Familiar brands.

Uncommon style.

Industrial design graduates prove their worth.
Once in a while, something unexpected comes along that captures the essence of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in a profound way.

A couple of recent examples come to mind.

I was flipping through the June 2012 issue of Smithsonian magazine when a full-page advertisement grabbed my attention. It was for a Thermador steam range that features “the first full-function combination steam and convection oven.” I’m not usually drawn to ads about stoves. But I had seen this photo before.

La Louisiane was preparing the cover story for this issue, which showcases the work of some UL Lafayette industrial design graduates. Richard Funnell, ’07, had submitted the image of the luxurious kitchen appliance as an example of his designs.

The other discovery was bittersweet.

I ran across an obituary for Dr. Christo Ivanov Christov. It begins by identifying him as the SLEMCO Endowed Professor of Sciences in the Department of Mathematics. “He was a devoted husband, father and teacher,” it states before listing survivors: his wife, two sons and parents.

“At work, Dr. Christov’s legacy includes six UL Lafayette students who received their Ph.D. degrees in mathematics under his direction, seven Ph.D. students he advised or co-advised around the world and yet many more whose education he participated in. ... His dedication to teaching and research is made clear by the fact that he continued lecturing until a week before his death and finished his last scientific paper on that very day,” it continues.

Wow.

The obit cites major universities around the world where Christov had taught. It notes that he played violin and viola in professional symphonic orchestras in Russia and Bulgaria and had composed a rock opera for acoustic guitar.

The account paints a portrait of a man who was multifaceted and passionate about his work and pastimes. But here’s “the rest of the story,” as the late broadcaster Paul Harvey used to say:

Christov was an extremely self-effacing man. He probably would not have wanted his death acknowledged publicly.

But his colleagues wouldn’t allow his passing to go unnoticed. So they all chipped in to pay for publishing his obituary in Lafayette’s daily newspaper. They wanted others to know that he was an extraordinary person who made a difference in the lives of many people. Their tribute says a lot about Christov but it says a lot about the men and women who teach at UL Lafayette, too.

We hope you enjoy this issue of La Louisiane.

— Kathleen Thames
ON THE COVER:
Design by Prejean Creative
www.prejeancreative.com

Photos on this page:
Left, Center: Doug Dugas;
Right: photo courtesy of Bosch and Siemens

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www.louisiana.edu
Winning Strategy
UL Lafayette researchers rely on kids’ love of games to teach science and math

Shown, from left, are Chris Hoback, computer programmer (seated); Dr. Douglas Williams, director of CILAT (standing); Stacy Crochet, computer programmer (standing); and Dr. Yixin Ma, CILAT researcher (seated).

Researchers in UL Lafayette’s Center for Innovative Learning and Assessment Technologies are creating educational games for a new generation of tech-savvy kids.

*Archimedes’ Roost* is a mobile app that teaches math concepts. Its users — kindergarteners — visit a virtual tree house where a bird named Archimedes encourages them as they play games to practice addition and subtraction.

There are plenty of math apps on the market for kindergarten students. What makes *Archimedes’ Roost* different is that it conveys mathematical concepts, rather than encouraging rote memorization, explained Dr. Douglas Williams, CILAT’s director.

The CILAT staff also includes Dr. Yixin Ma, an associate professor of instructional technology, and two computer programmers, Stacy Crochet and Chris Hoback.

Williams and Ma collaborated with Dr. Peter Sheppard, a UL Lafayette professor of mathematics, to create the app. Four UL Lafayette students studying 3-D art and animation also contributed to its design. Dustin Benoit and Ahnen Brown graduated in May with bachelor’s degrees in visual arts. Thomas Guillory and Jordan J. Levers are still enrolled in the curriculum. Margaret Paine, a professional artist in Austin, Texas, was the project’s art director.

*Archimedes’ Roost* incorporates Montessori teaching methods, in which students learn concepts by working with materials. For example, students may use blocks to learn the concept that parts make up a whole. Using the app on a computer tablet, students manipulate virtual blocks.

“When the app is used in a classroom setting, it gives each student the sense of one-on-one instruction,” Williams said.

CILAT is working with three other faculty members to design a second mobile app. *Thinking Design* will enable players to build a virtual house and calculate the effectiveness of the design. The game, which is intended for fifth graders to adults, will demonstrate how design strategies, such as ventilation, orientation to the sun and using trees for shading, affect energy efficiency.

Corey Saft, an associate professor of architecture and design, and Kari Smith, an assistant professor of architecture and design, are developing its content. Christopher Stelly, a graduate student in architecture and design, is also working on the project. Charles E. Richardson, an associate professor of English and director of the Moving Image Arts Program, is creating a storyline for the game.

CILAT has also formed a partnership with researchers at Texas A&M University to create five web-based educational games. The National Science Foundation awarded a $1.68 million grant to CILAT and its partners. NSF funding is highly competitive; the agency funds cutting-edge research. Williams and his colleagues used the money to create five web-based educational games.

The Texas A&M team developed the games’ concepts, game play and graphics. CILAT carried out the software development for the games.

One of those games, Riggelfish, won first place in the 2011 Adobe Design Achievement Award competition in the innovation in interactive media category. The awards recognize the best in student and faculty work around the world.

“The judges pointed out that Riggelfish is creative, fun and
sophisticated in its approach to teaching genetics,” Williams said.

Players take an active role, playing the part of Dr. Waters, a geneticist who works in a top-secret, underwater research lab. Waters must develop a source for Omega X, a fatty acid that can be used to protect people from deadly bioweapons.

That source is the rigglefish, a species rich in Omega X. But only yellow rigglefish produce the desired substance.

To develop a supply of the protectant, the fish must be bred. But they possess a number of traits that make them difficult to breed in captivity.

Players attempt to select a mating pair with specific genetic traits. To do this, they have to learn how different versions of the same gene interact with each other.

“They design their own investigations and direct their own learning. They use virtual scientific instruments that resemble those used by scientists in the real world and are scaled to suit their age level. In this way, they experience for themselves what it’s like to be a scientist.” Williams said.

Rigglefish also earned a gold medal in the 2011 International Serious Play Awards competition. This competition is a partnership between Clark Aldrich, the author of five top-selling books on serious games, and the DigiPen Institute of Technology, which offers degrees in video game design, computer science and animation.

All the games, which were designed for middle school students, immerse players in virtual environments where they take on the role of a scientist engaged in a complex task.

- **Explosion on Mars.** Players balance power consumption with power generation in a research station on the red planet.
- **Forgery Detectives.** Students use chemistry to determine whether various artifacts are genuine.
- **Supervolcano.** Players become climatologists examining the environmental effects of a volcanic eruption.
- **Hurricane Hal.** The goal is to determine population changes in wetland species six months after a hurricane.

The games were tested by 1,300 6th and 7th graders. The results showed there was a significant increase in the kids’ knowledge. In interviews, they said the games were challenging and fun.

“Tо create an educational game, we work closely with other scientists, such as biologists, geologists and chemists. To develop appropriate content, we design tasks for players based on what they should be learning at each education level. It’s all guided by the best educational and theory research available,” said Williams.

The games’ content is based on the National Science Education Standards developed by the National Research Council.

“We had two goals: to develop useful products and to conduct research on those products, so that we can share design guidelines for other educators, programmers and developers,” Williams said.

*www.cilat.org*

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**LAB INVITES STUDENTS TO APPLY TECHNOLOGY**

The Center for Innovative Learning and Assessment Technologies shows future teachers how to use emerging technologies in the classroom.

Students who major in early childhood, elementary and secondary education are required to take Technology in the Classroom. Dr. Douglas Williams, a professor of instructional technology, and Dr. Yuxin Ma, an associate professor of instructional technology, teach the course.

In it, students gain practical experience in CILAT's lab in Maxim Doucet Hall. There, they experiment with the latest technology and instructional theories by letting K-12 students test them.

Two Saturdays each semester, CILAT recruits local school children to go to the lab to build robots, play computer games and engage in digital storytelling. UL Lafayette students usually work with two or three children at a time.

“We teach our students these technologies first, so they can coach younger students. After their experience in the lab, the college students write their reflections on the experience. Research shows that the best strategies for teacher education have three components: knowledge, experience and reflection,” said Ma.

About 60 to 100 schoolchildren participate each semester. CILAT recruits them by contacting area schools. It also offers online registration.

The robotics challenges for grades K-8 are designed to develop skills in scientific inquiry, problem solving, physics and mathematics.

The children use a simple toy — Lego building blocks — to create programmable robots. Lego WeDo and Lego Mindstorm kits are designed for this kind of educational play.

The children use math to map out a course for their robots. Then they program the machines to carry out a series of maneuvers, such as delivering blocks from one location to another.

In the storytelling component, the children write scripts and create characters and sets from materials such as construction paper and modeling clay. Then they video the scenes and edit them in iMovie, adding narration, sound effects and music.

“The lab lets us try new technologies and new educational strategies. We collect a lot of data so that we can share our experience with teachers and other teacher education programs,” Ma said.
Picard Center Moves to New Home
Researchers focus on child development, health and education issues

Children who are physically fit are in better shape academically than those who aren’t. That’s according to research conducted by UL Lafayette’s Cecil J. Picard Center for Child Development and Lifelong Learning.

Researchers collected information about the physical fitness levels of more than 100,000 Louisiana schoolchildren. They evaluated the relationship between cardiovascular fitness and academic performance on standardized tests for more than 19,000 of them. Fit students scored up to 5 percent higher than those who weren’t.

Dr. Billy R. Stokes, executive director of the Picard Center, said the results are not surprising. After all, it’s logical to assume that overall fitness would have a positive effect on academic performance. The value of the research, said Stokes, is the availability of long-range data analysis that can be used to guide education policy decisions.

The center is an important source of data and analysis on education, children’s health and lifelong learning. It moved from O.K. Allen Hall into a $5.6 million, 40,000-square-foot facility in University Research Park last fall. An opening ceremony was held in February.

It has attracted more than $42 million to the university through contracts, state appropriations, capital construction dollars and foundation contributions. Some of its current initiatives include working with school districts to implement comprehensive birth-to-5 programs, providing surveillance on the nutrition and fitness levels of Louisiana children, and developing electronic school health record capacity to improve communication with health care providers.

The center is named for the late Cecil J. Picard, a UL Lafayette alum and former Louisiana legislator who was state superintendent of education from 1996 until 2007. The building features a museum that honors him. It is open to the general public during university business hours.

The facility features a data analysis room that can display numerous data sources simultaneously and the Loyd Rockhold Distance Education and Conference Center. Rockhold, who is deceased, was a Baton Rouge entrepreneur and philanthropist. He worked with Stokes and Picard to establish the Loyd J. Rockhold Center for Child Development in New Orleans. In July 2005, the Center relocated to UL Lafayette and was renamed for Picard.

www.picardcenter.org
UL LAFAYETTE TACKLES BIG DATA

THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA at Lafayette has partnered with Drexel University to address the nation’s most pressing big data challenges.

The first step: creating the Center for Visual and Decision Informatics. Todd Park, the country’s chief technology officer, cut a virtual ribbon for the center in Lafayette in April.

Big data describes the growing volume, variety and velocity of information in the world. According to IBM, 2.5 quintillion bytes of data are produced every day. To convey the size, types and speed of data, IBM researchers note that 90 percent of all data has been created in the last two years.

The new national research center will help decision makers in government and industry improve how they interpret and analyze information. Funded in part by the National Science Foundation, it is the only center in the United States focusing on visual and decision informatics research.

“This initiative, which maximizes an organization’s ability to evaluate and analyze complex data, has tremendous potential. A recent MIT study showed that companies that adopted data-driven, evidence-based decision making increased their productivity 5 to 6 percent, compared to companies that did not. This approach can enhance companies’ ability to compete in the global marketplace,” said Dr. Joseph Savoie, president of UL Lafayette.

The CVDi is a virtual enterprise between UL Lafayette’s new School of Computing and Informatics and the iSchool at Drexel in Philadelphia. Drexel is the 14th-largest private university in the nation.

“The establishment of the CVDi marks an important milestone in the iSchool and Drexel University’s history,” said iSchool Dean David E. Fenske. “With NSF’s help and guidance, the Center will seamlessly integrate areas of our research with the information management needs of many organizations, meanwhile preparing the next generation of data scientists to confront big data challenges.”

Twelve private companies and government agencies have become members of the center by contributing funds that support the center. They are:

- Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia;
- Elsevier;
- First Call Network Inc.;
- Johnson & Johnson;
- Lockheed Martin;
- Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals;
- Louisiana Department of Revenue;
- Louisiana Immersive Technologies Enterprise;
- Sound Operating Systems LLC;
- Stuller Inc.;
- Sungard Availability Services LP; and
- Thomson Reuters.

As members, they will have access to leading-edge developments in visual and decision informatics and have a chance to provide direction for the center’s research projects.

This is the first time in history that a Louisiana university has been designated as an NSF Industry/University Cooperative Research Center. Such a center conducts research that is of interest to industry and the university. Industry provides major support and the center provides graduate students with opportunities to conduct research that is relevant to industry, according to the NSF:

http://nsf-cvdi.louisiana.edu
Growing by Degrees
UL Lafayette expands academic offerings, job possibilities

Growing by Degrees
UL Lafayette expands academic offerings, job possibilities

UL Lafayette students have new choices, thanks to changes in the university’s academic offerings.

“The evolution of our programs reflects in-depth analysis, thoughtful consideration and long-range planning,” said Ellen Cook, assistant vice president for Academic Affairs.

When Dr. Joseph Savoie became UL Lafayette’s president in 2008, he asked administrators and faculty members to examine each degree program. Officials considered graduation and retention rates and the availability of jobs to determine which programs were most valuable to students.

Economic pressures have also driven the university to set new priorities. Over the past five years, UL Lafayette’s allocation of state funds has been reduced by 42.5 percent.

