



Southern Union State Community College

Spring Commencement

May 8, 2026

Message from the President

Welcome graduates, faculty, family, and friends! It's an exciting day at Southern Union State Community College as we celebrate our 2026 class of Bison graduates, a herd-powered community that represents the strength, resilience, and determination of the bison.

The mission and purpose of Southern Union State Community College is to encourage and empower the personal and career potential and performance of our students, whichever educational pathway they choose to embark upon.

At SUSCC, community isn't just part of our name. It's the reason we exist. What started as a small two-year college in the rural town of Wadley, Alabama, in 1922 has grown into a three-campus college serving multiple communities. Today, more than 100 years later, spurred by surging regional growth and a vision of elevational excellence, Southern Union State Community College is an acknowledged East Alabama educational powerhouse where students are supported and encouraged to find their place, discover their strengths, and move forward with career and life confidence.

Through constant and consistent evolution and elevation of our facilities, new and existing programs, unparalleled faculty and staff, and outstanding and enduring community and industry partnerships, SUSCC provides herd-powered and performance-driven career pathways to thousands of East Alabama students every year. The majority of our graduates, including those celebrated here today, go directly into jobs and careers that continue to enhance the communities in which they live, while others go on to four-year universities, often returning to invest in their communities through business and service.

To the Class of 2026: It has been a privilege and a pleasure to be part of your SUSCC journey. We couldn't be prouder of the hard work you've done and all you have accomplished here. Go forward into the future with Bison pride and remember that you will never walk alone. You will always be lifelong members of The Herd.

Regards,



Todd Shackett
President



Todd Shackett

President
Southern Union State
Community College

ORDER OF EXERCISES



**The Honorable
Jay Hovey**

Alabama State Senator

Commencement Speaker

Jay Hovey serves as the Alabama State Senator for District 27, representing the counties of Lee, Russell, and Tallapoosa. In the Alabama Senate, he plays an active role on several key committees, including Finance and Taxation Education; County and Municipal Government; Education Policy; Banking and Insurance; Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development; and Transportation, Energy, and Tourism. Through his committee work and legislative service, Senator Hovey focuses on strengthening education, supporting responsible economic development, and advancing policies that benefit the communities and businesses of East Alabama.

Jay was born and raised in South Lee County, Alabama. He grew up in the Marvyn community with his two younger brothers, and selflessness and service were fundamental principles of his life from an early age. After graduating from Beauregard High School, Jay worked as an Auburn University student firefighter in order to put himself through college. He is a proud Eagle Scout and formerly served the city of Auburn on City Council.

Jay is a commercial lending officer with ServisFirst Bank in Auburn. He has a lifetime of service to his community, including roles with the Alabama Small Business Advisory Commission, United Way of Lee County, Kiwanis Club of Auburn, the Auburn Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and the city of Auburn Greenspace Advisory Board. Jay grew up in the Beauregard community's Providence Baptist Church, where he met his wife, Anna. Anna is a community leader in her own right, serving as the president and CEO of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce as well as sitting on numerous boards and commissions in the area.

Processional

Mrs. Gail Sadler and Mrs. Ruby Carter, Commencement Marshals

*Invocation

Nohemy Castellano, Academic Division

Special Music

Danielle Bird, Member, Southern Union Show Choir

Welcome and Special Introductions

Mr. Todd Shackett, President

Commencement Address

The Honorable Jay Hovey, Alabama State Senate, District 27

Special Greetings

Ms. Derika Hodge, Dean of Student Affairs

Awards

Dr. Linda North, Dean of Academics

Ms. Rhonda Davis, Dean of Health Sciences

Dr. Eric Sewell, Dean of Technical Education and Workforce Development

Presentation of Graduates

Dr. Linda North, Dean of Academics

Dr. Eric Sewell, Dean of Technical Education and Workforce Development

Ms. Rhonda Davis, Dean of Health Sciences

Presentation of Diplomas

Mr. Todd Shackett, President

*Alma Mater

Lyric Griffin, Health Science Division

*Benediction

Stuart Sims, Technical Division

**The audience will please stand*

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES are traditionally solemn and dignified ceremonies symbolizing an important passage in the lives of students. In keeping with that tradition and to ensure that all candidates' names are heard clearly, the Class of Spring 2026 requests that guests reserve applause and other audible signs of recognition until all candidates have received their diplomas.

