



LSU SYSTEM

www.lsusystem.lsu.edu

Volume 6 No.4 July 10, 2006

Newsletter

LSU, VA medical complex announced

LSU and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in June announced the construction of a \$1.2 billion dollar joint medical center in downtown New Orleans.

The announcement followed a four-month study of whether the combined medical center would be feasible and cost-effective.

Under the plan, LSU's side of the facility would cost approximately \$630 million in state funds with the VA putting up the other half. The two hospitals would encompass a pair of medical towers---one operated by LSU, the other by the VA---and joined by a linking corridor with services such as radiology, rehabilitation and laboratories, used by both.

By sharing services, LSU and VA representatives estimate the two entities will save about \$400 million in operating costs over a 30-year span.

In making the announcement LSU Board of Supervisors Chairman Rod West stressed that LSU's mission of caring for the poor would still be the prime focus of the new complex. Rebuilding from the ground up would give the city a chance to have a world-class health care system without the ills that plagued the old Charity Hospital before



LSU Board of Supervisors Chairman Rod West addresses a news conference in New Orleans, announcing details of the planned LSU/VA Medical Center.

Lynch, a VA health care network regional director, told a news conference across the street from the proposed hospital site. In the meantime, he pointed out, LSU and the VA will slowly reopen other types of medical services in the city, such as clinics and leased beds in private hospitals, creating a partial safety net for the uninsured. University Hospital, which was also heavily damaged by the hurricane, is expected to reopen by the end of the year, providing as many as 200 trauma beds.

If everything goes as planned, the new LSU/VA Medical Center could be opened by the middle of 2011.



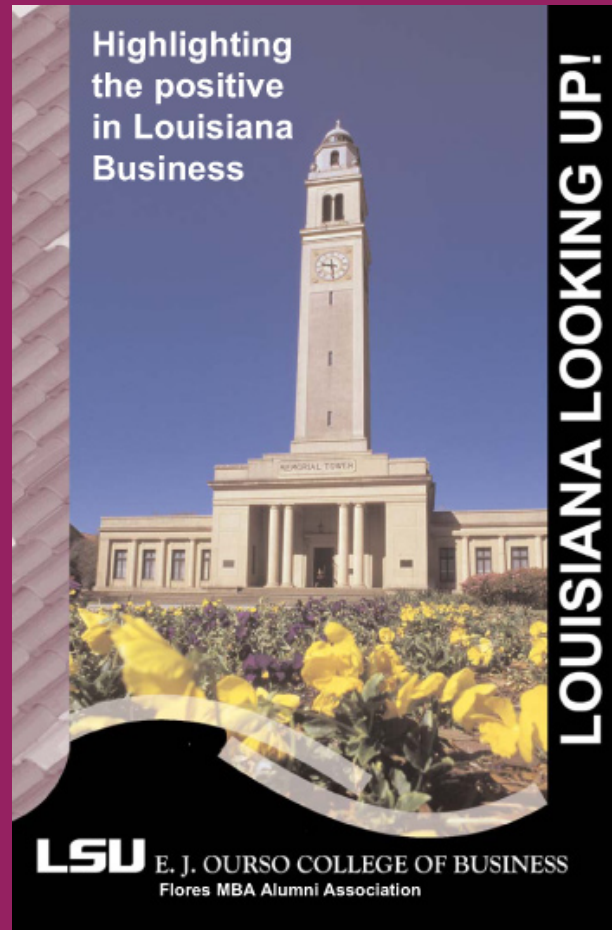
Dr. Robert Lynch, regional director for the VA health care network, discusses plans for a proposed \$1.2 billion LSU/VA Medical Center in downtown New Orleans flanked by Don Smithburg, left, executive vice president of the LSU Health Care Service Division.

Katrina struck. "We know we're not just rebuilding the bricks and mortar of the old system, but modernizing the delivery system of our health care as well," said West.

"We need this facility in a very real way," Dr. Bob

Inside This Issue

2 Louisiana Looking Up! | 3 LSU System to Award Grants to Ph.D. Students | 4 LSUA acquires Museum • Woodin honored | 5 UNO receives thousands in grants & donations | 6 UNO Alumnus wins Regional Emmy Awards • LSU sprint sensation honored | 6 LSU AgCenter stages a series of research field days • Hundreds Attend 4-H University | 8 Teams capture various honors at the 2006 SIFE USA National Expo | 9 Focus > National Flagship Agenda • Business Set "sites" | 10 FOREVER LSU | 13 ExxonMobil Workers Donate \$1.18 Million to LSU • Grant to Study Hurricanes' Psychological Impact on Youth | 14 LSU Spices Up | 15 Fellowship awarded to LSU Architecture Student • LSU Press Director joins AAUP board • Smithsonian to showcase LSU professor's research | 15 MATH+ART | 16 LSUHSC-Shreveport News • LSU Hospitals Receive National Award | 17 LSUHSC-New Orleans News | 18 Pennington Biomedical Research Center HIGHLIGHTS • Soaring to New Heights | 19 LSU Law Center Awards • Miss Louisiana | 20 LSUE professor receives fellowship • LSUE takes national honors • LSUE Nursing director appointed • Nursing grads | 21 New division head at LSUE • Major gifts enhance Honors Program



Public is Invited to Attend



**Roderick K. West, Chair
LSU Board of Supervisors**

Business recovery effort will be the focus of this year's "Louisiana Looking Up" program at the Shaw Center.

LSU Board of Supervisors Chairman Rod West will be the keynote speaker for the seminar, which is scheduled for August 10.

The seminar will feature two panel discussions. The first panel, "The Culture Industry – Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler," will be moderated by Angele Davis, secretary of the Louisiana Department of Culture, Tourism and Recreation, and will feature New Orleans

restaurateur Dickie Brennan; Louisiana Travel and Promotion Association Director Hyatt Hood; Linda Thurman and Marquetta Cheeks of Emerald Bayou Studios; and Mignon Faget, president of Mignon Faget Jewelers, as panelists.

The second panel of the day will be "Bricks and Mortar – A Firm Foundation," moderated by Loren Scott, LSU E. J. Ourso College of Business professor emeritus of economics and president of Loren C. Scott and Associates. Panelists include Tim Barfield, president and chief operating officer of The Shaw Group; Stephen Toups, vice president of Turner Industries; Mike Matlock, Reliability and Maintenance Leader for Dow Chemical; and Boysie Bollinger, CEO of Bollinger Shipyards.

More information is available on the web <http://www.bus.lsu.edu/alumni/mba/LA-LookingUp/LALookingUP2006/LLU2006.asp>

LSU SYSTEM TO AWARD CASH GRANTS TO Ph.D. STUDENTS



The Louisiana State University System and the Louisiana Board of Regents announced cash grants, totaling \$75,000 to doctoral students at LSU campuses impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

"Our Ph.D. students represent our best and brightest in Louisiana," said Dr. William L. Jenkins, LSU System President. "Providing additional financial support to students who suffered losses in these storms will go a long way toward helping our doctoral students remain in Louisiana to complete their studies."

Doctoral students at the University of New Orleans (UNO) and the LSU Health Sciences Center at New Orleans (LSUHSC-NO) can seek up to \$2,000 each to help pay for attending national academic conferences, research trips, or other activities deemed significant by their institutions. Money for the grants, which are limited to UNO and LSUHSC doctoral students, comes from \$25,000 awarded to LSU System by the Board of Regents Support Fund.

On top of the Regents-subsidized fund, however, the LSU System President's Hurricane Relief Fund will add an additional \$50,000 to provide incentives for doctoral students at any LSU System campus if their permanent residences were damaged, or, if they were enrolled at an LSU System institution in a severely-impacted area or another adversely-affected institution and transferred to an LSU program. Students will be eligible to receive awards of \$1,000.

"Many of our doctoral students were significantly impacted by the 2005 hurricanes," said Dr. Teresa Summers, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs for the LSU System. "Some lost their research data, equipment, and the labs in which they worked. Others lost their personal computers, books, or even their homes. We hope these cash incentives will encourage and support these students to continue their studies and successfully complete their doctoral degrees."

