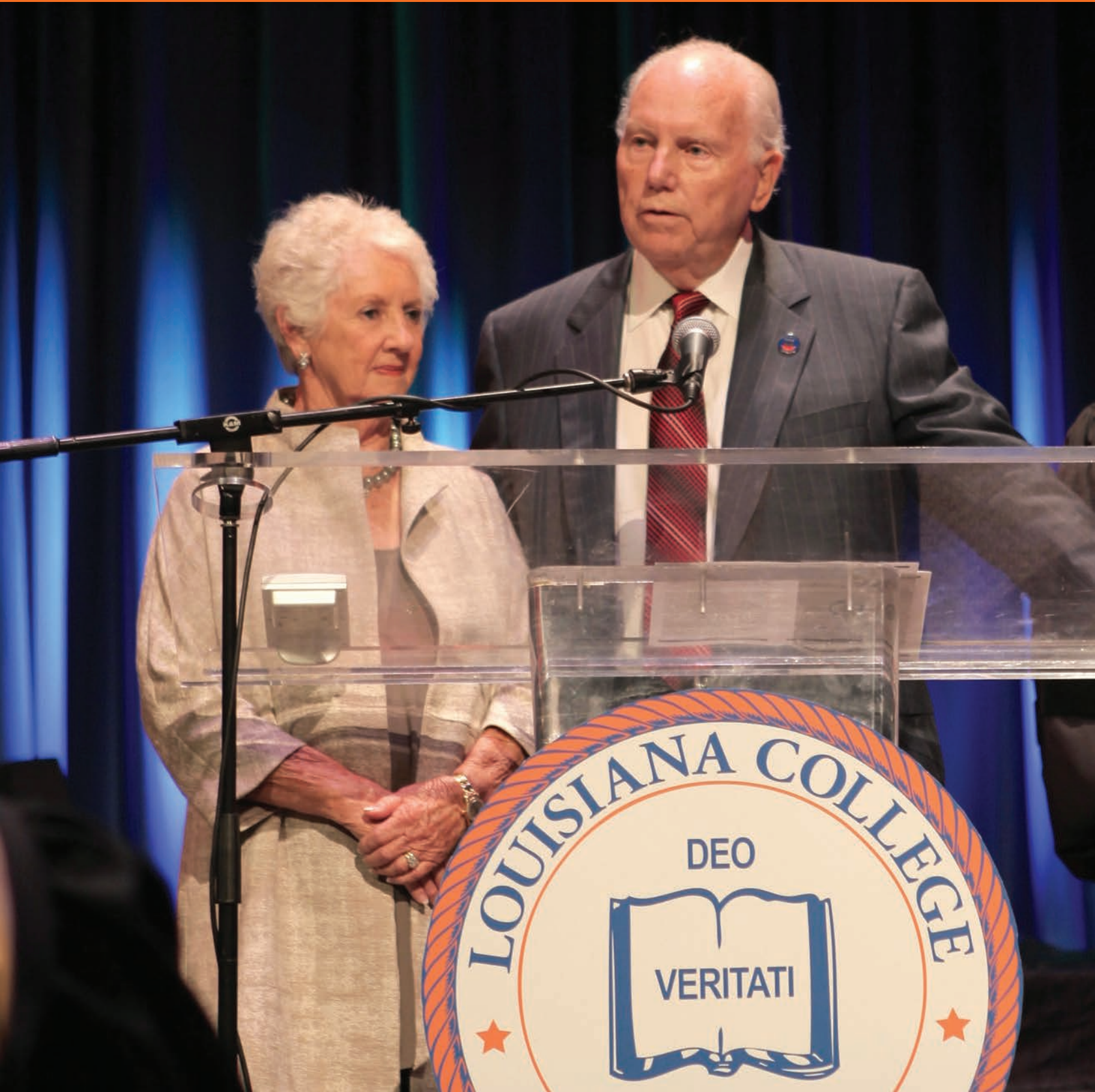


# COLUMNS



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## EDITORIAL STAFF

**Publisher**  
Dr. Rick Brewer

**Editor**  
Mr. Norm Miller

**Director of Alumni Services**  
Ms. Kathy Hegwood Overturf

**Contributing Writers**  
Brian Blackwell, Baptist Message  
Melinda Klein, The Town Talk  
Norm Miller  
Kathy Overturf  
Brad Welborn LC/SID

**Layout // Graphic Design**  
Tim Roper  
Patrick Slayter

**Correspondence:**  
Louisiana College  
Attn. Columns  
P.O. Box 584  
Pineville, LA 71359-0584

**E-Mail Columns:**  
kathy.overturf@lacollege.edu  
norman.miller@lacollege.edu

**To receive Columns magazine  
or to update your alumni  
information, send email to  
kathy.overturf@lacollege.edu**

On the Cover:  
Samuel L. and Judith Camp  
of Covington, Louisiana, were  
awarded the Louisiana College  
Trustees' Distinguished Service  
Award as part of the 2016  
Founders Day event.

COLUMNS IS THE OFFICIAL  
PUBLICATION FOR  
ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF  
LOUISIANA COLLEGE

# VIEW FROM THE HILL

As 2016 fades behind us and the fullness of 2017 beckons, we reflect on the past year with an appreciation equal to our anticipation for the new year at our doorstep. This issue of COLUMNS will reveal why we are so grateful for where we have been and where we are going.

First of all, we could not be more proud of our students featured in this issue, who represent the entire student body. Their compassion for those who suffered from the mid-summer flooding in Louisiana to those who reside in retirement centers, and from their overcoming attitudes to their submission to God's will for their lives, they commendably demonstrate lives of transformation. Indeed, as you will read, transformation is well underway as evidenced by these students and our December 2016 graduating class.

Helping guide our students is Vince Smith, our new Dean of Students. You will enjoy reading about the holistic approach he applies to his role as a mentor to our most important constituents.

We were deeply pleased to honor Samuel L. and Judith Camp with the Louisiana College Trustees' Distinguished Service Award at our annual Founders Day Celebration. The Camps have been and remain significant members of the LC family, who support the College faithfully and prayerfully. We would not be where we are without the Camps.

Academically, we have encouraging developments on the horizon, which are made possible in part by a \$600K grant from The Rapides Foundation. Additionally, we are pleased to announce staff promotions that will enable us to reach forward effectively.

Don't miss Dr. Russ Meek's essay: "Loving God with Heart, Soul and Mind." Dr. Meek convincingly underscores our bedrock commitment to the integration of faith and learning.

With all the encouragement and inspiration from Homecoming 2016, ranking very highly is the alum who gave LC \$100K for campus beautification and other improvements, as well as the challenge for the alumni and friends of LC to match the gift. We remain grateful for all of those who value their LC experience so demonstrably. May their tribe increase.



As always, we are thankful for our Louisiana Baptist family, whose church members, through the Cooperative Program, financially support our efforts to prepare graduates and transform lives.

Cathy and I remain honored and humbled by the opportunities to serve God and his people through Louisiana College. Pray for us as we pray for you. Together, we can change our world for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Keep Pressing On!

Rick Brewer, PhD, MBA  
President, Professor of Management  
Louisiana College

Dr. Brewer earned a PhD in Educational Leadership and Policies from the University of South Carolina with cognates in Management and Higher Education Administration, and a Master in Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science in History from Charleston Southern University. His post-doctoral studies include the Snowmass Institute for Strategic Planning, Harvard University Graduate School of Education Institute for Educational Management Executive Certificate Program in 2008, Duke University's Non-Profit Leadership Executive Certificate Program in 2012, and the Academic Leadership Program at Baylor University in 2016.

# With Honor and Challenge: LC Founders Day 2016

by Brian Blackwell, Louisiana Baptist Message

In a day when hostility to the Gospel in America is growing, young Christians should take heart and remember the battle is not over.

Waylon Bailey believes this generation of Christians has a chance to shine unlike believers in any other period of history in the United States.

“We live in a different day,” Bailey told students, faculty and others at Louisiana College’s Founders Day. “You are going to be no doubt a minority. Because it’s different, you’re going to get a chance to do something no group has ever done.”

Bailey, who serves as pastor of First Baptist Church in Covington, said when he was a college student, he never imagined Christians would be viewed in such a negative light. Citing 2 Timothy 1:8-14, Bailey

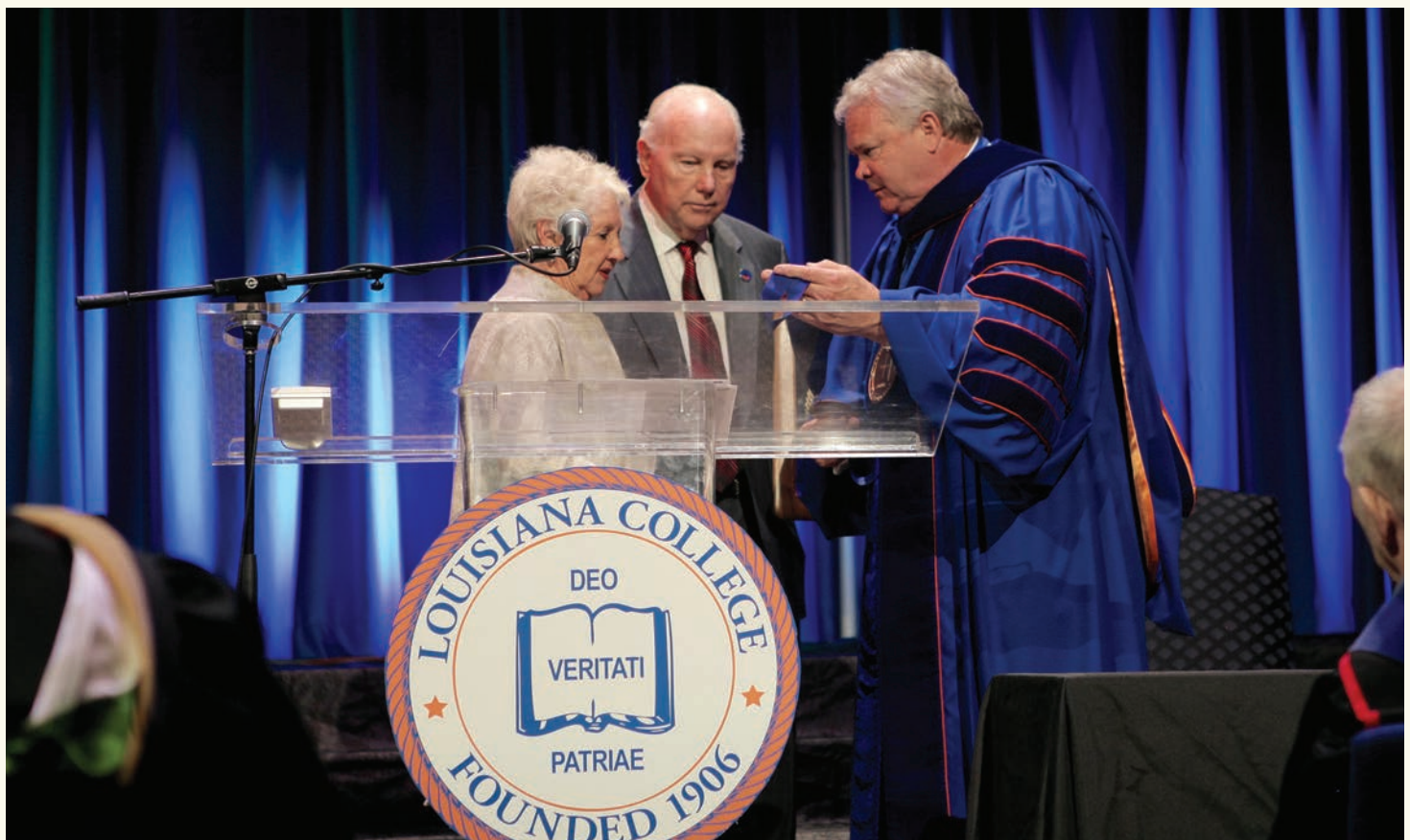
encouraged the students to remember that while it’s different for them now, all is not hopeless. Furthermore, he said they should get ready to show the world authentic, biblical faith.

