



Groundbreaker

Newsletter

March 2004

Published for the Alumni, Students, and Friends of the ULM School of Construction

www.ulm.edu/construction



ULM Gets Approval To Develop \$50 Million Student Living Project

The University of Louisiana at Monroe and Dallas-based JPI, one of the nation's leading student housing and luxury apartment companies, have joined forces on a \$50 million student living project that will provide new apartment- and suite-style on-campus student housing and renovate some existing housing in two phases. A comprehensive management contract for 1,700 on-campus beds is included in the agreement. The project was approved by the Louisiana Board of Supervisors at their regular meeting held in Baton Rouge on January 9, 2004.

Initial plans call for JPI Campus Quarters to renovate Ouachita and Masur halls on the ULM campus and to demolish six student housing buildings constructed in the 1960s and 1970s to make way for new Art Deco-style buildings. Demolition is expected to begin in May 2004 for the apartment portion of the project, which is planned to be ready for students to occupy in the fall of 2005. The suite-style student living project will follow with occupancy planned for the fall of 2006. JPI Campus Quarters will also provide comprehensive management services on an ongoing basis for ULM's entire on-campus housing program, which totals 1,700 beds.

"ULM will have a new look designed to mirror the architectural styling of the ULM Library—our signature building," ULM President James Cofer said. "ULM's \$50 million investment in residential life shows our continued commitment to putting our students' needs first."

"We're proud to be a part of this exciting development project, which will ultimately replace 90% of ULM's student housing as well as to receive ULM's vote of confidence in an ongoing management contract," said Jim Truitt, JPI

Campus Quarters executive vice president and regional partner.

ULM Vice President for Business Affairs Dr. Nick Bruno said that the ULM campus' unique feature, the bayou, played an important role in the development of the new design. "Along with this housing development, a centrally located park will be constructed on the western bank of Bayou

DeSiard featuring both an outdoor amphitheater and student recreation areas," Dr. Bruno said. "While we are still in the developmental stage of this plan, we are looking at options to house retail operations for the convenience of our students. The appearance, accessibility, and extensive change to this campus will be quite a renaissance for our students and the entire

"ULM's \$50 million investment in residential life shows our continued commitment to putting our students' needs first." ULM President James E. Cofer

community."

ULM also has plans to renovate the Student Union Building and the WigWam, adding yet another element of change to the look of the campus. ULM is asking the Student Government Association to get involved in the remodeling process by surveying fellow students about what types of food they want in the new Student Union Building.

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MARCH 2004

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Dr. Keith A. Parker

"Our university is moving in a very positive direction. Our campus is in the process of reorganizing and putting on a new face."

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear Alumni and Friends,

The 2003 fall semester has been a very active one.

Our new faculty members, Bill Normand and Greg Smith, have survived their first semester. Each has truly demonstrated his dedication to continuing the legacy of quality instruction that characterizes the history of the School of Construction. Additionally, each has become actively involved with our student organizations. We look forward to a long and fruitful relationship with each one. Additionally, we are pleased to announce Connie Waterman as our new secretary. As those of you who have met her can testify, Connie is an excellent addition to our team.

We have been on the road with the university recruiters promoting the School of Construction. Recruiting is of major importance to our program

and our university as a whole. When you are given the opportunity to speak to students about their future plans, be sure to keep our university in mind.

We initiated a major fundraising effort this past year. Many of you have responded and we thank you for your help. For those of you who have not gotten around to helping, it's never too late.

Our university is moving in a very positive direction. Our campus is in the process of reorganizing and putting on a new face. We now have a new bookstore and will soon have new apartment- and suite-style on-campus student housing. Keep an eye on the ULM website, www.ulm.edu, to see this wonderful transformation.

Dr. Keith A. Parker,
Director, ULM School of Construction

\$ 50 Million Student Living Project Rendering

Northeast Drive towards Library



THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT MONROE
New Student Housing



FACULTY UPDATES

Professional Development

Dr. Keith Parker was elected 2004 vice-president of the Association of Louisiana Utility Councils. Dr. Parker will serve as the president of the Association in 2005.

Dr. Hollis Bray was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE), one of the accrediting bodies for construction programs throughout the nation. Dr. Bray has been actively involved with the ACCE since 1988, chairing accreditation teams and serving on the Accreditation and the Development Committees.

