



NOVEMBER 2014 | Official newsletter of the LSU College of Science

NEWS/EVENTS



Student presenters dress in their Halloween best during the Undergraduate Research Conference

USE YOUR BRAINS!

Researchers Discuss the 'Science of Zombies' During LSU Undergraduate Research Conference

The LSU Office of Strategic Initiatives hosted a "Science of Zombies" panel on Halloween as part of its Undergraduate Research Conference. Rousing dialog centered on zombie topics, including current realities that resemble zombie lore such as organ reanimation and drug overdoses. Winston Anderson, biology professor at Howard University and Howard Hughes Medical Institute delivered the keynote address, "Mentoring by Example and Diversity." Students were even encouraged to dress up for the occasion, Halloween style.

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Holding Court with the Queen

Biology Major Named 2014 Homecoming Queen

On Saturday, October 25, in front of 102,320 of her closest friends, Biological Sciences major Chi Nguyen was crowned LSU's 2014 Homecoming Queen.

"Whenever they called my name to announce homecoming queen, I didn't know if I was making it up in my head," Nguyen

Homecoming King Bradley Williams, LSU President/Chancellor F. King Alexander, and Homecoming Queen Chi Nguyen

laughed. "So I had to look at my partner really quick to see his reaction, and when he reacted, I was like, 'Oh my God! This is real!'"

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Any-Fin is Possible

LSU Researchers Develop Kid-Friendly Guide to Exploring Louisiana Fishes

"Making a Big Splash with Louisiana Fishes" is a new, free book that encourages fish-enthusiasts of all ages to learn more about the science right in their back yard. A group effort by Associate Professor and Curator of Ichthyology Prosanta Chakrabarty, Associate Professor of Palynology Sophie Warny and Natural Science Graduate Student Valerie Derouen, the book mixes stories and puzzles with scientific explanations, perfect for young minds swimming with curiosity.

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Arnold Bouma's sons Mark and Robert, and his wife Lieneke

Geology Department Dedicates Oak to Renown Geologist Arnold Bouma

The LSU Department of Geology & Geophysics hosted an LSU Oak Endowment Ceremony in memory of retired LSU geology professor Arnold Bouma. Bouma's former student and College of Science Dean's Circle member Erik Scott moderated the ceremony, which was attended by Bouma's wife, Lieneke, and his sons Mark and Robert. A number of Bouma's former students were on hand to share stories and remember the professor who had such a great impact on their academic and professional growth.

> [View photos](#)



Alum on the Move:

College of Science Graduate to Lead Health Outreach and Training Effort in Sierra Leone

James Lange, research scientist for the Atlanta Center for Disease Control and College of Science alumnus, will be travelling to Sierra Leone November 18 to help recruit and train personnel to interact with locals who had contact with an Ebola patient. Lange will be managing groups of CDC



personnel at multiple sites in Sierra Leone. His team will be training local personnel to conduct surveys to collect morbidity and mortality data.

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KUDOS



Boston Globe Highlights Chemistry Professor's Extensive Pocket Protector Collection

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Physics Alumni Professor Emeritus Edward Zganjar Receives 2014 Francis G. Slack Award

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MARQUEE PUBLICATIONS

[Terry Bricker](#), Moreland Family Professor in LSU's Department of Biological Sciences, and [Manjula Mummadisetti](#), a graduate student in Bricker's lab, has published a paper in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* documenting a new analysis of plant proteins that will help advance our understanding of photosynthesis.

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[James Cronin](#), LSU biological sciences professor, and [Laura Meyerson](#), associate professor of habitat restoration ecology at the University of Rhode Island, published a paper in *Ecology* documenting their findings that the intensity of plant invasions by non-invasive species can vary with changes in latitude.

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[Jayne Garno](#), professor of biological sciences, and, [Justin Ragains](#), assistant professor of chemistry, published "Application of Visible Light Photocatalysis with Particle Lithography to Generate Polynitroethylene Nanostructures," in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*.

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STAR STUDENTS

Beauty & Brains | Mariah Gewin, LSU chemistry major and holder of the Miss Pelican State title, discusses her research and advocacy for women in science.

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Tigers on Mars | Finalist for MarsOne mission and students competing in the MarsOne University competition talk Mars colonization.

> [Video](#)

DEVELOPMENT



President of the LSU Foundation Lee Griffin and Frank Harrison Sr.

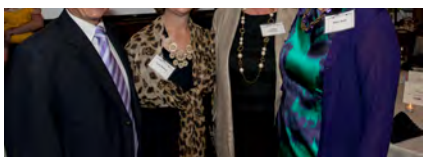
Frank Harrison Celebrates 86th Birthday

Frank Harrison Sr. celebrated his 86th birthday Friday, October 24 just in time to watch the Tiger's exciting victory over Ole Miss. Harrison, an unwavering supporter of LSU and the Department of Geology, is a member of the College of Science Dean's Circle and a 2005 Hall of Distinction inductee. He received a bachelor's degree from LSU in petroleum geology in 1950. He is a self-employed consulting geologist in oil and gas exploration and has authored several publications on the petroleum geology of Louisiana.



College Hosts 2014 Dean's Circle Dinner

The LSU College of Science hosted its annual Dean's Circle Dinner Friday, October 24 at Juban's Restaurant. During the event Dean Cynthia Peterson acknowledged the continued



Left to right: LSU alumni Wayne and Lynn Homza, Dean Cynthia Peterson, and Dean's Circle Executive Committee Chair Mary Neal

support of some of the college's most loyal supporters. Students were also on hand to present their research during a pre-dinner poster presentation session.

> [View photos from Dean's Circle 2014](#)

ExxonMobil Recognized for Transformational Investment in LSU

LSU students, faculty and staff joined ExxonMobil employees Friday, November 7, for a reception at Juban's celebrating ExxonMobil Foundation's longtime support of LSU. ExxonMobil is among the most generous donors to LSU, having invested millions of dollars in programs campus-wide through both focused corporate gifts and 3-to-1 matching of employees' and retirees' donations to colleges and units of their choice.

ExxonMobil was also a key partner in LSU successfully meeting the National Math and Science Initiative's challenge to raise \$1 million in endowed funds to sustain and grow the College of Science's GeauxTeach Math/Science teacher preparation program. NMSI matched the gifts of donors including ExxonMobil, resulting in a total endowment of \$2 million for the program.

NEW DEAN'S CIRCLE MEMBERS

The College of Science would like to welcome the newest members of the Dean's Circle. Thank you for your contribution to the teaching and research activities in the college.

- Dr. Andrew and Mrs. Anne Maverick, *October 2014*
- Dr. Cynthia Peterson and Mr. Edward Peterson, *October 2014*

> [View full list of DC members](#)

Support Research and Scholarship at LSU

Join
LSU College of Science
DEAN'S CIRCLE

The Dean's Circle (DC) is a loyal group of alumni and friends who share a passion for advancing scholarship and research at LSU. Our DC provides the working capital needed to fund pursuits of the College including scholarships, student organizations and educational travel expenses, faculty recruitment and recognition activities, and development initiatives that build alumni and community relations.

DC membership recognizes the generosity of alumni and friends who make annual gifts of \$1,000 or more to the Science Development Fund. For a gift of \$250, graduates between 2004-14 are also eligible for DC membership. Members enjoy invitations to the annual Dean's Circle



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To join by mail, make your check payable to "LSU Foundation-Science Dean's Circle" and mail your check to: LSU Foundation, 3838 West Lakeshore Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808

To donate online, go to lsufoundation.org/givetoscience.



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