“You will get to make the difference,” Bailey said. “You will get to prove your faith by your life.”

Bailey said in the future, he believes 50 percent fewer people will attend biblical churches because of a fear of persecution. However, he reminded students not to be fearful in the days ahead.

“We have to get ready,” Bailey said. “We have to be biblical Christians. It’s not enough saying we believe the Bible. It is showing we believe the Bible.”

Bailey’s message came near the end of the 110th



*Sam and Judith Camp (left) were awarded medallions and plaques for their generous support of Louisiana College. President Brewer (right) presented the Camps with the Louisiana College Trustees’ Distinguished Service Award.*

annual Founders Day, held in the Martin Performing Arts Center. Prior to that, two of Bailey's fellow members – Samuel L. and Judith Camp of Covington – received the Trustees' Distinguished Service Award.

A running back and punter for Tulane University from 1959 to 1963, Camp began work as a salesman for Rucker Pharmacal and soon founded his own company, UAD Laboratories, which later became Forest Laboratories.

He later acquired Pemplab, which eventually became the state's largest pharmaceutical company. The company produces natural medical foods for those suffering from depression, diabetes and high-risk pregnancies.

Camp became a member of the LC board of trustees in 2008.

LC Board Chairman Randy Harper presented the award to the Camps, calling them shining examples of two people who love the Lord and the college.

"Sam epitomizes what we call a man's man," said Harper, pastor of Bellaire Baptist Church in Bossier City. "He believes in what he says and he means what he says."

In accepting the award, Camp told the students success is due to a strong faith rooted in Christ.

"Put God first," Camp said. "Put Him in the driver's seat of your life."

LC President Rick Brewer publicly thanked the Camps for their passion for LC. Brewer later told the Baptist Message: "Sam and Judy Camp are stalwarts for the cause of Christ, and they are among some of the most authentic Christians I have ever known. Their public commitment to Christ and the integration of the Christian faith in every facet of their lives stand as an example to our entire Louisiana College family."



## The Louisiana College Legacy Society

Have you ever considered how nostalgia could affect the future?

Everyone eventually recalls the "good ol' days."

What made those days so good?

Was it the friends you met at college?

Perhaps a professor had a profound impact on you.

It could be the life values you gained at LC.

Maybe the education you received, the degree you earned, and the career successes you have achieved instill appreciation for your LC experience.

For some, it's all of the above.

The Louisiana College Legacy Society enables your valuable history to become someone else's vision for the future.

For more information:

Louisiana College Office of  
Institutional Advancement  
1140 College Drive  
Pineville, LA 71359  
318.487.7118

# LC Confers 131 Degrees: Students Challenged by LBC President Dr. Gevan Spinney

by Norm Miller



*Above: President Brewer addresses a near-capacity audience in Pineville High School's auditorium.*

*Below: Celebrating with her family is Communications Studies major Kellen Constant, who graduated summa cum laude.*



Dr. Gevan Spinney, pastor, First Baptist Church in Haughton, La., and president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, keyed Louisiana College's 161st Commencement, December 10, held at Pineville High School.

The College conferred 131 degrees at PHS due to LC's Guinn Auditorium undergoing a year-long interior refurbishment. While thanking PHS principal Dr. Karl Carpenter, LC President Dr. Rick Brewer said he was honored to be associated with "visionary leaders" like Carpenter.

Brewer told family and friends in the audience that LC's faculty, staff and coaches are also "mentors, nurturers and disciple-makers ... dedicated to preparing graduates and transforming lives.

"Whoever is teaching your child is discipling your child," he said, adding that he would be "thrilled" if LC graduates "became like the people who taught them."

The event featured remarks from two graduates: Business major Christopher Daigrepoint, and Chase Brossette, who double-majored in Criminal Justice and Exercise Science.

Louisiana College is a school "where critical thinking, analytical reasoning and problem solving are heralded above blind acceptance of information," Daigrepoint said. "It is a place where every student is sought after by their professors."

Throughout the LC experience, "The name and the person of our Lord Jesus Christ is proclaimed as the one true source of all knowledge and all truth," he said. "We were always taught that all truth is God's truth ... and the only way to know truth is to know Him."

Brossette credited Dr. Carolyn Spears for encouraging him to pursue a degree in Exercise Science. He also thanked JoLynn McConley (aka Mama Jo), director of LC's PASS program. "I wouldn't be here today without her."

When visiting other colleges and asking about Exercise Science, Brossette was met with skeptical remarks: "A guy in a wheelchair wants to study Exercise Science? Really?"

Brossette said, "Something inside of me said LC is the place to go."

President Brewer introduced keynoter Spinney as a man "who is authentic. He loves people. He loves the Lord. He loves to see people's lives changed."

Spinney is pastor of a "leading church" in the Louisiana Baptist Convention, Brewer said, that takes the Gospel of Jesus Christ around the world and across the street through a variety of evangelistic ministries.

Brewer also read a resolution of appreciation for Dr. Spinney (see sidebar), and conferred an honorary Doctorate of Theology to Spinney on behalf of the College.

Spinney drew his remarks to the graduates from 1 Timothy 4:12, which states: "Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

Spinney challenged the graduates to be an example "because this world is looking for something authentic in the life of a believer." He said it is "imperative" that LC graduates take the knowledge from LC into the world to change it, but also "take that which has transformed your life, and that's the Gospel."

(LC Alumna Miranda Klein of The Town Talk contributed to this story.)



*President Brewer (right) read the resolution below that honored Dr. Gevan Spinney (left) at LC's 161st Commencement.*

RESOLUTION: Honorary Doctorate of Theology to Rev. Gevan Spinney, D. Min.

WHEREAS, Dr. Gevan Spinney's Christian journey began within the Louisiana Baptist family when he came to faith in Christ in 1992 through the student ministry of First Baptist Church, Haughton, Louisiana, the church where he has been pastor since 2002; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Gevan Spinney's call to the gospel ministry and ordination to our Lord's service, as well as his marriage to high school sweetheart, Andrea, also occurred within the Louisiana Baptist family at First Baptist Church, Haughton; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Gevan Spinney has demonstrated exemplary denominational service as moderator of the Northwest Louisiana Baptist Association, and to all Louisiana Baptists in twice serving on the Executive Board of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, and twice serving on the Committee on Committees for the Southern Baptist Convention, and currently serves as the President of the Louisiana Baptist Convention; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Gevan Spinney led his home church in significant ministry through the devastation of two floods that touched the lives of thousands of displaced Louisiana families; and,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:

that Louisiana College is both pleased and honored to confer upon Dr. Gevan Spinney the Honorary Doctorate of Theology on this the Tenth day of December, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Sixteen.

# STUDENTS HELP ALLEVIATE HUNGER

BY NORM MILLER



More than 250 freshmen from Louisiana College completed their Wildcats Welcome Week by assisting the Food Bank of Central Louisiana.

Students packed boxes for the Adopt-a-Senior Program that provides 50 pounds of food a month for senior citizens. Others put food in backpacks for public school students who need food for weekends throughout the school year. Some students packed emergency food boxes for those struggling with hunger in central Louisiana.

“Hopefully, their experience here will encourage them to serve and support hunger relief causes wherever their lives take them,” said Jayne Wright-Velez, executive director at the Food Bank.

“This volunteer opportunity allows students to learn about giving back to the community where they choose to continue their education,” Wright-Velez said, adding that she is “grateful for the partnership” with LC.

Several students also worked in the Food Bank’s Good Food Project demonstration garden. “This group has been exceptionally cooperative, very polite, and very willing to take direction. The work they’ve done to the beds and putting mulch down has been a phenomenal gift, and we appreciate them very much,” said Frances Boudreaux, director of the garden.

“I think it’s important to help people because Jesus helped people when he was on this Earth. That’s just part of being a Christian,” said physical education major Devin Davis of Marksville. “I love to help people. I love to see them smile. And I just love to volunteer.”

Business major Kerry Burks from Monroe said, “Helping other people - nothing else beats it. Whatever helps another person, I’m all for it.”

The devastating flood in Louisiana and those who need food motivated Moreauville resident Brittany Dold. “This is a really good thing we’re doing,” said Dold, who wants to be a physical therapy assistant.

Serving at the Food Bank gives “students the opportunity to make a huge impact on what the Food Bank does to serve hungry people in our community,” said KB Thomas, LC’s student activities director. “Louisiana College is different. We’re a Christian college, and we want to serve and love people like Jesus does.”

“We want our students to serve this community and get connected in the community,” Thomas added. “And when I look back here at all these backpacks and realize that every one of them represents a kid that’s not going to be hungry this weekend, it makes a few hours of sweating in a warehouse seem like nothing.”

Thomas organized LC’s annual Wildcats Welcome Week -- a time when freshmen are oriented to life on the campus at Louisiana College.

“Our vision to prepare graduates and transform lives finds fruition at the Food Bank,” said LC president, Dr. Rick Brewer. “We believe a transformational education includes the mind and the spirit of our students. Working at the Food Bank helps us fulfill that vision.”

“I want to thank KB Thomas for her heart for students,” Brewer said. “She and Jayne Wright-Velez have provided immeasurable service to Louisiana College and to our students in this significant opportunity.”



# WILDCATS SOFTBALL VISITS LOCAL RETIREMENT CENTER

BY BRAD WELBORN, LC SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR



Wildcats Softball visited residents of the Hilltop Retirement Center in Pineville for a game of a different sort: B.I.N.G.O. The group of about 30 student-athletes played BINGO and talked with the residents of Hilltop. They played multiple rounds, with resident earning prizes.

As a long time nursing home owner in Louisiana, LC softball Head Coach Lyn Bankston knows all too well the impact that visits from groups like the LC softball team can have on the residents: "I've seen it time and time again, where we had groups of young people come visit the residents in our homes and the excitement and joy that it brought our people," Bankston said.

"Every time they would walk through the doors and just sit down and talk with them, residents' faces would light up. You could clearly see the happiness those young people brought them. The older generation connects with young people in their own way, and it's an opportunity for our kids to hear life stories from people who want to tell them."





## LC ALUM GIVES \$100K AND A CHALLENGE

BY NORM MILLER

Thanksgiving and Christmas are about a month apart, yet both of those seasons found a significant integrated meaning when a Louisiana College alum recently contacted Dr. Rick Brewer, president, with an idea and the funds to support it.

The anonymous alum wants to assist LC's ongoing campaign of campus beautification and facilities upgrades, and has given \$100K as a challenge for other alums and friends of LC to match.

This generous person has asked that the money raised be spent on campus beautification. Whereas there are so many exigent needs across the campus, "curb appeal" remains the third most important aspect of a campus that prospective college students value.

"We are deeply thankful for the anonymous alum's consideration, and are trusting that multitudes of LC's friends will not only match but exceed the \$100,000 challenge so that we may continue our upgrades and attract more students.

The College already has sent thousands of request letters in honor of the alum's challenge, and thousands of dollars have been given in response.

"One of our major themes at Louisiana College is transformation, and transformation is underway," Brewer said.

The first wave began in late May, when Campers on Mission refurbished LC's iconic fountain near Alexandria Hall. They also formed and finished concrete steps near a residence hall, painted numerous curbs, refinished doors and repainted a residence hall's interior.

This summer a large group of men from First Baptist Church in Bossier City donated an entire day's labor in landscaping. Other donors have provided artificial turf for the infields of both the baseball and softball fields. Yet another paid for the tennis courts to be resurfaced according to competition standards.

"An increasing number of our alumni and friends are stepping up to help the college in various ways, and we are grateful for their consideration," Brewer said.

Upgrades to men's and women's residence halls included major exterior and interior work: new carpet and paint in lobbies, White Parlor remodeled, new ceilings and refurbished doors, new bathroom fixtures, new air-handling units, upgraded electrical power service, new wireless internet access points, new flooring, flat screens with Bluetooth technology, charging ports for mobile devices, a movie room with theater seating, and more.

An insurance claim from a hail storm replaced 18 of 23 roofs on campus and will underwrite the total refurbishment of Guinn Auditorium's interior.

