

## Settling In

UL Lafayette Foundation has a new home

# A

George Rodrigue painting entitled “A Toast to Cajun Food,” greets visitors at the new UL Lafayette Foundation building. It shows men seated at a table under the painter’s signature black tree. “It conveys a welcome but it looks like the subjects are having a business meeting,” said Julie Falgout, the Foundation’s

executive director. That suits the new facility perfectly.

Falgout said the structure provides appropriate offices for the Foundation’s mission, which is to prudently invest the university’s privately held assets. And, its location at the intersection of St. Mary Boulevard and Taft Street solidifies the Foundation’s presence on campus. “We’re even completely ‘wired’ to the university,” she said, referring to the connection to UL Lafayette’s computer and telecommunications network.

The Foundation was previously housed in a large building across St. Mary Boulevard that doubled as a permanent art museum. It outgrew the space and chose to construct its own offices.

*TOP: This reception area was funded by a donation from Clare Thibodeaux and her husband, the late Dr. Ben Thibodeaux. RIGHT: Large columns give the traditional look of financial institutions. OPPOSITE PAGE: A George Rodrigue painting hangs in the rotunda.*

Falgout stressed that the Foundation will pay for its new offices with private contributions and some operational funds. It cannot





# UL Lafayette Foundation



DOUG DUGAS

use any endowments for that purpose.

The Foundation building was dedicated in early October.

It was designed by Angelle Architects of Lafayette. J.B. Mouton and Sons Inc. was the general contractor. Innovative Intelligent Design, Inc., a facility planning firm, provided interior design work,

while Viator and Associates is responsible for landscape design.

A granite obelisk and sign will be installed in front of the building during the next few weeks, thanks to a donation by long-standing Foundation board trustee Margaret Steen Villamez and members of her family.

Additional donations for the building project were made by Robert and Jolie Shelton and Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Godchaux III.

Members who served on the ad hoc Building Design Committee were: Gerald A. Dubroc, a civil engineer and



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LEFT: A fleur de lis, a component of UL Lafayette's logo, is a design element. ABOVE: A large board room can be used for occasional university events.

committee chairman; Dwight Andrus Jr., a real estate developer; Dr. Ray Authement, UL Lafayette president; Dudley Romero, former health care administrator; Carol A. Ross, an adver-

tising executive; and Robert E. Tujaque Sr., senior vice president of Whitney National Bank and a former Foundation president; Joel Gooch, UL Foundation president; and Falgout.

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