



XAVIER
UNIVERSITY of LOUISIANA

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This Month at Xavier

July 2017



GLX Day Fundraiser Nets University \$382,319

Alumni and friends turned in another strong performance on this year's Give. Love. Xavier Day, with some 1,870 donors contributing a total of \$382,319 during the annual one-day, online fundraising event.

Donations to GLX Day directly support scholarships and other important University programs, making a vital difference in the lives of current students. Since its inception in 2013, GLX Day has raised more than \$2.1 million dollars.



After 49 years of faithful service in a variety of capacities, Sister Grace Mary Flickinger, S.B.S., imparts some words of wisdom to members of the Dean's Office staff as she leaves for the Motherhouse.



High school students taking advantage of the University's BioStar summer program pose for the traditional group photo. It was one of six pre-college programs offered in June. Three more begin later this month.

FLICKINGER NAMED PROFESSOR EMERITA

The University has bestowed the title of Professor Emerita of Biology on Sister Grace Mary Flickinger, S.B.S., in recognition of her half century of service to the Xavier community.

In communicating to Sister Grace Mary her appointment, XU President Reynold Verret wrote: "You have given the best of yourself to Xavier students, and to all the people who have graced these halls. You have done so for half a century, in good times and in periods that challenged the very survival of our university. Generations of students and colleagues have you to thank for what they learned here about biology, adult life, and faith. Along with the entire Xavier community, I am grateful for your service."

A New Jersey native, Flickinger has been a member of XULA's biology department since 1968. She served for several years as coordinator of advising. She has been a long-time proponent of one-on-one advising and of nurturing all students – not only during their transition to Xavier as freshmen but also in their persistence and degree completion, as well as in their spiritual growth. Her reputation as tough but fair has endeared her to generations of students and alumni.

Flickinger joined XULA's athletics committee in 1981. A few years later, she added the title of academic counselor for athletics at the request of men's basketball coach Denny Alexander. She also has served the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference as president (two terms), vice president, faculty athletics



Jonathan Love '02 and Dr. Pierre Johnson '02 enjoy some time with XU President Reynold Verret during this past weekend's Chicago Jazz Brunch fundraiser, which was attended by more than 200 supporters.

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749 SCHOLARS EARN SPOTS ON SPRING DEAN'S LIST

A total of 749 student scholars made the Dean's List during the spring 2017 semester, according to XU Registrar Avis Stuard.

Students merited a spot on the honor roll by earning a semester grade point average of 3.3 or above while taking at least 12 semester hours. The honor students listed below are grouped by major and include their classifications, high schools and/or (hometowns). Unless otherwise noted, the latter is New Orleans.

The complete lists are available [HERE](#) (College of Arts and Sciences) and [HERE](#) (College of Pharmacy).

representative, and on its eligibility and executive committees. She chaired the NAIA's Council of Faculty Athletics Representatives.

She was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1998, and in 2007, she received the NAIA's Wally Schwartz Award for her work as a faculty athletics representative.

Flickinger recently returned to the Motherhouse of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. She will return to campus in October when she will be honored at Xavier's Founder's Day Convocation.

COMMITTEE APPROVES 14 FACULTY PROMOTIONS

The University Rank and Tenure Committee has approved the promotions of 14 faculty members in eight different disciplines, according to Dr. Anne McCall, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs.

Five members of the faculty – Dr. Ralph Adamo in English, Dr. Stassi DiMaggio in chemistry, Dr. Joseph LaRoche in pharmacy, Dr. Daniel Sarpong in clinical pharmacy, and Dr. Ross Louis in communication studies – were promoted to the rank of full professor.

Nine others – Dr. Cary Caro in business, Dr. Kimberly Chandler in communication studies, Dr. Ian Davenport in biology, Dr. James Dunson in philosophy, Dr. Lisa Flanagan in communication studies, Dr. Thomas Huckaba in biology, Dr. Ifeanyi Onor in clinical pharmacy, Dr. Richard Peters in business, and Dr. Kevin Riley in chemistry – were all promoted to the rank of associate professor.

