

# UL System News

Recap of Official Business of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System

**Dr. Sally Clausen**  
President

## Board of Supervisors

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## Universities

Grambling State University

Louisiana Tech University

McNeese State University

Nicholls State University

Northwestern State  
University

Southeastern Louisiana  
University

University of Louisiana at  
Lafayette

University of Louisiana at  
Monroe

## "RU Ready?" - UL System Promoting College-Readiness

"We're ready for you! Are you ready for us?"

That's the message of a new public service announcement the UL System is sponsoring to help Louisiana students better prepare for admission to universities.

The "R U Ready?" campaign, sponsored primarily by private funds through the UL System Foundation, features television and radio PSAs; a new website ([www.rureadyinfo.net](http://www.rureadyinfo.net)); publications; bookmarks; banners; and presentations to schools and community groups. Plans are also underway to expand the campaign to other modes of communication, such as billboards and direct mail.

According to the Louisiana Board of Regents, 88 percent of high school stu-

dents plan to go to college, but only 48 percent are taking the required courses they need to be successful.

The gap between students' expectations and their abilities to meet them will widen in 2005. That is when Louisiana's universities implement selective admissions, requiring students to take core courses and meet other requirements before they can be admitted.

"Our aim is simple. We want students to be college-ready. Increasing our population of college graduates is good for their future, but it's also good for society," UL System President Sally Clausen said. "Higher learning equals higher earning for the individual, but it also means higher revenues, more active job creation and a more robust economy for Louisiana."



## ULS Board Approves a 3 Percent Tuition Increase

Beginning in summer 2004, tuition at the eight UL System institutions will increase 3 percent (an average of \$89 per academic year) to partially offset cost-of-living increases at the institutions.

Under a measure that passed the Legislature in 2001, higher education management boards can increase tuition and mandatory attendance fees up to 3 percent a year to account for inflation. The Board of Supervisors for the UL System approved the increase at its regular meeting.

The average annual resident tuition and fees at a UL System university will now be \$3,046, almost 24 percent below the \$3,841 average tuition of universities in the 16-state southeastern region. The increase will generate approximately \$6.6 million in additional revenues for the eight UL System universities.

"Our universities are still some of the best buys in the country," UL Board Chair Mike Woods said. "We recognize that any rise in tuition can be a burden on students. Unfortunately, the

cost of supplies and equipment increases every year, and our universities can't absorb all of those costs."

Tuition at UL System institutions has risen at a slower pace than at other universities in the country. Since 1992, the cost of attending a public four-year university has increased about 131 percent nationally, about 102 percent in the southeastern region and about 51 percent in the UL System.

## University Spotlight – Nicholls State University



### Student Earns A “Bam!” -

A recipe created by Brianne Lefort, a culinary arts junior at Nicholls State University, recently won a place on the menu at Chef Emeril Lagasse's Delmonico restaurant in New Orleans.

The 21-year-old's original recipe for Autumn Apple Pie Cake with Maple Spice Cream Cheese Icing earned the grand prize in the “Emeril's Delmonico Five Sweet Years” dessert contest. More than 600 amateur chefs nationwide submitted recipes, vying for the chance to be included on

the Delmonico menu and to win a private party for 30 at the restaurant.

Lefort attends the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at NSU. Nicholls was the first public institution in America to offer a bachelor of science degree in culinary arts.



Nicholls culinary arts student Brianne Lefort creates her prize winning dessert.

## Other Board Action

The Board approved the following university requests:

### Facilities Planning

- La. Tech: request for approval to demolish two buildings on the site of the proposed new Biomedical Engineering Building
- McNeese: request for approval to demolish two old softball dugouts at the women's old softball field
- Nicholls: request for approval to rename the Nicholls State University Barker Annex the “Leonard J. Chabert Hall”
- University of Louisiana at Monroe: request for approval to demolish the 101 Building to accommodate

the widening of Desiard Street.

- University of Louisiana at Monroe: request for approval to amend the University's Sandel Hall FY 04-05 capital outlay budget request to include the renovation of the Student Success Center (Wigwam) facility

### Academic and Student Affairs

- La. Tech: a revised mission statement
- La. Tech: letter of intent for a Ph.D. program in Industrial-Organizational Psychology
- UL Lafayette: proposal for reinstatement of the Petroleum Engineering

option under the Master of Science in Engineering degree

### Audit and Finance

- Requests from UL System institutions to establish 47 new endowed professorships with \$2.8 million in donations and \$1.9 million in matching funds
- Nicholls State University: a request for approval of a student referendum to increase the Student Government and Cheerleader fees
- Northwestern State University: a request for approval of a student referendum to increase the Student Drama Fee



*The UL System produces the largest number of education, nursing and business graduates in Louisiana.*

## University Spotlight - University of LA Monroe



### Northeast LA Schools to Benefit from ULM Grant -

A \$1.2 Million grant from the National Science Foundation will help the University of

Louisiana at Monroe provide northeast Louisiana science teachers an opportunity to infuse new technologies in their science classes.

The grant for the Delta Agriculture Middle School Applied Life Sciences (DAMSALS2) Project will run for three years with

summer opportunities for teachers and students.

ULM was one of 12 institutions awarded the grant out of 126 proposals. Other grant recipients include UCLA and the Lawrence Hall of Science at Berkeley.



Teachers in northeast Louisiana will learn to infuse technology in science classes through ULM's grant.