



Our Commitment to **YOU**

2020-2021 Division of Student Affairs Annual Report

Message from the Vice President

Dear Tulanians,

Over the past two years, we as a university community have responded to a series of unexpected challenges — notably the COVID global pandemic and Hurricanes Zeta and Ida. Throughout these challenges, the Division of Student Affairs has kept students central in our work each day as we focus on supporting each student to reach her or his full potential. Our efforts are grounded in core values of Collaboration, Integrity, Empathy, Equity, Well-Being, and Innovation.

The Division of Student Affairs has recently revisited its strategic plan, and has identified four specific areas of focus as we continue to create an environment in which all students ideally thrive:

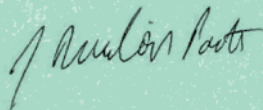
- Leadership and Personal Development
- Culture of Care and Thriving
- Supporting All Students
- Resource Management and Stewardship

While reimagining campus life in the midst of vigorous prevention strategies and testing protocols, our team has continued to be hard at work to bring these strategic directions to life and we look forward to sharing our accomplishments with you.

Despite the pandemic, we are so proud of the past year's accomplishments, many of which you will read about in this report. Three stand out: the grand opening of the new Carolyn Barber-Pierre Center for Intercultural Life, the start of construction for our new Residence Hall Village in the middle of campus, and the robust COVID testing and tracing program that allowed Tulane to be fully open for the 2020–2021 academic year.

On behalf of the entire Division of Student Affairs, I want to thank you for your support and collaboration. Our students are at the core of all that we do, and we could not achieve our goals without your help. Together we lay the groundwork for a better Tulane.

Sincerely,



J. Davidson “Dusty” Porter
Vice President for Student Affairs



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At Tulane, my experience has been quite transformative. Being able to explore my academic interests as a STEM major on the pre-medical track has been a privilege I do not take for granted. I've been able to challenge myself at Tulane and support other students of color through the neuroscience department.

– **Ra'Janae Morris, Class of 2022**
Double Majoring in Neuroscience and Psychology
Executive Director of Women and Youth Supporting Each Other (WYSE), Chapter President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., New Orleans Posse Scholar

The Division of Student Affairs

Mission

The mission of the Tulane University Division of Student Affairs is to cultivate support, connection, and growth throughout the student experience.

Vision

The Division of Student Affairs will challenge all Tulane students to learn, think, and act to benefit humanity.

Values

To foster a community where everyone thrives, the Division of Student Affairs values: Collaboration, Integrity, Empathy, Equity, Well-Being, and Innovation.

In its efforts to support the academic mission of the institution, develop students at both the individual and community level, and enhance the university's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, the Division of Student Affairs has identified the following strategic priorities and associated goals: Leadership and Personal Development, Culture of Care and Thriving, Supporting All Students, and Resource Management and Stewardship.

Campus Recreation

Case Management and Victim Support Services

The Counseling Center

Goldman Center for Student Accessibility

Health Center for Student Care

Housing and Residence Life

Lavin-Bernick Center for University Life

New Student and Leadership Programs

Office of Fraternity and Sorority Programs

Office of Gender and Sexual Diversity

Office of Multicultural Affairs

Office of Student Conduct

Parent Programs

Religious Life

The Well for Health Promotion

Our work starts with **you.**



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It is a real honor for families to entrust us with the care of their children during their time at Tulane. We get the chance to support our students during one of the most important transitions of their lives. And that is surely worth getting up and coming to work for.

– **Dr. Marius Commodore, MD**
Medical Director, Campus Health

What we've been up to

Campus Health

- Completed nearly 500,000 COVID-19 tests during the 2020–2021 testing program.
- Held over 100 recovery support meetings both in-person and virtually for the Tulane Recovery Community.
- In spring 2021, The Well for Health Promotion created You@Tulane, a program designed to help users manage stress, set goals, promote well-being, and connect to campus and community resources. More than 400 students and staff members registered.

