

# LSU TODAY

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## IN BRIEF

### Purchase staff awards tickets now

Friday, Nov. 8, is the deadline to buy tickets for the 1991 LSU Foundation Staff Outstanding Service Awards. Tickets can be purchased for \$7 each from the LSU Union Box Office.

The 23rd annual event, to be held at 11:45 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 14, in the Union Cotillion Ballroom recognizes and rewards superior work performance and outstanding contributions of nonacademic staff employees at LSU and the Agricultural Center.

The winners, which were published in the last issue of *LSU Today*, will be presented recognition certificates and cash awards of \$250 funded by the LSU Foundation.

### Thanksgiving break

LSU offices will be closed Nov. 28 and 29 in observance of Thanksgiving. Because of the short work week, *LSU Today* will not be issued the following week. Three issues remain this month: Nov. 15, Nov. 22 and Nov. 29. The Dec. 6 issue will be skipped, and publication will resume the week ending Dec. 13.

Remaining deadlines for this term's final issues dated Nov. 22, Nov. 29, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20 issues are Nov. 12, Nov. 19, Dec. 3 and Dec. 10, respectively.

### Mark your calendars

The 1992 Honors Convocation has been set for 3 p.m. May 3 in the Maravich Assembly Center.

### Recycling tonnage

Since July 1, LSU has recycled 54 tons of white paper and 17.5 tons of newsprint.

## INSIDE

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*If golf is your game but you just don't have all afternoon to hit the green, try the new 18-hole LSU mini-golf course for some relaxation.*

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*Students will do the hokey pokey at the Parade Grounds at noon Nov. 9 to break a world record and to raise money for the United Way.*

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*A new look at where and how LSU has appeared in the media during the past couple months.*

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## New test for cholera quick, simple

An LSU microbiologist has developed a quick, simple test that can be used to detect cholera in seafood before it leaves the dock for restaurants and stores.

Cholera, a pathogenic bacterium that occurs in both fresh and brackish waters, claims up to 50 lives in the United States alone and is much more prevalent in underdeveloped countries where unsanitary conditions are present, says microbiology professor Ronald Siebeling.

"Cholera isn't a big public health problem compared with, say, highway fatalities, but it does cause serious illness and death," says Siebeling.

"Seafood should be tested for cholera before it leaves the dock and gets to restaurants and markets."

Supported by the Louisiana Sea Grant college program, Siebeling and research associate Janet Simonson have come up with a simple test that can be conducted at the dock when the seafood is first brought in.

The test involves a detection agent and a small white swab on the end of a dipstick.

The test has attracted the interest of New Horizons Diagnostics, a Columbia, Md., firm which has further simplified the process.



A new test developed by microbiologist Ronald Siebeling and research associate Janet Simonson can be used to detect cholera in seafood before it leaves the dock, destined for dining tables across Louisiana and the nation.

A sample to be tested is incubated in an alkaline peptide broth for two hours to encourage the growth of any cholera bacteria present. A few drops of Siebeling's detection agent is then added. Antibodies in the detection agent will attach to any cholera cells present, in effect

"labeling" them with colloidal gold.

The stick with the cotton swab is then dipped into the mixture, and after a couple of minutes, the stick is removed, placed into a small, flat plastic box. The fluid is squeezed out, goes

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## Women engineers could improve competitive edge

If more women entered mechanical engineering, it could help the United States regain its competitive edge, according to an LSU professor.

The College of Engineering has seen a steady growth of women from less than 1 percent in the 1970s to 15.5 percent this year. But the growth has not been evenly distributed.

Among those studying to be engineers, women are a majority in biological engineering, and they make up just over 50 percent in the field of chemical engineering. The numbers fall drastically in traditionally male fields to 9

percent in both mechanical and electrical engineering.

George Catalano, a member of the mechanical engineering department, said the field desperately needs more women. "It's not so we can meet quotas. Women bring new perspectives on issues facing mechanical engineering. As it is, we're only hearing from one side of society."

Anne Doucet, also on the mechanical engineering faculty, echoed that observation. "We're missing an excellent resource. That's what engineering is about—using the resources of people."



