

THE MAGAZINE OF TULANE UNIVERSITY / SEPTEMBER 2019

TULANIAN

GLOBAL STATE
OF MIND





INTRODUCING THE COMMONS

In the heart of the Uptown campus, The Commons opened in fall 2019, offering students a magnificent meeting, studying and gathering space, state-of-the-art dining, and a new home for the Newcomb Institute.



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TULANIAN

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MAIN FEATURE

A GLOBAL CITIZEN STATE OF MIND

Climate change, immigration, health care, poverty and racial discrimination are just some of the issues in which solutions require a broader, global understanding. Tulane political science professors and recent graduates grapple with what it means to be an educated citizen of the world.



24 PIONEERS ON CAMPUS

Tulane trailblazers are finally being recognized for their courage, tenacity and persistence in a number of ways — including the naming of campus buildings and programs in their honor.



30 CENTER OF THE ACTION

The Newcomb Institute evolves in the 21st century, taking a prominent place in The Commons and carrying on Josephine Louise Newcomb's vision for women's education.

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QUOTED

“Global citizenship is more,
I think, a state of mind.”

MARK VAIL

PAGE 23

ABOUT THE COVER

Berlin Radio Tower (Funkturn Berlin) reflected in sunglasses.
Photo by Adam Vradenburg.

EDITOR

Mary Ann Travis

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Melinda Whatley Viles

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Faith Dawson

CONTRIBUTORS

Marianna Barry
Keith Brannon
Barri Bronston
Jill Dorje
Angus Lind
Alicia Serrano
Mike Strecker

SENIOR UNIVERSITY PHOTOGRAPHER

Paula Burch-Celentano

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Marian Herbert-Bruno
Kim Rainey

PRESIDENT OF TULANE UNIVERSITY

Michael A. Fitts

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Richard Matasar

VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Libby Eckhardt

Tulanian (ISSN 21619255) is published quarterly by the Tulane University Office of Communications and Marketing, 31 McAlister Drive, Drawer 1, New Orleans, La. 70118-5624. Business and Editorial Offices: 200 Broadway, ste. 219, New Orleans, La. 70118-3543. Send editorial and subscription correspondence to Tulane University Office of Communications and Marketing, 31 McAlister Drive, Drawer 1, New Orleans, La. 70118-5624 or email tulanemag@tulane.edu. Periodicals postage is paid at New Orleans, La. 70113-9651 and additional mailing offices.

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POSTMASTER

Send address changes to:
Tulanian magazine, Tulane Office of University Communications and Marketing,
31 McAlister Drive, Drawer 1,
New Orleans, LA 70118-5624.

Tulanian magazine is online at
tulanian.tulane.edu



Yeah, You Write

From the Editor

Today, more than ever, Tulane students are citizens of the world. They are studying abroad in great numbers. More international students are venturing to New Orleans to enroll on campus. People are interconnected through digital communication and ease of travel. In this *Tulanian*, “A Global Citizen State of Mind” explores what it means to be an educated global citizen. “Pioneers on Campus” presents the stories of five Tulanians who bravely opened doors of opportunity for themselves and paved the way for others. Lastly, “Center of the Action” looks at The Commons, which opened this fall at the heart of campus. The three-story, \$55 million, 77,000-square-foot building serves as a central gathering spot for the Tulane community, a state-of-the-art dining facility and a new home for the Newcomb Institute.

To the Editor

[Email letters to tulanemag@tulane.edu]

Setting the Record Straight

I want to point out an error in the article, “Tulanians’ Impact,” on page 9 of the March 2019 *Tulanian*. Arthur Q. Davis was NOT the architect of the Superdome as stated in the story. The architect of the Louisiana Superdome (now Mercedes-Benz Superdome) was Nathaniel “Buster” Curtis Jr., who graduated from the Tulane School of Architecture in 1940. While the firm in which they were partners, Curtis and Davis Architects, often is credited with designing the iconic landmark in New Orleans, in truth, without a doubt, Curtis was actually the architect for the Superdome. This is a fact that needs to be acknowledged. (A large bronze plaque proclaiming that Curtis is the designer of the Superdome, along with his image, is installed in the building.)

Marie-Therese Larue Dwyer, NC ’50
St. Michaels, Maryland

March 2019 Issue

The cover made me open it! Having become a microbiologist after Newcomb College ’67, BS in biology, the plates were right up my alley! Great work by all the Tulanians. And the whole magazine was great. Keep it coming in paper, please!

Gayle Maxwell Rosenthal, NC ’67
Miami

Best *Tulanian*

Congratulations on producing the best *Tulanian* that I have read since graduating in 1976! I thoroughly enjoyed it, its layout and terrifically informative content. It’s nice to have so many great things going on at and around Tulane to write about. Well done.

Larry Schloss, A&S ’76
New York

Soul of Tulane

I graduated from Princeton in 1971 with a BA, Cum Laude, in Politics. In 1974, I graduated from the Tulane University School of Law. In the ensuing years, I have not infrequently been asked which was the more enriching academic experience. That question is always easy for me to answer — Tulane. There is a soul, a richness to Tulane, which Princeton, despite its unquestioned academic preeminence, cannot hope to duplicate. At Tulane, I met people whose diversity of thought and experience could not be duplicated by any other institutions. ... The life experiences I had at Tulane and New Orleans ... have never been duplicated.

Ron Halpern, L ’74
San Juan Capistrano, California

New Layout/Inspiring Articles

I love the new layout of the *Tulanian* and especially the wonderfully inspiring articles.

Chia-Chee Chiu, NC ’96
Bronxville, New York

In Brief

ACADEMICS

NEW VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

Dr. Giovanni Piedimonte has been named Tulane's new vice president for research, effective Sept. 3. He also will join the pediatrics faculty in the medical school. Piedimonte was previously the Steven and Nancy Calabrese Endowed Chair for Excellence in Pediatric Care, Research and Education at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University.

tulane.it/new-vice-president-research

ACADEMICS

NEW NEWCOMB-TULANE COLLEGE DEAN

Lee Skinner is the new dean of Newcomb-Tulane College, effective July 1. She also has joined the faculty of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Skinner is a leading scholar of Latin American literature and was previously associate dean at Claremont McKenna College in California.

tulane.it/newcomb-tulane-dean



QUOTED

“They are, in a very concrete way, doing things and reading things that show them that they’re important, that their lives matter and that other people are **paying attention to their lives.**”

ZACHARY LAZAR, professor of English, said in *The Creative Brain*, a Netflix documentary, about a service-learning creative writing class he teaches to inmates at the Lafayette Parish Correctional Center.

PRIMATE RESEARCH CENTER

NEW VACCINE

Through joint efforts of Tulane, the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Army, a new vaccine has been developed that provides protection for the first time against equine encephalitic viruses in nonhuman primates. The encephalitic alphaviruses, spread by mosquitoes, are possible bioterrorism agents.

tulane.it/new-vaccine

BUSINESS

TEAMING UP

Students from the A. B. Freeman School of Business worked with the New Orleans Pelicans to study data to determine what influences attendance at Pelicans games. Students examined dates and times of potential games at the Smoothie King Center for the 2019–20 season. The analytics will be used by the Pelicans as the team collaborates with the NBA to solidify an official game schedule. The students who participated in the semester-long project are enrolled in Tulane's Master of Business Analytics program.

tulane.it/teaming-up

RESEARCH

KATRINA RECOVERY

The National Institutes of Health named Mark VanLandingham, professor at the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, the 12th Matilda White Riley Honors Distinguished Lecturer. VanLandingham was honored for his pioneering research on how culture and shared history helped the Vietnamese American community in New Orleans recover from Hurricane Katrina more quickly than other communities.

tulane.it/katrina-recovery

CULTURE BEARERS

KOHLMEYER SCULPTURE ON POYDRAS

The Poydras Corridor Sculpture Exhibition presented by the Helis Foundation features a sculpture by the late Ida Kohlmeyer (NC '33, G '56). The sculpture, *Box of Artificial Flowers #6*, is the largest sculpture Kohlmeyer created, standing at 17 feet tall and 14 feet wide. The Helis Foundation purchased the sculpture from a private collector in Chicago in 2018 and invested in the restoration of the piece. The sculpture now sits on the neutral ground of Poydras Street and Loyola Avenue. (Photo at left by Crista Rock.)

tulane.it/Kohlmeyer-sculpture-on-poydras

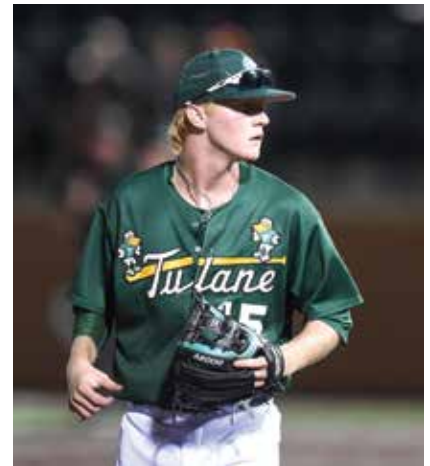
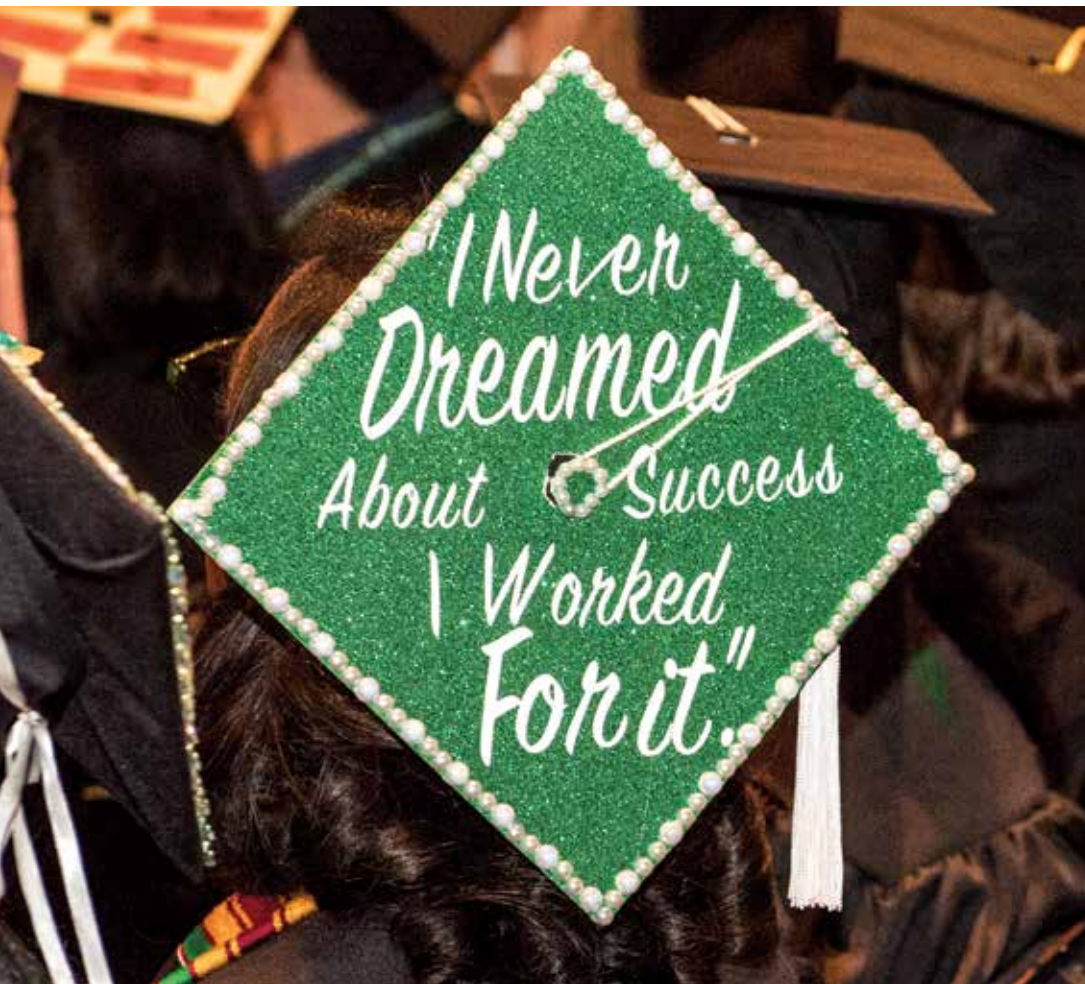
A MOST SELECTIVE AND GLOBAL CLASS

Tulane's acceptance rate was 13% for this fall's entering undergraduate class.

Tulane welcomes the Class of 2023 — more than 1,800 students — to campus this fall. More than 41,000 applications for admission were received by Tulane this year, which translates into a 13% acceptance rate, making the class the most selective in the university's history. The number of applications also marks a 6% increase over last year. The Class of 2023 is one of the strongest academically, with a converted average SAT score of 1463. The new class also is the most diverse, with 30% of the students being students of color or international students, which is an 11% increase over last year. The 110 international students are from 29 different countries. "It's the most global class," said Satyajit Dattagupta, vice president of enrollment management and dean of undergraduate admission. Students also represent states from across the country with the top three states being California, New York and Louisiana.

tulane.it/class-of-2023

Below: A mortarboard decorated and worn by a graduate at University Commencement on May 18 touts the message, "I never dreamed about success, I worked for it." That message of hard work leading to success could also be the mantra for the incoming class of 2023.



ATHLETICS

FIRST-ROUND DRAFT PICK

Tulane baseball third baseman Kody Hoes was selected by the Los Angeles Dodgers with the 25th pick in the first round of the 2019 Major League Baseball draft. Hoes is the 10th player in program history to be selected in the first round. He follows Shooter Hunt, who was selected 31st in the first round in 2008 by the Minnesota Twins. Hoes was the first of seven Tulane players drafted this year. The other players are Brendan Cellucci, Chase Solesky, Trevor Jensen, Kaleb Roper, Grant Mathews and Sal Gozzo.

tulane.it/MLB-draft-picks-2019

Visit tulanian.tulane.edu for additional content

QUOTED

"By restricting ballet to pure romance, the art form loses its power **to make critical commentary on the state of things.**"

FELICIA MCCARREN, professor of French and dance historian, said in a *New York Times* article, "Is Ballet Camp?"

tulane.it/Felicia-McCarren-nyt

CULTURE BEARERS

SHOTGUN HOUSE MURAL

School of Architecture faculty members Carrie Norman and Adam Modesitt, along with their students, created an intricate mural as a part of the “Unframed” project of the Arts Council of New Orleans. The project includes five murals within walking distance of each other in the city’s Arts District. The mural by Norman, Modesitt and their students is a life-size architectural drawing of a mid-19th century shotgun house called “Open House.” The project’s goal is to bring vibrancy to New Orleans outside of gallery walls and was funded by a \$175,000 grant from the Helis Foundation.

tulane.it/shotgun-house-mural

QUOTED

“The mental health system in the U.S. is broken and in times of disaster it’s even **more on the back burner.**”

REGGIE FERREIRA, director of Tulane’s Disaster Resilience Leadership Academy, quoted in *Rolling Stone* on the impact climate change has on mental health.

tulane.it/Reggie-Ferreira-rollingstone

CULTURE BEARERS

JESMYN WARD IN XAVIER REVIEW

The first book-length study of award-winning writer and Tulane English professor Jesmyn Ward has been published in *Xavier Review*. The 177-page publication celebrates Ward’s literary accomplishments with a collection of critical readings and scholarly responses. It includes Ward’s prologue to her memoir *Men We Reaped*, a chronology of her work and reviews of her publications.

tulane.it/Jesmyn-Ward-xavier-review



ACADEMICS

SPORTS STUDIES

Tulane’s School of Professional Advancement, in collaboration with the university’s Center for Sport, announced its new online master’s degree and graduate certificates in sports studies. Students can receive graduate-level certifications in sport administration, sport coaching or sport security.

tulane.it/sports-studies

LAW

IMMIGRANTS’ RIGHTS CLINIC

Tulane Law School Dean David Meyer announced the school is launching a new Immigrants’ Rights Clinic. The law school has launched a national search for the director of the clinic and will begin enrolling students in fall 2020. It will enroll up to 15 students annually and provide about 3,200 hours of service through individual client representation and community consultations.

tulane.it/immigrants-rights-clinic

MEDICINE

BETTER PAIN MEDICINE

James Zadina, professor of medicine, and other researchers have developed a new kind of opioid, called ZH853, that accelerates the recovery time from pain and does not have the side effects morphine does.

tulane.it/better-pain-medicine

BIOINNOVATION

ESOPHAGEAL IMPLANT TECHNOLOGY

As a part of Tulane’s Bioinnovation PhD program, Derek Dashti (SSE ’19) developed an organ regenerative implant technology designed to regenerate a patient’s damaged esophagus in an effort to treat esophageal cancer. The technology can also generate other damaged organs and tissue. He founded his startup, D & P Bioinnovations, to design and develop biomedical technologies and products.

tulane.it/implant-technology



ON CAMPUS

BELOVED BEAD TREE

The original, beloved Bead Tree was removed from Tulane’s Uptown campus on May 14. The nearly 30-year-old Nuttall Oak tree was struck by lightning several years ago, which weakened its root system. The lightning strike also left the tree vulnerable to termites, which destroyed 10 feet of its trunk. An emergency removal was conducted as the tree was at risk of falling. But, no worries, a replacement 20-foot-tall Nuttall Oak tree will be planted in exactly the same spot this fall or winter.

tulane.it/beloved-bead-tree

“We don’t build monuments to trolls. ... If you find yourself spending more time fighting than getting to work, stop and ask yourself who benefits from all the chaos.”

TIM COOK, CEO of Apple and Tulane University Commencement speaker, on May 18, 2019. Cook reminded the graduates that “young people have changed history, time and time again.”

