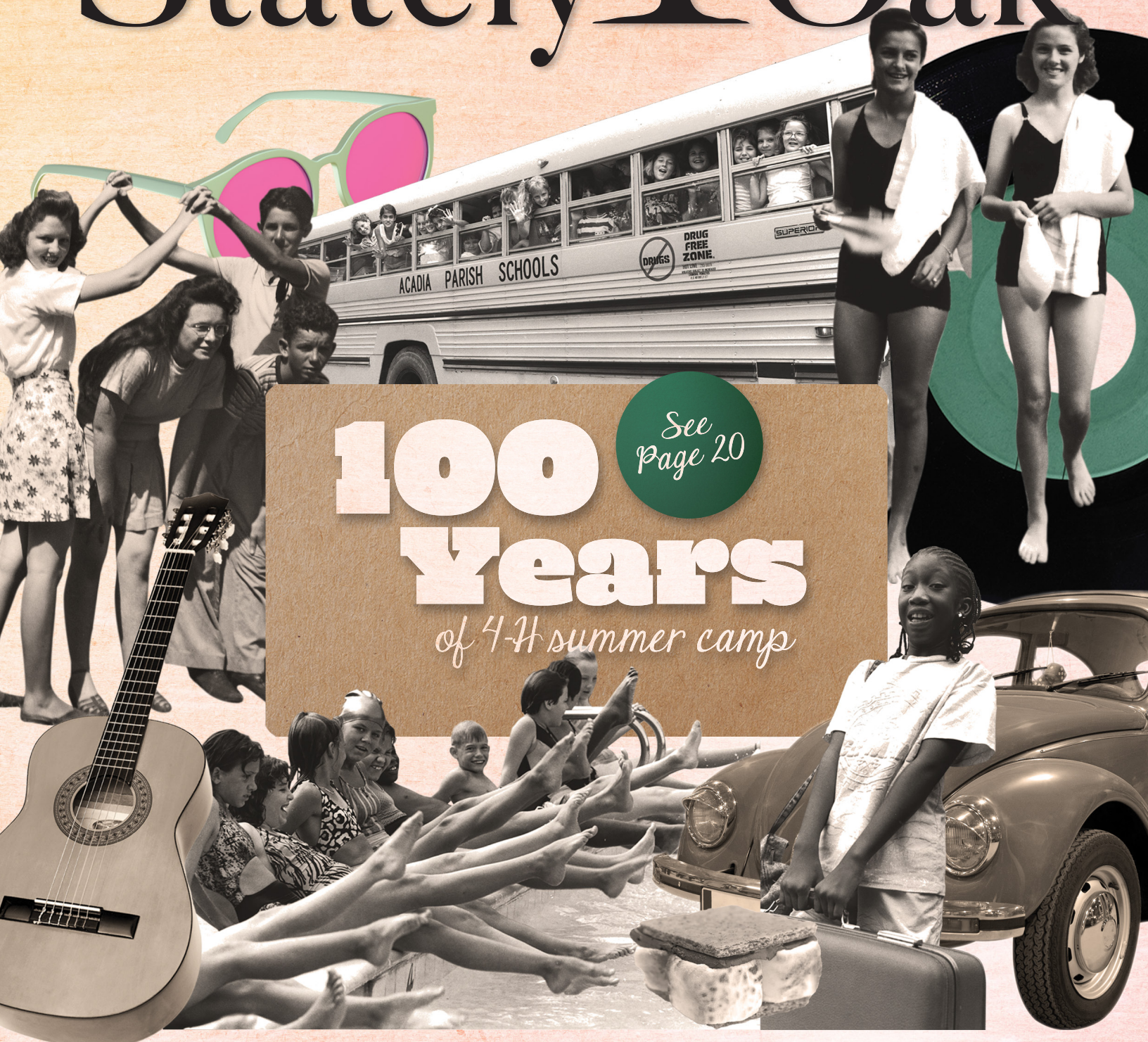


THE Stately Oak



100 *See Page 20*
Years
of 4-H summer camp

THE Stately Oak

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Matt Lee, Interim LSU Vice President for Agriculture
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Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station
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LSU College of Agriculture

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The LSU AgCenter and LSU provide equal opportunities in programs and employment.

Innovation marks philanthropic activities



— **Matt Lee**
*Interim Vice President for Agriculture
Interim Dean of the LSU College of Agriculture*

While philanthropic motivations vary, they yield a common outcome for the College of Agriculture and the LSU AgCenter: enhanced ability to drive the mission. Some donors desire to minimize financial obstacles for a promising student through a dedicated scholarship. Others fund a life altering international travel experience for a student from a small town or invest in our signature youth development programs like those highlighted in this issue. Still others bolster scientific innovation through an endowed professorship or chair. All are mission aligned and all magnanimously elevate our pursuit of excellence.

We actively cultivate and maintain a culture of high expectations and high performance throughout the LSU agricultural enterprise. Your thoughtful generosity amplifies our ability to deliver the highest quality student experiences and the most pioneering research advancements. We are laser-focused on serving the broader agricultural industry by preparing the next generation of leaders and generating scientific advancements that magnify the profitability of the agricultural enterprise.

Whether you are a long-term supporter or are just beginning to think about the role you can play in supporting our endeavors, I invite you to reach out to me for a personal conversation focused on one straightforward question: What would you like to accomplish?

In the meantime, thank you for your generosity, and thank you for supporting our journey toward excellence!

Sincerely,
Matt

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28

International agriculture



8

Kirby family professorship



14

Textile museum reopening



17

Annual crawfish boil



18

Welch's landscape legacy

cover story

Camping has been a fixture of the 4-H Youth Development Program since its earliest beginnings. Campgoers and staff reflect on 100 years of camp activities while rebuilding continues after hurricanes Laura and Delta. **Pages 20-25.**

donors

- 6 Doyle Chambers Research Station
- 8 Kirby family professorship
- 10 Sugarcane endowment
- 12 Venker family diversity fund
- 12 Lauden/Jackson scholarship
- 13 Douthat international program funds
- 14 Renovated textile museum reopening
- 16 Cocktails and Cuisine
- 17 Stakeholder summit and crawfish boil
- 18 Bill Welch's landscape designs
- 18 A ramble through the roses

students

- 28 International Summer School
- 29 International education recognition
- 30 Diversity and Inclusion Champions
- 31 Mayfield Les Voyageurs award
- 32 College of Agriculture Tiger Twelve
- 34 Les Voyageurs
- 35 ASA mission and officers

faculty

- 36 Alumni honored
- 37 Faculty recognized
- 38 Chairs & professorships

4-H

- 26 Moore national 4-H Council trustee
- 26 Fletcher endowed scholarship
- 26 Livestock show sponsors

AGCENTER RENAMES RESEARCH STATION TO HONOR FORMER ADMINISTRATOR



Doyle Chambers in 1983. LSU AgCenter file photo

By Olivia McClure

As the director of the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, Doyle Chambers was adamant that research and extension are vital to the future of agriculture in Louisiana.

Chambers championed increased funding and greater visibility of these efforts — and in the early 1970s, he played a key role in making the LSU AgCenter an independent campus of the LSU system dedicated to serving the agriculture industry.

To honor his legacy, the AgCenter has added Chambers' name to its Central Research Station in Baton Rouge. At a ceremony held March 24 — which would have been Chambers' 104th birthday — family members joined AgCenter personnel to share memories of Chambers and to unveil a sign featuring the station's new name.

"If our dad was still with us today, I know that he would want to say thanks for the birthday wishes and the recognition, but he would also say that this recognition would not have been possible without the focus and dedication of the LSU AgCenter faculty, staff and students," said Michael Chambers, Doyle Chambers' son.

Located just a few minutes from the LSU campus, the Doyle Chambers Central Research Station consists of nearly 3,000 acres of fields, pastures, laboratories and greenhouses. It is one of 15 Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station branches the AgCenter operates statewide.

"This is a very special place to me, to the LSU AgCenter and to the College of Agriculture because of its proximity to campus," said Luke Laborde, the interim LSU vice president for agriculture and interim dean of the College of Agriculture at that time.

The station provides students a valuable chance to get hands-on farm experience and faculty a convenient

location to conduct a wide range of crop and animal science studies, Laborde said.

Chambers, who was born in 1918 and grew up on a farm in Morehouse Parish, received bachelor's and master's degrees from LSU before earning a doctorate in animal science at Oklahoma State University. In 1964, he returned to Louisiana as the experiment station director, ultimately becoming vice chancellor of the AgCenter in 1979.

A World War II veteran, Chambers retired in 1985 and died in 2005. ►

Chambers' life was guided by a desire to leave the world better than he had found it, his son recalled, and he believed agriculture was an important part of accomplishing that goal.

Michael Chambers said those principles remain relevant today.

"We are living in a world that desperately needs progress to increase affordable food production and ensure its safe delivery to the tables of people around the world," he said.

The facility that now bears Chambers' name is home to the type of groundbreaking research that can help solve global issues, said station director Glen Gentry. It already has been the scene of two major milestones in agriculture.

In 2000, the world's first transgenic goat was born at the station. It was later cloned to create a herd of goats whose milk contained a substance that could be used in heart medication.

Four years later, the first instance of Asian soybean rust in North America

was discovered at the station. AgCenter researchers worked with scientists from around the world to bring the devastating plant disease under control.

Mike Salassi, AgCenter associate vice president, recalled Chambers' commitment to the AgCenter and his strong belief that research was critical to the success of Louisiana farmers.

Salassi quoted something Chambers was often heard saying: "If it were not for the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, there would be no agriculture in Louisiana." ■



KIRBY FAMILY HONORS PATRIARCH'S LEGACY WITH

NEW PROFESSORSHIP

In a photo dated June 2014, Albert and Klein Kirby receive delivery of a new tractor to be used on land in Richland Parish. Photo provided by the Kirby family

The Albert E. and Karen W. Kirby Professorship in Agriculture has been established to honor the late “Big Al” Kirby, who died in May and was an ardent supporter of LSU and education. Klein Kirby said of his dad, “He was always fascinated with the size and capabilities of modern tractors and equipment and often reminisced about how farm equipment has evolved during his lifetime.”