"Louisiana College still has many needs," Brewer said. "The decades of deferred maintenance will require millions of dollars in repairs and upgrades. While we are so deeply grateful for those who have helped us thus far, we could hardly be any more elated about the \$100,000 matching challenge an alum has made to all other alumni and friends of LC."

"While transformational upgrades to the campus are needed, the transformation we seek most diligently is the transformation of our students," Brewer said. "This is the best return on investment we can realize: changed lives."

The "\$100K Challenge" is garnering checks in wide ranging amounts. "That illustrates the call for equal sacrifice and not equal giving," Brewer said. "We all can give something, and I trust that we all will."

Donors may give online at [www.lacollege.edu](http://www.lacollege.edu). Simply click the orange "GIVE" tab at the top of the home page. If donating by check, please remit to: Office of the President, Louisiana College, PO Box 583, Pineville, LA, 71359.

# \$600K grant helps launch Master in Social Work degree; aids Nursing students

by Norm Miller

Louisiana College plans to launch a Master in Social Work degree in the fall 2017 semester thanks in part to two grants from The Rapides Foundation totaling more than \$600,000.

“The Rapides Foundation’s decision to partner with Louisiana College in underwriting a significant portion of our Master in Social Work degree and the grant to assist nursing students pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree is as refreshing as it is encouraging,” said LC President Dr. Rick Brewer. “While we are deeply grateful for The Foundation’s support, we are just as humbled to be associated with The Rapides Foundation in this joint endeavor.”

“We believe this degree will be unique to Louisiana because it will have a healthcare component. The entire MSW curriculum is built upon a Christian worldview, as well,” Brewer added.

This project is funded in part by a Healthcare Occupations Program Grant from The Rapides Foundation.

“Through our Healthcare Occupations Program grant funding, we hope to expand and provide higher-level training to healthcare workers to help bridge the gap between the supply and demand necessary to meet the health needs of Central Louisiana,” said Joe Rosier, president and CEO of The Rapides Foundation. “In our area we know there is a shortage of behavioral health providers, and the MSW program proposed by Louisiana College is one step in the process to help close that gap.”

One key to success for higher education in the future is collaboration, Brewer said. “This produces a synergy that multiplies our

efforts exponentially. And with an aging population, quality health care and other needful assistance will remain on the forefront of the challenges facing our country in the years to come.”

“The need for Master level social workers is great in Louisiana as well as nationally,” said Sheri Duffy, Chair, Human Behavior Division; Associate Professor of Social Work; and Social Work Program Coordinator. “Living in a world where there is so much distress, conflict, and sickness, there will always be a need for social workers to serve hurting people.”

Duffy noted a “growing need for MSWs in the healthcare and behavioral health areas,” adding that educating and training MSWs through a “faith-based rigorous program will bring hope and help to many who are in need in a variety of settings including schools, inpatient/outpatient behavioral health facilities, healthcare facilities, and private practice/counseling centers.”

The MSW will be offered as a traditional 2-year program; but for students who have a BSW, the MSW may be completed in one year.

LC officials await and expect approval from its accrediting agency so the MSW can be offered for the fall 2017 semester.

“With The Rapides Foundation’s help, and our faculty committed to preparing graduates and transforming lives, Louisiana College is poised to make a significant contribution to our fellow citizens in the communities surrounding our campus and beyond,” Brewer said.



# RoyOMartin Industry Day

by Norm Miller

Continuing the Louisiana College Business Division's Industry Day, leaders from nearby RoyOMartin lectured several business classes at the Hill in Pineville, November 15, 2016. LC alum Scott Townsend, Rodney Hatch, Stephanie Ulrich, Darryl Monroe, Connie Baker, Donna Bailey, Jeremy Burford and Leigh Ann Purvis addressed dozens of LC's business majors.

Other Industry Days at LC have been highlighted by leaders from CLECO and Red River Bank. "We are grateful for the leaders at RoyOMartin, who took time from their busy day to invest in our students," LC President Dr. Rick Brewer said. "Their interest and information helps students see and appreciate the difference between theory and practice, and how one's occupation is indelibly marked by one's education."

Dr. Arthur Mazhambe, Chair, Division of Business, invited RoyOMartin personnel to help "expose students to real world business leaders in the local community." He later said, "The visit by the RoyOMartin team was very successful, and our entire division is thankful for the willingness of this local industry of professionals to partner with Louisiana College."

Scott Poole -- senior vice president and chief operating officer for RoyOMartin -- keynoted the plenary session for about 100 students.

"Not often do you have an opportunity to reach out to so many future stars, future leaders," Poole said in opening remarks.

After giving a thumbnail sketch of the company's successful history, Poole told students, "I want to talk about you as millennials and share some ideas I have about your generation and keys to developing a successful future."

Poole said Millennials are often broad-brushed as the "generation of me" who will eventuate the "absolute ruining of the earth. Guess what? That's exactly what was said about my generation, and every other generation. I mean, can't you hear Adam saying to Eve after watching Cain for a while, 'Man, this new generation of kids is like, so angry.'"



*Scott Poole, senior vice president for chief operating officer at RoyOMartin, related his career sojourn and business practices at LC's recent Industry Day.*

After downplaying such negativity, Poole noted: "There are two absolute truths that are important, here."

He said no one owes a college grad anything, "and given the chance, most will prove it to you." Poole added that others "will be completely dependent upon you and, likely, they will also prove it."

"Real leaders look for these grand mentoring opportunities and lay the foundations that will reap rewards over and over again," he said. "It's not the prominence you achieve but the individuals you help become better people."

"It's how you learn, grow and respond between those two extremes that will separate you from the pack and could ultimately distinguish you among your sea of peers or colleagues," Poole advised.

"It's how you handle adversity with real optimism and goal-driven solutions that levels the playing field for everyone, including the most disadvantaged."



*About 100 business majors heard career-related advice from Scott Poole -- senior vice president for chief operating officer at RoyOMartin.*

Poole shared the saga of multi-best-selling author Andy Andrews, whose parents were dead by the time he turned 19. After a few years of homelessness, Andrews seemed hopeless. But after reading 200 historic biographies at the public library, he found seven key decisions made by those iconic figures that transformed his life.

- 1) The buck stops here. I accept responsibility for my actions and the decisions made that got me here.
- 2) I will seek wisdom. I will serve others. I will listen to the counsel of wise men and choose my friends with care.
- 3) I am a person of action. I will not fear failure, for in life, failure is a myth. Failure exists only for those who quit and I do not quit. I am courageous. I am a leader.
- 4) I have a decided heart. I will not wait. I am passionate about my future.
- 5) Today I will choose to be happy. I will be grateful for the miracle of abundance. I will greet each day with laughter, smile at everyone I meet and possess a grateful spirit.
- 6) I will greet this day with a forgiving spirit. My history [and environment] will cease to control my destiny. I will forgive those who do not ask and those who criticize. Most importantly, I will forgive myself.
- 7) I will persist without exception. I will believe in the future that I do not see. That is faith and the reward of this faith will be to realize that future. I will continue without exhaustion, focus on results and be a person of great faith.

Andrews' decisions took a homeless man to the White House four times. He wrote 26 books that have sold more than five million copies worldwide. Most recently, "The Traveler's Gift" became the basis for the PBS Special entitled "The Seven Decisions."

"Andy Andrews' idealism largely reflects our values at RoyOMartin. Not because I or we come from a position so destitute, but because we are both firmly grounded in solid values and a persistence to succeed in business and in life," Poole said.

RoyOMartin has an acronym for those values: "RICHERS" -- Respect, Integrity, Commitment, Honesty, Excellence and Stewardship. "These values are our rule and guide every day," Poole said.

"So, in the not so distant future you will begin your careers. You will begin your professional journey that will, undoubtedly, have its share of ups and downs. And, in a much quicker time than you can possibly imagine today, you will be like me, with more of your professional work behind you than in front. How would you like to be measured when that time comes?" Poole asked.

"If you stay focused and determined, I believe you will discover that your millennial generation, despite all its nuances, will turn out just fine," Poole said. "And who knows, you may even find a home at RoyOMartin one of these days."

# Chase Brossette

by Norm Miller



Photo, Norm Miller

Chase Brossette ('16) was born with Spina Bifida. He was not expected to live past the age of three. He is a graduate of Louisiana College with two degrees: Criminal Justice and Exercise Science.

Chase spent his first four months in the NICU at Tulane Medical Center. Milissa Brossette, his mother, heard his dismal prognosis, including the news that he would never walk. However, Chase proved wrong every other negative prediction made at his birth. He also endured 64 surgeries by the time he was a high school senior; one was a kidney transplant.

Milissa played a significant role in his overcoming attitude. "Honestly, I wasn't really allowed to be different," Chase said. "My mom didn't treat me any differently. She didn't shelter me from anything. If there was something I wanted to try, she let me try it. If my brothers were going somewhere, I went. I was not allowed to give up. That was not an option – not with my mother."

After his 2008 high school graduation, Chase attended LSUA and earned an associate degree in Criminal Justice. Ironically, that is where he discovered his passion: physical exercise. He soon began training with the university's weightlifting team and was approached by the TEAM USA Para Powerlifting head coach, Mary Hodge. In 2009, he joined the national team and competed nationally under the guidance of Paralympic coaches. He later was a national para powerlifting official for the International Paralympic Committee in 2013. Though medical issues forced Chase out of the opportunity to be a Paralympian, he had found his life niche: adaptive fitness.

This led him on a new mission after earning his associate degree in 2012. Chase came to LC in January 2013 after JoLynn McConley -- a family friend and director of the PASS Program -- introduced him to Dr. Carolyn Spears, then-senior professor of HPE. A con-

versation with Spears about opportunities in the sports arena for people with disabilities convinced Chase to pursue a BA in Exercise Science. He also chose to acquire a BA in Criminal Justice because he believes two degrees will provide more job opportunities.

"The spiritual aspect of this campus is great; I love it," Chase said. "There are no worries about getting in trouble for talking about spiritual things, even in class," he said. He also has enjoyed the weekly chapel experience and speaks highly of the support he has received. He attributes that to LC being a Christian college in more than name only.

"When Chase told me he wanted to attend LC, my thoughts were that LC is a private college and he would not receive the accommodations and help that he would need to be successful. I was so very wrong," Milissa said. "As a mother, I could not have asked for a better college life for my son. Ms. JoLynn made sure he received every accommodation in all of his classes and anywhere else on campus. First, I thank God; and second, I thank the faculty and staff at LC for making his college career so rewarding for him."

While mentally preparing for a future in adaptive fitness, Chase physically prepared himself as well. With specific goals in strength training, he pushes himself to remain fit. He regularly trains at CrossFit Alexandria, where he was recently featured on a professional video episode.

Trained both mentally and physically in the field of adaptive fitness, Chase feels equipped to use his education to one day open his own adaptive fitness center, and to help others with greater awareness and opportunities for adaptive exercise.

"I don't just want to be known in the adaptive fitness community," Chase said. "I want to be the number one adaptive fitness expert in the world."

# CLECO EXEC ADDRESSES LC PUBLIC RELATIONS CLASS

BY NORM MILLER



*Susan Broussard, LC alum and Cleco executive, shares her collegiate and professional experiences with public relations students.*

*(PHOTO: Hannah Verzwylvelt)*

“School up.”

Those two words of advice from Susan Broussard to a roomful of students summarize the Cleco exec’s hour-long chat in a public relations class at Louisiana College, Sept. 15.

The 1992 LC alumna -- a journalism/public relations double major -- oversees human resources and public relations for Cleco, a privately owned electric utility company headquartered in Pineville.

“You must be able to communicate by the written word and verbally,” she said. “If you can’t execute an email without grammatical errors, or if you can’t express your thoughts and ideas, people will judge you on that. In many careers, if you can’t write you’re done for. You’ve got to be able to write.”

Broussard advised students to leverage every opportunity to build a portfolio whether through volunteer or paid positions, and to not rely solely on classroom education.

“A degree is just not enough any more,” she said. “It’s just not.”

“You can get that piece of paper; but if you’re going to apply for a job with me, I want to see what you can do. I want to see what you’re made of. You must demonstrate your ability.”

Broussard said her student portfolio helped launch her career. She was recruited to work for Cleco, and has been there for 22 years.