Bobby Ensminger will receive his Ph.D. in Education at the 2004 spring commencement of the Louisiana Baptist University.

William Normand was inducted into the construction honor society *Sigma Lambda Chi* in October 2003.

Dr. Keith Parker was a guest speaker at the 2003 Damage Prevention Convention held October 8-11 in Minneapolis, Minn., where he presented his paper entitled "Damage Prevention Tools for the Future."

Dr. Keith Parker, Dr. Hollis Bray, and Dr. David Manry attended the ACCE Summer Conference held July 23-26 in Portland, Ore.

William Normand and Greg Smith attended the ASC Fall Educators' Conference on September 24-27 in Dallas, Tex.

Dr. Keith Parker attended the CETF Summit on October 15 in New Orleans, La.

Dr. Keith Parker attended the Ethics in Engineering Conference on October 15-17 in New Orleans, La.

School Welcomes Two New Assistant Professors

William "Bill" Normand joined the School of Construction faculty as an assistant professor in August 2003. Originally from Shreveport, La., Normand received his bachelor's degree in Sociology from LSU Shreveport in 1975, and obtained his master's of science in Architecture with a Construction Management option from Virginia Tech in 2000. Normand has extensive experience in construction education and has developed and taught numerous workshops for the industry on behalf of national construction organizations such as the AGC, the National Mechanical Contractors Association, and the National Electrical Contractors Association. Since 1986, Normand has been working intensively with the ACCE -American Council for Construction Education- chairing numerous committees and serving as its president for two years. Normand's interests include construction safety and particularly behavior-related safety. Normand will be teaching construction materials, architectural drafting, and environmental construction, as well as light construction techniques, construction documents, and construction management in the future.



Bill Normand

This past fall semester Greg Smith returned to the School of Construction as a full-time assistant professor. Smith received his bachelor of science in Construction from the University of Louisiana at Monroe (then NLU) in 1990, and received his master's degree in Industrial Psychology from Louisiana Tech in 2002. Smith has extensive experience within the construction industry including a very strong background in residential and light commercial construction. While working for Breck Construction Company, Inc., Smith served as the project superintendent over the ULM Airway Science Building, which was completed in 2002. In the spring semester of 2002, Smith came back to the School of Construction to teach "Introduction to Heavy Techniques" as an adjunct instructor. Smith's research interests include developments in materials and techniques. Smith will be teaching construction techniques, documents, and surveying.



Greg Smith

Welcome

On October 1, 2003, the School of Construction welcomed Constance "Connie" Waterman as its newest secretary. Connie previously worked as the assistant coordinator of special facilities at ULM and is a great addition to the School of Construction. For any question about the school, you can contact Connie at (318) 342-1860.



ULM President
James E. Cofer

*"You can expect
ULM's
accomplishments
to mount, our
prestige to grow,
and our students
to pursue
promising careers
and lead fruitful
lives."*

James E. Cofer

A YEAR IN REVIEW

By Dr. James E. Cofer, President
The University of Louisiana at Monroe

When we look back ten years from now, we will see 2003 as the year the University of Louisiana at Monroe began a new era of growth and eminence. Like the 19th century patent clerk who declared that, "everything that can be invented has," we will all be astonished at how much we accomplish working together.

Last year saw the first increase in enrollment in eight years. That success happened because everyone – alumni, students, faculty, and staff – worked together. An increase in enrollment means that students see how fast ULM is moving ahead, and they want to be a part of it. It's exciting, and whether you're visiting campus for the first time or work here every day, you can feel it.

Even more importantly, students sense a renewed focus on them. Our entire faculty and staff labor to make our university ideal in every detail for pursuing a great education. As evidence of that, we enlarged our faculty-student mentoring program, Emerging Scholars, to include 100 students, giving them an educational opportunity unparalleled by any university in Louisiana. We also created the School of Visual and Performing Arts. As part of that, Paulo Fazioli paid us a visit from Italy for a concert featuring two of his famous Fazioli grand pianos. ULM is the only university that houses two of these master creations. We also disbursed \$400,000 more in scholarships this year than last, made registration more convenient by moving it online, and bought new computers for the residence halls.

Those outside Monroe see the progress we're making, too. SACS restored our accreditation and cleared us until 2009. The state legislature showed their confidence in ULM by investing an additional \$1.5 million in the pharmacy program.