By Olivia McClure

In the 1950s, Albert Kirby hitchhiked from his small hometown of Jonesville to Lafayette to study animal science at what was then the Southwestern Louisiana Institute.

No one in his family had ever attended college. But Kirby was determined to break the mold, inspired by a math teacher at Block High School who had encouraged him to pursue higher education.

With his journey from rural northeastern Louisiana to Acadiana, Kirby set off a lifelong passion for learning, not just for himself but for his entire family.

Kirby later enrolled in graduate school at LSU, where he met Karen Wilbert — his future wife — in an animal science laboratory class. All three of their children would go on to graduate from LSU: Klein with degrees in industrial and agricultural technology and mechanical engineering, Kathryn in elementary education and Kristin in accounting and law. Three of Kirby's six grandchildren are also LSU graduates, and the remaining three are currently enrolled at LSU.

Kirby, known as “Big Al” to his family, died in May at the age of 83. To honor his love of education and LSU, his family has created the Albert E. and Karen W. Kirby Professorship in Agriculture.

On June 17, members of the Kirby family presented then interim LSU Vice President for Agriculture Luke Laborde with a \$100,000 check to endow the professorship, which will be awarded to an LSU AgCenter faculty member and provide support to enhance research.

“This is a big day for us,” said Klein Kirby, Albert Kirby's son. “We're so honored.”

Albert Kirby spent his career at Dow Chemical, holding several superintendent roles. In his free time, he indulged in his fascination with agriculture and the outdoors. His obituary describes him as “an

avid hunter and a skilled tinkerer” — someone who enjoyed working on his tractors, mowing his yard, caring for his pecan orchard and building contraptions.

His time at SLI — today called the University of Louisiana at Lafayette — and LSU left a profound imprint on him. He wanted others, especially those interested in agriculture, to have similar opportunities.

“Anything he could do to encourage a young man or a young woman to pursue education and learning, he did,” his son recalled.

Klein Kirby is chairman of A. Wilbert's Sons, a Plaquemine-based land management company. His family and the company are key partners of the AgCenter and College of Agriculture, also funding the A. Wilbert's Sons Endowed Professorship for Agriculture and Natural Resources. They also support research internships for students and international programs.

In exploring ways they could honor their father, Kirby and his sisters along with their mother quickly determined they wanted set up another professorship to support agricultural research.

“We wanted to leave a legacy for our parents that mean so much to us,” Kirby said. “After a short conversation amongst the family, we all arrived at the same answer — to establish an endowed professorship at LSU in support of the LSU AgCenter, where we know it will be used to generate the most impact.”

Years after his father attended LSU, the younger Kirby worked as a student at the AgCenter Audubon Sugar Institute, where he had a chance to develop his own contraption-building skills. He was able to see firsthand and cultivate an appreciation for the research and education opportunities afforded to students and industry professionals alike by the AgCenter.

Supporting those kinds of endeavors through the new professorship is something Albert Kirby would have been proud of.



On June 17, the Kirby family presented a check endowing the professorship. Karen Wilbert Kirby, the late Kirby's wife, is at center. From left, are daughter Kathryn Kirby Maggio, former interim LSU Vice President for Agriculture Luke Laborde, son Klein Kirby, LSU AgCenter Associate Vice President Michael Salassi and daughter Kristin Kirby Bucher. Photo by Olivia McClure

ENDOWMENT FOR AMERICAN SUGAR CANE LEAGUE CHAIR IN SUGAR PRODUCTION **GROWS TO \$1 MILLION**

By Tobie Blanchard

The Louisiana Board of Regents has matched a donation from the American Sugar Cane League to bring the endowment for an LSU AgCenter chair in sugar production to \$1 million. The board's \$400,000 contribution will be paired with the league's donation of \$600,000 to establish the endowment in 2017.

The chair was created to support faculty members who demonstrate excellence in research areas related to improving the productivity, profitability and sustainability of the production segment of the Louisiana sugar industry.

"This chair will help us recruit and retain highly specialized sugarcane research expertise at the AgCenter, which is vital to the continued economic viability of the Louisiana sugarcane industry and to educating and training the next generation of sugar experts," said Mike Salassi, LSU AgCenter associate vice president.

The donations from the league and the board show the commitment each have to sustaining one of the oldest agricultural ventures in the state.

Jim Simon, general manager of the American Sugar Cane League, said establishing a chair in sugarcane research helps sustain sugarcane's viability as the top row crop in Louisiana.

"The farmers and millers that comprise the American Sugar Cane League understand exactly what research has done for the Louisiana sugar industry," Simon said. "Sugarcane farmers and millers expect results, and the LSU AgCenter has a strong history of delivering the kind of research outcomes that keep us competitive."

Sugar production in Louisiana dates back to the 1750s.

The relationship between the LSU AgCenter and the American Sugar Cane League started in 1926, when an agreement was made among the league, the AgCenter and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"The American Sugar Cane League is now 100 years old and over the past century, we've learned that research is the lifeblood of our industry," said Simon. "Because of our investment in research, much of it with LSU, we've had the tools to double sugar production over the last 40 years."



LSU AgCenter sugarcane breeder Collins Kimbeng, right, talks about the process of developing two new sugarcane varieties, L 15-306 and HoL 15-508, during the annual field day at the AgCenter Sugar Research Station in St. Gabriel on July 20, 2022. Fellow AgCenter sugarcane breeder Michael Pontif examines the leaves of L 15-306 at left. Photo by Olivia McClure

American Sugar Cane League adds funds to honor late agronomist

By Olivia McClure

In four decades as an agronomist with the American Sugar Cane league, Windell Jackson had a profound impact on the Louisiana sugarcane industry.

Jackson died in March at the age of 74. To honor his contributions to the industry, the League recently added \$25,000 and Jackson's name to an existing scholarship fund for LSU students.

The Lloyd Lauden/Windell Jackson Memorial Endowed Scholarship is available to College of Agriculture students. Preference is given to those from Louisiana's sugarcane-growing region and those who have an interest in the sugarcane industry.



Windell Jackson

The fund was established in 1990 as the Lloyd Lauden Memorial Endowed Scholarship. Lauden, who also was an agronomist with the league, hired Jackson in 1973.

"Lloyd Lauden and Windell Jackson made outsized contributions to Louisiana's sugarcane industry," said Jim Simon, manager of the American Sugar Cane League. "They both served the industry for decades. They both provided a steady guiding hand with their knowledge of the crop and their ability to transfer scientific knowledge to the growers. We're proud to honor Windell alongside Mr. Lauden for his dedication to sugarcane."

A native of Sicily Island in northeastern Louisiana, Jackson had little knowledge of sugarcane when he began working for the league as an assistant agronomist. But he had an agronomy degree from Northeast Louisiana University and was eager to continue learning when he arrived in south Louisiana's cane belt.

Over the years, Jackson developed relationships with farmers, millers and researchers and became a respected force in the industry — locally, nationally and internationally. With his calm demeanor and ability to share scientific information in easy-to-understand terms, he had a knack for reassuring anxious growers whenever they faced challenges.

In 2001, Jackson became the league's research coordinator, authoring or co-authoring hundreds of reports on such topics as variety development, fertilization and new agricultural technologies. He also served in many leadership roles in industry organizations.

More information on this and other College of Agriculture scholarship opportunities is available at <https://bit.ly/3Gy4tUt>.

Venker family establishes fund for diversity, equity and inclusion

By Annabelle Lang

Michael and Debra Benedict Venker donated \$50,000 to establish the Venker Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Scholarship for the College of Agriculture.

The scholarship supports two demographically underrepresented students throughout their four years at LSU. The Venker family hopes the fund gives students financial support and encouragement to make the most out of their collegiate careers.

"I want students to know that there are people rooting for them to be successful," said Michael Venker. "I feel that there is a responsibility that works two ways, a responsibility for me to give and then for the student to work hard and make the most out of their experience."

Michael Venker graduated from LSU in 1978 with a degree in agricultural business. His education at LSU set the foundation for supporting diversity throughout his career and inspired him to give back to the College of Agriculture.

"My time at LSU really shaped who I am today and set me up to be successful in my career, and because of that, I want to give back," he said.

Venker spent most of his career at Cargill, Inc., a global food corporation based in the United States.

"During my career with Cargill, I had the opportunity to work with many people from all over the world with diverse backgrounds," said Venker. "I realize that there are strengths in every culture and that having diversity builds a more powerful community."

He encourages alumni and industry partners to strengthen diversity in agriculture through mentoring students from different backgrounds.

"Even if you cannot give financially, you can give advice to a student through mentorship," he said. "You may share your career knowledge, but also the students share their background and life story with you, which can help you grow as a professional and learn about diversity."

Last year, the Venker family created a \$5 million planned gift to fund scholarships in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness and scholarships for students in the College of Agriculture with diverse backgrounds.



Debra and Michael Venker.
Photo by Katie Thering

DOUTHAT FUNDS INCREASE SUPPORT OF GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES AT LSU

By Tobie Blanchard

International experiences enriched the lives of John and Annette Douthat. The couple lived abroad early in their marriage, traveled extensively with their business and spent years hosting international college students.

When Annette passed away earlier this year, John wanted to honor her legacy by adding two new funds to the two the couple had already established in the LSU College of Agriculture and LSU College of Music and Dramatic Arts.

The Annette and John Douthat International Agriculture Internship and the Annette and John Douthat CMDA Study Abroad Fund were set up to help students travel abroad for internships or academics. The John and Annette Douthat AgCenter Global Network Fund will support program and activities of the AgCenter Global Network. The John and Annette Douthat Diversity Travel Fund will help students who are demographically underrepresented in their department or school participate in study abroad programs.

This is just a small part of their philanthropy to Annette's alma mater, which dates back to 1977, when they donated \$1,000 raised as part of a Stretch and Sew fashion show to what was then home economics at LSU.

"She was always very giving," Barbara Douthat said of her mother.

The couple also gave to Alpha Gamma Rho, John's agriculture fraternity, among other causes. The couple owned AllBrands, a sewing retail store in Baton Rouge, and they've given away thousands of sewing machines to Louisiana's 4-H program and to 4-H programs across the U.S. and its territories.

"We're just giving back what we received over the years," John said.

