



Campus gives highest honors

LSU Alexandria honored its top employees Saturday, March 25, at the university's first Campus Recognition Dinner.

Faculty and staff awards have been bestowed in the past, but this was the first time all were announced in one major event. Employees enjoyed dinner and camaraderie as they collected awards and accolades for their dedication to LSU Alexandria.

As Chancellor Robert Cavanaugh summed it up, "I have always valued the people who make this campus so special. Whether you are an administrator, faculty member, professional staff or a classified employee, your work helps keep the university running smoothly. ... I appreciate your work and your dedication to the campus."

Top honors of the evening went to Dr. David Huey, Catherine Washington and Sadie Phillips.

Huey was awarded the Bolton Award for Teaching Excellence, the highest honor for a faculty member. Washington and Phillips earned the Staff Outstanding Service

Awards, the top honors for staff members. Washington won in the Skilled Crafts/Service/Maintenance division; Phillips in the remaining staff categories.

That wasn't all. Thirty employees were honored for their years of service to the university while seven faculty members were named for winning endowed professorships. Vice Chancellor Tom Armstrong was surprised when he was presented the Staff Senate Boss of the Year Award.

Cavanaugh made sure to recognize the accomplishments of all employees – not just the winners. "I am proud of our em-



Sadie Phillips (left) and Catherine Washington are honored with Staff Outstanding Service Awards, the highest honor given to staff members at LSUA.

ployees at LSUA and count myself lucky to be among such wonderful people."

The winner of the Bolton Award for Teaching

Excellence, **Dr. David Huey** is a biology professor and interim chairman of the Department of Biological Sciences who has been at LSUA for 24 years. During that time, he has served as coordinator of

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Dr. David Huey (center) holds the plaque he received after winning the Bolton Award for Teaching Excellence. With him are Dr. Tom Armstrong (left) and Dr. Robert Cavanaugh.

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Biological Sciences from 1993-1999 and as director of the popular Children's Academic Program for Summer (CAPS) for seven years.

Huey is described as an outstanding teacher who could serve as a model for his colleagues. In particular, he has done an exemplary job in his instructional duties, his student evaluations are excellent and students report him to be both a challenging and effective teacher. He also demonstrates a passion for and enjoyment of teaching.

Throughout his tenure, Huey has served on and chaired numerous committees on campus. He has served numerous terms on the Faculty Senate and was president of that group for three years.

In the community, Huey has served as a board member for a variety of organizations such as the Working People's Free Clinic and the Rapides Wildlife Association. He has a long list of scholarly accomplishments including numerous papers, articles and videos. He is a member of the American Fisheries Society, American Society of Ichthyology and Herpetology, and the Louisiana Academy of Sciences and has attended many professional meetings over the years.

In Spring 2004, Huey initiated research — along with an LSU Alexandria biology student— on nitrate accumulation in the mosquitofish. This was the first faculty-student collaborative research in Biological Sciences since LSUA became a four-year university. Huey was awarded the Huie-Dellmon Trust Endowed Professorship in Science in 2004 and is using the funds to continue his research.

The Bolton Award for Teaching Excellence was made possible by a gift from the estate of Mrs. James C. Bolton. Mrs. Frances Bolton Davis, a long-time supporter of LSU Alexandria and former president of the LSUA Foundation, established the award in 1988. Presented annually to an outstanding faculty member, the Bolton Award is the university's highest faculty honor. The recipient receives a plaque and a cash award.

Staff Outstanding Service Awards

The Staff Outstanding Service Award program rec-



Sadie Phillips is all smiles.

ognizes and rewards superior work performance and outstanding contributions by non-teaching employees to the operations of the university. For the past 30 years, the recipient of this prestigious award received a plaque and a cash award. In 1998, LSU Alexandria received approval from the Civil Service Commission to modify our award program to recognize two individuals: one from the skilled crafts/service/maintenance employee category and one from all of the other categories from the non-academic staff. These categories include administrative/executive/managerial, professional, secretarial/clerical, and paraprofessional areas. All full-time, non-faculty employees are eligible for nomination.

Catherine Washington has been an employee of LSU Alexandria for over five years working in the Children's Center. According to her nomination, "Lovingly known as 'Ms. Cat' by all of the children at the center, Catherine not only cooks the meals, she provides an extra set of hands for various tasks from answering the telephone, helping with cleaning, and serving the children. ... She is a very special person to all the children and is an exceptional staff member."

Other nominees in the skilled crafts/service/maintenance category included Jackie Clark, Brenda Green and Ruby Wilson.

Sadie Phillips has been an employee of LSU Alexandria for five years and serves as Administrative Coordinator in Enrollment Services. According to her nomination, "Sadie represents her department and the university with remarkable professionalism. ... She is a strong student advocate and a powerful supporter of her colleagues. ... She is viewed as trustworthy, caring, dedicated and genuine."