We continue to make rapid physical improvements to the campus, including the recent announcement of a \$50 million investment in a new residence community for students. This year, we also opened the state-

of-the-art Biedenharn Recital Hall, remodeled Sandal Hall for a new bookstore and coffee shop, and created wireless technology zones around campus. Students see so much promise in the future of the campus that they got involved by funding a project to remodel the Student Union Building. Like all of our building projects, students will have input from the very beginning through completion.

It was obvious at the Hanging of the Greens and Lighting of the Christmas Tree, which was attended by hundreds of people, that students, prospective students, and the entire northeast Louisiana community have taken notice of the renewed spirit on our campus, something they most readily see in the physical appearance.

Hope does not mean simply wishing that good things will happen. It means committing to the pursuit of those good things, and having confidence that we will attain them. Here at ULM, we continue to pursue excellence in every endeavor. That pursuit requires much hard work and many difficult choices. We are always prioritizing and being creative – trying to squeeze 25 hours into a day and 105 pennies out of a dollar. Some of our efforts are visible, such as having a cleaner, safer, and better lit campus, and achieving the highest increase in student satisfaction of any institution in Louisiana. Others are not so visible, but may be even more important, such as the change we have inspired in the way everyone feels about ULM.

This year will be even better as we reach out to more students through distance and online instruction and the possible exploration of the service learning concept. Imagine where we will be if 2004 is as productive as 2003.

Our university will not retreat to an ivory tower where we can cut ourselves off from the communities around us. We will continue our strong presence in the economic development initiatives of the region. We will also continue to engage the "Twin Cities" in ways old and new, and will be asking community groups to make their homes on our campus once again. We are an integral part of northeast Louisiana – our economy, our lives, our future. You can expect ULM's accomplishments to mount, our prestige to grow, and our students to pursue promising careers and lead fruitful lives.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

This semester, the guest of our Alumni Spotlight column is a graduate of the class of 1971. Richard Nelson grew up in Lake Providence, La. "My grandfather was a builder, one of my uncles was an estimator and another one owned a small highway construction company," Nelson recalls. "So, as my mother says, I was born with sawdust in my veins."

Nelson originally went to LSU to study. "But their construction department was not open in 1969 so I had to transfer to Northeast Louisiana University — the name had just been changed from Northeast Louisiana State College," Nelson recalls. "It was the best move of my life! NLU had the only construction curriculum in the state. I studied under some excellent professors and ultimately graduated in 1971."

Today Richard Nelson is the vice president of Blair Design & Construction, Inc. "Since our company is part of a larger company, I basically run the construction company. I work as a chief administrator and chief estimator. All of the project managers report to me."

Blair Design & Construction, Inc., is 32 years old and does 12 to 15 million dollars a year in sales. The company specializes in commercial work, mostly in the health care and retail area. It is part of a group of companies, with the corporate office in Altoona, Pa. Blair Industries owns a national sign company, a large electrical company, and a fixture company in addition to the construction company.

"Our company is a member of the AGC. We do a lot of retail remodel and some ground up. Last year we did two new "Toys R Us" stores with

Richard Nelson, '71 Vice-President, Blair Design & Construction, Inc.

the new Jefferies floor plan. We also built new clinics for Renal Care Group and Davita."

While at school, Nelson was very involved in the student chapter of the AGC. "We had a very active chapter and were always doing something," Nelson said. "In 1970, I got permission from Thurman Potts to write the other student chapters and host a meeting of student AGC members at the 1970 AGC convention. About a dozen people were present. We met in a hotel room. As far as I know, that was the first student AGC meeting ever held at a national convention."

"Since I have worked in the construction management field for 31 years, everything I know is based on the grounding I got from ULM. My advice to students is simple: study hard, work hard and enjoy your profession."

After graduation, and a brief stay in the military, Nelson went to work in Dallas for Luther Hill and Associates, Inc., now called Hill and Wilkerson. Nelson spent the first three years of his career in the field as a project administrator and assistant superintendent. For the next three years Nelson worked as a project manager, and then

went into upper management.

"Since I have worked in the construction management field for 31 years, everything I know is based on the grounding I got from ULM. My advice to students is simple: study hard, work hard and enjoy your profession. Be active in your church, your community and your profession. Enjoy what you do or do something else."

