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Cypress Lake News

Newsletter of the Department of Communication • University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Reaccreditation is official

At its May 5 meeting in New York City, the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC) approved full six-year reaccreditation for the department's degree programs in mass communication (journalism, broadcasting and advertising) and public relations

This was the third and final hurdle of the reaccreditation process. The first hurdle was the recommendation of the site team, which visited in January; the second was the review by the ACEJMC Committee on Accreditation, which met in March.

Accreditation is an assurance of quality. It demonstrates that a department meets national standards. Winning reaccreditation is good for ULL students and graduates, because employers and graduate schools recognize that communication graduates have received a nationally competitive education.

Only 108 journalism and mass communication departments in the United States are accredited.

"Overall, the department of communication is seen as a center of excellence within the university," said Paul Barefield, communication department head. "The President expects the renovation and expansion of the department's main building, the strengthening of equipment through internal grants, and the upgrade of faculty salaries through the efforts of a successful capital campaign. This will make a significant difference in the years ahead."

The accreditation process began about 18 months ago, when department faculty began compiling a two-volume self-study. This documented the department's compliance with ACEJMC national standards in such criteria as curriculum, teaching, faculty research, internships, diversity, alumni relations, public service, equipment and facilities. Michael Maher led the self-study effort, wrote the introductory over-

view and edited the final document. This completed self-study went to a four-member site team, which visited campus January 23-26.

Site team members were: chairman, Joe Foote, dean, College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, Southern Illinois

University; Larry Bowen, professor of communications, University of Washington; Mary Ann Ferguson, associate dean for research, University of Florida; and Maxine Lynch, communication consultant, Cleveland, Ohio. "The site team concluded that

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Poister prepares to interview Jason Marsalis and his famous father, Ellis Marsalis. With them is Poister's assistant, Nahoko Miyake.

Poister documents all that jazz

story and photos by Kacy Watts, journalism senior

Geoff Poister is documenting one of Louisiana's grandest traditions by filming and videotaping three extraordinary young people who are aspiring for careers in jazz.

"I didn't just want to profile them, I wanted to travel with them and give a sense of what their lives are like and also what jazz today is like," says Poister. "All of them are focused on what they do. They are very rooted in the New Orleans culture."

The three subjects are Jason Marsalis,

a jazz drummer and the son of the famed jazz pianist, Ellis Marsalis; Irvin Mayfield, a trumpet player; and Courtney Bryan, a 17-year-old senior at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA), who plays jazz piano.

"I am trying to capture the progression of the lives of these people and what it takes to become a musician today," says Poister. He is recording the three virtuosos' lives for a year and a half.

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Communication Department

Reaccreditation—continued from page 1

the ULL program was undervalued in reputation considering the quality of its professional programs,” Barefield said. “One veteran team member called our department one of the ‘best-kept secrets in communication education.’”

During its visit the team interviewed students, faculty, alumni and administrators in an effort to confirm and expand on points made in the self-study. In its written report, the site team summarized the department’s strengths, which included the quality of instruction, faculty research, alumni relations and student diversity.

The site team found the department out of compliance in one standard, budget. The site team’s report noted the operating budget was “insufficient to support a department of this size and quality.” The team reported that the department needed more tenure-track faculty positions, more competitive faculty salaries, and more funds for instructional equipment maintenance.

In its response to the site team report, the UL administration agreed to improve some staffing and budget deficiencies.

ACEJMC accredits journalism and mass communication programs nationwide.

The U.S. Dept. of Education requires that publicity releases about accreditation include the name, address and telephone number of the accreditation agency.

The Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication is located at the University of Kansas School of Journalism, Stauffer-Flint Hall, Lawrence, KS 66045. Its telephone number is (785) 864-5225. Susanne Shaw is the ACEJMC executive director.

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“The hardest part of this kind of project is to construct an interesting story,” he explains. “If I’m shooting for a year and a half, I don’t want to keep repeating what’s going on; I need to keep showing something different, some kind of progression.”

Poister is in New Orleans to film one of Bryan’s scholarship tryouts and to interview Marsalis and his father.

“Today Courtney is doing an audition,” Poister says. “That is a big part of her life right now because she is at a very young age.” He explains that Bryan has not yet begun her career, so she is seeking scholarships and trying to win acceptance to a prestigious music school.