COMMUNITY MINDED

PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

Tulane ranked No. 3 among medium-size schools on the Peace Corps’ list of top volunteer-producing colleges and universities in 2019. Tulane also ranked No. 1 on the list among schools that produce volunteers from graduate programs. Currently, there are 44 Tulanians volunteering in countries around the world. Since the Peace Corps’ founding in 1961, nearly 600 Tulane alumni have served as volunteers abroad.

tulane.it/peace-corps-volunteers

LIBRARIES

GRAMMY MUSEUM GRANT

The Hogan Jazz Archive of the Howard-Tilton Memorial Library has received a grant from the Grammy Museum to digitize and preserve unique recordings from Vernon Winslow (G ’69), the first African American disc jockey in New Orleans. Winslow (1911-1993) is best remembered for his pioneering work as “Dr. Daddy-O” on WWEZ radio. Once digitized, the recordings will be accessible to the public online.

tulane.it/grammy-museum-grant



RESEARCH

EPIDEMICS EXHIBIT

The important role that Tulane researchers have played in fighting infectious disease epidemics around the world was highlighted in “OutBreak: Epidemics in a Connected World,” an exhibit at the Diboll Gallery in the Tidewater Building from May–July. Co-sponsored by the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, the exhibit was part of a national effort to raise awareness of the human, animal and environmental factors contributing to infectious disease epidemics.

tulane.it/epidemics-exhibit

[Visit tulane.edu](https://tulane.edu) for additional content



PRIMATE RESEARCH CENTER

LYME DISEASE TREATMENT

Geetha Parthasarathy, a research scientist at the Tulane National Primate Research Center, has been awarded a \$100,000 grant to investigate the use of supplemental therapeutics for the treatment of tick-borne Lyme neuroborreliosis, a nervous system disorder affecting the central and peripheral nervous systems. Lyme disease is the fastest-growing infectious disease in the nation, newly infecting 300,000 individuals yearly.

tulane.it/lyme-disease-treatment

For more stories about Tulane, subscribe to Tulane Today

tulane.it/tulane-today

IN THE NEWS

REFUGEE CAMPS IN AMERICA

Jana Lipman, associate professor of history, wrote “Detaining Migrant Children at U.S. Military Bases Has Been Done Before,” in *TIME* in June. Lipman has conducted research on refugee camps in America that reveals that the U.S. government has repeatedly turned to military bases to shelter immigrants. “At different times throughout the 20th century, the federal government kept groups of people from Hungary, Vietnam, Cuba and Haiti on U.S. military bases. The result can be either efficient immigration processing or a prolonged, confined and traumatic experience,” said Lipman.

tulane.it/refugee-camps-time

IN THE NEWS

VENEZUELA TALKS

David Smilde, Charles A. and Leo M. Favrot Professor of Human Relations in the Department of Sociology, co-wrote “Negotiating Venezuela’s Transition,” an opinion piece in *The New York Times* about Venezuela’s current political conflict and preliminary talks between the democratic opposition and the country’s government that took place in May. Smilde wrote that it is a first step toward a democratic transition. “Many remain skeptical of ‘dialogue,’ but negotiation and compromise between the conflicting parties is key. To explore whether such compromises can be achieved requires creating space and other conditions for discreet conversations, even while confrontations between the incumbent regime and the opposition continue.”

tulane.it/venezuela-talks-nyt

Up First

International study is coming and going at Tulane with international students coming to study here and Tulane undergraduate students going to study abroad.

50%

One-half of Tulane undergraduate students participate in a **STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM** during their career at Tulane.

40 The Office of Study Abroad offers programs in **40 countries.**

4 The top 4 countries in which Tulane undergraduate students study abroad are Denmark, Australia, Netherlands and Spain.

67% In fall 2018, **67% of international students** were from China.

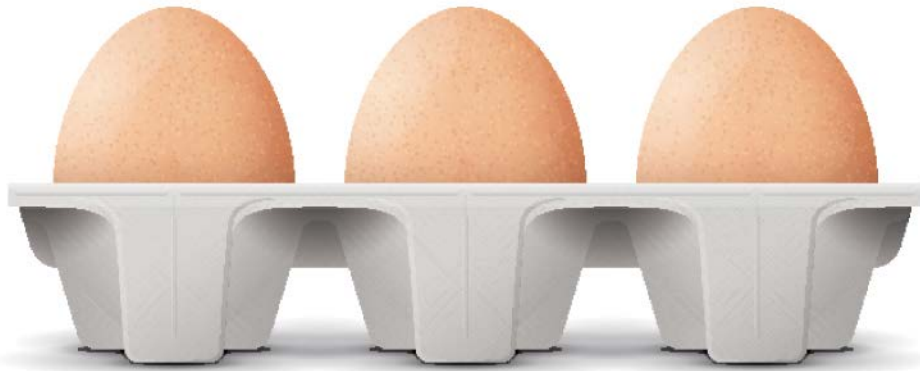
The top 3 home countries of international students in undergraduate and graduate programs are China, India and Spain.

1,000

Approximately **1,000 Tulane University undergraduate students** study abroad each year.

1,366

In fall 2018, **1,366 international students** were enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs at Tulane.



PLANET FRIENDLY DIET

BY KEITH BRANNON

Food production is an important contributor to climate change, accounting for about a quarter of carbon emissions globally. If Americans changed their diets by swapping out one item each day, they could reduce their carbon footprint from food, according to a Tulane study that examined the diets of thousands of people in the United States.


"We found that making one substitution of poultry for beef resulted in an average reduction of dietary greenhouse gases by about a half," said lead study author Diego Rose, professor and director of nutrition at the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

Rose presented the research at Nutrition 2019, the American Society for Nutrition annual meeting, held in Baltimore in June.

The study is based on diet information from more than 16,000 participants in the 2005–10 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. A portion of this survey asked participants to recall all the foods they consumed in the previous 24 hours. The researchers used this information to determine which foods had the highest greenhouse gas emissions and to calculate a carbon footprint for each individual diet.

They found that the 10 foods with the highest impacts on the environment were all cuts of beef and that about 20% of participants reported consuming one of these high-carbon foods. Using simulation, the researchers calculated a new carbon footprint for each diet by replacing beef with the closest related poultry product. For example, a broiled beef steak was replaced with broiled chicken and ground beef with ground turkey.

Animal foods are known to contribute more to greenhouse gas emissions than plant foods. Ruminant animal foods such as beef and lamb have particularly high carbon footprints because cows and sheep also release methane gas.

"Our simulation showed that you don't have to give up animal products to improve your carbon footprint," Rose said. "Just one food substitution brought close to a 50% reduction, on average, in a person's carbon footprint." 

GLOBAL REACH

BY MARY ANN TRAVIS


Protecting the planet is what Lisa Jackson is most passionate about.

Climate change and clean energy are "mission No. 1" for her at Apple, where Jackson is vice president for environment, policy and social initiatives. Apple, the multinational technology company headquartered in Cupertino, California, is known for its computer hardware, software and electronic communication devices.

Jackson, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from Tulane in 1983, received Tulane's Distinguished Alumni Award at a ceremony at The World War II Museum in April.

Six years ago, when Jackson moved to Apple after serving as administrator of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency from 2009 to 2013, she said she brought "realistic but very ambitious" green innovations to the table.

Today, she proudly reports that Apple uses "100% renewable power" in its 506 stores and 340 offices in 43 countries. Her goal is to expand clean energy initiatives along the supply chain of small businesses that partner with Apple. Also, she's spending a lot of time and effort on the idea of a "circular economy," so that eventually Apple products like new iPhones are made from materials salvaged from old products.

Jackson also oversees the company's community education programs. 



Alumna Lisa Jackson, vice president of environment, policy and social initiatives at Apple, delivers the keynote address to more than 250 attendees at the Women Making Waves conference on March 3, 2018.

PLAYER, A GIVER AND A LEADER

BY BARRI BRONSTON

Having lost three grandparents to cancer, Green Wave center Christian Montano was all in when the opportunity to become a bone marrow donor was presented to him back in 2014.

A graduate transfer from Brown University, Montano underwent a routine cheek swab as part of Be The Match, a national bone marrow registry. Then he went about the business of playing football for the Ivy League Bears in Providence, Rhode Island.

"I was in the database for three years and didn't hear anything," said Montano, a native of Orange, Connecticut. "Then I got a call saying I might be a match and they needed to take blood. They took blood and said, 'Hey, you're a match. Would you be willing to go forward?'"

His answer was a simple yes.

He underwent a three-hour procedure at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in

Boston and ultimately saved the life of Jim Calhoun, a 45-year-old Saratoga Springs, New York, resident with acute lymphoblastic leukemia, a form of childhood cancer that is rare in adults.

A year later, the two met in person and now consider each other family. Calhoun plans to be in the stands cheering Montano on when the Green Wave takes on Army Oct. 5 in West Point, New York.

"We actually became united from the day of the transplant," Montano said. "I wanted him to be healthy again, just like he was a family member I've always known."

It is largely due to Montano's own physical troubles that led him to Tulane. He redshirted his freshman year because of ulcerative colitis. And in his senior year, he broke his foot during the first quarter of the first game, forcing him to miss the entire season.

With one more year of eligibility, Montano — who had earned All-Ivy League honors as a junior and Preseason All-Ivy recognition entering his senior

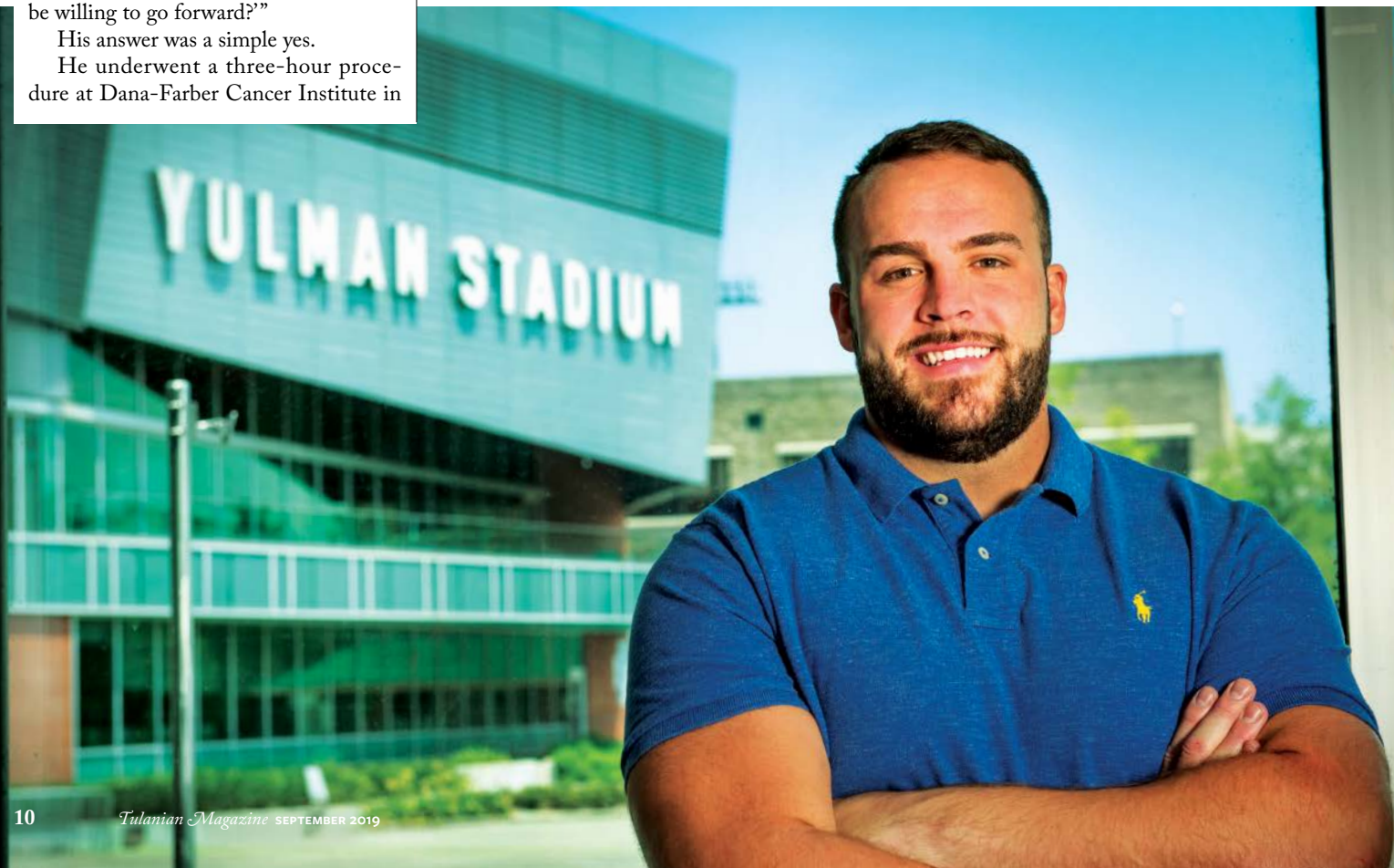
season — wanted to transfer to a Division I school with a stellar MBA program and an up-and-coming football team.

Tulane fit his criteria. He introduced himself to coaches through email, sent film for their review, and in January, arrived on campus as a finance student in the MBA program of the A. B. Freeman School of Business.

"Getting my MBA was important to me," Montano said. "And Tulane has been the best fit for me. I think people have a better respect for you as an athlete knowing that you are working just as hard in the classroom as you are on the field."

At 23 years old, Montano is the oldest player on the team. But he plans to use that to his advantage, not just as a player but as a locker room leader.

"I'd love to help the younger kids, show them how things are done and the right way to do it," he said. "That's something I think I can do for the benefit of the whole team." 🏈





THE WISDOM IN THE ROOM

BY MARY ANN TRAVIS

Before you are a global citizen you are a citizen of your own country — or state. Bobby Mannis (SLA '18) is fulfilling his responsibilities as a citizen of the state of Illinois as he works on the front lines of democracy.

Mannis listens closely as he meets stakeholders, “knowing that the wisdom is in the room” — the mantra by which Illinois Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton leads.

Mannis is the policy director for the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Illinois — and he’s only 23 years old. He graduated from the School of Liberal Arts with a double major in political science and economics in 2018.

Mannis said that he learned to listen and take a step back from Walter Isaacson, Tulane University Professor of History and best-selling author, when he took Isaacson’s History of the Digital Revolution class.

“Professor Isaacson created a space where people could disagree without being disagreeable,” said Mannis. “That helped show me how to interact while working in government and prepared me to execute on the lieutenant governor’s principles of inclusion and empathy.”

Mannis focuses on rural affairs, women’s issues and criminal justice reform. One early accomplishment in his office is the creation of the Justice, Equity and Opportunity Initiative, which centralizes criminal justice reform work in Illinois for the first time under the lieutenant governor.

While he was a student at Tulane, Mannis volunteered, interned or worked on at least nine political campaigns, from the school level, to city council to the state senate and U.S. Senate. 🇺🇸

“Now I’m on the other side of it. ... I’m working to translate the campaign promises and the interests of the leaders who’ve taken office into real change for the residents we serve.”

BOBBY MANNIS (SLA '18),
policy director for the Illinois
lieutenant governor

The Twitterverse reacts to happenings and news about Tulane.

“Thanks to a @Tulane Carol Lavin Bernick grant, MS student @Sabrinanmtz, undergrad @samhilburn001 and I are in Puerto Rico studying how hillslopes and rivers are connected (or not??).

Great experience for us all!”

@NMGasparini,

Professor Nicole Gasparini, on a research trip she and two students took to Puerto Rico in June

“Just a regular day when @Tulane students are using their 🧠s to help the @PelicansNBA & @Saints make the most out of their scheduling. **Pretty cool opportunity.** #RollWave #NolaBuilt”

@EmmaCrumley

“Just had a great week in #Yosemite doing field work with @roamingendemic !!!! Yay #Mimulus #Monkeyflowers !!! #WomenInSTEM #Tulane @TulaneEEBiology”

@ferrisifolius,

Kathleen Ferris, assistant professor of ecology and evolutionary biology

“Tough one today @DominikKoepfer But your Tulane family is so proud of you!! Thanks for **carrying the torch for us** out there and lighting the way!! #RollWave”

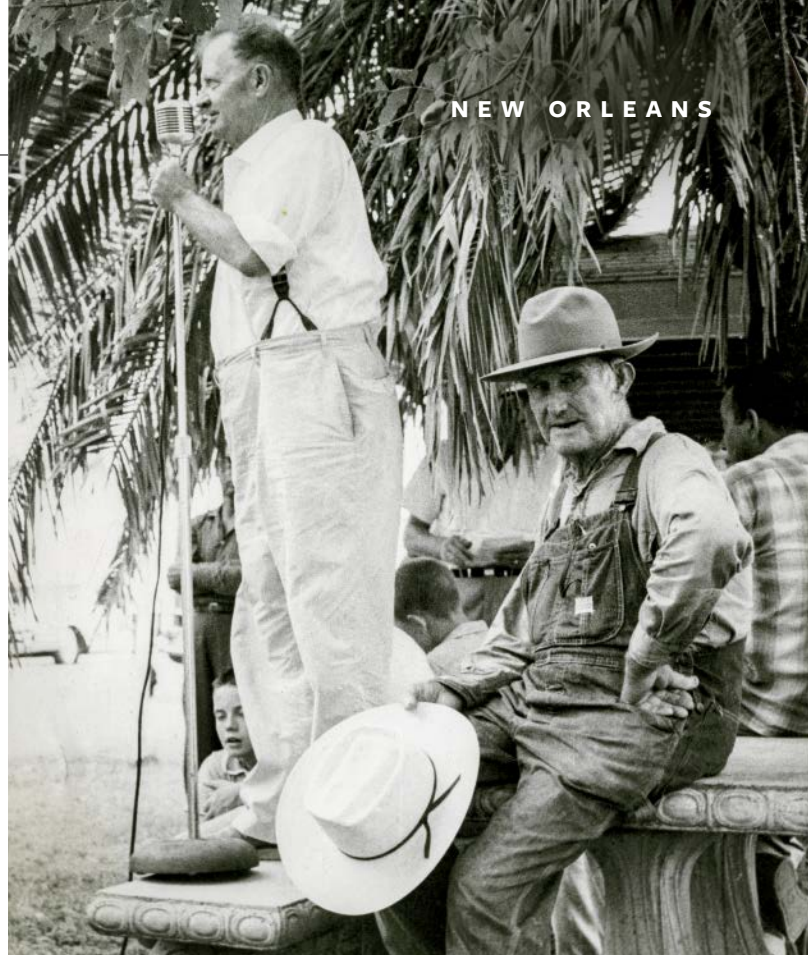
@GreenWaveMTenn,

about Wimbledon Championships 2019 second round elimination for Dominik Koepfer (B '16)

POLITICS, LOUISIANA STYLE

BY ANGUS LIND, A&S '66

In a state that has produced state legislators, two governors, and politicians and political hacks nicknamed Speedy, Sixty, Pappy, Bubba, Puggy, Buster, Taddy, Black Cat, Uncle Earl and The Kingfish, Louisiana politics and politicians were, are and continue to be legendary, their quotes ranging from entertaining to hilarious to outrageous.



