



FORT VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY

# ANNUAL REPORT



FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY  
Office of University Advancement & Foundation, Inc.



# Fort Valley State University University Advancement



**Karen Wright**

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Dear FVSU Alumni and Friends,**

I trust this letter finds you well and thriving. As we close the chapter on another transformative academic year, I am eager to present the milestones and triumphs of 2022-2023 in our Annual Report.

Firstly, I extend my heartfelt thanks for your steadfast support and enduring loyalty to Fort Valley State University. Your contributions, both tangible and intangible, have been instrumental in propelling us forward in our quest for academic and community excellence.

This year has been nothing short of extraordinary in the academic arena. Our esteemed faculty have not only excelled but have also created a nurturing and intellectually stimulating environment for our students. The success of our graduates, who are now making waves in diverse sectors and serving as catalysts for change in their communities, are a testament to this.

Equally noteworthy is our intensified focus on research and innovation. Our faculty and students have embarked on pioneering research initiatives that are not just pushing the envelope but are also addressing some of the world's most urgent challenges. Through interdisciplinary collaborations, we are not only advancing knowledge but also making a meaningful impact on society at large.

In closing, your unwavering commitment to our institution has been a cornerstone in these achievements. As we look forward to another year of possibilities and promise, I invite you to continue partnering with us in this exciting journey towards greater heights.

Warmest regards,

Paul Jones, Ph.D.  
President, Fort Valley State University

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# FVSU Foundation, Inc.

## Our Mission

The Fort Valley State University Foundation, Inc. was established in 1972 with the specific mandate to serve as custodian of contributions from the private sector, alumni, friends, industries, and foundations; to receive, invest and administer funds; to act as trustee; and in general, to exercise the powers of a not-for-profit organization under the laws of the State of Georgia.

The purposes for which this corporation is organized are as follows:

1. To encourage, solicit, receive, and administer gifts and bequest of property and funds for scientific, educational, and charitable purposes, all for the advancement of Fort Valley State University and its objectives and purposes and to that end to take and hold either absolutely or in trust for any of said objectives and purposes, funds and, property of all kinds, and subject only to any limitations or conditions imposed by law or the instrument under which received; to sell, lease, convey, and dispose of any such property and to invest and reinvest and proceeds and other funds, and to deal and expend the principal and income for any purposes herein authorized; to act as trustee; and, in general, to exercise any, all, and every power, including trust powers, which a corporation not for profit organized under the laws of Georgia for the foregoing purposes can be authorized to exercise.
2. To promote and support education; to provide:
  - Funds which are not provided from public sources for use in the furtherance of education and welfare of Fort Valley State University, its faculty, and students;
  - Funds to be used in attracting experienced, and outstanding instructors, educators, and scientists to such university;
  - Educational facilities, including dormitories;
  - Scholarships, and other activities subject to amendment.
3. To do and perform any acts and expend its funds in any manner which the board of directors shall determine will be beneficial to education and the university.
4. Upon specific approval of the Board of Directors or executive committee, to borrow such sums, on such terms and with such security, if any, as may be prescribed in such approval, but no trust assets may be pledged or committed in a manner that would violate the trust upon which held.
5. All of the assets and income of the foundation shall be used only for the purpose hereinabove set out, including the payment of expenses incidental thereto; and no part of its assets, income, funds, or property shall inure to the benefit of its members, directors, or officers, and no part of its activities shall be for the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the foundation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.
6. In the event of dissolution or other termination of the Foundation, title to all its assets shall vest in The Fort Valley State University or its successor, to be used exclusively for the purpose herein above set out, it being intended that no distribution or payment shall be made which will impair or destroy the tax exempt status of donations, contributions, legacies, bequests, or dues received by this Foundation, to the extent that such tax exempt status shall be allowed under any applicable laws or regulations.

# Leading with Vision, Inspiring Success

Dear Wildcats, Friends and Supporters:

It is with great pleasure that I provide you with the Fort Valley State University Foundation's 2022-2023 Annual Report of Giving. As you review this report, you will see that we have had some exciting as well as some challenging times, yet we plan to continue to encourage and support higher academic standards and special opportunities for Fort Valley State Students.