Annette grew up on a farm along Bayou Plaquemine. She was a 1969 graduate of the LSU College of Agriculture. She met John while traveling as a Danforth Fellow, which was part of a leadership program with Ralston Purina.

Through John's work with Ralston Purina, the couple spent a year living in Thailand and another in South Korea.

In an interview from 2016, Annette said, "International travel changes your perception of everything. It improves human relations and teaches you about different cultures, religions and food."

John said he sees international experiences as a path to leadership.

"You learn to work with people who are different than you, and you get a wider view of the world," he said.



Annette Douthat, second row from bottom at right, participated in Ralston Purina's Danforth Fellow Program in 1968. It was there she met her husband, John, which set her on a path for international experiences and philanthropy. Photo provided by John Douthat

The couple began housing foreign students when a customer from the island nation of Mauritius bought a sewing machine from them and wrote to them about her son studying in the U.S. The student lived with them for five years and is now an attorney for the United Nations in New York City.

"His life is much different than what it might have been if he had never had the opportunity to study here," Barbara said.

Most of the students that have lived with them have come from Asia to the U.S. to study music at LSU.

"In some ways, we've benefited from it more than they did," John said.

The Douthats said singing was the joy of Annette's life. She sang with the Baton Rouge Chorus of Sweet Adelines, the Baton Rouge Symphony Chorus and the University United Methodist Church Choir, where she was a church member. She also served on the founding board of Opéra Louisiane and the LSU Opera Board and played clarinet and saxophone in her high school band. Supporting students in the College of Music and Dramatic Art came naturally to them.

The goal in their giving is putting international opportunities within reach for students.

"Every student should have international experience before they leave college because if they don't have it then, they might never get it," John said.

NEWLY RENOVATED

LSU TEXTILE AND COSTUME MUSEUM

REOPENS WITH
MAYAN TEXTILE
EXHIBITION

Pieces from the exhibit “Trajé, Maya Textile Artistry” are on display at the LSU Textile and Costume Museum. The museum, on the LSU campus at the corner of Tower Drive and South Campus Drive, reopened with the debut of Mayan textiles. Photo by Olivia McClure

By Olivia McClure

The renovated LSU Textile and Costume Museum reopened with the debut of an exhibition of Mayan textiles.

The “Trajé, Maya Textile Artistry” exhibition featured the recently acquired Travis Doering collection of textiles and related artifacts from 40 Mayan villages in the Guatemala highlands. It was curated by Jenna Tedrick Kuttruff, professor emerita in the LSU Department of Textiles, Apparel Design and Merchandising, and Alexandra Forestier, graduate assistant.

Trajé, or traditional dress, has deep cultural significance to the Mayan people. The tradition of weaving and symbolism has been passed from mothers to daughters for hundreds of years and supports the legacy of craftsmanship that defines the Guatemalan Mayan culture.

Traditional dress is primarily still worn by women. It includes colorful backstrap loom-woven huipiles (blouses), cortes (skirts), cintas (headaddresses), rebozos (shawls) and fajas (belts). Examples of these items are on display in the gallery.

Accompanying the textile exhibition are photographs by Connie Frisbee Houde, a humanitarian photojournalist from New York, that depict the spirit and sacredness of the Mayan people and their surroundings.

The LSU Textile and Costume Museum gallery is in the back wing of the Human Ecology Building on the LSU campus at the corner of Tower Drive and South Campus Drive. Access to the gallery and parking can be found off South Campus Drive.

The “Trajé, Maya Textile Artistry” exhibition featured the Travis Doering collection of textiles and related artifacts from 40 Mayan villages in Guatemala. It was curated by Jenna Tedrick Kuttruff, professor emerita in the LSU Department of Textiles, Apparel Design and Merchandising, and Alexandra Forestier, graduate assistant.



Friends of the LSU Textile and Costume Museum. Photo by Tobie Blanchard

The LSU Textile and Costume Museum offers changing exhibitions of regional, national and international interest. The scope of the museum's collections are global. Included are prehistoric and ethnic textiles and costumes, as well as contemporary high fashions and high-tech textiles. Types of items consist of apparel, accessories, household textiles, piece goods, books, patterns and a variety of items related to textile and apparel production, use and care. As part of the Department of Textiles, Apparel Design, and Merchandising, the museum promotes conservation, research, teaching and public service. Research includes studies of the technical, aesthetic, historic and sociocultural significance of textiles and apparel. It is a component collection of the Louisiana Museum of Natural History at LSU.

The organization, **Friends of the LSU Textile and Costume Museum**, supports the goals and functions of the museum by providing funds for artifact purchases, exhibition mounting, educational workshops and other activities throughout the year.

ALUMNI BACK ON CAMPUS

By Annabelle Lang

The LSU College of Agriculture Alumni Association is back in full swing after facing the barrier of COVID for nearly two years, hosting multiple events on campus throughout the fall and spring semesters that welcomed alumni, families, faculty, staff and supporters of the college.

Having alumni back on campus has added new excitement to annual events.

"We are excited to have the opportunity to host our alumni back on campus and give both our students and alumni the opportunity to network and visit with alumni, faculty, staff and administration," said Lindsey Kelly, director of alumni relations and career development for the College of Agriculture.

Kelly explained that the events hosted by the Ag Alumni Association provide students and alumni the opportunity to network with each other and learn about programming the College of Agriculture has created for student development.

"Any time we have a board meeting, our members always enjoy learning about what programming is being done in the college. Our alumni mentoring program and those events planned during Ag Career Prep Week and Ag Week are always hot topics of discussion," she said. "Additionally, the board enjoys hearing from student leaders about the many exciting things occurring within our 30-plus student organizations."

Alumni can reconnect with the college and learn about ways they support student development.

"These events allow us the opportunity to again have alumni on campus to speak to students and engage with them in person, something that we have not been able to do in the past two years," she continued. "It allows them to reconnect with the college while also giving our students the opportunity to interact with an alumnus in their profession."

One way alumni can support the college is through volunteering their time and career advice. Kelly encourages alumni to get involved with the Ag



1: Lindsey Kelly, director of alumni relations and career development, updates alumni on ways to support the College of Agriculture at Cocktails and Cuisine. **2:** Josephine Engelman and Taylor Perrodin are Les Voyageurs team members that attended Cocktails and Cuisine to network with alumni. Both students were named as part of the LSU Tiger Twelve Class of 2022. Photos by Malory Uzee

Cocktails and Cuisine

The 8th annual Cocktails and Cuisine, hosted by the LSU College of Agriculture and Ag Alumni Association, returned to campus on Nov. 19, 2021, offering a special opportunity for agriculture alumni and friends to gather in support of College of Agriculture students.

Each year, alumni and friends of the college donate items as part of a silent auction fundraiser. Alumni gather for an opportunity to sip cocktails and bid on items, which ranged from overnight crab hunting excursions and a trip to Destin, Florida, to a football signed by a New Orleans Saints former head coach.

"We can see now more than ever the importance of giving back to your university, no matter the account. This event specifically raises money for scholarships which is critical for the success of our students," said Kelly.

Mentoring Program, which pairs a student with an alumnus or agriculture industry professional for a semester.

"Our Ag Mentoring Program is connecting current students with alumni in the field and growing their understanding



In total, the event raised more than \$20,000 in funds to support College of Agriculture student scholarships.

"This event would not be as successful without the support of our industry partners," said Kelly.

The Cocktails and Cuisine event was sponsored by Zen-Noh Grain Corporation, First South Farm Credit, LSU Agriculture Alumni Association, Dave and Liz Means, Ribus, American Sugar Cane League, CGB Enterprises Inc., Louisiana Agricultural Consultants Association, Louisiana Land Bank, Joey Ducote, Luke and Sonja Laborde, and Rogers and Tess Leonard.

of the profession and what it takes to be successful in it," she said.

Julie Richard is the president of the Agriculture Alumni Association for 2022-2024 and has been an active member of the organization for many years. ►

A few events throughout the year ...

► Cocktails and Cuisine ► Ag alumni awards ceremony ► LSU baseball ► Crawfish boil ► Burger Bash

Stakeholder Summit and alumni crawfish boil

On March 19, the LSU College of Agriculture hosted the Annual Stakeholder Summit, followed by an alumni crawfish boil and social.

Alumni, industry partners and friends of the College of Agriculture were invited to begin the day at the stakeholder summit, where they received updates on the college, an overview of achievements and met with department heads and school directors.

Summit attendees, along with their family and friends, were welcomed to the Ag Alumni Association's annual crawfish boil and social.

This year invitations for the annual crawfish boil were extended to alumni and their families. The Ag Alumni Association added activities to entertain the whole family, including a bounce house and snowball stand.

Kelly hopes to continue the annual event with a larger family focus so alumni can share their love for LSU College of Agriculture with the next generation of Tigers.

"We were excited to be able to host our spring crawfish boil on campus," said Kelly. "It's exciting to see our alumni come back after the past few years and see how much their families have grown. We hope to have more family-focused events in the future."

LSU alumnus and meats lab director Manuel "Boo" Persica boiled more than 500 pounds of crawfish that were donated by Richard Farms, owned by Christian and Julie Richard.

"There's just something about being back on campus you can't replace," said Richard. "Whether it's in the stadium, a classroom or an alumni event, there's always the opportunity to see people and actively engage with students and other alumni."



1: LSU alumni Maggie Simon and her daughter Grace, a current LSU student, attended the alumni crawfish boil. **2:** Randy and Debbie Toups stand beside K.C. Toups Memorial Award recipient Josephine Engelman. Each year, an outstanding Les Voyageur receives the award in honor of the Toups' late son. **3 & 4:** Students and alumni load up on crawfish. **5:** Students Zach Mayfield and Ashlyn Brewer watched as Boo Persica, director of the LSU meats lab, boiled more than 500 pounds of crawfish. Photos by Jerica Ledet

Richards is looking forward to the ag alumni events planned for the upcoming year.

"We have so many great events throughout the year, it's hard just to pick one as my favorite," she said. "Our fall events are always fun, which include

Cocktails and Cuisine and the ag alumni awards ceremony. I always enjoy inviting alumni who have accomplished so much back to campus and honoring them."

