



What is this English major going to do after college? Find out: —Pg. 4

AACSB awards accreditation to LSUS

Iris MacLean
STAFF WRITER

Innovation, impact, and engagement: three words to describe LSU Shreveport’s business department and its continuing AACSB accreditation. LSUS is one of 681 schools among over fifty states and territories that are currently AACSB- accredited. The business department has 661 undergraduate students enrolled, as well as 108 graduate students.



Photo courtesy of Kirsten Edmiston
Kirsten Edmiston, junior, business

The process of maintaining The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accreditation includes completing numerous reports, complying with all current standards, and hosting visits for AACSB to evaluate the program in person. The business department passed the evaluation last April, receiving the best extension possible of five more years. At this time, AACSB noted the new standards that passed this year, will be phased See AACSB, pg. 2



Photo by Jessica Ingram

Athletic Director Chad McDowell introduces new baseball coach Allan Cantwell during a ceremony held last Wednesday during Common Hour.

LSUS selects new baseball coach

Montana Davis
STAFF WRITER

The search for LSU Shreveport’s new head baseball coach concludes with Chad McDowell, athletic director, announcing Allan Cantwell has filled the position. Cantwell will be succeeding Rocke Musgraves, who left LSUS to coach at Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa, Idaho. “There were a lot of things we were looking for in our next head baseball coach; experience with a proven track record, there was the public relations factor, where we wanted a positive relationship with the community,

recruiting network, a coach who has experience and connections throughout the country but also with local ties,” McDowell said during Cantwell’s official meet and greet last Wednesday. Having to consider the team’s budget was another criteria during the search. The council was looking for someone who could add new outlooks on funding. “We know about the ‘b’ word and the ‘f’ word... budget issues, fundraising. We wanted someone with a proven track record to generate outside revenue as well as new ideas we can explore,” McDowell said. “More importantly, we wanted someone who cared more about

their academic success, the players, than their baseball success.” McDowell went on to say that LSUS needed a coach who, more than anything, “truly embraced the 5 core values of the NAIA Champions of Character Program: respect, responsibility, sportsmanship, service leadership and integrity.” Cantwell seems to have proven himself to each of those values and standards set by LSUS. His impressive coaching resume includes not one, but two countries. He is actually a familiar face on the campus and ball field. Cantwell earned two degrees from LSUS: a Bachelor of Science, special-

See COACH, pg. 2

BPCC comes to LSUS, works to assist students



Becky Turbeville, director of the BPCC at LSUS program

Frank Johnson
STAFF WRITER

Due to overwhelming demand, LSU Shreveport and Bossier Parish Community College are collaborating to provide a higher standard of education for recent high school graduates and college transfers. BPCC at LSUS is a new program implemented for students who do not meet state requirements but want to begin their collegiate career at LSUS. “For someone who knows they want a four year degree at LSUS, why don’t we just start here?” said Becky Turbeville, director of the BPCC at LSUS program.

LSUS and BPCC students will share campus facilities equally because BPCC students are paying the same fees as LSUS students. However, they will be paying BPCC tuition prices since they are technically BPCC students. This collaboration is expected to be good for both institutions and LSUS has welcomed BPCC faculty to the campus. Students enrolling in the program can handle all of their admissions and financial aid needs in the LSUS administration building. “We’re really excited to be here,” Turbeville said. “We’re a one stop shop.” The teachers are, for the most part, See BPCC, pg. 2





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COACH cont.



Photo by Montana Davis

New baseball coach Allan Cantwell introduces himself at a meet and greet held in the gymnasium last Wednesday.

izing in exercise science in 2003 and a Master's in Education, with another emphasis in exercise science in 2005. He later obtained his third degree in 2010, a Master in Arts of Teaching, health education, from Louisiana Tech.

Cantwell played Pilot baseball during the 2000-2002 seasons, during which he was recognized as an All-Conference Player by Gulf Coast

AACSB cont.



Photo by Iris MacLean

Dr. Douglas Bible, interim dean of the college of business, education, and human development

in over time.

“One of the standards they’re asking us to look at more closely is the impact of what the fac-

BPCC cont.

employees of BPCC, but some LSUS faculty are involved as well.

