When asked what was the most important but difficult decision we made in 2020, I responded: ‘The decision to return to class in August.’ As you recall, we were among the first to make that decision ... and, I believe we influenced others to do so.

— Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D.
Chancellor
Vision for the future

The global pandemic not only dominated headlines around the world in 2020, it also dominated our year at Troy University. As this annual report will attest, however, the pandemic did not impede our progress.

When asked by a news reporter to name the most important but difficult decision we made during this most unusual year, I responded, “The decision to return to class in August.” We were among the first universities to make this decision, and I believe we influenced others to follow suit. I am proud of our faculty and staff for stepping up to ensure a smooth transition to online learning last spring, and then to return for in-class instruction in the fall semester.

The pandemic reinforced the importance of online learning to our University. As a pioneer in the field, we made the successful transition to teaching entirely online while other institutions struggled. I believe the silver lining of 2020 is that we have a greater urgency to move other degree programs online. Today, about two-thirds of our graduate programs are available online as compared to one-third of our undergraduate programs. We are working to correct that imbalance, with the ultimate goal of putting 100% of our programs online.

Looking back on 2020, I am also proud that the Sun Belt Conference was an early advocate of returning to a full schedule of fall sports, while others were opting for shortened seasons or no play at all. In football, TROY was one of only 34 college teams in the nation to play 11 or more games. This resulted in unprecedented national television exposure for Troy University and the Sun Belt Conference.

Last year also saw other momentous changes, particularly the naming of our landmark building in memory of the late John Robert Lewis, the “boy from Troy” who was a pivotal figure in the U.S. civil rights movement and later a 17-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Rep. Lewis held a honorary doctorate degree from TROY, and was a great friend to his hometown University. Following his death, hundreds of friends, family, and members of the public paid tribute to Lewis’ life and legacy during a memorial service in Trojan Arena on July 17.

In closing, the report also covers the full gamut of TROY in 2020, from academic achievement, to national rankings, to alumni success, and our role as Alabama’s International University. Our staff has prepared an extensive and interesting look at your University, and I recommend this report for your reading. Once you’re done, I believe you will be as proud of TROY and its people as I am.

Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D.
Chancellor
The “boy from Troy,” Rep. John Lewis, made one last visit home during his July 17 memorial service.
On The Cover
Troy University’s Board of Trustees voted unanimously in August to rename Bibb Graves Hall after Rep. John Robert Lewis.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: As we go to press, we are sad to report the passing of The Honorable Lamar P. Higgins, Vice President Pro Tempore of the Troy University Board of Trustees. This 2020 report touches on a few examples of how Mr. Higgins made a difference at TROY. We look forward to honoring his life of service and accomplishments in future issues.
“Churchill said it best. He said, ‘You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give.’ We want our students to be servant leaders, and that begins with a sense of service and a willingness to give to the communities that will embrace them and that need them.”

— Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D.
ALABAMA'S INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
“We began a journey a long time ago to turn Troy University into an international village. Today, I believe we are more than a village and more than a town, we are a city and you students are a very important part of that. I think what you have brought to Troy is the world, and in the process of bringing the world to us, I think you have been exposed to the world as well. In this culture, you have an opportunity to experience people from all over the world. All of you wouldn’t be here if you didn’t have a strong desire to have a bright future.”

— Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D.
I commend Troy University for bringing people from all nations and cultures together to forge mutual understanding and appreciation.

Gov. Kay Ivey

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**Committed to internationalization**

When Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr. arrived at Troy University in 1989, the University only had around 40 international students enrolled on the Troy Campus. Since that time, TROY has grown into Alabama’s International University, annually serving students from more than 80 countries around the globe.

A large catalyst to the University’s growth into an international institution has been the **1+2+1 Program**. The program, which was transformed in 2004 when the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) became the official co-sponsor, traces its roots back to TROY.

Through the program, students complete their first year of study at their home institution in China before spending the next two years at TROY. They return to their home institution to complete their final year of study and, upon graduation, receive diplomas from both their home institution and TROY.

It is TROY’s key role in the development and continued support of the program that earned the University the AASCU Lifetime Achievement Award during the 20th anniversary celebration of the Sino-American CHEPD (Cooperation in Higher Education & Professional Development) 1+2+1 Program held in October.

“Troy University is committed to the future of 1+2+1. As we have done for two decades, we stand ready to work with our partners to ensure the success of this program,” Dr. Hawkins said.
Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey praised Troy University for its leadership role in international education, recognizing the nearly 800 international students that study on the Troy Campus.
Sharing expertise globally

Troy University faculty are having a global impact by sharing their expertise on the world’s stage.

Dr. Patrick Holladay, an Associate Professor in the School of Hospitality, Sport and Tourism Management, received a $300,000 grant from a U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program to help Puerto Rican farmers become more resilient in the wake of Hurricane Maria.

His research project will work with farmers to develop agritourism over a three-year timeframe. Using collaborative research approaches, the team will create methods to develop, market and manage agritourism on local farms, and then track successes and challenges to help farmers find success. Additionally, researchers hope outreach and the creation of educational materials to share the insights gained from the research project with other farmers will aid in the success of local farms, struggling to regain a footing after Hurricane Maria decimated the island.

“This project combines resilience with sustainability. Building resilience in people, operations and ecosystems means we invest in our adaptive capacities, we strengthen our abilities to stay safe during extreme events and to rebuild what has been damaged. Resilience is the ability of a system to absorb disturbance and to learn and adapt in times of turmoil in order to grow and become more dynamic. Sustainability is broadly defined as the capacity of a system to have adaptive capability and support opportunity and innovation,” Dr. Holladay said.

Meanwhile, Assistant Professor Dr. Alexis Henshaw is using her expertise to advise leaders from the United Nations and major corporations about the ways extremist groups use social media.

Dr. Henshaw, who teaches political science at the University’s Fort Benning location, briefed the U.N. Counterterrorism Committee’s Executive Directorate and members of the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT), a group consisting of Facebook, Microsoft, Twitter and YouTube representatives committed to disrupting terrorist abuse of digital platforms.

The meeting occurred through Dr. Henshaw’s involvement with the Global Network on Extremism (GNET), an academic research initiative backed by the GIFCT and based out of King’s College London.

Dr. Henshaw has spent significant time researching the usage of social media, in particular with regards to women’s issues and Latin America.

“The theme of this meeting was how to deal with issues of extremism in social media and how to balance that with concerns of human rights and free speech,” Dr. Henshaw said. “The presentation I gave was sort of a broad overview of different ways violent extremist groups use social media to communicate.”
The central mountains of Puerto Rico have drawn the attention of TROY Associate Professor Dr. Patrick Holladay and a team of academic and civic leaders.

Dr. Alexis Henshaw recently briefed U.N. and corporate leaders on the usage of social media by extremist groups.
**Cultural exposure**

TROY’s International Arts Center is representative of the University’s commitment to exposing students to other cultures by hosting exhibits featuring the work of world-renowned artists.

In February, the IAC hosted the exhibit, “Notations of a Native Son,” by Huntsville artist Jahni Moore, which included paintings, assemblages, writing and installation. He has been twice nominated as an American Ambassador of Art to Colombia, South America.

In October, the center celebrated the opening of Fred “Nall” Hollis’ most significant art series, “Alice in Wonderland.” Located in the center’s Fred Nall Hollis Museum, the exhibit was inspired by Lewis Carroll’s classic novels, “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland” and “Through the Looking Glass.” Nall worked on the series from 1977 through 1979, using real-life figures to match the characters in Carroll’s stories.

