

College of Education Academic Showcase

Chapter 3

College of Education - Academic Showcase Kickoff - Alumni Center Board Room, August 6, 1998. Dr. Ed Dugas; Liz Landry; Julie Dronet; Parish Spirit Coordinators - Dave Cavalier; Paula Sibille Currier; Denis Tallini; Aline Arceneaux; Carolyn Bienvenu; Joseph Cotton; Gerald Hebert; Curtis Joubert; Cecil Picard; Dr. E. Joseph Savoie; Dr. Mary Jane Ford.

Video File

https://scholarshub.louisiana.edu/coe_academic_showcase/3/

Run-time: 00:08:32 (hh:mm:ss)

Transcript

Dr. Ed Dugas: This is going to be an interactive, introductory session.

...and I said in the absence of an SLI/USL spirit stick as part of our pep rally, we're going to circulate our spirit stick. This was carried by either Hollis Conway, Mr. Alfred Lampson, or myself, but I have been sworn to secrecy as to who [unintelligible]. So, this is the spirit stick. Y'all can pass it around, move it around, anywhere you'd like. You don't have time to go into it.

Liz Landry: As you all probably already know USL celebrated Centennial in the year 2000 and we're so happy that you're going to be a part of this very, very special time in USL history. The College of Education has been assigned the month of November -- that's why you're all here.

That month, November, is going to be the time that we focus on our graduates in the College of Education, our students in the College of Education, all the wonderful things that are happening in the College of Education.

I'd like to also introduce Ms. Julie Dronet, who is Director of Public Relations and News Services.

Julie Dronet: It is a really special time in the history of our university. Anytime that you can link generations into the new century and look back at 100 years of history and just kind of celebrate where you are today and project what you expect for the future -- that's just a great opportunity and public relations is really excited. Our whole staff is really involved in Centennial plans.

Dr. Ed Dugas: I'd just like for all the people in Denis' network from Lafayette Parish to stand, please. Everyone from Lafayette Parish. Thank you, Denis. Thank you.

I will have all of this available for y'all after the meeting and you can see who the Spirit Coordinators are in each respective parish, in respective state. Do we have another parish that would like to come?

Dave Cavalier: Dave Cavalier, Iberia Parish.

Dr. Ed Dugas: We should start [unintelligible]. We have another parish, I know.

Dianne Olivier: St. Martin, Dianne Olivier. We're just starting a little bit further than Iberia.

Paula Currier: I'm Paula Currier, West Baton Rouge. We're a very small parish... [unintelligible].

Dr. Ed Dugas: At board Spirit Coordinators. Cecil's already standing. [unintelligible] ...already standing. Very good. [unintelligible].

Aline Arceneaux: Can I say something?

Dr. Ed Dugas: Yes, ma'am.

Aline Arceneaux: I want y'all to know that the plans for this Centennial thing. Over five years ago, a committee of the retirees from USL got together and we brainstormed, and we said what do we need to do for the Centennial, and we made a whole list of things and send 'em to the President Authement.

Dr. Ed Dugas: We will start off with Carolyn Bienvenu. Carolyn, we'd love you to come up or speak from where you are. The choice is yours.

Carolyn Bienvenu: I'm a teacher. I can come to the front.

Dr. Ed Dugas: You're good?

Carolyn Bienvenu: Put it this way. I was a teacher. I don't have a teaching voice anymore because I've been retired for almost three years, and I think I've probably gotten 10 years younger in those three years.

It's really wonderful to be involved with USL, as I have been throughout my teaching career. Teaching in Iberia Parish I was able to bring students here for rallying, for other academic events.

Joseph Cotton: I'm glad to be at USL. I'm glad for what I received when I worked on my masters and then on my plus thirty which I received here in 1975. I met a lot of great people in the College of Education. Got to know a lot about this University. And I'm glad that I'm here now.

Dr. Ed Dugas: Our next person is Mr. Gerald Hebert. You'll may know him as "Liberty Card" Hebert. He's done Top 28, AAU, and I don't know what else. Gerald, come on up.

Gerald Hebert: When Dr. Dugas asked me to be a part of this he told me I was going to be an "at large" Spirit Coordinator and I asked him, "Well, what does that mean?" Well, he said as long as you've gained 30 pounds since you graduated... [unintelligible]. My only chance of losing that 30 pounds is if I can be on compact disc.

He crosses all the T's, and he dots all the I's in everything he's done, and he works with me on some events that I work on and I noticed he was kind enough to have a picture of the baseball team I played on in 1905.

Of all the things that have been a great deal in my life is the years that I spent at USL. I was a teacher and coach in Scott, which is I understand is still in America in Louisiana.

And it was one of the fondest memories that I have, with the exception of my immediate family and my daughter and my lovely wife Claudie. The thing I'm most proud of is having graduated from the University of Southwestern Louisiana.

Dr. Ed Dugas: Can Mr. Curtis Joubert come up, please?

Curtis Joubert: Thank you, Dr. Ed. First of all, when he called me said you got to talk for about a minute and a half, I said, "What?! Me and Cecil?"

It's nice to be with you. As we grow older, we have time to reflect. I don't live in Lafayette. I live in Eunice. I have so many fond memories of USL and I owe much to this University, other than probably my mother and the GI Bill of Rights, which enabled me to come to school after the Korean Conflict. Everything I am today, whatever that is, I owe to USL.

Dr. Ed Dugas: Curtis and Cecil claimed that the late 50s were very, good years.

Cecil Picard: This is the only guy that has shifted gears. We don't call them retirements, but he's the only guy that I think has shifted gears more than me. Teacher, a principal, a coach, in the legislature, on the Board of Trustees, Public Services Commissioner, and now, Francophone Director -- whatever that is. And he's only 30 years different.

As, some of the speakers before me, I can personally say going back in my careers that SLI has played a big part in whatever success that I've achieved.

Dr. E. Joseph Savoie: My experiences of the College of Education certainly provided a terrific basis for anything that happened to me afterwards. Work here at USL is a magnificent experience.

Dr. Ed Dugas: I would like for y'all to receive welcome from our acting Dean, Dr. Mary Jane Ford.

Dr. Mary Jane Ford: Hi. I want to add to those who have gone before me and say, "Welcome." We're so glad you came out on this warm afternoon and it's nice to see so many people so interested in helping celebrate I think a very important day.

Dr. Ed Dugas: I don't know how you nourish your USL roots, but if you want to stand taller as a USL grad, nourish your roots a little more and it's gotta happen.

I've talked to people in the last couple of months who say, "Well, I'm bitter about this, I'm bitter about it." I say, "Don't get bitter. Get better." Get better, nourish those roots. We have 100 years to celebrate in front of us.