Special thanks for contributions made by friends of FVSU, along with the excellent work of the Foundation Board of Directors. As a result of these contributions and the work of the Foundation Board of Directors, I am very pleased to report that the Foundation ended the fiscal year 2022-2023 with a total of over \$3 million in assets.

Due to the extraordinary dedication of our board members, business partners, and steadfast support from our Wildcat family, we have continued to accomplish our goals despite the obstacles that are faced by FVSU and most HBCU Schools. We have far exceeded our fundraising target this past fiscal year. Thank you for your generosity this past year. We could not have done it without our devoted alumni!

Our mission continues to direct and inspire us as we advance, just as change is built upon the basis of continuity. At Fort Valley State University, it's a new season, and all of the board members are steadfast and prepared to widen our charitable reach throughout Middle Georgia, our state, and the nation. The profound and unique culture of compassion and cooperation helps us to move forward in the face of many challenges.

I am appreciative and hope that our Wildcat family will continue to show the same passion and commitment to our University and students as we make plans for the future of Fort Valley State University. Thank you once more for a fantastic year!

Sincerely,

*Lawrence Marable*

Lawrence Marable, Chairman  
Chairman of the Board



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# Gratitude & Impact

## Thank You, Supporters

Dear Valued Friends and Beloved Supporters,

Warmest greetings from the heart of Fort Valley State University (FVSU)!

As we approach the close of another remarkable fiscal year, I am thrilled to share our heartfelt gratitude and celebrate the incredible accomplishments made possible by your unwavering support. Your generosity has been the driving force behind our success, and we are immensely grateful for your positive impact on our students and our beloved university.

At FVSU's Division of University Advancement, we stand firmly committed to empowering student success and creating a transformative educational experience beyond the boundaries of tuition and fees. With your continued support, we have been able to cultivate meaningful relationships with donors, corporate partners, alumni, philanthropic organizations, and government entities, aligning their passions with our noble mission.

This year, we marked a significant milestone with the 36th Annual FVSU Scholarship Luncheon, a heartwarming event that showcases the spirit of giving and caring that thrives within our Wildcat Family. Thanks to your remarkable contributions and the university's endowment fund earnings, we proudly awarded over \$1.5 million in scholarships to deserving students. Your unwavering commitment to education has opened doors of opportunity for countless individuals, enabling them to pursue their dreams and reach for the stars.

In January 2022, Fort Valley State University received an extraordinary \$2.5 million contribution from an anonymous donor—the largest single contribution in our school's history.

his exceptional gift bolstered the FVSU Finish Line scholarship program, ensuring that no student is held back by financial barriers on their journey toward degree completion.

Your dedication and generosity are the bedrock of our university's success, setting the tone for the next year and beyond. Together, we have the power to create transformative change, empower leaders, and foster a community of growth and excellence.

As we reflect on the past year's accomplishments and look ahead with excitement, I extend my heartfelt thanks to every one of you. Your partnership with FVSU has been nothing short of inspiring, and we are deeply grateful for your unwavering belief in our mission.

We invite you to continue this incredible journey with us as we pave the way for future generations of scholars and leaders. Your continued support will undoubtedly shape the future of Fort Valley State University and the lives of those we touch.

Once again, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you for being an integral part of our Wildcat Family.

Sincerely,



**Karen Wright**

Interim Vice President of University Advancement & Executive Director of the FVSU Foundation







# Office of Advancement **POINTS OF PRIDE**

## **\$3M RAISED**

From 970 donors we raised over \$3 million dollars.

## **\$250K+**

Scholarship Luncheon – exceeded our goal of \$250,000 and filled scholarship gaps for matriculating students.

## **\$85K**

We secured a 3-year \$85,000 Capacity Grant to support efforts to build a major gifts program to support the launch of a capital campaign in 3 years.

## **\$25K**

We secured a \$25,000 gift from Chick-fil-a.

## **PARTNERSHIP**

Partnered with Amazon as an Education Partner for Career Choice Program.

