



What do students really think about a calendar redesign?

—Pg. 2

CLEP offers alternative to classroom

Frank Johnson
STAFF WRITER

Through a partnership between LSU Shreveport and the Center for Business and Economic Research, students have the ability to bypass some classes that would be normally required as part of degree curriculum.
"LSUS does not accept the College Level Examination Program test credit from other colleges. However, the department of English reached a consensus to allow the CLEP test to be used in lieu of ACT scores for transfer students to allow them to take the Advanced Standing Exam," said Deloris Agbonkhere, administration assistant and administrator of the English composition exam.
The department from which a student is focusing on getting their degree from should be the first point of reference when considering this alternative. However, if a student is unsure which discipline they will pursue, but knows that they have a strong background in a particular subject, they should navigate to the department head of that subject.
However, there are some advantages and disadvantages to this course of action. First, these tests do not show up on a transcript nor do they affect a student's grade point average. The transcript will show only the class the student actually takes. So, if it were an easy

See CLEP, pg. 3



Photo courtesy of Linda Webster

Dr. Nicole Peeler, left, having lunch with Honors Program students on Halloween.

Author visits LSUS, offers advice

Dr. Nicole Peeler, assistant professor of English at Seton Hill University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, revealed the secrets of writing urban fantasy on Oct. 31 at LSU Shreveport. Invited to be the fall 2013 Distinguished Speaker by the Humanities and Social Science Honors Program, Peeler explained to the students how to plot a novel.
"You start with a location," she said, "but it had better be a place you know well."
She solicited suggestions for a setting as she challenged the HONR 201 sophomores to begin the writing process as a group. Discarding London and Berlin and San Francisco and Pittsburgh after asking if any of the students actually knew those cities, Peeler chose New Orleans.
"Urban fantasy allows you to be very creative with your characters, but you want the characters to fit the location," she said. "There is so much you can do with New Orleans and most of you have been there, right?"
Peeler's six-volume "Tempest" series focused on the half-human and half-selkie Jane

True as a lonely outcast resident of a small town in Maine, published by Orbit Books, features a wide range of mythological creatures who live among humans while dealing with their own magical culture.
"I knew quite a bit about mythology but I kept doing research to find unique creatures," she explained. "They needed to have relevance to the place and they needed to be able to interact because urban fantasy is, after all, based on romance."
By 2 p.m., the class had a running start

See AUTHOR, pg. 3

Campus-wide lab upgrades to new technology



Photo by Jennifer Middleton

The University Center's campus-wide lab was upgraded to new, modern computers and equipment.

Jennifer Middleton
STAFF WRITER

Students at LSU Shreveport returned from Fall Break to discover brand new computers in the University Center computer lab. Matthew Parks, campus-wide lab manager, explained the process of getting the new computers. Parks said he approached his boss in October of 2012 with the request.
"I went to my boss, Shelby Keith, and I told him that the printers in this lab were starting to get old, and that we needed to start looking into it," Parks said. "Probably six months later we talked to each other again, and we decided [to get] new printers and new computers for the lab."
Actually getting the money for the upgrade took a while longer.
"I think it was either June or July is when we actually got the money approved

for it," Parks said. "[It was] late July is when we got the computers."
The new computers remained in their boxes for a few months, stacked along the walls of the lab.
This particular upgrade was not campus-wide, though.
The foreign language lab was using computers that were more than half a decade old. Parks said that when the UC set up the new computers, they distributed the older ones, which were still in good condition, to the language lab and other places on campus that needed better computers.
Parks said he is happy about the UC lab's new computers.
"They're awesome," he said. "They're brand new, they're fast, they've got a lot of memory, [and they have] Windows 7, finally. They look great. My student workers did an amazing job setting them up."



Editorial Policy

The information presented in this publication by no means reflects the opinions of the administration or staff of LSUS. *The Almagest* seeks to provide information for the LSUS campus and community; to involve students, faculty and staff; and to provide a public forum for ideas as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. Comments and complaints are welcome and should be addressed to the editor. They must be accompanied by your full name and e-mail address.