Money for the System President's Relief Fund was collected from generous donations made by contributors throughout the United States, following last year's devastating storms. Allocation of incentives begins August 1 and will vary according to need.

Under guidelines set up by the LSU System and posted to the LSU System website (<<http://www.lsusystem.lsu.edu/newsandupdates.html>>), students will be required to submit a one-page proposal, detailing how they plan to use the one-time payments to benefit their individual programs of study. In addition, Ph.D. students also will be required to submit a follow-up report to their Graduate Deans on how the funds were spent. Documentation of enrollment, such as academic transcripts and fee bills, must be attached to applications.

The LSU System Awards Review Committee, chaired by Dr. Joseph Moerschbaecher of the LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans, will select recipients. The committee includes representatives from all LSU System campuses offering doctoral degrees.

"Retention of talented students at all levels is a serious concern for institutions in hurricane-affected areas," said Louisiana Commissioner of Higher Education E. Joseph Savoie. "The threat that competitive students may be lured away with stronger offers from out-of-state institutions has proven significant. This incentive program will furnish resources necessary to address problems of retention while supporting ongoing efforts to reestablish and rebuild education and research programs."

LSUA Foundation acquires museum

The LSUA Foundation has taken control of the Alexandria Museum of Art. The university marked the acquisition June 22 with a ribbon-cutting attended by about 150 people.

In May, the museum's board of directors donated the museum to the LSUA Foundation, which in turn is leasing it to the university for \$1.

The museum, which will cost the university about \$300,000 a year to operate, will remain an art museum as well as a classroom, said Robert Cavanaugh, LSUA chancellor. The museum also scheduled to be the site of concerts and other special events.

"LSUA will be using (the museum) to have classes and to attract more people," Cavanaugh said. "The museum is located near the bus station, and people can get back and forth from class to work." Cavanaugh foresees more classes in a wide range of subjects offered at the facility

Before cutting the ribbon to introduce the museum as a part of LSUA, Cavanaugh thanked faculty and staff for helping the university and the foundation for making the acquisition a success.

"Since becoming a four-year institution, enrollment has increased to 3,001 students, 106 faculty members, and the budget this year is \$15.5 million," Cavanaugh said. "The addition of the museum will help LSUA's advancement and the school is involved with the museum, because a museum is educational."



Picture left: Louisiana State University at Alexandria Chancellor Robert Cavanaugh (left) chats with Alice Gill (center) and Eloise Andries during the LSU-Alexandria Alumni and Friends spring-summer social Thursday June 22 at the Alexandria Museum of Art. Picture right: Main entrance of the museum from <http://www.themuseum.org/>

Cotton, Woodin honored by Alexandria mayor

Alexandria Mayor Ned Randolph proclaimed June in honor of William Cotton Sr. and Dr. Martin Woodin, two instrumental in the growth of LSU at Alexandria. Both died earlier this year.

Dr. Woodin served as the university's first dean, now chancellor, from 1960-62, greatly impacting the university's progression and success and benefiting Central Louisiana. During his tenure as an LSU System administrator, several higher education facilities were established in Louisiana, increasing the access to higher education for the residents of Louisiana.

Cotton was instrumental in founding LSU Alexandria, diligently and successfully working with the governor and state Legislature to construct a higher education institution in Alexandria. In addition, his ongoing support greatly impacted LSUA's future development.

"The collective support of Mr. Cotton Sr. and Dr. Woodin immensely aided in LSU at Alexandria's successful endeavor to advance to the status of a four-year baccalaureate-degree granting institution, thus further enhancing Central Louisiana," Randolph's proclamation states, adding "The student body at LSU at Alexandria as well as the citizenry of Central Louisiana continues to benefit from the unselfish and tireless efforts of Mr. Cotton Sr. and Dr. Woodin to ensure that maximum academic initiatives, opportunities and programs exist for the attainment of scholarly achievement."

University of New Orleans receives \$900,000 Board of Regents grant

The University of New Orleans College of Education and Human Development has been awarded a \$900,000 competitive grant by the Louisiana Board of Regents to help improve elementary and high school student achievement through education partnerships with underperforming schools.

The K-16 Partnerships for School Reform program was judged by a panel of independent, external evaluators to have the strongest potential for improving student and school performance, said Jim Meza Jr., dean of the UNO College of Education and Human Development and the project's principal investigator. The goal of the K-16 Partnerships for School Reform is to provide quality education for students from kindergarten through the college or university level.

The UNO College of Education will launch four initiatives with the grant money to help schools:

- Build family bonds and community partnerships;
- Use innovative methods to address school improvements;
- Strengthen leadership;
- Implement a school-wide positive behavior support model to increase positive student behavior and academic participation.

"This program responds to the immediate need to establish and re-open effective public schools in the City of New Orleans in the wake of Hurricane Katrina," Meza said.



UNO Library receives thousands of science, technology and medicine eBooks

The University of New Orleans Earl K. Long Library received a donation on June 26 of more than 10,000 eBooks on science, technology and medicine from Springer Science+Business Media.

UNO, along with Dillard University, LSU Health Sciences Center, Loyola University, Southern University New Orleans, Tulane University and Xavier University, each received perpetual access to the Springer eBooks. The gift presentation, valued at more than \$100,000 for each of the universities, was made at the American Library Association conference at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

UNO will have access to the books in both PDF and HTML formats. The eBook content has been integrated with Springer's thousands of peer-reviewed journal articles accessible via the SpringerLink Web site at www.springerlink.com.

"As the university continues to struggle with recovery efforts after the hurricane, and we deal with loss of collections, staff, facilities and financial resources, we are overwhelmed and inspired by Springer's incredibly generous gift," said Sharon Mader, dean of library services for the University of New Orleans. "Having access to the new eBook collection will provide in-depth content for student and faculty research that we would not be able to provide otherwise."

"As these universities continue to recover from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, Springer wanted to give them a helping hand by enriching the great library resources that these universities already offer," said Peter Hendriks, President Global Sales and Marketing, Springer. "While no amount of donations can compensate the people of this region for their loss, we hope that our donation to New Orleans' academic centers will contribute to a swift and complete resumption of research activities in the city."



Peter Hendriks, President Global Sales and Marketing, Springer and Sharon Mader, dean of library services for the University of New Orleans. UNO Library received perpetual access to the Springer eBooks as a gift.

UNO Alumnus Sultan Mirza Wins Two Regional Emmy Awards



University of New Orleans Alumnus Sultan Mirza garnered two National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Regional Emmy Awards at the annual awards ceremony held June 10 at the Ritz-Carlton in Washington, D.C.

Mirza, 27, who earned a master's degree in communications from UNO in 2000, received the coveted statues for the work he did as a promotion producer for ABC-7 in Washington, D.C. He was recognized for his work in promoting a series of stories on professional and college sports titled "Are You Ready?" and for a promotional vignette for a feature on the growing problem of young adults facing mounting debt.

"I'm so proud of having come out of that school," Mirza said of his experiences at UNO. "It was wonderful. There were a lot of resources available to give us real-life experiences."

Mirza, who recently began working for the CBS-af-

filiate KPIX-TV in San Francisco, was a producer at WWL-TV and ABC26 in New Orleans before moving to Washington, D.C.

Mirza traveled to New Orleans with an ABC crew from Washington, D.C. shortly after Hurricane Katrina struck the area and was devastated by what had happened to the town he once called home. Upon receiving the Regional Emmy Awards, he reminded the journalists in the audience to "keep Louisiana's story alive and to never forget the crucial role of a great American city such as the Big Easy and the need to keep national attention on the hurricane-battered region."

Pictured top: (Accepting Regional Emmys) UNO Alumnus Sultan Mirza, left, is pictured with ABC-7 commercial producer Jon Sullivan at the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Regional Emmy Awards ceremony on June 10 in Washington, D.C. Mirza won two Regional Emmy Awards.