Accompanied by his assistant, Nahoko Miyake, Poister follows Bryan around like a proud father at his daughter’s first dance recital. He quietly records her talking with friends and deciding what to play at the audition. He is attempting to capture the essence of a young jazz innovator beneath her fidgety shyness.

As Poister’s camera records, she plays Brahms enchantingly, first gracing the judges’ ears with a sonata that rings throughout the room, clear and true. She plays the piece from memory, eyes closed, and allows the music to engulf her completely.

Bryan then performs her own composition, “For Wayne.” Rapturous taps of drums accompany her, embellishing the song’s jazzy pace as she frenetically fingers the keys.

Poister also visits the home of jazz legend Ellis Marsalis in this New Orleans trip.

“I am interviewing Ellis and Jason be-



Poister and Miyake tape an interview with Courtney Bryan, jazz pianist.

cause I am interested in looking at the two generations and the comparisons of their views on jazz,” says Poister with subdued excitement. “Ellis has been around since the days of the jazz legends.”

A lush flower garden engulfs the front yard of Marsalis’ sage-green house. It is framed by a wrought-iron fence, as symbolic of New Orleans’ culture as those who reside within.

Poister shoots the interview in the back yard, which is not adorned with the flora of the front yard, but which radiates a sense of bucolic tranquillity. Visitors might even forget they were in a city.

Poister kneels on the deck and records the casual conversation between father and

son. The topic was jazz, and the dialogue encompasses seemingly every imaginable aspect of this uniquely New Orleans genre.

Ellis Marsalis doubts whether documentaries like Poister’s will correct stereotypes about jazz. “I think it’s good that it’s done, but I think that documentaries don’t reach a large enough audience to dispel any myths. The retention factor of anything of consequence is extremely rare, so any documentary becomes a part of a larger body of documents that will eventually find its way to whoever decides to research what.”

Jason Marsalis, who recently has released a new compact disc and is a member of a well-known jazz band called Los

Hombres Calientes, expressed hope that Poister's film could help his career.

"So far, [Poister] has definitely captured how our lives are," Jason says. "As far as my stuff, he's covered that well."

Poister started making movies when he was 10 by utilizing his parents' camera. By the time he was in the sixth grade, he made his first full-length picture with characters and a sound track. His plot was a takeoff on James Bond.

When he began college, he shelved his interest in film to study at the Berklee College of Music in Boston. Later, he attended the State University of New York and received a bachelor of science degree. He resumed his film interest at New York University, where he obtained master of science in television and film.

\$80,000 grant will refurbish sound lab

The department will soon install modern digital audio recording and editing systems for its sound production lab. The facility is used in the introductory broadcasting course (CMCN 250).

The renovations are funded by a Board of Regents undergraduate enhancement grant of \$80,000. William Davie, who heads the broadcasting sequence, was principal author of the grant proposal.

In addition to purchasing sound equipment, the grant will fund the construction of soundproof work booths, so that students can assemble quality audio programs with no "sound bleed" from the adjacent student workstations.

Duhé wins Outstanding Alumni Award

Sandy Duhé has become the first woman to win the Outstanding Alumni Award given annually by the department.

A native of Crowley, Duhé earned her master's degree in public relations in 1996. She is now corporate brand manager for ExxonMobil, where she is responsible for global brand positioning, opinion leader research, and management of such corporate sponsorships as the ExxonMobil Masterpiece Theater and the International Pegasus Prize for Literature.

She lives in Dallas and works at ExxonMobil's world headquarters.

While at UL, Duhé won the Outstanding Thesis Award from the International Communication Association for her

"This project is nice because I can combine my interest in music and film making," Poister says.

The film is funded by grants from the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation and the Freedom Forum. Sponsorships by Community Coffee and Tabasco also help pay the bills. Poister hopes to release it in September.

"Everyone in the story is under some kind of pressure," Poister says of the assiduous young people portrayed in his film. "If it's not pressure from the outside, it's pressure from the inside to be the best they can be."

—**Journalism senior Kacy Watts, a native of Raceland, is now working at the Abbeville Meridional as a summer intern.**

In previous years, students have been using outmoded analog reel-to-reel tape decks, working in a building with window unit air conditioning and lots of other ambient noise.

