

The Oak Leaf



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A publication for LSU Alexandria employees

Weems addresses guests at Alumni and Friends Fall Social

The LSU Alexandria Alumni & Friends Fall Social was held Dec. 1 in the Caffey Annex with about 140 people attending.

Former students, faculty and staff members, current students, LSUA Foundation board members and other friends of the university gathered to enjoy the gumbo dinner prepared by ABL Management and the music provided by Steve Wells and David Marler.

Board of Supervisors member Charles Weems gave the keynote address, reminding everyone of the



important role LSUA has in Central Louisiana.



Above: Former LSU Alexandria Chancellor Rouse Caffey, left, chats with LSU Board of Supervisors member Charles Weems.

Left: Chancellor Cavanaugh reacts when Brenda Ellington points out his photo in an old yearbook.

LSU Alexandria survives latest round of budget cuts

Chancellor Robert Cavanaugh led two forums last month to help students, staff and faculty understand the university's budget situation.

The university was ordered to trim some \$272,000 from its budget following the recent special session in Baton Rouge. LSU Alexandria achieved that cut – which equals 3.6 percent of the budget – by not filling 10 staff positions.

Cavanaugh reminded students and employees that there are many unknowns as the state continues to deal with an unprecedented economic hit that followed Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The Legislature could order more cuts before the fiscal year ends June 30, for example.

"It is unknown what the state's future revenue will be," he said in a forum sponsored by the Student



Chancellor Robert Cavanaugh, center, and Vice Chancellors Tom Armstrong, left, and David Wesse explain how budget cuts will affect staff and faculty.

Government Association. "No one knew at the time we were preparing the budget that we were going to be hit with two hurricanes. No other state has suffered a disaster of this

magnitude."

One thing that is certain is that the administration will do its best to continue serving the needs of its students, Cavanaugh said.

In the forum to staff and faculty, Cavanaugh said employees who are not under civil service protection will not get a pay increase this year. But he stressed that the administration is doing everything possible to protect all of its employees.

On a positive note, most ongoing campus construction projects and future projects are not affected by the state mandates because funding is coming from other sources. One exception is the Multi Purpose Academic Center, a capital outlay project tentatively scheduled to begin next year. So far the center remains in the state budget.

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Campus Clipboard

Amy Cooley is the new administrative assistant for the Advising Center. The center's new number is 767-2604 and the fax number is 767-2605, according to Dr. Dorene Fox, Title III Coordinator and Director of the Advising Center.

Dr. Doug Allen, Sandra Purifoy and Donna Odom-LaCaze have been listed in the 2005 edition of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. The publication honors teachers who have made a difference in the lives of their students.

Congratulations to **Missy LaBorde** on the birth of her baby girl. Emma Grace was born Nov. 17 at St. Frances Cabrini Hospital. She weighed 6 pounds and 14 ounces and was 19 ¼ inches long. She was welcomed home by her brother Matthew, sister Sarah Catherine and dad Robbie.



Dr. Cavanaugh discusses the budget situation with maintenance employee Charles Quinn.

Budget cuts ... Continued from Page 1

"I think there will be some delays on capital outlay projects, but we're not sure if this one will be affected," he said.

Cavanaugh encourages anyone with questions about the budget to contact him. Information about the latest round of cuts also can be found on the university's Web site under Finance & Administrative Services, Budget & Risk Management.

In related news, Commissioner of Higher Education Joseph Savoie will be at LSU Alexandria's Caffey Annex at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, to address the Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates Fall Meeting. He is expected to discuss the status of higher education.



Collecting for Unicef

The LSU Alexandria Children's Center raised \$177 during its annual Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign. Children distributed UNICEF boxes throughout the LSUA campus and took them along for trick-or-treating. In the five years that it has participated in Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, the Children's Center raised more than \$1,500 for the cause. UNICEF uses the money for lifesaving work for impoverished children in developing countries. Half of the proceeds from this year's fundraiser will help Hurricane Katrina's youngest survivors.