Pictured right: (At WWL) UNO Alumnus Sultan Mirza worked at WWL-TV and ABC-26 in New Orleans before moving onto ABC-7 in Washington, D.C. where he won two Regional Emmy Awards.



LSU sprint sensation Xavier Carter was honored by the state legislature in June with a resolution acknowledging his accomplishments at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships.

The Palm Bay, Fla., native became the first athlete since Jesse Owens in 1936 to win four titles at one NCAA Championships, claiming top honors in the 100 meters, 400 meters and 4x100 and 4x400-meter relays.

Carter was first recognized in the House by state representative Michael L. Jackson for becoming just the first athlete in the 85-year history of the NCAA Championships to win both the 100 and 400 meters at the national meet, securing a personal best and school record in the 100 meters (10.09) and another personal best and NCAA-leading time in the 400 meters (44.53).

"I would like to thank the city of Baton Rouge and the state of Louisiana for recognizing my accomplishments," said Carter following the reading of the resolution.



LSU sprint sensation Xavier Carter

The LSU AgCenter staged a series of research field days in June

Rice marketing expert Milo Hamilton was the featured speaker at the AgCenter's Rice Research Station June 29. Hamilton, president and co-founder of Firstgrain Inc., has traveled and lectured widely in Asia, and he has published several articles on commodity trading and hedging. Hamilton told rice farmers that there is reason for optimism in the rice industry despite the fact that the rice market may be facing a shortfall because of increasing world prices and major cuts in the U.S. domestic farm program.

Earlier in the month, nearly 200 farmers and other agricultural industry representatives were on hand Wednesday (June 14) for the annual field at the AgCenter's Northeast Research Station at St. Joseph. The half-day program featured stops at 10 field locations where LSU AgCenter scientists explained their research with row crops and how it can help Louisiana farmers. Among topics generating interest at the gathering were concerns that weeds are becoming resistant to glyphosate, a popular nonselective herbicide that can kill any plant it contacts.

In Hammond June 29, the AgCenter's Hammond Research Station staged a Landscape Horticulture Field Day aimed at landscape contracting and maintenance professionals. Among the topics covered were fertilizer effects on herbaceous perennials, herbicides for nutsedge control in landscape beds, details on a vinca disease study, fungicides for daylily rust control and cultivar trials of caladiums and other perennials and annuals. Also on display were exhibits of grounds maintenance equipment, including various types of spreaders, lawn sprayers, landscape bed shapers, hover mowers and quick hitches for compact tractors.



Roy Vidrine, professor at the LSU AgCenter's Dean Lee Research Station near Alexandria, addresses a group during the AgCenter's Northeast Research Station field day Wednesday (June 15) at St. Joseph. Vidrine told field day participants about work the AgCenter is doing related to weeds showing resistance to various herbicides.

Hundreds Attend 4-H University



Calcasieu Parish 4-H'ers cheer for one of their own at the final assembly of 4-H University when contest results and winners were announced.



This Jefferson Davis Parish 4-H'er and others from the parish celebrate victory as contest winners were announced during the final night of 4-H University.



Vermilion Parish 4-H'ers and leaders anticipate a win as contest results were announced during the final assembly of 4-H University in Baton Rouge.

Hundreds of young people from across Louisiana attended the annual 4-H University on the LSU campus in Baton Rouge at the end of June. "4-H gives students a chance to learn and to make a difference in their schools and communities, and by having 4-H University here at LSU, it exposes them to an environment that many are experiencing for the first time in a very positive way," said Dr. Paul Coreil, AgCenter vice chancellor for extension.

Students from 63 parishes competed in a variety of contests and educational programs during the event. "4-H University provides an opportunity for students to experience college life here on the campus of LSU," said Terril Faul, head of the LSU AgCenter's 4-H Youth Development program. In fact, the theme for this year's event was "Living the College Life." The events, which included 44 contests, six learning tracks, 18 educational programs and a variety of other activities, attracted more than 3,500 youngsters, parents and volunteers, marking the 92nd consecutive time 4-H members met in Baton Rouge to compete, learn and participate in a variety of activities.

Formerly known as 4-H Short Course, what's come to be known as 4-H U this year attracted youngsters from every parish in the state except Orleans because the 4-H program there has yet to be reorganized since last summer's devastating hurricanes. Among the features in this year's program was an appearance at the Pete Maravich Assembly Center by U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Russell Honore, who is credited with organizing successful relief efforts in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina.

Honore, a Pointe Coupee Parish native and was a 4-H participant for eight years, credits 4-H with helping him learn how to make good choices in his life.

Two different LSU student teams from sister institutions capture national honors



Members of the victorious LSUE SIFE team celebrated their fourth national SIFE championship.

LSUE received a \$2,000 award for placing second in the Campbell's/Sealed Air Business Ethics Competition, recognizing effectiveness in outreach programs to teach ethical business practices.

Cindy Darbonne, professor of office information systems, was presented the Jack Kahl Entrepreneurial Leadership Award as the Sam M. Walton Free Enterprise Fellow of the Year. Two recipients are chosen nationally each year to honor SIFE faculty sponsors who have done the most to advance the entire SIFE organization during the current academic year and who have made outstanding contributions to the SIFE team on their campuses, including helping students with career placement.

Members of the LSUE team in Kansas City were Geri Klumpp, Jennings; Koa Guidry, Gueydan; Connie Gordon, Kinder; Jamie Tate, Carencro; Melody Butler and Alyssa Derosier, Eunice; Donald Pickney, Opelousas; and Sheila Hebert, Egan.

Kansas City, Mo.— The LSU at Eunice Students In Free Enterprise team has captured the two-year college Radio Shack SIFE USA National Championship.

The LSUE team was judged first in the nation at the 2006 SIFE USA National Exposition, hosted by the Kansas City, Mo., business community May 21-23.

This is the fourth time the LSUE team has won the national championship since the team was established at LSUE in 1998. LSUE has been first runner-up three times and has won eight regional championships.

In addition to being presented a traveling championship trophy, LSUE will receive national publicity courtesy of the Kellogg Co. This fall, boxes of Corn Flakes cereals will include a photo of the LSUE team and of the winning 4-year college team from Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa.

The specially produced boxes will be marketed exclusively through Wal-Mart Stores Inc. This is the third year that the LSUE team will be featured on Kellogg boxes.

As the national champion, LSUE also received a cash award of \$4,000.

In addition to the overall championship, the LSUE team earned a \$3,000 award for placing first in HSBC Financial Literacy Competition. The award is given to the team that has been most effective in teaching financial literacy skills through outreach programs in their communities.



SIFE team from LSU's E.J. Ourso College of Business Richard Stahl, SIFE Advisor, Keith Richard, Danielle Bush, Robert Davis, Meagan Campbell, John Ross Belsome, Cherie Rankin, Kathryn Martin.

The Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) team from LSU's E. J. Ourso College of Business was named national champion in the SIFE USA Campbell's/Sealed Air Business Ethics Competition, held at the 2006 SIFE USA National Expo in Kansas City, Missouri, May 21-23. The team received \$3,000 for being named a national champion in a special competition.

The ethics project that LSU SIFE conducted is called Ethics Across Borders, in which students produced a video addressing how a lack of ethics affects job performance. The video was used in conjunction with a teaching unit on business ethics and was shot in multiple languages to reach an international audience.

"The LSU SIFE team was able to teach young kids, not only in the Baton Rouge area but also in countries such as Germany and Argentina, some of the necessary skills and characteristics needed to work in today's society, which they were all more than willing to learn about," said Heather Caro, LSU SIFE team president and political science senior.



McCoy Named LSU Vice Provost for Enrollment Management

James McCoy, former associate vice president for enrollment management at Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, has been named the vice provost for enrollment management at LSU.