2025-2026 GRADUATES

ACADEMIC DIVISION

ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

Michael Acuff	Angel Barber
Jacob Adams	Ayden Barber
Joshua Adams	Lindsay Barfield
Meryl Adams	Shadrick Barnes
Teairra Adamson	Shelby Barnett
Athena Aguas	+ Alexandra Barron
Jason Aldridge	Julecia Beard
Kevin Alvarez	Bailee Belcher
Kerra Amason	Caroline Belcher
Sarai Ambrosio	Annalissa Bennett
Caylin Arrington	Charli Berdeaux
Monique Astin	+ Gardner Binion
Evan Atkins	Jace Bolan
Bri-an Autrey	Robbie Bolton
Zylissia Autry	Janice Bonner
Evie Baber	Jordan Booker
Preston Bacchus	Darian Boone
Arianne Bailey	Stacy Bowe
Lileeona Bailey	Matthew Boxx
Regan Bailey	Kyle Brackett
William Bailey	+ Kylie Bridgman
Phillip Baldwin	Jaydon Broadwater
Braden Ball	Jayla Brooks
Jacob Ballard	Andrew Brown

Bryson Bules	Mattelin Cross
Adam Bunch	William Culjak
Steven Burns	+ Leah Davis
+ Millie Burnside	Gracie Denney
Kara Busbin	Avery Devine
Janiyah Byner	Dasha Dillard
Jamia Caldwell	Henley Dowdy
Kaden Caliste	Joseph Druash
Jennifer Cameron	Richard Dubois
Mallory Cannon	Jayce Dubose
Harold Card	Charles Dudley
Jon Carmack	She'Mia Durham
Camden Carner	Natalie Eagan
Alexandria Casby	Calep East
Nohemy Castellano	Clara Edmonds
Macy Chambers	Keaton Edmonds
Keith Chandler	+ Anna Eller
Caroline Chaney	Bryce England
Avee Chappell	Lucia Escobar
+ Carson Clifton	+ Ahrowyn Esprit
+ Carter Clifton	+ Bailey Fallin
Michelle Contreras	Maddox Farmer
Camp Conway	Dianna Fears
Hunner Cooley	Josie Flathman
Anna Cooper	Kaitlynn Fluellen
Morgan Cooper	+ Luke Flurry
Jordin Copeland	Kayle Foster
+ David Cornett	Kaitlyn Frazer
Alissa Cosby	+ Sarah Freeman
Clayton Cotney	John Frey
Elyja Crabb	Jasmine Fuller
Brody Craft	Allison Fussell
Camelah Crockett	+ Hayden Gay
Jackson Crook	Katie Gibson

