



Dr. Nick J. Bruno
President

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

IN my five years as president of this great institution, I have witnessed the exponential growth and evolution of this campus, our students, and our ability to serve our community and our region.

We take pride in the amazing accolades and awards we have earned over the past year, and we are excited to share them with you in this edition of the ULM Magazine.

Our students and alumni are doing amazing things both here at home, and across the globe. Whether their career takes them to the classroom or to the stage, ULM wants to be part of the process to get them there and ensure their success.

The experiences of those profiled in this magazine are not unlike the

experiences many of you had and will have as part of the ULM family.

We are making strides each day to become a better institution for our students, a better place to work for our faculty and staff, and a better place to call home for our alumni.

With each turn of the year comes new hope and inspiration for the future, and our hope is that we continue to impact our community, and make our alumni proud.

Join me as we embark on ULM's next chapter that will be bigger and better than ever before. We welcome you to come back and visit, or rediscover the university you still called your own. Our hearts and doors are open.

GO WARHAWKS!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Bruno". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right from the end of the name.

Nick J. Bruno, Ph.D.
ULM President

PRESIDENT

Nick J. Bruno, Ph.D.

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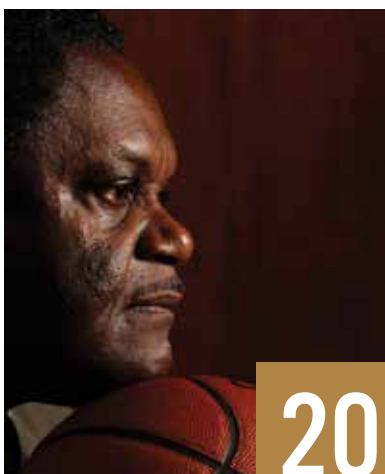
ON THE COVER

The Warhawk mascot holds a local historic connection to northeast Louisiana's General Claire Chennault who led a squadron of Curtiss P-40 planes flown against the Japanese in WWII. The name of Gen. Chennault's P-40 plane was the 'warhawk,' a fighter plane that received many accolades in having a strong part in defeating the enemy.



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BY MICHAEL ROBOSKI

WE ARE THE WARHAWKS

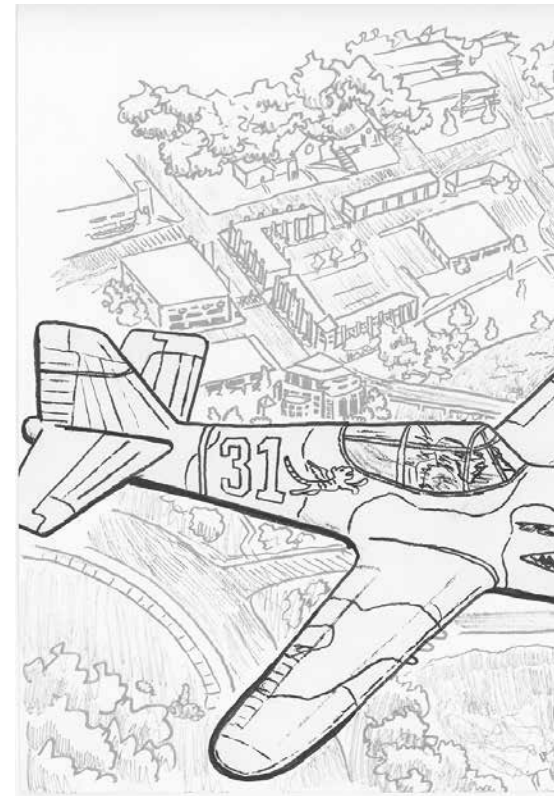
SINCE its inception in 1931, the University of Louisiana at Monroe has gone through several name changes and continuous growth. Though the name, logo, and a few buildings have evolved, the heart of the university and its mission remains the same: to provide the best in education and opportunity for all who seek it. It is the ability of the establishment to grow and adapt that has allowed it to thrive through many of the United States' most trying times: the Great Depression, World War II, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, the Civil Rights Movement, and all of the conflicts in the Middle East. This growth has not been without struggle. Over the past decade, Louisiana Higher Education has been faced with yearly, devastating budget cuts, yet ULM has grown larger with new buildings, constant renovations, and increased enrollment. Let's take a look at who we are, where we came from, and where we are going today.

In 1931, the Great Depression had taken its toll on the primarily agricultural state of Louisiana and Ouachita Parish Junior College opened its doors for the first time, allowing men and women to begin bettering their lives through education. As the Great Depression

**"IT IS NOT THE
STRONGEST
SPECIES
THAT SURVIVE,
NOR THE MOST
INTELLIGENT, BUT
THE ONES MOST
RESPONSIVE
TO CHANGE."**

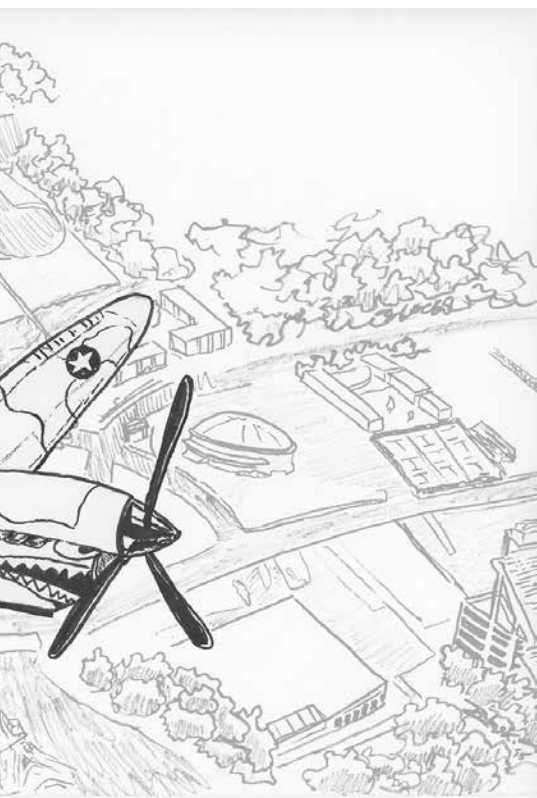
— CHARLES DARWIN

continued, the taxpayers of Ouachita Parish could no longer afford to sustain the Junior College. This allowed for the school to show one of its greatest strengths: the ability to adapt. Under the guidance of James A. Noe, Ouachita Parish Junior College entered under the Louisiana State University umbrella as the Northeast Center of Louisiana



State University. This bold decision to give the school up to the state was trivial at the time, but ultimately allowed the school to survive the toughest of economies.

In 1939, the school upgraded its name to Northeast Junior College and allocated all lands to Louisiana State University. At the same time,



Adolf Hitler's Nazi Party seized control of Germany and began their invasion of Poland, officially starting the European theatre of World War II. Still under a suffering economy, the United States stayed out of European affairs. Though not officially at war, the United States was producing supplies for the Allied war effort. The same year

that we became Northeast Junior College, a new fighter plane went into production at the Curtiss plant in Buffalo, NY. Though developed 1,227 miles away, this plane shaped the land and history of North Louisiana. Throughout the war years, Monroe served as an airport and training ground for future Aces, pilots, and gunners. The runways of Selman Field are still in use today at Monroe Regional Airport. Of the 160 buildings comprising the base, only one still stands today. It is now the Chennault Aviation Museum.

General Claire Lee Chennault was born in Commerce, Texas on September 6, 1893 and grew up in North Louisiana in the towns of Gilbert and Waterproof. He learned to fly during World War I. His expertise landed him an opportunity to go travel to China in 1937 to survey the Chinese Air Force. The Second Sino-Japanese War broke out during this time and Chennault became a chief air adviser, even flying scouting missions himself. After the Chinese Air Force collapsed from poor training and a shortage of equipment, Chennault gained the permission of the U.S. government to create the American Volunteer Group, an international squadron of mercenary pilots. In the Spring of 1941, 100 P-40B Tomahawk aircraft originally built for the British war effort were shipped to China and flew their first battle on December 20, just thirteen days after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, which sent the U.S. into World War II.

Chennault and his American Volunteer Group gained publicity in the States after several successful air battles with the Japanese. Chennault was featured in the August 10, 1942 issue of Life

Magazine, thrusting him forward into the American public's eyes as their first military leader. Names like MacArthur and Eisenhower would not become household names until later in the war.

Ending his career as a heavily decorated Brigadier General by both the United States and Chinese Military, Chennault's name lives on today through his many monuments across the globe, the Chennault International Airport in Lake Charles, and the Chennault Aviation and Military Museum located at the mouth of Monroe Regional Airport—home of Selman Air Field. Most importantly, Chennault and his Flying Tigers are commemorated in a way that touches all of our community's lives.

In 2006, the University of Louisiana at Monroe changed its mascot from the Indians to the Warhawks, to honor the name of the Curtiss P-40 that General Chennault and his men used to win the Pacific theatre in World War II.

The Warhawk now represents and unites thousands of students and alumni of northeast Louisiana under a symbol of courage, perseverance, and the power to change. It is under this banner that we, like brave men and women of the past, unite for the greater good of our university. The Warhawk was small in numbers, yet stood against and defeated one of the greatest military powers in history. The Warhawk adapted to change as it flew over both Asia as well as Europe. The Warhawk lives on today as our mascot, our logo, and as our pride. It is important that we learn where we came from to better understand who we are, so we can better pursue who we want to become.





CAMPUS TRANSFORMATIONS

IN *The Building of a University*, the 373-page book by former university President Dr. George T. Walker, a plan for creating what is now ULM is laid out in chapter six titled "Brick and Mortar." During Walker's tenure, the campus saw more physical change than it had seen before and since. From

1931 to 1950 campus was made up of six buildings. From 1958-1976, Walker and his administration built, remodeled, or made additions to over 50 facilities. Here is a look at where we are today.

1. Event Center, completion fall 2017
2. Water Ski Facility, completion fall 2015
3. Malone Stadium Fieldhouse, completion spring 2016
4. Newly renovated Sandel Hall, completion spring 2016

STRONG LINK

ULM AND CENTURYLINK— A GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS, HOSTING, CLOUD AND IT SERVICES COMPANY—HAVE A RELATIONSHIP THAT ENCOURAGES RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP, AND HELPS BUILD THE INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL IN NORTHEAST LOUISIANA. SOME OF CENTURYLINK'S TOP EXECUTIVES ARE ULM ALUMNI, AND THEIR JOURNEY TO BUSINESS SUCCESS CAN BE MAPPED BY THEIR UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCES.

JOHN JONES BA '82; MA '88:

As Senior Vice President of Public Policy and Government Relations, John Jones is responsible for representing CenturyLink's public policy positions to federal, state, and local policy makers and regulatory commissions. Jones leads state and federal regulatory and legislative initiatives, government relations activities, external communication and policy development and state and local economic development issues as well as representing CenturyLink in industry discussions and negotiations.

"I had the privilege of being both a student and an employee of what was then NLU. Both were great life and learning experiences in developing my communications background and preparing for my career with CenturyLink. I was always impressed by the quality and commitment of the faculty—regardless of the discipline—in bringing out the best in their students."

"WE REALLY ENJOY TAKING OUR BOYS TO ULM ATHLETIC EVENTS, WITH OUR MAROON AND GOLD ON AND OUR TALONS OUT."

— STEPHANIE POLK



ADRIAN KESLER BBA '01:

After serving in the Army, Kesler entered ULM to study business. After graduation he began working at CenturyLink in an entry-level position. Applying many lessons from both the military and mentorship from his professors at ULM, Adrian rose quickly through the ranks to become one of the youngest executives at CenturyLink as a Vice President of Marketing.

From left: John Jones, Senior VP of Public Policy and Government Relations; Adrian Kesler, VP of Marketing; Stephanie Polk, VP of IT Portfolio Management and Governance.



"I can't say enough about the outstanding group of professors I had at ULM. I use the business and technical skills learned from them in driving the business every day, and believe they prepared me to achieve success. But, probably more important, I learned valuable leadership and organizational skills from them through their friendship and mentorship over and above the textbook education."

STEPHANIE POLK BS '99:

Stephanie Polk is the Vice President of IT Portfolio Management and Governance at CenturyLink. She interned at CenturyLink for two years while a full-time student at ULM, and has been with the company ever since. She is responsible for maintaining relationships with CenturyLink business unit leaders to develop and implement end-to-end IT solutions.

ULM holds many special memories for her, including meeting her husband Aaron as a freshman and now sharing their Warhawk pride with their two sons, Gavin (8) and Garrett (5).

"We really enjoy taking our boys to ULM athletic events, with our maroon and gold on and our Talons Out," she says.

