

I. SECTION I

THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

On September 18, 1901, 100 students were on hand for the first day of class at *Southwestern Louisiana Industrial Institute*. They were greeted by Dr. Edwin Lewis Stephens, the school's first president, who had led the transformation of a former sugar cane field into a campus. Two years later, 18 students were the first to graduate from SLII.

Over the next couple of decades, SLII raised admission standards, added faculty, and strengthened the curriculum. In 1921, SLII dropped "Industrial" from its name and awarded its first bachelor's degrees. By the 1930s, the campus had grown to 422 acres and the College enrolled 1,525 students.

Southwestern Louisiana Institute's existence was threatened in the 1940s when enrollment dropped drastically due to World War II. But SLI was chosen as the site for the V-5, V-7 and V-12 military training programs, which drew young officers from across the country and kept the school open.

After the war ended, SLI administrators grappled with a new problem—overcrowding—caused, in large part, by the number of military veterans who took advantage of federal financial assistance to earn academic degrees.

The campus and its academic programs grew during the prosperous 1950s. SLI began to offer master's degrees and became the first all-white, state-supported public college in the South to enroll a black student.

In 1960, SLI was granted university status and changed its name to the *University of Southwestern Louisiana*. In the 1960s, it adopted the nickname "Ragin' Cajuns"® for its athletic teams. Creation of the Computing Center in 1960 brought national attention, since computer science was in its infancy. USL also began offering doctoral degrees in the Sixties.

In the 1970s, Louisiana—particularly Lafayette—enjoyed an Oil Boom. But when that boom disintegrated in the 1980s, university administrators grappled with repeated budget cuts as state revenue dwindled. USL led efforts to diversify Acadiana's economy and a major fund drive raised \$10 million in private gifts that were endowed to provide a steady funding source for scholarships and faculty salary supplements.

During the same period, under the leadership of its fifth and current president Ray P. Authement, the University focused its energies on its roles in research, scholarship, and graduate education.

By 1997, enrollment had grown to a then-record 17,018. A community college system was created in Louisiana in 1997, enabling the university to implement selective admissions two years later.

In 1999, USL changed its name to the *University of Louisiana at Lafayette* as it began its 100th birthday celebration.

Today the University takes its place among the nation's limited number of Carnegie Research Universities with high research activity. With a student body of over 17,000, and a faculty numbering over 550, it offers some seventy-nine baccalaureate, twenty-nine master's, and nine doctoral degree programs.



PRESIDENTS SINCE FOUNDING



Edward L. Stephens	1900-1938
Lether Edward Frazar	1938-1941
Joel L. Fletcher	1941-1946
Clyde L. Rougeou	1966-1974
Ray P. Authement	1974-present

THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

is accredited by the
Commission on Colleges of the
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033-4097
(404) 679-4501
to award Associate, Baccalaureate, Master's, and Doctoral Degrees
and is a member of
Southern University Conference
Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture
American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
Conference of Southern Graduate Schools
Council of Graduate Schools

Accredited Programs

Program	Accrediting Agency
Architecture	National Architectural Accrediting Board
Athletic Training	Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE)
Business Administration	International Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International)
Chemistry	American Chemical Society ^a
Computer Science	Computing Sciences Accrediting Board (CSAB) ^a
Communication	Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications
Dietetics	American Dietetic Association
Education	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education
Emergency Health Science	Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation, of the American Medical Association
Engineering	
Chemical Engineering	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology ^b
Civil Engineering	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology ^b
Electrical Engineering	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology ^b
Mechanical Engineering	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology ^b
Petroleum Engineering	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology ^b
Human Resources	American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS)
Early Childhood Program	National Academy of Early Childhood Programs
Health Information Management	Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in cooperation with the Council on Accreditation of the American Health Information Management Association (COA-AHIMA)
Industrial Design	National Association of Schools of Art and Design
Industrial Technology	National Association of Industrial Technology (NAIT)
Interior Design	National Association of Schools of Art and Design; Council for Interior Design Accreditation
Music	National Association of Schools of Music
Nursing	National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission
Professional Land and Resource Management	American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation ^c Curriculum Approved by the American Association of Petroleum Landmen ^d
Speech Pathology and Audiology	Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology ^e
Teacher Education	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education
Visual Arts	National Association of Schools of Art and Design

^a Accredits only undergraduate programs

^b Accredits either undergraduate or graduate programs but not both for the same program

^c Accredits both undergraduate and graduate programs

^d The national professional association; not an official accrediting agency

^e Accredits only graduate programs

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Information Technology and
EEO Compliance Officer
P. O. Box 41690
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Lafayette, LA 70504
(337) 482-6306 Martin Hall Room 230

Inquiries concerning the application of nondiscrimination policies may also be referred to the Regional Civil Rights Director, Office for Civil Rights, Dallas Office, U.S. Department of Education, 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 2600, Dallas, Texas, 75201; (214) 880-2459; Fax (214) 880-3082; TDD (214) 880-2456; Email: OCR.Dallas@ed.gov

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