Campus Recreation

- Supported student development and learning through the employment of over 300 student and part-time workers.
- Promoted well-being by offering 63 in-person and virtual group exercise classes each week.
- Hosted 27 in-person Outdoor Adventure Trips, several at no or reduced cost.
- Engaged more than 500 students in non-contact intramural & club sports.

Carolyn Barber-Pierre Center for Intercultural Life

Office of Gender and Sexual Diversity

- The Q Spot, a dedicated space for students who identify as LGBTQIA+, relocated from Warren Hall to the Décou-Labat Residence Hall. The new space for the Q Spot provides an accessible entrance, access to all-gender restrooms, and a space for the community to gather and connect.

Office of Multicultural Affairs

- Engaged more than 100 students with BIPOC experts on sexual violence prevention and response as part of Tulane's "All In" initiative's annual "Shifting the Paradigm" event centered on the experiences of Black, Indigenous, and people of color.

Religious Life

- Collaborated with Tulane Dining, the Muslim Student Association, USG, and GAPSA to provide suhoor and iftar kits for graduate and undergraduate students who observed Ramadan during the academic year. More than 60 students participated in the program daily throughout the holy month.

Case Management and Victim Support Services

- Managed 11,130 cases during the academic year.
- Supported 1,500 students in quarantine at the Hyatt Regency and Jung Hotel.
- Won the President's Award as a team, for the second time.

Fraternity and Sorority Programs

- The new peer educator Greek Ambassadors Program hosted in-person and virtual "Small Group Discussions," engaging nearly 1,100 Potential New Members in educational discussions about substance abuse; bystander intervention; sexual violence prevention; equity, diversity, and inclusion; hazing prevention; and student success.

Goldman Center for Student Accessibility

- Successfully relocated to its new offices within the Howard Tilton Memorial Library during the spring 2021 semester, providing expanded spaces to support the ever-growing population of Tulane students with registered disabilities.
- Instituted the Peer Mentoring Program in spring 2021, pairing first-year students with third and fourth-year students who routinely utilize the Goldman Center's resources.
- Collaborated with the Center for Engaged Learning and Teaching (CELT) and the Innovative Learning Center (ILC) to ensure the university's successful implementation of fully remote and hybridized instruction necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Housing and Residence Life

- Accommodated COVID-19 move-in protocols by welcoming all residential students at the Tulane Arrival Center over 8 days in the Hyatt Regency.
- Housed 3,816 students in 15 residential buildings.
- Maintained an occupancy rate of 90% or higher.
- Hosted over 700 social and educational programs, engaging over 9,000 participants.

Lavin-Bernick Center for University Life

- Transformed operations to offer 54 classes in large event spaces.
- Saw more than 10,000 student check-ins for 231 LBC-sponsored events and 1,270 Recognized Student Organization-sponsored events.
- Raised more than \$50,000 for the *Hullabaloo* and \$20,000 for WTUL.

New Student and Leadership Programs

- New Student Orientation welcomed 1,773 first-year and transfer students.
- Launched "Future Friends" initiative.
- Hosted over 219 guests at the virtual Rising Tide Leadership Summit.
- Awarded 39 Leadership Medallions at the Crest Awards.

Office of Student Conduct

- Expanded the external investigator program, training four local attorneys to serve as investigators, adjudicators, advisors, and/or appeal board chairs.
- Offered the option of meeting via Zoom in Title IX hearings.

Parent Programs and External Relations

- Sent out 21 "Parents as Partners" e-newsletters and presented 18 parent webinars.
- Presented "Building and Sustaining Inclusive Culture," a dialogue with several campus partners: the Center for Academic Equity, the Carolyn Barber-Pierre Center for Intercultural Life, Newcomb Institute, Office of Gender and Sexual Diversity, Office of International Students and Scholars, and Office of Multicultural Affairs.



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The prestige of Tulane’s SPHTM coupled with the uniqueness of New Orleans sparked my interest in the university. As a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, witnessing the school’s commitment to public service is what sold me on becoming a part of the Tulane community.