“How do we maintain educational quality while navigating changes in the economy and the job market?” Cook asked. “Ultimately, we want our graduates to have a strong academic foundation and the best opportunities to apply their degrees in the workforce.”

Since 2011, UL Lafayette has added degree and certificate programs to give graduates a wider range of career choices.

Options in Nursing
The College of Nursing and Allied Health Professions has expanded its programs with the addition of a bachelor’s degree, a post-master’s certificate and a doctoral degree.

It now offers a bachelor’s degree in health services administration. Graduates are prepared to work as administrators in settings such as hospitals, clinics and long-term care facilities, as well as home health agencies.

An existing bachelor’s degree, the RN to BSN degree program, is now offered online. It’s designed for the convenience of registered nurses who want to earn bachelor’s degrees in nursing.

UL Lafayette’s master’s degree in nursing has three concentrations: the family nurse practitioner curriculum, the family psychiatry/mental health nurse practitioner curriculum and the nurse executive curriculum.

An online post-master’s family nurse practitioner certificate program will be available in Spring 2013.

“Family nurse practitioners are in high demand,” said Dr. Lisa Broussard, head of UL Lafayette’s Nursing Department. “These nurses collaborate with physicians to provide primary care. They examine patients, write prescriptions and make hospital rounds.”

The new online doctoral program — doctor of nursing practice — is the first of its kind among public universities in Louisiana. It prepares nurse practitioners and nurse executives to assume leadership roles in providing quality care in hospital and community settings.

Kinesiology Going Strong
A new master’s degree in kinesiology will complement an area of education that’s in high demand. Kinesiology is the study of human movement.

More than 1,000 students are enrolled in the school’s five undergraduate programs, which are offered by the College of Education. Students may choose a bachelor’s degree in kinesiology with concentrations in exercise science, health and physical education, sports management, and health promotion and wellness.

The health promotion and wellness concentration is an online degree program. UL Lafayette also offers a bachelor’s degree in athletic training.

The master’s degree program will offer two concentrations: exercise and sport science, and health promotion, recreation and sport management.

Solutions for Juvenile Justice
UL Lafayette plans to enroll students in a new master’s degree program in criminal justice in January. What sets the program apart is its emphasis on juvenile justice, its interdisciplinary approach and its reliance on research, said Dr. Craig Forsyth, head of UL Lafayette’s Department of Criminal Justice.

The Cecil J. Picard Center for Childhood Development and Lifelong Learning will be a resource for these graduate students.

“We will offer a program that is deeply rooted in evidence-based practices,” Forsyth said.

Graduates will be qualified to work in any area of the criminal justice system, but will be especially prepared to work in juvenile detention centers, as well as crime prevention programs.
NEW MUSIC DEGREES

UL Lafayette students may enroll in two new music programs. A new bachelor's degree in music has two concentrations: music business and traditional music.

The music business concentration will prepare graduates to work as music executives, concert promoters, music and video producers, and retailers in businesses related to the music industry.

UL Lafayette's traditional music program focuses on Cajun and Creole music. It is the only one of its kind in the state and one of just a handful across the nation.

ENGINEERING EXPANDS

A new doctoral degree in systems engineering offers graduates five concentration areas: chemical, civil, electrical, mechanical and petroleum engineering.

Systems engineering is a multidisciplinary field that incorporates technology development, design and project management skills. Graduates work with large, complex systems such as computer networks, fiber optic networks and coastal ecosystems.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Three new graduate certificate programs are available through UL Lafayette's Graduate School.

The graduate certificate in nonpublic schools administration is tailored to meet the needs of nonpublic schools, districts, and systems. It will enable faculty, staff and administrators employed or seeking employment in nonpublic institutions to learn more about best practices in the field of educational leadership.

The graduate certificate in historic preservation will appeal to professionals in architecture, museums, city planning, history and archaeology. The interdisciplinary, 15-hour program includes classes in history, architecture and archaeology aimed at the importance of preserving historic structures.

The graduate certificate in teaching English to speakers of other languages will equip students with the knowledge and abilities necessary to teach English as a second language to children and adults.

Those who hold the certificate may work in schools, for nonprofit organizations or for businesses.

UL LAFAYETTE CREATES THREE NEW SCHOOLS

Academic changes at UL Lafayette include the creation of two new schools: the School of Geoscience and the School of Computing and Informatics. The Department of Kinesiology is now the School of Kinesiology.

These changes are intended to enhance interdisciplinary studies and research, said Dr. Carolyn Bruder, UL Lafayette's interim provost.

"We've combined degree programs and research study areas that have an affinity for one another. We anticipate there will be a lot of crossover in the knowledge and study that occurs in these areas. Having faculty members and students working in related fields who are also in closer physical proximity to one another will give them an increased opportunity to collaborate," she said.

SCHOOL OF GEO SCIENCE

The School of Geoscience combines UL Lafayette's Department of Geology and its Environmental Sciences Program.

Its creation was influenced by National Science Foundation guidelines, which emphasize the impact of human activity on the environment during energy exploration.

A new bachelor's degree in environmental science offers concentrations in three areas: soil and water conservation, environmental quality and digital geography.

The School of Geoscience prepares students for careers in the oil and gas industries, environmental firms, government agencies, construction, mining, environmental protection, waste management, coastal protection and restoration, environmental and soil sciences, and geology.

Dr. David Borrok, a former associate professor at the University of Texas at El Paso, is the school's director.

"Interdisciplinary study enables us to look at the underlying science of major societal issues, such as the relationships between energy and the environment," he said. For example, students may study the impact of fracking — a method to extract natural resources such as oil and gas — on the environment.

"We want to focus on those areas in which UL Lafayette has expertise, like coastal ecology, wetlands and coastal ecosystems. So, we'll examine how those systems are interconnected with energy," Borrok said. UL Lafayette plans to establish an interdisciplinary doctoral program within the School of Geoscience.

SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATICS

UL Lafayette's School of Computing and Informatics has 30 faculty members with teaching and research expertise in computer science, computer engineering, and information studies. It houses the Computer Science Program and the Informatics Program.

"Informatics is applied computer science," explained Dr. Michael Toto, coordinator of the Informatics Program. Computer scientists design and build components and networks; those who work in informatics use existing software to organize and analyze data and to manage projects.

The Informatics Program offers a new bachelor's degree with concentrations in business informatics, healthcare informatics, media technology and systems administration.

The School also includes the Center for Advanced Computer Studies, which offers master's and doctoral degrees in computer science and in computer engineering.

SCHOOL OF KINESIOLOGY

The designation of a School of Kinesiology reflects the broad scope of its academic programs, said Dr. Charity Bryan, the school's director. UL Lafayette offers five undergraduate programs in kinesiology and plans to enroll students in its new master's degree program in January.

Graduates may work in hospitals or rehabilitation facilities, corporate wellness programs or for nonprofit organizations.

"As career opportunities in health care continue to grow, so does the demand for our graduates. Their skills are highly marketable," she said.
Deedra Harrington was driving back to campus after her lunch break on a Monday afternoon. A UL Lafayette nursing instructor, she was on her way to her office in Wharton Hall.

“I didn’t take my usual route,” Harrington recalled in an interview with La Louisiane. She dropped off a coworker on Lewis Street and pulled up at the stop sign at its intersection with Girard Park Drive. She prepared to turn left, onto the winding street that runs along the perimeter of the park, adjacent to campus.

“I saw a man lying on the jogging track with three or four people around him. They were lifting up his head.”

At first, Harrington thought he had simply passed out. She turned left, heading toward East St. Mary Boulevard.

“As soon as I made that turn, something told me to go back.”

Moments earlier, Gary Dodson had collapsed while running on the track. His heart had stopped beating.

Harrington pulled over and parked, ran to him and immediately began cardiopulmonary resuscitation, performing rhythmic chest compressions to get his blood flowing again.

“Someone had already called 911 but an ambulance hadn’t arrived yet,” she said.

“After 16 years in nursing, you just know when someone’s in serious trouble. I could tell by looking at him that he needed CPR. I didn’t even take his pulse. He was gray from the chest up.”

Dodson was in capable hands. In addition to her teaching role at UL Lafayette, Harrington is also a nurse practitioner at Lafayette General Medical Center, where she specializes in acute care.

She continued chest compressions.

“I guess I worked on him for three to five minutes — until the ambulance got there — but it seemed like much longer.”

A bystander took over while Harrington retrieved a ventilation mask from her car. She quickly returned to Dodson and used the protective barrier as she breathed into his mouth.

“His color improved but he was still unresponsive,” she said.

“When the medics arrived and used a defibrillator, his heart began beating again.”

As she returned to work, the paramedics drove Dodson to LGMC, less than a mile away.

At the hospital, doctors and nurses determined that Dodson had suffered a heart attack — and acted swiftly to help him. Tests revealed that a major artery in his heart was 99.9 percent blocked. Within minutes, they treated him in a catheterization lab, inflating a small balloon inside the artery to restore blood flow.

The next day, Harrington called the hospital. She was relieved to learn that Dodson was recovering.

That day, he awoke in the hospital’s intensive care unit. “The last thing I remembered was taking off my shoes, getting ready for my run,” he said. He didn’t remember driving to the park, running along the track, or his encounter with Harrington.

A nurse told him what had happened and he asked to meet the woman who had saved his life. When Harrington arrived, Dodson was sleeping.
"I heard the nurse say, 'Mr. Gary, I want you to meet the lady who gave you CPR,' and I felt someone holding my hand."

Dodson opened his eyes and saw Harrington at his bedside.

"This is Deedra," the nurse said.

"Oh, you mean she's my angel," he responded. Dodson thanked her, then fell asleep again.

After spending two days in the hospital and completing a 12-week cardiac rehabilitation program, Dodson has made a full recovery. He is exercising with weights and plans to eventually resume running.

"I have no heart damage, and thank God, no brain damage," he said. "I'm lucky and I know it.

"My doctors have told me that if I hadn't received CPR within five minutes, I wouldn't have survived. Deedra was in the right place at the right time."

Dodson didn't have any warning signs, such as pain or dizziness, before his heart attack. And, aside from a family history of heart disease, he had no known risk factors.

"Because I know heart disease runs in my family, I've made an effort to take good care of myself. I don't smoke or drink. I watch what I eat and obviously, I exercise."

Dodson's job as an automotive parts salesman requires him to spend a lot of time behind the wheel. "Because I spend so much time on the road, I made sure I exercised regularly." Three times a week, he ran three miles in the park.

"If this could happen to me, it can happen to anyone," he said.

Since his ordeal, Dodson has become an advocate for bystander CPR training.

According to the American Heart Association, less than 8 percent of people who suffer cardiac arrest outside a hospital survive. And although effective bystander CPR can double or triple the chance of survival, only 32 percent of cardiac arrest victims receive CPR from a bystander. The AHA website includes information about CPR classes, including online instruction.

Since 2001, nearly 15,000 Acadiana residents have learned how to administer CPR in free mass training sessions held at the Cajundome. The one-day event, "Be A Heart Starter!," is held each April. Dr. Chuck Wyatt, a Lafayette cardiovascular surgeon, is its founder.

Since the training began, the survival rate for sudden cardiac arrest has increased in Acadiana from 1 to 23 percent, according to Acadian Ambulance Service.

Wyatt, Dodson and Harrington promoted the 2012 event with a televised public service announcement. This year, 1,538 people were trained, about 400 more than last year.

Dodson and his wife, Kathy, a 1977 UL Lafayette graduate, were among those who learned CPR this year. Deedra Harrington instructed them.

"Since I had my heart attack, I've celebrated my 66th birthday and my 32nd wedding anniversary, and I have Deedra to thank," Dodson said.

"Everyone should be trained because if they know what to do, they can really make a difference."

"I am living proof of that."
Campus Care
Saucier Wellness Center offers centralized student services

AFTER more than 70 years, UL Lafayette’s Student Health Services has a new home: the Saucier Wellness Center on Hebrard Boulevard. The university’s offices of Counseling and Testing also share the renovated O.K. Allen Hall.

Student Health Services moved from Saucier Hall, a small building on Boucher Street near Cypress Lake, in January.

“We’ve tripled our space,” noted Dr. Marelle Yongue, its director.

She and her team — two doctors, three nurse practitioners, seven nurses, a nurse assistant and administrative staff — had been crowded in Saucier Hall. That building, which opened in 1940, was the original campus infirmary. It was razed in April to accommodate the expansion and remodeling of the adjacent Student Union, which began this summer.

O.K. Allen Hall, built in 1935, was a cafeteria until 1971. It most recently housed some temporary faculty offices and storage rooms. Workers completely rebuilt its interior so it could be used as a state-of-the-art health facility.

Saucier Wellness Center has three triage rooms, 11 exam rooms, an in-house laboratory and a pharmacy. There’s an observation suite, where patients can be monitored and receive intravenous therapy. The facility also has a centralized nurses station, offices for staff members and storage areas.

Students visit the clinic for minor injuries and illnesses, minor surgeries, physical examinations and immunizations. Student Health Services also provides patient education.

“The facility is designed with a great deal of flexibility, so we can grow as the university grows,” Yongue said.

Student Health Services shares a lobby with Counseling and Testing, which was previously in Olivier Hall. Both offices have private check-in areas for students.

“Privacy is an important factor in care, especially in the arena of counseling,” said Dr. Brian Frederick, director of Counseling and Testing.

In addition to Frederick, three licensed professional counselors work with faculty, staff and students. One of them is Wanda Clark, who also is supervisor of testing on campus.

UL Lafayette is a testing site for college and postgraduate entrance exams, such as the ACT and LSAT, and for standardized testing used for licensing and certification, such as the Praxis exam for educators. Testing sessions for large groups are still conducted in classrooms on campus but the new Counseling and Testing facility has a room with computer stations for individual testing.

UL Lafayette graduate students studying counseling conduct their required clinical hours at the center, under the supervision of staff members.

Donors have helped furnish the center with medical equipment.