The program was tried before with little success. However, Dr. John Vassar, interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, said it has seen good results this semester.

“We had an excellent response,” Vassar said. “I think it’s a win for BPCC, I think it’s a win for LSUS, but more than either of the two institutions, I think it’s a win for these students who are getting to come where they want to come, they’re getting to experience the student life that they want to experience, and there’s a pathway toward them becoming LSUS students. I think that’s BPCC’s goal, that’s our goal, that these students who want a four year degree are working toward it.”

Students will be able to experience all the benefits of life at LSUS.

“We’re creating a steady stream of future student’s right here on the campus,” Turbeville said.

Athletic Conference.

After his time playing ball for the university, Cantwell went on to become the LSUS Sports Information Director and assistant coach from 2003 to 2007. He was even on the staff when the Pilots went on to their first ever appearance in the NAIA College World Series in 2003.

“I’m a walking testimony to what LSUS can do to for student athlete,” Cantwell said. “It’s life changing. That’s not just words, that’s my life. I contribute everything I have, who I am, to this university.”

Between 2007 and 2013, he was the head baseball coach and P.E. teacher at Byrd High School. There, Cantwell broke a school record with the second-highest number of wins in school history, 135 wins and 81 losses and with a winning percentage of .625.

Under Cantwell’s guidance, the Yellow Jackets went on to have five consecutive 20+ win seasons and make appearances in the 2009 state semifinals and the 2011-2012 state quarter finals.

The *Shreveport Times* honored him with the title Coach of the Year in 2010 and District Coach of the Year in 2012, when his team went on to be the first undefeated (15-0) district champs in school history.

19 of Cantwell’s Byrd players went on to play college baseball and two were selected for the Major Baseball League draft: Peter Pizarro in 2012 and Chris Cotton in 2013.

Cantwell also served as the head coach for the Kelowna Falcons, a collegiate summer baseball team located in Canada, for the 2011 and 2012 seasons. His coaching led to the first winning seasons in the entire Falcon franchise history.

Cantwell is looking forward to “getting in



Photo by Jessica Ingram

Allan Cantwell received an undergraduate degree from LSUS in 2003 and a master’s degree in 2005.

the trenches” with his team and is already working towards the upcoming season with the Pilots.

ulty are doing as far as the teaching and the learning,” said Dr. Douglas Bible Interim Dean of the department of business, education, and human development.

The new standards challenge teachers to think carefully about everything they’re doing and if it will be beneficial to the learning of their students. In addition to this, another change is extra testing in concepts and more critical thinking.

According to Bible, this accreditation is important because of the recognition and status it provides the school. Students graduating with a degree from an AACSB accredited institution have proven they’ve gone through a rigorous course of study and had highly qualified professors.

“When I found out LSUS was an AACSB-accredited business school I was thrilled because I knew it would be very beneficial in preparing me for graduate school,” said Kristen Edmiston, junior, business.

The AACSB is a prestigious, international membership organization focused on improving

the quality of collegiate business education. AACSB was founded in 1916, and adopted their first set of standards for accreditation in 1919.

The AACSB accreditation standards are updated frequently to stay up to date with modern business needs. These standards are used in determining if a business school’s mission, operations, faculty qualifications and contributions, and programs are worthy of the accreditation. The three core words of the newest update are innovation, impact, and engagement.

To become AACSB accredited a school must undergo a rigorous process requiring a large amount of work. The process begins with membership to the organization and an application for accreditation. Once AACSB determines the school is eligible mentors, committees, and staff help the school create a Standards Alignment Program. Once the school completes the alignment plan the AACSB Board of Directors teams up with several review committees to make a final decision.



Photo by Corey Drummond

Dr. John Vassar, interim provost



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# Noel foundation awards endowed scholarships

**Christopher Talerico**  
STAFF WRITER

The Noel Foundation awarded 13 scholarships to transfer students and freshmen at a ceremony in the Noel Library August 22.

“The intention was to bring together the students who were going to be coming here that now come from [BPCC] or from Southern. Bring them together. Honor them. Welcome them to the campus community,” said Dr. Robert



Photos by Christopher Talerico  
Dr. Robert Leitz, III, curator of the James Smith Noel Collection housed in the Noel Memorial Library

Leitz, curator of the James Smith Noel Collection.