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are encouraged. However, the staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, and content. Any letter submitted by a club or organization must be signed by all members of the group or by the group's president. Letters should be e-mailed or submitted to the *Almagest* office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Please type the letter and include your classification and major. *The Almagest* reserves the right not to publish submitted materials. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

Retractions

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, a retraction is a public statement, either in print, or by verbal statement that is made to correct a previously made statement that was incorrect, invalid, or in error. The intent of a public retraction is to correct any incorrect information. *The Almagest* holds all rights if deemed necessary to retract such statements made, and shall, at will. Retraction notices should be made by e-mail or phone.



Students hesitant about calendar shift

An Almagest at LSUS Editorial

Students are likely familiar with the idea to shift to eight-week sessions during the fall and spring semesters by now, whether through previous *Almagest* articles on the subject, word of mouth, having taken a course in this format, or having taken the recent survey on the topic (perhaps repeatedly).

For those not familiar, the pilot program began this semester. The idea is that each fall and spring semester will be split into an A and a B session, each lasting eight weeks. Proponents argue that this will help students graduate faster, as well as help to draw in new students that might otherwise have enrolled elsewhere.

Last semester, the *Almagest* published an editorial as a proponent of this very subject. This semester, while still overall in favor of the idea, the staff feels the need to point out some drawbacks and give voice to what seems to be the majority of students on campus whose opinions seem to be falling through the cracks.

On Monday, the *Almagest* staff and reporters teamed with freshmen in the honors program for a press conference regarding their experience with the new calendar format.

The response was overwhelmingly negative. A few of the freshmen commented that they had participated in the scholarship program extended to those enrolling in the eight-week sessions, but would rather have not received the money and taken sixteen-week courses instead.

The main reasoning behind the negativity was stated as a result of the type of courses taken. Students who were good at math still did well in math classes that followed the new format, students who admitted weakness in math stated that they felt the format did not allow them time to adapt and live up to their potential.

It seems inevitable that eight-week sessions will be implemented in some form or another, however, it seems the push, at least from the information being spread between students, is towards exclusively eight-week sessions and online courses.

That would be a huge mistake.

The stated reason behind the calendar change is to help students, to provide flexibility.

The administration has made it clear that they do wish to hear students' voices and thoughts on the matter, this is evident from the survey be-



Photos by Jessica Ingram

The freshmen honors students, seated at the tables around the edge of the room, voted in response to a reporter's, seated at the interior tables, question: "how many of you would have gone elsewhere if eight-week courses were the only choice?" The vote was nearly unanimous, in favor of enrolling or transferring elsewhere if eight-week courses are mandated as the only option.

ing distributed in several classes.

However, it must be noted that this survey is misleading and therefore not a valid tool for an accurate representation of student opinions.

For instance, question 12 states: "I would like to pursue the opportunity to complete my degree in three years, which would require all courses being offered in an 8 week format." As both Dr. Elisabeth Liebert and a freshman student at the press conference noted, this is absolutely factually inaccurate. This is already possible—difficult, but possible. Students would need to take eighteen hours each spring and fall semester and twelve hours every summer.

For a survey to be valid, it must be written and tested by a third-party, unbiased source. This survey does not seem to meet these requirements and thus, perhaps unintentionally, seems to reveal the bias of its creators.

The decision for a calendar change seems to be working from the top levels of administration down, potentially squashing those located on the lower levels of the food chain—both students and faculty.

Eight-week sessions could be a huge boon to LSU Shreveport, there is no question about

that. Maybe such a calendar will increase enrollment (although the poll taken at the honors press conference would suggest otherwise, it is admittedly too small of a sample pool to be conclusive).

But a bid to increase enrollment must not come at the expense of the quality of students' education.

The calendar redesign is meant to improve students' quality of life and education. So far, it seems that there has not been sufficient evidence that a move to eight-week sessions will do that.

In order to achieve the highest quality of life and education for both students and faculty members it seems a balance must be made.

Eight-week semesters and increased online offerings should be offered in conjunction with traditional sixteen-week face-to-face courses. There is no escaping from the fact that some students will benefit most from a longer term, traditional classroom environment.

The implementation of this plan of action would obviously be difficult. Next week, the *Almagest* will provide a detailed analysis of how this proposal could best be implemented with the greatest benefit and ease of transition to both faculty and students.



Honors students expressed their opinions on the advantages and disadvantages of the eight-week semesters.