SANFORD INSTITUTE OF PHILANTHROPY TO SERVE SE LA

Xavier has joined the Sanford Institute of Philanthropy network by opening its own affiliated Institute dedicated to helping nonprofits significantly increase their fundraising capabilities and positive impact in Southeast Louisiana.

Based on the vision of philanthropist and entrepreneur T. Denny Sanford, the Sanford Institute of Philanthropy at Xavier is part of a growing nationwide group of Institutes – led by the founding Sanford Institute of Philanthropy at National University – that are offering established, proven curricula presented by recognized nonprofit leaders, members of academia, and renowned philanthropists.

“We are pleased to announce the launch of a Sanford Institute of Philanthropy at Xavier University of Louisiana,” said Dr. Marcus Cox, XULA Associate Dean for Graduate Programs and Summer School and the Director of the Center for Continuing Studies and Distance Education. “Through this affiliation, we are offering a comprehensive curriculum that includes seminars and workshops to help improve organizations fundraising capabilities in the Greater New Orleans Area and throughout the Gulf South Region.”

The workshops, seminars, and educational opportunities offered by the Sanford Institute of Philanthropy at Xavier University of Louisiana will better equip nonprofit leaders throughout Louisiana and portions of the Gulf South

XULA Wins GCAC All-Sports Trophy Again

Xavier continued its domination of the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference in 2016-17, winning the Thomas Howell Cup for the sixth time in seven years.

The Cup is awarded annually to the school which scores the most points based on order of finish in various sports. Although the conference does not announce totals or standings, unofficial scoring had Xavier with 37 ½ points, followed by Dillard and Edward Waters with 30 each.

Xavier was boosted by GCAC championships in men's and women's cross country, women's volleyball, and women's outdoor track and field.

"Xavier is proud to take control of the Thomas Howell Cup once again," said Jason Horn, XULA Director of Athletics and Recreation. "Not only did our student-athletes and coaches have another outstanding year (on the court and in the field), we produced our largest group of graduates in the last 12 years."



Four XULA students participating in the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program at the University of Rochester – (L-R) Brittany Strauss, Bryan Redmond, Imani Miles, and Rachel Hitchens – are welcomed by David Powell '16, who just completed his 1st year of medical study at the school.

Region which focus on human needs such as education, poverty, healthcare, and human rights to sustain themselves economically and support the community through the ability to generate revenue and acquire financial support.

Xavier held its first workshop on Social Behavior Styles in May 2017 and plans to offer a different topic each month. Topics will include Cause Selling, Major Gifts, Planned Giving, Board Engagement, and Social Media. The next workshop, "The Ask & Welcoming Objections", is scheduled for July 19 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the University Center Room 205. More info on future offerings and how to register is available online [HERE](#).



MATHSTAR PROGRAM PLANTS SEED FOR SUCCESS

Elise Mercadel, one of 82 middle schoolers who recently completed Xavier's rigorous three-week MathStar program, pretty much summed up her summer experience in a few short sentences.

"It was kind of complicated with the homework because it took so long to do," said the 13-year-old from Lusher Charter School. "But, it was fun and I met a lot of friends."

MathStar is specifically designed for 7th and 8th graders that will be taking Algebra 1 in the coming school year. From 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, Mercadel and the other participants' went through the following regimen: tutoring, homework review, small group sessions, a quiz, a break for lunch, a lecture, and finally some academic games which promoted problem solving and socialization.

The program started in the early 70s by former Xavier chemistry professor and later pre-med advisor, Dr. JW Carmichael, who was passionate about students having a fighting chance to excel in math and the sciences.

"Dr. Carmichael realized that a lot of students who were coming to Xavier were not prepared to handle math and the sciences," said Stephen Goodly, Director of MathStar. "He started this program to get students ready for high school. He figured that if he could get them ready developmentally with mathematics, biology and chemistry, then they would end up coming to Xavier with the tools that they would need to be successful when they got here."



