



Full Tuition Available to Top Catholic, Local Public Scholars



AMEN, AMEN: New Orleans' love affair with its NFL professional football team reached another zenith when the Saints advanced to their first-ever Super Bowl. Here (L-R) Montague McPherson of Atlanta GA, Jacobe Hollins of Houston TX, Veronique Dorsey of Harvey LA and Roland Dobard of Grayslake IL celebrate the accomplishment at the viewing party held on campus. The Saints went on to win the Super Bowl, prompting the Crescent City to put on a victory parade that paled its own annual Mardi Gras celebration, drawing more than 500,000 participants.

APPLY NOW FOR XU SUMMER PROGRAMS

The University is now taking applications for its popular slate of pre-college Summer Enrichment Programs.

Among this year's offerings are the Business Achievers, Center of Excellence, EPSAR, Globe, Mardi Gras Indian Arts Intensive, New Orleans Urban Initiative, STEM Scholars Summer Bridge, Summer Science Academy (which includes BioStar, ChemStar, MathStar and SOARI), SuperScholar/Excel and Upward Bound programs.

Openings are limited. For more info visit www.xula.edu/summerprograms/index.php or contact Dr. Dereck Rovaris at drovaris@xula.edu or 504-520-7563.

Top performing high school students from Catholic high schools across the nation, as well as those from public high schools in two Louisiana parishes, will be eligible for full tuition scholarships at Xavier beginning with the Fall 2010 semester.

The newly-established Katharine Drexel Scholarships, named for Xavier's founder, offer full tuition to all valedictorians and salutatorians from any Catholic high school in the United States who are admitted as first-time freshmen. The equally new Norman C. Francis Scholarships, named for Xavier's current president, provides the same benefits to valedictorians or salutatorians from public schools in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes

Both scholarships honor the vision of Xavier's founder St. Katharine Drexel by retaining and reinforcing the University's Catholic foundation and values, and by increasing access and opportunity to higher education for some of the region's most underrepresented and disadvantaged students.

"High school valedictorians and salutatorians have many choices when it comes to attending college, and although Xavier is already a popular choice for many, we want all of them to be aware that there are NO financial barriers to attend Xavier because of their outstanding academic performance," said Dr. Loren Blanchard, senior vice president for academic affairs. "And as far as we know, Xavier is the first university to offer such a far-reaching scholarship opportunity to Catholic high school graduates."

The new scholarships add to the variety of financial options available to qualified students.

Xavier, the nation's only historically Black and Catholic university, offers preparation in 47 major areas through its undergraduate College of Arts and Sciences, its graduate division in Education and Black Catholic Studies, and its College of Pharmacy.



THEY ALSO SERVE: Edward Jenkins III of New Orleans accepts a Student Community Service Award from XU President Norman C. Francis during the 24th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Week for Peace convocation.

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A PAIR OF QUEENS: Miss Xavier 2009-2010 Amber Robins (L) of Baton Rouge LA, shares the limelight with her predecessor, Lagina Williams '09, before officially receiving her crown at the annual University Coronation Ball. President Norman C. Francis looks on.



BEEES IN THE BARN: Felice Gaddis of Snellville GA (second from left) and Monica Collins of Lake Charles LA (right) ham it up with team mascot Hugu and other representatives of the city's NBA basketball team during the annual New Orleans Hornets Night at the Barn.



LIVE FROM XAVIER: President Norman C. Francis introduces Xavier Herald newspaper staffers Kevin Barnes of New Orleans and Stacey Windon of Prairieville LA to WDSU-TV anchorman Norman Robinson following the New Orleans' Mayoral Candidates Forum which was broadcast live from the Xavier campus.

XU Still Tops At Placing African Americans Into Medical Schools



Xavier continues its track record of successfully placing more African American students into medical schools each year than any other higher education institution in the country, a distinction that it has maintained since 1993.

A total of sixty-nine (69) Xavier graduates were accepted into medical and dental schools during the 2008-2009 academic year. The University is also off to a good start for the 2009-10 academic year, as evidenced by the more than a dozen seniors who have already been accepted into medical schools.

"The distinction of leading the nation in placing so many deserving and talented young people into medical school is a clear indication of our commitment to academic success," said XU President Dr. Norman C. Francis.

"There's something special about Xavier. Our faculty and staff take great pride in working with all students from the moment they enter as freshmen until the day when they graduate and enter their chosen professions," he said. "I'm convinced that the nurturing and

academically challenging environment that we offer is a key factor in our continued leadership in not only the health professions, but in the wide range of academic disciplines that we offer."

Xavier has long enjoyed a solid reputation for its excellence in the biological and physical sciences. XU Pre-Med advisor JW Carmichael was individually recognized by Meharry Medical College with an honorary degree in 2008 for his role in helping to make Xavier the leader in African American medical school acceptances.

New Admissions Videos @ XULA, YouTube too!

Have you seen the latest video segments created for students thinking about applying to Xavier? Check them out on <http://www.youtube.com/xunews> and see why we say "It Happens @ Xavier!"



Cross Country Runners Score Conference 4-Peat



Xavier swept the individual and team titles of the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference Cross Country Championships this season, winning the latter for the fourth year in a row.

XU's women won the team title with 38 points, followed by Spring Hill with 55 points. The XU men had the first four finishers to score 25 points, the fewest by a GCAC men's champion since 1998. Spring Hill was second with 43 points. It was the first time since 2004 that a school swept the individual and team championships.