VOLUME LXIII, ISSUE 11

Staff Writers
Montana Davis
Corey Drummond
Crystal Dourousseau
Frank Johnson
Iris MacLean
Jennifer Middleton
Ebonie Nelson
Christopher Talerico
Krista Wilson

Executive Editor
Crystal Vandegriff
Managing Editor-Print
Alexandra Meachum
Managing Editor-Video
Zachary Roberson
Photo Editor
Jessica Ingram

Louisiana State University Shreveport
Bronson Hall, Room 344
One University Place
Shreveport, LA 71115
phone/fax: (318) 797-5328
e-mail: almagest@lsus.edu
www.almagestlsus.com



Photo courtesy of Carlos Spaht

Some participants in Spaht’s LAPREP program.

Summer program boasts huge payoff

Christopher Talerico
STAFF WRITER

Not everybody has heard of LSU Shreveport’s summer program for pre-collegiate students, the Louisiana Preparatory Program, but it is one of the few, if not the only, programs to boast a 100 percent high school graduation rate.

LAPREP, started in the summer of 1992, seeks to identify students with mathematical aptitude and provide a summer-enrichment program to foster that ability.

“I’m a spiritual fella, a religious fella, so I had kinda reached the top of my ladder as far as my professional career. I wanted to do more; I wanted to do something for my community to help people,” said Dr. Carlos Spaht, LAPREP director.



Photo by Christopher Talerico

Dr. Carlos Spaht, LAPREP director

And help he has. The most astonishing statistic tied to the program is high school dropout rates. In 22 years, no current or former LAPREP participant has been discovered to have dropped out of high school.

Couple that with the fact that all 370 of the program’s first participants have enrolled in an institution of higher education and you are left with a successful program that defies all expectations.

These statistics are of primary concern to Spaht who was directly motivated by an anecdotal story told to him by a previous student who was a teacher at Middle Magnet.

“One teacher that I taught...told me about a [seventh-grade student] named Tony. He was a leader of the class and the most intelligent student in the class,” Spaht said. “Three years later she said, ‘you remember that [student] I was telling you about? Well, he’s dropped out of school, joined a gang, and is on drugs.’ At that time, I knew I had to try to do something.”

The LAPREP program is so successful that it was one of five programs included on a nationwide ABC feature story.

That success has fueled the expansion of the LAPREP program to include other summer-enrichment programs designed for students both pre- and post-middle school.

However, the LAPREP program, like most other academic endeavors in Louisiana, has fallen on hard times. Spaht said that after the economic collapse of 2008, the program now spends most of its “down time” securing funds for the coming year.

Despite the numerous agencies donating money and the numerous awards, both local and national, awarded to the program for excellence, LAPREP is in a constant struggle to keep its head above water.

This dynamic has created a bit of instability for the program, which regularly modifies its offerings depending on the funds raised.

The newest addition to the program, a crash-course in financial literacy – which includes instruction in how to manage a stock portfolio - had to be dropped last year due to a lack of funding.

But Spaht, who literally wrote the book used for the financial literacy program’s instruction, is optimistic that there will be enough funds to reintroduce the financial literacy segment of the program this summer.

The funding difficulties do not get Spaht down, however, as he hopes to expand the program even further.

“The long-term goal is to expand the program statewide. But right now, our goal is to keep our current programs alive,” Spaht said.

AUTHOR cont.

on a love triangle murder-mystery featuring a quartet of unusual creatures set in the French Quarter.

The Jane True series has plenty of love triangles and murders as it moves from one side of the Atlantic to the other across the arc of all six books. Peeler, who earned her Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and her B.A. with distinction from Boston University, was well-placed to make the most of both settings. Coming to Shreveport in 2008 to join the English faculty, the first novel was already in the hands of a literary agent.

“I had no idea how to market a novel,” she told the group gathered in the Noel Library at 4:00 pm for a public reading and book signing, “so I Googled ‘How to market a novel.’ Google told me to find an agent, so I Googled ‘How to find an agent.’ It worked.”

With Peeler’s background in writing for the popular market, she left LSUS in 2010 for Seton Hill University which offers a Master of Fine Arts degree in Writing Popular Fiction. She’s now working on a new series, set in Pittsburgh. She blogs at nicolepeeler.com and has a busy Twitter feed.

The Distinguished Speaker series is sponsored by the HSS Honors Program in the fall and co-sponsored with the Shreveport English Speaking Union in the spring. For further information, contact Dr. Linda Webster at 797-5376 in the Department of Arts and Media at LSUS.