Anne Doucet, a faculty member in the Department of Mechanical Engineering conducts a session of Mechanical Engineering 2733, Introduction to Materials Engineering.

In terms of creativity, Catalano thinks women bring a more non-competitive approach than their male counterparts. They view things with an idea of partnership, he said.

That ability could help the United States compete against the team-oriented designs of the Japanese and Western Europeans, said Catalano. Engineering tends to be set in its ways, he said, "and we need an influx of new ideas."

But getting women to enter the field remains a problem. Doucet said women need encouragement to enter the field because they're not likely to do so on their own. Catalano likewise stressed the need for more creative recruiting.

Although female engineers hesitate to speak of barriers, Lynne Lamia, an engineer with G & E Consultants of Baton Rouge, thought back to her days in school. "There were times when I understood why women don't want to do this," she said.

She enjoys a more professional environment now, but she had to contend with sexist attitudes in school. "Although they weren't directed right at me, there were lots of remarks," Lamia said.

During both her senior project and two internships, she felt her gender influenced the tasks given her. "Some supervisors didn't

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## Ag Center to host Soviet visit

The LSU Agricultural Center will host a high-level agricultural official from the Soviet Union Nov. 16-22. The visit is expected to lead to a greater understanding of the USSR's tremendous food problems, and the potential for opening more markets for Louisiana agricultural products.

Vasily Boyev, director of the All-Union Research Institute of Agricultural Economics headquartered in Moscow, will spend part of the week here and tour agricultural facilities in northeast Louisiana. He will participate in seminars with LSU Ag Center administrators, faculty and students.

The Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation is helping to arrange meetings with agricultural producers. Boyev will also be the keynote speaker at the Nov. 19 banquet for Gamma Sigma Delta, the honor society of agriculture, to be held at LSU.

His schedule includes a tour of the Ag Center's Northeast Research Station at St. Joseph, in Tensas Parish. The station is one of 17 branch stations of the Loui-

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## Hilliard to chair Athletic Council

Sam Hilliard, Alumni Professor of geography and anthropology, has been named chairman of the LSU Athletic Council.

The LSU Athletic Council serves as an advisory board with the chairman reporting directly to the chancellor. Joe Dean, LSU athletic director, said

Hilliard is a good choice to serve as chairman.

"Dr. Hilliard is perfect for the job," said Dean. "He has the leadership necessary to do the job."

Outgoing chairman Billy Seay said Hilliard's experience will serve the council well.

"Dr. Hilliard has the necessary experience to serve as chairman," said Seay. "He has been on the committee for several years and has served on an internal investigation committee looking into possible NCAA rules infractions."

Hilliard, who came to LSU in 1971, has his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Hilliard has written numerous publications on Louisiana delta geography and Southern geography. He was chairman of the LSU Department of Geography and Anthropology from 1975 to 1978 and director of the LSU School of Geoscience from 1976 to 1977. In 1990 he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers.



# PEOPLE AT LSU

**Richard Avent**, Civil Engineering, has been named a recipient of the American Society of Civil Engineers' 1991 Arthur M. Wellington Prize. Avent was cited for his work on comprehensive research to quantify the process of heat strengthening to correct impact damage to structural steel components of highway bridges in Louisiana and across the nation.

**Fariborz Barzegar**, Civil Engineering, has been named associate editor of the *Journal of Structural Engineering*. He has published a number of papers in the journal and won the Alfred Noble prize for meritorious technical papers for one of them.

**Mary Barkley**, Chemistry, gave a seminar on "Using Tryptophan Fluorescence to Study Proteins" at the University of Texas in Austin on Oct. 11.

**Stephen David Beck**, Music, presented two papers based on his composition "Strange Attractors." The first was presented at the International Computer Music Conference in Montreal, Canada, and the second included a demonstration on interactive computer music and featured saxophonist Griffin Campbell at the Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States 1991 National Conference, held at the University of Illinois.

