

ION CAMPUS

Serving It Up

Student Union cafeteria gets new look, new menu

THE RECENTLY RENOVATED Cane Break Cafeteria in UL Lafayette's Student Union offers a taste of Louisiana hospitality.

A mural of a cypress bayou beckons, while an expanded menu includes regional comfort foods such as jambalaya, shrimp and crawfish étouffée.

Cane Break Cafeteria, which seats 312 people, serves three meals a day on weekdays. Diners can choose to eat meals there or get their food to go, tucked inside a

Styrofoam® container. On the daily menu: a salad bar, burgers, grilled chicken, pizza, pasta and a variety of desserts. International cuisine choices include stir-fried teriyaki chicken, eggplant parmesan and grilled chicken fajitas.

Sodexo Dining Services operates other eateries on campus, including Café de Lafayette, a small dining room on the second floor of the Student Union that offers a lunch buffet.

Students who live on campus are



The recently renovated Cane Break Cafeteria in the Student Union has a Louisiana theme.

DOUG DUGAS



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Above: The salad bar at the Cane Break Cafeteria features fresh choices. Left: The comfort-food and international food stations offer a hot meal every day.

Sodexo's Jazzman's Coffee Shop and Bakery opened this fall in the atrium of Edith Garland Dupré Library. It offers specialty coffees, pastries, salads and sandwiches. Jazzman's can seat 42 people; there are outlets for computer laptops as well as wireless Internet service.

required to buy one of four meal plans. Those plans include a declining cash balance that can be used at dining locations across campus.

Sodexo invested about \$850,000 in the renovation of Cane Break Cafeteria and construction of Jazzman's, according to its general manager, Patrick

CAMPUS EATERIES

STUDENT UNION

Cane Break Cafeteria
Café de Lafayette
Sidelines

GUILLORY HALL

Cypress Lake Café

CONFERENCE CENTER

Ragin' Cajun Food Court:
Chick-fil-A
Pizza Hut Express
Simply to Go

NEAR LEGACY PARK

Café Fleur de Lis:
Quizno's Sub Shop
Freshens Smoothies
Ragin' Cajun Grill
Louisiana Wok
Pretzel Logic

NEAR OLIVER HALL

Zeus Café

DUPRÉ LIBRARY

Jazzman's Café and Bakery

Pappion. Sodexo is the second largest company that operates university food service programs in the United States. ■

COFFEE SHOP ADDS JAZZ TO DUPRÉ LIBRARY

The addition of Jazzman's Café and Bakery is just part of a plan to transform the first floor of Dupré Library into a "learning commons."

Dr. Charles Triche, dean of Libraries and a professor of library science, says that term describes a trend in university libraries. The ultimate goal is to make the library as convenient and useful to students as possible.

For starters, the "learning commons" takes away the "Shhhhhh." Triche says students will be encouraged to talk with each other and collaborate on projects, without worrying about making too much noise.

In addition to an existing reference desk, a tutoring center, the English Department's writing lab and a state-of-the-art photocopy center will be located on the first floor.

Students will be able to check out laptop computers for use in the library and there will be a help desk if they need assistance with computer hardware or software.

What will happen to the books that are now on the first floor? They'll "disappear" to the third floor, Triche says.



OCEANNA TRZECIAK-CATES

Captivating Courses

Interesting topics inspire learning



HISTORIC COSTUME



HEROES AND OUTLAWS



COLORS OF THE BLUES



POLITICS AND SHAKESPEARE

EVER WONDER WHAT CLASSES UL Lafayette students are taking? *La Louisiane* was curious, too. So Student Editor Oceanna Trzeciak-Cates looked through UL Lafayette's course catalog. She found some elective courses with intriguing titles. Here's a peek at a few of them.

"DESIGNER COUTURE HISTORY/HISTORIC COSTUME"

"A student can form a relationship between a world event and clothing that makes it meaningful and makes him remember the event," said Dr. Jackie Robeck, professor of apparel design and merchandising. Clothing worn during an era becomes symbolic of the times. For example, during World War II, hemlines were shorter and silhouettes slimmer because cloth was rationed. The style and cut became more militaristic, too, reflecting pro-American sentiments of the war-driven society.