Alumni are always appreciated for investing in current students, she said. ■

DESIGNING A LEGACY

By Annabelle Lang

The stately live oaks that line the roads on LSU's campus are one of the most charming and beloved parts of the university. For nearly a century, these oaks have greeted students and alumni as they pass through the parade grounds and quadrangle.

While live oaks are native to Louisiana, it is no coincidence that these oaks are planted in the center of campus.

In 1926, the main campus moved from downtown Baton Rouge to the location it is now. The space was a former farm and cattle field without trees or shrubs less than a century ago.

A landscaper envisioned the campus with lively shade trees and colorful florals. Steele Burden brought that vision to life in the early 20th century.

Welch has been recognized for his involvement with Texas garden clubs and nursery organizations throughout his career. Welch is well known among southern rose and garden enthusiasts for growing the popularity of Peggy Martin rose.

Just as Burden influenced the look and feel of the LSU campus, Bill Welch has influenced the landscape of southern gardens for more than 50 years.

Welch is a three-time graduate of LSU, earning his bachelor's degree in landscape architecture and master's and doctoral degrees in extension education and horticulture.

"The landscape architecture program at LSU was one of the best in the nation," said Welch. "I was a native of Houston, and I didn't know a lot about LSU, but I quickly learned about it."

After completing his undergraduate degree in 1962, Welch returned to Houston to work in the nursery industry.

He would use his landscape architecture and horticulture background throughout his career, often providing home gardeners with advice on garden and landscape design.

After several years of working in the nursery industry, he returned to LSU to pursue his graduate studies while working part-time as an extension landscape horticulturist for the LSU AgCenter.

Welch accepted a job as an extension landscape horticulturist with Texas AgriLife Extension in 1972, where he spent the remainder of his career until he retired in 2021.

During his tenure as an extension horticulturist, he spent much of his time traveling to the 254 counties in Texas to speak with extension agents, nursery professionals, civic groups and the general public. He is known for growing the Peggy Martin rose.

In the aftermath of hurricane Katrina, Welch discovered that the rose survived being under saltwater for nearly two weeks. He began to propagate the resilient rose and sell it to raise funds for the residents of New Orleans.

Writing has been an important part of Welch's educational outreach to gardeners. He contributed to columns in many publications highlighting horticulture practices, including a monthly column he wrote for Southern Living for many years.

Welch published several gardening books that extended his mastery of designing a southern garden and harmonizing the plants within a landscape. He often taught his readers about heirloom gardening and the heritage of native flowers in southern landscapes.

Welch has dedicated his career to the advancement of the horticultural profession. He has given \$100,000 to establish an endowed scholarship for LSU College of Agriculture students.

Students pursuing a program of study in horticulture will be eligible to receive the William C. Welch Scholarship for Excellence in Horticulture.

"I hope students get some encouragement and financial support out of it," Welch said.



Bill Welch and his wife, Lucille, tour the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station with AgCenter horticulturist Jason Stagg. Photo by Olivia McClure

A ramble through the Roses

The Friends of the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden held its first Wine and Roses Rambler at the gardens on Nov. 7, 2021. The brunch allowed participants to stroll the gardens, sample gourmet cuisine, enjoy live music and take part in a wine toss and raffle. The event raised money for the Botanic Gardens at Burden.

Photos provided by Eye Wander Photo



4-H Summer Camp

A century of history, millions of memories

By Tobie Blanchard

The sounds of children truly at play probably don't differ much from generation to generation. So it seems the soundtrack of summer at Camp Grant Walker has likely been the same for 100 years — laughter drifting among the pines, arms splashing in the water, an arrow whistling through the air, feet dancing across the floor.

The 4-H campground, nestled on 90 acres in the town of Pollock near Kisatchie National Forest, has been hosting Louisiana youth for a century. Current campers' great-grandparents may have experienced their first time away from home at 4-H camp, learning new skills and making lifelong friends just as their progeny might have this past summer.

In the 1950s, Wayne Jordan's parents dropped him off at an office in Ouachita Parish where he would board a school bus to head south to what is now the LSU AgCenter Grant Walker 4-H Educational Center.

"I didn't know a soul on that bus," Jordan said. "I just knew I wanted to go and have fun." ▶

At left, Rene Amond first signed up to chaperone a week of camp in 1975. She returned for 18 more years.



"I didn't know a soul on that bus. I just knew I wanted to go and have fun."

Wayne Jordan

Nearly 70 years later, he still remembers the assemblies, screened-window bunkhouses, wildlife and nature classes, nightly dances and swimming in the creek. "I hear they have a nice pool now," he said.

Camping has been a fixture of the 4-H Youth Development Program since its earliest beginnings. In 1915, the first 4-H camp was organized in Virginia. Within three years, more than 1,700 camps had emerged across the U.S., with total attendance surpassing 100,000 youth.

In 1922, the first group of youth camped under the pines on land owned by local businessman, Rufus Walker. Since then, thousands of young campers from all 64 Louisiana parishes have taken part in the transformational experience on that same spot.

For Jordan, like 4-H'ers who attended camp before and after him, camp was an unforgettable and rewarding experience.

"Camp provided an opportunity to broaden my outlook on life and the importance of building new relationships," he said. "It also kindled a flame inside me to have a career of service." ▶



CAMP HISTORY FACILITY TIMELINE

- ▶ **1922** – The first group of youth camp on grounds owned by businessman Rufus Walker.
- ▶ **1936** – Walker donates the land to the state of Louisiana.
- ▶ **1938** – Through the new Works Progress Administration in Louisiana, construction begins on bunkhouses, a cafeteria, open air pavilions, Greek theatre and several other permanent structures.
- ▶ **1970s-1980s** – Capital improvements are made to camp with new bunkhouses, a large multi-purpose building and a large pool.
- ▶ **2009** – Campgrounds expand with the addition of Camp Windywood, a former Girl Scout camp adjacent to the Grant Walker 4-H Educational Center. A new rifle and shotgun range and an educational building with laboratory facilities are eventually added to that property.
- ▶ **2015** – The Ellis S. Martin Multipurpose Pavilion is opened at camp. The 10,000-square-foot facility provides indoor space for all 4-H campers to gather in one location.





A TYPICAL DAY AT CAMP

- **7 a.m.** – Wake up and tidy cabins
- **7:30 a.m.** – Breakfast
- **9:30 a.m.** – Morning assembly
- **9:45 a.m.** – Track time
- **11:45 a.m.** – Lunch
- **12:45 p.m.** – Clean cabin awards, mail, rest time
- **2 p.m.** – Recreation free time
- **5 p.m.** – Cabin time
- **5:45 p.m.** – Dinner
- **7 p.m.** – Evening assembly
- **7:45 p.m.** – Free time (Dance, sports, movie, arts and crafts, pool, camp store)
- **9 p.m.** – Vespers
- **9:45 p.m.** – Showers, lights out

Jordan spent 30 years working in Extension in Mississippi and Georgia. As the Extension director for Georgia, his office oversaw five 4-H camps across the state. He said it was always great to visit the camps, be with the campers and see youngsters still learning and growing through 4-H camping.

“I have to believe that my 4-H experiences, including Camp Grant Walker, were significant contributors toward my career in Extension,” he said.

Nearly 60 years later, Sean Elsea attended that same camp and also found his career path.

During his second year at camp, Elsea was familiar with the track selection process. Campers would gather at the Old Dance Pavilion and race to the assorted tables to sign up for the track they wanted. After a moment of indecision, he headed to his top choice only to find the sign-up sheet had already been filled. A quick detour to a second table revealed yet another full sign-up sheet. That left him in the Food and Fitness track.

It was the summer of 2012, and Elsea said Zumba was all the rage. “We would go early each day to cook, then after eating the food, we’d do these little Zumba workouts. I was not thrilled about that part,” he said. “But for the whole week, we would make fun food projects. It was the first time I got the chance to cook on my own, and I realized it was something I really enjoyed doing. After I left camp, I didn’t want to stop.”

Elsea kept cooking. He became the camp cook for his Boy Scout troop, participated in the ProStart culinary arts program in high school and then attended Baton Rouge Community College for culinary arts. Today, Elsea cooks fine cuisine at an upscale restaurant in Baton Rouge.

“That track at camp was the first thing that ignited my spark — that made me want to go down that path. I wouldn’t have ever thought of culinary arts as a career until that summer. As soon as I did that, I realized my passion for cooking.” ►



“Camping remains one of the most vital parts of positive youth development by providing a safe environment for youth to develop social skills, build character, improve responsibility and resiliency and have fun with their friends.”

Christine Bergeron



CAMP TRACKS

Food and Fitness; Get Ready, Get Set: Science, Engineering and Technology; Outdoor Adventures; Hunter Safety Certification; Explore Louisiana: Wetlands, Wildlife and You; Water Safety – That’s What’s SUP!

By the time Elsea attended camp, bunkhouses were airconditioned; the grounds had a Junior Olympic-size swimming pool. But he also went to assemblies in the Greek theatre and tried to get his preferred track in the Old Dance Pavilion — these were some of the first structures built on the grounds. In 1938, the Works Progress Administration in Louisiana, arising from President Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal, began construction of bunkhouses, a cafeteria, open air pavilions, the Greek theatre and several other permanent structures. Many of these improvements still stand today.

Todd Tarifa, the department head for 4-H Youth Development in Louisiana, said he has seen how 4-H camp can change lives. As a former 4-H agent, regional 4-H coordinator and specialist, Tarifa has watched countless kids go through camp, including his own daughter.

“4-H camp has provided Louisiana youth with a place to grow, gain independence, and explore future opportunities,” Tarifa said.

“I have witnessed the positive effects attending 4-H camp can have on a child.”

Each year, camp director Christine Bergeron sees friends reuniting at camp after a year apart or kids who start out homesick but end up having the best week at camp.

“Camping remains one of the most vital parts of positive youth development by providing a safe environment for youth to develop social skills, build character, improve responsibility and resiliency and have fun with their friends.”

The camp has experienced its own resiliency. After two years of being shuttered because of COVID-19 and significant hurricane damage to the facility from multiple storms, Louisiana 4-H was determined to bring camp back to Grant Walker in 2022. 4-H’ers could participate in a virtual camp in 2020 and camp staff created a traveling camp for 2021. While they were able to reopen the facility this year, it was ►



CAMP IS OPEN YEAR-ROUND!

