AAC CHAMPIONSHIP AT YULMAN!

Holding quickly printed *Times-Picayune* newspapers with the headline “Wow,” ecstatic Tulane students celebrate the Green Wave’s historic win of the American Athletic Conference Football Championship game at Yulman Stadium on Dec. 3, 2022.

PHOTO BY RUSTY COSTANZA
ROLL WAVE!

The Green Wave football team and Tulane fans from across the nation and generations came together to celebrate a magical season capped off with an epic win at the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic in Arlington, Texas, on Jan. 2, 2023.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

Green Wave mascots and Tulane Athletics logos evolved through the years, pumping up school spirit, a winning atmosphere and fun times.

SEPARATE CAR ACT

The 19th-century U.S. Supreme Court decision Plessy v. Ferguson was the rationale for Jim Crow laws until another landmark case, Brown v. Board of Education, overturned them in 1954.

READING IN THE TIME OF COVID

In the course Writing About the Plague, English Professor Thomas Albrecht leads students in a literary exploration of pandemic experiences.
Yeah, You Write

From the Editor

In this Tulanian, we celebrate Green Wave football’s historic and amazing season, winning the American Athletic Conference Championship in Yulman Stadium in December and the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic in Arlington, Texas, in January. Roll Wave! And where would Tulane spirit be without Riptide and the Angry Wave? Theo Mitchell in “Down Memory Lane” looks at Tulane Athletics’ distinctive mascots and logos through the years. Sports unite us like nothing else. In “Separate Car Act,” Alex McBride, a 2007 Tulane Law graduate, explains how the 1892 U.S. Supreme Court Plessy v. Ferguson decision divided us with the “separate but equal” doctrine for decades. In “Reading During the Time of COVID,” English Professor Thomas Albrecht shows how the literature of plagues gave solace and understanding to his students — and himself.

To the Editor

[Email letters to tulanemag@tulane.edu]

Innovation Institute Interest
I was thrilled to read about the Innovation Institute [fall ’22 Tulanian]. … I would love to help and support it. … My work history includes 13 years at Google and YouTube, and now running my own Angel Investment fund, investing primarily in underserved founders and communities. Additionally, I am a mentor for Techstars Boulder, Techstars Miami and FemTech Labs out of the UK.

David Lacklen, E’04
Longmont, Colorado

Sociology Professor’s Influence
I was thrilled to hear of the success of Ellie Dylan [fall ’22 Tulanian] at many stages of her career and that she attributed a portion of it to the late Prof. Ed Morse. My Tulane experience was very similar. At a time when I still had not figured myself out, I took Dr. Morse’s class in Sociology of Social Problems. … [My] final paper … was about auto emissions and air quality. After law school I went to the U.S. EPA and ultimately became the senior attorney in charge of taking the lead out of gasoline, the very issue I had written about in my paper. Thus, what I had explored in my paper I later carried out in real life. Like Ellie Dylan, I thank Dr. Morse for letting me find my direction, but the fact that you see it twice shows that it is a very Tulane phenomenon to encourage students to find their paths and pursue them. Congrats to Ellie … and thanks to Tulane for being a special place.

Alan Loeb, A&S ’74, L ’79
Washington, D.C.

Tulane Now and Then
As my graduating class from Newcomb College reached its 50th anniversary, I found myself thinking about how different things were when I attended Tulane. Not better, not worse — but very different in so many ways. I read the school magazine these days and am regularly impressed by the noble missions and projects the students are tackling. They seem so focused on improving and giving back to society. … When I first arrived at Tulane in 1968, we had nightly curfews of 11 p.m. weeknights and midnight and 1 a.m. on the weekends. Boys were not allowed in the dorms and girls were not even allowed to wear pants to class!

Peggy Jo Abraham, NC ’72
Santa Monica, California
In Brief

ON CAMPUS

PRESIDENT’S CABINET

Michael Cunningham, associate provost for graduate studies and research, a Suzanne and Stephen Weiss Presidential Fellow and professor in the Department of Psychology, has joined the President’s Cabinet to ensure that the needs, opportunities and contributions of post-graduate students are represented at the highest level of university leadership.

tulane.it/president-cabinet

ON CAMPUS

HEED AWARD

Tulane is a recipient of the 2022 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award, which recognizes U.S. colleges and universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion. The national award is given annually by INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education.

tulane.it/heed-award

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

INNOVATORS

The Tulane Innovation Institute hired Clay Christian as its first director of commercialization intelligence and assessment and Matt Koenig as the executive director of intellectual property management. Christian was previously responsible for cultivating relationships between the School of Medicine’s research enterprise and outside collaborators. Koenig served as the director of intellectual property management for the University of Kansas.

tulane.it/innovators-2022

QUOTED

“It’s humbling ... it makes all the hard work, and the late nights, and the trials and tribulations of the startup life, all worth it to know the impact that it’s making.”

BILLY HEIM (SSE ’07, B ’12), discusses the development of a graft that can regenerate a nipple and areola for breast reconstruction for breast cancer survivors. The graft was developed by NICHOLAS PASHOS (SSE ’17), alumnus of Tulane’s Bioinnovation PhD program.

tulane.it/billy-heim-wwl-tv

ACADEMICS

PROGRAM HONORS JOHN LEWIS

The School of Professional Advancement (SoPA) public administration program has been named in honor of the late U.S. Congressman and civil rights icon John Lewis. The program reached a milestone in May when its first cohort of graduates was awarded the Master of Public Administration degree. The online program also offers graduate certificates.

tulane.it/john-lewis-honors

ACADEMICS

TEACHER PREPARATION

The School of Professional Advancement has received funding from the U.S. Department of Education to expand and enhance teacher recruitment efforts in New Orleans. Funding will support the launch of a Master of Teaching degree and fund mentor stipends and an induction program for graduates of the school’s teacher preparation programs.

tulane.it/teacher-preparation

FROM CAMPUS

NEW PODCASTS AVAILABLE

The third season of On Good Authority streams on with episodes featuring computer scientist Nicholas Mattei discussing artificial intelligence, historian Linda Pollock on the history of parks and green spaces, management professor Natalie Longmire on what remote work has taught us, and economist Gary “Hoov” Hoover providing his expertise on the cost of corruption and more.

tulane.it/on-good-authority
HIGH-TECH CONVENIENCE WITH A DIGITAL SMILE

Kiwibots roll onto the uptown campus, delivering high-tech convenience with a digital smile. This fall, Tulane Dining Services added 30 petite, semi-autonomous robots known as Kiwibots to their food delivery service.

Tulanians can utilize the Kiwibots by placing orders through Dining Services locations using the Everyday ordering app. Once orders are placed, Dining Services staff load meals into the Kiwibots. They roll across campus, R2D2-style, to make deliveries at requested locations — giving a new twist to the phrase “Laissez les bons temps rouler.” John Tarin, head of global operations at Kiwibot, said, “To ensure safe operations on campus, Kiwibot relies on the most advanced technology and a semi-autonomous driving system. The robots create a virtual visualization of the world in real-time, using high-tech sensors, reflective flags, night lights, and a range lidar (light detection and ranging).” Kiwibot staff monitor the robots from the uptown campus. The robots traverse the campus autonomously except when crossing the street — staff remotely supervise the Kiwibots when they reach a crossroads, to ensure the safety of the community. At the end of the first four weeks on the uptown campus, the Kiwibots delivered 757 orders to the Tulane community.

tulane.it/kiwibots

IN THE NEWS

RIGHT TO PRIVACY

Tulane Law Professor Amy Gajda’s book “Seek and Hide: The Tangled History of the Right to Privacy” was named to The New York Times’ annual “100 Notable Books of 2022” list. The Times writes, “Gajda, who was a journalist before becoming a law professor, is a nimble storyteller; even if some of her conclusions are bound to be contentious, she’s an insightful guide to a rich and textured history that gets easily caricatured, especially when a culture war is raging.”

tulane.it/right-to-privacy

RESEARCH

BRAIN INSTITUTE LEADER

Award-winning neuroscientist Matthew Dalva has been appointed as director of the Tulane Brain Institute and the university’s newest Presidential Chair. Dalva, whose research focuses on how the connections of the brain form and are changed by experience, will succeed Professor Jill Daniel, who has served as director of the institute since its inception in 2016.

tulane.it/brain-institute-leader

LIBERAL ARTS

LANGUAGES DEAN

Roxanne Dávila, senior professor of practice of Spanish and Portuguese, is the new associate dean for language pedagogy and initiatives in the School of Liberal Arts. Dávila oversees all aspects relating to language learning and pedagogy and leads the school’s strategic vision for advancing language learning at Tulane.

tulane.it/languages-dean
**IN BRIEF**

**MEDICINE**

**ADDITION MEDICINE**
The Tulane Addiction Medicine Fellowship, offered by the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the School of Medicine, is a one-year fellowship that trains physicians in the treatment, prevention and recovery of individuals with addiction. Completion of the fellowship leads to board certification in addiction medicine.

[tulane.it/addiction-medicine]

**UKRAINIAN SPEAKERS**
The A. B. Freeman School of Business has established the Tulane Freeman Ukrainian Speaker Series to promote the research and vision of Ukrainian scholars as the country grapples with the effects of the Russian war. A Freeman committee awarded grants this fall to 10 Ukrainian scholars addressing topics related to sustaining and rebuilding the country and its culture.

[tulane.it/ukrainian-speakers]

**CUT THE CARBS**
Research by Kirsten Dorans, assistant professor of epidemiology at the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, suggests that a low-carb diet can help lower blood sugar levels in individuals with unmedicated diabetes and those who are at risk for prediabetes. The low-carb diet study group saw greater drops in blood sugar than the group who ate their usual diet.

[tulane.it/cut-the-carbs]

**MUSIC**

**ALUMNI RETURN**
Alumni Dylan Parilla-Koester (SLA ’18), Rosalind Kidwell (SLA ’19), and Tyler Hawk (SLA ’19), all former band members, have returned to campus as band instructional staff. They join fellow alumna Annie Stansbury (SLA ’15) who is in her third year as Shockwave Dance Team instructor.

[tulane.it/alumni-return]

**COMMUNITY MINDED**

**VIOLENCE PREVENTION**
Psychology professors Courtney Baker and Bonnie Nastasi received a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to implement a program to make schools safer. The program will bring training to Louisiana’s five largest school districts to help school safety crisis teams recognize, respond quickly to and prevent school violence and other crises.

[tulane.it/violence-prevention]

**SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING**

**CLEAN HYDROGEN**
James Donahue, chemistry professor at Tulane, and a team of chemists will use a $1.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to develop a process for producing clean hydrogen from water and renewable energy. The project is part of a federal initiative to address climate change through clean energy technologies and low-carbon manufacturing.

[tulane.it/clean-hydrogen]

**RESEARCH**

**CELLS’ NUTRIENTS**
Tulane immunologist Clovis Palmer analyzed the metabolic changes that occur in cells when viral invaders, such as HIV, hepatitis B, or SARS-CoV-2, pose a threat. Palmer concluded that the way in which cells use nutrients in the presence of a viral pathogen can determine disease outcome and severity.

[tulane.it/cell-nutrients]
“It isn’t going to be easy, but to have a chance of maintaining the Mississippi River basin — and the Colorado, and really, any major freshwater system — we must stop thinking about floods and droughts in extreme terms that leave the impression that these are infrequent outliers.”

JOHN SABO, director of the Tulane ByWater Institute, writes a piece in Forbes about the Mississippi River’s record low water levels and lessons that can be learned from the Colorado River’s water shortage.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

STARTUP FUND
The Tulane Innovation Institute was awarded $5 million from the state, part of the U.S. Treasury’s State Small Business Credit Initiative, to support entrepreneurs and small business owners. And Tulane matched the award with another $5 million, enabling the Innovation Institute to launch a new startup fund dedicated to creating opportunities for women- and minority-led ventures in Louisiana.

ENGLISH

POETRY COLLECTION
I’m Always So Serious, a debut poetry collection of Karisma Price, assistant professor of English at Tulane, was published in February by Sarabande Books. Price’s poems center on Blackness, family and loss and weave personal and public histories into a cultural reckoning of the past and present. Price has received several fellowships and was a finalist for the 2019 Manchester Poetry Prize. She was the recipient of the 2020 J. Howard and Barbara M.J. Wood Prize from the Poetry Foundation.

LIBERAL ARTS

EXCAVATING POMPEII
The work of Allison Emmerson, associate professor of classical studies, and colleagues was spotlighted by Apple for using computer tablets in the excavation of the ancient Roman city Pompeii. 3D scans of artifacts and information gathered were used to create an interactive database of the site that will be accessible online so users can re-excavate it digitally.

