

Points of Excellence

2003 - 2004

The \$6.8 million expansion of the Charles E. Cate Teacher Education Center was completed in Fall 2003. The addition adds approximately 40,000 square feet to the complex, including new classrooms, laboratories, faculty offices, conference rooms and a lecture hall.

Southeastern continues improvements to its campus facilities with the construction of new, up-to-date student housing designed to meet students' space, privacy, security and technology needs. Demolition of Southeastern's old dormitories began June 2004 and the first phase of the \$55 million project is expected to be ready for student occupancy in Spring 2005.

Much of Southeastern's campus is now wireless, allowing easy Internet access for university students, faculty, and staff. The project began in Fall 2003 and is designed to supplement the university's wired infrastructure. Wireless capability is presently available in outside and inside areas where people generally congregate, including several university classroom buildings, the Student Union, the Student Activity Center, the University Center and many of the buildings located on North Campus.

Indicated in its 2004 Annual Report, the Institute for Biodiversity and Interdisciplinary Studies (IBIS), Southeastern's first major institute, has received funding of almost \$3.5 million from a variety of granting agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency, National Science Foundation, Louisiana Board of Regents, US Geological Survey, Department of Energy, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The interdisciplinary environmental research projects under IBIS examine the social, cultural, political, and economic factors that impacted the loss of Louisiana's wetlands, the benefits of restoring the wetlands, and the best methods for doing so. This integrated approach involves faculty from several disciplines, including biological sciences, history and political sciences, sociology, and general business.

In Spring 2004, the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs accredited Southeastern's graduate degree track in Marriage and Family Therapy. Designed around a model curriculum from the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Southeastern's program is one of only two such accredited graduate programs at Louisiana state-supported universities.

Source: Office of Public Information

Points of Excellence 2003 - 2004 (continued)

Southeastern's Sims Memorial Library was awarded the International 2003-04 Tutor.com Innovator Award for the library's virtual reference web site, "Ask A Librarian Live." The real-time service features online librarians, able to interact with Southeastern faculty, staff, and students in support of their research 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Three Southeastern students and two faculty members spent Summer 2003 serving internships and working for IBM in Phoenix, Arizona. The Internships were instituted by Albert Kuhn, a 1965 Southeastern graduate and 2002 Alumnus of the Year, who heads a \$4 billion Global Delivery Project between IBM and American Express.

Southeastern's teacher preparation program earns "straight A's" on the Louisiana Board of Regents' annual institutional report card. Southeastern is one of the major providers of teacher education graduates in the state of Louisiana and was the first university in the state to actually guarantee the performance of its teacher graduates.

Southeastern established a cooperative program with the Universidad Tecnológica de Honduras to provide a dual degree program for Honduran business students. The program is one of the first English language dual degree programs in Honduras and one of only a few in all of Latin America.

The award-winning Southeastern Channel now reaches into 92,000 homes in Tangipahoa, Livingston, St. Tammany, and Washington parishes. The state-of-the-art channel carries college-level telecourses, university programming such as concerns and lectures, and an ever-growing variety of student-produced programs.

Southeastern's chapter of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association was awarded "Chapter of the Year Honors" by the national association in May 2004.

Southeastern's student chapter of the Society of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) is chosen to host the 2004 National SHRM Conference in New Orleans.

Source: Office of Public Information