2017 graduates of the Pharmacy Residency Program pose with College of Pharmacy faculty: (first row L-R) residents Dr. Victoria Nguyen, Dr. Esther Okoro, Dr. Erica Watson, Dr. Rose Duchane, and Dr. Paa Kwesi Yanful; (back row) faculty members Dr. Janel Bailey Wheeler, Dr. Christopher Gillard, COP Dean Dr. Kathleen Kennedy, and Dr. Kristi Rapp.

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The popular program continues to thrive year after year. “I impress to the students that though this is an academically-driven program, it’s not about mastering the skill right now,” said Goodly. “It’s that the seed is being planted during the summer so that when the student engages in the content during the school year, he or she already has some insight to what they’re learning.”

At the beginning of MathStar, students take a pre-test and a post-test at the end. This assessment is used to gage the outcome of their performance. “So far, looking at the data, the students have done extremely well,” said Goodly.

To operate a program of this magnitude it took a staff of two math teachers, 16 group leaders (most of whom are current Xavier students), and four instructional assistants.

Mercadel said it was worth it. “I would definitely recommend MathStar because it’s going to teach you how to become better at math and make you a better student.”

XAVIERITES

Students

- **Allana Barefield**, a junior mass communication major from Lynn MA (Lynn English High), is interning as a metro desk reporter at her hometown newspaper, *The Boston Globe*. Earlier this summer, he served as a reporter intern with *The New York Times* through its Student Journalism Institute in NYC.
- **Nicholas Davison**, a senior art major/mass communication minor from Grand Bay AL (Alabama Math/Science High), is interning with the Digital Design department for the Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN) in Los Angeles LA after being selected a finalist in the HBCU in LA Entertainment Industry initiative. Earlier this summer, he served as a graphic design intern with *The New York Times* through its Student Journalism Institute in NYC.
- **Taqiyah Elliott**, a senior political science major from Memphis TN (White Castle High), is participating in the Leadership Alliance at Duke University this summer.
- **Brianna Houston**, a junior political science major from DeSoto TX (Greenhill High), is interning this summer with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) in Washington DC.
- **D’Audra Metoyer**, a sophomore political science major from Lake Charles LA (St. Louis Catholic High), is attending a Pre-Law Summer Program at Florida State University.
- **Ariane Shanks**, a junior political science major from Shreveport LA (Caddo High), is attending a Pre-Law Summer Program at the University of Missouri.
- **Ammiel Williams**, a senior political science major from Los Angeles CA (Alexander Hamilton High), is completing a Summer Research Fellowship in the Public Policy & International Affairs program at Princeton University.
- Two political science majors – **Bria Black**, a sophomore from Memphis TN (White Castle High), and **Cyuan Lutzenberger**, a junior from Eupora MS (Eupora High) – are interning this summer with the Innocence Project in New Orleans.

Alumni

- **Dr. Elaine Parker Adams '61** has just published her second book, *Haiku Bouillabaisse*. The volume consists of 72 poems on topics ranging from youth to old age and September 11 to Hurricane Katrina.
- **Jerryl Briggs '85** has been named acting president of Mississippi Valley State University. He had been serving as executive vice president and chief operating officer at MVSU.
- **Simone Brown '15** has completed a Master of Music degree program at the Peabody Conservatory.
- **Lauren Baron '14** has been accepted into medical school at Howard University.
- **Garrett Black '13** has been accepted into medical school at St. Louis University, the Uniformed Services University, and Ross University.
- **Princess Carter '12** has been accepted into the MEDPREP program at Southern Illinois University.
- **Tyler Dang '17** has been accepted into the University of Houston College of Optometry.
- **Ve'era Davis '17** has been accepted into the Master of Science in Speech Pathology/Communications Disorders program at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette.
- **Beverlin del Rosario '17** has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in Health Psychology and Clinical Science at the City Universities of New York Graduate Center.
- **Jasmine Douglas '16** has been accepted into the St. Louis University School of Medicine.
- **Marvin Ellis '76**, a high school teacher in Miami-Dade County FL, was honored by the Historic Hampton House Community Trust at its 14th annual "Homegrown Achievers Luncheon" in recognition of his lifetime of service to the community.
- **Carey Ford '14** has been accepted into medical school at LSU-Shreveport, Meharry College, Marshall University, and Howard University.
- **Barbara Franklin '57** was inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Master Folk Doll Artist as a self-taught, African American multicultural Folk Doll Artist.
- **Tatyana Haddock '17** has been accepted into the Master of Arts in Teaching program at the Relay Graduate School of Education in Nashville TN.
- **Brittany Hardy '17** has been accepted into the Ross University School of Medicine.
- **Kiarra Hill '17** has been accepted into the Master of Science in Speech Pathology/Communications Disorders program at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.
- **Briana Jarrett '16** has been accepted into the Morehouse College School of Medicine.