Alexis Gilley	Kinslee Hester	Sejin Kim	Elizabeth Mezrano
Katelyn Gilltrap	Lily Hill	Addison King	Mason Miller
+ John Glass	Owens Hodges	Peyton King	Cynavia Mitchell
Darci Glenn	Kynnedi Holbrook	Camry Knight	Kiara Mitchell
Mya Glenn	Kalee Holder	Mkiya Knight	Bryleigh Morton
Sophia Glenn	Clayton Hollis	Taviona Knight	Takeriauna Mosley
Jolie Golemon	Caydin Hornady	Luke Kolar	+ Kamille Moss
Sophia Goumas	Caleb Horton	Tanya Landreth	Samantha Mothershed
+ Alexis Graben	Ella Houston	Sandi Langley	Trent Moulton
Andrew Graben	Katelyn Howard	+ Lawson Ledbetter	Aniyah Murphy
Elizabeth Graham	Sara Howell	Anna Lee	Ashley Newman
Brandon Green	Sarai Hubbard	Nacia Lee	Si Yu Ni
Bailey Greene	Leah Hudson	Sharon Lewis	Chasity Nivens
+ Amelia Greer	Jacob Jackson	Patrick Litz	Alayna Noble
Lexie Gregory	Katelyn Jackson	Kaitlin Lott	Alexis Noles
Caden Griffith	+ Abigail James	Anadia Love	Martin Nunez
Yessica Guzman Villatoro	Holli Jennings	Deandrea Lowe	Dashaun Nunn
Amy Hadaway	Alexis Johnson	Jaclyn Lowery	+ Brooks Olive
Bailey Hale	Chloe Johnson	Britnee Mancillas	Anabelle Orr
John Hall	Ka'Lynne Johnson	Tiffany Mann	Nancy Overton
Savannah Hamby	Kinley Johnson	Kaydance Mapp	Jacob Owens
Charley Hammock	Lydia Johnson	Chapman Marlow	Trevone Palmer
Emily Hand	Mckenna Johnson	Tiffany Marsh	Eunseo Park
Hayden Harbison	Naomi Johnson	+ Chase Martin	+ Madeline Parsons
Makenna Harper	Riley Johnson	Caitlyn McCormick	+ Levi Patterson
Graham Harvey	Lola Grace Johnston	James McDaniel	+ A'Kayla Perry
Symerica Haynes	Jasmine Jones	Victor McDonald	Katelyn Perry
+ Bethany Hegwood	Kaylie Jones	Savannah McGaha	Hayley Persichini
Hannah Helms-Childers	+ Miranda Jones	Hannah McHugh	Keerthi Polen
Sadie Henderson	Alisa Jordan	+ Aleah McKenzie	Erica Polk
Kaitlyn Hernandez-Landero	Jalisa Jordan	Corlon McKinney	Sarah Pope
Cari Herston	+ Kendra Juarez	+ Emily McVey	Emma Powell
+ Christian Hess	John Kilpatrick	Ana Mendoza	Cohen Price

Connor Pruett	Kallie Strange
+ Cammi Pugh	Taylin Sutton
Marcus Purvine	+ Shamiracle Swanson
Blakelee Ray	+ Sophia Taft
Samyra Reaves	Elizabeth Tapley
Harper Reed	Kirstin Tart
Mckenley Renfroe	Kaelynne Taunton
Leonardo Reyes	Gary Taylor
Quinteria Richardson	Janina Taylor
Jaden Robinson	Melina Taylor
Juquon Robinson	Macy Tays
Parker Rodgers	Marisol Tecla
+ Jasmin Roman	Alexus Thomas
+ Lauren Ross	Dashawn Thomas
Rebekah Rowell	Kathryn Thomas
Yazmeen Russell	Turri Thomas
Savannah Sanders	Carter Thompson
Nicolle Santamaria	Faith Toland
Braidy Sasser	Tolifili Tongamana
Japheth Sasser	+ Victoria Tramel
Kadell Scott	Chelsea Trapp
Jordan Sheeley	+ Anna Tucker
+ Neela Shukla	Takeira Tucker
Madlyn Sistrunk	Heather Tyler
+ Reagan Sluder	Joslyn Upshaw
Kristian Smith	Tate Van Gilder
Hannah Sparrow	Leila VanderWal
Corri Spiegner	+ Kera Veal
+ Abigail Steele	Abigail Vice
Hoyt Stewart	Laura Wallace
Emily Stoll	Dawson Walters
Del Story	Arin Ward
Jennifer Strain	Cash Ward

+ Isaiah Watts	Dylan Wise
Mattie Weeks	Katherine Witten
Charma Whatley	Maegan Worley
Jordan Whatley	Cory Wyckoff
+ Kamden White	Dominique Wyckoff
Tracy White	Emily Wynne
Austin Wienand	Gabriel Young
Alexandra Willett	Marjorie Zuniga
Mortzrell Williams	
Ajavius Willis	
Shanquany Wilson	

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Business Management

Frissee Averett	+ Jackson Holt
Jaden Boyd	Thomas O'Neal
Landon Bullard	Jasmine Smith
Artrice Davis	Amber Tantaris
Tiara Dejesus	