The Wellness Center Fund, which is managed by the UL Lafayette Foundation, supports the purchase of equipment, facility improvements and maintenance.

Saucier Wellness Center is open during the university’s hours of operation: Mondays through Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
A rare letter penned by John Kennedy Toole and other memorabilia associated with the Pulitzer Prize-winning author are now owned by the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

The late John Kennedy Toole was stationed in Puerto Rico in 1963 when he wrote a letter to Drs. Milton and Patricia Rickels, who were then UL Lafayette faculty members. The university acquired the letter in June. The UL Lafayette Foundation purchased Lot No. 155 at a Sotheby’s New York auction in June. The most appealing item in it was a letter, signed “Ken,” that Toole had written to Drs. Patricia and Milton Rickels, former English professors at UL Lafayette, and their son, Gordon. It was the first Toole letter available at auction in 30 years, according to Sotheby’s.

Toole was an associate professor in UL Lafayette’s English Department for one year, from 1958 to 1960, and became a beloved friend of the Rickels family. When Patricia Rickels died in 2009, a friend in Louisiana inherited the Toole materials. He chose to auction them and to remain anonymous.

The Sotheby’s lot also featured a first edition of A Confederacy of Dunces, Toole’s picaresque novel, which was once owned by Patricia Rickels. The collection featured a copy of a 1978 issue of The New Orleans Review that contains the first published excerpt of Confederacy; 10 children’s books previously owned by Toole; and three critical studies of Toole’s work from Patricia Rickels’ library.

Toole wrote Confederacy, the tale of New Orleans hot dog vendor Ignatius J. Reilly, in 1963, and tried for several years to get it published.

It’s common belief that the author derived at least two of the novel’s central characters, Ignatius and Myrna Minkoff, from fellow faculty members whom he also considered friends. The late Bob Byrne, a former UL Lafayette English professor, is considered one of the primary inspirations for Ignatius. Like Ignatius, Byrne was a devotee of the 6th-century philosopher Boethius and a self-described slob. Myrna, referred to by Ignatius as “that minx,” was presumably inspired by Patricia Rickels.

“Through their years of friendship, Toole had likely gained a muse in Pat Rickels,” said Dr. Carolyn Bruder, UL Lafayette’s interim provost and an English professor. In her letter, Toole foreshadows a prominent scene in Confederacy. In the pages of the novel, Ignatius relives and bemoans a traumatic bus ride from New Orleans to Baton Rouge.

It seems Toole shared his character’s aversion to bus travel. In the letter, he explained to the Rickels that he would not be visiting Lafayette because he lacked a vehicle. “The prospect of traveling via Greyhound,” he wrote, “stopped me in the planning stage.”

UL Lafayette plans to show the Toole materials during a special exhibit next spring at the Paul and Lulu Hilliard Art Museum.
Top Designer Honored With Doctorate

Joe Stewart holds a scale model of a revolving stage, part of the set design for The Rabbit.

Television viewers may not know Joe Stewart’s name but they’ve likely seen his work.

The Emmy Award-winning production designer and art director has helped create the look and feel of some of the best-loved television shows, including Two and Half Men, The Big Bang Theory and Friends. He has shaped the look of the Emmy Awards' telecast, as well as the American Music Awards, the Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon and the Miss USA and Miss Universe Pageants.

Stewart received an honorary doctorate of fine arts from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette during its Spring Commencement on May 12.

He mentored about two dozen UL Lafayette students during the 2011–12 academic year while he was the College of the Arts’ artist-in-residence. He helped them design the set of The Rabbit, an adaptation of Antonine Maillet’s play, Les Crasseux. Students performed the play in March at the Burke-Hawthorne theater during the College’s annual Festival of the Arts.

Students from multiple disciplines worked on the production. Architecture and industrial design students, for example, helped create the set, which included a three-dimensional, revolving stage.

The students were looking for a creative way to present one of The Rabbit’s characters. Stewart suggested a technique he has used in numerous award shows: incorporating large video projection screens onstage.

Instead of an on-stage actress, students filmed a series of video segments that showed only glimpses of a female figure — an eye, a pair of feet walking — to add mystery to the character.

“Working with the students was insightful and fun. They had a great energy and a great willingness to learn. I’m glad I was able to be part of the experience,” Stewart said.

A Lafayette native, he graduated from Cathedral Carmel High School and studied architecture, art history and fine art at UL Lafayette when it was known as the University of Southwestern Louisiana.

In 1974, he transferred to Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and received a bachelor of fine arts degree in drama (design) in 1977. After graduation, he worked in New York as a production assistant in public television. He later moved to Los Angeles, where he began his television career at NBC as an assistant art director on Days of our Lives.

Along with partner John Shaffner, Stewart is among the busiest production designers in the television industry. They have worked on special events, game shows, charity telethons, talk shows, music and variety series and specials, and live theatrical productions. They have designed specials for artists such as Perry Como, Andy Williams, Celine Dion and Willie Nelson.

Stewart has received four Primetime Emmy Awards, two Daytime Emmy Awards for The Ellen DeGeneres Show and one Los Angeles Area Emmy Award. Collaborations by Stewart and Shaffner have been nominated 32 times for Primetime and Daytime Emmys, and have received numerous Art Directors Guild and CableACE nominations.

New UL Lafayette MBA Suited for Executives

The program, which began in August, will last 16 months. The curriculum mirrors the university’s traditional master’s degree in business administration program; however, classes are held every other weekend, for four hours on Fridays and nine hours on Saturdays. Participants take classes in four modules: financial fundamentals; business process and analytics; organizations and markets; and capstone and integration.

New UL Lafayette MBA Suited for Executives

A NEW MBA DEGREE PROGRAM at UL Lafayette is tailored for business executives.

“A traditional course schedule just doesn’t work well for people who are running their businesses. They need a curriculum that is focused, with courses that are available beyond the work week,” said Dr. Joby John, dean of the B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration.

To qualify for the program, potential participants must have at least seven years of experience in senior positions in business.

“We’ve recognized a growing demand among business leaders who want to expand their education and expertise. This program will help meet that demand and strengthen the connection between UL Lafayette and the business community,” John said.
Student-Designed Pathway Becomes Campus Connector

UL Lafayette will receive $456,291 in federal funds to extend a path for bicyclists and pedestrians across campus. The route was designed by the Community Design Workshop, which gives fifth-year architecture students real-world experience.

The path, which officially opened in January, begins at Erasto Landry Road at the edge of University Research Park and runs through University Common. It ends on Johnston Street, near the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center.

“It’s an important artery for the campus and the city,” said Tom Sammons, director of the CDW and a professor of architecture.

The 12-foot-wide route is almost two miles long. The path is well lit, with lampposts that match others on campus.

Sammons is often asked why the lampposts are placed so close to one another, about 25 to 30 feet apart. That placement was determined by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, which funded the first phase of the project with a $1 million grant, he explained.

UL Lafayette student Lindsey LeJeune heads toward the main campus.

The CDW contributed about $80,000 in design services. Volunteers Calvin Courville, ‘61, a civil engineer, and Rusty Ruckstuhl, a landscape architect, assisted the CDW. Lafayette engineer Scotty Baudoin, ‘87, designed the lighting at a reduced rate.

The next phase of construction will connect the path to the main campus, ending on Lewis Street near Girard Park.
UL LAFAYETTE ‘MOST AFFORDABLE’ IN LOUISIANA, REPORT SHOWS

THE UNIVERSITY OF Louisiana at Lafayette is the most affordable university in Louisiana, according to the U.S. Department of Education’s College Affordability and Transparency List. In addition to leading Louisiana as the university with the lowest average net price to attend, UL Lafayette is among the top 10 percent of most affordable four-year public universities in the United States.

“Providing a high-quality education at a very reasonable rate for our students has always been a hallmark of UL Lafayette,” said Dr. Joseph Savoie, president of the university. “We continue to face budget challenges and increasing costs, yet never lose sight that access for our students to achieve a higher education is important to their livelihoods and families, as well as the economic future of our state.”

The 2009-10 annual net price to attend UL Lafayette was $5,129, with 84 percent of students receiving grants or scholarships. The UL Lafayette net price is 18 percent more affordable than the next lowest price to attend a Louisiana university.

Data used by the U.S. Department of Education was reported by institutions for full-time, beginning undergraduate students. The average net price was generated by subtracting the average amount of federal, state or local government, or institutional grants or scholarships from the total cost of attendance.

This is the second year the Department of Education published the College Affordability and Transparency List. In a department release, Education Secretary Arne Duncan stated, “Students need to know up front how much college will actually cost them instead of waiting to find out when the first student loan bill arrives. These lists are a major step forward in unraveling the mystery of higher education pricing.”

Students Bolster Business

BUSINESS OWNERS IN ST. LANDRY PARISH ARE capitalizing on social media strategies devised by high school students, thanks to a statewide contest organized by UL Lafayette’s B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration.

The Louisiana Business Challenge invited high school students to develop campaigns to support Louisiana tourism through social media. The contest drew 64 teams with 240 students from across the state. It was held during the Spring 2012 semester in partnership with the Lieutenant Governor’s Office, the state’s Necentoennial Commission and BP oil and gas company.

The winning team, from Beau Chene High School in St. Landry Parish, designed an educational program to help local business owners promote their businesses. It comprises quarterly workshops for business owners and an internship program for high school students.

Dionne Davis-Green, a UL Lafayette management instructor, held the first workshop in July. Twenty business owners learned about online resources such as Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

Dr. Duleep Delpechitre, a UL Lafayette assistant professor of marketing and hospitality, is engaged in the second part of the plan. This fall, his students will lead teams of St. Landry Parish high school students who will show business owners how to use social media to attract more customers.

UL Lafayette students studying public relations and marketing created a 30-minute documentary about the 2012 Louisiana Business Challenge. It will be used to promote next year’s contest.

For more information, visit the St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission website at www.cajuntravel.com.

Spirited Signage

Wearing red is cooler than ever, now that student leaders and university officials have dedicated Rex Street as Wear Red Avenue. The street connects East St. Mary Boulevard and Lewis Street on the UL Lafayette campus near the Conference Center. UL Lafayette’s 7th annual Wear Red Day was observed Aug. 31; however, fans are encouraged to wear red every Friday to show their Ragin’ Cajun spirit.
NEW GOAL SET FOR SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN

UL Lafayette’s Campaign for Scholarships has reached its goal of raising $4.5 million — more than two years ahead of schedule.

But the university won’t close the campaign’s ledger early. It will set the bar higher because students’ needs for financial assistance are so great, said UL Lafayette President Dr. Joseph Savoie. The new target is $6.5 million, to be raised before the original campaign deadline of December 2014.

Savoie said the university is invigorated by the fund drive’s early success. “The fact that the campaign goal was reached so far ahead of our campaign deadline is a testament to the belief in our students and educational programs by so many alumni and supporters. We are very grateful to donors who recognize the importance of helping students in their journey to earn a college degree.”

The Campaign for Scholarships is UL Lafayette’s first campaign devoted solely to raising money for scholarships.

“Donors who have supported this scholarship campaign are playing a critical role in helping to position UL Lafayette as a leading university in the preparation of men and women who will be lifelong contributors to their professions and communities,” Savoie said.

UL Lafayette’s Office of Development launched the public phase of the fund drive in April 2011. It also announced that author Rebecca Wells, best known for her book, Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood, would be its honorary chair.

David P. Comeaux, interim director of Development at UL Lafayette, said the campaign is focused on funding endowed scholarships but all contributions will help reach the $6.5 million goal. Endowed scholarships are perpetual sources of funding because the principal is left untouched. Only a portion of the earned interest is spent.

“A donor may establish a named, endowed scholarship with a minimum gift of $10,000,” Comeaux said. Donors may also choose to support students in a particular field of study.

For more information about establishing a new scholarship or contributing to a current scholarship, phone the UL Lafayette Office of Development at (337) 482-0922 or send an e-mail to gift@louisiana.edu.

MURALS ENHANCE LAFAYETTE INTERSECTION

WHEN VISITORS exit I-10 at North University Avenue, they’ll know they’ve entered Ragin’ Cajun® territory, thanks to Robert Dafford, one of the nation’s prominent mural artists. Four of his works, which feature UL. Lafayette images, flank the interstate exchange.

“I grew up here. The university is at the heart of this community. Lafayette just wouldn’t be Lafayette without it,” he said during a recent interview.

His artwork is familiar to Acadiana residents. Downtown Lafayette boasts several Dafford murals, including a cobalt blue butterfly, winging its way out of the Atchafalaya Basin toward Dwyer’s Café; “Flying Violin” on Vermilion Street near the federal courthouse; and a panoramic view of Festival International de Louisiane that’s visible along Jefferson Street.

Dafford was an art student at UL Lafayette (then USL) when he was drafted into the military in the 1960s during the Vietnam War. When he returned to Lafayette, he started a graphics business that included commercial signage, which soon led to his work as a muralist.

Two of the murals at the I-10 and North University Avenue intersection feature UL Lafayette logos and direct drivers toward campus. Another features Ragin’ Cajuns athletics. The fourth focuses on academics by depicting graduating seniors at Commencement and other students.

The murals are part of an improvement project resulting from a partnership formed by UL Lafayette, Lafayette Consolidated Government and the Upper Lafayette Economic Development Foundation, a nonprofit organization.

Dafford began the project in 2009 and completed it in August. A crew of artists helps him paint large murals. It includes Brett Chigoy, ‘03, who provided most of the labor for the project.

“We don’t use typical paint, which is a film that covers a surface,” Dafford explained. Instead, images are created with a special paint that contains ground minerals that bond with concrete.

“I expect these murals will be here as long as the interstate’s still standing,” he predicted.

Because the project was funded by grants, he worked on the murals over time, as money became available.

The materials are expensive; a gallon of silicate mineral paint costs about $200. Jan Swift, Upper Lafayette’s director, obtained $34,000 in grants for the project. Dafford did not charge for his own work.