“Faces of Vietnam,” a collection curated by Stephen Humphreys, an attorney based in Athens, Georgia, closed out the IAC’s exhibits for the year. The collection of contemporary works exposed visitors to art forms unique to Vietnam including traditional Vietnamese woodblock prints, gouache on Do paper and mosquito netting and lacquer works inlaid with eggshells, sand and even human hair.

During the summer months, TROY’s Rosa Parks Museum on the Montgomery Campus featured the exhibit, “Down Yonder, I Heard Somebody Calling My Name,” by multidisciplinary artist Masud Olufani. Olufani has exhibited his work in group and solo shows both nationally and internationally and is the recipient of numerous grants and awards for his work.

**Partnering with leaders**

One of TROY’s partnerships helps connect students, faculty and staff and members of the community with national and international leaders to discuss current world affairs. Maj. Gen. Walter D. Givhan, USAF ret., TROY’s Senior Vice Chancellor for Advancement and Economic Development, serves as President of the Alabama World Affairs Council (ALWAC), a nonprofit organization that presents lectures and programming on current and recent events of national and international interest.

Hosted at the University’s Montgomery Campus, ALWAC events help to raise awareness and understanding of international events as they relate to the United States in the context of political, cultural, historical and military issues. Programs held in 2020 included a presentation on “The Middle East Security Situation” by Chase Untermeyer, former U.S. Ambassador to Qatar and founding chair of the Qatar-America Institute; video conferences by Lt. Gen. James B. Hecker, Commander and President of Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base, and David Stilwell, Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

In addition, ALWAC offered the Great Decisions series, America’s largest discussion program on World Affairs, presented through the Foreign Policy Association. Through TROY’s partnership with ALWAC, membership is free for Troy University students.

*The Vietnamese believe that the face tells everything about the life and character of the person. They do not pay much attention to what you say but, rather, look at what you do and how you look.*

— Stephen Humphreys
Nall’s Alice in Wonderland exhibit premiered Oct. 8.

The NATO at 70 conference was held on the Montgomery Campus in partnership with Alabama World Affairs Council.
NEW ADDITIONS
“When you see something that is not right, not fair, not just, you have to speak up. You have to say something; you have to do something.”

— Rep. John Lewis
TROY UNIVERSITY ANNUAL REPORT 18

ADDITIONS

Troy University’s Center for Materials and Manufacturing Sciences is announcing new research aimed to bolster production of personal protective equipment (PPEs) for health care workers and create new avenues for recycling medical plastic waste.

The NPHC Plaza will be located on the Troy Campus near Trojan Arena and Douglas Hawkins Towers.

Changing the physical landscape

As the Spring 2020 semester opened in January on the Troy Campus, so did the doors of the new Trojan Fitness & Wellness Center. The 78,000-square-foot facility, which was dedicated in February features a multi-activity court, a basketball court, free and circuit weight training areas, aerobic exercise rooms, a walking track and an outdoor swimming pool. The $25 million center was a student-led initiative, recommended by the Student Government Association, and funded through student recreation fees that were implemented in 2016. During the ribbon-cutting ceremony, Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor, called the facility “a new face for the campus,” saying he believed it was “one of the great fitness centers in Alabama.”

One of the biggest changes to the landscape of Troy University in 2020 didn’t involve new construction. In August, the Troy University Board of Trustees voted unanimously to rename historic Bibb Graves Hall in honor of U.S. Congressman and civil rights leader John Robert Lewis, who died in July at age 80. In November, as the newly renamed building was officially dedicated, Lewis’ nephew Jerrick Lewis said his uncle would have been proud of the honor and proud of the University. “My uncle would have been proud to have his name displayed on this building, and he would’ve been proud of this University for showing the world what it truly stands for: unity and equality over hatred,” he said.

Another existing building on the Troy Campus officially received a new name in the fall. Residence hall Trojan Village Building 400 was named for longtime Trustee Gerald O. Dial during an October ceremony, honoring the President Pro T empore Emeritus for his many years of service and the tremendous impact he has had on TROY. A longtime legislator, Dial has been a member of the University’s Board of Trustees since 1991, including two terms as President Pro Tempore, effectively steering the Board for eight years.

Also in October, the University launched plans to honor its nine National Pan-Hellenic Council groups with the NPHC Plaza, an outdoor area featuring plots and a Circle of Honor representing each organization. NPHC is the governing body of the nine largest historically African American Collegiate Greek-letter fraternities and sororities, and these organizations on the Troy Campus have had a tremendous impact on the University through civic engagement, leadership and academic achievement for decades.

A building for the Center for Materials and Manufacturing Sciences, which was founded in 2018 with support from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, took steps toward becoming a reality in 2020. Artist renderings of the new center were unveiled in 2020, setting the stage for a new fully integrated, multi-disciplinary research facility to be constructed on the Troy Campus that will focus on research into polymers and polymer recycling.

However, changes were not limited to the Troy Campus in 2020. TROY’s Alpharetta, Georgia, Support Center opened up its facility to host events for current students and 5,000+ alumni in the area. “TROY Atlanta has evolved to better serve our students and help them to network with others in their area by creating an inviting space,” said Staci Hutto, Area Coordinator. “In a way, we help students build their network just as student involvement helps students on the Troy Campus, and that makes our location unique.”
Preparation tomorrow's leaders

The COVID-19 global pandemic impacted many areas of life in 2020, including academic programming. During the summer, Troy University took the opportunity to equip students to thrive in a post-pandemic world, offering its Leadership 101 class online for free to anyone.

Exploring personal development, leadership style and action, cultural diversity and current events through the lens of effective leadership, the course, offered twice during the summer months, saw more than 5,000 students worldwide register.

The backdrop of the global pandemic also provided valuable research opportunities for one of the University's academic centers — the Center for Materials and Manufacturing Sciences.

In October, the center received a $3.5 million grant from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to continue its research and development of methods to recycle personal protective equipment. The grant, the third NIST has awarded to the center, allowed for the hiring of faculty and researchers, as well as the purchase of some additional equipment to aid in research efforts.

Continuing its mission of preparing tomorrow's leaders, Troy University welcomed the first cohort of students in its new Ph.D. in Global Leadership program in the fall. The launch of the new Ph.D. program brought the University's number of doctoral programs to three, joining the Doctor of Nursing Practice and Ph.D. in Sport Management programs.

The online program, offered through the University's College of Education, includes a core curriculum focused on leadership, leadership theory, and the global nature of today's workforce. The first cohort is made up of 18 students from seven states with education backgrounds ranging from biology to diplomacy to adult education.

Even under the challenging circumstances presented by 2020, TROY continued to launch academic courses and programs designed to prepare students for high-demand career fields.

In the spring, the University launched Remote Pilot Familiarization, a course under its Unmanned Aerial Systems minor offered by the Geospatial Informatics Department. The course equipped students with the practical airmanship knowledge to successfully pass the FAA's Part 107 Remote Pilot examination, as well as providing practical experience in quadcopter and fixed wing drone operations.

In the fall semester, TROY began offering a new series of classes to make up the 3D Printing for Art and Industry minor. The classes are offered both online and in person. TROY partnered with the World's Advanced Saving Project (WASP), an Italian company considered the worldwide leader in large-format printing of recyclable materials, which supplied much of the technology used in the program.

Not all of the academic advancements seen in 2020 were related to new programs. TROY’s School of Nursing on the Dothan Campus unveiled in October a new SimJunior pediatric simulator, designed to give nursing students a chance to practice real-world techniques on a life-sized simulated child patient. The new simulator joined two adult simulators in the school's new sim lab, located in Adams Hall.
TROY’s CMMS is a fully integrated multi-disciplinary research facility focusing on research into polymers and polymer recycling.

Frank Marquette, Professor of Practice in the Department of Theatre and Dance, oversees the 3D printing courses.

TROY’s CMMS is a fully integrated multi-disciplinary research facility focusing on research into polymers and polymer recycling.