Child Development

Emily Blackmon	Anjelica Jimenez
LaRhonda Brown	Annittie Peabody

Information Systems

Ethan Gruber	Tyler Mapp
Devin Hare	William Ropke
Kieran Hood	Matthew Sheppard
Quinton Jefferson	

Office Administration and Management

Terri Hamilton
Madeleine Thoma

CERTIFICATE

Child Development

Emily Blackmon
LaRhonda Brown
Annittie Peabody

TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Advanced Manufacturing Technology

Woodford Arnold	Dakota Faulkner
James Bender	Davis Fuller
Wesley Blanton	Riley Givens
Harold Bowdoin	Joseph Goodenough
James Caldwell	Bennett Greeson
Chris Clement	+ Abbagail Henderson
Matthew Cottle	Christopher Hughley
James Davidson	Giovanni Iaconis
Troy Deloach	DaQuan Ingersoll
Conlan Dudley	Ashley James
Brendan Emfinger	John Jones

+ Jaiden Juarez
Ethan Keahey
Steven Landers
Nicholas Leggett
Curtis Lovinggood
Dashawn Martin
Cale McCormick
Kevin McKoy
Jose Morales
Jamison Pack
Roman Padron
Nason Paramore
Emmanuel Pearson
Zac Pitman
Curtis David Plott

+ Aaron Reaves
Barrett Reeves
Jason Robinson
Lukas Schlueter
Sage Sheppard
Caleb Smith
Zachary Starke
Aidan Sullivan
Adrian Talley
Hunter Timmerman
Logan Watkins
Brodie Whirley
William Wimmer
Cody Wisener
Aiden Zapata

Aviation Maintenance Technology

Ethan Boyd
Andrew Brock
Andrew Brock
Ellie Butler
Owen Colley
John Lam

Richard Lozak
Nehemiah Moore
Avery Ochoa
Griffin Scarborough
Tia Williams

Engineering and Design Technology

Alexander Brown
+ Fatima Buenafe Solares
Ella Carney
Kathleen Clark
Kaden Elton
Hunter Herrington
Saranjeet Kaur

Kendyl LaGrand
Joshua Oliver
William Scarborough
+ Stuart Sims
Blake Smith
John Smith
Tavarris Thomas

Industrial Electricity/Electronics Technology

Zachary Bender	Micah Holloway
Tiler Boyd	Hezekiah Imhoff
Jereian Brown	Luke Marino
John Cotney	Benjamin Nichols
Coleton Evans	Anthony Roe
Ryan Giangrosso	

Alan Lopez
Benjamin Owens
Jonathan Quint
Jesse Racine
Ramon Rosales
Alex Schenck

Jacob Schultz
Clifford Standridge
+ Christopher Stokes
Aimee Thrower
Noah Wright

CERTIFICATE

Manufacturing Technology

Woodford Arnold	Dashawn Martin
Jacob Dimon	Jose Morales
Brendan Emfinger	Nason Paramore
Evan Farmer	Emmanuel Pearson
Dakota Faulkner	Zac Pitman
Christopher Hemphill	Jason Robinson
Abbagail Henderson	Devon Scherbert
Nicholas Leggett	Sage Sheppard
Curtis Lovinggood	Zachary Starke

Automotive Service Technology

+ Owen Alston
David Futral
+ Dean Groat
Justin Hughes
Cameron Johnson
Jaethan Madden

+ Abigail Marchetti
Jackson Rainey
Malik Rose
Landon Wallace
Luke Young

Cosmetology

Leah Adair
A'Chandra Anderson
Abigail Anderton
Bella Arrington
Ca'norria Avery
Shelby Ball
Elizabeth Brockett
Caylie Brown
+ Dakota Campos
Ny'azia Cox
Iyonna Dowell
Madisyn Edwards

Taylor Galloway
Madison Griffith
Mequonisha Hall
Cristal Hernandez
Emma Jacoway
Terriana Kelly
Madeline Lloyd
Jewel Manuel
+ Kyndall McCracken
Mikayla Smith
Jayna Storm
Madelyn Wingard