MEDICINE

TB IN CHILDREN
A blood test developed by Tulane researchers combines nanotechnology with artificial intelligence to diagnose tuberculosis (TB) in children. The nanotechnology allows scientists to see small components of the bacteria that causes TB. The test accurately detected TB in 89% of children who were known to have confirmed TB and identified 74% of children with unconfirmed TB that standard tests missed.

For more stories about Tulane, subscribe to Tulane Today
Through the program **360 Promise**, Bernhard, one of the largest privately owned engineering and contracting firms in the nation, has formed a partnership with the Tulane Energy Institute of Tulane's A. B. Freeman School of Business.

**Up First 360 Promise**

Through the program **360 Promise**, Bernhard, one of the largest privately owned engineering and contracting firms in the nation, has formed a partnership with the Tulane Energy Institute of Tulane’s A. B. Freeman School of Business.

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**BY THE NUMBERS**

- **3** Over the next three decades, Bernard has made a commitment to hire 360 Tulane University graduates as it assists Tulane in developing curricula relevant to trends in the energy services industry.

- **30** Tulane is also teaming up with Bernhard on Project RISE, a 30-year Energy-as-a-Service partnership, designed to help Tulane substantially reduce on-campus greenhouse gas emissions.

- **10%** Bernhard is constructing a 1-megawatt solar energy plant that will supply 10 percent of electrical demand at Tulane’s uptown campus and ensure resiliency.

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- **100** Bernhard has more than 100 years of energy and infrastructure project experience.

- **2050** Through Project Rise, Tulane has made a goal to reach carbon neutrality by the year **2050**.
A portrait by Terrance Osborne, internationally renowned artist and New Orleans native, of three Tulane Trailblazers — Gloria Bryant Banks (SW '64), Pearlie Hardin Elloie (SW '65) and Marilyn S. Piper (SW '64) — was unveiled at the School of Social Work building in downtown New Orleans on Nov. 11, 2022.

Banks, Elloie and Piper were the first African American students to earn degrees from the social work school.

Banks served as secretary for the Louisiana State Department of Social Services. When Gov. Edwin Edwards interviewed her for the position, he noted her Tulane degree. “I know very well that that Tulane University degree made a difference — a positive difference — in my getting that job,” Banks said. To this day, she added, she is “glad to be a Greenie.”

Elloie directed the Office of Children, Youth and Families at Total Community Action before directing her own Head Start Center. She recalled her push for Tulane to desegregate, inspired by Ruby Bridges, Leona Tate, Gail Etienne and Tessie Prevost, who at age 6 desegregated public elementary schools in New Orleans in 1960.

Piper served as head of Child Protection for the State of Louisiana and later was an adjunct professor at Tulane. Piper knew she wanted to be a social worker when she was a young girl and kept that goal with her throughout her schooling.

“When I found out, back in 1963, that Tulane had said they would enroll Black students, I said to my family and some of my close friends, I’m going to apply, I’m going to be accepted and I’m going to succeed,” Piper said.

Tulane Trailblazers, launched by President Michael Fitts in 2019, is an initiative to honor individuals who have led the way to the university becoming a more inclusive, diverse and welcoming community.
THE ‘IT’ FACTOR

BY BARRI BRONSTON

In describing then-freshman guard Sion James to a reporter last year, Green Wave basketball coach Ron Hunter called him a winner — someone with that enviable quality known as the “it” factor.

“He’s one of those guys that just has ‘it’ — on and off the court,” Hunter said a year later. “He has a great work ethic. He understands the value of doing the right thing. You don’t have to tell him what to do.”

James, a 6-foot, 5-inch guard from suburban Atlanta, is one of Hunter’s star players. A business major with a focus on legal studies, James has his eyes set on playing professionally, then moving into coaching and eventually becoming an athletic director.

He has an impressive start, having been named chairman of the American Athletic Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, which serves as the voice of student-athletes from 12 member institutions. Among other things, the committee promotes student-athlete well-being, academic achievement, personal development and community service.

James began his term in June 2022, and one of the first things he did was organize a virtual panel discussion on stress and other aspects of mental health. “It used to be so taboo to discuss mental health issues,” James said. “Now we’re able to have conversations that would have never happened before, especially in college athletics.”

Discussions surrounding diversity and inclusion have been equally fruitful. “My biggest focus is putting on events that student-athletes actually care about and not just ones that check boxes,” James said.

When James isn’t on the court, studying for exams or working on AAC business, he is involved in community service projects, including Samaritan’s Feet, a nonprofit that provides new shoes to children in underserved communities. He is also working with former teammate Sandy Ryan’s nonprofit Ryan’s Giving Tree, which assists homeless people in New Orleans.

“Every Saturday we get volunteers together to pass out food, drinks and supplies to the homeless,” he said. “We just get in our cars and meet them where they are. We’re working to get them in more permanent housing. It’s a great program and incredibly rewarding.”

Sion James plays guard on the Green Wave men’s basketball team. He was also named chairman of the American Athletic Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.
A brown pelican takes a moment to groom before its next flight over the lagoon in New Orleans City Park.

**SAGA OF THE BROWN PELICAN**

**BY MARY ANN TRAVIS**

The brown pelican is, as many people may know, a symbol of Louisiana.

A mother pelican with the species’ distinctive long beak is depicted as the Pelican in Her Piety on the state flag. She’s nourishing her brood of chicks with her own blood.

That’s where the idea: not for one’s self, but for one’s own, Tulane’s motto, came from.

The tortuous, fraught saga of the brown pelican has fascinated artists and writers for eons. The brown pelican faced extinction because of pesticides in the 1970s — and recovered. The bird then endured the BP Oil Spill of 2010. It’s now defended by the Louisiana Coastal Protection Restoration Authority and is experiencing a fragile resurgence.

Rien Fertel tells this amazing story in *Brown Pelican* (Louisiana State University Press, 2022). Fertel earned his BA and PhD from Tulane and is a visiting assistant professor in the Department of History at Tulane’s School of Liberal Arts.

Fertel became intrigued by the pelican when he read that the artist Walter Anderson loved pelicans so much that he lived alone with them for a time on the Chandeleur Islands at the edge of the Louisiana boot in the Gulf of Mexico.

“The story of this bird can, at times, be a bleak one,” said Fertel, “with several near and real extinction events. But I hope readers learn that because of past and through future human engagement the brown pelican has, can, and will thrive.”

Fertel asks existential questions in this age of climate change and rising sea levels: “What will become of the brown pelican? What will become of us? A bioindicator species, the brown pelican just might be the greater Gulf’s canary on the coastline.”

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**H O W T W E E T I T I S**

Green Wave fans light up Twitter after the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic triumph on Jan. 2, 2023, when Tulane beat USC 46-45.

.2% chance to win. No problem for this team.

A magical end to a magical season.

So proud of my school.

TheOriginalJZ @IAmTheJZ

What an amazing weekend in Dallas capped off with an absolutely story book ending. My 3 TU children, wife and I could not have asked for anything better. So proud of the team and the school.

HenryDelAngelo @keytocollege

I’m crying, too! I graduated in 1983 and never thought I’d see the day. This is awesome. I’ve never felt like this, so proud of my alma mater.

LisaRice @LisaDTrice

Just awesome!! Perseverance and believing!! And a whole lotta hard work. Congrats to the players, coaches, Athletic Dept and all of Tulanium!!!!!

LarrySchloss @LarryCastleNO
LOUISIANA MUSIC PARTY

BY ANGUS LIND, A&S ’66

Every other Friday on WWOZ-FM 98.5, Bill deTurk hosts his “Louisiana Music Party” from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. The show features traditional jazz, New Orleans and Louisiana musicians and new artists.

DeTurk, 61, a Bucknell University graduate, came to New Orleans for Jazz Fest ’94 and never left. The former bartender and professional emcee (Zydeco Fest and Tomato Fest) is also the author of “Big Easy Bartending Guide.” His wife, Aimee Landreneau, is a contract specialist in Campus Services, which oversees the school’s infrastructure.

DeTurk’s theme song is the late L’il Queenie’s “My Darlin’ New Orleans.” “It’s an appropriate song,” he said. “I knew L’il Queenie and loved her personality.” Some of the lyrics:

“My dawlin’ New Orleans/My brawlin’ Hometown/ Your magnolia melancholy/ How it softly gets me down/In corner bars/On streetcars/Hear that foghorn river sound/The big oaks/The old folks/Beads of moss hanging down.” (The lyrics were created by Ron Cuccia and the Jazz Poetry Group.)

I asked deTurk why hundreds, maybe thousands of songs are written about New Orleans and Louisiana. He talked about the musicians coming here from Africa and Caribbean countries, how the French loved music and balls and brought Mardi Gras here. With Mardi Gras comes music. “You can’t have Mardi Gras without music,” he said.

“Then you have the Acadians and the slaves in Congo Square who played their music on Sundays. All these events and circumstances came together,” he said.

DeTurk is attuned to music. His dad played in the Big Band era with Billy Butterworth in the Midwest. He cautioned that this vast subject is “a dissertation, a PhD topic.”

DeTurk admits he’s not “a qualified ethnomusicologist,” “but I realized we have something here to celebrate that nobody else has.” Also, the late Ernie K-Doe, the self-named “Emperor of the Universe,” once famously said, “I’m not sure but I’m almost positive all music came from New Orleans.”


In these songs New Orleans is pronounced both New Or-leenz and New Aw-linz.


And, finally, the classic song sung by Louis Armstrong and others and one of the most popular songs after Hurricane Katrina, sung by Marva Wright, Wanda Rouzan, Topsy Chapman and Yolanda Winds at Tulane Commencements since 1999, “Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans?”

No doubt about it!
“It’s never too late. The evidence shows that if you change your exercise habits, your dietary habits, and if you address your health factors, that can make a huge difference.”

DR. DEMETRI MARAGANORE, holder of the Herbert J. Harvey Jr. Chair in Neurosciences and professor and chair of neurology

Dr. Demetri Maraganore, holder of the Herbert J. Harvey Jr. Chair in Neurosciences and chair of the Department of Neurology at Tulane medical school, runs the Healthy Brain Aging Initiative that helps patients prevent cognitive decline and dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease.

Today’s kids are very likely to live past 100 years old. Advances in health care and healthier lifestyles mean the life expectancy of Americans is on the rise. Even so, dementia is also on the rise in this country and worldwide.

The United States currently has 5 million cases of Alzheimer’s; by 2050, it will be 15 million. And the cost is in the billions of dollars. Sixty-five percent of Alzheimer’s cases arise from a genetic background, but 35% of Alzheimer’s cases cannot be attributed to genetics.

Tulane physician Dr. Demetri Maraganore, the Herbert J. Harvey Jr. Chair in Neurosciences and co-director of the Tulane Center for Clinical Neurosciences, said that some forms of dementia and other kinds of cognitive decline are often preventable with the same advice we’ve always heard — eat healthier, move more. Exercise especially may play a role in preserving brain health.

Maraganore explained how exercise may help. “That does three remarkable things. No. 1, it causes the memory structures in your brain, what we call the hippocampi, to grow in size. People who do exercise literally grow that region of their brain. Secondly, the exercise increases spinal fluid levels of two growth hormones that bathe the brain. And these growth hormones stimulate dormant brain cells to sprout and connect and differentiate. And they also inhibit aging brain cells from dying.

“Thirdly, if you do longitudinal assessments of cognitive function in people who are doing aerobic exercise versus people who are not, the people doing the exercise improve in their cognitive performance. And these studies have even demonstrated the same benefits in individuals who are in their 70s and older, or in individuals who genetically are at greater risk for Alzheimer’s.”

Diet also counts toward brain health. “The Mediterranean diet is the diet of Greece, southern Italy and Spain. And it has been shown to not only reduce your risk, at any age, of death by 50% — heart disease or stroke or cancer. But it also reduces your risk for dementia by 50%.”

The physician and his team have identified other health factors, some of which a person can change themselves, even if they already have other dementia risk factors.

“It’s never too late,” Maraganore said. “The evidence shows that if you change your exercise habits, your dietary habits, and if you address your health factors, that can make a huge difference.”

Dr. Demetri Maraganore, holder of the Herbert J. Harvey Jr. Chair in Neurosciences and professor and chair of neurology
As part of Tulane Homecoming, Reunion and Family Weekend, Tulane President Michael A. Fitts led a lively conversation with best-selling biographer Walter Isaacson, the Leonard Lauder Professor of American History and Values at Tulane and co-chair of the New Orleans Book Festival.

The event, held in McAlister Auditorium on Oct. 21, 2023, attracted more than a thousand alumni, students and parents. Isaacson, prompted by questions from Fitts, related fascinating, little-known anecdotes from the lives he has chronicled through his books.