The lab itself is located in what is called the "Audio Annex," a building between Burke and Wharton halls that once housed the campus telephone exchange. This 1930s-vintage building will be renovated with central air conditioning, a security system, and a wheelchair access ramp.

The equipment should be available for student use in the coming fall semester.

research in corporate philanthropy. In 1996 she joined Mobil as public affairs adviser for the company's largest petrochemical and refining complex in Beaumont, where she managed media relations, crisis communication, government affairs and community outreach.

She transferred to Mobil's Chalmette refinery in 1997, where her team's work in environmental outreach programs and risk communication earned the refinery Gov. Foster's Environmental Leadership Award. She has done presentations on this work to several industry conferences, including the American Petroleum Institute.

While living in New Orleans she began doctoral study in urban studies. In

Fall Fund-raiser Oct. 21

The department's second annual Fish and Game Supper will be held Saturday, Oct. 21. Sponsored by the Corporate Communication Council, the event raises funds for faculty professional travel and for supplies and services not covered by university funds. Tickets are \$50; call (337) 482-6103 for more information.

Ron Rich scholarship nears completion

The late Prof. Ron Rich enjoyed the company of students and did whatever it took to make their day a little brighter... a smile, a word of encouragement, or an ear inclined to their concerns.

"Few faculty have given so unselfishly of their time to helping students finish everything from their advertising campaigns to their degree plans," said broadcast coordinator William Davie, one of Prof. Rich's colleagues who helped establish a memorial scholarship endowment. "Not only was Ron's door always open to his students, he was usually standing in the doorway, ready to share an idea for research, a joke, or the latest news about the blues."

In 1996 an accident took his life at his Breaux Bridge home.

The endowment is two-thirds of its way toward completion, but needs \$4,000 more to fund a permanent scholarship in Ron Rich's name.

"We need more donors, especially those who appreciated Ron as a teacher who believed in his students, cared for his friends, and loved the blues," Davie said. Contributions to the Ron Rich Memorial Scholarship Fund can be sent to the UL Development Office, P.O. Drawer 43410, Lafayette, LA 70504-3410.

Dallas she has continued her doctoral work in public policy, focusing on corporate responsiveness to public opinion.

Duhé is a graduate of the Leadership Lafayette program of the Chamber of Commerce. She has also held board positions with such philanthropic groups as Habitat for Humanity, the American Red Cross, the American Cancer Society, and the Jefferson Performing Arts Society.

She began her career in the oil industry as a financial analyst for Conoco in New Orleans.

Prior to her current position, she served a nine-month assignment in merger communication at Mobil's headquarters in Fairfax, Va.

Faculty professional updates

Ty Adams finished final edits on a coauthored textbook, *The Internet*, which will be published by Harcourt-Brace in October. He recently completed his term as editor of the *American Communication Journal*, a three-year appointment.

He received the SSCA 2000 Outreach Award, established for members who successfully reach out to include new unrepresented constituencies into the association. The award recognized his founding of the SSCA.net Web-design model.

He has, to his regret, accepted a position in the Department of Corporate Communication at Southern Methodist University beginning Fall 2000.

Robert Buckman spent the Christmas break covering two presidential runoff campaigns in Latin America for several newspapers as a freelancer.

From Dec. 16-22, Buckman was in Guatemala, where he interviewed the two candidates, Alfonso Portillo of the Guatemalan Republican Front and Oscar Berger of the ruling Party of National Advancement (PAN).

In the interview, Portillo, who later won the Dec. 26 runoff in a landslide, assured Buckman he would not tolerate harassment of the press as was exhibited under the incumbent president, Alvaro Arzu of the PAN.

Buckman's advance stories on the runoff appeared in the *Dallas Morning News*, the *Washington Times*, the *Boston Globe*, the *San Francisco Examiner* and the *Tampa Tribune*.

From Dec. 29-Jan. 13, Buckman was in Chile to write an advance story on the Jan. 16 presidential runoff between Ricardo Lagos, a socialist with the ruling coalition, and Joaquín Lavín of the right-wing opposition. Lagos narrowly defeated Lavín with 52 percent of the vote.

Buckman interviewed both candidates briefly during campaign stops in Puerto Montt. His article appeared in the *Houston Chronicle*, the *Washington Times* and the *Tampa Tribune*.