## **3 NEW OUTREACH GIFTS**

Corporation and Foundation support. Our outreach resulted in a \$25k gift from Chick-Fila, \$5k annually indefinitely from Robins Financial and \$250k gift from Diageo Brands that supports student scholarship.

## **\$65K+**

Lomax-Porter Annual Golf Tournament – exceeded our goal of \$65,000 for Football scholarships.

## **MEET & GREET**

Scholar athletes enjoyed a “meet and greet” with philanthropist and NBA athlete Donovan Mitchell to discuss the sport and career opportunities.

# Honoring the Legacy of **Dr. Thomas Dortch, Jr.**

In this edition of our Alumni Spotlight, we pay tribute to the late Thomas W. Dortch Jr., a distinguished alumnus of Fort Valley State University (FVSU). Dortch's remarkable journey exemplifies the true spirit of leadership, service, and advocacy.

Hailing from Toccoa, Georgia, Thomas Dortch earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and Pre-Professional Social Work from FVSU in 1972. During his time at the university, he displayed exceptional leadership as the SGA President, leaving a lasting impact by registering 94% of students to vote.

His trajectory after FVSU was nothing short of extraordinary. Just two years later, Dortch became the associate director of the Georgia Democratic Party and eventually made history as the first African American state director for a U.S. Senator, Sam Nunn. He continued to receive recognition and accolades for his dedication to community service and advocacy throughout his career.

Dortch's commitment to improving the lives of others led him to serve as the National Chairman of 100 Black Men of America, Inc., where he played a pivotal role in mentoring and empowering African American communities.

He remained closely connected to his alma mater, serving as a past president of the FVSU National Alumni Association, Inc., from 1986 to 1990. Dortch's contributions to FVSU and the wider HBCU community brought exceptional recognition to the university.

In honor of his influential presence, the Bishop Hall Ballroom was named after him, reflecting his enduring legacy and inspiring future generations of FVSU students. Additionally, the Thomas W. Dortch Jr., Distinguished Lecture series was established to feature prominent leaders from diverse industries, keeping alive his passion for inspiring others.

Thomas W. Dortch Jr. will be remembered as an icon, trailblazer, mentor, and friend—a true servant leader whose contributions will continue to resonate within the FVSU community and beyond. His life's work embodies the values of excellence, social justice, and community impact, serving as an enduring source of inspiration for all.

# Program Highlights



## FVSU LAUNCHES NEW BACHELOR SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM

The new Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program aims to address health disparities in rural and underserved communities while alleviating Georgia's nursing shortage. Pending further accreditation, the four-year pre-licensure program offers state-of-the-art facilities including simulation rooms and nursing skills labs, and is now open for applications.



## FVSU PARTNERS WITH AMAZON FOR CAREER CHOICE PROGRAM

FVSU has partnered with Amazon to provide their hourly employees access to bachelor's and master's degree programs as part of Amazon's Career Choice program. This program offers various upskilling opportunities, including pre-paid college tuition, industry certifications, and foundational skills to empower employees to learn new skills for career success at Amazon or elsewhere. FVSU is the first university in central Georgia and one of the first HBCUs in Georgia to have this partnership with Amazon.



## GEORGIA'S LEADER IN BLACK AG GRADS AND EXCLUSIVE VET TECH PROGRAM

FVSU's College of Agriculture, Family Sciences and Technology is a state leader in two significant ways: it's Georgia's top producer of African-American graduates in agriculture and related sciences, and it hosts the state's only certified veterinary technology program. These accolades highlight FVSU's commitment to diversifying vital industries and offering unique educational opportunities.



## CDEP PROJECT TO BOOST DIVERSITY IN STEM, ESPECIALLY MATH GRADUATES

FVSU has secured a nearly \$3 million grant from the Department of Education to expand its Cooperative Developmental Energy Program (CDEP). The funding aims to increase the number of minority and female STEM graduates, with a particular focus on students from rural and underrepresented communities.