Fitts asked Isaacson to expand on the personal qualities of the innovators who fill the pages of his popular biographies, including Benjamin Franklin, Leonardo da Vinci, Albert Einstein, Steve Jobs and Jennifer Doudna, who helped crack the genetic code, leading the world in a life sciences revolution.

These people “in a sense break out of the box and make a difference in the world,” said Fitts. “You describe them as connecting beauty with science, that they cross boundaries, but is there anything about their psychology and character that you found that is a common theme in all these people?”
“Unbounded curiosity” is a quality that stands out in his subjects, according to Isaacson, and inspires groundbreaking individuals to think more, question more and ponder the world around them more deeply.

“Every century, you can find a place that becomes a cradle of creativity like Florence in the 1570s was for da Vinci, Philadelphia for Ben Franklin in the 1770s, and the Silicon Valley for Steve Jobs in the 1970s,” Isaacson said, drawing a parallel between those places and the Crescent City as a birthplace of new ideas, creativity and innovation.

“New Orleans has a diversity that would have almost put Florence to shame,” he said.

“There’s no question. It’s what draws our students. It’s this creativity, this energy that emanates in New Orleans,” Fitts said, adding that the city consistently ranks as one of the top college towns in the nation.

“It’s about connecting your passion to something larger than yourself,” Isaacson observed, a trait he’s witnessed in Tulane students.

Or contemplating something smaller, like the tongue of a woodpecker, may lead to unexpected revelations, something Isaacson discovered while writing da Vinci’s biography and coming across several references to the tongue of a woodpecker.

What is special about a woodpecker’s tongue and why be curious about it, Isaacson wondered?

“I think it is essential to push ourselves to be more curious,” said Isaacson. “It also means being open-minded. The tongue of the woodpecker is three times as long as the woodpecker’s beak. I learned this because after reading it four times in Leonardo’s notebook, I said, ‘I got to figure it out. Maybe I have to understand that.’ I was able to look it up.”

It turns out that the tongue of one of the most famous members of the Picidae family, is elongated to protect its bird brain.

“When the beak of the woodpecker hits wood, the tongue wraps around the brain, goes all the way through to cushion it. So that the woodpecker doesn’t get a concussion.

“There’s no reason you need to know that,” added Isaacson. “The only reason to know it is out of curiosity, pure curiosity.”

Fitts encouraged all Tulanians to nurture their curiosity, pointing to Isaacson as a prime example of “one of America’s great public intellectuals.”

“He’s been driven by his own curiosity about other people’s curiosity and what is innovation. This has caused him to write some of the most important books about changes in society and the individuals who brought them about.”

The conversation was a special installment of the Presidential Speaker Series, which was established in 2019 to provide an opportunity for the Tulane community to learn from distinguished professionals with unique perspectives, talents and stories.
Roll Wave!

The Green Wave football team and Tulane fans from across the nation and generations came together to celebrate a magical season capped off with an epic win at the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic in Arlington, Texas.

BY ROGER DUNAWAY
It was a season for the ages. The Green Wave ended a magical year with arguably the biggest win in the modern era of its program with a thrilling 46-45 come-from-behind victory over the 10th-ranked University of Southern California Trojans in the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic on Jan. 2. Tulane claimed the No. 9 spot in the final college football rankings of 2022.

On the first Monday of the New Year, tens of thousands of Tulanians descended on the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex and turned AT&T Stadium into a rowdy sea of olive and blue. There were handshakes, hugs and an abundance of photos taken before, during and especially after the game. But it was more than just a game for anyone associated with Tulane University. It was a long-awaited family reunion — a catharsis, a transcendental moment that represented all that is right with intercollegiate athletics and exemplified what the New York Times called “the power of belief.”

Former football players and coaches came to cheer along with current and former faculty, staff, gleeful alums, and fans of all ages. Tulane students showed up en masse and sat center stage, fueling the collective energy as they have done all season.

Catherine Susie (E ’99) was a junior at Tulane during the Green Wave’s 12-0 season in 1998. The Dallas native was more than happy to make the short trip to AT&T Stadium to cheer on her alma mater.

“Stepping into AT&T Stadium, you could feel the excitement and enthusiasm among the Tulane fans,” said Susie. “It was an indescribable rush, like going to your first Mardi Gras. The last four minutes were exhilarating, thrilling and tense.”

A diehard Green Wave fan, Susie said this season took things to “another level.”

“I’ve always been a proud Tulanian. I stop people on the street when I see Tulane shirts, but our Cotton Bowl victory took it to another level. I think I smiled for a week straight after the game.”

The 16th-ranked Green Wave’s improbable comeback in its first major bowl in 83 years was spurred by a Green Wave offense that often appeared unstoppable behind the solid play of junior quarterback Michael Pratt and junior running back Tyjae Spears. The Green Wave defense battled Trojan quarterback Caleb Williams, the 2022 Heisman Trophy winner, all day and came up with a game-changing safety late in the contest that prompted an epic comeback. When Pratt found freshman tight end Alex Bauman for the game-winning touchdown with nine seconds to play the Green Wave had overcome a 15-point deficit in the final five minutes.

The remarkable win also resulted in the biggest one-season turnaround in the history of the Football Bowl Subdivision — from a 2-10 record in 2021 to a 12-2 mark in 2022.

“This is a huge win for the program, the university and the city,” said Tulane head coach Willie Fritz. “I think we’ve seen this year what a great football season and competing at a high level can do for an institution. I’m just very proud to be a part of it. We have a good group of young men who are true student-athletes. When you have a season like this, it’s validation that you’re doing the right thing. It’s a credit to our staff and players for hanging together during the tough times. We want to be a nationally recognized program, year after year. That’s a big goal for us.”

Cotton Bowl Highlights

SAFETY!

TOUCHDOWN!!
When the final whistle sounded at the Cotton Bowl, bedlam ensued. Tulane fans erupted with tears and cheers of excitement that reverberated around the stadium and country.

“Everyone went crazy, including the president of Tulane University,” quipped Michael A. Fitts, who was on the sidelines during the Green Wave’s final drive. “It just doesn’t get any better than this. This historic season and Cotton Bowl victory was the exclamation point on the end of a year of excellence across our 17 teams and 10 schools and colleges. It is emblematic of the success we have had throughout Tulane in student achievement, research, admissions, fundraising — you name it.”

As Fritz and the players hoisted the Cotton Bowl trophy, confetti poured down on the newly crowned champions. Tulanians remained standing, applauding and embracing each other. The Tulane band played on, perhaps louder and prouder than ever. The game, and the season, were a turning point for the football program and the entire university community.

“The appearance in the Cotton Bowl was validation of Tulane’s ability to compete at an elite level athletically, as it has long done academically. There was a time we merely hoped this is who we could be. Advancing to the Cotton Bowl showed us that this indeed is who we can be. In the days following the game, the victory has done nothing less than remind us of this is who we should expect to be,” said Troy Dannen, the Ben Weiner Director of Athletics.

**Yulman Stadium Fills With Jubilant Fans**

Yulman Stadium, the beloved on-campus home of the Green Wave, came alive with raucous and record crowds in 2022. The Green Wave registered a 6-2 mark on its home field and capped off the season with a historic 45-28 win over University of Central Florida (UCF) in the American Athletic Conference Championship game on Dec. 3.

The Green Wave hosted UCF in front of a crowd of 30,118, the largest ever to watch a game at Yulman. Tulane opened the game with a 24-7 lead and never looked back. At the end of the game, Green Wave players and coaches hoisted the team’s first AAC Championship trophy. The overflow crowd spilled onto the field, and the celebration began. Tulane’s eight-year-old stadium had its signature win.

“Everyone went crazy, including the president of Tulane University.”

— Michael A. Fitts, President of Tulane University

(Opening photo) A family reunion–like celebration unfolds on the field at AT&T Stadium after Tulane wins the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic in Arlington, Texas, on Jan. 2, 2023. (Facing page, left) The Green Wave defensive unit records a fourth-quarter safety, bringing victory within reach; (right) Tight end Alex Bauman holds the football aloft, proving (and confirmed by official video review) that he completed a catch from quarterback Michael Pratt for a touchdown with 9 seconds left in the game. (This page, above, left) Team members celebrate postgame after the team had trailed by 15 points in the game’s last 5 minutes; (above, right) Former Green Wave football player Jacob Davis (SSE ’13, ’14) and his father, Perry Davis, savor the moment; (right) A green-haired fan exults in the triumph.
Winning With Willie Fritz
A man with both high energy and a clear vision, Tulane head coach Willie Fritz has reshaped the Green Wave football program, molded it into a conference champion and redefined its place on the national stage during his seven years at the helm.

Two days before the 2023 Goodyear Cotton Bowl, Fritz was named Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year and was also selected as the 2022 George Munger College Coach of the Year. Fritz, who was named the 2022 American Athletic Conference Football Coach of the Year, was recognized five times as either a finalist or semifinalist for national coach of the year.

Tulane’s appearance in the Goodyear Cotton Bowl marked the fourth time in the last five years that Fritz has led the program to a bowl game, the most by any Tulane coach in program history. He led the Green Wave to three straight bowls from 2018–2020, becoming the only Tulane coach to accomplish this feat. The team’s three-year bowl momentum was only slowed in 2021 as the team dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic and being displaced for the first month of the season by Hurricane Ida.

Fritz has established high marks in the Tulane annals, ranking second for wins (43), third for games coached (88) and first in bowl wins (2). He also has helped Tulane reestablish its presence in the National Football League. Eight of his former Green Wave players have been selected in the NFL Draft, and 11 have signed as undrafted free agents.

Fritz’s dedication over the past six seasons to establish a strong foundation and culture for the Green Wave paid off with huge dividends in 2022. While leading the program to one of its best seasons in the modern era, Fritz and his staff also looked to the future, signing 24 newcomers in December for the Class of 2023, including 12 players from Louisiana.

Season Highlights

Kansas State (17-10)

Tulane was THE story of the year in college football, opening the season with a pair of dominant home wins over the University of Massachusetts (42-10) and Alcorn State University (52-10).

But it was a mid-September game at Kansas State University that provided a glimpse into the team’s potential as the Green Wave stunned the Wildcats, 17-10, and notched its first win over a Power Five Conference school since 2010. Even more remarkable, both teams claimed their respective conference championship and played in two of the coveted New Year Six bowl games.

Following the upset at Kansas State, Tulane came up short against the University of Southern Mississippi, 27-24, and then faced perhaps its most pivotal game of the season on the road to open conference play at the University of Houston. With starting quarterback Pratt sidelined with an injury, third-string quarterback Kai Horton, a redshirt freshman, came off the bench to rally the team to a 27-24, four-overtime victory. The win was followed by victories over East Carolina University (24-9) and the University of South Florida (45-31).
By mid-October, Tulane, nationally ranked for the first time since 1998, hosted Memphis in front of a then-record homecoming crowd of 30,100 at Yulman Stadium, winning 38-28.

Tulane extended its win streak to five straight with a victory at the University of Tulsa (27-13) to open the month of November.

The 17th-ranked Green Wave hosted the 22nd-ranked University of Central Florida (UCF) in a showdown between first-place teams in mid-November. UCF escaped with a 38-31 victory, but it would be the Green Wave’s last taste of defeat.

They next dominated Southern Methodist University, 59-24, on Senior Night at Yulman Stadium.

The final week of the regular season came down to a winner-take-all game at the 21st-ranked University of Cincinnati, which entered the game as the defending conference champion and sported a 32-game home winning streak. The winner would host the AAC Championship game.

Tulane’s 27-24 win over the Bearcats marked the first time the Green Wave had beaten a ranked team since 1984 and the first time Tulane had won a ranked-against-ranked matchup since 1936.

Another record crowd watched 18th-ranked Tulane continue its magical season with a thrilling 45-28 victory over 22nd-ranked UCF to claim its first-ever AAC Championship.

Parker Waters (A&S ’78) was a first-year student at Tulane and photographed the Green Wave’s final game in old Tulane Stadium in 1974. A native of Fort Walton Beach, Florida, Waters returned to his alma mater in 2010 and has served as the team photographer for all sports.

“This team was all business the entire year. One of the best things about the Cotton Bowl week was reuniting and meeting with Tulane fans from all over. I don’t know if I have ever witnessed so many Tulane fans in one place,” Waters said. “The Cotton Bowl victory was a celebration for all of Tulane to enjoy. As the confetti drifted down, I felt mixed emotions and thoughts as I moved about the field. I tried to capture the moment and convince myself that this was really happening.”

Cincinnati (27-24)

AAC CHAMPIONS!!!

UCF (45-28)
DOWN MEMORY LANE
Green Wave mascots and Tulane Athletics logos evolved through the years, pumping up school spirit, a winning atmosphere and fun times.