**Robert Becker**, History, and **James Borck**, English, have been conducting a lecture/discussion series in St. Francisville, "America According to Literature: the 20th Century." The series is sponsored by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

**Les Butler**, Chemistry, was invited to talk at the FACSS meeting in Anaheim, Calif., and at the IBM Almaden Research Center in San Jose, Calif.

**Marilyn Cantwell**, Human Ecology, has been chosen to serve on the Board of Directors of Mid-City Redevelopment Alliance and Safety Net, Inc.-Samaritan House.

**Mark T. Carleton**, History, spoke on Louisiana's political history to a number of civil organizations both before and after the primary election and to the North Shore Civil War Round Table about "The Secession Crisis in Louisiana."

**H.W. Casey**, Veterinary Pathology, attended the Council Meeting of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and the associated board certification examination in Ames, Iowa.

**Carolyn Collins**, Junior Division, was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Academic Advisers. She also serves as chair of NACADA's Multiculture Commission, is a member of the groups membership committee and serves as the state representative and liaison for comprehensive universities from the southeast region.

**Cheryl Crowder**, Veterinary Pathology, presented two workshops on the use of microwave ovens in histology laboratories at the National Society for Histotechnology Symposium/Convention in Orlando, Fla. She sat on a "Problem Solving" panel and pre-



Avent



Barkley



Beck



Becker



Borck



Carleton



Hedlund



Culbert



Hochstein



Kuttruff



Loveland



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sented a workshop on marine histologic techniques.

**David Culbert**, History, continues as editor of *Film and Propaganda in America: A Documentary History*, now in its fourth volume. He is the senior associate editor of the *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television* and has been re-elected as the secretary-general of the International Association for Media and History. He presented papers at an international meeting in Moscow and in Gottingen, Germany, and has been named a Malone Fellow by the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations.

**Charles D'Agostino**, Louisiana Business and Technology Center, has been elected to the board of the National Association of Business Incubators.

**Frank de Caro**, English, is the recipient of the Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History for his book on Louisiana folklife photography. His book, *Folklife in Louisiana Photography: Images and Tradition*, was published by the LSU Press.

**John D. Erickson**, Foreign Languages, was honored in a publication ceremony in May at Rice University, along with Lane Kauffmann of Rice, for coediting a volume commemorating social theorist Jean-Francois Lyotard. The volume was published in the spring 1991 issue of *L'Esprit Createur*.

**Edouard Glissant**, Francophone Studies, recently conducted television and radio interviews on the francophone culture in Louisiana to be broadcast in France and throughout the French speaking world. Glissant taught a graduate seminar, "Poetique de la Relation," at the University of California at Davis in June, and he lectured at Southern University on French lan-

guage in the third world in September.

**Cheryl S. Hedlund**, Veterinary Clinical Sciences, presented a paper at the International Veterinary Ear, Nose and Throat Association Meeting in Vienna, Austria. Hedlund also participated in the XVI SWAVA World Congress and VI National Congress of VOK Vienna-Hofburg. Her presentations included, "Research of a Cervical Tracheal Bronchus in a Foal," "Treatment of Chronic Rhinitis" and "Tracheal Surgery."

**John Henderson**, History, has published *Scripture, Canon and Commentary: A Comparison of Confucius and Western Exegesis* through Princeton Press.

**Anatoly Hochstein**, Ports and Waterways Institute, has been appointed chairman of the inland water transport committee of the national transportation research board. The committee works to promote water transportation research, encourages practical adaptation of research findings and arranges special programs, conferences and workshops.

**Jefferson Humphries**, Foreign Languages, has edited and co-authored a book of interviews with acclaimed southern novelist, poet and playwright Reynolds Price. *Conversations with Reynolds Price* is Humphries' sixth book, and it was published by the University Press of Mississippi. Humphries also recently completed his seventh book, *The Red and the Black: Mimetic Desire and the Myth of Celebrity*, which was published by G.K. Hall.

**Jenna Kuttruff**, Human Ecology, judged, critiqued and presented awards for "Filibrations '91," a textile art exhibition sponsored by the Handweavers Guild of Nashville, Tenn., held at the Tennessee Botanical Gardens and Fine Arts Center Oct. 11-13.

