

2020-2021 ISSUE

# HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

## LEVERAGING SUCCESS

SBT students leverage their positive impact in the community to advance the level of partnerships.





# Huston-Tillotson University

Huston-Tillotson University (HT) is the result of the 1952 merger of Tillotson College, founded in 1875, and Samuel Huston College, founded in 1876. Both Tillotson college and Samuel Huston College were born of a need to provide a quality education for newly freed slaves following the Civil War. True to the spirit of its founding institutions, the contemporary college promotes cultural diversity and racial harmony by embracing people of all ethnicities and religious backgrounds. HT is a progressive and visionary institution which maintains high quality in its curriculum, instruction, and services provided to its students. An on-going emphasis on new technology and faculty development has contributed significantly to the outstanding academic programs offered at HT.

HT is Austin's first institution of higher education. The University opened its doors to the first students with a mission of providing a predominantly African-American student population with the highest quality education needed to participate as productive, creative, economically, and socially responsible citizens. Today, that mission has not changed, but the student population has become much more diverse.

HT holds excellence in teaching and learning as its central mission. We hold highly professional faculty and staff with outstanding credentials and abilities. The University also encourages campus-wide research activities as well as participation in public service. Over more than a century, HT has evolved from an institution that concentrated on the training of the teachers and ministers to a contemporary institution that offers a diversified curriculum in Business Administration and Technology, the Sciences, Humanities, and Teacher Education. HT prepares its students for entry into a variety of careers as well as for advanced degrees.

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# The School of Business & Technology

*"We place our emphasis on excellent teaching and attention to the academic, personal, and professional development of our students."*

## A SCHOOL PROFILE

The School of Business and Technology (SBT) at Huston-Tillotson University was created in 2005, and has gained a reputation for producing highly qualified graduates. SBT graduates possess superior leadership skills, and stand out as immediate contributors in their respective work. The SBT is an innovative, enterprising, and forward-facing school committed to preparing students of diverse origins and backgrounds to follow their career paths in this global business environment. We place our emphasis on excellent teaching and attention to the academic, personal, and professional development of our students. We take pride in our commitment to excellence, high ethical standards, and an understanding of global perspectives on business.

Our students come from around the world. As a result, our curriculum is continuously evolving to meet the demands of the business and technology industries in both the domestic and global arenas. We have integrated the newest instructional technology, and our classrooms are equipped with the latest technology hardware.

The SBT enrolls a majority of students from Texas and the surrounding states, but the international student enrollment has steadily been increasing, adding to our diverse student body population. The class sizes are small, allowing students to receive individual attention.

Our faculty members are academically and professionally qualified to teach in their disciplines. They are credentialed in accounting, economics, international business, management, marketing, business law, computer science, and computer information systems.

# Message from the Dean



**DR. ROHAN THOMPSON**

2020-2021 was another excellent year for the School of Business and Technology (S.B.T.) at Huston-Tillotson University. Even with a pandemic, we were able to place students in internships and full-time jobs. Also, faculty persevered through the uncharted waters of transitioning to online learning and still managed to deliver a rewarding experience to our students. Perhaps the most significant change for the S.B.T. in 2020 was the retirement of the esteemed Dean, Dr. Edmond. After four years since he unretired to take the helm once again, Dr. Edmond decided to call it a career. The S.B.T. owes great gratitude to Dr. Edmond for the heights to which he raised the program.

I am honored to be the new Interim Dean of the S.B.T. Dr. Edmond will always be remembered for his work, and after decades of commitment, I am excited to succeed to the platform he has bequeath me. My vision for the S.B.T. follows that of my predecessor, a vision shared by our president, Dr. Colette Pierce Burnette. My vision for the S.B.T. is clear and filled with purpose and intentionality. The university is built upon I.D.E.A.L Core Values of Integrity, Diversity, Excellence, Accountability, and Leadership. My vision for the S.B.T. is a direct reflection of these core values:

- I** – Intentionally raise the level of all S.B.T. graduates' professional skills in areas that make them more desirable and marketable to employers.
- D** – Deliver a learning experience that promotes critical thinking and encourages completion of degree requirements.
- E** – Expect dedication and commitment from all faculty and staff in the S.B.T. to ensure our resources are leveraged to promote excellence.
- A** – Attract and retain highly qualified students, faculty, and staff within the S.B.T.
- L** – Lead the Austin community by strengthening our ties with alumni and the business community.

