

Around the State: Baylor among most trusted universities

June 14, 2023

For the second year in a row, Baylor University has been named among the nation's Top 10 Most Trusted Universities, according to global research firm Morning Consult. The Most Trusted Universities report measures public trust in the top 135 doctoral research universities featured in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2022 Best National University rankings and explores how trust varies among diverse groups and different types of institutions. Baylor ranked No. 9 and is the only Texas school among the Top 10 Most Trusted Universities. "Trust is hard to earn and perhaps even harder to keep. So, for Baylor University to be recognized again as one of the Top 10 Most Trusted Universities in the country is a continuing testament to our dedicated faculty and staff who live and support Baylor's Christian mission every day, as well as the entire Baylor Family who serve as our brand ambassadors across the country," President **Linda A. Livingstone** said. The survey was conducted April 3-9 among a representative sample of 11,010 U.S. adults, with an unweighted margin of error of plus or minus 1 percent.

Houston Christian University—formerly Houston Baptist University—named **Lesli Fridge** as dean of its College of Education and Behavioral Science. Fridge joined the HCU faculty in 2015 after a 30-year career as a schoolteacher, counselor, assistant principal, principal and a district human resources administrator in public school districts. The past two academic years, she was associate dean for academic operations in the College of Education and Behavioral Science, and she served as interim dean since January.



President **Robert Sloan** described Fridge as “a consummate professional who is experienced in the world of public and private education.” She earned degrees in secondary education and counseling from Nicholls State University and received her Ed.D. degree in executive education leadership from the University of Houston.

A \$1.5 million gift from the family of **Louise Herrington Ornelas** to Baylor University will establish the first endowed chair position in the history of the Louise Herrington School of Nursing. The Louise Herrington Endowed Chair in Mental Health will support research and teaching within the nursing school, with a special focus on the areas of mental and behavioral health research, including the need for more mental health professionals. “We are grateful to Ms. Lou’s family for this generous gift to support mental health research and instruction at Baylor’s Louise Herrington School of Nursing,” Baylor President Linda A. Livingstone said. “Their gift honors a wonderful family legacy of support and transformational investment in the mission of our School of Nursing, and it is humbling to see how they have honored that legacy through the naming of this chair.”

Anniversary

125th for First Baptist Church of Olney. **Chad A. Edgington** is pastor.