"I have to highly recommend ULM as a place to meet your spouse since I met mine there 32 years ago. I am the father of two grown daughters. I continue to support the school as a member of the Industry Advisory Council and look forward to seeing the school continue to produce quality graduates."

Groundbreaker Newsletter



Richard Nelson

**The
Groundbreaker
is published by
the ULM School
of Construction
for its alumni,
students, and
friends.**

**It is funded by
the Potts Fund.**

**Editor
Vanessa Doherty**

GOOD NEWS! E-MAIL Sign Up Today!

GOOD NEWS! is an e-mail newsletter distributed by your alumni association twice a month. Go to www.ulm.edu/alumni and click on "Update My Record" to sign up for GOOD NEWS!

Fishing Trip Pays Off For Construction Guild

For the past three years Larry Favalora (Class of '73), President of Favalora Constructors, Inc. of Kenner, La., has donated a coastal fishing trip from Lafitte, La., to the Guild to be auctioned off at the Contractor's Appreciation Banquet. For all three years this trip has produced the highest income for the Guild at the auction. These funds are used by Guild members to offset some of their cost for trips to the national AGC convention.



In the fall of 2001 the trip was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Billie Holland, a West Monroe attorney. The fall 2002 trip was purchased by Fitzgerald Mechanical Contractors of Shreveport and West Monroe. Fitzgerald purchased the third trip at the fall 2003 auction for \$750.00.

Fitzgerald offered their first trip as a safety award to four of their technicians. Two of their technicians, Eddie Stuart and Perry Eppinett, were from the Monroe office and the two from the Shreveport office were John Koehler and Kevin Chandler.

Favalora Constructors, Inc., furnished lodging, the boat, bait and food on the trip. Fitzgerald's employees went home with several bags of speckled trout and redfish filets each.

Fitzgerald's employees had such a great time that Fitzgerald Mechanical purchased the third trip, which will be held in May of 2004. The managers will probably go this year.

Larry Favalora says that he enjoys taking the Guild's guests out fishing and helping the students raise money to attend the field trips.

Any alumni or friends of the School of Construction interested in donating a similar trip or something that could be auctioned at the contractors' banquet should contact Dr. Keith Parker at the ULM School of Construction.

Digger's Night Out

The School of Construction, in conjunction with the Ouachita Joint Utility Council, hosted its fifth annual Digger's Night Out on October 23, 2003. The event took place on the 7th floor of the ULM library with more than 120 people in attendance from 35 different companies.

Sponsors of this year's event were: the Association of Louisiana Utility Councils, Atmos Energy, BellSouth, Columbia Gulf Transmission, Duke Energy-Texas Eastern Transmission, Entergy, Gulf South Pipeline Co., Louisiana AGC, Louisiana OneCall, Ouachita Joint Utility Council, Scott Construction Equipment, Texas Gas Transmission, Time Warner Cable, and the ULM School of Construction.

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INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The regular fall meeting of the Industry Advisory Council took place on Friday, November 14, 2003, at the School of Construction. Eighteen members were in attendance. The Council, chaired by Larry Favalora, met with Dr. Carlos Fandal, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and with the School of Construction faculty and students.

The Advisory Council currently has 34 members:

Greg Allen Lyda Builders	Don Greenland III Nabholz Construction Corp.	Richard Nelson Blair Design and Construction
Don Beach Steel Fabricators	Cayce Hand Hand Construction	Paul O'Donnell Hensel Phelps
Randy Bentz T.J. Lambrecht	Henry Heier Mechanical Contractors Assoc. of New Orleans	Keith Parker ULM School of Construction
Robert Billeaud J.B. Mouton	Ken Holland Delta Concrete Products Co.	Chuck Penn TXI
Jack Blitch Walt Disney Imagineering	Jud Jacobs Brasfield & Gorrie	Charles Poole James Construction Group
H. "Chip" Carlson III Henry Carlson Co.	John Kent ICI Construction	Drew Seahill U.S. Rentals
David Dando MCDR	Kyle Kent Kent Construction	Lee Smith Austin Commercial
David Dorsch Dorsch Consulting	Todd Littleton Precision Builders	Mitch Stentiford America's Home Place
David Dumas Brown Builders	S. Brent Long Choate Construction Company	Kendal Terral D'Arbonne Construction
Buddy Edens Mississippi ABC	R. Kent Long Centex Rooney Construction Co.	Steve Terrill Louisiana AGC
Laurence Favalora Favalora Constructors	Karl Meeks JPI	Scott Thompson Lincoln Builders, Inc.
Jerry Fields ARC Abatement		Honorary Member: Thurman Potts