Angus Lind recalls colorful Louisiana politicians and other assorted characters, and a few memorable quotes from the state's history.

Fair Grounds Racetrack publicist, handicapper and boxing promoter Allen “Black Cat” LaCombe in 1959 on a dare from cronies at Curley’s Neutral Corner bar, ran for governor under the campaign slogan “Run the Squirrels out of Office — Keep the State Safe for the Nuts.” An Irish Channel character with a “dese” and “dose” Yat accent, LaCombe was originally from Echo, a small town in Avoyelles Parish. Incredibly, he once taught a handicapping course at Tulane night school in hallowed Gibson Hall. But he would finish seventh in a heavyweight field of nine to a former governor, Jimmie Davis, the “Singing Cowboy” of “You Are My Sunshine” fame, who spent more time singing than politicking.

In 1969 an eccentric gambler with deep pockets, Rodney “Get the Gorilla” Fertel, ran for mayor of New Orleans, promising he would get a gorilla for the Audubon Zoo if elected. He didn’t come close. Still he went to Singapore and got two gorillas for the zoo.

Long dogged by corruption charges, colorful Cajun lightning rod Edwin Edwards spent 16 years as the governor of Louisiana. In his last election in 1991 he faced Klansman David Duke. Bumper stickers everywhere said, “Vote for the Crook — It’s Important.” On election day in 1983 against Republican David Treen, Edwards famously told reporters, “The only way I can lose this election is if I get caught in bed with either a dead girl or a live boy.” In 2001 he was convicted of racketeering charges and served eight years in federal prison.

Country singer Jay Chevalier wrote “The Ballad of Earl K. Long,” and became part of Uncle Earl’s entourage. “Aside from his cussing, drinking, gambling and carousing, he was the best Christian I knew,” said the singer of the three-time-good-ol’-country-boy governor of Louisiana.

In *The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association* in 1988 author Edward F. Haas of Wright State University quoted Eugene Schlossberger, a philosophy professor at LSU as telling *USA Today* that “Politics plays the role in Louisiana that TV wrestling does in the rest of the nation. It is fixed. It is flamboyant. It is surreal. It is our spectator sport.”

A.J. “Joe” Liebling wrote for *The New Yorker* magazine from 1935 until his death in 1963. In 1961 after spending time in Louisiana with Earl Long and learning more about his famous brother Huey P. “The Kingfish” Long, Liebling wrote one of the most famous books ever written about Louisiana politics, *The Earl of Louisiana*. A chapter is devoted to “Black Cat” LaCombe and Jimmie Davis. Liebling suggested that “Louisiana politics is of an intensity and complexity that are matched ... only in the republic of Lebanon.”

As the lyrics of country music singer Jerry Jeff Walker’s song “It Don’t Matter” say:

*Down in Louisiana it don’t matter
If you’re sane as a judge or mad as a hatter. ♪*

Above: Earl Long “on the stump” following his release from a hospital, 1959. (David R. McGuire Memorial Collection — LaRC 271, Tulane University Special Collections, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library)

GLOBAL EDUCATION FOR GEN Z

BY BRIAN T. EDWARDS

In the spring of 2018, shortly before starting my job as dean of the School of Liberal Arts, I was in Madrid. I walked over to Retiro Park, one of my favorite places in the city, but I found the gate locked. A simple announcement was posted: “Debido a las consecuencias de las condiciones meterológicas y la urgencia de reparación e inspección del arbolado los jardines del Buen Retiro permanecerán cerrados.”

My disappointment was intense and immediate.

To my side were two college-aged students, speaking in American-accented English. One aimed an iPhone at the sign. Curious, I glanced over at the screen. Everything looked as I saw it, except that the announcement was no longer in Spanish — the words on the sign were magically transformed into English. I gasped, and the students introduced me to Google Translate’s optical function.

For Generation Z, international travel and language learning operate in a profoundly different framework than for those educated before the digital age. New technologies have collapsed distances between continents; translation machines have erased some of the foreignness of foreign travel. Homesickness is softened by FaceTime or WhatsApp. Family, friends, and advisors are merely a Wi-Fi connection away. Fifteen years after Skype was launched and a dozen years since the first iPhone, it’s time to reframe the question of what a global education should aspire to be.



Study abroad has never been more popular. According to a 2018 report, 16% of students currently earning bachelor’s degrees in the U.S. will study outside the country during their undergraduate years. But immersion in another language is a harder sell, as if the global popularity of English and the ease of Google Translate excuses students from the difficulty of entering another system.

The pressures on language learning are massive. The Modern Language Association continues to report significant declines in world language enrollments across colleges. Tulane’s enrollments are still solid but in the face of machine translation, many students ask, why would one put in the hundreds — or thousands — of hours necessary to learn another language?

For most Tulane students, learning a second language was a core course in high school, though it often drops off once Tulanians satisfy our language requirement, as if the French or Spanish Advanced Placement was merely an entrance ticket. But college is the time when students who have worked years to gain proficiency can finally start to do interesting things in a second language — study German or Italian film, follow Latin American media, use French-language archives, engage with Russian peers. Or start one of the many languages we offer, from those with massive numbers of speakers like Arabic and Mandarin Chinese, to idioms of the Gulf South, including Haitian Creole and the indigenous Tunica.

One of the traditional justifications for a liberal arts education was that it teaches you how to learn and prepares solid citizens. As we update learning objectives for the digital age, let’s specify that by embracing a second language, students gain the opportunity to think in another system. Learn how to form vocabulary from the ten forms of a trilateral Arabic root or to express yourself in Spanish’s pluperfect subjunctive or to employ politeness levels in Japanese, and you are not only building massive amounts of synapses but understanding disparate ways of life and thought, ones that no machine can translate because the differences are more instructive than the similarities.

Despite the 350 languages currently spoken in the United States (about 150 of them indigenous), a creeping monolingualism is taking over America. And even as technology appears to be screening out linguistic and cultural differences, global misunderstanding is on the rise. Tulane students, and this generation of college students generally, are socially engaged and committed to a better future. Let’s embrace ever-changing global complexity and lead boldly, even if it means getting out of our linguistic comfort zones. ♥

*Brian T. Edwards is dean of the School of Liberal Arts at Tulane. His most recent book is *After the American Century* (Columbia, 2016).*

PHYSICAL PLACES AND SPACES

Architecture Professor Errol Barron — in his signature watercolor drawings — and English major graduate Frankie Fachilla — in a very personal essay — are inspired by the Tulane Uptown campus.

TEXT BY FRANKIE FACHILLA, NC '04

ILLUSTRATION BY ERROL BARRON

While in New Orleans for a work conference, I visited my alma mater, Tulane University. I could feel Tulane calling to me as I was attending sessions at the convention center across town. The call was so strong that when my work day ended and I could finally go to the campus, I didn't even stop at my Airbnb to leave my work bag behind and change shoes (despite the fact that my feet were desperately hurting and despite the fact that this would have only delayed me about 30 minutes, tops). It was like I just had to get there as soon as humanly possible.

Physical places and spaces that were significant in my past are intensely powerful for me to revisit. They “wake up” the version of myself that experienced so much life in those spaces. In the day leading up to this trip, I'd been encountering multiple triggers to past feelings of being constantly afraid and feeling small and lonely when I was in college. I was also returning to New Orleans for the first time in 13 years, so the whole city felt like an emotionally charged time capsule (there's no place quite like New Orleans)! I don't think that I've ever more strongly recalled how desperately lonely and afraid college-me was, and I don't think I've ever been at a place in my life where I was able to offer that past version of myself so much genuine compassion, love and total understanding. Before, I merely felt frustrated with myself — like, “*Ugh, I hate that I felt that way!*”

— shaming myself for the old struggles. Because of all that, it felt like a sacred calling to get myself as closely intimate with past-me as I could, and wild horses couldn't have stopped me from getting to that campus.

On my aching feet, I walked and walked and walked the campus. I visited my freshman dormitory (It smelled the same! That same smell brought me right back). I peered at the bushes behind an academic building where I stopped to cry once. I listened to so many conversations that the kids walking by were having with each other ... and I remembered exactly how I felt back then listening to those same conversations from my peers. I saw everything through past-me's eyes, and I “got it” — I completely understood why she felt that overwhelming fear and “not enough” feeling all the time. The thing is:

My very existence as the person I am now is a total repudiation of all the demons I was fighting back then, so I felt like a superhero wandering around and effortlessly seeing malevolent shadows from the past vanish via my mere presence.

My husband and I recently rewatched the episode of “Buffy the Vampire Slayer” where she dresses up like a noblewoman from the 1800s for Halloween and a warlock's spell makes her actually transform into a noblewoman who has no idea that she has the superpowers of the Slayer. So, she wanders around getting stalked and hunted and almost killed. She flails about and thinks that she's helpless and needs someone to save her. Watching that episode this week (for maybe the 10th time), I finally understood more deeply — if she'd just tried to take a punch, she would have discovered the Slayer within. But, because

“My very existence as the person I am now is a total repudiation of all the demons I was fighting back then, so I felt like a superhero wandering around and effortlessly seeing malevolent shadows from the past vanish via my mere presence.”

FRANKIE FACHILLA, NC '04

she couldn't get past the fear to take that step, her power was invisible to her. Metaphorically speaking, revisiting Tulane felt like me finally taking that punch and knowing who I really am. No more fear. I graduated exactly 15 years ago, and my wish for today's, tomorrow's and yesterday's Tulanians is that they take that punch as soon as possible, or — whenever they're ready. It's right there waiting for them. 🍷

Frankie Fachilla lives in her hometown, Nashville, Tennessee, with her husband, stepson, and three cats. She is a licensed professional counselor, and she works at a women's prison providing psychotherapy. She is also working on her PhD in counselor education.

BARRON'S NEW SKETCHBOOK ON TULANE'S ICONIC ARCHITECTURE

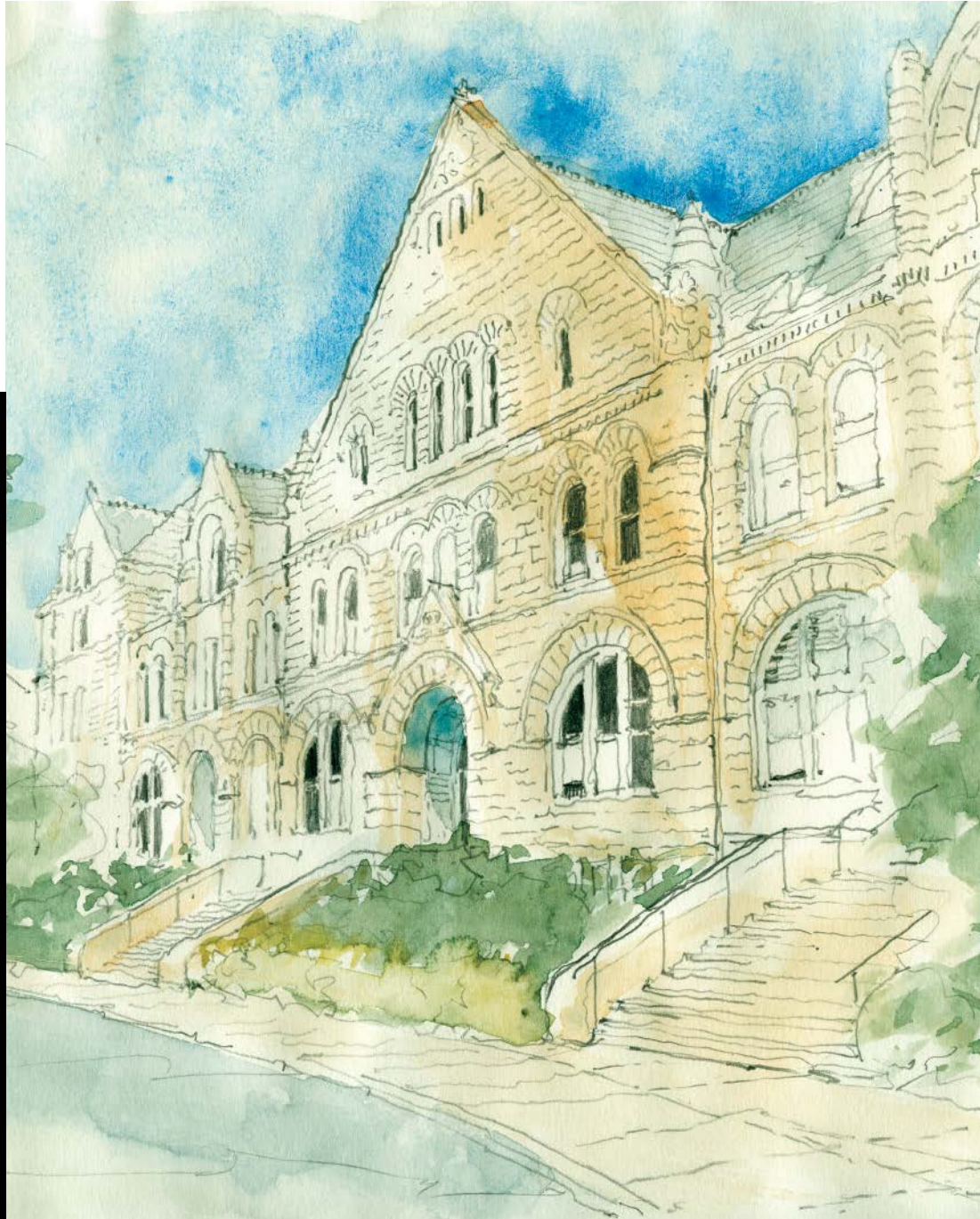
Errol Barron, professor of architecture, has published a new book, *Tulane Observed: A Campus Sketchbook*, a personal reflection on the building styles, both historic and modern, throughout the Uptown campus.

It is a culmination of Barron's decades spent on and around the campus. In particular, Barron taught an architecture class that tasked students with observing and drawing Tulane's buildings.

"I used to walk students around and give them a sense that ideas don't exist in isolation. We would connect buildings on campus with buildings that may have inspired them," Barron said. "I would often draw with them."


The size and layout of the book mimic the sketchbook style of Barron's previous publications *New Orleans Observed* and *Roma Osservata*.

The book is available from the Tulane School of Architecture.



A GLOBAL CITIZEN STATE OF MIND





Climate change, immigration, health care, poverty and racial discrimination are just some of the issues whose solutions require a broader, global understanding. Tulane political science professors and recent graduates grapple with what it means to be an educated citizen of the world. We asked a few to share their insights.

BY MARY ANN TRAVIS



Passion for Health Care

"I'm passionate for health care and health-care policies," said Kennis Htet.

Htet is an international student from Myanmar who graduated this May from the School of Liberal Arts with a BA as a political science/international relations major. Through the Creative Scholars program, he's on his way to Tulane medical school this fall, having completed all the pre-med requirements by the end of his sophomore year.

"My country is a developing country. Political science would call it a 'Third World' country. It doesn't have the best resources or best governance. For me, as a citizen of a country that is deeply entrenched in corruption, it brings a sense of awareness that we shouldn't take for granted, for example, a Tulane education. And we shouldn't take health care for granted."

"One of my biggest goals in life is to go help and mitigate the Burmese health crisis because, honestly, we have one of the worst healthcare systems in the world."

KENNIS HTET (SLA '19), current Tulane medical school student

Htet said that his experiences as a citizen of Myanmar, "where health care is nonexistent," is a unique perspective that he brings to the table.

"Health care is not just about medicine," said Htet. "There is a political aspect, an economic aspect."

Htet wants to combine his knowledge of political science and medicine — and also his creative side (he's a painter and ceramist) to help his home country.

After he graduates from medical school, Htet said, "One of my biggest goals in life is to go help and mitigate the Burmese health crisis because, honestly, we have one of the worst healthcare systems in the world."

As far as his experience coming to Tulane as an international student, Htet said, "Globalism means bringing in culture from my background here and then educating myself with a new culture and new experiences and then merging them together."

He was elected to the Tulane Homecoming court in fall 2018. During half-time, he stood on Benson Field at Yulman Stadium. “I was in my wholly, traditional Burmese attire,” said Htet. “I think I was the first person from my country to ever represent Burma or Myanmar. That was a big deal for me.”

To be an educated citizen of the world, “I would say, always have an open mind because every part in the world is different. And every person in the world is different. They come with different backgrounds. It’s always good to have an open mind, to be eager to learn while not losing your own sense of culture and your own sense of background and identity.”



Previous pages: A youthful crowd walks on a covered bridge in Berlin, Germany, where many Tulane students study abroad. Facing page, left: Boys study in a village school near Mindat in Chin State, Myanmar. Right: Kennis Htet, second from right, participates in the 2018 Tulane Homecoming court wearing traditional Myanmar clothing. Below: Ashley Brown Burns

Do It Now

Ashley Brown Burns, assistant professor of political science, said she definitely tries to stretch her students to think about other perspectives. “What’s the counter argument?” she asks in her classes on Race and American Politics, Public Policy, and Politics of Poverty Policy.

To appreciate other points of view, students have to know who they are and what they stand for, she said.

She’s preparing her students to be global citizens. “You can’t really understand the world, if you don’t understand yourself and your place in it.”

The world is so different for today’s 19-to-20-year-old students than it was for their parents. “Everything about it,” said Burns. “How we live, how we communicate, what information we have access to, how we share knowledge.”

Students are in an exploration phase, finding their identities. She wants them to understand how valuable they can be to our whole society. Burns said, “How do we get our students to see themselves as a solution bringer? It’s not being a global citizen when you’re sitting somewhere with problems, and you’re a smart, resourceful

“They don’t have to wait until they ‘get older.’ Do it now. Do it as soon as you can.”