CLEP cont.

class that a student wanted to use to raise their GPA, the test would not be in their best interest.

“It’s a really good opportunity to get credit quickly and efficiently, but it’s going to take some pretty serious study,” Dr. Cynthia Sisson said. “Get a copy of the syllabus, if possible borrow a textbook from someone who’s actually taken the class, talk with the professor.”

Most tests are multiple choice and use scantrons. Students also have the option of seeing their scores immediately, except for an essay exam. Once submitted, exams cannot be cancelled. Multiple exams are available and will vary by department and subject matter. Exams are ten dollars per exam per level. Freshmen may take the exam for free.

However, these tests are not very well known.

“I have no clue what that is,” said Britney Williams, junior, biology.

After a brief explanation, Williams laughed and said she’d definitely be interested in the exams.

“Bypass algebra and trigonometry and go straight to calculus,” said Williams.

Williams’s sentiments were echoed by several students.

PELICAN BRIEFS

Classical concert comes to University Center

Classical musicians Rodrigo Garciarroyo, tenor, and Mario Alberto Hernandez, piano, will pay a visit to LSU Shreveport next Wednesday during Common Hour.

The concert, sponsored by the James Smith Noel Foundation, will be held in the University Center Theater.

The performance is set to be a low-key, intimate affair comprised of the works of classical music pieces and composers.

For those unable to attend during Common Hour, the performance will be repeated that evening at Artspace, 107 Texas St.

For more information about the performance, contact Robert Leitz by phone at 318-798-4161.

Would a rose of any color look as sweet?

Friday’s College of Arts and Sciences lecture is set to be a very colorful discussion. Dr. Alexander Mikaberidze, associate professor of history, will discuss color as both a naturally occurring phenomenon and a social construct.

The discussion, scheduled for Common Hour Friday in room 335 of the science building, will be entitled “Pigments through the Ages: the Making of the Color Blue.”

The discussion will, as the title suggests, focus on the color blue’s social history, especially as it regards European history.

LSUS to honor veterans with annual ceremony

Retired Army Maj. Ronald Chatelain will serve as the guest speaker for a commemorative ceremony to honor veterans Nov. 11 during Common Hour.

The program will be held around the flag pole located in the center of the LSU Shreveport campus.

Students and faculty are also being encouraged to participate in a donation drive sponsored by Operation Support Our Troops.

LSUS hosts second LSU vs. Alabama tailgate

Student Activities will be hosting its second annual LSU vs. Alabama football tailgate party Nov. 9, beginning at 4 p.m. at the LSU Shreveport baseball field.

At 7 p.m., the game will be broad cast live on a large screen.

Admission is free, though attendees are encouraged to bring some change for concessions and activities. Attendees may also want to bring blankets or chairs to watch the game.

Student development helps interview skills

Next Tuesday, the department of student development will help students learn more about an important topic: interview skills and networking.

The presentation will stress preparedness for job interviews, as well as tips to help students out on interview day. The program will also include helpful tips for students with regards to networking.

The presentation will be held Tuesday from 3 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. in room 218 of the administration building.

LSUS hosts fifth annual cricket tournament



Photos by Jessica Ingram

The LSU Purple Tigers and the Monroe Premier League cricket teams faced off at 2 p.m. Sunday in the LSU Shreveport cricket tournament finals. The finals were held behind the LSUS tennis courts, where cricket teams practice year-round. This is the fifth annual cricket tournament hosted by LSUS.

The cricket tournament is put together by the India Studies department.

“The mission of the India Studies program is to raise awareness of India and all things Indian on campus and in the surrounding community. Cricket is wildly popular sport in India and the fortunes of the Indian national cricket team are closely followed by hundreds of millions of fans in India and abroad,” said Sanjay T. Menon, director of the India Studies program.

Menon also said that LSUS was represented by the cricket teams.

“One current LSUS student – Kurian Joseph - is playing for the LSU Purple Tigers, which is mostly made up of medical students and faculty at LSUHSC. The Monroe team is composed of students and professionals from Monroe and Ruston,” Menon said.

Photos, clockwise from top: LSU Purple Tigers wore blue and red uniforms, Monroe Premier League wore orange and blue uniforms; an LSU Purple Tiger steps up to bat; the two teams face off on the field; an LSU Purple Tiger makes a difficult hit; teammates watch the action on the field.