Effective public relations today includes a broad range of expertise and skills, including knowledge of social media, proficient public speaking and an aptitude for photography, so Broussard encouraged students to embrace and pursue a well rounded education. Why? “You might be a PR department of one,” she said.

“I’m a huge fan of liberal arts,” Broussard added, citing the liberal arts advantage: “I was shocked at how much more prepared I was”

than other students in graduate school. “The reasons are I had hands-on learning through college publications, very good instruction at LC, and that liberal arts discipline.”

The liberal arts discipline is “something that is missing in today’s workforce because it gives you critical thinking skills and the ability to connect various pieces of data” into something meaningful and valuable.

“A lot of people can’t do that. They can’t,” she said, while noting the limitations of narrow technical training. Typically, such employees are not tapped for major leadership roles.

Saying the value of critical thinking leads to problem solving, Broussard told students, “You will be very well prepared when you leave Louisiana College” because of the inherent value of a liberal arts education.

Broussard said a great education must be coupled with hard work: “It sounds cliché and trite, but it is true in school and in the workplace. Hard work will differentiate you, but you’ve got to have your stuff together.”

As important as a good education and hard work are to success, Broussard advised students of their need for the spiritual dimension of life: “When all other relationships are not doing it for you, when work or school is a struggle, and when you hit rock bottom, you must know you are never alone. Your relationship with God will pull you through.”

Broussard is a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Alexandria.

“Our students were fortunate to have the opportunity to hear from someone who has been in the trenches,” said Dr. Beth Christian, professor of Communications and Chair, Division of Media and Communication.

“Susan’s 22 years of experience at Cleco include many of the challenges and crises that anyone in PR will face, and she has risen to the top of her field,” Christian said. “Her advice on honing good writing and communication skills, building relationships, and staying centered spiritually resonated with our students.”

Dr. Rick Brewer, president of LC, expressed his gratitude for Broussard’s “contagious willingness to share her Louisiana College experience and how that launched and undergirds her career.”

“Susan Broussard exemplifies the concept of service learning,” Brewer added. “And her belief in our brand of liberal arts education is more than sentimental or convictional, it is also practical because she is a member of our Board of Visitors.”

LC’s Board of Visitors consists of alumni, professionals, friends and others, whose financial support goes directly and only to student scholarships. Their contributions benefitted more than 135 qualified students this fall semester.

In an interview with LCNews, Broussard commented on why she visited the class: “When I was at Louisiana College, there were a lot of people who encouraged me, instructed me. That made a big difference in my life. And I want students here to believe that they can get the kind of education that can put them in places that they could never imagine. That’s why I’m here, to make sure that they know what other people told me: ‘This is a special place.’”

# STUDENTS RESPOND WITH A FLOOD OF COMPASSION

BY NORM MILLER



*LC Convergence Media student Hannah Verzwylvelt covered LC's disaster reliefs efforts with photography and videography. But she got her hands dirty too. Scan the QR code with your smart phone to see a moving video about the flood's effects on LC's students.*







In response to those who were so devastated by the mid-summer flood in the Baton Rouge region -- some of whom were LC students and their families -- two groups of LC students visited the area to do what they could to help.

Baptist Collegiate Ministry Director Thomas Worsham (above in blue Tshirt) led one of the groups. He said that some of the students had never done anything like that before. "They were incredible servants. They never complained. They didn't want to come home. They wanted to stay," Worsham said. "When I commended these freshmen who sacrificed their Memorial Day holiday to help others, they said it was 'no sacrifice; it was a blessing.'"

LC Convergence Media student Hannah Verzwylt is videographer and photographer for the Office of the President. She shot most of the photos on these pages.. Here's her impression: "The moment I heard about the flood and the people whose lives were

changed, I knew the stories of each individual had to be shared. As I collected stories, I constantly saw God in each situation, and my heart for Him grew. Seeing LC students who struggled, clinging to Christ as their hope when they've lost so much, is something I will hang on to. A story only becomes real when you can walk through it, and walking through homes that were destroyed made all the stories real to me. I wanted to feel what they felt."

Janet Austin serves in LC's Student Development Office. She led a group of students to the flood-raved area. "It was quite an experience to see the hands and feet of Christ in action during our flood relief project," she said. "Students from all walks of life came together to help two families gut their flood ravaged homes. It was a difficult task but the students worked with passion. At the end of the long, hot, and backbreaking day, when the families thanked each student with a hug, I could see a glimmer of tears in some of the students' eyes. It was definitely a labor of love."



*"There's  
No Place  
Like Home"*

# Homecoming 2016



# Homecoming 2016 adds two distinguished alumni

“There’s No Place Like Home” -- LC’s Homecoming celebration the weekend of October 29 -- added to the ranks of Distinguished Alumni Joanne Autrey Hamby and Dr. Perry Hancock.

Hamby, a 1969 Music Education grad, grew up in the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home in Monroe. She became a student at LC after graduating from Ouachita Parish High School. While a student at LC, Hamby served as music minister at East Pineville Baptist Church. She later taught choral music in Bossier Parish, spending most of her years at Haughton High School. Her choir was the first from Haughton to receive the Sweepstakes award. She was chairman for the District VIII Choral Teachers, a guest clinician for area choirs, and a choir festival judge for the state of Arkansas. She also served as music minister at Northland Baptist Church, Airline Baptist Church, and Eastwood Baptist Church during her time in Bossier City.



*Joanne Autrey Hamby*

Hamby was the first former resident to serve on the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home Board. She also is on the board of trustees of Louisiana College. She remains active in the LC ArkLaTex Alumni Club, which meets twice a year in Shreveport. Joanne and her husband Eddie are members of Cypress Baptist Church in Benton. They have one son, Ben; and two grandchildren, Sadie and Bennett.

Dr. Perry Hancock graduated from LC in 1983 with a degree in Religion and a minor in English Literature. He later earned an MRE and PhD at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Hancock has served as pastor and interim pastor in several Southern Baptist churches across Louisiana; including Westside Emmanuel Baptist Church in his hometown of Bogalusa. He is a former faculty member and dean of NOBTS, and held the Broadmoor Chair of Discipleship from 1999-2003.



*Dr. Perry Hancock*

Hancock founded Creative Ministries for the Children in New Orleans, a non-profit social ministry to children and families of poverty. A published author, Hancock has written several books, and is published in the Church Educator, the Theological Educator, and Special Education Today. He was also a contributor to the Eerdman’s Bible Dictionary and the Toolbox for Busy Pastors.

He and Tonya (Moran, an LC alumna) have one son, Matthew. The Hancocks are members of Compassion Church in Monroe, a newly formed Southern Baptist mission.



# LC INDUCTS THREE INTO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

BY BRAD WELBORN



James Halle



Jim Morgans



Al Sandahl

During LC's "There's No Place Like Home" homecoming celebration, three alums were inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame: baseball player James Halle ('06), and football players Jim Morgans ('69) and Al Sandahl ('63).

Halle -- a fourth-generation LC alumnus -- is one of the most decorated pitchers to play baseball at Louisiana College. From 2003 to 2006, Halle set school records in three different pitching categories. He is the Wildcats career leader in wins with 21; pitched the most innings, 277.2; completed 15 games; and is second in school history with 188 career strikeouts. He also threw the first no-hitter in Wildcats' history and was a member of the all-conference team and named ASC Player of the Year.

"I'm humbled to be included in the same company as men like Gene Rushing, Ronnie Kaiser, and Billy Jones," Halle said. "These were men that shaped me as the coach I am today and as a competitor. This is truly a team award ... Without them, this honor is not possible.

Halle said he is "eternally grateful for the education and the experiences that Louisiana College taught [that] I still carry on to this day."

Morgans was a captain on the football team as nose guard and offensive tackle. One of Morgans' realized dreams was to coach at his high school alma mater, Allentown Central Catholic in Allentown, Pa. Morgans won eight different Coach of the Year awards in his time at Central Catholic, and Salisbury and Parklands high schools. He is a member of the Lehigh Valley Football Hall of Fame and a 1995 inductee into the Pennsylvania Football Hall of Fame. After 33 years of coaching high school football and over 260 wins, Morgans retired in March.

Wendy Morgans Laird, one of seven of Morgans' children that were on hand to celebrate their dad's hall of fame induction, said, "This trip was a dream come true. He always talked about how great the people were and how his friend's families took him in when he couldn't travel home for breaks."

Sandahl played tight end on the Wildcats football team. After graduating with a degree in Physical Education and Social Studies, and a brief stint in the Canadian Football League as a player, Sandahl began his coaching career at West Hill High School in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, for the football and basketball teams there.

Even when the CFL came calling again, Sandahl knew his heart was in coaching and returned to Louisiana where he accepted assistant coaching jobs at Jonesboro-Hodge and then Mansfield, which led to head coaching positions at Arcadia and DeRidder.

With a few years under his belt at the high school level, Sandahl relished the challenge of coaching Division I football. Mississippi State hired him as a wide receivers' coach. Sandahl later coached other Division I programs like Oklahoma State, Washington State, UCLA, Colorado State, Iowa State, Syracuse, and Kansas State. He also coached at the pinnacle of football when he joined the staff of the NFL Buffalo Bills. Sandahl is now a coach at Elysian Fields High School, where he teaches the game to a whole new generation of players.

# JANICE JOSEPH-RICHARD: WINNER

BY BRAD WELBORN



On the night Janice Joseph-Richard was inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame, June 25, noted sportscaster Lyn Rollins said of Richard: "Some people are great players, some are great coaches; Janice Joseph-Richard indeed was both. It's not only the stats and the victories that people will remember. It's her courage, and the way that she lived her life that will never be forgotten by those of us who knew her."

Born in Alexandria, Richard attended Peabody Magnet High School before becoming a Wildcat in 1982. Her playing career at LC still ranks as one of the best in school history, with over 2,300 points, 700 assists, four All-Gulf Coast Athletic Conference honors and a two-time All-American. She was able to lead the team during the 1985-86 season, her senior year, to a 31-3 overall record, a No. 1 national ranking, and a third-place finish in the NAIA Tournament.

Richard's resolve and strength were evident throughout her career as a player and coach, and then it shined even brighter after a being diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006.

Through the trials of treatment against her illness, she surrounded herself with the game she loved before she died on December 1, 2010, at the age of 46. But not before touching countless lives, and leaving indelible impressions on the basketball communities of CenLa, New Orleans, and San Jose, where she coached.

Longtime Xavier coach Bo Browder -- an assistant under Richard -- said, "She was demanding of her players and

coaches, but honest with them as well. She held everyone to a higher standard. If you weren't doing your job well, she'd let you know, but she always brought out the best in everyone."

Amassing a 159-34 record, the best winning percentage (.824) in school history, Richard guided the Xavier program to five straight regular season and tournament championships in the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference.

Richard later took a struggling San Jose State team that had only one winning season in the previous 16 years to three winning seasons in seven years.

Leaving San Jose State, Richard returned to Pineville and LC and took Wildcat women's basketball to stellar heights, again. LC went 55-23 in three seasons under Richard, including a 24-3 mark, American Southwest Conference championship, and a No. 14 national ranking in 2009-10.


Reflecting on Richard's student-athlete days, one of her former coaches, Frank Schneider, said: "Some days she'd leave after practice and catch a bus to England Air Force Base and play more with the guys at the base. That's rare; to practice two hours and then go out and play some more."

Fellow Hall of Famer Shelia Thompson, who coached the Wildcats during the magical 1985-86 season, said Richard was "vital" to the Wildcats' success. "She was our clear go-to player when we needed someone to score," Johnson said. "No one could match up with her. She was so good at pulling up and hitting the short jump shot from the corner of the foul line. Our opponents would concentrate on her so much that it created opportunities for her teammates."

LC President Dr. Rick Brewer said, "Louisiana College was blessed by Janice Joseph-Richard as both a student-athlete and a coach. The addition of Coach Richard to the group of prestigious members of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame is a fitting, lasting tribute to her reputation as an athlete, coach, and Christian leader."