ASHLEY BROWN BURNS,
assistant professor of political science

person and you don’t help. I don’t want them to think they can’t make an impact. You can have a ‘good’ job that promotes social good.

“What I want them to understand about global citizenship: They don’t have to wait until they ‘get older.’ Do it now. Do it as soon as you can.”





Altman Scholars trek through Om Koi province in Thailand during a weekend service trip this summer. The students were based in Chiang Mai, the largest city in northern Thailand, for their first experience abroad as part of the Altman program.

“One part of global citizenship is not just identifying with the local, the provincial or the national group, but also with a more global society of human beings.”

CASEY LOVE, senior professor of practice of political science

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Intercultural Competence

Casey Love, senior professor of practice of political science, agrees with Burns that global citizenship can “entail a sense of identity and a sense of place in the world.” (Love is a 1997 Newcomb College graduate and earned her PhD from Tulane in 2005.)

Love co-directs the Jeffrey A. Altman Program in International Studies and Business. In this program, intercultural competence is among its goals. Altman Scholars earn bachelor’s degrees from both the School of Liberal Arts and the A. B. Freeman School of Business.

They travel to Southeast Asia (this year they went to Thailand) for a summer program after their first year at Tulane to immerse themselves in another country’s culture. During their freshman, sophomore and senior years, Altman Scholars take classes at the Tulane campus in New Orleans.

Their entire junior year is spent enrolled at universities abroad. They are required to

take the majority of their coursework in the language of the host country.

Students learn to develop verbal and nonverbal communication skills. For example, in Thailand, they begin to understand cues related to “saving face” and adjust their behavior accordingly. In a TIDES (Tulane Interdisciplinary Experience Seminar) during the freshman year, the focus is on New Orleans as a microcosm of the world with its intercultural, interracial and interethnic differences. “There’s a lot about how to avoid being an ‘ugly American,’” said Love.

Students are encouraged to think about their privilege as carriers of American passports, which “basically grants us entry into any country anywhere, which is a right not shared by the vast majority of humans.”

“I think most American citizens identify closely with our country,” said Love, “but I also think that one part of global citizenship is not just identifying with the local, the provincial or the national group, but also with a more global society of human beings.”

“You can work towards being a version of a global citizen right here in New Orleans.”

MALCOLM GRBA (B '19, SLA '19),
current Fulbright scholar in Mexico

Passports at the Ready

Altman Scholars David Woodside and Malcolm Grba, who both graduated in May, are keeping their passports handy.

Woodside has joined the Peace Corps and is on his way to Ukraine to work in business development with small business owners, local governments or nongovernmental organizations.

Grba has been awarded a Fulbright Binational Internship and is moving to Mexico City for a year.

Something Woodside has learned through his studies and travels with the Altman program (besides a fluent command of French) is that “people are pro people.” Woodside studied in Vietnam, Morocco and France.

“People like to know other people,” he said. “If you’re friendly to them, they’re going to be friendly to you. People want to help, especially showing their own culture. People want to put on a good face and represent themselves well.”

Grba said that being a global citizen means “trying to be as cognizant as possible that our kind of logic, our way of doing things is not the only way. There is so much wisdom around the world, within our country, outside of it, within different families, communities, etc., that we can’t learn about ourselves, at least in any holistic form, until we learn other ways of seeing the world.”

Ever since he came back to the Tulane campus after his junior year studying in Bogotá, Colombia, “I’ve tried to focus on making sure that we’re as welcoming and excited about our international students as possible,” said Grba.

“You can work towards being a version of a global citizen right here,” he said, of the international city of New Orleans.

Voting Optional but a Good Idea

“For many Americans, the idea of being an educated global citizen doesn’t mean very much,” said Brian Brox, associate professor of political science, who studies American politics. “It’s hard enough for many Americans to be an even somewhat educated or engaged American citizen.

“For Americans to try to understand everything they need to know just to get through domestic politics, but then to expand that into understanding where America fits into the global picture — that’s a tall order.”

American citizens have many freedoms, liberties and rights. Among these rights is the right to vote. Engaging in the political process, “whether it’s voting, donating to campaigns, volunteering or even running for office, we need people to be relatively free to do these kinds of things,” said Brox. “But it can’t be forced. The goal of society is to make these things as reasonably free as possible, while still allowing for individual freedom of conscience and individual freedom of expression, including the ability not to do these things.”

Brox sees his role as a scholar and the role of the political science students that he’s training as proponents of the ideals that “we need to talk to Americans about: You are not forced to do this. But it might be a good idea. Here are the tools and pieces of information you need to be a good citizen and to have an impact when you feel like you need to have an impact.”

He trains his students to be advocates for expanding access, freedom of participation and information and letting the broader public know that “there’s lots of ways to get engaged. There’s lots of ways to be influential. It’s more than just showing up every four years to vote in a presidential election.

“Tulane students want to get out there and change the world in a lot of different areas. I see a lot of idealism and engagement — just the anticipation of getting this degree, so they can go out and do something with it.”



Brian Brox studies American politics where the goal of society is to make engaging in the political process “as reasonably free as possible, while still allowing for individual freedom of conscience and individual freedom of expression.”



“You learn more about your own culture because you go over there and you figure out what you thought was normal, it’s not normal for other people.”

CHRIS FETTWEIS, associate professor of political science

Golden Age of Peace and Security

Chris Fettweis, associate professor of political science, said, “We try to encourage all our students to travel because it’s such a life-expanding experience.

“You learn more about your own culture because you go over there and you figure out what you thought was normal, it’s not normal for other people.

“You can look back on what is unique or troubling or all of the above about your own culture. And you can learn the fundamental similarities that people have.

“Being a citizen of the world, you can do a lot of different ways. For example, you can be fired up by the environmental issues.”

The good news is that the world is a lot more peaceful than it ever has been. “We’re actually living in a golden age of peace and security,” said Fettweis, “so it’s a great time to travel abroad.”

Fettweis studies and teaches power and strategy and theories of how the world works.

He said, “Power corrupts. And absolute power corrupts absolutely.

“Sometimes it’s hard to be a powerful and wise country at the same time. Power has psychological impacts on the United States — and on other countries.”

Fettweis said the United States is not compelled to cooperate with others because “we don’t have to have the same kind of concerns.”

Power also can be a block to empathy.

“There’s an old saying that power is the ability not to have to cooperate.”

“One of the debates in political science now is, can you have good governance without democracy?”

MARTIN DIMITROV, associate professor of political science

An Interconnected World Within Limits

Martin Dimitrov, associate professor of political science, teaches about and studies the powerful country of China. He’s investigated intellectual property rights in China (where that country has made progress in enforcement of intellectual property rights in the last 20 to 30 years, he said.)

He’s also studying the resilience of authoritarian regimes. “There are remarkable aspects of China’s reform experience over the last four decades,” he said.

"Hundreds of millions of people have been lifted out of poverty; standards of living have improved. We can't deny that." But freedom of expression and individual autonomy are repressed in China.

Dimitrov grew up in Bulgaria, behind the Iron Curtain. "The world did not feel all that global. The world was divided.

"Then when the Berlin Wall fell [in 1989], all sorts of things changed."

He came to the United States as an international student to study French at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1994.

As someone who grew up under communism in Eastern Europe, Dimitrov is certain of the intrinsic value of democracy.

The world is much more interconnected now. But, "the movement of capital

and information has advanced at a much greater pace than the movement of people." Citizenship in individual countries, along with anxieties about immigration, hinders people from moving about as freely as ideas or money.

Students need to be aware of the world beyond the United States, Dimitrov said. For example, what is the difference between a democratically elected government versus one that is not democratic?

"One of the debates in political science now is, can you have good governance without democracy?" Authoritarian regimes may appear to govern well and efficiently while democracy is often messy.

But, "I tend to think that democracy is the best political system we have," said Dimitrov.

Facing page: The Brandenburg Gate in Berlin is an 18th-century neoclassical monument built on the orders of the Prussian king Frederick William II after the successful restoration of order during the early Batavian Revolution. It has served as a symbol of both the division of Germany and the country's reunification and is one of Berlin's most visited landmarks. When Germany was reunified following the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989, the Brandenburg Gate quickly reinvented itself into the symbol of unity for the new Berlin.

Below: Mark Vail

Democracy and Capitalism

"Global citizenship is more, I think, a state of mind," said Mark Vail, professor of political science. "It's an acknowledgment that interactions with and relations among different countries and different cultures are achievable, are important. And require work."

In his book *Liberalism in Illiberal States*, Vail writes about the Western European countries Germany, France and Italy.

"The book is, on some basic level, about the metaphor of global citizenship and how it reflects and is built on a sense of economic freedom and its relationship to political engagement. And how that varies from country to country," he said.

The lessons of the book are that there are lots of ways of creating capitalism — as many ways as there are countries. "Global citizenship," said Vail, "is about acknowledging the limitations of our own model as much as it is celebrating its virtues."

Being an educated citizen of the world "involves not taking the status quo for granted and not assuming that democracy is a self-sustaining system."

Two things Vail cautions against: "One, is assuming the status quo is stable. Two, that capitalism and democracy are consistent with each other."

Capitalism and democracy are "at best, uneasy partners," said Vail.

Part of being an engaged citizen "is taking individual and joint responsibility for one's country and one's world's political fortunes."

"Citizenship is, in my mind, not a passive thing. It's not merely a matter of living in a country and paying taxes. It's a matter of sustained engagement with the political order.

"It's about being committed to sustaining political, economic and social institutions that are constitutive of and consistent with human freedom."

"Citizenship is, in my mind, not a passive thing. ... It's a matter of sustained engagement with the political order."

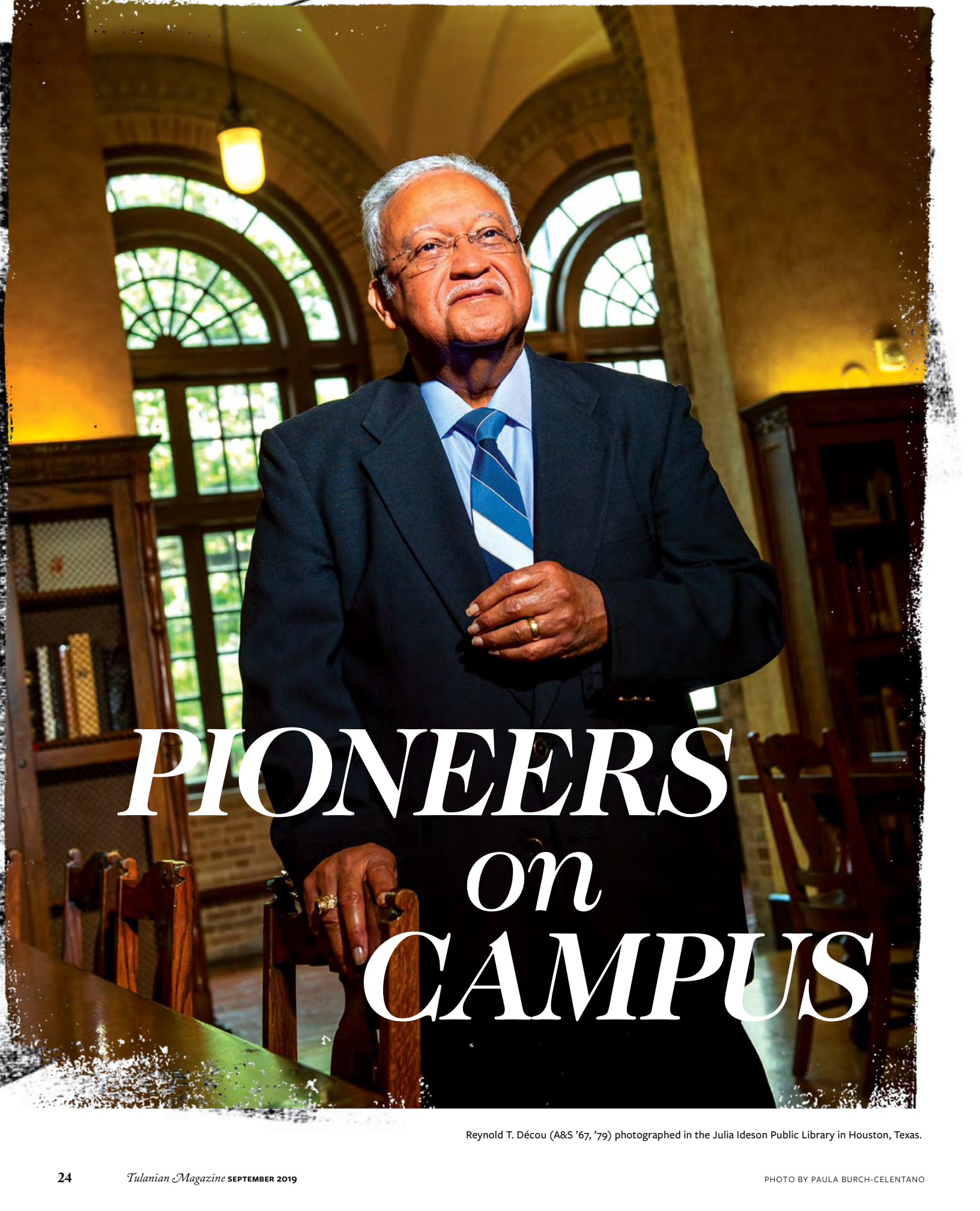
MARK VAIL, professor of political science

Being a citizen of the world "requires that we adopt a position of humility," said Vail. "And that we understand that there are lots of different ways of living together. Politics is about figuring out ways to live together collectively."

Meeting the World

Every day, Tulane students are on the path to discover how to become active and engaged citizens. They meet the world. 🌍





PIONEERS *on* *CAMPUS*

Reynold T. Décou (A&S '67, '79) photographed in the Julia Ideson Public Library in Houston, Texas.

Tulane trailblazers are finally being recognized for their courage, tenacity and persistence in a number of ways — including the naming of campus buildings and programs in their honor.

BY FAITH DAWSON

The story of Tulane University would not be complete without the contributions of many important people from diverse backgrounds who have made a substantial and lasting impact on our campus. The Committee on Campus Recognition, in an ongoing, campuswide effort to recognize those individuals, solicited nominations of Tulanians who have made our university what it is today. In April, President Mike Fitts announced an exciting new initiative to honor the first five of these Tulanians.

This effort began with the announcement of the intent to name prominent campus locations and programs after pioneering alumni and other Tulanians who led the way in the university becoming a more inclusive, diverse and welcoming community.

The Board of Tulane approved naming Willow Residences, currently designated for the street on which they sit, in honor of the first African American undergraduates to earn degrees from Newcomb and Tulane, respectively: Deidre Dumas Labat (NC '66, G '69) and Reynold T. Décou (A&S '67, '79).

The Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Office of Gender and Sexual Diversity, as well as their new space in the Richardson Building, will be named the Carolyn Barber-Pierre Center for Intercultural Life in honor of the campus pioneer whose decades of dedication to the Tulane community have been instrumental in its movement toward greater inclusion.

Over the course of the academic year, the university will celebrate these new designations with special ceremonies and celebrations while recognizing many other great Tulanians, including Bobby Yan (TC '95), a six-time Emmy Award winner and the founder of Tulane's Asian American Student Union, for whom the Bobby Yan Lecture in Media and Social Change will be named; and Luis Guillermo Solís (G '81), for whom a professorship will be named.

Here are the stories of the first five Tulane pioneers who will be honored.

Reynold T. Décou

At a time when large state universities were publicly, and sometimes violently, desegregating, Tulane administrators set about integrating the university. Among the first students recruited by Tulane was a St. Augustine High School New Orleans senior named Reynold T. Décou (A&S '67, '79).

Décou already had a tentative plan to attend college on the East Coast. His career goal was to become a physician. So, when two Tulane deans arrived at the high school and personally invited Décou to enroll at Tulane, and mentioned the potential for a scholarship in his second semester, it was a surprise.

Décou said that at that time he was well aware of the events surrounding the integration of some other Southern universities.

He was swayed by Tulane's reputation, but also made the decision out of respect for his family, who would shoulder a financial burden by sending him to college on the East Coast. His parents were cautiously optimistic about the agreement. He registered at Tulane for the summer 1963 semester, taking 10 hours of calculus before the fall semester began.

In August he moved into a dormitory, where patterns of intimidation by the student body began the very day he arrived. Name-calling, messages of hate, unpleasant "gifts" left at the door: "I took this all in stride, confided in just a couple of students who had befriended me, and never told my parents until years later," Décou recalled in 2014.

When he arrived at Tulane, he was still only 17. But even at that age, he said he was still fixed on his goal, to complete his education at Tulane.

Reflecting on his experiences, Décou said, "It's a process. You have to go through this. It's just like when you're building a freeway, there's just a lot of disruption, because that's the theme for progress."

Décou left the dorm for good in November 1963, although after the fall semester the episodes of abuse dwindled. He continued on at Tulane, entering the Air Force ROTC and pursuing a pre-med curriculum until he decided to switch to geology. He graduated from Tulane in 1967 with a Bachelor of Science and also attended Tulane graduate school in the geology program prior to his employment.

"I had some things that almost at times brought me to tears," he said. "But at the same time, I said, 'I have a goal to achieve, I can see that light at the end of the tunnel.' And I had the support that I thought I needed to go forward from my family and from the administration. And even though I had experienced [intimidation] ... it did not stop my momentum."

After a commission with the U.S. Air Force, Décou worked as a petroleum geologist, traveling the world. He settled in Houston, where he still lives, and is semi-retired and active as a geological consultant.



Luis Guillermo Solís

A Fulbright scholarship led Luis Guillermo Solís (G '81), to the university's Center for Latin American Studies — and in less than a year and a half, the experience imprinted on him in such a way that he still reflects on it as “extraordinary.”

Solís, who earned a master's degree after studying Central American history and political science, would go on to pursue an academic career and eventually be elected to the presidency of Costa Rica.

“I see [Tulane] as a fundamental part of my personal and, clearly, academic formation,” said Solís, who received the Tulane's President's Medal in 2017.

“New Orleans ... and Tulane were a cradle of life opportunities for me. They formed me as a person in many ways. Tulane gave me a perspective much wider than I ever had before,” he said.