In April, Buckman was completing the revisions for *Latin America 2000*, the latest edition of his annual reference book. He took over the book, part of a series pub-

lished by Stryker-Post Publications in Harpers Ferry, W. Va., in 1997. This year's deadline was complicated by the ongoing Elián González controversy and the apparently fraudulent presidential election in Peru on April 9.

Buckman recently covered the July presidential election in Mexico, both for newspapers and for his book, which will be released in August.

William R. Davie presented two papers at the Broadcast Education Association in April. The first, "Electronic News in 2100," was at a session sponsored by the BEA's History Division. In the second paper Davie reported the findings of his academic survey on broadcast news teaching methods in American colleges and universities. Davie is a former chair of the News Division of BEA.

Davie will chair a session on broadcast news ethics at the August convention of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. "As we regard the first anniversary of the Columbine High School rampage," he says, "it is important the news media learn from both their mistakes and successes." This panel in Phoenix will bring together ethicists from the university and the professional ranks of broadcast journalists to see how academics and broadcast journalists should use professional codes in order to improve the standards and practices of fast-breaking electronic journalism.

This summer Davie will participate in the Radio and Television News Directors Foundation's Excellence in Journalism Education project. This entails an assignment to a television station to renew contact with practitioner-level broadcast practices. The program includes a three-day orientation in Washington, D.C., then four weeks with an Albany, N.Y., television station.

Davie continues to make progress on an introduction to broadcasting textbook for Allyn & Bacon publishers, and continues to serve as a member of the Educational Task Force of the Radio-Television News Directors Association. He plans to begin work on a videotape designed to show news directors and academics the best way to use

their internships for the success of the students, the university, and the professional broadcast journalism community.

In a nonacademic role Davie is participating in discussions concerning the refranchise agreement for the local community access channel, Acadiana Open Channel. City/parish leaders are negotiating with Cox Communications over the restructuring of AOC. As president of the AOC board of directors, Davie serves as an adviser to AOC's administration. He predicts a new agreement will be in place for channels 5 and 98 by the end of this year.

Patricia Holmes received the Beacon Club's Outstanding Teacher Award. She was recognized April 7 by Page Salley, director of UL's Services for Students with Disabilities office and adviser to the Beacon Club. The Beacon Club was formed in 1972 to promote the interests of students with disabilities. Holmes was nominated by students. She was also awarded tenure this spring.

Kathleen Kelly was the keynote luncheon speaker at the 2000 International Research Conference of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Educators Academy, held at the University of Miami (Fla.) in April. Her presentation was titled, "The Nonprofit Sector: Informing Public Relations Discourse." Kelly currently is writing a chapter on the same subject for an upcoming book, *Public Relations Theory II*, which will be published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates in 2001.

The nonprofit sector's role in American society also was the topic of Kelly's keynote address at the April 2000 induction ceremony of the UL Lafayette Chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. Kelly has been a member of Phi Kappa Phi since 1986.

In January Kelly was invited to join the editorial board of the *Journal of Public Relations Research*, one of the two leading academic journals in the field. She was appointed to the editorial board of the other journal, *Public Relations Review*, in 1994.

Kelly was featured in *The Chronicle of Philanthropy* (January 13, 2000), which quoted her and ran a photograph of her

taken on the steps of Martin Hall in its cover story on the new millennium. Her book, *Effective Fund-Raising Management*, was listed as one of only eight books suggested as resources on American philanthropy in the 20th century.

Kelly's biography has been selected to appear in the next edition of *Who's Who in America*. An article she wrote, "Donor Motivation: Altruism vs. Self-Interest," was published in the November 1999 issue of *The Not-For-Profit CEO Monthly Letter*. In April 2000, she was honored with a "Service Recognition Award" from District IV of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

The highlight of the past year, according to Kelly, was that she became a grandmother in November! Sarah Elizabeth Idun Levy, who resides in Baltimore, has been to Lafayette twice in the past four months to visit Grandma.

During the past academic year **Michael Maher** has chaired the department's accreditation effort. This entailed coordinating faculty and graduate students who compiled data and narratives that showed the department's compliance

with 12 standards established by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. He wrote the introductory overview of the state, university and departmental setting, and edited the various contributed chapters into a 150-page document, with a thick set of supporting appendices.