Ten of the recipients were transfer students from hailing from both Bossier Parish Community College and Southern University at Shreveport Louisiana. Four recipients were incoming freshmen.

“We certainly don’t want to see anything other than thriving at LSUS, and we think that bringing in some of the better students from BPCC and Southern we might be able to use them as a ‘Bell Cow’. You take the better students, and some of the others who might not even be going to college or maybe need some funds, well they can say, ‘look, LSUS has the opportunities and they’re there for you to take advantage of,’” Leitz said.

The scholarship provides \$4000 per year, \$2000 per semester, and is not limited in use by the recipients.

The Noel Foundation provides the scholarship to the transfer students for up to two years and the incoming freshmen for four years.

To qualify for the scholarship, a transfer student must be a current or past BPCC or SUSLA student and have graduated or will be graduating from BPCC or SUSLA before attending LSUS, along with possessing a cumulative GPA of at least 2.50, less than 90 college hours, and attending LSUS as a full-time student (12 or more college hours), along with a major in a program or course of study that leads to a bachelor’s degree offered by LSUS.

“It’s pretty reasonable. We’re not looking for the 4.0 people all the time, though we got one this time. I like to see students also who come from backgrounds where they’re the first to go through college, because I think, all of a sudden, things start to grow exponentially. They’ll want their children to go to college,” Leitz said.

The qualifications for the incoming freshmen included a cumulative 3.75 high-school GPA and scored a 28 or higher on the ACT.

One of this year’s recipients, Johnathon Burnett, could not attend this semester without the Noel Foundation scholarship.

“I’ve been having a lot of financial problems actually the reason I almost gave up my last year of baseball was because I have nothing in my bank. I’m relying basically on my mom to give me everything and she don’t work. She relies on my dad off-shore, so we’ve got one income coming in. And I was raised to be a man, I hate taking money from my parents, so I was pretty thrilled about it.

Burnett did not anticipate or was even aware of the scholarship.

“I didn’t expect it. I didn’t have any clue about it. I got a phone call after practice. I called mom and she started crying on the phone,” Burnett said.

Currently, the Noel Foundation board reviews resumes to award scholarships, but will add other requirements in the future.

“We think the board is going to approve our having interviews and requesting letters of recommendation. We’re going to be massaging the requirements. We’re going to bring them in line with what they would be doing when applying for admission to other [scholarships],” Leitz said.



Martha Lawler, Noel Collection cataloger

The Noel Foundation’s first scholarship recipient, Jake Greene, is now a teacher.

“I was overwhelmed when I found out I had received the Noel Memorial Scholarship. I knew LSUS was where I wanted to go to school, but my TOPS didn’t cover all of my expenses,” Greene said.

Both Leitz and Noel Collection Cataloger, Martha Lawler, are very proud to be a part of enriching the students’ lives and hold a high regard for the scholarship recipients.

“The students that do get the scholarship have met some really high standards, because the ones I’ve met have been serious, very motivated about their schooling. They’re very appreciative of the chance to get the scholarship and to be able to go to school. They’re very hard working, and they’re just very decent people. They’re nice pleasant people to be around,” Lawler said.

## @ccelerate pilot program rewards new participants

**Ebonie Nelson**  
STAFF WRITER

A few lucky LSU Shreveport students hit the jackpot, receiving a \$500 scholarship for enrolling in the eight-week semester Pilot Program.

During registration, any first-time freshmen that enrolled in all four of the eight-week cohort courses were offered a \$500 scholarship. The scholarship is designed to cover the cost of the books for the four courses these students are taking for the fall semester.

Approximately 20 students were offered the scholarship. To be eligible, freshmen students must enroll in the following eight-week courses for the fall semester: ENGL 105, ENGL 115, FS 102, and PSYC152. Currently, they must stay enrolled in the eight-week courses for at least one semester, however, this may change based on feedback gathered throughout the semester.

The scholarship is being offered as an incentive to interest students in the @ccelerated program.