Swift said the project was intended to create “an entry point with visual impact. We want visitors to know that Lafayette is a vibrant city — and definitely a college town.”
Striving for Success
Veteran relies on tutoring services across campus

Ken Carmouche is a soft-spoken sophomore who spends about 12 hours a week in tutoring sessions across campus. The 49-year-old retired postal worker and U.S. Army veteran says that extra academic effort has been a lifeline.

“I had been out of school for more than 25 years when I decided to get a degree,” he told La Louisiane. “So, I get a substantial amount of tutoring, especially in math. Without the support of my tutors across campus, I would not be here.”

Carmouche is the first in his family to attend college. He enrolled at UL Lafayette in 1981 after graduating from Acadiana High School.

“I believe my dad started saving for my college education the day I was born. When he would introduce me to his friends and business associates, he would tell them that I would be going to college one day and that I would be a doctor.

“But those were his desires, not mine. Back then, I didn’t take my education very seriously. I really just played around with college,” he said candidly.

“I didn’t have any loans or grants. My dad paid for all of my college expenses. I never wanted to disappoint him but it wasn’t fair for him to throw his money away.”

By 1984, Carmouche had a 1.7 grade point average and no reason to believe he should stick around. But before he dropped out, he made a promise to his father that someday he would earn a college degree.

He joined the military, just like his father, grandfather, great-grandfather and three uncles had done as young men.

Carmouche earned a place in the elite 75th Ranger Regiment (Airborne), the Army’s premier light infantry unit. Members of this special operations force are prepared for rapid deployment anywhere in the world on combat or humanitarian missions. He was a paratrooper in top physical condition.

But in May 1985, he was making a routine jump when something went wrong. He landed in a grove of evergreen trees. At some point during his descent, he broke his back. He also sustained a severe head injury.

Carmouche was airlifted to an Army hospital, where he underwent emergency surgery on his lower back. He spent the next six months in a hospital, recovering and learning to walk again. He was a private first class when he received a medical discharge from the Army.

Because of his service-related disability, Carmouche had an advantage when applying for federal jobs. He received additional points on standardized tests for positions. “I chose the post office because it offered a good job that didn’t require a college degree,” he said. “I decided I was going to become all I could be at the post office.”

Over the next 25 years, he worked his way up from being a mail carrier to a supervisor. After retiring in 2007, he began to reconsider college. “Every now and then

From left, Quan Bui, a UL Lafayette junior majoring in mechanical engineering, tutors Ken Carmouche in mathematics.
I would think about how I'd dropped out of college, wondering how my life would have turned out if I'd gotten a degree."

One day, he picked up a brochure about Veterans Upward Bound, a federal program that enables veterans to receive job training and education. At UL Lafayette, the program is administered by the university's office of Special Services. Its staff helps veterans choose an appropriate path. For some, that means vocational training. For others, Upward Bound becomes an entry point for college.

Carmouche signed up and began taking courses. "I knew I'd have to take some basic courses, particularly math, to be able to get a degree." He scheduled an introductory algebra course at South Louisiana Community College. Even though he was an SLCC student, he received tutoring at UL Lafayette.

"When I passed that course, it was a big step for me. I knew if I could pass that math course, that someday I would be holding a diploma in my hand," he said.

In 2010, Carmouche enrolled as a full-time student, majoring in economics. He plans to seek another government job after graduation. "This time, having a degree will give me more options," he said.

His tuition and books are paid for through Louisiana Rehabilitation Services, a state agency that assists people who have disabilities. He also receives a stipend. While state funding provides him the financial resources to attend college, he said UL Lafayette staff members have given him academic support and encouragement. "The Upward Bound program helped me to get up to speed. In terms of support, the staff has been phenomenal. Even though I'm not technically part of the program any more, they are my foundation and definitely part of my support system on campus.

"I'm not going to waste taxpayers' money and I'm not going to waste this opportunity. I'm going to use every resource that's available to me in order to be successful," he said.

Carmouche receives free tutoring from several offices. He attends sessions at Lee Hall, where The Learning Center is located. The TLC is the largest tutoring center on campus. Carmouche also works with tutors in the Mathematics Department in Maxim Doucet Hall. And, he receives tutoring at the Conference Center, offered by UL Lafayette's Office of Disability Services. He has also received tutoring in economics.

"It's not uncommon for people to have more than one career and I'm looking forward to the next chapter of my life," Carmouche said.

In the meantime, he's keeping the promise he made to his father in 1984. "My dad died in 1997 after a long bout with cancer. Even on his deathbed, he was still talking to me about going back to college."

In 2010, Carmouche and his wife, Christine, adopted their two grandchildren, who are now 2 and 3. "We weren't prepared to do that, financially, but we knew it was the right thing for us as a family.

"My goal is to go back to work — this time, with a degree. I'm going back to work for my grandkids. I want to make sure we have financial resources for them when they're ready to go to college. And I want them to see that anything's possible."
Passion for Service
UL Lafayette student encourages women to build homes

When UL Lafayette student Kelly Colomb changed her career focus from counseling to engineering, she experienced an identity crisis.

“I’d always seen myself in a helping profession. I was afraid I’d have to leave that part of myself behind,” she told La Louisiane.

Instead, a university course introduced her to another avenue of service: volunteering for Lafayette Habitat for Humanity, where she has helped build homes and organize all-female construction teams.

Colomb is pursuing a master’s degree in mechanical engineering.

During the Summer 2011 semester, she took a thermodynamics course taught by Dr. Terry Chambers, associate dean of the College of Engineering. He assigned Colomb’s class to a 10-hour workday at a Habitat construction site in a Lafayette neighborhood.

Habitat for Humanity International is a nonprofit organization that provides affordable housing for low-income families. In the United States, it does that by providing interest-free mortgages, using donated material and relying on homeowners’ and volunteers’ free labor.

After one day at the site, Colomb was hooked.

“I had never even swung a hammer before but it was a great experience. There were other women in the class and at the end of the day we all felt a sense of personal accomplishment. We had done things we weren’t sure we’d be able to do and we’d helped someone else in the process,” she said.

Colomb has become a dedicated Habitat volunteer, working during academic breaks and encouraging others to participate. In May, she helped organize a three-day kickoff of Lafayette Habitats Women Build program. Over Mother’s Day weekend, women worked at multiple construction sites. Colomb led a team that installed siding on a home in Lafayette.

She and some fellow Habitat volunteers have their own dream home: “Our goal is to build a home, from start to finish, with all-female labor.” Their target date is 2013.

Colomb, 33, earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology from UL Lafayette in 2002 and spent five years as a professional counselor. “I was working in drug and alcohol rehabilitation. Eventually, I got burned out,” she said.

In 2008, Colomb began working as a project assistant at a Lafayette project management/engineering and consulting firm. She started to contemplate seeking a master’s degree at UL Lafayette to increase her earning capacity.

One day she had an epiphany while at work. “I realized that, with a degree, I could be managing projects, instead of just helping someone else do it,” she recalled.

Colomb enrolled at UL Lafayette in Spring 2010 and began taking courses in mathematics and chemistry, prerequisites for the mechanical engineering curriculum. She is on track to graduate in December 2013. By then, Lafayette may have its first Habitat home built entirely by women, thanks to her.

“Home ownership helps a person to feel like he has finally made it in this world. It gives you a sense of independence and empowerment. I also know that it is one of the most difficult things to successfully accomplish and maintain. So a program that offers affordable housing to families in need is, to me, one of the worthiest causes out there.”

For more information about Lafayette Habitat for Humanity, call (337) 261-5041 or visit habitatlafayette.org.

‘Our goal is to build a home, from start to finish, with all-female labor.’
HUMAN-POWERED CAN CRUSHER INSPIRES PUBLIC TO RECYCLE

UL Lafayette students are having a smashing good time.

Some third-year industrial design majors have created a recycling machine — the pRECYCLE — that uses human power to crush about 180 aluminum cans per minute. The device is a modified bicycle; its pedals are attached to two piston-like arms that collect cans into a hopper and flatten them.

Ben Bush, a UL Lafayette assistant professor of industrial design, challenged the students to develop ideas and products for a recycling business that would make Louisiana festivals more sustainable. “Festivals can generate a lot of waste in a concentrated area within a relatively short amount of time. Although some of that waste is recyclable, it’s still ending up in landfills. That’s because once the material becomes contaminated — typically with food — it moves out of the recycling stream into the waste stream,” he said.

“One of the most difficult things to do is to get people to change their behavior — and that includes how they dispose of trash. Research shows that people are more likely to recycle if the process is fun and engaging.”

A group of 15 students developed the pRECYCLE. Three of them, Grant Caplan, Adam Traweek and Chad Weaver, built the machine, which cost about $500.

They debuted the device at Festival International de Louisiane, one of the largest outdoor, free Francophone events in the United States. The visual and performing arts festival is held in downtown Lafayette each April. It drew an estimated 400,000 visitors over four days this year.

Students demonstrated the machine at Parc Sans Souci, a public park that is one of the festival’s outdoor venues. They invited passers-by to drop empty cans into the machine, then either crush them or have a student do the legwork.

Bush estimated that 10 to 15 percent more cans were recycled in one section of the festival grounds as a result.

Students Win International Prospecting Competition

A TEAM OF UL LAFAYETTE geology students proved themselves the world’s best at determining where to drill for oil.

Five graduate students, Joey Grimmel, Daniel Dudley, Chris Bijan Hatamian, Mike Lahey and Sarah Beth Maxwell, won first place in the 2012 Imperial Barrel Award Competition.

The annual contest, sponsored by the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, awards a top prize of $20,000. UL Lafayette will use those funds for scholarships and to support future teams, said Dr. Brian Lock, a UL Lafayette professor of geology who was the team’s advisor. Geologist Mary Broussard, an alumna who works for Plains Exploration, was the team’s mentor. She earned a master’s degree in geology in 1995.

The competition is held in two stages, with teams representing six regions of the United States and six international regions. The 12 regional winners compete for the overall award.

Eight weeks before the competition, students are given data sets that may include well logs, 2-D and 3-D seismic data, core information and geochemical data. Students analyze the information. Then they present their findings to a panel of judges and make recommendations, such as “drill here” or “don’t invest further,” Lock explained.

“The competition is judged by senior personnel — mostly exploration managers — with major oil companies. No one knows the ‘correct’ answers because the prospects have not yet been drilled.”

UL Lafayette’s team worked with 30-year-old, 2-D seismic data from Alaska’s North Slope, an area where companies want to drill but have not been permitted to do so.

“The judging criteria, in basic terms, are how well the students have evaluated the data. If they were reporting to the company hierarchy, would they convince the managers that they had presented their case most effectively — whether the recommendation would be to drill, shoot seismic or abandon the project?”

“The question-and-answer session that follows the presentation can be very intense. Do the students understand all the information? Have they researched effectively? Do they understand how a company operates?” Lock said.
OPENING SOON

RAGIN’ CAJUNS RED ZONE
OFFICIAL TEAM SHOP

Get your Ragin’ Cajun apparel and gear at the corner of East Lewis & Johnston Streets.
Pride of Acadiana Marching Band Adopts New Style

WHEN UL LAFAYETTE’S PRIDE of Acadiana Marching Band takes to the streets of New York later this year, it will have a new look. Members will be wearing new uniforms when they perform in Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade on Nov. 22.

This is the second time the band has been invited to participate in the nationally televised event. It marched in the parade in 2005. An estimated 3.5 million spectators attend the parade each year, while more than 50 million watch it on television.

Band director Dr. Brian Taylor worked with Stanbury Uniforms Inc., based in Brookfield, Mo., to design the new uniforms. The company, established in 1917, originally produced police, fire and military uniforms. It began making band uniforms in 1947.

Stanbury created three prototype designs. Taylor invited the public to help choose the band’s new look in an online poll and promoted it on Facebook. More than 5,200 votes were cast to choose the new design.

The uniforms are made of a lightweight, synthetic material, XtremeDri, which was developed by Stanbury. Like fabrics used for athletic uniforms, it wicks away moisture and is stain and odor resistant.

“Marching band performance isn’t just about the music — it’s also physically demanding. The new uniforms will be cooler and more comfortable, allowing the marchers to move more freely,” Taylor said.

New uniforms are also being designed for the band’s color guard.

Taylor said 285 students are participating in the band this fall.

STUDENTS TOY WITH PLAYFUL DESIGN FOR COURSE CREDIT

Caleb Thibodeaux, a sophomore majoring in industrial design, built his Reverse Trike for Industrial Design II. In this required course, students learn about form and aesthetics.

In Spring 2012, Andy Loewy, an associate professor of industrial design, gave his students an assignment inspired by childhood pursuits: design and build a toy made from reclaimed materials, including bamboo.

“Our field requires the use of both sides of the brain, the intuitive and the empirical. It is the marriage of the two and the desire to make a contribution through problem solving that creates the strong projects of our program,” Loewy said.

“We allow our students to take risks and to explore new ideas and concepts. The only way students are unsuccessful is if they don’t put in the effort. The No. 1 requirement of our program is hard work.”

Two students, Thibodeaux and Amanda Sylvester, chose ambitious projects: each created a tricycle.

Thibodeaux used wheels from a wheelchair bought at a thrift shop and parts from a child’s bike and wagon.

“Industrial design is for anyone who can work well with their hands to express their ideas,” he said.

“This major is extremely fun and my class feels like a family environment. We all help each other when we can to further our projects. It is competitive but that makes the products even better,” Thibodeaux added.

Sylvester’s bike doesn’t have foot pedals. Instead, she incorporated the gear mechanism on the handlebars.

“The concept behind the project was to create a bamboo bike that everyone, including disabled children and adults, could ride,” she said.

Twenty students completed the course. Other projects included a math fishing game; a collapsible flying disc; an albatross pull toy; a miniature bean bag throwing toy; a crossbow airplane launcher; a bamboo bazooka; and a night light.

