

Dear Colleagues,

For the betterment of Southern Connecticut State University and the members of our campus community, I have decided to withdraw from the presidential search. My last day at Southern will be December 30, after which I will leave to pursue other opportunities in education.

I thank all of you for your creative ideas and your hard work during my tenure as interim president. I am so proud of the accomplishments that we have achieved together during the last 18 months. These include:

- The approval of our second doctoral program, the Ed.D. in nursing education.
- Advances in the sciences, including a new center for nanotechnology, Southern's participation in an innovative genomics research program and significant gains in the number of students majoring in the STEM disciplines.
- The receipt of major grants - from the National Science Foundation for nanoscience education; and from the U.S. Department of Education to support bilingual education.
- Southern's inclusion as a participant in a national project focused on infusing global learning into the general education curriculum.
- The rejuvenation of our construction program, with a new home for the School of Business, the planned completion of renovations to Buley Library and other campus enhancements.
- More than \$1.5 million in funds raised during the last year, supporting initiatives that include marine biology research, our new center for autism and the University Choir's

participation in celebratory events before the 2012 Olympic Games.

- The collaborative strategic planning and budget review deliberations that helped us meet the fiscal challenges presented by the state's economic downturn.
- Our work to bridge the achievement gap through the creation of the Southern Academy, the visits of Bill Cosby to New Haven and a partnership between our faculty and city teachers to develop a new curriculum that better serves the needs of urban learners.

Despite the continuing challenges that we face in building our enrollment and finding new sources of private funding to offset declining state dollars, I know that this university has the depth of talent and the level of commitment to overcome all obstacles. The education of Southern's students and our mutual role in ensuring their academic and personal success is a worthy collaboration, one that I have enjoyed sharing with all of you.

I thank you again for your support during my interim presidency – and I wish all of you the very best in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Stanley F. Battle
Interim President