The self-study is the heart of the accreditation process. The accreditation site team wrote that the self-study was "clear, complete, well-organized and insightful."

This summer Maher will attend the University of Missouri "boot camp" in computer-assisted reporting. He is also completing two journal articles on media coverage of environment. He was promoted to associate professor this spring.

Kitty Valdetero has submitted to the publisher revisions for the third edition of the workbook, *Interactive Communication*. It will be ready for the fall semester.

Patricia Rockwell presented a paper titled "Culture, gender, and trait differences in encoders of sarcasm: A self-assessment analysis" at the Southern States Communication Association annual convention in

New Orleans April 1. At the convention Rockwell attended several meetings of the National Communication Association's Task Force on Service Learning. Rockwell is the cochairman of the assessment segment of this task force.

Rockwell and adjunct instructor Brenda Comeaux Trahan coauthored an article titled "The effects of listening training on nursing home assistants: Residents' satisfaction with and perception of assistants' listening behavior," which will appear in *The International Journal of Listening*. Rockwell was awarded tenure this spring.

Carol Rusaw was invited to present a paper, "Ethical Dilemmas in Action Research: A Typological Analysis," at the International Conference on Advances in Management, July 12-15 in Boulder, Colorado.

She has also completed the final edits for her textbook, *Leading Public Organizations: An Interactive Approach*, as well as the instructor's manual for the book. It will be published later this year by Harcourt Brace. Rusaw was awarded tenure this spring.

Three faculty depart for other states

Three faculty members have left the department for out-of-state opportunities: Ty Adams, Timothy Dee and Geoff Poister.

Adams has taken a faculty position at Southern Methodist University in Dallas; Poister will go to Boston University, while Dee joins his wife Carol in Florida, where she has a faculty job at Florida State University.

Communication Department Head Paul Barefield noted that when three productive young faculty members depart, it is a significant loss among a faculty of only 14 members.

All three expressed regret at leaving the department and the area, but all noted that the state of Louisiana seems unwilling to fund higher education competitively.

"My heart is in this institution. I love the students, the community, the people, the faculty, and even the administration," Adams said. "My main reason for leaving this institution is purely financial. How can an academic raise a family on a salary that has been

habitually defining the drag on the Southern Regional [faculty salary] statistic? When will the people of this state demand that its legislators expand the budget pie for educational growth and betterment?"

Adams has taught the popular Web design classes in the department and is completing a book on computer-mediated communication. He won the department's first Outstanding Teaching Award in 1999.

Timothy Dee said that inadequate funding was at the heart of his decision to leave Louisiana. "I thought I would live the rest of my life in Acadiana working for UL-Lafayette, but that is no longer the case. I must find an institution that will provide me with the tools necessary to do my job. I love this place, but I can no longer bear the [financial] burden."

Dee is technically on leave for the coming year, but he has sold his house near Cecilia and has moved to Florida. Dee joined the faculty in 1993, and has taught both film and television classes. His 1998

movie, *Uncle Sidney and the Mexicans*, has won national awards. It was shot locally and was based on a short story by UL alumnus James Lee Burke.

Geoff Poister, whose documentary work is featured in this newsletter, also said that inadequate state funding for higher education was at the heart of his decision to seek a future elsewhere.

The 2000 legislative session was characterized by many legislators as being dominated by special-interest lobbyists. The spring special session called by the Governor to address higher education funding passed no substantive revenue measures. The Governor's "Business to Education" value-added tax on business also died on the vine during the 2000 legislative session. The legislature twice denied the University of Louisiana system permission to generate additional revenues through tuition increases, but passed the measure on a third vote in a June special legislative session. This will allow UL to raise tuition by \$250.

Alumni and student news

Wanda Lemon Lastrapes, '79, M.Ed. '84, is director of the Office of Teacher Education Services at Old Dominion University, the largest teacher-preparation institution in Virginia. Lastrapes and her staff of three provide academic advising to more than 800 students. In addition, with the assistance of a placement specialist, she coordinates all field placement requests in public schools for preservice educators, handling nearly 1,000 requests per academic year. She works closely with the dean and five department chairs regarding state licensure requirements and serves as the licensure officer for the Darden College of Education. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in urban services with a concentration in Education at Old Dominion. She is married to Keith G. Lastrapes, '86, of Opelousas, who is a lieutenant commander in the U. S. Navy. They have a daughter, Ashley, and three sons, Henley, Ricardo and Ryan.