The meet provided personal redemption for two XU standouts. Ebony Harding of Baton Rouge LA, a three-time runner-up in the GCAC 5,000-meter women's event, who won this year's individual title with a time of 19 minutes, 41.33 seconds. Ray Walston of Atlanta GA, the runner-up in the 2008 8,000-meter men's race, won this year's event at 27:55.18.



LEH Names Dr. White Humanist of the Year



Dr. Michael White

Dr. Michael White '76, has been named 2010 Humanist of the Year by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

White, a renowned jazz clarinetist, bandleader, composer, jazz historian and Xavier music and Spanish educator, was presented the organization's top honor at the 2010 awards ceremony at the Houmas House Plantation and Gardens.

Each year, the LEH honors Louisianians who have made outstanding contributions to the study and understanding of the humanities.

When nominating White for the award, Nick Spitzer, producer and host of the *American Routes* syndicated radio broadcast and Tulane University professor of American studies and anthropology, described White as the "foremost player of traditional New Orleans jazz clarinet alive today."

In addition to having revived, performed and recorded important original repertoire and arrangements by Jelly Roll Morton and the late clarinetist George Lewis, White has created, performed and recorded new songs in traditional style.

"White is also known in the community as a great artist and humanist, always ready to lend his clarinet to a second-line parade, jazz funeral or other occasion; always ready to speak out on the meaning of traditional New Orleans jazz music in our lives and in the recovery of New Orleans culture post-catastrophe," said Spitzer.

Applications Up For Fall Freshman Class

Applications for the freshman class for fall 2010 semester are running 15 percent higher than last year.

That's music to the ears of XU Dean of Admissions Winston Brown, who attributes much of the increase to a growing national interest in the University's varied offerings.

"Applications from local students remain steady, but we are seeing additional interest from prospects from throughout our region and across the country," said Brown. "That makes it more important than ever for high school students who are serious about attending Xavier to apply as early as possible."

Some of the increase can also be directly credited to Xavier's enhanced marketing strategies, including a refined website that offers complete admissions information to prospective students and allows them to take advantage of the University's preferred online application process.

Brown said the Office of Admissions has been aggressive in distributing marketing materials and making personal visits to traditionally-strong recruiting areas.

SEIZE THE DAY: (L-R) Ashley Brumfield of Grand Coteau LA, Delenae Theragood of Los Angeles CA and Domonique Butler of New Orleans take advantage of the annual Mardi Gras Invitational (MGI) Career Fair to access career advice and information from industry recruiters about job openings and summer internships.



Big Easy Awards Honor Music Chair



Dr. John Ware

Dr. John Ware '77, XU professor of music and conductor/music director of the New

Orleans Black Chorale, has been selected to receive the Big Easy Entertainment Award's 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award.

He was honored at the organization's 16th annual Tribute to the Classical Arts Benefit Gala, which supports the Foundation for Entertainment Development and Education.

The designated Rosa Keller Endowed Chair in Music at Xavier, Ware teaches voice, conducting, vocal diction, vocal literature and pedagogy as well as serving as conductor of the XU Concert Choir and Opera Theater. He has served as the department chairman since 1995.

His major commitment to the Greater New Orleans community has been through his work with the New Orleans Black Chorale, which is dedicated to preserving and performing the American Negro Spiritual and the art music of African American composers. In addition to its annual season of concerts, The Black Chorale has performed for New Orleans Mayoral inaugurations, several state and national conventions, Habitat for Humanity and at the 1984 World's Fair.

Ware has been honored for his community work by the Friends of the Amistad Research Center, the local Links Chapter and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Ware has composed a number of choral works for his group at Xavier and for the New Orleans Black Chorale. In March of 2009, Ware premiered *Virtue on the Mountain Top*, music and text written by him in honor of the newly elected President, Barack Obama.



Worming Their Way into the Classroom

When Dr. Peter Barrett first introduced *C. elegans* (worms) to the campus back in 2006, he brought with them the promise of practical, hands-on experience for those students lucky enough to be involved in the Biology's professor's primary research activities.

Now, however, the little creepy crawlers are playing a much bigger role in the education of Xavier students than their diminutive size would indicate. This past fall, Barrett introduced the worms into the Biology Department's Genetics Laboratory course.

Years ago, *Drosophila* (fruit flies) were commonplace in Xavier laboratories. Science students were easily identified as they traveled across campus with their collection

of flies in tow. But as enrollment grew three-fold in the 90s, the cost and storage of the critters belied their benefit. That's when the Department made the decision to switch over to having students do "virtual" crosses on computers. Now, students are doing the crosses with the actual live worms, signaling a return to using whole, living organisms for this purpose.

"The problem there is doing something on a computer is not really the same as working with a living organism, where because it's biological, there's always the possibility of getting something unexpected," said Barrett, who holds two degrees from Harvard University.

"Lab work is an essential part of the learning experience. There really is no substitute for working with living organisms."

Barely visible to the naked eye even when fully grown, the worms can only be seen through high-powered microscopes. To the rescue came the Sherman-Fairchild Foundation, which paid for 14 new stereomicroscopes, without which the lab exercises would have been impossible.

(MICRO)SCOPING IT OUT: Biology professor Dr. Peter Barrett oversees the proper placement of the worms on a petri dish by Ashley Conway of Columbus MS during a Genetics lab class.



HAITI CHERIE: Haitian-born student Ismaelite Saint-Felix (left), a senior political science major now residing in Portland OR, chats with Dr. Pamela Franco, executive associate in the Office of Academic Affairs, at the campus collection point for the University's ongoing earthquake relief fund.



Visit XU online at www.xula.edu for more info, to submit an online application for admission, or make a donation.

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