ASSOCIATE IN OCCUPATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration

Thomas Bush	Warren Galimore
James Casey	Jon Gunter
Tyler Crutchfield	Caden Holmes
+ Brayden Davis	Andrew Johnson
Edward Frith	Kayla King

CERTIFICATE

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration

Cardis Askew	Benjamin Owens
Jarquez Banks	Adam Patterson
Parker Blake	Jamarcus Phillips
Grayton Carlee	Dustin Prickett
James Casey	Jonathan Quint
Caleb Chappelle	Quenderious Redding
Kevin Costley	Tucker Rhodes
Tyler Crutchfield	Ramon Rosales
John Evans	Jacob Schultz
Warren Galimore	Brady Smith
Jon Gunter	Clifford Standridge
Garrett Hall	Eric Stephens
Caden Holmes	Christopher Stokes
Andrew Johnson	Aimee Thrower
Nathan Jordan	Ademar Henrique Trentin
Landon Kirk	Hunter Watson
Ethan Mask	Noah Wright
Christian McCary	

Automotive Technology

Owen Alston	Jackson Rainey
Ismael Gonzales	Malik Rose
Dean Groat	Elizabeth Schenck
Justin Hughes	Kaleb Sparks
Jaethan Madden	Dawson Weldon
Abigail Marchetti	Luke Young
Tatyana Moorer	

Cosmetology

Leah Adair	A'Nyiah Hughley
A'Chandra Anderson	Emma Jacoway
Abigail Anderton	Terriana Kelly
Ca'norria Avery	Anna Kirby
Shelby Ball	Ashley Kirby
Elizabeth Brockett	Madison Lake
Caylie Brown	Sara Lett
Riley Butterworth	Sophie Lewis
Dakota Campos	Madeline Lloyd
Cora Chambers	Emily Lux
Mariska Chambers	Kyndall McCracken
Sandra Cook	Charlotte New
Maricela Cruz Cervantes	Jiya Peters
Alexia Dodgen	Madelyn Scott
Iyonna Dowell	Charley Self
Madisyn Edwards	Hayden Sessoms
Lillian Farris	Victoria Sigler
Julia Faust	Grace Smith
Rebekah Flowers	Mikayla Smith
Keoria Frazier	Jayna Storm
Kaylee Freeman	Olivia Strauch
Taylor Galloway	Ansley Toland
Madison Griffith	Autumn Varden
Mequonisha Hall	Reagan West
Mallory Harrelson	Madelyn Wingard
Cristal Hernandez	

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Nursing

Abbi Adamson	Meredith Curtis
Nicolette Allen	Abigail Davis
Andrew Anderson	Ungkana Dechkij
Sara Armacost	Lydia Dennard
Baylee Baker	Nicole Di Vinitz
Brianna Ball	Hannah Downing
Ansley-Regan Benton	Josephine Drummond
Grace Berlin	Jessica Duncan
Danielle Birdsong	Nayelica Duncan-Diaz
Caitlyn Blackwell	Georgia Edwards
Jacob Blair	Stephanie Ellingson
Zachary Boman	Vernicia Evans
Briana Bottom	Katie Fain
Kyndal Bowling	Makenzie Finley
Lauren Brooks	Hailey Franco
Jessica Brown	Emily Freeman
Hailey Callahan	Savanah Freeman
Yvondria Cameron	Vanessa Freeman
Holly Casteel	Macee Gibson
Kailey Clement	Diane Gilbert
Jaden Cole	Caroline Gonzalez
Kirsten Collier	Alysia Gray
Laken Collins	Analise Gregory
Kathryn Conner	Maliya Gutierrez
Kathryn Cox	Chloe Haggard
Sara Coxwell Rogers	Hannah Hatcher
Megan Cromwell	Samantha Heard