Solís said he benefited from mentor relationships with faculty members such as Richard Greenleaf and Ralph Lee Woodward. The faculty also entrusted to him important tasks, like serving as a liaison between the university and a visiting head of state, and later to a celebrated ethnohistorian on campus.

Solís had already worked as a university professor and a diplomat when he was elected as president, a position to which he brought a fresh perspective and an academic's analytical thinking.

Tulane provided “hardcore intellectual instruments ... the capacity to research, question things, seek for answers beyond the simple — making it more difficult to assume stereotypes — all of those things are very fundamental in my experience after Tulane, including my life in politics.”

After completing his term in 2018, Solís returned to what he described as his “academic vocation.” Now a visiting Distinguished University Professor at Florida International University's Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center, he teaches, writes and conducts research. This summer he traveled to Guatemala as chief of the Organization of American States' electoral observation mission to that country.

Solís said he still keeps in touch with some of his former Tulane professors and classmates. He has also taught at CIAPA, a Tulane-affiliated campus in San Jose, Costa Rica.

“Tulane never disappeared from my life,” he said.

The university will name a professorship in Solís' honor.



Campus recognition

- Willow Residences (left) will be named in honor of Reynold T. Décou (A&S '67, '79) and Deidre Dumas Labat (NC '66, G '69)
- The Carolyn Barber-Pierre Center for Intercultural Life will be the new home of the offices of Multicultural Affairs and Gender and Sexual Diversity.
- A professorship will be named in honor of Luis Guillermo Solís (G '81).
- The School of Liberal Arts will establish the Bobby Yan Lecture in Media and Social Change in honor of Bobby Yan (TC '95).

Deidre Dumas Labat

Deidre Dumas Labat (NC '66, G '69) was a freshman at Xavier University when she learned that Tulane had integrated, creating an opportunity for her to enroll there. Even though she had been having a fine experience at Xavier, where she had a full scholarship, along with challenging academics and a comfortable social climate, she thought Newcomb College would offer a different challenge, one that would ultimately test her courage.

"I always enjoyed learning," she said, noting that she was an A student. "But in the pit of my stomach, I always wondered, *are you really good? Or are you just good in this situation?*" Newcomb College represented an opportunity to prove her tenacity, if to no one but herself.

By this time, Labat already had one experience under her belt that many other college freshmen didn't have: protesting segregation in the city of New Orleans. She had already picketed in front of Canal Street department stores that didn't adequately serve or hire African Americans, had insults hurled at her and felt the wrath of individuals who opposed integration.

Labat would be the first African American to enroll at Newcomb College in fall 1963, although she didn't know it at the time she studied there. Either way, it didn't matter.

What mattered to her was the pursuit of science. She majored in biology, always intending to earn a PhD, which she later did, from Louisiana State University Medical Center graduate school.

At Newcomb, she said, the work was challenging, but she felt prepared for it.

Some of her fellow students were friendly and welcoming, and some were indifferent. Many of the faculty members at that time were condescending or insulting. She heard she didn't belong, couldn't "compete." She received hate mail. Often, she ate lunch alone in the basement of Josephine Louise House, she said. She made the Dean's List and eventually graduated with the Biology Prize.

Given that she enjoyed Xavier so much, why would she put all that aside to go to a campus where no one seemed to know what to do with her?

"To prove to myself and to others ... black people can compete here," she said.

Labat is professor emeritus, former senior vice president and vice president for academic affairs at Xavier University of Louisiana.



"I always enjoyed learning. But in the pit of my stomach, I always wondered, *are you really good? Or are you just good in this situation?*"

DEIDRE DUMAS LABAT (NC '66, G '69), the first African American to enroll in and graduate from Tulane's Newcomb College



Carolyn Barber-Pierre

The Carolyn Barber-Pierre Center for Intercultural Life will unite the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Office of Gender and Sexual Diversity in a newly constructed space in the Richardson Building. Carolyn Barber-Pierre herself is keeping her focus where it's always been. Barber-Pierre, an assistant vice president for student affairs, is mainly concerned with providing the types of services, programs and advocacy that will make the new space feel like "home" for students of color and other underrepresented student populations.

The office's current space in the Lavin-Bernick Center for University Life, affectionately known as "The O," serves many purposes — meeting space, social space, program space — and the students who work there or just drop in to eat lunch consider it to be a sort of family room on campus.

The common thread of the flow of students in the new space continues to be Barber-Pierre, who is going into her 36th year as an advocate for student equity across campus.

"The students are amazing," she said of her longevity.

And she has had a diversity of experiences as well.

"I enjoy my work at Tulane," she said. "I've had the ability to take students abroad, who've never been out the country; to create programs that bring institutions together that wouldn't typically (partner). We created the MLK Week for Peace, where we brought Xavier and Dillard in with Tulane and Loyola to have those conversations about what social justice looks like."

Barber-Pierre came to New Orleans, her mother's birthplace, for a job at St. Mary's Dominican College. When that college closed, she joined Tulane in 1984 as director of special services, a position that set into motion a career of helping create student equity on campus.

At Tulane, she created welcoming spaces for students of color, marginalized students or those from nontraditional backgrounds. It was a challenging time, she said, but she drew on her own collegiate activist experiences, during which she served on the student government and with the Black Student Union at the University of Findlay in Ohio. She also notes that the Tulane administration, then led by President Eamon Kelly, was committed to the idea of inclusiveness.

Today, in the age of social media, activism feels different, less radical than the 1970s' heyday of black activism, Barber-Pierre said.

"Our students today look at activism a little differently," she said. In 2015, when many students of color were visible and vocal in addressing university administration with their needs, seeking racial equity and positive change across campus, "they went about it in the most professional way I've ever seen activism happen, because they knew that they had to ally with white students, with student government, with a whole bunch of folks, in order to say that it's not just 'our' problem, it's a community problem. Diversity and equity benefit everyone."

"Diversity and equity benefit everyone."

CAROLYN BARBER-PIERRE, assistant vice president for student affairs

This page: Carolyn Barber-Pierre; opposite: Bobby Yan (TC '95).

Bobby Yan

Filmmaker Bobby Yan (TC '95) arrived at Tulane not knowing much about New Orleans. But he nonetheless embraced university life and the city. Yan founded the Asian American Students United (known as AASU) and a beloved cable-access TV show in his years here.

Yan was surprised that the university only had organizations that appealed to students of specific Asian ethnicities, but no Asian American Student Union. So he founded the organization himself.

The organization ended up attracting students of various Asian ethnicities and is still active today.

"I guess, coming from a background of such a melting pot of culture, and coming down to the South, where I saw a very distinct division of race, it was eye-opening to see what existed outside of New York City, where I was born and raised. And I think it was necessary for me to grow and see this to become who I am today," Yan said.

As a communication major, he pursued "bringing to light issues of justice" and researched Asian Americans' contributions to civil rights in this country, drawing activist Yuri Kochiyama to a Tulane event co-sponsored by AASU and the African American Student Union.

"I've been very big on unifying people to bridge cultures, bridge dialogue between us," Yan said, adding that he often tries to incorporate those themes in his work.

The School of Liberal Arts will establish the Bobby Yan Lecture in Media and Social Change, a series that brings to campus speakers invested in that subject, in his honor.

Yan was also an innovator. As a student, he co-produced, along with fellow alumnus Jamal K. Payne, a cable access show for "TSTV" — Tulane Student Television — called "Hip-Hop Half-Hour," (originally created by alumni Aaron Rhoden and Elvin Stampley) that featured music videos and celebrity guests (Jay-Z made an appearance in the '90s, Yan said, and Lil Wayne would call in). The local show was so well-received that in its heyday, the producers received buckets of mail and more than 20 years later, fans still ask him about it.

"The beautiful soul of New Orleans, as well as going to Tulane, has enriched me in many ways," Yan said. "And I would not be the person I am today without it."

Today, Yan works as a filmmaker and video producer, with six Emmys to his name for his work with MLB Network. Yan was also chosen for the ABC Disney Directing Program, a highly selective, two-year professional TV-directing program, and is working on his first feature film. 🍷



CENTER OF THE ACTION

The Newcomb Institute evolves in the 21st century, taking a prominent place in The Commons and carrying on Josephine Louise Newcomb's vision for women's education.

BY BARRI BRONSTON

The program for the annual Newcomb Scholars Symposium, held each spring on Tulane's uptown campus, is a testament to the breadth and gravity of the H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial College Institute, also known as the Newcomb Institute.

The symposium gives graduating scholars an opportunity to share the results of their yearlong independent research projects capping four years of study and to describe in detail the scope of their work.

Kelsey Williams, a public health major, designed a peer education program geared toward reducing teen pregnancy among AIDS orphans in Nairobi, Kenya. Juliet Chin, who double majored in digital media production and cultural anthropology, produced a documentary on the Chinese community of Jamaica, the birthplace of her father. Jacqueline Wagner, a sociology major, analyzed the effects of fertility apps on the right of women to make informed choices about their reproductive health.

A few days later, Tulane President Mike Fitts praised the Institute as "the beating heart of Tulane University and everything we stand for: excellence, engagement and community."

Speaking at Under the Oaks 2019, an annual ceremony honoring distinguished students, Newcomb alumnae award recipients and 50-year graduates of Newcomb College, he said, "The Newcomb Institute embodies my vision for Tulane. It adds depth to the undergraduate experience. It facilitates interdisciplinary scholarship. It allows our students to make connections in math and music, science and history. It engages them in meaningful research."

Lipaz Avigal, a political economy and Spanish major, presented a comparative approach to populist movements in France and Bolivia at the Newcomb Scholars Symposium held on April 13, 2019. The symposium is an opportunity for scholars to share the results of their academic work.





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Mike Fitts, President of Tulane



Top right: Sally J. Kenney, political scientist and holder of the endowed Newcomb chair, directs the Newcomb Institute, whose spacious new home is in The Commons. Above: Mortar Board president Ellyn Froberg participates in Under the Oaks — a ceremony honoring distinguished students, alumnae and 50-year graduates of Newcomb College — in May 2019. Mortar Board is a national honor society that recognizes college seniors for excellence in scholarship, leadership and service. The Newcomb flag is in the background.

Such praise brings a smile to the face of Sally J. Kenney, a political scientist who has served as executive director of the Newcomb Institute and held the Newcomb endowed chair since 2010. Through the Institute’s mission of educating undergraduate women for leadership in the 21st century, she has seen the program blossom into an all-encompassing experience that has students tackling some of the world’s most critical gender issues, including sexual assault, gender pay equity, reproductive justice and mass incarceration.

“It’s a hugely transformative experience,” Kenney said. “It isn’t just about sitting in classes; it’s having a close relationship with faculty that gives students the confidence and portfolio to be leaders. It’s about going out and doing things in the world, and this is what our students find so satisfying.

“We’ve had students organize conferences dealing with sexual assault on campus,” she said. “We have a program in which students work with women inside the Louisiana



Correctional Institute. We offer a course on women legislators. Students then go and work for a woman legislator.”

Since its founding in 1886 as the first coordinate women’s college in the United States, H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial College has undergone many changes, including a 2006 merger with Paul Tulane College to become Newcomb-Tulane College, the creation of the H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial College Institute (now Newcomb Institute), and now most recently, the Newcomb Institute’s move to The Commons.

Kenney worked closely with Tulane administration to find a new home, keeping the Institute at the center of campus consistent with its mission. Kenney proposed adding a third floor to The Commons, the \$55 million, 77,000-square-foot building, which is connected to the Lavin-Bernick Center for University Life and which opened at the beginning of the 2019–20 academic year. The Newcomb Institute will now occupy that entire third floor, consisting of 19,000 square feet of space, including an event space for 100 people, three meeting rooms, a library and

archives with a dedicated reading room, a series of study spaces, a conference room and an open-air courtyard.

Throughout its 133 years, Newcomb Institute’s rich history of cultivating women’s leadership through undergraduate research and service-learning curricula has proven no stranger to change; the Institute’s ability to adapt and grow has proven crucial in its mission to continue to create meaningful learning and leadership abilities for students while promoting gender equity.

“Although I worked closely choosing the architects and designing the building over the last seven years, The Commons is more fabulous than I could have ever imagined,” Kenney said. “We’re actually going to have offices that are designed as offices and not somebody’s living room and a computer lab that was not designed to be a cafeteria.”

Kenney was referring to Newcomb Institute’s old makeshift headquarters first at 43 Newcomb Place, then at 7025 Freret St., once a two-story house with four apartments. It also occupied space at the Caroline Richardson Building and 1326 Audubon St.

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Sally Kenney, executive director of Newcomb Institute



“With The Commons, we’ll have a clear identity,” she said. “It puts us right at the center of campus as opposed to being spread out among three locations or on the periphery of the campus, as many women’s centers and research centers are.”

While the new space is everything the staff of the Newcomb Institute could have ever hoped for, they are well aware that it is second to the Newcomb experience, be it as a Newcomb Scholar, a grant recipient or a student simply interested in attending a lecture or film.

Isabella Johnson, a Newcomb Scholar from San Diego, said the program satisfied her craving for a community that would facilitate her academic growth through a feminist lens.

“One of the most significant aspects of the program is the fact that it centers around women and leadership,” she said. “I think that it is important to have spaces on campus to discuss gender and feminism and the way that these influence all aspects of our lives.”

As a Newcomb Scholar, Johnson received funding to conduct research on women’s reproductive health, traveled to a Public Leadership Education Network Women in Global Policy Conference, conducted a literature review, wrote and published a case study, and attended women-focused classes on history, epistemology, leadership and research.

Johnson graduated in May 2019 with a bachelor’s degree in biomedical engineering and is now enrolled in Tulane’s fifth-year master’s program. She said she will continue her research on women’s reproductive health, specifically a project titled “Determining the Role of Clinical Factors in Pelvic Organ Prolapse.”

“As I reflect on my past four years at Tulane,” she said, “it is clear that I have grown immensely both as a scholar and as a leader. The Newcomb Institute and the Newcomb Scholars Program were instrumental to this growth.” She eventually plans to return to San Diego to pursue a career in women’s reproductive health.

Jackie Schornstein (SSE '13), a member of the first cohort of Newcomb Scholars in 2010, said she was drawn to the program because of the opportunity to learn leadership skills and to study with similar-minded female students. She researched domestic violence and women in prison, merging the two into her final project — battered women incarcerated for killing their abusers and the clemency movement of the 1990s.

Today, she works as an associate philanthropy officer at Planned Parenthood Federation of America. She credits the Newcomb Institute, the Newcomb Scholars Program and Kenney with solidifying her passion for women's issues and social justice.

"It's something I carry with me to this day in the work that I do," said Schornstein, who also serves on the Newcomb Institute Directors Advisory Council. "It has allowed me to connect and form bonds with some incredible women who I am still in touch with today."

Kenney said she is proud of former Newcomb Scholars like Schornstein and Johnson but added that the program, while a major one, is among a wide array of offerings by the Newcomb Institute serving hundreds of students.

For example, the Newcomb Institute sponsors 26 student organizations, among them African American Women's Society, Women in Politics, Women in Science and Tulane International Society. It awards grants to support undergraduate students' research, conference travel and community engagement.

The Spark Residential Learning Community encourages first-year women to build and engage in creative, intellectual and social justice communities at Tulane, in New Orleans and beyond. Next year, Newcomb will add a second residential learning community in Josephine Louise Hall focused on STEM.


Other programs include mentoring from Newcomb alumnae, internships, gender-focused courses such as Women's Legislative Leadership and The Politics of Rape, programs dealing with sexual violence prevention, and the Newcomb Archives and Vorhoff Library Special Collections.

"Some people might come to three or four talks a year," Kenney said. "We give out \$140,000 a year in grants. You can research the history of feminism of the Gulf South. Regardless of what students study, the Newcomb Institute seeks to prepare them for leadership in a gendered world. We work towards gender equity on campus to create a more gender-equitable world."



With the Institute's move into The Commons, confusion about where the Newcomb Institute is, what it does and how it differs from Newcomb-Tulane College or the Newcomb Art Museum will be minimized. While not every student will take advantage of the opportunities the Institute provides, Kenney hopes students will all know that such opportunities exist.

Kenney, an avid birder, recently traveled to the Galapagos to celebrate her 60th birthday. Her motto is "evolve or die."

"Women's institutions, social movements and institutions of higher learning must constantly evolve to be relevant to new generations," she said. "Newcomb Institute works to carry Josephine Newcomb's vision for women's education in the 19th century to the 21st century." 

Facing page: The Commons, which opened this fall, houses dining facilities and is a central gathering spot for the Tulane community as well as a new home for the Newcomb Institute. Above: Students stand on the equator in Kenya during a Newcomb Institute program in August 2018. They worked with the Ngong Road Children Association summer camp. Newcomb Institute Executive Director Sally J. Kenney (back row, center) also led sessions on leadership and reproductive health, while the students learned firsthand about international development.

Wavemakers

\$2 million gift to fund global architecture studios

Tulane School of Architecture has received a \$2 million gift to establish the Saul A. Mintz Global Research Studios, a new program that will give students an opportunity to work internationally on critical global issues.

The gift from Jean Strauss Mintz (NC '55) is in memory of her husband Saul Mintz (A '53).

The gift establishes an endowed fund to be used for travel, research and other expenses for faculty and students associated with international research through design studios.

"This gift advances magnificently the Tulane School of Architecture's goal of becoming an international leader in design that enhances and enriches human life, especially in the world's most challenged regions," Tulane President Mike Fitts said.

The program is part of a network of upper-level research studios that will address a relevant topic for several years in order to produce knowledge and expand the field of architecture in that particular area.

"The impact will be doubled," said Iñaki Alday, dean of the School of Architecture. "On the one hand, the Global Research Studios will contribute to the solutions of critical problems and expand Tulane's international networks. On the other, every year 42 students will have very intense international academic experiences at the research level."

One of the projects is titled the Yamuna River Project, The Rajasthan Cities. Originally based in New Delhi, the program is expanding to the Rajasthan cities of Jaipur and Ajmer, which, like most parts of South Asia, deal with issues of water scarcity, river and lake pollution, ground water depletion, infrastructure challenges, and population growth.



The multiyear research project will analyze and develop scenarios for transformation, incorporating building scale, public space, landscape and urban growth strategies.