- The Grant Walker 4-H Educational Center's bunkhouses, classrooms, conference center and verdant grounds aren't empty when summer ends. The grounds provide quality field trips, off-season programs and other great educational activities to thousands of 4-H youth and to the general population throughout the year. It is also the camping location for other youth-serving organizations, such as the Muscular Dystrophy Association youth camp. The 90-acre facility is also a great place to host events that target audiences of all ages such as birthday parties, family reunions, field trips, retreats, conferences, meetings, day camps and weddings.
- Lodging options for overnight events available for rent include 11 bunkhouse cabins and four log cabins. Each bunkhouse has 48 bunk bed-style beds and four twin beds along with two large bathhouses.
- Three log cabins sleep between six and eight people, and two include a kitchenette. One larger cabin perfect for a couple's getaway includes a full kitchen, large bath, and a washer and dryer.
- Outdoor facilities include a swimming pool, archery range, shooting range, campsites, challenge ropes course, canoes and paddle boards.
- Grant Walker 4-H Educational Center is located near Pollock on La. Highway 8 about 15 miles northeast of Alexandria. For reservations and availability, contact Christine Bergeron at 318-765-7209 or cbergeron@agcenter.lsu.edu.



not at full capacity. In a typical year, camp hosts about 475 kids a week. This year weekly attendance was around 210.

"This was the 100th anniversary. We knew we wouldn't have the facilities up to 100% but we had to do whatever we could do to get here," said Charles Hebert, 4-H agent in Lafayette Parish and former 4-H camper.

While students rotated through their educational tracks and participated in recreational activities, construction crews were repairing flooded bunkhouses and tree-shattered roofs on buildings not in use this summer. Dynamic Group donated labor and material at a value of nearly \$60,000 to make repairs to the multipurpose building, which allowed food to be prepared onsite for the return of summer camp.

Much is possible this year because of donations. Save the Children donated more than \$50,000 in educational materials and camp bed donations to replace items damaged by hurricanes Laura and Delta.

The Meraux Foundation contributed \$25,000 towards fundraising efforts immediately following these storms. CLECO provided more than \$45,000 of in-kind storm recovery tree removal and road repairs across the entire property. A 2019 donation from the Saints and Pelicans sports teams allows camp to offer scholarships to one student from each of Louisiana's 64 parishes.

Mana Salehi from Lafayette Parish was attending camp for the first time with her twin sister, Nikki.

"Camp is really fun. Unlike school, we learn in more of a fun way, and I really like all the activities we get to do," Salehi said.

Camper Winston Lamber from St. Charles Parish said, "I like it because I don't have my parents supervising me."

Rene Amond never attended as a camper but became a volunteer in the 1970s. She remembers wondering what she was getting herself into her first year. ►

"The minute I stepped onto the grounds, I fell in love. I thought it was a blast, and I looked forward to it each year almost as a vacation."

Rene Amond

DONATE

To better serve new generations, the camp needs more than repairs. It needs upgrades. These enhancements can expand offerings, update technology and improve the overall camp experience so a million memories that thousands of former campers have can grow into a million more.



"The minute I stepped onto the grounds, I fell in love," Amond said. "I thought it was a blast, and I looked forward to it each year almost as a vacation."

Amond continued to chaperone camp for 19 years. Through laughs, Amond recounted many stories. One involved her waking up in the middle of the night and feeling something crawling on her. A child staying in Amond's bunk had found an unusual bug on the campground and packed it in her suitcase to take home. The bug, a rather large rhinoceros beetle, had escaped the child's suitcase and found its way to Amond.

Bugs, dirt, kids being kids — it was all part of the fun.

Amond's campers couldn't know the technological advances their kids would come to see as just a part of everyday life. Today's youth can spend hours a day staring at screens, but the week at camp brings them back to nature.

"Camp allowed us to be kids. No technology, just fun-filled days in the sun and educational learning. Although we didn't know we were learning, we were, and that is something we remember and cherish," said Xavier Bell. He attended camp as a camper, counselor and camp staff, and he is still going to camp, each year as a 4-H agent, yet another example of someone who found their career path by way of 4-H camp.

Marla Elsea and Adam O'Malley contributed to this article. ■

"Camp allowed us to be kids. No technology, just fun-filled days in the sun and educational learning."

Xavier Bell



Achieving Moore: LSU sophomore selected National 4-H Council trustee

By Todd Miller

LSU sophomore and Collegiate 4-H Vice President Tay Moore has been selected as a new trustee to the board of the National 4-H Council.

Moore, a former Louisiana 4-H state president, has been involved with the organization for a decade. He is studying political science and music and is a member of the LSU Ogden Honors College's Louisiana Service and Leadership (LASAL) program. He says being named to the board of trustees is still a bit of a shock.

"It's amazing how a country kid from the small town of Ringgold in northwest Louisiana finds himself on the governing board of America's largest youth development organization at 20 years old," Moore said.

Through 4-H, Moore has involved himself in leadership development and civic engagement, having served on the Louisiana 4-H Executive Board for four years. He also served as state president for the organization in 2019 to 2020 and has presented to the U.S. Department of Agriculture on developing the next generation of agricultural leaders.

"4-H specialized in empowering America's youth with a seat at the table," he said. "My experiences in Bienville Parish 4-H, Louisiana 4-H and National 4-H programs have provided me with countless life-changing opportunities to grow as a leader, better serve my community and most of all, advocate for young people to have access to the 4-H programs delivered by our nation's public universities and cooperative extension system."

Meggan Franks, 4-H volunteer and leadership development specialist, says Moore's achievements are a



Tay Moore

credit to his drive and to the organization.

"Tay is a blessing for our organization and 4-H across the nation," she said. "He has been a tremendous asset to Louisiana 4-H as a member and now as the LSU Collegiate 4-H vice president."

Franks went on to say that Moore believes in using the power of youth to improve communities through civic engagement and will be a strong ambassador for youth leadership on a national scale.

Jonathan Earle, dean of the LSU Ogden Honors College, echoes Franks' sentiments and says Moore is a credit to the LASAL program and to the university at large.

"Tay Moore is already showing the fruits of an LSU honors education in the classroom, as a member of the Louisiana Service and Leadership scholars, and now in his election to the board of the National 4-H Council. I couldn't be prouder!"

To his credit, Moore remains humble and grounded about his many achievements at such a young age and says he could not have done it alone.

"I am honored to be able to represent nearly 6 million young people as a member of the board of trustees and look forward to learning from this diverse group of recognized CEOs, business executives, university presidents, celebrities, extension professionals and government leaders," he said. "Thanks to everyone who has molded me into who I am today and who I hope to be tomorrow."

Largest endowed scholarship in state's history honors legend

By Todd Miller

A \$100,000 scholarship has been given to support Louisiana 4-H, making it the largest endowed scholarship in the history of the organization.

The Dr. Joel Lafayette Fletcher, Jr. 4-H Scholarship is funded by Fletcher's grandson, Paul D. Nevels, a class of 1972 LSU graduate, to honor the legacy of his grandfather — a legacy that includes a lifelong dedication to student success and personal growth.

Fletcher, who served in the Navy, received a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from LSU in 1918. One year later he became a 4-H extension agent for Union Parish. In a letter from 1969, he fondly recalled his time working with area farmers.

"The people who lived in the rural sections were always glad to have company," he wrote. "The office considered these visits important, sitting at night before a blazing fire with the farmer and his family around listening to the conversation."

In addition to LSU, Fletcher also earned academic degrees from Louisiana Tech and Iowa State and was awarded honorary doctorates from LSU, Marquette University, Southwestern at Memphis (now Rhodes College) and Mercer University for his tireless dedication to the economic, social and educational progress of Louisiana and the nation at large.

In 1941, Fletcher became the third university president of the Southwestern Industrial Institute, which is known today as the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. In his bio on the UL Lafayette website, it states that any student who was planning to resign from the university was required to meet with Fletcher first so he could "determine whether anything could be done to enable him or her to stay in school."

Fletcher's unyielding drive for student success extended beyond U.S. borders to facilitate student exchanges in Europe, for which he was awarded the Medal of Gratitude by the Ministry of Education of France in 1946. One year later, he was conferred the title of Chevalier in the Legion of Honor, France's highest honor for civil or military service.



Joel Fletcher

"My grandfather always believed anyone who has the ability and ambition should have the opportunity for securing an education," Paul Nevels said.

In the field of agriculture, Fletcher served as both the president of the Jersey Cattle Club and vice president of the Louisiana Farm Bureau Association. He was named Man of the Year in Louisiana Agriculture in 1948 by Progressive Farmer Magazine and Humanitarian of the Year at the 1971 Louisiana Dairy Festival, among numerous other accolades throughout his life.

Andrew Schade, director of development for the LSU AgCenter, notes that competitive scholarship packages help to keep the most talented students in Louisiana.

"This scholarship recognizes the achievement of our 4-H participants and encourages them to pursue study of agriculture at the university level," he said. "Scholarships are critical for creating the next generation of leaders in Louisiana agriculture."

Recipients of the Dr. Joel Lafayette Fletcher, Jr. 4-H Scholarship must be full-time LSU freshman students who were high school members of 4-H and are enrolled or intend to enroll in the College of Agriculture, with preferential consideration given to those pursuing or intending to pursue a degree in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education and Evaluation.

Louisiana 4-H department head Todd Tarifa thanked Nevels for his generous contribution, saying his grandfather's name will live on through the future success of students who will benefit from the scholarship.

"The young people who receive this scholarship and attend LSU in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education and Evaluation will go on to teach others the importance of agriculture and its many contributions to the state of Louisiana and our great citizens," he said.

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INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

HELPS STUDENTS EXPLORE LOUISIANA AGRICULTURE

Students participating in International Summer School spent one morning exploring the New Orleans Botanical Garden. Photos by Annabelle Lang

By Annabelle Lang

International students visited LSU's campus in Baton Rouge this summer as part of International Summer School at LSU, a weeklong exchange. The program is a continuation of a two-year international short program that began in 2019 but was postponed due to the pandemic.

The program was organized jointly by LSU and Mendel University (MendelU) in the Czech Republic. Both LSU and MendelU students participated in the program. There were 26 students from across the globe, including the Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Poland and Thailand.