Groundbreaker Newsletter



*Larry Favalora
IAC Chairman*

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DECEMBER 2003 GRADUATES

Kirk E. Anderson (posthumous)

Christopher Armstrong

Thomas L. Bingham, II

Christopher "Casey" Bishop

Lenfield D. Gilley

Chad A. Holloway

Ryan O. Markle

Samuel M. Newman

Kevin L. Williford

Check Out
Our Students'
Resumes
at
[www.ulm.edu/
construction](http://www.ulm.edu/construction)

STUDENTS' NEWS

Guild Officers



*James Renau
President*



*Andrew Brown
Vice-President*



*Glen Moore
Secretary*

ÓË× Awards

The Xi Chapter of *Sigma Lambda Chi* held its awards ceremony on November 7, 2003. Congratulations to Aaron Armstrong, who received the Highest GPA Award, and Sam Newman, who received the Outstanding Graduate Award.

CONGRATULATIONS

Highest GPA

Outstanding Graduate



Aaron Armstrong



Sam Newman

Student Competitions

Three teams of six students participated in the competitions hosted by QUOIN February 7-11 in Dallas, Texas.

Heavy Civil Team:

Michael Armstrong
Kelly Barkley
Gary Gunter
Brian McLawchlin
Daniel Peterson
Brandon Strong
Team Coach: Dr. David Manry

Commercial Team:

Michael Bartlett
Philip Beasley
Burl Masters
James Reneau
Tommy Tran
Shane Williams
Team Coach: Greg Smith

Design/Build Team:

Jamie Barrett
Andrew Clack
Glen Moore
Jeff Seguin
Allyson Sheppard
Brian Webster
Team Coach: Dr. Keith Parker

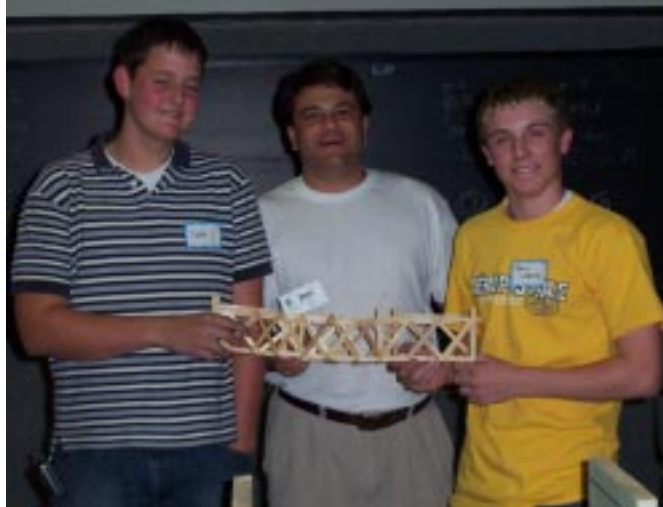
Sigma Lambda Chi Fall 2003 Inductees



Back row, left to right: Gregory Bienvenu, Danny Bolden, Justin Scarborough, Matthew Bridges, Ryan Elkins, and James Thomas. Front row, left to right: Todd Harris, Jeremy McMorris, William Normand, Gary Gunter, and Brian Webster.

Construction Explorers Building Bridges

This semester, the School of Construction formed a construction “Explorer Post” with the help of the local chapter of the Boy Scouts of America. Explorer Post is a program that allows young men and women age 14-18 to discover specific career fields and opportunities. The School of Construction Explorer Post will give participating students the opportunity to discover construction as a career. Dr. Keith Parker, Director of the School of Construction, welcomed 15 new members at the November orientation meeting. High school and junior high school students worked with construction majors and faculty to design, build and load test towers to destruction. Many other activities will be planned for next semester. The post will meet monthly through April 2004. More event pictures and a meeting schedule can be found at <http://www.ulm.edu/~hbray/explorers/SCHEDULE.htm> Membership to the Explorer Post is open to any 14 to 18 year-old. If you know of a student interested in joining the School of Construction Explorer Post or for additional information, please contact Dr. Keith Parker at (318) 342-1860.