The road ahead is an uncertain one with many different paths; however, I intend to forge our path and strive for excellence. My dedication and commitment to Huston-Tillotson University, the faculty, staff, students of the School of Business and Technology, alumni, and the Austin community are resolute. I feel confident in this journey because of the support starting with our president Dr. Pierce Burnette, Provost, Dr. Vanderpuye, and the faculty and staff of the S.B.T.



# Message from Business Administration

The skills acquired in the School of Business at Huston-Tillotson University can be transferred and adapted to just about any future career or job position imaginable. Our program significantly focuses on teaching students the ability to think critically, problem-solve, and apply scientific inquiry to decision making. The School of Business offers a very personal student experience with a student-to-faculty ratio of 1 to 16, and 70% of our classes with fewer than 20 students. In the School of Business, we are not only concerned with theory-based education, but we are also heavily invested in ensuring that our students acquire the practical skills that allow them to be productive in the business world.

We have partnerships and collaborations with companies within the Austin area and across the United States. Some of these partnerships include Dell Technologies, PayPal, Bank of America, and Texas Capital Bank, to name a few. These partnerships provide internships, scholarships, and opportunities to work with these companies on live projects and case studies, allowing students to use their newly developed skillsets.



DR. JASON CARTER

# Message from Computer Science

On behalf of the Computer Science Department, welcome, one and all, to Huston-Tillotson University. Computer technology has permeated nearly all human endeavors. The advancements in technology continue to change rapidly; therefore, there is a need to adapt to the constant change. Within the computer science department, we acknowledge the necessity to make sure our students are kept up to date. Whether it's robotics, cybersecurity, computer information systems, or software engineering, we educate our students on these topics through classes, guest lectures from professionals in the industry, workshops, and internships.

Our students have been privileged to be in high demand with companies in Austin and the surrounding areas, such as Zoom, Apple, Facebook, Merck, and Firefly Aeronautics Corporation. Being part of the computer science department at Huston-Tillotson University means there is a high potentiality to secure a rewarding career and achieve financial goals. The faculty in the department are highly skilled and value the opportunity to help prepare the next generation of students who will continue to drive the innovation of technology.



DR. AZUBIKE OKPALAEZE

# Undergraduate Programs

## BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The Business Administration program provides students with a professional and well-rounded education. Students are able to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration with a concentration in accounting, management, and marketing.

Since 2013, the Department of Business Administration has been accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). This coveted endorsement demonstrates to major corporations and graduate schools that our programs provide its students with an education of excellence and prepares them to succeed and lead.



The business faculty members have strong ties to the business community and routinely invite corporate executives to lecture and network with the students. The School's unique relationships with the business community gives students the opportunity to meet their future employers.

Our "Model for Success" entails Rigorous & Relevant Courses, Professional Development Workshops, Numerous Internship Opportunities, Professional One-on-One Mentorships, and Opportunities to Study Abroad.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

A Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree may be obtained in either Computer Science or Computer Information Systems with a major emphasis placed on software testing and robotics. Local and national industries and agencies seek out our students for internships and job offers. Additionally, there are on-campus jobs available for students as laboratory technicians and some of our students are paid participants in research projects.

# MBA Program

## MASTERS OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)

Huston-Tillotson University (HT) launched its MBA program in Fall 2019. This 12-course, 36-credit hour MBA program is designed for working individuals in the Austin area. The HT MBA maintains a weekend format. In Summer 2020, the University happily announced its first class of MBA graduates. The MBA graduates include Juanita Budd, Sulipsa Luque, Ashley McClary, D’Janae Robinson, and Thomas St. Julien. Budd graduated with “High Distinction” honors. This honor is bestowed on HT MBA graduates whose overall grade point average (GPA) is between 3.75 to 4.00. Already a high-ranking executive with her employer, Executive Director of Austin Free-Net (AFN), Budd stated that her purpose for enrolling in the HT MBA program was to “enhance [her] leadership and executive management skills. [She] also wanted to gain international business experience, especially through the annual 10-day MBA Global Trip.”