LSUS professor helped create the history of computers

Corey Drummond
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Gary Boucher, professor of chemistry/physics, has led an interesting journey through life with a knowledge of the earliest microcomputers in history and encountered the head of Microsoft, Bill Gates.

Boucher has steadily, and incidentally, acquired an impressive suite of processors and circuit boards that he has displayed in the science building. One of his most important prizes is the Altair 8800, the first microcomputer people could buy for personal use.

“In 1975, an article was published in one of the early electronic magazines where somebody had come up with a microcomputer. This was a new term, nobody had microcomputers. There was a company called Minnesota Instruments and Telemetry Systems that produced the first, commercially available microcomputer, which was the Altair 8800,” Boucher said.

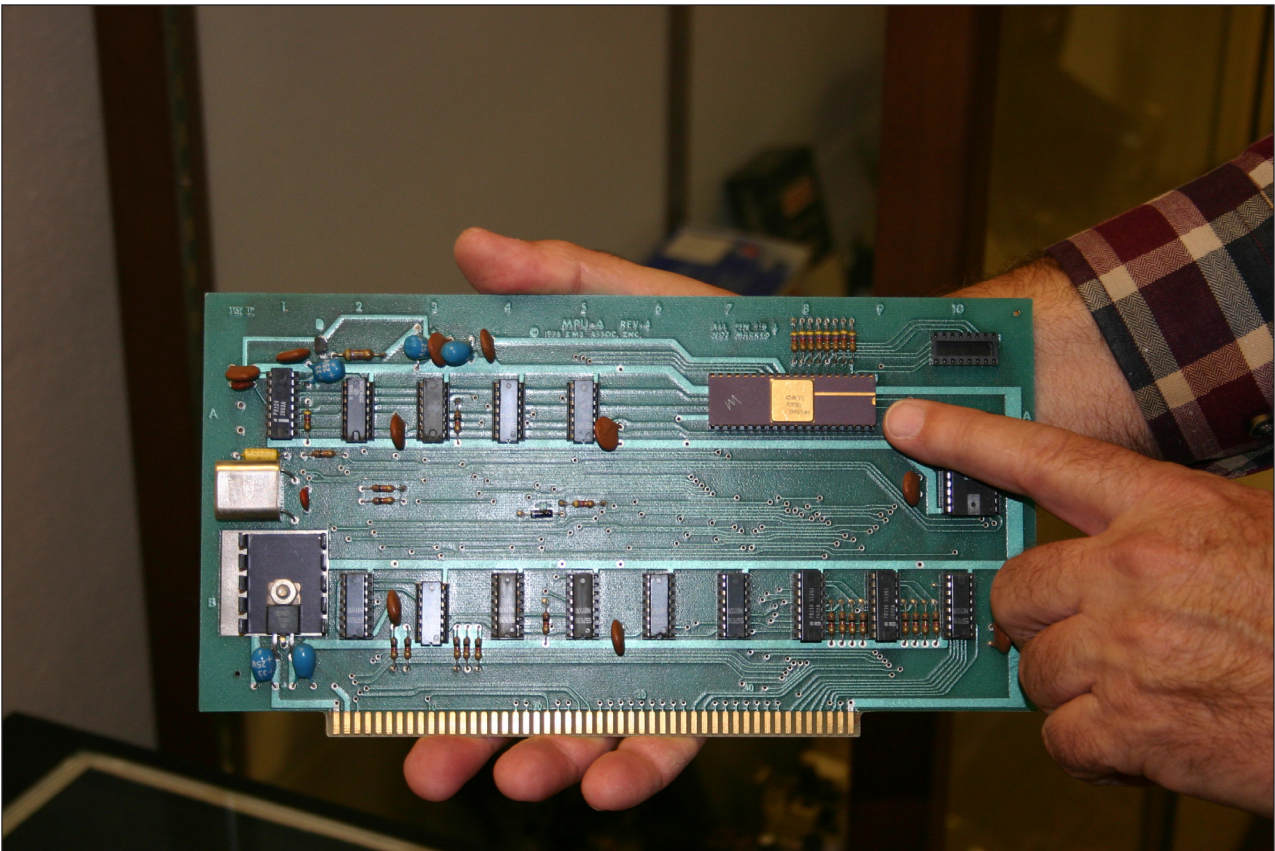
Microcomputers are an ancient and archaic form of modern society’s now near-universally owned laptops. They rose up after the introduction of the minicomputer, which soon became obsolete. Microcomputers paved the way for the eventual creation of laptops.