He will serve as the senior management and enrollment strategist responsible for a critical component of the university's Flagship Agenda -- attracting and retaining the nation's top students. The newly created position of vice provost for enrollment management represents an ongoing effort at LSU to elevate the concept, planning and coordination of recruiting, admissions, student aid and scholarships, and enrollment data systems and analysis.

"James McCoy comes to LSU with outstanding credentials in higher education administration," said LSU Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Risa Palm. "We are most pleased to have him join the ranks at LSU. He will help us achieve the goals of the Flagship Agenda by recruiting and admitting the best and brightest students in Louisiana and beyond."

McCoy has extensive experience developing strategic enrollment and successful admission planning for three institutions of higher education. His previous experience includes serving as the associate vice president of enrollment services and the assistant vice president and director of admission for Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He also served on the President's Administrative Council and the Provost Council at Xavier University. McCoy served as the director of the Division of Marketing and Recruitment/ Undergraduate Admission at Pennsylvania State University, and, while there, was also an assistant professor of agriculture and extension education. He also founded and was the principal faculty member for Annapolis Education Institute and the National Council for Enrollment Planning and Policy.

McCoy received his bachelor of science degree in animal science from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1973. He received his master of science and his doctorate, both in agricultural education, from Pennsylvania State University in 1981 and 1983, respectively. McCoy has written or co-written more than a dozen various publications.

Ourso College of Business sets "sites" on a new home

Efforts to build a new \$60 million College of Business building kicked off in June. The building committee of the Dean's Advisory Council at LSU's E. J. Ourso College of Business erected a sign June 14 at the proposed site for the new building, marking the launch of a fundraising drive for what is considered to be the lead project of the Forever LSU campaign.

"The College of Business Building is the cornerstone project of the campus infrastructure or new building category. As such, it is the first and one of the more important projects in the university's capital campaign," said Michael Ruffner, LSU vice chancellor of communications and university relations.

LSU plans to raise half of the building costs and is hopeful the state of Louisiana will match the other half. "The new College of Business Building is going to benefit the entire state of Louisiana, as well as the LSU community," said Robert T. Sumichrast, dean of the E. J. Ourso College of Business. "The new building will allow LSU to compete with well-respected institutions on the national stage and open up new opportunities for education and economic development. The E. J. Ourso College has achieved great things already. The new building is the next step in fulfilling our potential."

LSU is the only university of its kind without a business school housed in a freestanding facility. Currently, the E. J. Ourso College occupies 20 percent of the CEBA building, while the College of Engineering is housed in the rest.



Pictured from left to right: William "Billy" Rucks; John C. Hamilton; Michael Ruffner, LSU Vice Chancellor; Karen A. Deville, Director of Advancement; James E. Maurin; William S. Slaughter; Robert T. Sumichrast, Dean of the E. J. Ourso College of Business; Roger H. Ogden; G. Lee Griffin; Richard M. Sturlese; William G. "Bill" Bowdon, President and CEO of the LSU Foundation; William R. Lane, Chair of the Department of Finance; Sean O'Keefe, LSU Chancellor. Not shown: Carol Calkins and Rick Wolfert.

FOREVER LSU



Overlooking Columbus Circle from New York City's Jazz at Lincoln Center, LSU Chancellor Sean O'Keefe announces the Forever LSU campaign goal of \$750 million by 2010, LSU's 150th anniversary.

Louisiana State University launches "Forever LSU" campaign

Louisiana State University Chancellor Sean O'Keefe in June launched the "Forever LSU: The Campaign for Louisiana State University," the largest, most ambitious fundraising effort in the university's history, with a reception for alumni and friends at

Lincoln Center in New York. Louisiana State University launches "Forever LSU" campaign

O'Keefe said the university's goal is to raise the LSU endowment to \$750 million by 2010, the 150th anniversary of LSU. Named after the last line of the university's Alma Mater, the campaign is an adjunct part of LSU's National Flagship Agenda, a 7-year plan to position LSU as one of the leading public institutions in the United States.

"Working with one of the lowest endowments of a public flagship institution, LSU has excelled across the board despite its limited resources and has remained competitive with its peers," O'Keefe said. "Public support assures that LSU is a good university; private funds will guarantee that it is a great university."

Coordinated by three LSU foundations – the LSU Foundation, Tiger Athletic Foundation and the LSU Alumni Association – the campaign involves LSU's main campus, the LSU AgCenter and the LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center. Monies raised will be dedicated to LSU's endowment, a permanent investment fund, which will finance the university's flagship goals of attracting and retaining the best faculty, students and staff and improving campus infrastructure and research.

The campaign's contributions will fund four areas of LSU, known as the campaign pillars, which encompass student support, faculty support, university-wide support and campus infrastructure. Through an increased endowment, students will see a number of additional merit-based and need-based scholarships, as well as graduate fellowships. These opportunities will attract and retain the most talented students. LSU will have dedicated funds for increasing the number of endowed chairs and professorships for its faculty. This funding will attract and retain dynamic professors and researchers.

To support university-wide efforts, funding will also enhance existing programs at undergraduate and graduate levels, as well as initiate and support new academic opportunities. Funding will provide new equipment and technology and the construction of new laboratory and research space. Other vital infrastructure improvements will be made to ensure that LSU is poised and ready to serve the students of tomorrow. New facilities and renovations will expand LSU's many programs as well.

FOREVER LSU

In addition to the event in New York, the weeklong "Forever LSU" tour included stops in Washington, D.C. and Houston before culminating with a celebration in Baton Rouge.

Dr. William L. Jenkins
LSU System President



President Jenkins, James Carville, Chancellor O'Keefe





On June 9, ExxonMobil presented LSU with a donation as part of the company's Educational Matching Gift Program. Pictured from left to right are Sean O'Keefe, LSU chancellor; Donald Daigle, vice president of Exxon Engineering; William Jenkins, LSU System president; and retired U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. William Bowdon, president and CEO of the LSU Foundation.

ExxonMobil Workers Donate \$1.18 Million to LSU

ExxonMobil employees and retirees have again demonstrated their generosity and commitment to higher education with another large donation to LSU's academic programs.

The ExxonMobil Foundation presented a check to LSU for \$890,853, which comprises ExxonMobil's three-to-one match on funds collected during their 2005 Educational Matching Gift Program.

For the fourth year in a row, LSU was among the top two universities nationwide in receiving gifts from the Educational Matching Gift Program.

The total \$1.18 million gift to LSU is comprised of \$298,825 collected from ExxonMobil employees and retirees matched on a three-to-one basis at \$890,853 from ExxonMobil Corporation. In all, 304 individual gifts were made to LSU in 2005.

"What's truly inspiring about a gift like this is that it's a partnership between individuals and one of the great corporations of the world," said retired U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. William Bowdon, president and CEO of the LSU Foundation. "Together, the employees of ExxonMobil and their corporation give to LSU consistently every year reflecting a shared attitude of support for higher education and a strong belief in the quality of our work here at LSU. The LSU Foundation is grateful to have the support of ExxonMobil, and we thank their employees and retirees for being the catalyst that makes this gift possible."

Under the ExxonMobil 2005 Educational Matching Gift Program, a donor could give up to \$7,500 a year to colleges or universities, which would then be matched on a three-to-one basis up to \$22,500. Many donors in 2005 gave in excess of the \$7,500 matching limit. Participants in the program also included surviving spouses of former employees and company directors.

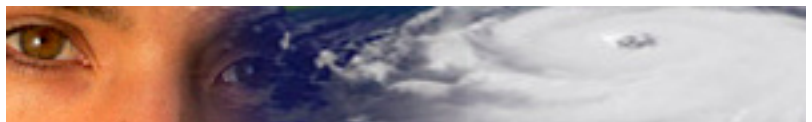
LSU Psychology Professor Awarded Grant to Study Hurricanes' Psychological Impact on Youth

LSU Psychology Professor Mary Lou Kelley has been awarded a \$378,000 grant from the National Institutes of Mental Health to study the psychological impact of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita on Louisiana youth.

More than 500,000 homes were damaged or destroyed last year by the storms. As a result, thousands of families were displaced.