The second cohort is scheduled to finish in August 2021. According to new MBA student Angela Smith-Johnson, “The HT MBA Virtual Orientation program was far more welcoming and enlightening than I expected - from the encouraging words of the President of HT to the welcoming spirit of the professors, staff, and recent graduates of the program.” Smith-Johnson continued, stating that, “The thoroughness and detail of the information presented was a step in the right direction that I feel will lead to my successful completion of the program.”





# Advisory Board

EXPERIENCED IN THEIR CAREERS, THE ADVISORY BOARD OF THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY ARE HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND PASSIONATE ABOUT THEIR PURPOSE.

HUSTON-TILLOTS

NIV

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YUEN YUNG

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CASORO GROUP



BRIAN D. SCOTT

FIELD CLIENT TECHNOLOGIST, WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GROUP

DELL



DAVID TOWNSEND

VICE PRESIDENT, WORLDWIDE PROCUREMENT

DELL



JAY REYNA

ENTERPRISE RISK CONSULTANT

HEWLETT PACKARD ENTERPRISE



CHRIS RIOS

VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

TEXAS CAPITAL BANK



LILLIAN MILLS

DEAN

MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS



LAURA HUGHES

CEO & PRESIDENT

FLEUR DE LIS DEVELOPMENT



MECHELLE SMITH

TREASURER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, A NEW ENTRY



MPHO LETHOBA

STATE & LOCAL TAX ASSOCIATE

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SCOTT FLACK

PRESIDENT

LIVE OAK, COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE



RICK ORTIZ

HEAD OF PEOPLE OPERATIONS

SAMSUNG AUSTIN SEMICONDUCTOR



DAMIEN RICHBURG

DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

RECRUITABILITY



KENNETH PRICE

FINANCIAL ADVISOR & PARTNER

PER STIRLING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC





# THE BIZREADY PROGRAM

## Description of Program

The mission of this program is to empower our students to become the business savvy individuals of tomorrow. The program will provide learning opportunities that enable our students to develop the core competencies of leadership and the fundamentals of research that employers desire and students require.

The program is designed to take high performing students beyond the classroom and apply the knowledge obtained from their classes in real-life business environments with the intention of:

- Exposing students to current leaders in our local business community.
- Expand students' self-awareness to capitalize on their strengths.
- Expand students' awareness and knowledge of different research methods.

### Eligibility Requirements

- Declared HTU College of Business student
- Enrolled full time (12 or more hours)
- Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Minimum 60 hours completed
- Have a strong desire to lead
- Have a strong desire to conduct research
- Attend monthly business meetings
- Meet with an assigned mentor a minimum of once a month

### Benefits of Program

- Scholarship opportunity
- Mentoring relationship with business professional
- Leadership building workshops and activities
- Research opportunities with faculty
- Personalized business coaching
- Various self-development test



Noah Fletcher  
Senior, Business Administration

"The BizReady program was instrumental to my development as a student and a professional. The leadership series, social enterprise pitch-off, and the ability to learn from professionals at established organizations have helped me develop professionally this year, more than at any time in my life. I would encourage all students in the business school to consider being part of this program, and I would encourage more organizations to support the program."



# Social Enterprise Pitch-Off



## Program Description

Legacy Collective, a giving community, is dedicated to funding nonprofits addressing systemic issues with sustainable, innovative solutions. They have partnered with Thrivent and Notley to launch the first "Social Enterprise Pitch-Off." Students in the School of Business and Technology's Biz Ready Program at Huston-Tillotson University will be challenged to create a nonprofit solution to meet a need in the community. The winning team will receive \$15,000 donated by Thrivent and Legacy Collective to launch the nonprofit or donate it to a nonprofit in their community meeting a similar need.

## A Note From Zahria

We were split into teams of four and were given the task of creating a nonprofit organization to address an issue within the Austin community. My team and I created Level Up Services- a tutoring and mentorship service for high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors to help navigate the difficulties of financial literacy, professional development, academic coaching, and college readiness. I was in tears to hear that Level Up Services won the pitch competition and the \$15,000 prize to donate or start our own nonprofit. The experience was such a blessing and joyful experience that pushed me past my fears and self-doubt. I was able to work efficiently and effectively in a team while also learning and applying new skills. I stopped considering myself a hardworking professional student and started calling myself a rising CEO. This project was more than the boost that I was praying for, but rather a mind-changing experience.