“We wanted to have a small enough group to be able

“ “

I like having more contact hours and flexible activities with my students. [It] seems as though we have a good group of dedicated students to work with.

- Dr. Elisabeth Liebert

to communicate with, but large enough to gather feedback,” said Julie Lessiter, associate vice chancellor of academic affairs.

The scholarship program is being offered to incoming freshmen because administration wanted to gather feedback from a group of students who had not taken a 16-week course at a college or university.

“Specifically we wanted thoughts on what they liked about the classes and what they found challenging about an 8-week term,” Lessiter said.

Although the scholarship was not limited by majors, only those freshmen who had not received dual enrollment credit in the courses offered were able to participate in the scholarship program.

One of the instructors participating in the scholarship program feels that running a pilot program is very beneficial.

“I like having more contact hours and flexible activities with my students,” said Dr. Elisabeth Liebert, chair of the arts and sciences academic advising committee. “[It] seems as though we have a good group of dedicated students to work with.”

” ”

## LSUS campus police, patrolling the campus to keep students safe



LSU Shreveport campus police vehicles are commonly seen around the LSUS campus. Tasked with keeping the campus safe, the university police respond to emergency calls, as well as keeping an eye out for traffic infractions.

“We’re a fully commissioned law enforcement agency,” said Rebecca Chiles, director of the university police department, “just like any other law enforcement in the state. We have full arrest powers, we run radar, we work wrecks, [and] do any kind of investigations.”

Chiles said that the most common calls received relate to theft, usually of a smaller object such as a cell phone, an iPad, a laptop, or a textbook. Chiles encourages students to not leave their items unattended, to lock their vehicles, and not leave anything lying in plain sight.

—By Jennifer Middleton and Crystal Vandegriff

Photo by Jennifer Middleton



# Alexander Mikaberidze releases two new books

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

**Corey Drummond**  
STAFF WRITER

Still reeling from the release of two books over the summer, Dr. Alexander Mikaberidze returns to LSU Shreveport as an associate professor of history while also planning his next four endeavors.

Mikaberidze comes from the country of Georgia, located at the crossroads of Western Asia and Eastern Europe. As a young man, Mikaberidze decided to study and practice law. Unfortunately, Georgia was in a tumultuous time.

“I was practicing law in my home-country of Georgia and I was working for what would be a state department. But this was a time of civil war, Georgians had about three of them in a span of six years. The country is in disarray, the economy is gone, and people would oftentimes stand in bread lines for two to three days just to get a loaf of bread,” Mikaberidze said. “As a government lawyer I was paid an equivalent of seven dollars a month, and when I left Georgia in 2000, the government still owed me nine months of pay.”

Although he got his start as a Georgian lawyer, Mikaberidze’s interest in Napoleonic history eventually led him to the United States. It was here that he acquired his doctorate and begin teaching at various universities.

It began when Mikaberidze became interested in a book discussing the history of Napoleon. After writing a review on it for a website, the book’s author contacted him to give a speech at a conference in Israel. This man eventually gave Mikaberidze the opportunity to leave Georgia, and explore further education in the U.S.

“I went home after the conference two weeks later and the author of the book emailed me back. This guy paid for three and a half years of my education. I came over to the United States in 2000 and got this remarkable experience. This man, whom I never met, helped me get my education,” Mikaberidze said. “Now that I got my Ph.D., I looked around and got a position as a professor at a couple of universities. Eventually, in 2007, I got the position at LSUS.”

Mikaberidze stays busy as well. He has about fourteen titles that he has researched, written, or edited himself. Works related to Napoleon or the French Revolution were researched and written by him, while titles that are collections of data about specific subjects come from multiple

sources are edited by Mikaberidze.

One of the two books published this summer is a body of work titled “Russian Eyewitness Accounts of the Campaign of 1814.” This is a book researched and written by Mikaberidze detailing the Russian campaign to overthrow Napoleon from French power following the war in 1812.

“There is no book like it, not in nor outside Russia. The attention in Russia focuses on the war won in 1812, and remarkably, Russians pay no attention to what happens after 1812. Even though in the years of 1813 and 1814 Russia was at the height of its success, they pay no attention to that at all,” Mikaberidze said.