Todd Harris stands between the winners of the December 2003 bridge contest, Caleb Rimes (left) and Sam Lemoine (right).

Contractors’ Banquet

The annual Contractors’ Banquet organized by the student Guild took place on October 30, 2003, at the Anna Gray Noe Alumni Center. This year, more than 150 local business representatives and students attended the event, which showcased both a live and a silent auction. The Contractor’s Banquet is the construction students’ main fundraising event. All the proceeds collected this year will go toward helping students interested in attending the March National AGC convention in Orlando, Fla.

The Guild officers and members want to thank the following companies and individuals who sponsored a table or donated items for the auction:

The table sponsors were:

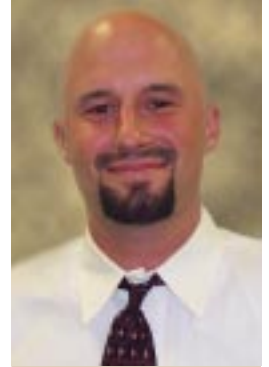
Alliance Incorporated, America’s Home Place, CBC Construction, Century 21, Deal and Tarver Construction, Fitzgerald Contractors, Highway Graphics, Ken and Carol Holland, Holyfield Construction, Lance Bickham Contracting, Lincoln Builders, Mann’s

Construction, Mechanical Contractors Association of Louisiana, Keith and Deanna Parker, Rogers Manufacturing, Steel Fabricators of Monroe, and Superior Motors of West Monroe.

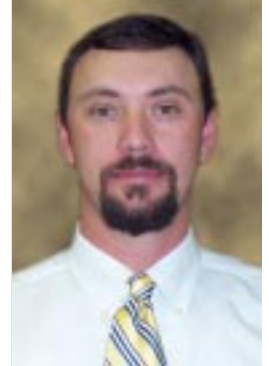
The following companies donated items for the auction:

Ace Hardware, Bliss Therapeutic Massage, Boudreaux’s, Bradford Lumber & Supply, Cobbs Truck & Gear, Desiard Street U-Pak-It, Fastenal, Favalora Constructors, Game Day Sports, Good Neighbor Garbage, Home Depot, Image Max, Jiffy Lube, Johnny’s Pizza, Judy C. Martin, LaBella Vita Italian Grill, Louisiana Rents, Lowes, Martha’s Unfinished Furniture, Metal Fab & Machine, Monroe Welding Supply, Moore Oil Company, Stop-N-Save, Nabholz Construction, National Video, Nelnet, Nick’s Place, Ouachita Lumber, Outfitters, Pickle Barrel, River City Market, Roy E. McCaskill, Salon Couture, Sanders Small Engine Sales, Steel Fabricators of Monroe, Stinshall Corporation, Sun Coast Sound, Suntanna, The Camouflage Shop, Toledo Tackle, Tonore’s Wine Cellar, Tool House, and Tyco Plastics.

Guild Officers



*Shane Williams
AGC*



*Kelly Barkley
NAHB*



*Daniel Peterson
ABC*

Scholarships



2003 AGC Scholarships Recipients

The following students received scholarships:

James Reneau	Thurman Potts Scholarship
Aaron Armstrong	John E. Baugh Scholarship
Sam Newman	Don A. Baxter Scholarship
Andrew Brown	A.C. Breckenridge Scholarship
Jason Belle	Fred C. Culpepper Scholarship
Casey Bishop	Bill Gilbert Scholarship
Gary Gunter	Hollis Graham Scholarship
Danny Bolden	J. Hilton Heard Scholarship
Shane Williams	Ranny Terrell Scholarship
Danny Bolden	NAHB Scholarship
Matthew Bridges	NAHB Scholarship
Bryan Webster	NAHB Scholarship
Michael Armstrong	Bill Eason Scholarship
Allyson Sheppard	David Wayne Geissler Scholarship
Phillip Perot	Hurvie Moak Scholarship
James Thomas	Lamar Rogers Honorary Scholarship
Glen Moore	Mechanical Contactors Scholarship

Check Out More Information at
www.ulm.edu/construction

Upcoming Events Mark Your Calendars!