Little is known about the effects of such a disaster on the behavior, psychological adjustment and educational progress of children. Kelley's research will focus on these issues by comparing the characteristics of children displaced by the storms with those of similar children who were not displaced.

Goals of the research include identifying not only the negative psychological consequences of the disaster, but also factors that reduce those harmful effects.



LSU Spices Up Supercomputing Power

LSU A&M is massively upgrading the university's high-performance computing power this summer with the addition of a new supercomputer called Tezpur, named after an Indian chile considered to be one of the world's hottest peppers.

LSU Chief Information Officer Brian Voss predicted that acquisition of the computer, which will be one of the most powerful supercomputers owned by any university in the United States and one of the top 50 most powerful supercomputers in the world, will boost LSU's standing among top-tier research institutions.

With more than 15 teraflops of capacity, Tezpur will outperform LSU's SuperMike, and provide nearly three times SuperMike's computational speed. A teraflop is a measure of a computer's speed and can be expressed as a trillion floating point operations per second. In other words, Tezpur will run at up to 15 trillion floating point calculations per second.

"In today's world, researchers need these tools to be successful in getting grants, and in delivering world-changing discoveries in all disciplines," said Dr. Harold Silverman, LSU interim vice chancellor for research. "Having this kind of computational and storage capacity here, coupled with the presence of some of the best minds, will enable those minds to advance the frontiers of science in chemistry, engineering, coastal and environmental studies, and many, many other disciplines that will have a chance to make use of this new capacity."

Acquisition of Tezpur, which is a Linux Intel Cluster built on Dell technologies, marks the first time, individual LSU researchers agreed to invest research funding in a centralized, high-performance computing renovation. All key partners – Center for Computation and Technology, or CCT; Information Technology Services, or ITS; and individual researchers – banded together to advance a centrally-maintained facility available to all but focused service to individual users.

LSU is also expanding its groundbreaking Pelican parallel supercomputing cluster with hardware from IBM and Intel, adding 28.8

terabytes of new disk storage, and creating a so-called CONDOR flock, a mechanism that makes use of unused computing time on public access computers.

"This massive influx of resources will not only provide for a quantum leap forward in the enablement of existing research at LSU, but also will provide the capacities needed to expand the use of these tools into new areas," said CCT Director Edward Seidel.

Tezpur, Seidel added, will dramatically increase the ability of LSU researchers to study coastal erosion and storm surges as well as scientific mysteries surrounding Black Holes and Supernovae.

"The cooperation and collaboration of faculty, CCT and Information Technology Services is a model for the way in which a university should serve the needs of its computational community. This approach bodes well for the future of information technology at LSU," said Randall Hall, professor of chemistry and a contributing researcher.

The new supercomputers should be installed and available to researchers at LSU by the end of summer. Seidel and Voss noted that they expect to continue to look for ways to collaboratively expand the resources available at LSU, to satisfy the needs of researchers; open new territories for the use of these advanced tools in non-traditional disciplines like art, music and humanities; and prepare the way to give students access so that faculty can use these tools in teaching the most advanced methods available.

"LSU steps further onto the forefront of the national stage, solidifying its place as a real supercomputing power," said LSU Chancellor Sean O'Keefe in commenting on the acquisition of Tezpur. "The presence of this kind of resource sets LSU into the rarest of company when it comes to the enablement of research and teaching using the latest and most powerful tools information technology has to offer. These are the kinds of resources available only at top, flagship-level research institutions and LSU has them."



Sheri J. Thompson, Coordinator, Chief Information Officer next to SuperMike.



LSU Architecture Student Receives the AIA Louisiana Traveling Fellowship

LSU architecture student Kate Johnston is the recipient of the 2006 American Institute of Architects, or AIA, Louisiana Traveling Fellowship.

The AIA Louisiana Traveling Fellowship was established to assist students in broadening their university education to include travel studies. The competition was open to registered undergraduates majoring in architecture and participating in their third or fourth year of studies at LSU, Louisiana Tech University, Southern University, Tulane University or the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Johnston, who is currently using the fellowship to travel in Europe, will be invited to AIA's annual "Celebrate Architecture" event in Baton Rouge next year to make a presentation on her travel experiences. Johnston, a third-year architecture student, was born in Crowley and attended Houston High School in Germantown, Tenn.

LSU Press Director joins AAUP board

MaryKatherine Callaway, director of LSU Press, has been elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the Association of American University Presses, or AAUP.

The AAUP, the largest organization of non-profit scholarly publishers in the world, is dedicated to the support of creative and effective scholarly communication. Through professional development opportunities, cooperative programs and information resources, the association helps its 130 members fulfill their common commitments to scholarship, the academy and society.

Callaway joined LSU Press as director in 2003. Founded in 1935, LSU Press is one of the oldest and largest university presses in the South and is among the outstanding publishers of scholarly books in country. As an integral part of LSU, the press shares the university's goal of the dissemination of knowledge and culture. It publishes approximately 80 books each year and maintains a backlist of more than 1,000 titles.

LSU professor's research on Mardi Gras Indians showcased by Smithsonian

For more than 12 years, Louisiana State University Associate Professor of Geography & Anthropology Joyce Marie Jackson has studied the unique folk ritual of the New Orleans Black Mardi Gras Indians, while her husband, Baton Rouge-based documentary photographer J. Nash Porter, has chronicled this group in photographs for 35 years.

Due to the Diaspora caused by Hurricane Katrina, the West African and Caribbean-inspired tradition indigenous to New Orleans is endangered. Last year, nearly 30 tribes in New Orleans practiced the legacy of elaborately costuming and parading on foot throughout the city's Uptown and Downtown wards and other neighborhoods during Mardi Gras and on other special days of the year. This year, only half of the tribes paraded for Mardi Gras and not all of them "suited up," Jackson said. However, Jackson and Porter hope that an exhibit on display at the Smithsonian Institute's Anacostia Museum & Center for African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., will enlighten a national audience about this century-old tradition.

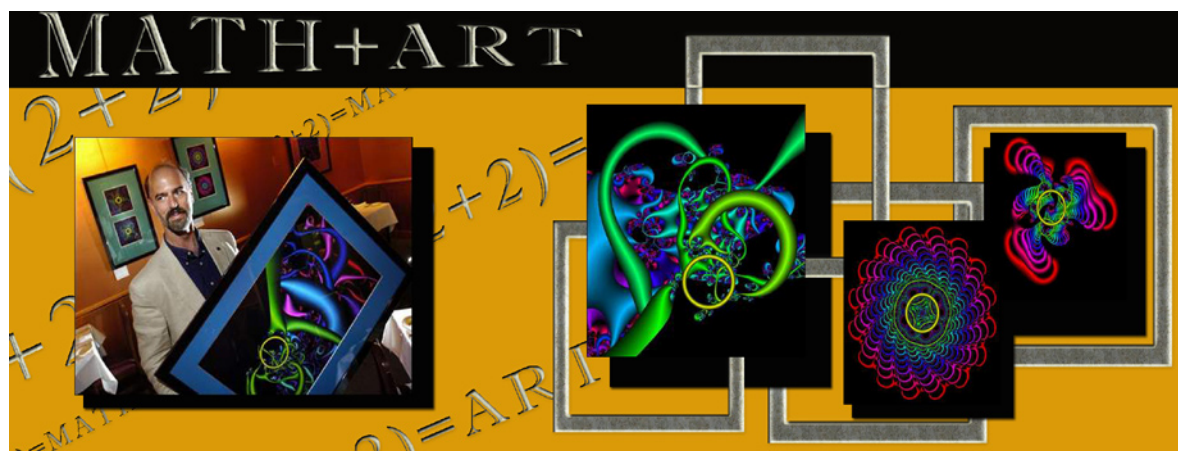
"The New Orleans Black Mardi Gras Indians: Exploring a Community Tradition from an Insider's View" exhibit is now on display through Aug. 27 at the Smithsonian.