Thomas Conover, '82, is stage manager for the band Cowboy Mouth. He describes himself as "the one with the long hair, which is short and spiky on top, who tunes the guitars before the band takes the stage."

Conover enjoys his work, particularly the travel. However, not all his traveling involves work, as he recently returned from visiting England and France.

Prior to his current job, Conover worked as production coordinator for the Cajundome, and he also worked with the Festival International de Louisiane.

Of his college days, he remembers Dr. Barefield as being "fair and cool." Although he graduated in broadcasting, his passion is writing. He advises students not to write with their emotions, but instead to manipulate words like George Johns, a country and western songwriter.

Conover played for six years in a local band, The Rocking Shapes, which cut three discs before breaking up.

Deborah P. Johnson, '82, recently started her own business, Acadiana Advertising Agency in Lafayette. She provides advertising specialties and premium gifts, such as golf balls personalized with a

company's logo, to corporate clients. She also advises her clients on media strategy. "I deal with people all across the area, and would like to one day go international."

Active in the community, Johnson recently chaired the audio visual promotions committee for the renovations to First Baptist Church.

After graduating in public relations, Johnson worked for nine years as Director of Development at Westminster Christian Academy. Her duties included promotions, publications, admissions, and fund raising.

Johnson has many fond memories of UL. She said, "I especially enjoyed Dr. Barefield's communication law class because it was a small class with great discussion."

Johnson resides in Lafayette with her husband and 13-year-old son.

Renee C. Reaux, '85, is doing volunteer work for Hospice of Acadiana and Tri-Delta sorority, while she raises her three children. She also does volunteer work for her children's school. She is married and lives in Lafayette.

Donna Chance, '87, is a freelance film producer in New Orleans. She has worked for movies, videos and television commercials. Her recent work includes serving as cast supervisor for the films *Double Jeopardy* and *Primary Colors*.

"Sometimes I work 20 hours a day," Chance says, "but I wouldn't be able to do that if I were married or had children. The good thing about it is that when a job is finished, I can take four months off work if I want to. My job involves a lot of traveling."

Chance worked in film production during the summers prior to graduating from UL in public relations. After graduating, she worked in sales and marketing management in New York, where she did graduate studies in marketing. Then she moved to California for a year to work in the film industry.

Chance once served as a national officer for Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority, and traveled the country starting new chapters and conducting marketing and public relations plans for chapters.

She still does some chapter-development work for Tri-Sig, and she also volunteers her time to do choreography and costume design for plays at her former New Orleans elementary school.

She remembers that during her student days the department had neither computers nor air conditioning. She recalls that Virginia Cromwell "epitomized public relations," and that Paul Barefield made the communication law class tough but interesting.

Dana L. Durman, '88, is a corporate communications consultant, based out of her home in Tyler, Texas. After spending the last 10 years in the corporate world, she is finally able to stay home with her two kids and be full-time mom and part-time consultant. Durman says that currently most of her work is centered around one large computer software company.

In the past she has worked for oil companies, waste management, and in investor relations. Although her expertise has not always been in the technology field, she thinks technology holds a great future for public relations practitioners of the future. "Desktop publishing was probably the one skill I learned at school that helped me the most," said Durman. Good communication skills, both verbal and written, are what she stressed as the most valuable tools needed in the field today.

Durman says her best memory of ULL was changing her major from pre-medicine to public relations. "Getting out of pre-med and getting into public relations was probably the smartest thing I ever did, because I love what I do," she said.

Dana's husband completed a degree in land management at ULL. They live in Tyler, Texas, with their two sons.

Dianne Pepper-Mollere, '88, is a court reporter in New Orleans. "The best thing about my job is that I get to spend a lot of time working at home," says Mollere.

After receiving her degree in mass communications, she joined TV-3 in Lafayette as a master control technician. She later transferred to New Orleans, where she worked for public broadcasting company WYES. Mollere recently changed careers

after deciding that she would have better financial opportunities in the field of court reporting.