Caleb Thibodeaux and Amanda Sylvester ride their trikes near Edith Garland Dupré Library.
Bourgeois Hall is bigger and better. UL Lafayette has added a $3 million fitness center to it. The 20,000-square foot addition was envisioned and funded by students. It features a two-story climbing wall, dedicated areas for weight training and an array of exercise machines.

Students began laying the financial foundation for the expansion in November 2002, when they voted to increase a self-assessed recreational fee to pay for the facility.

Those students didn't get to see the results of their planning but current students are grateful for their foresight.

Angela Granese is a graduate student pursuing a master's degree in speech language pathology. She works out at Bourgeois Hall two to three times a week. “This is my release valve. It helps me relax and be more focused, especially if I’m working on a project or approaching a test,” she said.

The addition complements the existing facility, which features tennis courts; indoor courts for basketball, volleyball and racquetball; and large rooms for aerobics classes. Bourgeois Hall, which opened in 1987, also includes classrooms and faculty offices for UL Lafayette's School of Kinesiology and administrative offices for the Department of Recreational Sports.

In the original building, students who worked out with weights were confined to one small room. Now, weight machines occupy most of the ground
KRIStina Avery Scales The Climbing Wall In UL LaFayettE’S New Fitness Center.

Avery, a sophomore majoring in informatics, is a student worker at the facility.
floor. And, there are areas for free-weight workouts on both levels.

Upstairs, students work out on cardiovascular machines — including stair machines, treadmills, upright and recumbent bicycles, rowing machines and elliptical machines. The loft also features flat-screen televisions, compatible with wireless headsets.

In March 2002, a $2.4 million Student Aquatic Center opened next to Bourgeois Hall.

‘This is my release valve. It helps me relax and be more focused.’
ANGELA GRANES

It features a landscaped leisure pool, a lap pool, 20-person whirlpool and a sand volleyball court.

Wayne Harper, director of recreational sports at UL Lafayette, said the state-of-the-art complex is a draw for potential students.

There hasn’t been a recreational fee increase since 2002, when students’ contributions increased from $2 to $22 for each fall and spring semester. The fee applies to students who are enrolled for a minimum of six academic hours. Students who enroll in at least six hours each summer semester contribute $10 each. UL Lafayette’s fees are among the lowest in the state.

“Because we’re operating with a pay-as-you-go policy, the addition is completely
paid for,” said Harper. To use the facility, UL Lafayette students, faculty and staff simply swipe their university identification cards at the door.

Jessica Clarke Leger was president of UL Lafayette’s Student Government Association when the increase went into effect. She’s now on staff at the university as its associate athletic director for compliance and academics. She’s also an instructor of UNIV 100, a course designed to familiarize new students with university resources and facilities.

“I can remember standing on the corner of Rex and St. Mary, passing out flyers for students to vote in favor of the referendum to support the expansion. Now, I bring my students to tour the new facility to be sure they know about this amazing amenity,” Leger said.

Harper said more recreational improvements are in the works. “We plan to expand and improve outdoor fields for club and intramural sports. That’s what students have told us is important and that’s what they support. So, we’re working to provide the same quality of facilities in that arena.”
UL Lafayette’s industrial design program, the only one of its kind in Louisiana, is still young.

Students began receiving diplomas in the mid-1990s. Roughly a decade later, those alumni are part of an innovative fraternity with impressive credentials. They’re working for companies like Skeeter and Cessna, Kohler and Hewlett-Packard. Their designs can be found at stores such as Crate and Barrel, Target and Williams-Sonoma.

They’ve arrived. And they’ve arrived quickly.

In the following pages, La Louisiane introduces you to a handful of UL Lafayette designers – all of whom are making their mark on the world.

A Lafayette native, Barton LeBlanc grew up hunting and fishing in Louisiana. He is the senior industrial designer for Skeeter Boats Inc., a division of Yamaha Marine. As Skeeter’s first in-house designer, he has designed family-style fish-and-ski boats, walleyes, bay boats – and his favorite – high-performance bass boats. In 2006, LeBlanc helped design Skeeter’s i-Class series, which earned Field and Stream’s Best in Show Award and Trailer Boats magazine’s Design Excellence Award. Another UL Lafayette industrial designer has joined Skeeter. In May, LeBlanc hired James Vizins, ’12.
Matthew Harrell designs aircraft interiors for Cessna Aircraft Co. His primary responsibilities are concept creation for new interiors, detail modeling and rendering. He has helped create the interiors for the Citation TEN, Citation M2 and the Citation Latitude. After graduating from UL Lafayette, he completed an internship at Techtronic Industries, the maker of Ryobi, Craftsman and Ridgid power tools. He helped design the Ridgid 12-volt lithium-ion compact drill, which earned an International Design Excellence Award in 2008 from the Industrial Designers Society of America.

Ryan Broussard, ’04
KidKraft

When Ryan Broussard was a child, he took his toys apart to understand how they were made. Now, he designs intricate toys like this Deluxe Garage Set and leads a team of four designers at KidKraft. The Dallas-based company manufactures and distributes high-quality wooden toys and furniture for children. Its product line includes train sets, dollhouses, play kitchens and table-and-chair sets. Another UL Lafayette grad, Jake Warren, ’11, is also a KidKraft designer. “As a guy, it’s kind of a challenge to get yourself into the mindset of a young girl — to think about what would be appealing,” he said. Warren applied his imagination and skills to design his first big dollhouse, the Beachfront Mansion. He said he relies on every aspect of his industrial design education in his day-to-day work. “It’s been a smooth transition from student to designer. We sketch. We do 3-D modeling and we create full-scale models of all designs before they go into the manufacturing process. We also work with a graphics team, photographers and set designers to promote the products we create.” KidKraft products are found in specialty toy shops; the company also produces private-label items for stores such as Toys”R”Us, Walmart, Target and Costco.
Elliott Bowser, '09
L-E-it Design

"As industrial designers, we figure out how to improve products that already exist and we also bring new things into existence," Elliott Bowser told La Louisiane. He worked as a metal artist while he was a student to earn money for tuition. When he earned his bachelor's degree in industrial design in 2009, he started his own company, L-E-it Design. Since graduation, he's designed a variety of projects, including the housing for an X-ray machine for pediatric use (shown, left) and trophies for sailing regattas. He's designing a custom commercial sign for Mellow Mushroom Pizza Bakers. The national chain is planning to open its first Louisiana location in New Orleans. Bowser is also designing a car for Fisker Karma, a California company that produces luxury hybrid vehicles.

Richard Funnell, '07
Bosch and Siemens

Richard Funnell's career in industrial design began in 2008 with an internship at Bosch and Siemens Home Appliances in North Carolina. After a successful experience with its design team, he accepted a full-time position and began working on projects for the cooking division. After two years, he was transferred to the BSH headquarters in Southern California. His most recent major project was to redesign the Thermador Pro Grand Steam Range for a relaunch of this flagship cooking product.
Lindsey Bloomfield, ’07
Chef’n Corp.

Lindsey Bloomfield’s designs can be found in stores such as Target, Crate and Barrel and Williams-Sonoma. She works for Chef’n Corp., a kitchen product company based in Seattle that has an international reach. Chef’n products have been featured in Cook’s Illustrated, Food & Wine, Real Simple, Fast Company and Time magazines. Bloomfield previously worked for Bass Pro Shops, where she designed fixtures and display cases. In addition to her degree from UL Lafayette, she holds a master’s degree in graphic design from the Florence Institute of Design in Italy.

A ring designed by Michael Bartlett was chosen as one of the best designs in the jewelry industry in 2011. The platinum ring (shown, top left) was featured in InStyle magazine and online in a Vogue blog. Bartlett is a product designer for Stuller Inc. The Lafayette-based company is one of the area’s largest employers. It produces jewelry and other products for the jewelry industry. “I was the first industrial designer Stuller ever hired,” said Bartlett, who joined Stuller immediately after he graduated. The company has added five more industrial design alumni: Azeez All-Balogun, ’11; Cateline Quinn, ’09; Danielle Scoccimaro, ’11; Matthew Perera, ’09, and Travis Withers, ’10.
Video game designer Brad Jeansson has designed components of well-known games, including versions of Halo and Call of Duty. His work combines technology, games and sustainable design. "I like the combination of the creative with the logical. Those are the elements that drew me into industrial design." In 1996, he transferred to UL Lafayette from the Savannah College of Art and Design. "My time at UL was the toughest, most productive and valuable part of my education. The curriculum and the professors challenged me to define my design principles. It was a safe environment to experiment and learn from other disciplines."

Billy McDonald, ’11
Noble Plastics Inc.

Billy McDonald is one of two industrial design graduates working for Noble Plastics Inc., a company based in Grand Coteau, La. It creates products for a wide range of industries, including oil and gas exploration, aerospace and defense, and consumer products, including sporting goods. It hired McDonald when he graduated and added a second industrial designer, Keegan McClain, ’08, in May. One of McDonald’s projects is a redesign of a coffee stirrer that’s environmentally friendly. His design gives it a second life — as a bookmark — before it’s discarded or recycled. “It’s been quite exciting to see how different the two of them are and what different skills they bring to bear,” said Missy Rogers, one of the company’s founders.
Gridiron Graduates
Student-athletes succeed on and off the playing field

ON THE DAY LOUISIANA'S Ragin' Cajuns® played in a bowl game for the first time in four decades, 1,214 UL Lafayette seniors graduated in the Cajundome.

Five other seniors — members of the football team — reached the academic end zone at a Marriott hotel in the French Quarter. They received diplomas in a special ceremony, just hours before competing in the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome.

UL Lafayette President Dr. Joseph Savoie, wearing traditional academic regalia, conferred the players' degrees on a stage in one of the hotel's meeting rooms. Dwight "Bill" Bentley, Le'Marcus Gibson, Andrew "Rico" Joseph and Kyle Plouhar earned bachelor's degrees in general studies; Ladarius Green received a bachelor's degree in finance.

Within a crowd of friends, family members and fellow players, the new graduates — sporting caps and gowns and red-laced athletic shoes — took an impromptu victory walk.

Joseph described the experience to a newspaper reporter: "To be preparing for a bowl game and to graduate at the same time — it was a great feeling. And to be with my teammates … overwhelming."

UL Lafayette's Fall 2011 Commencement date — Dec. 17 — was set long before the Ragin' Cajuns were invited to the New Orleans Bowl. University officials decided to hold Commencement earlier in the day so there would be enough time afterward to travel to New Orleans for the bowl game.

At the Superdome that night, fans and players experienced a surreal end to a stellar season. As the game clock ticked down, junior Brett Baer kicked his first career 50-yard field goal, giving the Cajuns a 32-30, white-knuckle win over the San Diego State Aztecs.

Sports media ranked the contest among the top 10 postseason games. Among 36 NCAA football bowl games played in December and January, Fox Sports placed it at No. 2, while CBS Sports gave it a fifth-place rating. In comparison, the Bowl Championship Series title game between the University of Alabama and Louisiana State University was ranked 30th and 20th, respectively.

When Mark Hudspeth became head coach in mid-December 2010, fans had high hopes that he would reinvigorate the Ragin' Cajun squad. Few could have predicted the degree of success he and his players would achieve in his first season at UL Lafayette. The team earned a 9-4 record in 2011 that included the Cajuns' first bowl appearance since 1970.

UL Lafayette had the biggest boost in attendance among all NCAA football programs in the nation, with an average increase of 11,788 fans per game. It beat out Arizona State, Stanford, Iowa State, Temple, Florida State and Oklahoma State in increased average attendance.
Louisiana’s Ragin’ Cajuns earn fleurs-de-lis helmet decals for athletic and academic achievements. On black helmets, gold decals signify academic success, while red stickers tout athletic accomplishments.

Those stats include a record crowd for the New Orleans Bowl — 42,841 fans, who mostly wore red and white. It was the first time a Louisiana team competed in the New Orleans Bowl, which was established in 2001. The event had an estimated $25 million economic impact in the Crescent City.

Increased fan support was also apparent in financial contributions. In 2011, donors gave $750,000 to the Ragin’ Cajuns Athletic Foundation’s Annual Fund. The nonprofit group, which raises money for UL Lafayette’s athletics programs, is well on its way to reaching its 2012 goal of $1.5 million. By August, it had received more than $1 million. RCAF funds are used to improve facilities, supplement coaches’ salaries and provide academic support, such as tutoring, for student-athletes.

While Hudspeth’s success on the football field is well known, some fans may not be familiar with how much emphasis he and his staff place on academics.

“Our student-athletes are pushed to excel — in practice, in play and in the classroom. It’s about being focused and achieving balance. If I’m not helping my players do well in every arena, I’m shortchanging them, and I’m not going to do that,” the coach said in a recent interview with La Louisiane.

“Our No. 1 goal is to graduate our student-athletes. We’ve also set a goal for student-athletes to earn a minimum GPA of 2.8 every semester.”

Over the past decade, the team’s collective GPA has improved from 2.39 to 2.69.

“We’re moving in the right direction and we’ll continue to improve. We

Players earn new decals each week. They receive academic fleurs-de-lis if they maintain an A or B average and attend class and study hall. They earn athletic decals for being named the Player of the Game or a conference or national Player of the Week.

“The main thing we try to stress: not only are our expectations high on the field, those expectations are just as high in the classroom. That philosophy has set the tone for our whole program,” Hudspeth said.

Two Ragin’ Cajun alums — Bill Bentley and Ladarius Green — were drafted into the National Football League in April. The Detroit Lions selected Bentley, a cornerback, in the third round; the San Diego Chargers chose Green, a tight end, in the fourth round.

“I didn’t really start thinking seriously about the possibility of playing in the NFL until late in my senior year. I was focused on getting my degree,” Green told La Louisiane.

“I’m the first person in my family to earn a college degree, so it means a lot to me and to my family. As far as my mother’s concerned, playing in the NFL — sure, that’s a big deal — but getting my degree, that’s what really matters.”

