

TECH KNOWLEDGE

K If that single letter “K” doesn’t mean anything, you probably haven’t been keeping up with communication technology. Although e-mail is still around, college students have moved on to a faster method of exchanging information: text messaging. It doesn’t require a stationary computer, so it’s perfect for a population that seems to always be on the move. All that’s needed is a cell phone or PDA (that’s short for personal digital assistant) with built-in wireless telecommunication. “K”, by the way, is text message speak for “OK.”



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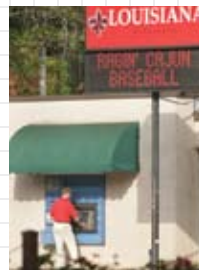
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Cell phones are everywhere on campus. Apple iPods are ubiquitous, too. Treadmills at Bourgeois Hall keep track of calories expended during a brisk “walk” on an elliptical machine. And, CajunBot II, an autonomous land vehicle, is still a high-tech teacher, as shown on the previous page.

Using digital cameras, which have made film practically extinct, professional photographers have documented some of the ways UL Lafayette students use technology to learn and have a little fun.

“It is increasingly evident that the influence of technology on higher education will be more profound than any previous circumstance or resource that has impacted teaching and learning in recent history. Both the method and organization which currently characterize universities are being transformed. This transformation is accelerated by rapid and continuous advancements in communication technologies, changing population demographics, and the expectations of the market place. The advancement of UL Lafayette will depend largely on its ability to anticipate and accommodate these changes. The University must be prepared to compete nationally, and eventually globally, for a growing nontraditional technologically astute clientele. To do so effectively and economically will require a product-oriented organizational structure marked by cooperation and by a dynamic plan of action: The implementation of which will help define UL Lafayette as an Information Age University.”

Source: 2002 SGA Student Technology Enhancement Program Plan



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