"Historic Costume" is part of a two-course sequence. It covers clothing worn around the world from 3500 B.C. until 1850. "Designer Couture History" begins with the first recognized fashion designer, Charles Worth, who opened a shop in Paris in 1850, and concludes with the study of contemporary designers.

"HEROES AND OUTLAWS"

"I love teaching this course because it encourages students to think about what stories mean, according to who's telling them, when, why and to whom," said Dr. Barry Ancelet, folklorist and head of Modern Languages.

"The purpose of this course is to develop critical thinking across the disciplines and the centuries, from ancient times and texts right into the

BURTON DURAND

contemporary world of popular culture.”

Students may encounter characters from history, literature, film, cartoons, opera, poetry and storytelling. One example: Ancelet asks students to consider the changing reputation of Billy the Kid. The 19th -century gunslinger was considered “a rebel without a cause in the 1950s” and “a counter-culture anti-hero in the 1970s. ... Society transforms and reinvents heroes and outlaws to fit its contemporary needs and notions,” he explained.

Ancelet created the course and has been teaching it for more than 20 years.

“COLORS OF THE BLUES”

Anyone can experience the blues – by listening and responding to another’s expression of it.

“The blues are a multicultural American expression and possibly the most democratic of American art forms,” said Dr. Reginald Young, an associate professor of English.

“Colors of the Blues” isn’t a music ap-

preciation course. Instead, Young uses the blues as a backdrop, encouraging students to find connections among seemingly unrelated art forms. Young wants his students to be able to detect a common note: the echo of the blues in music, literature and art. So they study literary works by Sandra Cisneros, Ernest Gaines and William Faulkner and consider the music of Fleetwood Mac, Damien Rice, and Steve Earle.

Young said students have exposed him to material he uses in the course. As part of a class project, students were asked to find examples of art and music that corresponded to a literary theme. “One of the songs they came up with was new to me: ‘All Hands Against His Own,’ by the Black Keys.”

Young said the course challenges students to see the world as a place “in which people are always influenced by individuals from other cultures with whom they reside as neighbors.”

“POLITICS AND SHAKESPEARE”

“Shakespeare has a remarkable skill

for giving historical events life and making them relevant for us in modernity,” said Casey Sonnier, who took the course in 2007. This course combines literature, politics, and history to provide students with a broad perspective.

The reading material is not a walk in the park, but course creator Dr. Bryan Paul Frost strives to help students understand the language, content and the significance of each play they read.

Frost said the course is built on the fundamentals of education: teaching students to think and write critically. “Shakespeare does the challenging; we’re called to figure out what Shakespeare is trying to teach us.”

Sonnier said he gained a deeper appreciation of Shakespeare and politics in taking the course. “Shakespeare’s plays inform us about the dangers of politics ... riddled with usurpation, revolution and corruption.”

They also teach that “the human condition needs government,” said Sonnier. ■

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Details about the charitable IRA rollover:

- You must be 70½ or older.
- You must make the transfer before December 31, 2009.
- Your charitable IRA rollover gift is excluded from your taxable income; therefore, you cannot claim a charitable deduction.

Simply contact your IRA plan administrator to make the gift transfer. For more information, contact UL Lafayette’s Office of Development at (337) 482-0922 or gift@louisiana.edu.

Economic Exchange

Acadiana business executives share ideas, information

UL LAFAYETTE BUSINESS LEADERS are helping Acadiana chief financial officers monitor the pulse of the economy. The university hosts quarterly roundtable discussions and has developed a survey to gauge CFOs' economic confidence.

"The CFOs are the ones who determine what a company can and cannot buy ... and where they will borrow the money from: investors, banks, and so forth. So, CFOs sit at a perch in the company that the chief executive officers may not have, which is a first-hand view of the financial health of the economy, by virtue of their company's performance," said Dr. Joby John, dean of the B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration.

"The goal of the CFO Roundtable is to get people together who are facing similar situations and to exchange ideas on how they're dealing with various problems and issues."