Throughout the week, students learned about a broad range of Louisiana agriculture, touring LSU AgCenter research stations and commercial operations. Stops included opportunities



Mendel University students join sugarcane producers and stakeholders at the LSU AgCenter Sugarcane Field Day in St. Gabriel.

to explore horticulture, animal sciences, entomology and food science.

Jenish Tandel is an LSU student majoring in animal sciences with a desire to learn about other agriculture sectors.

"I wanted to learn about different aspects in the College of Agriculture, apart from animal science. I wanted to explore all the other fields and see what they have, too," he said.

Entomology was a field that Tandel had little experience in before attending summer school, and he felt that he learned a lot by visiting the U.S. Department of Agriculture Honeybee Lab in Baton Rouge.

"I've been learning a lot about how insects are, how they're preserving that entomology," said Tandel. "I never knew how they preserved them, and they showed us how they do it in the glass boxes." ►



The New Orleans Botanical Garden includes collections of plants from across the world.

While some students wanted to learn more about agriculture in Louisiana, others wanted to know about innovative practices in the U.S. that they could apply in their careers.

Lukáš Košťál, a master's student at MendelU, is studying landscape ecology. Košťál feels he could take his career in many directions but would like to focus on agritourism and combine what he knows about tourism, ecology and landscape.

Košťál felt that participating in International Summer School at LSU and learning about U.S. ecology and tourism was not an opportunity he could pass on.

"Even though this program takes us into more directions than just what I study, I was very interested in how things are done in the U.S.," he said. "And then I can take different points of view and compare how it is different from my country."

Students toured many of the research stations across the state, learning about the land-grant university system and the outreach that the LSU AgCenter has for the agricultural industry in the state.

Michaela Franková is a MendelU student currently pursuing her master's degree in food science and food security.

For Franková having the opportunity to visit rural Louisiana was a unique opportunity that most U.S. tourists do not get to experience.

"I like how connected the rural part of the state is with the university

through the extension programs. We don't have that, and I think it's really good," said Franková.

One stop was Fleur De Lis Tea Company in Amite City. Here students learned about how tea is being grown in Louisiana.

"I would never imagine that you could like grow tea under the pine tree. It's so innovative," she said. "I think in the U.S., people are really innovative when finding stuff that works. The guy was teaching us that they had to dig some kind of drainage system for the plants. It's so interesting."

Franková chose to attend the International Summer School at LSU to expand her network and build her resume as she approaches the end of her master's program.

"I would like to work in some international company where I can meet people from all around the world, and it's also the reason why I came here," said Franková. "I just like to make new contacts, meet new people, see new places, and the food industry is so various. In every country, it's different."

LSU AgCenter Global Network plans to continue the international summer school exchange program in the future.

"This creates a great platform for the exchange of ideas, establishing professional networks, learning, as well as bringing more international opportunities to LSU AgCenter and College of Agriculture," said Ivana Tregenza, associate director of LSU AgCenter Global Network. ■

LSU AgCenter recognized for Innovation in International Education

By Tobie Blanchard

The LSU AgCenter has a strong partnership with Mendel University in Brno, Czech Republic. The two institutions have participated in student and faculty exchanges, joint research projects, joint lectures, visiting scholars and international summer school.

Through the success of this collaboration LSU AgCenter and MendelU received the 2022 IIE Andrew Heiskell Award for Innovation in International Education in the category of Strategic Partnerships for the LSU AgCenter-MENDELU Partnership. This award from the Institute of International Education, or IIE, recognizes the most innovative and successful models for developing and expanding international education in practice today.

The pandemic proved challenging to many of the goals and opportunities between the two universities, but collaboration continued in numerous ways including an annual virtual food symposium.

Ivana Tregenza, associate director of LSU AgCenter Global Network, said this award represents the effort of hundreds of participants from both universities.

"Since the first contact in 2014, we have achieved huge milestones together such as joint courses which offer our students international experience and direct interaction throughout the duration of a full semester at home," Tregenza said. "Internships at partner universities represent another career enhancing opportunity for LSU CoA students, while joint conferences allow for international research team formations."

The IIE Heiskell Awards were created in 2001 to promote and honor the most outstanding initiatives being conducted in international higher education by IIE Network members, particularly those that address a specific need, remove institutional barriers and broaden the base of participation in international teaching and learning.

2022 DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION CHAMPIONS

By Annabelle Lang

Diversity and Inclusion Champions are a dynamic group that liaises between the College of Agriculture dean's office, departments and schools to promote diversity initiatives and student inclusion.

Trina Biswas, faculty member in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, is a returning Diversity and Inclusion Champion who participated in the pilot program in 2021.

"A diverse mix of voices leads to better discussions, decisions and outcomes for everyone," said Biswas.

There are 15 faculty, staff and graduate students serving as the 2022 Diversity and Inclusion Champions; five of the champions are returning from the pilot program launched last spring.

At least one champion represents each of the College of Agriculture's ten departments and schools.

The champions participate in a three-day orientation that prepares them for their role. Monica Guient, assistant vice president for diversity, inclusion and opportunity for the LSU AgCenter and College of Agriculture, facilitated the orientation.

During the orientation, champions set individual goals, participated in diversity training and met with representatives from the LSU AgCenter and College of Agriculture Council for Diversity, Inclusion, Equity and Change.

Some of the goals set by champions include building relations with students and promoting diversity and inclusion in teaching, research and university services across the College of Agriculture and campus.

Li-Hsiang Lin, Department of Experimental Statistics, stated one of his goals is to "educate our students in the richness of their past, the diversity of their present and the possibilities for their future."

Guient encourages students, faculty and staff to engage with the champions. Champions will be present at College of Agriculture events throughout the academic year.



Trina Biswas,
Department of
Agricultural Economics
and Agribusiness



Kristin Stair, Department
of Agricultural and
Extension Education
and Evaluation



Vinicius Moreira,
School of Animal
Sciences



**Ashleigh Muth-
Spurlock,** School
of Animal Sciences



Qian "Karen" Sun,
Department of
Entomology



Li-Hsiang Lin,
Department of
Experimental Statistics



Gina Eubanks,
School of Nutrition
and Food Sciences



Judy Myhand,
School of Nutrition
and Food Sciences



Jennifer Blanchard,
School of Plant,
Environmental and
Soil Sciences



Andrew Bratton,
School of Plant,
Environmental and
Soil Sciences



Heather Kirk-Ballard,
School of Plant,
Environmental and
Soil Sciences



Jhonson Leonard,
Department of Plant
Pathology and Crop
Physiology



Hallie Dozier,
School of Renewable
Natural Resources



Kevin Ringelman,
School of Renewable
Natural Resources



Erica Woolard,
Department of Textiles,
Apparel Design and
Merchandising

AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

K.C. TOUPS MEMORIAL LES VOYAGEURS AWARD

By Annabelle Lang

Each year, the College of Agriculture awards the K.C. Toups Memorial Les Voyageurs Award to a rising senior member of the Les Voyageurs. The Les Voyageurs is a student ambassador group for the college and often greets prospective students when they visit campus.

To honor the late K.C. Toups, a service-minded student with a strong pride for LSU and the College of Agriculture, an outstanding student receives the award with a scholarship.

Zachary Mayfield, an agricultural and extension education major with a concentration in leadership, exhibited these qualities and was named the 2022 K.C. Toups Memorial Les Voyageurs Award recipient.

Being surrounded by a support team with the shared goal of advancing agriculture through research, education and service makes Mayfield proud to be in the College of Agriculture.

"I am supported heavily by my academic advisor, Dr. Stair, and many folks in the dean's staff that care about my future. I can walk into any of their offices at any time, email them at any time, and ask for guidance," said Mayfield. "Being surrounded by peers that are trying to advance the industry and mentors that care about my future is a recipe for success."

In addition to being a member of Les Voyageurs, Mayfield is heavily involved in other LSU campus student organizations and activities. He is the president of the Alpha Nu Circle of the national honor society Omicron Delta Kappa, a student worker for the dean's office and served as vice president of the Agriculture Student Association.

When asked why he chose to join the Les Voyageurs team, he reflected on his first-time tour of the campus and how the Les Voyageurs answered many of his questions and concerns about coming to LSU. He had a desire to pay forward that experience to future students.

"I am now going into my final year as a Les Voyageur, and I have been able to talk to prospective students and parents and help them in any way possible," he said. "It just feels right that I am doing it just like that Les Voyageur had once done for me. It's awesome that I get to see it from this side of the table."

Over the summer, Mayfield completed an internship with Sherwin-Williams in Houston, Texas, and has plans to continue his education at LSU after graduation.

"As of now, I am planning to enroll in an MBA program where I can build upon the foundation the College of Agriculture has given me to advance my skill set and open up my career options," he said.

Zachary Mayfield.
Photo by Annabelle Lang

FOUR LSU COLLEGE OF AG STUDENTS RECOGNIZED IN LSU TIGER TWELVE

By Annabelle Lang

Four LSU College of Agriculture students were part of the **LSU Tiger Twelve Class of 2022. LSU's Tiger Twelve is an initiative that highlights a select group of undergraduate seniors who have contributed to LSU campus life and positively impacted the Baton Rouge community. Each spring, 12 distinguished LSU seniors receive this prestigious recognition.**

Taylor Perrodin

Major: Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness
Hometown: Crowley, Louisiana

Taylor Perrodin was an LSU Ogden Honors College student and graduated with a degree in agricultural business. Perrodin took advantage of her time at LSU to better the Baton Rouge community and prepare herself for law school.

In addition to focusing on her studies, Perrodin was heavily involved in campus life throughout her college career. She held leadership positions for LSU Student Government, Les Voyageurs and Alpha Kappa Psi. Through her involvement with LSU Student Government, she contributed to creating a pilot program that helped combat food insecurity on LSU's campus.

Perrodin interned with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry for three years, taking a special interest in the international trade program. From this experience, she secured a government relations internship with the International Fresh Produce Association for summer 2022.

Perrodin will be attending New England Law School in Boston on a full scholarship to study environmental law.

"For me, receiving the Tiger Twelve recognition shows me that it is possible to make an impact on the environment and those around you, and that hard work pays off," Perrodin said. "LSU was my dream school, and it means the world to me to be recognized as a committed leader to the university that has given me so much."



