle's mechanics and began the process of breaking down each obstacle of the competition to develop the best plan of attack. These students also collaborated with faculty to initiate a primary level of support and collaboration.

On July 12, 2018, both groups presented the data and information that they had researched to a group of 22 students. The interns had to coordinate and advertise the presentation on their own. The outcome was based on their effort. In the end both groups were able to present a detailed account of all three Scholarly Activities. At least five of the student interns plan to devote time to these projects during their final semesters here to help increase the awareness and attendance of the available service delivery options in the STEM Success Center.

Through this internship experience, students were able to make professional connections with NASA employees, community members, faculty at SSU, and their fellow students. We plan to make the projects even more fulfilling with future internship opportunities in the STEM Success Center. This was definitely a growing and learning experience for ALL parties involved.

Special Thanks to Dr. Lena Merchan and Sgt. Cedric Beamon for their assistance and involvement with our interns. Lastly, a huge thanks to the interns; Kaniyah Bacon, Kevin Ellis, Leo Degon, Matthew Smith, Solina Stringer, Lavornia Staley, and Sean Edwards.

For more information on the STEM Success Center, contact Mr. Patrick Dean at DeanP@SavannahState.edu.

TITLE III REMINDERS

Activity Budget

- All Activity Directors should be keeping track of their money spent throughout the year. By the end of August, at least 90% of activity funds should be spent or encumbered
- All activity spending is being monitored by the Title III Office. If your activity is flagged as "not spending" funds may be swept from your activity and given to another activity to spend

Requests/Approvals

- All echo Travel Authority Requests must be submitted at least (2) WEEKS prior to the travel dates to allow for the appropriate signatures
- Staff and/or Student Employment Contracts must be submitted for approval at least two weeks prior to their official start date. Please note, submission time should take into account the gathering of signatures from:
  - ⇒ Business and Financial Affairs office (all contracts)
  - ⇒ Financial Aid office (student contracts only)
  - ⇒ Human Resources office (all contracts)
    - ♦ A background check has to be completed for all new staff contracts before they can begin working
- Business and Financial Affairs Office has re-opened the PeopleSoft system for the new fiscal year

⇒E-Procurement- Please submit all payment requests for Registration, Membership Dues, Supplies, etc. via the electronic procurement form

⇒Check Requests - Please submit check requests for Hotel payments and vendors that do not accept PO or Credit Card payments

Title III Office

- Phase II Data (2018-2019 Activity Proposals) for Year 2 (2018-2019) and Year 4 (SAFRA) are in the process of being submitted to the Department of Education. The new grant period starts October 1st, 2018
- Close-out/cut-off date for spending is Friday, September 14th—the Title III Office will not accept any requests beyond this date
- End-of-Year Reports (October 2017 - September 2018) will be due on Friday, October 5th. Equipment Inventory Reports are to be submitted ONLY if new items were purchased and/or received between July 2018 and September 2018
- All Title III related reports should be submitted on time. Failure to comply will result in funds being held until all reports have been received

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