

Women and Government center prepares for busy year

Budget cuts to higher education notwithstanding, the Louisiana Center for Women and Government is preparing for an eventful 2009 – including a Hall of Fame ceremony headlined by two of the nation’s most respected political consultants.

Established in 1991, the center encourages and promotes the leadership of women by providing resources and non-partisan support through educational workshops, training seminars and outreach programs. With more than 600 members from eight regions across Louisiana, the center promotes women in government and public service, acknowledges achievements of women and teaches all citizens about the importance of public service and responsible citizenship.

Center-sponsored events and programs in 2009 include:

- **Hall of Fame**

Each year, up to four Louisiana women are inducted into the center’s Hall of Fame. The 2009



Carville



Matalin

honorees include Phyllis Mayo, special assistant to the governor on women’s policy; Ann Milling, founder of Women of the Storm; Lily Moskal, founder of Success Seminars; and Rosemary Ewing, preservationist and public service activist. The induction ceremony – slated for Saturday, March 28, at the Hilton Riverside Hotel in New Orleans – will feature political consultants James Carville and Mary Matalin as keynote speakers.

- **Congress to Campus**

Tentatively scheduled for mid-April, Congress to Campus will be hosted by the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Former members of Congress will conduct classes, forums, informal meetings with university and community members, and interviews with local press and media – all designed to instruct and encourage future leaders.

- **Louisiana Girls Leadership Academy**

Designed to develop the leadership skills of selected girls entering the 8th through the 11th
See **Busy Year**, page 3

Obama era begins



Dr. Ross Jahnke (left), associate professor of art, joined others on Tuesday, Jan. 20, to watch President Barack Obama deliver his inaugural address. The ceremony was viewable in Godfather’s Pizza in the Bollinger Memorial Student Union – among other campus locales.

Nicholls takes lead in service-learning

Nicholls welcomed the state’s first Louisiana Campus Compact-sponsored AmeriCorps*VISTA volunteer on Thursday, Jan. 15.

Charlene Moore of Houma, a 36-year veteran of social service work, said she looks forward not only to working with the Bayou Region community, but inspiring Nicholls students to do the same.

“This is a great way for student volunteers to develop their skills before finding their callings,” Moore said.

Founded as Volunteers in Service to America in 1965 and incorporated into the AmeriCorps network of programs in 1993, AmeriCorps*VISTA is the national service program designed specifically to fight poverty. VISTA members commit to serve full-time for a year at a nonprofit organization or local government agency. Their mission is to help fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses and strengthen community groups.

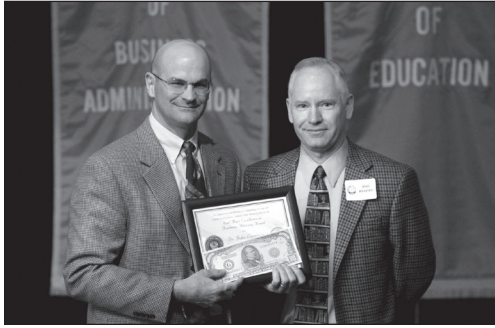


Pictured from left are Karen Powell, program director of Louisiana Campus Compact; Dr. Morris Coats, professor of economics, chair of the Service-Learning Committee at Nicholls and on-site supervisor of the VISTA program; Charlene Moore, AmeriCorps*VISTA volunteer; and Dr. Stephen T. Hulbert, university president.

“I am thrilled that Nicholls has a new VISTA volunteer,” said Dr. Morris Coats, professor of economics, chair of the Service-Learning Committee at Nicholls and on-site supervisor of the VISTA

See **Service Learning**, page 4

Wal-Mart recognizes campus adviser



Dr. John Lajaunie (left), professor of finance and certified master adviser, receives the 2009 Wal-Mart Excellence in Academic Advising Award from Dr. Robert Allen Alexander, director of retention and student engagement for University College and associate professor of English.