While initially used by hobbyists, and for engineering development, they became popular and soon sparked a booming industry.

Boucher attended a convention in 1976 hosted by MITS in Albuquerque, New Mexico. It was here Boucher spoke with Bill Gates for the first time.

“He had a little fledgling company operating in the same building as MITS called – well, let me see if I can think of it - Microsoft. He had just founded Microsoft with Paul Allen and I listened to his address to the group at the convention,” Boucher said.

Boucher got to speak with Gates about what they were each working on. A union had established between Gates



Photos by Corey Drummond

Photo of a circuit board used in early microcomputers.

bought one in kit form. Before, when a microcomputer system was purchased, the buyer had to put the system together with each individual part. Boucher had an undergraduate degree in electronic engineering technology and was working on his master’s degree.

“

[Bill Gates] had a little fledgling company operating in the same building as MITS called–well, let me see if I can think of it–Microsoft. He had just founded Microsoft with Paul Allen and I listened to his address to the group at the convention.

- Dr. Gary Boucher

”

He had no trouble putting the system together with help of his undergraduate degree. Boucher was familiar with the system and knew how to solder. After constructing the machine, he spent time on the phone to clarify instructions on various software problems. Boucher would frequently speak with either Paul Allen or Bill Gates to work on any specific problems.

“When I graduated in 1976 with my master’s degree, I moved to Houston and opened up a business. I founded a company called Microtex Inc. and I worked down there

from 1976 to 1980. We built machines, computers, and sold numerous products. I got into writing commercial software in the earliest operating systems,” Boucher said.

Microtex Inc. started selling the IMS Associates machine called the IMSAI. This was another of the first microcomputers in history. Boucher still has an IMSAI, which is part of his display in the science building. He also has many of the circuit boards associated with the machine.

Eventually, Boucher moved back to his hometown of Springhill, Louisiana and began running another business. For years, he wrote software for commercial use on several different microcomputers and ran the business while the industry changed.

The entire microcomputer market before 1980 was constantly changing based on new firms hoping to compete in the business. According to Boucher, around 65 different manufacturers were trying to break into the industry, each with its own microcomputer systems and software. This made the machines difficult and confusing to use for consumers.

At the time, no company could gain any traction in the market. There was no standard machine that could anchor the microcomputer industry. Not long after Boucher left the market, International Business Machines made a claim hoping for at least two percent of the industry.

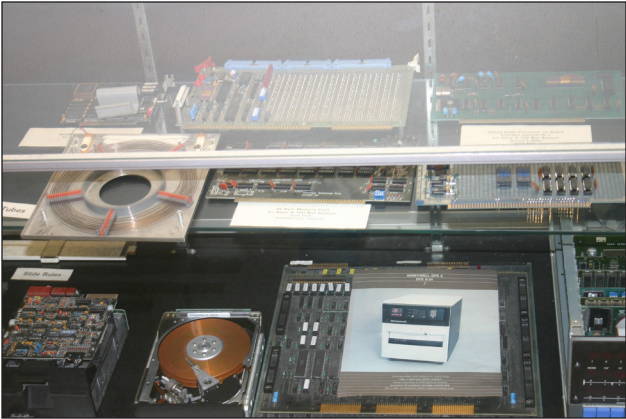
They received help from Gates, who made their machine the standard in the business. Through their own mistakes, Gates had control of the system software and could sell it to anyone he preferred, allowing him to make a significant profit.

Boucher has kept the machines and parts throughout his life and decided to display them outside his office. He wishes to share the history of computers with any who wish to observe.

Dr. Claiborne Sharp, adjunct instructor of computer science, is a friend of Boucher. He is proud of Boucher’s display of tech and feels that is makes for good reminder of how far we have come.

“You can see just how far things have progressed in forty years. You look at the Altair clone computer and realize that if Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak had not seen one back in 1977, Apple computer might not have been created,” Claiborne said.

Boucher teaches multiple physics-based courses at LSU Shreveport, as well as two of the engineering courses required by the new petroleum engineering curriculum.