To write this book, Mikaberidze collected and translated a large number of Russian letters, diaries, and memoirs. These manuscripts were written as far back as the nineteenth century and had to be translated to English from Russian, French, and even German.

The book presents the largest historical account of the overthrowing of Napoleon from the Russian perspective. The reason Russia had such a small voice in this period of time was based on the language barrier created by the small number of people outside of the country that spoke Russian. Few historians spoke Russian and could translate the collected documents.

The other book published over the summer was “Atrocities, Massacres, and War Crimes: An Encyclopedia.” About a third of the encyclopedia was written by Mikaberidze, while the rest was collected from a group of specialists that he brought together.

“I gathered together a group of scholars and this was a rather diverse group. Some were historians, sociologists, and quite a few of them were current prosecutors in international tribunals,” Mikaberidze said. “The idea was to create a source of information, not for scholars or professors, but for students who need quick access for information. It was to deliver concise and clear information about the human capacity for violence.”

Jeffrey Sadow, associate professor of political science, was part of the hiring process for Mikaberidze. As members of the department of history and social sciences, their paths cross quite frequently. Sadow recognizes Mikaberidze’s importance in the history department with his knowledge of the Napoleonic War.



Photo courtesy of Alexander Mikaberidze  
Alexander Mikaberidze, associate professor of history

“He’s a friendly, affable guy and he’s pretty approachable to students,” Sadow said. “I’ve had night classes in recent years. I always see him there late at night working on his projects.”

Mikaberidze won the International Napoleonic Society’s Legion of Merit Award for his contribution to Napoleonic studies and is currently teaching five classes at LSUS. He is currently working on four books, one of which is a new look at the history of the Napoleonic Wars.

# An English degree, more than just words and wordplay

*Don’t know what to do with your degree after college? This weekly series is dedicated to helping you find out.*

**Krista Wilson**  
STAFF WRITER

To be an English major or not to be an English major? It is a question that many LSU Shreveport students may struggle with. After all, what can they do with an English major? The answers may actually surprise you.

“[Students] can get any job they want, [their] options are open,” said Dr. Terry Harris, chair of the English department. “If you have learned the skills of thinking and analysis, and if you know how to write, then you can sell your skills to whatever job you want to take afterwards with the proper qualifications.”

There are a large number of jobs available to those pursuing an English degree, including becoming an author, special agent, museum curator, special event coordinator, filmmaker, archivist, paralegal, professor, and marketing manager.

The English program at LSUS consists of a variety of comprehensive classes. A few examples include medieval literature, renaissance, early American, Shakespeare, modern and world/classic literature.

“[An] English degree is a thinking degree,” Harris said. “It’s open and [can be] applied however the person who gets it wants to use it.”

While not every student will continue their education after receiving their bachelor’s degree, Harris said that some students will use their undergraduate English degree as a stepping-stone towards earning a graduate degree or as a step towards law school.

According to Harris, the students who pursue a degree in English should be aware that the program is rigorous but doable.

One student, Anna Tedesco, sophomore, English, mentioned her uncertainty as far as a job was concerned, but did not think she would do anything outside of the English department. She also said that her mother had previously been taught by Harris at LSUS and used to read Shakespeare



Photo by Krista Wilson  
Dr. Terry Harris, chair of the English department

to her as a child.

“In learning who you are, you are learning how to evaluate, how to analyze and learning how to make a case for the position and you do that orally and in writing and so therefore you are gaining skills that will put bread on the table and that are useful,” Harris said.

Harris said students who study English will experience a new appreciation for literature. This experience will add to their understanding of English and will encourage students to discover what it means to be a human being.

“Reading puts you in touch with your own humanity

and therefore with the world’s humanity and so it helps you discover what you value most,” Harris said. “English combines the artistic and humanistic on one side and practical on the other side.”

An English degree offers several job opportunities and all that is required is for students to use their minds. Harris added that the student must be willing to use it and to do the work to earn it.

If students have any other questions about earning an English degree, they can contact Dr. Terry Harris at 318-797-5368 or email him at [Terry.Harris@lsus.edu](mailto:Terry.Harris@lsus.edu).