Other nominees in the category for administrative/executive/managerial, professional, secretarial/clerical and paraprofessional areas were Sandra Gremillion, Callie Harvey, Rachael Hunter, LaMonna James, Jodie Milliner and Linda Smith.



Catherine Washington is shocked when her name is read.

Campus Clipboard

Rollins earns top library honor

Debra Cox Rollins, Reference and Instruction Librarian and Coordinator for Information Literacy Outreach for the James C. Bolton Library at LSU Alexandria, is the 2006 winner of the Anthony H. Benoit Mid-Career Award.

Rollins received accolades from her peers in being selected for the award, which honors the outstanding librarian, mid-career, in the state. She received the award at the Louisiana Library Association Conference held March 28-30, in Lafayette.

"She is an immeasurable boon to her profession and an extraordinary asset to her university and the surrounding community," wrote Annette Olsen-Fazi, Associate Professor of English and French at Texas A & M University.

Beth Vandersteen, past president of the Louisiana Library Association, said, "Debra unfailingly seeks to provide the best library service possible."

One project that illustrates her commitment to giving the best service at LSUA was her proposal to create a wireless computer network and provide laptop computers for student use in the James C. Bolton Library. In spring 2003,



Debra Rollins

Rollins' proposal won a Student Technology Fee Grant of \$19,000 for the Bolton Library.

Prior to her employment at LSUA, Rollins served for 16 years as a school library media specialist with the Rapides Parish School System.

"She puts her hands, feet, mind and heart where her mouth is and has never been a figurehead on any committee or panel on which she has served," quipped Lois Grant, former Youth Program Manager for Rapides Parish Library.

Rollins' hands-on involvement in professional organizations through the years gives those words credibility.

A quick listing of organizations that have benefited from her participation include the American Library Association, the American Association of University Professors, multiple committee appointments and various offices in the Louisiana Library Association, a 15-year membership in the American Association of School Librarians, a two-term presidency with the Rapides Association of School Librarians, and most recently chairing the LALINC Information Literacy Committee.

Sanson wins 2006 Special Humanities Award

History professor **Dr. Jerry Sanson** was honored with a prestigious award from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities. He received a 2006 Special Humanities Award on March 18. The annual event honors Louisiana residents who have made outstanding contributions to the study and understanding of the humanities.

Sanson was cited for leading 21 Readings in Literature and Culture (RELIC) programs for the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities in Rapides, Allen, Avoyelles, Concordia, Winn, Natchitoches and Grant parishes. RELIC is a library-based reading program for adults.

"I was both surprised and humbled when I learned that I had received this award," Sanson said. "I have enjoyed bringing each series to libraries across Central Louisiana, meeting the people who attend the programs and working with the librarians. Receiving an award for having fun was unexpected."

His topics included the United States Constitution, Louisiana history, Louisiana biography, the American West and World War II.

RELIC Director James Segreto nominated Sanson for the award. "It was one of the easiest nominations to write, and one that was overdue," he said.

"Jerry Sanson demonstrated the highest standards of professional dedication to the preparation and implementation of the RELIC programs, enabling the LEH to maintain consistently its standards for intellectually stimulating programs that are equally appealing to the adult reading program of Louisiana," Segreto said.



Jerry Sanson

Armstrong named Boss of the Year

Described as “a great addition to the administrative team” and “a very responsible individual who does a job well,” Dr. Thomas Armstrong has earned the title of Staff Senate Boss of the Year.

Armstrong, provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Student Services, joined LSUA in January 2005. His nominees pointed out that Armstrong works diligently to see that LSUA develops into a four-year university that Central Louisiana will be proud of and has a willingness to change things that are ineffective while maintaining respect for LSUA’s traditions.

Both students and employees respect him, and he has proven to be the kind of person who puts others at ease and is supportive by listening and offering assistance when



Staff Senate Vice President Glenna Cornell congratulates a truly surprised Tom Armstrong.

appropriate.

The Staff Senate began granting a Boss of the Year award years ago and decided that an award of this level could not possibly be decided practically by staff and faculty.

As a result, people from the community are brought in to judge

these nominations. The Staff Senate works hard each year to make sure that the judges have no connections to people who have been nominated so that all the nominees are on a fair playing field.

Other nominees were:

Dr. Tommy Awtry, chair of the Department of Mathematics and Physical Sciences; Dr. Carol Corbat, director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness; Dr. Dorene Fox, Advising Center director; Dr. Greg Gormanous, chair, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences; Haywood Joiner, chair, Department of Allied Health; Kenn Posey, director of Financial Aid; Dr. Judy Rundell, chair, Department of Education; and David Wesse, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services.

Employees honored for years of service



Roy deVille is honored for 35 years of service at LSUA.



Greg Gormanous gets a plaque and \$1,000 gift for his 30 years of service.



From left, Jackie Clark, Laurie Tanner and Dee Slavant are honored for 15 years of service.



Dolly Carroll (left), Carla Reed (center) and Lillian Wooley get 10-year service pins.