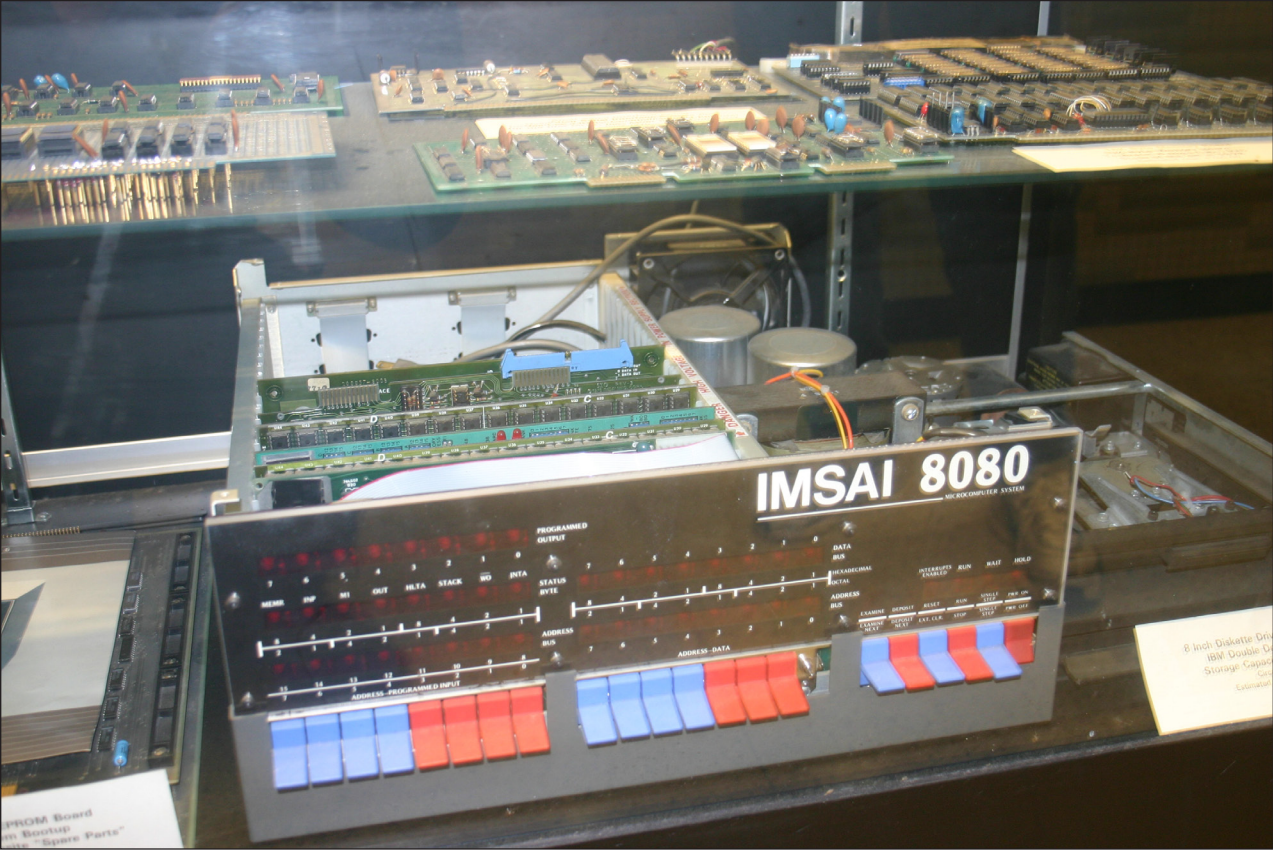
The display outside of Boucher’s office.

and MITS while he was enrolled in Harvard. Ed Roberts, the head of MITS, asked Gates to write software for the company’s new line of microcomputers after hearing that he was experienced with programming.

Gates told Boucher about how he was worried the entire flight to the Albuquerque convention that the code he had written was faulty and wouldn’t work. Of course, he had gotten it right and it loaded without a hitch.

“I would have loved to have bought stock in his corporation, now that I have 20/20 hindsight. I could be a billionaire by now,” Boucher said, laughing.

After the Altair 8800 became available, Boucher



The IMSAI, one of the earliest microcomputers in the industry, part of Boucher’s collection.



An early computer processor.

William Pederson explores fascination with Lincoln

The Almagest invites you to get to know your professors through weekly professor profiles.

Krista Wilson
STAFF WRITER

The third floor of Bronson Hall in LSU Shreveport shows the mark of one man’s passion. Dr. William Pederson strongly believes in democracy and how Abraham Lincoln helped instill this into American helped instill this into American politics and the international community.