**Alexandre Leupin**, Foreign Languages, spent the spring and summer semesters as a visiting professor in the Department of French at the University of California at Los Angeles. Leupin presented an invited lecture and took part in a debate at UCLA, as well as lecturing twice at the University of California at Berkeley. He has also published a book titled *Lacan and the Human Sciences*.

**Anne Loveland**, History, presented a paper at the Conference on Evangelicals, Voluntary Associations and American Public Life held at Wheaton College, Ill.

**Jill J. McClure**, Veterinary Clinical Sciences, spoke in Mexico City, Mexico, at a Post Graduate Conference for Equine Veterinarians. She presented eight hours of talks on equine urology and equine dermatology.

**Ron Snider** and **Ron Veazey**, Veterinary Pathology, and **Bruce Olcott**, Veterinary Clinical Sciences, attended the Third International Colloquium on Paratuberculosis in Orlando, Fla. Snider moderated the Immunology and Pathogenesis scientific session, and Olcott moderated the scientific session on Prevalence and Economic Significance.

**Emily Toth**, English, spoke on "Gossip as Wisdom: Old Wives"

Tales" at the "Gender Diversity in Aging" Conference held in September at the LSU Medical Center in New Orleans. The conference was sponsored by the Louisiana Geriatric Education Center. Toth also participated in panel discussions on "Writing Women's Fiction" and "Whose Life Is This Anyway? Writing Biographies" at the New Orleans Writers' Conference in September.

**Thomas N. Tully Jr.**, Veterinary Clinical Sciences, attended the Association of Avian Veterinarians annual conference in Chicago in September. He presented a paper entitled "Evaluation of Diagnostic Procedures for Chlamydia Psittaci" and presided over an educator's program on avian medicine and surgery.

**Claude Vandeloise**, Foreign Languages, spent the 1990-91 academic year at the University of Provence, Aix-en-Provence as LSU/Aix exchange professor. He's also published a book at the University of Chicago Press, entitled *Spatial Prepositions: A Case Study in French*, edited a special issue of the review communications on "Semantique cognitive" and published three articles in scholarly journals and edited collections.

**George Z. Voyiadjis**, Civil Engineering, recently presented an invited paper on "Anisotropic Damage Mechanics Modeling in Metal Matrix Composites" at the Air Force Office of Scientific Research Contractors Meeting on Mechanics of Materials in Dayton, Ohio. Voyiadjis also presented in October an invited lecture on "Finite Strain Plasticity and Damage in Constitutive Modeling of Metals with Spin Tensors" at the Symposium on Material Instabilities held during the 22nd Midwestern Mechanics Conference in Rolla, Mo.

**David Wills**, Foreign Languages, was invited to participate in two conferences, one that honored the 60th birthday of French philosopher Jacques Derrida at the Abbaye de Royaumont in France and the other at Tulane University, where he lectured on the film *The Belly of an Architect*.

Several faculty and graduate students in the English department recently presented papers at the 1991 conference of the Louisiana Association for College Composition at Northeast Louisiana University in Monroe. Those participating were **Garnett Branch**, **Charlotte McInnis Curtis**, **Susann Dorman**, **Wade Dorman**, **George Dorrill**, **Sandy Granger**, **Sarah Liggett** and **Janice Stein**. Susann and Wade Dorman were elected co-presidents of the organization.

## MILESTONES

### Deaths

**James Coleman**, executive vice chancellor, recently lost his mother, Clara Gaudet Coleman. She died Oct. 19 in Lake Charles at the age of 92.

### Marriages

**Kathleen Heim**, dean of the Graduate School, married William Woodrow McCook, UBC, of Marathon, Fla., Oct. 12. She has

changed her name to Kathleen de la Peña McCook.

**Neva Olsen**, Human Ecology, married Marvin Nolen Nov. 3.

"LSU Today" marks milestones in the lives of people in the University community.

The 'Milestones' section includes births, marriages, deaths, graduations and any other events that serve as signposts in the voyage through life.