

Bonnette Watched Technology Flourish

DELLA BONNETTE, vice president for Information Technology at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, retired in August.

She supervised several departments, including Computing Support Services, Continuing Education, the Electron Microscopy Center, Information Networks, Information Systems, Institutional Research, KRVS Public Radio Acadie, the Marine Survival Training Center, Media Center and Printing Services, and Edith Garland Dupré Library. She was appointed to the post in 1996.

"Della is a perfect example of integrity and commitment," said Dr. Steve Landry, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. "She's been a leader here on campus and she'll be missed."

Bonnette was a long-time university employee, having first served as an instructor and then assistant professor of computer science in the 1970s. She became director of the Computing Center in 1977 and director of Computing and Information Services in 1981.

"I've seen the university change in so many ways," Bonnette said. "It has



Della Bonnette

certainly changed in the number of students enrolled, in selective admissions policies and, of course, in the landscape of campus."

She noted that when she first started working at UL Lafayette, a single computer could fill up a room. Now, the information stored on that computer can be stored on a flash drive.

"The biggest and most profound has to be the impact of the PC and the Internet," she said.

UL Lafayette President Dr. Joseph Savoie cited Bonnette's dedication to the university. "She was a mentor to many here. She will be missed very much," he said.

Bonnette earned an undergraduate degree in mathematics and master's degree in computer science from USL. She served in leadership positions with the Computer Science Accreditation Commission, which accredits computer science programs at colleges and universities; and the Association for Computing Machinery, a professional computer science society.

Film Captures Flavor of Area Plate Lunches

"Raised on Rice and Gravy" celebrates a daily dining tradition in Lafayette, the plate lunch house.

The 30-minute documentary offers a look at the kind of authentic Cajun and Creole cuisine that Acadiana natives serve themselves, not tourists, such as chicken stew, smothered potatoes and stuffed turkey wings.

Conni Castille, a folklorist



and co-director of the film, said the role the modest restaurants play in the community is just as important as the food they serve.

"People used to come home to eat lunch with their families. For farmers and laborers, it was an important daily ritual to sit down and share the midday meal at home. That's not possible today, so neighborhood plate lunch houses have become a substitute for that in South Louisiana culture," she said.

Castille and co-director Alison Bohl focus on three plate lunch houses: the Creole Lunch House on 12th Street, Gary's on Lamar Street and Country Cuisine on University Avenue.

"Raised on Rice and Gravy" is the second documentary directed by Castille and Bohl. "I Always Do My Collars First: A Film About Ironing," earned them the Louisiana Filmmaker Award. Both films were produced by Charles E. Richard, an associate professor of English and director of the Cinematic Arts Workshop at UL Lafayette.

PRINCETON REVIEW PRAISES MBA PROGRAM

UL LAFAYETTE'S MASTER of Business Administration program is cited in the 2009 edition of the Princeton Review's *Best 296 Business Schools*.

"We are pleased to recommend the B. I. Moody III College of Business Administration to readers of our book and users of our web site as one of the best institutions they could attend to earn an MBA," said Robert Franek, Princeton Review's vice president for publishing.

Princeton Review editors observed that UL Lafayette's business college offers an MBA with a concentration in health care administration, which they describe as "an appealing option to the area's many health care professionals."

UL Lafayette students surveyed by the Princeton Review noted that faculty in the MBA program have experience in their fields. Such practical knowledge helps them provide information that students will need in the workplace, one UL Lafayette student reported.