DADWIN HERNANDEZ



ZAHRIA TOUCHSTONE



AMELIA ABEL



SAFFANA VELJI



# FALL *series* ENTREPRENEURSHIP

## Lecture #1: Entrepreneurial Pathways to Success



- Entrepreneurial Pathways to Success
  - Introduction to the concept of entrepreneurship.
  - Some of the decisions that an entrepreneur faces.
  - Introduction to the various entrepreneurial concepts (feasibility analysis, lean startup, business models, and business plans), etc.
  - The reasons for creating these documents and the recommended contents and applications.
- Speaker: Marcus Carey, Enterprise Architect in the Office of the CTO at ReliaQuest

## Lecture #2: Thinking Like an Entrepreneur



- Thinking Like an Entrepreneur
  - Although some business opportunities come from unique inventions or discoveries, many business opportunities are available just by noticing that some existing product or service can be greatly improved. This improvement creates a business opportunity.
- Speaker: Brett Hurt, Co-founder & CEO, data.world

## Lecture #3: Entrepreneurship in Technology



- Entrepreneurship in Technology
  - The role of technology in creating and maintaining a successful entrepreneurial business.
  - Technology as a competitive advantage.
  - Adapting and leveraging technology to facilitate business growth
- Speaker: Wallon Walusayi, founder & CEO, 3Data Analytics

## Lecture #4: Exploring your Market through Data



- Exploring your Market through Data
  - Show how to learn about customers (who they are, what they want, and where they live) through data collection and analysis.
  - Adapting their products to fit these discoveries from collecting and analyzing data.
- Speakers: Janice Omadeke, founder and CEO, The Mentor Method and co-creator, Austin Mosaic Awards; Stephen Straus, co-founder and Managing Director, KUNGFU.AI

# HT/DELL SALES ACADEMY

## Program Description

The HT/Dell Technologies Sales Academy at Huston-Tillotson focuses on developing HT juniors and seniors who may aspire to pursue a full-time professional career in sales. The program focuses on the following areas:

1. Personal development (Thinking Big, Building your Brand, & Networking)
2. Presentation skills (Product & Customer Presentations)
3. Selling Skills Development

At the end of the nine-month program, each student participates in the HT/Dell Technologies Sales Competition to showcase skills learned in the program. Also, each participant is offered a paid internship with Dell Technologies.

## Tamara Hill's Comments

I was nervous when Dr. Thompson approached me with the opportunity to join the 2020 Dell Sales Academy. Although I had excelled academically, I was not confident when it pertained to showcasing my excellence outside of the classroom. However, I knew that the Dell Sales Academy would be the perfect remedy to help me strengthen my confidence. Subsequently, I eagerly joined the sales academy for my 2020-2021 academic school year.

During the seven-month program, I learned expert techniques for improving my personal brand. These expert techniques included how to curate my resume and LinkedIn account properly. Furthermore, I learned how to showcase my accomplishments by creating a 60-second elevator pitch video. The academy ensured that we ended the program being the best professional version of ourselves by providing feedback on our resumes, LinkedIn accounts, and elevator pitch draft.

The final challenge was a Sales Contest. My task was to present a 5-minute pitch to Dell executives on Dell's ProSupport. This 5-minute pitch is what caused me to be the first-place winner of the Sales Contest. I credit the Dell Sales Academy as to why this introvert could perform a creative, authentic, and informative presentation to high-ranking Dell executives.

Although the program is focused on developing students professionally, the biggest reward I received from the program is how I grew personally. I walked away from the program with increased self-confidence. The Dell Sales Academy was a tremendous agent of my personal growth. I am honored to say that I was a participant in the program.



TAMARA HILL  
Senior, Business  
Administration

# Alumni Spotlight

Graduated 2018



"The best thing about the school of business was the professors...each one of those individuals was very invested in making sure you're successful post college."

**Taleah Hawthorne**

Graduated 1986



"The professors genuinely care about people. Once I started working, there would be things that would come up...[I would] call back and get advice."

**Worley Barker**

Graduated 2018



"HT was filled with so many good memories. One of my highlights was traveling. HT opened up the world to me. I got to go to China, I got to go to Belize, I traveled within the US...I was always on the road."