BY KIWANA SUTTON

FROM THE SOUTH TO SOUTHWEST

SAILESH WAGLE B.S. '14, SOFTWARE ENGINEER SOUTHWEST AIRLINES

OVER 14,000 students applied for a prestigious internship at Southwest Airlines in 2014. Only 112 were selected. One of those 112 was Sailesh Wagle, who at the time was a senior computer science major at ULM. The opportunities afforded to him through his connections in ULM's College of Business and Social Sciences led to not only the internship, but to a career.

As an international student, coming to a university in the United States can be a stressful experience. Wagle took his fears and turned them into opportunities to create lasting friendships, learn more about American culture, and teach ULM about his culture.

"My education at ULM prepared me to become a confident, determined, hard working, and ambitious person," he said. "Various departments at ULM like the Office of Continuing Education, Student Success Center, and the Office of

Public Information taught me a great culture of caring and helping each other to live a beautiful life."

Wagle is taking every opportunity to grow as a professional, and one of his favorite influencers is none other than ULM President, Dr. Nick J. Bruno.

"Dr. Bruno influenced me greatly," he said. "His great attitude, caring behavior, motivational words and encouragements, and full support in making my dreams come true were just exceptional. Our university is proud to have a president like him."

So what is life like for a young employee at one of the nation's largest companies?

"Every single day I am surrounded by great culture and great people, and because of them I always have a passion to go to work. At Southwest, I am the youngest developer in my team, so everybody loves me like their little brother. Moreover, my



Sailesh Wagle

manager is supportive and very caring. They allow me exposure to anything that I want in order to get involved and learn the ins and outs of the company. I am having a great experience at Southwest."

While there is much more for Sailesh to accomplish, the foundation he has built thus far is a testament to the skills he acquired from ULM. His life motto is simple, yet poignant, and he is likely to meet his goals in record time.

"Never think less of yourself and your university. You can come out of ULM as a gem if you work hard towards your dream. With all your hard work, wherever you go, you will always be successful."

BY KIWANA SUTTON

IN THE ARTS...

ULM ARTS AND HUMANITIES GRADUATES
TAKE DEGREES TO A NEW LEVEL

WITH THE BURGEONING SUCCESS OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INTERNET-BASED SERVICES, ENGINEERING, AND HEALTH SCIENCES, STUDENTS ENTERING COLLEGE ARE OFTEN TOLD THAT SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATH (STEM) CAREERS ARE THEIR BEST OPTION FOR SUCCESS AFTER GRADUATION.

AT ULM, OUR STUDENTS EXCEL IN EVERY FIELD, AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT THEY RECEIVE TO PURSUE CAREERS IN THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES HAS PUSHED MANY OF THEM INTO ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCES IN THE ARTS.





Universal Production
- shot at Station
- shot at Station
- 1601 in Atlanta
Make a list of the wedding
Plan for the home



“ EVERY PIECE OF ART THAT FLOWS OUT OF MY CAMERA OR COMPUTER IS BASED OFF OF SOMETHING I LEARNED AT ULM AND THE TALENT I GREW DURING MY YEARS THERE. EVERY BIT OF DIGITAL MEDIA HAS TO HAVE SOME SORT OF FOUNDATION IN COMMUNICATION BEFORE IT CAN EFFECTIVELY REACH AN AUDIENCE, AND MY FOUNDATION IS MY DEGREE. ”

– HOUSTON BASS

Hometown

BASTROP, LA.

Degree

B.A. '14

Career

HONEST PRODUCTION, LLC AND BULWARE PRODUCTIONS

WEDDING VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHY (HONEST PROD.)

COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION (BULWARE)

HOUSTON BASS

ENCYCLOPEDIA Britannica defines the Arts as “modes of expression that use skill or imagination in the creation of aesthetic objects, environments, or experiences that can be shared with others.”

Liberal arts, humanities, and visual and performing arts offer citizens creative outlets that can easily move, inspire, and excite a generation.

Many ULM alumni chose the path less traveled—the path of the arts—and found that their passions

have allowed them to reach far beyond their circle of peers, but to their communities, to children and families, to Fortune 500 companies, and entrepreneurship.

For Houston Bass, Alyssa Flowers, Kelsea McCrary, and Victoria Smith, their arts and humanities degrees have become more than just paper, and more than a designation by





Hometown

BOSSIER CITY, LA.

Degree

B.A. '12

Career

**PERFORMER, UNIVERSAL STUDIOS
ORLANDO**

ORGANIZATIONS

CENTRAL FLORIDA COMMUNITY ARTS

LEGACY ENSEMBLE

“ I THINK AWARENESS CAN BE STRENGTHENED BY ALUMNI WHO ARE CURRENTLY WORKING IN THE ARTS TO BE WILLING TO SHARE THEIR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE TO CURRENT STUDENTS OF THE ARTS, AS WELL AS THE COMMUNITY. IT IS ALWAYS ENCOURAGING AND INSPIRING TO SEE SOMEONE WHO WAS ONCE IN YOUR PLACE AS A STUDENT NOW FULFILLING THEIR DREAMS AND DOING WHAT THEY LOVE. ”

– ALYSSA FLOWERS

ALYSSA FLOWERS

which they measure their self worth. It has become who they are.

They are artists, and artists can take many forms. Flowers transferred to ULM in 2010 looking for a place to call home, and for a place that would help nurture her excitement for the arts. Something she needed in order to pursue her career goals of becoming a stage performer.

“As a student, having someone that believed in me was crucial to how I perceived my performance and my future as an actor,” she said.

This was a sentiment expressed by each. The support they received went beyond the expectation of educational foundations.

McCrary expressed her appreciation for not only her professors but for staff members who showed her professional etiquette techniques, crisis communication, grace, and humor.

“I was blessed to have professors and staff that encouraged me to view university as an education, and not an assembly line for a career,” McCrary said. “They nurtured a desire for learning that was already present, thanks to my mother, and I was able to take classes in different disciplines. I was taught that everything is an opportunity and has valuable input to be extrapolated and applied to life.”





IN THE ARTS...

Hometown

BASTROP, LA.

Degree

B.A. '10

Career

**CENTURYLINK ANALYST II,
RECRUITMENT MARKETING AND TALENT
ACQUISITIONS**

**DIGITAL CREATIVE STRATEGY IN
WEB, SOCIAL MEDIA, VIDEO, AND
CO-CREATIVE DIRECTION OF PRINT.**

Organizations

**PRESIDENT, DOWNTOWN ARTS
ALLIANCE**

**CREATIVE PLACEMAKING CHAIRPERSON,
NORTHEAST LOUISIANA ARTS COUNCIL**

ARROW PUBLIC ART

**DOWNTOWN WEST MONROE
REVITALIZATION GROUP**

KELSEA MCCRARY

**“ TO BE CREATIVE
ISN'T TO BE SUBPAR,
BUT TO CHANNEL
SOMETHING WE WERE
BORN WITH. WE WERE
MADE TO MAKE. IT
ISN'T SHORTCHANGING
A STUDENT'S
INTELLIGENCE TO
ENCOURAGE THEM TO
LEAN TOWARDS THE
ARTS AND HUMANITIES.”**

– KELSEA MCCRARY

Awareness of those opportunities and of the diversity of careers available to those with degrees in the arts and humanities is seemingly low, and misunderstood. The introduction of technology may appear to have made many liberal arts careers obsolete, but in many cases, technology has increased the need for graduates in these fields.

“In this age of art, and digital media specifically, there are various profit-making avenues one can pursue to have a successful career,” Bass said. “It’s a very specialized field, and I believe that is where people can become misinformed. They don’t realize the small niches they could be filling. By being specialized, our careers can be spread far and wide.”

The expectation of success is

instilled in ULM students throughout their tenure, and it is evident in the stories of our alumni who, while seeking degrees in fields that were less stable, knew that they could become more than a degree with the encouragement and backing from their professors and peers—sometimes, without even knowing it.

There’s an air of community amongst these graduates. Bass, McCrary, Smith, and Flowers all spoke lovingly of each other, sometimes never crossing paths at ULM, but within the working world as artists.

“Kelsea McCrary is my biggest fan,” Bass laughed. “She is continually the most uplifting person toward the work that I do.”





Hometown

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Degree

B.A. '13

Career

ART TEACHER, WEST MONROE HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTHERN SMITH, VICTORIA SMITH ARTS

Organizations

DOWNTOWN ARTS ALLIANCE MASUR MUSEUM OF ART

“ DO WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY AND FOR NO ONE ELSE. NOT FOR YOUR PARENTS, YOUR SPOUSE, THE PROSPECT OF MONEY, OR ANYTHING ELSE THAT SERVES AS A PRIME MOTIVATOR ON A JOURNEY WHERE YOUR HEART ISN'T IN THAT JOURNEY. BE IN IT FOR YOU. ”

– VICTORIA SMITH

VICTORIA SMITH

Bass and McCrary never had a class together and are separated by a complete four-year graduating class.

But how does one fit into a community so drastically different than one that seems almost a world away?

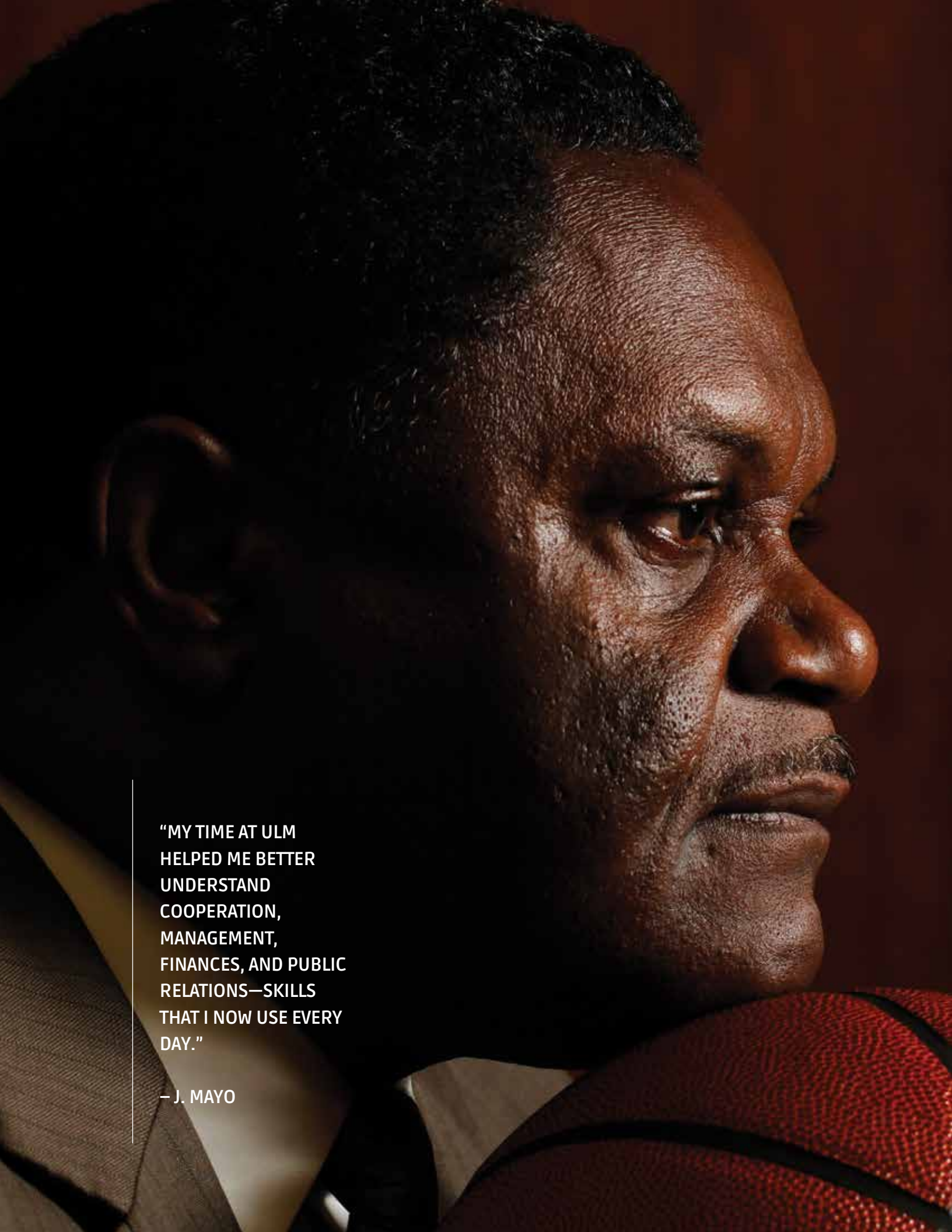
Smith found that answer quickly. She has immersed herself into the northeast Louisiana community, by way of San Francisco, and is finding herself to be a large part of the revitalization of the arts in the region.