More than 5,000 students registered worldwide.
QUALITY ACADEMICS
“As one of U.S. News & World Report’s ‘Most Innovative’ universities, TROY is tackling the national need for principled, visionary leaders head on. And as Alabama’s International University, we know today’s successful leaders need a global viewpoint that works within all cultural contexts.”

— Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D.
Accolades & rankings

Troy University’s quality academic programs and commitment to serving its students has established the University as a leader in higher education. Those qualities, along with flexible delivery methods, affordability and service to military-affiliated students has led to numerous national and regional accolades over the years, and 2020 was no different.

The following are just some of the recognitions and awards given to TROY in 2020:

Intelligent.com, a student-focused, comprehensive research guide, ranked TROY’s master’s degree in human resource management as the country’s top-ranking program. The organization also named TROY to its top “25 Military Friendly Colleges” in the country and several of the University’s online programs were recognized among the nation’s best. Recognized were: master’s in criminal justice (7th); master’s in adult education (9th); hospitality management (10th); computer science (21st); master’s in sport management (24th); master’s in history (25th); and, social work (35th).

U.S. News & World Report recognized TROY as one of the best and most innovative universities in the South. TROY was one of only 134 schools ranked in the publication’s 2021 “Best Regional Universities South” list, and was among the top 20 "Most Innovative Universities South" ranking. TROY was also recognized in the publication’s “Best Value” rankings among regional universities in the south, as well as a “Best College for Veterans.” Several of the University’s online degree programs were also recognized as a part of the publication’s “2021 Best Online Programs” rankings, including the master’s degree programs in nursing, criminal justice, business and education.

Niche.com ranked TROY 41st in its “Best Online Colleges in America” rankings, as well as including the University in its “Top Public Universities in America” list.

TROY was named among the best colleges and universities in the southeastern United States by The Princeton Review for the 16th straight year. TROY was one of only 142 colleges and universities to receive the designation in the 12-state southeastern region. In all, The Princeton Review recognized 656 colleges and universities in five U.S. regions.

College Factual ranked TROY’s programs in public administration and social sciences, criminal justice and social work among its most popular degree programs.

SR Education Group ranked TROY online undergraduate degree programs among the best in Alabama. TROY also was ranked 11th in the group’s “2020 Most Affordable Online Doctoral Degrees” ranking.
51st out of 134

“Best Regional Universities in the South”
— U.S. News & World Report

Top 25

“Best Among Public Universities in the South Region”
— U.S. News & World Report

Top 20 “Most Innovative Schools Regional Universities South”
— U.S. News & World Report

17:1

STUDENT-TO- FACULTY RATIO

TROY named to the “Best in the Southeast” rankings for 16 consecutive years.
— The Princeton Review

“2021 Most Popular Public Administration and Social Service”
— College Factual

“2021 Best Colleges”
— Niche

#75 out of 337

“Best Online Bachelor's Programs”
— U.S. News & World Report

168,000+

ALUMNI
Leadership beyond the classroom

A cornerstone of Troy University’s commitment to serving students is a faculty that provides leadership both in the classroom and beyond.

In an effort to help combat the effects of COVID-19, Dr. Suzanne Lukjan, a Lecturer in the Chemistry and Physics Department, worked with the major biotechnology company ONY Biotech in researching a therapeutic treatment that could help patients before their lungs succumb to the coronavirus. The pulmonary surfactant therapy is geared toward patients suffering from COVID-19-related acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), a type of respiratory failure. Surfactant contributes to the lungs’ elasticity, preventing their collapse. While surfactant research was not a new endeavor for Dr. Lukjan, the COVID-19 pandemic focused her and ONY Biotech’s efforts toward the coronavirus’ unique attributes. “I want everyone to realize that science is important and can help save lives,” Dr. Lukjan said.

Dr. Scott Nokes, Associate Professor, led his students to publish a textbook in 2020 as a part of his class Writing, Editing, and Publishing for Digital Media. The project began when Dr. Nokes realized there were no textbooks on the market addressing the topic of the new class. “I found that other schools weren’t really properly training their undergraduates in this field — a terrible oversight, since anyone graduating today will do almost all their writing for digital media. I decided that we would write our own textbook as a class,” Dr. Nokes said. After bringing in noted experts as guest lecturers, students in the class decided what each chapter of the textbook would be and who would work on them. While students worked on composing and editing articles, Dr. Nokes worked with publisher Witan Publishing to ensure they met quality standards. Witan Publishing agreed to donate all author royalties to the Troy University English Department Foundation.

It is that sort of passion for and dedication to student success that sets TROY apart, and it is seen among faculty across the University’s five colleges.

Dr. Jacqueline Jones, an Assistant Professor in the University’s Biological and Environmental Science Department, has been involved in the success of many minority STEM scholars, both at TROY and universities across the country, through her mentorship program. Dr. Jones’ primary goal in mentoring is to help students understand the importance of having an interest in the sciences. This has mostly been achieved through her personal research lab and the core classes she teaches. Outside of her personal lab, Dr. Jones is also involved in two major programs which target local high school students with an interest in the STEM field. One is focused on underrepresented minority students in the University’s TRIO program, and the other is focused on helping students in the STEM field up until they graduate college and even after. Some of these skills include workshops in resume building, interviewing skills and professional development. “My goal has always been — in both programs — to really prepare students to do excellent work outside of the classroom, because it is not enough to teach them the book content without teaching them how to get the job and how to keep the job,” Dr. Jones said.
Ralph Wesley, one of the students who collaborated with Dr. Scott Nokes on writing “The Student’s Guide to Digital Publishing”.

Dr. Suzanne Lukjan

Dr. Jacqueline Jones
Preparing students for success

Equipping students with the tools necessary for success on the world’s stage has long been at the core of the University’s mission, and 2020 was no exception with the implementation of new programs to ensure students are prepared for the world of work.

One such program, offered through TROY Career Services, features real-world employers offering full-time, paid positions to current students who alternate semesters between the co-op program and their normal class schedule. “This is another opportunity for students to get real hands-on experience while remaining enrolled and connect with employers in probably the most impactful way we’ve ever offered,” said Lauren Cole, Coordinator of Career Services. The program includes only University-approved businesses which work with TROY on scheduling, interviewing and hiring.

Grants from the U.S. Department of Education received in 2020 are helping TROY’s College of Education train future rehabilitation counselors for state vocational rehabilitation agencies in Alabama, Florida and Georgia. The grants, totaling $3 million, will focus on training rehabilitation counselors for public service, as well as counselors to serve individuals who are deaf/hard-of-hearing and those who have a mental illness. Over the five-year grant period, a minimum of 100 rehabilitation counseling trainees will be recruited and provided full tuition and stipends, helping to address a critical need within the field. “This award has the potential to have a tremendous impact on communities and individuals. The students benefitting from this grant will touch countless lives in their work with rehabilitation services over the course of many years,” said Dr. Kerry Palmer, Dean of the College of Education.

While the new programs opened doors to additional opportunities in 2020, students were also garnering national attention and recognition for their efforts in the University’s existing programs.

TROY’s chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma was recognized as an Honors Chapter by the organization’s global headquarters. Beta Gamma Sigma is The International Business Honor Society and is affiliated with the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business — AACSB. The Sorrell College of Business is one of just 189 business colleges worldwide to hold dual accreditation on both the college-wide level and the School of Accountancy.

In the Hall School of Journalism and Communication, a pair of students earned national recognition for their coverage of the news of Troy University. Brady Talbert earned national finalist honors in TV Breaking News Reporting from the Society of Professional Journalists for his coverage of a 2019 tornado that struck Troy. Pawan Khanal, a photographer for The Tropolitan student newspaper, was named a national finalist in Sports Photography for a photo taken during a Trojans basketball game.