**Mpho Lethoba**

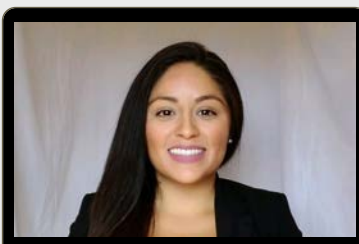
Graduated 2008



"It was very close-knit, the time that I was there. I got to be as geeky as I am, while also developing personally and collegiately - intellectually. It was very family-oriented."

**Trevor McLean**

Graduated 2020



"HT accepted [my] transferring credits, which meant less money out of my pocket. The classes were small, which meant that I would get the attention I needed from the professors...what kept me at HT were the professors. I really felt like they cared about my progress and wanted to see me succeed."

**Veronica Rivera**



# Five Point *Entrepreneurial Spirit*



## **Tell us about Ashan.**

I was born and raised in Sri Lanka before migrating to the United States and Huston-Tillotson in 2014. I came to the United States to complete a Computer Science Degree. Back in Sri Lanka, I worked at Ernst and Young and but I was interested in cybersecurity and computer science in general. I was fortunate to be recruited by Dr. Edmond, who did everything to ensure that I made it to Huston-Tillotson University.

## **Tell Us about your time at HT.**

It was an interesting experience for me. We hear about the extreme heat in Texas back home, and I was preparing myself for the weather. However, when I arrived in Austin, it was different. I believe the temperature of 56 degrees, and I was puzzled. Also, from watching television and listening to the media, I expected to be isolated and have to find my way and make friends. However, when I arrived at HT, it was a family atmosphere, and everyone was very close and supportive.

## **At what point did you want to start your own business?**

At HT, I was involved in different cybersecurity conferences and other individuals who would come to my classes and speak about the positive impact of computer science. Dr. Golden connected me to several people outside of HT who were able to give me advice and help influence my thinking. The one thing that kept coming up from everyone I spoke to was to network. I started to do small jobs with friends on campus and around Austin, and people began to know me for the work I was doing. At that point, I realized this could be a promising pathway for me in the future. Soon, I was building websites, solving IT issues, and doing overall computer science projects for individuals and small companies. I took a full-time job at Deloitte, and my capabilities started to flourish. My overall work was more polished, and more people were coming to me for consulting advice.

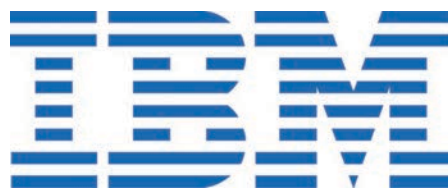
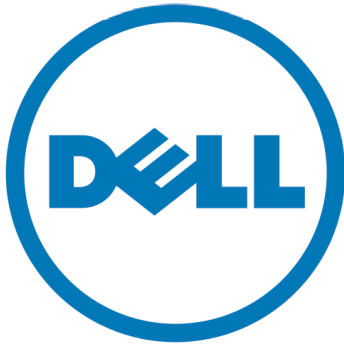
## **Tell me about your business.**

The name of the business is Five Point Consultant, which focuses on cybersecurity and cloud migration. I have extensive experience in these two areas. The business has seen its share of challenges, such as clearly defining our clients and creating a brand that can be trusted. The space of cybersecurity requires trust from the customer because I'm telling them to believe that I will keep your business safe from outsiders. The pandemic has also made it very difficult because profits are less in companies. Sometimes cybersecurity and cloud migration are not on the top of the list and are left out. Of course, another issue is raising money, which I have been speaking to venture capitalists who are very interested in the business. However, the business is trending in the right direction. I have several clients. That number continues to grow because customers are thrilled by the work being done and referring to other companies.

## **What is your strategy to grow the business?**

That is a good question, and one of the challenges mentioned before is quickly becoming one of the strengths. With the pandemic, more and more businesses are operating online, which means cybersecurity and cloud migration has become something that the companies must invest in or risk being hacked or not having the space to optimize efficiency. I intend to capitalize on this through advertising and showcasing the work I have done in the past. For example, I have worked with the School of Business and Technology to create their website, which is just an example of my work quality. I work closely with Dr. Edmond and Dr. Thompson, and they are living testimonials of my work, not just with computing but also my customer service and attention to detail. The work I have done in the past speaks for itself, and I would be happy to demonstrate what I can do.