- **Joshua Johnson '17** has been accepted into the Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy at the University of Southern California.
- **Kortney LaMark '17** has been accepted into the Creighton University School of Pharmacy.
- **Dr. Jamaan Kenner '12**, an intern in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the LSU School of Medicine, was named the University Medical Center's Intern of the Year 2016-17.
- **Kyjeila Latimer '17** has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in Psychology at the University of North Texas.
- **Dominiqueca Lewis '17** has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in Counseling Psychology at the University of Kentucky.
- **LeaAnn Love '14** has been accepted into medical school at Ross University, the American University of Antigua, and Saba University.
- **Skky Martin '17** has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in Sociology at Loyola University-Chicago.
- **Taylor McClelland '17** has been accepted into pharmacy school at Xavier, Howard University, St. Louis University, Samford University, and Creighton University.
- **Caitlin Mercier '17** has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in Counseling Psychology at Louisiana Technical University.
- **Glenda Middleton '17** has been accepted into the Master of Public Health in Maternal and Child Health program at West Texas A&M.
- **Raven Moore '17** has been accepted into the Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry.
- **Emeka Nwoke '17** has been accepted into Meharry College School of Medicine.
- **Onome Oboh '12** has been accepted into the Michigan State University College of Medicine.
- **Victoria Phillips '15** has been accepted into medical school at the University of Tennessee and St. Louis University.
- **Justin Poplar '15** has been accepted the Tulane University School of Medicine's Master of Science in Molecular Science program.
- **Alexis Richards '15** has been accepted into the Tulane University School of Medicine.
- **Taylor Sanders '17** has been accepted into medical school at Southern Illinois University, Meharry College, and Howard University.
- **Jeremey Shropshire '17** has been accepted into the Master's programs in biomedical science and bioethics at Rutgers University and Columbia University, respectively.

- **Christine Smith '17** has been accepted into the Master of Public Health in Maternal and Child Health program at the University of California-Berkeley.
- **Roman Tate '17** has been accepted into the Medical University of South Carolina.
- **Denisia Thomas '17** has been accepted into the Master's program in Biomedical and Health Sciences at the University of Alabama-Birmingham.
- **Kevin Thomas '17** has been accepted into the Master's program in Speech Pathology/Communications Disorders at Saint Louis University.
- **Quang Duy Vu '12** has been accepted into dental school at LSU and Midwestern University.
- **Jayda Watkins '17** has been accepted into the Medical College of Wisconsin.
- **Jayla Watkins '17** has been accepted into the Medical College of Wisconsin.
- **Kendale Watson '17** has been accepted into the MEDPREP program at Southern Illinois University.
- **Chinue Wilford '17** has been accepted into the MEDPREP program at Southern Illinois University.

Faculty/Staff

- **Ed Cassiere** (athletics) was named recipient of a Grant Burger Media Award from the American Volleyball Coaches Association for his coverage of the Gold Nuggets in 2016-17.
- **Jason Horn** (athletics) was voted by his peers as the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference Athletic Director of the Year for 2016-17.
- **Mapo Kinnord** (Art) was among three individuals presented the "Outstanding Artist" award during the New Orleans Chapter of National Conference Artists' 6th Annual Margaret Burroughs Symposium & Awards Program.