“As a community we see the enormous need for creative people. Visionaries are how we got here

today. Designers allow us to be individuals... art is needed, and opening hearts and minds allows us to educate ourselves,” she said.

The most important thing we can give to our students is the belief that they will be part of a generation that will change the world. Whether it's through the arts, sciences, education, or engineering, allowing students to be who they are while educating them for the future is imperative, and those treated with kindness, and as peers, succeed beyond measure.





**"MY TIME AT ULM
HELPED ME BETTER
UNDERSTAND
COOPERATION,
MANAGEMENT,
FINANCES, AND PUBLIC
RELATIONS—SKILLS
THAT I NOW USE EVERY
DAY."**

— J. MAYO

BY KIWANA SUTTON

ONCE A POINT GUARD ALWAYS A POINT GUARD

JAMES E. "JAMIE" MAYO, BBA '79; MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MONROE

BASTROP, Louisiana is a small town. The kind of town you see in movies about small towns; the kind of town where everyone knows each other and stops to visit at the grocery store.

For Jamie Mayo, growing up in Bastrop was just the beginning, and his future had yet to be written. As the Mayor of Monroe for the past 14 years, Mayo has seen significant economic growth and city achievement, but that is where he is today.

How he got here is a tale of its own, and where he's going is a reflection of where he's been.

In 1975, Mayo stepped on the then NLU campus with a basketball scholarship in hand, ready to prove his worth. It's easy to figure out that his favorite places on campus are still Fant-Ewing Coliseum and Malone Stadium.

The people he met when he arrived are the people who helped shape who he is today.

"Lenny Fant, Benny Hollis, and Mike Vining expressed the importance of working hard, teamwork, and displaying good character," he said. "My business degree, participating in varsity athletics, and taking speech and journalism classes prepared me well for my careers in the competitive and sometimes hectic worlds of business and politics."

Mayo played point guard, a position known as a take-charge, leadership position, so it's no surprise that Mayo led the team in assists for three consecutive seasons and ranks second all-time in ULM history in career assists with 370. He's always been a leader—on the court, and in the community.

"He was a point guard and also a quarterback. Those positions require leadership skills, and he displayed those very early. He took charge of the game and motivated players to play well. Someone once asked me if I was surprised that he became Mayor. I told them that I would have been surprised if he hadn't become Mayor. He could have been whatever he wanted to be, so I knew he would achieve what he set out to do," said Mike Vining, head coach of the ULM men's basketball team from 1981-2005 and assistant coach during Mayo's tenure as a player.

As for Mayo's future, his immediate plans are to build a state-of-the-art arena and baseball and softball park in Monroe. His intentions as mayor are indicative of his point guard past—to lead, assist, and win.

"My goals are simple," he said. "To be a good steward of taxpayer dollars, improve the quality of life for the people of Monroe, and spur economic development for the growth and progress for our city, parish, and region."

Mayo doesn't want his legacy to end with his mayoral success. He wants to help others become better leaders.

"Where do I see myself in 10 years," he said. "Doing consulting work for municipalities and businesses."

Jamie Mayo never stopped assisting. The urge to help and guide are in his nature, and as the mayor of Monroe, he works to ensure the future of his alma mater, as it rests on the banks of Bayou DeSiard within the walls of the city that he leads.



BY KIWANA SUTTON

REFLECTIONS

DAVE NORRIS, B.A. '63; MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WEST MONROE

FROM 1950-1970, what we now know as ULM was then Northeast Louisiana State College (NLSC). During that twenty-year span, the institution grew not only in number, but in size, culture, and notoriety.

This was the university's greatest period of growth.

It was during this time that the university was integrated, was approved to award new masters and doctoral degrees, and moved toward its current university status.

Dave Norris was part of this growth that spread to both Monroe and West Monroe. His plan was to teach, but what ultimately happened was a surprise to many, even himself.

This passion would lead him to teach some of the regions finest, including a man who would later become his counterpart on the opposite side of the Ouachita River, Jamie Mayo, mayor of Monroe.

"I took a full-time faculty position teaching economics courses at NLSC in 1966, where I taught full-time until 1978. I earned my DBA from Mississippi State University in 1974 and was elected mayor of West Monroe in 1978, and I continued to teach in the evenings

at ULM until 2000."

Norris was even the co-host of an hour-long early morning television talk show on KTVE from 1980-1990, and he has been the choir director at McGuire United Methodist Church since 1972.

For a man who didn't expect to stay in public service long, a 10th consecutive term as mayor is surreal.

"It's been a great ride so far," he said. "However, I still take great pride in the accomplishments of so many of the students I taught through the years. I know I only was a very small part of their education experience, but seeing them succeed in life is a source of satisfaction for me."

After announcing that his current term will be his last, Norris reflects on the accomplishments and memories made during his unprecedented tenure. "All of the career honors, awards, and recognitions I have received have been team efforts with the employees of the City of West Monroe. Often the names on plaques are mine, but the achievements involved are the work of so many others."

" I STILL TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SO MANY OF THE STUDENTS I TAUGHT THROUGH THE YEARS. "

– DAVE NORRIS



photo by Staci Albritton



BY KIWANA SUTTON

SISTER. SCHOLAR. CARETAKER. QUEEN.

JO' HILLIARD, NURSING MAJOR; EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: 2016

ASK Jo' Hilliard about her day. Ask her what it's like to be a sister, a scholar, a caretaker, and a queen.

Ask her about maintaining her grades as a third-year nursing student while leading a city as its ambassador.

Whatever one asks Hilliard; the answers are bound to be as lively and vibrant as her personality.

"Aside from becoming a better speaker, presenter, and all around well-rounded individual as a result of my education here at ULM, I want to shed light on how just *being* at ULM has helped me to enjoy my successes. I get so much support from my Warhawk family...that it has made my journey towards my goals and dreams that much easier knowing that I will have people cheering me on every step of the way, people that believe in me even when I fail to believe in myself."

Earning a nursing degree takes time—a lot of time. Imagine working on a nursing degree, serving in a sorority, and being the queen of a city. Hilliard is wrapping up her year as Miss Monroe, and found after competing in the Miss Louisiana

"NO ONE CAN DENY THAT OUR CAMPUS IS BEAUTIFUL, THE PEOPLE ARE WARM, AND THE EDUCATION IS ELITE."

— JO' HILLIARD

competition that she has even more to offer.

"I hope to continue to be active in serving my community and helping others in any way I can. Most importantly, I want to continue to grow and learn more and more about myself every single day so that I can become an even better me."

While she admitted to being slightly afraid of the dark, Jo' knew that she had to step into the light to truly shine and become a leader among her peers and role model to young girls.

"I began to acknowledge what I knew all along. I was never happy being any old regular student, because I was most happy being involved and active, meeting people, building friendships, and serving my community."

As a native of Baton Rouge, Hilliard had a plethora of options for college, but she beams with pride when talking about her new home at ULM.

"No one can deny that our campus is beautiful, the people are warm, and the education is elite."



YEAR IN P





PICTURES

2014 • 2015



**TRICKSLALOMJUMPSKISBAYOUWAKEBOAT
WATERRAMPRUNCHAMPIONSRECORD
TWENTY-SIXTOURNAMENTINVITATIONAL
HISTORYTITLESETLEGACYPOWERHOUSE**



JOHNNY'S



#RISE OF THE WARHAWKS

TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN

G
SEP
05

N
SEP
12

A
SEP
26


OCT
03


OCT
10


A
OCT
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I
OCT
24

RAGIN' CAJUNS
OCT
31


NOV
07


NOV
14


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PUTTING THE STUDENT IN STUDENT

RICHARD TAKES MEN'S BASKETBALL FROM LAST TO CLASS

FIVE years ago, the ULM men's basketball program was in a dark place. Academic problems caused the team to fall into NCAA sanctions and penalties. In 2010, out went the head coach, and the program appeared to be bottomed out. That was until a former product of the program came home. It was Keith Richard.

Year one hurt. Year two, no results. Year three, the tunnel appears. Year four, there is light. Year five, magical.

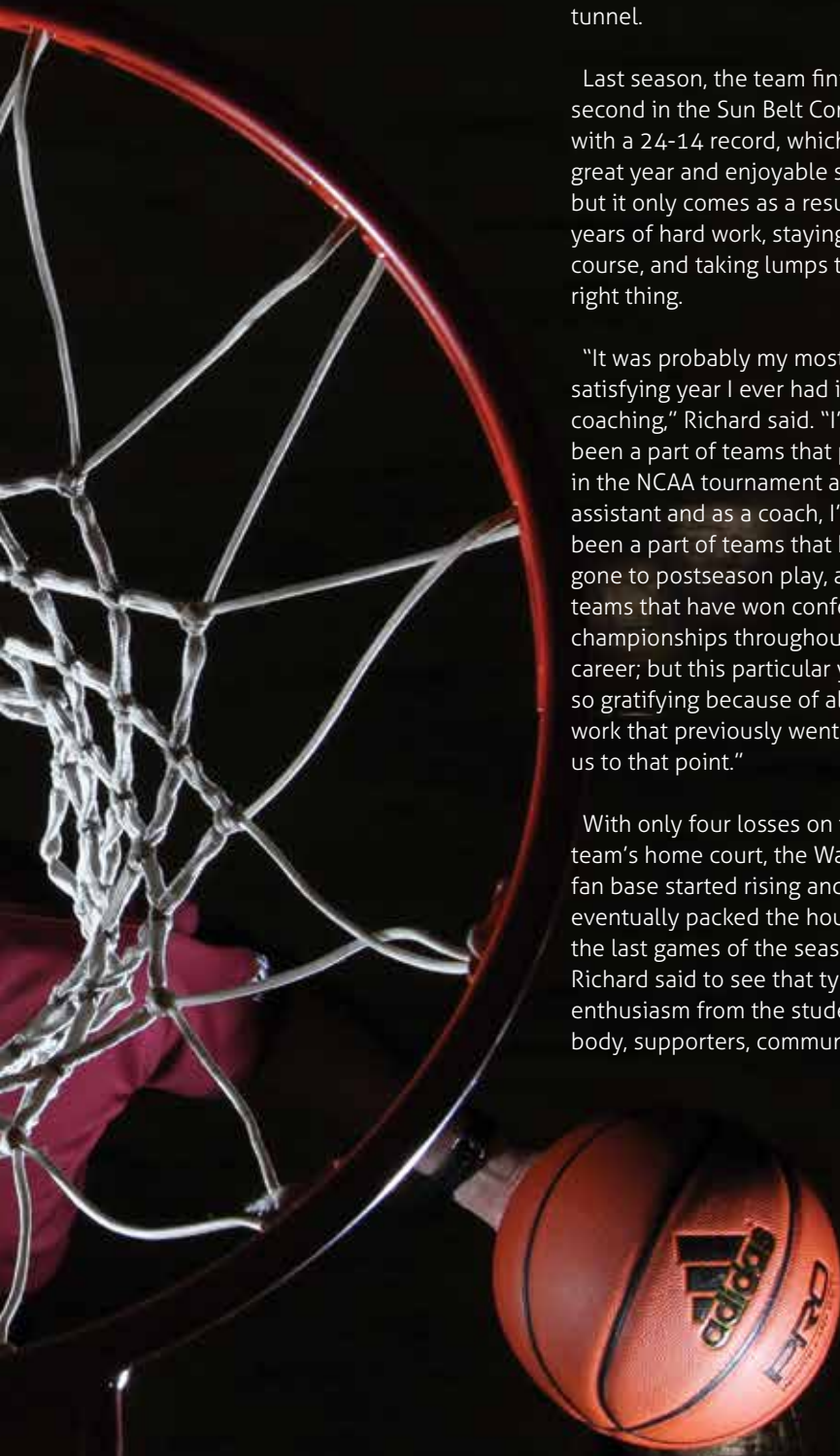
In Richard's first year as coach, the team won seven games. In the most recent season, his fifth year, 24 games.

"Year five was a magical season and it was a culmination of all the years of work," Richard said, entering his sixth year as head coach. "The four previous years were a lot of tough times on the court and a lot of restructuring of how we do business here in men's basketball."

The Warhawks hit the books and



ENT-ATHLETE



rebuilt the program academically, which was the first order of business. And then eventually rebuilt the program on the court. Now Richard and the team are able to see clearly through a once dark tunnel.

Last season, the team finished second in the Sun Belt Conference with a 24-14 record, which was a great year and enjoyable season, but it only comes as a result of years of hard work, staying the course, and taking lumps to do the right thing.