TROY students also brought home 13 individual awards from the 2020 Southeast Journalism Conference, which took place at the University of Southern Mississippi in February, while others brought home the Best Radio Spot News Award from the 2020 Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Awards in New York City.
Beta Gamma Sigma was established in the Sorrell College of Business in March 2019.
On December 1, 1955, Rosa Louise McCauley Parks was arrested on this site for refusing the order of city bus driver J. F. Blake to vacate her seat under the segregation laws of the Jim Crow era. She was taken to police headquarters at City Hall for booking, then to the municipal jail on Ripley Street. Civil rights leader E. D. Nixon, accompanied by attorney Clifford Durr, soon arrived to post her bail. Parks's arrest galvanized black leaders to organize a boycott of the bus system for December 5, the date she was to appear in Municipal Court. Her conviction and the success of the one-day bus protest inspired the creation of the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) to continue what came to be known as the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

(Continued on other side)
"During the Montgomery bus boycott, we came together and remained unified for 381 days. It has never been done again. The Montgomery boycott became the model for human rights throughout the world."

— Rosa Parks
Serving current students during the pandemic

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, TROY continued to lead the way in service to students. In April, faculty and staff in the College of Education pivoted quickly to move its Research and Scholarship Conference online. More than 180 participants registered for the conference, an all-time high for the event.

Another step taken by the University to continue service to students under unique circumstances came from the Office of Career Services, which employed tools such as Handshake, TROY’s internship and job search database, and Big Interview, a program that enabled students to hone their interviewing skills from home. And, career counseling services and career fairs normally held as in-person, on-campus events were shifted to virtual environments.

Of course, the closure of campuses also meant that many of the usual spring events had to be reimagined. The Honors Convocation, which recognizes students for their accomplishments on the Troy Campus, shifted online. TROY’s Phenix City Campus held a drive-up ceremony to recognize its honors students. Additionally, the University held joint Spring/Summer Commencement ceremonies in July. Three ceremonies were held inside Trojan Arena in order to ensure social distancing, and fewer spectators were allowed with overflow viewing provided on the video boards in nearby Veterans Memorial Stadium.

Classes and events weren’t the only things impacted by COVID-19, and once again TROY stepped up to help its students. In April, the University launched the COVID-19 Emergency Fund through the Office of Development that raised more than $112,000 that assisted 450 students, faculty, staff and alumni who were facing extreme financial hardship due to the pandemic. The fund offered a one-time financial assistance payment of $250 with current TROY students being given priority to receive the funding. “The global TROY family is uniting to support our students, faculty, staff and alumni who have been affected by the coronavirus,” said Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor.

The ingenuity displayed in the early months of the pandemic didn’t fade as fall approached and the University returned to in-person classes. Choral ensembles within the University’s John M. Long School of Music found unique ways to showcase their talents and hone their skills through remote performances. However, returning to in-person classes brought some new challenges as singers had to maintain at least 10 feet of social distance (instead of the 6 feet required by the CDC). Not to be deterred, Dr. Diane Orlofsky, Director of Choirs and Conductor of the Concert Chorale, and Scott Sexton, Conductor for Frequency and Collegiate Singers, found creative ways to divide the ensembles up for rotating rehearsal days and times and used alternate locations on campus and in Troy.
Troy Campus joint Spring/Summer Commencement ceremony

Troy University’s Symphony Band virtually performs “Salvation is Created” by Pavel Tchesnokov.
At the end of March, TROY announced that due to the pandemic it would continue online or other alternative delivery methods for all of its classes for the remainder of the spring and summer semesters in order to promote the health and safety of the campus community.

TROY’s history as a pioneer in online education served the students well as the University made a seamless transition to online classes without the delay seen at other institutions.

Chancellor Hawkins said at the time, “By extending our remote learning and working policies, we hope to do our part as a University to slow the spread of the coronavirus. Troy University is uniquely equipped to face this challenging time thanks to our history as a pioneer in online learning. We remain committed to the success of our students and will work diligently throughout this process to ensure each of you can continue your college journey. I urge all of our students, faculty and staff to follow the guidance of local, state and national leaders and take proper precautions to limit your exposure to the virus and prevent its spread. Together, we can overcome this challenge, and I am convinced our University will emerge stronger than ever.”
With more than a century of academic excellence and as a pioneer in Alabama’s online education space, TROY was equipped to help students continue their studies through the unprecedented time of the pandemic.
Serving prospective students during the pandemic

The COVID-19 global pandemic brought many challenges in 2020, not the least of which was connecting with prospective Troy University students.

When the pandemic closed campuses and shifted classes to online learning, it also eliminated an important tool in recruitment — the campus tour. TROY’s Office of Admissions took immediate action by implementing virtual campus tours and making enrollment information and other resources available with just the click of a mouse.

For those students who weren’t able to tour the Troy Campus in person, the University debuted a new, online 3D interactive map that shows everything from buildings, to parking, to points of interest and more.

Admissions held its annual Spring Trojan Day online, and the University held a virtual Open House for prospective students in April, designed to assist prospective students in the areas of admissions and academic strategy for career development.

TROY also waived its standardized college entrance exam requirements and extended scholarship deadlines to help prospective students navigate an admissions cycle that in many ways was disrupted by the pandemic.

A set of safety guidelines were also established called “TROY Strong” in recognition of the spirit of determination that unites us as Trojans. A big part of that “TROY Strong” spirit is that we take care of one another. These guidelines were put in place for not only our staff, faculty and students, but the many prospective students and guests that take part in campus activities and events on all of our campuses.
STOP THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS

Wear a mask in classrooms, labs, shared office spaces, at gatherings, and in any campus setting.

Learn more at troy.edu/coronavirus

TROY STRONG

TROY’s 3D interactive map at troy.edu/map
Serving the community during the pandemic

Troy University’s founding motto, “Educate the mind to think, the heart to feel, and the body to act,” was at the forefront once again in 2020. The latter two of those three missions were especially evident as TROY students, faculty and staff sought to serve communities in the face of the global pandemic.

In March, as concerns about the spread of COVID-19 led to the cancellation of numerous blood drives throughout the country, TROY’s Office of Student Involvement partnered with the American Red Cross to help shore up severe blood shortages. Donors saw the drive as an opportunity to help others in need. “I’ve been feeling kind of useless being stuck at home, and this is a great way to help people,” said donor Helen Colley. “I had no second thoughts at all. I absolutely knew it was something I needed to do.”

With the pandemic shifting K-12 schools to online learning, a first for many students, teachers and parents, TROY’s College of Education sought to help by offering a database of online resources.

The Department of Teacher Education developed a website offering tips for parents and teachers, while also providing a vast database of online resources to help students adjust to learning at home. The database was divided into grade levels and subjects to help parents and teachers easily find resources, learning tools and activities to fit their students’ needs.

While news reports focused on the wide-scale issues caused by the pandemic, Troy University’s Wiregrass Archives sought to preserve the day-to-day history of the ongoing crisis and its effects on everyday life. Dr. Marty Olliff, Director of the Wiregrass Archives located on TROY’s Dothan Campus, saw the pandemic as a global historical event that needed to be recorded. He solicited writings, diaries and journals both digital and hard copies from the public to help document daily activities during the crisis. “It says a lot about the people who wrote about themselves, but when we get 20 or 30 or 40 or even 50 from a small area like the Wiregrass, then we start to see real patterns,” Dr. Olliff said. “That’s tremendously important to seeing how the people of the Wiregrass dealt with COVID-19 — not how a single person in the Wiregrass dealt with it, but how the people of the Wiregrass dealt with it. That will be interesting to historians down the road.”