Jean Mintz made the gift in collaboration with her children Carolyn Kaplan (NC '78); Sally M. Mann (NC '84); and Morris F. Mintz, along with their spouses and the Mintzes' 10 grandchildren.

"I wanted to honor Saul in a manner that would reflect his life's interests and passions," Jean Mintz said. "He held Tulane and its stellar architecture program in high esteem throughout his lifetime and believed that Tulane always should be amongst the country's most highly respected and innovative universities."

Until his death in 2012, Saul Mintz actively supported the School of Architecture, where he served on the Dean's Advisory Council. Saul and Jean Mintz were also instrumental in funding Tulane Hillel's Goldie and Morris Mintz Center for Jewish Life, which is named for his parents.

Donor encourages giving with \$1 million gift

Warren G. Lichtenstein, founder and executive chairman of the global holdings company Steel Partners Holdings, has given a \$1 million gift to spur first-time donors to support *Only the Audacious*, the campaign for an ever bolder Tulane.

Lichtenstein's gift establishes the Steel Partners Challenge, which will match gifts to Tulane that are not restricted for a specific purpose but are given to support the campaign's goals. The challenge reflects Lichtenstein's commitment to encouraging personal philanthropy and to building a wide community of donors at Tulane, which he attended.

"In the most inspiring and generous manner, Warren Lichtenstein has shown his support for Tulane's mission of lifesaving and transformative research and scholarship," said Tulane President Mike Fitts. "The Steel Partners Challenge will increase the impact of all giving to Tulane."

"It's important to reach young alumni and get people, in general, more engaged early on with even a little bit of giving," Lichtenstein said. "As time goes on, they are likely to have a greater affinity toward the university and be more willing to give as they progress in their careers and their lives."

Lichtenstein founded Steel Partners Foundation in 2001 as a way to support philanthropic causes within the communities where he and his family live and work, with an emphasis on causes related to children, education and sports.



MAKERSPACE NAMED IN HONOR OF DONOR, ALUMNUS

The MakerSpace at Tulane University, which offers students and professors access to digital fabrication tools like 3D printers, laser cutters, milling machines and lathes as well as traditional hand and power tools, will be named the Scot Ackerman MakerSpace, thanks to a generous gift from Dr. Scot Ackerman (E '78), a radiation oncologist and medical director of the Ackerman Cancer Center in Jacksonville, Florida.

"MakerSpace is an indispensable resource for Tulane scholars and researchers who teach and discover across the fields of architecture, engineering, art, medicine and more," Tulane President Mike Fitts said. "We are so grateful to Scot for supporting this vital part of our mission of interdisciplinary research and learning."

"Over the years, I mentored many students who utilized the MakerSpace as part of their science and engineering projects — many of whom have gone on to national competitions," Ackerman said. "I want to ensure that these students have all the tools they need to become the next generation of innovators."

Most of the funds will be used to establish the Scot Ackerman Endowed Fund. Cedric Walker, professor emeritus of biomedical engineering and director of the MakerSpace, said Ackerman's gift will be used, in part, to buy a water-jet cutter and a large-format laser cutter.

"The large-format laser cutter is the most asked-for tool among current MakerSpace users," Walker said.

Ackerman served on the Tulane Parents Council as well as his 35th Reunion Committee and currently serves on the Tulane Hillel Board of Directors and the School of Science and Engineering Board of Advisors. In 2018, Ackerman received the Outstanding Service Alumnus Award from the School of Science and Engineering.

'GRADUATED WITH HONORS' WALL RECOGNIZES STUDENT-ATHLETES

The top academic achievers among Tulane student-athletes have received recognition on a wall in the James W. Wilson Intercollegiate Athletics Center. The "Graduated With Honors" Wall was made possible by the generosity of Tulane alumnus Donald Peters (A&S '81) and his wife, Lora.

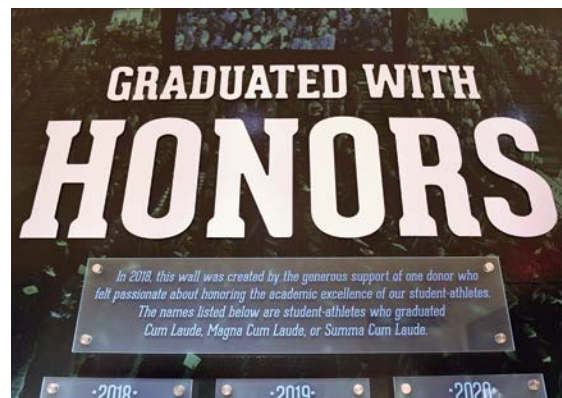
"The most important job of the Athletics Department is to ensure that students get a first-class education. An additional goal is to lead its conference with the highest graduation rate and team GPAs," said Don Peters. "Given Tulane's demanding academics and the other commitments of its athletes, those students who graduate *cum laude* and above deserve special recognition."

Supporting the Green Wave is a point of pride for Don and Lora Peters; the dedicated pair has contributed more than \$3 million to the Green Wave Club and Tulane Athletics.

Ben Weiner Director of Athletics Troy Dannen said, "Tulane student-athletes ... demonstrate the same exceptional work ethic and drive to achieve whether they are on the field or in the classroom, and it's wonderful to be able to recognize that in a meaningful way."

The first names were inscribed on the wall in 2018. Lisa Mordell (SSE '18, '19), varsity volleyball player and vice president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, graduated *magna cum laude*.

"I'm so appreciative of Mr. and Mrs. Peters. It really means a lot to me to have my name on the wall," said Mordell. "When you come to Tulane, there's an expectation for excellence both in academics and athletics," she added. "I don't think I could have had a better academic experience than I had at Tulane."



Opposite page, from top: The late Saul A. Mintz (A '53) and his widow, Jean Strauss Mintz (NC '55); Warren Lichtenstein. This page, from left: Dr. Scot Ackerman (E '78); the "Graduated With Honors" Wall in Athletics.

Tulane alumni couple donates \$5 million for Presidential Chair

Tulane University has received a \$5 million commitment to fund a Presidential Chair from alumni Marcela Villareal de Panetta (NC '67) and Bernard J. Panetta II (A&S '68).

Ms. de Panetta is a member of the Board of Tulane and the Dean's Council of the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Her husband, Bernard, is a trial lawyer.

The Panetta Family Presidential Chair Endowed Fund will support a professor in an interdisciplinary area of academic study associated with the Tulane Brain Institute. The Panettas have requested that the initial chair holder be a scholar whose research focuses on hormone-brain interactions in response to trauma and violence.

"Trauma and violence are impossible to avoid. We see their effects every day. We know that they are life-altering. Trying to unravel the mysteries that show us the effects of trauma — physical, emotional and spiritual — is the work that is done every day at the Tulane Brain Institute. I believe this work is vital if we, as the human race, are to heal

ourselves. This is why I am immensely proud and honored to be able to underwrite this interdisciplinary Presidential Chair. Because we must begin to understand so that we can begin to heal," de Panetta said.

"Once again, the Panettas have demonstrated their dedication to Tulane and their commitment to advancing research and discovery in one of the most fascinating and exciting areas of science — the very center of human knowledge and consciousness," Tulane President Mike Fitts said.

In their commitment to Tulane, the Panettas envisioned that this chair would further enhance the robust collaborations already underway between the Brain Institute and the Tulane School of Medicine, the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, the School of Science and Engineering, and the School of Social Work.

Marcela Villareal de Panetta earned a bachelor of arts degree from Newcomb College. She lives in Juarez, Mexico, where she helped create the Fondo Guadalupano, a fund to support Mexican citizens studying at the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.



Bernard Panetta earned a bachelor's degree in liberal arts from Tulane. He also earned a law degree from Georgetown University. He served as an Assistant United States Attorney in Washington, D.C., from 1973 to 1979 and then as an attorney in the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., from 1979 to 1983.

Bernard J. Panetta II (A&S '68) and Board of Tulane member Marcela Villareal de Panetta (NC '67).

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Tulanians



WINDY CITY WELCOME

Chicago-area members of the Class of 2023 give a cheer for Tulane at the “Hello Wave” event, hosted by parents Nancy and Rob Rotering on July 24.

PHOTO BY EVA HO

1960
1969

BARBARA JO BROTHERS (SW '65) is a licensed clinical social worker, certified group psychotherapist and author in San Antonio. Brothers' latest book, *Well-Being Writ Large: The Essential Work of Virginia Satir*, explores the personal notes, interviews and letters of Satir, an influential psychotherapist.

1970
1979

BILL KUEHLING (A&S '73) has been named by the 2019 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* as one of St. Louis' “Lawyers of the Year” for land use and zoning law.

NATALIA COKINOS OAKES (NC '73) was elected family district judge to the 313th Juvenile Family District Court in Houston in 2018. This court handles juvenile delinquencies and cases for abused and neglected children.

JUDY KOZONIS SNIDER (SW '75), a retired social worker in Virginia Beach, Virginia, had her latest novel, *Break-In*, published last fall. It is part of the *Back to Back* thriller series, joining *The Donation Man* and *Too Late To Run*.

ELLEN SEIDEMAN (NC '77), author of *Mardi Gras Murder*, won this year's prestigious Agatha Award for Best Contemporary Novel. Written under the pen name “Ellen Byron,” this novel is the fourth book in her *Cajun Country Mystery* series.

1980
1989

L.A. STARKS (E '80), who lives in Texas, published *The Second Law*, the third installment of the Lynn Dayton thriller series. It is dedicated to the 300th anniversary of New Orleans and reflects her interest in writing, energy and engineering.

CHARLOTTE GORDON (NC '82), artistic director of the Southern Ohio Museum in Portsmouth, Ohio, is featuring the sculptural textile paintings of **ANITA COOKE (G '84)** in the exhibition, “Southern Threads.” Cooke's paintings will be on display through November 2019.

DR. ALEXIS THOMPSON (M '83) is head of the hematology department at the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital

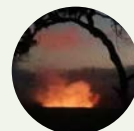
Continued on page 41

What's your most treasured memory while you studied abroad at Tulane?



Definitely has to be getting the opportunity to play for the Tel Aviv Pioneers in the IFL - The Israel Football League while studying abroad in Tel Aviv in 2013. It was incredible to be able to spend so much time with so many locals and develop lasting friendships as a result.

John Carter Owens (SLA '14)



Participating in an anti-apartheid rally to free Nelson Mandela in Trafalgar Square. JYA London, '85-86.

Naomi Gardberg (NC '87, B '89)

BIBI GASTON

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT & AUTHOR

Bibi Gaston's (NC '81) love of nature led her down one path: After Tulane, she studied landscape architecture at the University of Virginia. But later on, she turned a fascinating family history into two books and discovered that her love of nature was a common thread with one of her ancestors, Gifford Pinchot, who with President Theodore Roosevelt co-founded the U.S. Forest Service. Gaston's newest book, *Gifford Pinchot and the Old Timers Volume I*, details the founding of the agency.

PRESERVING THE PAST

As a child, Gaston spent a lot of time outdoors, planting, examining trees, and thinking about gardens and parks. Later,

she went on to major in political science at Newcomb. After studying at UVA, as a new landscape architect she worked on many high-profile projects, such as Central Park in New York.

"I'm particularly interested in historic preservation projects," said Gaston, whose past contributions include work on design teams for the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C., the Historic Columbia River Highway in Oregon, and the Oregon Garden.

She describes her years establishing herself as a landscape architect as "very consuming," leaving little time to think beyond her work and often necessitating that she follow landscape project opportunities around the country.

And her political science background — seemingly unrelated — actually came in handy, as many of her projects involved governmental or municipal spending and community collaboration.

"Everything dovetails with politics, particularly architecture, when it comes to zoning, planning and the fundamentals of how we organize ourselves around public space," she said.

She later discovered that her early love of nature and desire to design and plan timeless green spaces for public use was something of a family tradition.

GIVING THE OLD TIMERS A VOICE

In 2001, when Gaston's father passed away, a relative handed her transcripts of her grandmother's diaries. Her grandmother, Rosamond Pinchot, was a celebrated actress who died tragically young in 1938. Gaston had never met Rosamond Pinchot, nor Gifford Pinchot (1865–1946).

The stories about Rosamond Pinchot were compelling and gave rise to Gaston's first book. Reading the diaries, if only to learn more about her grandmother, inspired Gaston's search for family and meaning. Along the way, she also uncovered documents pertaining to Gifford



Continued from page 39

in Chicago and a professor of pediatrics at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. Thompson was recognized in June by *Bloomberg Businessweek* for her gene therapy work treating a rare genetic disorder called severe combined immunodeficiency syndrome.

Pinchot, a great-grand uncle who served as America's chief forester and twice as governor of Pennsylvania.

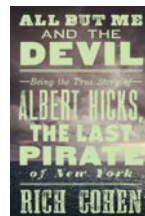
Her second book resulted from an exhaustive study of Pinchot's "Old Timers" project, 5,000 pages now housed in the Library of Congress. In 1937, Pinchot requested that the Old Timers — rangers and other early Forest Service employees — write down their memories of conservation efforts between 1905–10. The Old Timers responded with original memoirs, letters, poetry, photos and other materials that document their time in the forests, deserts and grasslands of America.

In the book, Gaston wrote that reading the documents struck a chord, reminding her of a time when she herself ventured West to restore historic American sites as a landscape architect.

Pinchot's lifelong zeal for conservation and dedication to his mission as "chief forester," even after retirement, still resonates today, when Americans discuss potential for a "green New Deal." "Gifford Pinchot made a connective thread from [Theodore] Roosevelt to [Franklin D.] Roosevelt — he carried through this notion of conservation consistently," Gaston said. "He basically trained and nurtured generations of forestry professionals, environmental conservationists," those people who "were interested in how we maintain forests for the long term."

In connection with the book, Gaston said she has "driven 10,000 miles, perhaps 20,000 miles, and visited scores of ranger stations from Vermont to Oregon to Arizona.

"Gifford Pinchot still has his mark on the agency, and people, I think, are very admiring of the man, because he did hold such high ideals and progressive views. He created an agency of extraordinary capacity, vision and endurance, along with Theodore Roosevelt, at a time that was very challenging for the nation." Find her at www.bibigaston.com 📖



MODERN TREASURE

RICH COHEN (TC '00) tells the story of notorious criminal Albert Hicks in *The Last Pirate of New York*. Cohen is an author, journalist, the co-creator of the HBO series *Vinyl*, and a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair* and *Rolling Stone*.

MARGARET REED WOLFE (G '83), also known as Peggi Wolfe, is an established artist living in Natchez, Mississippi. This past May, "CBS Sunday Morning" dedicated two video profiles to Wolfe's fractal rendition of the sun.

CYNTHIA BERMAN (L '84) is a principal in real estate practice at Kramon & Graham in Baltimore. In 2019, Berman was recognized for her legal excellence and client service by the 2019 legal ranking guide *Chambers USA*, and received top ranking in *The Best Lawyers in America* 2020 for her work in real estate law.

LINDSAY HUGG (A&S '84) was elected circuit judge from the 8th Judicial Subcircuit of Cook County, Illinois, in November. He was sworn in on Dec. 3, 2018.

JENNIFER WAYNE (G '84) was named head of Virginia Tech's Department of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics in the College of Engineering. Prior to her promotion, she led the Orthopaedic Research Laboratory as Virginia Commonwealth University's associate chair of the biomedical engineering department.

R. ANDREW "DREW" PATTY II (A&S '87) has been recognized in the latest edition of *Managing Intellectual Property* magazine's 2019 "IP Stars" in both the issue's "Patent Stars" and "Trademark Stars" categories. Patty is highlighted in the chemistry,

What's your most treasured memory while you studied abroad at Tulane?



I attended the University of Aberdeen in Scotland for the second half of my junior year, 1985. The centuries-old buildings and natural beauty of Scotland were awe-inspiring. Learning about Scottish history and literature opened up a whole new world for me! And I'm still in touch with some of the great friends I made while there!

Wendy Whitman-Orlin (NC '86)



1987–88, France: Angers, Paris, Mme Haar, beautiful art and culture, bread and wine, walking, parks.

Amy Webb (NC '88, '89)

medical device, technology hardware and telecommunication industries.

MARTIN RAMBUSCH (A&S '88) and his family-owned company, Rambusch Lighting Co., of New Jersey, designed and oversaw the creation of the "Mater Ecclesiae" statue that is now located in the Vatican Gardens in Rome. **NEWT GINGRICH (G '68, '71)** and his wife, Calista, donated the statue to commemorate the 35th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Vatican.

MILESTONE BIRTHDAY

MAURICE J. PICHELOUP III (A&S '39, B '42) celebrated his 100th birthday on May 15, 2019. Picheloup still lives in New Orleans and enjoyed a Tulane Green Wave baseball game last season at Turchin Stadium.

THOMAS M. FLANAGAN (L '89) and **SEAN P. BRADY (L '06)**, Flanagan Partners LLP attorneys, have been included in the "Top Lawyers" issue of *New Orleans Magazine*. Flanagan received honors in commercial litigation and appellate practice. Brady was honored for his work in commercial litigation.

1990
—
1999

KRISTIN MURRAY (B '90) has been elected the managing shareholder of Weinstein Spira, a midmarket public accounting firm for Houston's top privately held businesses and high net worth individuals. In this position, Murray will oversee firm operations and spearhead further innovation for the company.

CHRIS MEDLOCK JAMES (A&S '91) and **AMES MORISON (A&S '92)** co-founded Medlock Ames Winery at Bell Mountain Ranch in Healdsburg, California, in 1998. The solar-powered winery produces

fine wines that are 100% estate grown and organically farmed.

TRAVIS LANGLEY (G '91, '93) was named distinguished professor of psychology at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, where he has taught for 25 years. He authored the acclaimed book *Batman and Psychology: A Dark and Stormy Knight*, and is the editor and lead writer of the book series *Popular Culture Psychology*.

JEFFREY A. COHEN (A&S '92), managing shareholder at Capes Sokol, has been named a 2019 "Law Firm Leader" by *Missouri Lawyers Weekly*. The award is given to chairpersons, managing partners or other law firm executives who demonstrate extraordinary vision, innovation and leadership during the year.