"It was probably my most satisfying year I ever had in coaching," Richard said. "I've been a part of teams that played in the NCAA tournament as an assistant and as a coach, I've been a part of teams that have gone to postseason play, and teams that have won conference championships throughout my career; but this particular year was so gratifying because of all the work that previously went in to get us to that point."

With only four losses on the team's home court, the Warhawk fan base started rising and eventually packed the house during the last games of the season. Richard said to see that type of enthusiasm from the student body, supporters, community, and

administration was just special.

"In the last game I looked out across the coliseum and it just gave me goose bumps and it still does to even talk about it now," Richard said.

After so many losses on the court and negative press off the court, Richard always wondered through the first four years about whether or not the team would be supported again.

"It had been so long since we'd seen that kind of support," Richard said.

"To see it in the last month of the season it was touching and it told me yes—that these students and this community are starving for a good men's basketball program. Yes they'll come support it, yes they'll be enthusiastic, and it really felt good to see that again. It was just unbelievable."

Five years ago, Richard remembers he and Dr. Nick Bruno, President of ULM, inherited a program that was stricken with NCAA penalties and sanctions due to academic performance. He said no president nor coach wants a negative academic standing for the school.

"It started with Dr. Bruno on down and was a team effort and we said we are going to fix this first, we're going to fix the academic problem," Richard said. "For the first two or three years that's really what it was all about: rebuilding, restructuring, and reemphasizing our academic plight. You are supposed to be here to get an education. Let's go back to the grassroots and fix that and get that accomplished."

As the team's academics improved and NCAA penalties started coming off the board, the tunnel started



to appear. ULM won the Sun Belt Conference Academic Award three years in a row, and as those things started to fall in place, Richard and his staff turned their attention to fielding a competitive team on the floor within the conference.

"Last year it all came together. We were completely off penalties, we were a normal men's basketball program for the first time since I've been here," Richard said. "To see what we were able to do on the court along with what we do academically is very gratifying."

"Even though it was hard to see sometimes because we were struggling so much on the court, we knew we were doing good things off the court. We were doing the right thing and doing it the right way, and we're now in a position where the program is healthy on and off the court, which was our goal when we started," Richard said.

When you're at the bottom, it takes a lot of patience before you make a strong climb to the top. Richard has learned quite a lot about patience during the last five years.

"I didn't look very patient early on but it was very important for me. I didn't come here worrying about my career record. I was able to put my ego aside and do it the right way," he said. "It doesn't mean I wasn't frustrated at times because I don't like losing and never have, but I did put it in perspective as time moved along."

It takes more than just a coach and staff to rebuild a program the right way. It takes a lot of support from administration as well.

"I have a president who stuck by

me hip-to-hip through this whole thing," Richard said about Dr. Bruno. "You can't do what we just did without that kind of support, tremendous support. He, too, was patient. He too, saw the big picture. He, didn't get rattled about not being good on the court early on. To have that kind of support from my boss and the president of the university has been a big part of this as well."

You can't move forward without truly knowing the history of where you have been. Richard knows ULM's history because he was a part of it.

He was with the Warhawks for six of the program's seven NCAA Tournament appearances in the 1980s and early 1990s. Richard has been a part of all five of ULM's winningest seasons in program history as either a coach or player. He was an assistant coach in 1992-93 when the program won 27 games, and also in 1990-91 when ULM won 25 games. Both years resulted in NCAA Tournament berths.

As a student-athlete at ULM, Richard bridged the transition from Lenny Fant to Benny Hollis to Mike Vining. He played on Fant's final team, played two seasons for Hollis and then completed his playing career on Vining's first team. ULM won three Trans-America Athletic Conference championships during his four years and advanced to the NCAA Tournament in 1982, –the school's first-ever appearance, – and the NIT in 1979. He twice led the team in assists and was team captain in 1980-81 and 1981-82.

When he looks back on his playing career versus his coaching career he

always notes one thing first:

"The first thing I compare is that I had a head full of hair," Richard said, then laughing.

Humbly he added, he wasn't a great player for ULM, but "I was a part of some great teams."

"My history is deep here," he said.

As a product that came back home to save a program that wasn't producing, Richard has reached his first goal of getting the ULM men's basketball team on its feet.

His next goal is to find consistent success.

"I don't want this to be a one time thing. I want to start having consistent success, which is the hardest thing to do," Richard said. "To do it consistently, to have back-to-back good years on and off the court. To continue doing what we've built and not let it go back down."

He added: "I can't tell you how proud I am of the student body and the community who joined hands with us this last year. It was special. I mean it when I say it still brings goose bumps for me to talk about what went on the last month of the season here at Fant-Ewing Coliseum. It has inspired us as coaches, it has inspired our players, and it motivates us to really and truly try to do this again."

Richard and the ULM men's basketball program proved why it's important to always put the "student" first in "student-athlete." The Warhawks started in the classroom and now the whole team is winning, both on and off the court.

THE TIES THAT BIND

A FAMILY TRADITION THAT SPANS THE LIFE OF A UNIVERSITY

A non-traditional student in the 1950s, mother and wife Mildred Girod Muirhead ('53), a woman who went on to become the first female president of the Louisiana Teachers Association, sent her son Robert Earle ('60) to her alma mater in 1956. There, he would meet his wife Bobbye Fletcher Earle ('61), and the two of them would help start a family tradition that spans generations, now spread across the nation, linking multiple families.

Both Bobbye and Robert were part of expansive ULM family traditions before they ever even met. Bobbye's sisters Jo Ann Fletcher Williams ('60, '66, '84) and Zaidee Ruth Fletcher Stephens ('53, '80) both married classmates—Glen Williams ('60, '63), and Sonny Stephens ('55). Ruth and Sonny's son, Mathew Stephens, earned his ULM degree in 1989.

Bobbye's brother James Fletcher, and third sister Laverne Fletcher Mercer also attended ULM. Laverne's daughter, Bobbye Jo Futch ('95, '03) is a two-time graduate, and Laverne's granddaughter Zaidee Futch is a current business major at ULM.

Robert's sister, Jean Earle ('61) married Bob Tatum ('62), and the two have sons, William "Chandler" Tatum ('92) and Todd Tatum ('89), who received ULM degrees. Todd's wife, Cindy Burdine Tatum ('92), is also a ULM graduate.

Bobbye's family connections helped her make what was an easy decision to attend what was then Northeast Louisiana State College (NLSC). Growing up on Fletcher Farms in Franklin Parish, Bobbye wanted to stay close to home but

still get the full "big city" college experience.

"I did not want to be very far from my family," she said. "NLSC was where my sister Jo Ann was a student. I had many friends at NLSC. It was the only school I wanted to attend."

At NLSC, Robert enjoyed being part of the tight-knit community of about 2,500 students. He relished the time spent with his classmates and the memories made during his tenure.

"I was on a football scholarship and we all lived in the stadium my freshman year, in 1956. I was part of

the team that beat Louisiana Tech for NLSC's first win over the Bulldogs in the history of NLSC. Anyone who has attended this university will tell you that the student body and the faculty will be your family away from home."

Bobbye and Robert met at NLSC and married while still students.



Robert, the 1956 NLSC football most valuable freshman was smitten by Bobbye, who was on the 1958 Homecoming Court and was also named the "Cutest Freshman Girl" in 1958.

After graduating, Bobbye and Robert started a family while stationed in Germany.

"I joined Robert in Augsburg, Germany where he served as an infantry officer," Bobbye said. "We lived in this beautiful city for three years and came home with lots of antiques and our two wonderful children, Chuck and Angel."

Robert served in the United States Army as a 2nd Lieutenant with the 24th Infantry Division. After returning to the U.S., he was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division.

After his time in the army, Robert began a career as a teacher and coach.

"I taught school and coached football and track for 16 years," he said. "I bought back four years of my army time and retired from education in 1981. I attended law school at Southern University and was admitted to the Louisiana Bar in 1984. I am in my 31st year of practicing law in Farmerville, Louisiana."

Bobbye also landed in education. "My filling a science teacher vacancy in East Carroll Parish resulted in 36 years as an educator where I served as an elementary teacher, as a high school science teacher, and as an administrative officer in the Louisiana Department of Education."

Bobbye also worked as the secondary supervisor for Union Parish Schools.

She is currently the co-owner of Nexus Systems, Inc. with three ULM graduates: Mark Stevenson, Tom Snell and Albert Sit. Nexus provides Internet and technology services to rural schools, hospitals, families, and businesses.

Both Bobbye and Robert have been active members of the ULM Alumni association, both serving on the alumni association board, with Bobbye serving as president. Robert earned the coveted ULM Slim Scoggins and Golden Arrow Awards, and served as a ULM Athletic Foundation President.



Jo Ann Fletcher 1958

While the Earles were building a family and a legacy, another married couple, both NLSC graduates, were starting a family of their own. Elwyn "Campbell" Lyles ('54) and Frances Deggans Lyles ('54) would be another catalyst in their expansive family tree, which now boasts four generations—and counting.

"MY MOTHER ALWAYS TOLD ME THAT AS YOU GO THROUGH LIFE, NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, OR HOW YOU DO IT, YOU LEAVE A LITTLE FOOTPRINT, AND THAT'S YOUR LEGACY."

— JAN BREWER

Elwyn and Frances raised a young family in Mangham, Louisiana, including a daughter, Debbie Lyles ('79, '85), and a son, Dr. W. Elwyn Lyles ('83), who would use his ULM degree to become a doctor. His marriage to Leigh Angela "Angel" Earle—the daughter of Robert and Bobby Earle—added another branch to their ULM family tree.

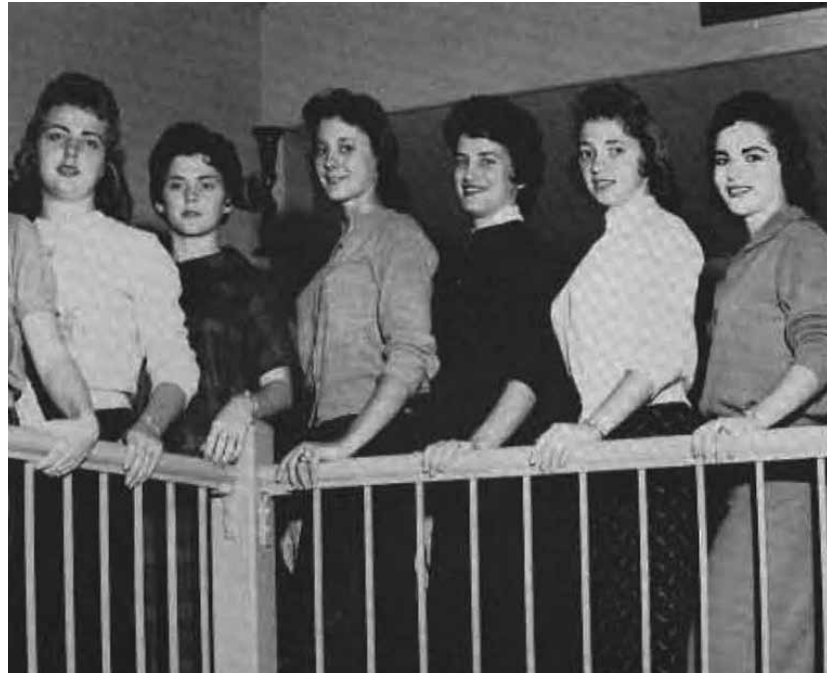
Dr. W. Elwyn and Angel Lyles would go on to have three daughters attend ULM: Leslie Lyles Bowers ('10); Lynden Lyles Smith ('13) and Laine Lyles. Their fourth daughter Lauren attended school in Boston.

"It is really special to be a part of such a distinctive legacy," Leslie said. "I am happy that I am able to share this tradition with so many family members, but especially my grandparents, Robert and Bobby Earle and Elwyn Campbell and Frances Lyles."

A special advantage to having such a strong family bond at a single university is how the family connects through education. Without the recommendations from generations past, this family tradition may not have been as significant as it has become.

"When I decided to pursue a degree in nursing, my grandmother, Bobby Earle, raved about ULM's nursing program," Leslie continued. "If it wasn't for her and her insistence that I come to look at the program, I probably would have gone somewhere else, which would have been a huge mistake."

Leslie, an honor graduate, went on to become a labor and delivery nurse until 2014. At that juncture, she and her husband Andrew moved to Texas where he would start his



Some of the 1959 Nominees for Homecoming Queen are, left to right: Jean Earle, Sandra Webb, Joann Ellerman, Johnette Bradley, Bobby Fletcher, and Patsy Price

medical residency. She then began to work as a Principles of Health Science, Medical Terminology, and Principles of Pharmacology teacher for 10th-12th graders.

She and Andrew welcomed their first child, a son named William in February 2015.

Leslie's sister Lynden, the 2013 top graduate in the College of Business, has seen what the university has meant to her family, and some of her fondest memories are of times spent on the ULM campus.