Dr. John Lajaunie, professor of finance and certified master adviser, received a \$2,000 award from Wal-Mart on Tuesday, Jan. 13, in recognition of his outstanding performance as an academic advisor.

The Wal-Mart Excellence in Academic Advising Award recognizes full-time faculty members who spend a portion of their time advising students. Awardees must have completed or renewed master advisor certification within the three years preceding their nomination.

A Nicholls faculty member since Fall 1991, Lajaunie helps finance and business administration students reach their

academic and professional goals and serves as the College of Business Administration's liaison to University College. In the latter role, he works with freshmen aspiring to matriculate as sophomores into the major of their choice.

"Dr. Lajaunie's dedication to mentoring and advising serves as an example

for all who value student-centered education," said Dr. Robert Allen Alexander, director of retention and student engagement for University College and associate professor of English. "As one who habitually rises above the call of duty, he richly deserves this honor."

Alexander said half of Lajaunie's award is intended as a cash stipend. The rest will help defray expenses to attend the National Academic Advising Association annual conference – or another conference focused on advising, mentoring or engaging students.

Lajaunie is the university's fourth recipient of the annual award.

BEHIND THE NAME

White Hall honors chief justice; Shaver Gym memorializes fallen student

(Editor's Note: Dr. Alfred Delabaye, professor emeritus of journalism, has agreed to write a series of articles on how and why campus buildings got their names. The second appears below.)

The man for whom White Hall is named was a chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. And Shaver Gym is named for a freshman who drowned during his second semester at Nicholls.

Edward Douglass White Jr., born six miles north of Thibodaux in 1845, spent 27 years on the high court and wrote opinions in more than 700 cases. Richard Castles "Squee" Shaver, born in Thibodaux in 1936, was a well-known student who drowned in Lake Pontchartrain in 1955 at age 19.

Those names were obvious choices for Dean Charles C. Elkins in 1955 when area politicians and friends of the junior college rebelled against LSU and got the two badly needed buildings. LSU had approved only \$300,000 for Nicholls, but Gov. Robert Kennon yielded to Thibodaux area demands for \$750,000.

He disclosed that fact when groundbreaking ceremonies were held on May 17, 1955. No one from LSU attended, except for a board member from Donaldsonville.

White and Francis T. Nicholls were the most famous natives of the Thibodaux area when the Nicholls name, not that of White, became part of the 1944 junior-college planning committee name. Nicholls spent almost his entire life in Donaldsonville, Napoleonville and Thibodaux and is buried in Thibodaux not far from the family home where two of his daughters still lived in the 1940s.

White, though a national figure, spent only a few years in the Bayou Lafourche area, received his

education elsewhere and is buried in Washington, D.C., unlike his father, who is buried in St. Joseph Cemetery in Thibodaux. A big formal photograph of White was donated to Nicholls archives about a year ago, but because it is so rare and valuable it cannot be displayed openly.

Physically a big man, White was the son of the seventh governor of Louisiana. He rose in the Confederate army from private to lieutenant

and became a Yankee prisoner in 1863 in the Battle of Port Hudson. At age 23, he was admitted to the bar. He was a state senator from 1875 to 1879 and then an associate justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court for 15 months before Gov. Nicholls appointed him to the U.S. Senate in 1891. President Grover Cleveland appointed him to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1894, and President William Howard Taft named him chief justice in 1910. He died May 19, 1921.

Shaver, on the other hand, was not at all famous, but well-known and liked by the 215-member student body at the time of his death. That was on April 30, 1955, about two weeks before the groundbreaking ceremonies and about four months before Dr. Elkins submitted building names for state-board approval.

Shaver graduated in 1954 from Thibodaux College, the Catholic school for boys. At Nicholls, he played in the band, was active in ROTC, earned mostly A and B grades and aspired to be an engineer. He drowned on a Saturday while skin-diving with a war-surplus aqua-lung.