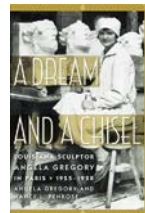
DR. DAVID GAUS (M '92, PHTM '92) has been working for decades to improve healthcare accessibility in impoverished communities. The book *Long Road From Quito: Transforming Health Care in Rural Latin America* chronicles Gaus' work in Ecuador, including his co-founding of the Andean Health and Development with the Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh. Gaus lives in Quito, Ecuador.

SAMANTHA MYERS (NC '94) recently left her finance career to buy into the company Let's Dress Up, a princess-themed play and event space for children. She lives in Manhattan, New York, with her 4-year-old daughter and works in the company's marketing and business department.

FLOYD WORMLEY JR. (TC '95) has been named the associate provost for research and dean for graduate studies at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas.

COURTNEY A. BROWN (NC '97), CEO of Somebody's Answer LLC in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, is an author, researcher, National Writing Project consultant, educator, lecturer and curriculum specialist. She was the facilitator for the community discussion series for the nationally acclaimed PBS special "American Creed."

In July 2019, **CHRISTOPHER LEE THOMAS (L '97)** began a three-year leave of absence from his position as the managing shareholder of the Denver Legal Immigration Practice at Ogletree Deakins to serve as mission president in Mexico City for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



SCULPTOR'S STORY

JUDITH BONNER (G '83) wrote the foreword to *A Dream and a Chisel: Louisiana Sculptor Angela Gregory in Paris, 1925-1928* by the late **ANGELA GREGORY (NC '25, G '40)** and Nancy L. Penrose (University of South Carolina Press, 2018). Works by Gregory, a renowned Louisiana sculptor, appear in museums and public spaces across the state. Bonner is senior curator at The Historic New Orleans Collection.

TIMOTHY J. SMITH (TC '98) is the recipient of a University of North Carolina Board of Governors Campus Excellence in Teaching Award. He has also been promoted to professor of anthropology at Appalachian State University.

TIMOTHY HAWKINS (G '99), history professor at Indiana State University, published his second book, *A Great Fear: Luis de Onís and the Shadow War Against Napoleon in Spanish America, 1808-1812*.

JANICE MCCABE (NC '99) is an Allen House Professor and an associate professor of sociology at Dartmouth College. This past March, McCabe led a group of 10 Dartmouth College students on a service trip to New Orleans through a partnership with LowerNine.org.

2000
—
2009

LOUIS COLLETTA (L '00), a New Orleans-based attorney, has joined the Board of Commissioners for the Port of New Orleans and the New Orleans Public Belt Railroad Corporation as executive counsel. He was also recognized by *New Orleans CityBusiness* as a "Leadership in Law Honoree" in February.

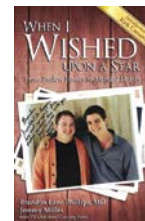
DR. ADNAN AL MUFTI (PHTM '00), a public health physician from Laos, is promoting camel milk as a treatment alternative to chemical or antibiotics therapy, specifically monoclonal antibodies supplementation.

CHRIS BUDDY (TC '02) of Chicago directed "Inside the Edge," a 2019 documentary that focuses on the world of elite blackjack players. The film follows the life of professional blackjack player **KYLE "KC" CARLSTON (TC '00)**.

MIKE GOURGUES (TC '02) of Fort Rucker, Alabama, had a paper accepted for publication at the *Christian Education Journal*. His paper, "Communication That Develops: Clarity of Process on Transformational Leadership Through Study of Effective Communication of Emotional Intelligence," which he wrote with co-author Leonard Momeny, is available online.

TRAVIS TORRENCE (TC '02) serves as global litigation bankruptcy and credit team lead at Shell. In February, Torrence took office as the chair of the Houston Bar Foundation.

MARISSA HERSHON (NC '03) has been appointed curator of the Ca' d'Zan and Decorative Arts at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art. Ca' d'Zan is the former residence of John and Mable Ringling in Sarasota, Florida.



A HEARTWARMING TALE

In *When I Wished Upon a Star*, **DR. BRANDON PHILIPS (M '04)** describes his health issues, family troubles and conversations with actor Jeremy Miller, Philips' favorite childhood star from the TV show *Growing Pains*. Philips now works as a doctor at the Ochsner Health Center for Children in Louisiana.

DR. STEVEN HALE (M '04), orthopedic surgeon with Imperial Health Center for Orthopaedics, was elected treasurer of the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association board. Hale is originally from Lake Charles, Louisiana, and has over 10 years of experience in his field.

JAMES MELLIS (G '04), edited *Voodoo, Hoodoo and Conjure in African American Literature: Essays* (McFarland Press),

which looks at how African-American writers have addressed African spiritual traditions in their work, from slave narratives to contemporary authors. Mellis is a professor of English at Guttman Community College.

ROSS WILLIAMS (TC '05), a partner in Bell Nunnally's cryptocurrency, litigation, employment, IP and new media groups in Dallas, made the "Texas Rising Stars" list, which recognizes the top lawyers across more than 70 practice areas who are younger than 40 years old or in their first 10 years of practice.

MICHELLE F. SCHWERIN (B '06), attorney, has been elected a shareholder of Capes Sokol in St. Louis.

RICHARD ALLEN (B '06, '07), adjunct lecturer at Tulane, became the new director of strategic initiatives at Stonehenge Capital. Allen will be based in the New Orleans office and will be responsible for growing the firm's capacity and product offerings.

2010
2019

LELA ORR (B '11) is a Dallas-based fashion designer who founded Ferrah, an "eco-luxury" fashion brand. She competed on the 17th season of the TV show "Project Runway."

CAMERON RINGNESS (A '12) was the lead designer of the new Statue of Liberty Museum, which opened last spring on Liberty Island. She served in this position at EXCollaborative, a New York City-based architecture, planning and interior design firm.

ANDREW BAKER (L '15) orchestrated the deals for the NBA Brooklyn Nets to add Kevin Durant, Kyrie Irving and DeAndre Jordan to the team. Baker, as director of contract management for the Nets, was able to sign Durant and Irving to their max deals without wiping out the contracts of players Treveon Graham and Shabazz Napier.

CORA BOYD (SLA '15) is a Seattle-based dating coach and the founder of Cora Boyd Coaching, a company that provides dating instruction for men.

GREG KRUPA (B '16) is the CEO of Alta Andina and the owner and founder of Novulis, a social enterprise that owns and operates mobile dental clinics to provide affordable care for workers all



IMPRESSION

COLLIN FERGUSON

Collin Ferguson (B '04) considers the arts community to be the greatest natural resource that New Orleans possesses. Ferguson's company, Where Y'Art, co-founded in 2014 with her business partner Catherine Todd, is dedicated to promoting the work of local artists and building a stronger, more expansive New Orleans.


This love of the city began when Ferguson, from Lake Martin, Alabama, was a student at Tulane. "I toured some other schools, but once I set foot on the Tulane campus, I knew there was no other place that I was going to attend college ... I wouldn't have been in New Orleans without Tulane, and both are an integral part of everything that I've done since then."

Following a post-grad year in New Orleans, in which Ferguson further explored the arts and music scene of the city, she decided to travel abroad. What was intended to be a one-year stint teaching English turned into more than six years of travel and study of art in Thailand and Latin America. Upon her return to New Orleans, Ferguson realized that her business

education, combined with her love of art, could be used to contribute to the revitalization of the city following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina.

Where Y'Art sprang from the inspiration of its founders to create an alliance of New Orleans artists and build an online directory that would showcase the diverse creativity across the entire city. Since its original inception, Where Y'Art has grown to include a primary gallery space on Royal Street in the Marigny and three satellite galleries, as well as a robust art-consulting business.

Looking toward the future, Ferguson and Todd are working to grow their art consulting and plan to expand the online gallery to include other cities such as Nashville, Tennessee; Austin, Texas; and Portland, Oregon. The new online galleries would be stand-alone communities that are networked under the Where Y'Art brand and would further Ferguson's mission of supporting and sustaining local artists and growing art communities.

"We have generated almost \$2 million in revenue in the city of New Orleans since we launched and more than 50% of that has gone to creatives ... even as we grow, we are committed to making an impact in the local communities." 



IMPRESSION

DAVID BERGER

When Lt. Gen. David Berger (E '81) first entered the NROTC at Tulane, he didn't know much about the program or the military. However, the years he spent in Tulane's NROTC unit, he describes today as "formative," crediting those years as a starting point for him.

"The foundation underneath, I think it stays with you," Berger said. "I definitely would not be here without what they provided me there."

Since the first graduates of the NROTC in 1941, more than 2,000 Naval and Marine officers have been commissioned from Tulane, including Berger, who was first commissioned as an infantry officer in 1981, the same year he graduated.

Since July, his most recent role is serving as the 38th commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps. He was nominated for the role by President Donald Trump in March and was confirmed by the Senate in June. He took office July 11, replacing Gen. Robert Neller, who had served as commandant since 2015.

As leader of the Corps, one of his biggest responsibilities will be strengthening national security strategies, he said. He also plans to make sure the Corps and the Navy are "viewed as a

single force for the nation," and to improve the level of Marine training.

"The world is becoming much more complicated, and we have to train leaders to make decisions independently when we don't have detailed guidance," Berger said.

Something that has contributed to Berger's own guidance is critical thinking — a skill he said is a result of studying engineering at Tulane.

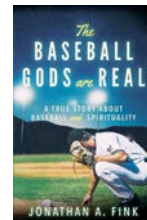
"It actually has helped me tremendously in terms of trying to look at very complex problems and break them down into understandable parts and then come up with practical solutions," he said.

That skill has followed him throughout his career in other leadership roles including director of operations in the Department of Plans, Policies, and Operations; commander of U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific; commanding general of the Marine Corps Combat Development Command; and deputy commandant for Combat Development and Integration.

Of all his experiences, though, those in which he served as a mentor to younger Marines have been the most rewarding, he said.

"They ask you periodically for mentoring advice for, 'What should I do? What do you think about this?'" Berger said. "You just watch them grow into their skin and become people that you knew they had the potential to be, but beyond where they thought they could go." 🍷

over Ecuador. Krupa received his MBA from Tulane and the University of Chile and his undergraduate degree from the University of Oregon.



HOLY HOME RUNS

JONATHAN FINK (TC '96)

shares his divine experiences on the baseball field in his book, *The Baseball Gods Are Real*. Fink lives in Kansas, where he works as the president and founder of Satya Investment Management LLC.

NICK FERREIRAE (SLA '17, SSE '17), ETHAN MAY (SLA '18, B '18), and ADAM SAMOLSKY (SSE '19)

are alumni members of Jank Setup, a popular eight-member funk and soul band made up of Tulane and Loyola alumni and students. The band released its first single, "In Motion," in April, and it reached over 30,000 Spotify streams in 11 days.

HANAN RIMAWI (SSE '18, PHTM '18), who majored in neuroscience and public health, is working in Amman, Jordan, as an English teacher through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.

FAREWELL

JAMES ("JIM") DAVID WRIGHT

passed away on April 29, 2019, at his home in St. Pete Beach, Florida. Wright served as the Charles A. and Leo M. Favrot Professor of Human Relations in Tulane's Department of Sociology and as an adjunct professor in the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

Farewell

We say goodbye to Tulanians whose deaths were reported to us during the past quarter.

Mary Lou Martin Hardie (NC '37)
 Edith Paillet Levy (NC '37)
 Jack B. St. Clair (E '40)
 Richard B. Langford (A&S '41, M '44)
 Frances Watson Manley (NC '41)
 Sylvia Robbins Nussbaum (SW '41)
 Mary Jane Hutson Trapolin (NC '41)
 Curtis W. Caine Sr. (A&S '42, M '44)
 John G. Silverio (A&S '42)
 Martin Turkish (A&S '42, M '44)
 William N. Valentine (M '42)
 Marjorie Lewis Fremaux (NC '43)
 Athalie Generes Macgowan (NC '43)
 Melvin Mandel (A&S '43, M '45)
 Vincent A. Paciera (A&S '43, L '47)
 Grace Witsell (NC '43)
 Rosemary Muller Klein (NC '44)
 E. Tobin Becker (NC '45)
 Tommie Wurtsbaugh Glick (SW '45)
 George H. Cady (E '46)
 Alice Patton Conroy (NC '46)
 Charlotte Mugnier (NC '46)
 Warren B. Tharp (M '46)
 Stephen H. Ware Jr. (M '46)
 Lillian Negueloua Broderick (NC '47)
 Henry R. Fox Jr. (B '47)
 Jack L. Grindle (M '47)
 Joe E. Hirsch (A&S '47, M '49)
 Betty Healy Hotard (NC '47, '48)
 Beth Wright Rosenthal (NC '47)
 James H. Stewart Sr. (M '47)
 Fay Beth Frey Wedig (NC '47)
 Elizabeth Stafford Hans (B '48)
 Elmo J. Laborde Sr. (M '48)
 Jacob R. Lahasky (A&S '48)
 Anne Landry (NC '48)
 Hugh A. Liles (E '48)

William M. Lucas Jr. (B '48, L '50)
 Elsie Brupbacher Martinez (NC '48)
 Dorothy Segari Mouton (NC '48)
 Michel O. Provosty (A&S '48, L '50)
 Dorothy Burk Roth (NC '48)
 Elizabeth Brigtsen Sisson (NC '48)
 J.P. Werlein Jr. (B '48)
 Carolyn Winling Wicker (NC '48)
 Robert S. Brush (E '49)
 Fred S. Eiseman (G '49)
 Anna Jones Hakenjos (NC '49)
 Philip A. Harsham (A&S '49)
 David H. Schaefer (A&S '49)
 Peter C. Smith (A&S '49)
 Marjorie Dale Thompson (M '49)
 Barbara Howell West (NC '49)
 James F. Alison Jr. (M '50)
 Grover L. Bynum Jr. (A&S '50, M '53)
 Hope Reid Huebner (NC '50)
 Julius F. Martin (B '50)
 Charles G. Mitchell Jr. (B '50)
 Nell Guillot Wiederspahn (NC '50)
 Jessie Kelly Williams (NC '50)
 Richard E. Etheridge (A&S '51)
 Thelma Cure Girouard (UC '51)
 Elliot H. Klorfein (A&S '51, M '55)
 Charlotte Somers Monk (NC '51)
 W.S. Pleasants Jr. (A&S '51)
 Lawrence A. Smith Jr. (E '51)
 Sedley Roussel Alpaugh (NC '52)
 William L. Bass Jr. (M '52)
 Maxime C. Landry Jr. (A&S '52)
 Monroe Marsh (B '52)
 Ralph Pedersen (A&S '52)
 Charles E. Peterson (A&S '52, M '57)
 June Schupp Schaefer (NC '52)
 Bruce A. Stevenson (E '52)
 Joan Seidenbach Berenson (NC '53)
 George L. Dupre (B '53)
 Robert E. Gallinghouse Jr. (A&S '53)
 Rodney A. Mouton (E '53)
 Barbara Schneider (NC '53, G '62)

John H. Alexander (E '54)
 Margaret Sanders Dollfus (SW '54)
 David L. Hatch Jr. (B '54)
 Clark W. Jennings Jr. (M '54)
 Gordon S. McHenry (M '54)
 Eugene J. Miller Jr. (A&S '54, G '59)
 Robert B. Mohr (A&S '54)
 Edward M. Peebles (G '54)
 James P. Spell (M '54)
 Mary Ward Tempesta (SW '54)
 Walter J. Wadlington III (L '54)
 George C. Winn (L '54)
 Charles J. Coates Jr. (B '55)
 Lynton B. Cooper Jr. (A '55)
 Frank J. Dalferes Jr. (A&S '55)
 S.S. Farnet Sr. (A '55)
 James N. Hampton (M '55)
 Sandra Dubbin Kohlenberg (NC '55)
 Albert L. Leonhard (A&S '55)
 Robert I. McClure Jr. (UC '55)
 Phyllis Gunter Snyder (SW '55)
 Harris Warren (A&S '55)
 Berne Efron Black (NC '56)
 Burl W. Carey (B '56)
 F.P. Fischer Jr. (E '56)
 Will E. Leonard Jr. (A&S '56, L '58)
 Donald A. Meyer (A&S '56, L '58)
 Florence Abram Midlo (NC '56)
 Mary Law Moody (NC '56)
 Billy J. Overton (B '56)
 James E. Tempesta (G '56)
 Edwin E. Warwick Jr. (B '56)
 John H. Wittenberg (B '56)
 John A. Bernard (L '57)
 Clarence B. Billingsley Jr. (M '57)
 Benjamin J. Birdsall Jr. (A&S '57)
 Mary Cobb Block (B '57)
 Douglas H. Forsyth (A&S '57, M '60)
 Patrick Hanley III (A&S '57, M '60)
 John B. Kiefer (A&S '57, L '60)
 Ruth Knighton Atkins (NC '58)
 Donald L. Campbell (G '58)

Frank J. de la Houssaye Jr. (UC '58)
 Ellen Feibelmann Franklin (NC '58)
 Richard K. Lange (M '58)
 Joan Hammes Linder (NC '58)
 Jewel B. McCrary (B '58)
 E.D. Randolph (G '58, '65)
 Frank G. Stewart Jr. (G '58)
 Robert L. Trouard Sr. (E '58)
 Leonard A. Washofsky (A&S '58, L '60)
 James E. Ammon (B '59)
 Lester W. Barnett Jr. (A&S '59)
 Arthur E. Cedotal (A&S '59)
 John R. Demarest Sr. (A&S '59)
 Elaine D'Entremont Graybill (NC '59, G '65)
 William R. LeCorgne Sr. (E '59)
 Nancy Husselman Nichols (NC '59)
 Gay Woods Nixon (NC '59)
 Isabel Thornton Painter (NC '59)
 Donald E. Perrin (A&S '59, SW '62)
 Harold P. Ray (A&S '59)
 Mary Bruns Ascher (NC '60)
 Patricia Van Scoy Beatty (NC '60)
 Stephen I. Diener (A&S '60)
 Ronald R. Duffaut (B '60)
 Luther C. Fisher III (M '60)
 Dale K. Johns (M '60)
 M.N. Jones (A&S '60)
 Pat F. Vulcano Jr. (UC '60)
 David E. Street (M '61)
 Leon L. Titcher Jr. (A&S '61, G '64)
 Barbara Miller Vasterling (NC '61)
 Sandra Bernstein Burstein (NC '62)
 Andrew J. Lombardo (M '62)
 Charles H. Morgan (G '62)
 Franklin D. Pedersen (G '62, '67)
 Charles S. Simon (B '62)
 Hegel L. Branch Jr. (A&S '63)
 Elizabeth Cary (M '63)
 Rebecca Hoffman (NC '63)
 Linda Teijelo Smith (NC '63)
 Justin L. Sullivan (B '63)