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<th>LOUISIANA’S RAGIN’ CAJUNS® 2012 SCHEDULE</th>
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**67th Homecoming**

| OCT. 6 | TULANE UNIVERSITY | CAJUN FIELD |
| Oct. 16 | University of North Texas* | at Denton, Texas |
| OCT. 23 | ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY* | CAJUN FIELD |
| Nov. 3 | University of Louisiana at Monroe* | at Monroe, La. |
| Nov. 10 | University of Florida | at Gainesville, Fla. |
| NOV. 17 | WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY* | CAJUN FIELD |
| NOV. 24 | UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA* | CAJUN FIELD |
| Dec. 1 | Florida Atlantic University* | at Boca Raton, Fla. |
Perennial Powerhouse
Softball team advances, draws fans to regional play

BY DAN MCDONALD

It takes only a quick look at the record book to confirm that UL Lafayette’s softball team is accustomed to successful seasons. Twelve Sun Belt Conference titles in 12 years; 22 trips to the NCAA Tournament, including the last 14 in a row; and four appearances in the Women’s College World Series all speak for themselves.

This year, though, the Ragin’ Cajuns had a little more help and a little more firepower on their way to making another big splash on the national scene.

With all their success over the past quarter-century, the Cajuns had not hosted an NCAA regional since 2002. But with the move into their stunning new 2,800-seat Lamson Park facility at the beginning of this season, the Cajuns finally had a home that matched the quality of their program.

Confirming the “if you build it, they will come” theory, UL Lafayette once again ranked among the nation’s leaders in attendance, with a 1,259 per-game average. Among those that came were the NCAA, which granted the Cajuns a national seed and a regional host spot. UL Lafayette led the country in NCAA regional attendance, with 14,097 fans on hand for three days of regional play.

Those attendees saw the Cajuns at their finest as they rolled through three games undefeated, including 9-3 and 6-2 wins over highly regarded Stanford, to advance to the Super Regional round against national No. 3 seed Arizona State in Tempe, Ariz. Although the dream for a fifth World Series trip ended there — UL Lafayette won the first of the best-of-three series 6-0 before falling 9-2 and 8-0 to ASU — the Cajuns provided more than their share of thrills.

“This team and these girls are very special,” said head coach Michael Lotief. “What they accomplished is not only great for them, it’s great for our university and our community.”

Among those accomplishments were a final 53-6 record — including a record-setting 28-game winning streak to start the season — and a final No. 9 ranking in the ESPN.com/USA TODAY poll, their 10th-ever inclusion in the season-ending top 10. The Cajuns were ranked in the nation’s top 25 every week during the season and finished in the top 25 for the ninth time in the past 10 years.

The Cajuns now have 10 50-win seasons and have won 40 or more games in 20 of the last 21 years, along with adding to a recent-success mark that includes a 194-48 record over the past four seasons — a win ratio topped only by Alabama, Florida and Missouri in that stretch. UL Lafayette also continued its domination of Sun Belt softball, winning the league regular-season title for the 11th time in the 12 years the league has sponsored the sport.

UL Lafayette ranked third nationally in team batting average and led the country in scoring by a wide margin by averaging 7.81 runs per game. (The highest figure was 6.82.)

Much of that offensive boost was provided by senior outfielder Christi Orgeron, who led the country in runs batted in (94) for the second straight year and was a first-team All-America pick by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association. Junior shortstop Nerissa Myers and senior outfielder Katie Smith also earned All-America status on that team, giving UL Lafayette its most such picks since 1995.

Orgeron was also a top-10 pick for national Player of the Year and was on the Lowe’s Senior CLASS All-America first team for contributions on and off the field.

Honors weren’t restricted to the players, either. UL Lafayette former co-head coach Stefni Lotief won her 600th career game with the win over Stanford in the regional finals, and Michael Lotief had his 500th career win in the Super Regional opener against Arizona State.
ALL-AMERICAN’S JERSEY RETIRED

Dean Church

Dean Church, '65, a USL basketball standout in the 1960s, returned to campus in February, when his jersey — No. 12 — was retired.

A ceremony in his honor was held at halftime when the Ragin’ Cajuns® hosted the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

Church was UL Lafayette’s first basketball player to be named an All-American and the first to earn that honor twice. Today, he ranks 12th on the school’s all-time scoring list with 1,546 points. He also holds the record for the most free throws in a season: 237.

He is the fifth UL Lafayette basketball player to have a jersey retired, along with Dwight “Bo” Lamar, Marvin Winkler, Andrew Toney and the late Kim Perrot.

In an interview with La Louisiane, Church said his college career was almost cut short by his own “stupid” mistake.

A native of Ashland, Ky., he was recruited by the late Beryl Shipley, who offered him an athletic scholarship. He enrolled in the fall of 1960 and joined the team.

Two years later, Church and another player from Kentucky, Henderson Payne, grew homesick as Christmas neared. They impulsively decided to move back home.

Shipley could not persuade them to stay in Lafayette.

Back in Ashland, Church took a job selling toys at a department store. He hated it. “It didn’t take me long to realize that quitting school was the stupidest thing I’d ever done,” he recalled. So he decided to try to return to USL.

During the Spring 1963 semester, USL was scheduled to play at Western Kentucky University, about 250 miles from Ashland. Church made the trip — solo — and went to the hotel where Shipley was staying. "I stood outside the door of his room for an hour getting up enough nerve to approach him," he recalled. When he finally knocked on the door, Shipley let him in and when Church humbly asked to rejoin the team, Shipley graciously said “Yes.”

Church didn’t waste his second opportunity. “I learned my lesson. The rest of my time in school, I didn’t give him any problems.”

In the 1963–64 season, Church averaged 20.1 points per game to help the team win its first Gulf States Conference championship. The next season, as a senior, he averaged 23.36 points per game and led the team to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics National Tournament, where it became the first team from Louisiana to compete against racially integrated teams.

Church was the Gulf States Conference Player of the Year in 1964 and 1965.

He remained a close friend of Shipley, who died last year at age 84. “After I came back to school, we had a good relationship. Eventually, he even served as the best man at my wedding.”

After Church graduated with a bachelor’s degree in marketing, he went to work at Avondale Shipyard near New Orleans. In 2000, he retired as its vice president and chief administrative officer.

Church lives in Luling, La., with his wife, Sally.

Brodhead Named Latest Women’s Coach

GARRY BRODHEAD, ’80, HAS RETURNED to his alma mater as head coach of the Ragin’ Cajuns® women’s basketball program.

“I am very confident about what can happen here. ... My vision is to take this program, one possession at a time, to a tradition of excellence in women’s basketball,” he said at a press conference held to announce his appointment.

Brodhead was associate head coach at McNeese State University for the past five years. Over the past two seasons, the McNeese Cowgirls completed a 52-15 record, earned two conference titles and competed twice in the NCAA Women’s Basketball Championship.

In Acadiana, Brodhead is perhaps best known as the former girls’ basketball coach at Teurlings Catholic High School in Lafayette, where he compiled a 297-78 record from 1997 to 2007. The Lady Rebels won nine district titles and advanced to the semi-finals of the state tournament six times, finishing as the runners-up once and as the champions in 2002. The 2000-01 squad was ranked among the nation’s top 25 teams in a USA Today/ESPN poll; three Teurlings teams earned No. 1 rankings statewide.

Brodhead holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration. He was a pole vaulter on the Ragin’ Cajuns track team from 1976-80. He also served as UL Lafayette’s women’s basketball graduate assistant coach for the 1994–95 season. He is the 12th head coach of the UL Lafayette program. He replaced Errol Rogers, who resigned in March after five seasons.

Brodhead and his wife, Andrea, have three children and three grandchildren.
UL Lafayette is the second-largest university in the state and the largest university in the University of Louisiana System. The Fall 2011 enrollment was 16,885.

About 1,200 students are graduated each fall and spring.

UL Lafayette is among the top 200 universities in the nation in research and development funding. It attracted $69.4 million in external research funds in the 2011-12 academic year.

Louisiana's Ragin' Cajuns student-athletes posted a 2.8 GPA for the Spring 2012 semester. More than half had a 3.0 or better.

UL Lafayette's College of Engineering is offering the first Ph.D. in systems engineering in Louisiana. Systems engineering is a multidisciplinary field that incorporates technology development, design and project management skills.

The Department of Accounting has one of the top programs in the country, according to the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy.

The Carnegie Foundation has designated UL Lafayette as a "Research University with High Research Activity."

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette is the most affordable university in Louisiana, according to the U.S. Department of Education's College Affordability and Transparency List released this spring. In addition to leading Louisiana as the university with the lowest average net price to attend, UL Lafayette is among the top 10 percent of most affordable four-year public universities in the United States.

During the 2010-2011 academic year, more than 5,000 students, faculty and staff contributed about 500,000 hours of direct community service. These direct service efforts resulted in an economic impact of more than $9 million to the Lafayette community.

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette's Campaign for Scholarships has reached its goal of raising $4.5 million — more than two years ahead of schedule. So, it has raised the bar. The new target is $6.5 million, to be raised before the original campaign deadline of December 2014.

The UL Lafayette Foundation recently obtained a rare letter penned by John Kennedy Toole and other memorabilia associated with the Pulitzer Prize-winning author. It purchased Lot No. 135 at a Sotheby's New York auction in June. The most appealing item in that lot was a letter Toole had written to the late Drs. Patricia and Milton Rickeis, former English professors at UL Lafayette, and their late son, Gordon. It was the first Toole letter available at auction in 30 years, according to Sotheby's.

The B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration now offers an Executive MBA program on weekends.

Two new student residences on campus — Bonin Hall and Coronna Hall — were built in time for the Fall 2012 semester. Each can accommodate 460 students.
Strength in Numbers
Size of Association affects university rankings

David Edmiston
Catherine Baudoin

DAVID EDMISTON, ’82, the UL Lafayette Alumni Association’s new executive director, wants to double its membership over the next five years.

The reason may surprise some alumni: membership numbers are a factor in university rankings by publications such as U.S. News and World Report, Forbes and the Princeton Review. Positive rankings boost awareness of UL Lafayette and regard for its programs, which can help with student and faculty recruitment and ultimately enhance the value of a UL Lafayette degree.

Edmiston said the Association has been growing lately but he wants to take a strategic approach to attracting alumni.

There was a spike in the number of alumni who joined the Association after the Ragin’ Cajuns’ 32-30 win in the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl, for example. He also attributes recent growth to UL Lafayette’s continued advancement.

“As a university, we’re making huge strides. UL Lafayette pulled in $69 million dollars in research funding last fiscal year, for example. It’s because of the strength of our research, our faculty and our academic programs. It’s because of our strength as a university. Alumni are responding to that,” he said.

But the Association must take a tactical approach to reach its goal of doubling membership over the next five years, he said. So, it plans to first concentrate on recruiting alumni who have graduated within the past 10 years.

In February, it hired Catherine Baudoin, ’11, to lead that effort as an assistant director. She earned a bachelor’s degree in general studies in December. While still a student, she was a staff assistant for the Association.

Baudoin said she plans to create more volunteer opportunities for recent graduates.

“Because young alumni are often focused on building their careers and starting families, they may not yet have the same kinds of financial resources as other alums. We want to create opportunities for them to donate their time and energy, even if they can’t make a large monetary donation,” she said.

The Association is developing more family-friendly events so alumni who have young children will feel welcome.

“We’re also going to reach out to recent grads to find out what they want and need from us,” Baudoin said.

To learn more, contact the UL Lafayette Alumni Association at (337) 482-0900 or visit its website.

www.louisianaalumni.org
1958
ETHEL CHACHERE SIMPSON is a contributing writer for the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture, an online resource, as well as for the Arkansas Historical Quarterly. She retired in 2003 as a professor and librarian in the Special Collections Department at the University of Arkansas, where she specialized in archives management and Arkansas studies. She holds a bachelor's degree from SLI. She earned master's and doctoral degrees in comparative literature from the University of Arkansas.

1962
DON LANDRY recently published a book, Boxing Louisiana's Forgotten Sport. It includes a chapter on the history of boxing at Southwestern Louisiana Institute, which includes photos of former boxers, coaches, and teams. Prior to his retirement in 2004, Landry had a 44-year career in coaching and athletics administration. While attending SLI, he was a student coach for football, basketball, and baseball. Landry earned a bachelor's degree in health and physical education. He and his wife, LUCILLE HOPKINS LANDRY, who attended SLI, live in Baton Rouge, La. They have four sons, Chris, Scott, Jeff and Steven, and 12 grandchildren.

1963
JOHN R. HORNUNG has self-published four nonfiction ebooks in the past two years. Prior to his retirement in 1997, Hornung was a rocket scientist for an aerospace company at NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans. During his career, he was a consultant in the field of military wargaming at the U.S. Army Combat Developments Command. He also worked for the U.S. Postal Service in Washington, D.C., where he was deputy director of the Office of Statistical Programs and Standards, and for the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Hornung earned a bachelor's degree in physics from SLI, and a master's of public administration degree from American University in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Williamsburg, Va.

1968
JEAN BARNETT GATZ is an author and keynote speaker. Her latest book, 10 Ways to Stand Out From the Crowd: How to Out-Think and Out-Perform the Competition, has won two awards. Gatz earned a bachelor's degree in psychology. She and her husband, LESLIE GATZ, ’69, live in Baton Rouge, La. They have three children and three grandchildren.

1970
DEBORAH LITTLE recently published her memoirs, Growing Up Little: Uptown New Orleans and Rural Alabama, based on her childhood and early teen years in New Orleans in the 1950s and 1960s, as well as visits to family living in rural Alabama. She holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education from SLI, a master's of education in administration and supervision degree from Tulane University and a doctorate in educational technology from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Prior to her retirement in 2006, Little spent 36 years as an educator. She taught at public and private middle schools and high schools in New Orleans; the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; and Alabama State University. She and her husband, Charles Suhor, live in Montgomery, Ala.