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# Bill Ichter ('49): Music Missionary to Brazil



In 1925, William H. Ichter ('49), was born in the coal mining town of Nanticoke, (pronounced Nanny Goat by Vernon Beall) Pennsylvania. On December 7, 1941, the bombing of Pearl Harbor brought big changes in his life.

His father was called on to be an umpire in the war games taking place at army camps in Louisiana. Bill's family transferred to Alexandria. After arriving in Alexandria two events made changes in his life. First, several of his dad's officer friends were Southern Baptists who invited the Ichters to attend church with them. That was Bill's first contact with Southern Baptists (He joined Emmanuel Baptist Church, where he became minister of music for a year and a half). Secondly, Bill enrolled in Bolton High School as a senior because schools had accelerated their programs due to the war. He was interesting to his fellow classmates since he was a "Yankee." Upon graduating from high school, Bill enrolled at Louisiana College. Bill says that God was already working in his life.

During a chapel service, Bill was greatly stirred by a sermon from W.O. Vaught, and at the end of the service he walked to the front and told Dr. Vaught he wanted to accept the Lord Jesus as his personal Savior. He was later baptized in the First Baptist Church of Pineville. Bill's baptism meant so much to him; it was the beginning of a new phase of his life.

Before the year was out Bill entered the military, where he had the opportunity to attend various churches, like the First Baptist of Atlanta, Ga. There he strongly sensed the Holy Spirit calling him into full-time Christian service. It was a feeling he carried during the rest of his military days. For more in-depth stories of Bill's Army days one needs to read his book entitled, "Who Me, God?"

On June 11, 1946, Bill's military career came to an end at Fort Dix, New Jersey, after serving time as an infantryman in Patton's 3rd Army in Europe and participating in various music groups during the Army of Occupation. He returned to Louisiana College, where he had previously considered a medical career but instead enrolled with majors in Bible and Music.

At LC Bill met and married his wife, Jerry Catron, and after graduation they began serving churches

in Louisiana in the music ministry. While serving at Istrouma Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, the Ichters were feeling the strong pull to the mission field. Bill enrolled in the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. They continued to serve area churches which supported the growing Ichter family. Eventually, in May of 1956, the Foreign Mission Board called the family to Richmond, Va., for their appointment ceremony. Billy Graham was holding a crusade in Richmond that week and spoke with each new appointee. Graham told the Ichters, "You are blessed to be going to Brazil. It is a great mission field." Neither of them could have imagined at that time that 18 years later, Ichter would be leading the 11,500 voice Graham Crusade Choir in Rio de Janeiro.

The Ichters served for 35 years in Brazil with many memorable moments. One notable event was in 1964 when the Brazilian Baptists launched their first ever National Evangelistic Crusade. Bill was tasked with compiling a Crusade Hymnal. Several entries arrived with one set of words written by a retired Baptist General that really stood out. Bill, feeling so strongly about the words, awakened at 4:30 one morning and in 15 minutes composed a tune that fit the General's text. He had never composed anything before. Every Baptist Church in Brazil was caught up in the enthusiasm for the Crusade, and the song was sung every Sunday.

Today, the Ichters reside in Minden, La., and their legacy includes two more generations of missionaries. The town of Minden realizes what a treasure they have with having Bill and Jerry Ichter and their daughter and son-in-law, Alana and Ron Greenwich, in their midst. On Veterans Day, 2014, Minden designated the day as "Bill Ichter Day." On that day Bill received the French Legion of Honor Medal, which is the highest medal of France. It was presented to Bill by the French Consul. Bill's name was the first to be put on the newly erected Wall of Honor at Minden's Veterans Flag Memorial. The South Webster Chamber of Commerce awarded Bill the Lifetime Achievement Award.

At 90 years of age Bill says, "You cannot live a good or meaningful life without God in your life. LC taught me how to live and not just how to make a living."

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# STAFF PROFILE: VINCE SMITH DEAN OF STUDENTS

BY NORM MILLER

Vincent Smith is a lot of things: husband, father, pastor, church planter, college grad, seminary student, counselor, and confidant.

Certain aspects of all those roles equip Smith for his service to Louisiana College as dean of students. He defines this function as one who is an “integrator of relational activity that flows into student discipline, an administrator who helps connect students to success in the classroom.”

This is not bureaucratic psychobabble. It is who Smith is. He relates to and reaches students right where they are.

“Sometimes I function as a big brother, and others times I’m a father figure,” Smith said. “Discipline comes easier when I have such a relationship with students that they know I care, even if I have to be the ‘bad guy.’ I do care about our students, but I also have a backbone.”

Smith said he is “okay with being the bad guy. I realize that not everyone is going to like me. But I am called to more than just tough love. My role is about honesty.” That includes telling students about behaviors that will harm them.

Athletes expect you to talk about sports, and Christian Studies majors expect you to talk about theology, Smith said. “But I’m about getting to that personal level and asking sincerely, ‘How are you, really?’ Those are the most poignant words I can say. Students need to know that someone really cares about them. They need investment, and not just from me but from our faculty and administration, too.”

President Rick Brewer said, “Vince’s compassion for students perfectly fits our culture of caring that distinguishes LC from other schools. We strive to develop in our students a maturity of intellect and of character, and Vince undergirds these efforts by his concern for every aspect of our students’ college experience and their personal lives, too.”

Being a Baptist college built upon a Christian worldview means that “LC is not a normal college campus. We have a different culture,” Smith said. “Some students need to understand that culture. But sometimes they don’t.”

One of Smith’s frustrations is when a student is exposed to the culture of LC’s expectations, “and they choose to leave before they realize or can understand how much they are loved. That hurts, man. That’s disappointing.”

But here’s the flipside for Smith: “It’s a joy having a really hard conversation with a student that includes a discipline level of severity, and to see that student understand why I did what I did, and to see them grow from that experience.”

Another joy is to hear the stories of students whose first college choice was not LC, but who, after being here a while begin to thrive and set their sights on their futures, Smith said.

“God is working on this campus, in the classroom and in our chapel services,” he added. “This gives us ministering moments because students will ask us questions they cannot ask anyone else.”

This is what differentiates LC from other schools. “LC has a lot more to offer,” Smith said. “Where else can you freely ask your professor, ‘Where do you go to church?’ or ‘What do you think about baptism?’”

This sort of environment helps Smith attain a ministry goal as dean of students: “I want to create a culture of students who know how



to disciple each other and minister to each other, where they know how to take care of each other and look out for each other. This is all part of understanding the value of having a Christian education.”

Through replication, “I am always trying to give my job away,” Smith said.

The demands of the job are “humbling, exciting, scary and nerve-racking all at the same time,” he said. “It’s like trying to get a sip of water from a fire hydrant. It’s a taxing job. But it is also easy to work hard for those who make you want to work hard.”

Being a pastor at heart, however, Smith said, “I love Jesus, man. I love to be around people who love to talk about the Lord, and we have that all across this campus. That also makes working at LC fun.”



# JAMARCUS FITZPATRICK: A LEADER ON & OFF THE FIELD

by Brad Welborn,  
LC Sports Information Director

A football team's offensive line is often overlooked. The linemen's stats aren't recorded, and you rarely see their names in the newspaper sports section. However, they may be the most important five players on the field for every team on every play. It's the offensive linemen who open running lanes for the all-conference running back, allow the gunslinger quarterback time to throw the deep ball, and are the backbone of every successful offense.

Louisiana College sophomore starting left guard Jamarcus Fitzgerald is a key member of a talented and experienced offensive line that has been paving the way for the 2016 American Southwest Conference's second leading rusher, Aurren Cooksey.

"Lining up every snap with a guy like Cooksey behind you is a lot of fun," Fitzpatrick said. "It's tough for defenses to stop him because he has a lot of speed, but he has a lot of power, too. Watching him do his job as we do our job is pretty exciting and it's one of the most fun parts of the game. Just knowing that you did your job to the best of your abilities to make sure that he could shine, even though you don't get a whole lot of the credit, that is our pat on the back."

A native of Shreveport, Fitzpatrick has the distinction of having played for two of the most respected, recognized, and winningest coaches in northwest Louisiana, LC's athletic director and head football coach Dennis Dunn and Mike Suggs at C.E. Byrd. Although the offensive philosophies of the two coaches differ, there are some similarities, Fitzpatrick said.



The winning mentality that was instilled in him in high school has prepared Fitzpatrick to excel at LC and earn a starting job in his second year on campus. Even with the success that the line and Cooksey have had this year, Fitzpatrick said he is more excited about how God is using him off the field to have an impact on the lives of his teammates and fellow students in a Bible study he leads.

“It was a direct call from God,” Fitzpatrick said. “He told me something like this was needed on campus. We needed to unite and become a family so when we go out and spread the Gospel we’ll have something to say.”

“I was hesitant at first because I didn’t think anybody was going listen to me because I’m just a sophomore; but I got a confirmation from one of my roommates who said that we should start a Bible study, so I said, ‘Ok God, let’s do this.’”

Fitzpatrick said the weekly Bible study started in his dorm room with just five participants, but quickly grew to 17.

“I’m really excited about what God is doing, and I think these guys are taking heed of all of the lessons that we’re learning, and are applying them to their lives,” he said, noting that the group is studying through the book of Proverbs, looking for practical applications for their daily lives.

“I get to be a part of the growing process, and it’s a beautiful thing to see,” Fitzpatrick said. “When you see somebody living a certain way and then they turn to Christ, and their lives completely change in a different direction, it’s a humbling experience, and I’m just so thankful to be a part of it.”

This particular Bible study may be new to Louisiana College, but teaching and preaching is something that Fitzpatrick knows he is should be doing.

“I was called to the ministry at a young age, I was about 13 or 14 years old, and at that time it was really hard to understand, so I ran from it,” he said. “I changed congregations around that time, and it started growing heavy on me. There would be nights I couldn’t sleep. Going through that for a while, I finally was able to give it all to God because I knew that He was going to guide me down this path in my life.”

“I’ve always been in the army of the Lord, but now I feel like I’ve taken a direct position in it, and it’s a

special position to me. I take it seriously.”

As one of the Wildcats’ spiritual leaders, Fitzpatrick is often asked to pray after practice, before team meals and on game days. He realizes that role is more important for eternity than his position on the football field: “God put me in a place where people are looking to me for guidance, so I have to be careful of how I act and the words I use. But I want them to understand that I’m not the standard, but it’s Christ whom I follow.”

Knowing the responsibilities that come with setting an example for others, the relationship with his head coach has had the biggest impact on his life the past two years while at Louisiana College.

“Coach Dunn has so much wisdom, not only in the Word but in life in general,” Fitzpatrick said. “He’s seen a lot, and he’s been through a lot, so having a guy like that not only as your coach but also as one of your spiritual fathers, it gives you a sense of completion in your life. There are times where I might be struggling with something or have a question about something, and I know that he’s just a phone call or text message away.”



*Jamarcus Fitzpatrick shares a message at United Outreach Church in Shreveport, LA.*

# LC TOUTS NEW DEGREE PROPOSALS

BY NORM MILLER

During a December 1 press conference, Louisiana College President Dr. Rick Brewer announced the proposed advancement of the College's curricular offerings that include a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a Master of Science in Social Work, and a 100 percent online RN to MSN track that will enroll registered nurses practicing with an associate degree in nursing or hospital diploma attain a Master of Science in Nursing.

"Our academic leaders have been working on these projects for several months and have identified needs in our region. We trust that these programs will help us meet that need," Brewer said.

Two of the proposed degrees will receive funding through a Healthcare Occupations Program Grant from The Rapides Foundation. The Master of Science in Social Work will receive \$554,146 while the Bachelor of Science in Nursing will garner \$54,436. The degree offerings are part of the school's Vision 2020 plan, which strives to raise \$20 million and enroll 1,500 students by 2020.

Representatives from the two largest hospitals in the region said the new programs will help address a growing need in the medical field.

Nancy Hellyer, CEO of Christus St. Frances Cabrini Hospital, said many times young people leave central Louisiana to earn degrees in these areas. "Millennials are becoming the largest workforce," Hellyer said. "We know the number one thing they want is career preparation, or they'll leave. If we're able to offer in our community a very solid program such as this one," she said, "it really will make all the difference for Christus Cabrini."