As students returned to TROY campuses in the fall, the desire to serve others during these unusual times continued to be at the forefront of their minds. As the holiday season approached, the nearly 300 fraternity members in the University’s eight Interfraternity Council (IFC) member houses came together to take on the responsibility of collecting items for the Troy-based Rashad M. McClaneys Foundation’s “holiday meal” boxes. In all, fraternity members packed about 150 boxes. The event replaced a Christmas dinner the McClaneys hosted in 2019 for about 250 elderly and homeless people in Troy at St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church. The dinner wasn’t possible in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
IFC volunteers who packed "holiday meal" boxes

Dr. Marty Olliff

Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr. gives blood at the Office of Student Involvement's blood drive in March.
Bringing awareness

An important, but often overlooked manner in which Troy University serves the public is by shedding light on community issues. In 2020, Troy University student organizations and faculty participated in a number of events that sought to recognize and bring awareness of societal issues.

The Compass Club, a mental health organization chartered in 2019, was established to help individuals with special needs. An international organization that is sponsored by Pilot International, the Compass Club hosts different projects each semester to volunteer services, including GrainLiners, an event that focuses on teaching mental health awareness to elementary school children, and a Christmas dinner for special needs children and their families within the community.

The Troy University Suicide Prevention Coalition, a joint effort by Troy University faculty and funded by an Alabama Higher Education Suicide Prevention Grant, seeks to provide education and raise awareness of suicide prevention and intervention, create conversations and actions within communities and provide resources in an effort to prevent suicide. In September, the Coalition held the second annual Alabama Higher Education Suicide Prevention Conference, open to both students and professionals seeking to gain more knowledge on the impacts of suicide on communities and suicide prevention. The virtual conference included presentations on the increase in awareness of help-seeking behaviors to reduce the stigma on mental health, supporting populations with increased risks of suicidal behaviors, identifying institutional frameworks for protocol for acutely distressed students and more.

Also, during National Suicide Prevention Month in September, Trojan Outreach sought to raise suicide awareness through Project Semicolon, a nonprofit organization started by Amy Bleuel in 2013 in memory of her father, who committed suicide ten years before. Trojan Outreach is a peer-led education organization within Troy University’s Student Services division where student leaders are committed to promoting and influencing a culture that is focused on health, wellness and safety by empowering and engaging the campus community. In October, the organization launched its Clothesline Project to help bring awareness to violence against men, women and children. The Clothesline Project included a T-shirt display that showed statistics, messages of encouragement and emotional expression about interpersonal violence. Trojan Outreach was recognized as a NASPA Outstanding Peer Education Program for their work on the Clothesline Project, as well as other programs, during the Interpersonal Violence Awareness Week. Trojan Outreach also partnered with 101 Elite Men and Freshman Forum to “chalk the quad” with statistical data about interpersonal violence and domestic violence, along with inspirational quotes offering encouragement. Earlier in 2020, the organization was recognized nationally for an anti-drug public service announcement it created. The student-produced piece won first place and $3,000 to support the group’s drug abuse prevention efforts in the fourth annual Red Ribbon Week Campus Video PSA National Contest. The event was sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration as a part of Red Ribbon Week activities.
Troy University first became involved with the Semicolon Project on the Troy Campus in 2019. An installation for the Clothesline Project was on display in the Trojan Center on the Troy Campus.

Kimbrlei McCain and Riley Jacks receive the first-place award for the PSA from Rich Lucey (DEA), Marion Pierce (SAMHSA/CSAP), and Sean Fearns (DEA).
Student mentors

Leadership development of Troy University students was a common theme throughout 2020. Even against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, TROY students found ways to serve, mentor and give back to the community, particularly among children and youth.

In January, a unique partnership between the Troy University Mathematics Department and local schools gave students an opportunity to learn how math correlates to basketball. Mathsketball, a two-day camp held in Trojan Arena, exposed seventh- and eighth-grade girl basketball players from Pike County schools to the importance of math in athletics. Mentors from the TROY women's basketball team and coaches worked in conjunction with representatives from the University's Mathematics Department to help students gain an appreciation for the important role math can play in their day-to-day lives.

In February, students from 16 area middle and high schools came to the Troy Campus for the University's seventh annual Trojan Art Day. TROY students and faculty conducted demonstrations and led participants in workshops.

Also, in February, students from high schools in Alabama, Georgia, Florida and Mississippi gathered on the Troy Campus for a three-day workshop and honor band competition as the John M. Long School of Music hosted the 47th annual Southeastern United States (SEUS) Honor Band and Clinic. Nearly 700 students attended the event to test their skills as musicians and learn from professional directors and TROY student mentors.

In March, Troy University kicked off its National Endowment for the Arts Big Read activities with the opening of the art exhibit, “Dismiss the Divide – Citizen: An American Lyric,” at the Rosa Parks Museum on the Montgomery Campus. The exhibit represented a collaboration between students from Montgomery’s Jefferson Davis High School and students from TROY’s Department of Art and Design and was based on the book, “Citizen: An American Lyric,” by poet, essayist and playwright Claudia Rankine. During the opening ceremony for the exhibit, Professor Ed Noriega joined with students to discuss the inspiration for the works of art. Noriega said he hoped this was the first of many collaborations with area high school students.

Unfortunately, other in-person events related to the Big Read, which was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and Arts Midwest, were canceled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

During the summer months, TROY’s Office of Civic Engagement organized a “Civic Heroes” virtual summer camp for upper elementary school students. A partnership with the David Mathews Center for Civic Life, the free camp brought around 80 students from throughout the country together to learn about their communities, government and citizenship. The camp leaders were TROY students Nicole Jackson and Chauntina Whittle, who were serving as Jean O’Connor-Snyder interns through the David Mathews Center. In addition to two online sessions during the week, participants were presented with activities to do outside of the virtual meetings.
Tara Sartorius, Alabama Alliance for the Arts Education Program Director, demonstrates for students at Trojan Art Day.

Students at the School of Music's SEUS clinic.

The Mathsketball event was made possible through a grant from the Mathematical Association of America's Tensor Women and Mathematics Program.
Leading by example

Over the last 30 years, diversity has been a hallmark of TROY’s growing student body, and the University demonstrated its leadership in numerous ways in 2020 as issues related to race, justice and diversity played out in cities and towns throughout the nation.

In June, Troy University hosted a Unity Prayer Breakfast, bringing together leaders from the University, the city of Troy and Pike County as a starting point for conversation and action regarding the state of race relations at the local, state and national level. The event was the brainchild of TROY Vice President Pro Tempore of the Board of Trustees Lamar Higgins and Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., and included remarks from the Rev. Dr. Glenda Curry, the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama and former President of then Troy State University Montgomery. The event followed on the heals of the death of George Floyd at the hands of police in Minneapolis, Minnesota. “This event was designed to provide us with the opportunity to look inside our hearts,” Dr. Hawkins said. “We wanted to come together as a community to initiate a conversation. This is not the end, this is the beginning of a long conversation.”

In August, TROY’s Continuing Education and Outreach division presented a training seminar on diversity and unconscious bias to all employees of the city of Dothan. Held at the Dothan Civic Center, the idea for the diversity seminar began with the Dothan Police Department, but grew to cover all city employees after approval and funding from the Dothan City Commission. In all, around 1,000 employees took part in the training.

On the Troy Campus, TROY’s NAACP organization partnered with the University Police and Pike County to hold the “Know Your Rights” seminar that included speeches from Troy Campus Detective James Taylor and Pike County Attorney Ashley Mallory.

Early in the year, TROY’s Office of Civic Engagement coordinated three Days of Service, honoring the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Among the projects that students tackled included outdoor improvements to the Civic Engagement outreach center, cleanup at a local elementary school nature trail and coordination of after-school activities at a local preschool.

