The Oak Leaf
A publication for LSU Alexandria employees

LSU Alexandria presented first endowed chair

Calling it a “momentous occasion,” LSU Alexandria Chancellor Robert Cavanaugh proudly held up a $600,000 check that signifies the university’s first-ever endowed chair.

The check was presented during a ceremony Oct. 18 that allowed Cavanaugh to announce the Alumni and Friends Endowed Chair in Business – a $1 million endowment. “It is not every day we get something like this,” he said.

Indeed, the university has awarded endowed professorships in the past but never an endowed chair.

The Board of Regents provided the $600,000 while private donations accounted for the remaining $400,000 that made the endowment a reality.

Scott Brame with the Board of Regents made the presentation on campus.

The endowment will be used to establish a program for offering a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, and that includes hiring a new faculty member in the department.

The department plans to look for a faculty member with experience in research, according to Dr. Walter Hollingsworth, chair of the Department of Business Administration.

Alumni and Friends social scheduled Dec. 1

The LSU Alexandria Alumni & Friends Fall Social/Gumbo Dinner is just around the corner.

The event will be at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 1, in the Barbara Brumfield Caffey Annex. Tickets are $10 each. A table for eight can be reserved for $80.

For those of you new to LSU Alexandria, Alumni & Friends is an organization for anyone who wants to support the university. Members don’t have to be graduates. For that matter, they don’t have to be former students.

Instead, the AFA is a social organization that offers a multitude of benefits. For former LSU Alexandria students, the AFA is a great way to stay in touch with old friends. And all members will enjoy the opportunity to participate in activities on campus, including meals, plays, swimming pool, tennis courts and weight room. Members also receive the AFA newsletter, which features former students and details happenings on campus.

The AFA holds two social events a year – the fall gumbo and spring cochon de lait.

The events are casual and fun and offer a great opportunity to mingle with colleagues and meet new friends. The evening will include live music by Steve Wells and David Marler and lots of door prizes. Board of Supervisors member Charlie Weems will give an update on the LSU System and status of higher education.

For more information about the AFA, call Institutional Advancement at 473-6472. Purchase tickets to the social through Auxiliary Services.
Meet Saurabh Singh, who joins LSU Alexandria as educational technology specialist in Information and Educational Technology (IET) Services. Since he started just last month, Saurabh has already conducted several computer training sessions for staff and faculty. He is offering the training at convenient times and he will work with employees to make sure everyone has the opportunity to attend the sessions. You can sign up for the sessions on the IET Web site. Saurabh said he’s open to suggestions so that all of our computer questions get answered.

He was born in New Delhi, India, and lived there for nine years. In 1980 he moved to the East Lansing, Mich., where his father was a Ph.D student at Michigan State University. After four years, the family moved to Ruston, and Singh has stayed in Louisiana ever since. He graduated from Ruston High School in 1989 and then earned a Bachelor of Arts in French with a minor in microbiology from LSU Baton Rouge. He then attended LSU Shreveport where he earned an M.Ed.

Singh worked at LSUS as a telecommunications specialist in the Division of Continuing Education and Public Service, coordinating compressed video courses, and assisting with online courses. He also taught non-credit computer classes for the Division of Continuing Education and Microsoft Office classes for the Incumbent Worker Training Program.
Annual Staff Senate Jam scheduled for Nov. 21

Mark your calendars. LSU Alexandria’s Staff Senate Jam is Monday, Nov. 21, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the Caffey Annex.

This year’s event promises food, Cajun music, T-shirts and the presentation of the Staff Senate Scholarship. Put simply, the Staff Senate Jam is a nice way to relax with your colleagues and enjoy some good food.

Want to go? Tickets are $5 and should be purchased in advance. Get your tickets in Auxiliary Services, located on the second floor of the Student Center.

Lunch will include jambalaya, salad, bread, dessert and a drink.

The 2005 Staff Senate Jam T-shirt (see insert) is on sale now. The cost is $10.

To order a Jam T-shirt, e-mail Linda Smith at lsmith@lsua.edu, June Guillory at junemichot@lsua.edu or any other Staff Senate member before Friday, Nov. 4.