"I loved getting to see my grandfather win the Golden Arrow Award while I was there," she said. "I always wanted to attend ULM, but my family's love for the university helped me with my decision. I love sharing this university with my family."

Lynden and her husband Ben Smith welcomed their first child, a son named Eli Benjamin in February 2015.

This isn't the end of the Earle and Lyles ULM family tree. Grandson, John Abram Earle has been a Junior Warhawk since birth. There are a host of cousins and adopted family members who have become part of this family tradition, and many more who are bound to carry on the legacy that started with Mildred Girod Muirhead's pursuit of higher education in north Louisiana.

"My mother always told me that as you go through life, no matter what you do, or how you do it, you leave a little footprint, and that's your legacy."- Jan Brewer

THE LEADER

NIRALI PATEL, SECONDARY EDUCATION; MAJOR EXPECTED GRADUATION: 2017



NIRALI Patel is a leader. Just ask anyone on the ULM campus and they will tell you that, and more. Her spirit and attitude are infectious, and her determination is un-matched.

A Monroe native and daughter of local small business owners, Nirali has known since a young age that she wanted to guide the young minds of impressionable teenagers in the right direction. She knew attending ULM would help her become a teacher and a friend. What she may not have expected, however, was the experience she gained once arriving at ULM.

Most students know that getting involved in campus activities is a way to meet people, but what Nirali discovered was that her involvement drove her to helping people.

"I am so proud of my involvement on campus," she said. "With ULM's St. Jude fundraising organization Up 'Til Dawn, I am making a significant difference and I have really committed myself to this organization."

For Nirali, finding a major and her work with fundraising was what she needed to make solid plans for her future.

"My education at ULM has taught me that hard work does pay off. Focusing on my major led me to discover opportunities for it. That is how I got an amazing internship at a local elementary school."

Ultimately, Nirali wants to be more and do more and she has learned that acceptance, individuality, and friendship are distinct features of ULM's appeal.

"It does not matter who you are or where you're from because ULM will accept you as you are. I hope I'll be able to inspire my future students as much as my teachers have inspired me."

BY KIWANA SUTTON

TRUE CALLING

WILLIAM GIPSON, B.A. '79

FROM Muhammad Ali to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Reverend William Gipson's heroes are not just cultural icons; they are the people who led him to pursue a career that turned into a life, and ultimately, a destiny.

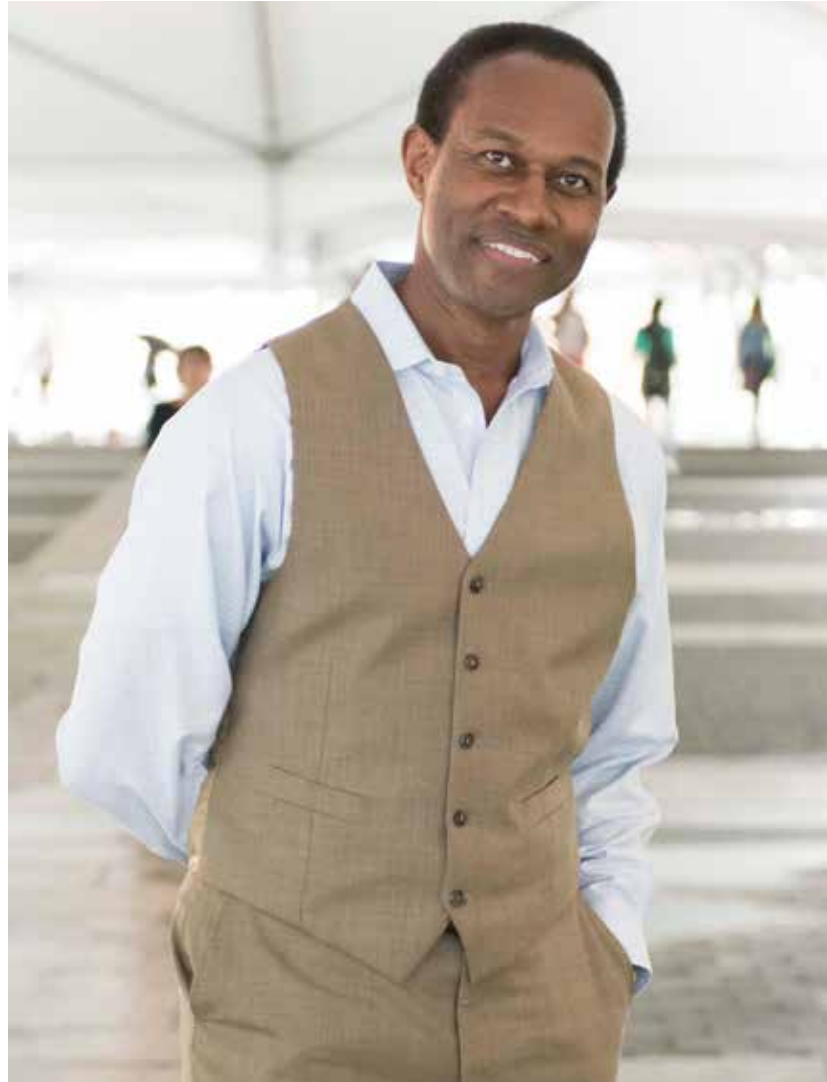
He started his journey at then Northeast Louisiana University in 1975, seeking a degree in journalism.

Gipson blossomed from a quiet teen to an involved and active young man on campus. He was the "go-to-guy" to get things done.

"I went from being a relatively shy person to very active roles on campus: President of the Black Student Caucus; reporter for the Pow Wow (I wrote the story about the opening of the natatorium); pledging and being an officer in Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc, Eta Chi Chapter; member of the first ever PREP Staff; and I was President of the Pan-Hellenic Council and a representative to the Interfraternity Council. I also had a variety of work study jobs including cafeteria worker; student worker at the alumni center; proctor in Olin Hall; and working the '11-7' at what used to be the university switchboard."

Gipson's passion for religious studies was nurtured at NLU during a time when he felt a bit out of his element.

"The Wesley Foundation was considered the most welcoming



place on campus for black students. The gospel choir, of which I was a part, rehearsed there, and there was always spaghetti there for hungry undergraduates. Rev. Jim demonstrated grace and welcoming, and for that I will be forever grateful to him. Although I am Baptist, he

started me on my appreciation for an all-inclusive and interfaith openness."

Rev. Jim was just one of many that shaped Gipson's life and personality.



At NLU, he was fortunate to have mentors at every turn.

He said, "Dr. Marsha McGee is the reason I began to understand the enormous forces that help to shape individuals, families, and structures of society. Dr. Alex John was the assistant to the Dean of Students. To me, he was the wisest person in any room."

"He inspired me, challenged me, supported me, and was an effective role model. I find myself approaching the resolution of student issues that come before me in my current position in the same manner in which he did in the late 1970's at NLU."

Dr. Richard Chardkoff was also significant in Gipson's education. Chardkoff, who currently holds Professor Emeritus status at ULM, taught the first Black history course at NLU.

"I thought his lectures were absolutely eloquent," Gipson said. "I couldn't take enough notes in that class. I continue to admire him and all of these mentors from my days at NLU."

In 2014, Gipson returned to his alma mater as a lecturer during the university's annual Black History Month celebration. He had the opportunity to visit with his old professor, and talk to students and community members about the memories he made in Monroe.

"My favorite memory as a student could be any number of events, people, and happenings, but if I were to choose one it would be the day I presented Muhammad Ali with a plaque from the Black Student Caucus. He was making a movie

called 'Freedom Road' in Mississippi, and we invited him to come over to NLU to speak. He accepted our invitation. It was a memorable moment."

All of the organizations, councils, committees, and board positions were the beginning of a life of service for Gipson. Since then, he has been a pastor, a teacher, a confidant, and much more.

After earning his degree in 1979, he began working for a local newspaper.

"I took a job writing in Monroe and then served for a while as a community legal education coordinator for the legal aid office," he said. "I wanted to be a lawyer

at that time in my life, but two years out, I got a chance to move to Oakland, Calif. to write for a newspaper in Berkeley."

During his journalism career, Gipson worked as a staff reporter for three newspapers: The Monroe Dispatch; The Black Free Press; and the California Voice, but he knew what his true calling was.

"Once I learned about Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School in Rochester, New York, I set my mind to go there to pursue a degree in divinity. Its emphasis on what is called the Social Gospel—how the church should be focused on the inequities in society and working to transform them—seemed to me to be perfect for my own focus since



the summer between my junior and senior years at NLU," he said.

"I'm most proud of the day I received my master of divinity degree in 1987. The fact that I earned my graduate degree at the same divinity school that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. attended meant a lot to me; for his vision of humanity, the gospel, and the true meaning of American democracy fully formed has inspired me since I was a child."

Upon graduating, Gipson was named assistant pastor of the historic Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in Rochester. He swells with pride over its significance in American history.

"The great abolitionist Frederick Douglass published his North Star newspaper from the basement of the original church building, and Harriet Tubman had often worshipped there and prayed at the altar rail. And when the suffragist Susan B. Anthony found her access to public lecterns greatly constrained, she spoke from the pulpit of the Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. Her image is in some of the stained glass at the church, even today."

Two and a half years after becoming assistant pastor of the church, Gipson was invited to become the Assistant Dean of the Chapel at Princeton University. There, he started a new worship service with students, served on the Princeton Regional School Board, and advanced in his work until leaving after nearly seven years, finishing as the Associate Dean of Religious Life in addition to his chapel duties.

Gipson then accepted the position

**" THE MIND IS NOT A
VESSEL TO BE FILLED,
BUT A FIRE TO BE
KINDLED "**

– PLUTARCH

of University Chaplain and Special Advisor to the President at the University of Pennsylvania (Penn) in 1996, and held that post until 2007.

Currently, he is the Associate Vice Provost for Equity at Penn. In that role, he is responsible for the day-to-day administration of critical grant-funded institutional access and retention initiatives in service to undergraduate, graduate, and professional school students at Penn. He oversees departments that provide college preparatory programs for community youth and adults, baccalaureate level academic enrichment programs and services, and post-baccalaureate preparation initiatives. In addition, he provides oversight for four cultural resource centers at Penn.

During the academic year, he serves as the faculty master of the W.E.B. Du Bois College House—one of 11 living/learning residences on campus—and he is an adjunct assistant professor in the Religious Studies Department at Penn, teaching courses on the role of religious communities in contemporary urban settings. While miles away from his mentors, their teachings, and their guidance, Gipson continues to ground himself in the words of a simple practice, and way of life—The Gospel of Luke, 4:16-18:

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed..."



SOAR

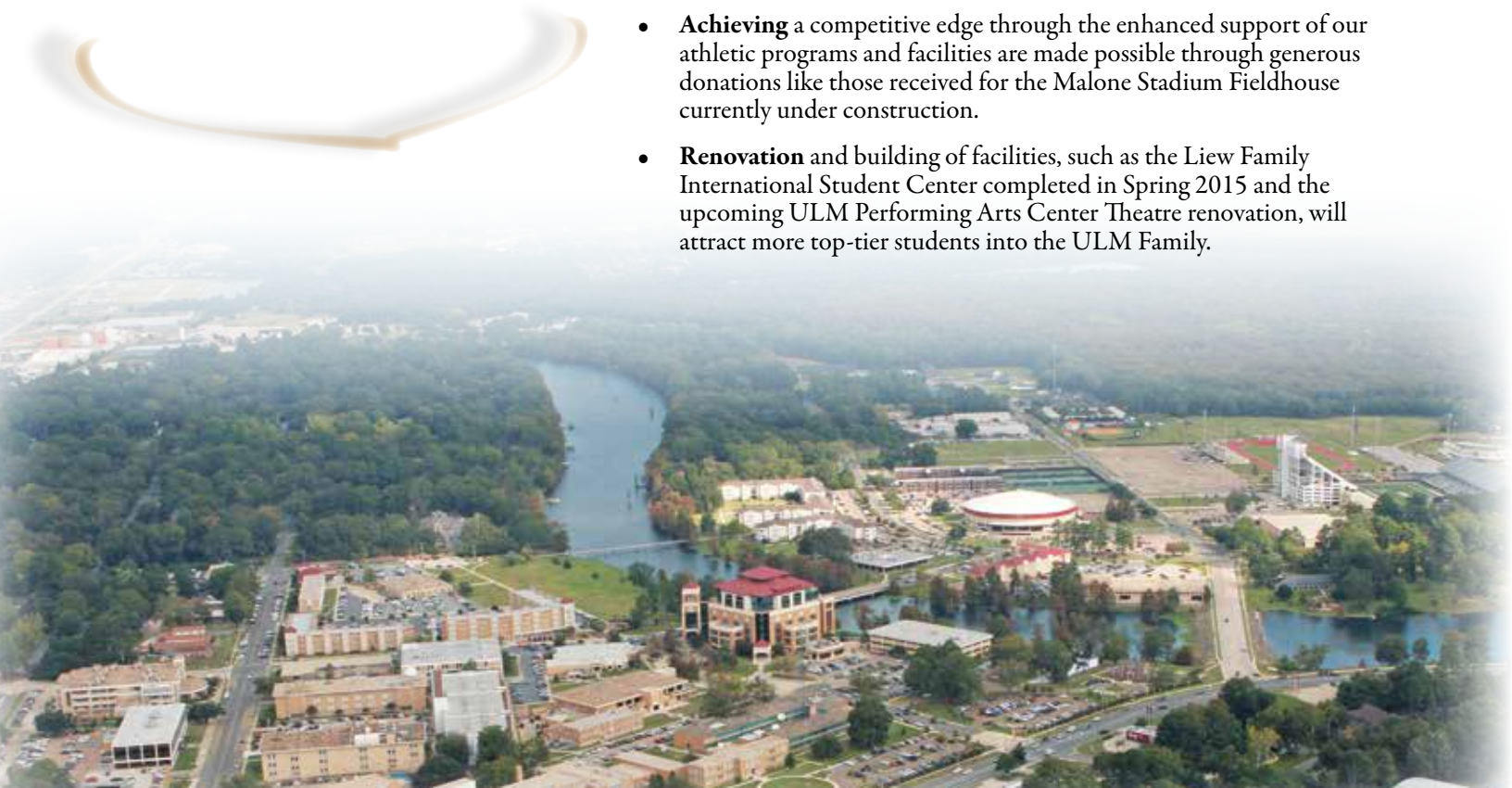
TAKING THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT MONROE TO NEW HEIGHTS