Chancellor Cavanaugh poses with employees recognized for five years of service. They are, from left, Karen Goree, Cal Johnston, Carol Martin, Triz McKneely, Sultan Parvez, Sadie Phillips and Catherine Washington.



Elder



Elmore



Jeane



Marivani



Parks



Parvez

Faculty members earn endowed professorships

Several faculty members have been awarded endowed professorships that allow them additional funds to further their professional development.

Six new professorships – plus the extension of another – were announced at the Campus Recognition Dinner on March 25.

The Endowed Professorship Program of the LSUA Foundation includes 15 endowed professorships and a newly established endowed chair to honor outstanding faculty members on the campus.

Professorships are established through private donations to the Foundation which are matched through the Board of Regents Support fund to establish a \$100,000 professorship endowment. Professorships are typically awarded for a two-year term.

Dr. Elisabeth Elder will receive the Huie-Dellmon Trust Endowed Professorship in Science. Elder has been a professor of biology at LSU Alexandria since August 2003.

She plans to use the professorship funds to undertake additional research projects, particularly re-

search on mechanisms of fungal resistance to antifungal agents.

Dr. Owen Elmore will receive the Mark Eugene Howard Endowed Professorship in Liberal Arts (English). Elmore has served as assistant professor of English since 2003.

He plans to use the professorship funds to enhance the Southern Crossroads Storytelling Conference by purchasing permanent banners, paying speakers and incorporating music, art, dance and food into the conference.

Nelda Jeane, RN, MSN, will receive the Roy O. Martin Lumber Company Endowed Professorship in Nursing. Ms. Jeane has served as associate professor of nursing since August 1989.

She plans to use the professorship funds to promote retention of nursing students by helping them with time management and problem solving skills.

Dr. Syrous Marivani will receive the F. Hugh Coughlin Endowed Professorship. Marivani has been an associate professor of mathematics at LSU Alexandria since 2002.

He plans to use the professor-

ship funds to attend conferences and subscribe to publications useful in his research. He also plans to mentor students to help them learn to write papers and ultimately present those papers at conferences.

Dr. Melissa Parks will receive the Jack and Sue Ellen Jackson Endowed Professorship in Education. Parks has been a member of the LSU Alexandria faculty since 1989 beginning as an adjunct instructor.

She plans to use the professorship funds to continue professional affiliations, membership in new professional organizations and subscriptions to professional publications that will assist her in teaching. She also plans to attend conferences and workshops.

Dr. Sultan Parvez will receive the Howard M. and Eloise Ferris Mulder Endowed Professorship. Parvez has been associate professor of physics at LSU Alexandria since August 2000.

He plans to use the funds to conduct research and educational activities involving grants, research projects, publishing and presenting paper and attending professional conferences and workshops.

Robertson's endowed professorship renewed

Dr. Henry Robertson currently holds the Frances Holt Freedman Endowed Professorship in the History and Ethics of Nursing which was awarded in 2004.

Robertson has been appointed to hold this professorship for two additional years. Robertson will continue to teach the ethics course at LSU Alexandria and will continue the various activities with his historical research and writing.



Coming up ...

April

17-21 Early summer registration for continuing students

22 Ms. LSUA Pageant, 7 p.m., Caffey Annex

Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the door or in Auxiliary Services prior to the event.

25 Honor's Convocation, 5 p.m., Caffey Annex

26-29 William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet"

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. on the outdoor stage on the campus quad. Admission is free.

26 and 28 "Intervention"

"Intervention, a feminist deconstruction of the fairy tale princess," is written and directed by Dr. Rhonda Shook as part of the Theatre for Young Audiences. Performances are 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 26, in PE 205; 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Friday, April 28. Call 473-6573 or 473-6581 for details.

28-29 Shakespeare-on-the-Greene Renaissance Festival

This annual event features arts and crafts, music and dance, storytelling, games and more. Times are from 2-7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 28, and 1-7:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 29.

28-29 Friends of the Library Book Sale, 5-7 p.m. April 28; 4-7 p.m. April 29

Pat on the Back

Admissions Counselor Shelly Kieffer extends a big "thank you" to everyone who helped with the Spring Open House on March 29. Special thanks goes out to the faculty members who allowed students into their classes: Dr. Melissa Parks, Dr. Kathy Kelly, Dr. Jim Rogers, Dr. Bernard Gallagher, Margaret Ortigo, Dr. Kerry Ordes, Dr. Mary Trueting, Dr. Walter Hollingsworth and Sheryl Herring.

It's a girl

Congratulations to HRM's **Nikki Tam** and husband Lane on the birth of their daughter. Emily Lane Tam was born at 2:37 p.m. on April 10 in Rapides Women's Hospital. She weighed 6 lbs., 10.5 oz. and measured 19 inches long.



Congratulation to MAPS' **Lara Guidroz** and husband David on the Jan. 6 birth of their daughter, Meredith Kathleen. She weighed 7 lbs., 9 oz.