Carly Hester	Timothy Pitts
Camryn Hill	Sherlando Pogue
Erin Hirata	Nicholas Posey
Taylor Ho	Olivia Rabren
Michala Holifield	Jennifer Ramirez
+ Ashley Hollingsworth	Joshua Rapp
Kennidy Joiner	Gracie Ray
Elizabeth Jones	Zaquon Reynolds
Noah Jordan	Madelyn Riggins
Diana Kendrick	Keaira Robinson
Kailey Kent	Elizabeth Rogers
Kati Kurucz	Christine Rountree
Emaleigh Langley	Hannah Ruiz
Hannah Lassett	Sarah Rutter
Marley Leard	Alexandria Salas
Jetta Leishman	Amanda Sanders
Victor Lopez	Shelby Saunier
Memoree Lyles	Ashley Sayers
Brylee Mankin	Summer Scott
+ Katherine McCollum	Whitney Shiver
Brooklyn McCormick	Priya Sigamani
Priscilla McVay	Kendall Smith
Brynli Mitchell	Lauren Smith
Ansley Mollus	Chloe Speed
E'Miya Moore	Mallory Steverson
Tatum Moore	Kameiyah Story
Chanesha Morgan	Meriambi Stroer
Natalie Naylor	Samaria Swanson
Rebecca Norrell	Jessica Taft
Tatum Ogden	Audrey Terry
Joleigh Parker	Abbigail Thomas
Khushi Patel	Whitney Thornton
Sydney Pike	Thomas Tornquist

Nancy Traylor Heard
Olivia Treadwell
Cameron Tubbs
+ Anna Turner
Emily Valentine
Leanne Vaughn
Brittany Vernon
Linda Vetter
Lakenna Vickerstaff
Katherine Ward
Kendall Ward

Pamela Ward
Courtney Warlick
Gabrielle Whack
Molly Wheelis
Hailee White
Rebekah Williams
Tori Williamson
Gracie Wilson
Charles Woodley
Brittany Wynn
Katherine Yates

Charleigh Grice
Abigail Harrison
Christopher Loomis
Makenzie Moore
Caroline Norred
Ashlee Parker
Mallory Parrish

Tay'la Stowes
Hannah Trawick
Kelsey Watson
Andrew White
+ Katelyn Whitehurst
William Youngblood

Emergency Medical Technology – Paramedic

Richard Boeggeman
Dylan Flynn
Madison Harman
Brian Marshall
Shelby Mills
Virginia Perry

Blake Riggs
Marinah Strickland
Kayla Trippe
Robert Weatherley
Charles Yearwood

Medical Assistant Technology

Christy Askew
Kourte-Nae Ellison
Grace Farr
Carrie Gilliland

Sarah Henderson
Shanmekia James
Lakeyta Martin

Physical Therapist Assistance

Lauren Barringer
Cameron Braswell
Emily Brooks

Kyndall Brownlee
Savannah Bush
Jackson Currie

Radiologic Technology

Bailey Allen
Leighton Bell
Adrean Butts
Shaniya Carter
+ Cera Clark
Katelyn Cooley
Ashley Cotton
Laura Cyr
Kaitlyn Dotson
Emily Erlandson
Emma Everett
Madison Gutermuth
Kyrsty Hazen
Jayla Higgins

William James
Chantel Lucas
+ Sara Martin
Harlee McConnell
Charles Nolfo
Reanna Norrell
Haley Oswald
Joseph Pate
Jamie-leigh Reddish
Kalee Rose
Lindsey Simpler
Alyssa Smith
Madison Wagon
Lillie White

Surgical Technology

Sierra Black
Jamira Boleware
Riley Braswell
Veronica Broughton
Ruby Clayton
Kinsley Feaster

Blanca Haynes
Haley Hill
Shakira Owensby
Maddline Waldrop
Davida Willis

Veterinary Technology

Cayli Harrelson
Anna Nobles
Margaret Reeves

Wellness and Therapeutic Massage

+ Elijah Goss
+ Lyric Griffin
Whitney McFry

CERTIFICATE

Medical Assistance Technology

Alexa Abbott	Carrie Gilliland
Christy Askew	Rachael Gunn
Kourte-Nae Ellison	Sarah Henderson
Grace Farr	

Practical Nursing

Alexandria Adams	Zachary Boman
Nicolette Allen	Therron Bonner
Andrew Anderson	Briana Bottom
Cassidy Arnold	Kyndal Bowling
Douglas Barnes	Abby Brown
Samantha Barnsdale	Jessica Brown
Grace Berlin	Alley Businelle
Caitlin Bermingham	Jaden Cole
Emma Best	Laken Collins
Julia Bingham	Mattie Comerford
Kaylie Blackburn	Meredith Curtis