Pederson is a professor and director of history/social sciences and began learning more about former President Lincoln while in graduate school. His fascination started when he became a part of the Triennial Conferences in 1992. The conference is held every three years and they start with the best president and work their way down.

“Lincoln has become the standard for which other presidents are judged in the conference,” Pederson said. “Just by putting the conference together I learned a lot more about Abraham Lincoln that I had ever known up until that time. Then I gradually became more and more interested [in Lincoln].”

Pederson said that in 1993 he applied for the Louisi-

ana Endowment for the Humanities grant, for an opportunity to teach high school during the summer. He received it, and this was the first time he taught solely on Lincoln. Then in 1994 Pederson was involved in starting an annual Lincoln lecture series. This required Pederson to study more about him.

“At that first conference there was a guy named Frank Williams. One of the people I contacted said you cannot have a Lincoln conference without this guy,” Pederson said. “So he came and as a result of that we became big friends.”

Pederson said Williams owns the largest private-sector of books on Lincoln. This inspired Pederson to begin a collection on Lincoln memorabilia. As a child he collected stamps, so he decided to collect ones of Lincoln from other countries.

“I thought it would be a small collection and wouldn’t take much time,” Pederson said. “That was a major mistake, because I started doing this in about 2000. Now I have something like thirty albums of Lincoln postage stamps from outside the United States, and that has become the basis for us starting a Lincoln collection [at LSUS].”



Photos by Krista Wilson

Dr. William Pederson, professor and director of history/social sciences



Pederson’s Lincoln collection at LSUS.

Pederson said he found that the Lincoln’s legacy outside of the United States was the least researched. In order to inform his students more, he challenges them during the Washington semester to find out more about Lincoln’s influence in other countries.

“I’ve always taken one to six students every odd year to an international conference,” Pederson said. “In 2011 I took six people to Brazil to present papers on Abraham Lincoln’s legacy outside of the United States, and then again this year, I’m taking possibly three students to India to do the same thing.”

Every other year Pederson will take students to present at different places in the United States. Pederson said he tries to encourage his students to learn more about international affairs in regards to Lincoln’s legacy outside of the United States.

“My favorite part about teaching is the Washington semester,” Pederson said. “Seeing it in a picture doesn’t do it justice, so when I get to see the excitement in the faces of the students, that’s kind of fun.”

Pederson has been with LSUS since 1981 and in 1983 the American Studies Program began. Then in 1992 is when he started focusing more on Lincoln.

Another reason Pederson said he wanted to speak on Lincoln more was due to students beginning to think of Napoleon as the greatest leader while he was actually a dictator. Pederson wanted students to know about a true leader, so in 1995 he started finding ways to include Lincoln in at least one of his lectures per semester.

LSUS Pilots score victory in season home opener

Montana Davis
STAFF WRITER

The no. 2 LSU Shreveport basketball team achieved a victory at their home opener, despite losing the previous night. The Pilots took a ten point lead against the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, leaving the game 93-83.

Saturday night at The Dock, the men’s basketball team fought long and hard for a ten point gain against the USAO Drovers. The game went back and forth between scoreboard leads.

The Pilots came out strong during the first half but USAO managed to push the game to within six points before half time. The Drovers’ leading scorer for the night was Tyler Reynolds, leading the entire game with 24 points.

By the second half, USAO’s Kennis White hit two free throws that tied the game at seventy with 7:10 left on the clock. This seemed to not even faze the Pilots as they cranked out a thirteen point response by the end of the second half.

Joseph James finished with a whopping 21 points and led in scoring points for the Pilots.

James, 5-7 junior, also hit 1 of his five three’s during the first half, giving the team a fourteen point advantage.

Not far behind, Brandon Davis finished the game by scoring 20 points and collecting eight rebounds.

Wil Nelson also contributed for the Pilots finish-



Photo courtesy of The Core Four

Both teams line up for a free throw attempt.

ing with fifteen points and ten rebounds, and Kenny Stewart finished with eight rebounds and ten points.

Tevin Hall scored fourteen points for the Pilots while Mark Polittle gave six assists and scored seven points.

The men’s basketball team will be playing on No-

vember 11 against former Red River Athletic Conference rival, South Western Assemblies of God, in Waxahachie, Texas.