Linus Cortez is the CFO of Stuller Inc., a Lafayette wholesale jewelry manufacturer and distributor. He's a member of the CFO Roundtable's Steering Committee, which determines what topics will be covered during each meeting. He said it selects topics or speakers about six months in advance, to keep the content fresh.

"We're hitting on topics that are current. We're bringing in professionals who are close to the topics, who are sharing their insight at a very specific level, because they're close to the economic issues we are all facing," he said.

CFOs have a chance to talk with College of Business Administration faculty at the quarterly meetings. Dr. Thomas Wilson, head of the Accounting Department; Dr. Rand Ressler, head of the Economics and Finance Department;



and John are ex-officio members of the group, so they're available to provide insight and expertise. Faculty members from the College of Business Administration are also invited to participate.

The morning meetings last 90 minutes and are held at the Lafayette Economic Development Authority's office in University Research Park. Guest speakers have included Tim Barfield, Louisiana's secretary of Labor; Rusty Cloutier, president and CEO of Mid-South Bank; and Dr. Linus Wilson, an assistant professor of finance at UL Lafayette. Linus Wilson's research findings on economic issues, including the federal Troubled Asset Relief Program, have been cited by *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Bloomberg* and other international media.

Linus Wilson has created the "The Acadiana CFO Roundtable – B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration Sentiment Index," which is being used to survey local CFOs about their perceptions of the overall economy. He said local CFOs are concerned. "There is a clear downward trend in the index since we began circulating the survey in March 2009," he said.

The index has a maximum score of 100. A score of 50 would indicate normal economic conditions. The index has declined each quarter: from 45, to 42, to 39. "As the national recession continues, business leaders surveyed from Acadiana have become increasingly disappointed in current conditions facing their firms and in the regional economy. These CFOs are pessimistic about the business prospects going forward," he said.

On a brighter note, he continued, "most CFOs have seen their costs of borrowing fall and their access to credit improve. If business conditions pick up, they should have the financing to expand their operations."

John modeled UL Lafayette's CFO Roundtable after a similar program he initiated while a professor at Bentley University in Waltham, Mass., one of the nation's leading business schools. The roundtable group at Bentley was composed of chief marketing officers.

He said he hopes to increase participation in the CFO Roundtable and widen its outreach. The roundtable now includes the 40 Acadiana companies with the most employees. "We'd like to expand that number to include the top 100 largest employers," he said. ■

Back To Work

University's former president gives students his unique perspective

AFTER SERVING AS UL LAFAYETTE'S president for more than 30 years, Dr. Ray Authement returned to campus for the Fall 2009 semester to teach his favorite subject – mathematics.

He taught “Linear Algebra,” a required upper-level course for students majoring in education, engineering and computer science. Two days a week, he met with 31 students in Maxim Doucet Hall.

Junior Derrick Franchak, a mathematics education major, said he was surprised to find the former president's name on the class schedule. “I wondered ‘Is that really him?’”

Authement retired in 2008 after 34 years as the university's top administrator. But it wasn't long before he was ready to return to campus. “I wanted to get back into something that would occupy my mind and keep me active. That's why I decided to ask to teach this course,” he said.

Linear algebra is a foundation course for advanced mathematics: more complex forms of algebra, calculus equations and graphing. “It's important, especially for students involved in computing,” Authement explained.

He first taught linear algebra in 1962. “I've taught this course under three different titles: ‘Linear Algebra,’ ‘Matrix Theory’ and ‘Linear Transformations.’”

The former president had to brush up a little as the semester progressed. “Before, I was not bound by any textbook. I like to teach without props or anything else. I can't do that just yet. I'm getting closer to it, but, for now, I'm still referring to the textbook,” he noted.

“I tell them, whatever they take out of this class, they will know how to think and how to look at problems analytically and come to a reasonable solution.”

DR. RAY P. AUTHEMENT



Dr. Ray P. Authement

Still, it was good to be back among students. Having an opportunity to work with students was the deciding factor in his decision to teach again. “These students are bright. They are well prepared,” he observed.

In addition to the required material, Authement offers students his perspective on the importance – and practical beauty – of mathematics.

“I told them at the beginning of the class that mathematics was invaluable to me as an administrator. The logic you're trained to use, and the approaches that you take in solving problems, are two tools that I used often as an administrator, as president.