A portrait painted by Adeline Badaux of Thibodaux and donated by the Nicholls Student Council was unveiled in the spacious lobby of the gym on March 16, 1957. Because about three-fourths of the lobby has since been turned into offices, the lobby where the portrait hangs is almost a passageway.



White



Shaver

In the Kitchen

Smoky Pork and Beans

- 2 lbs. ground beef
- 1 lb. bacon (cut into pieces)
- 1 large onion
- 5 small cans of pork and beans
- 1 small bottle of ketchup
- 2 1/4 cups brown sugar
- 1/4 cup mustard
- 1/4 cup Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tsp. liquid smoke



Fry bacon partially and pour off excess grease. Add ground meat and cook together with bacon until beef is brown, stirring and chopping constantly until meat is finely chopped. Add onion, sauté until onion is transparent, then add all ingredients and cook for an additional 20 minutes, until well incorporated.

Have a favorite recipe you'd like to share with Nicholls faculty and staff? Send it to graham.harvey@nicholls.edu.

Focus on ...

Wendy Adams

Assistant Professor of Communicative Disorders



What is your hometown?

I was born in Houma, but I have lived in Thibodaux for the past 16 years.

What's your educational background?

I graduated from Terrebonne High School in 1984; from Nicholls in Dec. 1995, with a Bachelor of Arts; from LSU Medical Center in May 1998, with a master's degree in communicative disorders; and from the University of Florida in June 2008, with a doctorate in audiology.

Do you have hobbies?

I like to read, do needlepoint, garden and spend time with my 8-year-old daughter.

Who's your favorite author?

Sidney Sheldon.

How long have you worked at Nicholls?

I started working at Nicholls in 2005 as an adjunct professor, and in Aug. 2008, I became a faculty member.

What brought you to Nicholls?

In 2005, it was an opportunity that seemed to be absolutely made for me – a part-time position that allowed me to continue working at another job that I enjoyed. It was exactly what I needed at the time. In 2008, the timing was perfect again – I was looking for something full-time, and the faculty position was available.

What are some of the most rewarding aspects of your job?

I really like seeing the students mature into graduate material. There's no guessing who that's going to be, either. It's amazing to me to watch students complete the program and see how different they are from the beginning to the end of the program.

'Music at St. John's' to feature Britt, Palermo

The public is invited to St. John's Episcopal Church in Thibodaux at 3 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 8, to enjoy an afternoon of trumpet, piano and organ music.

Michael Palermo, a trumpet player originally from New Orleans, will join Dr. Carol Britt – organist, pianist, director of the School of Fine Arts and associate professor of music at Nicholls – in a duet performance. Admission at the door is \$10 for adults, \$5 for college students and free for students 18 and under.

Currently a Yamaha performing artist in San Antonio, Texas, Palermo has performed professionally with the Acadiana Symphony, Jefferson Symphony and New Orleans Symphony. He is a private instructor of trumpet in the North East Independent School District as well as the artist in residence at Texas Military Institute. In addition, he serves as executive director of BrassFX, a non-profit corporation that sponsors educational concerts for children, and owns a booking agency – San Antonio Entertainment.

Britt is parish musician at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Metairie, La., and maintains a private

organ studio. Active as a recitalist, lecturer and accompanist, Britt serves in the American Guild of Organists, the National Council of the Organ Historical Society Association of Anglican Musicians, the National Federation of Music Clubs, Phi Kappa Phi and Pi Kappa Lambda.

"Music at St. John's" is supported in part by a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council as administered by the Houma Regional Arts Council.