Troy University’s Rosa Parks Museum, located on the Montgomery Campus, continued to bring awareness to issues of Civil Rights throughout 2020, even when the facility was forced to close its doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The museum opened the year partnering with students from That’s My Child, an organization whose mission is to mentor youth through arts, education and entrepreneurship, to present the Junior Curator Exhibit, “2020 Visions of Civil Rights.” The exhibit enabled the Junior Curators to display the two opposing sides of the civil rights movement, and address how teenagers in present-day Montgomery are affected by actions from the past. The museum followed the exhibit up with a celebration of Rosa Parks’ birthday in February and closed out the year with events surrounding Rosa Parks Day in Alabama and the 65th anniversary of the Montgomery Bus Boycott.
Vice President Pro Tempore of the Troy University Board of Trustees
Lamar Higgins speaks at the Unity Prayer Breakfast

Student volunteers involved in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Days of Service at Headstart in Troy, Alabama
GIVING
& GRANTS
“Further, with student debt in America approaching $1.7 trillion, it is important for us to make the university experience affordable for the students we serve.”

— Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D.
**Scholarships**

The generosity of Troy University alumni, friends and businesses was seen throughout 2020, even under the unusual circumstances presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the third annual TROY Giving Day on Oct. 8, 330 gifts totaling $203,845 were given during the 24-hour period. Under the theme “Stand Up and Be a Trojan,” donors helped the University easily surpass its goal of $150,000. Matching funds of $15,000 provided by generous donors Jane Beasley and Bob Butterworth helped to boost donations made during the Giving Day event.

During a special Giving Tuesday event in May, donors from 21 states and Canada brought in more than $70,000 to assist the University in providing scholarships, as well as emergency relief to students.

A $100,000 gift by Gibson Vance, President Pro Tempore of the Troy University Board of Trustees, and his wife, Kate, established the Kate and Gibson Vance Student Emergency Fund, providing an exceptional example of the Trojan giving spirit.

TROY alumni Jim and Linda Weeks Clayton endowed a $100,000 scholarship to help provide an education to students in need of financial assistance.

Dr. Kerry Palmer, Dean of the University’s College of Education, and his wife, Robyn, donated to the University in the form of a TROY Shield Society legacy gift of more than $500,000.

Southeast Gas and Troy University are partnering through the Southeast Gas Endowed Scholarship aimed at producing new Wiregrass-area entrepreneurs through the Sorrell College of Business and the Troy University IDEA Bank. The endowment will benefit students who enrolled in classes with a declared minor in entrepreneurship and who have selected to participate in the IDEA Bank entrepreneurship project and curriculum who also reside in those areas served by Southeast Gas.

**Foundation Board**

The TROY Foundation’s elected Board of Directors helps set the governing policies of the Foundation, which was created to promote, support and carry out broader educational opportunities and provide services to the University’s faculty, students and alumni. The Foundation also sought to attract private support for TROY in 2020.

TROY alumni Joseph W. “Billy” Jones, Jr., Jeffrey D. Kervin and Dr. Martha Wingard Tack were named to the Troy University Foundation Board of Directors.

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Dr. Jim Bookout  
Mrs. Karen E. Carter  
Mr. Jeffrey F. Coleman, Chairman  
Mr. Roy H. Drinkard  
Dr. Jeffrey Dugas  
Mr. John R. Ferguson  
Maj. Gen. Walter Givhan  
Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr.  
Mrs. Roni Holley  
Mr. Horace Horn  
Mr. Larry Hughes, Vice Chair  
Dr. Earl V. Johnson  
Dr. Manley Johnson  
Mr. Billy Jones  
Mr. Jeffrey Kervin  
Mr. David Mallach  
Dr. Harrel McKinney  
Mr. Doug Mims  
Mr. Randall Moore  
Mrs. Claudene Nichols  
Mr. Lewis Rushing  
Dr. Martha Tack  
Ms. Becky Watson
Success in sponsored partnerships

Troy University continued to enjoy tremendous success in securing sponsored partnerships in 2020. In spite of the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, TROY faculty, staff and students sought more than $64.4 million in partner dollars. TROY was awarded a $3.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education for Student Support Services over the next five years. The Student Support Services Project at TROY serves more than 450 students on the University’s Troy, Dothan and Montgomery campuses. The program provides qualified participants with academic tutoring, advising and assistance in course selection, career advising, graduate school planning and visitation, financial and economic literacy and assistance with completion of the financial aid process. Qualifications for participation in the program include, in part, being classified as a first-generation, low-income or special-needs student. Some elements of the program have operated for nearly 30 years at the University.

Among the many sponsored programs successes were:

TROY’s Montgomery Campus was awarded a nearly $2 million Title III grant through the U.S. Department of Education’s Strengthening Institutions Program. The grant will help to build a Center for Student Success that will bring together tutoring, academic and career counseling, mental health counseling and student work space into a single location to better serve the Montgomery Campus and TROY online students in the River Region.

TROY’s School of Nursing was awarded a grant in June aimed at increasing the number of qualified nursing faculty in Alabama. The Nurse Faculty Loan Program grant was awarded by the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The grant program provides funding to accredited schools of nursing to offer loans to students enrolled in advanced education nursing degree programs who are committed to become nurse faculty. In exchange for full-time, post-graduation employment as nurse faculty, the program authorizes the cancelation of up to 85% of any such loan.

The Coleman Center for Early Learning and Family Enrichment, located on the Dothan Campus, received multiple grants in 2020, the largest of which will support high-quality learning and care experiences for teachers and students alike. A $592,966 grant from the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education, funded through the PDG B-5, will help Coleman Center staff obtain more advanced education credentials and will provide high-quality early learning materials as well as developmentally appropriate outside play materials. The center also received a $10,000 grant from Wiregrass Resource Conservation and Development to provide for the purchase of science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) supplies.
“In the most unpredictable and most unprecedented times in college athletics and college football, we were able to put together a very exciting, competitive, regional and dynamic schedule for our student-athletes and fans. I would like to thank our University administration led by Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr. as well as our amazing student-athletes, coaches and staff for their support.”

— Brent Jones
Director of Athletics
Women's sports — top of the game

Despite battling the most unusual playing circumstances of their careers, five of TROY's women's athletics programs demonstrated the true Trojan Spirit and put together seasons to remember. The women's basketball, women's indoor track & field, women's cross country, women's golf and volleyball teams all were at the top of their game this past year.

Chanda Rigby's women's basketball squad put together one of the best seasons in TROY and Sun Belt Conference history with a 25-4 overall record and 16-2 Sun Belt record en route to the program's first regular season Sun Belt championship. TROY's shot at the NCAA Tournament was halted by COVID-19, but not before the Trojans posted the most overall and most conference wins in program history.

The women's golf team under the direction of Randy Keck won three tournaments last year, including the Lady Cat Invitational in which they were forced off the course due to the pandemic. Sophomore Nicole Lorup posted the lowest stroke average in institution history with a 72.56 mark, and she, along with ShaeLee Scarberry, combined for three individual wins.

The women's indoor track & field and cross country teams led by Marc Davis both posted their best finishes in Sun Belt history. On the track, the Trojans finished second at the Sun Belt Indoor Championships paced by Gemma Finch's three gold medals. The cross country squad also turned in a program-best finish at the Sun Belt Championship by finishing in fourth place; the best finish since 1998. Gracie Booher was named the Sun Belt Freshman of the Year and three others were named to the All-Sun Belt Team.

Josh Lauer's volleyball program advanced to the Sun Belt Tournament semifinals for the second straight season. Cheyenne Hayes and Amara Anderson were named All-Sun Belt for the second straight year as the Trojans posted their highest Sun Belt finish in program history and were just one win shy of the program record for wins.

