

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%3A7/datastream/MP4/view>

Run-time: 00:02:08 (hh:mm:ss)

Chapter 25

Former EDCI Faculty Member - Dr. Jane Ellen Carstens - Describe Student Life When You Were A Student

Transcript

Title Card: Describe life at USL when you were a student.

Dr. Jane Ellen Carstens – Former Faculty: One funny thing, which will sound funny to you, but we accepted it, our freshman House Mother was Ms. Rita Suay and she was very strict. If you had a date, she'd meet your date at the door. If he didn't have a tie on, she had a supply and he had to borrow one. She sniffed his breath and, if he had been drinking, couldn't go out with him.

And then during Lent, she had two bowls of penances – one for Protestants and one for Catholics, and every day you had to pick a slip that would have a penance. Now, nobody protested this. Everybody did it. They cooperated. They just accepted it, you know.

Girls couldn't wear pants on campus except when they were going to physical education. Then they had to put a coat an over the pants. Let's see. I'm trying to think of some other things. Well, you spent your time during the week mostly studying, I would say, or in the library and just socializing a little bit, but by 8 o'clock everybody had to be in their rooms. You couldn't even be in somebody else's room, not alone, let alone, you know, be outside.

So that's mainly ... oh, one thing that may sound unbelievable. My spending money was \$5 a month.

We were very much aware of the war because members of our family were in the war, our friends, students, faculty. Because of the rationing that was initiated, there were things like candy that you were limited to and sugar and coffee and things like that.

There were all kinds of training sessions for us at USL to prepare us in case the enemy should come to Lafayette. In fact, that's why they flooded Cypress Lake. It used to be Cypress Grove and you see pictures in the old L'Acadien where it's there is no water at all.