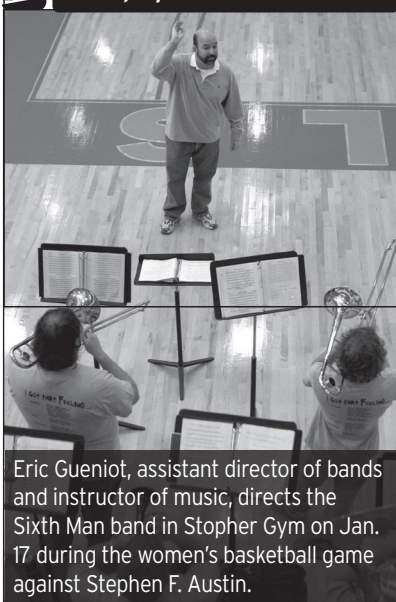
For additional information, call the Division of Music at Est. 4600.

Solution to Jan. 13 Sudoku Puzzle

3	8	5	6	9	4	2	1	7
9	6	1	7	5	2	3	8	4
4	2	7	8	3	1	6	9	5
5	4	6	1	8	3	7	2	9
8	7	2	4	6	9	1	5	3
1	3	9	2	7	5	4	6	8
7	9	8	3	1	6	5	4	2
2	1	3	5	4	8	9	7	6
6	5	4	9	2	7	8	3	1

Puzzle by websudoku.com

CAUGHT YOU WORKING! Employee Photo of the Week



Eric Gueniot, assistant director of bands and instructor of music, directs the Sixth Man band in Stophor Gym on Jan. 17 during the women's basketball game against Stephen F. Austin.

Busy Year, continued from page 1

grades, the academy focuses on communication, situational leadership, public service, responsible citizenship and current issues. The three-day academy will kick off Thursday, June 18, at Nicholls. Columbine massacre survivor Craig Scott is scheduled as keynote speaker.

• National Leadership Summit

Tentatively scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 24, through Saturday, Sept. 26, in New Orleans, the National Women's Leadership Summit will draw approximately 300 women leaders from throughout the nation to discuss issues that are

traditionally reserved for men – such as the chief 2009 topic, energy and the environment. Honorary chairs include Democratic U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu of Louisiana and Republican U.S. Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine.

• Internship Program

Launched in Spring 1992, the ongoing internship program allows both male and female students to earn 15 hours of college credit, along with a stipend, while gaining hands-on experience working in a governmental office. Participants work four days per week and spend one day per week in the classroom. Those assigned to offices in Baton Rouge are provided dormitory space. Currently, four interns are

participating in the program.

"The fact that Louisiana Center for Women and Government programming has skyrocketed from regionally based to statewide influence – and will have a national prominence in 2009 – means the opening of more leadership opportunities for Louisiana women," said Dr. Laura Badeaux, director of the center.

"Nicholls State University is the hub from which such public service promotion and learning experiences emanate, suggesting the importance of both the center and the university to responsible citizenship and effective leadership in Louisiana."

For additional information, call the center at Ext. 4770.

Inside Nicholls Items

A poster abstract titled "Take a Walk in My Shoes: Interactive In-services: A Qualitative Analysis of Participant and Student Impressions" – submitted by **Brandi Crawford** and **Amanda Eymard**, assistant professors of nursing – has been accepted for presentation at the 2009 annual convention of the Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association, slated for May 27-30.

An article co-authored by **Dr. Shane Sanders**, assistant professor of econom-

ics, has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Sports Economics. Titled "Pool Revenue Sharing, Team Investments and Competitive Balance in Professional Sports: A Theoretical Analysis," the article uses game theory to examine the competitive balance implications and general incentives of pool-revenue sharing in major league baseball. Sanders co-authored the article with Dr. Yang-Ming Chang of Kansas State University.

Calendar of Events: Jan. 28 - Feb. 9, 2009

Wednesday, Jan. 28

- Men's Tennis vs. New Orleans, New Orleans, 1:30 p.m.
- Women's Basketball vs. McNeese State, Thibodaux, 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Basketball vs. McNeese State, Lake Charles, 7 p.m.
- SPA Movie Night, LeBijou Theater, "Saw V" – 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 30

- Women's Track, Houston Indoor Invitational, Houston, Texas.