The core of the exhibit is based on Porter's 60 color images chronicling the Black Indian tradition. Jackson wrote the narrative script for the exhibit, which is based on her years of ethnographic and historical research on this cultural tradition. The exhibit also includes four traditional Mardi Gras Indian costumes, two of which are from the Anacostia Museum's The Collection of Herreast J. Harrison and Family. Another suit is that of a child's costume, made for 6-year old Lil' Squaw Diamond Clay of the Creole Wild West by her uncle Irvin "Honey" Bannister, Gang flag of the tribe. The suit was retrieved from the mud after Hurricane Katrina. Chief Derrick Hulin of the Golden Blades tribe also loaned one of his suits for the exhibit.

"The exhibition is more than visual images that express the aesthetic and creative eye of the photographer, the images also showcase many wonderful unsung New Orleans artists," Porter said. "The exhibition is also about families, intergenerational traditions, resistance street theater and community," Jackson added.



J. Nash Porter's photograph of Queen Laurita Rita Barras, a member of the Wild Magnolias Mardi Gras Indians tribe that is part of the display at the Smithsonian exhibit on the Indians this summer.



Dr. Paul Sisson, LSUS dean of Sciences, holds his mathematical artwork "i Ching" that was created from Sisson's mathematical formulas.

LSUS mathematician transforms numbers into artworks

LSU Shreveport dean of Sciences and professor of Mathematics, Dr. Paul Sisson, is turning a world of numbers into artwork.

"I'm just trying to get people to realize that math is beautiful," said Sisson. "It's not just the boring number crunching you did in high school."

Sisson wrote the program he uses to create his mathematical artwork more than a decade ago in a programming language called Mathematica, which is used by mathematicians and scientists to study, analyze, and visualize concepts and data. The LSUS teacher said that his intent was to research complex numbers, or a collection of numbers that extends past the numbers familiar to the "average Joe," but he soon fell in love with the resulting patterns and began manipulating their attributes.

"In the simplest terms," he told *The Shreveport Times*, "it takes one complex number and turns it into another complex number."

Sisson's images are anchored by one central mathematical reference point, which usually appears as a gold ring. That ring's mathematical qualities become the reference point for the other spatial relationships and patterns. Green in his work represents one iteration of the original pattern, while blue represents two. Red represents 12 iterations, but that's as far as he goes -- anything higher is blanketed in black.

Sisson estimates his technique is 50 percent math and 50 percent art. "There's a lot of classic math here," he said. "But I also make up a function and look at it and see if I like it. If I don't like it, I try to modify it, and that's where the art comes in."

Sisson is no stranger to visual art. As a teenager, he made stained-glass lamps and custom windows in Michigan and almost moved to Chicago to make a career out of it before studying math. Two summers ago, he rode his motorcycle all the way to Corning, N.Y., to take glass-blowing classes.

Though math and art tend not to be uttered in the same breath, mathematicians and artists say they are deeply intertwined. Cubist Pablo Picasso, explained Sisson, used mathematical ideas by simultaneously representing multiple visual perspectives, or multiple points in time. Abstract expressionist Jackson Pollock left his work up to the randomness of his paint splatterings, but his process can be explained mathematically through chaos theory. Techniques like perspective and vanishing point all rely on basic mathematical principles.

And then there are Mandelbrot sets, mathematical patterns discovered by Benoit Mandelbrot, which have been discussed extensively in the art world. They inspire fractal art, in which self-similar images are repeated numerous times while getting smaller and smaller, making irregular shapes and patterns that cannot be explained with classical geometry.

And then there are Mandelbrot sets, mathematical patterns discovered by Benoit Mandelbrot, which have been discussed extensively in the art world. They inspire fractal art, in which self-similar images are repeated numerous times while getting smaller and smaller, making irregular shapes and patterns that cannot be explained with classical geometry.

And mathematicians are creating original art every time they break new ground in the field, according to Sisson. It's just not so easy to hang on the wall.

"I hope that people look at my artwork and ask, 'what is that?'" Sisson said. "Every time they do that, I have five minutes to talk about math."

LSUHSC-Shreveport

- Veteran LSUHSC-S employee Betty Johnson has been appointed to the position of Associate Hospital Administrator, Hospital Administrator Joseph Miciotto announced. "The Associate Administrator is a key position in the LSU Hospital, vital to the continued success and growth our hospital. Her background makes Mrs. Johnson uniquely qualified for this important post," he noted.

Ms. Johnson is no stranger to LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport. In 1979, she earned her degree in Respiratory Therapy from the School of Allied Health Professions in Shreveport. She was appointed Director of Respiratory Care Services in the LSU Hospital in 1985. In 1990, she was promoted to Assistant Hospital Administrator and was responsible for the outpatient clinics, pharmacy and nutritional services. In 1992, her responsibilities were realigned and the hospital's professional services were brought under her supervision.

- The Physician Assistant Program of the School of Allied Health Professions at LSUHSC-Shreveport was earned accreditation for five years from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). Five-year accreditation is the longest term of accreditation that has been received by program since it began in 1994. The first class of Physician Assistants was graduated in 1996. The program is 27 months in length and awards a Bachelor of Science degree to graduates each August. There are 36 students accepted each year to begin in the summer term.

- The Louisiana Speech-Language-Hearing Association (LSHA) recently honored two faculty members from the School of Allied Health Professions, LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport during the recent LSHA annual meeting. Mary Pannbacker, Ph.D., Professor of Communication Disorders, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, received the 2006 LSHA Clinical Achievement Award in recognition of her distinguished career in speech-language pathology. She was also nominated for the American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation's Frank Kleffner Award. Merrie Pendergrass, M.A., Assistant Professor of Communication Disorders, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, was recipient of LSHA's 2006 Fellow of the Association. The award honors her years of service in professional activities on the state and local level. Ms. Pendergrass is known for her work in augmentative communication, assistive technology, early intervention, and language development.

- Dr. Kyle Pierce, an LSUS associate professor of kinesiology and health science and director of the LSUS USA Weightlifting Development Center, has been named the recipient of the U.S. Olympic Committee's 2005 James E. "Doc" Counsilman Science in Coaching Award. Pierce received the award June 23 in La Jolla, Calif., at the Night of Champions Reception, which opened the U.S. Olympic Assembly. Named for the legendary Indiana University swimming coach and instituted by the USOC in 2003, The Counsilman Award honors coaches who conduct and use research along with developing innovative training methods.



Dr. Kyle Pierce

LSU Hospitals Receive National Award

The nine hospitals of the LSU Health Care Services Division are recipients of the 2006 Safety Net Award presented by the National Association of Public Hospitals (NAPH). The award recognizes the extraordinary dedication, service and heroism displayed by the institutions and staff during Hurricane Katrina. The LSU Health Care Services Division hospital and clinic system is the largest provider of health care in Louisiana, with more than 1.2 million patient visits annually to 350 outpatient clinics, and 46,000 admissions to nine hospitals

"There are endless reports of the heroism and selflessness of health care workers responding to Katrina and caring for its victims," said NAPH President Larry S. Gage. "In the first days and weeks after the hurricane, we heard of workers who refused to leave a facility while there were still patients there. When the definitive history of Hurricane Katrina is written, these men and women will be its true heroes."

The LSU hospitals honored include, The Medical Center of Louisiana at New Orleans (Charity and University Hospitals); Earl K. Long Medical Center, Baton Rouge; Bogalusa Medical Center, Bogalusa; Lallie Kemp Regional Medical Center, Independence; Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center, Houma; University Medical Center Lafayette; and Dr. Walter O. Moss Regional Medical Center, Lake Charles.

"In the face of adversity, our dedicated staff rose to the occasion," said Rod West, Chairman of the LSU Board of Supervisors. "This award is recognition of their personal sacrifice and commitment"

The National Association of Public Hospitals represents over 100 hospitals and health systems in the United States. During its 25 year history, the association has made significant strides in educating federal, state and local decision makers about the unique challenges faced by member hospitals and the vulnerable.