The Campaign

After establishing the SOAR campaign in 2013, the University of Louisiana at Monroe has seen a surge in support from the community in an effort to propel the university forward during continued budget challenges facing Louisiana higher education. ULM's constituents, with help from the ULM foundation, have shifted the university's future by helping to advance its mission of giving students a safe, comfortable institution, which provides innovative technology and facilities.

The SOAR initiatives provide opportunities for alumni and friends of the university to participate in every aspect of its future — from endowments supporting students and faculty to building projects adorning all areas of campus. During this leadership phase of the campaign, many have already stepped up to support several of the exciting SOAR projects, including:

- The **Success** of the President's Top Hawks Scholarship program is evidenced by the tremendous growth in high ability incoming freshman who have selected ULM to build their future. Since inception, the President's Top Hawks have almost doubled! Continued success of this vibrant program is reliant upon private donations and qualified students.
- The **Opportunities** for faculty, such as the Endowed Professorships established by Willis –Knighton Health System including Gaye Eason Dean in Nursing, Tessa Albritton in Pharmacy, Helen Mena in Nursing, and Willis-Knighton Health System in Pharmacy, provide funds critical for research, continuing education, instructional supplies, and more.
- **Achieving** a competitive edge through the enhanced support of our athletic programs and facilities are made possible through generous donations like those received for the Malone Stadium Fieldhouse currently under construction.
- **Renovation** and building of facilities, such as the Liew Family International Student Center completed in Spring 2015 and the upcoming ULM Performing Arts Center Theatre renovation, will attract more top-tier students into the ULM Family.





University of
LOUISIANA
Monroe

SUCCESS of its students is a major focus of ULM's culture of excellence.

OPPORTUNITIES for innovative academics define ULM's commitment to excellence.

ACHIEVING a competitive edge for ULM Athletic programs is a challenge that must be met.

RENOVATION of existing facilities and building of new facilities ensures a quality living-learning environment at ULM.

Ways you can **SOAR** with us!

Matching Gifts: Many companies participate in matching gift programs. Some companies will even match gifts made by retirees and spouses of employees. If your company is eligible, request a matching gift form from your employer and send it completed and signed with your gift. We will do the rest. The impact of your gift may be doubled or even tripled!

Tribute / Memorial Gift: Tribute or memorial gift is a wonderful way to honor someone you admire, respect, or want to remember in a meaningful way, including but not limited to a professor, an advisor, a mentor, a colleague, a family member, a friend, or an alum. Others have also utilized it as a thoughtful way to celebrate a wedding, graduation, new baby, birthday or any special occasion. For more information, contact the ULM Foundation office at **318.342.3636**, or foundation@ulm.edu

Estate & Planned Giving: Many alumni and friends have chosen to support the University through planned gifts such as bequests, trusts, gift annuities and life insurance policies. The George T. Walker Heritage Society honors those donors who name the University as a beneficiary in their wills or who make other deferred or planned estate gifts to ULM. The ULM Foundation can provide you with general information about estate and planned giving options; however, you should consult your attorney and/or financial advisor for more specific advice.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR TO MAKE A GIFT TO
SOAR, CONTACT:

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or visit
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FOUNDATION AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE



From left: ULM President Dr. Nick Bruno; recipients Dr. Yong-Yu Liu, Jack Heflin, Brett Bennett, Dr. Joydeep Bhattacharjee, Arely Castillo, Barbara Pugh, and ULM Foundation President Joe Jacobs

IN August, faculty and staff gathered to honor excellence in research, teaching, creative/artistic activity, and service at the fifth annual Foundation Awards of Excellence. For each category, recipients were awarded unique honors based on their overall effectiveness in their field and their contributions to the university.

Six awards were given, with four going to faculty members, and two going to staff.

The award for excellence in research was presented to Dr. Yong-Yu Liu, associate professor of pharmacology. Liu was recognized for his cancer research, work with graduate students, and his most prestigious achievement—a patent. He has earned over \$1.2 million in grant funds from the National Institutes of Health, the National Cancer Institute,

the Louisiana Biomedical Research network, and many more.

The award for excellence in creative/artistic activity was presented to Jack Heflin, professor of English. Heflin was touted for his work within the community, and efforts to encourage young writers and poets to share their work with like-minded individuals. Heflin is the co-founder of the nationally and internationally known anthology, *turnrow*, and was nominated for Louisiana Poet Laureate in 2002.

The award for excellence in service was presented to Brett Bennett, associate professor and head of radiologic technology. Bennett's service memberships have included serving as a member of the Sun Belt Conference Governance Committee; serving as Vice Chairman of the conference FAR group; board

member for the Louisiana Radiologic Technology board of examiners, serving on the Board of Directors for Two Penny Missions and serving on the Claiborne Christian School Board.

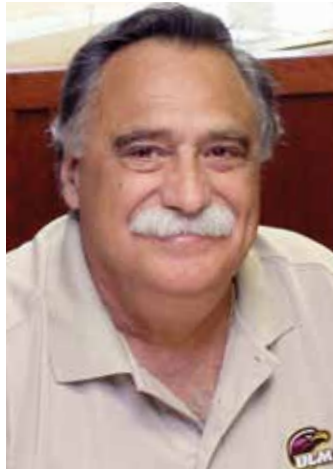
The award for excellence in teaching was presented to Dr. Joydeep Bhattacharjee, who was called an enthusiastic, interesting, and passionate teacher who enjoys being in the classroom and thrives off the positive energy that he generates among his students. He said he views teaching as a social activity that requires him to be physically and emotionally involved in conveying his subject matter.

The foundation award for service given to an unclassified staff member was awarded to Arely Castillo, facilities manager and coordinator of marketing and development for the College of Arts, Education, and Sciences. Castillo devotes time to various civic organizations, including serving on the board of directors for the Northeast Louisiana Arts Council, and as the co-chair of PLAY Festival—a free event focused on the practice of yoga and taking positive steps to improve the health of the community.

The foundation award for service given to a classified staff member was presented to Barbara Pugh, administrative assistant for the School of Education. Pugh has been a ULM employee for over 33 years, and was noted as a reliable, dedicated, and eternally upbeat person who has the ability to communicate with anyone.



Wanda and T. J. Shufflin



Buddy Embanato



Alberta Brown Green

2015 ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS

THE GOLDEN ARROW AWARD is the highest honor bestowed upon an alumnus for outstanding personal and professional achievement. The 2015 winners are Wanda and T.J. Shufflin of Pineville, La.

T.J. Shufflin, ('75)
Hometown: Alexandria, La.

"When I think of 'alumni,' I think of a group of people with a common connection to a school, with that connection being either graduation or attendance for some length of time. For us as ULM Alumni, it is significant and meaningful to support ULM in ways that not only enrich the school, but enrich our own lives, and those around us. Being part of the ULM Alumni family (the association) has meant so much with respect to life-long friends, cherished memories, and pride in seeing ULM grow."

Wanda Shufflin ('75)
Hometown: Choudrant, La.

"Without the Alumni Association,

school would be just memories, and the connection to the university would be weak or lost completely. For the future, I hope that ULM can get through the budget cuts and continue to contribute to the community, region, and state. It should be proactive with the local economy and 'educate to employ.' Go Warhawks!"

THE GEORGE T. WALKER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD is presented to Buddy Embanato. Buddy is one of the most recognizable ULM alumni, as he has had his spot in The Grove for decades.

Buddy Embanato ('80)
Hometown: Monroe, La.

Embanato prides himself on the way he has transitioned with the institution from his days as the university's first Indian mascot in 1958 to now being one of the strongest supporters of the Warhawks. He said in 2014: "This is my school. We have to support it in every possible way: athletically, academically — anyway we can."

THE RISING YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

is presented to Alberta Green. This award is given to an alumnus who exemplifies school spirit, appreciates the value of education, and makes time to engage with their alumni community.

Alberta Green ('03 '09)
Hometown: Monroe, La.

"Sometimes, due to work, family and life, you can find yourself feeling slightly removed from what's going on at your university. However, if you stay linked to your alumni association, you will receive all types of information about what's happening at your university. I would like to see the university prosper by continued growth in student numbers, alumni financial contributions, and see an increase in top-notch faculty and staff in order to continue to be a staple in the community and a choice university for national and international students."

THE CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

is presented to the Northwest Alumni Chapter, led by Shreveport native Andy Snelling ('78). This chapter represents Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Red River, and Webster parishes in Louisiana.

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

1947

ROBERT ROGERS is married to **EDNA ROGERS**. He is retired and resides in Monroe.

1957

JOYCE MARIE CURRIE LITTLE is Professor Emerita at Towson University. In her 30 years there, she founded the computer science program and the Computer and Information Sciences Department.

1959

WAYNE ELLIOTT is married to **DOLL ELLIOTT**. He is a retired physician and resides in El Dorado, Ark.

1961

GEORGE ARMSTRONG is retired and resides in Austin, Texas.

1963

PHILIPPE OSZUSCIK is married to **CYNTHIA CALTON OSZUSCIK** ('63). He is a retired associate professor from the University of South Alabama. Philippe and Cynthia celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary in January 2015.

FRED VOGEL is married to **CHARLOTTE VOGEL**. He is retired and resides in Mandeville.

1965

JOSEPH ROMANO is married to **SYLVIA ROMANO**. He is retired and lives in Monroe.

1966

LINDA PRICE SMITH is married to **DAVID SMITH** ('67). She is retired and resides in Baton Rouge.

1968

EDWIN GEISSLER is married to **CATHERINE GEISSLER**. He is the President of Well Control School in Houston, Texas. He and Catherine welcomed their first grandchild in 2014.

1969

JOE CANAL is a retired pharmacist. He resides in Jonesville.

1970

ROBBIE HOGUE is married to **ROGELIA HOGUE**. He is a Login Coordinator for Xerox and resides in Boise, Idaho. They welcomed their 13th grandchild, Ashlynn Dalrymple, in 2014.

KAY KING MCDONALD is married to **CHARLES "CHARLIE MAC" MCDONALD** ('64, '65). She is a retired Dental Hygienist. She premiered her first public art piece at the Sept. 2014 Downtown Art Crawl in Monroe.

MAURICE RUMBARGER is married to Marie Rumbarger. He is retired and resides in Hagerstown, Md.

HUGH "SKIP" SHOW is retired and resides in N.Y.

1971

STEPHEN BRAGG works for Intercontinental Chemical Corporation.

KATHARINE JANE GARVER VENTIMIGLIA is married to **JOSEPH VENTIMIGLIA** ('71). She is the Director of Academic Support Services at Dowling College in Setauket, N.Y.

1972

DWIGHT DELANEY is a Database Administrator for DaVita Labs in Boca Raton, Fla.

LINDA LASTOWSKY DOUGHERTY is married to **JIM DOUGHERTY**. She is the Executive Vice President and Partner of the Dougherty Group in Orlando, Fla. She and Jim welcomed their first grandchild Cole James in 2014.

