

## **Points of Excellence 2001 - 2002**

Southeastern's teacher preparation program has received a five-year national reaccreditation, making it the first Louisiana university to pass recently revised stringent standards. The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the primary accrediting body for teacher preparation programs, approved the university's undergraduate and graduate programs after a site visit and comprehensive review.

Southeastern's Nursing program was named "Nursing School of the Year" by the Louisiana State Nurses Association Foundation following a review by a panel of out-of-state judges.

Southeastern's Industrial Technology associate degree program received its initial four-year national accreditation from the National Association of Industrial Technology (NAIT), making it the only program of its kind in the state to receive such recognition. In addition, the baccalaureate program was reviewed and approved for an additional six-year accreditation.

Southeastern Math students swept the student paper competition at the Louisiana-Mississippi Mathematics Association of America annual meeting. The students, whose work was directed by members of the university's Math department faculty, took first, second, third and honorable mention honors at the meeting. Their research was supported by grants from the College of Arts and Sciences' OSCAR program.

Future teachers studying at Southeastern are gaining crucial, real-world experience through service learning. The university has been awarded a \$147,946 grant from the Louisiana Board of Regents to identify and coordinate service learning opportunities for education majors.

Southeastern and Livingston Parish School Board officials broke ground for construction of the Livingston Parish Literacy and Technology Center. The center, to be located in Walker, will offer Family Literacy programs and Math, Science, Technology and Environmental Education for K-12 students.

Source: Office of Public Information

## **Points of Excellence 2001 - 2002 (continued)**

Southeastern received \$190,000 in two grants from the Edward G. Schlieder Educational Foundation of New Orleans to fund capital improvements to the Columbia Theatre for the Performing Arts. The grants will be used to complete construction on dressing rooms, the facility's conference and meeting center, and the reception area. During the past year, the City of Hammond's Downtown Development District formally handed over the ownership and care of the renovated Columbia Theatre to the university.

Wetlands biologist Paul Keddy and associates have constructed a miniature marsh on the university's north campus to study the natural competition of common Louisiana marsh plants through a five-year \$365,000 grant from the National Science Foundation. Keddy, who serves as the Edward Schlieder Endowed Chair in Environmental Studies, was also cited by the Institute of Scientific Information as being among the 100 most-cited scientists in the field of ecology and the environment.

Southeastern officially announced the return of its football program in the 2003 season. At a ceremony in Strawberry Stadium, President Randy Moffett and others announced that the university had surpassed a \$5 million fund raising goal initiated last year to enhance the university's overall athletics program, address gender equity issues and reinstate the football program which was discontinued in 1986.

Southeastern is now offering a Bachelor of Science degree in Athletic Training, the only such program in the state. The program has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).

Albert E. Kuhn, an IBM vice president who played a key role in the nation's space program, was named 2002 Alumnus of the Year. Kuhn is a 1965 Southeastern graduate.

Southeastern has received a three-year, \$1.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to sponsor a "Gear-Up" program with Hammond Junior High School. The program is designed to raise students' skill levels, especially in English and Mathematics, improve thinking and problem solving capabilities and raise educational aspirations.

Source: Office of Public Information

## **Points of Excellence 2001 - 2002 (continued)**

Brian Canfield, head of Southeastern's Department of Human Development, has been elected president of the International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors (IAMFC). IAMFC is the largest affiliate division of the American Counseling Association with approximately 8,500 members worldwide.

Southeastern digital design students are now using a state-of-the-art center that includes three labs, a video studio, a printing room, a photo shoot room, faculty offices, and an art gallery. The labs house more than 50 powerful Macintosh computers with 17-inch flat screen monitors. Experts have praised the Digital Arts Center as "a national-level lab." A \$75,000 Louisiana Board of Regents grant helped fund the new center.

Works by three Southeastern digital design students have been included in a new book, "The Digital Designer: 101 Graphic Design Projects for Print, the Web, Multimedia & Motion Graphics," authored by Stephen Pite. The students' work was selected from hundreds of submissions.

Retired 21<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Judge Leon Ford III of Hammond received Southeastern's "Golden Ambassador Award," a prestigious award designed to honor outstanding service, achievement and/or humanitarian efforts.

Teachers can now take courses at Southeastern that lead to add-on certification in English as a Second Language through a unique online program. The program is open to all teachers who work or plan to work with students of limited English proficiency, and is the only one in Louisiana and neighboring states to be offered entirely via the Internet.

Officials with Southeastern and representatives of the Pennington family of Baton Rouge officially dedicated the university's new \$11 million Student Activity Center in memory of the late Claude B. Pennington Jr..

Source: Office of Public Information