Destiny Daniel	Adyson Hendrix
Braydon Davis	Mallory Hill
Reese Davis	Erin Hirata
Katherine Deloney	Kristina Honeycutt
Sydney Diekemper	Bethany Hudson
Joella Dilbeck	Gamston Hudson
Rushton Dobbins	Caitlyn Hutcheson
Ashley Dolbeer	Sarah Jackson
Mary Dorning	Preston Johnson
Hannah Downing	Amber Johnstone
Josephine Drummond	Daniel Jones
Benjamin Efurd	Elizabeth Jones
Stephanie Ellingson	Jasmine Juarez-Perez
Madelyn Erdoes	Kailey Kent
Vernicia Evans	Hannah Lassett
Katie Fain	Marley Leard
Alissa Fink	Laney Leavins
Makenzie Finley	Se Eun Lee
Shannon Foster	Jetta Leishman
Tessa Frank	Catherine Long
Savanah Freeman	Victor Lopez
Macee Gibson	Juliana Lovvorn
Caroline Gladstein	Victoria Maddox
Caroline Gonzalez	Brylee Mankin
Heather Gooden	Samantha May
Jayley Greene	Katherine McCollum
Analise Gregory	Brooklyn McCormick
Maliya Gutierrez	Jordan McVay
Chloe Haggard	Ansley Mollus
Rebekah Hall	Alexis Moon
Hannah Hatcher	Chanesha Morgan
Samantha Heard	Natalie Naylor
Isabella Henderson	Lucy Nethery

Madeleine Nichols
Kylene Nimmo
Brooklyn Parsley
Audrey Patterson
Brooke Perry
Amanda Phillips
Timothy Pitts
Sherlando Pogue
Sarah Potts
Olivia Rabren
Jennifer Ramirez
Joshua Rapp
Gracie Ray
Elizabeth Rogers
Christine Rountree
Abigail Samples
Shelby Saunier
Anna Katherine Sellers
Ashley Sewell
Natalie Shepp
Whitney Shiver
Priya Sigamani
Kadesha Spence
Tiffany Starns
Katherine Steinhaus
Mallory Steverson
Kameiyah Story
Anna Strong

Samaria Swanson
Andrew Tate
Sarah Terrell
Audrey Terry
Rebekah Theilacker
Whitney Thornton
Calley Tidwell
Za’Noria Towns
Cameron Tubbs
Anna Turner
Emily Valentine
Brittany Vernon
Cassie Wade
Katherine Ward
Courtney Warlick
Kelsey Webb
Caleb Webster
Molly Wheelis
Naomi Whinery
Hailee White
Heidi White
Kendall Wilkinson
Lauren Williams
Rebekah Williams
Rebecca Willis
Kaylee Wilson
Charles Woodley
Zoey Zeunges

PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY

Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society is open by invitation only. It serves to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and provide opportunities for individual growth and development through honors, leadership, and service programming. Phi Theta Kappa is the official honor society for two-year colleges.



PHI THETA KAPPA
HONOR SOCIETY

+ denotes Phi Theta Kappa member

SOUTHERN UNION STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEADERSHIP

Mr. Todd Shackett

President

Mr. Ben Jordan

Vice President of Financial and Administrative Services

Ms. Rhonda Davis

Dean of Health Sciences

Dr. Linda North

Dean of Academics

Dr. Eric Sewell

Dean of Technical Education and Workforce Development

Ms. Derika Hodge

Dean of Student Affairs

Mr. Donnie Prater

Executive Director of Facilities, Maintenance, and Transportation

Ms. Gretchen VanValkenburg

Executive Director of Advancement and Community Relations

Ms. Lakieshia Barnett

Director of Human Resources/SPO

Ms. Alison Osborn

Executive Assistant to the President

Traditions of Commencement

Academic Regalia

The academic regalia worn by today's graduates is based on the gowns that originated in 12th- and 13th-century European universities. In 1895, an intercollegiate commission adopted standardized use of academic gowns, hoods, and caps. Today, the cap and gown signal achievement, scholarship, and the completion of a major stage of education. Associate degree regalia typically consists of a dark-colored gown and a standard mortarboard cap with a tassel, often featuring school colors.