Rapides Regional Medical Center CEO Jason Cobb thanked LC for its vision: "It's a great day for Louisiana College, it's a great day for your students, and it's a great day for the community, and especially in the healthcare arena," Cobb said. "So we thank you for letting us be a small part of it. We're looking forward to what it becomes for this community."

Dr. Marilyn Cooksey, dean of LC's School of Nursing, said, "Louisiana College has a rich heritage in the medical field. We are elated to expand our influence beyond the bachelor level in nursing to even greater excellence through a graduate nursing degree."

Regarding the Master of Science in Social Work, Brewer said it is "unique to our state and beyond" because the curriculum has an 18-hour healthcare component and is based on a Christian worldview.

"Our graduates in the helping professions have impacted the Louisiana College community, central Louisiana, and beyond for more than 100 years, said Sheri Duffy, Chair, Human Behavior Division, associate professor of Social Work, and Social Work Program director. "We believe the Master of Social Work degree will epitomize the integration of faith and learning through a biblically based social work perspective and practice."

Brewer believes the proposed BS in Computer Science is not only needed, but will prove to be a popular track of studies as technological advancements proliferate on a global scale.

"In keeping with our commitment to the integration of faith and learning, the absolute necessity of ethical values is crucial in the digital world," Brewer said. "We believe curricula based on a Christian worldview is the supreme source for such a need."

Brewer expressed thanks to LC faculty and staff, and to LC community partners, all of whom share a "common vision for a healthier community through superlative academic pursuits and have a passion for excellence."

Planned for launch for the fall 2017 semester, the curricular offerings await approval from LC's accrediting body.

# Fall enrollment reveals significant gains

by Norm Miller

Louisiana College's fall 2016 enrollment reflects a 14.5 percent increase of first-time freshmen and transfer students as compared to the same time last year.

LC enrolled 255 new freshmen and 61 transfer students.

"We are elated to see the reversal of a 5-year trend," said Dr. Rick Brewer, president of LC.

Additionally, the college's recently launched Certificate in Pastoral Ministry and Missiology tracks of study enrolled 21 new students, but they are not reflected in the 14.5 percent increase.

Overall headcount at LC is up 1.5 percent compared to the same time last year -- from 1,109 to 1,126, and dormitory occupancy is up by 6.5 percent.

"Our spring-to-fall 2016 retention rate of 82 percent, however, is very encouraging," Brewer said. "An increased enrollment of first-time freshmen, a substantial number of transfer students, and a commendable retention rate indicate that families and students are discovering the outstanding value and excellent academic experience that Louisiana College provides."

Brewer told LCNews there are many reasons for the increases.

"We initiated aggressive and strategic marketing strategies, and are experiencing growth in almost every academic area," he said. "Results from these efforts became apparent earlier this year when we added new classes during our 'Front of the Line' pre-enrollment event."

President Brewer also noted the numerous upgrades to landscaping and facilities across the campus, saying that curb appeal ranks high among prospective students.

LC has refurbished dormitories and other areas with new paint, carpet, furniture, bathroom fixtures, lighting, upgraded electrical power service, wireless internet access points, flat screen TVs with Bluetooth technology, charging ports for mobile devices, and a movie room with theater seating.

"With several of our staff having traveled the state in recent months, our efforts to meet with alumni, educators, pastors, donors, and other stakeholders have helped us re-connect the college with our friends across Louisiana," he said.

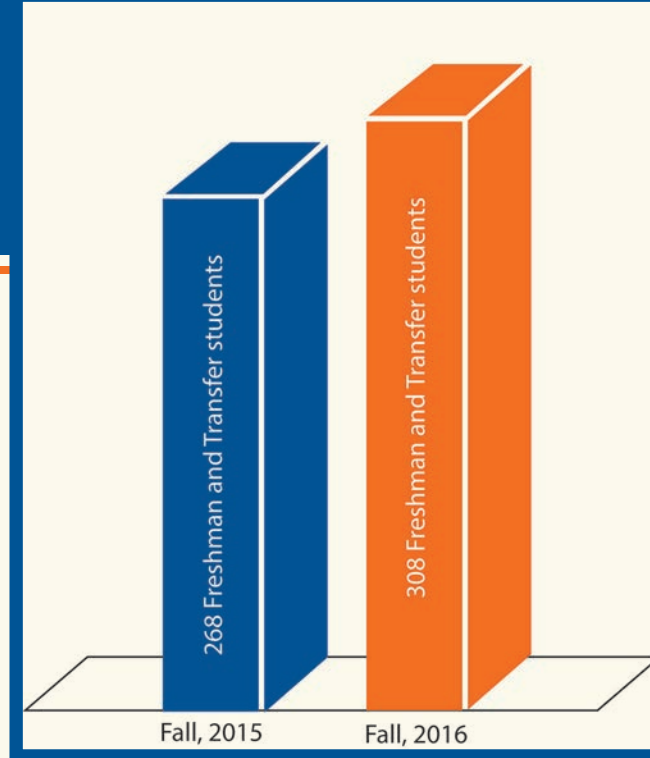
Brewer expressed gratitude for those who joined LC's Board of Visitors that he inaugurated about a year ago. "Our Board of Visitors have helped us at a variety of giving levels because they believe in the college's Mission and Vision for preparing graduates and transforming lives."

All donations through the Board of Visitors go to a scholarship fund that wholly and solely supports qualified students. "Such generosity provided more than \$135,000 in scholarships to our students this year," Brewer said.

"What has happened at Louisiana College is credited not to one person, but to the entire team that God has brought together," he said.

"I also want to thank our trustees who continue to faithfully support the college's Mission and Vision. And I especially want to thank our Louisiana Baptist family, whose financial and prayerful support meet crucial needs for the college," Brewer said.

"At the end of it all, however, we must say, 'To God be the glory.'"



## LC and Union University ink "preferred applicant" agreement

by Norm Miller

Officials of Louisiana College and Union University recently signed an agreement giving qualified LC graduates "preferred applicant" status when enrolling at Union to pursue a doctoral degree in pharmacy.

Located in Jackson, Tennessee, Union University ranks first on the list on the "25 Best Christian Colleges and Universities in the South, 2017" by ChristianUniversitiesOnline.org.

Union also is a nationally ranked institution by US News, Forbes, and Washington Monthly magazines.

"Louisiana College is more than honored to be associated with Union University," said Dr. Rick Brewer, president of LC. "Since its birth in 1823, Union has set an admirable standard in Christian higher education -- a veritable benchmark by which many other colleges and universities are compared."

"We are confident that the exceptional training our graduates receive at Louisiana College will be underscored and enhanced by the outstanding faculty of Union University's School of Pharmacy."

Dr. Sheila Mitchell, dean of the Union University School of Pharmacy, said, "The Union University School of Pharmacy is delighted to partner with Louisiana College. We look forward to working together in the training and development of outstanding compassionate future pharmacists."

Among other criteria, LC's preferred applicants must have a cumulative 3.0 grade average, and never have earned a grade below a C.

"Not only are we pleased with Union's rigorous academic standards, the university is associated with the Tennessee Baptist Convention," Brewer said. "This, too, is vitally important to both Union and LC because we both deeply value the integration of faith and learning from curricula built upon a Christian worldview."

# Loving God with Heart, Soul, and Mind

Russell L. Meek, PhD  
Assistant Professor of  
Old Testament and Hebrew



Dr. Russell Meek

“Hear, O Israel: ‘The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might’” (Deut. 6:4–5, ESV). Standing near the Promised Land, Moses delivers his final speech. His words would represent the Jewish confession of faith for millennia to come. Moses could have and did say many things to those about to cross the Jordan River and possess one of God’s promises. But his most important words -- now written on the fronts of synagogues around the world -- comprise the command to love God with heart, soul, and might.

We understand the terms “soul” and “might,” but “heart” can be confusing. When Moses said “heart,” he meant something more than our 21st Century concept of the word. The Hebrew term for “heart” in English Bibles includes the concept of feeling, emotion, and courage that English speakers associate with the heart, but it also includes the “mind, thinking, intention, as responsible for or identified with thought, reason, knowledge, counsel.” Perhaps we should not be surprised when Jesus cites Deuteronomy 6:5 as the greatest commandment, and uses updated language that more fully communicates heart’s meaning. Asked what the greatest commandment is, Jesus responds: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment” (Matt. 22:37–38, ESV). Let that sink in: the “great and first commandment” is to love God with heart, soul, and mind.

Most are not offended at the idea of loving God with heart and soul, for that’s the essence of religion in our cultural milieu? Religion is the domain of the emotional (the heart) and the spiritual (the soul), but be sure to check your mind at the door. And yet, Jesus and Moses before him clarified that the most important thing is to love God with *all* of ourselves, our whole being, everything that makes us human. The great commandment therefore calls us to be countercultural by loving God not only with our hearts and souls but also with our minds.

As Western Christians, we usually think of this as a command to the individual. Yet we often miss the point that Moses was speaking to God’s people before they entered the Promised Land. The people of God, as a *people* of God, were commanded to love God with their minds. This was no individualistic affair in which a person retreated to love God alone; this was a corporate command to all of God’s people to love him fully.

This corporate context of the great commandment has important implications for the Christian institution of higher learning. Of course, a college is neither Israel nor the church. Yet, the institution of Christian higher education *is* a group of believers united in explicit purpose to educate students in a distinctively Christian context. The command to love God with the mind therefore has far-reaching implications for the Christian college. One may even say that the *Christian* aspect of a Christian college is fulfilled only

inasmuch as the great commandment is fulfilled. While we cannot explore every manifold implication here, I offer two for reflection and conclude with a third, more comprehensive consideration as it relates to the very existence of institutions of Christian higher education.

First, the great commandment *at least* means that Christian colleges must take seriously the task of education and not offer our students warmed-over lectures from stale research. Instead, we must pursue our vocation with rigor, perseverance, and sincere love for the material we teach. We must put aside the temptation to drink only from the wells we dug during our own education. Instead, we ourselves must be lifelong learners, seeking always to know more, to understand more. Likewise, we must continually hone the craft of teaching and enlarge our understanding of what teaching entails. We cannot be content with simply presenting information to our students in whatever way is easiest. No, the great commandment in our context means that we must always be learning how better to teach, communicate, and reach our students’ minds and hearts. This leads to the second distinctive the great commandment demands from the Christian college.

The Christian college must always remember that we teach *students*. Loving God with the mind includes mastering of the content and delivery. However, it is not enough to be experts in our fields and excellent in the classroom. We must also be faithful to loving the *people* in our classrooms, for loving God with heart, soul, and mind will necessarily result in loving the crowning achievement of his creative work: humans. In fact, Jesus made this very point after explaining the first and great commandment: “And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matt. 22:39, ESV). For this reason we must realize that teaching encompasses far more than the transfer of knowledge in a classroom setting. We cannot simply retreat to our offices after class; rather, we must initiate relationships with our students outside of the classroom. This may look different for each of us, but the point is that the great commandment means we cannot be content with teaching only during the time allotted for a particular class, for much of education happens when class is over.

In sum, the most important thing Moses could say to Israel -- what in Deut. 6:1 he called *the* commandment -- is that Israel should love God with their whole being: heart (including the mind), soul, and might. And when asked some centuries later about the essence of faithfulness to God, Jesus responds by telling his listeners (and us) that the greatest command is to love God with heart, soul, and mind. As we consider what it means to love God in the context of Christian higher education, let us remember that at its core, the greatest and most important thing we do in all of life -- including, and perhaps most especially, teaching and learning -- is to love God with heart, soul, and mind. This command -- nay, calling -- is what distinguishes the Christian liberal arts education from other educational endeavors. Any institution of higher learning can teach students how to conjugate verbs, explore the diversity of life forms, diagram sentences, compose essays, sequence genes, etc. But only a distinctly *Christian* liberal arts education will in so doing teach students that the very acts of composing music, penning essays, and manipulating the metamorphosis of amphibians can be an act of worship, a fulfillment of the “first and great command,” as Jesus says, or “the” command, as Moses says, to love God with heart, mind, and soul.