A native of New Orleans, Mollere chose the University of Louisiana because she had family who lived in Lafayette. Of the time she spent at UL-Lafayette, she fondly remembers "going to the festivals and Dr. Jacobs' and Dan Hildenbrandt's parties." Mollere currently lives in Harvey, La., with her husband Daniel. They eloped to Hawaii on Valentine's Day of this year. In her spare time she volunteers at a home for the elderly.

Joan Frederick, '89, has served on the ULL Alumni Council for the past three years. She is a full-time mom and writes the church bulletin for St. Pius Church and the monthly newsletter for the Theresian group she is involved with at church.

Frederick graduated in broadcast journalism and worked for TV 10 from 1989-1996. She started as the office manager and one year later became a reporter. In her last three and a half years at TV 10, she worked as an anchor for *Passe Partout* and *Meet Your Neighbor* programs.

"I got a strong background from broadcast. We had to do stories on campus for practice. This gave me a little ease for whenever I started my real job and it wasn't so intimidating. The camera became one person opposed to 100,000 people."

Frederick is married, has two children and lives in Youngsville.

Kim Kelly Terrill, M.S. '89, is assistant professor of mass communication and speech at Francis Marion University in Florence, South Carolina. Since leaving UL she has been steadily teaching public speaking, intro to human communication, and various other communication courses at different colleges and universities in Louisiana and Arkansas.

She married Sonny Terrill in 1991, and in December 1997 they had a daughter, Hunter Hope Terrill. "She is an absolute joy, and we spend the majority of our free time playing with her," Terrill writes. They moved to South Carolina in 1998 when Sonny took a job with a chemical company as a human resource supervisor. They like to travel, snow ski, go to the beach and lake, and play with their dogs and cat. Kim is an active volunteer with the Florence Area Humane Society.

Joye Gordon, M.S., '90, has left Nicholls State University for a faculty position at Kansas State University. Gordon completed her Ph.D. in 1999 at Purdue. She had been an instructor at Nicholls since 1995.

Connie Gatlin, '91, recently remarried and is now **Connie Gremillion**. She is director of development and public relations for Cathedral-Carmel school in Lafayette. She is active with the Lafayette Natural History Museum and is a member of the Junior League. She also serves on the board for Lafayette Downtown Unlimited. She has two grown daughters.

Pearl Castille Hubred, '91, gave birth to her second child, McKinley, on May 11. He was 8 lbs., 5 ozs. She and her husband, Kent, who works for Intel, also have a daughter, Carson. They recently moved to Colorado Springs. Pearl's email address is Hubred@gateway.net.

Denise Judice, '91, M.S., '96, is marketing director and project manager for Explore Interactive Inc., of Baton Rouge. EI is a multimedia development and integration firm that designs, programs and hosts custom Web sites and produces software for Web site development.

Judice's primary functions include promoting Explore Interactive's products and services, managing custom Web site production, and assisting clients with the conceptual and creative phases of Web site development.

"It's extremely busy at EI!" Judice writes. "We're always looking to hire good design talent, specifically, designers who can 'cut up' Web sites. We also need designers who are good with Flash." Anyone with these skills who is looking for a job can contact her at denise@exploreinteractive.com. She and her husband moved to Baton Rouge in October 1999.

Lisa Boudreaux, '92, is technology coordinator with a project school in the Acadiana area. Her daily responsibilities include maintaining all the computers and their networks, training teachers on proper computer usage, and performing workshops for teachers.

As a graduate in broadcasting, Lisa began working in production. After a while, she decided to pursue a career in

computer technology and she has been in that field ever since. "I really enjoyed the computer classes that I took while at UL," says Lisa, "and the job that I have now is by far my favorite."

She is now married, has two young daughters, and resides in Lafayette.

Judy Dill Guillot, '92, is development director/technology director for St. Michael School in Crowley. She has held this position for the past seven years. She handles fund raising, communications, publicity, marketing, student recruitment, administrative support, alumni relations, long-range planning, and grant writing. She also does computer maintenance, trains teachers in new technology and serves as the school network administrator.

"When I started in 1993, we were in the dark ages," she remembers. "I started with the addition of fax machines and new computers, and moved into network and Internet wiring. Since my fund raising was such an integral part of the technology offering, I did more and more in the area of technology until I became, by default, the technology director."