Student-athletes in the classroom

Student-athletes across the country endured a spring semester like none other with in-person classes, practice and competition abruptly halted in March. Troy University's student-athletes responded in resounding fashion in the classroom with record-setting academic performances.

"It would have been easy for our student-athletes to lose focus on their academics due to the nature of the circumstances that surrounded them," Director of Athletics Brent Jones said. "However, they did the opposite and performed at an elite level in the classroom to close out the spring semester. We could not be prouder of their tremendous work."

TROY's collective student-athlete population finished the spring semester with a 3.11 grade point average. Eleven of TROY's 15 athletic programs finished with a team GPA of 3.0 or higher with eight of those programs posting GPAs of 3.5 or greater.

Since the TROY Athletics' Student-Athlete Services Office began recording program GPAs in 2010, the men's tennis (3.75), women's tennis (3.67) and men's cross country (3.56) programs all recorded the highest GPAs in their respective program's history, while women's golf (3.52) was its highest since 2013. Joining those four programs with team GPAs of 3.5 or greater were soccer (3.59), softball (3.63), volleyball (3.63) and women's cross country (3.74).
Football scheduling

Aug. 7, 2020, marked TROY’s first official football practice since March 5 when the Trojans were shut down just five practices into their spring season due to the pandemic. Head Coach Chip Lindsey’s squad didn’t look like it missed a beat with a solid 19-period day on the grass practice fields behind Trojan Arena.

“With all of the guidelines and protocols we had in place, combined with the limited amount of time we had during spring camp, we tried to adjust practice some and go between full speed and walk-thrus,” Lindsey said.

From the time the Trojans hit the field, TROY’s Athletic department staff and players were all in — committed to playing a 12-game schedule. And, in the end, TROY made the short list of only 34 college teams in the nation to play 11 or more games. With University of Louisiana Monroe canceling twice during the season due to COVID-19 issues, the second of which was the season finale game, TROY was one short of their goal.

TROY’s first two games were aired on ESPN (at Middle Tennessee and at BYU) which marked the first time in program history for a regular season game. The Trojans also appeared four times on national TV.

TROY’s football schedule is in good shape for years to come with several marquee matchups on the books for the next decade with several high-profile games at The Vet on the horizon. Thanks to the tireless work of many to play the 2020 football season, an unexpected match was made. TROY and BYU were both looking for games after many conferences across the country either at the time canceled their seasons or barred non-conference games. A match was made that sent TROY to Provo, Utah, for the second game of the season, a deal which will have BYU play in TROY to open the 2026 season.

TROY also has a four-game series with Army, Southern Miss and UAB scheduled for the next decade in addition to a home-and-home series with Mississippi State, Western Kentucky, Memphis and UMass.

Following the decision of the NCAA and the rest of the sports world to put competition on pause this past spring, TROY Athletics found new ways to engage with its fans across its social media channels and website. Thanks to a collaborative effort between all of TROY Athletics’ external team — marketing, communications and creative content — TROY fans were actively engaged with TROY’s student-athletes, coaches and administrators throughout the spring and summer months.

The collaboration started with “Reading with the Trojans,” where TROY head coaches and “Voice of the Trojans” Barry McKnight read stories to children each week. From there it expanded to interactive coloring books, bi-monthly Athletic Director updates from Brent Jones, specialized #OneTROYFriday content and virtual editions of Trojan Talk and Trojan Tribute (TROY’s annual student-athlete award show). There were even replays of classic games and “Lunch with Legends” were produced.
TROY vs. Coastal Carolina game

TROY wide receivers Kaylon Geiger (1) and Tez Johnson (15) celebrate with The Belt following TROY’s third straight win over rival South Alabama in the annual “Battle for the Belt.”
Lamar P. Higgins, Vice President Pro Tempore of the Board of Trustees and TROY alumnus, was the subject of the documentary, “In His Own Words,” produced by TROY TrojanVision and the Office of Marketing and Communication.
Faculty and staff achievements

Troy University representatives continue to be recognized for their leadership and achievements within the classroom, the community and their career fields.

Among the TROY faculty and staff to be recognized or honored in 2020 included:

- Dr. Peter Howard, Chair of the Department of World Languages and Cultures, and his wife, Ephy, who received "The Ovatio," an award presented by the Classical Association of the Middle West and South for the couple’s lifetime contributions to the study of Latin and Greek;
- Dr. Edward Pappanastos, Associate Chair for the Department of Risk Management and Data Analytics, who was named Scholar-in-Residence for Arsenal, and also was named the recipient of TROY’s Wallace D. Malone, Jr. Distinguished Faculty Award;
- Dr. Jonathan Cellon, Associate Dean of First Year Studies, who was named to the Board of Directors of the David Mathews Center for Civic Life; and
- Dr. Tim Phillips, Associate Professor of Clarinet in the John M. Long School of Music, whose weekly TROY Public Radio show, “Clarinet Corner,” reached its 400th episode.

Members of Troy University’s leadership also received recognition in 2020, including:

- Gibson Vance, President Pro Tempore of the University’s Board of Trustees and TROY alumnus, who was selected as Vice President of the Alabama Bar Association.

Troy University alumni also continued to take center stage in 2020 thanks to their accomplishments and recognitions, including:

- Author and Tampa Bay Times columnist Craig Pittman, a 1981 graduate of TROY’s Hall School of Journalism and Communication, who was named as the Florida Heritage Book Festival’s Literary Legend for 2020 for his environmentally conscious nonfiction books;
- Journalist Wendy Parker, a 1982 graduate, who was named to the U.S. Basketball Writers Association Hall of Fame for her ongoing coverage of the rise of women’s college basketball into a national spectator sport; and

TROY Alumni of the Year recipients Gen. Ed Crowell (’01), Joe Judkins (’96, ’97), Freddie Thomas (’88) and Lawrence Tynes (’00) and Honorary Alumna of the Year recipient the late Dr. Jean Laliberte, who served as a faculty member and later as the University’s Associate Vice Chancellor for Development, who were honored during TROY’s 2020 Homecoming celebration.
ALUMNI OF THE YEAR

Gen. Ed Crowell

Joe Judkins

Freddie Thomas

Lawrence Tynes

Dr. Jean Laliberte

Dr. Peter and Ephy Howard

Dr. Lance Tatum presents Dr. Edward Pappanastos with the Wallace D. Malone, Jr. Distinguished Faculty Award.
New leaders emerge

Veteran Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Captain George Beaudry was named Chief of the Troy University Police Department, assuming the role on October 1.

Dr. Dionne Rosser-Mims and Dr. Kerry Palmer moved into different leadership roles in the fall of 2020. Dr. Rosser-Mims, who had served as the Dean of the College of Education, was named Vice Chancellor of the University’s Phenix City Campus, following Dr. David White, who retired after more than 24 years of service to the University. Dr. Palmer, who had served as Associate Dean for the College of Education since January 2019, became the college’s new Dean.

Dr. Allen Mendenhall was named Associate Dean of the Sorrell College of Business in August, assuming oversight of the college’s research and outreach centers, including the Manuel H. Johnson Center for Political Economy.

Alumni Board

Members of TROY’s Alumni Association are the torch bearers of the Trojan Spirit and leaders in encouraging loyalty, involvement and investment and advancing the University. The Alumni Association’s Board of Directors exists to promote mutually beneficial relations to Troy University and its alumni.