“I tell them, whatever they take out of this class, they will know how to think and how to look at problems analytically and come to a reasonable solution.”

Authement enrolled as a freshman at UL Lafayette in 1947. He earned a bachelor's degree in physics, with a minor in mathematics, in 1950, then went on to earn master's and doctoral degrees in mathematics from Louisiana State University.

Authement's teaching career began at LSU, with stops at McNeese State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and UL Lafayette, where he was named professor of mathematics in 1959.

In 1966, he left the classroom to become academic vice president; he was named president of UL Lafayette in 1974. When he retired in 2008, he was the longest sitting president of a public university in the United States. ■

DOUG DOUCAS

BUILDING BEARS NAME OF COMPUTER SCIENCE LEADER

The Advanced Computer and Technology Research building has a new name: James R. Oliver Hall.

Oliver is credited with putting UL Lafayette on the national map by establishing one of the first university computer science programs.

"Thanks to his commitment and guidance, UL Lafayette became a pioneer in the field of computer science. Today, the university's computer science program and Center for Advanced Computer Studies maintain national and international reputations for quality and innovation," said UL Lafayette President Dr. Joseph Savoie during a ceremony on Oct. 30. The event was part of the two-day Louisiana Computing Carnival 2009, which marked 50 years of computer science at UL Lafayette and the 25th anniversary of CACS.

Savoie noted that Oliver's appreciation of computer science "was one of the keys to Lafayette's ultimate development as a community that capitalizes on technology."

He cited the Louisiana Immersive Technologies Enterprise in University Research Park as an example. It's the only 3-D visualization facility of its kind that's accessible to private industry in North America. LITE's backbone is a network of supercomputers connected by fiber optic technology.



James R. Oliver



James R. Oliver Hall

Oliver developed UL Lafayette's bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs in the 1960s. He obtained a grant from the National Science Foundation to acquire an IBM 1620, the first digital computer used on UL Lafayette's campus, in 1960.

Oliver also formed the first student chapter – in the world – of the Association of Computing Machinery. Today, there are over 500 ACM student chapters in 30 countries.

He retired in 1981, after serving as UL Lafayette's dean of Academic and Financial Planning and vice president for Administrative Affairs. He died July 19, 1998.

UL Lafayette Well-Represented at State Book Festival

THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA at Lafayette Press had more titles on the 2009 Louisiana Book Festival program than any other publisher.

The event drew more than 21,000 book lovers to the State Capitol grounds in Baton Rouge in October.

With the recent downturn in the nation's economy, many university presses have been significantly scaled back. But UL Lafayette Press is in the midst of one of its best years ever and continues to be the world's leading publisher of exclusively Louisiana-related books, publishing 10 to 12 new titles annually.

UL Lafayette Press began publishing books as the Center for Louisiana Studies in 1973. It had \$200 in funding and used typewriters to produce its first



books. Nearly 40 years later, the press has become a nationally competitive book publisher.

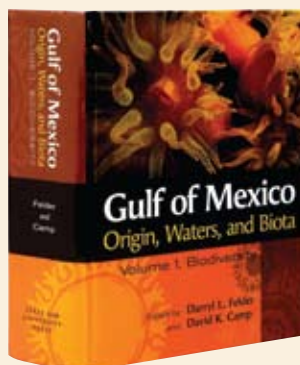
UL Lafayette Press premiered a volume about author Ernest J. Gaines, UL Lafayette's writer-in-residence emeritus, at this year's Book Festival.

This Louisiana Thing That Drives

Me: The Legacy of Ernest J. Gaines is a coffee table book that covers Gaines' life, career and legacy. It was written by Dr. Marcia Gaudet, the Dr. Doris Meriwether/BORSF Professor of English; Dr. Reggie Scott Young, an associate professor of English at UL Lafayette; and Wiley Cash, who earned his doctorate from UL Lafayette.

Proceeds from book sales will help fund the Ernest J. Gaines Center, which is under construction on the third floor of Edith Garland Dupré Library on campus. Gaines donated a new collection of papers and manuscripts to the center in October. UL Lafayette will have the only complete collection of Ernest J. Gaines scholarship in the world.