Her school's annual giving program is now in its sixth year, and thus far has raised more than \$289,000. "I have enjoyed practicing all of the skills and knowledge that I acquired at UL," Guillot writes. "It has been a great opportunity for me—practicing skills that I enjoy in a place that I love!"

Kevin DeRamus, '93, is the Service Bureau director for the Sun Belt Conference. He produces media guides and news releases for the sports conference, and does other public relations tasks.

"One day is never the same as the next with sports," DeRamus says. "The Sun Belt has a lot of teams that are doing well this year, so I stay very busy. One of the best things about this job is that I use everything I learned in my communication courses, so my job is really fun. I would like to thank Dr. Kelly, Dr. Maher and Dr. Bridges for teaching me the things I needed to do my job."

DeRamus joined the conference office in 1998. He has since started a group called Youth Education in Sports (YES), which allows young people to interact with college athletes and see what college sports and academics are all about.

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After graduating in public relations, DeRamus worked for the UL Sports Information Office. As a student he was sports editor for the *Vermilion*.

He now lives in New Orleans, is married and has an 18-month-old son.

Shelly Fonger Reese, '94, is the public relations coordinator for the Wyndham Palace Resort & Spa at the Walt Disney World Resort. She moved to Orlando shortly after graduation and met her husband, Doug. They had their first child on 9-9-99; her name is Danielle Elizabeth Reese. They live in Orlando.

Kevin Fauchaux, '94, manages the help desk for IberiaBank. After graduating, for two years he taught blind and deaf/blind individuals how to use computers and how to use adaptive equipment to gain access to computers. The broadcasting major writes that he enjoys his work at IberiaBank, and has been there almost three years. He lives in Lafayette.

Tara Breaux Underwood, '94, is the community relations coordinator for Lafayette General Medical Center in Lafayette.

Ashley Daugherty, '97, is an outside sales representative for an audiovisual company in Houston. She sells computer protection equipment to schools in the greater

Houston area. The Alexandria native says that she loves her work and has fond memories of her UL student days.

Michele Norman, '97, is a personnel consultant for Patricia Stevens, Inc., located in Chicago. She recruits for advertising, marketing, public relations, legal and human resource professionals. Some of the top companies she recruits for are DDB Chicago, Edelman PR, Draft World Wide, Leo Burnett, J. Walter Thompson and Hill & Knowlton.

Her email address is michelen@patriciastevens.com. Her home address is 3606 N. Pine Grove Apt 2K, Chicago, IL 60613. If any UL grad is considering a move to Chicago...she welcomes your resume. For current students and grads who are interested in working for the large advertising and public relations firms, she notes that the companies like J. Walter Thompson and DDB Chicago look for skills in such software as Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access. "My applicants must score at least a 95 percent on PowerPoint to get an interview," she says.

Michelle remembers writing a paper for Dr. Maher on making money when she got out of school, and he wrote a side note stating that advertising/public relations/marketing majors really don't make that much at first. "Gosh is that true!!!" she writes. "I made nothing when I first got out and now I am staffing for college students at these ad agencies and I have to explain to them the same thing!" She adds, however, "I am making more money now than I ever imagined."

Leslie Walker, '97, is assistant director of The Seaside Institute in Seaside, Florida. This nonprofit educational and cultural organization supports the restoration of civic life. It helps people improve their communities. It provides a rich cultural life within Seaside. Leslie is in charge of public relations, marketing and fund raising. She lives in Seagrave Beach, Fla.

Mike Smith, '98, is a reporter for The *Providence Journal* in Rhode Island. Just after graduating the Kenner native took a six-month internship at *The Times Picayune* in New Orleans, then worked for Little Rock's Associated Press bureau. Three months later, March 1999, *The Providence Journal* offered him a job. Recently he won a fellowship to study environmental reporting at the University of Rhode Island.

"Good, informative environmental reporting is essential to solving some of our problems," Smith writes. "I haven't gotten to do too much of it yet because other things take up most of my time here. But this fellowship should open up some opportunities."

Graduate student **Annie (Shu Peng) Chen** received the Master's Student Research Award at the 22nd Annual Communications Research Symposium held by the College of Communication at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. The award recognized her outstanding paper, which she presented at the symposium. The award included a plaque and a \$100 prize. Her paper was titled, "Understanding cultural values reflected in the stylistic features of Chinese advertising."

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