March 26-27	Athletic Foundation Hall of Fame Week End
March 27	Browse on the Bayou
March 27	ULM Crawfish Boil
March 27	Football Spring Game
April 23	Oozeball
April 24	Dallas-Fort Worth Alumni Crawfish Boil
April (TBA)	IAC Meeting
April (TBA)	Guild Crawfish Boil
May 11	Baseball - La. Tech at ULM
May 22	Commencement
Oct. 16	Homecoming

Check Out More Events at
www.ulm.edu/calendar
www.ulmathletics.com

ALUMNI UPDATES

Bejarano, Oscar, '02

Office Engineer, Austin Commercial, Dallas, Tex.
Oscar Bejarano was selected and featured as the Austin Commercial August 2003 employee-owner of the month. Bejarano is currently working at the DFW Airport Terminal D project. His assignment is to assist with the dry-in of the Terminal D building, including all exterior metal stud framing/sheathing; exterior precast panels; and all interior and exterior CMU, hollow metal doors, frames, hardware, and overhead doors. "My past field experience has helped me understand and appreciate the office side of things more since I have never generated RFIs, submittals, transmittals, C-letters, PCOs, tracking costs and schedules before, and I find it a bit challenging and very educational," he said. "The project managers, project engineers, office engineers and superintendents I am working with are all highly intelligent. I am learning and absorbing all I can from them. This project is a great opportunity for me to gain exposure to all aspects of the construction process since there is just about every type of construction trade on site." Bejarano says the Terminal D project is a gold mine of education and

experience. "I am enhancing my knowledge for future projects of this caliber. It will prove valuable for the rest of my construction career."

Bell, Melton, '03

Project Engineer, CENTEX, Dallas, Tex.
"I am currently working on four projects, and a joint venture project."

Freeman, David, '99

Estimator/Safety Director, Kenneth Jones Co., Inc., Sparta, Tenn.
"I have been working for Kenneth Jones Company, Inc. for almost three years. I estimate and bid all jobs with the company. I have estimated jobs ranging from \$5,000 to \$3,000,000. We specialize in large scale masonry projects. We currently have five projects in progress consisting of two new schools and three school additions. We also have two jobs pending which amount to almost \$2.5 million. I am also an OTI outreach trainer which allows me to train our employees in 10- and 30-hour OSHA courses. I also write and create the company newsletter and calculate employee bonuses."

Alumni Meetings

This semester, the School of Construction and the ULM Alumni Association organized and attended many alumni meeting throughout Louisiana and out of state.

On July 19, we met with the Houston Chapter; on July 29, we met with the Farmerville Chapter; on August 19, we met with the Morehouse Chapter; on August 22, we met with the Cenla Chapter in Alexandria; on August 28, we met with the Acadiana Chapter in Lafayette; on August 29, we met with the New Orleans Chapter; and on November 21 we met with the Central Arkansas chapter.

Many more meetings are planned for next semester. For more information and pictures of these meeting check out the alumni web site at www.ulm.edu/alumni If you wish to start or revive a construction alumni chapter in your area contact Dr. Keith Parker at (318) 342-1860. It's great to hear from you!



Tim and Martha Roussel and Chris and Monica Tumminello.



Dr. Keith Parker talks to Gary and Cynthia Thornton.

Groundbreaker
Newsletter

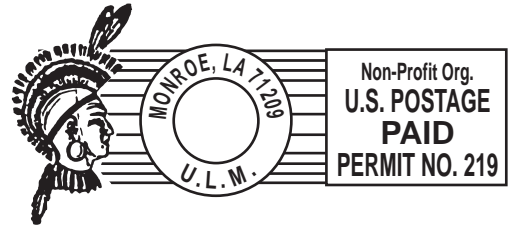
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 School of Construction
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The University of Louisiana at Monroe is a member of the University of Louisiana System and an Affirmative Action/EOE.

ALUMNI NEWS, KEEP US INFORMED !

ALUMNI UPDATE:

Name: _____ Year Grad.: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Home Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Job Title: _____

Company/City/State: _____ Co. Phone #: _____

Yes, I am interested in becoming a member of the Industry Advisory Council.

Your news to be published in the newsletter:

Signed/Date _____

Return your news to **Editor Groundbreaker**, University of Louisiana at Monroe, School of Construction, Monroe, LA 71209-0540. Or e-mail to: kparker@ulm.edu ; or fax to (318) 342-1861