- Michael S. Block, DMD, Professor and Director of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Research at LSU Health Sciences Center at New Orleans' School of Dentistry, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS). The Distinguished Service Award, which honors an AAOMS member who has benefited the specialty through current and significant contributions, was presented to Dr. Block in recognition of his advances in dental implants, his appreciation of their many benefits for patients and his belief that oral and maxillofacial surgeons are the dental specialists most skilled in implant techniques and placement.

Dr. Block has chaired the AAOMS Ad Hoc Committee on Dental Implant Training and has been a member of the association's Clinical Interest Group on Dental Implants, as well as its Task Force on Dental Implant Conferences where he instrumental in assembling the latest thinking from several disciplines for the association's annual Dental Implant Conference. In addition to his work on behalf of the Dental Implant Conference, Dr. Block is the dental implant section editor of the *Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*, the professional journal of his specialty. Dr. Block earned his DMD, with honors, from the Harvard School of Dental Medicine and completed his OMS residency at the Louisiana State University Medical Center, New Orleans. Dr. Block has been awarded nearly \$8.4 million in research funding, and he holds four patents.

- The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) has announced that Nicolas G. Bazan, MD, PhD, has been selected to receive the Proctor Medal, ARVO's highest honor, which is presented annually for outstanding research in the basic or clinical sciences as applied to ophthalmology. The award will be presented to Bazan during ARVO's Annual Meeting in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in May 2007. Bazan was chosen as the recipient of the Proctor Medal for his elucidation of the lipid pathways in the retina, his discovery of the DHA derivatives named docosanoids, his work on the platelet activating factor in inflammatory responses, and his design of agents to prevent apoptosis arising out of this work.

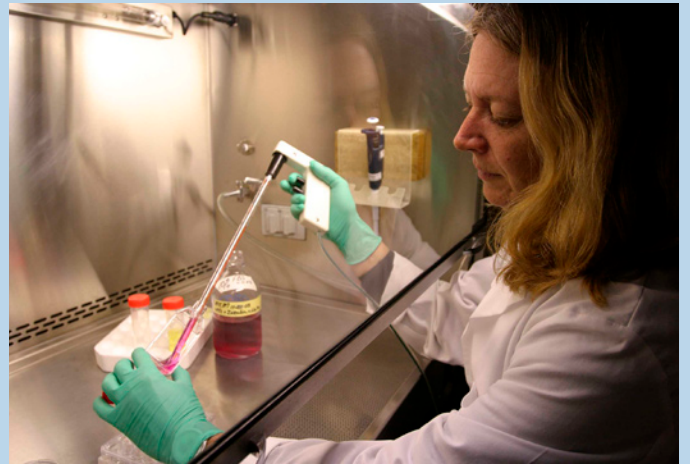
Bazan is Director of the Louisiana State University of Health Sciences Center and Neuroscience Center of Excellence in New Orleans. He is also Ernest C. and Ivette C. Villere Professor of Ophthalmology. Bazan received his medical and doctorate degrees from National University of Tucumán in Argentina and was a post-doctoral fellow at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons and Harvard Medical School. From 1999 to 2001 he was president of the American Society for Neurochemistry. Bazan is the recipient of the Jacob Javits Neuroscience Award, from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, NIH, and the Endre A. Balazs Prize from the International Society of Eye Research. He serves on the editorial board of a number of publications including those for *NeuroMolecular Medicine*, *Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology*, and *Current Neurovascular Research*.

- As part of the recovery from Hurricane Katrina, students and faculty participants in the Youth Leadership Program created by the Department of Psychiatry in the School of Medicine at LSU Health Sciences Center at New Orleans, planted a memorial garden June 29 with the colors of all the high schools that had been part of the St. Bernard Parish public school system, which was shattered by the storm.

The garden is part of the Youth Leadership Program conceived by LSUHSC's Drs. Howard and Joy Osofsky to provide crucially needed behavioral health services to youth in St. Bernard, all of whom experienced displacement, loss, and some, trauma, related to Katrina. The 4-week multi-tier learning/service program was designed to build resilience, improve self-efficacy, and reduce hurricane-related symptoms in students enrolled in St. Bernard Unified Schools. In collaboration with St. Bernard Public Schools, the program also teaches leadership skills, creating future community leaders. Participating were 22 incoming 11th graders, three teachers, and two administrators in addition to LSUHSC psychiatry faculty and staff. Students who took part learned principles of self-efficacy and empowerment were involved in service activities that promote positive mastery experiences and a sense of community involvement and responsibility. Throughout the program students have had the opportunity to discuss how their storm-related experiences. They were also evaluated to see if their experiences in the program decreased hurricane-related symptoms of anxiety or depression.



Carola Leuschner, Ph.D., has been awarded by Nanotech Briefs® one of Nano 50™ Awards for her work in magnetic nanoparticles as treatment for cancer. The Nano 50 recognizes the top 50 technologies, products, and innovators that have significantly impacted, or are expected to impact, the state of the art in nanotechnology. The winners of the Nano 50 awards are the “best of the best” – the innovative people and designs that will move nanotechnology to key mainstream markets. Leuschner won the award with co-investigator Challa Kumar, Ph.D., of the Center for Microstructures and Devices.



Carola Leuschner, Ph.D.



This is 103-yr old Zylpha Quinn in the hands of PBRC “Healthy Aging” team members.

Researcher Eric Ravussin, Ph.D. and his team have discovered one truism may be just that....true. People who remain physically active may live a longer and healthier life. Currently conducting a study called Healthy Aging, the team has enrolled clinical participants who are 89-years old and above. At least two of the participants are more than 100 years old. The team assesses life-style and conducts a variety of physical measurements including strength and metabolism. Early findings seem to indicate those who make it to 80 years old or more have a more active lifestyle.



George A. Bray, MD

George A. Bray, MD, former executive director of the Pennington Biomedical Research Center will be named an Honorary Member of the American Dietetic Association. This honor will be presented during the Member Showcase of the Food & Nutrition Conference and Expo (FNCE) in Honolulu, Hawaii on Monday morning, September 18, 006. Bray currently serves on the faculty of PBRC.

UPCOMING EVENTS August 5, 2006



Soaring to New Heights

The fun begins at 6:00 p.m. on the grounds of the Pennington campus in the VIP tent area. Enjoy a cocktail buffet provided by Bonanno's Fine Catering in an A/C tent, and then watch the balloon glow at 8:30 p.m., the fireworks around 9 p.m., and the music from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

HIGHLIGHTS: Balloon Launch, Balloon Glow & Fireworks; VIP Tent (special air conditioned tent with seating, viewing area, and buffet)

TICKETS: \$80 per person; \$200 per family of four; \$750 for a table of ten; \$30 for children

Tickets and more information available: <http://www.pbrc.org/explore.cfm/soaringevent/>

LSU Law Center Awards Summer Fellowships for Public Service

LSU Law Center Chancellor John Costonis announced today the award of seven student fellowships as part of the Law Center's public service initiatives. The Public Interest Law Society (PILS) fellowships were awarded to students following a competitive application process that concluded this spring.

The PILS fellows will work this summer in a wide variety of organizations in Louisiana and the nation. The fellowships provide stipends to support students' while they pursue interests in serving the public sector.

LSU Law Center PILS Fellowship recipients and their summer placements are:

- Kim Guillot, Mental Health Advocacy (Baton Rouge)
- William Sentell, Plan Baton Rouge (Baton Rouge)
- Betsy Franke, Texas Civil Rights Project (Austin)
- Trisha Ward, Gulf Region Advocacy Center (Houston)
- Clarence Cooper, EEOC (Washington, DC)
- Adia Moore, Community Legal Services (Philadelphia)
- Pascale Belizaire, Lucas County Juvenile Court (CASA Program; Toledo, OH)

LSU Law Center Awards Summer Fellowships for Public Service

Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center students selected for 2006 Equal Justice Works Summer Corps Program

Three Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center students will spend this summer interning with nonprofit public interest law organizations as a part of Equal Justice Works' Summer Corps program. Laura Davenport, Kimberly Guillot and Adia Moore will each receive a \$1,000 education award voucher through this national AmeriCorps-funded program. The three students were among 608 applicants for 315 participant-slots nationwide.