1971
Veteran newspaper reporter BILL BUMGARNER was named the 2012 Mr. Louisiana Basketball by the Louisiana Association of Basketball Coaches. The annual award is presented to a person who has made a significant, long-term contribution to the game. In June, Bumgarnar received the Louisiana Sports Writers Association's Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism. He was LSWAs president for two years. In 2009, Bumgarnar retired from the New Orleans Times-Picayune, where he had worked since 1972. He remains a columnist for SportsNOLA.com. Bumgarnar holds a bachelor's degree in political science.

1974
HARRIET MAHER earned the Teacher of the Year award from the River of Words International Youth Creativity Awards in April. She is a Lafayette Parish middle school lead teacher based at Carencro Middle School. River of Words is the world's largest youth poetry and art contest. Maher has actively promoted local students' entries in the competition. Six area students have been national finalists and one student won the poetry competition at the junior high level. Maher also coauthored "River of Words: Young Poets and Artists on the Nature of Things," a 75-page guide for teaching poetry writing to students. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees in English from UL Lafayette.

1975
RON JOHNSON is president of a new company, FTG Equipment Solutions Inc., in Carney's Point, N.J. It will supply corrosion-resistant products for the oilfield and offshore drilling industries, as well as marine agriculture and construction industries. Johnson retired in 2006 as president and CEO of Mitsui Machinery Distribution, a major division of a Global 500 company. He holds a degree in business administration from SLI.

1976
DOUGLAS F. PEDIGO has rejoined Thompson & Knight law firm as a partner in its Corporate and Securities Practice Group in Houston. He specializes in energy-related matters, such as electric power generation, biofuels, and oil and natural gas drilling. He also has extensive experience in domestic and global development of large infrastructure projects. Pedigo holds a bachelor's degree in zoology from UL Lafayette and a juris doctor from LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center.

1898-1921
Southwestern Louisiana Industrial Institute
1921-1960
Southwestern Louisiana Institute
1960-1999
University of Southwestern Louisiana
1999-PRESENT
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
1977
CAPT. MICHAEL L. LANGSTON retired from military service after turning over command of the Naval Chaplaincy School and Center in June 2011. Under his leadership, the NCSC was relocated from Newport, R.I., to Fort Jackson, S.C. Langston was commissioned in the U.S. Marine Corps as a second lieutenant after earning a bachelor’s degree in health and physical education from USL. In 1983, he entered the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves and attended Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he received a master of divinity degree in theology and pastoral care. Langston reentered active duty as a Navy chaplain in 1988. During his career, he deployed with Marine Wing Support Group 27, in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm; with the 2nd Marine Division in Al Anbar Province, Iraq; and as theater chaplain with Combined Forces Command Afghanistan. Langston and his wife, Kathy, live in Blythewood, S.C. They have four children, Michael, Kristin, Jefferson and Elizabeth.

1985
GREGORY MOECK is head of the Energy and Commodities Enforcement Defense team at the international law firm of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft. He is a partner in the Washington, D.C., office. Moeck is included in “Best Lawyers in America 2012” in the area of derivatives and futures law. He holds a bachelor’s degree in finance from USL. He and his wife, Avery Miller, have two children.

1978
STEPHEN BRUNET is manager of documentation and metrics for Louisiana’s Business Engineering Unit of Blue Cross and Blue Shield. He holds a degree in business administration from USL.

1980
CAROLYN COLE recently retired from Oklahoma Baptist University, where she was the Crouch-Mathis Professor of Literature. She joined the OBU faculty in 1987 as an assistant professor. In 2000, she was recognized with OBU’s Distinguished Teaching Award. She holds a bachelor’s degree from Mississippi College and a master’s degree and doctorate from USL. Her professional expertise includes medieval and Renaissance literature, contemporary Latin American literature, and rhetoric and composition. She and her husband, Tom, have two children and three grandchildren.

1986
DR. JAIME L. HEBERT is provost and vice president for Academic Affairs at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. Prior to his appointment, he was dean of the university’s College of Arts and Sciences. During his tenure as dean, the university established a nursing program and department, an Office of Medical and Allied Health Professions, several graduate programs and an aquatics research facility. Hebert received bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in statistics from USL and taught at Appalachian State University. He has two daughters, Emily and Sarah.

1987
JENNIFER RANDAL THORPE is owner and director of Jenni’s Culture and Arts, a division of the MR Behavior Intervention Center in Lafayette. She gives music and voice lessons and specializes in teaching individuals with mental health needs. Thorpe is a member and chaplain of Greater Southwest Louisiana Black Chamber of Commerce and a committee member of the Lafayette Parish Public Education Stakeholders Council. She and her husband, David Tracy Thorpe, have three children, Delisa Marie Henry, Sonije Alexandria Henry and Christine Elizabeth Thorpe. She holds a bachelor’s degree in general studies from UL Lafayette.

1993
BRIAN MILLER is executive director of United for a Fair Economy, an independent and nonpartisan nonprofit organization in Boston that advocates progressive economic and tax policies. He is co-author of The Self-Made Myth: And the Truth About How Government Helps Individuals and Businesses Succeed, which was published this spring. Miller holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from USL.

1995
MICHAEL J. BELLOW is Gulf Coast marketplace director for drilling and well services for Key Energy Services in Lafayette. He has overall responsibility for the company’s support services, drilling, and well service in the southeastern United States. He has been designated as an associate safety professional by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. Bellow holds a bachelor’s degree in industrial science. He and his wife, Joy, have four sons, Steven, Matthew, Noah and Caleb.

1996
MATTHEW VEAEZY is senior editor of DownstreamToday.com and Rigzone.com, two websites covering the oil and gas industry. He holds a bachelor’s degree in English from USL and a master’s degree in mass communication from LSU. Veaezy and his wife, Amanda, live in Pittsburgh with their children, Patrick and Emily.

1997
KENDAL MATASSA is community banking relationship manager for Regions Bank in the Ascension Parish area. He most recently was Regions’ south Louisiana area marketing manager. Matassa holds a bachelor’s degree in public relations.

2000
RYAN A. BRASSEUX is dean of Davenport College, one of Yale University’s 12 residential colleges. He holds a bachelor’s degree in anthropology from USL, a master’s degree in anthropology from Louisiana State University; and a master’s degree in American studies from Yale.

2001
SHAWN CARTER is a partner with the firm Durio, McGuffin, Stagg & Ackerman in Lafayette. He graduated cum laude from UL Lafayette and was the Outstanding Graduate for the College of General Studies. Carter obtained a law degree from LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center, where he served as executive senior editor of the Law Review Board. He is married to Lori Giglio Carter, ’01. They have two children.

SHELBY F. HYNES was recently named a senior research scientist at the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station in Antarctica. She will spend four
months each year managing science labs at the South Pole. While an astronomy and physics instructor at the Louisiana School for Math, Science and the Arts in Natchitoches, La., Hynes was named a National Science Foundation 2011-12 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow. She spent almost a year in Washington, D.C., as a policy maker working to improve educational opportunities for students in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math. She also participated in a field expedition to Greenland. She holds a bachelor’s degree in physics from Northwestern State University and a master’s degree in applied physics from UL Lafayette.

2006
LISA C. BURNS is director of Development for the University of Houston’s College of Technology. She recently was named to the board of directors of the Greater Houston chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Burns is a graduate of Leadership Houston, Class XXIX. She is married to Adam Burns.

2008
JOHN MOMMER II is an award-winning photographer and owner of John Mommer Photography. He is also founder of Militia Clothing, an action sports apparel company. Mommer holds a bachelor’s degree in marketing from UL Lafayette and a master’s of business administration from Rollins Crummer School of Business.

2009
CASEY W. HUNNICUTT became the youngest councilman ever elected in St. Bernard Parish when he was elected in November 2011 at the age of 24. He represents District D. St. Bernard Parish is the nation’s second-fastest-growing county, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Hunnicutt holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from UL Lafayette.

2004
MEREDITH CLARK-WILTZ is a member of the Alpha Society, the academic honorary society of Franklin College, a four-year undergraduate liberal arts institution near Indianapolis, Ind. She is an assistant professor of history there. Clark-Wiltz received a bachelor’s degree in English from UL Lafayette, a master’s degree in history from Bowling Green State University and a doctorate in history from Ohio State University.

2011
DAVID L. BARBER is owner and president of Inventions Unlimited LLC of Lafayette. He holds a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering.
Federal Judicial Appointment Makes History

Nannette Jolivette Brown, ‘85, is the first black female federal judge appointed to serve in Louisiana. She is one of 12 judges for the Eastern District of Louisiana, which is based in New Orleans.

“As federal judges, we are guardians of our Constitution.... We are appointed for life so that we can uphold and apply the rule of law unaffected by politics or public opinion, which only makes this responsibility all the greater and more humbling. Our greatest duty is to ensure that everyone who appears before us is treated equally and fairly, and without bias,” she said at her investiture, held in New Orleans in January.

Jolivette Brown’s nomination was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate in October 2011. President Barack Obama had nominated her in March 2011. U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., recommended Brown, who also received support from U.S. Sen. David Vitter, R-La.

Jolivette Brown attended Northside High School in Lafayette. While a student at UL Lafayette (then USL), she was president of the Vermilion Honor Society and treasurer of the Student Government Association. She was a member of Blue Key Honor Society and the university’s Honors Program. Jolivette Brown was the university’s Outstanding Graduate in 1985.

Prior to her judicial appointment, she was the city attorney for the City of New Orleans. Appointed in May of 2010, she was the city’s lead attorney in matters concerning the BP oil spill, which had begun in the Gulf of Mexico a month earlier. She also helped New Orleans continue its recovery from flooding prompted by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Jolivette Brown has legal experience in commercial and environmental litigation and real estate law. From 1994 to 1996, she was director of New Orleans’ Sanitation Department, where she established the city’s first curbside recycling program. After Hurricane Katrina struck, the Louisiana Department of Insurance and the American Arbitration Association selected Jolivette Brown to mediate hundreds of insurance-related disputes.

She has taught at three law schools in Louisiana. She was a teaching fellow at Tulane Law School’s Environmental Law Clinic, an assistant professor of law at Southern University Law Center and a visiting professor of law at Loyola Law School.

Jolivette Brown holds a bachelor’s degree in English journalism. She earned a juris doctor in 1988 and a master of laws in energy and environmental law in 1998, both from Tulane Law School.
IN MEMORIAM
HELOISE BOUDREAUX ARCENEAUX, '59, died June 24, 2011, in Lafayette at the age of 92. She earned a bachelor's degree in home economics at Southwestern Louisiana Institute. Arceneaux worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a home demonstration agent during World War II. She began her teaching career at Scott High School. Arceneaux also taught at Judice High School and was a librarian at Acadia High School. Survivors include her four children, DONALD J. ARCENEAUX, '70, CLAUDIA L. WALLACE, MARY A. CASTILLE, '76, and ROBERT E. ARCENEAUX, '78; five grandchildren; JOHN CLAUDE ARCENEAUX, '95, SCOTT A. WALLACE, STEVEN W. WALLACE, STACY K. WALLACE and CHRISTOPHER P. CASTILLE; and four great-grandchildren.

CLEOTILDE DEWAILEY, '40, age 92, died May 16, 2011, in Bordelaville, La. She taught home economics at Bordelaville High School for 33 years before her retirement in 1973. She is survived by her husband, Voorhees "V.P." Dewaille Jr. of Bordelaville; one son, Voorhees "Buster" Dewaille; two daughters, GRETHELEN KRUEGER, '74, and PAULA BERGERON, '77; two grandchildren, Annette Droydi and David Bergeron; two great-grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces.

E.P. "PAT" NALLEY, '41, of Naples, Fla., died June 11, 2011. He was 91. Nalley studied agriculture at Southwestern Louisiana Institute but after graduating, went into business. He and his wife, the late Ethel Rose Nalley, established $100,000 endowed professorships in the B.L. Moody III College of Business Administration, the College of Education and the College of Applied Life Sciences. In 2003, the Nalleys established a $1 million endowed chair in business through a charitable lead trust — the first of its kind for UL Lafayette. The Nalleys are survived by three children: Patricia Lindquist, Peter Nalley and Pamela Nalley.

HELEN PRUITT, '52, died July 14, 2011. She was 81. Her husband, William "Bill" Pruitt, preceded her in death. She earned a Bachelor's degree in elementary education from Southwestern Louisiana Institute. As an SLI student, she was a member of the Red Jackets pep squad. Carstens held a master's degree in library science from Louisiana State University and a doctorate of library science from Columbia University, where she graduated magna cum laude. She was a member of the Newbery Award Selection Committee, which chooses the most distinguished American children's book published the previous year. Carstens was honored as one of UL Lafayette's Outstanding Alumni in 1986. She received the Excellence in Teaching Award, presented by the UL Lafayette Foundation, in 1994. Carstens is survived by her nieces, Ann Carstens, Cathy Carstens McFadden, Mary Onellion Seale, Mary Ellen Moran Fisher, Nancy Moran Widen, Cathy Moran Wales, Louise Moran Ransman, Anne Moran Garvey, and ELIZABETH MORAN GARBER, '88, four nephews, Sully Onellion Jr., Timothy Onellion, Patrick Onellion and BRYAN MORAN, '59. The family requests that memorial contributions be made to Our Lady of Wisdom Catholic Church on campus or to the Carstens, Fields, Franques, Richard Endowed Education Scholarship at UL Lafayette.

RAYMOND JOSEPH DUCOTE, '49, '55, died Dec. 28, 2011, in Mansura, La. He began his career as a vocational agricultural teacher who helped returning World War II veterans with the On the Farm Training Program. He then taught at Evergreen High School and Cottongate High School for over 20 years. Ducote later taught special needs students at the Aoyelles Parish Vocational Training Center; he retired in 1979. He held a bachelor’s degree in vocational agricultural education from SLI and a master’s degree in education from LSU. He is survived by five children: RICHARD DUCOTE, '73, Julienne Spencer, WAYNE DUCOTE, '75, JOEL DUCOTE, '76, and ANITA GABRIEL, '82; a sister, Eloise Guillory; 10 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.