Saturday, Jan. 31

- Men's and Women's Tennis vs. Xavier (La.), Thibodaux, 1 p.m.
- Women's Basketball vs. Southeastern Louisiana, Thibodaux, 2 p.m.
- Men's Basketball vs. Southeastern Louisiana, Hammond, 3 p.m.
- Louisiana Center for Dyslexia and Related Learning Disorders conference, Peltier Auditorium.

Sunday, Feb. 1

- SPA Movie Night, LeBijou Theater, "Saw V" – 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 4

- Men's Basketball vs. Stephen F. Austin, Thibodaux, 6:30 p.m.
- Women's Basketball vs. Stephen F. Austin, Nacogdoches, Texas, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 6

- Softball vs. Bryant University, Shreveport, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 7

- Women's Track, University of Houston All-Comers, Houston, Texas.
- Women's Golf, McNeese State Invitational, Kinder.
- Softball vs. Boston College, Shreveport, 9:30 a.m.
- Men's Tennis vs. Troy, Troy, Ala., 10 a.m.
- Softball vs. SIU Edwardsville, Shreveport, 11:30 a.m.
- Men's Basketball vs. Texas A&M Corpus Christi, Thibodaux, 3 p.m.
- Women's Basketball vs. Texas A&M Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, Texas, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 8

- Men's Tennis vs. Alabama State, Troy, Ala., 10 a.m.
- Softball vs. Centenary College, Shreveport, 1:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 9

- Men's Golf, UNO Mardi Gras Classic, Avondale.

For inclusion in the monthly calendar, e-mail complete event details to graham.harvey@nicholls.edu.



Nicholls Trivia Teaser

Who was the editor of La Pirogue in 1953?

Submit answers by e-mail to graham.harvey@nicholls.edu or by telephone to Ext. 7059 by Friday, Jan. 30. Responders with the correct answer will be entered in a drawing for a gift certificate to be used at Sodexo's retail food vendors located on campus.

Congratulations to Mary DeLaune, administrative assistant 4 in records and registration. She was the winner of the Jan. 13 Trivia Teaser. Louisiana Governor Jimmie Davis received an honorary doctorate from Nicholls in Spring 1985.

Jan. 28 Sudoku Puzzle

2	1						
		4	7		5	2	
		5		3	2		4
1		7			8	6	2
5							1
3		6	2			8	5
9			4	7		5	
		3	5		6	9	
							4 3

Answer to this issue's puzzle will be published in the next issue.

Service Learning, continued from page 1 program. "We're now able to establish the groundwork in making service-learning more a part of the Nicholls experience."

Karen Powell, program director of Louisiana Campus Compact, said the initiative will "encourage faculty to seek partnerships with organizations to promote service-learning needs. To that end, we are quite fortunate to have Charlene. Her experience and insight into the needs of this community will prove most beneficial."

For additional information on the VISTA program, go to www.americorps.org/about/programs/vista.asp.

Bienvenue!

Nicholls welcomes the following new employees: **Marcelle Bienvenu** and **Dean Terrebonne**, both instructors in the John Folse Culinary Institute.

"*Inside Nicholls State University*" is published by the Office of University Relations to inform university employees of administrative news, campus happenings, achievements and people associated with Nicholls State University. News items and calendar events should be sent via e-mail to graham.harvey@nicholls.edu, through campus mail to the Office of University Relations in 125 Elkins Hall or faxed to Ext. 4891. Contact the staff by telephone at Ext. 4143.

Dr. Rebecca Pennington, Assistant Vice President for Development and University Relations

Renee Piper, Director
Tony Cook, Assistant Director
Graham Harvey, Editor
Misty McElroy, Photojournalist

Tony Cook and Dr. Al Delahaye,
 Contributing Writers
Linda Hymel, Layout
Debbie Kliebert, Distribution

Nicholls State University is a member of the University of Louisiana System.

Have some university-related news that you would like to share with other faculty and staff members?

Send it to "Inside Nicholls" at graham.harvey@nicholls.edu.