The 2006 Summer Corps participants are first-year and second-year law students from 113 law schools. They will each serve at least 300 hours in public interest internships, providing critically needed legal assistance to low-income and underserved communities in 42 states. Summer Corps members will also gain first-hand experience and legal skills in areas such as client intake, individual representation, research and writing. John J. Costonis, Chancellor of the LSU Law Center, praised the students for their commitment to public service. "I am very proud of our students' efforts to assist our community and others throughout the nation. Service to the community has been a primary mission of our Law Center since its inception in 1906."

Summer Corps program participants work on a broad range of issues, including civil rights, community economic development, death penalty, disability rights, housing, domestic violence, education, public benefits and workers' rights. In addition, Equal Justice Works set aside 65 "Katrina Summer Corps" slots this year for students who are helping to provide legal assistance to hurricane survivors in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

Ms. Davenport will intern in general legal services with Acadiana Legal Services in Lafayette; Ms. Guillot's work will be in the area of mental health services for children and youth with the Mental Health Advocacy Service in Baton Rouge; and Ms. Moore will work in family law with Community Legal Services in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Equal Justice Works, a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)(3) organization, was founded in 1986 by law students dedicated to working for equal justice on behalf of underserved communities and causes. Today, Equal Justice Works is the national leader in creating summer and postgraduate public interest opportunities for law students and lawyers as well as in urging more public interest programming at law schools. For more information about Equal Justice Works, visit www.equaljusticeworks.org.

Law Student Crowned Miss Louisiana

Jamie Wilson, a third-year law student at the Paul M. Hebert Law Center, has been crowned Miss Louisiana for 2006.

Wilson, who sang Cher's "The Way of Love" for her talent, said she wants to work on combating Dyspraxia, a disease that slows mental and physical development among children, as part of her platform during her year-long reign as Miss Louisiana.

She won the crown in a competition at the Monroe Civic Center June 17. It was Wilson's fifth year in the pageant that featured 21 young women taking part in swimwear, talent and evening-wear competition.



LSU law student Jamie Wilson as she is crowned Miss Louisiana

LSUE professor receives fellowship to study preservation of endangered languages

Dr. Linda Langley, LSU at Eunice professor of anthropology and sociology, has been awarded a National Science Foundation Summer Research Fellowship to study techniques for documentation and preservation of endangered languages.

Her fellowship is one of ten awards made to scholars throughout North and South America. As part of the application process, the NSF officially recognized the Coushatta Indian language as endangered, making it possible for Langley to follow up on her research by working with the tribe to design and implement a language preservation program.

The Coushatta Indian Reservation is located near Elton in Allen Parish.

Langley is studying at the University of Arizona in Tucson during June to learn about new software applications related to her focus on endangered languages. She will also visit the Tohono O'odham reservation, which has a successful language preservation program already in place. During August, she will be in Washington, D.C., to do research using the archives of the Smithsonian Institute.

LSUE Chancellor receives national honor as hospital board chair

LSU at Eunice Chancellor William J. Nunez recently received the Board Leadership Award at LifePoint Hospital's Senior Leadership Retreat in New York. The retreat was attended by chief officers of the 52 hospitals, chiefs of staff and other board chairs.

As chairman of the Acadian Medical Center Board of Directors in Eunice, Nunez played a key role in negotiations with the Province Healthcare Co. that led to the construction of a new \$26 million state-of-the-art acute care hospital that opened in February as one of 52 hospitals operated by LifePoint across the nation. It was the first time that the LifePoint corporation gave the award. In citation for the award, LifePoint President Kenneth C. Donahey said that Nunez "has been instrumental in improving health care and health care education in Acadiana."

In the negotiations leading to the new facility, Nunez provided "leadership and foresight" based on his knowledge of the demographics of the region and "community health care needs," Donahey said. Donahey also praised Nunez's active support for measures to assure continued improvement in the quality of care provided at the hospital. Donahey also described LSUE's achievements in offering strong programs in nursing, radiologic technology and respiratory care and in preparing pre-med students, many of whom return to the area after they become doctors.

Nursing director appointed to La. State Board of Nursing

Bonnie Johnson, director of the LSUE nursing program, has been appointed to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing.

Johnson will serve a 4-year term on the board, which regulates registered nursing practice and nursing education in Louisiana.

The mission of the board is "to safeguard the life and health of the citizens of Louisiana by assuring persons practicing as registered nurses and advanced practice nurses are competent and safe."

Johnson was nominated for the position. The Louisiana State Nursing Association considered 24 applicants for the board and submitted six nominees to Governor Kathleen Blanco, who appointed three nurses to the board.

Johnson is serving on the board's nursing education committee and the credentialing committee.



Bonnie Johnson

LSUE nursing grads have state's highest pass rate on RN exam

LSUE nursing graduates had the highest 2005 pass rate in the state on the examination to become registered nurses, higher than any other program at either 2-year or 4-year colleges.

All but one of the 46 LSUE graduates passed for a 97.93 percent pass rate, better than the overall 2005 state average of 88.75 percent. The overall average for 2-year colleges in Louisiana was 92.13 percent. The average pass rate for baccalaureate programs at 4-year institutions was 85.84 percent.



Pictured: Nursing graduates are shown at the 2006 pinning ceremony.

New division head for sciences at LSUE

As the new head of the LSU at Eunice Division of Sciences and Mathematics, Dr. Renee Robichaux plans to build on a record of student success and academic accomplishments by faculty members committed to both teaching and research.

The division offers science and mathematics courses for students transferring to complete bachelor's degrees and for those earning 2-year associate degrees at LSUE in science, nursing and allied health programs and other fields.

In addition, the division has enjoyed a long-standing reputation for preparing pre-professional students to enter medical school, pharmacy, dentistry, occupational therapy, physical therapy, veterinary school as well as other health professions through transfer curricula.

Robichaux said that the number of former LSUE students who have gained admission into various professional schools is proportionately much higher than would be expected based on LSUE's size. Pre-professional students can take many of their core science classes at LSUE, she said, adding that experienced, committed faculty and small classes help students gain the preparation they need to excel as they move forward. Science faculty members also engage in a variety of research projects, including projects carried out collaborating with students in LSUE's Undergraduate Research Summer Institute.

In addition to maintaining and extending the division's record of academic success, Robichaux also plans to assess the need for new programs to serve business and industry and to meet student interests. She will be seeking input from area employers and working to develop programs that will contribute to the economy.

Robichaux, an associate professor of biology, first joined LSUE in 1994. In 1997, she was awarded a Board of Regents fellowship to work on a doctorate. After earning a Ph.D. in biology from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, she returned to LSUE in 2001. She has contributed 13 scholarly papers to professional meetings and proceedings and has published 10 articles in scientific journals. In 2004, Robichaux received the LSUE Teaching Excellence Award. She helped develop the LSUE Honors Program and has taught an honors seminar in which students explored social issues like environmental contamination.

Robichaux's appointment as division head began July 1. She is replacing Dr. Grace Cascio-Houston, who retired at the end of June.



Rick Odom accepts the thanks of Chancellor Nunez on behalf of his late aunt, Myrtle Odom, who made a major bequest to the LSUE Foundation

Major gifts enhance Honors Program

Two major contributions to the LSUE Foundation have provided vital funds for the LSUE Honors Program to offer scholarships to academically superior students. Gifts from Florence Mauboules and from the estate of the late Myrtle Odom have enabled LSUE to double the number of honors scholarships.

During the past year, the Honors Program has grown in size and course offerings. The program gives top students an opportunity to work together on a small campus where they can team with faculty members in the kind of research and other academic pursuits not available to most college students until graduate school.