FLAME selling pedometers

Still searching for gifts to hand out this holiday season? Members of FLAME, Future Leaders and Majors in Education, are selling pedometers for only \$5 each.

They make great stocking stuffers or can be that something extra for the people on your list.

To request a pedometer, call Ext. 6457, 6454 or 4456.



Staff Senate Jam 2005

Members of the Staff Senate would like to thank everyone who supported the organization either by purchasing a T-shirt or attending the Staff Senate Jam last month.

The event attracted staff and faculty members who enjoyed a jambalaya dinner prepared by ABL Management and salad compliments of Outback Steakhouse. Alexandria Coca-Cola provided the drinks.

Congratulations to Jessie Monk who was awarded the Fall 2005 Staff Senate Scholarship.

Door prizes of gift certificates worth \$20 each went to the following staff members:

Joyce Abshire -- Target Stores

Cathy Andries -- Outback Steakhouse

Phyllis Dalton -- The Grand Theatre

Kathy Gunn -- Wal-Mart

Dan Purvis -- Johnny Carino's restaurant.



Above: Eric Gossett awards the Staff Senate Scholarship to Jessie Monk. Left: Glenna Cornell, Sadie Phillips, Linda Smith, Eric Gossett, Tammy Moreau and June Guillory prepare the serving line.

Commencement moves off campus as graduating classes grow

State Rep. Monica Walker, D-Marksville, will be the guest speaker for LSU Alexandria's Fall 2005 commencement, which for the first time will be held off campus.

The event will be at The Pentecostals of Alexandria at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 15. Recent graduation ceremonies have been in the Fitness Center gymnasium, the largest meeting room on campus. However, the gatherings have been to standing-room-only crowds, forcing university officials to seek a larger facility.

The Pentecostals of Alexandria were gracious in offering the use of their facility, university officials said.

The facility is large enough to accommodate LSU Alexandria's increasing number of graduates, as well as the family and friends who attend the ceremonies. One hundred eleven students are expected to receive diplomas. The number of graduates topped 100 after LSUA began awarding four-year degrees in 2003.

The Nurse Pinning Ceremony, which is usually held directly after commencement, will be pushed back to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 15. It will be held in the Caffey Annex. Forty-seven nursing graduates are expected to participate.

Phlebotomy students tour LifeShare Blood Center



Students in Cathy Robinson's phlebotomy class recently toured LifeShare Blood Center in Alexandria, learning the qualifications for platelet and plasma donors as well as whole-blood donors. Employees and donors enjoyed sharing their knowledge and experiences with the group. In addition to 40 hours of classroom instruction, each student must complete a minimum of 120 clinical hours at a local hospital/laboratory affiliate and perform a minimum of 100 successful venipunctures and 25 finger punctures. After successfully completing these requirements and passing a national certification exam, they will be nationally and state licensed as registered phlebotomists.

Coming up this month ...



December



9 Faculty Club Fall Holiday Celebration, 5 p.m., Catholic Student Center.

9 Grades for graduates due

Final grades are due in Records Office by 2 p.m.

12 Holiday Luncheon, noon, Magnolia Cafe

Bring a dish to the cafeteria between 7:30 and 10:30 a.m. Faculty should RSVP to department administrative assistants. Staff should RSVP to Jaime West at Ext. 0.

12 Final grades due

All grades should be submitted to Records by noon

13-14 Records Office closed to students

15 Fall Commencement

10 a.m., The Pentecostals of Alexandria, 2817 Rapides Ave.

15 Nurse Pinning Ceremony, 3 p.m., Caffey Annex

15 Christmas Departmental Decorating Contest judging

Contact Dan Purvis at Ext. 6486 if your department wants to participate.

23 Christmas holiday begins

Holiday runs from Dec. 23 through Jan. 2. Campus will reopen on Jan. 3.