# Financials

## Fort Valley State University Foundation, Inc. and Subsidiary Consolidated Statements of Financial Position June 30

	2022	2021
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 3,236,855	\$ 4,884,971
Loan Receivables	10,000	10,000
Investments	11,877,046	11,608,616
Assets Limited As To Use	2,328,412	2,187,758
Lease Receivable	16,679,299	17,239,290
Property and Equipment, Net	1,225,823	1,264,013
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$35,357,435</b>	<b>\$37,194,648</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Due to Fort Valley State University	\$ 1,115,425	\$ 1,116,986
Accounts Payable	-	483,000
Accrued Interest	159,474	165,174
Notes Payable	94,013	183,098
Revenue Bonds Payable	16,679,300	17,239,290
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>18,048,212</b>	<b>19,187,548</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Without Donor Restrictions	4,244,278	4,620,813
With Donor Restrictions	13,064,945	13,386,287
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>17,309,223</b>	<b>18,007,100</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 35,357,435</b>	<b>\$ 37,194,648</b>

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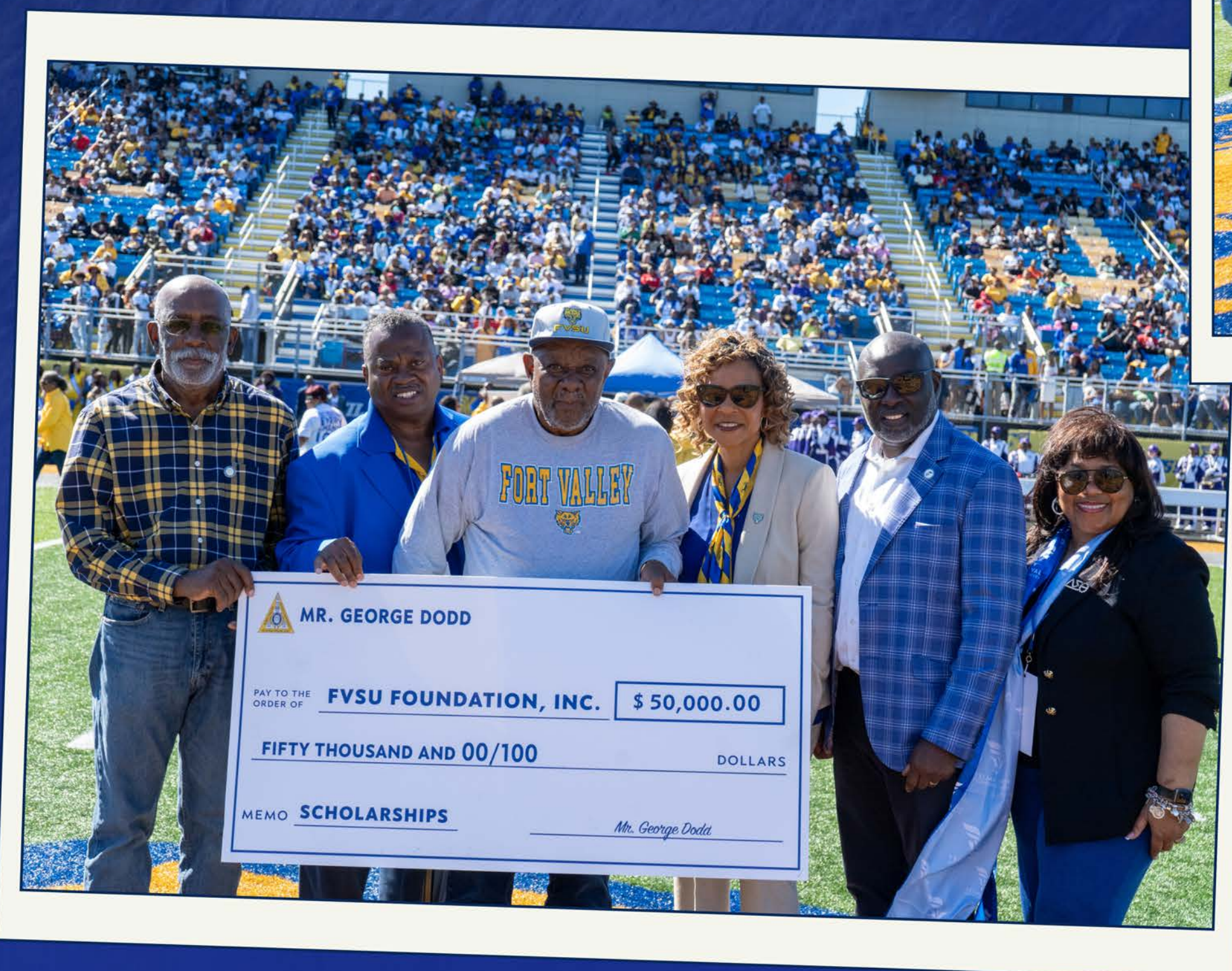
# FVSU WILDCATS A LEGACY OF SUPPORT