SUE HOBBS FOSKETT is married to **NORTON FOSKETT**. She is retired and resides in Gulf Shores, Ala.

1973

KIM POWELL is married to **TERRI LYNN POWELL** ('75, '95). Kim is the Managed Care Director for P&S Surgical Hospital and Terri teaches at Cypress Point Elementary School in Monroe.

1974

SUSAN YORKS BROOKS is married to **JIMMY BROOKS** ('81). She is retired and resides in Oxford, Miss.

WILLIAM LAULER is married to **NANCY LAULER**. He is an Associate Broker for Chase Realty.

BONNIE ANDERSON LAWSON is married to **JAMES LAWSON** and is a retired Manager of Operator Services for BellSouth Corporation. She earned a masters degree from the University of Kentucky at Louisville in 1997.

LEWIS SCOTT is married to **KARI PLASCHKE SCOTT**. He is a General Dentist at L. King Scott D.D.S.

DENISE WEBB is a freelance writer, editor, and author. She released her first novel, "You'll be Thinking of Me" in 2015.

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

DEAN WHITE is married to **K. DIANA WHITE**. He is employed by Louisiana CAT.

1975

CHARLES CHRIS is married to **ANNE CHRIS**. He is a Regional Construction Leader for Honeywell International Inc. He resides in Orange Park, Fla.

SHERRY ANN MCMILLAN FOSTER is married to **BOBBY FOSTER**. She is retired and resides in West Monroe.

SULYNN GANEY is a special education teacher for Livingston Parish Schools.

1976

JOHN WESLEY "WES" MCCOMB is retired and resides in Kerrville, Texas.

DAVID RAYLE is married to **SANDRA RAYLE**. He is retired and resides in The Woodlands, Texas.

SIBLEY SMITH is a Veterans Service Officer for the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Division of Veterans Services.

MARGARET TURNBOUGH is married to **WILLIAM TURNBOUGH** ('61). She is retired and resides in Monroe.

1977

DUSKA BOGGS LANDRY is married to **RICHARD JAMES LANDRY**. She is a retired High Ability Teacher from Noblesville School Corporation.

1978

LISA PIERCE works for UT Health Northeast in Tyler, Texas.

DARRELL PITZER is married to **JAN HODGES PITZER**. He resides in Springhill, Tenn.

1979

SUSAN PORTER PAGES is married to **HECTOR O. PAGES** ('79). They reside in Boynton Beach, Fla.

RODNEY POWELL is married to **TAMARA GAMMILL POWELL** ('84). He is the CFO of Pearl City Elevator in Pearl City, Ill.

AUSTIN WHIPP is married to **CAROL WHIPP**. He is a Pharmacy Manager for CVS in New Iberia.

1980

JERRI RAY DEPINGRE' is married to **BENNY DE PINGRE'**. She is the President and CEO of the Minden-South Webster Chamber of Commerce.

MICHAEL LEE is married to **BLAIR LEE**. He is the Vice President of Research and Development for Terra Systems Inc. in Wilmington, Del.

WILLIAM "BILL" RAINWATER is married to **JENNY RAINWATER** ('79). He is a Sales Engineer for Extreme Engineering in Dallas, Texas.

1981

HAROLD KIMBALL is married to **KAREN KIMBALL**. He is a Nuclear Pharmacist for Triad Isotopes in Hattiesburg, Miss.

LENA CHRISTIAN MEADOWS is married to **LARRY MEADOWS**. She is a Manager of Conversion and Installations for Fiserv in Sugar Land, Texas.

DAVID OVERTURF ('81, '82) is married to **KATHY OVERTURF**. He is the Sales and Marketing Director for Comfort Keepers in Pineville.

1982

JANET TILEY BAKER ('82, '07) is a Registered Nurse at Bastrop Rehabilitation Hospital.

RICHARD BRADLEY is married to **SHERYL BRADLEY**. He is employed by CenturyLink and resides in West Monroe.

CAROLYNN MORGAN COLLIER is a Medical Receptionist for Affinity Health group in Monroe.

1983

THELMA "LOU" MCGOWEN ANTLEY is married to **RAY ANTLEY**. She is a postmaster for the U.S. Postal Service.

LAVELLE HENDRICKS ('83, '85) is an Associate Professor of Counseling at Texas A&M University-Commerce. He earned the Neil Humfield Award for service and the Commerce High School Community Service Award.

SHERYL SCOTT SHEPARD resides in Jacksonville, Fla.

MICHAEL V. PERKINS ('83, '88) is a Supervisor Special Agent for the U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service.

PERCY WILSON is married to **PATRICIA J. WILSON**. He is retired and has one grandchild in college and another turning two in November 2015.

1984

IVONNE BLANCO is married to **FELIX MARTINEZ** ('84). She is the Deputy Director of the Educational Institutes Associates in Caracas, Venezuela.

DOUGLAS MCBRIDE resides in Lithonia, Ga.

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

MYRA PHARIS TOSTEN is married to **CHARLES T. TOSTEN III** ('85). She is a Development Officer at ULM.

1985

LISA HAWKINS HAROLD is married to **ALAN C. HAROLD**. She served on the 2015 ULM/Twin City Ballet faculty, with featured choreography performed by the ballet company.

CRAIG RODGERS is married to **KATHY RODGERS**. He is the COO and CFO of Landmark Management Group.

JAMES MICHAEL VARNELL is married to **MARY BETH AUSTIN VARNELL** ('85). He is a National Accounts Manager for Quintiles Corporation in Keller, Texas.

1986

DON DURR JR. is married to **MICHELLE BIHM DURR** ('86). He is the owner of Durr Engineering, LLC in Shreveport.

LISA INGRAM works for the Department of Parks and Recreation for the City of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. In 2014, she played in the World's Over 50 3-on-3 basketball championship.

PAMELA HAYNES MOSS resides in Conway, Ark.

1987

LISA LESTER BERGERON is married to **SAM BERGERON** ('87). She is a Deputy Director of Housing for the State of Louisiana.

RICHARD BLAKENEY is married to Lori **TIDWELL BLAKENEY** ('88). They reside in Brandon, Miss.

LYNNE HAYES WEIL is married to **DANE WEIL**. She is a Senior Sales

Representative for Astellas Pharma U.S.

PHILIP YANG is married to **MALINDA YANG**. He is the Director of Network Engineering for Comcast in Louisville Colo.

1988

BRETT DOLECHECK is married to **CONNIE DOLECHECK**. He is the Director of Engineering for TransCIRRUS in North Carolina.

DAVID GREEN is married to **HOLLI HOWARD GREEN**. He is a Pharmacy Manager for Walgreens in Mandeville.

ANITA HUDDLESTON HUCKABY is married to **JEFF HUCKABY**. She is a Pharmacy Director for Jackson Parish Hospital in Jonesboro.

KARL KAPPELER is the Vice President of Operations and Professional Services for Nationwide Children's Hospital in Dublin, Ohio.

1989

KAREN MONTGOMERY HOLLIS is married to **MELVIN HOLLIS**. She is a small business owner in Rayville.

SHERI WATSON MEACHUM is the Vice President of JP Morgan Chase Bank in Monroe.

1990

DONNA BRIAN FARGASON is married to **DAVID FARGASON**. She owns and operates a private practice of psychiatry and psychotherapy.

KATRISSE LEE PERERA is married to **RAJIV PERERA** ('88, '90). She is the former Superintendent for Isle of Wight Schools in Smithfield, Virginia. She was named the

National Association of School Superintendents Superintendent of the year in 2015.

1991

TARA GILMORE is a Software Developer for Measurement Incorporated in Raleigh, N.C.

TROY MCNEAL is married to **STACEY MCNEAL**. He is a Master Trooper with the Louisiana State Police in Center Point.

1992

MARIA DOBERNIG HALE is married to **GLEN HALE** ('87). She is an SIU Claims Specialist for State Farm Insurance in Prairieville.

MARILYN DUNCAN MCCAULEY ('92, '02) is married to **MICHAEL MCCAULEY**. They reside in Austin, Texas.

1993

CHRIS BURGESS is married to **MARTI POPE BURGESS** ('93). He is the CEO of Heritage Compounding Pharmacy in Fairhope, Ala.

NANCY DUCOTE resides in Richardson, Texas.

ROCHELLE HALTOM HICKS is married to **JASON HICKS**. She is the Executive Director of the Mississippi Tourism Association in Ridgeland, Miss.

COREY PERKINS is married to **TIFFANI PERKINS**. He is a teacher and coach for New Caney ISD in Humble, Texas.

1994

DUANE ARLEDGE ('94, '96) is married to **KIMBERLY TELANO**

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

ARLEDGE. He is the Manager of Operating Technology for Union Pacific Railroad.

LATRINA DENSON ('94, '97) is the Assistant Dean of Students for Mount Holyoke College.

TAMI MICHAM GRIMES is married to **KRIS GRIMES.** She is the General Manager of Title Boxing Club in College Station, Texas.

WANDA CARNEY GOLEMAN ('94, '97) is an associate professor at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches.

1995

CHERYL MCCABE BATES ('95, '02) is married to **PATRICK BATES** ('93). They reside in Owasso, Okla.

PATRICK BROWN is married to **KONYA GUILLORY BROWN** ('95). He is an Analytical Tech for Dow Chemical in Sterlington, Konya is a Claims Adjuster for State Farm.

SHERRY REED CANAL is married to **DAVID CANAL** ('96). She is a Certified Hand Therapist in Monroe.

CHRISTINA FINCH is married to **MICHELE GOSSMAN.** She is the Pharmacy manger at GE Healthcare in Dallas, Texas.

JANICE TAPPIN MILLER is a teacher in Bastrop.

PATRICK MORAN is married to **RHONDA LAURELES MORAN.** He is a Meat Specialist for Kartchner's Grocery and Specialty meats in Krotz Springs.

VICKIE BOOK SANTOSTEFANO is married to **PETER SANTOSTEFANO.** She is employed by Orange County Schools in Orlando, Fla. Her daughter

Brandie is a student in ULM's professional pharmacy program.

JANIE DUPUY SMITH is is married to **BOBBY SMITH.** She is a dietitian and counselor for Visions of Courage Incorporated.

TODD WATSON is a Rehabilitation Director for Paramount Rehabilitation in West Monroe.

1996

ANITA GREEN ('96, '98) is a HeadStart Teacher for OMCAP HeadStart in Monroe.

MARY MARGARET MCCARTY is a Junior High School teacher for LaSalle Parish Schools.

LORA PEPPERS is a Library Associate III at the Ouachita Public Library main branch in Monroe.

MAURICE "MO" SENECA is married to **SHONTEL CHAUVIN SENECA** ('93). He works for the Louisiana Assemblies of God State Office.

1997

JEFF ACREMAN is the Vice President of Triple R Pipeline in Monroe.

KEVIN BUSCH is an independent consultant, educator and coach in Monroe.

CINDI NOLAN WAINWRIGHT is married to **DAVID WAINWRIGHT.** She is a Sonographer for Imagecare Ultrasound Inc.

1998

MICHAEL BODINE is married to **TYRETTE BODINE.** He is a Band Director for Vernon Parish Schools.

KRISTIE SONTAG DAPP is a Family

Nurse Practitioner for Christus Physician Group.

1999

ANGELA STEVENSON KRAUSE is married to **CODY KRAUSE.** She is the Director of Alumni Relations for the University of Texas School of Law.

ERIC ROBERTS is married to **KIMBERLY ROBERTS** ('00). They reside in Lakeville, Minn.

CARLA ADAMS RODGERS is married to **LEE RODGERS.** She is an Applications Specialist for Varian Medical Systems in Farmerville.

2000

ANGEL MALONE is a Mortgage Consultant in Grand Prairie, Texas.

CHRIS STEWART is married to **JENNIFER STEWART.** He is employed by Vanderbilt University.

2001

DEBBIE WHEELUS CHAPMAN is married to **MICHAEL CHAPMAN.** She is a Service Technician for State Farm.

REBECCA MOSELEY is the Associate Director of Career Services for Career Technical College in Monroe.

CORI SCROGGINS SMIT is married to **JACOBUS SMIT** ('09). She is the SAP Senior Systems Developer for BNSF Railway in Ft. Worth, Texas.

RICHARD WALKER is married to **DANA WALKER.** He is an IT Security Manager for Raising Cane's in McKinney, Texas.

2002

BENJI BUFFINGTON is married to **HANNAH ELDER BUFFINGTON** ('06).

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

He is the Senior Accountant for the ULM Foundation. He and Hannah welcomed their son Harrison James in December 2014.