GULF OF MEXICO ORIGIN, WATERS AND BIOTA: VOLUME 1, BIODIVERSITY



Edited by Darryl L. Felder
and David K. Camp
Texas A&M University Press

Gulf of Mexico Origin, Waters and Biota: Volume 1, Biodiversity is a comprehensive reference book for scientists, researchers and students of marine biology.

As co-editor, Dr. Darryl Felder, professor of biology and head of UL Lafayette's Laboratory for Crustacean Research, has amassed a complete biodiversity inventory of the Gulf of Mexico. The book was also edited by Dr. David W. Camp, a consulting biologist and freelance science editor.

The volume includes information on more than 15,000 species, written by 138 authors from 14 countries. UL Lafayette faculty members, including Dr. Suzanne Fredericq, Dr. Andrei Chistoserdov and Joseph E. Neigel, contributed to the work.

Gulf of Mexico Origin, Waters and Biota is the first of seven volumes supported by the Harte Research Institute, Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi. When complete, the multivolume set will capture the state of knowledge about the Gulf of Mexico from the world's foremost scientists to encourage an ecosystem view of the Gulf among scientists, businesses, and policy makers; foster cooperation and collaboration among Mexico, Cuba, and the United States; and provide additional research and funding to increase knowledge and awareness about the Gulf.

THE GOLDEN AGE OF THE CLASSICS IN AMERICA: GREECE, ROME, AND THE ANTEBELLUM UNITED STATES



Carl J. Richard
Harvard University Press

With publication of *The Golden Age of the Classics in America: Greece, Rome, and the Antebellum United States*, Dr. Carl J. Richard considers the influence of Greek and Roman culture in America's history.

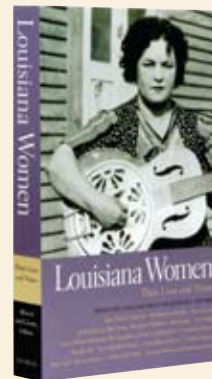
Richard argues the influence of the classics, embraced by the Founding Fathers and widely taught in antebellum schools, was far-reaching. In the book's preface, he notes: "The classics were carried to the very frontiers of American civilization."

In a review, Dr. Caroline Winterer, an associate professor of history at Stanford University, praised his work, calling it "lucid and readable ... (Richard) shows how the ideals of the classical world continued to provide Americans with one of their principal sets of ideological tools well into the nineteenth century. Richard shows that classicism was democratized in nineteenth-century America, reaching more broadly and deeply into American culture than it had in the previous century."

Richard also addresses slavery, which was part of the classics' influence. "Antebellum southerners relied on Aristotle's defense of slavery and on the argument that the institution had served as the foundation of classical civilization to convince both themselves and others that slavery was not just a necessary evil but a positive good," he states.

Richard is a professor of history at UL Lafayette.

LOUISIANA WOMEN: THEIR LIVES AND TIMES



Edited by Judith F. Gentry
and Janet Allured
University of Georgia Press

This collection of essays explores the lives of 17 Louisiana women, from the colonial period to the present day. It is coedited by Dr. Judith F. Gentry, a professor of history at UL Lafayette, and Dr. Janet Allured, an associate professor of history and director of Women's Studies at McNeese State University.

Some of the subjects are familiar, such as author Kate Chopin, primitive painter Clementine Hunter and voodoo priestess Marie Laveau. Others are not, such as Cajun musician Cleoma Breaux Falcon, who, along with her husband, Joe, made the first recording of a Cajun song, and Rowena Spencer, Louisiana's first female surgeon.

Although the women whose stories are told in this volume are of different races and have different political and religious affiliations, they share an ability to turn trying circumstances into opportunity.

Two other UL Lafayette faculty members contributed to *Louisiana Women*. Dr. Mary Ann Wilson, professor of English and women's studies and BORSF Endowed Professor in the Humanities, writes about New Orleans literary historian Grace King. Dr. Mary Farmer-Kaiser, associate professor of history and the James D. Wilson/BORSF Professor of Southern Studies, chronicles the life of Sarah Katherine Stone, a Civil War diarist.