[1] D. J. A. Clines (ed.), *The Concise Dictionary of Classical Hebrew* (Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix, 2009), 109.

by Norm Miller

Louisiana College's first annual Values & Ethics Conference drew more than 300 people who heard experts on the design of the universe, current and future implications of biotechnology, and the fundamentals regarding the sanctity and dignity of human life.

"The keynote speakers proved they are top-flight experts, whose credentials are as impressive as their content was stimulating," said President Brewer.

Molecular biologist Doug Axe, PhD, said school children intuitively "start to invoke an ultimate God-like designer to explain the complexity of the world around them, even the children of atheists."

He believes this intuition should be taken seriously as opposed to the random and accidental nature of Darwinian evolution and related modern theories. "Accidental causes do not invent," said Axe, who is gaining popularity for his recent book: "Undeniable: How Biology Confirms Our Intuition That Life Is Designed."

In 2005, Axe founded The Biologic Institute in Redmond, Wash., a non-profit research organization developing a new approach to biology with the hypothesis that life is by design.

"We are poised at the edge of embracing a future that is less human, not more human," said bio-ethicist C. Ben Mitchell, PhD, who is provost and academic vice president at Union University in Jackson, Tenn. We are headed for a "post-human" era that postulates we can divest ourselves of the human body.

Referring to Hitler's eugenic efforts, Mitchell said: "Modern eugenics is the old eugenics with new proponents, and posits that technology will help engineer the perfect human."

Some say technology will make immortality possible, he added. Because of technological advances, "are we moving toward human gods?" he asked. Such "technological advancements require Christians to engage in theological reflection."

Mary Kienzle, MSW -- of conference sponsor Christus St. Francis Cabrini Hospital in Alexandria -- completed the trio that explored the implications of society's and science's view of human origins.

Christian principles are the foundation of compassion for others, Kienzle noted, and those principles guide Christus Cabrini

Hospital.

"There is a universal call to holiness. We must follow in Jesus' footsteps," said Kienzle, director for Missions Integration Services and Spiritual Care Departments.

"The intrinsic value or inherent worth of every human being stems from being made in God's image and likeness. All people have it, regardless of race, creed, color, functional status, or any other characteristic. And it means we must respect all people," she said.

Life is God-given and must be protected in all stages, "from conception to natural death," she said. "Abortion is fundamentally against our ethics and our values."

Reflecting on the Q and A session after the conference and his time lecturing in LC classrooms, Mitchell told LCNews: "This conference provided a marvelous opportunity to demonstrate how the liberal arts and sciences prepare a person to understand how relevant all of these issues are, and, from a Christian liberal arts perspective, to demonstrate that the Christian faith has something to offer by way of critique and helping to build a truly human future."

Axe said: "For young people to be addressing some of the most important questions in life is absolutely important." He said students' questions "clearly revealed they were thinking about the subject matter deeply. I could tell that these students have teachers who pour into them and do not simply convey material, but are interacting with them personally."

Mitchell observed: "I think your students are amazing. The high quality of their questions give me a sense of encouragement about what's happening at Louisiana College -- about the kind of students you're attracting and cultivating and the kind of students who will graduate."

Grateful for Christus Cabrini's sponsorship of the conference Brewer said, "On behalf of all involved in the conference, I extend our deepest thanks to Christus Cabrini Hospital for underwriting the conference. Without such sponsorship, the hundreds who attended the conference and watched online would not have been exposed to such scientific, scholarly and compassionate responses to bio-ethical and biological issues that have faced and will continue to confront the Christian community," Brewer said.



Keynoters Doug Axe, Mary Kienzle and Ben Mitchell (left to right) at an informal Q&A luncheon with faculty (Photo, Norm Miller)

# President Brewer: promotions bring “exponential advance”

by Norm Miller

Louisiana College President Dr. Rick Brewer announced four promotions for academic and staff administrators on July 18. The personnel changes became effective August 1.

Dr. Jerry Pounds is the college’s vice president for academic affairs.

“Dr. Pounds brings more than an impressive resume to this position,” Brewer said. “He has served in higher education in numerous roles, from adjunct professor at Liberty University to president of Truett-McConnell College in Cleveland, Georgia, and in several roles at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.”

“Well-versed in Baptist culture, Jerry has served the local church as a youth minister and in the interim, bi-vocational, and associate pastoral roles,” Brewer noted. “Dr. Pounds’ experience in higher education and local church ministry demonstrates his commitment to integrating faith in and out of the classroom.”

“Having personally observed Jerry’s work ethic, his relationships with campus peers, and his heart for the classroom, I believe he will acquit himself not merely from a sense of duty, but from a deep-seated commitment to our students and our vision,” Brewer said.

“Dr. Pounds understands where we are taking Louisiana College,” Brewer added. “Our vision statement of preparing graduates and transforming lives is more than a motto for Jerry; it is a conviction that will find fruition in his role to implement and enhance our relevant, relational and rigorous curricula.”

Pounds earned a BA from Samford University, a Master’s in Religious Education from New Orleans Seminary, and an EdD from Vanderbilt University.

Dr. Cheryl Clark served as interim vice president for Academic Affairs since 2014, and will remain in that office as associate vice president.

“Louisiana College stakeholders owe a significant debt of gratitude to Dr. Clark as she has served sacrificially -- well above and beyond the call -- during some difficult days in our recent past,” Brewer said. “I also cannot thank her enough for how she has assisted me since my arrival as president. Dr. Clark already has proven her mettle, and I am confident in her abilities and passion for this new role.”



Dr. Jerry Pounds



Dr. Cheryl Clark

Earning three degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi, Clark has a BA in English with a minor in piano performance, an MA in English, and a PhD in English with specialization in eighteenth-century British Literature and transatlantic Domestic Literature.

Clark will continue to serve LC as Associate Professor of English and Chair of the Division of Humanities. She is holder of the Olive Ann Rau Chair in English.

Randall Hargis, vice president for Business Affairs and CFO, has been promoted to executive vice president, formerly an interim role he filled. Hargis is a Certified Public Accountant with a BS degree in accounting from Louisiana Tech, and has worked at LC since June 1985.

“If a college will pursue academic excellence, then it necessarily must also pursue excellence in its fiduciary responsibilities,” Brewer said. “And excellence is a word that describes Randall Hargis. His pencil is as sharp as his mind, and both have drawn and maintained our course for three decades running. Randall’s decisions are as important as our academic ones, and I know he will continue to keep us on track.”

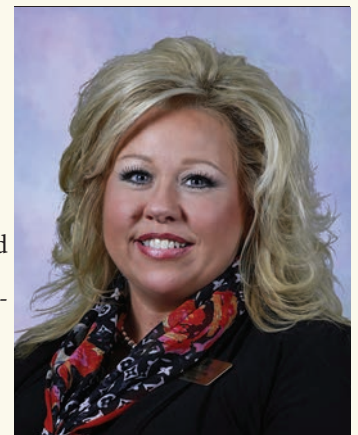


Mr. Randall Hargis

Dr. Amy Craig was promoted to Dean of LC’s School of Education. She became interim administrator in January 2016.

“Dr. Craig stepped into the interim role with the kind of determination a top-notch committed leader exemplifies,” Brewer said. “She traveled to the corners of this state, visiting school districts and educators in an effort to promote our TEACH Certification program and Master of Arts in Teaching degree. Amy epitomizes our ‘And Then Some’ mindset at Louisiana College, and I know the good work she has begun will take our School of Education to new heights.”

Brewer noted his gratitude for the entire LC staff and faculty: “I have been blessed and encouraged with how our LC family has caught the vision and enjoined the mission to revitalize and rebuild the college. Doubtlessly, the four who will undertake these new assignments and bring an exponential advance in our commitment to prepare graduates and transform lives through a Christ-centered curricular and co-curricular experience.”



Dr. Amy Craig



Kathy Hegwood Overturf, Director of Alumni Services

## *From the Alumni Director*

“There’s No Place Like Home” was our theme for Homecoming 2016, which was extremely fitting for this year’s celebration. All of the events both on and off campus were exciting, well attended and filled with love and joy surrounding our Alma Mater. Some of the highlights included the largest and best Homecoming Golf Tournament in our history, featuring many alums who had never played in this tournament. Common Good and Voices of LC combined for a great evening of worship with Scott Sontag (’80) and Dr. Fred Guilbert (’72) leading. The Celebration Banquet honoring our Distinguished Alumni and Hall of Fame Inductees was fabulous. Stories by our honorees were inspiring, emotional and heartfelt. Each story could have been yours or mine from the quality of education and the faculty to the relationships that started right here at LC. It makes me love my Alma Mater even more. If that wasn’t enough, the evening was topped off by one of the most exciting offensive football games I have ever witnessed. Even though the CATS came up two points short, 64-62, our young men and coaches never gave up or quit. This just reinforces why this present administration, faculty and staff are going to keep fighting to make LC the best Christian Liberal Arts College in the nation.

If you were unable to make it “Home” this year, then mark Oct. 12-14 on your 2017 calendar for next year’s Homecoming. Spread the word to friends and classmates. We will be honoring the 1967 class along with 1977, 1987, 1997 and 2007. Let’s get the ball rolling. We want you here on campus to help celebrate!

Homecoming is the biggest event of the year for alumni, but you don’t have to wait until October to come see us. Basketball, baseball and softball seasons are upon us. Come catch a game or two. We anticipate an exciting sports season this spring.

There are so many good things happening at LC – come be a part of the excitement. I will be travelling around the state in the spring, hoping to meet with alums about reviving the Alumni Regional Chapters. Central Louisiana, Baton Rouge, NE Louisiana and Lake Charles will be our starting areas, but would like to develop a group of alums in every part of the state and even some out of state groups. We have one long lasting model chapter in the ArkLaTex Club in Shreveport, supported by dedicated alums who have kept the LC flame burning. We need more just like them. If you are interested in being a part and would like to help in your area, please contact me. I am looking for a few good women and men who love their Alma Mater.

Continue to pray, send students and give financially. Much has been accomplished over the last 18 months, but there’s still a tremendous amount of work to be done. I thank you in advance for investing in the future of Louisiana College. May God bless you and your family, and God bless Louisiana College. Alma Mater hail to thee.

Kathy Hegwood Overturf ’80

**Edith Davenport Rich** ('44) lives in Fairmont, North Carolina and her brother, **David Davenport** ('41) lives in Alexandria. They are both grateful for the education they received at Louisiana College. Edith is 94 and David is 95.

**Clayton** ('49) and **Helen Terry Bond** ('49) met at LC in the beginning of their freshmen year. They each felt clear leadership to prepare for overseas missions. They became engaged as sophomores, married as juniors, had their first child as seniors and both finished their degrees on time in 1949. After Clayton's studies at NOBTS, their overseas career began in 1954 in Liberia, West Africa. In 1958, they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board to serve in Ghana, West Africa. From there, in 1964, they opened a French speaking mission work in the neighboring country of Togo. This was the International Mission Board's first French-speaking mission work in Africa. After their retirement in 1990, they were involved for 5 years in Louisiana, with Outreach to Internationals (students, sailors, prisoners and others). They now live "deep in the heart of Texas", in



Kingsland. Their family consists of 3 daughters, 5 grandchildren and 8 great grands. Their oldest daughter and husband were missionaries in Zambia and South Africa while one of their granddaughters and family are serving in Mexico with "To Every Tribe".

**Dr. Everette Vance Culpepper** ('59) and wife, Jean, live on the banks of Caney Lake in Jonesboro, LA. He just moved back to Louisiana after beginning his service with the Home Mission Board as a volunteer in 1960. He spent most of those years in Oregon. He and his brother, Howard, were ordained in a rare double ordination while they were both students at LC on March 17, 1956. Vance graduated with a degree in Journalism. Vance and Jean were married this past April after losing both of their spouses. An interesting tidbit about their relationship is that Jean and her first husband were married for 57 years and the officiating minister was Vance Culpepper. They are members of Caney Lake Baptist Church in Chatham.