Roni Holley, President
Rosemary Elebash, Vice President
Jack Weaver, Treasurer
Bill Hopper, Immediate Past President
Faith West Byrd, Executive Director

Terry L. Butts
Bob Boothe
Richard Dowling
Carolyn Gibson
Marrell Hartley
Scott Hartley
Julius Pittman

Steve Sanders
Jody Singleton
Lloyd Taylor
Freddie Thomas
Mitt Walker
Jerry Williams
History of total asset growth
TROY continues to maintain and protect its strong financial position. This financial health, as reflected in total asset growth, is a result of prudent utilization of financial resources including careful cost controls, conservative utilization of debt and adherence to a long-range capital plan for the maintenance and replacement of our campus facilities.

Revenue by source
One of TROY’s strengths is the diverse stream of revenue that supplements tuition and fee revenue, including private support from foundations and corporations, along with sponsored programs, state appropriations, investment income and auxiliary services. TROY’s tuition rates remain competitive with peer institutions, demonstrating our commitment to provide high quality higher education at an affordable price.

Expense by function
In addition to revenue diversification, Troy University makes cost containment an ongoing priority. This is necessary as the University continues to face significant financial pressures, particularly in the areas of compensation, employee benefits, energy, technology and ongoing maintenance of facilities and infrastructure. TROY is committed to recruiting and retaining outstanding faculty and staff. Scholarships also continue to be a significant commitment for the University as we focus efforts on the recruitment and retention of students.

2020 financial highlights
The year 2020 will be one that we will always remember. Although it was a year that had many obstacles and unknowns, I am pleased to say the pandemic did not hinder the TROJAN SPIRIT. It only made us stronger! As we continue to strive to meet our strategic goal as Alabama’s Premier International University, our dedicated team of faculty and staff worked diligently to serve, retain and graduate our students.

As many universities struggled with adding online classes, TROY already had the structure in place to support students and faculty in a virtual learning world. Our decades of success as an online education leader made the pivot from face-to-face learning to virtual classes an easy transition. Students were able to continue their academic journeys, while faculty placed classes that had originally been face to face online. Our edge in online learning helped us maintain our ranking among the nation’s best colleges by U.S. News and World Report.

One of the highlights of the year was the renaming of one of our historic buildings to honor the late Congressman John Lewis. John Robert Lewis Hall stands as the anchor in the quad of the campus in Troy, Alabama. “Naming this building in honor of Congressman Lewis is a great testament to the legacy of a man whose blood, sweat and tears continue to make Alabama and America a better place for all people,” said Lamar Higgins, Vice President Pro Tempore of the TROY Board of Trustees. This building will stand as a reminder of the leadership and legacy that Rep. Lewis left us all.

The 78,000-square-foot Trojan Fitness and Wellness Center was dedicated in January. This impressive building not only contributes to the well-being of our students but is also a remarkable recruiting tool. Recommended by the leadership of the Student Government Association, this $25 million building serves as the corner stone to the beautiful entrance of the Troy Campus.

The Center for Materials and Manufacturing Sciences is about to become a reality. This facility, which will house research labs and classrooms for polymer sciences, is in the design and planning stages. State and federal grants will contribute to the construction of this state-of-the-art facility.

As we continue to make improvements in our buildings and facilities, we are proud to have been named “Alabama’s Most Beautiful Campus.” The first impression is a tool that we continue use to recruit and retain our excellent students, faculty and staff.

Despite the financial impact of the pandemic, we have always strived to be conservative with our financial resources. TROY implements careful cost controls, conservative utilization of debt and a commitment to a long-range capital plan for the maintenance and replacement of our campus facilities. Our net position has grown by more than 137% over the last ten years, complemented by our 126% growth in assets, totaling more than a half a billion dollars. Troy University’s long-term audit success, stable S&P, Moody’s A1 rating and healthy reserves are a testament to the strong and effective leadership at TROY.

I am pleased to present Troy University’s 2020 Financial Report.

James M. Bookout, Ed.D., CPA, CITP
Senior Vice Chancellor Financial Affairs and Online Education
**History of Asset & Deferred Outflows Growth**

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**REVENUE BY SOURCE**

- **Tuition & Fees, Net of Scholarship Allowance**: $124,754,322
- **State Appropriations**: $61,017,918
- **Pell Grants & Other Student Aid**: $27,077,008
- **Grants & Contracts**: $23,475,368
- **Auxiliary Services**: $12,716,012
- **Sales & Services of Educational Department**: $7,212,793
- **Investment Income**: $17,333,048
- **Foundation**: $8,542,078
- **CARES (Student Direct Payment & Housing/Meal Refunds)**: $5,140,951
- **CARES/GEERF (Institutional)**: $1,321,705
- **Total**: $288,591,203

**EXPENSE BY FUNCTION**

- **Instruction**: $70,952,641
- **Institutional Support**: $30,498,998
- **Student Services**: $32,879,765
- **Student Aid, Net**: $28,270,292
- **Public Service**: $18,854,756
- **Operation & Maintenance of Plant**: $17,919,822
- **Academic Support**: $15,938,947
- **Depreciation**: $13,151,503
- **Auxiliary Services**: $8,977,518
- **Interest on Capital Asset-Related Debt**: $5,454,107
- **Other Non-operating Expense**: $1,664,568
- **Research**: $627,207
- **Total**: $245,190,124
During the pandemic, Troy University’s Board of Trustees took measures to ensure that our students wouldn’t suffer additional hardships due to an increase in tuition. TROY Trustees voted in May 2020 to freeze undergraduate and graduate tuition for the 2020-2021 school year, for the second straight year.

“On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am pleased to announce for the second straight year Troy University will not increase undergraduate or graduate tuition rates. Many of our students and their families face economic uncertainty, therefore we believe this is a prudent decision,” said Chancellor Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr. “Further, with student debt in America approaching $1.7 trillion, it is important for us to make the university experience affordable for the students we serve.”

Dr. Hawkins cited good stewardship, cost-savings in expenses and sound financial management, in addition to slightly higher state support, as reasons for being able to hold the line on tuition costs.

TROY’s Board of Trustees also set an example to the nation when they voted in August to rename the former Bibb Graves Hall in honor of the late Rep. John Lewis, the “boy from Troy” who was a champion for civil rights in the U.S.

In 1967, under the authority of Alabama Governor Lurleen B. Wallace, the Troy State College Board of Trustees was established with the appointing of eight members. Today, TROY’s Board of Trustees consists of 11 voting members who are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the state Senate to serve 12-year terms. These men and women serve without compensation and have full management over Troy University. TROY’s 2020 Board of Trustees includes:

- Her Excellency, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, President, ex-officio
- Area 1 – Forrest S. Latta
- Area 2 – Earl V. Johnson
- Area 2 – John D. Harrison
- Area 3 – Allen E. Owen, III
- Area 4 – Lamar P. Higgins – Vice President Pro Tempore
- Area 4 – C. Gibson Vance – President Pro Tempore
- Area 5 – Gerald O. Dial
- Area 6 – Karen E. Carter
- Area 7 – Roy H. Drinkard
- At large – Edward F. Crowell
- At large – C. Charles Nailen
- Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D. – Secretary
- Nicole Jayjohn – Student Member – SGA President
- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
  - C. Gibson Vance, Lamar P. Higgins, Karen E. Carter, Allen E. Owen, III
NewSouth Books has collaborated with Troy University on “Nall at TROY,” a gorgeous new book about the artist Fred Nall Hollis and his amazing array of works in the University's collection. Nall, who is an internationally trained and celebrated artist, studied under Salvador Dalí and became friends with James Baldwin. Nall's artistic sensibilities were shaped by his youth spent in Troy, Alabama, so it seems fitting and right that many of his most iconic paintings and multimedia works now hang on permanent display in the Nall Museum in the Troy University International Arts Center. “Nall at TROY” recognizes the special relationship Nall has with the University and presents many of his works in book format for the first time. The book was released in April 2021.