BY THEO MITCHELL
The traditions. The tailgates. Marching bands and dance collectives. Screaming fans — from longtime ticket holders to first-time visitors. Classic games and heroics — from the season’s first flyover to the last whistle. It doesn’t get any better than watching the Olive Green and Sky Blue pursue greatness and championships each season.

With the pageantry that’s on full display every game day, two things are constant yet ever-changing, Green Wave mascots and logos. Tulane is home to some of the most memorable mascots and logos in college athletics history and owns one of the most unique brand elements and color palettes in the country. This distinctiveness attracts national media attention from top sports broadcasters and popular social media accounts.

Yes, the West Coast has a warring Trojan and a dancing tree. And, sure, we might think about a leprechaun or a gator when it comes to the Midwest or our neighbors in the Sunshine State. But it’s undeniable that Tulane is an absolute standout when it comes to mascots and logos firing up our fans and supporters, whether at Old Tulane Stadium, the Superdome, beloved Yulman Stadium, Avron B. Fogelman Arena in the Devlin Fieldhouse or at away games. So, let’s go down memory lane as we explore the fun history of Tulane Green Wave mascots and logos.

**Pete the Pelican**

While the Green Wave team name was adopted in 1920, it’s not until 30 years later that fans saw the moniker come to life. Utilizing the state bird of Louisiana and with a subtle nod to the university seal, Pete the Pelican arrived on the scene in 1950. Surfing on a green wave, donning an olive green tank top with a white “T,” and lifting a joyous wing in the air, Pete was ahead of his time as a precursor to the U.S. surfing craze of the late 1950s and early 1960s. The beach-inspired Pete represented Tulane into the next decade. But Pete was far from alone in raising the banner for TU during this time.

**Greenie**

In 1945, editorial cartoonist and Tulane history instructor John Churchill Chase created the lovable Greenie. Fitted in olive green and white football attire with a helmet to match, Greenie was a small child with a button of a nose and a signature mischievous grin. Comedy always ensued because Greenie’s forever mission was to one-up opponents. As a fixture on Tulane game-day program covers, it was common to see Greenie de-striping Mike the Tiger, preparing to swat a Georgia Tech Yellow Jacket to a sticky mat, or seasoning the Virginia Tech Hokie for entry into a stew pot.

Greenie spent nearly 20 years getting over on foes and finding imaginative ways to success, including drilling holes in Navy’s ship and splashing water on a Kentucky Wildcat.
Greenie’s high jinks were endless until the arrival of Tulane athletic director Rix Yard. Yard set out to establish a more fierce-looking symbol, and so the transition was on from Greenie’s kid jokes. Eldon Endacott, manager of the Tulane Bookstore, and Art Evans, art director for Angelus-Pacific Co., collaborated on sketches. And, in 1964, the Angry Wave was officially born. With clenched fists and a scowling look, the Angry Wave meant business. The Angry Wave logo inspired the first real mascot to cheer on the sidelines in the 1970s. The original Angry Wave mascot was a 7-foot, 6-inch, sack-like figure with intense eyes and hair bangs resembling foamy whitecaps. Steve Jordon (A&S ’81), who dressed as the mascot, once said, “It’s such an odd-looking mascot. It was a larger-than-life figure. I got lots of attention as the Gumby on the sidelines.”
Gumby Evolves
Taking inspiration from its student-given nickname “Gumby,” the Angry Wave mascot evolved from its original unwieldy wave-shape to a more upright iteration in 1983. The new Gumby mascot more closely resembled a green banana or pea pod with white hair than a wave, but he was always spirited and much beloved by the students for his uniqueness. Gumby had a “facelift” in 1991 to give him a more jovial appearance, and he continued to rally the troops through the spring of 1998.

Short-Lived Neptune
In late 1989, Neptune was introduced in Fogelman Arena when basketball returned after a five-year hiatus. Neptune was a can’t-miss figure. Trident in hand and horns sticking out of flowing white hair, the god of the sea made a memorable impression with a muscular frame, toga wardrobe and a head reminiscent of a Kern Studios–built caricature. Urban legend says that at football games in 1990, Neptune rode out of the Superdome tunnel on mobilized Jet Skis, emulating the motion of the ocean. So far, no photographic proof of this has been found. Despite a unique flair, Neptune would soon get the boot. The underwater ruler was never officially accepted as the university’s mascot.

(Facing page, top, right) The Angry Wave logo is displayed in front of Yulman Stadium and everywhere Green Wave fans gather today.
Riptide the Pelican

In 1998, Riptide the Pelican took the reins as the mascot of the Tulane Green Wave. Originally outlined with wings and a head of olive green and grey feathers, Riptide takes a cue from the original Greenie. Whether on the gridiron or the hardwood, Riptide carries the capacity to wear the athletic attire of the Tulane team in play — sans the helmet. Riptide has taken on slight alterations of eye coloring and feathers through the years. However, with an unmistakable yellow beak and pep in its step, Riptide has become a welcome addition and mainstay in the Tulane community.

The future is bright for Tulane and its mascots — both current and old. In recent years, Pete the Pelican and Greenie have found themselves back in the national spotlight due to throwback nostalgic Tulane football social media threads. The Angry Wave remains a beloved figure for Tulanians and opponents alike. In 2017, Tulane Athletics officially designated the Angry Wave as the primary logo. And you never know if Neptune will make a comeback. Rest assured, Tulane mascots from Greenie to Riptide have all played a role in elevating the Tulane Green Wave brand to prominence. In collaboration with each Tulane mascot, the Green Wave continues to further promote the fun in college athletics.

Angry Wave 2.0

In 2016, a new and improved Angry Wave was designed for the Tulane Athletics logo. The Angry Wave is stationed at the entrance and on the scoreboard at Yulman Stadium. It’s on flags, banners, Green Wave athletics uniforms and clothing of fans everywhere.
A Tulane Law grad delves into the ins and outs of the 19th-century U.S. Supreme Court decision, Plessy v. Ferguson, which was the rationale for Jim Crow racial segregation laws until another landmark case, Brown v. Board of Education, overturned them in 1954.

BY ALEX McBRIDE, L ’07
Homer Plessy was seven-eighths White and one-eighth Black — pejoratively referred to as an “octoroon” in the 19th century. Plessy came of age during the age of Reconstruction in New Orleans, when people of color were granted expanded civic and political rights. After the withdrawal of federal troops from the South in the late 1870s, however, Louisiana swiftly passed and enforced “Jim Crow” discriminatory laws against anyone less than “pure” White, including “octoroons” like Plessy.

Accordingly, in 1890, Louisiana passed the Separate Car Act, which required “separate railway carriages for the [W]hite and colored races.” The act required that all passenger railways provide separate cars for Blacks and Whites, stipulated that the cars be “equal” in facilities, banned Whites from sitting in Black cars and Blacks in White cars (with exception to “nurses attending children of the other race”), and penalized passengers or railway employees for violating its terms.

In 1892, a 30-year-old Plessy was recruited by an eclectic New Orleans civil rights group known as the Comité des Citoyens to challenge the “Separate Car Act” in a planned test case. Plessy agreed. Thus, on June 7, 1892, Plessy purchased a first-class train ticket for a trip between New Orleans and Covington, Louisiana, taking a vacant seat in a “Whites”-only car. As required pursuant to the Separate Car Act, a conductor then asked Plessy if he was a “colored man.” Plessy answered in the affirmative and was swiftly ordered to the “colored” car. Plessy refused. The conductor halted the train before it left New Orleans, and the police arrested Plessy and threw him in jail.

Plessy was brought to trial in New Orleans before Judge John H. Ferguson and convicted of violating the Separate Car Act. Judge Ferguson denied Plessy’s petition to throw out the case. Plessy then appealed to the Louisiana Supreme Court, arguing that the law violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which forbids states from denying “to any person within their jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws,” as well as the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which banned slavery. The Louisiana Supreme Court affirmed Plessy’s conviction. Plessy then appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States, again challenging the constitutionality of the Separate Car Act.

**Supreme Court Plessy Decision**

In a 7-1 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Separate Car Act was Constitutional. The Supreme Court reasoned that, while the purpose of the 14th Amendment was to create “absolute equality of the two races before the law,” such equality extended only so far as political and civil rights (e.g., voting and serving on juries), not “social rights” (e.g., sitting in a railway car one chooses). As Justice Henry Brown’s opinion put it, “if one race be inferior to the other socially, the Constitution of the United States cannot put them upon the same plane.” Furthermore, the Supreme Court held that the 13th Amendment applied only to the imposition of slavery itself, not to a right to equal facilities.

The Supreme Court expressly rejected Plessy’s arguments that the law stigmatized Blacks “with a badge of inferiority” in violation of the Constitution — pointing out that both Blacks and Whites were given equal facilities under the law and were equally punished for violating the law. The racial segregation itself was simply a product of the state’s legitimate “police power” to keep good order.

In the end, held the Supreme Court, the only “stigma” or “discrimination” resulting from the Separate Car Act was in the mind of Plessy himself. Employing a kind of victim-blaming logic, Justice Brown held,

“We consider the underlying fallacy of [Plessy’s] argument to consist in the assumption that the enforced separation of the two races stamps the colored race with a badge of inferiority. If this be so, it is not by reason of anything found in the act, but solely because the colored race chooses to put that construction upon it.”

Justice John Marshall Harlan entered a powerful, lone dissent. While agreeing that the “[W]hite race” was the “dominant race” “in prestige, in achievement, in education, in wealth, and in power,” Justice Harlan argued this claimed “superiority” had no standing under the Constitution:

“In view of the Constitution, in the eye of the law, there is in this country no superior, dominant, ruling class of citizens. There is no caste here. Our Constitution is color-blind, and neither knows nor tolerates classes among citizens. In respect of civil rights, all citizens are equal before the law. The humblest is the peer of the most powerful. The law regards man as man, and takes no account of his surroundings or of his color when his civil rights as guaranteed by the supreme law of the land are involved.”
New Orleans artist Ayo Scott’s mural pays tribute to Homer Plessy’s legacy at the site of his 1892 arrest, commemorated as Plessy Park.

**Brown v. Board of Education**

Until the mid-20th century, Plessy v. Ferguson gave the official, “Constitutional nod” to the “separate but equal” doctrine that condoned racial segregation in public places, foreclosing legal challenges against increasingly segregated institutions throughout the South.

Then, in the landmark decision Brown v. Board of Education (1954), the “separate but equal” doctrine was abruptly overturned when a unanimous Supreme Court ruled that segregating children by race in public schools was “inherently unequal” and violated the 14th Amendment — directly rebutting the Plessy Court’s holding that the “stigma” created by racial segregation was not forbidden under the Constitution.

Yet, notwithstanding Brown, the Southern United States remained racially segregated well into the 1960s, even though the Supreme Court consistently ruled racial segregation in public settings to be unconstitutional. For example, in Heart of Atlanta Motel Inc. v. United States (1964), the Supreme Court officially held racial segregation in places of public accommodations was unconstitutional, even though such ruling was (at least) implied 10 years earlier in the Brown decision.

The back of racial segregation was finally broken by federal statute pursuant to the landmark 1964 Civil Rights Act and 1965 Voting Rights Act.

**Plessy Pardoned**

Plessy died in 1925. It would have been impossible even in the 1920s for Plessy to recognize his extraordinary place in history, when racial segregation seemed inviolate, racial lynching throughout the United States was rampant, and the Ku Klux Klan was at its peak, with millions of members throughout the country and major marches on Washington. Yet within just a few decades came the Civil Rights Revolution, and Plessy gained new historic life. In January 2022, Louisiana Gov. Bel Edwards posthumously pardoned Plessy for his conviction under the Separate Car Act, formally vindicating Plessy 130 years after his original challenge.

Alex McBride is an attorney at the New York City law firm of Davidoff Hutcher and Citron, where he practices commercial litigation. He received his JD magna cum laude from Tulane Law School in 2007, where he served on the Tulane Law Review. McBride then went on to clerk for Judge Susan Braden at the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in Washington, D.C., before joining private practice. In addition to his love of litigation, McBride is a history buff and writes on constitutional law. He profiled key Supreme Court cases for the online site for the PBS series “The Supreme Court.”
In the course Writing About the Plague, English professor Thomas Albrecht leads students in a literary exploration of pandemic experiences.
narrator commends to his readers, with, to an insignificant and obscure hero [Grand] who has heart and a... as a purely absurd ideal. This would be of two and a half sum of four... (137)
The idea of a course called Writing About the Plague came to me sometime in spring 2020, during the very early weeks of COVID. These were the weeks of being locked down in our homes. The days of wiping down mail and packages, of “Stay home, New Orleans!” public service announcements, of banners thanking essential workers. Tulane had moved to all-virtual instruction for the remainder of the spring semester, and my seven-year-old daughter was completing first grade on a laptop computer.

