

## **Introduction**

Xavier University of Louisiana's *University Profile 2008–2009* is a collection of statistical data, charts, and graphs compiled by the Office of Planning and Institutional Research. This summary provides an overview of particularly significant university academic attributes, such as student enrollment and characteristics, retention rates, graduation rates, expenditure per student, faculty distribution, and student/faculty ratios. Historic as well as current information is provided. Census information is based on the fall 2008 enrollment four weeks after the start of the semester.

Xavier is our nation's only historically Black, Catholic university. Founded in 1925 by *Saint Katharine Drexel and the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament*, Xavier is a coeducational institution. The university, located in the heart of New Orleans, is administered by a diverse Board of Trustees composed of religious and lay members committed to its mission — to promote a more just and humane society.

Xavier is composed of the College of Arts and Sciences (17 departments and a Division of Education) and the College of Pharmacy. Xavier offers programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Arts in Teaching, Master of Theology, and Doctor of Pharmacy.

Enrollment for Fall 2008 was 3,236 students, of which 72% are female. Black (Non-Hispanic) students comprised 69.6% of the total headcount; white students, 4%; Asian or Pacific Islander 11.7%; Hispanic and other, 14.7%. The Admissions Office reports that the pool of this year's 778 new freshmen to the university represents 29 states, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands. The average SAT and ACT scores for entering freshmen this year are 935 and 20.6, respectively.

During the academic year, Xavier students receive instruction from 212 (full-time) faculty members of diverse educational backgrounds and professional credentials.

## **Acknowledgments**

This document was produced by the Office of Planning and Institutional Research. We relied heavily on information provided by other offices within the university. We are particularly grateful to Mrs. Avis Stuard (University Registrar), Mr. Winston Brown (Dean of Admissions), Dr. Loren Blanchard (Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs), Mrs. Pearl Algere-Lonian (Assistant Vice President, Scholarship Coordinator & Special Projects), Mrs. Melva Williams and Mr. Oliver Nelson (Office of Technology Administration), and Mr. Calvin Tregre (Senior Vice President for Administration). We acknowledge their support and that of their staffs as well as the student workers in our office.

*Dr. Treva A. Lee, Director for Institutional Research  
Mr. V. Allen Gale, Senior Institutional Research Analyst  
Dr. Nasrin Fatima, Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment  
Dr. Ronald R. Durnford, Vice President for Planning and Institutional Research  
Ms. Hope D. Hayes, Administrative Research Analyst*

## **Mission Statement**

Xavier University of Louisiana, founded by Saint Katharine Drexel and the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, is Catholic and historically Black. The ultimate purpose of the University is to contribute to the promotion of a more just and humane society by preparing its students to assume roles of leadership and service in a global society. This preparation takes place in a diverse learning and teaching environment that incorporates all relevant educational means, including research and community service (*rev., Spring 2009*).