Farewell

C.E. Fougerousse Jr. (A&S '64)
 Myra Eales Fougerousse (NC '64)
 Paul C. Frederick (UC '64)
 E.L. Heartfield Sr. (M '64)
 Peggy Patterson (NC '64)
 J.W. Watts (E '64, '67)
 James M. Wootan (A&S '64)
 Edward H. Booker (L '65)
 Virginia Richmond Ernst (UC '65)
 Harry R. Halladay (E '65)
 Curtis T. Henson Jr. (G '65)
 Cynthia Billingsley Kemp (SW '65)
 Parker H. Meyer (M '65)
 M.K. Richards Jr. (A&S '65)
 Galen Short Rothman (NC '65)
 Stephen R. Wainwright (L '65)
 Charles A. Weaver Jr. (A&S '65)
 Courtney G. Brooks (G '66, '69)
 Dando B. Cellini (A&S '66, L '68)
 Susan Hiller (G '66)
 Donald L. Ream (SW '66)
 Stephen L. Voelkel (SW '66)
 Ann Vogt (SW '66)
 Leslie Glosserman Bass (NC '67)
 Herbert C. Eppert Jr. (G '67)
 Edwin F. Fitzgerald (A&S '67)
 Lucio E. Gatto Jr. (A&S '67)
 Albert G. Goude (PHTM '67)
 Robert W. Hamblen (UC '67)
 John D. Hartline Jr. (A&S '67)
 Werner N. Keidel (M '67)
 Robert C. Landes (G '67)
 Michael A. Parham (L '67)
 Addison E. Thurman Jr. (G '67)
 Barry A. Wax (B '67, L '70)
 Linda Lerner Bernstein (NC '68)
 James J. Coleman Jr. (L '68)
 Edwin M. Corns III (A&S '68)
 Curtis G. Cox Jr. (G '68)
 Peter A. Lawless (M '68)

David Rosenberg (B '68)
 Ralph T. Turner (A&S '68)
 Jacob H. Alford Jr. (E '69, B '72)
 Kent R. Davis (A&S '69)
 Leonard J. Fine (UC '69)
 Gary A. Goldbard (A&S '69, M '73)
 Joy Wells Hill (G '69)
 Stephen S. Mims (A&S '69)
 Nancy Wolf Myron (NC '69)
 Travis Q. Richardson (M '69)
 Carolyn Kutcher Rubenstein (NC '69)
 Charles B. Southern Jr. (L '69)
 Lee Weathington II (M '69)
 Gloria Gardner Wilkinson (G '69)
 Barbara Becnel (SW '70)
 Lloyd W. Blanke Jr. (UC '70, '72)
 Sarah Boggs (NC '70)
 Robert H. Claxton (G '70)
 M.F. Conlin Jr. (E '70)
 Ronald J. Fahrenbacher (A&S '70, L '73)
 Giles O. Gilliam (SW '70)
 Kinne D. McCabe (M '70)
 Robert R. Casey (L '71)
 Virginia Harris Cobo (NC '71)
 Wayne C. Hobbs (G '71)
 Robert A. Lee (L '71)
 Patrick R. Sheldon (L '71)
 Paul G. Arvites (A&S '72, A '77)
 Joseph A. Lucas Sr. (UC '72)
 Joseph N. Mole (G '72, L '77)
 Carl S. Norcross (A&S '72)
 Fred J. Primus (G '72)
 Marilyn Carifi (NC '73)
 Douglas Fyfe (E '73)
 Melvin A. Gores (PHTM '73)
 Thomas F. McMorrow (B '73)
 Elizabeth Aronsson Parker (NC '73)
 Jackson C. Reavill (G '73)
 Michael G. Willmon (A&S '73, G '75)
 Debra Klein Caplan (NC '74)
 Thomas W. Clapp (E '74)
 Glen F. Dille (G '74)

Justina Healy Keller (G '74)
 Charles Marks (G '74)
 Edward D. Mason (E '74)
 M. S. J. Morales (UC '74)
 David M. Sever (G '74)
 S.C. Wheeling (A&S '74)
 William E. Keslick (UC '75)
 Kathleen McKeague (G '75)
 Rosemary Ozanne McKinney (NC '75)
 David R. Rohbock (A&S '75)
 Richard D. Villarrubia (UC '75, E '76)
 Richard E. Houskamp (SW '76)
 Gerald J. Kugel (PHTM '76)
 Brett R. Patton (L '76)
 Robert S. Preston III (A&S '76)
 Domenick E. Cover (E '77, M '81)
 Roger K. Hatchette (M '77)
 Russell Huber Jr. (UC '77)
 Dorothy Lorio (SW '77)
 John J. Meyers III (M '77)
 Cornelia Ratliff Rathke (G '77)
 Hannelore Marten Davies (G '78)
 Stephen R. Sugrue (L '78)
 Edward J. Waitt Jr. (M '78)
 John A. Ewen (G '79)
 David J. Levin (A&S '79)
 Rebecca Renshaw Dominey (NC '80)
 Frank B. Lemann (A&S '80)
 Halina Ring Margan (SW '80, '91)
 Lou Wernke Ainsworth (UC '81)
 David A. Fox (E '81)
 Donna Guinn Klein (L '81)
 Michael V. Doran (E '82, '84, G '89)
 Janet Hoagland-Sorensen (M '82)
 Damaris Moore Corrigan (NC '83, L '86, G '88)
 Wayne J. Troyer (A '83)
 Marjorie Babin Dietz (UC '84)
 James M. Baldwin Jr. (UC '84)
 Eliot S. Levin (SW '84)
 Forrest W. Mills (A&S '84)
 Jia-San Fu (G '86)

Paul A. Howrilla (UC '86)
 Michael S. Irish (A&S '86)
 A.A. Martin (A&S '86)
 R.M. McPhearson (PHTM '86)
 Mary Mulderrig (NC '86)
 Philip R. Stevenson (E '86)
 E. Berryhill (SW '87)
 Denise De Shazo (SW '87)
 Glenn S. Weber (A&S '87, L '90)
 Kermit Schmidt (E '88)
 Mary-Louise Polastri Walk (SW '88)
 Samuel Beardsley Jr. (UC '89)
 Scott N. Beatse (M '89)
 Frances Balding Biegler (E '89, G '92)
 Judith Chassaignac (SW '89)
 Daniel E. Gurr (M '89)
 Patrick E. Novak (L '89)
 Jeanette Taylor (UC '90)
 Edward S. Bagley III (SW '91)
 Sartaj S. Bains (M '91, PHTM '91)
 Russell L. Grossman (A&S '91)
 John R. Jordan (B '91)
 Alyce Grillet (NC '93)
 Sion A. Levy (A&S '93, PHTM '94, M '00)
 Debra Riley (PHTM '93)
 Carr L. Wilkerson Jr. (A&S '93, E '06)
 Catherine Bellordre (L '94)
 Christine Thibodeaux (B '95)
 Irving M. Blatt (PHTM '96)
 Jonathan A. Boies (L '97)
 Michael T. Birtel (G '98)
 Sherry Harrison Arseneaux (UC '99)
 Matthew S. Hatfield (TC '01)
 Gretchen Dehuff Leahy (L '01)
 Lisa Brener (L '03)
 Melinda Powers Zietz (L '03)
 Elisabeth Michelini (NC '06, LA '07)
 Eli L. Wall (B '07)
 Mark T. Manfre (B '08, '09)
 George H. Troxell IV (L '09)
 Jingyi Zhang (L '09)
 Neysa Fanwick (SW '11)

Jacquelyn Causey Naquin (SCS '12)

David J. Hynes (L '13)

Nkechi Mbaebie (PHTM '15)

Jacob S. Tremblay (B '17)

KEY TO SCHOOLS

SLA (School of Liberal Arts)

SSE (School of Science and Engineering)

A (School of Architecture)

B (A. B. Freeman School of Business)

L (Law School)

M (School of Medicine)

SW (School of Social Work)

PHTM (School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine)

SoPA (School of Professional Advancement)

A&S (College of Arts and Sciences, the men's liberal arts and sciences college that existed until 1994)

TC (Tulane College, the men's liberal arts and sciences college that existed from 1994 until 2006)

NC (Newcomb College, the women's liberal arts and sciences college that existed until 2006)

E (School of Engineering)

G (Graduate School)

UC (University College, the school for part-time adult learners. The college's name was changed to the School of Continuing Studies in 2006.)

SCS (School of Continuing Studies, which changed its name to the School of Professional Advancement in 2017.)

TRIBUTE

MARGARET K. 'MEG' MAURER



Margaret K. "Meg" Maurer, a Newcomb Scholar and 2019 graduating senior, died in a high-way accident on March 5. Meg received numerous Newcomb College Institute and private foundation grants, worked in several professors' labs, and spent much of her free time in the Tulane greenhouse and local gardens.

With rare giftedness from both sides of her brain, Meg matched her scientific curiosity with pursuits in the arts. She published her first poem at age 11 and trained as a classical pianist, played the saxophone, oboe and marimba, and composed her own music. Her visual artwork, primarily ink and colored-pencil drawings, was simply astonishing. Most recently, she worked with ecology and evolutionary biology professor Tom Sherry, producing illustrations for a book on the evolution of tropical bird/insect "arms races." Meg was passionate about conveying nature through her art; examples of her work (left) will be on view in the new Commons building.

Meg's experience at Tulane impacted her in profound ways and shaped her ongoing studies. During the fall of her freshman year, she took a service-learning course with me and also worked with a Center for Public Service community partner, the Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe (PACIT). Meg continued to work with them nearly every semester thereafter, including contributing research for the tribe's petition for federal recognition as part of a research internship, conducting an ethnobotanical study with the tribe collecting oral histories from the elders, and creating lesson plans for the tribe's culture camp.



As a Newcomb Scholar and honors student, Meg's thesis focused on an ecological study of the impact of oil and gas canals on the land as well as the culture of PACIT. She examined the intersections of humans, flora and fauna, and the knowledge a holistic approach can provide. She explored these intersections closely in the past two years with her major and thesis adviser, Dorothy Cheruiyot, and other members in the EE-BIO Department.

Meg never missed an opportunity to hear a different perspective or to reconsider her own positions. She sought new ways to rethink old problems. Her thesis was but one testament to this stance. Indeed, Meg's time with PACIT resulted in a desire to learn more about indigenous plant knowledge, and she explored this topic further while studying abroad in Ecuador and through her work with the Ceiba Foundation for Tropical Conservation.

She used life and new experiences to revisit these outlooks. Her ready smile, engaging mind, easy laughter and eagerness to explore new ideas made her a joy in any class or situation one was fortunate enough to share with her.

Meg was sunshine on a cold day. Her warmth knew no bounds, and she was generous to a fault. She touched the lives of countless people. Her web of influence and the repercussions of her kindness and generosity of time, mind and heart continue to reverberate. She accomplished so much in her brief 21 years, and we mourn her tragic and unexpected loss. Meg amazed all of us in a thousand ways and inspired us a thousand more times. The world is a poorer place without her in it. ♥

—Laura D. Kelley is an adjunct faculty member in the Tulane School of Liberal Arts.

WE ARE THE WORLD

BY MIKE FITTS, President

Do you remember that song from 1985? It raised a lot of awareness and millions of dollars for famine-stricken countries.

I am betting that the mere mention of it may have some of you humming and straining to remember the lyrics. While the tune holds little currency with Tulane students today, its title is a very apt description of the university, and the universe, they are currently experiencing.

We like to brag that Tulane students travel farther than any students — an average of 900 miles — to attend college. That means students come from distant hometowns within the continental United States, but increasingly our geographic diversity is encompassing the world.

More than 1,300 international students from more than 85 countries now call Tulane home. China, India and Spain are the leaders. This international population brings vast benefits to our students, to Tulane and to the world.

Classrooms that reflect the world's rich variety of thought, perspectives and insights, that view problems through a global lens and find solutions for a common good are the best at equipping our students to be the leaders and innovators of a better tomorrow.

Tulane students from around the globe engage in a transformative, innovative learning experience that can create positive change throughout the world. A good example is recent Tulane graduate Taofeeq Adebayo. A native of Nigeria, he collaborated with fellow students to create a Yoruba language version of *Longman's Basic Science 1* for middle school students. He recently returned to Nigeria where he worked in schools, teaching from the translated text and providing students a level of understanding that can only be gained by encountering a subject in one's native language.

While we bring some of the top international scholars to campus, we also send U.S. students into the global community as partners in addressing its greatest challenges and embracing its most promising

opportunities. For the fourth consecutive year, Tulane ranked first among graduate schools for the number of volunteers who join the Peace Corps and No. 3 among medium-sized undergraduate schools.

Through study abroad programs, student and faculty exchanges, and our international research efforts in infectious diseases, environmental degradation and poverty, Tulane is a worldwide presence, a global force for good.

We have researchers studying Ebola in Africa, examining the impact of humans in the Amazonian rainforest and discovering ways to improve outcomes for HIV-infected children across the globe. We have students preparing to lead the global economy by participating in academic innovations such as the Jeffrey A. Altman Program in International Studies and Business, which includes liberal arts courses, business classes and a year studying abroad.

You may have noticed that the issues, problems and promises Tulane encounters through its growing global posture are the same ones we face here at home. "We're saving our own lives" is the way the musicians phrased it in "We Are the World." Tunes like that tend to get stuck in your head. Maybe that's a good thing. 🎵



Tulane students from around the globe engage in a transformative, innovative learning experience that can create positive change throughout the world.



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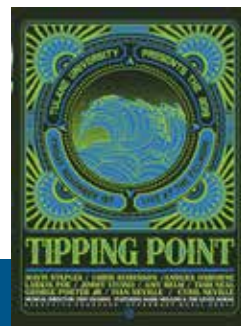
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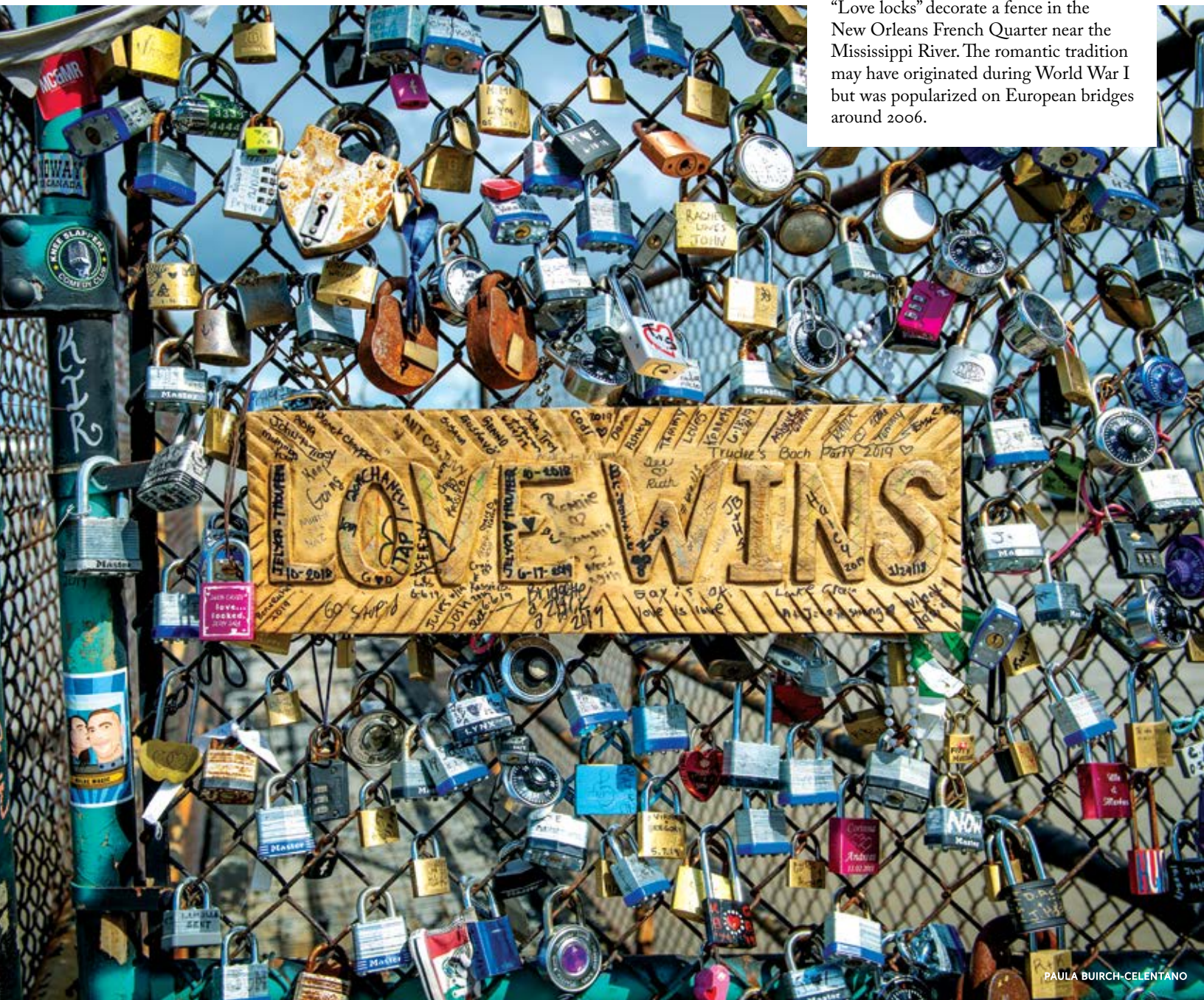
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“Love locks” decorate a fence in the New Orleans French Quarter near the Mississippi River. The romantic tradition may have originated during World War I but was popularized on European bridges around 2006.