The annual 'Big Check' presentation at Fort Valley State University's 2022 Homecoming halftime show was more than a tradition—it was a jubilant celebration that electrified the atmosphere. As the Wildcat community, spectators, and friends cheered on, alumni and affiliated organizations took to the field to present their generous contributions. These financial gifts are not just donations; they are testaments to enduring loyalty and unwavering support. The FVSU Foundation, Inc. extends its deepest gratitude, recognizing that these contributions are the lifeblood that sustains the university's mission for excellence.





# A DYNAMIC YEAR OF ALUMNI GIVING



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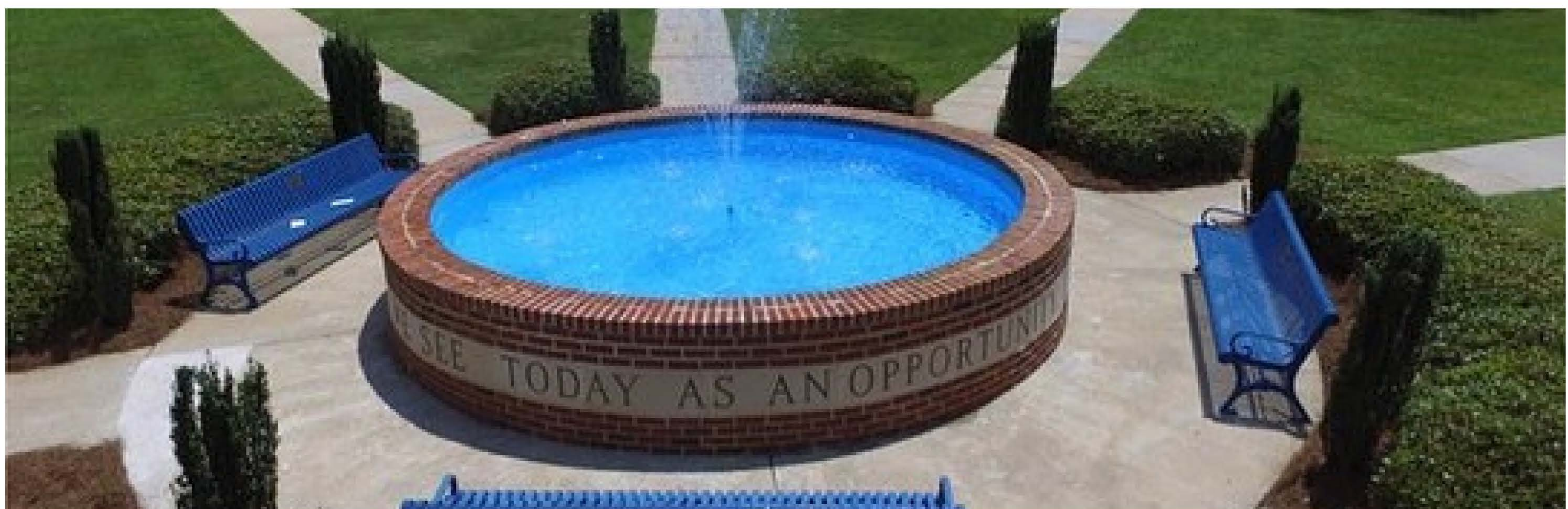
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