

## Defining Campus

### Students fund university gateways

**A**s part of UL Lafayette's 100th birthday celebration, students are giving a lasting gift: gateways that mark campus boundaries. • The monuments will be located at: St. Mary Boulevard and Johnston Street; St. Mary Boulevard and Taft Street; and University Avenue and Hebrard Boulevard. • "We feel that these three landmarks will create a reaction. You'll know when you are entering UL Lafayette," said Princess Willis, president of the Student Government Association.

The only boundary mark that exists today is the North Gate at the intersection of University Avenue and Johnston Street. It was built in the late 1920s.

Construction of the gateways is expected to start in December and be finished by the end of February.

The structures to be built at St. Mary Boulevard and Taft Street, and University Avenue at Hebrard Boulevard, will be reminiscent of the North Gate. The gateway planned for the intersection of St.

Mary Boulevard and Johnston Street will incorporate two archways.

"Across campus, from Dupré Library to Martin Hall, there is a theme of archways. So, this is continuing a tradition," Willis said.

In the Fall semester of 1999, the Student Government Association voted unanimously in favor of a student fee to cover construction costs. The gateway project is part of the university's *Investing in Our Future* campaign,

which has already exceeded a goal of raising the university's gifted assets to \$75 million for endowments and campus improvements.

Students began paying a \$5 per person, per semester fee at the start of the 1999/2000 winter intercession. That amount was also collected for the Spring, Summer and Fall 2000 semesters to generate about \$190,000 needed for the project.

"I feel that assessing myself the additional \$5 for four semesters was a great opportunity for me to leave here knowing that I gave something back to the university," Willis said.

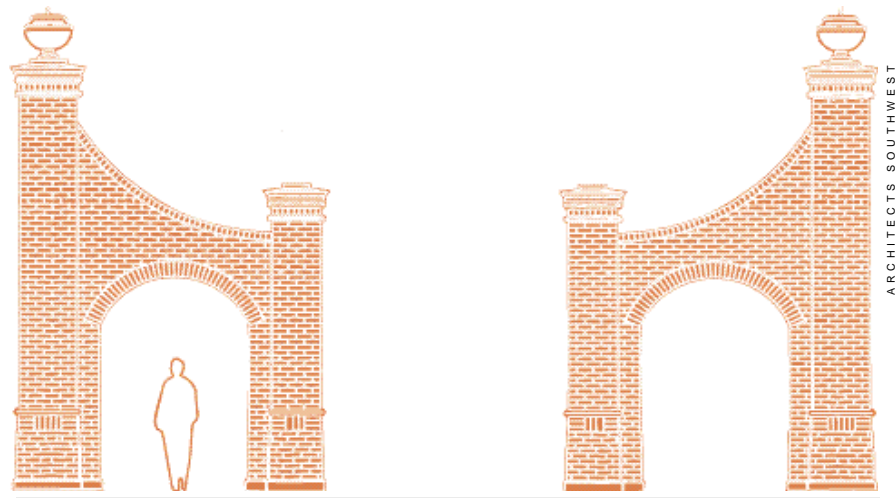
SGA has collaborated with the university's Physical Plant and the UL Lafayette Office of Development on the project.

"Princess Willis and the Student Government Association are to be commended for their leadership and vision," said John T. Landry, director of UL Lafayette's Office of Development. "They led the Class of 2000 in adopting the centennial gateway project of the *Investing in Our Future* campaign. These future alumni are making a lasting mark on campus for the university's second century."

Architects Southwest designed the gateways. Fenstermaker & Associates surveyed locations for the markers.

William Crist, director of UL Lafayette's Physical Plant, said construction of the gateways will also incorporate some renovations, such as landscaping and replacing surrounding asphalt pavement with brick-paved walkways.

"Gateways define a sense of being a place," he said. "When people enter our campus, they'll know they're entering a special one."



Proposed gateway at the intersection of St. Mary Boulevard and Johnston Street

## Student Editor Cites UL Lafayette Professors For Their Guidance



TERRI FENSEL

WHEN CRISTINA PROAÑO transferred to UL Lafayette from a small, private liberal arts college in Illinois, she worried that UL Lafayette professors wouldn't have time to get to know her.

Instead, some of them became mentors.

"I am so grateful for professors like Dr. Robert Buckman and Dr. Kathleen Kelly, who have taught me more than any book could. They have inspired me to work hard and to achieve," she said, referring to journalism and public relations faculty members, respectively.

Buckman suggested that she apply for the student editor position at *La Louisiane*. She did and was hired for the Fall 2000 and Spring 2001 issues.

"Cristina has natural writing talent," said *La Louisiane* Editor Kathleen Thames. "She also interacts well with people, which is essential. During interviews prior to being hired, she had poise that is rare among college-age students."

Proaño was a staff writer for *The Vermilion*, UL Lafayette's student newspaper, and is president of the university's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

She has lived in seven cities: Tulsa, Okla.; Houston; London; Quito, Ecuador; Dallas; Elmhurst, Ill.; and now, Lafayette.

"My father, Eduardo, is from Ecuador and my mother, Elena, is from Bolivia. I, however, was born in Tulsa," Proaño said. "My parents moved to Tulsa so my father could finish two master's degrees in petroleum engineering and petroleum management."

Her father's career in the oil industry prompted the family's frequent moves.

"Living in so many different cities trained me to become open to diversity, and to adapt to change quickly," Proaño said. She said she's especially grateful for the chance to live in Quito, Ecuador, for seven years "because it

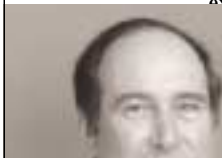
took me back to my roots. My experience there opened my eyes to the importance of appreciating and knowing about my culture. It also enabled me to be with one of the main loves in my life—my extended family."

Proaño will graduate in May 2000 with a bachelor's degree in journalism.

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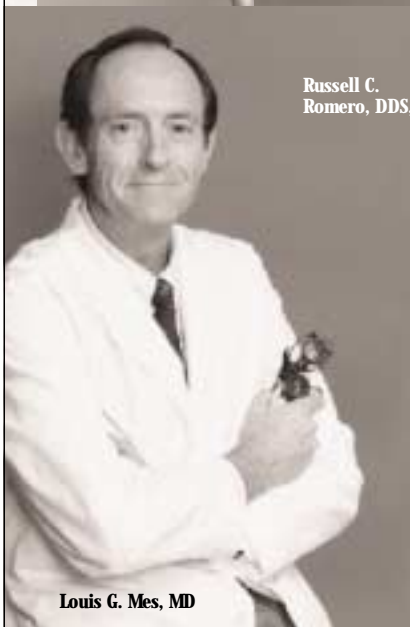
They have been trained at prestigious institutions, including the Mayo Clinic, the University of Michigan, and the Texas Medical Center, Houston, Texas. All are board certified in plastic and reconstructive surgery. They have achieved recognition as Fellows of the American College of Surgeons and one as a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. All are physicians first . . . and foremost.



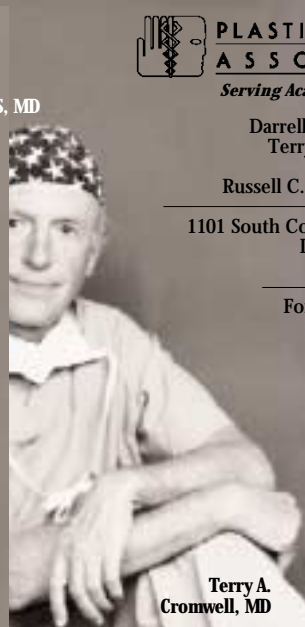
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