



May 17, 2004

Alumni and Friends:

Here is the latest *Good News* from ULM. After reading this e-mail I hope you will forward it everyone on your ULM Buddy List. Each time we add an alumnus or friend to this list, we help spread the *good news* about our University.

### **Staff Recognized for Their Years of Service at ULM**

The first ever Staff Rewards and Recognition Program was recently held at the University of Louisiana at Monroe in Brown Auditorium. The program honored more than 290 classified employees who have given 5 or more years of service to the university. This event marked the first time the classified employees have been honored in such a way. ULM President James Cofer said, "The employees honored today have served the university for decades, and their experience is invaluable as we move the university ahead. I speak on behalf of the entire university when I say, 'Thank you.'"

ULM Vice President for Business Affairs Dr. Nick Bruno was on stage to present the employees with their awards. The 15 employees recognized for their 30 years or more of service received a rosewood desk clock and a lapel pin. Twenty-four employees honored for 25 years or more of service received a ULM watch and a pin, and 50 employees honored for 20 years or more of service received a plaque and a pin.

One of the employees honored was Alma Sewell. She has worked at ULM since 1972. Sewell has spent a majority of that time in the College of Arts and Sciences as an Administrative Specialist One. She has helped coordinate behind the scenes office work for over three decades yet says she did not plan on being at ULM for over 30 years. "I started so young, I never thought I would stay here that long, but I have really enjoyed it. It has been fun. The interaction with students, faculty and staff here has made it worthwhile."

### **ULM Accounting Students Learn From Internship in Toronto**

Seven accounting students from the University of Louisiana at Monroe's Department of Accounting spent their spring semester in Toronto, Canada as part of an international internship opportunity. The students worked for Ernst & Young, the second largest CPA firm in the world.

The internship program required the participating students to spend approximately three months in Toronto, Canada. The students left for Toronto in February. They then had a few days to settle into their new surroundings then spent approximately a week in intense training. They spent the remainder of their time preparing expatriate tax returns. Expatriate tax returns are tax returns that must be filed by U.S. citizens who are residing and working outside the U.S.

Each year, Ernst & Young pays travel costs for the student interns. Additionally, Ernst & Young provides accommodations, insurance coverage, and a weekly monetary stipend for the

interns during their stay. Though the primary purpose of the internship is to provide real-world work experience for the interns, Ernst & Young also tries to ensure that the students receive a valuable cultural experience as well. The company generally sends each intern to at least one major sporting event. Interns during the spring semester of 2003 were taken to a Toronto Blue Jays baseball game and a Toronto Maple Leafs hockey game. Numerous other opportunities are provided for the interns to network with other accounting professionals and enjoy the experience of living in a large metropolitan Canadian city.

### **ULM Doctoral Student Wins Award at Research Day**

Sushma R. Singh, a doctoral student in the laboratory of Dr. Karen Briski, professor of pharmacology, took the top award for the “best poster presented by a graduate student” at the annual Neuroscience Research Day on May 7th, sponsored by LSU Health Science Center-Shreveport Department of Pharmacology.

Twenty-nine student posters, including four from ULM’s School of Pharmacy Department of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences, participated in this competition. The event is intended to showcase neuroscience research activities along the I-20 corridor.

### **Undergraduate Student Awarded for Research**

Shenouda S. Yacoub, a ULM undergraduate working with Dr. Khalid El Sayed, assistant professor of basic pharmaceutical sciences, received a \$2500 award from the American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP). Yacoub competed with other students on a national level, submitting a proposal entitled “Development of the Marine Triterpene Sipholanes as Angiogenesis Modulators.” The ASP will announce his name, along with other winners on their website, [www.phcog.org](http://www.phcog.org).

Pharmacognosy is the science of finding useful drugs from natural products, such as plants, microbes and marine invertebrates. Yacoub, along with Dr. El Sayed, are trying to isolate new anticancer compounds from marine sponges. Recently, Yacoub has isolated one new, and two known natural products from Red Sea sponges, all of which show positive signs of anticancer.

### **ULM Alumni Travel Schedule**

Before our next Good News e-mail is sent to you, your Alumni Association will have hosted events in the following locations:

#### **➤ May 23rd – Austin, Texas**

Join fellow alumni in support of our university. For complete details on all our events, please view the alumni calendar located on the ULM home page.

<http://www.ulm.edu/cgi-bin/alumni.pl>

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**GOOD NEWS** is e-mailed around the 15th and 30th of each month by your ULM Alumni Association. This e-mail contains a brief sampling of all the *good news* surrounding our university. For a complete listing of all of the *good news*, please visit the ULM web site at

[www.ulm.edu](http://www.ulm.edu) If you would like to be removed from this list, please contact Tommy Walpole (contact information is below). Thanks for your continuing support of ULM and I hope you'll help spread the *good news*.

**Good News Count: 1003**