Josephine Engelman

Major: Environmental Management Systems
Concentration: Resource Conservation
Minor: Political Science
Hometown: Queens, New York

Josephine Engelman graduated with a degree in natural resource ecology and management with a minor in political science. Engelman spent her time at LSU working to improve local sustainability efforts.

Engelman immersed herself in student life. She held leadership positions for LSU Student Government, the LSU Rowing Team and Les Voyageurs for the College of Agriculture. She was also an active member of the Air and Waste Management Association and the LSU chapter of Ducks Unlimited. She considers these organizations a driving force in defining her identity and finding her passion for the environment. As president of the LSU Rowing Team, she spent much of her time on the LSU Lakes.

"One of my absolute favorite campus memories is waking up at 5:30 a.m. for rowing practice," Engelman said. "Watching incredible sunrises, seeing pelicans, herons and ducks fly above and just being on the water with my teammates is something that I really cherish from my time on campus."

Engelman participated in the Louisiana Wildlife Federation's Edgar Veillon Conservation Leadership Corps, a prestigious program that helped her solidify her career aspirations in environmental policy.

Engelman accepted an internship in Washington, D.C., with a lobbying firm focusing on agricultural issues.

"Being recognized as one of the Tiger Twelve is so exciting and incredibly humbling," she said. "This is a huge honor, and I'm so proud of myself for being a positive and powerful enough influence around campus that I was chosen to receive this recognition."

Maia Williams

Major: Animal Sciences
Concentration: Science and Technology
Hometown: Missouri City, Texas

Maia Williams was an LSU Ogden Honors College student who graduated with a degree in animal sciences. At LSU, she experienced growth and self discovery, taking on leadership roles as an LSU Ogden Honors College Scholar and undergraduate researcher.

Williams is proud to have contributed to a variety of on-campus organizations. She held leadership positions in the LSU Black Women's Empowerment Initiative and the Pre-Veterinary Club at LSU. Williams was also an active member of the Black Honors Initiative, Minority Science Pre-Professional Society and the Student Christian Medical Association.

Williams credits her experience with undergraduate research as a driving force for her professional and personal development. She was an undergraduate researcher for the LSU Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences' Laboratory for Equine and Comparative Orthopedic Research and contributed to feline stem cell research manuscripts.

"I want to thank Dr. Lopez, Catherine Takawira and Takashi Taguchi, who have been instrumental in my development as a scientist and researcher, as well as Dr. Moreira and Dr. Coulon for their mentorship and assistance throughout my undergraduate career," Williams said.

Williams plans to pursue a master's in public health at the University of Texas Public School of Health in Houston.

"Being a part of the Tiger Twelve Class of 2022 is an incredible honor and signifies that the work and effort I put in during my time at LSU was impactful and meaningful," Williams said. "I am so honored to be recognized among this elite group of students who reflect the diverse opportunities and culture at LSU, as well as the tremendous contributions LSU students make to our campus and the community at large."



Alexia LaGrone

Major: Natural Resource Ecology and Management
Concentration: Ecological Restoration
Minor: Oceanography and Coastal Sciences
Hometown: Lafayette, Louisiana

Alexia LaGrone was an LSU Ogden Honors College student and graduated with a degree in natural resource ecology and management with a minor in oceanography and coastal sciences. LaGrone is passionate about the coastal environment and finds fulfillment in helping communities.

LaGrone spent her college career spearheading numerous service projects. She helped establish Collegiate 4-H at LSU and LSU's Global Water Brigades chapter. She is a member of the LSU Ogden Honors College's Louisiana Service and Leadership Program, an educational program dedicated to studying and improving the state of Louisiana. She was active in Sigma Alpha, and the organization named her the 2020 National Outstanding Leader.

LaGrone is a Stamps Scholar, and she received the Dean Carolyn Collins Award by the Black Faculty and Staff Caucus in 2019 and the Laborde Leadership Scholarship by the College of Agriculture in 2021. She also participated in the Louisiana Wildlife Federation's Edgar Veillon Conservation Leadership Corps. In 2021, LaGrone was named a national Udall Scholar.

"One of the proudest achievements that I have had in the past four years was being named a Udall scholar in 2021 for my interest in the environment," LaGrone said. "Becoming a Udall recipient felt like a culmination and recognition for the work I have been putting in to improve my community and the world around me. It is an honor that I will never forget."

She also participated in undergraduate research with LSU's Freshwater Ecology Lab, working on her honors thesis research project. She is currently completing an internship with the Water Institute of the Gulf Applied Geosciences Division.

LaGrone plans to spend her time working with environmental policy or community services before pursuing a master's in the environmental justice field.

"Being a part of LSU's Tiger Twelve means so much to me," LaGrone said. "I love Louisiana State University, and I have always worked hard to find ways to improve it over the past four years in any way possible. Being recognized for my efforts in doing so is amazing and humbling."

Photos by Alison Prez



2022-23 LES VOYAGEURS



Zach Bonser
*Agricultural
and Extension
Education*



Joseph Campagna
*Natural Resource
Ecology and
Management*



Ashleigh Charles
Animal Sciences



Ash Dalton
Animal Sciences



Gabby Davis
Animal Sciences



Sophia Discua
*Nutrition and Food
Sciences*



Tristan Foret
*Agricultural
and Extension
Education*



Lauren Hamilton
*Natural Resource
Ecology and
Management*



Olivia Heeg
Animal Sciences



Ariyan Key
Animal Sciences



Sophie LeBlanc
Animal Sciences



Zachary Mayfield
*Agricultural
and Extension
Education*



Jacob Mills
*Natural Resource
Ecology and
Management*



Nick Musso
*Nutrition and Food
Sciences*



Kodee Phillips
Animal Sciences



Savannah Rioux
Animal Sciences



Jonas Walker
Animal Sciences



Raina Washington
*Environmental
Management
Systems*

ASA MISSION

The mission of the College of Agriculture Student Association (ASA) is to represent the needs of the students in the LSU College of Agriculture by promoting camaraderie, expanding networks and creating opportunities that collectively foster personal growth and professional development and provide premier student experiences.

The ASA serves as the governing body for all College of Agriculture student organizations and the voice of students

in the LSU College of Agriculture. The ASA conducts programming that amplifies student involvement, including hosting monthly meetings, service initiatives and events. The ASA also assists clubs and organizations by providing need-based funding, promotion of events, conferences and competitions. The ASA serves as a liaison between students and College of Agriculture administration, LSU Student Government and the LSU administration.

OFFICERS



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President



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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HONORS 2021 AWARD RECIPIENTS

By Malorey Uzee, Annabelle Lang

The LSU College of Agriculture Alumni Awards ceremony was held on Nov. 19, 2021, prior to Cocktails and Cuisine fundraiser. The ceremony recognized the 2020 and 2021 Outstanding Alumni Award recipients.

Outstanding Alumni Awards for 2021 were presented to sugarcane specialist Kenneth Gravois and Steve Peirce, agricultural economics alumnus and president of RIBUS International.

Rebecca Melanson, plant health specialist and associate professor for Mississippi State University Extension Services, and Jeremy Hendrix, assistant director of the Soybean Promotion Board, received the Early Career Alumni Award for 2021.

During the 2021 ceremony, the LSU College of Agriculture also recognized the 2020 winners for Outstanding Alumni and Early Career Alumni awards, whose award ceremony was postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic. Rogers Leonard and David Wilson were recognized as outstanding alumni for 2020. Marshall Hardwick received the Early Career Alumni Award for 2020.



Luke Laborde, left, former interim dean of the College of Agriculture and vice president of agriculture, and Tara Smith, right, former president of the Agriculture Alumni Association, join College of Agriculture 2020 and 2021 outstanding alumni and early career alumni award recipients. They are, from left, Jeremy Hendrix, Rebecca Melanson, Rogers Leonard, Steve Peirce, David Wilson and Kenneth Gravois. Photos by Malorey Uzee

Kenneth Gravois – Outstanding Alumni

Kenneth Gravois is a three-time graduate of the LSU College of Agriculture, earning his bachelor’s degree in crop science and master’s and doctoral degrees in plant breeding. Gravois is the Sugar Research Station and Southwest Region Extension Sugarcane Specialist for the LSU AgCenter.

Over the past 20 years, he has made many contributions to Louisiana’s sugarcane industry. Successful breed variety programs are essential to the success of the Louisiana sugar industry, and Gravois has collaborated with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the American Sugarcane League to develop and release 24 commercial varieties of sugarcane.

Gravois has achieved many honors and awards, including the Denver T. Loupe Best Paper Award, Denver T. Loupe Sugar Heritage ASSCT Professorship, Tipton Team Research Award, Louisiana Agriculture Best Paper and currently holds three plant patents.

Additionally, he is a member of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Rice Technical Working Group and American Society of Sugarcane Technologists.

Steve Peirce – Outstanding Alumni

Peirce graduated with a bachelor’s degree in agricultural business and economics in 1981. He is the president of RIBUS International, a food ingredient company based in St. Louis, Missouri.

Under Peirce’s leadership, RIBUS has been awarded patents on three products in more than 15 countries, launched six ingredients (both conventional and organic) that have been exported to 40 countries, and has been positioned as a “Clean Label” ingredient company, using rice hulls and rice bran as alternatives to synthetic compounds.

During his time at LSU, Peirce was active in many student organizations, including serving as the state vice president for Louisiana FFA, chapter president for Collegiate FFA, pledge class president of Alpha Gamma Pho, president of the College of Agriculture Student Association and president of Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society.

In recent years, Peirce was awarded Honorary State Farmer in 2019 from the Louisiana FFA, Excipient of the Year from 2019-21 from Nutrition Industry Executive, Missouri Ag Exporter of the Year in 2011, and was appointed as USDA Advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture for Grain and Seeds in 2016. ►



Steve Peirce, left, president of RIBUS International and agricultural economics alumnus, received the 2021 Outstanding Alumni Award.

FACULTY AND STAFF RECOGNITIONS



1. Gina E. Eubanks

Gina E. Eubanks, associate vice president and program leader of Nutrition and Food Science, has been named to the agriculture subcommittee of the recently formed U.S. Department of Agriculture Equity Commission.

