

## Website

<https://library.louisiana.edu/collections/digital-archives/digital-exhibits/college-education-academic-showcase/oral-histories>

**University of Louisiana at Lafayette » Edith Garland Dupré Library » Collections » Digital Archives » Digital Exhibits » College of Education Academic Showcase**

## Video File

<https://lafayette.saas.dgicloud.com/islandora/object/ul%3A1/datastream/MP4/view>

**Run-time: 00:01:50** (hh:mm:ss)

## Chapter 19

Louisiana Superintendent of Education - Cecil Picard - Why He Chose To Attend SLI?

## Transcript

**Title Card:** Why did you choose USL to get an education?

**Cecil Picard – State Superintendent of Education:** I'm Cecil Picard, State Superintendent for the state of Louisiana. Back in 1955, although it was SLI, it was a good institute for teacher training. That was one of the reasons that I wanted to major in education.

Coming from a family of teachers. My father was a graduate of SLI. An athlete at SLI. I had several aunts and uncles who were graduates of SLI and majored in education and also because of the proximity. I only lived about 10 miles from SLI from Vermilion Parish.

But I guess more importantly because of the fact that I felt that it had a strong college of education curriculum and I felt that being I wanted to pursue a degree in the College of Education, that SLI was the place to come.

**Title Card:** How did your experience at USL affect your vision of the future of education?

**Cecil Picard:** My involvement with the Deans increased because we were interested in linking high school and university activities together, what type of curriculum was expected of a high school student. And then of course, when I became a member of the state legislature for 20 years, USL was in the Acadiana region and so that helped bond together the Acadiana legislative delegation. USL was a common ground that we could all work for...

As we approached the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we can no longer think parochial, just K to 12. We must think K to 16 and we must have that linkage between elementary, secondary and postsecondary, higher education, if we're going to continue to induce good teachers and keep them in the College of Education.