JULIA BARNHILL LETLOW ('02, '05) is married to **LUKE LETLOW**. She is the Director of Marketing and Communications at ULM. She earned a Ph.D. in Communication from the University of South Florida in 2011.

SHANETTE WASHINGTON ('02) is the Graphic Design Coordinator for ULM. She earned her MBA from Louisiana Tech University in 2011.

2003

UDAYAN APTE is married to **PALLAVI LIMAYE** ('04). He is a tenured, associate professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

BILLIE JO BAILEY is a Family Nurse Practitioner for Coughran Medical Group in Winnsboro. She is an instructor with the American Heart Association and is a Certified Medical Examiner.

DARYL FORTENBERRY and his wife **JESSICA FORTNEBERRY** are the owners of The Pickle Barrel and Neat bar in Monroe. They have a son named Phoenix Camden.

JOSHUA JOHNSON is a counselor at the Palmetto Addiction Center in Rayville.

ANGELA POSS MIMS is married to **JOHN DAVID MIMS** ('02). She is a Lead Technical Project Manager for CenturyLink.

2004

BEN CHU is married to **LONG NGUYEN CHU**. He is a Chief Pharmacist in Baton Rouge.

TERRI THOMAS CRAWFORD is the Nash Breast Care Center Manager for Nash Health Care Centers in Rocky Mount, N.C.

RONAL GREEN is married to **MELISSA TAYLOR GREEN** ('06). He is a Senior Project Manager for Sabre Holding in Ft. Worth, Texas.

DENISE KUCH PANI is married to **ERIC PANI**. She is a self-employed, Licensed Professional Counselor.

JON RIGHTSSELL is married to Mari Rightsell. He works in Managed Repair for Progressive Insurance.

2005

KRISTEN BROWN is a Registered Nurse for the Department of Veterans Affairs in Lafayette.

ERIC RICHARDSON is an Athletic Trainer II at the Ochsner Sports Medicine Institute in Covington.

HARRELL SHELTON is married to **KRYSTAL MEYER SHELTON** ('09). He is a teacher and coach for Bossier Parish Schools.

NORMAN THARPE is married to **ANIKA THARPE**. He is a Business Education Teacher for Richland Parish Schools.

2006

DORIAN BECKWITH is a Garden Associate for Home Depot in Broussard.

HEATHER FORWOOD GILBREATH is married to **JOEY GILBREATH**. She is a Manger of Indirect Tax in Tennessee.

GLORIA CORDER MCINTOSH is married to **CHRIS MCINTOSH** ('06). They reside in Augusta, Ga.

EMMA RUTH HOUSTON VINSON is a high school and middle school choral director for White Oak ISD in Henderson, Texas.

2007

JESSICA HELMER BRADY is married to **JACOB BRADY**. She is a Clinical Associate Professor of Pharmacy at ULM. She and Jacob welcomed a daughter, Helen Rose, in 2014.

CHRIS DEMERS is employed by CMC Corporate Solutions.

JONATHAN WIGGINS is a Senior Pastor at Resurrection Fellowship in Greeley, Colo.

2008

CHRIS BROWN is married to **ASHLEY BROWN**. He is the Director of Operations for Coast Professional Inc. in West Monroe.

PERSEPHONE ALEXANDER BUTLER is married to **GARRY BUTLER**. She is a Social Services Analyst II for the State of Louisiana.

GABRIELLE GRAHAM JUNEAU is the Director of Health Careers at the Central Louisiana Health Education Center.

AMY PARSONS MCINTOSH is the Employee Benefits Account Manager for Fox/Everett, a Division of Hub International. She and her husband Brad welcomed their first child Seth Bradley in 2014.

JAMES STEPHENS is a producer for Reeves, Coon, and Funderburg.

STACY TRUETT is a General Manager for Verizon Wireless in Ruston.

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

2009

SHELLEY ROBERSON JOHNSTON is married to **JUDE JOHNSTON** ('07). She is the Associate Registrar for eULM.

IAN HUNTER MARSH is a Seed Service Advisor for Monsanto.

CLARISSA MCFEE is a Computer operator for Monroe City Schools.

2010

CASEY AUTTONBERRY resides in West Monroe.

SUMMER HODGES is the Deputy Clerk of Court for Madison Parish.

2011

MAGGIE WARREN BRAUNSCHEIDEL is married to **MATT BRAUNSCHEIDEL** ('14). They reside in Illinois.

RODNEY STOFFER is married to **KAKI STOFFER**. He is a Project Estimator for Lincoln Builders in Ruston.

2012

JOHN FERGUSON is a Regional Direct Sales Supervisor for Suddenlink Communications in Tyler, Texas.

AIMEE JACKSON is a Senior Auditor for Ernst & Young in New Orleans.

KELI JACOBI is married to **Jake Jacobi**. She is the Associate Director of the Office of Communications at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

BROOKE SAUNIER MALAIN is married to **JARED MALAIN** and is a Human Resource Business Partner for Our Lady of Lourdes Regional

Medical Center in Lafayette. She earned a masters degree from Mississippi College in 2014.

ROBIN MEARS is employed by Jena Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, LLC.

MALLORY ELIZABETH MURPHY is an Estimator for JGC America in Rosenberg, Texas.

RYAN STIVERS is married to **COURTNEY STIVERS** ('13). They reside in Searcy, Ark.

DEANNA TURNER is married to **BYRON TURNER**. She is an Emergency Medicine Pharmacist at Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas.

ANDREW VOWELL resides in Houma.

LONNIKIA WILLIAMS is employed by Vantage Health Plan in Monroe.

RYAN WILLIS works as a meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Atlanta.

2013

COLE AVERY is the Communications Director for Congressman Ralph Abraham (R-La.). He resides in Washington, D.C.

BRITTANY CARSON is an Air Permit Engineer for TCEQ in Austin, Texas.

SHAGHAYEGH FARSHIAN is a student at the Paul M. Hebert Law Center at Louisiana State University.

JESSICA GIROD is a LiveDesk Agent for Cisco System in Austin, Texas.

LINDA FAY ROSS is a Customer Service Representative for CenturyLink in Monroe.

RICKY STEWART attends Southern University Law School.

2014

ASH AULDS is a Marketing Analyst for CenturyLink in Monroe.

LAUREN CHANDLER is a Software Developer II for CenturyLink in Monroe.

BRIANNA SMITH COOPER is married to **SEAN COOPER**. She is the Office Administrative Manager for the Baron Group in Sterlington.

JON FISHER is a Financial Accountant for Intermountain Management in Monroe.

BENJAMIN JOHNSON is the Clinic Director for the Louisiana Methodist Children's Home in Metairie.

BRAD NEVILLE is married to **KELSEY MCCLUNG NEVILLE** ('14). Brad is a Credit Analyst at Red River Bank, and Kelsey is attending physical therapy school. They reside in Bossier City.

THADDEUS NORMAN is married to **NAKISHA NORMAN**. He is a Deputy Sherriff for the Bossier Parish Sherriff's Office.

SHANE SILPE is a 5th grade teacher for Hillsborough County Public Schools in Tampa, Fla.

ADI SMITH is a Marketing Coordinator for American Dream Mortgage in Littleton, Colo.

JORDAN TEMPLE is a Crop Insurance Agent for Helena Chemical Company.

CHLOE WILEY is a Registered Nurse at Glenwood Regional Medical Center in West Monroe.

RETIREMENTS

JULY 2014

John McKinney
James E. Strawder

AUGUST 2014

Barbara J. Cottingham

SEPTEMBER 2014

Angela Williams Tarver

OCTOBER 2014

Wendell W. Brumfield

DECEMBER 2014

Cheryl A. Dane
Terry Bernard Burnes
Lisa Ann Colvin
Joseph Feldhaus
Robert Lamar Woodham

JANUARY 2015

Clara B. Adams

FEBRUARY 2015

Margaret Louise Till

MARCH 2015

Jerry Hennen

MAY 2015

Charles L. Jones
Juliet T. Burgess
Reba R. Berry
Bobby Ensminger
Anna M. Hill

JUNE 2015

Ola Mae Doyle-Coleman
Mark A. Triplet
Javance Stovall
Jerrilene Washington

IN MEMORIAM

Bennie Abell

James L. Adams

Patsy Antley

David Ardoin

Evan E. Austin

Mary E. Bagwell

Marian M. Baker

Thomas O. Bancroft

Ben E. Barham

Edwards Barham

Jane M. Beaver

Aubrey L. Beckham

John K. Belaïre

Russell L. Belaïre

Kenneth Brodie

Maurice F. Browne

Arzelle P. Brown

Eldon Brown

J. W. Bunn

Wesley Burdine

Dallas Y. Calhoun

Albert Carter

Pauline T. Clark

Carla Beth Conerly

Fred H. Coody

James R. Creekmore

Audrey E. Cumpston

Stephen J. Davitt

Thomas L. Day

David Doles

Kenneth C. Domingue

Barbara P. Enterkin

Carlos D. Fandal

Teresa L. Foreman

Edith F. Foster

Kenneth Frith

Kenneth Gallien

Thomas V. Gardner

J. C. Gilbert

Barbara Gimler

John A. Glorioso

Mary Goldman

Paul J. Guilbeau

Stewart G. Harrison

Bennie M. Hixon

Catherine N. Holleran

Joyce I. Holley

Meing-Chen Hsiao

Hugh W. Huxen

Robert W. Irby

Charles F. Jackson

Dorothy T. Johnson

Ronald L. Johnson

Mary A. Jones

Gary F. Joye

Malcolm Keith

Ella L. Kelley

Donald L. Kennedy

Jack B. Key

Dora L. Kilpatrick

Charles L. Kincade

Harold L. King

Otis D. Korn

Joseph A. LaPietra

Danny G. Lary

James E. Lieux

Troy H. Luttgeharm

Cecil E. Manning

Lisa Mason

Mildred Maurer

Jerry L. McCain

Cecilia A. McCandlish

Patsy McDonald

Paul M. McElroy

Michael D. McGee

Edna O. McGrew

Rudolph E. McIntyre

Bennie H. McKay

Jackie D. McPherson

William R. Merritt

Tristan Mills

Billy R. Moore

Tracy R. Moore

Steven F. Munz

Gladys Murphy

Ann M. Olney

Richard S. Owens

Martha W. Patrick

Ran L. Phillips

John W. Pruitt

Sammy J. Rainwater

George E. Rogers

Clara E. Saucier

Katherine S. Scogin

Paula Shields

Louis R. Soulier

Wynona J. Spangler

Eugene Steinquest

Edward R. Stevenson

Ronnie B. Suggs

Mary S. Sweet

Edwin K. Theus

Samuel Thomas

Margaret L. Till

Carmelyn Tucker

Jean S. Vaughn

Ronald P. Vincent

Jeffrey L. Vinz

Dan N. Watson

Willis A. Weed

Lawrence I. White

Jack A. Williams

Robert R. Wyatt

James A. Zambie

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Dudley

PRESIDENT:

Brenda B. Dudley
(BBA '84, MBA '86)

PRESIDENT ELECT:

Jeremy K. Moore
(BBA '00, MBA '02)

PAST PRESIDENT:

Ronald "Scott" Higginbotham
(BS '85, MS '89)

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Adams Rodgers
(BBA '98)

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Sara Benecke Brice
(BA '90)



Moore

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS:

- AREA 1 : Sharon Green (BA '87)
- AREA 2 : Kyle Keeler (BS '95)
- AREA 3 : Mary Ann Riddle (BS '74, BA '77)
- AREA 3A: Fritz Winke (MA '99)
- AREA 4 : Jamie Hilburn (BA '04)
- AREA 4 : Eric Weatherly (BS '07)
- AREA 5: Lance Futch (BBA '95)
- AREA 5: Bobbye Fletcher Earle (BS '61)
- AREA 5: Glen L. Williams (BA '60, BS '63)
- AREA 6: H. Wade Earnheart (BBA '72)
- AREA 6 : Sam L. Moore III (BS '90, MEd '93)
- AREA 6 : Chris Rightsell (BA '04)
- AREA 6 : Todd Burgess (BGS '92)
- AREA 6 : Kay Heck Shipp (BS '70, MA '73)
- AREA 7 : Dr. Jeff Hood (BA '91, MA '94)
- AREA 7 : Julie Harlan O'Brien (BA '80)
- AREA 8 : Doug Nielsen (BA '08)



Higginbotham

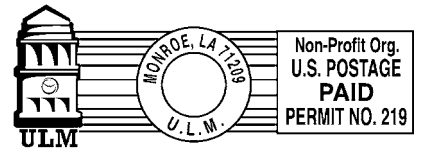


Rodgers



Brice

Complete bios are available at
ulm.edu/alumni/board.html



your time is now

318-342-3145
ulm.edu/online

University of
LOUISIANA
Monroe