The other senators include Eric Gossett, Glenna Cornell, Heather Bandy, Joe Fontenot, Lisa Mayeux, Sadie Phillips, Shalonda Bush, Steve Belgard and Tammy Moreau.

Campus United Way campaign under way

The LSU Alexandria United Way Campaign is under way. Envelopes with pledge cards will be placed in employee mailboxes soon, campaign chair Jennifer Smith said. After making your decision about what you will pledge, fill out the card, seal the envelope and return it to your team leader.

Here are a few things to remember:

— Eighty-four to eighty-six cents of each dollar goes to help someone. A donation of $5 per month means $4.30 per month will go toward helping a premature infant learn to drink from a bottle. A donation of $5 per month, just $60 a year, is less than the cost of taking your family out to eat and to a movie — once.

— Your money stays in your community.
— With a $25 donation, you can designate a specific agency to receive your donation.
— Payroll deductions are easy — no check and you don’t have to remember a draft.
— Payroll deductions do not begin until January 2006.

— All donations are confidential. Please remember to seal your envelope prior to returning it.

Information will be coming soon to let each employee know who his team leader is.

If you have any questions, contact Jennifer at Extension 6470 or Dr. Jim Rogers at Extension 4495.

LSU AgCenter Publishes calendar

The LSU AgCenter is offering Louisiana gardening enthusiasts the opportunity to learn more about their craft and enjoy beautiful garden photos with the publication of its 2006 Get It Growing Calendar.

The full-color, 32-page calendar features a special section on magnolias, gardening tips for each month of the year and photos of beautiful flowers, plants and landscape settings.

The 9-inch-by-12-inch calendar sells for $11.95 and is available for online orders at www.lsuagcenter.com/GetItGrowingCalendar. Phone orders can be placed by calling (225) 578-2263.

It’s showtime

Do you enjoy the movies? The LSUA Fall 2005 Film Series consists of classics that are shown for free in the Coughlin Hall Auditorium.

The series kicked off Oct. 21 with “The Strange Love of Martha Ivers.” “My Man Godfrey” will be shown at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4. “Diabolique” will be at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11.

The LSUA Film Festival will run Nov. 18-19 in Rooms 140 and 143 of Chambers Hall. The movies will include “To Kill a Mockingbird,” “One-Eyed Jacks,” “Charade,” “The Lady Vanishes” and “Beat the Devil.”

Interested in joining the new LSUA Movie Club? Contact Dr. Steve Jackson at stevej@lsua.edu.
Above: This bunch scared kids and adults in the university’s first Haunted House.

Right: Nelda Jeane came to work Halloween Day dressed as a first-year nursing student.

Left: Robin Arnold takes care of her seven dwarves. Below: Dr. Charles Kelly and his wife, Lisa, hammed it up as the prison doctor and nurse at the Criminal Justice Association’s booth.

Above: This clown looks vaguely familiar.

Below: Employees and students competed in the university’s Halloween costume contest.
November

14  Deadline to turn in tuition exemption forms
    Submit forms to Human Resources Management if you wish to take classes in Spring 2006

15  Thanksgiving Harvest Feast, noon, Caffey Annex

17-21  “The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds”
    Empty Space Players will present this Pulitzer Prize-winning drama by Paul Zindel in a six-performance run Nov. 17-21. Performances are in the Fitness Center, Room 205, at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 17, 18, 19 and 21, at 1:30 p.m. on Nov. 18 and at 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 20. Call Extension 6467 for information.

18-19  LSUA Film Festival
    Classic films will be shown during the evening in Rooms 140 and 143 of Chambers Hall.

19  Shreveport daytrip, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.
    Visit Shreveport’s Norton Art Gallery and attend the Symphony Orchestra’s American Treasures Concert. Sponsored by the Chancellor’s Arts and Humanities Committee. The cost is $7. Call Continuing Education.

21  Staff Senate Jam, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Caffey Annex
    Tickets are $5 and can be purchased in Auxiliary Services.

22  Come Spend the Day with LSUA, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Caffey Annex

24-25  Thanksgiving Holiday, campus closed

December

1  Alumni & Friends Fall Social, 6 p.m., Caffey Annex