Stoles, Cords, and Medals

Some graduates wear regalia signifying academic achievements or membership in an organization, primarily honor societies. Phi Theta Kappa members wear stoles. The college recognizes outstanding students in each division with red honor cords. Some divisions have honor societies unique to their discipline, and students selected for membership wear cords representing them. Mu Alpha Theta (Math honorary) wears yellow and blue cords and Sigma Kappa Delta (English) wears green and yellow cords, and HOSA members (future health professionals) wear navy and maroon.

Gonfalon

Gonfalons are banners that originated in medieval Italy to identify a state of office. The college gonfalon is carried by a faculty marshal to signify the beginning of the processional.

ABOUT SOUTHERN UNION STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Southern Union State Community College is the second oldest two-year college in Alabama.

Southern Union has compiled a rich history throughout the years. Originally chartered by the Southern Christian Convention of Congregational Christian Churches, SUSCC was planned as a feeder school for Elon College in North Carolina. In 1922, 51 students stepped into a single building in Wadley, Alabama, that was then known as Bethlehem College, and the dream of a college in east Alabama was realized.

Southern Union remained church related until 1964, operating as Piedmont Junior College, Southern Union College, and The Southern Union College. On October 1, 1964, the college was the first to be deeded to the state of Alabama to become part of the newly created system of two-year colleges. The name of the college became Southern Union State Junior College, and it achieved accreditation in 1970 from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

In response to requests from business and industry, Southern Union expanded its reach to an even wider area in the late '60s and early '70s, offering higher education opportunities in Lee and Chambers counties by holding classes at local high schools.

The college continued its commitment to the citizens of the area with the construction of campuses in the cities of Opelika and Valley. In 1974, the Valley Campus was completed. And, in 1982, the college purchased land in Opelika and offered a full range of course offerings at its Opelika Campus. On August 12, 1993, the college merged with the local technical college, thus expanding its technical education offerings. Upon merging, the college became Southern Union State Community College.

Today, Southern Union has three campus locations in Wadley, Opelika, and Valley, and boasts an enrollment of approximately 5,000 students. SUSCC serves residents of an eight-county area of East and Central Alabama as well as neighboring Georgia counties. A three-faceted educational emphasis is on academic programs for transferability, technical programs for specialized career competencies, and health sciences programs for specialized training in the health field.

WELCOME FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Dear Class of 2026,

On behalf of the Southern Union State Community College Alumni Association, congratulations on reaching this significant milestone. Your time as a student at Southern Union has already made you part of a special community, and with your graduation, that connection continues as you become members of the Southern Union alumni family.

As alumni, you join generations of graduates who carry the spirit and values of Southern Union into their careers, communities, and future educational pursuits. The friendships you have built, the knowledge you have gained, and the experiences you have shared here will always connect you to this college and to one another.

The Alumni Association is here to help you stay engaged with Southern Union long after graduation. Through events, service opportunities, and alumni activities, we hope you will continue to celebrate your connection to the college and remain involved in the life of your alma mater.

We are proud of all you have accomplished and look forward to seeing the many ways you will make a difference. Welcome to the Southern Union State Community College Alumni Association, and best wishes for success in all that lies ahead.

Sincerely,

Mary John Brown
President
Southern Union State Community College Alumni Association

Alma Mater

**On the city's western border,
Reared against the sky
Proudly stands our Alma Mater
As the Years go by.**

**Forward ever be our watchword,
Conquer and prevail
Hail to thee, our Alma Mater,
Southern Union, Hail.**

**Loyal be her sons and daughters
Ever in the strife,
Always true to one another
Till the end of life.**

**Forward ever be our watchword,
Conquer and prevail,
Hail to thee, our Alma Mater,
Southern Union, Hail.**

PROUD MEMBER OF THE

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