BETTY LOWRY, '52, died July 10, 2011. She lettered in football while attending Southwestern Louisiana Institute. After serving as a pilot in the U.S. Marine Corps, he began a career in the oilfield services industry in Lafayette. In 1981, he and his wife, BETTY LOWRY, '52, established Lowry's Printing and Copying. In addition to his wife, Lowry is survived by their five children, MELLA LOWRY VIERA, '63, MARY BETH LOWRY, LOUIE LOWRY, '84, CLAIRE LOWRY '05, and DAVID LOWRY, '84; a sister, Mary Catherine Gentry; and a brother, Pat Lowry. Lowry's family requests that donations in his memory be made to the Ragin’ Cajun Athletic Foundation.

IRWIN SIBLE, '63, '67, died Aug. 6, 2011, in Opelousas. As a student at UL Lafayette, he played football and later was a defensive coordinator for the Ragin’ Cajuns. Sible served as Louisiana’s Commissioner of College Athletics. He held bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education from UL Lafayette. Sible was survived by two sons, DR. JOHN SCOTT SIBLE, '87, Tony Sible and Dr. Billy Sible; two daughters, LISA SIBLE DOOLEY, '85, and WENDY SARACINO, '92; six brothers, Roydain Sible, WINFRED SIBLE, '51, Frederick Sible, Dennis Sible, Darrell Sible and Paul Sible; two sisters, Lilburn Leonard and Leon Wilda Andrus; and 15 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jeanette Ann Landry Sible; a foster son, Bill “Blackjack” Landry; three brothers, CARL SIBLE, '52, Gordin Sible and Stanley Sible; and a sister, Madeleine Korn.

LYDIA ANN BUTERA, '81, died July 14, 2011. She was headmistress of Lake Castle Private School in New Orleans. She is survived by her mother, Mary Jane Schiro Butera; two brothers, Barry Butera and Brian Butera; two sisters, Elizabeth B. Fitzpatrick and Jane B. McGovern; two aunts; and many nieces and nephews.

WAYNE DITCH, '51, an artist and painting restoration expert, died Nov. 28, 2011. He was 77. Ditch, who held a bachelor’s of fine arts...
degree from USL, assisted with the restoration of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Lafayette. He is survived by three sons, Jarret, Justin and Christopher; five siblings, Thomas Ditch, Francis Ditch, Janice Ditch, Nanette Alverson and Paul Ditch; and two grandchildren.

JOSEPH ANDREW "ANDY" CORNETT, '03, died Feb. 24, 2012, in Lafayette. He was a blues musician, producer and promoter who had performed for many years with Grammy-nominated blues pianist Henry Gray. Cornett had produced several of Gray's CDs. Cornett held a bachelor's degree in international affairs from Florida State University and a master's degree in communication from UL Lafayette. He is survived by a daughter, Andel Cornett; a sister, Linda B. McAlfey; and a brother, Dennis P. Cornett.

Civil rights leader CLARA DELL CONSTANTINE BROUSSARD, '76, died Feb. 25, 2012, in Lafayette. In 1954, she was one of four black students who filed a successful lawsuit to desegregate South Louisiana Institute. During the Fall 2004 Commencement, UL Lafayette awarded her and the other three plaintiffs with honorary bachelor of humanities degrees as part of the 50th anniversary observance of the university's desegregation. Broussard is survived by three children, Michelle Duhon, Carl Broussard and Traci Bruno; her mother, Helma Barabin Constantine; a brother, Ambrose Constantine; a sister, Joyce Constantine Henson; three grandchildren, Kyle Fontenette, Tyler Bruno and Meagan Bruno; and several nieces and nephews.

MARIE ANNE ORY DUPONT, '08, died Oct. 23, 2011. She was 29. Dupont is survived by her husband, Mickey Christopher Dupont; her parents, Ernest Jules Ory and Joan Martin Ory; a brother, Andre Jules Ory; and a niece. She received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Nicholls State University and a master's degree in journalism from UL Lafayette. At the time of her death, she was development director at St. Charles Catholic School in Laplace, La. She also taught religion and English there.

Former Louisiana Rep. SYDNIE MAE MARAIST DURAND died Oct. 11, 2011, in Lafayette. She studied environmental training at USL and worked in the Lafayette oil industry for 37 years. From 1980 to 1997, she served on the St. Martin Parish Police Jury. In 1992, she became the first female state representative for District 46. She held that office until 2008. Survivors include her son, Allee J. "Chip" Durand Jr.; her sister, HATTIE "SIS" BOURQUE, '57; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

DAILEY JOSEPH BERARD, founder of Universal Fabricators Inc., died Oct. 19, 2011. During World War II, he served with the 788th Army Engineers in Japan, clearing munitions and bombs scattered around Yokohama. He was the undefeated Golden Glove Champion in the 120 lb. class from 1946-47. After his military service, Berard studied civil engineering at USL and the University of Mississippi. He received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the International Correspondence School in 1956. Berard served as either director, member, president or chairman of many organizations, including the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, Lafayette Economic Development Authority, University of Southwestern Louisiana Board of Trustees, Council for a Better Louisiana and the Public Affairs Research Council. He received the 2000 Iberia Distinguished Citizen Award. Berard is survived by his wife of 62 years, Nathalie Mary LeBlanc Berard; three daughters, Deandra Touchet, KAREN BERARD ELLIS, '75, and ANGELA THIBEAUX, '81; three brothers, Russel Berard, Jimmy Berard and David Berard; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

CHRISTO IVANOV CHRISTOV, the SLEMCO Endowed Professor of Sciences in the Department of Mathematics at UL Lafayette, died March 16, 2012. He held a doctorate from the Russian Academy of Sciences and had taught at universities in Paris, Madrid and Brussels. He also taught at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and at Stanford University. Christov began teaching at UL Lafayette in 1998. Six UL Lafayette students earned doctorates in mathematics under his direction. He is survived by his wife, Eva Christov; two sons, Ivan Christov and Anton Christov; and his parents, Latopini and Ivan Christov.
Worthy of Praise
Foundation honors faculty for outstanding contributions

FOUNDA

OUR UL LAFAYETTE FACULTY MEMBERS were singled out by their peers and honored for their roles in research, service and teaching. Each spring, the UL Lafayette Foundation presents two awards: its Distinguished Professor Award and the Dr. Ray P. Authement Excellence in Teaching Award.

Dr. Martin Ball, professor of communicative disorders, and Dr. Douglas Williams, associate professor of curriculum and instruction, were named distinguished professors. Brian Powell, professor of interior design in UL Lafayette’s School of Architecture and Design, and Dr. Jennifer Geer, associate professor of English, were selected as outstanding teachers.

Honorees are nominated and chosen by faculty members. The awards are given at a banquet held to honor the recipients, who also receive a $5,000 stipend.

“UL Lafayette students consistently note that faculty members take a personal interest in their success,” said Julie Bolton Faltout, executive director of the UL Lafayette Foundation. “The recipients of this year’s awards are no exception. Their accomplishments demonstrate their dedication to academic excellence — in their own work and in that of their students.”

UL Lafayette’s Distinguished Professor Award has been given since 1965.

Dr. Martin Ball is an internationally known scholar, author and lecturer in the field of clinical linguistics and phonetics. His books and journal articles are used as teaching materials in speech pathology programs in the United States and abroad.

His primary areas of research and scholarship include linguistics, phonetics (how speech sounds are made) and phonology (how those sounds are used within languages). A native of Wales, Ball also has an interest in Celtic languages, sociolinguistics, minority languages and bilingualism.

Dr. Douglas Williams
He is writing a handbook to help clinicians identify and transcribe atypical sounds — those that aren’t found in any known language.

“These are the weird and wonderful sounds that you may encounter in a clinic but not in normal language. Clinicians need a set of symbols to represent these sounds,” he explained.

Ball will present a keynote address at the International Clinical Linguistics Conference in Malaga, Spain, in November.

Dr. Douglas Williams

Dr. Douglas Williams is director of UL Lafayette’s Center for Innovative Learning and Assessment Technologies. CILAT, in partnership with faculty members at Texas A&M University, created Rigglefish, a computer-based education game that earned a 2011 Adobe Design Achievement Award for educational media. (See related story on page 2.)

Dr. Jennifer Geer

Dr. Jennifer Geer teaches children’s literature, Victorian literature and children’s film courses. Her popularity as a teacher has prompted the English Department to add courses to its curriculum.

“Largely because of her teaching abilities, children’s literature has become one of the most popular subjects in both the undergraduate and graduate English programs and we have had to increase our offerings to meet this increasing demand,” said Dr. James McDonald, head of the department.

Lively class discussions are a hallmark of Geer’s courses. She uses them to develop her students’ critical thinking skills.

McDonald said students “sense the joy she feels and communicates about young adult literature, her sense that children’s literature is important and worth reading closely and discussing seriously, and her belief at the same time that literary study should be fun.

“Jenny brings this joy and seriousness to every class that she teaches and students find her irresistible as a result.”

A sample of comments from course evaluations by Geer’s students reinforces his observation. The same adjectives are frequently used by undergraduates and graduates to describe her: enthusiastic, passionate, understanding and awesome.

Brian Powell

Brian Powell is interior design program coordinator in the School of Architecture and Design and teaches major courses in architecture, industrial design and interior design.

“My wish is for everyone to have a passion for something that serves not only themselves but those around them,” he said.

He uses a familiar and functional object — the chair — to spark students’ creativity and hone their design skills. In designing chairs, his students learn the importance of structure and ergonomics.

Powell is a nationally certified interior designer and serves on the Interior Design Educators Council board of directors as its national chair representative.

He has collaborated with UL Lafayette’s Community Design Workshop on various projects. He also assisted with the BeauSoleil Louisiana Solar Home, a house designed and constructed by UL Lafayette architecture and engineering students for competition in the 2009 U.S. Solar Decathlon.

In a letter supporting his nomination for the award, Gordon Brooks, dean of UL Lafayette’s College of the Arts, wrote that Powell “has a nurturing nature and the students recognize that he goes out of his way to mentor them.”

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Visionary Benefactor
Alumnus invests in College of Engineering

D
onald E. Mosing, '50, used his mechanical engineering education to help build one of the world’s largest and most innovative oilfield service companies, Frank’s Casing Crew & Rental Tools Inc.

Mosing made a personal donation of $2.83 million to UL Lafayette’s College of Engineering in January, one of the largest gifts the university has ever received. His gift honors his late parents, Frank and Jessie Mosing, and his late wife, Janice Mosing. His contribution will be used to establish a $1 million endowed chair, a student career development program and a laboratory dedicated to computer-aided design.

At a ceremony held at the company’s Lafayette headquarters, UL Lafayette President Dr. Joseph Savoie said the gift is emblematic of Mosing’s leadership. “His success is a testament to the value of a solid education, hard work and determination,” Savoie said.

Mosing retired as president of Frank’s Casing Crew & Rental Tools in 2011, after 67 years with the company. His son, Keith, is president of the company, while Donald Mosing is chairman emeritus and technical advisor to its board of directors.

Donald Mosing’s father, Frank, started the business in 1938. He and his wife, Jessie, worked out of their garage with a seven-man crew. Eventually, Donald Mosing and his brothers Billy and Larry joined the company.

The sons helped transform the family-owned business into a leading provider of equipment and personnel for installing, threading, welding, driving and distributing oilfield casing pipe. It serves the energy industry in more than 40 countries.

Donald Mosing began working for Frank’s when he was only 14. He later used his engineering knowledge and creativity to become the company’s chief innovator, designing and improving oilfield tools and enhancing safety. He is named as an inventor on 42 of the more than 100 patents issued to the company.

UL Lafayette head football coach Mark Hudspeth presents Donald Mosing with a Ragin Cajuns® cap and autographed commemorative New Orleans Bowl football. Mosing was a member of the university’s football team from 1947 to 1949.

UL Lafayette students will apply their creativity to meet industry challenges, thanks to Donald Mosing. About $230,000 of his gift will be used to establish Frank’s Computer Aided Design Laboratory in Rouégu Hall, which will feature state-of-the-art CAD software. An estimated 400 students will use the lab each year.

A portion of his gift – $600,000 – will be matched with $400,000 from the state Board of Regents Support Fund to create the $1 million Donald and Janice Mosing/Board of Regents Endowed Chair in Mechanical Engineering. Janice, Donald Mosing’s wife of 59 years, died in 2008.

Endowments are perpetual sources of funding, since only earned interest is spent. Revenue generated by an endowed chair is used to attract and retain exceptional faculty.

“Mr. Mosing’s generous gift will encourage young people to consider a career in engineering. It also will benefit our local industry and beyond, and will help the university deliver world-class employees,” said Dr. Mark Zappi, dean of UL Lafayette’s College of Engineering.

STUDENTS’ GAIN

The largest portion of Donald Mosing’s gift, $2 million, will be used to create the Frank and Jessie Mosing Endowed Engineering Student Career Development Program. A coordinator will steward several key components:

- the Frank and Jessie Mosing Designing Leaders Program, which will focus on teaching students leadership skills;
- the Frank and Jessie Mosing Engineering Ambassadors Program, which will give students opportunities to interact with industry representatives;
- the Frank and Jessie Mosing Engineering Outreach Program, to educate high school and community college students about career opportunities in engineering;
- the Frank and Jessie Mosing Engineering Lecture Series.

His gift will also enable the College of Engineering to create a new event, the Tech Walk Expo. Each fall semester, prospective students, regional industry representatives and community members will be invited to tour UL Lafayette laboratories to learn more about research and development projects.
Students walk past Judice-Rickels Hall on East St. Mary Boulevard. It houses the University of Louisiana at Lafayette’s Honors program, which serves about 1,000 students from all majors.
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