# SBT Business Partners



# Business Administration Event Series

Every school year the SBT collectively hosts a variety of workshops and other events to promote and extend student education beyond the classroom.

## DAILY MARKETING SERIES

This event was broken into a three-part series that extensively covered professional marketing in a multitude of industries including, real estate, the beauty market, and the automotive industry.

## LEADERSHIP & BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION DURING THE PANDEMIC

A variety of insightful topics were covered, including COVID-19 and the Workplace, Innovation, and Talent Management. Our panelists helped us confidently look forward by covering proactive tips for future challenges.

## FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOPS

This month-long event was hosted by the We Care: Financial Literacy and Student Persistence Center in the School of Business and Technology and moderated by our partner, Texas Capital Bank. We collaborated throughout the month of April to bring our students information on understanding credit scores and reports, personal budgeting, investing basics, and new banking opportunities with Texas Capital Bank.



**Daily Marketing:**  
Building a brand everyday, everywhere, by everyone  
Hosted by the School of Business and Technology

**Part One:** We explore the world of Professional Marketing and gain useful insights from SiriusXM guru, Denise Karkos, and entrepreneur, Leslie Wingo.

**Part Two:** We explore the world of Real Estate and the Automotive industry with Jessica Lee-Wen, Marketing Director of Casoro Group, and Juan Pablo Gomez Macfarland, CEO of SEAT México.

**Part Three:** We explore Professional Marketing in the beauty world with Teneya Gholston, CEO at Beauty Box Collective, and Robin Beaman, President of Beaman Incorporated.



**LEADERSHIP AND BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION DURING A PANDEMIC**  
HOSTED BY THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

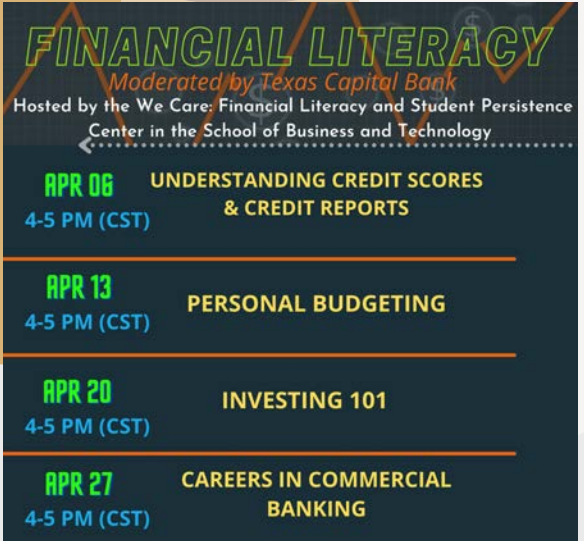
**Delores Lenzy-Jones**  
Chief Financial Officer for Waterloo Greenway

**Patrick Felder**  
Vice President, Employee Success for the Tableau Sales Organization at Salesforce

**Rick Ortiz**  
Head of People Operations & Chief Diversity Officer at Samsung Austin Semiconductor

**David Townsend**  
Vice President, Worldwide Procurement at Dell

**Dr. Michelle Smith**  
Panelist Moderator  
Pastor at The Abiding Glory Tabernacle & Board of Directors Treasurer at A New Entry



**FINANCIAL LITERACY**  
Moderated by Texas Capital Bank  
Hosted by the We Care: Financial Literacy and Student Persistence Center in the School of Business and Technology

<b>APR 06</b> 4-5 PM (CST)	<b>UNDERSTANDING CREDIT SCORES &amp; CREDIT REPORTS</b>
<b>APR 13</b> 4-5 PM (CST)	<b>PERSONAL BUDGETING</b>
<b>APR 20</b> 4-5 PM (CST)	<b>INVESTING 101</b>
<b>APR 27</b> 4-5 PM (CST)	<b>CAREERS IN COMMERCIAL BANKING</b>



# Coming Home

MS. LORIANNA THIOUNE



BURSAR

"I initially came to HT as an older student at the age of 25. I decided to go to HT after doing dead-end jobs and realizing that I was not accomplishing anything. At HT, I found my niche and my core friends to this day. I found that the educational experiences were great, and the class size was small. I had great interactions with my professors, and I appreciated that because, at large institutions, you are taught by teachers' assistants, but that was not the case at HT. I was exposed to lots of internships and working professionals, which set me up to start my career in accounting.