**Coach Alton "Red" Franklin** ('61) and his wife, **Beth** ('62) live in Haynesville. Coach Franklin is still involved with the Haynesville High School football program, where his son, David, is the head coach. David stated, "We are celebrating 50 years of my dad being associated with Haynesville football. He is really enjoying himself, because he doesn't have to do laundry. He can just come out and coach."

**Paul Guraedy** ('62) and wife, Diana, retired to her family ranch in Harrison, Arkansas in 1995. After graduating from LC, he joined the U.S. Peace Corps with a teaching assignment in Malawi, Africa. He

then went on for a career in the National Park Service where he met park ranger, Diana Smith at the Grand Canyon in 1967. His assignments included Grand Canyon (AZ), El Morro (NM), Fort Christianvaern and Buck Island Reef (St. Croix, VI), Kennesaw Mountain (GA), Natchez Trace (MS), Saguaro (AZ), Fossil Butte (WY), Arches (UT), Lincoln Boyhood (IN) and Yukon-Charley Rivers (AK). He served as superintendent in the last four national parks where he was assigned.

**Mary Ann Harris Shallberg** ('64) is the Executive Associate to the President of the University of Houston Clear Lake. She serves as the President's chief of staff and manages the office which consists of four staff. UHCL was founded in 1974 and she joined the staff in 1980. She has had the opportunity to work with and for each of the four presidents. She stated that she may be one of the few members of her '64 graduating class still working. She plans to retire in August of 2017. Her father, **Carl H. Harris** was a 1934 graduate of LC and served two terms on the Board of Trustees. Her sister **Pauline Harris Abbott** ('66) and her husband live in Georgia. She has several other family members who are LC graduates and/or have had close connections to the college.

**Chip Turner** ('70) was honored with "Duty to God" Award by the Boy Scouts of America. Chip lives in Pineville with wife **Sandy** ('69) where they are members of FBC, Pineville. He is also a member of the Executive Board of the LC Alumni Association and the LC Board of Visitors.

**Joe** ('72) and **Linda Blevins Perry** (72) live in Prosper, Texas where Joe has served on the staff of Prestonwood Baptist Church

in Plano for the past 17 years. He is presently serving as Mission and Evangelism Pastor.

**Dr. Jerry Sanson** ('74) is chair of the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Professor of History and Political Science at LSU at Alexandria. His documentary, Louisiana During World War II is now available on YouTube. His latest book is The Louisiana Journey, an 8th grade Louisiana history textbook which he co-authored.



This is the eighth year that most of this group have gotten together to catch up on what is going on with their lives, their families, tell stories about their LC days and laugh! They just pick up where they left off and have always felt a special bond because of their shared faith and time at Louisiana College. From Left sitting...**Barbara**

# ALUMNI UPDATES



**Johnson Dillahunty ('73), Joy Hornsby Lopez ('73), Hilda Coleman Lott ('73), Margret Morgan Hope ('75), and Martha Miller Hall ('75). Standing: Deborah Kirby McCraw ('73), Martha Ellard ('71), Rita Morgan Huffman ('73), Bonnie Brunson ('80), Bonnie Ludwig Nolan ('72), Susan Hamby ('73) Leslie Dickey Allen ('73), Reeda Acuff Taylor ('74), Lynn Rohrbaugh Porter ('74) and David Mercer ('76).**

**Fred Griffin ('75)** was inducted this summer into the Texas Girls Coaches Association Hall of Fame. In his 39 years of coaching, he has had a winning record in 36 of those seasons. Coach Griffin has been in Brownsboro for 33 of his 39 years and the Bearettes have been in the postseason 28 of those 33 years. "I am fortunate to be in a very good place" Griffin said. "Brownsboro is a place that not only like basketball, but also all girls' sports and that is big." Griffin credits his family and also **Coach Billy Allgood** for their support. "I went to Louisiana College and even though I didn't play there, Coach Allgood encouraged me to get into the coaching profession." Along with basketball, he has been a head girl's track coach for 32 years, football coach for 22 years and head baseball coach for three years. His career basketball win loss record is 1001-338.

**Dr. Frank B. Ashley III ('75)** has been named senior associate dean for academic affairs at the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M. Ashley will oversee graduate education and research activities as well as strategic planning, faculty affairs, student affairs, program development, diversity assessment, communications and external relations, student services, and extended education programs.



**Carla Williams Lasyone ('87)** has retired as Principal of Georgetown High School, May 2016.

**Michelle Womack ('87)**, head coach of cross country and track and field at Lake Ridge High School, has been named the 2015-2016 Track and Field Coach of the Year by the Texas Girls Coaches Association (TGCA). She earned the title for the 5A and 6A conference divisions. Womack has been teaching and coaching for nearly 30 years. This is her second year in the Mansfield ISD. She said she feels honored to have earned this designation. "This is an award that is voted on by my peers, and that makes it all the more special that they felt I was deserving of this honor. As a coach, I strive to create



an environment that encourages the development of strong character through perseverance."

**Scott McDaniel ('96)** joined the Nashville Convention & Visitors Corp as vice president of creative on July 1st. Scott has more than 20 years of experience in creating visual art within the entertainment industry. He will help with efforts to brand Music City as a top tourist destination.

**Chad Thibodeaux ('96)** "The center of the insurance world and an institution that plays a vital role in all of our daily lives.....Lloyd's of London. I wouldn't be here without my liberal arts education from LC. Thanks to all the LC professors who led me here."



The Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI) announces the Free Enterprise Awards Winners. These stand-out individuals and businesses across Louisiana demonstrate extraordinary efforts to build a stronger, more vibrant state economy and local community. One of the two winners in the Workforce Innovators of the Year Category is the Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana (A+PEL), which is led by Executive Director, **Dr. Keith Courville ('06)**.

**Dr. Jamie ('06) and Joy Thomason Rister ('07)** have moved back to Alexandria from Taos, New Mexico where Dr. Rister recently finished a Taos Orthopaedic Sports Medicine Fellowship. He has joined Mid State Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Center in Alexandria and is also the team physician for LC. Jamie was a former Wildcat quarterback during his time as a student. He is a team physician for the U.S. Ski Team. He is a member of the Arthroscopy Association of North America, American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine, American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons and International Society of Arthroscopy, Knee Surgery and Orthopaedic Sports Medicine. Jamie and Joy are parents of 2 children, James and Jennifer. Joy's parents, **Teresa Layssard Thomason ('73) and Tim Thomason ('73)** are glad to have the grandchildren home! They are all members of Calvary Baptist Church.

**Tara Spruill Finn ('08)** and husband, Austin, proudly announce the arrival of Allen Clare Finn on May 22nd. She weighed 7'1" and was 18 inches long. She was greeted by LC Alumna, **Tara Terrill ('80)** now known as YaYa.



**Jeremy Treme ('08)** has been named the new Director of Financial Aid at LC, having recently worked as the Assistant Registrar and Coordinator of Institutional Research. Jeremy is the son of Neil and Leanne Treme (former IMB missionaries to Mexico and current pastor of Glenmora Baptist Church). Jeremy is married to the former **Lauren Dunn ('11)**, who keeps CENLA up to date on important events on KALB as a news anchor at night. They have two children, Audrey Zao, who is 3 ½ and Emery Charis, who is almost 2.

**Ben ('10) and Meagan McLaughlin ('10)** welcome Violet Rose on May 26th...weighing in at 6' 14". Ben is in his first year as the Offensive Coordinator for the Wildcat Football team.

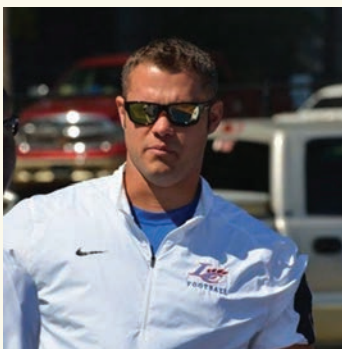


**Maranda Stewart ('14)** was awarded the Louisiana Music Educators Association Outstanding Young Music Educator Award for 2016. Maranda graduated from Louisiana College with a degree in Music Education.



She sang with Voices of LC as a student. She teaches at Northwood High School and Donnie Bickham Middle School in Shreveport.

**Andrew "Drew" Maddox ('15)** was named as the new Wildcat defensive line coach. Maddox spent last season as an assistant line coach before moving to the other side of the ball during spring practice assisting Coach Richard with the offensive line. The experience on that side of the ball helped Drew understand more about what it takes to improve defensive line play. "It was a great learning experience but I'm ready to get back on the



defensive side, that's what I played my whole life and that's what I know," said Maddox. Coach Maddox is a former Army sergeant that did two tours of duty in Iraq in 2008 and again in 2010 as a part of the U.S. Army's Second 108th Cavalry. The time in the military going through training and drills for combat situations can also apply to the football practice field, and that is what Maddox plans to draw from as a coach. Drew and his wife, Caitlyn, have one daughter, Alli and they make their home in Pineville.

**Karylon Thornton ('15)** is pursuing her graduate degree in Communications at the University of Louisiana in Monroe. This sum-

mer she had the opportunity to help with team processing for the United States Olympic athletes in Houston at George Bush Intercontinental Airport before they journeyed to Rio. She was able to meet, chat and work with some of the greatest athletes in the world. #Rio2016



**Jessica Johnson ('16)** was one of 169 Division III athletes nominated for 2016 NCAA Woman of the Year Award. Jessica was the recipient of the Louisiana College/ASC Scholar-Athlete Medal of Honor. She earned her bachelor's degree in psychology, graduating summa cum laude in only three years. Johnson was named to the softball Distinguished Scholar Athlete teams and three times earned Academic All-Conference honors in the American Southwest Conference (ASC). Johnson was also active in numerous student organizations and community service activities.

**Jade Johnson ('16)** was named the American Southwest Conference 2015-2016 Community Service Award Winner. She is the first female student-athlete to receive the honor in the eight years it has been awarded. Jade was actively involved on campus and in the community both in Pineville and her hometown of DeRidder. Johnson stated, "I love helping people. Getting to know them while helping make a difference in the community, you have the opportunity to build relationships and bonds that allow you to show them who you are. When you have those bonds with people, you show them Christ." Jade is in her first year of teaching at DeRidder Junior High School.

## Distinguished Alumni Nominations

Louisiana College alumni are selected to receive the Louisiana College Distinguished Alumni award during LC's Homecoming celebration each year. Recipients are chosen by the Alumni Association Executive Committee at their fall meeting. Those honored are selected according to the following standards:

- 1) a graduate of Louisiana College,
- 2) of good character,
- 3) respected and honored by peers and associates,
- 4) made significant contributions to profession, church, and community, and
- 5) loyal to Louisiana College.

To nominate someone for the Louisiana College Distinguished Alumni award, complete the online nomination form by April 1st.

<http://www.lacollege.edu/alumni/distinguished-alumni>

# In Memoriam

Edwin O. Ware, III	Class of 1948
Billie Alice Craig Ryland	Class of 1949
Rev. C. Bullard Jones	Class of 1952
Joseph C. Rivet	Class of 1952
Faye Chelette Cary	Class of 1954
Maxine Allbritton Dearmon	Class of 1954
Dr. Grady M. Harper	Class of 1955
Dr. Joseph Willis Strother	Class of 1955
Ruth Stagg Craigo	Class of 1958
E. Neel Edwards	Class of 1960
Philip W. "Billy" Horn	Class of 1962
Shirley McFadden Corley	Class of 1963
John Mulanax	Class of 1963
Thomas Overton Moore Stafford, Jr.	Class of 1966
Dianne Sullivan Beaubouef	Class of 1967
Richard Stephen Sylvest	Class of 1967
Fred Moore	Class of 1970
Richard Gayle Neal, Sr.	Class of 1970
Thomas Little, Jr.	Class of 1976
Ryan Cummings	Class of 1976
Betty Samuel Mott	Class of 1977
Deanna Nichols "Dee" Chaney	Class of 1977
Jerome Franklin Bush	Class of 1979
Bonny Fewell Elliott	Class of 1981
Adam Seward	Class of 1982

## Others

John Charles "Chip" Dickey, Jr.  
Frances Walker Dowdy  
Virginia Gale Jolly  
Lisa Douglas McKinney  
Edward Insley Morrison, Jr.  
Estelle Harrington Pittman





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