My initial idea was to spend some of my time in lockdown reading or rereading what certain writers I love, writers in whose writings I have sometimes found wisdom, had written about plagues and living in times of plague. Plagues have been part of human experience since the earliest days of writing. They play important roles in Homer’s Iliad (written down around 700 B.C.E.), the Biblical Book of Exodus (written down between 600 and 400 B.C.E.), and Sophocles’ Oedipus the King (first performed around 429 B.C.E.).

My subsequent idea was that if reading what these writers had written about plagues was proving meaningful to me, was helping me make sense of an uncertain and scary time, it might prove meaningful and helpful to my students as well. I remembered the frightened, befuddled expressions on my students’ faces in our final in-person class meetings in March, just before we were all sent home. I knew I was scheduled to teach a senior special topics seminar in the Department of English in the fall, though like everyone else at the time I had no idea what the fall 2020 semester at Tulane would be like. I contacted my department’s Director of Undergraduate Studies and asked her to change my fall course topic to Writing About the Plague.

I spent the summer of 2020 a bit like the young protagonists of Giovanni Boccaccio’s The Decameron, who escape the 1348 “Black Death” bubonic plague in Florence by isolating themselves in a countryside Palazzo and pass the days telling themselves stories that are full of life. My family left New Orleans, we rented a house in rural New England, barely saw anyone, and I spent my time reading writings about plague. This reading was for me an antidote to COVID and worrying about COVID, much like the wonderful, vibrant stories in The Decameron were an antidote to the Black Death for the young people telling and hearing them.

Besides this antidotal purpose, the aim of my summer reading was to assemble a syllabus for Writing About the Plague. I read a wide assortment of literary works from different places and periods. I read Mary Shelley’s apocalyptic Romantic novel The Last Man; Edgar Allan Poe’s story “The Masque of the Red Death,” which I found strangely apposite to American COVID politics in 2020; Alexander Pushkin’s play A Feast in the Time of Plague; Thomas Mann’s elegiac novella Death in Venice; Albert Camus’ allegorical novel The Plague; Susan Sontag’s critical essay Illness as Metaphor; Tony Kushner’s millennial drama Angels in America; Ling Ma’s eerily prescient science fiction novel Severance, among many others. I reread Gabriel García Márquez’s novel Love in the Time of Cholera, remembering that I had seen the phrase “Love in the Time of COVID” written in large letters on a classroom blackboard as I walked out of my campus building for the last time in March.

Under these strange, isolating circumstances, what brought the students and me together across the various physical and mental barriers separating us was our shared readings and discussions about plagues.
As I initially conceived it, Writing About the Plague would have two complementary aims. Firstly, it would prompt the students to examine how select writers have described, and make sense of, plagues and the experience of living with plagues. In the Western tradition, plagues are originally seen as punishments for individual or collective sins. Writers present plagues as divine scourges, or as human projections of divine agency, in ancient works like the Iliad and Oedipus the King. And they do so in our own time, for instance, in Kushner’s Angels in America, or in Sontag’s essay about the 1980s AIDS epidemic, AIDS and Its Metaphors. In early modern texts like Daniel Defoe’s novel A Journal of the Plague Year, a fictional memoir of the 1665–66 “Great Plague” in London, traditional religious interpretations of plagues coexist and compete with newly emerging scientific interpretations. According to Sontag, a similar tension between supernatural and natural etiologies still characterizes our present-day thinking about pandemic illnesses.

The second aim of the course was for the students to analyze how plagues in Western literature have often served as metaphors or allegories for something else. Camus’ novel The Plague is frequently and famously read as an allegory about Nazism or totalitarianism; Poe’s “Masque of the Red Death” appears to be an allegory about political irresponsibility; Mann’s Death in Venice treats cholera as a metaphor for the danger of devoting one’s life to the singular pursuit of beauty and art.

After my family’s return to New Orleans in August 2020, I finally met the students who had signed up for the plague class. To protect against the spread of the virus, we held our seminar in a large lecture hall in the history department, sitting at great distances from one another, wearing our masks, divided by a plexiglass screen from the podium and blackboard. Microphones suspended from the ceiling, cameras and monitors on the walls allowed quarantining and isolating students to be “present” in class while being literally absent. Although necessary to protect our health, everything about the space emphasized distance and separation. For the students and me, it seemed an inauspicious setting in which to begin our return to in-person interaction.

Under these strange, isolating circumstances, what brought the students and me together across the various physical and mental barriers separating us was our shared readings and discussions about plagues. The readings I had chosen were complex and demanding, and that fall they managed to pull us away from our doom-scrolling and navel-gazing. They jolted us into alertness, into paying attention to larger things beyond our isolated and socially distanced confines, things that lay outside of our solipsistic pandemical selves.

The literary works we read together gave my students a lens through which to reflect critically on Covid and on their individual and collective experiences of it. The students noted many unexpected parallels, for instance, between how early modern Londoners responded to the 1665 plague in Defoe’s novel and how the country and the world were responding to COVID in 2020. Aware of commonplace attributions in Western literature of plagues to foreign, usually non-Western sources, they drew connections to anti-Asian violence in America, and to the use of phrases like “China virus” and “Wuhan virus” by American commentators and politicians. And they heard in our pandemic echoes of Sontag’s thesis that Western culture has consistently metaphorized and politicized large-scale illnesses, their causes and treatments.

In fall 2022, I taught Writing About the Plague for the third time since the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020. Students in Albrecht’s class in fall 2022 find relevance to their own lives in the stories about plagues.

The readings I had chosen were complex and demanding, and ... they managed to pull us away from our doom-scrolling and navel-gazing.

Thomas Albrecht is professor and chair of the Tulane University Department of English.
Research, Scholarship & Artistic Achievement
Second Annual Awards

Tulane’s Research, Scholarship and Artistic Achievement Awards were presented for the second year on Nov. 4, 2022.

Hall of Fame
This prestigious lifetime achievement award recognizes nationally and internationally renowned scholar/investigators who have made substantial contributions to advancing knowledge over their academic careers. DR. JAMES ROBINSON, School of Medicine, DR. PAUL K. WHELTON, Show Chwan Health System Chair in Global Public Health, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and DENNIS P. KEHOE, School of Liberal Arts.

Spirit of Tulane
This award recognizes outstanding achievement of scholar/investigators whose work embodies Tulane’s motto: Non sibi, sed suis (Not for one’s self, but for one’s own). MEAD ALLISON, School of Science and Engineering, JESSE KEENAN, Favrot II Professor in Architecture, School of Architecture, DR. HUA LU, Reynolds and Ryan Families Chair in Translational Cancer Research, School of Medicine, and TRACY FISCHER, School of Medicine and Tulane National Primate Research Center.

Innovation
This award recognizes scholar/investigators who develop novel ideas, approaches and insights through interdisciplinary scholarship. DR. LU QI, HCA Chair in Population Genetics, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine; MICHAEL MOORE, School of Science and Engineering; MAYAN EXCAVATION TEAM: MARCELLO CANUTO, School of Liberal Arts and Middle American Research Institute, FRANCISCO ESTRADA-BELLI, School of Liberal Arts and Middle American Research Institute, and LUKE AULD-THOMAS, School of Liberal Arts; and MAYBELL ROMERO, Felder-Fayard Early Career Professor in Law and 2021-22 Gordon Gamm Faculty Scholar, School of Law.

Galaxy
This award recognizes substantial achievement of scholar/investigators who have a strong five-year history of funding and of enhancing Tulane’s research mission. KATHERINE MILLS, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, LISA FAUCI, Nola Lee Haynes Professor I and II in Mathematics, School of Science and Engineering, CHAD ROY, School of Medicine and Tulane National Primate Research Center, and JESMYN WARD, Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities, School of Liberal Arts.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
This Provost’s award recognizes excellence in research that addresses societal inequalities and promotes social change. HENRY L. BART JR., School of Science and Engineering, DR. MARIE A. KROUSEL-WOOD, Jack R. Aron Chair in Primary Care Medicine, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, ADRIENNE COLELLA, James W. McFarland Distinguished Chair in Business, A. B. Freeman School of Business, STACY SEICHSNAYDRE, Robert A. Ainsworth Professor in the Courts and the Federal System and William K. Christovich Professor in Law, School of Law, and Z’ÉTOILE IMMA, Michael S. Field Professor in Liberal Arts, School of Liberal Arts.

Academic Leadership
These Presidential awards are for individuals who have exercised extraordinary institutional leadership in supporting and promoting excellent research. LAURA S. LEVY, School of Medicine, and DONALD GAVER, Alden J. “Doc” Laborde Chair in Engineering, School of Science and Engineering.

Convergence
This award recognizes scholars who successfully collaborate across schools, units and departments to surpass traditional academic disciplines and further the research mission. DANIEL BURNSTON, School of Liberal Arts, TIFFANY LIN, Favrot V Professor in Architecture, School of Architecture, EMILIE TAYLOR WELTY, Favrot III Professor in Architecture and William L. Duren Jr. ’26 Professor at Newcomb-Tulane College, School of Architecture, LISA MOLIX, School of Science and Engineering, DR. XUEBIN QIN, School of Medicine and Tulane National Primate Research Center, and YU-PING WANG, School of Science and Engineering.

Rising Star
This award recognizes the work of assistant professors, within five years of appointment to Tulane, who demonstrate exceptional growth and impact in one or more research areas. JULIA FLECKMAN, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and NICHOLAS SANDOVAL, Paul H. and Donna D. Flower Early Career Professor, School of Science and Engineering.

Student/Trainee Research Mentoring
This award recognizes exceptional research mentors. DR. CARIAPPA ANNAIAH, School of Medicine and Tulane National Primate Research Center, and RYAN GLASSER, School of Science and Engineering.

Funding Award — STEM
These awards recognize scholar/investigators in the STEM fields awarded the largest combined dollar amount of funding for direct costs. JAY RAPPAPORT, School of Medicine and Tulane National Primate Research Center, JANE BERTRAND, Neal A. and Mary Vanselow Chair, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and ROBERT GARRY, School of Medicine.

Funding Award — Non-STEM
These awards recognize artist/scholar/investigators in the non-STEM fields who have been awarded the largest combined dollar amount of funding for direct costs. MAURITA POOLE, Newcomb Art Museum, and AMANDA HILL, Cowen Institute.

Citation
This award recognizes the peer-reviewed article with the highest number of citations. DR. A. OLIVER SARTOR, C.E. and Bernadine Laborde Early Career Professor I and II, School of Medicine and Tulane Cancer Center, for “Lutetium-117-PSMA-617 for Metastatic Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer,” New England Journal of Medicine, September 2021.

Publication — Journal Article
This award recognizes the best journal article. CHAD ROY, School of Medicine and Tulane National Primate Research Center, for “Exhaled aerosol increases with COVID-19 infection, age, and obesity,” Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, February 2021.

Publication — Book
These awards recognize the best books published. GOLAN MOSKOWITZ, School of Liberal Arts, for Wild Visionary: Maurice Sendak in Queer Jewish Context, and WALTER ISAACSON, Leonard Lauder Professor of American History and Values, School of Liberal Arts, for The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race.
Entrepreneur and longtime Tulane professor John Elstrott and his wife, Patty, have established the Elstrott Charitable Remainder Unitrust to honor the Elstrott family’s Tulane legacy and to provide for the university’s strong future.

The Elstrott fund will likely benefit the A. B. Freeman School of Business; Elstrott was able to leave the purpose of the trust open. “It is nice that I have that flexibility to direct (the fund) where I want to direct it as my interests change and as Tulane’s needs change,” he said.

Elstrott knows the needs of Tulane well. He taught at the university for over three oldstyle zero oldstyle years, still serves on the Business School Council and is an Innovator in Residence at the Lepage Center. He started as an economics professor in one oldstyle nine oldstyle eight oldstyle two oldstyle but switched to the business school a few years later. In one oldstyle nine oldstyle nine oldstyle one oldstyle, he became head of the Levy-Rosenblum Institute for Entrepreneurship, which he helped found. Today, LRI is part of the Albert Lepage Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, which oversees and coordinates all of the business school’s entrepreneurship efforts. Over his career, Elstrott has started and built companies and advised different ventures; he served as chairman of the board for Whole Foods from one oldstyle nine oldstyle four oldstyle to two oldstyle zero oldstyle seven oldstyle.

Many of Elstrott’s family members attended the university, including his maternal grandfather Errol E. Kelly, who graduated from Tulane in civil engineering in one oldstyle nine oldstyle eight oldstyle.

He is happy to do his part in building a strong Tulane, and he is optimistic for the university’s future: “Tulane embraces innovation and change. Tulane has proven that they’ll adapt and continue to stick to their values and their culture but adapt to what’s necessary to serve the educational and research needs of the future.”