I received my degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting and then transitioned to a master's degree at another university in education. I thought returning to Huston-Tillotson would be a great way to combine my experience in accounting while exploring the field of higher education. I also wanted to come back to HT because while working here, you know you are working for the betterment of the community, and you are directly impacting students' lives and changing their lives for the better. HT is home to myself and many other staff members. Many of the staff members I currently work with were here while I was a student, making my transition back to HT very easy."

MS. DAWN CASSANOVA



POST-AWARD SPECIALIST /  
FINANCIAL PROJECT ANALYST

"When I first came to HT, I was surprised at the difference in school operations in comparison to Jamaica, where I grew up. I was surprised that students were taking the opportunity for granted. I was focused on taking advantage of all opportunities provided to me. I met many people my first year, including one of my best friends, who still thanks me for motivating her to complete her undergraduate degree. I have to give special thanks to Dr. Edmond and Dr. Sumler-Edmond for everything they have done for me. The support Dr. Edmond provided for all internationals made the transition much easier. I thought about going back home in my first year because I was isolated and homesick, but the atmosphere was very welcoming, and I am happy I stayed here.

I returned to HT to work because I wanted to give back to the university that provided me with many opportunities. I thought about the blessings I received while at HT, and it was an honor to return and help current students. I graduated with no debt and lots of assistance while at HT, and I wanted to counsel and help other students understand the opportunities that HT can provide for them. I enjoy working with the people at HT because there is a sense of wanting to help all students. I hope to remain at HT for many more years and continue to assist in any way I can."



# Faculty Publications & Grants

## Winning Grant Submissions

**Submitted by:**

**Dr. Azubike Okpalaeze**

**Grant application submitted to:**

**University of Texas Austin**

**Project Title:**

**Living and Working with Robots  
(LWR)**

**Award:**

**\$10,000**

**Submitted by:**

**Dr. Abena Primo**

**Grant application submitted to:**

**The FinTech Center at Morgan State University**

**Project Title:**

**2021 Blockchain Innovation Grant**

**Award:**

**\$10,000**

**Submitted by:**

**Dr. Rohan Thompson**

**Grant application submitted to:**

**Bank of America**

**Project Title:**

**BizReady Program**

**Award:**

**\$100,000**

**Submitted by:**

**Dr. Abena Primo**

**Grant application submitted to:**

**The FinTech Center at Morgan State University**

**Project Title:**

**2021 Blockchain Innovation Grant (2)**

**Award:**

**\$10,000**

## Publications

**Dr. Jason Carter & Dr. Rohan Thompson**

**Title:** Phenomenological Study of Ethnic Minority Immigrant Entrepreneurs' Lived Experiences

**Journal:** Management and Marketing Research

**Dr. Derrick Bonyet**

**Title:** Managerial Characteristics as Drivers of Innovation

**Journal:** International Journal of Financial Research

**Dr. Rohan Thompson, Dr. Jason Carter & Dr. Hector Gomez Macfarland**

**Title:** Examining the Relationship between Emotional Intelligence and Work Productivity during COVID-19: Multiple Regression Analysis

**Journal:** SCIREA Journal of Management

**Dr. Hector Gomez Macfarland**

**Textbook:** International Business Development: A Concise Textbook Focusing on International B-to-B Contexts 1st ed. 2021 Edition

**Chapter Title:** B2B Sales Approaches

# SBT Updates

## FACULTY MEMBER

Dr. Derrick Bonyuet is a practitioner who brings over 26 years of industry work experience. For the last 22 years, Dr. Bonyuet has been working for a major technology company and prior to that, he spent 4 years working for a Big Four accounting firm. He is an Assistant Professor of Management in the School of Business & Technology at Huston-Tillotson University. Dr. Bonyuet teaches Accounting, Finance, and Strategic Management.

Dr. Bonyuet earned his PhD in business from Oklahoma State University and holds master's degrees in finance, accountancy and international business from the University of Houston, Auburn University and Thunderbird School of Global Management. He holds a B.S. in accounting from Universidad Católica Andrés and is CPA licensed in the state of Texas. He also holds the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), Certified Financial Planner (CFP) and the Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA) designations.