2. Erin McKinley

Erin McKinley, the director of the Didactic Program in Dietetics in the LSU School of Nutrition and Food Sciences, has been named an outstanding educator by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the largest organization of nutrition and dietetics practitioners.

3. Kevin Ringelman

Kevin Ringelman, associate professor in the LSU School of Renewable Natural Resources, has been named recipient of the prestigious H. Dale Hall Ducks Unlimited Endowed Professorship in Wetlands and Waterfowl Conservation.

4. Don La Bonte

Don La Bonte, professor and sweet potato breeder, received the National Impact Award from the National Sweetpotato Collaborators Group.

5. Jong Hyun Ham

Jong Hyun Ham, an LSU AgCenter plant pathologist, has been named to the F. Avalon Daggett Professorship in Rice Research.

6. Jennie Sparks

Jennie Sparks, academic counselor for the LSU College of Agriculture, has been honored with the LSU Advisor of the Year Award.

7. Henry Hebert

Henry Hebert, assistant director of recruitment for the College of Agriculture and advisor for the Les Voyageurs team, received the Campus Life, Love Purple Live Gold Advisor of the Year Award.

Rebecca Melanson – Early Career Outstanding Alumni

Melanson attended graduate school at LSU, where she received her master’s in 2011 and her doctorate in 2014 in plant pathology and crop physiology (PPCP).

During her time at LSU, Melanson was an active leader in the PPCP Graduate Student Association, the American Phytopathological Society (APS), and the Southern Division of APS.

Melanson is now an associate extension professor for the Mississippi State University Extension Service. She has statewide responsibilities for vegetables, fruits and nuts. In this role, Melanson educates and assists stakeholders, including commercial producers and county agricultural agents, with plant disease identification and management needs.

In her short time with the MSU Extension Service, she has secured over \$2 million in grant funding and developed and organized seven additional extension programs.

In addition to her leadership accomplishments, Melanson has written 13 publications, with many winning awards from the Mississippi Association of County Agricultural Agents and the National Association of County Agricultural Agents.

Jeremy Hendrix – Early Career Outstanding Alumni

Hendrix received a bachelor’s degree in animal sciences with a concentration in science and technology in 2004. Shortly after graduation, he started working at the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry as a weights and measures inspector.

He has been a valued employee at LDAF, serving in many capacities. Hendrix currently serves as the Assistant Director of the Soybean Promotion Board, National Organics Program State Coordinator, State Agency Ethics Liaison, Safety and Loss Prevention Program Director and Director of Minority and Veteran Affairs at the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

Hendrix was an active member of Minority in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences when he was a student, and volunteers with the LSU and Southern University MANRRS chapters. He provides students with information on careers in agriculture, assistance in funding opportunities at LDAF, as well as advising them on USDA mentorship and various other programs. ■

CHAIRS & PROFESSORSHIPS

LSU AgCenter and College of Agriculture		
Name of Endowed Position	Type	Recipient
American Sugar Cane League Chair in Sugarcane Production	Chair	Vacant
Chalkley Family Endowed Chair in Agriculture	Chair	William B. Richardson
Gordon D. Cain Endowed Chair of Agriculture	Chair	Qinglin Wu
Jack Hamilton Regents Chair in Cotton Production	Chair	Daniel Stephenson
Louisiana Rice Research Board Chair Excellence In Rice Research	Chair	Vacant
Louisiana Rice Research Board Chair For Rice Variety Development	Chair	Adam Famoso
Pennington Chair for Wildlife Research	Chair	Lane Foil
A. George and Mildred G. Caldwell Endowed Professorship in Agronomy and Soils	Professorship	Jim Wang
A. Wilbert's Sons Professorship in Agriculture and Natural Resources #1	Professorship	Michael Salassi
A. Wilbert's Sons Professorship in Agriculture and Natural Resources #2	Professorship	Michael Salassi
Adrienne Gravois Brazan Professorship in the School of Human Ecology	Professorship	Vacant
Albert E. And Karen W. Kirby Professorship In Agriculture	Professorship	Vacant
American Cyanamid Professorship for Excellence in Plant Biotechnology, Molecular Biology, and Crop Pest Management	Professorship	Vacant
American Cyanamid Professorship for Excellence in Plant Genetics, Breeding, and Variety Development	Professorship	Vacant
Andrew P. Gay Professorship	Professorship	Collins Kimbeng
Andrew Price Gay Jr. and John Fleming Gay Professorship in Sugarcane Variety Development	Professorship	Vacant
Ann Armstrong Peltier Professorship	Professorship	Georgianna Tuuri
Arlene and Joseph Meraux Professorship	Professorship	Jeb Fields
ASSCT-Denver T. Loupe Sugar Heritage Professorship	Professorship	Kenneth Gravois
Austin C. Thompson Distinguished Endowed Professorship in Entomology	Professorship	Tom Reagan
Benjamin L. Legendre Sr. Sugar Heritage ASSCT Professorship	Professorship	Albert Orgeron
Bryant A. Bateman Professorship in Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries	Professorship	Allen Rutherford
Crosby Land and Resources Company Professorship in Forest Sector Business Development #1	Professorship	Richard Vlosky
Crosby Land and Resources Company Professorship in Forest Sector Business Development #2	Professorship	Richard Vlosky
Daniel Ivy Dupree Endowed Professorship	Professorship	Kenneth Bondioli
Donald E. Welge Endowed Professorship	Professorship	Rex Caffey
Doris Lasseigne Carville and Jules A. Carville Jr. Endowed Professorship	Professorship	Chuanlan Liu
Doyle Chambers Distinguished Professorship	Professorship	Zongliang Jiang
Doyle Chambers Professorship in Animal Science	Professorship	Richard Cooper
Dr. Alma Beth Clark Professorship in the School of Human Ecology	Professorship	Vacant
Dr. D. L. Evans Professorship in Dairy Science	Professorship	Cathleen Williams
Dr. William H. Alexander Endowed Professorship	Professorship	Matt Fannin
Durwood Joseph Newton Professorship In Sugarcane Variety Development	Professorship	Vacant
F. A. Eugene, Marcel and James Graugnard Professorship in Sugarcane Research at the Sugar Research Station	Professorship	Vacant
F. Avalon Daggett Professorship in Rice Research #1	Professorship	Herry Utomo

LSU AgCenter and College of Agriculture		
Name of Endowed Position	Type	Recipient
F. Avalon Daggett Professorship in Rice Research #2	Professorship	Vacant
F. Avalon Daggett Professorship in Rice Research #3	Professorship	Jong Hyun Ham
F. O. Bateman Distinguished Professorship	Professorship	William Kelso
Floyd S. Edmiston Sr. Professorship in Agriculture and Natural Resources Management	Professorship	Jeff Hoy
G & H Seed Company Endowed Professorship	Professorship	Michael Salassi
George William Barineau Jr. Professorship in the College of Agriculture	Professorship	Michael Kaller
Gerald A. Simmons Professorship in Animal Sciences	Professorship	Vacant
Gilbert J. Durbin Endowed Professorship	Professorship	Krishna Paudel
Grace Drews Lehmann Professorship in Human Ecology	Professorship	Ioan Negulescu
H. Rouse Caffey Endowed Professorship	Professorship	Adam Famoso
Harry Clayton Sanders Sr. Endowed Professorship In Extension Education	Professorship	Vacant
Horace J. Davis Endowed Professorship in Food Science and Technology	Professorship	Witoon Prinyawiwatkul
J. C. Floyd Endowed Professorship in Agriculture	Professorship	Michael Burnett
J. Nelson Fairbanks Endowed Professorship in Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness	Professorship	Matt Fannin
Jack E. and Henrietta Jones Professorship	Professorship	Brenda Tubaña
John B. Baker Professorship for Excellence in Weed Science	Professorship	Donnie Miller
L. D. Newsom Professorship in Integrated Pest Management	Professorship	Fangneng Huang
Louisiana Farm Bureau Professorship in Agricultural Policy I	Professorship	Kurt Guidry
Louisiana Farm Bureau Professorship in Agricultural Policy II	Professorship	Michael Deliberto
Lucien and Peggy Laborde Endowed Professorship	Professorship	Don La Bonte
Luella Dugas Chambers Distinguished Professorship	Professorship	Gina Eubanks
Martin D. Woodin Endowed Professorship in Agricultural Business	Professorship	Rex Caffey
Mary Sandefur Tobin Professorship	Professorship	Vacant
Meraux Foundation Supreme Champion Livestock Professorship	Professorship	Toby Lepley
Meryal Newsom Annison Professorship in Agriculture	Professorship	Philip Elzer
Mosaic Company Professorship	Professorship	Vacant
Mr. and Mrs. Herman E. McFatter Endowed Professorship in Animal Science	Professorship	Philip Elzer
Ola Cook Holmes Professorship in Horticulture	Professorship	Jeff Kuehny
Paul K. Adams Professorship in Urban Entomology	Professorship	Claudia Husseneder
R. Chabreck Professorship in Coastal Wildlife Research Management	Professorship	Vacant
Ralph and Leila Boulware Professorship	Professorship	Vacant
Roy A. and Karen Pickren Endowed Professorship in Extension Water Resources	Professorship	Vacant
Roy O. Martin Sr. Professorship in Composites and Engineered Woodproducts	Professorship	Qinglin Wu
Sterling C. Bain Professorship in Sugarcane Production	Professorship	Vacant
Tom and Martha Burch and Delta and Pine Land Company Endowed Professorship in Cotton Production or Genetics	Professorship	Vacant
Walker T. Nolin Professorship	Professorship	Steve Harrison
Warner L. Bruner Professorship in Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness	Professorship	Kurt Guidry
Weaver Brothers Endowed Professorship for Excellence in Forestry	Professorship	Sabrina Taylor



LSU AgCenter Office of Development
101 J. Norman Efferson Hall
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

AG STUDENT SUCCESS FUND

There are many extracurricular opportunities available for students. Participating in internships, professional development opportunities, conferences, and study abroad makes a huge impact. We don't want students to miss out because they can't afford to fund these opportunities out of pocket.

CONTACT KATELYNN LEE AT 225-578-6270 TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP.