An anonymous patient credits the work of the Tulane Research Innovation for Arrhythmia Discovery (TRIAD) Center — and Dr. Nassir Marrouche, TRIAD director and professor of medicine — with saving his life. In gratitude, the patient has become one of the center’s biggest philanthropic supporters, donating almost $4 million since 2019.

In 2019, the donor gave $1.5 million to help establish the Cardiac Arrhythmias Fund, which benefits the TRIAD Center. After donating an additional $333,333, he stepped up this year to pledge a new gift of $2.1 million.

“Dr. Marrouche is a brilliant electrophysiologist, and I’m alive and well today because of his innovative techniques and early intervention,” the donor said. “I wanted to ensure that he could do the same for other patients facing similar health conditions.”

“Academic medical centers like Tulane are the best place for medical treatments because the research we conduct advances patient care more rapidly and enables us to save lives,” said Dr. L. Lee Hamm, senior vice president and dean of the School of Medicine. “We’re thankful for our anonymous donor’s generous support of the TRIAD Center, as his gift will fund the important work that may be responsible for saving future cardiac arrhythmia patients.”

The TRIAD Center’s mission extends beyond simply treating arrhythmias when they arise. Marrouche and his team seek to diagnose disorders earlier, help prevent them and slow the effects of aging on the heart. The TRIAD Center developed an experimental model that allows testing of molecular and mRNA approaches to stop aging. The tools will help researchers learn groundbreaking new information about the aging heart and discover innovative ways to prevent heart disease.
Under bright blue skies, and with plenty of Tulane spirit in the air, Wave Weekend ‘22 brought alumni, parents, current students, and faculty and staff members to the uptown campus for Homecoming, class reunions and Family Weekend Oct. 21-23. Events such as reunions, panel discussions and open houses engaged Tulanians of all ages, with the weekend capped off by an exciting win over the University of Memphis Tigers, helping propel the football team to a triumph at the Cotton Bowl in January. Wave Weekend activities and celebrations started with a Presidential Speaker Series, the Back to the Classroom Lecture series, and open houses at campus schools and units. Reunion parties for classes whose graduation years end in 2s and 7s were other highlights of the weekend. The Tipping Point returned for a sixth year at The Fillmore New Orleans. This year’s all-star benefit concert was headlined by eight-time Grammy Award winner Stephen Marley (son of Bob Marley) and Lukas Nelson (son of Willie Nelson). The event helps fund scholarships for qualified students to attend Tulane regardless of economic background. 🌟
Tulanians

1960
LEE P. GARY JR. (A&S ’63, PHTM ’10) was named a Fulbright Specialist in public health for 2022–2023 and will be teaching at the University of Makeni in Sierra Leone during the 2023–2024 academic year. When not traveling for work Gary lives in New Orleans and is an adjunct assistant professor at Tulane.

1967
ALAN H. GOODMAN (A&S ’67), PAUL M. HEBERT JR. (A&S ’67), PETER J. BUTLER JR. (B ’84, L ’87) and STEPHEN R. WHALEN (A&S ’86) from the firm Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, New Orleans and Baton Rouge, have been named to 2023 Best Lawyers in America. Goodman specializes in bankruptcy and creditor debtor rights, insolvency and reorganization law as well as commercial and bankruptcy litigation; Hebert practices family law; Butler specializes in appellate practice and commercial litigation; and Whalen specializes in insurance litigation.

1970
JOSEPH L. SHEA JR. (A&S ’74) and LEAND G. HORTON (L ’00) of the law firm Bradley, Murchison, Kelly & Shea were named to the 2023 Best Lawyers in America list. Shea practices in the areas of commercial, energy, environmental, labor and employment litigation as well as others. Horton practices in the areas of commercial and environmental litigation and energy law and was named Lawyer of the Year for environmental litigation. Both attorneys live and work in Shreveport, Louisiana.

1979
BERNARD H. EICHOLD (A&S ’75, PHTM ’78, ’80, M ’97) received the Samuel Buford Award, the highest honor given by the Alabama Medical Association, which is presented in recognition of service to humanity beyond the usual scope of medical practice with such services having been rendered at some personal sacrifice. Eichold served his country in the U.S. Navy. He is the longest-serving health officer in Alabama’s history, having served as the Mobile County health officer for 31 years until his recent retirement.

What was your favorite book you read while at Tulane?

The first book I bought in the bookstore as a freshman wasn’t a textbook but local food expert Tom Fitzmorris’ The Eclectic Gourmet Guide to New Orleans. Over the next 4 years I tried to eat at as many restaurants listed in the guidebook as I could. I don’t think there’s a better way to understand NOLA than through its food.

Eric J. Hawkins (UC ’99, G ’03)

The Dynamic Earth by Skinner and Porter. It’s an Introduction to Physical Geology… Here I am, with TU undergrad and grad degrees in Geology, thriving as a Geologist when I thought I’d be a lawyer.

Tom Zeiders (B ’99)

Chromophobia by David Batchelor. I spotted it in the campus bookstore the same semester it was published in 2000. As a graduate art student, I could hardly afford to buy it. 20 years later, this book remains deeply influential to my art practice and to how I teach and study color.

Laura Berman (G ’01)
A true crime story connects William Rawlings (M ’73, PHTM ’73) and Bill Smith (L ’66) (right to left): But neither is the criminal or the victim.

Rawlings wrote The Columbus Stocking Strangler (Mercer University Press, 2022), a painstakingly researched account of a serial killer who terrorized Columbus, Georgia, during an eight-month period from September 1977 to April 1978, when seven women, ages 59 to 89, were murdered in their own homes.

Smith was the district attorney who successfully prosecuted the case against Carlton Gary, who was finally arrested in 1984 and brought to trial and convicted in 1986.

After 32 years of appeals including four appeals to the U.S. Supreme Court with no judicial reversals, Gary was executed in 2018.

Smith’s “advice and input regarding legal issues was invaluable,” said Rawlings.

The Columbus Stocking Strangler is Rawlings’ 12th published book since he took up the hobby of writing as a diversion from his duties as a primary care doctor in his hometown of Sandersville, Georgia. The book is in its fourth printing, less than three months after its release.

“The practice of medicine is intense once you get into it,” said Rawlings, “and you need a distraction. You need something that you enjoy.”

Curiosity motivates Rawlings. “I like exploring things,” he said. He’s written suspense fiction and histories of the Ku Klux Klan and lighthouses in Georgia. His book A Killing on Ring Jaw Bluff is the story of the crash of the cotton economy in which his great uncle figures prominently as a wealthy man who eventually lost everything and was convicted of murder.

“I like stories,” he added. “I think Southerners tend to tell stories. We could sit here for hours, and I would tell you stories, all of which were true or perhaps slightly exaggerated.”

The truth is, Rawlings said, “I like writing.” He wrote 10 of his books while still practicing medicine (he retired from medicine only four years ago). “To my tremendous surprise, I was successful at it.”

His other true crime book is Six Inches Deeper (Mercer, 2020) about the murder of a 34-year-old mother of three and secretary in southern Georgia. “I’m finding out, true crime has a huge following,” said Rawlings.

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

To research The Columbus Stocking Strangler, which he wrote in 10 months during the midst of COVID-19, Rawlings read 15,000 to 20,000 pages of transcripts, the extensive newspaper coverage of the case and police reports. He also interviewed dozens of people.

In a sensational, controversial story like this, accuracy and documentation are vital, said Rawlings, explaining the “just the facts, ma’am, style” of writing in the book. “The story is so complicated.”

Smith acknowledges that his career has been defined, whether he wanted it to be or not, by this case. He is grateful that Rawlings wrote the book “to set the record straight.”

Smith served as assistant district attorney for seven years and then served 11 years as the District Attorney of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit, a six-county circuit. In 1988, he became a judge, a position he held for 14 years. Semi-retired since 2002, he continues as a part-time senior judge.

“I sure didn’t write the book,” Smith said. “I wouldn’t take any credit for that.”

But Smith is relieved that the facts of the case are presented in this book. “I feel justified that the truth has been told. The story is spectacular enough. It’s dark, and it’s horribly unfortunate. It did not need embellishment. And he [Rawlings] didn’t embellish it.

“The facts are there, and he did a great job of putting it all together and expressing it.”
by a vote of his peers for inclusion in New Orleans Magazine’s 2022 list of top lawyers in New Orleans. Bradley is president of the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel.

**SHERRY KARVER**’s (G ’78) work was part of several art exhibitions this summer — Triton Museum of Art in Santa Clara, California; Evanston Art Center in Evanston, Illinois; O’Hanlon Center for the Arts online exhibition; East Bay Photo Collective in Oakland, California; and Southampton Art Center in Southampton, New Jersey. Karver lives in Oakland, California.

**BEN JOEL** (ABS ’80, B ’81) was named one of AdvisorHub’s 50 solo practitioner Advisors to Watch Across America in 2022.

**MARC ALEXANDER** (B ’82), founder and CEO of Motusi Corp., presented at the United Nations 77th General Assembly Digital Health Plenary Session in New York City in September 2022. His topic was democratizing movement health data on a global scale.

**PAUL B. TCOUNWOU** (PHTM ’86, ’90) has been named the dean of the School of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences at Morgan State University in Baltimore. Tchounwou moves to Morgan after two decades at Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi, where he was principal investigator and executive director of Research Centers in Minority Institutions Center for Health Disparities Research and Presidential Distinguished Professor.

**JOHN STRASBURGER** (ABS ’96), partner at the Houston-based firm Bissinger, Oshman, Williams & Strasburger, has been named to the 2023 Best Lawyers in America in the areas of commercial and bankruptcy litigation and mass tort defense.

**ROBERT B. RICHARDSON** (B ’89) was appointed as the chief economist at the U.S. Department of the Interior in the Office of the Secretary. Prior to this he was a professor at Michigan State University. Richardson lives in Washington, D.C.

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**IMPRESSION**

**ALI VITALI**

Ali Vitali [SLA ’12], Capitol Hill correspondent for NBC News, loved writing and knew she was interested in government and politics when she headed to college, and she learned to fuse those passions — along with her love of talking to and meeting new people — at Tulane. Vitali, a New York native, graduated with a double major in political science and communication and a minor in English.

“New Orleans is a place that thrives and lives off telling stories and celebrating life, and it was what made me want to get into the business of being a storyteller and reporter,” she said.

Vitali recalls an encounter during her sophomore year when a custodian shared her Katrina story. “[She told me] where they evacuated, why it was difficult economically for them to evacuate and how long it was they had to stay away. It was a moment for me of ‘Everyone has a story’.”

Being a Capitol Hill correspondent for a major news network, Vitali has reported on countless stories that impact the nation. The role has great responsibility and can often be hectic and complicated. But Vitali’s approach is simple and clear.

“I want to help uncomplicate the political process for people,” Vitali said. “I want to tear down information barriers and speak as plainly as possible, so that everyone feels like they can participate and understand their political systems and their political candidates.”

The biggest of the stories and candidates she has reported on so far in her thriving career are from the 2016 and 2020 presidential elections. Chronicling her time on the campaign trail and being the innate storyteller that she is, Vitali authored her first book *Electable: Why America Hasn’t Put a Woman in the White House…Yet* [HarperCollins, 2022], which was published in August.
Vitali tackles the question of, even after seeing a record number of qualified women run for president in 2020, why were they not elected?

“My goal with this book was to take an election that all of us had just experienced and put it heavily through the lens of gender,” she said. “It’s that unquantifiable metric.” Using a reporter’s sharp perspective, Vitali meticulously examines the ways in which the gendered double standards placed on the candidates manifested.

“The longer this book is out there and the longer that I talk to people, the more I realize the parallels between myself and things that I’ve experienced, and the things that these female candidates experienced: questions about authenticity, how we’re allowed to show complex versions of ourselves, the bias that still permeates structures in politics and media,” she said.

And to the next emerging reporter looking to tackle the intricacies of politics, Vitali’s advice is: “Stories about politics and policy, I think, are most understandable to people when they see the way that it’s impacting their neighbors and people in their community,” she said. “Understanding the way people lift each other up is important and lends to the idea of making politics personal … I think that’s what makes the best reporters — people who really try to understand the community.”

What was your favorite book you read while at Tulane?

Plato’s Republic. Honors Philosophy w/ Prof. Ballard. As a wide-eyed freshman in 1974 I learned to delve deeply into anything I read then or since. I have never forgotten: “Who will guard the guards?”

Marcus Urioste (A&S ’78)

The Immense Journey by Loren Eiseley. Freshman English with Professor Morillo in 1985. I still re-read this book for its insights on natural history and humanity, and I remember those fall afternoon classes in Newcomb Hall overlooking the quad.