## PROGRAM COORDINATOR

As students trickle back onto campus this fall, feel free to stop by the A-L building and say hello to our new Program Coordinator, Megan Espinor. Ms. Espinor will ensure student success by helping bridge the gap between the students and faculty members, and other departments. Additionally, she will be assisting with student retention and graduation. Ms. Espinor earned her Associate of Arts in Anthropology at Austin Community College and is currently studying Cultural Anthropology at Texas State University. She is a native Texan who adores nature, family, and the arts.

## DELTA MU DELTA NEW MEMBERS 2021

Sheila E Johnson  
 Sahimelique Roebuck  
 Zahria Touchstone  
 Tamara Deshay Hill  
 Rocio Mondragon-Chavez  
 Chevalier R. DeShay  
 Charles H Arnold Jr.  
 Zoe Rodriguez





# Student Satisfaction Survey

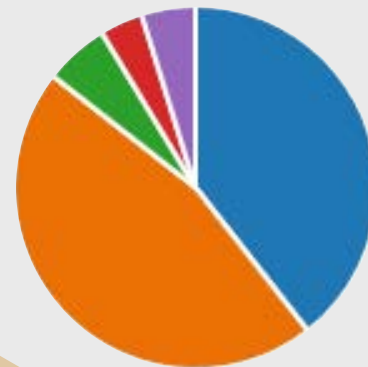
**85%** of students feel the School of Business and Technology is preparing them for a career in their field.

Strongly Agree	34
Agree	54
Somewhat disagree	12
Disagree	4



**86%** of students stated business and computer science professors exhibit a positive attitude toward students they teach.

Strongly Agree	41
Agree	48
Somewhat disagree	6
Disagree	4



**89%** of students stated faculty within the School of Business and Technology are sincerely interested in helping students learn and grow.

Strongly Agree	39
Agree	53
Somewhat disagree	6
Disagree	3
Not applicable	3



# S U P P O R T T H E S B T

Without question, this has been a challenging year for most people and organizations. We are amid a global pandemic, which has limited our interaction while at the same time witnessing social changes throughout the country. Despite the disruption, the School of Business and Technology (SBT) at Huston-Tillotson continues its journey towards excellence for our students. The university successfully transferred all courses online and provided enormous support to all students living throughout the country.

We continue to provide strong academic programs, and we have been fortunate to have students intern at Dell, Oracle, Apple, and Texas Capital Bank, to name a few. These internships are the cultivation of hard work from the students, faculty, and staff within the School of Business and Technology. Faculty in the SBT continue to publish meaningful research articles, receive grants, and volunteer within the community.

Within the last three years, the SBT has:

1. **Opened a Center of Entrepreneurship to assist with minority women-owned businesses in Austin**
1. **Launched an MBA degree program**
2. **Partnered with many corporations in Austin to increase our footprint**
3. **Increased the number of students receiving scholarships by 25%**
4. **Increased the number of students receiving internships by 50%**



***To maintain these programs and continue developing and preparing students for jobs in their field, we need your support.*** The goal is to raise funds to support the programs listed above and continue to strive for excellence by implementing new programs needed to ensure our students remain competitive against other graduates. Plans for the future include:

1. **Developing programs within the SBT that increase retention, recruitment, and visibility**
2. **Providing more scholarships for students to ensure they can afford a quality education**
3. **Providing more opportunities for our students to attend conferences and compete in competitions**
4. **Facilitating the acquisition of professional certifications to enhance student's employability**
5. **Creating a bigger pool of internships and full-time jobs for students of all classifications**

We are very excited about the current and future programs for our students. However, these programs require funding. With your financial support, we can transform our plans to present reality. The social injustices and protests around the country have brought light to the disparity that HBCU's, such as Huston-Tillotson, face against predominately white institutions. We are not asking for handouts but rather partnerships.

If you would like to hear more about current or future programs, our students, faculty, or would like to learn more about the university, please feel free to contact us at 512-505-3000. Our goal in the SBT remains the same: developing business and computer software minds who will change the global landscape. I look forward to hearing from you as we build a long and successful partnership.





**Iconic Austin Monument**



**The White House**



**Fun Times in Computer Science**



**Meet the SBT Faculty**



**We Made it!**



**Lady Bird lake**





**HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY  
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