– Jacob French, Class of 2022
Masters of Public Health in Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences, concentration in nutrition
Contact Tracer for Campus Health

Carolyn Barber-Pierre Center for Intercultural Life

In 2019, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, known as “The O,” along with the Office of Gender and Sexual Diversity and Religious Life, was renamed the Carolyn Barber-Pierre Center for Intercultural Life in honor of Carolyn Barber-Pierre, assistant vice president for Student Affairs.

Opened February 2021, the new center in the Richardson Building provides more areas for students to hold meetings and events, work and congregate. It is also positioned where students and center leaders can easily collaborate with other departments and offices. The Center for Academic Equity, whose mission is to address the academic needs of underrepresented students, is now right next door.

As part of President Fitts’ racial equity, diversity, and inclusion initiative to commit \$2.5 million annually for the creation of new BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) student support initiatives and the expansion of existing efforts, the center received an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion grant, allowing the addition of three vital positions to address the needs of various student communities more effectively.

After 37 years at Tulane, Barber-Pierre continues to play a pivotal role in developing a plethora of cultural leadership development and engagement programs and opportunities, creating inclusive spaces and student organizations that serve several marginalized communities such as BIPOC, LGBTQ+, first-generation students, religious or spiritual, and more.

Known as “Ms. Carolyn” to students, she said that her longevity at Tulane is because of them.

“I have been inspired by young people who want so much to succeed, and I think, how do we eliminate the roadblocks, the challenges to allow them that success?” she said.

She said she was most passionate about creating an equitable experience for students of color, drawing from her own college experiences.

“To have alumni come back and say, ‘If it wasn’t for you, I would have never made it,’ and for me, that’s more important than any title,” she said. “Someone’s got to be here to make sure that they’re represented.”

The dedication celebration in November will honor Barber-Pierre’s legacy as part of the Tulane Trailblazer initiative. Established by Tulane President Michael A. Fitts, the program celebrates the contributions of people from diverse backgrounds who have made a substantial and lasting impact on the university.



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I was an (undergraduate) student of color at a predominately white institution, and I knew some of the challenges that BIPOC students have. I wanted to work on creating a space that focused on providing services, advocacy and programming where they truly could feel that they were a part of this campus community.

– Carolyn Barber-Pierre
Assistant Vice President
for Student Affairs



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I believe the work we do through orientation and leadership can impact students within and beyond the university. We have an opportunity to shape the student experience and help students realize their capacity to affect positive social change. The potential—the magic—of what is to come if we get that right inspires me to come to work every day.

– Rachel Weber
Assistant Director, New Student
and Leadership Program

Looking to the **future**

New Residential Village

In 2019, Tulane broke ground on a new residential village. The village will feature two interlocking residence halls in the place of Bruff Commons, totaling 230,000 square feet and offering around 700 new beds. Irby, Phelps, and Paterson Halls will be scheduled for demolition following the completion of the new residences in the fall of 2022. We hope to further the academic experience by creating classrooms in residence halls, developing academic pathways for students, and growing the faculty-in-residence program and residential learning communities. The complex will include:

- 11,000 square feet of co-study space, including rooms for podcasts, several gathering areas, and spaces for gaming
- A 3,000-square-foot student lounge
- A tiered, 200-seat multipurpose theater
- Housing and Residence Life office suite
- Several small meeting rooms and classrooms
- Double-tiered student lounges
- A unique food and beverage operation

New Downtown Recreation Facility

The need for a fitness center to serve Tulane's downtown campus has been a priority for the university for several years. The new facility will provide a convenient and exclusive location for Tulane downtown affiliates to exercise and maintain healthy, active lifestyles. Plans to open the downtown fitness center are scheduled for late spring to early summer 2022. The new 11,000-square-foot facility will feature state-of-the-art fitness equipment, a dedicated functional fitness area, lockers, and four private all-gender restrooms and showers. We hope this new facility will enhance well-being and engagement for the downtown Tulane community.



Tulane

Division of Student Affairs

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