Pat Rogers (E ’89)

Cane by Harlem Renaissance author Jean Toomer was one of my favorite books. The novel was unique in form; it was a collection of prose and poetry, highlighting the lives of African Americans.

Tanya Jenkins Broussard (UC ’93)

I will never forget reading A Confederacy of Dunces under the trees on the JL quad!

Carrie Datro (NC ’06)

Submit your news to alumni.tulane.edu/news or follow @tulanealumni on Facebook to join the conversation.
IMPRESSION

NINA KING

Growing up in Tampa, Florida, Nina King (L ’05), vice president and director of athletics at Duke University and adjunct professor of business, didn’t play sports, but was a dancer and was always a sports fan. When she attended Notre Dame, she became a student athletics manager and by her senior year, she was the head manager for the women’s swimming and diving program.

After earning a bachelor’s degree in accounting, she interned at Notre Dame in the athletics department and realized a career in sports leadership was one she wanted to pursue.

“I knew that I would need an advanced degree and something that differentiated myself,” King said. When she was younger, she had interest in becoming a lawyer, but “I didn’t quite know what that meant or what I wanted to do with it (a law degree).”

She searched for a school with a sports law program so she could merge her two interests. It was pivotal in her trajectory that the athletic director she worked under at Notre Dame was Kevin White, who had previously served as athletic director at Tulane. “We had great conversations about Tulane and, ultimately, I made the decision to head to New Orleans,” King said.

She applied to Tulane Law School and for an internship at the National Collegiate Athletic Association — she was accepted to both. She deferred her law school acceptance and interned for two years before heading to Tulane.

After earning her Juris Doctor, White offered her a job at Notre Dame, where she served as Director of Rules Education in the athletics department. A few years later, White announced he was leaving to be the athletic director at Duke.

“He called and asked if I would go with him and I said, ‘yes,’ in a second,” she said. King worked with White for 13 years at Duke as senior deputy director of athletics. “Every career move I made has been with Kevin’s guidance and influence. He’s an incredible mentor.”

When White retired, it was an easy decision for Duke to turn to King. King is Duke’s first Black woman athletic director and one of six women to lead an institution in the “Power Five,” which consists of 65 institutions in the five highest-earning and most prominent conferences in collegiate athletics.

“I have this opportunity now, in the seat where I sit, to continue to help provide opportunities for women to come with me,” King said. “We need to continue to create change now.”

With the constant shifts in college athletics, King remains focused on continuing the competitive success of balancing academics and athletics — 80% of Duke’s 700+ student-athletes are on the Atlantic Coast Conference honor roll. She also plans to sustain excellence in preparing student-athletes to be leaders after graduating.

“In college athletics, if you read some of the headlines, it sounds like doomsday and we might not exist in a few years,” King said. “We’re going to exist; it’s just going to look different, and I need to make sure that Duke is well-positioned for a strong and healthy future.”

PHOTO PROVIDED BY DUKE UNIVERSITY
MEGAN FLYNN (NC ’03) has been appointed the Gustave L. Davis ’39 and Susan S. Davis Director of Dance and artist in residence at Union College in Schenectady, New York. Flynn lives in Troy, New York.

DEDORAH BROWN (SW ’04) published her second wellness book, Marching on in Spite of Fate: What The Struggle Brings, in May 2022. She was awarded a medal in the Veterans Creative Arts Contest for a personal essay and donated books to female veterans at the Baton Rouge VA Medical Center. Brown has been active in collecting and donating clothing and household items for those in need. She lives in New Orleans.

JENNY GOODMAN (NC ’04) is the co-founder and CEO of Tilit, a premium hospitality workwear brand, which she launched a decade ago with her husband (and New Orleans native), Alex McCreary. Tilit, based in New York City, is known for outfitting iconic culinary leaders and has outfitted over 4,000 restaurants and hotels, with nearly 100,000 individual chef customers.

The board of directors of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) elevated MARK WILDE (E ’04) to IEEE Fellow at its November 2022 meeting. The mission of IEEE is advancing technology for the benefit of humanity. Wilde is an associate professor at Cornell University.

KATE BRAUN (SSE ’07) has been promoted to managing partner of Manager Tools LLC. The company provides management training via podcasts to millions of listeners per month and was voted The People’s Choice Top Business Podcast numerous times. Braun lives in Austin, Texas.

JOHN R. GUENARD (L ’09) joined the New Orleans office of the law firm Flanagan Partners LLP. During his time at Tulane, he served as editor-in-chief of the Tulane Law Review. Guenard lives in Metairie, Louisiana.

JAMES BARTON LOWTHER (B ’10) has been named to Forbes’ Best-in-State Next-Generation Wealth Advisors list for 2022. Lowther lives and works at Merrill Lynch and Co. in Sarasota, Florida.

SAM ALLOUCHE (SSE ’11, ’16) and David Shaw, lead vocalist for the touring band The Revivalists, celebrated their wedding with a ceremony in New Orleans City Park and a party at Tipitina’s on May 29, 2022. Among the wedding attend- ees were fellow Revivalists and Tulane alumni ZACK FEINBERG (SSE ’09), ROB INGRAHAM (SSE ’09), and ED WILLIAMS (B ’07). Allouche recently received a PhD in psychology from Louisiana State University.

JULIE BURKENSTOCK (B ’11) was admitted as an assurance partner at the Houston company Weaver & Tidwell LLP. Her new role focuses on audits of public and private companies in the oil and gas industry and working with the firm’s quality and risk management programs. Burkenstock lives in Iowa Colony, Texas.

SARRINA CUTAILA (SSE ’11) is development director for French Quarter Festivals, Inc., the nonprofit organization that annually produces three festivals: French Quarter Festival, Satchmo SummerFest and Holidays New Orleans Style.

MARYA EARL (SSE ’11) and her husband, Zack Carpenter, announce the birth of their baby, Greta Louise Carpenter. The family lives in St. Louis.

JANE ESSLINGER (SLE ’11) earned her MBA from the MIT Sloan School of Management. She now works for McKinsey & Co. and lives in Fort Green, Brooklyn.

ANN FABENS LALSEN (SSE ’11) earned her MBA from Columbia Business School. She now works for Bain and Co. as a consultant and lives in Brooklyn, with her husband, PATRICK RAFFERTY (SSE ’12), a fellow Tulanian! – and their dog, Franklin.

ALISSA “Lissy” ISAACSON (SSE ’11) and her husband, Ari Finkelstein, announce the birth of their baby, Albie Oak Finkelstein. The family recently moved to San Jose, California, where Lissy is a school social worker and Ari manages a woodshop. Lissy earned a Master of Social Work from the University of Chicago in 2015.

ERIN JENSEN (PHTM ’11, ’12) and JESSE CHICCO (SLE ’10) celebrated their wedding on Oct. 2, 2022, in New Orleans at the Benachi House in Mid-City. Erin is a health insurance program coordinator at the Louisiana Office of Public Health. Jesse works as a COVID-19 testing coordinator for movie filming. The couple lives happily in New Orleans in the Irish Channel.

KIMBERLY PELAEZ (SCE ’12, ’14) has been appointed to vice president of human resources at Beau Rivage Resort & Casino, in Biloxi, Mississippi.

ANNA BAUMAN (SLE ’17) was recently selected as a Georgina and Charlotte Bloomberg Public Service Fellow and will be pursuing a Master of Public Administration at New York University’s Wagner School of Public Service. Prior to returning to school, Bauman was a client advocate at the East Baton Rouge office of the public defender.

REBECCA “BECCA” HILDNER (B ’17) is associate director of social and digital media for Tulane University Communications and Marketing. Before she joined the Tulane staff in July 2021, Becca worked as advertising and digital marketing coordinator at the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau.

CLINTON RASBERRY (B ’21) accepted the position of audit associate at Argent Trust Co. in Shreveport, Louisiana.

**Farewell**

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

Margaret Stewart Dickey (NC ’42)
David E. Verlander Jr. (B ’43)
Arthur B. Bush Jr. (E ’44)
Jesse C. Durham Jr. (E ’46)
Etheldra Smith Scogglin (NC ’46)
John H. Henkel (A&S ’47, G ’48)
Leo G. Horan (A&S ’47, M ’49)
Walter J. Martiny Jr. (E ’48)
Alice Beacham McCullough (B ’48)
John E. Walker (E ’48)
Henry G. Casserleigh Jr. (B ’49)
Winifred Kelly Delery (NC ’49)
Kathryn Bohnstorff Evans (NC ’49)
Lin C. Gee (E ’49)
Theodore A. Aucoin Jr. (E ’50)
John A. Ferris Jr. (A&S ’50, M ’53)
James B. Glisson (A&S ’50)
Vilma Grosz Norton (B ’50)
William J. Anderson III (E ’51)
Frank G. Costley Jr. (B ’51)
Joseph M. Cox (A&S ’51)
Joyce Myers Dixon (NC ’51)
Elias Klein (A&S ’51, G ’52, ’54)
Bobbie Sue Blanchard Miller-Honour (NC ’51, L ’54)
Clarence S. Sakai (A&S ’51, M ’54)
James W. Anderson (A&S ’52)
Frederick J. Brown (E ’52, 70, ’72)
William R. Culppepper Sr. (A&S ’52)
Thomas S. Farmer (E ’52)
Betty Treford Hellmann (NC ’52)
Richard L. Kempson (A&S ’52, M ’55)
Elsworth L. Kingery (A&S ’52)
William A. Long Jr. (A&S ’52, M ’55)
Hunter O. Wagner Jr. (A&S ’52)
Francis D. Cerniglia (A&S ’53)
Frank R. Huster Jr. (PHTM ’53)
Beatrice Halpern O’kun (SW ’53)
Dorothy Grant Poitvent (NC ’53)
Allen C. Porter Jr. (E ’53)
Eleanor Smith (NC ’53, G ’62)
Frances Smith Graves (NC ’54)
Tommie W. Pewitt (A&S ’54)
Amos L. Prevatt (M ’54)
Shirley Tanenbaum Seelig (NC ’54)
Paul E. Atkinson (A&S ’55)
Ralph E. Bowling (M ’55)
Mary Bush Fargason (NC ’55)
Peter A. Feringa Jr. (A&S ’55, L ’59)
Catherine Fritchie Franklin (NC ’55)
Thomas K. McElhinney (A&S ’55)
Robert H. Rowand (A&S ’55)
Marion M. Winkler Jr. (M ’55)
Albert E. Cowdrey (A&S ’56, G ’72)
Mollie Blakeney Fraser (NC ’56)
Jessie Hebert Heitzmann (NC ’56)
Rose Fraser Jacobson (NC ’56)
Alexandra McCoy (NC ’56)
Edmond J. Bendorf-nel Jr. (A ’57)
Carole Rambach Brenn (NC ’57)
David K. Evans (A&S ’57)
Emilie Dietrich Griffin (NC ’57)
Peter E. Joselin (E ’57)
Nicolle Granet Friedlander (NC ’58)
Barbara Abaunza Gibbons (NC ’58)
Alan L. Hammond (B ’58, L ’63)
Karl G. Haydel Sr. (M ’58)
Lionel J. Keller (PHTM ’58)
Leonardo M. Palazzo Jr. (B ’58)
McWillie M. Robinson Jr. (M ’58)
John G. Spremich (A&S ’58)
James L. Talley (B ’58)
Yvonne Laan Viguerie (NC ’58)
Newton B. Barkley Jr. (L ’59)
Peter M. Campbell (A&S ’59, M ’62)
Kenneth W. Carrick (E ’59)
Louis V. Cormier (A&S ’59)
Adrienne Davis (NC ’59)
John Geiser III (B ’59)
Ralph L. Woodward Jr. (G ’59, ’62)
Sylvia Seiferth Brannen (NC ’60)
Walter C. Flower III (A&S ’60)
Richard H. Galloway (SW ’60)
James W. Hailey Jr. (L ’60)
Gerald Horowitz (A&S ’60)
Richard M. Janopaul (L ’60)
Omer F. Kuebel Jr. (B ’60, L ’63)
Agnes Newell (PHTM ’60)
Patricia Greco Parentela (NC ’60)
Sandra Brown Schechter (NC ’60)
Nicholas W. Woolverton III (B ’60, B ’70)
William C. Fortmayer Sr. (UC ’61)
Robertta Gordon (NC ’61)
James W. Green (A&S ’61, M ’65)
Frances Hightower Hill (NC ’61)
Dick Messersmith (L ’61)
Lucy McAllister Songdanes (G ’61)
Joseph C. Sumner Jr. (A&S ’61)
William R. Wyatt (G ’61)
Edson L. Davis Sr. (B ’62)
Domania A. DiPascal Sr. (E ’62)
Walton H. Ehhardt (A&S ’62)
Edwin E. Elam Jr. (E ’62)
Rose Fratello (NC ’62)
William B. Hay (A&S ’62)
Bruce A. North (B ’62, L ’69)
Gilbert B. Powell Sr. (L ’62)
Morton D. Rau (E ’62)
Rhodes J. Spedale Jr. (L ’62)
Aysen Kutalp Young (NC ’62, G ’66, ’73)
Jim Bob Brame (M ’65)
Albert J. Derbes III (B ’63, L ’66)
Stephan G. Dollinger (L ’63)
Stephen D. Edwards (B ’63, L ’66)
James M. Howell (G ’63)
Peggy Mullen Kruger (NC ’63)
John F. Steel III (M ’63)
Walter E. Sudol (A&S ’63)
JoNell Batts Frost (SW ’64)
Albert M. Jones Jr. (G ’64)
Fred M. Smith (UC ’64)
Mary Thomas (NC ’64, G ’68)
Richard W. Wismar III (G ’64)
John C. Buckman (A&S ’65, L ’68)
Diane Laizer Carney (UC ’65, G ’67, SW ’88)
Ronald M. Chapoton (B ’65)
Brille Cotsonadis (G ’65)
Jon A. Craig (A&S ’65)
Arthur C. Emlen (G ’65)
John E. Graham (B ’65)
James A. Henderson (B ’65)
Roy W. Keiser Jr. (PHTM ’65)
Robertta Ellison Marder (SW ’65)
Robert N. Mathis (G ’65)
Daniel A. Post (L ’65)
Linda Talmadge (NC ’65)
Joseph A. Wallace (L ’65)
Frank L. Watson Jr. (L ’65)
Stephen H. Hammons (G ’66)
Peter R. Rubenstein (A&S ’66, M ’69)
John B. Amadio (PHTM ’67)
Thomas G. Archibald (G ’67)
Bruce S. Eich (M ’67)
Honnavally N. Ramaswamy (G ’67)
Joseph A. Wilhelm III (A&S ’67, L ’70)
Leonard F. Benckstein II (A ’68)
Martin J. Coffey (G ’68)
Nancy Dyer (G ’68)
Ronald W. Guth (L ’68)
Vincent D. Hamilton (A&S ’68)
John W. Hammon Jr. (M ’68)
James J. Meyers Jr. (L ’68)
Mary Harrington Tucker (NC ’68)
Philip L. Washburn (L ’68)
Harry G. Hall (PHTM ’69)
Jerry D. Hill (E ’69)
Dominic M. Tamburo III (A&S ’69, L ’73)
David R. Wagner (M ’69)
Earl H. Weidner (G ’69)
Edward P. Dameron IV (A&S ’70)
Susan Cook Eaker (G ’70)
William K. Gourley (PHTM ’70)
Leslie Ainsworth Maggio (NC ’70)
David R. Meek (B ’70)
Aris Oliver (SW ’70)
Sharon Perlis (L ’70)
Helen Burquist (PHTM ’71)
Edward F. Carter III (A&S ’71, M ’75)
Radcliffe J. Coyle (PHTM ’71)
Patricia Mackey (SW ’71)
Willie June Keller Noggle (SW ’71)
Donald J. Pickney (L ’71)
Joseph S. Reeves III (A&S ’71)
Eugene D. Cargile (B ’72)
William C. Carlin Jr. (A&S ’72)
Clarence B. Doyle (L ’72)
Maganal K. Kansa (E ’72)
Neal C. Lemlein (A&S ’72)
Elva Palmer (NC ’72)
Ronald G. Tompkins (A&S ’72, M ’76)
Joe L. Wells (G ’72)
Edgar S. Bordes Jr. (PHTM ’73)
Jeanine Cannon Bozeman (SW ’73)
James G. Caire Jr. (A&S ’73)
Richard B. Ladd (B ’73)
Michael B. Moon (G ’73)
David G. Powers (SW ’73)
Robert S. Stoops (E ’73)
Richard B. Allen (G ’74)
Ann Goin Christenson (G ’74)
Ellen Munsil Estevens (SW ’74)
Eugene Q. Jones (G ’74)
Marilyn Montgomery (B ’74)
Richard I. Neal (G ’74)
Wayne M. Phillips (SW ’74)
Stephen C. Pollard (A&S ’74)
Adrienne Landry Baumgartner (NC ’75, L ’78)
Kay Lueders Cavallo (G ’75)
Craig M. Dyer (E ’75)
Dale A. Firestone (A&S ’75, SW ’80)
John P. Fox (L ’75)
Jose L. Garcia II (A&S ’75)
Catherine Hall (L ’75)
Jerold M. Jung (A&S ’75)
Kenneth C. Watters Jr. (UC ’75)
Stephen A. Webe (G ’75, ’80)
Lynn Curry Cox (G ’76)
Margaret Salkay (SW ’76)
Michael R. Spivey (E ’77)
Mary Busch (G ’78)
Philip A. Hatch Sr. (UC ’78, B ’86)
Anna Walker Luke (SW ’78)
Gilbert R. Mason Jr. (PHTM ’78, M ’82)
Alan J. Pinner (L ’78)
Charles P. Williams Jr. (E ’79, B ’83)
Robert N. Windes (L ’79, B ’80)
Janice Burns (B ’80)
Richard H. Demiri (A&S ’80)
Joan Pless Epstein (G ’80)
Kathryn Eckerlein Errington (NC ’80, L ’83)
Joe W. Bratcher III (A&S ’81)
Angeles Pagan-Vidal Coleman-Davis (G ’81)
Susannah Jeffers (L ’81)
Arthur S. Chin (M ’82)
Mark S. Clanton (M ’82)
Donald J. Gaudet Jr. (A&S ’82)
Edward J. Krause (UC ’82)
Mark C. Anderson (E ’83)
Scott D. Andres (A ’84)
Lee D. Daspit Jr. (A&S ’84)
William A. Schureck II (L ’84)
Philip B. Shall (UC ’84)
Moira Ausens (L ’85)
Patricia Fajkowski Bollman (L ’86)
Michael P. Fedele (A&S ’87)
Michele Moro (M ’87, PHTM ’87)
Pratap V. Pothuloori (PHTM ’87)
Gregory W. Poulos (L ’87)
John T. Thibodeaux (B ’87)
Jan Tribble (E ’87)
Charles D. Combs (PHTM ’88)
Shelly Ditta Doucet (A ’88)
Linda Walker Eaton (B ’88)
Joani Granger (B ’88)
Cynthia Dubois (NC ’89, G ’97)
Pamela Parrish (L ’89)
Michael H. Custer (PHTM ’90)
John L. McKnight Jr. (UC ’90)
Roland O. Foster-Balloun (L ’91)
Stephen V. Renshaw (M ’91)
Ursula von Rydingsvard (NC ’91)
James E. Barlow (A&S ’92)
Kenneth Babin (A&S ’93)
Eric M. Griesshaber (A ’93)
TRIBUTE

ADAM DANIEL GOLDBERG COHEN

Adam Daniel Goldberg Cohen (SLA ’14), journalist and humanitarian, loving son and brother, and passionate friend to so many, died suddenly of natural causes in Tel Aviv, Israel, on June 14, 2022. He was 29.

From Tulane to Togo to Tel Aviv, Adam won people over with his warmth, thoughtfulness, sense of humor, exceptional jump shot and uncanny freestyle rapping abilities. He was many people’s favorite person.

Adam was born and raised a proud Chicagoan, a consummate ambassador for the city. At a moment’s notice, Adam was ready to recite the Cubs’ batting lineup, obscure pieces of CTA trivia, or early Lupe Fiasco lyrics.

Adam and his impressive linguistic abilities — at the time of his passing, Adam was conversant in at least five languages.

After the Peace Corps, Adam returned to Chicago to pursue a master’s degree at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. Upon graduating, he moved to Washington, D.C., and launched a career as a science journalist, publishing articles in Smithsonian Magazine and for the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Journalism suited Adam’s appetite for learning new things and sharing knowledge that would make the world a better place. He was a phenomenal listener, a skill that made him both a perceptive journalist and a treasured friend.

Adam could always be counted on for encouragement and praise — a pep talk before a first date; a mazel tov for accomplishments big and small. His gregarious nature and ever-widening circle of friends made him a popular wedding guest. Adam was often the first to lift the chair during the Horah and the last one on the dance floor, making him a frequent topic of conversation amongst bridesmaids and bubbes alike, who marveled at his height, wit and general menschiness.

While thriving in D.C., Adam continued to grow stronger in his Jewish faith and felt his calling was to live in Israel. He moved to Tel Aviv in March 2021, landing a job as a content writer at a web company. In Tel Aviv, Adam celebrated weekly Shabbats with his mate ambassador for the city. At a moment’s notice, Adam was an active member of Tulane Chabad, a mainstay on the Dean’s List, and a loyal devotee of Green Wave athletics. He bridged friend groups and filled rooms with his signature high-pitched giggle and full-bodied laughter — often literally collapsing his 6-foot-3-inch frame onto you to punctuate a joke. Friends from all walks of Adam’s life were in awe of how he balanced being a true intellectual and a consummate goofball.

Adam enrolled in the Peace Corps after college and spent two years living in Togo, West Africa, working with farmers, women’s groups and youth organizations to implement sustainable farming practices. In Togo, Adam quickly won over his community by making the effort to learn Akebu, the local language spoken in his isolated village of Kougnouhou. This was emblematic of Adam’s deep respect for other cultures and his impressive linguistic abilities — at the time of his passing, Adam was conversant in at least five languages.

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IMPROVING PATIENT CARE

BY MICHAEL A. FITTS, President

Joining academic medicine’s latest treatments and technology with the personalized care of community medicine. Bringing Tulane innovation to the world. Transforming New Orleans into a destination for the most advanced and comprehensive health care.

These are just a few of the most promising opportunities of an exciting new partnership between Tulane and LCMC Health, a healthcare system that serves our families, friends and neighbors across Southeast Louisiana. We are pleased to have the opportunity to collaborate with a mission-based nonprofit that shares our values and vision for academic medical centers as the birthplace of tomorrow’s innovations and the most effective, high-quality care.

Through this partnership, Tulane Medical Center, Lakeview Regional Medical Center, and Tulane Lakeside Hospital will join LCMC Health. Most of the services provided at Tulane Medical Center will shift to University Medical Center, just a few blocks away, and to East Jefferson General Hospital, thus increasing access to comprehensive care for patients in downtown New Orleans, expanding training opportunities for our medical residents and creating larger hubs for specialty care, innovation, and academic medicine in both Orleans and Jefferson Parishes.

Patients who currently receive care at Tulane Medical Center will be able to access the same high-quality care at LCMC Health’s University Medical Center, East Jefferson General Hospital, or other hospitals in the LCMC Health system. Staff at these hospitals will retain their jobs and have new and expanded opportunities for growth and advancement.

This partnership will also be an economic boon to downtown New Orleans and Jefferson Parish. It will include an initial capital commitment of $220 million from LCMC to East Jefferson General Hospital, Lakeview Regional Medical Center, and Tulane Lakeside Hospital. This new collaboration will build on our current historic investment in downtown New Orleans, which includes transforming the Charity Hospital building into a hub of cutting-edge research and innovation that will house graduate programs in public health, professional advancement and medicine.

We are also working to establish a nursing program, clinical research initiatives and educational facilities in the space that will become available at Tulane Medical Center. Through these efforts, Tulane will add approximately 2,500 jobs across New Orleans and Louisiana. All told, our downtown investments will make a $1 billion impact on Louisiana’s economy.

Cities throughout the country have seen their fortunes turned around and their futures renewed by major research universities making such investments in their downtowns. Now, it is New Orleans’ turn.

Joining with a local team like LCMC Health is another way Tulane is improving health and saving lives through innovation, collaboration and care.
March 9, 10 & 11, 2023

The inaugural NEW ORLEANS BOOK FESTIVAL AT TULANE UNIVERSITY was a resounding success, and we look forward to bringing authors and guests together again for a unique literary experience. Bustling crowds converged on the uptown campus in March of 2022 for engaging panel discussions with literary luminaries debating everything from history and politics to art, comedy, food and culture. Family Day at the Festival featured readings, literacy activities, intimate conversations with authors and free book distribution, highlighting the importance of incorporating literacy in daily life for budding bookworms. The 2023 festival promises to be as exciting and lively as the inaugural event, so make plans to join us on MARCH 9, 10 & 11, 2023!

“The New Orleans Book Festival at Tulane University is a Mardi Gras for the mind — a celebration of the written word and the joy of reading.”

— MICHAEL FITTS
Frostop on Claiborne Avenue across from Yulman Stadium is an uptown establishment where Green Wave fans grab a bite to eat before and after games.